

May 2005

Memoir received from EFHA member Eric Avebury. IMentions connection with the Loyd Entwisle Bank.

'I attach a memorandum, transcribed from a note in the possession of Michael Sutton-Scott-Tucker of Riversbridge, Dartmouth, Devon, who inherited it from Entwisle ancestors. The author is 'H T' Bury, daughter of Frances Entwisle, the youngest daughter of James Entwisle and Mary Bury.'

This memoir was written by a child of Frances Entwisle, baptised July 27, 1787 at St Ann's, Manchester, who married John Bury July 2, 1807 at Manchester Cathedral, and died June 18, 1855. The author does not name himself or herself, but refers to:

1. 'Our mother', the youngest child of James Entwisle & Mary Bury, ie Frances Entwisle who married John Bury.
2. 'Our sister' Fanny (p 13)
3. 'My brother Willm'

This leaves 'H T', born 1811 and reported to have married twice, several children; John, born 1815, married with several children; Edward, born 1818, married twice, several children; Mary Frances, born 1825, married I B Wallace, several children, and Emily, born 1829, married R Cooke, several children. The author dined with his uncle Henry Entwisle before the latter departed for Messina, where he was killed in March 1834, and also dined with the Lubbocks in the winter of 1834-5. The most likely candidate is therefore H T, who would have been 22 or 23 at the time. The next oldest, John, would have been 19. Furthermore, in the family tree, H T is the only sibling of that generation referred to only by initials, and this was perhaps because the memoir was addressed to someone who would know his name.

The date of the memoir is 1860, since that was the date Elias Arnaud died and she refers to him as 'recently deceased'.

I do not know what sort of a 'heading' should be put to this chapter of the chronicle which I am about to write, but perhaps as good a title as any would be

Memoirs of an ordinary family

A reference to the accompanying Pedigree will assist you to a comprehension of the particulars which I am able to give.

First of all of the Entwisle branch of the family – which takes precedence from the accidental circumstance that my information is more complete, and that I can write, now, what I have to put down, without the reference to documents which is necessary in the case of our paternal line. Rich^d Bury of Eccles was, I believe, a brother of the John Bury the original purchaser of Swinton, & they were, I further believe, the sons of a pre-original John, of whom the family traditions have preserved no other particulars. Rich^d aforesaid had an only child, Mary Bury, who married James Entwisle and to who he left the whole of his property including among other things

some land at Eccles, the inheritance of his family at the present day. It formed in the commencement of the present year, as county franchise for his great-great-grandson, since deceased.

James Entwisle & Mary his wife were the parents of ten children, of whom our mother was the youngest¹. Mary E died soon after the birth of the latter, leaving a traditioary reputation of having been a woman of very great ability and a powerful aid to her husband in the realization of a considerable fortune. He had a brother, John, a batchelor, with whom he carried on the commerce, then just rising into notice between Manchester & the continent². According to the habits of those days, they rose at 5 in the morning, drove from Rusholme into Manchester by way of Ardwick, breakfasted, dined and had tea in town, and returned to Rusholme to supper. For a journey of such magnitude (3 miles) one pair of horses was considered insufficient – and John E was wont to keep two pair of strong Flemish animals, ill calculated to run swiftly over the smooth McAdam of modern days, but well adapted to pull a family conveyance of pre-adamite, & certainly pre-McAdamite construction & ponderous weight thro' deep mud.

James died early in the present century³. Our mother was then a child - & I believe she lived much with her sister Mrs Scholes – and there she grew up in intimacy with her future husband, with whose family there was an acknowledged relationship.

Richard the eldest surviving son succeeded to the Rusholme property & to the chief place in the family. John, his elder brother, lived to man's estate, travelled much on the continent, & was always spoken of by my mother as a most amiable, agreeable & accomplished gentleman. He made love, I understood, to the sister of Sir J W Lubbock of that day – who was said to have encouraged & accepted his addresses & then to have 'thrown him over' for a man with the Plebeian name of Brown⁴. I heard of him (Brown) as an individual with a fair exterior and an empty head, & when I recollect him he had failed in his original business, & had betaken himself to that refuge for the destitute, the wine business, the conduct of which probably then, as more recently, required neither character nor capital. He disappeared from the scene, leaving a widow and family, of whom you know something. They were haunted to the end of their domestic connection by the recollection that they had a baronetcy (tho' only a city one) in the family, & by the necessity, self-imposed, of keeping up their 'position'⁵. If you want to know particularly what this involves I recommend to your

¹ This establishes that the author's mother was Frances Entwisle, baptised at St Ann's, Manchester, July 27, 1787, who married John Bury July 2, 1807 at Manchester Cathedral.

² James and John are listed as merchants at 8 & 9 Norfolk Street, Manchester, in the 1791 Universal British Directory of Trade, Commerce, and Manufacture.

³ His will is dated March 26, 1802 and was proved May 9, 1803 (Chester Archdeaconry). Frances was therefore 15 at the time of her father's death. Her sister Ann married John Entwisle Scholes July 7, 1795 at Manchester.

⁴ Anna Eliza Lubbock, sister of the first Sir JW, born January 2, 1779 at Lammas, Norfolk, married Hugh William Brown September 24, 1801 at Lamas, and they had six children. Richard Entwisle married Frederica Margareta Phillipino von Bernhard on August 14, 1794, so if he had been Anna Eliza's suitor before that she would have been barely 15 at the time.

⁵ The youngest child of Hugh William Brown and Anna Eliza Lubbock was Mary Lubbock Brown, born October 26, 1818, so the marriage lasted at least 17 years. The date of Hugh William Brown's death is not known, but presumably he must have died, rather than deserted his wife as the author implies, because Anna Eliza became a widow.

perusal & consideration the chapters in the Snob Papers devoted to the household of Major & Mrs Ponto.

Revenons à nos moutons. Richard E was very musical & played & sang himself into an engagement with Friederica Bernhard [I had occasion some years since to investigate the Pedigree of the Bernhard family & certificates (sic) were obtained from all parts of Europe, showing how admirably the registers were kept even during a period when the whole continent was swept by war & revolution. The Pedigree when obtained covered a great part of the wall of a room. The then head of the family was a certain Baron von Bernhard a Professor (sic) at one of the German Universities. The original man with whom the Pedigree commenced held the office of Head or Court Gardener at some German court, I forget which, and was an 'Ober' something or other as long as my arm. Perhaps he was a 'secret' gardener, a description of appointment so much fancied that my Uncle James used to tell of the office of 'secret trumpeter'] or von Bernhard, whom he married without the sanction of his family⁶. I believe he never asked them but took that sort of leave which is denominated French. He set up house at Chorlton cum Hardy [in the very cottage afterwards inhabited by his daughter Fanny on her marriage with P Hordern when I used to visit the latter⁷] & with enormous energy walked in & out of town night & morning for some years. He had nine children – I am not sure whether James was the eldest or the second. He was a wild fellow – ran away from home – married in America & was drowned there, having been knocked overboard by the shifting of the sail of a boat on (I believe) a pleasure excursion⁸. His name was forbidden subject & I never could learn further particulars – but my Uncle paid for many years an annuity to his widow – and it may be paid yet for anything within my knowledge.

Henry, the second (or qu: eldest?) son of Richard⁹, was also a wild spirit. Him I remember well. James I once saw & of James I recollect much mention, but Henry I encountered in the flesh often. He was a very good looking & clever fellow, and could make himself wonderfully agreeable. But he was a roué & a reprobate & was at times insufferably insolent & overbearing. I have heard him 'go on' with servants & others in a marvellous manner & of one scene in particular I have a ludicrous recollection. On the morning of the marriage of one of his sisters, finding one of his garments not ironed to his fancy, he had the washerwoman sent for & placed on the stairs at Rusholme whilst he, in demi-costume, stormed & railed at her from the landing, to the perturbation (sic) of the whole household and the utter terror & prostration of the poor woman. Nevertheless he had the art (or gift and not an acquisition) of attaching to himself all his subordinates, and the servants and employees about the place, the washerwoman no doubt included, much preferred his insolence to the civility of the other members of the family. The marker of the Club Billiard Room, whom he was wont to call a fool & a beast & at whom he would on small provocation have thrown a cue or a Billiard Ball (altho' the man was something of a pugilist) used to speak of

⁶ The marriage was at Manchester Cathedral, so it would appear unlikely that his father's disapproval was all that severe.

⁷ Frances Entwisle, Richard's daughter, was baptised May 2, 1805 at St Ann's, Manchester, and married the Rev Peter Hordern January 14, 1834, at Manchester Cathedral. Her only child Ellen Frances, born February 15, 1835, was the first wife of Sir John Lubbock 1st Lord Avebury

⁸ James was baptised August 26, 1796 at St Ann's, Manchester.

⁹ Henry was the eldest, baptised October 2, 1795, at St Ann's, Manchester

him to me with tears in his eyes, & would, I really believe, have gone on his hands & knees to do him a service.

I conclude therefore that he had good in him, tho' he overlaid it by wild & wilful misconduct.

Some further apology there is for him in the fact that he had an unprosperous love affair with Mary Barton, then, in my remembrance, a very pretty young woman, & now an aged grandmother under the name of Mrs Thos Heywood. Her Father put a veto on it - & it somehow did not run right. This perhaps tended to make him the reckless fellow he subsequently became - & he once referred to it in conversation with me as one of the causes of his ruined career. Suddenly, years after his first affair & when he had reached a tolerably mature period, he made fierce love to Miss H and I well remember some curious scenes of which I was a witness in the progress of the affair - with such good looks - such a knowledge of the art - & such a winning manner - & above all with such a dreadful reputation he was sure to succeed - and Mad^{le} would accordingly have married him bravely - but again parental authority interposed. Papa said if she were to break her heart it might as well be in single blessedness. Perhaps he was right but on the other hand it might have been a case of reformation & amendment. As it was the disappointed gent^m did not commit suicide or even tear his hair. He went abroad - & I dined with him tete à tete just before his departure. He walked part of the way to town with me afterwards - & we had under a lamp in Oxford Road, a very cordial & friendly parting, which I remember as well as any event of last year. I believe he did not much care what became of him. Tidings reached us that he had been to Paris & had offered to serve in the Algerian Legion - then that he had got into a violent row at a Swiss customs house, where, on being threatened with a personal search, he stripped instantly to his under garments, & handed his ordinary clothes over to the authorities for examination; but retained a pistol, with which he swore, doubtless with many oaths, to blow out the brains of anyone who laid hands upon him. He was suffered to depart as a 'mad Englishman'. Ultimately at Messina, in retreating from some fellows who were supposed to be assailing him for the purpose of robbery, he fell backwards down an area & received a fatal injury to the spine. He lived for a day or two conscious, but in a paralysed state, & he died¹⁰ in the arms of Stewart Garnett¹¹, himself destined not many years afterwards to lay his bones in an obscure & long since forgotten grave at Hong Kong.

When William Entwisle, his brother¹², was at Messina last summer, he found a man who remembered the whole story, & who conducted him to his tomb. This man told him that one of the inhabitants of Messina had lived & died in affluent circumstances, which he was always & universally believed to have established by the plunder of the Englishman - I could not learn whether they considered him blameable or fortunate - whether they execrated his atrocity or envied his luck - but in either case the popular impression was a complete mistake - for the family knew that he had nothing in his possession of the least importance - & he himself said nothing about it.

¹⁰ Henry died March 12, 1834, and is buried at the English Cemetery, Messina, Sicily.

¹¹ Thomas Entwisle, son of James Entwisle & Mary Bury, and uncle of Henry, married Elizabeth Garnett.

¹² William was born September 30, 1808. He was elected MP for South Lancashire in 1844, and the author's failure to mention this or his achievements in banking is surprising.

Of the other members of Rich^d E's family little need be said. Rich^d was killed on the moors near Lancaster, in loading his gun. The second barrel exploded, & the charge, striking him on the side of the head, reduced him to instant unconsciousness from which, tho' he lived for some hours, he never rallied. Broken down by these repeated and terrible catastrophes in his family & utterly crippled by gout, the father died in 1836 at little more than 60 years of age¹³. He was a very thin tall man – agreeable in conversation beyond anyone that I ever met, & well able to talk, not merely sense with men, but nonsense, and downright good nonsense too, with all sorts & conditions of people, men, women & children – of music he was a regular proffessor (sic) & I remember when his room was full of instruments from an organ downwards - & he played scientifically on all of them. Peace be to his memory! He was always very kind & considerate to me, and had he lived, would I am sure have done his best to push my fortunes.

We must now turn back, & advert to the other members of the family of James Entwisle & Mary Bury. Mary Entwisle¹⁴ their eldest surviving daughter married Sir John Lubbock¹⁵ who is said to have fallen in love with her 'across the counter' when soe accidental circumstance took her & somebody else into Lubbock ** Banking House. She was a cold and artificial person & never took any particular interest (tho' she proffessed (sic) any quantity) in her only surviving sister [ie the author's mother Frances]. As she made few friends in life, she died in a forlorn sort of state - neglected by her only child & forgotten by those with whom she had associated¹⁶. [I dined with the family occasionally in the winter of 1834-5 when I was in London. Her Ladyship generally placed somebody next to er on the sofa, & conversed in the lowest whisper & in an earnest tone, as if the subject of discussion were of the most mysterious character & of (at least) European importance – whereas it perhaps related to the chance of having to go into court mourning & the expediency of delaying the purchase of other costume de Lede (?). She & my Uncle Henry used to wag their heads & look as profound as Lord Burleigh about it].

Thomas Entwisle, her brother, married Miss Garnett. He was a burly man with a stentorian voice (when he chose to exert it) &, young or old, was always a sort of terror in the family. He was a man of sense & information, & could talk well in the heavy style – but his fun was like the disporting of an elephant or the fun of Lord Campbell (if you ever met with any attempts at badinage on the part of this noble Peer you will understand what I mean) & he was altogether a heavy & some what selfish old gentleman. He continued to have a wonderfully stupid house, which was avoided by his relations - & from which, on one occasion when, under parental authority he had compelled two of his Rusholme nephews to a visit, they clandestinely ran away!

Henry Entwisle¹⁷, the next brother, took to the fashionable way of life, & became, in his own estimation at all events, a 'London swell'. He did the correct thing – could not possibly be absent from London in the right part of the season - & went to Brighton, Cheltenham, etc, according to the rules of the Almanack of Fashion. He

¹³ He was in fact 64, having been baptised December 13, 1771 at Newark, and died May 31, 1836.

¹⁴ Mary was baptised June 19, 1777

¹⁵ Sir John William Lubbock 2nd Bt, born December 27, 1773. The marriage was August 1, 1799 at the Colegiate Church, Manchester

¹⁶ Mary died January 7, 1845, at High Elms, Downe, Kent.

¹⁷ Henry was baptised September 29, 1779 at St Ann's, Manchester

said he got a prize of £30,000 in the Lottery & this story passed current for years in the family, until one of the younger members bred in the law began to enquire into the evidence on which it rested – then the tide turned and I don't think that, afterwards, the allegation obtained the least credit – a result to which no doubt a better appreciation of the man himself greatly contributed. He was engaged to be married to Miss Baring – but broke off the match at the eleventh hour, without reason assigned, to the probable detriment of his own fortune as well as reputation – and to the great distress of the ill used lady. She subsequently married Kemp of Kemp town & died early. You may read this incidental mention of her short unhappy life upon or very near to the property with which she was connected. As for him, Henry Entwisle, retribution may be said to have overtaken him. He spent all his property & was put to wretched & not successful dodges & subterfuges in the attempt to keep up appearances. When I last met him at dinner he came unshaved, with a second-days white 'tie' & a pair of lack-lustre boots - & from having been a smart & (I always heard) very handsome man, he had sunk down into a shabby, surly, used-up & insufferably prosy old bore. He died at Cheltenham, on the verge of actual want – and he was buried by a watering-place parson who (I was told by a bystander) rattled over the service at express speed - & was hardly at the trouble to keep up appearances. We shall have occasion to disinter the deceased & to make further mention of him presently. He gave me the bookcase now standing in my library (having no use for it himself & it not being worth moving) and he reminded me of it every time I saw him afterwards. He passed in the family for a dreary old humbug – and I cannot say that the family judgement was wrong.

Ann, his sister, was the wife of John Scholes¹⁸, a thoughtless fellow who from his mental constitution his course of life & his conduct altogether, ought to have been an Irishman – like them he seldom exercised his judgement – always exercised it wrong when he did try – never took any thought for the morrow – never wanted his supply of beer, brandy & water & cigars – and was never discontented as long as he got them. He lost his wife (whom he neglected) early – he subsequently was the close ally of T Houldsworth, whose racing stud he managed or mismanaged - & he finally married nobody knows whom in the Isle of Man - & died in that Pauper Colony – of him my strongest recollection is that the last time I saw him, in the winter of 1834-5, he was very particularly drunk & so were all the goodly company in which I found him sitting. [When he was about to be married a second time he wrote to announce the approaching event to his friend Houldsworth. The letter reached Houldsworth when he was sitting at breakfast with their mutual friend Major Poole – to whom he flung it saying 'Here, Poole, is a letter from Scholes – read it for me will you, for I have not got my glasses'? Whereupon the Major read the letter out aloud, & finally came to the following passage – 'Keep it a secret at present - & whatever you do, be sure you don't tell that chattering fool Poole'!!}

He had three children, two girls and a son. The two former on the death of their Mother lived with us. Sarah died just before my recollection begins – but I remember something of the mourning for her & hearing much mention of her extraordinary beauty. Mary lived with us until she was old enough to take charge of her Father's house – to which she then returned & in which she very soon died.

¹⁸ Ann married John Entwisle Scholes July 7, 1795, at Manchester

Richard, the son, better known to me by his early soubriquet of Dick, you knew. He never had even a moderate chance - & he would have gone to utter perdition had not Lawrence Fort come to his rescue. Lawrence had faults & failings of his own, but perhaps where they are enumerated it may not be forgotten that he rescued Scholes from impending want and an approaching mésalliance – placed him in comfortable pecuniary circumstances & enabled him not merely to live comfortably, but to amass a moderate fortune. Dick was a droll fellow – with a sharp eye for a ludicrous situation and as keen sense of fun – a trifle coarse he was, as must be expected from his stable education & sensual habit – but he was ‘good’ at times – and I have heard him tell very droll stories & make himself excellent company. Of his later career – his port wine drinking – his beer – his selfish ways – his marriage and his subsequent fate, you know something. His name is not yet forgotten in the house where once he ruled – for the binn of wine which he stored is not yet exhausted - & his successor, calling for a particular bottle, says ‘This is Scholes’s Port’ & asks his visitor’s opinion upon it. It may console the shade of the original owner to know that his successor does ample justice to what they both would call ‘the tap’ – and gets muzzy and stupified upon it every night. [I ought not to bid farewell to poor Dick without recording in his favor that I believe he was quite sensible of his mistaken career & used to mourn, (at times pathetically) over his wasted time & lost opportunities].

William Entwisle¹⁹, the son of James E & Mary Bury, was a man of peculiar ways. Well read & informed and a good linguist, but very shy & retired in his habits. He travelled much in England, driving about his carriage & horses - & also on the continent & when not thus employed he lived in our family on terms of much attachment with all of us. He was understood to have made a will exclusively in favor of my Mother for whom he had a very strong affection – but he went to stay with his brother Henry and then made some change, and almost immediately after he died²⁰ – being found in the water near (I think) Cheltenham) - & being supposed to have thrown himself in. His final will was found to be a mixture of wisdom & mistaken judgement, for he left my Mother & her family a considerable legacy - & he made my Uncle Henry Entwisle sole executor & he gave him the residue of his property. This same Executor entered upon the discharge of his duties – stated that there was a private mem^m by the Testator of his wishes as to sundry articles. Something for my Mother – a very valuable watch I particularly remember for my brother William – something I believe for me – but hereupon he I suppose handed matters over to himself in his capacity of residuary legatee – for none of us ever heard a word more on the subject.

Therefore it is that I don’t feel particularly grateful for the bookcase before mentioned - & it is not without a sort of savage satisfaction that I think of having blown up that story about the Lottery Ticket! With this last favourable mention of him he disappears from the family Memoirs altogether – little considered when living & very soon forgotten when dead.

Our Uncle James²¹ you knew. At the beginning as at the end he was a man of infinite patience & he was always kind & gentle with the young people about him. He was a

¹⁹ William was baptised April 15, 1770

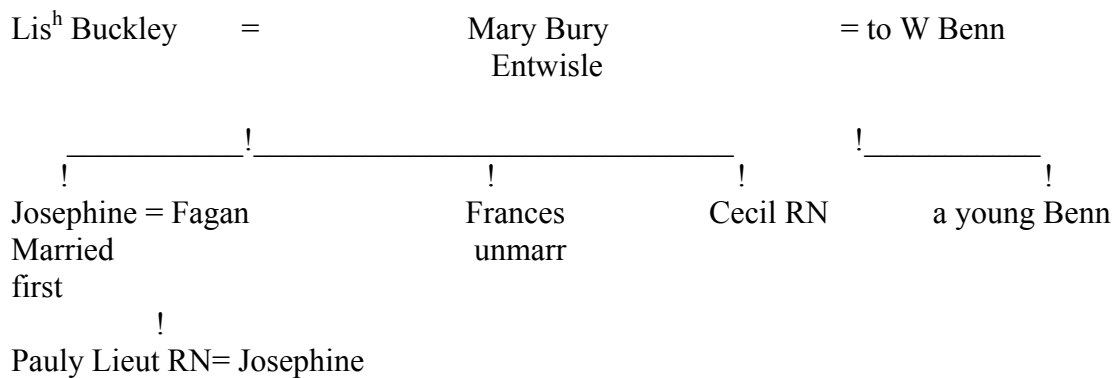
²⁰ William died in 1825

²¹ James was baptised March 13, 1782 at St Ann’s, Manchester.

man of some attainments & fitted for better things than he ever accomplished, late in life he had an 'affair' with Emma Wilson of Seacroft – but it was a foolish business – and altho' the young lady did not look unfavourably upon him, it was terminated by a sort of common consent – She was very pretty – which is some excuse for him.

This concludes the direct account which I have to give of the Entwisle branch of the family.

The Pedigree may be largely extended by including the subsequent generations. Thus in the case of Mrs Benn



Secondly Carter – sundry young Carters

The Members of it were, as a class, undoubtedly people of considerable abilities, & of better education & information than is now usual to encounter in a similar position in life. They wanted however that particular organization which enables men to distinguish themselves & they were consequently little known out of their own iediate circles. Some of them tried business – but tho' they commenced under every possible advantage of time & circumstance they achieved no success - & others came in & reaped the rewards which lay right in their way & which they might have gathered.

Members, and early members, of a community which has since astonished the world by its wonderful prosperity, they did not reap the advantage which, ere the rush of competition had commenced, it seems so easy for them to have attained. Plainer men, with inferior abilities but far more energy, afterwards arose & achieved results in which they had no share – This however is but matter of omission & not of commission - & in the main they were agreeable & worthy members of society

Of the Bury Family (Proper) I may now make mention. The original ancestor is a John, father of John & Richard but of him there is only a dim & faint tradition - & I have preferred to begin with John, the owner of Swinton in 1758. He, by will dated in that year, left his property to his son, whom I shall call John the second. This owner in turn, having increased the property by a neighbouring purchase, left it to his son, John the Third. At the same time he made some provision, charged generally of the 3rd

John's inheritance, for the children of his son William (two daughters Frances & Ann Bury) & for the families of his daughters Mrs Harrop & Mrs Harrison. He died in 1785 or 1786 – the year before my Father was born - & it was always reported that had this event occurred earlier the infant would have been his general heir. As it was, at his death, John the Third had no son born - & the paternal property came into his unrestricted keeping. He did not muddle it away in payment of his debts – but muddled it away all the more effectively because he kept the debts outstanding - & the provisions made by his Father's will for the members of the family remained unsatisfied at his own decease thirty years afterwards – when they had to be discharged. [Amongst some family papers I once found the copy of a bill in Chancery files by, or on behalf of, Mrs Strong, & Mrs Ablett against my Father, charging him with having 'possessed himself' of John the Second's property etc etc & refused to pay the charges upon it. As my Father was not born at his grandfather's death - & was not a devisee or legatee, or even a Trustee or Executor under his own Father's will, their charge was, as I saw that by marginal note (I presume for the guidance of counsel in drawing the answer) Oswald Milne described it, 'ridiculous stuff & nonsense' - & I presume the Plaintiff had to abandon it - & pay costs.]

He lived in the days of the French revolution & passed much of his time drinking confusion o our neighbours across the channel & a speedy downfall to the 'Corsican upstart' – of whom patriotic & libellous songs were common in my childhood – I recollect three lines of a song which exhorted us

To cross the main
Right into Spain
And fight the daring foe

And the jingling epithets bestowed on Buonaparte in some others.

John the Third lived at Bury Hall in Salford – where Bury Street now marks the site. In my recollection, 32 years ago, one end of the old Pigeon Cote was still standing. In his day my Father shot snipes on 'Shaw Brows' – now in the midst of a dense town - & he fished at the confluence of the Irk & the Irwell – then a famous haunt for Trout & now as filthy as piece of water as any in Old Father Thames himself – I remember seeing my Grand Father once & my recollection of in (sic) confined to the figure of an old gentleman, swathed up in flannels & seated in an Easy Chair, in a house at Runcorn, to which he had retired & in which he immediately afterwards die. [On examining my Father's papers at his decease, almost the first on which I laid my hand was a letter from my Uncle Edward giving an account of my Grand Father's last illness. It seems that he sank into a sort of unconsciousness – whereupon the Doctors applied painful remedies, and amongst other things, tortured the soles of his feet – of which, when he came again to himself (I presume in spite of, & not in consequence of, their application) he complained very much]

I have heard he was a short fat man good natured but careless – with a strong belief in the future destiny of Manchester & the neighbourhood – a great disposition to speculate in land accordingly – but an utter inability to carry out, by steady patience & application, any speculation to a successful issue. Consequently his name occurs in all manner of Title Deeds in Salford & Manchester - but neither he nor his descendants got much good out of his operations, & he missed the prize, not because he did not

see that it was there, but because he failed to grasp it. Amongst other 'chances' which presented themselves to him, it is said he had an offer of the entire Old Quay Navigation with all its vessels & plant, for £8000 – where (sic) was then thought to be beyond its value.

On the marriage of my Father (his eldest son) & my Mother, he settled the Swinton property – ridiculously entailing it on the eldest son – and he entered also into obligations for a settlement of money – which no doubt he then believed himself well able to afford, & which he duly paid in his lifetime, but which proved in the end to be beyond his means – consistently with justice to the rest of his family. They at his death were, perhaps not unnaturally indignant – but instead of directing their discontent to the dead, they rather unreasonably directed it to the living - & some of them were never on cordial terms with my father afterwards.

My Father was, as I have said, the eldest son of John the Third. The eldest daughter was Mary, married to John Bourne, a Liverpool merchant, whom I remember – indeed I remember my Aunt as well as him – tho' she must have died about 1830 or 1831. Bourne was a very fat man – a distinguished member of the Liverpool Corporation in its palmiest & most Tory days; and a wonderful trencher-man at all civic and political (True Blue) Feasts. In his final illness he had brandy & water at his bedside, day & night, & he died of disorders in which alcohol must have had a considerable share. He left four sons – Cornelius, the eldest was an attorney & was at once, (utterly unfit by ability or experience) thrust into the solicitorship of the Liverpool Dock Trust – a post which he held only a short time – for the days of reform, or at all events of jobbing in a different form, were at hand. He retired, & lives as a country squire, magistrate etc, upon the family estate at Stalmine, near Fleetwood – where, a year or two since, he got up a furious local squabble about Church Rates or something of the kind – in which I saw that he got worsted.

John Bourne, the second son, is a parson somewhere or other. He married a Miss Wood, a sister of James Wood, an acquaintance of my Balcombe friends, & originally a Trustee of my marriage settlements – a pragmatist fellow of whom I was glad subsequently to be rid.

James & Thomas Bourne I have long lost sight of. There were three sisters – Margaret, Ann & Jane. Margaret made herself much talked about by carrying on a double love affair with a Mr Jordan and a Mr Hassall – both at once. She married the latter and I have heard nothing of her for many a long year – nor do I know accurately the history of her sisters – but I believe they both married.

Edward the next son of John the Third married somebody (whose name I forget) of some property the subject of strict settlement but of which he would have been 'tenant by the curtesy' (in intelligible language he would have had a life interest) had a child been born alive. But his wife died in her first confinement & the child was still born and the property departed from him. He subsequently married Priscilla Faulkner and had three sons – of whom the eldest died young. The second Edward Jas is the husband of our sister Fanny.

Edw^d Bury made some name & fame for himself by taking up & managing the London & Birmingham^m Railway at the outset²², when the Directors, having to make arrangements for working the line, were utterly aghast & unnerved by the magnitude of the task before them. He ought to have made a large fortune - & in fact he did make money – but a softening of the brain of which he subsequently died, no doubt began early – long ere it was suspected by his family - & he got into bad investments and obligations by which his property was cut down considerably.

Fred^k K Bury his brother was an attorney at Manchester – in partnership with J F Foster & other, under the firm of Bury & Foster. He was killed by the upsetting of the London Mail near Leicester in 1826 or 1827. He was engaged to marry one of the Ainsworths of Bolton.

Eliza Bury died unmarried in 184-. Sophia married Fearne – had one child which died early. Fearne was a ‘rolling stone’ and never was in prosperous circumstances. He long resided abroad & the family saw little of him.

Wm Bury, my uncle, is alive yet. He has a living, or perpetual curacy, at Horton in Craven & is an old bachelor.

Margaret married, late in life, Elias Arnaud for many years collector of customs at Liverpool & recently deceased²³.

Sarah Anne married John Marriot & has several children, of whom one is married to Samuel Taylor of Ibbotsholme & another one to one of the Brandreths. Louisa married T Hobson, (whose sister married Dr Roget) and has I think 2 children. Frank went to sea in early life, & was a lazy, good for nothing sort of fellow – ultimately he married somebody in Liverpool, a Miss Oxley, or some such name – but he had no children & she died before him – a couple of years since. His brain gave way & his fancy was to lie in bed & only get up for his dinner, of which he eat enormously & voraciously. He died about a week after Mrs Strong – to whose contemporaries I may now advert.

Sarah & Mary Harrop, the children of List Harrop & one of the daughters of John the Second, have never married. They lived together for fifty years at the Crescent, where Mary died a couple of years since. Sarah survives, in extreme old age, but retaining still the remains of a clear, vigorous & peculiarly straight forward intellect.

Of the Harrisons I have lost sight. There is, however, a John Bury Harrison, a clergyman, who claims acquaintance & relationship with me whenever we meet.

Frances & Ann, the children of Wm Bury, the son of John the Second, both married. Ann married Wm Abbelt (sc Ablett) of Alanbeds Hall near Ruthin, she never had any children & survived her husband, who was a prig of a fellow & whose only claim to notoriety (that I ever heard of) was that he allowed Walter S Landor to sponge upon him as much as the latter liked. Abbolt finally left property to one Jesse – an ass of such enormous & superlative proportions that my pen shrinks from any attempt to

²² The line was finally completed on September 17, 1838

(www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/RAbirmingham.htm)

²³ In the family tree, the author says that Elias Arnaud died in 1860.

describe him. During 50 years (or nearly) that, man & boy, I have spent in the experience of life, I have never met anyone who possessed in so eminent and at the same time so complete a manner the attributes of a bad donkey. If you think the expressions too strong, refer them to your husband – I doubt whether they will half satisfy him.

Frances, her sister, was a fearfully plain woman, much marked by small pox. When well on in life she was married for her money, by the Rev^d M Strong – a remarkably good looking man. He had been a gay fellow at college, and had subsequently associated with people far beyond him in fortune, and was haunted all his life by the debts and obligations of his youth. He had evidently lived in very good society, and on all the occasions when I met him I was quite charmed with his admirable manner & pleasant conversation. He ‘humbled’ his wife beautifully – his device being to pull down the chancel of his church & to extract money from her to pay for it. The repair of it lasted all their married life. However, I believe he behaved with uniform kindness & attention to her, and even when she found out the deception practised upon her, she doted upon his memory.

She herself subsequently fell into old age & imbecility – she died a few weeks after my Uncle Edw^d Bury & Mrs Fearn & was consequently intestate as to the shares of her real estate, or the money to arise from it, which she had destined for them. Hereupon, these shares descended to my brother Will^m Bury as heir at law - & he thus acquired £2,000 & upwards to his great surprise & enormous satisfaction.

I don't think there is much more to be said of the Bury family in bygone generations save that the family of John the Third were certainly rather a handsome set. My Gather, Fred^k Bury & Frank were decidedly good looking young men – and all the womankind, except perhaps Eliza had considerable advantages of appearance. I do not know that any of them were distinguished for ability – but most of them led orderly and respectable lives, and they made themselves useful in their respective spheres. Whilst, as I have previously mentioned, the Eccles Property of Richard Bury is still possessed by his descendants, the Swinton estate acquired by John the first & comprised in his will of 1758 remains yet in his family, & is now the inheritance of William, his great great grandson. It is rather singular that two properties of no sort of importance in themselves, should thus have run, as it were side by side, for so long a period.