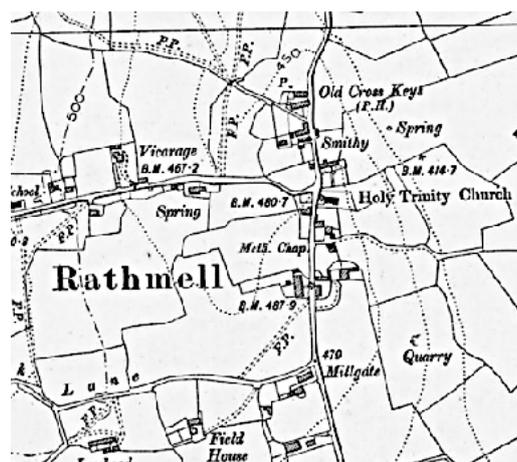


## Thomas Holden, a Rathmell farmer and his daughters

Henry Clark, born in 1861, had married **Bridget Armistead** who was the aunt of **William Armistead**, chemist and **John Armistead**, draper of Settle. Henry and Bridget lived at Millgate House and had six daughters and just one son, **Henry**, who died in infancy. The daughters all married respectable men, four of them to men who were 15 years or more older than them. This was quite acceptable in those days, especially as a second wife. As a result, several of the daughters outlived their husbands and then lived together as widows back in Rathmell.



Henry was 82 when he died in 1843 and was buried with Bridget, daughter **Grace (Talbot)** and infant son Henry in Long Preston graveyard. They had a massive gravestone lying flat on the ground.



Next door, at Butterfield House, lived **Thomas Holden**, a good, hardworking farmer, originally from Gisburn. His brother **Henry Holden** had owned Hollin Hall just north of Rathmell towards Settle. The Holden brothers could have been related to the Holden sisters who both married into the **Harger family** in Settle. In 1825, 41 year old Thomas married Henry's daughter, **Mary Clark**, who was 21. Perhaps Thomas had been married before? Mary was six months pregnant with their daughter **Margaret Anne Clark Holden** who was to be the first of seven children. Thomas Holden died in 1861 and is buried at Gisburn.



While Mary had been bringing up her family at Butterfield House her sisters **Betsey** and **Catherine** lived next door at Millgate House. Betsey, aged 45, became the second wife of the much older **Barnabus Battersby**, a Rathmell farmer. (Barnabus' son by his first marriage, **John Battersby**, was the postmaster in Settle, following **John Wildman**.) Catherine, aged 37, became the second wife of the much older **Samuel Littlewood**, an iron moulder from Sheffield. Mary, Betsey and Catherine were all widowed during the 1860s and so lived together at Butterfield House until they died during the 1880s.



What happened to Thomas and Mary Holden's children? Well, it's very interesting!

Daughter **Bridget Holden**, born in 1831, married **Anthony Taylor Beverley**, from a long-standing farming family Kirkby Malham, in 1856. They had five sons and two daughters although two sons died in infancy. Anthony and his brother **Christopher Lodge Beverley** had attended Giggleswick School. Anthony began his working life in farming and brother Christopher as a draper and they both settled in Wakefield with their respective families. In 1861 the brothers worked together to set up and run '**Beverley Brewery**' in Wakefield and it was immensely successful



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[ph1,2]. At their peak the company employed 150 staff and served 173 public houses and off-licences in Yorkshire, Lancashire, Teesside. Wow! Their sons continued the business and won the only Gold Medal awarded at the Brewer's Exhibition in 1960. The brewery was acquired by Watney Mann in 1967.



Anthony died in 1876, aged just 48 and Bridget became a partner in the business. In 1888 one of her employees, Harry Kilner was imprisoned for stealing £10 11s 6d from her and then spending most of it in a casino in Manchester! [2]. Bridget died in 1891, aged 60, leaving an estate worth over £1million, today's value. She died a year after one of her sons, George Augustus Beverley, who had made a name for himself in the Music Halls [3]. George was just 32 when he died. Bridget and Anthony's son Thomas Henry Holden Beverley ran the business until 1930.

**A WAKEFIELD YOUTH'S ADVENTURES IN MANCHESTER.**—On Wednesday, at the City Court, a Wakefield young man named Harry Kilner, was charged with stealing £10 11s. 6d. The prisoner, who had worked for Mrs. Anthony Beverley, of Westfield Park, Wakefield, was sent by that lady to Mr. Slater, the cashier at Messrs. Beverley's Brewery, for £10 11s. 6d. The money was handed to the prisoner, who, instead of taking it to Mrs. Beverley, bolted off to Manchester, where he was robbed in a casino of £8, and afterwards he went to Bradford, where he was apprehended. He pleaded guilty, and was sent to prison for three months.

MANY of the music hall profession will be sorry to hear of the death of Mr George Augustus Beverley, of Wakefield, who expired after a short illness on Wednesday, the 16th inst.



Anthony's brother Christopher Lodge Beverley died in 1887 aged 67 leaving an estate of £3,500. This was the year of Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee and to mark the event, Holy Ascension Church raised money to erect a new peal of bells.

The vicar, *Jackson Mason* paid for No.7 bell himself. 'The success of the project has been largely due to the prompt and unexpected liberality of Mr Christopher Beverley who gives the tenor bell in memory of his father Christopher Lodge Beverley' after which other donations quickly followed [4]. Christopher's son, another Christopher, visited Settle with the news [8]. The bells were all etched with a latin inscription which together read a verse finishing with the one on the Beverley bell 'Vox mea Christopher Lodge Beverley, memorat' (my voice commemorates Christopher Lodge Beverley) [4]. The bell is also inscribed with the Beverley family coat of arms, a bull's head erased, and inscription 'Ubi libertas obi patria' (where freedom is, there is our fatherland). According to *Fairbairn's Crests of the Families of Great Britain and Ireland* this is the crest of Robert Mackenzie Beverley, born in 1798, who lived in Beverley. He was an author, magistrate and controversialist who was a staunch opponent of Charles Darwin's theory of evolution.

**SETTLE—THE NEW CHURCH BELLS.**—Mr. Christopher Beverley, of West View, Stanningley, visited Settle on the eve of Ascension Day, and intimated to the vicar (the Rev. Jackson Mason, M.A.) that he should be pleased to present to the Church the tenor bell and to defray any attendant expenses, as a memorial of his late father, Mr. Christopher Lodge Beverley, of Dircar House, Wakefield, who received his education at the Giggleswick Grammar School, and whose ancestors were landed proprietors in Craven for upwards of 270 years.

The success of the project has been largely due to the prompt and unexpected liberality of Mr. Christopher Beverley, of Stanningley, who gives the tenor bell in memory of his father, Christopher Lodge Beverley, a Craven man, and formerly educated at Giggleswick Grammar School. Thus stimulated, local interest followed, and the committee were speedily encouraged by several handsome donations in the town, and by the cordial help of Mr. Walter Morrison, M.P. The bells, which



The English version is as follows:—

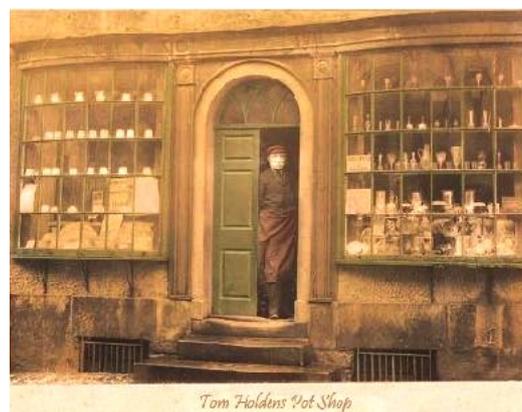
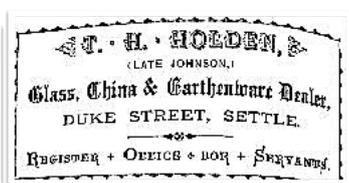
Church of God in newer mould,  
I'm thy prayer-bell as of old.  
Pure their hand and heart must blend  
Who the hill of God ascend.  
Christ the cry of realms on high,  
Open, open to our cry;  
Voice and trump with one accord  
Tell of our ascending Lord.  
Peace to Britain would ye see,  
Stand United loyally.  
When the priest's voice silent falls,  
Loudly mine his people calls.  
Him of pious name sing I,  
Christopher Lodge Beverley.

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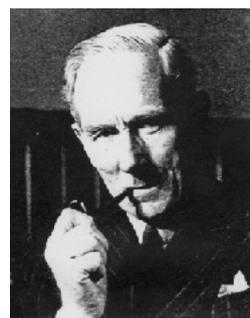
Robert could have been a (very) distant relation to our family although Robert's direct ancestors were born in the States. Perhaps the family just wanted a crest mentioning the family name. The bell was recast in 2006.

Thomas and Mary's eldest daughter **Margaret Ann Clark Holden** had quite a different life to Bridget! In 1842, aged 17, Margaret gave birth to a son, **Thomas Henry Holden** who was brought up outside the family. On 9 May 1881 Thomas Henry married **Ann Clark** in Bentham. Their wedding certificate tells us she was illegitimate too. Ann was the daughter of **Jane Clark**, the sister of **Thomas, Richard** and **John Clark**. When she was 46, Jane became the second wife of **Christopher Dunderdale** who was the 'toll bar keeper' in Bentham.

Thomas Henry and Ann Holden ran a glass, china and earthenware shop in Duke Street in Settle, known as Tom Holden's pot shop [ph3, LSA]. They had three children.



Thomas and Ann's daughter **Maggie Holden** performed with the Settle Amateur Operatic Society [ph3]. Son **Bernard Clark Holden** worked as a draper in Bradford. Youngest son **Harold Henry Holden** was a very talented artist and teacher. His Wikipedia page tells us that during his life he was principal of the Leeds School of Art and then the Birmingham School of Art. He was president of the Royal Birmingham Society of Artists, a member of the Royal Watercolour Society and an Associate of the Royal College of Arts. He married **Elizabeth Corney** [ph3], the eldest daughter of **John James Corney** who was a partner in Brassington's Bridge End timber works. Henry met Elizabeth after lodging in the same house as Elizabeth's brother and sister in Leeds.



Ann died in 1911 aged 61 and was buried in Settle in *Old G43*. After Ann's death Thomas Henry emigrated to Palmerstone, New Zealand to join his uncle **Thomas Holden**. He died and was buried out there – the inscription on his stone remembers Ann.



*Annie Holden beloved wife of Thomas Henry Holden died April 17th 1911. Also Thomas Henry Holden died at Palmerston North NZ Dec'r 31st 1926.*

THOMAS HENRY HOLDEN died 31st December 1926 aged 85;  
and his wife ANNE died at Settle, Yorkshire 17th April 1911.

Three years after Thomas Henry Holden was born Margaret Ann Clark Holden married **Thomas Blackwell** who was a farmer's son from Gisburn. It's possible that Thomas Blackwell insisted that Thomas Henry Holden's was brought up elsewhere. Two years later, in 1847, Margaret and Thomas had a son, **Joseph Blackwell**. At the time of the next census, Joseph was living with his grandparents (Thomas and Mary Holden) back in Rathmell for some reason and Thomas and Margaret Blackwell were living with his parents in Gisburn. Hmm, why? Margaret had a daughter **Mary Ann Blackwell** in 1852.

## Settle Graveyard Project

On 22 July 1858, Thomas was found in the 2nd class cabin of the Cornelia Lawrence sailing from Liverpool to the Castle Garden immigration centre at the southern tip of the Manhattan peninsula. In 1855 Castle Garden was opened as an immigration centre and during the next 35 years a dramatic wave of European immigration took place with more than eight million people arriving, mainly from Germany and Ireland, including Thomas Blackwell. The place was described as 'a cultural cacophony'. Ellis Island opened as the new immigration centre in 1892. Castle Gardens now houses the ticket office for trips to the Statue of Liberty. In 1863 Thomas signed up for a civil war mounted infantry unit and then records for him cease.

Deserted by her husband, at the time of the 1861 census Margaret lived with sister Bridget (Beverley) in Wakefield and children Joseph and Mary Ann lived with their Holden grandparents. By the time of the 1871 census Margaret joined her parents and children in Rathmell. Son Joseph died in 1875, aged 28.

But things were about to take a turn for the better for Margaret. On 11 September 1875 Margaret, aged 50, describing herself as a widow, became the second wife of 65 year old **James Stuttard**, a successful cotton manufacturer who had just taken over Clover Croft Mill at Higham near Burnley. He seemed a good honest and popular man [5]. James died seven years later leaving an estate worth over £4million today. Margaret stayed in Manchester and died in 1903, aged 78.

Mr. Calderbank has lived in retirement with his youngest son at Nelson for the past three years, and was formerly employed for forty years as a cotton operative at Messrs. James Stuttard and Sons, at Clover Croft Mill, Higham. He was a great favourite with the late Mr. James Stuttard, who often would take him from his work to play his double bass at a private party at his residence at Myrtle Grove, Fence. He has not only played, but has found

Two days before Margaret Ann's wedding to James Stuttard, her daughter Mary Ann married **Thomas Hampson Brown** from Tyldesley near Wigan. His parents had both died when he was just an infant so he was brought up by aunts and uncles. At the wedding Thomas described himself as a commission agent but may have more accurately said an 'optimistic entrepreneur'. There are several reports of 'trouble at the mill', literally. In 1877 the papers published reports of Thomas arguing about the ownership of mill machinery with the mill owners in Oswaldtwistle and a couple of months later his interests were taken into administration [4]. In 1883 he was declared bankrupt with liabilities of £12000, described as a mill furnisher and machinery agent [6].

**FAILURE OF A COTTON MANUFACTURER.**—A petition was filed at the Blackburn County Court on Monday by Mr. W. T. Holland, solicitor, on behalf of Thomas Hampson Brown, carrying on business at Brookside Mill, Oswaldtwistle. The liabilities are estimated at £8,000, and the assets £3,000. The first meeting of creditors is appointed to be held at the Mitra Hotel, Cathedral Yard, Manchester, on the 11th December.

From there Thomas and Mary Ann and five children moved to Lathkilldale where Thomas took over the management of a disused lead mine, Greensward Mine, which had been destroyed by fire and had been uninsured. Thomas had to take the previous owners to court for stealing machinery. *'The whole place was abandoned until the gentleman took it in hand and put new life into the old place'* [7]. In 1886, recently widowed mother-in-law Margaret Anne Clark Stuttard bought the mine with her inheritance.

The creditors of Thomas Hampson Brown, manufacturer, near Accrington, held a preliminary meeting to-day. The liabilities were about £12,000, and the assets £2100. An offer to purchase the debtor's estate for £200 was accepted.

acquired and amalgamated with the Greensward. The mines are now being worked as a consolidated concern by the Greensward Mining Company, with Mr. T. H. Brown as manager. The whole place was abandoned until this gentleman took it in hand and put new life into the old place. The amalgamated property extends to over seven miles. Great Greensward is the mother vein. Little

The Greensward Mining Company (Limited) is just registered. This is a company formed with a capital of £10,000 to acquire the Greensward lead and ochre mines in Derbyshire owned by Mrs. M. C. Stuttard.

At the time of the 1891 census Thomas described himself as the manager of a lead mine living in Eccles, Manchester. During the 1890s Thomas stood as a local councillor and then in local government elections in Bakewell. By the time of the 1901 census Thomas worked as an auctioneer in nearby Bakewell. In 1907 he was sued over contractual terms in Long Rake Mine in the Hope Valley in the Peak District. For all his ambitious schemes, when Thomas died in 1917

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he left an estate worth £35 14s and 6d to son Leonard, having lost all Margaret's money. Oh dear.

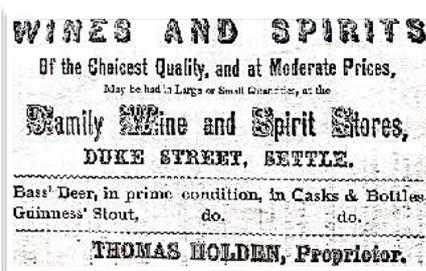
**BROWN** Thomas Hampson of Granby Croft Bakewell Derbyshire auctioneer died 31 January 1917 Administration Derby 27 August to Leonard Brown land surveyor. Effects £13 14s. 1d.

Thomas and Mary Holden's daughter **Betsy Holden** was the first wife of Wakefield surgeon **Robert Hollings** but died aged 38. **Alice Holden** was the first wife of **William Towler** from Hollin Hall in Rathmell and a successful innkeeper and corn merchant in Settle. She died, aged 32, upon the birth of their sixth child **Emily Alice Towler**, who also died at the same time. William married his children's governess soon after and had another five children.

Thomas and Mary's son **Henry Holden** ran a huge farm of some 500 acres near Kirkby Malham with his wife **Elizabeth Brown** and twin sons. Elizabeth was the niece of coroner **Thomas Brown** who held the inquests of all unexplained deaths in the area, including those of the 20 navvies who died during the building of the Settle and Carlisle railway. Henry and Elizabeth are buried at Kirkby Malham with Elizabeth's family.



In 1863 son **Thomas Holden** married **Alice Barker**, the daughter of a landed proprietor at Eldroth House. In 1871 son **George Holden** married **Mary Ayrton**, the daughter of **Henry Ayrton**, innkeeper of the Royal Oak and they had six children. Perhaps inspired by Mary's father, Thomas and George went into partnership running a wine and spirit store in Duke Street by 1872 [LSA].



For some reason George decided this wasn't for him and by 1875 Thomas was running the shop single handed [LSA]. George and Mary spent the rest of their lives with George working as a cattle dealer in Ingleton but was buried with a fine gravestone at Rathmell.

After his parents died Thomas and Alice took over the farm at Butterfield House. While he was there **Richard Lord** of Settle was found guilty of stealing hay from Thomas' barn having appeared in court a few weeks previously for a similar offence [1]. Richard Lord was a labourer who lived in Upper Settle trying to make ends meet to feed his wife and ten children. Richard was imprisoned for six weeks with hard labour. We can only imagine what happened to his family in the meantime.

**THEFT OF HAY AT RATHMELL.**—Richard Lord, hawker, Settle, was charged on remand before the magistrates on Tuesday last, with having on the 11th inst., stolen from a barn of Mr. Thomas Holden, at Rathmell, a quantity of hay, valued at about 1s. Prisoner a few weeks ago appeared before the same Bench on an almost similar charge but he was on that occasion acquitted.—Thomas Tomlinson, farm bailiff to Mr.



Alice died in 1889 and then Thomas followed his son **John Thomas Barker Holden** to Palmerstone, New Zealand where he died aged 61.

## Settle Graveyard Project



*This account has been compiled as part of the Settle Graveyard Project which has recorded gravestone inscriptions, updated church records and researched the lives of those buried. It has been written in good faith with no offence intended. If I have inadvertently included errors or breached any copyright I apologise and would welcome corrections.*

*Life stories can be found on [dalescommunityarchives.org.uk/settle graveyard project](http://dalescommunityarchives.org.uk/settle-graveyard-project). The 'Old Settle' family tree on [ancestry.co.uk](http://ancestry.co.uk) includes the families buried in the graveyard. The project is ongoing and welcomes queries and information on [settleresearch@gmail.com](mailto:settleresearch@gmail.com). Latest news and events are on the Facebook page 'Settle Graveyard Project'.*

*Illustrated by Teresa Gordon. The life stories of people with italicised names have been researched as part of the graveyard project*

*Newspaper cuttings with the kind permission of the British Newspaper Archives: 1 – Lancaster Gazette, 2 – Leeds Times, 3 – The Era, 4 – The Preston Herald, 5 – The Burnley Gazette, 6 – Glasgow Herald, 7 – Derbyshire Times, 8 – Yorkshire Post*

*ph1 – photo credited to brewery [history.com](http://history.com), ph2 – credited to [www.flickrriver.com](http://www.flickrriver.com), ph3 – with the kind permission of John Reid, ph3 – photo credited to relations via [ancestry.co.uk](http://ancestry.co.uk), username jimandro2007*

*LSA - Lambert's Settle Almanac with the kind permission of the North Craven Buildings Preservation Trust*