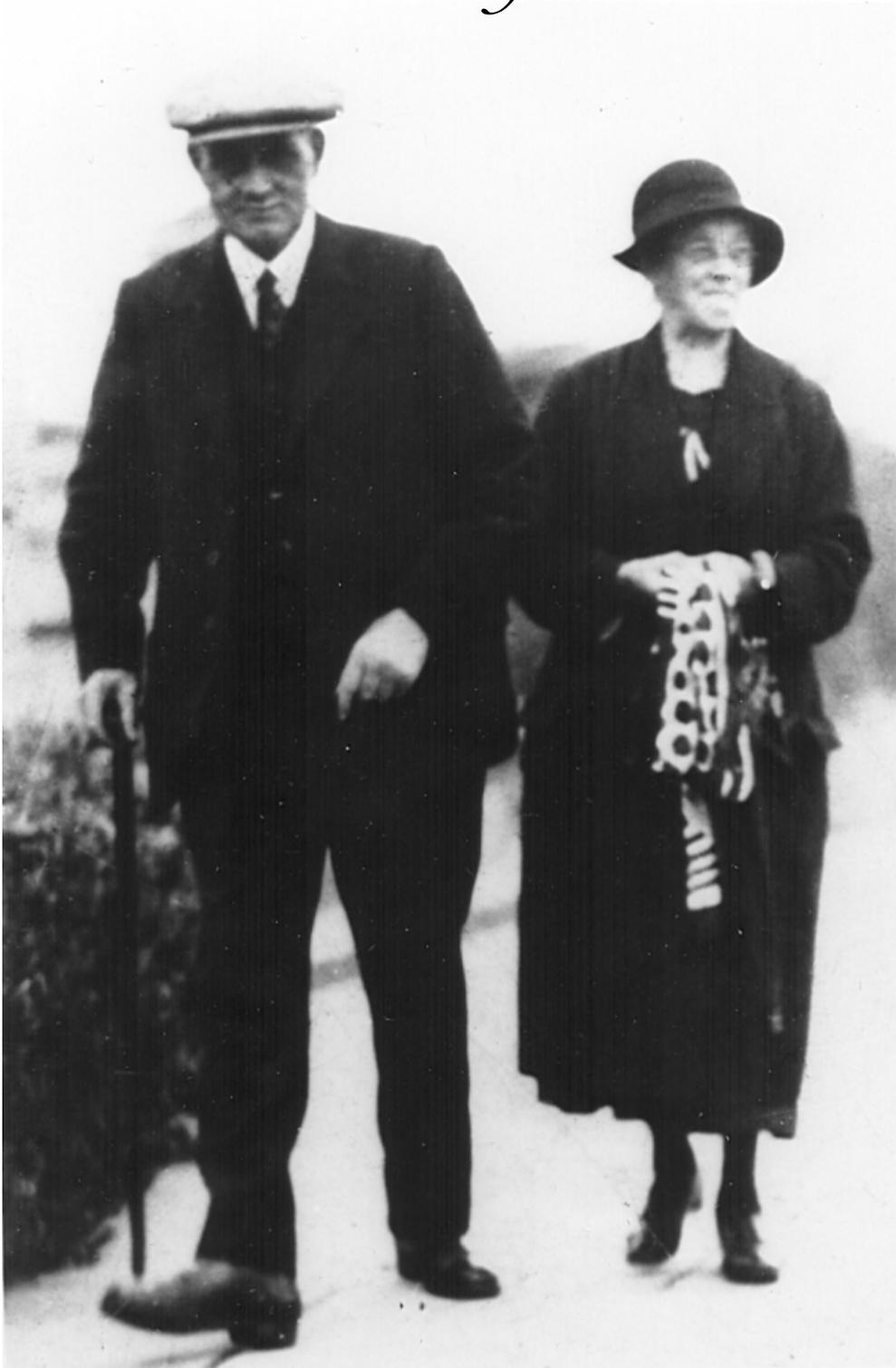


*The  
William and Emily  
Story*



Pauline & Terry Sheppard

# *The William & Emily Story*

---

A privately circulated volume produced to document the results of searching out one branch of the people of Pauline Sheppard's past, her genetic inheritance. A way of taking the huge volume of notes, certificates, census records and images accumulated over many years and presenting them in a hopefully interesting and enjoyable format.

Here is an ordinary story common to the many whose economic inheritance was landless agricultural toil, but which changed out of all recognition by the huge developments of the 19th century.

---

The authors gratefully acknowledge the calm and patient help given by the staff of Record Offices & Archives too numerous to mention; the Netherfield Local History Group for their excellent book, *Loco Village*; Peter Barry Waite for his masterly *A History of the Great Northern Colwick Motive Power Depot and Marshalling Yard*; Alan & Audrey Clarke, for their living testimony to a place and a time now faded into history.

---

Pauline & Terry Sheppard

April 2006

40 Fowke Street  
Rothley  
Leicester LE7 7PJ

0116 230 2931

sheppard7pj@btinternet.com

Set in Garamond 11pt  
with the help of Serif Page Plus 14

---

# Introduction

William Gale and Emily Jarvis were the grandparents of Pauline Sheppard and Rita Butcher on their mother's side. Their mother, Marjorie Annie Gale, came from this union, marrying Bernard Stanley Marriott in 1934.

**W**illiam Gale, Railwayman, was born in July 1871, the ninth child of Martin and Mary Gale, in Barrowby, near Grantham. His father Martin was a *Muston* Gale, a family of jobbing agricultural workers in a Vale of Belvoir dominated by big landlords including the Duke of Rutland, high in his Castle above those who toiled on the heavy clay lands beneath. Martin himself was the sixth child, born in 1825, and grew into manhood with the knowledge that his father, Christopher, hanged himself in 1841, recorded as *being lunatic*.

By 1851 Martin had found a situation working on the staff of the big house in Barrowby, close to the Church. He married his Mary Wadsworth in 1854 at Grantham's civic church, St Wulfram's, and settled into a cottage a mile down the hill on the land of Barrowby Thorns Farm. In the census he describes himself as a *Cottager of 8 Acres*. So William Gale would have grown up in a household over-run with siblings, where a living was scratched from the two adjacent fields, the cow and the pig and the hens. The other feature of life at the family cottage was the steady rumble of the steam trains on the Grantham-Nottingham-Boston line that ran right by the family cottage.

**E**mily Jarvis started her life just across those two fields, where the lane to Allington crosses the railway under the watchful eye of a signalman and a level-crossing keeper. By that crossing are three railway cottages and a farmhouse. In one of the cottages resided railway platelayer Samuel Jarvis and his wife Elizabeth, who in 1871 is recorded as the *Gatekeeper*. Emily Jarvis came along into this family as child number five in July 1867. The final child Henry was born in 1869, but sadly only lived one year.

Samuel Jarvis had the same sort of roots as Martin Gale, born in 1827, number seven out of a family of ten *Redmile* Jarvis's, wedded to agricultural toil. Samuel left the land early, joining the teams of men working with pick and shovel opening up the iron road north for the Great Northern Railway. Samuel married his Elizabeth Bee in Great Gonerby Church on 3 October 1853 and the family lived in Gonerby while he worked on the GNR. Moving later to the cottage at Allington Junction would have meant an enduring place on the permanent staff, and indeed later he is recorded as *Foreman Platelayer*.

**A**lthough there was four years difference in their ages, William & Emily would have seen each other at school, no doubt played together in those two fields, and been taken into the signal box by Emily's parents. The coming pages will delve further into the line of descent that preceded this couple, make some guesses as to how their courtship developed, and unfold something of the life they had together in the new railway community of Netherfield, up the line on the edge of Nottingham.

# Out of the Vale of Belvoir

**John GALE = Agnes Lambe**  
m at Bottesford 24 November 1635

**Christopher GALE = Joanne**  
1649-1706 d 1708 Muston  
Farmer  
Churchwarden Muston 1686

**John GALE = Susanna**  
1684-1747 d 1745 Muston  
Farmer  
Churchwarden Muston 1716

**Christopher GEALE = Ruth Wheatley**  
1776-1841 bap 1784 Lg Bnngtn  
Agricultural Labourer  
m 22 Apr 1805 at Muston

**Martin GALE = Mary Wadsworth**  
1825-1905 1835-1875  
Cottager, Barrowby Thorns  
m 20 Nov 1854 at St Wulfram's, Grantham

**William GALE = Emily Jarvis**  
1871-1938 1867-1939  
Railway Platelayer, Netherfield  
m 26 Jun 1892 at St George's Netherfield

**Marjorie GALE = Stanley Marriott**  
1906-2000 1907-1981  
2 Jun 1934 at St Gile's Gedling

**Pauline Marriott**  
b 1937 Westdale Lane, Gedling

**Rita Marriott**  
b 1940 Hereford Road, Woodthorpe

The Gale with Jarvis lines shown here reveal a life circumstance based on winning a living from tilling the soil. The early members of the Gale family had access to their own land in that they are described as *Farmers*, and of sufficient stature to hold down a year's term as *Churchwarden* at Muston Parish Church. Our branch comes down through Christopher *Geale*, 1776-1841, who eked out his life as a labourer on the land, with support from the parish as a pauper towards the end.

**George JERVIS = Mary Blows**  
of Knipton/Redmile

**Joseph JARVIS = Mary**  
bap 11 Apr 1790, Knipton  
Agricultural Labourer

**Samuel JARVIS = Elizabeth Bee**  
1827-1883 1829-1885  
Railway Platelayer  
m 3 Oct 1853 at Gt Gonerby

Christopher's life came to a sad conclusion in 1841, with his death certificate recording the cause as *being lunatic, hung himself*. He was actually probably just depressed. With no work, pauper status, and failing energy, life may well have seemed very black. With such suicides, the family usually tried to arrange for a *lunatic diagnosis*, thus enabling the body to be buried in the consecrated ground of the village churchyard.

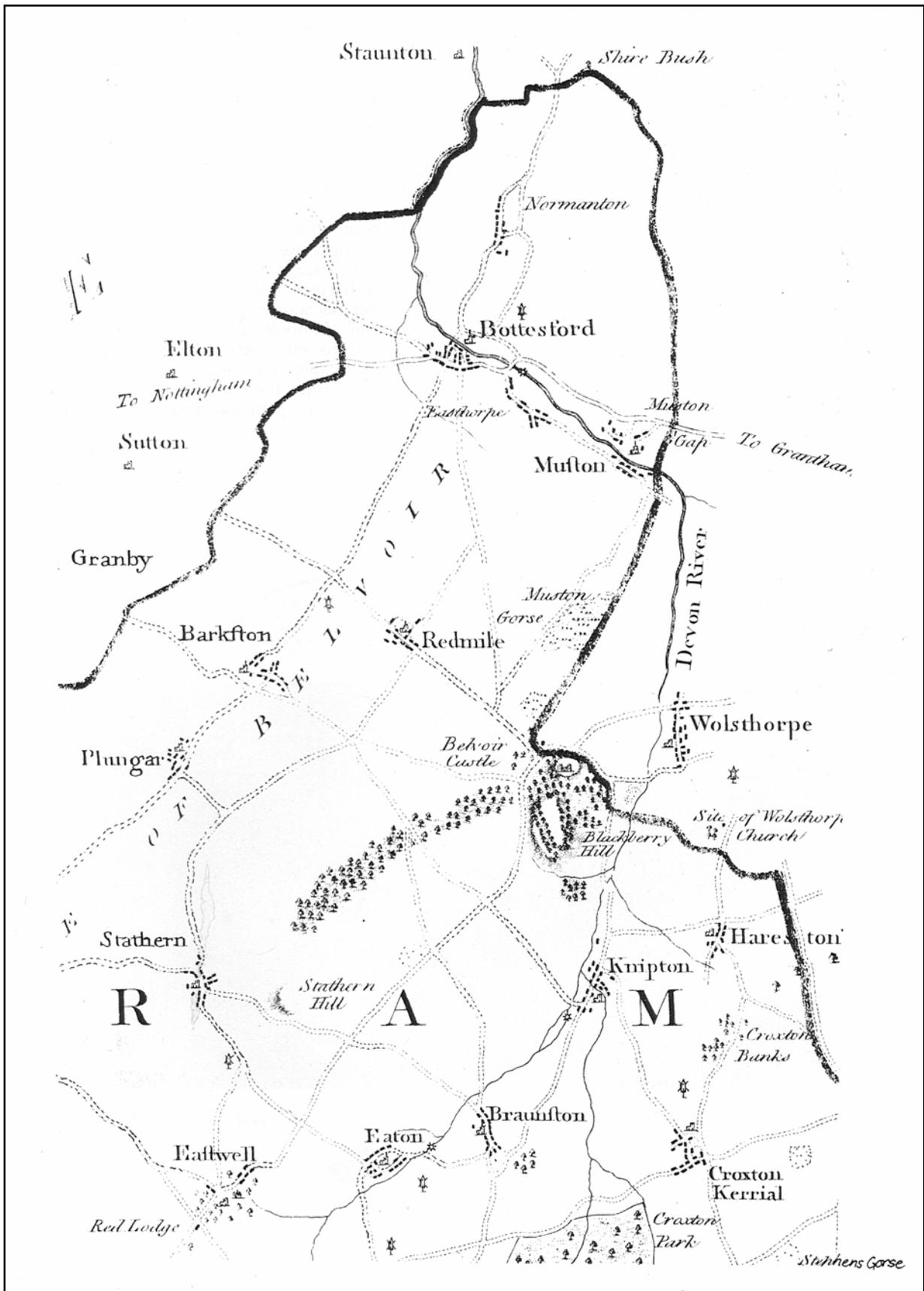
The Gales appear to have started in the big parish of Bottesford, the principal settlement in the Vale, then moved on to the nearby village of Muston. The Jarvis branch eked out their lives right under the shadow of Belvoir Castle, at Knipton and Redmile. In his edition of Prior's 1777 Map of Leicestershire, J D Welding writes:

“Belvoir castle dominated the area not only physically but also economically. The Duke of Rutland could also look upon *two and twenty manors of his own paternal inheritance*. His income from property is given as £20,000 per year, and he was patron of twenty churches. No framework knitting was permitted in the Vale of Belvoir, so an influx of poor workers was prevented. The first outside intrusion into the Vale came with the Grantham Canal, which was opened in 1793. The relationship of the villagers to their Lord is illustrated by the fact that every Thursday morning at the castle there was a distribution of fifty-six penny loaves to the poor of nine parishes; Woolsthorpe received five, Knipton nine, Plungar three, Barlston six, Redmile six, Bottesford eighteen, Muston six, Braunston five, and Croxton eight.”

In later pages Census transcriptions for the mid 1800s are used to show the family groups that carried the Gale & Jarvis lines forward.

The original school building at Muston, now used by the community. The gateway to literacy for the Gales





A section of John Prior's 1777 map of Leicestershire showing Bottesford and Muston in the top north-eastern corner of Leicestershire, right in the Vale of Belvoir. Knipton and Redmile also figure, either side of the Duke of Rutland's Belvoir Castle.

# Tied to the Land

The lot in life for Christopher *Geale*, of that generation before rudimentary elementary education came along. Not for him the opportunity to get away from the hard slog of the landless labourer. Living in a community almost wholly owned by the Dukes of Rutland, who prevented other types of work coming into the Vale, the only way to earn a crust was to be hired by a richer tenant, or a gangmaster from another village.

Christopher's well-off Rector of Muston (1783-1789), the famous poet George Crabbe, summed it up well in one of his verses:

“Go then, and see them rising with the sun  
Through a long course of daily toil to run,  
Like him to make the plenteous harvest grow,  
And yet not share the plenty they bestow”

This hopeless grind must have done something to these simple men. Ronald Blythe, in his celebrated book of rural life, *Akenfield*, makes this observation through the eyes of a modern young farmworker:

“The women never lost their independence during the bad days as the men did. The men were beaten because the farms took every ounce of their physical strength, and as they had no great mental strength because of lack of education, they were left with nothing. Their physical strength was their pride and as soon as it was gone they became timid.”

Perhaps Christopher was such a beaten man. Aged 65, his strength gone, sustained by parish handouts, and seriously depressed. Perhaps that accounts for his sad and untimely death, out of despair.

**Christopher GALE = Ruth Wheatley**  
1776-1841                      bap 1784 Lg Bnngtn  
Agricultural Labourer  
m 22 Apr 1805 at Muston

**John GALE = Jane**  
1810-                      1812-

**Sarah GALE = William Holmes**  
1813-

**William GALE**  
1816-

**Thomas GALE = Mary Peach**  
1820-                      1824-

**Christopher GALE = Jane Uxbridge**  
1823-                      1829-

**Martin GALE = Mary Wadsworth**  
bap 12 Dec 1825              b 1835  
Muston                      Grantham  
d 3 May 1905              d 2 Sep 1875 Barrowby  
m 20 Nov 1854 St Wulfrum's Grantham

Martin Gale would not have had a very auspicious start in this family. When he would have been 15 he is not recorded in the 1841 census as living with Christopher and Ruth. In 1851 he is recorded as settled in the big house next to the church in Barrowby, in service to the Mullhouse family of Harness Makers. After his marriage in 1854 he returned to the land, but this time as a Cottager with 8 acres, on Barrowby Thorns Farm.

**CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY OF DEATH** Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE, LONDON.

Application Number R187664

REGISTRATION DISTRICT <u>Grantham</u>									
1841 . DEATH in the Sub-district of <u>Denton</u> in the Counties of Lincoln & Leicester									
No.	When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description, and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar
192	Twentieth of July 1841 at Muston	Christopher Gale	Male	65 years	Labourer	Being Lunatic hung himself	Thos Clark Coroner Melton Mowbray	Twenty Sixth of July 1841	Stephen Brice Registrar

CERTIFIED to be a true copy of an entry in the certified copy of a Register of Deaths in the District above mentioned.  
Given at the GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE LONDON, under the Seal of the said Office, the 16th day of July 1920.

This certificate is issued in pursuance of the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953. Section 34 provides that any certified copy of an entry purporting to be sealed or stamped with the seal of the General Register Office shall be received as evidence of the birth or death to which it relates without any further or other proof of the entry, and no certified copy purporting to have been given in the said Office shall be of any force or effect unless it is sealed or stamped as aforesaid.

CAUTION:—It is an offence to falsify a certificate or to make or knowingly use a false certificate or a copy of a false certificate intending it to be accepted as genuine to the prejudice of any person or to possess a certificate knowing it to be false without lawful authority.

DA 834472

# Gale in the Census

This entry is from the **1841 Census of Muston**. Christopher & Ruth share a pauper home

Given	Surname	Reltn	Status	Age	Occupation	Born	Place	Year
<b>Christopher</b>	<b>GALE</b>	<b>Head</b>	<b>Marrd</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>Pauper</b>	<b>Leics</b>		<b>1776</b>
<b>Ruth</b>	<b>GALE</b>	<b>Wife</b>	<b>Marrd</b>	<b>57</b>		<b>Lincs</b>		<b>1791</b>

In 1851 there are several Gale households in the census. Ruth, the widow of the Christopher who committed suicide, shares her dwelling with her son Christopher. Martin has gone off to work in a big

house in Barrowby, just over the border in Lincolnshire. Those people picked out in bold are the direct line which leads eventually down to Marjorie Annie Gale.

Data from the **1851 Census of Muston**, piece RG9/2102 folios 411, 413 and 414

Given	Surname	Reltn	Status	Age	Occupation	Born	Place	Year
Thomas*	GALE	Head	Marrd	31	Agricl. Labourer	Leics	Muston	1820
Mary	GALE	Wife	Marrd	27		Leics	Muston	1823
Emana	GALE	Daur		1		Leics	Muston	1850

\* Thomas was the fourth child of the Christopher & Ruth partnership

Here is our widow Ruth, describing herself as a Pauper, the Widow of an Agricultural Labourer

Given	Surname	Reltn	Status	Age	Occupation	Born	Place	Year
<b>Ruth</b>	<b>GALE</b>	<b>Head</b>	<b>Widw</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>Pauper, Ag Labr Wid</b>	<b>Lincs</b>	<b>Lg Bengtn.</b>	<b>1784</b>
Christopher	GALE	Son	Unm	28	Agricl. Labourer	Leics	Muston	1823

This John is Christopher and Ruth's first son, even though the birth dates do not precisely tally with the tree on the previous page. Luke married Mary Jane Bennett, of Haceby, on 17 Aug 1868, at Muston.

Given	Surname	Reltn	Status	Age	Occupation	Born	Place	Year
John	GALE	Head	Marrd	38	Agricl. Labourer	Leics	Muston	1812
Jane	GALE	Wife	Marrd	37		Lincs	Caythorpe	1813
Ann	GALE	Daur	Unm	14	At home	Leics	Muston	1837
Luke	GALE	Son		1		Leics	Muston	1847



The humble two up & two down terrace home of John Gale and his family in 1849



The magnificent Georgian mansion enjoyed by the Rector of Muston

# The Tithe Settlement in 1849

A feature of the rural economy was the system of tithes. By one means or another, users of the land had to yield up a portion of the value added by their efforts to the owners of the great and small tithes. It was a very complicated business, but one intended outcome was to ensure the provision of pastoral care by a Clergyman.

Muston's clergyman was a Rector, which usually indicates that he was due the *great tithes*. Judging by the size and opulence of his house, shown on the previous page, he was doing well off the backs of the local farming community. In many places, by local private settlements or Acts of Parliament, this system of delivering a share of the produce to the tithe-owner was commuted to a fixed *tithe-rent charge*. This method of financing the Churches' ministry thus became a simple overhead on the use of land, which diminished over time as produce prices and efficiency rose. Although the tithe-owners then had a simpler way of being paid, and in the form of cash instead of produce, because the level was fixed, its value steadily crept down, with inflation. An alternative device used was to tidy this matter up in the Enclosure Act for the place. For example, in Rothley, Leicestershire, the Vicar in 1782 was given land and a farm in lieu of tithes so that he could organise his own support either by farming, or from rental income.

In many areas the voluntary commutation process never happened. Parliament eventually forced the issue and in 1849 Muston had its own statutory Tithe Apportionment Act. A barrister, John Job Rawlinson, was sworn in as a Tithe Commissioner for Muston, and he set about organising a survey of land size, use, ownership and occupancy. He had a comprehensive schedule produced with accompanying detailed map, and against each plot he assigned a future annual rent charge. The charge was based on the statutory 7-year average formula designed to approximate to the current level of the tithe value. Some of these arrangements were *redeemed*, bought out by some sort of capital settlement.

In the schedule there are two *Gale* references. Our *Ruth* has a little garden at plot 131. It can be seen at the top of the map overleaf. Her garden was owned by the Duke of Rutland, and she is listed as having to pay five pence to the tithe-owner, each year. Her eldest son *John Gale* is listed with five others occupying the six tenements and gardens at plot 164 owned by Thomas Winter. 3sh 3d tithe-rent is payable here. These six tenements still stand in 2005, pictured on the previous page, complete with their outdoor privies at the bottom of the gardens. Below is a summary of the land ownership, and part of the Commissioner's Concluding Statement.

## The Muston Tithe Apportionment Act 1849 Summary of Land Ownership and Tithe Rent

Landowner	Acreage	Tithe Rent £
Duke of Rutland	1119	302
Bottesford Hospital	286	81
Charles M Welby Esq	76	18
Thomas Manners Esq	29	8
Glebe ( Rector of Muston)	27	7
Railway, Canal & Roads	28	3
All Others	50	8
	1615	427
Amounts are rounded for clarity		

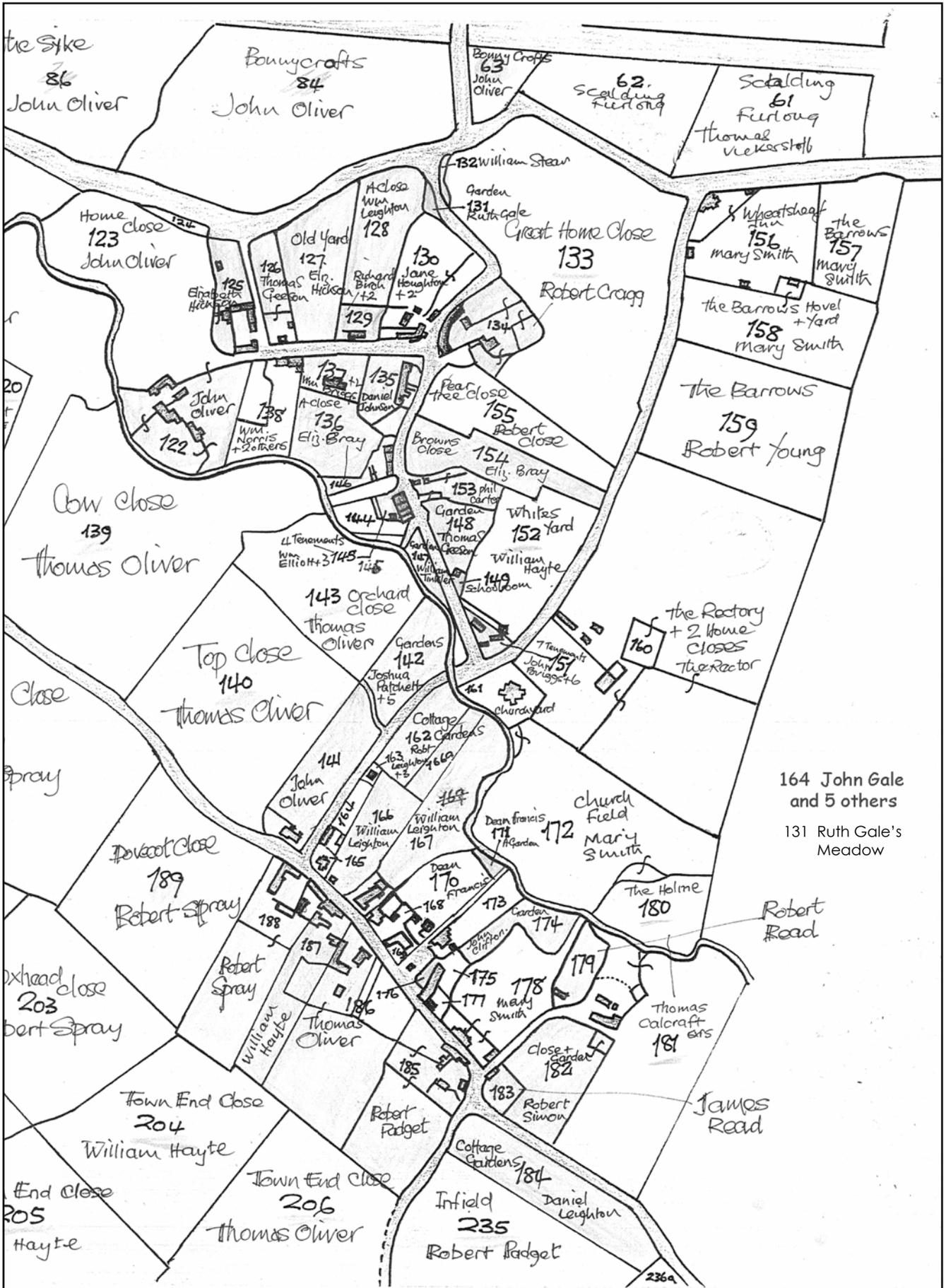
## Extract from the Commissioner's Statement

*"...And whereas I find that the Rector of the said Parish for the time being being entitled to all the tithes thereof.*

*Now know ye that I the said John Job Rawlinson do hereby award that the annual sum of Four hundred and twenty six pounds fourteen shillings by way of Rent Charge subject to the provisions of the said Act shall from the first day of January next following the confirmation of the Apportionment of the said Rent Charge be paid to the Rector of the said parish for the time being instead of all the tithes arising from all the lands of the said parish except the Glebe."*

*"...In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this third day of October in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Forty Eight."*

Earlier in the Commissioner's Statement is a summary of land use. Of the total titheable land of 1,638 acres, 991 acres are Arable, 585 acres Meadow Pasture, 6 acres are used by the Grantham Canal, and 56 acres are Roads, Wastes & Fox Coverts.



A tracing made of the central part of Muston from the 1849 Tithe Apportionment Map, from an original at the County Record Office

# Martin Gale, Cottager with 8 acres

From the Census evidence we see that Martin moved from being in service at a big house in Barrowby in 1851, to marriage in 1854, and then on to the land to raise his family. The 1861 Census merely records him as an Agricultural Labourer at Barrowby Thorns. Perhaps we can assume that he earned a living from work on the 330acre Thorns Farm of Francis Vincent. Thorns Farm sits at the eastern edge of the Vale of Belvoir that ends with the wolds on which sit Gt. Gonerby and Barrowby.

By the 1871 Census Martin proudly announces himself as *Cottager of 8 Acres*, and Mary as his *Cottager's Wife*. Typically this meant that a family would have their own spread around their cottage, where they would keep a cow and a pig, and work the 8 acres hard for fodder, vegetables, and some cash crops. Some of the risk was often shared by joining a cow or pig club, which acted as an insurance against losing an animal to disease. The 1904 OS map on the facing page shows the probable location of the cottage.

The settled pattern of this Belvoir landscape was disturbed with the coming of the new *Ambergate, Nottingham, Boston & Eastern Junction Railway* in the late 1840s. The Grantham-Nottingham link was opened in 1850, and cut right across Thorns Farm. In the 1845 plans book submitted by the railway, there is no cottage at the spot indicated. Perhaps when the two fields 265 & 281 were disturbed by the railway, Frances Vincent built the cottage for Martin's burgeoning family, and let the two fields to him.

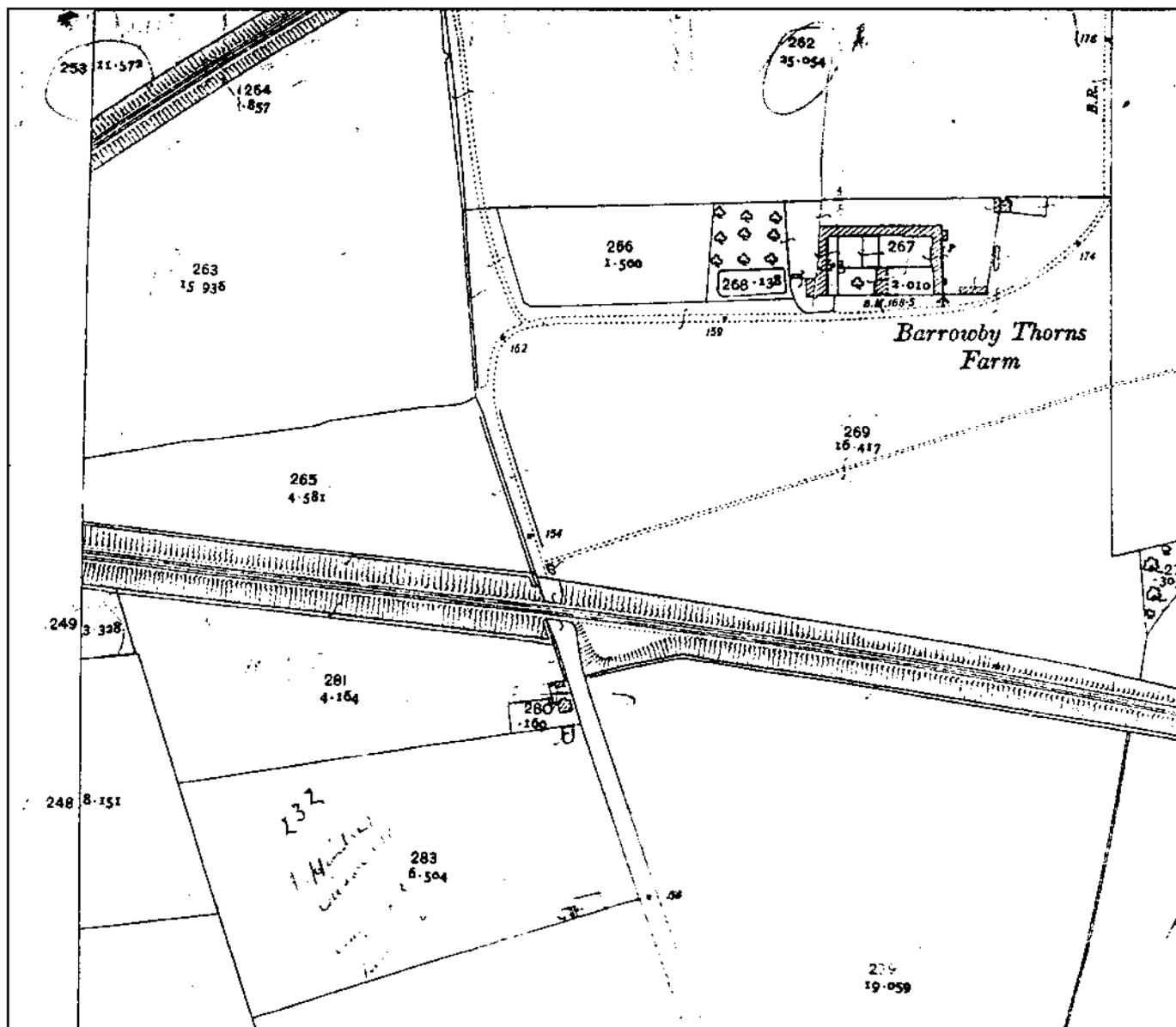
**Martin GALE = Mary Wadsworth**  
 bap 12 Dec 1825      b 1835  
 Muston                      Grantham  
 d 3 May 1905          d 2 Sep 1875 Barrowby  
 m 20 Nov 1854 St Wulfrum's Grantham

- **Henry GALE** *Brickmaker*  
Barrowby 1856-
- **Christopher GALE**  
Barrowby 1857
- **Ruth Eliza GALE**  
Barrowby 1859
- **Elizabeth J GALE** *Domestic Servant*  
Barrowby 1860
- **Sarah GALE** *General Servant*  
Barrowby 1863
- **Mary GALE**  
Barrowby 1866
- **Martin GALE**  
Barrowby 1867
- **Thomas GALE**  
Barrowby 1870
- **William GALE** *Railway Platelayer*  
bn Barrowby 20 Jul 1871  
Marr **Emily JARVIS** 6 Jun 1892  
d Netherfield, Carlton 26 Nov 1938
- **Frederick GALE**  
Barrowby 19 Jun 1875

The **1861** census data on Martin's family, listed as at Barrowby Thorns. The household includes Mary's child George Wadsworth, born in 1853 over a year before her marriage to Martin.

Given	Surname	Reltn	Status	Age	Occupation	Born	Place	Year
Martin	GALE	Head	Marrd	35	Agricl. Labourer	Leics	Muston	1826
Mary	GALE	Wife	Marrd	28		Lincs	Manthorpe	1833
George	WADSWORTH	Son-I-L	Unm	7	Scholar	Notts	Claypole	1853
Henry	GALE	Son	Unm	5	Scholar	Lincs	Barrowby	1856
Christopher	GALE	Son	Unm	4	Scholar	Lincs	Barrowby	1857
Ruth Eliza	GALE	Daur	Unm	2		Lincs	Barrowby	1859
Elizabeth J	GALE	Daur	Unm	8m		Lincs	Barrowby	1860

A copy from the OS 25" Map of 1904, sheet CXIII.11, showing the layout of Barrowby Thorns Farm at location 267. The Cottage almost certainly used by Martin Gale can be seen at location 280, just next to the railway arch. Fields at Locations 265 and 281 are most likely to have been the 8 acres.



The 1871 census data on Martin's family, listed as at Barrowby Thorns, but this time with Martin describing himself as a *Cottager, with 8 acres*. Piece 3362 folio 23. Notice that Ruth Eliza is missing. She died in a fire when her nightclothes caught alight.

Given	Surname	Reltn	Status	Age	Occupation	Born	Place	Year
Martin	GALE	Head	Marrd	46	Cottager of 8 acres	Leics	Muston	1826
Mary	GALE	Wife	Marrd	38	Cottager's Wife	Lincs	Manthorpe	1833
Elizabeth J	GALE	Daur	Unm	11	Scholar	Lincs	Barrowby	1860
Sarah	GALE	Daur	Unm	8	Scholar	Lincs	Barrowby	1863
Mary	GALE	Daur	Unm	5	Scholar	Lincs	Barrowby	1866
Martin	GALE	Son	Unm	4	Scholar	Lincs	Barrowby	1867
Thomas	GALE	Son	Unm	8m		Lincs	Barrowby	1870

# Samuel Jarvis, building the railway

The other side of the tree is the Jarvis line. Samuel was the seventh of ten children in the agricultural labouring family of Joseph and Mary Jervis, in Redmile, the heart of the Vale of Belvoir. Samuel escaped the rural toil, joining the army of young men forging the new railway route north out of Grantham. In 1851 he was lodging with two other railway labourers at a widow's house in Great Gonerby. He may well have been introduced to that household by John Crampton, the widow's son, who as a brick-layer, was probably also working on the railway tunnel out of Grantham.

Samuel took up with a local Gonerby girl, Elizabeth Bee, and on 3 October 1853 they were married in Great Gonerby Church. The 1861 census has the couple with three children, Mary, John and Betsy living in Pond Street, Great Gonerby. By the time of the 1871 census Samuel has clearly joined the permanent staff of the Great Northern Railway, living in one of the three railway houses at Allington Junction, Barrowby. At the Junction a spur turns off the Nottingham-Grantham line and heads off towards Boston, passing under the main north-south main line at Barkston. The signal box at the junction controlled the points and signals here, as well as the big hand wheel that opened and closed the level crossing gates.

From the front of the houses there is a fine view across west towards the seat of the Duke of Rutland at Belvoir Castle. Looking south down the lane, a mile away is the village of Barrowby up on its hill, with the other big landowner in the area in his rectory, Canon George Earl Welby.

In 2005 an impressive new state-of the art signal box was being developed at the junction, as well as a new rail loop to allow trains from Grantham to join the Boston link and so pass directly under the main line.

**Samuel JARVIS = Elizabeth Bee**  
1827-1883      1829-1885

Railway Platelayer  
m 3 Oct 1853 at Gt Gonerby

— **Mary A JARVIS = Jonathan ROBINSON**  
17 Aug 1854-  
m 2 Apr 1873 at St Nicholas Nottingham

— **John William JARVIS = Mary, then Julia**  
1857-  
Railwayman, eventually at Hitchin

— **Betsy JARVIS = William B GROVES**  
2 Feb 1861-  
m 13 Apr 1891 at St Lukes Nottingham

— **Eliza JARVIS = William Henry BENNETT**  
31 Jul 1863-  
m 14 Oct 1895 St Albans Sneinton Nottingham

— **Emily JARVIS = William GALE**  
22 Jul 1867-  
13 Sep 1939  
m 6 Jun 1892 St Georges Netherfield

— **Henry JARVIS**  
1869- 16 Jul 1870

The **1851** census data showing the unmarried **Samuel Jarvis** lodging at a house on the east side of Great Gonerby, with two fellow railway labourers. They were most likely building the Great Northern Railway's route northwards out of Grantham. John Crampton, the son of the household, was probably also plying his bricklaying trade on the railway building.

Given	Surname	Reltn	Status	Age	Occupation	Born	Place	Year
Ann	CRAMPTON	Head	Widw	62	Shopkeeper	Lincs	Gt Gonerby	1789
John	CRAMPTON	Son	Unm	30	Bricklayer	Yorks	Hull	1821
Elizabeth	CRAMPTON	Daur	Unm	28		Yorks	Hull	1823
Martha	CRAMPTON	Daur	Unm	26		Yorks	Hull	1825
<b>Samuel</b>	<b>JARVIS</b>	<b>Lodger</b>	<b>Unm</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>Railway Labourer</b>	<b>Lincs</b>	<b>Redmile</b>	<b>1827</b>
William	WALKER	Lodger	Unm	40	Railway Labourer	Lincs	Claypole	1811
John	MUSSON	Lodger	Unm	21	Railway Labourer	Lincs	Southwell	1830



Above: A 2005 picture of the signal box at Allington Junction, before its eventual demolition and replacement by an electronic version the other side of the lane.



Above: The two railway cottages at the Junction, one of which was the home of the Jarvis family and the birthplace of Emily. The detached house off to the left is the domain of the Signalman. The building just off to the right is Dairy House Farm.

Below: The signal box with its gates across the lane to Allington that the 1871 census says were being kept by Elizabeth Jarvis.



Below: The view down the lane towards Barrowby Village. The Church spire can just be seen.



In the **1871** census we see the **Samuel Jarvis** household at census dwelling no.100 on the west side of Barrowby. This is one of the three railway cottages at the Allington Junction location by the level crossing and signal box. The Great Northern Railway had taken over this route from the Ambergate company, so no doubt this setting was a career move for Samuel within the company.

Given	Surname	Reltn	Status	Age	Occupation	Born	Place	Year
Samuel	JARVIS	Head	Marrd	44	Railway Labourer	Leics	Redmile	1827
Elizabeth	JARVIS	Wife	Marrd	41	Gatekeeper Railwy	Lincs	Barrowby	1830
John William	JARVIS	Son	Unm	13	Agr. Labourer	Lincs	Gr. Gonerby	1857
Betsy	JARVIS	Daur	Unm	10	Scholar	Lincs	Gr. Gonerby	1861
Eliza	JARVIS	Daur	Unm	7	Scholar	Lincs	Gr. Gonerby	1864
<b>Emily</b>	<b>JARVIS</b>	<b>Daur</b>	<b>Unm</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>Lincs</b>	<b>Barrowby</b>	<b>1867</b>

The adjacent census schedule entries are:

- 96 **Martin Gale household at Barrowby Thorns**
- 97 Frances Vincent household, Farmer of the 330 acres at Barrowby Thorns Farm
- 98 John Alcock household, Cottager of 16 acres, born Shepshed
- 99 William Ellifs, Agricultural Labourer
- 100 Jarvis, as above
- 101 Canon George Earl Welby, Rector, Rectory House

# Emily Meets William

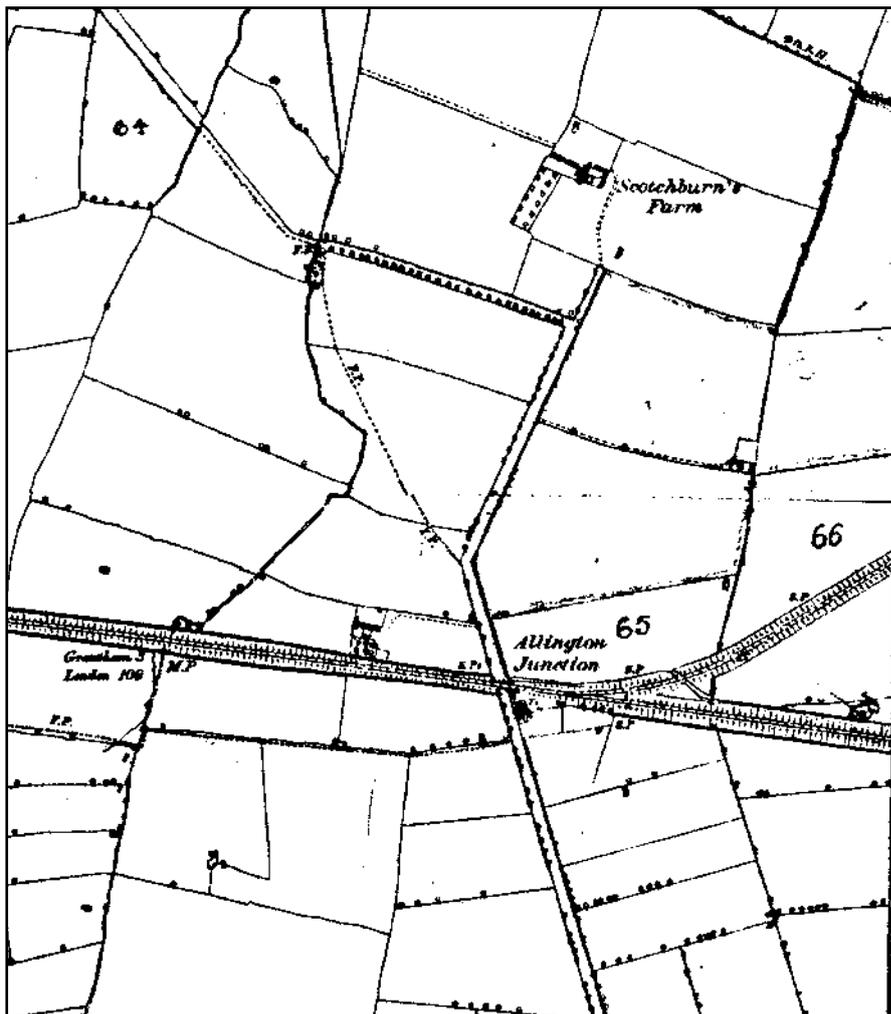
The early OS map here shows the location of the Jarvis family home just below Allington Junction. On the facing page the Gale cottage is just below the lane from Thorns Farm as it emerges from the tunnel under the same railway line. The Jarvis's and the Gales would have known each other as neighbours, and the young Emily Jarvis and William Gale would have been at the same school. It is assumed that they walked each day along the lane and up the hill to Barrowby School. Sadly, the Log Books of the school have not survived, so it is not possible to prove their attendance. No doubt the young William would have been introduced to the workings of the railway in the signal box and at the hands of Samuel Jarvis, *Foreman Platelayer*.

Conversely, Emily would have understood the countryside and the food it produced. William would have told her all about the family pig and cow, and the vegetables the Gale family grew in their fields.

If you look carefully at the 1881 census record below there is an example of that event that usually pops up in most family trees. Emily's older sister Betsy at age 20 is back in the family home but with a just-born baby, Ethel. The birth certificate did

not state the name of the father, but the gutsy Betsy had named her child Ethel *Ashborn Basker* Jarvis. Some careful detective work discovered a grand family living at 3 Westgate, Grantham, headed by Charles Basker, Baker and Alderman

of the town. His second son was 22-yr old Richard *Ashborn Basker*. No doubt Betsy was employed there as a Domestic Servant, and loaf-making was not the only activity in the grain store!



In the **1881** census shown here in the railway cottages at Allington Junction the Jarvis household tells some interesting stories. Samuel is now a Foreman Platelayer, and **Emily** at age 13 is still listed as a scholar. Elizabeth's father Edward as a widower at 80 is sheltering under her family's wing. Then there is the new baby Ethel, now that it another whole story in itself.

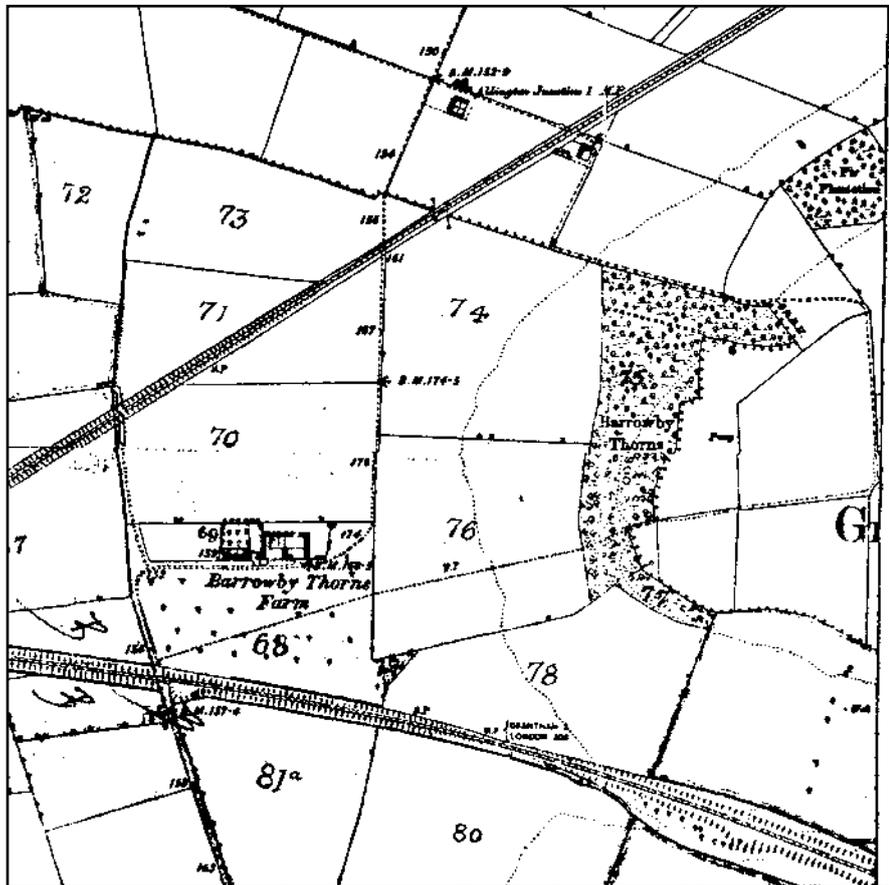
Given	Surname	Reltn	Status	Age	Occupation	Born	Place	Year
Samuel	JARVIS	Head	Marrd	53	Foreman Platelayer	Leics	Redmile	1827
Elizabeth	JARVIS	Wife	Marrd	51		Lincs	Barrowby	1830
Betsy	JARVIS	Daur	Unm	20	Gen. Servant	Lincs	Gr. Gonerby	1861
<b>Emily</b>	<b>JARVIS</b>	<b>Daur</b>	<b>Unm</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>Scholar</b>	<b>Lincs</b>	<b>Barrowby</b>	<b>1867</b>
Ethel A B	JARVIS	Gr Daur		1m		Lincs	Barrowby	1881
Edward	BEE	Wifes F	Widr	80		Lincs	Barrowby	1801

The adjacent census schedule entries are:

- 69 The Jarvis household as above
- 70 Benjamin Wilson and his wife, Signalman
- 71 'Allington Junction Gatehouse', unoccupied
- 72 Barrowby Vale Farm, George Jenkinson, farmer of 65 acres, with family and 1 servant

It may be helpful to turn back to page 10 and take in the tree diagram of Martin and Mary's family. Mary gave birth to ten children of Martin between 1856 and 1875, one every 1.9 years. A careful look at the 1861 census for the family shows another child, *George Wadsworth*, born to Mary. The birth certificate names

Imagine life in this household. Always a baby, always a toddler, always a host of mouths to feed, always lots of work to be done inside and outside the cottage. These children learned their life lessons in a milieu of activity and some hardship beyond our 21st century comprehension. Getting some learning up at Barrowby School must have been a very good experience for the Gale children. The regular passage of the steam trains on the embankment next to their cottage must have also made them aware of a life beyond the grind of the Vale.



This picture of hectic domesticity took on a sad twist in September 1875 when Mary's hard-worked 40 years old body caved in, just three months after Fred was born. Her death certificate gives *Disease of Heart & Liver (Chronic) Anasarca* as the cause. Mary must have been very distressed, with her capacity to function dragged down by a poor heart and very swollen legs. It was the testimony of Madge Marriott, Mary's granddaughter, that suggests that Martin became too fond of alcohol. Perhaps Mary was too, which got to her liver.

no father, and the event happened in 1853 when Mary was in domestic service at Claypole, near Newark. Martin Gale took this child on when he married Mary. Like the Jarvis's, there is always one such event in every family tree.

William was just over four when he witnessed this loss of his mother. No doubt the daughters still at home rallied round and kept the family going. Looking carefully at the 1881 census data below a new wife can be seen. Sarah Briggs with her son Alfred has joined the household and has taken on the homemaking mantle. Martin would have known Sarah from his days in Muston, and probably took up with her as widow and widower, ports in a storm. They married each other in March 1881.

The 1881 census data on Martin's family, at his Cottage at Barrowby Thorns, piece 3234 folio 5

Given	Surname	Reltn	Status	Age	Occupation	Born	Place	Year
Martin	GALE	Head	Marrd	55	Cottager	Leics	Muston	1826
Sarah	GALE	Wife	Marrd	51	Cottager's Wife	Leics	Muston	1830
Henry	GALE	Son	Unm	24	Brickmaker	Lincs	Barrowby	1857
Alfred	BRIGGS	Son-I-L	Unm	17	Agric. Labourer	Leics	Muston	1864
Sarah	GALE	Daur	Unm	18	Gen Servant	Lincs	Barrowby	1863
Martin	GALE	Son	Unm	13	Agric. Day Boy	Lincs	Barrowby	1868
<b>William</b>	<b>GALE</b>	<b>Son</b>	<b>Unm</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Scholar</b>	<b>Lincs</b>	<b>Barrowby</b>	<b>1871</b>
Fred	GALE	Son	Unm	5	Scholar	Lincs	Barrowby	1876

# Images from Barrowby, 2005



The site of the Martin Gale cottage and where William was born and raised, indicated by the white marker. In the distance and on the hill can be seen the spire of Barrowby Church. Next to the Church is the School, where Martin would have gone each day to gain the rudiments of an education.



Approaching the cottage location from the Barrowby Lane. The structure and its garden enclosure was on the left just before the bridge where there is a long gap in the hedge. Barrowby Thorns Farm itself is through the bridge and on the right. Walking on the site after autumn ploughing reveals a host of finds that bear witness to there having been a domestic building on that spot.



Another view of the cottage location marked by the author's cycle. This is looking west, with the railway line on the right of the picture behind the line of trees on the embankment. The marker in the distance is indicating the three railway cottages at Allington Junction, where the Jarvis family were living. William & Emily are but a short hop from each other.



On the left is Barrowby Church, the picture taken from the field lane coming up from Barrowby Thorns and Allington Junction. William & Emily and their brothers and sisters would have come this way every day of their schooldays.

And below, the view the other way, northwards, back into the Vale. The position of the Gale cottage is indicated by the marker.



Barrowby School in 2005 is a much enlarged and improved structure than in the William & Emily days. Founded by Canon Welby in the 1850s, the central building above with its bell was well constructed and as a school did a great deal to lift the children of the ordinary folk of the parish out of the tyranny of ignorance.

# The Move to Nottingham

We left the Jarvis and Gale families with the snapshot from the census in April 1881. Emily at thirteen was at the family home at Allington Junction, and across two fields down the line was Martin at nine in the family cottage with his stepmother now in charge. Unfortunately there is little contemporary evidence of how life developed immediately after that other than the most interesting snapshot view given by the 1891 census. As well as that there were other developments in Emily's life that had the effect of her growing up quickly. Her father Samuel, the Foreman Platelayer of 1881, died at Radcliffe on Trent on 19 Oct 1883 from *Heart Disease, 4 Years*. Emily at 15 is given as the informant on the death certificate so it is likely she was living in Radcliffe with Samuel and Elizabeth. So Samuel would have been already suffering in 1881 at Allington. Perhaps the move to Radcliffe was to an easier posting, or a sort of early ill-health retirement. It may be significant that one of Samuel's nephews, a Redmile Jarvis (John bn 1851), was living in Turnip Hill Cottage, Shelford Road, Radcliffe in 1881.

Emily at 15 now needed to make her own way. Nottingham may have exerted an irresistible draw because of several factors. The big town was only a short train ride from Radcliffe. Her eldest sister Mary

Ann had married in Nottingham in 1877, and may still have had connections there. Her elder brother John William and sister Betsy was probably there too. Her immediate elder sister Eliza also eventually married in Nottingham. The most significant link may well have been Ann Bee, the sister of Emily's mother Elizabeth. Ann had long ago made the journey along the railway line from Gonerby to Nottingham and had a long term situation in the household of an Alfred Cox, a wealthy industrialist who lived in the fashionable Park district. Ann's employer may well have been able to suggest another household in Nottingham that could offer a situation to Emily. Ann kept a diary and saved other items, including a black-edged mourning letter from her sister Elizabeth written from Radcliffe in March 1884. Elizabeth was missing her Samuel very much.

Emily experienced a second blow when on 27 August 1885 her mother Elizabeth died at the house of her eldest daughter Mary Ann at New Somerby, south of Grantham. The death certificate describes the cause as *Gastro-Enteritis, Exhaustion*. Very sad, not something that she would have died of in the 21st century.

So we move to our next census snapshot in 1891, and see what story this data suggests.

RG12/2704 f112, 5th April. The **1891** census entry for **5 Beaumont Place, Sneinton, Nottingham** locates Emily's elder brother John William Jarvis as a railwayman in Nottingham. A strange entry this, Ada and William are not John's children. John married a Mary and had a daughter by her, Mary J, before becoming a widower. The daughter Mary J Jarvis at age 13 is an under housemaid at The Hall, Main Street, Orston, with the farming family of John & Catherine Fisher. (RG12/ 2717f155)

Given	Surname	Reltn	Status	Age	Occupation	Born	Place	Year
<b>John [W]</b>	<b>JARVIS</b>	Head	Marrd	32	Frn Platelayer GNR	Lincs	Gr. Gonerby	1858
Mary	WRIGHT	Hskeepr	Marrd	42	Laundress	Notts	Nottingham	1849
Ada	WRIGHT	Daur	Unm	22	Hosiery Winder	Notts	Nottingham	1869
William	WRIGHT	Son	Unm	20	Overlocker	Notts	Nottingham	1871

The **1891** census entry for **29 Arthur Street, Netherfield**, the new railway settlement below Carlton, locates Emily's elder sister Betsy Jarvis 'visiting' the household of William Groves. William married his Sarah Ann at Bingham in 1887 but lost her early in 1890. Eight days after this census entry, on 13 April 1891, this William Blyton Groves was married to Betsy Jarvis at St Lukes Church Nottingham, 'from Beaumont Street' on the certificate. **John William Jarvis** and **Emily Jarvis** signed as witnesses. The Jarvis family was holding together, and the gutsy Betsy was building a new family unit for the two single-parent children. William and Betsy Groves went on to have three children, Eliza, Gladys, and Leonard. From Leonard's marriage to Mary Elizabeth Jones, Margaret Groves was born, who went on to become deputy head at Ashwell St School, Netherfield, and the keeper of many of the family stories.

Given	Surname	Reltn	Status	Age	Occupation	Born	Place	Year
William	GROVES	Head	Widr	26	Railway Fireman	Lincs	Saxilby	1865
Elizabeth	GROVES	Daur	Unm	2		Notts	Netherfield	1888
<b>Betsy</b>	<b>JARVIS</b>	Visitor	Unm	30	Dressmaker	Lincs	Gt. Gonerby	1861
Ethel	JARVIS	Visitor	Unm	10	Scholar	Lincs	Barrowby	1881

Here are census snapshots on 5th April 1891 which show Emily Jarvis and William Gale living and working just 30 minutes walk apart on the northern fringe of Nottingham. This cannot be a simple coincidence. Within a year and two months the two were married and settled down in the railway 'town' of Netherfield. It would be intriguing to know how these two found their ways to this situation, and how they carried on their courtship. Even more intriguing is the discovery that the farm being worked by William at *17 Brickhill* is the very land on which Stan & Madge Marriott built their house at 56 Wensley Road, Woodthorpe in the 1950s. More about that and the courtship over the page.

...270 Samuel Thompson  
 ...268 Brnd. Nicholson, cattlefood dlr  
*Osborne villas, 266 — Bates*  
 ...264 Edw. Ross, factory manager  
 ...262 Mrs. Louisa Cooke  
 ...260 William Holland, accountant  
 258 *Pelham vill*, Emery Daft (bchr)  
 256 *Sandown villa*, Arthur Wilson,  
 warehouse manager  
 254 *Caxton villa*, John Pullon, of J.  
*Pullon & Son*  
 252 *Dale vill*, Sml. Hitt (hotel propr)  
 250 *Dale ctg*, Jas. Brown, jbg gardnr  
*Mapperley street*

Extract from Wight's 1891 Directory of Mansfield Road, Sherwood showing Emily's employer Arthur Wilson listed at No. 256.

The **1891** census data for the household at No. **256 Mansfield Road, Sherwood, Nottingham**. **Emily Jarvis** is looking after the lifestyle of Arthur & Mary Wilson as their Domestic Servant. RG12/2670 f 142

Given	Surname	Reltn	Status	Age	Occupation	Born	Place	Year
Arthur Welham	WILSON	Head	Marrd	34	Frilling Warehseman	Notts	Kimberley	1857
Mary	WILSON	Wife	Marrd	34		Notts	Nottingham	1857
Annie Violet	WILSON	Daur	Unm	5		Notts	Nottingham	1886
Emily Beatrice	HOLBROOK	Cousin	Unm	22	Dressmaker	Leics	Moira	1869
<b>Emily</b>	<b>JARVIS</b>	Servant	Unm	24	Domestic Servant	Lincs	Barrowby Vale	1867

The **1891** census data for the household at **17 Brickhill, Arnold, Nottingham**. **William Gale** with his brother Thomas are housed and employed on a farm on the north eastern fringe of Nottingham. RG12/2676 f 5

Given	Surname	Reltn	Status	Age	Occupation	Born	Place	Year
Stephen	DEXTER	Head	Marrd	52	Farmer	Notts	Basford	1839
Hannah	DEXTER	Wife	Marrd	52		Notts	Nottingham	1857
Thomas	DEXTER	Son	Unm	24	Works on Farm	Notts	Nottingham	1886
Samuel	DEXTER	Son	Unm	20	Works on Farm	Leics	Moira	1869
Hannah	DEXTER	Daur	Unm	18	Domestic Servant	Notts	Basford	1873
Stephen	DEXTER	Son	Unm	14	Works on Farm	Notts	Basford	1877
Thomas	GALE	Servant	Unm	21	Farm Servant	Lincs	Barrowby	1870
<b>William</b>	<b>GALE</b>	Servant	Unm	19	Farm Servant	Lincs	Barrowby	1871
John	CARLISLE	Servant	Unm	19	Farm Servant	Notts	Sutton	1871
Jacob	BRADBURY	Servant	Unm	20	Farm Servant	Notts	Arnold	1871
Elizabeth	WISKER	Servant	Unm	18	Domestic Servant	Notts	Bunny	1873

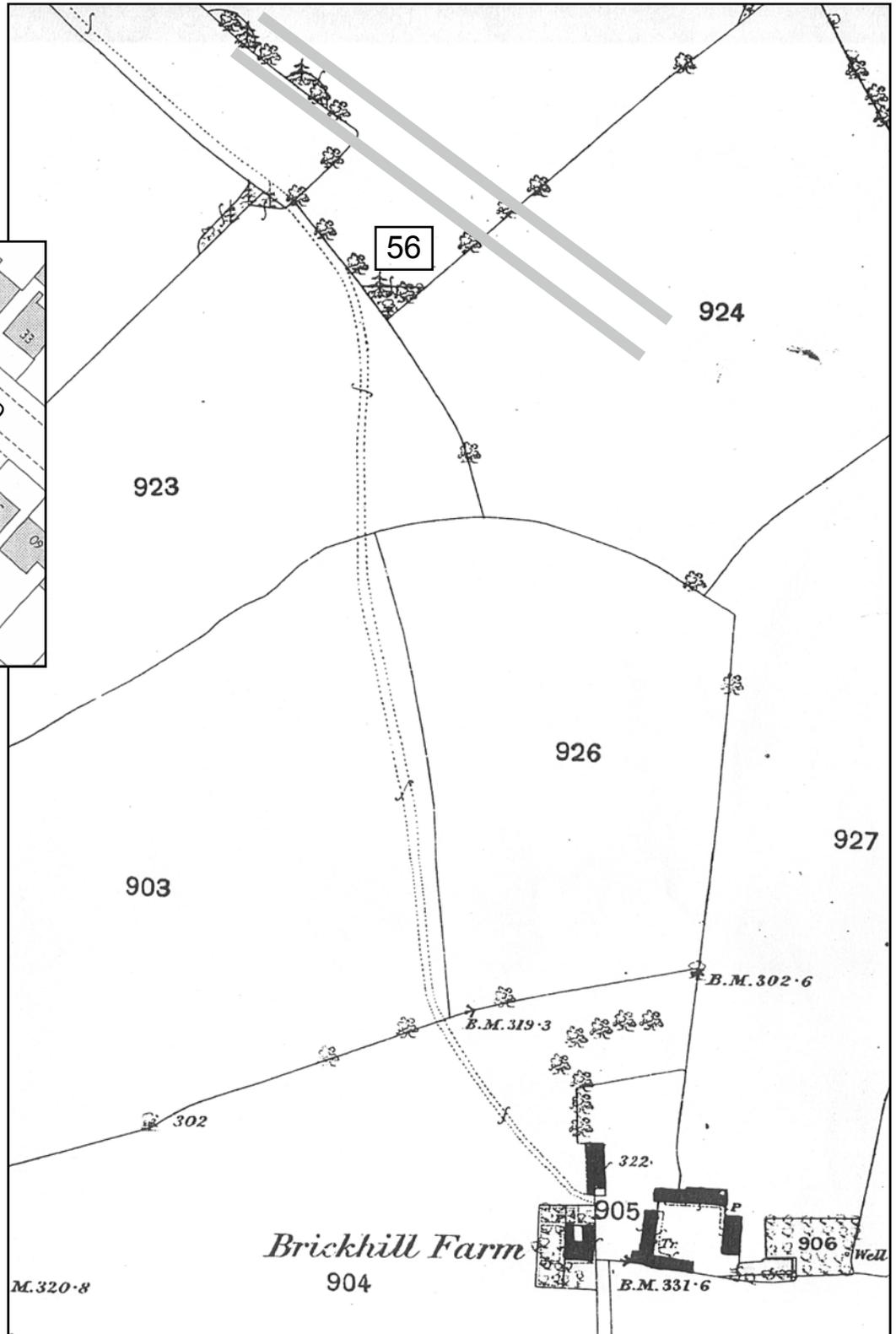
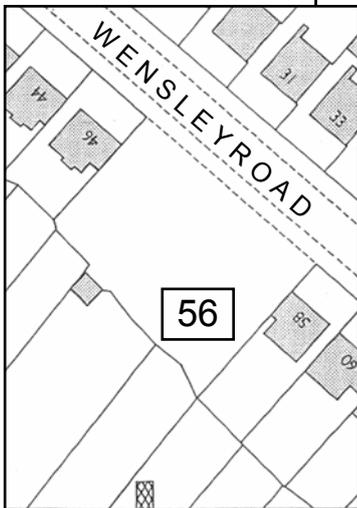
The **1891** census data for the household at a house on **The Wong at Great Gonerby**. Here is our Martin with his second wife Sarah, the family have all left home, and he has moved from the Cottage and land at Barrowby Thorns up the other hill to Great Gonerby Village. Note that he has styled himself as still working on the land. Sadly no retirement pension yet for him. RG12/2586 f 87

Given	Surname	Reltn	Status	Age	Occupation	Born	Place	Year
Martin	GALE	Head	Marrd	65	Farm Labourer	Leics	Muston	1825
Sarah	GALE	Wife	Marrd	61		Leics	Muston	1829

# William & Emily's Courtship

Brick Hill Farm, Woodthorpe, where William Gale was resident in 1891, just 20 minutes walk away from Sherwood, where Emily Jarvis was working as a Domestic Servant. The map is the OS 1st edition prepared in the 1880s, at a scale of 25" to the mile.

A small piece of the 1953 map at the same scale showing the same piece of ground as the 1885 map. The line of the future Wensley Road is shown on the 1885 map.



The main building and the barn of the farm still stand amid a sea of modern houses in 2006. The track running out below the 'BM 331.6' feature leads to what is now Woodthorpe Grange Road, joining it just above Woodthorpe Grange Park.

Doing family history is both heartbreakingly sad and yet enormously stimulating. There is no one to tell us how William & Emily got together. There are no letters or diaries, or accounts in newspapers. We can but dream about the course of their courtship. It was said earlier that their close proximity to each other on this north side of Nottingham was no coincidence. It was planned. Emily's elder brother John William and sister Betsy were in the town. But here is a scenario that has set our hearts a-flutter with its twist for our own lives.

Suppose, on their day off, that Emily and William met at Brick Hill Farm, one day in the summer of 1891. They wandered together down the track that leads across fields nos. 903 and 923 on the map opposite, and stopped by the little copse in the corner, where we have added the no. 56. Here their affection for each other was expressed, plans were made for a life together, and a new partnership was agreed.

How were they to know that in the passage of time after the war these fields would be set out with roads, and individual designer houses laid down plot by plot for the burgeoning middle classes. Wensley Road came right alongside their trysting place. The plots filled up on both sides, all except the gap between nos. 46 and 58. In the early 1950s just after the inset map overleaf was made, Bernard Stanley Marriott bought half the vacant plot and built a house there for Marjorie Annie, Emily Jarvis' daughter, and her children, Pauline and Rita. 56 Wensley Road became the Marriott family home. It continued a trysting place, where first Terry lost his heart to Pauline, and Tom his to Rita. From no. 56 both Pauline & Rita left as brides.

So back to William & Emily, their troth plighted, and a future beckoning. How do they make and sustain a home? It may be that Emily's railwayman brother John William would have shown the way. Railways were burgeoning all around Nottingham. A whole township was being built at Netherfield on the flood meadows to serve the iron roads and their steam locomotives. William's upbringing next to the track at Barrowby would be in his mind. One way or other, in 1892 William & Emily start their married life together in Netherfield at the new parish church, St George's, with William in the steady job of Railway Platelayer. The imprint below shows that John William Jarvis stood in for Emily's deceased father, Samuel, and that big sister Eliza was there too. What a lovely day 6 June 1892 must have been,

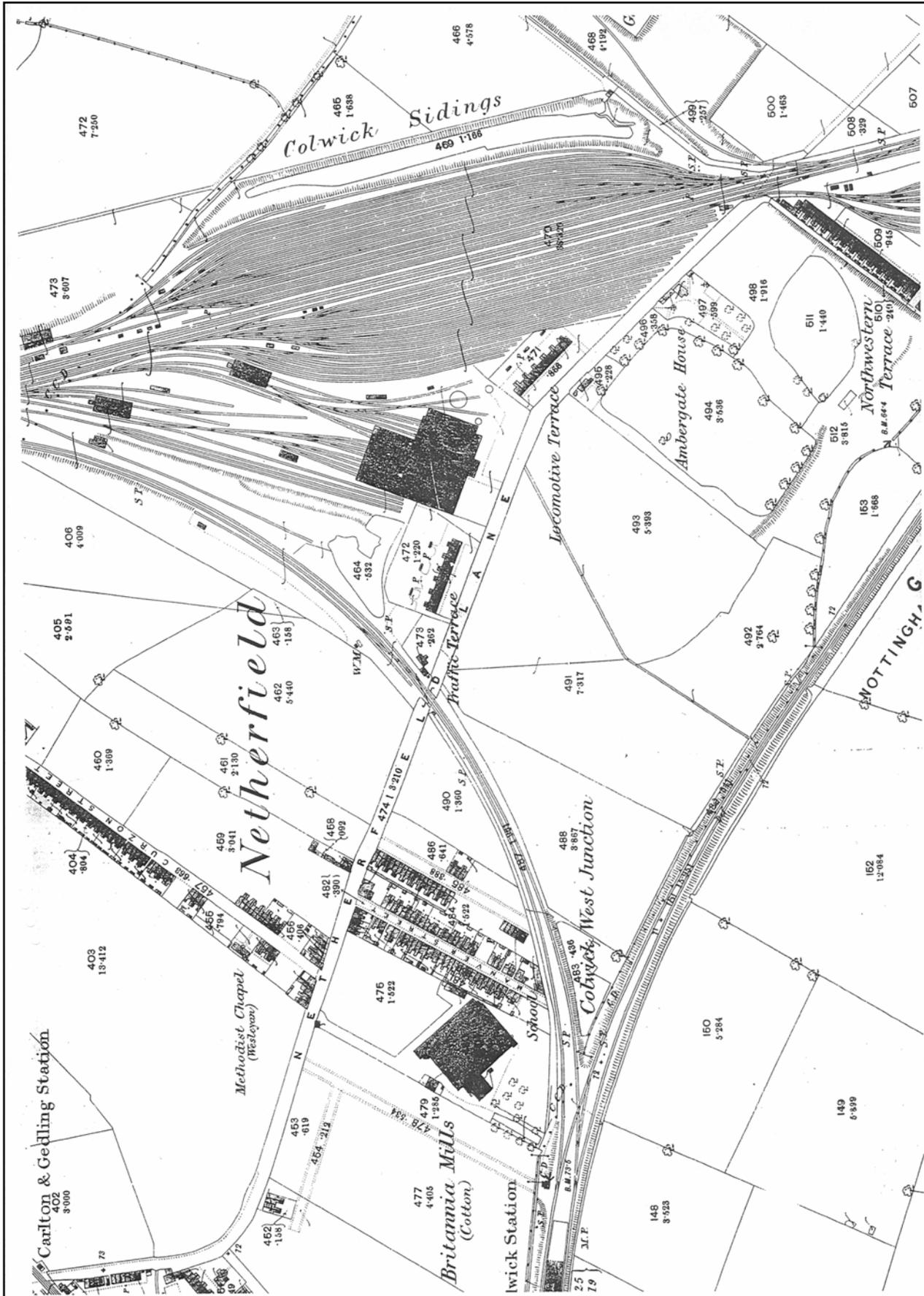
Their first child Leslie came along in 1893, when they were living at 11 Bourne Street. William appears in the Electoral Lists as resident at Station Road for 1894, at 2 Ethel Grove for 1896, and in Cooper Street in 1899. In the 1901 Census the growing family is at 65 Deabill Street, and at 14 Godfrey Street when Marjorie Annie was born in 1905 .



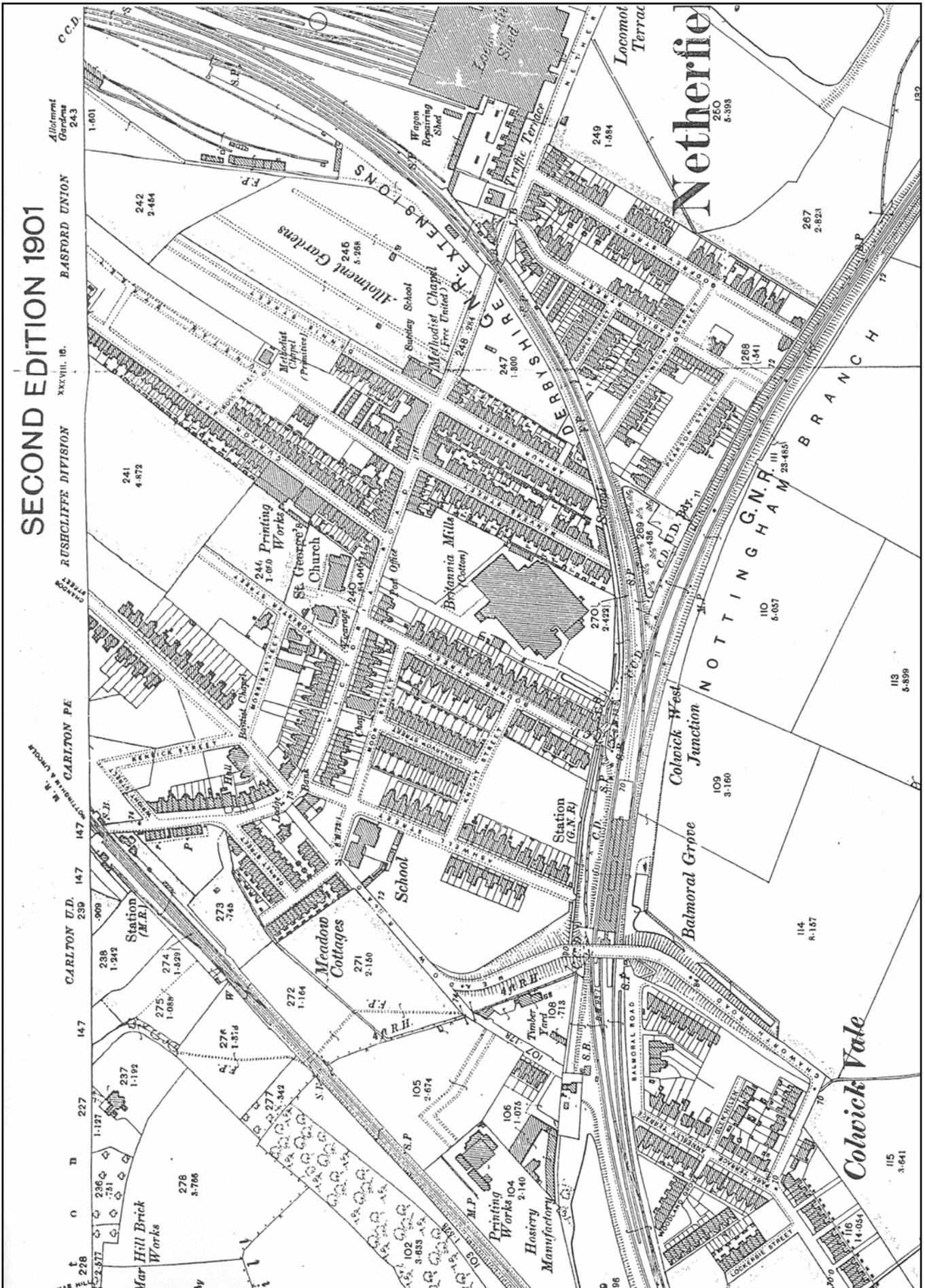
The GRO Index entry of William & Emily's marriage on 6 June 1892 at St George's Netherfield.

1892. Marriage solemnized at <i>St. George's Church</i> in the <i>Parish of Netherfield</i> in the County of <i>Notts.</i>								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
43	6 <sup>th</sup> June 1892.	William Gale	21	Bachelor	Platelayer	Netherfield	Martin Gale	Labourer
		Emily Jarvis	24	Spinster	—	Netherfield	Samuel Jarvis (deceased)	Plate Layer
Married in the <i>parish Church</i> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by _____ or after <i>Banns</i> by me,								
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<i>William Gale</i>	in the Presence of us,		<i>John William Jarvis</i>	<i>John Spurlaw</i> (Vicar)		
		<i>Emily Jarvis</i>			<i>Eliza Jarvis</i>			

# Netherfield in 1881 & 1901



The OS 1st Edition 25inch map showing Netherfield in 1881. Reduced in scale by 67% to fit the page.



SECOND EDITION 1901

RUSECLIFFE DIVISION XXXVIII. 10. BASFORD UNION CARLTON P.E. CARLTON U.D. 147 147 239 147 227 147 228

The changes in Netherfield as surveyed for the 1901 2nd edition 25inch map. Reduced in scale by 69% to fit the page.

# The Netherfield Community

The panel alongside is an image from page 613 of Wright's Directory of Nottingham for the years 1913-14. The writer describes it as a *hamlet* in the parish of Carlton. Some hamlet with a population of 6,386 in 1911, tightly knit into 319 acres! He was probably working on an earlier version of the preamble. As he sets out later, Netherfield was formed out of Gedling Parish in 1885 to recognise the new town that was spreading between the railway tracks. The railway investment was enormous, known locally as *Colwick Loco*. The London and North Western line from Nottingham out to Newark and Lincoln had its local station *Carlton & Gedling* by the level crossing at the top of Victoria Road. The Great Northern had two lines; its Derbyshire branch that curved off round the north of Nottingham to the coal and mineral workings in the Erewash valley and beyond; and the route out across the Vale of Belvoir to Grantham & Boston, past the birthplace of both William and Emily. The GNR had its own station, *Colwick & Netherfield*, so the population had two very easy ways of travelling into Nottingham. The huge marshalling yard would have echoed constantly to the clatter of trucks running over the hump as they were sorted into train loads on the many tracks. Getting to work would have been a short walk for the settlement's railwaymen.

Wright sets out the number of children in the schools at the time. The place must have been humming with children. On the facing page and below are cuttings from Wright's which list all the businesses operating in Netherfield. They total 143, of which 66 have premises in the main street, Victoria Road. Many of them cluster at the Station end, with another grouping towards the Locomotive Works. Here would have been a bustling community experience of the probably daily shop, where all the transactions were done face to face, with lots of human contact.

The potential for female labour being available from the families of railwaymen was spotted early by entrepreneur Samuel Bourne who built his *Britannia Mills* right in the centre of the new settlement. So everyone was busy, whether on the railways, in the manufactories, running businesses, keeping home and building family. There cannot be much doubt that the owner of the soil, Lord Caernarfon, also did very well out of all the land sales.

Agents—House & Estate.  
 Clark John, Meadow road  
 Hawksley & Aslin, 54 Victoria road;  
 & at Nottingham

---

Marriott George, 1 Garnett street; &  
 at Nottingham

NETHERFIELD is a hamlet in the parish of Carlton, and County Council division of Colwick, and contains a large population mostly employed on the railway. In the locomotive traffic and mineral departments of the Great Northern Railway Co. over 600 hands are engaged, and more than 150 are in the service of the London and North Western Railway Co. This is an important railway junction, with over 50 acres of sidings. The Netherfield Railway Club contains about 200 members. Here are also the cotton doubling mills of Messrs. S. Bourne and Co. In 1885 Netherfield was formed into a separate ecclesiastical parish, and the late Lord Forester, rector of Gedling, gave £9,973 17s. to be invested as the endowment fund. The church of St. George, built in 1887, at a cost of £2,610, is an edifice of red brick, with stone dressings, in the Gothic style, consisting of chancel, nave, vestry, north aisle, south porch, organ chamber and a western turret containing one bell: there are 400 sittings. The register dates from the year 1886. The living is a vicarage, net yearly value £380, with residence, in the gift of the Earl of Carnarvon, and held since 1902 by the Rev. John Frederick Groves M.A. of St. Peter's College, Cambridge. The Vicarage house cost about £2,600 to build, £1,500 of which was paid by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. There are also Methodist places of worship, Gospel Hall and Baptist Preaching Room. The population of Netherfield in 1911 was 6,386. Acreage, 319.

Parish Clerk and Verger, J. Fletcher.

Post, M. O., T. & Telephone Call Office, 65 Victoria road.—Herbert Edward Arter, sub-postmaster. Letters arrive from Nottingham & are delivered 6.45 a.m. & 1 & 5.40 p.m.; dispatched 8.55 & 11.50 a.m. & 3.15, 6.35 & 8.55 p.m.; no delivery on sundays

Board of Trade Labour Exchange, 7a & 9a, Meadow road, H. Taylor Hill, manager

Council School (Higher Standards) (mixed), Chandos street, erected in 1910, for 200; Thomas T. Parks, head master

Council School, Chandos street, erected in 1906, for 420 boys; average attendance, 374; William Brettle, master

Council School, Ashwell street, erected in 1894, & enlarged in 1901, for 1,150 children; average attendance, 344 girls & 335 infants; Mrs. E. Griffin, girls' mistress; Miss Jane Hill, infants' mistress

National School (mixed & infants), Manvers street, for 320 children; average attendance, 76 girls & 100 infants; Miss L. Tindall, mistress; Miss E. Thomas, infants' mistress; the premises were improved in 1898 at a cost of £82

St. George's Church.—Services, sunday, 7.30, 8 & 10.45 a.m. & 3.30 & 6.30 p.m.; wednesday (Advent & Lent), 7.30 p.m.; week days, holy communion, 7 a.m.; matins, 9 a.m.; evensong, 5 p.m.; Rev. John Frederick Groves M.A. vicar; W. Finn & H. Parrott, wardens; J. H. Fearon, organist; J. Fletcher, clerk & verger

Wesleyan Chapel, Victoria road, sunday 10.45 & 6.30; W. Onn & E. Wright, stewards; James Allcock, 40 Chandos street, keeper

United Methodist Church, Victoria road, 10.30 & 6.30; Mrs. Mary Sumner, Ashnille cottages, Harrogate st. keeper

Primitive Methodist Chapel, Ashwell street, 10.45, 2 & 6.30; wed. 7.30; John Challands, Matlock st. keeper

Baptist Chapel, Chandos street; sunday 10.45 & 6.30; wednesday 8 p.m.

Gospel Hall, 24 Victoria road, sunday 10.30 & 6.30; monday, 8.15 p.m.

Christians' Meeting House, Forester street, 10.45 & 6.30; thursday 7.30 p.m.

Carriers to Nottingham.—Tippler Brothers, through & from Carlton daily

Railway Station (see Colwick)

Above, the Netherfield descriptive summary from Wright's Directory of Nottingham, 1913-14.

And on the left, the two House Agent listings

**Bakers.**  
 Hunt Frederick, 2 Garnett street  
 Saunders Charles, 120 Victoria road

**Bank.**  
 Lloyds Bank Limited (10 to 4, Th. 10 to 12.30), Victoria road

**Bazaar.**  
 Budd Mrs. Beatrice L. Meadow road

**Blacksmith.**  
 Greenway George James (general, & cycle maker), Meadow road

**Boot Makers.**  
 Bamford Frank (repairer), 72 Victoria road  
 Brown Charles Wilfred (repairer), 17 Victoria road  
 Doublewear Boot Co. Meadow road  
 Gibson Herbert, 16 Dunstan street  
 Hilton S. & Sons, 26 Victoria road  
 Moore Robert (repr.), 3 Victoria road  
 Oakden Samuel (repr.), 28 Curzon st  
 Price William (& dealer), 87 Victoria road; & at Gedling  
 Smith Samuel Ltd. (manufacturers), 32 Victoria road; & at Nottingham

**Butchers.**  
 Atkins Harry, 15 Victoria road  
 Bailey Vincent, 68 Victoria road  
 Chambers James Alexander Henry (pork), 98 Victoria road  
 Clements Wm. Herbt. 112 Victoria rd  
 Cope Ernest John, 40 Victoria road  
 Cross Arthur, 100 Victoria road  
 Hickinbotham William (pork), 89 Victoria road  
 Nelson James & Sons Limited, 30 Victoria road  
 River Plate Fresh Meat Co. Limited, 6 Victoria road  
 Smith Samuel, 84 Victoria road

**Cabinet Maker.**  
 Mann John, 21 Cooper street

**Chemist.**  
 Stamp George Harry, 14 Victoria rd

**Chimney Sweeper.**  
 Miller Adam, 8 Chandos street

**China Dealer.**  
 Tabberner Mrs. Rita, 57 Victoria rd

**Cinematograph Hall.**  
 Victoria Picture Palace (G. Henton, proprietor), Wright street

**Clubs.**  
 Carlton & District Constitutional Club Co. Limited (J. Dorrington, sec.), Kenrick street  
 Netherfield Railway (Charles E. Gaulton, sec)

**Coal Merchants & Dealers.**  
 Bryan Alfred, 33 Chandos street  
 Mann Matthew, 3 Dunstan street  
 Truman John Edward, 63 Godfrey st  
 Wallis Frederick, 7 Kenrick street  
 Woolley George & Son, 6 Dunstan st

**Confectioners.**  
 Barringham George (hard), 94 Victoria road; & at Nottingham  
 Culley Mrs. Annie, Meadow road  
 Saunders Harry, 18 Victoria road

**Co-operative Society.**  
 Co-operative Industrial Society Ltd. (Thomas King, manager)

**Cotton Doublers.**  
 Bourne Samuel & Co. Lim. Britannia mills; & at Nottingham

**Cycle Maker.**  
 Greenway George Jas. Meadow road

**Dairymen.**  
 Maypole Dairy Co. Ltd. 28 Victoria rd  
 Taylor George, 50 Curzon street

**Drapers.**  
 Bon Marché, 24 Victoria road  
 Elliott Mrs. Charlotte (fancy), 95 Victoria road  
 Pett Misses Elizabeth & Alice, 110 Victoria road  
 Winter Mrs. Frank, 76 Victoria road

**Dress Makers.**  
 Bond Misses Alice & Fanny, 66 Victoria road  
 Brooks Mrs. Annie Elizh. 33 Knight st  
 Knight Miss Jane, 10 Ashwell street

**Drug Stores.**  
 Hunts Cash Chemists Limited, 86 Victoria road

**Fishmongers.**  
 Burgon Alexander, 106 Victoria road  
 Gibson Thomas Henry (frier), 91 Victoria road  
 Jones Charles (frier), 70 Victoria rd  
 Shaw John (frier), 2 Bourne street  
 Towle Mrs. Kate (frier), 9 Victoria rd

**Furniture & General Dealer.**  
 Rowson James, Meadow road

**Greengrocers.**  
 Butler William, 2 Victoria road  
 Chambers Alfred, 104 Victoria road  
 Cryer Frederick, 22 Victoria road  
 Grummett Mrs. Liza, 2 Manvers st  
 Smith Walter, 1 Victoria road  
 Wheatley John, 71 Curzon street

**Grocers & Shopkeepers.**  
 Marked thus \* are Beer Retailers.  
 Baldwin John William, 118 Curzon at  
 Butler Mrs. Elizabeth, 58 Chandos st  
 Carnell Mrs. Eliza, 72 Curzon street  
 Chambers Miss Mary Jane, 93 Victoria road  
 \*Crofts Mrs. Mary, 135 Victoria road  
 Dennis Mrs. Elizh. Ann, Meadow road  
 Gibson Arth. Barnes, 19 Victoria road  
 Glover John, 21 Curzon street  
 Godfrey Henry, 120 Curzon street  
 Goulder Wallis Wright, 108 Victoria rd  
 Gregory Mrs. Mary Ellen, 18 Forester st  
 Harris & Co. 59 Victoria road  
 Hunt Frederick, 2 Garnett street  
 Johnson Mrs. Hannah, 57 Deabill st  
 Lacey Frederick, 1 Asper street  
 Lane Mrs. Mary Ann, 4 Meadow cots  
 Last William Owen, 88 Victoria road  
 \*Love Mrs. Jane, 97 Victoria road  
 Palmer Miss Ruth, 82 Victoria road  
 Pearson Miss Laura, 125 Victoria rd  
 Porter Mrs. Louisa, 103 Victoria rd  
 Riley Mrs. Annie, Meadow road  
 Roadley John Henry, 114 Victoria rd  
 Sabin Walter, 38 Bourne street  
 Smith John, Meadow road  
 Smith Mrs. Sarah Ann, Meadow road  
 Stanger Mrs. Alfred, 28 York street  
 Star Tea Co. Limited (The), 90 Victoria road  
 Weldon Mrs. Maggie, 10 Chandos st

**Hair Dressers.**  
 Banham George Wm. 118 Victoria rd  
 Byrne Peter, 4 Victoria road  
 Little George Fredk. 80 Victoria road  
 Mowberry Frederick, 102 Victoria rd  
 Wallis William Francis, 7 Victoria rd

**Hardware Dealers.**  
 Brock Mrs. Matilda Ellen, 17a, Victoria road  
 Hopkinson John, 8 Victoria road  
 Hutchinson Joseph, 101 Victoria road

**Insurance Agents.**  
 Askey Thomas, 30 Matlock street  
 Hatherley George, 52 Chandos street  
 Parsons Edwd. Arth. 25 Victoria rd

**Insurance Company.**  
 Britannic Assurance Co. Ltd. (John Edwin Mitchell, supt.), Meadow rd

.....all the 143  
 business addresses  
 in Wrights  
 Directory

**Joiners & Builders.**  
 Lewin Jn. (& contractor), Forester at  
 Mann John, 21 Cooper street

**Lithographers, Engravers &c.**  
 Stafford & Co. Limited, Forester at

**Laundry.**  
 Victoria Laundry Co. (receiving office), 95 Victoria road

**Midwives.**  
 Willson Miss Zillah Mary, Curzon st  
 Woolley Mrs. Jane, 6 Dunstan street

**Milliners.**  
 Hackworth Mrs. Margaret, Bank buildings, Victoria road  
 Hallam Mrs. Catherine, 92 Victoria rd

**News Agents.**  
 Barnes Edward, 38 Victoria road  
 Clatworthy Mrs. Lucy, 5 Victoria rd  
 Wade B. E. & Sons, 73 Curzon street  
 Wood Mrs. Jane, 137 Victoria road

**Painters & Plumbers.**  
 Clark Joseph, Meadow road  
 Heighton Thomas, 7 Chandos road  
 Icke J. T. & Co. 14 Bourne street  
 Underhill Arth. Thos. 31 Victoria rd

**Pawnbroker.**  
 Daniels William, 96 Victoria road

**Picture Frame Makers.**  
 Brownlow Leonard P. 19 Victoria rd  
 Cawthorn William, 65 Bourne street

**Printers.**  
 Stafford & Co. Limited, Forester st

**Publican.**  
 Bell John Henry, v. Railway hotel, Victoria road

**Surgeons.**  
 Gaillard Gustave Felix de Laubenque B.A., L.S.A.Lond. (Knight & Gaillard), 42 Victoria road  
 Knight & Gaillard; & at Carlton

**Tailors & Outfitters.**  
 Brown Chas. Wilfred, 36 Victoria rd  
 Gibson Charles, 16 Victoria road  
 Handley Cecil, 12 Victoria road  
 Starbuck & Son, 116 Victoria road

**Tobacconists.**  
 Banham George Wm. 118 Victoria rd  
 Lyon Mrs. Mary Ann, 10 Victoria rd  
 Smith Albert George, Bank buildings, Victoria road  
 Wallis William Francis, 7 Victoria rd

**Traveller—Commercial.**  
 Hackworth William Edward, Bank buildings, Victoria road

**Wardrobe Dealer.**  
 Wainwright Mrs. Alice, 99 Victoria rd

**Watch Makers.**  
 Allen William, 13 Victoria road  
 Pearson Percy Edgar, 44 Victoria rd

# Building a Family

The 1901 Census pinpoints our Gale family almost nine years into their marriage, at 65 Deabill Street. RG 13 Piece 3161 folio 9 page 14

Given	Surname	Reltn	Status	Age	Occupation	Born	Place	Year
William	GALE	Head	Marrd	29	Platelayer	Lincs	Barrowby	1871
Emily	GALE	Wife	Marrd	33		Lincs	Barrowby	1867
Leslie Jarvis	GALE	Son	Unm	8		Notts	Netherfield	1893
William Fredk.	GALE	Son	Unm	6		Notts	Netherfield	1895
Edwin Bee	GALE	Son	Unm	3		Notts	Netherfield	1897
Ethel Mary	GALE	Daur	Unm	2		Notts	Netherfield	1898

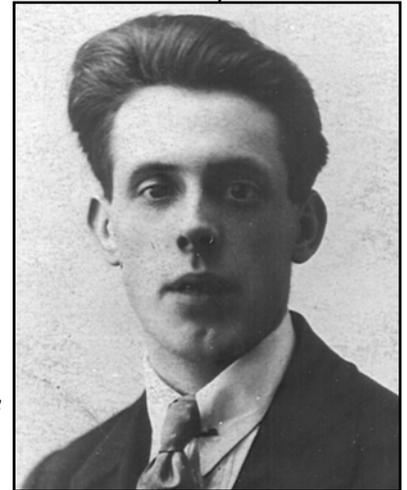
**William GALE = Emily Jarvis**  
 1871-1938      1867-1939  
 Railway Platelayer, Netherfield  
 m 26 Jun 1892 at St George's Netherfield

**Leslie Jarvis GALE = Ada Lilian DEWEY**  
 bn 12 Mar 1893      bn ca 1894  
 at 11 Bourne St  
 GNR Signalman  
 m 12 Jun 1916 at St George's Netherfield

Leslie left the family home at 14 Godfrey Street to marry his bride, the daughter of GNR Examiner Thomas Dewey, of 6 Traffic Terrace, right next to the Loco Shed. They produced two children, Don and Len.

**Edwin Bee GALE = Ada IBBETSON**  
 bn 4 May 1897      bn ca 1903  
 at Cooper St  
 French Polisher      Machinist  
 m 25 Dec 1926 at St George's Netherfield

With his name recalling the maiden name of his grandmother, Elizabeth, Edwin also left the now settled family home at 14 Godfrey Street. Ada's father, Tom, was an Engine Driver, and she was already earning her living in the mill. Father William Gale now a *Foreman Platelayer*.



**William Frederick GALE**  
 bn 28 Jan 1895  
 at 2 Ethel Grove  
 Killed in action, Leivin, France, 2 Jun 1917



**Ethel Mary GALE = Harry E CLARKE**  
 bn 2 Sep 1898      bn ca 1897  
 at Cooper St      12 Godfrey Street  
 Railway W. Repr.  
 m 12 Sep 1922 at Netherfield Methodist Ch.



Ethel married her next-door-neighbour's son, and her sisters Marjorie & Aileen signed the register, as did Joseph Clarke. They produced two sons, Bill and Alan, two more male grandchildren for William & Emily. The groom's father, of the same name, Harry Edward, was also in the railway business as an Engine Driver

14 Godfrey Street in 2006, under restoration. The final house for William & Emily. Note its semi-detached construction, with the front door away from the street on the side garden. Most houses were terraced. William & Emily moved house steadily outwards following the streets being laid out piecemeal by small speculative developments for rent, upgrading each time.

The street pattern follows the field boundaries set out in the Enclosure Act in the 18th century, reflecting the gradual development field by field. The settlement might have looked very different if all the land had been purchased by the railway company and developed on a planned basis.

Adjoining No. 14 is No. 12, the white house just showing on the right here, where the Clarke family lived, of particular attraction to Ethel Mary Gale, who found her soulmate Harry Edward there.



**Samuel Martin GALE** = **Catherine Emma DAFT**  
 bn 9 Apr 1901      bn ca 1901  
 at 71 Deabill St      17 Mapperley Rd  
 LNER Shunter      Nottingham  
 m 2 Sep 1933 at Netherfield Methodist Ch.

Sam married his *Kit* late at 33, from 14 Godfrey Street. Brother Leslie Gale signed the register, as did John William Daft. Kit's father Joseph, a former platelayer, had passed on. Sam & Kit had no children.

**Aileen Emily GALE** = **William STEVENSON**  
 bn 15 Dec 1911      bn 1913  
 at 8 Traffic Terrace

m Sep 1938 Netherfield



Bill made the wedding cake for Pauline Marriott's big day in 1960. Aileen & Bill had one child, Jennifer.

**Marjorie Annie GALE** = **Bernard Stanley MARRIOTT**  
 bn 25 Dec 1906      bn 30 Nov 1907  
 at 14 Godfrey St      29 Goldswong Ter.  
 Hosiery Supvr      Hosiery Asst Mangr  
 m 2 June 1934 Gedling Parish Church



Marjorie caught the eye of the young man in the Office at sock-maker William Henry Barker's Carlton factory. Her father William signed the marriage register, alongside Geoff Bratt, Stan's best man. Their two children were both girls, Pauline & Rita.



# Growing Up

## BAPTISMS at St George's Netherfield 1895-1916

11 Mar 1895	Leonard William	GROVES	William Blyton G & Betsy G
11 Mar 1895	William Frederick	GALE	William & Emily Gale
30 May 1897	Edwin Bee	GALE	William & Emily Gale
30 May 1897	Hector William	BENNETT	William Henry B & Eliza B
6 Nov 1898	Gladys Mary	GROVES	William Blyton G & Betsy G
6 Nov 1898	Ethel Mary	GALE	William & Emily Gale
26 May 1901	Mildred Anne	BENNETT	William Henry B & Eliza B
26 May 1901	Sam Martin	GALE	William & Emily Gale
21 Jan 1914	Doris May	GALE	Frederick & Annie Gale

Probably Emily was more keen on having her children baptised. These entries from St George's register show how she teamed up both with her sister Betsy and also Eliza. No record of Marjorie Annie or Aileen Emily, though Marjorie was later confirmed at St Paul's Carlton. William's brother Frederick brought his daughter along in 1914. The township had an abundance of Sunday School opportunities, each one having its annual outing or anniversary, and then the big collaborative parades. A good place to have young friends.



An early picture of Ashwell Street School, probably at the beginning of the 20th century.

The local school board brought in Ashwell Street School in 1894 to add to the existing schools. All William & Emily's children started their education there. Marjorie Annie Gale's name is logged as *Admission No. 1585, date of birth 25 Dec 1906, parent William Gale, 14 Godfrey Street. Left 5 April 1918 to Upper School*, in the Admissions and Discharge Register (Nottinghamshire Archives SA 30/6/3). The Upper School was in Chandos Street, from where children usually left at 14 to begin work. 140 children joined Ashwell Street in 1894 to be issued with slates and books by Miss Jane Hill, Head Teacher, her assistant Miss Lewin, and L Watkinson, Caretaker. Miss Hill was the learning icon of a generation, becoming Head straight from Lincoln College in 1894 and remaining until retirement in 1931. In 1910 she presided over a teaching staff of six, all unmarried

women. As becomes clear from reading through the log book, a whole generation was educated at the hands of single women, who were called to task where necessary by a coterie of male government inspectors. The school was divided into Infant & Junior sections, and the juniors between boys and girls.



Ashwell Street Infants School Staff  
 Standing: Lizzie Richmond and Alice Godfrey  
 Seated: Sarah Lewin, Jane Hill and Miss Wilson  
 Front: Miss Carr and Miss Isobel Ward

On 24 May 1910 there were special lessons for Empire Day, and the schools closed on the nearby Monday afternoon so the children could enjoy the Sunday school treat events. In 1911 there were 392 infants registered in the school. The local houses must have been bursting. Measles, whooping cough, mumps and sometimes diphtheria took their toll on attendance in April 1911. Even teacher Miss Johnson was confined to the Isolation Hospital with diphtheria. The use of books was banned, to keep down infection transfer. The school closed for the Coronation between 16 June and 26th June 1911.

The 1912 coal strike brought much hardship to many railway workers. On March 27th the caretaker had nothing to fuel his fires, and on 2 April thirty-six children whose fathers had no work were given tickets for soup. On 25th July 1913 the log book laments that *attendance this week has been poor, as many railway workers had taken children on their annual holiday*. On 1st September 1913 Mr Lewin pronounced that *children of 4 years of age could be admitted but they must be five or over on or before 31 March 1914*.

On 16th November 1914 two rooms off the *Marching Corridor* were reorganised for 64 and 55 children respectively. On 22nd March 1915 former scholar Edward Caunt, who enlisted in the Army at the beginning of the war, visited before going to France. Mr Ecob, a soldier from France, visited the school on 20 December 1915. The new Upper Standard School was opened on 14th June 1915.

Edward Caunt, the son of Arthur Caunt, a Railway Guard, who actually lived on Arthur Street, survived the war, and was awarded the British and Victory Medals.

*Marjorie Annie Gale*, Pauline's mother, told a few tales about those days. There was Mr James, a teacher at the Gospel Hall Sunday School, who dished out dolly mixtures to keep the children quiet. He had a rhyme:

"I give you the end of a golden string  
Wind it into a ball  
It leads into the Heaven's Gate  
Built in Jerusalem's Wall"

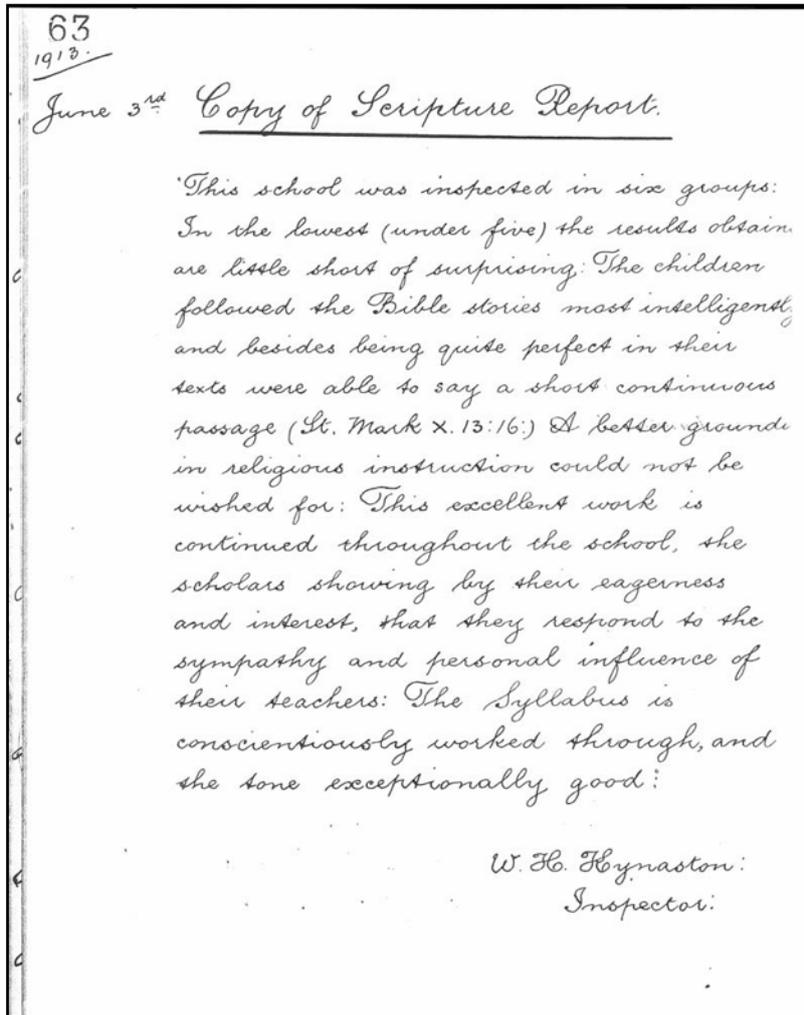
The Great Northern employed walking 'alarm clocks', men with poles who would knock on bedroom windows shouting 'Gale' when William was needed on his early shift. One very snowy winter William was pressed into extra duty clearing the tracks for which the gang members were given vouchers to spend at the local shops. William shared them among his family and they had a great time shopping. Marjorie's school experience was one full of good friend and sibling relationships. Particular chums were Rosie Sutton

(Freddie's Sister), Edith Barker (Stella's sister), Elsie Hallam, Bertha Lyons and Maggie Crier.

When the Ashwell infants reached the age of seven they transferred to either the Girls School next door in Ashwell Street, or to the Boys School in Chandos Street. *Marjorie Annie Gale* left the Girls School on 5th April 1918 for the Upper School in Chandos Street along with 61 other girls. The Girls School Log Book for 19th April 1918 records that *nine girls were admitted from the Infants. Could not read, knew neither letters nor sounds.* Marjorie did well enough and left in 1920 to work at the hosiery manufactory of Barkers at Carlton, progressing to become the supervisor of a group of girls.

*Margaret Groves* certainly could do her stuff though. On 22nd July 1932 the Log Book records that she had been awarded a Junior County Scholarship at West Bridgford Secondary. Margaret was the grand-daughter of Betsy, Emily's sister, and later on in her subsequent teaching career came back to Ashwell Street as its Deputy Head.

An example of an Inspection Report made by one of Her Majesty's Inspectors, W H Kynaston, and entered into the School Log Book of 1913



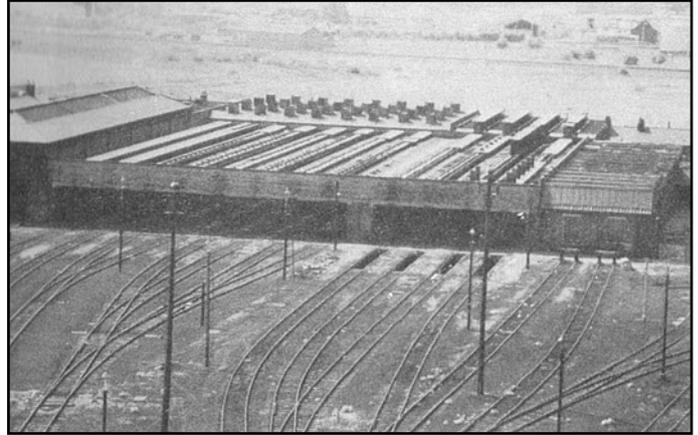
# Employment

Netherfield developed primarily because of the needs of rail transport. The Earl of Caernarvon and other landowners began to sell up their holdings for this purpose. Other businesses used the new availability of land and the rail links to move out of cramped space in Nottingham. Then shops and other service trades opened up their doors.

Construction of the Colwick Marshalling Yard began in 1875 to enable the Great Northern Railway to organise its truck routing principally of coal and iron products coming from its lines in the Erewash area of Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. With the constant development of the yard came the associated locomotive depot and sheds, and the facilities for repairing wagons. By 1900 the yard had become the largest on the whole GNR system. With the opening up of lines into Leicestershire and its iron ore deposits, the London and North Western Railway joined in with its own development at the yard. Day and night the whole place would have hummed and hissed, whistled and puffed, clanked and banged as the endless sorting and shunting of wagons took place.

As Peter Waite states in the little book *Loco Village*, (The Netherfield Local History Group, 1994), getting a job on the railways at the turn of the century was much sought after. A member of a railway family probably stood a much better chance of getting in than an outsider. The work and income was steady and dependable, and the benefits of a uniform, sick cover and moderate house rentals were attractive. We think all the evidence points to Emily's brother John William Jarvis, who was working on the railway from a Sneinton base, as being the doorkeeper for the young William Gale joining the railway in 1892.

Samuel Bourne ran a cotton doubling firm in cramped conditions in Robin Hood Street, Nottingham. With the availability of two railway stations and a five acre site in the centre of Netherfield, he built the immense three storey *Britannia Mills* (pictured opposite) in 1881 to which his Nottingham staff commuted by train each day. Much later many daughters of the early railway families became available to work in his venture. The mill was driven by two steam engines needing the huge chimney visible on the photograph. Marjorie Gale always said that you knew where you were when you could see Bourne's chimney.



Above The Loco Shed in 1982, deserted and closed. A picture that shows the scale of the building, and located almost at the end of Godfrey Street where William & Emily lived.

Below The Marshalling Yard in 1953, giving a feel for its scope.



The immense size of the Bourne Mill. It thrived on the booming demand for cotton folded yarns that the Lancashire mills found hard to meet. Bourne would import single yarns from Lancashire and twist them together into multi yarns and supply them to customers on bobbins or cones. In 2006 the site is a well laid out sheltered housing complex, which replaced the mill, demolished in 1982.



Another firm moved in the same direction as Samuel Bourne. *Stafford's*, a printing firm founded in Houndsgate by John Gascoyne Stafford in 1845, moved to Curzon Street Netherfield in 1882. By 1892 the staff numbered 130, and the firm enjoyed an international reputation for their theatrical and pictorial posters.

William Gale himself was a platelayer on the railway, keeping the mass of tracks in good order. There were three organised groups of platelayers at Colwick Loco, one each located at each end of the yard complex, and another at the western side of the Loco Shed. William became a foreman.

The first member of William and Emily's growing family to leave school and enter the world of work was *Leslie Jarvis Gale*, carrying his mother's maiden name as his second forename. Leslie progressed to become a GNR signalman, a key role in the safe operation of the system. No doubt father William might have dropped by Leslie's box at least once for a warming brew. The next son, *William Frederick*, or *Will*, did not have much time to make a career step, being at that point in his life were many of his peer group were answering the call to arms in the Great War. Will became Private 306406 in the 1/8th Battalion of the Sherwood Foresters (Notts & Derby Regt). On the night of 29-30 May 1917 Will was in position outside the northern French town of Levin fending off a furious German attack at the junction of Crocodile Trench and Railway Cutting. The War Diary of the battalion records that it was relieved the next night, but that one 'other ranks' was listed as 'Died of Wounds'. That soldier was Will, officially listed as died on Saturday 2nd June, 1917.

The inevitable telegram would have arrived at 14 Godfrey Street, and William & Emily would have felt the pangs of grief for the first time. They may well have been even more anxious for another young man they had taken into their home, *George William Braithwaite*. He was serving with the Cheshire Regiment in France. We don't know precisely how it came about, but it is clear that George was born to a *Hannah Braithwaite*, with no father stated, at Bingham in August 1894. In 1901 the six-year old George is being raised solely by his widowed



Grandmother in Bingham, who is a Lace Outworker. It looks as though she died in 1908, which is likely to have been the event that brought George into the care of William & Emily. George too answered the call to arms, and joined the 11th Battalion of the Cheshire Regt. Corporal G W Braithwaite MM, No. 28378, must have been in the thick of it. He received the gallantry award of the *Military Medal* on 28th July 1917, and was killed in action on 15 March 1918. His battalion was so reduced by casualties that it was subsumed into the 1/6th battalion in June 1918. Corporal Braithwaite's remains lie in the special decorated section of the Favrieul Cemetery in the Pas de Calais. More sadness and grief for William & Emily for the young man they took in.

Will's death is commemorated in the commonwealth corner of the French village cemetery at Noux-les-Moins, and Pauline & Terry have enjoyed the privilege of viewing his grave, shown on the left here.

*Edwin Bee Gale*, with the 'Bee' honouring Emily's grandmother's name, took a different turn from a railway career. He joined the furniture manufacturer Lawrence who had set up on Colwick Vale, in the neighbouring parish, and became a French Polisher. *Ethel Mary*, born in 1898, does not have an occupation when she married the boy next door, *Harry Clarke*, who was a Railway Wagon Repairer. *Sam Martin Gale*, the 'Martin' remembering the Gale grandfather at Great Gonerby, was a Railway Shunter at the time of his marriage in 1933. *Marjorie Annie Gale* came to know all about sock production at Barkers, and also all about the young man in the office learning the management ropes, *Stan Marriott*, who she married in 1934. *Aileen Emily Gale*, the last daughter, went along the dressmaking route.



William and son Sam had another career as well as their day jobs. They tilled a clutch of allotments in the land alongside the loco works. No doubt William brought to bear the skills he learned back in that cottage at Barrowby. They even had a pig in the early days, arranging with one of Netherfield's butchers to do the necessary at 'harvesting' time. The Gale clan probably had a good diet.

# Maturity

William & Emily Gale's life became anchored into this busy and close-knit community which was all about keeping the massive railway operation going, as well as the cotton-doubling enterprise of Samuel Bourne, and the many small businesses that also set up in the area. Like most pieces of family history research, often little is known about the distant ancestors through lack of contemporary written material from the players. From the testimony of *Marjorie Annie Gale*, her experience of growing up in her Godfrey Street household brings forward very warm memories. There was the wheelbarrow used to take equipment to the allotment, and the food mix to the pig. There were the leisure-time ambles across the water meadows to the Trent facing Radcliffe. And then there were the very happy times with schoolmates and street playmates, as well as the steadily increasing in-law relations as her brothers and sisters married and set up home in nearby streets.

So we fall back onto the milestones of the major documented events...the births, marriages, and the close of life at the end, the stuff of the full blooming and maturity of the cycle of life. William and Emily's first son *Leslie Jarvis Gale* found his soulmate *Ada Lilian Dewey* living round the corner at 6 Traffic Terrace. Father Thomas Dewey was a GNR Examiner, an important job in the railway scheme of things. They married in the thick of wartime, 12 June 1916, at St Georges, and set up home at 67 Godfrey Street, just up the road. They had two sons, Len in 1917, and later Don. Just before Len came along to herald the next generation, there was the awful news from France of Will's death at Levin. Perhaps the arrival of Len helped to soften William & Emily's anguished sadness.

Daughter *Ethel Mary Gale* had the fairy tale romance, she married her boy-next-door, Harry Edward Clarke, a skilled joiner who was repairing railway wagons at that time, 12 September 1922. His father, also Harry Edward, had the high status job of Railway Engine Driver. The Clarkes were Methodists, and the ceremony took place at the Methodist Church on Victoria Road, officiant John Lewin, who also built many of the local houses. It must have been a happy affair. From the certificate it looks as though sisters *Marjorie Annie* and *Aileen Emily* were bridesmaids, and the groom's brother *Joseph* was best man. Picture the scene, leaving the next-door houses and the short walk along the street and

around the corner to the church. Lovely. Harry Edward later joined John Lewin in his joinery and undertaking business, before breaking away as an independent Joiner and Undertaker. Their two sons Harry and Alan came along in 1926 and 1931, making the tally of grandsons for William & Emily now four. After living at 37 Ashwell Street, Harry Edward eventually built a home for his family just over the Nottingham-Lincoln railway in Midland Road, which included a workshop for his business.

On *Marjorie Annie's* 20th birthday, Christmas Day, 1926, her 29 yr-old

French Polisher brother *Edwin Bee Gale* married his *Ada Ibbetson*. Younger brother *Sam* signed as a witness, so he was probably Edwin's best man. Ada was 23, and was styled as a Machinist, which probably means she was working at making clothes. Parents Tom Ibbetson, a Railway Engine Driver, and Harriett, were living at



25 Chandos Street in 2006

Whiston Villas in Chandos Street. The electoral register evidence points to the fact that Edwin moved in with his in-laws. The couple had a child a year later in December 1927, Ken, to add to the crowded house in Chandos Street. Grandson No. 5 for William and Emily.



37 Ashwell Street in 2006

GNR Shunter Sam was the next one to depart the Godfrey Street nest, where he was continuing to enjoy Emily's care of him at the advanced age of 32. Perhaps he did a lot to repay that from the fruits of his labours with his dad on the allotments. How did he meet his sweetheart, *Catherine Emma Daff*? At the wedding in Netherfield Methodist Church on 2 September 1933, Catherine Emma, or *Kit* as we all knew her, was styled as a Domestic Servant, giving her address as *17 Mapperley Road, Nottingham*, a smart house in

Mapperley Park. Kit was born in 1901, the eighth child of Joseph and Catherine Daft, at Hose, in Leicestershire. Joseph was a Foreman Platelayer, but had died by the time of the wedding. There are no family Dafts in the Netherfield Electoral Registers. A mystery. Sam's big brother Leslie Jarvis Gale signed the marriage certificate as a witness, as did John William Daft, Kit's elder brother, who must have stood in for her missing father Joseph. Sam and Kit produced no offspring.

Now comes the turn of *Marjorie Annie Gale*, or Madge, as we came to know her. From the family home at 14 Godfrey Street Madge had been walking up into Carlton to her work at the William Henry Barker's Hosiery Factory on Burton Road. Walking up from his home the other way was *Stan Marriott*, and before long, their mutual steps fell into step, so to speak. Madge kept a bunch of girls up to task in the hosiery finishing department at Barkers, while Stan learnt the trade through the eyes of the manager's office. The subsequent romance cut across a cultural frontier, as Stan came to understand the nature of an industrious working community, and Madge brought her charm, wit and hardiness to the more rarified Marriott world. Stan's father Archibald had been living in the same road in Carlton as William Henry Barker, and Barker had a stake in Archibald's paper merchanting business. No doubt the job at Barker's had flowed from that relationship. Archibald had recently had his house built at Rodney Road, West Bridgford, but Stan declined to move with them, going into lodgings at Rydal Mount, Gedling, where the curates also lived. So Madge married her Stan in his church at Gedling, on 2 June 1934. Her father William Gale was clearly there, signing as a witness, the other being Geoff Bratt, Stan's best man. For future family historians it was a disaster. A member of the family of the booked photographer died the night before, and some other emergency overtook the floral supplier. There was therefore no group photograph for posterity, and Madge's bouquet was scrambled from scratch on the day. They settled in a rented house on Westdale Lane, and on 22 February 1937, William & Emily greeted their first granddaughter, *Pauline*. Their second daughter, *Rita*, born in 1940, would not have been seen by William & Emily.

William and Emily's children came in three phases. The first five were in the years from 1893 to 1901. Then a gap with Madge coming along just inside 1906, and finally crowned by the arrival of *Aileen Emily* on 15 December 1911. Aileen became a dressmaker, a very useful skill in these times. She married *John William Stevenson*, a baker, in the summer of 1938, and went to live in Highclere Drive, Carlton, in a house built for them by Bill's father William. Father William, a Railway Engine Driver, lived next door, and was an astute

manager of money and resources. He even ran a car, kept immaculately, when most of his contemporaries just used the trains or walked. In the early part of the 1930s father William and his wife Hannah lived at 63 Godfrey Street, another case of almost girl-next-door romance. Aileen & Bill were blessed with a daughter, Jennifer, but not until 1944, too late to meet the grandparents.

Apart from the sadness of losing Will in the war, William and Emily saw all their children married. They also had the close contact of William's brother Frederick, who with his *Annie Clayton*, raised a family round the corner at 12 Hodgkinson Street. Emily would have felt a very close kinship with her older sister Betsy, who settled across the Derbyshire loop track at 11 Bourne Street and raised a family with *William Blyton Groves*. Her other sister Eliza married *William Henry Bennett* and settled at 17 Bourne Street.



And then a further connection. From another of William's brothers, *Martin Wheatley Gale*, who stayed at Great Gonerby in farm work, came a son, *William Henry Gale*, born 1906. Perhaps because of the Frederick connection, William Henry married Lancashire Coal Miner's daughter, a Margaret Disley, at St George's Netherfield. He worked at Laurence's as an Assistant Shopfitter. By



the 1939 electoral register they were living on Godfrey Street at no. 72. Family all around.



# Endings

The Nottingham Evening News Monday 28 November 1938

## Netherfield Tragedy

Mr William Gale (67), a foreman, of 14 Godfrey Street Netherfield, collapsed and died in Netherfield Co-operative Society's hairdressing saloon on Saturday afternoon. He had suffered from heart trouble for a long period and had been under medical care. Heart failure is thought to be the cause of death.

\*\*\*\*\*

No.	When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar
35925	Second March 1939 25 Chandos Street Netherfield Carlton U.D.	Edwin Bee Gale	male	41 years	French Plisher	Heart Failure	E. M. Clarke Dialer In Attendance 87, Ashwell Street Netherfield Carlton	Sixth March 1939	J. G. Coates Registrar

No.	When and Where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation	Cause of death	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar
57	Thirteenth September 1939 14 Godfrey Street Netherfield Carlton U.D.	Emily Gale	Female	72 years	Widow of William Gale a Foreman Platelayer on Railway	1-(a) morbus cordis Certified by G. F. Gaillard B.A. L.S.A.	L. J. Gale Son In attendance 19, Bourne Street Netherfield Carlton	Thirteenth September 1939	W. E. Atwood Registrar

The family story is that Emily died of a broken heart. Perhaps there is some truth in that. Now alone in her house, with all its memories, and her dear platelayer William's sudden death added to by Edwin's, who went to bed early one evening, and just slipped away in his sleep. Then the awfulness of the onset of war again, and the reminder of the lives of her son Will and his friend George Braithwaite being cut short. Perhaps it was just too much.

Then again, life had been good, a great adventure. From those early trysts beneath the tree at Brick Hill Farm, the marriage in the brand new church in Netherfield, their own rented place in the bustling new town, to the sense of purpose and achievement in making the mighty railway enterprise work. All around was the family they had made together, and she had seen the birth of six members of the generation after that. Time to lay down a weary but contented head.



Emily Gale heralds the future with her first grand-daughter, Pauline Marriott



Grand daughter contemplates the last resting place, Carlton Cemetery, 61 L5 A

---

The meal is eaten, the plates are dry  
Departed children, their luck to try  
All sleepers laid, and ballast set  
The Way is made, all loves have met  
In peace to lay, in Carlton's soil  
No more to pay, the end of toil

---



Above, a Saddle Tanker, the type of shunting engine that kept the huge marshalling yard huffing and puffing, clanking and banging.

The whole railway depot and marshalling yard operation in Netherfield closed in 1970. Stan Wright in Peter Waite's *History of the Great Northern Colwick Motive Power Depot and Marshalling Yard* has this paragraph on page 61:

*“After the yard closed and the contractors had moved in, it was realised that a considerable amount of coal lay on the ground where the yard tracks had been in situ for about ninety-five years. The engine shed was demolished in 1970 and the yard tracks were being recovered at the same time. The spilt coal covered an area of many acres and the depth varied from a few inches to just over a foot. The GEGB were interested in purchasing the low grade coal and slurry for burning in power stations grates such as those at Wilford.. However, the analysed coal was of such a high calorific value that the contractors set up a screening plant to separate the coal from the ground debris also spread about the yard. The CEGB bought the coal and for many months burnt it successfully in the Wilford Power Station boilers. Jack Robson, the CEGB chemist who analysed the the Colwick ‘soil’ was the son of a fireman who worked at the Colwick shed during the 1920s and 1930s.”*

The very same Jack Robson mentioned above settled in a house in Wensley Road, Woodthorpe, almost opposite the house that Stan Marriott built for his wife *Marjorie Annie*, and daughters *Pauline* and *Rita*. They were good friends.

Peter Waite's book is available by contacting Booklaw Publications, 382 Carlton Hill, Nottingham, NG4 1JA. Telephone 0115 961 1066 and at [www.booklaw.co.uk](http://www.booklaw.co.uk).

In 2006 there is a modern development on the Locomotive Depot site, with the road name *Great Northern Way*, and the marshalling yard ground has become a modern marshalling equivalent, a Loop Road and Retail Park. Folk from all around *shunt up and down the aisles* of Morrisons, B&Q, Halfords and the rest.