

# **All Aboard** **the *Mary Ann***

**Descendants of**  
**Thomas GILL and Mary LESTER**

**From Baltonsborough, Somerset**  
**To Nelson, New Zealand**

**Prepared from contributions**  
**by several family genealogists**

**by**

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**Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester**

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## Compiler's Note

As indicated on the cover, this record has been assembled from data supplied by a number of Gill genealogists. I did not set out originally to fully document this large family, but was following all Nelson Gill leads in the hope that somebody, somewhere would uncover the missing proof that Thomas Gill, born in 1847, was indeed a member of this family. The search took 25 years, but eventually a fourth cousin produced the evidence. This document is distributed to thank all those who have so generously shared their knowledge.

The story which unfolds is of an extended family of agricultural labourers and artisans who chose emigration in preference to the deprivation they were experiencing in over-populated mid-nineteenth century Somerset. They had no capital to ease their relocation in a pioneer community, and they were unfortunate to find in Nelson pretty much the same problem they were trying to escape in England, viz.: an oversupply of labour and insufficient capitalists willing and able to employ them. The difference in Nelson was the availability of land. With no state support available for the unemployed, and with an incipient labourers' riot threatening, the NZ Company agents turned a blind eye to squatters like William Gill establishing themselves on plots of unoccupied land with a view to supporting their families.

So, within a few years, William had established himself on a small farm. This must have represented success beyond his wildest dreams, compared with his prospects in Somerset. We should not, however, overlook the extreme hardships they suffered before their houses were built and their land was broken in sufficiently to produce the first crop of food. These folk were among the absolute pioneers of Nelson. When they arrived at Wellington the location of Nelson had barely been decided upon, and survey work was just beginning. The men were immediately set to work constructing a barracks building to house the disembarking families. When that was full to overflowing with women and children, men had to make their own little huts of flax and rushes, with fern for their beds. Women became ingenious at improvising with whatever was to hand, to increase their family's comforts. Sarah Sharp (later Higgins) writes of using a broken saw blade balanced on stones in an open fire, to bake her scones.

Among William's 5 sons and more than 30 adult grandsons there is a predominance of small farmers, self-employed and working their own land. One questions whether they could have achieved the same, had the family remained in Somerset.

There is recurrent evidence in the earlier generations of the importance of the institution of marriage. Men needed to work very hard and long hours to wrest a living from the untamed land, and were at a serious disadvantage without a woman at their side to undertake the very laborious tasks of preparation and preservation of food, maintaining fires for cooking, doing laundry and other cleaning, and tending numerous illnesses, and the care and education of children. Widows likewise, had insufficient time left after completing these necessary chores to engage in employment. Thus it is noticeable that widows and widowers with dependent families commonly remarried in a very short space of time by our standards.

Marriages, and especially second marriages, were not infrequently to distant relatives, or to members of the *de facto* "family" of those who had travelled together on the *Mary Ann*.

Some individuals seem to have rearranged the order of their names, or added a second name, after the registration of their birth. I have tried to use the name they were known by in adulthood.

In the absence of more specific detail, the place of a birth or a death is given as the Registration District where it was recorded. Thus it should be borne in mind that "Nelson" does not necessarily mean the City of Nelson, it could be anywhere in the Nelson District. "The Wairau" refers to what we now call Marlborough. "Aorere" is Collingwood.

I have tried as far as possible to verify the information given to me by consulting public records. Should errors or omissions be discovered I would be pleased to hear of them so that the file can be corrected. There is no copyright on this work. You may take a copy if you wish. The only charge is a challenge to all readers to check those portions with which they are most familiar and inform me of any amendments. Biographical material, even a few lines, about any of the individuals mentioned, would be especially welcome.

## Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

### ***First Generation (children, nos 2-6) also forebears)***

1. **Thomas GILL** was born about 1741 and died on 26 Apr 1818 in Baltonsborough, Somerset, UK, aged 77.<sup>1</sup> He was probably the Thomas GILL who was baptised on 26 Mar 1742 in Butleigh parish, the son of John GILL and Frances PERIAN. Butleigh adjoins Baltonsborough to the south-west.

Thomas married Mary LESTER in Feb 1765 in Baltonsborough.<sup>1</sup> Mary was buried on 9 Feb 1806 in Baltonsborough (age not stated).

They had the following children:

- 2 i. **Ann GILL** was baptised on 8 Nov 1767.<sup>1</sup> She married Joseph TAYLOR in Oct 1788.<sup>1</sup>
- 3 ii. **Jane GILL** was baptised on 14 Apr 1771.<sup>1</sup> She married Thomas GIBBS in Feb 1791.<sup>1</sup>
- 4 iii. **John GILL** was baptised in May 1775<sup>1</sup> and was buried in May 1843.<sup>1</sup> *Refer to page 5*
- 5 iv. **Betty GILL** was baptised on 16 Mar 1780<sup>1</sup> and buried in Mar 1780.<sup>1</sup>
- 6 v. **Henry GILL** was baptised on 5 Jun 1784<sup>1</sup> and was buried on 22 Apr 1821. *Refer to page 5*

All the above events occurred at Baltonsborough and are recorded in the parish registers. Baltonsborough Parish lies 5 miles south east of Glastonbury and had a population of 675 in 1831. Butleigh Parish adjoins Baltonsborough to the west and is 4½ miles from Glastonbury. Its population was 952 in 1831. West Pennard Parish lies to the north of Baltonsborough, 3¼ miles south east of Glastonbury, and had a population of 920 in 1831.

Thomas and Mary may have had another son, George, whose baptism has not been found. When Henry's widow remarried in 1822 a George Gill was witness to the marriage.

Thomas' presumed parents, John GILL and Frances PERIAN were married on 9 Apr 1736 in Butleigh.

They had the following children baptised at Butleigh

- i. **John GILL** on 20 Aug 1735
- ii. **Mary GILL** on 14 Jan 1738
- iii. **Elizabeth GILL** on 10 May 1740, bur. 7 May 1826 Butleigh aged 87
- iv. **Thomas GILL** on 26 Mar 1742 (presumed forebear of this family)
- v. **Ann GILL** on 4 Mar 1748

John GILL was buried on 31 Jul 1772 at Butleigh [No indication if this was Frances' husband or her son]  
Frances GILL was buried on 25 Feb 1760 at Butleigh

I am grateful to Bob Senior for drawing my attention to the full transcript of Butleigh parish records available at <http://www.butleigh.org/parishrecords/parishrecords.html>. His website also incorporates a wealth of detail about the parish and its people.

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### **Second Generation (Grandchildren, nos 7-29)**

4. **John GILL** was baptised on 28 May 1775 in Baltonsborough,<sup>1</sup> the eldest known son of Thomas GILL and Mary LESTER (*page 4*). He is assumed to be the John who was buried in May 1843 in Baltonsborough,<sup>1</sup> said to be 74 though this John is likely to have been about 69.

John married Mary MARSH in Oct 1798 in Baltonsborough.<sup>1</sup> Mary was buried there in Aug 1799.<sup>1</sup>

John then married Elizabeth and they had the following children baptised in Baltonsborough.<sup>1</sup>

- 7 i. **Richard GILL** on 7 Feb 1802
- 8 ii. **Job GILL** on 11 Apr 1802
- 9 iii. **Mary Ann GILL** on 19 Aug 1804
- 10 iv. **Isaac GILL** in Feb 1807. In 1881 he was a widower, living at the *Greyhound Inn*, Baltonsborough, head of the household, an agricultural labourer/pensioner, aged 75. Emma HOLE, his grand-daughter, a dressmaker aged 17, born in Baltonsborough, lived with him.<sup>207</sup>
- 11 v. **John GILL** on 19 Aug 1810. He is assumed to be the John who was buried in Baltonsborough in Jul 1850, said to be 32 though this John would have been about 40.
- 12 vi. **George GILL** in May 1814. He may be the George GILL, agricultural labourer, of Glastonbury who emigrated to New Zealand by *Mary Ann* in 1842,<sup>43</sup> though his age on the passenger list (20) does not agree well with his christening. Ages on the passenger lists were commonly wrong. Nothing is known of this George GILL's further life after coming to New Zealand.
- 13 vii. **Shadrack GILL** in Mar 1820. Shadrack was buried, aged 25, in Jul 1846 in Baltonsborough.<sup>1</sup>
- 14 viii. **Patience GILL** in Mar 1825. *Refer to page 9*

6. **Henry GILL** was baptised on 5 Jun 1784 in Baltonsborough,<sup>1</sup> the second son and fifth child of Thomas GILL and Mary LESTER (*page 4*). He was buried on 22 Apr 1821 in Baltonsborough<sup>1</sup> at the age of 36, leaving a widow and 8 children ranging from 10 year old William to the posthumous infant, Mercy.

Henry married Ann BADCOCK on 27 Aug 1804 at Somerton, Somerset. Somerton is about 9 km south-west of Baltonsborough. Ann died in Oct 1805<sup>1</sup> about the time of the birth of her only child:

- 15 i. **George GILL** was baptised in Oct and died in Dec 1805 in Baltonsborough.<sup>1</sup>

Henry Gill (widower) married Mary Slade in Jan 1807 in Baltonsborough.<sup>1</sup> She may have been born at Ditchat, Somerset, on 1 Feb 1788, daughter of Thomas SLADE and Ann ROGERS. *See following page* They had the following children baptised in Baltonsborough:<sup>1</sup>

- 16 i. **Eliza GILL** in Apr 1808. Eliza was buried the same month.<sup>1</sup>
- 17 ii. **Jane GILL** on 28 May 1809. Jane was buried on 6 Aug 1809.<sup>1</sup>
- 18 iii. **William GILL** on 6 May 1810 *Refer to page 9*
- 19 iv. **Selinah GILL** on 29 Dec 1811
- 20 v. **Jane GILL** on 20 Jun 1813 *Refer to page 10*
- 21 vi. **Frederick GILL** in 13 Aug 1815. Frederick married Mary \_\_\_\_\_ who was born in Ditchat, Somerset. They lived at 26 Scottisham Green, Evercreech, Somerset in 1851.<sup>4</sup>
- 22 vii. **Jemima GILL** on 24 Nov 1816 *Refer to page 10*
- 23 viii. **Henry GILL** on 3 Jan 1819 *Refer to page 11*
- 24 ix. **Rhoda GILL** on 22 Apr 1821. She was buried in Oct 1828 in Baltonsborough,<sup>1</sup> aged 8.
- 25 x. **Mercy GILL** in Nov 1821, eight months after the death of her father. In 1841 Mercy was described as a dairymaid, aged 18, of Charlton Mackrell, Somerset.<sup>43</sup> She emigrated to NZ by *Mary Ann* in 1842 and married Thomas POTTER on 18 Nov 1842 in Nelson.<sup>42</sup>

After Henry's death in 1821 Mary SLADE/GILL had a son:

- 26 i. **Sydney GILL or HIGGINS** was baptised in Dec 1826 in Baltonsborough.<sup>1</sup> A Sydney HIGGINS, son of Peter and Mary was baptised on 10 Aug 1827 at Glastonbury<sup>44</sup> and it is assumed these 2 baptisms refer to the same child. *Refer to page 11*

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Mary SLADE/GILL married her second husband Peter HIGGINS on 26 Dec 1826 in Baltonsborough.<sup>1</sup> Peter was baptised on 25 Dec 1804 in Baltonsborough. They had the following children:

- 27 ii. **Angelina HIGGINS** was baptised in 22 Jun 1828 or Feb 1830 in Baltonsborough.<sup>1</sup> *Refer to page 12*
- 28 iii. **Rhoda HIGGINS** was baptised on 14 Feb 1830 in Baltonsborough.<sup>1</sup> *Refer to page 13*
- 29 iv. **Selina HIGGINS** - no baptism has been found for Selina HIGGINS, and she is believed to have been Jemima's illegitimate daughter, baptised Selina GILL in Feb 1836 in Baltonsborough.<sup>1</sup> *Refer to page 22*

Peter and Mary HIGGINS emigrated to NZ in the *Mary Ann* in 1842 with the above four children (stepbrothers and sisters of nos 16-25). Peter was described as a labourer, aged 36, while Mary his wife was said to be 48.<sup>43</sup> Robyn Tuckett has written in *Higgins Family History*: "When Peter and Mary decided to emigrate several of Mary's children from her first marriage joined them. Initially they planned to emigrate to Canada but at the last moment decided to board the *Mary Ann* which was heading for New Zealand." The dates of their applications for passage to NZ suggest it was William and Harriet who made the first move and that Peter and Mary decided to join them.

Peter and Mary settled on Section 69, south of Barton's lane at Spring Grove. In the 1845 census of Nelson Peter is described as a sawyer, his land ½ fern and ½ trees, with 15 acres part fenced and 4 acres in various crops. Peter was killed while felling a tree on 12 Nov or 12 Dec 1847.<sup>46</sup> This was soon after his cottage was built and his family installed in it, leaving Mary alone to bring up her four children in 'the wilderness of a bush home' to quote her grandson, George Rennell HIGGINS.<sup>202</sup>

Within 8 weeks of Peter's death Mary SLADE/GILL/HIGGINS married her third husband Daniel EYLES on 3 Feb 1848.<sup>131</sup> Mary died an 11 Mar 1868,<sup>139</sup> and was buried at Richmond, aged 84. From her age at death her birth year appears to have been 1784. From her age on the passenger list in 1841 it appears to have been 1793. The difficulty with the later date is that she would have been 15 when she bore her first child in 1808, the difficulty with the earlier date is that she would have been 46 when her last child was born in 1830. Her true birth date probably lies in between. It is quite likely that her age on the passenger list was reduced to qualify her for a free passage to NZ. It is also quite likely that her third husband had only a vague idea of her age as there would have been no documents to prove it. [In *Just another row of spuds* it is stated that Mary's age at marriage to Peter Higgins was recorded as 50. This is hardly credible given that she would produce 3 children of this marriage.<sup>78</sup>]

Daniel EYLES was also on the *Mary Ann* with his first wife Jane PRIMMER (who died on 19 Jun 1842) and 7 children. Their daughter Amelia and her second husband John HOLDAWAY built a home on their farm for Amelia's father Daniel EYLES and his second wife, Mary, and five acres were set aside for their use. Daniel and Mary were then about 56 and happy to have left their former home in Cambria Street, Nelson for the security of the farm and the nearness to their daughter.<sup>46</sup> [In *Just another row of spuds* it is said that Mary and Daniel had a child, Daniel Eyles. This seems improbable given that she would have been 55 at least at the time of her 3<sup>rd</sup> marriage.] **Look for death of Daniel EYLES**

LDS Family Search suggests Henry Gill Jemima Gill and Mary Slade were bapt at Godney, Meare (a parish to the north-west of Glastonbury, about the same distance that Baltonsborough is to the south-east.

### **Notes on the possible ancestry of Mary SLADE, spouse of No 6:**

Ditcheat, Somerset is a parish about 6 miles east of Baltonsborough, or 3¼ miles north west of Castle Cary. Its population in 1831 was 1,238. This is the parish to which Henry GILL (No 23) returned in the later 1840s after his brief visit to NZ. He may have been returning to his mother's family. In the Ditcheat records we find: Mary SLADE was born on 1 Feb 1788 and baptised on 3 Feb 1788, the daughter of Thomas SLADE and Ann ROGERS. If this is "our" Mary SLADE she was aged 19 when she married Henry GILL, aged 38 when she married Peter HIGGINS, aged 42 when Selina was born, aged 53 when she embarked for NZ [the list says 48], aged 60 when she married Daniel Eyles, and 80 when she died [the record says 84]. Jenni Balgownie had Mary, daughter of William and Elizabeth SLADE born 1784 at Lydden, Kent, England. This seems much less likely to be correct. Another possible baptism that has been suggested for Mary is 14 Apr 1786 at Bath Abbey, Somerset. We are unlikely to find evidence to decide which is correct.

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*Mary's probable parents* (records at Ditcheat):

Thomas SLADE and Ann ROGERS were married on 11 Nov 1787.

Thomas SLADE was baptised on 13 Mar 1765, the son of James SLADE and Rosanna CHINNICK

Thomas SLADE was buried on 16 Aug 1789 (aged 24 years) (Mary was their only known child).

Ann ROGERS was born 10 Jul 1767 the daughter of Mary ROGERS (no father mentioned)

No burial or 2nd marriage for Ann ROGERS has been found.

*Mary's grandparents* (records at Ditcheat):

James SLADE and Rosanna CHINNICK were married on 20 Apr 1754. Their children:

James SLADE bapt 20 Sep 1755; Rosanna SLADE bapt 24 Jul 1760; (illegible) SLADE bapt 3 Jul 1762

Thomas SLADE bapt 13 Mar 1765; Elizabeth SLADE bapt 7 Feb 1768

Rosanah CHINNICK was bapt on 18 May 1735, the daughter of Thomas CHINNICK

### All aboard the *Mary Ann*.

40 known kindred of William Gill travelled on the *Mary Ann* to Nelson.

They were as follows:

Self & Wife (Harriet Gill)

6 children (including one born on board)

2 sisters unmarried (Jane and Mercy Gill)

1 brother unmarried (Henry Gill)

1 cousin unmarried (George Gill)

Mother (Mary Higgins)

Stepfather (Peter Higgins)

1 stepbrother (Sydney Higgins)

2 stepsisters (Angelina and Rhoda Higgins)

1 niece/adopted stepsister (Selina Higgins)

1 future son-in-law (William Rayner who would marry Sophia)

1 future step-father (Daniel Eyles)

8 future stepbrothers and sisters (the Eyles children, Amelia travelled as Mrs Thomas Cresswell, later Mrs John Holdaway)

1 future de facto nephew-in-law who would first become his step-brother (Charles Eyles who would partner Jemima's daughter Selina)

11 future in-laws of his unborn son Thomas, members of the Lyford family.

During the voyage a meeting of emigrants was held on board the *Mary Ann* on 12 January 1842, which laid the foundations of the first Benefit Society, and of the Nelson Institute. Mr Gill was included on the committee appointed to make preliminary arrangements to promote the proposed Society. The purpose of the Institute was to diffuse literary and scientific information, by means of a reading room, a public library, and the delivery of public lectures, etc.<sup>82</sup>

Berth allocations in the *Mary Ann* steerage deck are listed in the following table. The shading identifies William's kin. This is a listing of names only, for the layout of the area refer to the plan of the *Mary Ann*. The names in bold are not on the plan but appear in the passenger list. They have been slotted into any available

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space, though the partitions between single and married accommodation were probably moved to accommodate the extra unmarried males and females in their appropriate quarters. The Gill family are shown to be occupying two berths. These were approx 6 feet long by three feet wide, in two tiers. Three year old George would have been expected to share his parents' bunk, with Ellen (5) Sophia (7) Benjamin (9) and Henry (11) in the bunk above. Conditions were incredibly crowded, and in the midst all of this Harriet would give birth to another baby before they arrived in Nelson. [A Gill child might have shared with the Higgins's.]

### Single Men:

Berth No 1	James Barton	Berth No 7	Emery Houndsell
Berth No 2	Edward Cresswell	Berth No 8	William Houndsell
Berth No 3	William Eyles	Berth No 9	Sydney Higgins
Berth No 4	William Fairhall	Berth No 10	Thomas Houseman
Berth No 5	George Gill	Berth No 11	William Lovell
Berth No 6	Henry Gill	Berth No 12	William McRae

### Single men in Hammocks in Forecastle:

Berth No 1	David Matthews	Berth No 4	John Sheat
Berth No 2	David Norgate	Berth No 5	J Saunders
Berth No 3	William Rayner	Berth No 6	Henry Gill

### Married Couples:

Berth No 1	Job Aldridge, wife, infant	Berth No 29	G McRae, wife, 2 infants
Berth No 2	Wm Gregory, wife, child	Berth No 30	McRae, 3 children
Berth No 3	Wm Lyford, wife	Berth No 31	A C Muir, wife
Berth No 4	L Lyford, wife, child	Berth No 32	G Packman, wife, child
Berth No 5	Lyfords 3 children	Berth No 33	James Lee, wife
Berth No 6	Lyfords 3 children	Berth No 34	Elizabeth Sheat single
Berth No 7	Wm Jennings, wife, child	Berth No 35	Wm Gill, wife, child
Berth No 8	Jennings 3 children	Berth No 36	Gill children (4)
Berth No 9	D Eyles, wife, child	Berth No 37	North 2 children
Berth No 10	Eyles 3 children	Berth No 38	Thos North, wife, infant
Berth No 11	G Smith, wife, infant	Berth No 39	North 2 children
Berth No 12	G Smith child	Berth No 40	
Berth No 13	C&I McRae, single women	Berth No 41	B Powell, wife
Berth No 14	Thos Tidd, wife, child	Berth No 42	Powell 2 children
Berth No 15	P Boddington, wife, infant	Berth No 43	Thos Towers, wife
Berth No 16	Boddington 3 children	Berth No 44	Towers 3 children
Berth No 17	Edwd Fairhall, wife, 2 inf	Berth No 45	Geo Tarr, wife, child
Berth No 18	Fairhall 3 children	Berth No 46	C Vincent, wife, child
Berth No 19	David Noakes and wife	Berth No 47	John Scutter, wife, child
Berth No 20	J Richardson, wife, 2 children	Berth No 48	Scutter 2 children
Berth No 21	J Champ, wife, child	Berth No 49	I Baggerley, wife, child
Berth No 22	Gregory, wife, child	Berth No 50	Elizabeth Harley (single)
Berth No 23	Gregory 2 children	Berth No 51	S Close, wife, child
Berth No 24	J Clark, wife, 2 children	Berth No 52	Close 2 children
Berth No 25	Thos Hopton and wife	Berth No 53	J Fuller, wife, child
Berth No 26	Higgins children (2)	Berth No 54	Fuller 3 children
Berth No 27	P Higgins, wife, child	Berth No 55	J Collins, wife, infant
Berth No 28	McRae, 3 children	Berth No 56	

### Single Women:

Berth No 1	Amelia Cresswell, 5 children	Berth No 4	Ann Fairhall, Eliza Fairhall
Berth No 2	Mary Eyles, Jane Eyles	Berth No 5	M Holdaway 4 children
Berth No 3	M Wells & 2 children	Berth No 6	Jane & Mercy Gill

### **Third Generation (Great Grandchildren, no 30-81)**

**14. Patience GILL** was baptised in Mar 1825 in Baltonsborough,<sup>1</sup> the daughter of John GILL and his second wife Elizabeth (*page 5*).

She had the following children (no father was named in the parish register):

- 30 i. **Abraham GILL** was baptised in Nov 1848, and buried in May 1849 in Baltonsborough<sup>1</sup> at the age of 6 months.
- 31 ii. **Charlotte GILL** was baptised in Jan 1853 in Baltonsborough.<sup>1</sup>

Patience married John BURGE in Feb 1853 in Baltonsborough.<sup>1</sup> John was born about 1816.

**18. William GILL** was born on 6 May 1810 in Baltonsborough,<sup>1</sup> the eldest son among the eight surviving children of Henry GILL and Mary SLADE (*page 5*). He died on 17 Mar 1885<sup>2</sup> at Todd's Bush, Wakapuaka, Nelson, NZ, of apoplexy. *Check: is 6 May a birth or bapt date?*

William's occupation in England was a stonemason. It has been suggested that he built the stone house at the foot of Gentle Annie, Wakapuaka, Nelson. *Write to Natalie Wastney about this.* Employment had been difficult to find in his home area, and he was walking many miles each day looking for work. The solution seemed to be emigration to NZ and in 1841 he embarked on the *Mary Ann*, arriving in Nelson on 8 Feb 1842, with his wife and family. At the time of application for passage to NZ, William and family resided at Baltonsborough, Town of Walton, Somerset.<sup>43</sup> Refer to page 7 for a list of other kin who travelled to NZ with William's family. [Baltonsborough is a small village about 2 miles south-east of Glastonbury, the town of Walton is about 2 miles south-west of Glastonbury, so these appear to be alternate addresses.]

William and his family settled first at Cambria Street, The Wood, Nelson,<sup>48</sup> but after 2 years he acquired a farmlet on Section 17, Suburban North. In the 1849 census he is described as a squatter, living in a wooden house with a thatch roof, and owning 7 cattle, 40 goats, 1 pig and various crops including 2 acres of potatoes. The parents could read and write, but none of the children claimed those skills.<sup>47</sup> In an 1866 report, William, "of Tod's Valley", is said to have 200 sheep.<sup>206</sup> Wool was being exported to England.

1870 Electoral Roll: Abode Suburban North, Property: House and Land, Sect 18 & 19.

He was liable for the Education Rate 1874 in respect of 3 children (presumably Jessie 1860, William 1862 and Alfred 1864).

William first married Harriet HUNT. Harriet was born about 1809, and died on 19 Oct 1855 in Nelson.<sup>6</sup> She was 44, and in the course of 17 years had borne 11 children of whom 8 survived.

They had the following children:

- 32 i. **Henry GILL** was baptised in Sep 1830 in Baltonsborough.<sup>1</sup> *Refer to page*
- 33 ii. **Benjamin GILL** was baptised in Apr 1832 in Baltonsborough.<sup>1</sup> *Refer to page 14*
- 34 iii. **Sophia GILL** was baptised in Mar 1834 in Baltonsborough.<sup>1</sup> *Refer to page 15*
- 35 iv. **Ellen GILL** was born in Nov 1836 in Baltonsborough.<sup>1</sup> *Refer to page 15*
- 36 v. **George GILL** was baptised in Dec 1838 in Baltonsborough.<sup>1</sup> *Refer to page 16*
- 37 vi. **Emily GILL** was baptised in Mar 1840 and buried in Apr 1841 in Baltonsborough.
- 38 vii. **Mary Ann GILL** was born in 1841/42 on the *Mary Ann* en route to NZ. She appears to have died at the age of 5 months, of convulsions, in 1842 in Nelson.<sup>80</sup>
- 39 viii. \_\_\_\_\_ **GILL** (male) was probably born late in 1842 in Nelson and died after 2 days, of weakness.<sup>80</sup> Harriet would have had to become pregnant again almost immediately after his birth to produce Frederick in August 1843.
- 40 ix. **Frederick GILL** was born on 9 Aug 1843 in Wakapuaka, Nelson.<sup>42</sup> *Refer to page 17*
- 41 x. **Adeline GILL** was born on 9 Nov 1844 in Nelson.<sup>42</sup> *Refer to page 18*

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- 42 xi. **Thomas GILL** was born on 22 Sep 1847 in Nelson.<sup>15</sup> *Refer to page 18*

Of the 11 children known to have been born to Harriet, all survived to adulthood apart from the three that were born immediately before, during, or after the voyage to New Zealand. This may be a reflection of the economic deprivation suffered by the family at this time, having an adverse effect on Harriet's health, so that she lacked the stamina to produce and nurture healthy babies.

Six months after Harriet's death William married Ann EDWARDS, daughter of George Matthew EDWARDS and Elizabeth RUTLAND, on 25 Apr (or 25 March) 1856 in Nelson.<sup>3</sup> Ann was born about 1833 in Chigwell, Essex, UK, and died of burns on 7 Jun 1886<sup>92</sup> in Nelson, just a little more than a year after her husband's death. She was about 53, and was buried at Wakapuaka cemetery.

They had the following children:

- 43 i. **Alice Mary GILL** was born in 1856 in Nelson.<sup>94</sup> *Refer to page 19*  
44 ii. **Fanny Emma GILL** was born 1858 in Nelson.<sup>95</sup> *Refer to page 19*  
45 iii. **Jessie Louisa GILL** was born on 26 Oct 1860 in Nelson.<sup>20</sup> *Refer to page 19*  
46 iv. **William "Will" GILL** was born on 19 Aug 1862 in Nelson.<sup>49</sup> *Refer to page 20*  
47 v. **Alfred George GILL** was born on 2 May 1864 in Nelson.<sup>50</sup> *Refer to page 21*

**20. Jane GILL** was baptised on 20 Jun 1813 in Baltonsborough,<sup>1</sup> the daughter of Henry GILL and Mary SLADE (*page 5*). Jane died on 26 May 1898 in Nelson, aged 86.<sup>100</sup> She came to NZ in the *Mary Ann* in 1842, described as a servant aged 21, though her age from her baptismal record was 28. On the applications for passage she is described as a dairymaid aged 21, resident at Baltonsborough, Town of Walton, Somerset.<sup>43</sup> On her death certificate her parents were said to be William and Mary, but should be Henry and Mary.

Jane first married Hiram DANE on 18 Jul 1842 in the Anglican Church, Nelson.<sup>42</sup> Hiram was born about 1809 in America,<sup>48</sup> and died on 16 Dec 1858 in Nelson when he was 49.<sup>101</sup> He was buried in Nelson. Occupation: Boatman. Religion: Baptist.

They had the following children:

- 48 i. **Mary Jane DANE** was born in 1844 in Nelson. *Refer to page 21*  
49 ii. **William Frederick DANE** was born in 1845 in Nelson. *Refer to page 21*  
50 ii. **Henry Edward DANE** was born on 29 Jun 1852 in Nelson. *Refer to page 21*

Jane married her second husband Thomas Martin WIMSETT on 18 Jul 1860.<sup>130</sup> Mrs Thomas Wimsett is noted among those present at the Old Settlers' Luncheon held on 21 June 1887 to mark Queen Victoria's 50<sup>th</sup> Jubilee.<sup>82</sup> Also present was a Mrs Gill, probably Jane's brother Henry's widow, Charlotte. To quote Broad: *Many a tear was shed as old shipmates recalled leaving the Old Country nearly 50 years previously, the struggles in the infant days of settlement, and fond remembrances of those who had passed away.*

**22. Jemima GILL** was baptised on 24 Nov 1816 in Baltonsborough,<sup>1</sup> the daughter of Henry GILL and Mary SLADE (*page 5*). She died on 30 Aug 1894 in Brightwater, Nelson, at the age of 77.<sup>115</sup>

She had the following children, for whom no father was named:

- 51 i. **Selina GILL** was baptised in Feb 1836 in Baltonsborough,<sup>1</sup> and adopted by her maternal grandmother Mary, by then HIGGINS. *Refer to page 22*  
52 ii. **Harriet Ann GILL** was born about 1837 in Glastonbury, Somerset, UK. *Refer to page 23*

Jemima later married James MAULE, son of James MAULE and Grace POOLE on 14 Aug 1841 at Glastonbury<sup>216</sup> (or Sept 1/4 1843 in Wells Registration District<sup>204</sup>). James was born on 21 Aug 1808 in Glastonbury, Somerset, and died on 26 Oct 1895 in Brightwater, Nelson. James had been previously married to Ann MARSH and already had the following children, half-brothers and sisters to James and Jemima's family:

## Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

- 53 i. **Charlotte MAULE** was born about 1831, a glover in 1851.
- 54 ii. **Henry MAULE** was born about 1833, a farm servant at home of Arthur Keen, parish Meare in 1851.
- 55 iii. **Emma MAULE** was born about 1835, a glover in 1851.
- 56 iv. **Anne MAULE** was born about 1837, a glover living with her Uncle William Maule in 1851. Possibly Mariette Ann MAULE b 1837 Glastonbury.<sup>216</sup>
- 57 v. **Abraham MAULE** was bapt 1840 at Glastonbury, a scholar living at home in 1851, died 23 June 1864, aged 22 ½ years according to the inscription at Brightwater cemetery. He appears to have been rebaptised to James and Jemima MAULE in 1842 at Glastonbury.

Need to look at Glastonbury Register to see if all the survivors of the first MAULE family were rebaptised at the same time.

The family lived at 201 Northload, Glastonbury in 1851<sup>4</sup> and travelled to Sydney with all the children listed above (apart from Selina GILL/HIGGINS) by the *Sarah* 14 Aug 1851, their method of arrival in NZ is not known.

James and Jemima had the following children:

- 58 i. **Mercy Jane MAULE** was bapt in 1842 and/or 1844 at Glastonbury, a scholar in 1851. She married Matthew DAY on 14 Dec 1868 at Spring Grove, Nelson.
- 59 ii. **Mary MAULE** was bapt 1850 at Glastonbury. She died in July 1886.
- 60 iii. **Angelina MAULE** born 1852 in Australia.<sup>216</sup> Nothing further known.
- 61 iv. **Sydney Phillip MAULE** born before 1854 in Australia.<sup>216</sup> Nothing further known.
- 62 v. **Clara MAULE** was born on 23 Dec 1858 at Brightwater and died on 7 Sep 1918 at Nelson. Won prize 11-12 years at Spring Grove School 23 Jan 1871. Birth reg not found.
- 63 vi. **John Joseph MAULE** was born in 1860 in Spring Grove,<sup>160</sup> and died on 23 Nov 1907 at Waimea South. *Refer to page 24*
- 64 vii. **Louis/Louisa MAULE** was born about 1863. Louisa died on 22 Sep 1939 in Nelson,<sup>137</sup> at the age of 77, and was buried in Brightwater, Nelson. [Death Index says Louisa] [Birth reg not found 1859-70] *Look at cemetery records, Louisa may be John Joseph's wife.*

**23. Henry GILL** was baptised on 3 Jan 1819 in Baltonsborough,<sup>1</sup> the son of Henry GILL and Mary SLADE (page 5). He died on 13 Feb 1883<sup>90</sup> and was buried in Wakapuaka cemetery, Nelson, aged 64.

It appears that Henry came to NZ in 1841/42 in the *Mary Ann*, but returned to England after a brief stay in Nelson. He was living with his wife and family at 17 Scottisham Green, Evercreech, Somerset, in 1851, in the same street as his brother Frederick. On 7 June 1853 he returned to Nelson by the *Maori* with three children aged 8, 6 and 4. A passage for his wife was booked but she did not travel in the end. Their assisted passages on the *Maori*, amounting to £33, had been guaranteed to be repaid by William Gill and George Tarr. George Tarr had travelled out with the Gills to Nelson on the *Mary Ann*, and was also from Baltonsborough. In the Emigration Register the Tarr application for passage to New Zealand immediately precedes the Gills. They may prove to be relatives. Henry was not responsible for any children under the Education Rate 1874. 1870 Electoral Roll: Abode, Suburban Nth; Property: pt Section 15. Lived at Clifton Terrace, Wakapuaka.

Henry married Jane (or Mary Jane) BAKER about 1842. Jane was born about 1824, and died on 24 Jun 1863<sup>5</sup> according to information on Henry's second marriage certificate. They had the following children

- 65 i. **Edward GILL** was born about 1845 in Ditcheat, Somerset, UK. *Refer to page 24*
- 66 ii. **Emily GILL** was born on 1 Jan 1848 in Shepton Mallet, Somerset. *Refer to page 25*
- 67 iii. **Mary GILL** was born about 1849 in Ditcheat, Somerset. *Refer to page 25*
- 68 iv. **Selena GILL** was born about 1850 in Ditcheat, Somerset. Aged 9 months in 1851 census of Evercreech. She may have died before 1853 in Somerset as a passage was not booked for her on the *Maori* but no death registration has been found.

Henry also married Charlotte SMALL nee WATT on 8 May 1882 in Nelson.<sup>5</sup> Charlotte was born in 1819, and died in Nelson in 1903.<sup>121</sup>

**26. Sydney GILL/HIGGINS** was born on 10 Aug 1826 and baptised on 26 Dec 1826 in Baltonsborough<sup>1</sup> as

## Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

Sydney GILL son of Mary GILL. His mother married Peter HIGGINS about that time, and Sydney was baptised again on 10 Aug 1827 at Glastonbury,<sup>44</sup> the son of Peter HIGGINS and Mary SLADE/GILL (page 5). He came to NZ in the *Mary Ann* in 1842 at the age of about 15, with his parents and siblings. He died on 15 May 1903 in Spring Grove, Nelson.<sup>162</sup>

He had no schooling, but went to earn a penny a day when he was six years old, minding pigs and scaring cows off the crops for the Esquire. When he was twelve years old he worked in the stone quarry, walking six miles a day. His dinner was bread and cheese and a bottle of cider. That was the general drink in Somerset. When the Higgins family arrived at the Port [Nelson] the track was over the Port Hills, down Washington valley, through fern, flax and toi-toi to the hill where the Cathedral now stands; that was the Company's depot where they issued the rations and gave orders to the men to work - making their own huts of manuka, flax and toi-toi, and then constructing a road from the Port into the town.<sup>202</sup>

Sydney married Sarah SHARP, youngest daughter of Stephen SHARP, on 30 Jul 1849 in Spring Grove, Nelson. Sarah was born about 1830 in Dover, Kent, came to NZ in the *Bolton* in 1842, and died on 25 Sep 1923 in Spring Grove, Nelson.<sup>145</sup> For an account of Sarah's life refer to *Married and Gone to New Zealand*<sup>202</sup> also *Petticoat Pioneers*.<sup>203</sup>

They had the following children:

- 69 i. **Hannah HIGGINS** was born on 7 Jan 1850 in Spring Grove, and died on 14 Feb 1887 at Hoult's Valley, Nelson. She married first William C Jefferies BRYANT and second at Picton on 30 Jun 1884 to William Edmond RUSS.
- 70 ii. **Edward Robert "Ted" HIGGINS** was born on 20 Oct 1851 or 1852 at Spring Grove and died on 31 Jan 1911 at Foxhill, Nelson, buried Foxhill. He was married on 2 Jan 1875 to Mary Louisa "Polly" LEWIS.
- 71 iii. **Mercy HIGGINS** was born on 4 Dec 1854 or 5 Dec 1853 at Nelson, and died in 1909 or on 19 Aug 1912 at Nelson, buried Waimea West. Mercy married Frederick GILL, on 30 Jul 1873 in Spring Grove.<sup>12</sup> Refer to page 17
- 72 iv. **Harriet HIGGINS** was born on 6 or 7 Jul 1856 in Spring Grove, and died on 26 Jul 1918 at Wai-iti, Nelson. She married Elijah GRIFFITHS at Nelson on 14 May 1879.
- 73 v. **Peter HIGGINS** was born on 27 Sep 1858 at Spring Grove, and died on 11 May 1914 at Belgrove, buried Foxhill. He married Martha Ann LEWIS at Spring Grove on 3 Jun 1882.
- 74 vi. **Sydney Emery HIGGINS** was born on 11 Jan 1861 at Spring Grove, and died on 7 May 1928 at Spring Grove, buried Spring Grove. He married Emma Bertha RUSS on 21 Apr 1887 at Havelock.
- 75 vii. **Lucy Louisa HIGGINS** was born on 4 Nov 1863 at Nelson, and died on 12 Jan 1948 at Wakatu, buried Wakatu. She married Henry Augustus "Harry" RICKETTS at Brightwater on 21 Jun 1888.
- 76 viii. **George Rennell HIGGINS** was born on 1 Apr 1866,<sup>129</sup> at Spring Grove, and died on 7 Aug 1952 at Nelson, buried Spring Grove. He married Alice Candace HAMMOND on 2 Oct 1890 and lived at Fossil Farm, Spring Grove.
- 77 ix. **William Stephen HIGGINS** was born on 24 Oct 1868 at Spring Grove, and died on 17 Apr 1941 at Hamilton, NZ. He married Magdalena "Lena" BARRY on 26 Dec 1892 at Nelson.
- 78 x. **Julia Sarah HIGGINS** was born on 22 Dec 1870 at Spring Grove, and died on 28 Jan 1956 at Spring Grove. She married Thomas Rollinson (or Rollison) GREIG on 13 Aug 1892 at Nelson.
- 79 xi. **Alfred Ernest HIGGINS** was born on 10 Dec 1873 at Nelson and died on 23 Nov 1947 (or was it 23 Nov 1919) at Nelson. He married Mary Ann HAMMOND on 28 Apr 1897 at Waimea West.

**27. Angelina HIGGINS** was baptised on 22 Jun 1828 or Feb 1830 in Baltonsborough,<sup>1</sup> the daughter of Peter HIGGINS and Mary SLADE/GILL (page 5). She came to NZ in the *Mary Ann* with her family in 1841/42.

She married Edward George RENNELL on 18 Nov 1843. He was first teacher at the Spring Grove school. The young couple lived with Angelina's parents at the time of Peter Higgins' unfortunate death.

## Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

They later lived on Section 40 at Spring Grove. Edward died on 1 Nov 1865. Angelina lived with her sister Rhoda until Rhoda's death. She died on 15 Jul 1903 at Brightwater and is buried at Brightwater.<sup>78</sup>

**28. Rhoda HIGGINS** was baptised on 14 Feb 1830 in Baltonsborough,<sup>1</sup> the daughter of Peter HIGGINS and Mary SLADE/GILL (*page 5*), and died on 5 July 1903 at Waimea South. She lived with her sister Angelina in the later part of her life, and is buried at Brightwater. *Check death dates - sisters died 10 days apart??*

She married James PALMER, a seaman, about 1848-50 in Wellington, NZ. James was buried on 22 Sep 1879 in Wellington.

They had the following children:

- 80 i. **Clara (or Clara Mary) PALMER** born 29 Mar 1850 in Wellington
- 81 ii. **Mary PALMER**
- 82 iii. **John PALMER** born 9 Jun 1852 in Wellington
- 83 iv. **Angelina (Marion) PALMER** born 19 Apr 1854, died Motupiko, buried Upper Motueka.  
On 20 Jul 1872 she married Charles Edwin THOMPSON at Spring Grove, Nelson.

## Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

### **Fourth Generation (2x Great Grandchildren, nos 84-223)**

**32. Henry GILL** was baptised in Sep 1830 in Baltonsborough, the eldest son of William GILL and Harriet HUNT (page 8). He may have died 1864 in the Wairau,<sup>86</sup> in which case he left a posthumous daughter. Confirmation is needed from a death certificate.

Henry married Elizabeth BARNES on 4 or 7 Jan 1856 in Nelson.<sup>7</sup> Elizabeth was born about 1837 in Walmer, Deal, Kent, UK and died on 31 Aug 1923, aged 86, and was buried at Wakapuaka. Henry was of Lower Wairau, shearer, at the time of his marriage.

They had the following children:

- 84 i. **William GILL** was born in 1856 in the Wairau.<sup>59</sup> He died in June 1937, aged 80.<sup>187</sup> He married Maria Elizabeth CHEESEMAM in 1880.<sup>45</sup> Maria died in August 1950, aged 90. They were buried at Omaka cemetery, Blenheim.
- 85 ii. **Henry GILL** was born in 1858 in the Wairau.<sup>60</sup> He died aged 56 on 12 July 1926, and was buried in Omaka cemetery. He married Margaret CAMPBELL.
- 86 iii. **Mary Elizabeth GILL** was born in 1859 in the Wairau.<sup>61</sup> She married Peter McLAREN.
- 87 iv. **Sarah GILL** was born in 1860<sup>62</sup> and died 1861<sup>85</sup> in the Wairau.
- 88 v. **James GILL** was born on 16 or 18 Jan 1862 in Lower Wairau, Marlborough<sup>51</sup> and died on 11 Oct 1940.<sup>187</sup> James married Mary Jane WORKMAN (1869-1915) on 9 Jul 1890 at Kekerangu.<sup>186</sup> James and Mary Jane were buried in Omaka cemetery, Blenheim.
- 89 vi. **George GILL** was born and died in 1864 in the Wairau.<sup>63, 87</sup> presumed twin.
- 90 vii. **Sarah GILL** was born and died in 1864 in the Wairau.<sup>64, 88</sup> presumed twin.
- 91 viii. **Harriet Adeline GILL** was born in 1865 in the Wairau.<sup>65</sup>

**33. Benjamin GILL** was baptised in Apr 1832 in Baltonsborough, the second son of William GILL and Harriet HUNT (page 9). [He is sometimes referred to as Benjamin Cornelius GILL] He died on 10 Feb 1876<sup>89</sup> a farmer of Todds Bush, Nelson, at the age of 44, and was buried in Wakapuaka cemetery. 1870 Electoral Roll: Abode Wairau, Property House and Land pt sect 17 Suburban Nth. Liable for Education Rate 1874 in respect of 3 children.

Benjamin married Jane DAY in 1857.<sup>8</sup> Jane died in 1885 in Nelson.<sup>122</sup> They had the following children:

- 92 i. **Alfred Cornelius GILL** was born on 7 April 1857 or 1858 in Nelson.<sup>66</sup> He was a labourer, and died at the age of 60 on 29 Jul 1917 of Crisp St, Wakapuaka, Nelson.<sup>150</sup> Alfred married Mary Ann Amelia AVERY on 6 Jul 1883 in Nelson.<sup>29</sup> Mary Ann was born on 6 Jul 1862 at Picton, and died on 23 Dec 1923 at Rockville, Golden Bay, NZ.<sup>151</sup> They are buried at Wakapuaka (Baptist). Mary Ann died in a fire at Collingwood. As a widow she went to Collingwood to housekeep for her bachelor brother Henry a goldminer. They went for a walk one afternoon & Henry lit a fire in some scrub which got away from them and they were both trapped and burned to death.
- 93 ii. **Eliza Jane GILL** was born on 20 Jul 1859.<sup>53</sup> Eliza married William NEWPORT on 20 Jul 1876 at St Peters by the Strand, Nelson.<sup>30</sup> William was born on 31 Oct 1853.
- 94 iii. **Lucy Emma GILL** was born on 2 Mar 1861 in Nelson.<sup>31</sup> Lucy died on 25 Jun 1862<sup>84</sup> and was buried with her father.
- 95 iv. **Caroline Elizabeth GILL** was born on 6 March 1863 in Nelson.<sup>69</sup> She married Albert Edward TUNNICLIFF in 1892.<sup>197</sup>
- 96 v. \_\_\_\_\_ **GILL** (female) b 29 Oct 1865<sup>68</sup> in Nelson.
- 97 vi. **Alexander GILL** was born on 2 Dec 1866 in Nelson.<sup>70</sup>
- 98 vii. **William John GILL** was born on 15 Nov 1868 in Nelson.<sup>52</sup> He died, aged 25 of burns, on 23 Sep 1894 in Blenheim Hospital and is buried at Omaka cemetery.<sup>187</sup>
- 99 viii. **Charles Edward GILL** was born on 15 Jan or 15 Jul 1871 in Nelson,<sup>54</sup> and died 14 Jan 1933, aged 56 years (sic). Attended Spring Grove School. m2 Sara Ann (first wife's sister)
- 100 ix. **Ethel Annie GILL** was born on 19 May 1874,<sup>55</sup> in Gill's Valley, Nelson. She married Charles HILL in 1898.<sup>170</sup>

Eighteen months after Benjamin's death, Jane remarried George SHARP on 15 Aug 1877,<sup>99</sup> at The Wood,

## Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

Nelson. George was the 2<sup>nd</sup> son of Stephen SHARP,<sup>202</sup> and brother-in-law of Sydney HIGGINS who was half-uncle to Benjamin GILL. In the Spring Grove school records G SHARP is listed as the guardian of Charles and Ethel.

**34. Sophia GILL** was baptised in Mar 1834 in Baltonsborough, the eldest daughter of William GILL and Harriet HUNT (*page 9*). She died on 25 Jun 1928 at Todds Bush, Nelson<sup>9</sup> aged 94, of senile decay.

Sophia married William RAYNER on 6 Jul 1852<sup>10</sup> at Wakapuaka. William was born in 1824, died on 9 Sep 1907 in Nelson,<sup>123</sup> and was buried at Wakapuaka cemetery. Sophia (aged 8) and William (aged 18) had both emigrated to NZ in 1842 with their families on the *Mary Ann*. Sophia was already married with a child of her own when her mother died in 1855 and her father remarried, and may have filled the role of surrogate mother to her younger siblings, especially Thomas aged 8. In 1896 with her own family grown, Sophia attended her half-sister Fanny at the birth of her daughter Annie, the first white child to be born in the Rai valley. She was almost certainly the elderly lady at Wakapuaka visited by her brother Thomas from Kaikoura and his granddaughter Faith about 1913. Faith remembered the house above the road at Clifton, with a large tree (possibly a fig) outside the back door. Photos of Sophia display a resemblance to Thomas. On the same visit Faith remembered visiting a second house in a different area. This was probably Fred Gill's family.

Sophia and William had the following children.<sup>79</sup>

- 101 i. **William "Bill" RAYNER** was born on 15 Dec 1853. Bill died on 13 Dec 1938. He was buried in Hira, Nelson. In 1888 in Blenheim, Bill married Catherine CAMERON who was born about 1860, and died in 1922. Bill later married Clara Priscilla \_\_\_\_\_, who was born about 1874, and died in 1959.
- 102 ii. **Thomas "Tom" RAYNER** was born on 19 Jun 1855. Tom died unmarried on 26 Jun 1933. He was buried in Wakapuaka, Nelson.
- 103 iii. **Harry RAYNER** was born on 14 Apr 1857. Harry probably died before 1928. Harry married Mary Ann WINDLE in 1887.
- 104 iv. **Tasman "Tas" RAYNER** was born on 24 Feb 1859. He died on 10 Sep 1935, and was buried in Hira, Nelson. In 1888 Tas married Margaret CAMERON (1862-1928), a sister of Bill's wife Catherine.
- 105 v. **Caroline RAYNER** was born on 7 Jul 1860. She died unmarried on 6 Dec 1938, and was buried in Wakapuaka, Nelson.
- 106 vi. **Harriet RAYNER** was born on 2 Nov 1862, died on 17 May 1867 of typhoid, and was buried at Wakapuaka cemetery.
- 107 vii. **David "Dave" RAYNER** was born on 26 Oct 1866. He died on 1 Apr 1954 and was buried in Omaka cemetery. Dave married Mary Jane ALLPORT (1868-1955). *Refer to page*
- 108 viii. **Frederick John RAYNER** was born on 29 May 1869. He died on 7 Jul 1869 and is buried at Wakapuaka.
- 109 ix. **Herbert Joseph "Herb" RAYNER** was born on 28 Feb 1876. He died on 23 Nov 1956. Herb married Annie Bertha TAYLOR on 19 Jun 1904. Annie was born about 1870, and died on 3 May 1957.

**35. Ellen GILL** was born in Nov 1836 in Baltonsborough, the second daughter of William GILL and Harriet HUNT (*page 9*). She died on 29 Nov 1886 in Renwicktown,<sup>128</sup> and was buried at Omaka cemetery, Blenheim. Yvonne BURR, family genealogist, is a gt gt granddaughtert of Ellen Gill.

Ellen married Samuel BARNES in 1854.<sup>74</sup> Samuel was born in 1836 at Walmer, Kent, UK, the son of John BARNES, a Deal boatman, and Mary DUNN. Samuel died in 1896 in the Wairau.<sup>124</sup> The marriage could not be found in the NZ Marr Index, information is from a notice in the "Nelson Examiner" dated 7th Oct 1854 Married: At Wakapuaka on 4th instant by Reverend Thomas D Nicholson, Mr Samuel Barnes to Ellen Gill 2nd Daughter of Mr William Gill of Wakapuaka, Nelson. Samuel was a sheep farmer in Nelson, having arrived in 1842 on the ill-fated *Lloyds* as a six year old, with his mother and his sister Elizabeth, 5, who would marry Henry GILL, Ellen's brother. Two of their siblings died on the voyage, Mary-Ann aged 18 months and John aged 5 months.

## Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

Samuel and Ellen had the following children:

- 110 i. **Mary BARNES** was born in 1854. Mary died on 19 Nov 1856 aged 18 months, and was buried with her parents at Omaka cemetery, Blenheim.
- 111 ii. **George Thomas Attwood BARNES** was born in January 1858, in Nelson and died in November 1916 in Blenheim. He was a farmer at Seddon and married Laura ANDERSON in 1905.
- 112 iii. **Ellen Harriett BARNES** was born in September 1861. She died of epileptic seizures on 20 Jun 1877, aged 15, and was buried with her parents.
- 113 iv. **Alfred Henry BARNES** was born on 10 January 1864, in Nelson, and died on 19 September 1932, at Otapiri, Southland. He is buried at the Eastern cemetery, Invercargill. He married Agnes Priscilla McISSAC, on 1 January 1890 in Renwicktown, Marlborough. They had one son.
- 114 v. **John William BARNES** was born in January 1866. He married Margaret GARDNER in 1913 in Nelson.
- 115 vi. **Adeline Mary BARNES** was born in March 1867, in Nelson and died in December 1926. She and her husband were buried in Napier. She married Richard Edward HAY in 1892 in Westport. They had 8 daughters and 2 sons.
- 116 vii. **Frederick Samuel BARNES** was born on 8 June 1869, in Nelson, and died on 23 June 1957, in Blenheim. He married Harriett HAY in 1896, they had 7 sons and 1 daughter.
- 117 viii. **Sarah Jane BARNES** was born on 16 May 1871, in Lower Wairau, Marlborough, NZ, and died on 1 May 1959, in Blenheim. She married Thomas Jacobs BALL on 8 November 1892 in Blenheim, they had 2 daughters.
- 118 ix. **Sophia Elizabeth BARNES** was born in 1875, in Blenheim. She married Thomas James CUDBY in 1904.
- 119 x. **Henry Ernest BARNES** was born on 4 May 1877, in Wairau, and died on 21 July 1950. He is buried in Omaka cemetery, Blenheim. Pte 69826 Canterbury Regiment, 1st NZEF.
- 120 xi. **Margaret Ellen Harriett BARNES** was born in Nov 1880, in Wairau, and died in 1975. She is buried in Purewa cemetery, Auckland, last resided at Disralei St, Mt Eden. She married Joseph Albury SLATER in 1912.

**36. George GILL** was baptised in Dec 1838 in Baltonsborough, the third son and fifth child of William and Harriet GILL (page 9). He emigrated to New Zealand in 1841/42 with his family at the age of 3. He died on 15 Dec 1918<sup>17</sup> was buried the following day in Waikouaiti, Otago, NZ.

Being so young when he came out to NZ he would have had no memories of England, and apparently did not talk of his English origins. His long-time employer believed he had been born in Nelson when he gave information for the death certificate.

The later part of George's life was spent in the employ of James Henry Preston, run-holder of Haldon Station in the Mackenzie Country from 1889. Rabbits had become a very serious problem at this time necessitating the employment of professional rabbiters like George. James Preston was the executor and trustee of George's will, made in 1903, and also provided for him in his old age, as described by Frances Preston in *A family of wool gatherers*, page 70:

*An elderly couple lived in a tiny shingle-roofed cottage on a 48 acre farm between Centrewood and the main road; Mrs McNicol was the first midwife in the Palmerston district. When she died in 1899, the old man ..... offered to sell his land to JH [Preston]. ..... George Gill, an ancient [he would have been about 62!] rabbitier who had become quite a hermit, was brought down from Haldon to live in McNicol's cottage for the remainder of his life. The Centrewood family could keep an eye on him, and see that he was supplied with all he needed. The old man lived until 1918 when he was buried in St Paul's graveyard.*

George's association with the Prestons may have commenced much earlier. In 1859 James' father, Joseph had purchased Centrewood run on the Otago coast near Waikouaiti and, experiencing difficulty stocking the land, decided to bring sheep from Nelson. George Gill was a drover from the Nelson area and may have been engaged by Preston to assist. The account of the epic drive, with 2 drovers, through half the length of the South Island is from Frances Preston's book, page 25:

## Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

*They set to and drove [200 hoggets] from Nelson down to Oamaru and put them on the run at the Kakanui range. There were no roads, only Maori tracks. North of the Waimakariri River, somewhere near Hanmer, they had to shear them so that they could cross the rivers; because they had to swim every stream, long wool would have made it difficult. As it was, freshly shorn, they were able to survive the crossings of the rivers and only 2 were lost.*

Robert Pinney in *Early South Canterbury Runs*, p53, writes of Jock Fraser and his son Hugh droving sheep from Nelson to Ben Ohau in the McKenzie country in 1859 and mentions George Gill being in the party. It is not clear if this was the same trip on which Preston brought his sheep. By a strange coincidence Fraser's Ben Ohau run was almost next door to the Haldon run, but Haldon would not be occupied by the Prestons for another 30 years. Ben Ohau lay to the west of the confluence of the Ohau and the Pukaki rivers (where Twizel now stands), whereas Haldon was downstream from the confluence of the Ohau, Pukaki and Tekapo rivers, on the north bank of the Waitaki.

George made his will in 1903 and signed with his mark. He left his brother Thomas a life interest, with the capital to be divided among Thomas's children after his death. Edie bought a car with her share. The estate was sworn at under 2400 pounds when George died in 1918. This was a considerable sum at that time and would have enabled George to live comfortably in his own home had he chosen independence, but he apparently preferred to remain in the care of the Prestons, first at Haldon and finally at Goodwood, Waikouaiti.

We can only speculate about the source of his funds. The possibility that he inherited from his parents can be readily dismissed. His parents were not wealthy and he had 10 surviving siblings to share in anything his parents might leave. Like his brother Thomas he appears to have moved away from the family base in Nelson after his father remarried and produced a second family. The will suggests that he never learned to sign his name, and with no particular skills his accumulated savings from droving and rabbiting are likely to have been minimal. However, through the 1860s – 1880s, many New Zealand males dreamed of making their fortunes from gold. Few succeeded, but possibly George Gill was one who did. There has been a suggestion in the family that he went to South Africa and possibly his good fortune came from there.

We might also speculate on how much contact the apparently illiterate George on a back country station in the McKenzie country could have had with his brother Thomas in Kaikoura. Occasional news carried by itinerant stockmen was probably the best that could be hoped for.

**40. Frederick GILL** was born on 9 Aug 1843 in Wakapuaka, Nelson,<sup>42</sup> the fourth son of William GILL and Harriet HUNT (*page 9*). He died on 22 Nov 1919 in Redwood Valley, Nelson,<sup>11</sup> and was buried in Waimea West, Nelson. 1970 Electoral Roll: Abode Suburban Nth, Property Section 21. He lived at Redwood Valley (Stones 1917).

Frederick married Mercy HIGGINS, daughter of Sydney HIGGINS and Sarah SHARP, on 30 Jul 1873 in Spring Grove, Nelson.<sup>12</sup> Mercy was born on 4 Dec 1854, and died in 1912 in Nelson.<sup>149</sup> Mercy and Fred were half-cousins, both being grandchildren of Mary SLADE who married first GILL and second HIGGINS.

They had the following children:

- 121 i. **Archie GILL** was born and died in 1874 in Waimea South, Nelson.<sup>56,93</sup>
- 122 ii. **Harriet Sarah Henrietta GILL** was born on 16 March 1876 at Waimea South,<sup>138</sup> and died on 21 Sep 1959 in Nelson.<sup>146</sup> She married William STRANGE on 15 Jan 1908 in Waimea West.<sup>168</sup> William died on 15 Sep 1946 in Nelson.
- 123 iii. **Amy Helen GILL** was born in 1878 in Waimea South, Nelson. Amy died after 1918. Amy married Ernest McLaren "Scott" McPHERSON in 1897.<sup>191</sup>
- 124 iv. **Albert William GILL** was born in 1880 in Waimea South, Nelson.<sup>166</sup> He died on 4 Aug 1955. Of Redwood Valley in 1917 (Stone's). Albert married Mary Alice Jane CHAPMAN in 1902.<sup>167</sup> Alice was born in 1880, and died in 1964. They are buried at Richmond cemetery, Nelson.<sup>192</sup>  
**Check CHADMAN/Chapman**
- 125 v. **Annie Louisa GILL** was born in 1882 in Waimea South, Nelson, and died before her father. Annie married Harry STRATFORD in 1902.<sup>171</sup>
- 126 vi. **Harold Sidney GILL** was born in 1886 in Waimea South, Nelson. Harold died on 22 Apr 1975

## Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

- in Nelson. No surviving children on death certificate. Occupation "Retired" on Electoral Rolls 1966 etc, but "Watersider" in 1974. In 1957 was of Dorset St, Richmond, in 1917 Stones "of Redwood Valley". Harold married Martha Vida RUSS. Martha was born in 1882, and died on 27 Jul 1967.
- 127 vii. **Arthur Edward GILL** was born in 1888 in Waimea South, Nelson, and died 21 June 1970 in Wellington.<sup>147</sup> At Redwood Valley school 1901.<sup>81</sup> Of Redwood Valley (Stone's 1917)
- 128 vii. **Thomas Henry GILL** was born in 1890 in Waimea South, Nelson. At Redwood Valley School 1901.<sup>81</sup> Thomas died on 5 Jun 1970. Pte 61134 Cauty Regt Of Redwood Valley in 1917 (Stones) Thomas married Emily Frances BRADER in 1925.<sup>199</sup> Emily was born about 1890 and died on 30 Jan 1984, aged 94 years. They were buried in Marsden cemetery, Nelson.
- 129 viii. **Alice Mary "May" GILL** was born in 1893 in Waimea South, Nelson. At Redwood Valley school 1901.<sup>81</sup> May died after 1918. Beneficiary in her father's will 50 pounds She married Harold HENDE in 1915.<sup>32</sup>
- 130 ix. **Rita Adeline GILL** was born in 1898 in Waimea South, Nelson. At Redwood Valley School 1911 and has her photo in the Appleby School centennial booklet.<sup>81</sup> Rita married first Claude Ernest Charles GRANGER in 1929.<sup>200</sup> Claude died on 30 Aug 1936 in Spring Grove, Nelson.<sup>33</sup> She married second William HARTLEY, and third William COLLINS.

**41. Adeline GILL** was born on 9 Nov 1844 in Nelson,<sup>42</sup> the third surviving daughter of William GILL and Harriet HUNT (*page 9*). She died on 25 Apr 1883 in Nelson,<sup>116</sup> and was buried in Nelson.

Adeline married Henry Lawry Godel JASPER in 1862.<sup>13</sup> Henry died in 1867 in Nelson.<sup>125</sup> There were no children.

Adeline also married John FIVEN in 1870.<sup>14</sup> They had a daughter:

- 131 i. **Hilda Viola FIVEN** was born in 1873 in Nelson. She died on 8 Sep 1892 at the age of 19 and was buried in Wakapuaka, Nelson with her parents.

**42. Thomas GILL** was born on 22 Sep 1847 in Nelson,<sup>15</sup> the fifth surviving son of William GILL and Harriet HUNT (*page 9*). He was baptised by Rev. John ALDRED (Methodist), on 23 Jan 1848 in Nelson.<sup>15</sup> Thomas died on 29 Sep 1933 in Kaikoura,<sup>25</sup> of burns. His death certificate describes him as a labourer.

Thomas married Alice LYFORD, daughter of Thomas LYFORD and Sarah RICHARDSON, on 11 Jul 1870 at Clarence Ferry, Marlborough.<sup>16</sup> Alice was born on 10 Oct 1853 in Nelson, and died on 14 May 1928 in Kaikoura.<sup>144</sup> After raising her family Alice lived alone at Beach Road, Kaikoura and was well known as nurse and midwife in the district. She lived with Belvie and Pat Smith at the time of her death.

Refer to [page](#) for Thelma MONEY's reminiscence of her grandfather, Thomas GILL.

Thomas and Alice had the following children:

- 132 i. **Clara GILL** was born in 1873 in Kaikoura.<sup>57</sup> She died on 3 Jan 1904 in Kaikoura. Clara married John Richard "Jack" TIMMS on 10 Jul 1895 in Blenheim.<sup>198</sup> Jack was born on 2 Nov 1862. After Clara's death Jack remarried Clara's cousin Agnes GILLING.
- 133 ii. **Adeline "Minnie" GILL** was born in 1876 in Kaikoura,<sup>58</sup> and died on 15 Apr 1955. She married Arthur Alexander BREMNER, a farm labourer, on 18 Jun 1894.<sup>165</sup>
- 134 iii. **Walter GILL** was born on 16 May 1878 in Kaikoura. He died on 18 Jun 1954 in Kaikoura. He managed various sheep stations in the Kaikoura district. Walter married his cousin Margaret "Maggie" GILLING, daughter of Benjamin GILLING and Clara LYFORD, on 22 Apr 1908.<sup>174</sup> Maggie was born in 1885, and died on 16 Jul 1961. Thelma MONEY, family genealogist, was their daughter.
- 135 iv. **Thomas GILL** was born in 1880 in Kaikoura<sup>98</sup> and died about 1962. Thomas married Fredrecca Muriel TEMPLEMAN in 1905.<sup>179</sup> Fredrecca was born in 1886 and died in 1963 in Christchurch.<sup>71</sup> They lived with Gill seniors in Pools Road, Mt Fyffe, Kaikoura. Some of their descendants are mentioned in *Donegal to Blackguard's Corner* A History of the Boyd Family of

## Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

- Kaikoura by Murray A Boyd 1992.
- 136 v. **Henry Albert "Albert" GILL** was born in 1882 in Kaikoura. He died on 25 May 1956. Albert married Kate RENWICK in 1904.<sup>172</sup> Kate was born about 1888, and died on 3 Apr 1942. Kate and Albert lived initially on his parents' farm, later on various other family properties, and eventually settled at Beach Road, Kaikoura.
- 137 vi. **Alice Edith "Edie" GILL** was born on 27 Apr 1884 in Kaikoura and died on 6 Oct 1963 in Christchurch. Edie married Edmund Sutherland "Ted" PALMER, son of Edward Oscar PALMER and Elizabeth MORRISON, on 18 Dec 1902 in Kaikoura.<sup>190</sup> Ted was born on 28 May 1871 in Kaikoura and died on 12 Jun 1948 in Christchurch. Edie was grandmother to Judith MOULDER, grandmother-in-law to Mary SKIPWORTH, family genealogists.
- 138 vii. **Violet Evelyn GILL** was born in 1886 in Kaikoura. She died on 3 Mar 1963 in Kaikoura. Violet married Edward "Ned" SHARPLIN on 5 Dec 1906 in Kaikoura.<sup>173</sup> Ned was from an Oxford, Canterbury family. He was a widower, and had been twice to the Boer war.
- 139 viii. **Harold Lionel GILL** was born in 1890 in Kaikoura and died in 1904 in Kaikoura,<sup>148</sup> drowned while crossing the Hapuka River aged about 14.

**43. Alice Mary GILL** was born in 1856 in Nelson,<sup>94</sup> the daughter of William GILL and Ann EDWARDS (*page 10*). She died in 1937/38 at Motueka.<sup>133</sup>

Alice married Francis William HERRICK on 18 Feb 1880 in Lower Moutere, Nelson.<sup>18,77</sup> Francis died in 1939 in Nelson.<sup>126</sup>

They had the following children:

- 140 i. **Francis Herbert "Bert" HERRICK** was born 1884 in Nelson,<sup>97</sup> and died on 21 Jan 1948, aged 64. He was buried at Lower Moutere with Agnes Amelia HERRICK (1890-1970).
- 141 ii. **Howard Vyvyan HERRICK** was born in 1885 in Nelson.<sup>96</sup> Howard died on 28 May 1905, at the age of 19, in Lower Moutere, Nelson,<sup>34</sup> and was buried at Lower Moutere.
- 142 iii. **Florence HERRICK** Birth registration not found 1886-90

**44. Fanny Emma GILL** was born on 27 September 1858 at Wakapuaka, Nelson,<sup>95</sup> the daughter of William GILL and Ann EDWARDS (*page 10*). She died 17 January 1932 at Nelson, and was buried at Rai Valley.

She taught at Happy Valley school, Hira from 1875 to 1895. She was the first teacher in the area and commenced teaching at the age of 16, when some of her pupils would have been only a year or two younger than her. According to family legend she was to be sacked by the "city fathers" for incompetence. Apparently lost control of the kids. She locked the "city fathers" out of the school; and there was a fair old to do about it all.

Fanny married William ANDERSON on 10 December 1881 at Nelson.<sup>19</sup> William was born 25 July 1858 at Wakapuaka, Nelson, and died on 19 March 1925 at Rai Valley. He was buried at Rai Valley, being the first burial at the then new Rai cemetery. They had the following children:

- 143 i. **Daisy Louise ANDERSON** was born on 1 May 1883 at Wakapuaka, Nelson and died on 26 September 1954 at Blenheim, buried at Rai. Daisy married William WILSON on 16 October 1907 at Bulford, Rai Valley. William was born on 1 September 1873 at Pelorus Valley, Marlborough and died on 12 September 1939 at Rai Falls, Rai Valley. *Refer to page*
- 144 ii. **Daphne Frances ANDERSON** Daphne married Charles Jeffries BRYANT. *Refer to page*
- 145 iii. **Dorothy May "Dolly" ANDERSON** was born on 2 May 1886. She died on 24 Aug 1975. Dolly was buried in Rai Valley. Dolly married Ashley Keith EDWARDS, son of Alfred Rutland EDWARDS and his 2nd wife Harriet WINNETT. Ashley's father and Dolly's grandmother, Ann EDWARDS, were brother and sister, making this couple aunt and nephew respectively.
- 146 iv. **Kathleen Isobel ANDERSON** Kathleen married Gordon WEBB of Havelock North.
- 147 v. **Annie Rai ANDERSON** was born on 2 May 1896. Unmarried, first white child born in Rai Valley.

**45. Jessie Louisa GILL** was born on 26 Oct 1860 in Nelson,<sup>20</sup> the daughter of William GILL and Ann EDWARDS (*page 10*). She died at the age of 75 on 17 Jan 1935 (the day following her husband's death) in Nelson.<sup>117</sup>

## Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

Jessie married Charles George WITHERS on 29 Jul 1886.<sup>21</sup> He died on 16 Jan 1935 in Nelson.<sup>118</sup>

They had the following children:

- 148 i. **Laurie Frances WITHERS** was born in 1890<sup>35</sup> in Nelson. Laurie died unmarried on 4 Jun 1957 at the age of 74 and was buried with her mother at Wakapuaka.<sup>169</sup>
- 149 ii. **Rita WITHERS** was born about 1892. Rita married Alfred RUTLAND in 1914 (Husband and wife were related). Nola Cooze is a descendant
- 150 iii. **Alan WITHERS** Unmarried

**46. William "Will" GILL** was born on 19 Aug 1862 in Nelson,<sup>49</sup> the son of William GILL and Ann EDWARDS (page 10). He died on 19 Aug 1909 in Wakapuaka, Nelson<sup>119</sup> aged 47, and was buried in Hira.

Of *Thackwood*, Nelson from about 1896. Waimea County Councillor, Chairman Wakapuaka Roads Board, Member school committee, dairy farmer.<sup>193</sup> He was probably the William Gill who was awarded first prize in 2<sup>nd</sup> class at Clifton terrace school in 1872.<sup>206</sup>

Will married Elizabeth Mary WITHERS on 23 Oct 1886 in Nelson.<sup>22</sup> Elizabeth was born in 1865 in Nelson. She died on 12 Aug 1946 in Seddon<sup>134</sup> and was buried in Hira.

They had the following children:

- 151 i. **Percy Weston GILL** was born in 1887 in Nelson.<sup>36</sup> He died on 30 Dec 1958<sup>136</sup> and was buried in Wakapuaka, Nelson. Served 58761 Rifle brigade. Percy married Beatrice JONES about 1918.
- 152 ii. **Roland Ray GILL** was born in 1889 in Nelson,<sup>37</sup> and died on 30 May 1962. His ashes were interred at Wakapuaka cemetery, Nelson.<sup>185</sup> Roland married Jane Bain FOSTER on 16 Dec 1914 at Wakapuaka.<sup>176</sup> Jane was born on 23 August 1895 at Denniston, Westport.
- 153 iii. **Lilian "Tot" GILL** was born on 21 Oct 1890 in Nelson.<sup>38</sup> She died on 9 Jan 1978 in Wairau Hospital, Blenheim. Tot married John Henry LEONARD in 1913,<sup>180</sup> and also married Henry Udal FRANCE in 1948. She had twins in Australia who died at birth and a stepson Peter FRANCE.
- 154 iv. **Cyril Norman GILL** was born on 7 May 1892 in Nelson.<sup>152</sup> Cyril died on 5 Jun 1967 in Blenheim.<sup>184</sup> Served 1st NZEF 6/3395. He married Dora Veronica O'BRIEN in 1918.<sup>182</sup> Dora was born on 22 Aug 1899 in Blenheim and died on 5 May 1961 in Blenheim.<sup>161</sup> They are buried in Omaka cemetery. *Refer to page*
- 155 v. **John William Steeden GILL** was born on 20 Oct 1894 in Nelson.<sup>39</sup> He died on 29 Dec 1963 in Nelson.<sup>83</sup> Served 42799 Pte, Canterbury Regiment John married Rosa Alice BARNES in 1919.<sup>159</sup> Rosa was born on 25 Aug 1896 in Cheviot and died on 2 Jul 1987 in Nelson, buried at Wakapuaka, aged 91.
- 156 vi. **Francis Henry GILL** was born on 27 Apr 1897 in Nelson. Francis died on 7 Jun 1964 in Nelson and was buried in Hira. Francis married Amy Elizabeth FROST on 15 May 1918 in Nelson.<sup>183</sup> Amy died on 9 Jul 1981 in Hamilton, NZ, and was buried in Hira cemetery, Nelson.
- 157 vii. **Doris Elizabeth GILL** was born in 1899 in Nelson.<sup>40</sup> Birth registration appears to be at Wellington. Doris married Henry Behan "Harry" EASTON in 1918.<sup>181</sup> Brian Easton, journalist, is a descendant. Doris also married Harold MEURCH.
- 158 viii. **Rona Cicely GILL** was born on 19 Mar 1901 in Nelson.<sup>158</sup> Rona died on 21 Sep 1967. Rona married Alexander Hailstone STANLEY in 1922.<sup>177</sup>
- 159 ix. **Hazel Mary "Mollie" GILL** was born on 14 Apr 1904 in Nelson. She died on 17 Feb 1988. Mollie married Edward Bernard "Ted" FITZPATRICK and lived at Blenheim. Ted died in 1967.
- 160 x. **Nora Kathleen "Kath" GILL** was born on 24 Sep 1906 in Nelson,<sup>156</sup> and died in 1992. Kath married Philip CHARLES on 11 Feb 1924 in Nelson.<sup>195</sup>
- 161 xi. **Dudley Charles Harold GILL** was born in 1908,<sup>194</sup> and died on 5 Feb 1985 in Nelson. Dudley married Dede May JELLYMAN on 23 Aug 1933 in Nelson.<sup>153</sup> Dede died on 2 Aug 2001, aged 90. They had no children.
- 162 xii. **William GILL** was born in 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 1909 (posthumous) in Nelson.<sup>157</sup> He died on 11 May 1958. William married Betty Eileen AKEHURST in 1934.<sup>72</sup> She was born 3 Jan 1913 and died on 7 Jul 1993 at Whakatane. They are buried at Whakatane cemetery.

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**47. Alfred George GILL** was born on 2 May 1864 in Nelson,<sup>50</sup> the son of William GILL and Ann EDWARDS (*page 10*). He died on 18 Aug 1954 in Piha Auckland,<sup>132</sup> at the age of 90. Alfred was buried in Hira cemetery Nelson. He farmed at Wakapuaka.<sup>205</sup> He was probably the Alfred Gill who was awarded first prize in 4<sup>th</sup> class at Clifton Terrace school in 1872.<sup>206</sup>

Alfred married Elizabeth Ann DONALD on 20 Aug 1888 in Nelson.<sup>23</sup> Elizabeth was born on 2 Jul 1868 in Nelson, and died on 15 Dec 1934 in Atawhai, Nelson,<sup>135</sup> and was buried in Hira.

They had the following children:

- 163 i. **Irene May "Rene" GILL** was born on 2 Aug 1889 in Nelson.<sup>41</sup> She died on 31 Dec 1969 in Piha, Auckland, NZ. Rene married Alfred Cyril WRIGHT on 17 Oct 1910 in Nelson.<sup>189</sup> Rene also married Mervyn George OTTO on 27 Mar 1926 in Auckland. Mervyn later married Rene's brother Jack's daughter, Jean. *Refer to page*
- 164 ii. **Donald Douglas "Jack" GILL** was born on 2 Aug 1891 and died on 3 Jun 1968 in Auckland, NZ. Farmer Te Atatu, councillor, Gill Avenue named for family. Jack married Myra Myrtle BURN (who survived him) on 28 Feb or 1 Mar 1916 in Nelson.<sup>188</sup> *Refer to page*

**48. Mary Jane DANE** was born in 1844/45 in Nelson, the daughter of Hiram DANE and Jane GILL (*page 10*).

In 1861 when Mary Jane was 17, she first married Henry WIMSETT, son of Thomas Martin WIMSETT, her stepfather.

They had the following children:

- 165 i. **Horace WIMSETT** was born in Nelson. He married and had 13 children.
- 166 ii. **Henry WIMSETT** was born in Nelson. He married Helen HILL. *Refer to page*
- 167 iii. **Oscar WIMSETT** was born in Nelson. He married but had no children.
- 168 iv. **Alice WIMSETT** was born in 1865 in Nelson. She married James Barry MARTIN. *Refer to page*
- 169 v. **Maude WIMSETT** was born in Nelson. She married James BENNET. *Refer to page*
- 170 vi. **Dagmar WIMSETT** was born in Nelson. She married BALLINGER. *Refer to page*
- 171 vii. **Myra WIMSETT** was born in Nelson. She never married
- 172 viii. **May WIMSETT** was born in Nelson. She married HILL.

On 13 May 1895 when Mary Jane was 51, she married secondly Daniel GELLING,<sup>102</sup> in Wellington, NZ. Witnesses at the wedding were: Rose DANE, Nelson....Alice MARTIN, Wellington....William F DANE, Nelson.

**49. William Frederick DANE** was born in 1845/1846 in Nelson, and died at the age of 66 on 9 Feb 1911, in Lower Moutere, Nelson,<sup>103</sup> the son of Hiram DANE and Jane GILL (*page 10*).

On 16 Oct 1873 when William Frederick was 28, he married Susan Ellen KING, in Lower Moutere, Susan was born in 1846/47 and died in Nelson on 16 Mar 1904, when she was 58.

They had the following children:

- 173 i. **? DANE** was born in 1875 in Nelson
- 174 ii. **Frederick William DANE** was born in 1878 in Nelson and died on 20 Jun 1956, when he was 78. On 6 May 1911 when he was 33, Frederick married Alice Eliza BRUNELL, in the Nelson Registry Office. Alice was born on 25 Oct 1882 in Motueka.
- 175 iii. **Rose Ellen DANE** was born in 1879 in Nelson.

**50. Henry Edward DANE** was born on 29 Jun 1852 in Nelson,<sup>104</sup> and died in Wellington on 29 Oct 1915, at the age of 63,<sup>105</sup> the son of Hiram DANE and Jane GILL (*page 10*). He was buried on 30 Oct 1915 in Karori Cemetery, Wellington.

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On 22 Jan 1878 when he was 25, Henry married Hannah HONE, daughter of Thomas HONE & Eleanor DRAPER in the Congregational Church, Hardy Street, Nelson.<sup>106</sup> Hannah was born on 18 Dec 1858 in Sibford Gower, Banbury, Oxford, England,<sup>107</sup> and baptized there at the age of 10, on 28 Oct 1869.<sup>108</sup> Hannah died in Wellington, on 12 Jul 1919,<sup>109</sup> when she was 60. She was buried on 15 Jul 1919 in Karori Cemetery.

They had the following children:

- 176 i. **Charles Edward DANE** was born in 1879 in Nelson, and died on 26 Jun 1922 in Wellington of peritonitis & heart failure, when he was 43. He was probably unmarried.
- 177 ii. **Henry Hiram DANE** was born on 26 Dec 1879 in Nelson.<sup>114</sup> He died in 1881 in Nelson by accidental drowning, and was buried in Nelson.
- 178 iii. **Clarris Rose DANE** was born in 1881 in Nelson and died on 3 Nov 1947 in Wellington, when she was 66. She was buried at Karori cemetery. She married first Agan GOW in 1903, and second William James TYNAN in 1911. *Refer to page*
- 179 iv. **Hannah Jane DANE** was born in 1891 in Nelson and died on 8 Oct 1958 at the age of 67. On 13 April 1909 when she was 18, she married Francis William HERRING.<sup>91</sup> On 4 Dec 1930 she married her second husband George ADDLEY. He died on 7 Nov 1957. *Refer to page*
- 180 v. **Helen Elizabeth DANE** was born on 26 Dec 1892 in Nelson.<sup>110</sup> She died in Auckland on 4 May 1945, when she was 52,<sup>111</sup> and was buried on 5 May 1945 in Waikumete Cemetery, Auckland. Helen was first married when she was 17 to William Henry ADAMS, on 3 Dec 1910 when she was 17, at 127 Tory Street, Wellington.<sup>112</sup> The marriage ended in divorce after 13 years desertion. William was born in 1885/1886 in Wimbledon, Surrey, England. On 4 Jul 1930 when she was 37, Helen married secondly Alfred BUCKLEY, in Wellington.<sup>113</sup> Alfred was born in London, England. *Refer to page*
- 181 vi. **Denis Richard DANE** was born in 1894 in Nelson and died on 5 Oct 1978 in Waipukurau when he was 84. In 1924, when he was 30, he married Lilian Edith BURDITT. She died on 14 Mar 1979 in Waikouaiti.
- 182 vii. **Louisa May DANE** was born in 1896 in Nelson and died on 24 Feb 1974 in Wellington when she was 78. In 1915 at the age of 19, she married Rudolph FINDERUP. He died on 17 Nov 1978 in Wellington and was buried in Karori cemetery. *Refer to page*
- 183 viii. **Violette Florence DANE** was born in 1898 in Nelson and died on 1 Aug 1977 when she was 79. She married Paul Harold Norman HEIDENSTROM in 1919 when she was 21. Paul died on 29 May 1977. *Refer to page*
- 184 ix. **Henrietta DANE** was born in 1898 in Nelson, and died aged 3 weeks.
- 185 x. **Lillian Evelyn DANE** was born in 1899 in Nelson and died on 18 Mar 1933 in Auckland, aged 34. On 21 Dec 1917 at the age of 18, she married William John FRENCH. He was born about 1891 in London, England and died on 7 Jul 1955 in Wellington, he was 64. Lillian was possibly also known as Lillian CLEAVER. *Refer to page*

**51. Selina GILL or HIGGINS** was baptised in 1836 in Baltonsborough, the daughter of Jemima GILL and an unnamed father (*page 10*),<sup>1</sup> and was buried on 22 Sep 1906 at Omaka cemetery, Blenheim. She was adopted by her maternal grandmother Mary, by then HIGGINS, and came to New Zealand as Selina HIGGINS on the *Mary Ann* in 1842, at the age of six.

She was possibly the S GILL who bore a female child on 17 Oct 1854 in Nelson. She would have been 18 years old at that time.

From c 1860 – 1886 she lived in a *de facto* relationship with Charles EYLES, 4<sup>th</sup> son of Daniel EYLES and Jane PRIMMER. Charles was born on 26 Jan 1821, bapt 11 Feb 1821 at Lasham, Hants, England, and died on 5 or 6 Apr 1886 Lower Wairau, at the age of 66.<sup>215, 187</sup> He was buried in Taylor cemetery, Blenheim. Charles was married to Ann (or Mary Ann) DUNKLEY and had 5 children of that marriage. Although Charles and Selina had no blood relationship, they were close kin through the marriage of Charles' father to Selina's grandmother. They had both travelled to NZ on the *Mary Ann*.

Charles and Selina had the following children:

- 186 i. **Cecilia EYLES** was born on 4 Feb 1860 at Blenheim,<sup>208</sup> and died on 14 May 1927 at Stratford. On 21 Nov 1879 she married Robert Henry WITT (1858-1935).
- 187 ii. **Charles EYLES** was born on 9 Mar 1861 at Blenheim.<sup>209</sup> and died on 22 Jul 1945 at Blenheim

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- aged 84. He was buried with his wife at Omaka Cemetery.<sup>187</sup> In Jul 1891 he married Rose Helen REID (c1870-1951)
- 188 iii. **Lucy Louisa EYLES** was born on 9 Dec 1864 at Blenheim,<sup>210</sup> and died on 18 Sep 1950 at Blenheim. In 1906 she married Samuel Arthur J TIMMS (1862-1952)
- 189 iv. **Frederick William EYLES** was born on 3 or 13 Aug 1865,<sup>211</sup> and died on 10 Jan 1957 aged 91. He was buried with his wife at Omaka Cemetery, Blenheim.<sup>187</sup> He married Mary Lucy DAVIS who died on 8 Jul 1946 aged 78..
- 190 v. **Albert Edward EYLES** was born on 16 Nov 1866 at Blenheim.<sup>212</sup>
- 191 vi. **Florence EYLES** was born on 2 Dec 1869 at Blenheim,<sup>213</sup> and died on 10 Sep 1964. She married Frederick Arthur LEVY in 1889,<sup>217</sup> and m (2) Canute AULBERG (possibly 1904/2329)
- Check:192* vii. **Winifred EYLES born 13 Aug 1871<sup>218</sup> Blenheim d.c. 1943 m. Sydney Frederick MAULE b.1856 Which sister married MAULE??? Was Sydney Jemima's son??? Can find no trace of this marriage**
- Jenni Balgownie has born 13 Aug 1870*
- 193 viii. **Amy Gertrude EYLES** was born on 23 Jun 1875 at Blenheim.<sup>214</sup> She married William STANTON.

After Charles' death, Selina married James LEES on 12 May 1892 in Blenheim.<sup>73</sup> James was a produce merchant, born at Old Monkland, Scotland, and died on 13 July 1905 at the age of 64, and is buried at Omaka cemetery, Blenheim, with his wife. James and Selina had no children.

**52. Harriet Ann GILL** was born about 1837 in Glastonbury, Somerset, UK, the daughter of Jemima GILL and an unknown father (*page 10*). She died on 25 Dec 1923 in Brightwater, Nelson.<sup>140</sup>

Harriet came to NZ in 1851 with her mother and stepfather and siblings (the MAULE family). A letter from Mrs Elisabeth HODGSON stated that an error was made when the name MAULE was used on Harriet's death certificate, and that the family had persuaded the Registrar-General to alter it back to the correct name (presumably Harriet Ann GILL).

Harriet married William HODGSON on 26 Aug 1857 in Richmond, Nelson.<sup>24</sup> William HODGSON was born about 1820, died on 20 August 1907 and was buried on his 50th wedding anniversary in Brightwater, Nelson.<sup>127</sup>

They had the following children:

- 194 i. **John HODGSON** was born in 1858. Left home at 15, nothing further known
- 195 ii. **William HODGSON** was born on 2 Jan 1860. William died on 13 Jan 1947. Farmer, Okamarino - refer Cyclopedia of NZ. William married Susanna SWAFFORD on 6 Oct 1890. Susanna died in 1956.
- 196 iii. **Frederick HODGSON** was born on 10 Nov 1861 and died on 10 Jul 1933.<sup>218</sup> He married Annie ONION on 5 Apr 1893. Annie died in 1928.
- 197 iv. **James HODGSON** was born on 18 Aug 1863. James died on 6 Sep 1891. James married Emma Jane COOK on 7 May 1890.
- 198 v. **Abraham HODGSON** was born on 11 Jun 1866. He died on 29 Jul 1938. Abraham married Amelia Minnie GIFFORD on 15 Aug 1895.
- 199 vi. **Samuel HODGSON** was born on 19 Oct 1868 and died on 3 Oct 1940. Samuel married Mary Frances NOLAN. Samuel also married Ellen O'SULLIVAN on 18 Apr 1901. Ellen was born on 4 May 1867, and died on 2 Sep 1903. Samuel married thirdly Mavis CUNDY in 1915. Mavis died on 22 Mar 1955. Dawn PEARSON and Elisabeth HODGSON, family genealogists, were granddaughter and granddaughter-in-law of Samuel and Ellen.
- 200 vii. **Sarah Jane "Sally" HODGSON** was born on 24 Nov 1870. She died on 17 Feb 1940. She was a dwarf.
- 201 viii. **Clement George HODGSON** was born on 24 Jun 1873. Clement died on 27 Mar 1958.<sup>155</sup> Clement married Emma Eliza NEWMAN, daughter of Harry NEWMAN, on 23 Jul 1898. She was born in 1877 and died in 1957, aged 80 years.

**62. Clara MAULE** was born on 23 Dec 1858 at Brightwater and died on 7 Sep 1918 and was buried on 9 Sep 1918

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in Nelson. Won prize 11-12 years at Spring Grove School 23 Jan 1871. Birth reg not found.

Clara married Alfred FROST, son of William John Forrester FROST and Jane TANNER, on 28 May 1879 in Nelson, NZ. Alfred was born on 25 Mar 1848 in Whitehall, London, England.

They had the following children:

- 202 i. **Emily Pope FROST** was born on 15 Jan 1872 in Nelson.
- 203 ii. **Beatrice Violet Susanna FROST** was born on 31 Mar 1884 in Nelson, and died on 31 May 1962 in Gisborne.
- 204 iii. **Francis Albert Maule FROST** was born on 3 Sep 1875 in Nelson.
- 205 iv. **Ethel Leah FROST** was born on 6 Sep 1880 in Nelson, and died on 11 Mar 1953 in Nelson.
- 206 v. **Elsie Maude FROST** was born on 28 Jun 1882 in Nelson, and died in 1956 in Nelson.
- 207 vi. **Harold Alfred Leslie FROST** was born on 22 Apr 1886 in Nelson, and died on 12 Dec 1956 in Nelson.
- 208 vii. **Victor Ashley FROST** was born on 8 Jun 1890 in Nelson and died on 17 Aug 1917 in Battle Of Messin, France.
- 209 viii. **Augustus FROST** was born on 27 Jun 1893 in Nelson.
- 210 ix. **Nolan FROST** was born on 4 Sep 1896 in Nelson, and died on 2 Oct 1968 in Nelson.
- 211 x. **Newton Howard FROST** was born on 5 Jun 1898 in Nelson, and died on 18 Jul 1946 in Nelson.
- 212 xi. **Clive Stanley FROST** was born on 10 Oct 1900 in Nelson, and died on 15 Oct 1966 in Nelson.

**63. John Joseph MAULE** was born in 1860 in Spring Grove<sup>160</sup> the son of Jemima GILL and James MAULE (*page 10*). Baptised on 15 Dec 1861 at Brightwater.<sup>216</sup> He died at the age of 47 at Waimea South on 23 Nov 1907,<sup>120</sup> and is buried in Brightwater cemetery.

John married Louisa THOMASON. They had the following children:

- 213 i. **Maude Susan MAULE** was born on 27 Jul 1884 and died on 2 Nov 1915, aged 31. At Spring Grove School 22 Oct 1889 - 25 Apr 1898. Maude married James Harris CHING (Junior) in 1904, the second of his three wives.<sup>154,78</sup>
- 214 ii. **Abraham Arthur MAULE** was born on 5 Jul 1886. Abraham died on 12 Jun 1908 at the age of 22, and is buried with his father. At Spring Grove School 17 Apr 1889 - 20 Dec 1898
- 215 iii. **Eva Mary "Tiny" MAULE** born on 1 Dec 1887. Tiny died at the age of 23, on 12 Jan 1911 in Motueka,<sup>201</sup> and is buried with her father.

**63. Edward GILL** was born about 1845 in Ditchat, Somerset, UK, the son of Henry GILL and Mary Jane BAKER (*page 11*). He died on 18 Apr 1923 in Nelson,<sup>141</sup> aged 78 years. Dolly EDWARDS when asked for information about the family suggested that her mother had two half-brothers, Ted and Fred. Fred was correct, but Tom was the other half-brother nearest to her mother's age. This Edward, cousin to Tom and Fred, may have been the Ted referred to. Dolly's statement should have been "half-brothers Tom and Fred, and cousin Ted."

Farmer at Wakapuaka. 1870 Electoral Roll: Abode Wakapuaka Road, Property 10 acres pt sect 16.

Responsible for 1 child under the Education Rate 1874 children 20 years apart?

Men from all round the district served on the Suburban North Road Board, responsible for all roads in the area apart from the main highway. Edward Gill of Atawhai was the Board's overseer, clerk and returning officer for 40 years.<sup>205</sup> His association with the roads went back at least to 1872 when he is recorded as having secured a small contract connected with the construction of the original road from Happy Valley to the Whangamoa Saddle.<sup>205</sup>

Edward married Mary SCADDEN on 11 Jan 1865 in Nelson.<sup>26</sup> Mary was born about 1845, died on 30 Sep 1931, and was buried with her husband at Wakapuaka cemetery.<sup>169</sup> They had the following children:

- 216 i. **Beatrice Mary GILL** was born in 1865<sup>67</sup> in Nelson, and died on 21 Jan 1948 in Nelson. Beatrice married Arthur DODSON on 17 or 19 Apr 1895 in St Peter's, Wakapuaka, Nelson (described as "only daughter" on her marriage).<sup>196</sup> Arthur DODSON was born in 1856, and died on 22 May 1935.

## Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

- 217 ii. **Edward Howard Victor "Howard" GILL** was born on 3 Mar 1886 in Nelson. Son of Edward Gill (newspaper), but position needs confirming as born 20 years after his sister. Howard married Hilda Adine HEBBERD on 15 Dec 1910 in Nelson.<sup>178</sup> Hilda was born in 1886, died on 29 Jun 1972, and was buried in Marsden cemetery, Nelson.

**64. Emily GILL** was born 1 Jan 1848 in Shepton Malet, Somerset, UK, the daughter of Henry GILL and Mary Jane BAKER (*page 11*). She died on 1 Jul 1922 in Nelson.<sup>142</sup> [Note: the 1851 English census has her born at Ditcheat.]

Emily married Henry MOORE, a bootmaker, at Henry's father Charles' residence, Post Boy Hotel, Vanguard Street, Nelson, on 10 Nov 1868.<sup>27,75</sup> Henry MOORE was born on 18 Sep 1846 in Bradfield, Berkshire, UK, and died on 7 Oct 1922 in Nelson.

They had the following children:

- 218 i. **Henry Charles MOORE** was born on 23 Oct 1869 in Nelson. Henry died after 1953.  
219 ii. **Edmund Gilchrist MOORE** was born on 2 Dec 1870. He died on 22 Jun 1954. Edmund married Ellen BYRNE. Ellen was born in 1865, and died in 1929.  
220 iii. **Herbert Hartfield Harman MOORE** was born on 7 or 9 Feb 1872 in Nelson. Herbert married Louisa Maude WILDBORE on 7 Nov 1898 in Palmerston North. Louisa was born on 17 Jan 1881 in Palmerston North.  
221 iv. **Ida Laura MOORE** was born on 23 May 1873 in Nelson, and died on 10 May 1941 in Auckland. Ida married Newton Charles HOLDAWAY on 5 Dec 1894 in Christ's Church, Nelson. He was a coachbuilder, born in 1868 in Nelson. He died on 7 Oct 1949 and was buried at Marton. They lived at Richmond, Nelson, Kaponga, Bulls, Levin, Auckland and Marton.<sup>46</sup>  
222 v. **Beryl MOORE** was born on 7 Sep 1874 in Nelson.<sup>164</sup> She died after 1953.  
223 vi. **Emily MOORE** was born on 20 Feb 1876 and died after 1953.  
224 vii. **Gertrude MOORE** was born on 8 Mar 1877. She died on 13 Sep 1966, unmarried  
225 viii. **Amy MOORE** was born on 6 Apr 1878 in Nelson. She died on 18 Jul 1963. Amy married Edmund Charles SHEA. Edmund was born on 10 Sep 1874, and died on 19 Apr 1930, aged 55. He was a tally clerk and they lived at Tahuna, Nelson.<sup>78</sup>  
226 ix. **Doris MOORE** was born on 3 Feb 1893 in Nelson.<sup>163</sup> Doris died after 1953, unmarried.

**65. Mary GILL** was born about 1849 in Ditcheat, Somerset, UK, the daughter of Henry GILL and Mary Jane BAKER (*page 11*). She died on 23 Oct 1924 in Nelson,<sup>143</sup> aged 77.

Mary had a daughter with Cornelius HEBBERD:

- 227 i. **Mary Jane Baker "Janie" GILL** was born on 2 Sep 1866<sup>76</sup> in Nelson, and died on 29 Jan 1923 in Nelson and was buried in Wakapuaka cemetery. Janie married George Daniel MOULDER on 16 Sep 1891 in Nelson.<sup>175</sup> George was born on 2 Jan 1864 in Nelson, and died on 2 Nov 1952 and was buried in Wakapuaka cemetery. He was a labourer at Wakapuaka in 1894.<sup>206</sup> *Refer to page*

Mary married Thomas HAYTON, a gardener, on 8 May 1882 in Nelson.<sup>28</sup> Thomas was born in 1853 in Sunderland, UK, and died on 20 Oct 1898 in Nelson. They are buried at Wakapuaka. Thomas was a farmer at Wakapuaka in 1894.<sup>206</sup>

They had the following children:

- 228 i. **Thomas Edward HAYTON** was born on 24 Jun 1888 in Nelson, and died on 14 Dec 1975 in Nelson. Thomas married Olive Rubena BARNETT on 28 Aug 1912 in Upper Takaka, Nelson. Olive was born in 1891, and died in 1965. They were the grandparents of Jan STEVENSON, family genealogist.  
229 ii. **John Henry "Jack" HAYTON** was born on 9 Sep 1890 in Nelson. He died on 1 Aug 1977 in Richmond, Nelson. Jack married Trixie Irene HODGSON (known as Rene – pronounced "Reen"),

### **Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester**

daughter of Clement George HODGSON and Emma Eliza NEWMAN, on 29 Mar 1922. Rene was born on 4 Jan 1899, and was a 2<sup>nd</sup> cousin once removed to her husband Jack, both descending from Henry GILL and Mary SLADE. *Refer to page 23*

*Information about later generations may be available from the author.*

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| 2 NZ Registration Deaths Index, 1885/280 certificate sighted                     | William                       |
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| 6 NZ Registration Deaths Index, 1855/304 certificate sighted                     | Harriet Gill                  |
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| 21 NZ Registration Marriages Index, 1886/2202                                    | Jessie/Charles Withers        |
| 22 NZ Registration Marriages Index, 1886/2979                                    | Will/Elizabeth Withers        |
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| 28 NZ Registration Marriages Index, 1882/1226                                    | Mary/Thomas Hayton            |
| 29 NZ Registration Marriages Index, 1883/2072 Intention sighted                  | Alfred/Mary Avery             |
| 30 NZ Registration Marriages Index, 1876/1894                                    | Eliza/William Newport         |
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| 50 NZ Registration Births Index, 1864/272 NZSG stray 01905                       | Alfred George                 |
| 51 NZ Registration Births Index, 1862/287  | James                         |
| 52 NZ Registration Births Index, 1868/620  | William John (=John W?)       |

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54	NZ Registration Births Index, 1871/654	(unnamed) = Charles
55	NZ Registration Births index, 1874/680	Ethel Annie
56	NZ Registration Births Index, 1874/683	Archie
57	NZ Registration Births Index, 1873/1581	Clara
58	NZ Registration Births Index, 1876/2276	Adeline
59	NZ Registration Births Index, 1856/203	William
60	NZ Registration Births Index, 1858/213	Henry
61	NZ Registration Births Index, 1859/227	Mary Elizabeth
62	NZ Registration Births Index, 1860/287	Sarah
63	NZ Registration Births Index, 1864/348	George ?twins same number
64	NZ Registration Births Index, 1864/348	Sarah
65	NZ Registration Births Index, 1865/349	Harriet Adeline
66	NZ Registration Births Index, 1858/175	unnamed male [Alfred Cornelius]
67	NZ Registration Births Index, 1865/309	Beatrice Mary ?twins same no
68	NZ Registration Births Index, 1865/309	unnamed female
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88	NZ Registration Deaths Index, 1864/231	Sarah [twins, same reg no]
89	NZ Registration Deaths Index, 1876/198	Benjamin
90	NZ Registration Deaths Index, 1883/277	Henry
91	NZ Registration Marriages Index, 1909/2917	Hannah Dane/Francis Herring
92	NZ Registration Deaths Index, 1886/817	Ann [Edwards/Gill]
93	NZ Registration Deaths Index, 1874/443	Archy
94	NZ Registration Births Index, 1857/125	unnamed female [Alice Mary]
95	NZ Registration Births Index, 1858/193	unnamed female [Fanny Emma]
96	NZ Registration Births Index, 1885/3939	Howard Vyvyan Herrick
97	NZ Registration Births Index, 1884/508	Francis Herbert Herrick
98	NZ Registration Births Index, 1880/2684	Thomas Gill (Kaikoura)
99	NZ Registration Marriages Index, 1877/1718	Jane Gill/George Sharp
100	NZ Registration Deaths Index, 1898/978	Jane Wimsett
101	NZ Registration Deaths Index, 1858/318	Hiram Dane
102	NZ Registration Marriages Index, 1895/1406	Mary J Wimsett/Gelling
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104	NZ Registration Births Index, 1852/383	Henry Edward Dane
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119 NZ Registration Deaths Index, 1909/1941	William Gill
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| 212 NZ Registration Births Index, 1866/487  | Albert Edward Eyles               |
| 213 NZ Registration Births Index, 1869/577  | Florence Eyles                    |
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| 216 LDS Family Search Database  |                                   |
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| 218 NZ Registration Births Index, 1871/218  | Winifred Eyles                    |
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| 220 <i>IGI (LDS)</i> , Film 0481077 Philimore's Somerset marriages.                                 |                                   |

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Reka.....	27	Marilyn Vera .....	33, 40	Elsie Gwendoline .....	34, 42
Wells		Max.....	27	Emma Myrtle.....	30, 36
Angela Lorraine.....	48	Michael James.....	33, 40	Florence Ada.....	30, 35

## Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

Henry James Robert .....	35	Suzanne Joy .....	44	Wright
Ivy .....	30, 36	Thomas Donovan .....	36, 44	Alfred Cyril .....
Janet Elsie Pearl .....	30, 36	Thomas Walter .....	29	Alfred Willie "Bill" .....
Janice Margaret .....	44	Trevor .....	44	Anne .....
Judith .....	44	Vernon .....	44	Beverley Jean .....
Keren Barbara .....	42	Vernon James .....	36, 44	Brian .....
Kerry Michael .....	44	William John .....	35	Colin Clive .....
Leonie .....	44	William Wallace .....	30, 35	Ernest Donald "Don" ...
Louisa May .....	29, 34	Wood		George .....
May .....	34	Carrick Stephen .....	46	Howard Donald .....
Mervyn .....	44	Darryl Peter .....	46	John .....
Murnie .....	34	Peter .....	36	Judith Annette .....
Noeline Cecilia .....	35, 44	Woodill		Maxwell .....
Paul Marcus .....	44	David Ernest .....	38	Mervyn .....
Philip Norman .....	36	Letitia Ann .....	49	Nancy .....
Philippa Joy .....	44	Rebecca .....	49	Robert .....
Phillip Norman .....	44	Woolf		Robert Percy "Bob" .....
Raymond Phillip .....	44	Alison Faye .....	43, 53	Ronald .....
Rhonda Mary .....	44, 55	David .....	35	Terrill .....
Robert Charles .....	34, 42	David Ernest .....	43	Zorzi
Robert Henry .....	21	Glennis Anne .....	43	Barbara Elinora Adelaide ...
Robert John .....	30, 35	Lynley Yvonne .....	43	Christine Suzanne .....
Roderick .....	44	Rosalie Isobel .....	43, 53	Therese Catherine .....
Roslyn .....	44	Workman		Umberto Candido "Robert" ...
Selina Maude .....	29, 35	Mary Jane .....	13	

## Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

### Appendix 1: Sarah Higgins of Nelson, 1842

Extract from *Married and Gone to New Zealand* by Alison Drummond, Paul's Book Arcade, Hamilton

This simple pioneer record has some unusual features. One of them is that it has been set down by the woman who lived it, in unpretentious narrative style that gives a vividly uncluttered picture of early days in the Nelson settlement; another, that Sarah Higgins did not learn to write, though she could read, until she was more than seventy years old.

The Sharp and Higgins families both left England early in the Hungry Forties, but ten years after the Labourers' Rising which had drawn attention to the farmworkers' social and economic misery by the light of burning hayricks. Rural England was over-populated and the colonies an answer to harassed officialdom's prayer. Conditions were scarcely better in the new land, but the climate was, also the distant economic prospect for men and women who were willing to work and save. Eventually they were to win educational opportunities for their children that they themselves had been denied, security and a degree of comfort, modest though it was by modern standards, that they could not have attained in England.

Sarah Sharp, who met and married Sydney Higgins seven years after their arrival in New Zealand in 1842, tells her own story:

My children and friends have long wanted me to write a little history of my life.

..... My father's name was Stephen Sharp .... Married and had a family of 3 boys and 2 girls, I being the youngest. My mother died when I was a baby..... father married again and his second wife died 12 months later and her baby also.... Then his parents came to live with us and I got very fond of my grandmother. Then I had to go to school there I learnt sewing and reading but not to write – I could make all my undergarments when I was 12 years old.

Father initially refused a passage to New Zealand because he lacked a wife. The doctors applied for one as they said it was the only thing what could save my poor sister because she was very ill and they could not do her any good, so they gave him a ticket to come out. .... My dear sister was 21 years when she died on board, two months after leaving England, and I was 12 years. It was a sorry time. There were not many dry eyes when she was put overboard.

Sailed from Deptford (London) in the *Bolton* "and we went down the English Channel to Dover where we had the last sight of the old Mother land. When we saw Dover and the white cliffs there was such a hurraing and goodbyeing, so that was the last sight of old England. Then we soon got out into the open seas." ..... Fearful gale in the Bay of Biscay ..... seas ran mountainous ..... three days and nights .....battened down below ..... crying, screaming, praying ..... bulwarks broken, masts cut away .....nearly all the top deck gone.

They stopped in Wellington for 10 days and got fitted up to come round to Nelson. Then our journey of five months was over. Their big heavy vessel could not come in the harbour so they had to go in boats and could not get any of their things for 2 days.