

There are 31 Metcalfe burials in the graveyard and it's possible many were distantly related. By some coincidence, few of these families had descendants so we remember them here in place of descendants.

John Metcalfe, Folly farmer

John Metcalfe, born in 1833, was the second son of another John Metcalfe, who ran a large farm at Gober (Gauber), just below Ribblehead Viaduct. In 1843 the family had a valuable brown mare stolen [2]. The thief also stole a bridle from **Stephen Parker** at Lodge farm. The Metcalfes would have been totally dependent on horses for all types of personal and farming transport until the Settle to Carlisle railway was built in the 1870s, straight through their land. The Metcalfes were tenant farmers and their landowners will have invested in the railway, enabling Ribblehead Station to be built in the middle of nowhere. Overnight, the railway transformed the transport of produce and livestock to and from the markets.

John married **Ellen Tennant** from 'Ashes', the farm next door, in 1860. Soon afterwards John and Ellen moved to live at The Folly in Settle to farm the associated land – it was one of the largest farms in the area at that time, some 400 acres. During the 1860s John had to deal with the threat of the Cattle Plague which spread across the country. John had a servant, **John Lund**, to help with the running of the farm. John later married **Mary Jane Haining** and they emigrated to Ohio in the States.

John stayed at the Folly for nearly 20 years, after which he still farmed 200 acres, but lived in High Street. There's no obvious reason why he moved out, although he was 50 and perhaps the work was taking its toll? John died in 1891, aged 61, and was buried at Horton-in-Ribblesdale with his parents. Ellen died in 1900, aged 62, still living in the High Street.

John and Ellen had four daughters. The middle two, **Agnes** (*standing*) and **Mary Ann** had their photo taken at the Horner Studios in 1870 [ph2]. Their youngest daughter, **Barbara Jane**, seemed a bit of an afterthought, being born eleven years after the previous daughter. The experience may have put off the elder daughters as none

MORE HORSE STEALING.—We made mention a few weeks ago of a horse being stolen from Mewith Head Hall, near Bentham, which, up to the present time, has not been heard of. One night in the early part of last week, some daring thief entered the stable of Mr. John Metcalf, of Gouber, Ingleton Fells, and stole therefrom a valuable brown mare. The thief, after proceeding a few miles on the road, and not riding so easily as he could wish, entered another stable at Lodge Hall, and stole from it a saddle and bridle, the property of Mr. Parker. We are sorry to say that nothing has yet been heard of the stolen property.



Mrs Metcalfe's little girls, photograph by the Horner Studio. Horner Collection©NCBPT (CC-BY 4.0)

had any children. After John died, daughters Ellen, Mary Ann and Barbara moved to Croydon for some reason. Barbara became the headteacher of a school and Mary Ann and Ellen worked as confectioners. They all died down south, but were all brought back to Settle for burial with their mum.

In Loving Memory of John Metcalf of Settle born October 13th 1829 died May 26th 1891 Interred at Horton in Ribblesdale Also Ellen widow of the above born February 13th 1838 died February 14th 1900. Also of Mary Ann their daughter born July 8th 1867 died February 20th 1910. Ellen their eldest daughter born August 5th 1860 died March 10th 1936. Barbara Jane their daughter born March 18th 1878 died Oct 21st 1939. Old D51



Daughter Agnes looked after her mother until she died. It was a common expectation of the age that a dutiful daughter would put her mother's care before her own needs and desires. Just a few months after her mother's death, when she was 37, Agnes married **Samuel Hodgson** from the amazing cabinet making family. They are buried in *Old G51* nearby with Samuels' aunt Sarah (Hodgson) Mason.



In loving memory of Sarah Mason died June 3rd 1912 aged 71 years. Also of Agnes beloved wife of Samuel Hodgson born April 27th 1862 died January 15th 1922. Also the above Samuel Hodgson born Jan 31st 1860 died May 25th 1943, Old G51

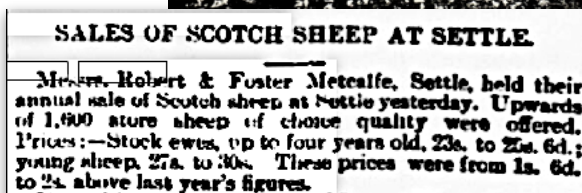


Christopher Metcalfe, PenYgent farmer

Christopher Metcalfe and his wife Nanny Burton were from Halton Gill and farmed at Neal's Ing on the foothills of PenYgent. [ph3] They had at least four sons and a daughter. When Christopher died in 1866 sons **Robert** and **Foster Metcalfe** took over. Robert and Foster were a good team. Even after they had gone their separate ways they worked together with an 'annual sale of Scotch sheep in Settle'. In 1904 they had 1600 sheep for sale! [3]



By the time of the 1881 census Robert had moved to The Terrace area of Settle with his sister Sarah, still farming 300 acres. They employed a servant, 29 year old Jane Ann Ellison, who had moved to Settle from Dent. Jane Ann's sister Eliza Ellison had married Robert's brother Foster Metcalfe several years before. In 1882 Robert, aged 52, and Jane Ann married and had six children. They lived on Kirkgate and then at 7 PenYgent View, appropriately enough. Sons Christopher and Jonathan died in infancy and were buried in Old A75, later joined by Robert, Jane Ann and sister Mary.



In Loving Memory of Christopher Metcalfe born November 10th 1886 died November 25th 1886. Jonathan Metcalfe born November 13th 1893 died May 6th 1894. Robert Metcalfe Died April 27th 1911 aged 81 years. Also Jane Ann wife of the above died May 24th 1939 Aged 86 years. Mary Metcalfe Died April 20th 1959 aged 74 years, A75.



Son Jonathan is commemorated on this stone but was buried in the grave directly behind with his siblings. They remained single and continued to live together at 7 PenYgent View. Mary was the last of the children to die in 1959, aged 74, and filled up the grave A75.

In Loving Memory of Robert Metcalfe died July 21st 1938 aged 50 years. Also Nanny Metcalfe died March 31st 1939 aged 56 years also Jennie Metcalfe Born Nov. 5th 1889 died Oct. 12th 1950, B75

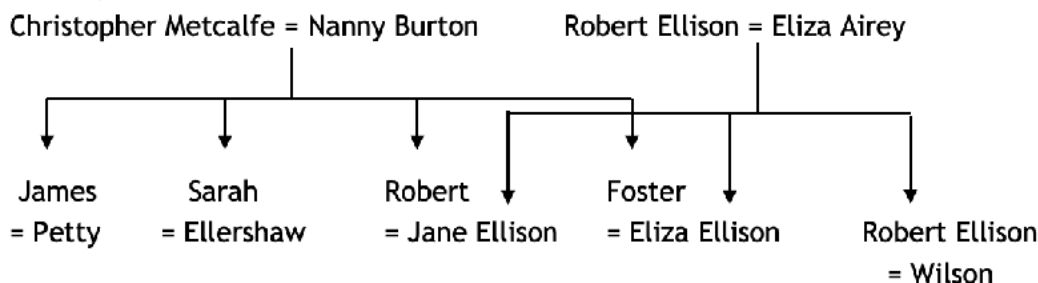


Meanwhile, Foster [ph3], with his wife Eliza Ellison [ph3] continued farming for a while at Neal's Ing and had five children. During the 1880s the family moved to Austwick farming land adjacent to Thomas Clapham at Austwick Hall. Occasionally Foster gave his address as 'Austwick Hall'. In 1894 Foster gave the use of his fields for a school treat. The article gives a wonderful image of happy village life [1]. 'The children assembled at the School-house at about 2 o'clock and marched through the village, making stoppages at different points, where hymns were sung. A capital tea was served to the young people.' At the end of the day, 'the children were presented with a quarter of a pound of sweets each.' Good luck getting them to sleep! Foster won numerous awards at the North Ribblesdale Horticultural and Agricultural Shows for his produce and earned the honour of becoming a judge. After his wife Eliza had died, Foster lived with his daughter Nannie and her husband John Jackson at Studfold, Horton in Ribblesdale. Foster's son James Metcalfe married *Annie Handby*, daughter of *Edmund Handby*. They are buried in the New graveyard J48



AUSTWICK.
SCHOOL TREAT.—On Friday last, the 29th of June, the annual treat to the scholars attending the Austwick Day and Sunday Schools was held in a field, kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. Foster Metcalfe. The children assembled at the School-house at about 2 o'clock, and marched through the village, making stoppages at different points, where hymns were sung. A capital tea was served to the young people, after which the adults sat down. Prizes of money were given at the races by T. R. Clapham, Esq., of Austwick Hall, who also superintended the sports. At the close of the evening the children assembled in the Schoolroom, where cheers were given for the Vicar, Mr. Clapham, and Mr. Fisher, and Miss Windle, after which the children were presented with a quarter of a pound of sweets each, the gift of Mr. Thompson, and a bun.—On Wednesday afternoon, the 4th instant, Mrs. Thompson attended at the school, and presented each of the children with 1s. each

Christopher Metcalfe's family



Eliza and Jane Ann Ellison's brother **Robert Ellison** took over the farm at Neal's Ing when Foster Metcalfe moved to Austwick. Robert had previously been the farmer of the Folly in Settle with his sister **Sarah Metcalfe**, taking over from **John Metcalfe** (above). In 1881 Robert fell foul of a new law insisting that purveyors of milk had to be registered [2]. He also lost sheep and cattle in the 1883 foot and mouth outbreak [3] with another at Foster Metcalfe's farm at Neals Ing. Around the same time Robert married **Lucy Wilson**, a farmer's daughter from Long Preston and they had five daughters.

Robert Ellison, farmer, the Folly, Settle, and David Malinson, farmer, Close House, Settle, were ordered to pay costs 7s. 6d. and 8s. 6d. respectively, for not being registered as purveyors of milk. No fine was imposed, as these were the first cases under the Act, and the defendants pleaded ignorance.

WEST STAINCLIFFE. — After nearly twelve months immunity from foot-and-mouth disease in the division of West Staincliffe, the malady has again made its appearance. On the farm of Mr Foster Metcalfe at Neals Ing, Stainforth, seven cows out of a herd of 44 have become affected; and two outbreaks are reported at Settle—one on the farm of Mr Robert Ellison, and the other at Greenhead, on the premises of Mrs Whistam.

When she was 41, Christopher and Nannie's daughter Sarah Metcalfe (who had helped Robert at The Terrace) became the second wife of John Whittingdale Ellershaw, the land agent for Walter Morrison MP, managing the estate business on Malham Moor. John already had six

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children with his first wife, **Sarah Hodgson**, who had died the year before they married. 43 year old Sarah (Metcalfe) had a daughter, another Sarah, to add to the family. Husband John died suddenly in 1893, aged 56 suddenly falling over from sitting on a seat!^[1] Sarah and daughter Sarah moved back to Settle and lived next door to **Titus Nelson's** shoe shop on Duke Street. Daughter Sarah worked with the Post Office until she married **Richard Henry Webb**, an engineer and export manager. Up at Malham Tarn, **John Winskill** took over land stewarding duties.

On Tuesday afternoon last Mr. J. W. **Ellershaw** steward for Mr. Walter Morrison, of **Malham Tarn**, was sitting on a seat in front of his house, when he suddenly fell over and died almost immediately.

Robert and Sarah's brother **James Metcalfe** ^[ph1] worked as a farmer of some 1500 acres on Malham Moor, at Darnbrook and had six children with his first wife, **Jane Petty**. In 1975 the *Craven Herald* revealed that, back in 1862 James and a few other men, including Walter Morrison MP explored a pothole accessed from Darnbrook farm, now known as Robinson's Pot ^[ph3]. The men even engraved their names on the walls. After this discovery the major passages in the system were named after all the men with engravings on the wall.

**Remarkable potholing
discovery beneath Darnbrook
Farmhouse**

J Metcalfe 1862

W MORRISON
1867



James was in Settle living with sister Sarah on Duke Street when he died in 1913, aged 87. James and Jane's son, another **James Metcalfe**, was educated at Giggleswick School and used his education to run Darnbrook farm on Malham Moor and Hollin Hall farm at Rathmell for a few years before taking over the off-license in the corner of Settle Square, near the current Post Office ^[LSA, ph4].

James Metcalfe
Wine and Spirit Merchant,
- Ale and Porter Bottler, -
Duke Street, SETTLE,
HAS ALWAYS ON HAND A LARGE AND CARE-
FULLY SELECTED STOCK OF THE CHOICEST
WINES, SPIRITS, LIQUEURS, CORDIALS, ETC.
Age, Quality and Purity Guaranteed.



...JR...

Christopher Metcalfe, railway platelayer

This Christopher Metcalfe was the illegitimate son of **Mary Metcalfe**, born in Giggleswick in October 1822. By the time of the 1841 census Christopher was working as a game dealer living with ostler **Samuel Hodgson** on Kirkgate. By the time of the 1851 census Christopher was an ostler too, working for **William Cork** at the Naked Man Inn. In 1853, aged 30, he married **Margaret Foster** from Ingleton who had been in domestic service at Austwick and they had four children. They lived on Kirkgate and Christopher found work on the railways. Son Robert died

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M. & E. Metcalfe, 
Confectioners,
High Street, SETTLE.
— Agents for Morniman's Teas. —

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in infancy and is buried in the Ancient graveyard. Their three daughters remained single and lived together on High Street. **Margaret** and **Ellen** had a business as bakers and confectioners [LSA]. Mary kept house and is buried with her parents. Margaret and Ellen were buried together close by.



In Loving Memory of Christopher Metcalfe born October 8th 1822 died February 15th 1898 also Margaret wife of the above born March 9th 1833 died March 30th 1902 also Robert son of the above born February 7th 1872 died May 7th 1872 also Mary eldest daughter of the above born October 14th 1858 died March 2nd 1921. At rest. Old D17

In loving memory of Margaret Metcalfe died Oct 13th 1948 aged 83 years, Also Ellen her sister died Dec 29th 1948 aged 75 years, G50



Margaret and Ellen share a grave with unrelated bachelor Richard Dawson who had died 36 years before died in 1912, aged 58.

Metcalfe siblings



William, Barbara and Alice Metcalfe were three of the nine children of **James Metcalfe**, a labourer and **Betty Lambert** from Hawes. Betty came to Langcliffe with some of their children after James died in 1845 aged 73. **William, Barbara and Alice** remained single and stayed with their mother until she died in 1877, aged 93! William worked as a butcher. After Barbara's death in Langcliffe, William and Alice came to Settle and lived in the King William IV yard. Their sister **Margaret** married **Matthew Procter** and their son was Settle's tailor **James Procter**.



In Loving Memory of William Metcalfe died Sep 3rd 1893, aged 75 years. Also the following sisters of the above. Alice, died Oct 9th 1906 aged 82 years. Barbara, died April 17th 1882 aged 74 years. Interred at Langcliffe. Elizabeth, their mother died January 26th 1877 aged 93 years. Interred at Langcliffe, Old C74



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 includes the families buried in the graveyard. The project is ongoing and welcomes queries and information on settleresearch@gmail.com. Latest news and events are on the Facebook page 'Settle Graveyard Project'.

Newspaper cuttings with the kind permission of the British Newspaper Archives: 1 – Lancaster Guardian, 2 – Lancaster Gazette, 3 –Yorkshire Post

ph1 – photo credited to the descendants of James Metcalfe on Ancestry.co.uk, ph2 – Image 2022.1.68.126 from the Horner Photographic Studio Collection provided courtesy of the Museum of North Craven Life



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ph3 – with thanks to family descendant Peter Metcalfe, ph4 – with thanks to John Reid

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