

Bollands, Browns and Maudsley, farming folk

Joshua Maudsley was born in 1800 in Rathmell, the only child of **John Maudsley** and his wife **Catherine Butler** who died at Joshua's birth. Catherine was a daughter and sister of two of the many **Phineas Butlers** in the area. In 1829 Joshua married **Ellen Fell** and they had a huge family of nine daughters and three sons. They spent their whole lives farming over 100 acres at Little Bank Farm, now providing country house accommodation [ph1].



Typically, as a farmer, they worked hard and rarely featured in newspapers. Most of the children

remained in farming. One disaster happened in 1862. Seventh daughter **Alice**, aged 11, and youngest daughter, **Isabella**, aged five were walking home from school across fields. They tried to walk across a flooded bridge across a swollen brook but fell in. Tragically Alice, 'a fine, intelligent little girl' died and little Isabella ran home to summon help [1,2].

A MELANCHOLY CASE OF DROWNING.—Two children, one eleven and the other about five years of age, daughters of Mr. **Joshua Maudsley**, farmer, Little Bank, near Settle, were going home from school one day last week, and they had to cross a brook, which at the time was greatly swollen by rain, and a slab of stone stretched across the stream was covered with water. In attempting to get across both the poor girls fell in, and the eldest one was drowned. The youngest seized hold of a root or something growing on the bank and got out.

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.—On the afternoon of the 6th inst., a fine, intelligent little girl, the daughter of Mr. **Joshua Maudsley**, farmer, Little Bank, near Settle, aged about eleven years, was drowned. She was returning from school with her sister, four or five years younger; and to reach home they had to proceed along a public footpath, across some fields, through which a small rivulet runs. The stream at the time was

Traumatised Isabella survived to have a family with husband **Thomas Skirrow Haythornthwaite**. Alice was buried in Giggleswick graveyard with her sister Ann who died aged 27. Joshua and Ellen were also buried at Giggleswick. Both graves have fine, well preserved stones reflecting the Maudsley's wealth.



In memory of Alice Maudsley of Little Bank who died March 6th 1862 aged 10 years. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord. Also Ann Maudsley died at Outhwaite, Roburndale, June 6th 1881 aged 27 years. B7/37

In loving memory of Joshua Maudsley late of Little Bank who died at Long Preston May 9th 1879 aged 79 years. Also of Ellen Maudsley his wife who died at Long Preston Feb'y 21st 1878 aged 67 years. "The memory of the just is blessed." Proverbs 10th chap. 7th verse, B8/14



Joshua and Ellen's son **John Maudsley** was a draper and ironmonger, an interesting combination, employing 9 other men. He worked from the Bank Buildings on High Street. He had five sons and two daughters with his wife **Ellen Harrison**. They are buried in *Old DX56* with their spinster daughter **Dora Mary Maudsley** who died just five years after her 76 year old father.

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Joshua and Ellen's daughters **Catherine** and **Margaret** both began their working lives in domestic service for spinsters **Sarah Tatham** and **Sarah Ecroyd** living at Castle Hill House at the foot of Castle Hill. They were both related to **John Tatham** and **Bridget Coor** who were successful Quakers, property owners and responsible for the Tathams department store on Cheapside [ph2]. Margaret married John Brown, the son of Christopher Brown who ran the New Inn at Clapham for a short while. John worked as a corn dealer while Margaret had three children, living in Chapel Street. John and Margaret are buried in Old D55.



In Loving Memory of John Brown who died April 29th 1899 in his 64th year. Also Edward his son who died Decr 1st 1879, aged 4 years. Also Margaret his wife died July 22nd 1917, aged 80 years



Their gravestone commemorates the short life of son **Edward Brown** although he was buried in Giggleswick graveyard for some reason - perhaps to be near Margaret's family? Son **Christopher Brown**, who continued his father's business for a while, and daughter, **Elizabeth Brown**, moved away.

Two of Joshua and Ellen's children married into the same family. Son **James Maudsley**, a Long Preston farmer, married **Margaret Lawson** and they had ten children, many of whom became schoolteachers. Margaret was the daughter of **Thomas Lawson** and **Ellen Bolland**. Margaret's cousin was **James Bolland**, a farmer from Tosside and the son of **George Bolland** and **Alice Lawson**. Two Bolland siblings had married Lawson siblings. James married Joshua and Ellen's daughter **Mary Maudsley**. They lived in Malhamdale and had six children before Mary died, aged 43, giving birth to twins **John Thomas** and **Hilda Mary Bolland** who both survived. James remarried.

The grandparents of Margaret Lawson and James Bolland were **Thomas Bolland** and **Ann Kendall** who farmed at Close House Farm near Giggleswick, renting from the resident Procter family - see **John Jackson**. They have a fine gravestone at the Zion Chapel at Tosside. Thomas and Ann had a son, **John Bolland**, who also found his way into Settle graveyard.



jun., Esqrs. *Warning to Poachers.*—Wm. Irving and James Monk, both of Giggleswick, were charged with trespassing in pursuit of conies, on the property of W. Hartley, Esq., at Giggleswick, on June the 1st and also on the following day. The offence was clearly proved by Mr. Hartley's man-servant, W. Hardacre. The defendants did not appear. Irving having been previously convicted of poaching was fined 40s. and costs in each case; and Monk 20s. and costs. The same defendants were also charged with trespassing in pursuit of game on the land of Mr. John Bolland, of Close House. The offence was clearly proved in this case also, and Irving was again fined 40s. and costs, and Monk 20s. and costs.

SETTLE.
ZION CHAPEL.—The annual Sunday School tea-party in connection with this place of worship came off on Saturday last, when upwards of ninety partook of an excellent repast in the Mechanics' Hall. After the good things had been amply discussed an adjournment was made to Close House, where games and other amusements were enjoyed in a field kindly lent for the occasion by Mr. John Bolland. The rather unfavourable state of the weather in the morning militated somewhat against the success of this periodical treat, but the fine evening was made the most of.

John Bolland took over from his parents at Close farm. In 1855 he married **Elizabeth Clark**, the daughter of **Adam Clark** who ran the farm at Wham, just the other side of Giggleswick Station and may have been a relation. In 1877 John had to take **William Irving** and **James Monk** to court for poaching conies (rabbits). As repeat offenders they were fined 40 shillings and 20 shillings

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respectively — these were enormous fines at the time [1]. Following his father's sympathies, in 1880 John provided a field for the use of Settle's Zion Chapel Sunday School's annual tea party [3].

John and Elizabeth didn't have children but brought up a nephew, **John Bolland**, son of George and Alice (Lawson) Bolland. Nephew John was their fourth child born just before George died, aged 32. Through his upbringing with John and Elizabeth, lucky nephew John became the only member of the family to attend Giggleswick School, and from there he had a career with the Inland Revenue, working primarily in Port Ellen in the Isle of Islay, Scotland. His wife Martha Rudd had ten children. John retired in 1914 six years after the death of his wife, and *'all grades of the local community and outside acquaintances vied with one another in a common endeavour to do him honour'* after 41 years service [ph3]. He was particularly appreciated for his community work and the work of the school and the United Free Church. Through several retirement events John was presented with a gold watch, a case of tobacco pipes, a Bible (from the Sunday School), a leather suitcase and a purse of sovereigns, as well as gifts for his family. John had been the treasurer of the golf club who held a cake and wine banquet for him, one golfing friend describing John as *'the most unselfish man I know'*. He was exceptionally well respected. The *Craven Herald* reported *'it will no doubt give readers of the above pleasure to see how a Yorkshireman has been enabled to gain the esteem of the Highlanders.'*!! John retired to live in Cambuslang near Glasgow. John's impressive gravestone in East Kilbride is a reflection of his success.

In loving memory of John Bolland of HM Customs and Excise and late of Port Ellen Isle of Islay who died at Cambuslang 17th December 1931, aged 78 years.

The stone also commemorates the lives of two of his children.

Meanwhile, back in Settle, during the 1880s, with John in his sixties, John and Elizabeth retired to live at Sutcliffe House in Settle. John died in 1895, aged 68. Elizabeth then lived in Kirkgate until her death in 1916, aged an impressive 86. They are buried in *OldC44* with Elizabeth's sister Margaret Clark who spent her life in domestic service. The stonemason was **John Hardy**.

In loving memory of John Bolland (late) of Close House died Jany 31st 1895 aged 68 years. Also of Elizabeth wife of the above died March 27th 1916 aged 86 years. Also of Margaret Clark (late) of Clapham who died April 29th 1910 aged 72 years. He giveth his beloved sleep. Old C44

John's sister **Elizabeth Bolland** married **Emmanuel Johnson** who farmed at Paley Green. They had at least nine children. In 1880, just after birth of the ninth child, their house was burgled twice by **James Newsholme**, a desperate man. James *'had undergone various terms of imprisonment'* and had been on a *'ticket-of-leave'* after a stretch of ten years penal servitude (prison with hard labour). In an incredible example of Victorian justice, he was sentenced for another ten years and seven years police supervision [4]. Obviously, James was unable to live outside the prison



a leather suit case and a purse of sovereigns. Mr. Bolland and family's departure was witnessed at the pier by a large company of immediate friends who, as the steamer moved away, joined lustily in the refrain "Will ye no' come back again." It will no doubt give the readers of the above pleasure to see how a Yorkshireman has been enabled to gain the esteem of the Highlanders.



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institution and the concept of rehabilitation had not even been thought of.

Emmanuel and Elizabeth are buried with their daughter Ann (Bradley) at Giggleswick Church in plot B8/88. The stone has now fallen over. Ann died after the birth of her fourth child **Denbigh Bradley**.

HEAVY SENTENCE ON A TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN.
JAMES NEWSHOLME (45), labourer, who pleaded guilty to two burglaries in the house of Emmanuel Johnson, at Giggleswick, was brought up for sentence.—The learned Commissioner said Newsholme had undergone various terms of imprisonment, and a sentence of ten years' penal servitude for burglaries had only just expired, though he had been out on ticket-of-leave. He must go for another term of ten years' penal servitude, and seven years' police supervision.

In affectionate remembrance of Elizabeth the beloved wife of Emmanuel Johnson of Paley Green, Giggleswick, who died 21st January 1900 aged 64 years. Also of the above Emmanuel Johnson who died Feb. 28th 1915 aged 82 years. Also of Ann their daughter, the beloved wife of John Bradley of 12 Lodge Street, Haslingden, who died 10th October 1896 in her 34th year.



Their daughter **Cecily Johnson** became the second wife of the very successful **Henry Lord**. Henry was the illegitimate son of **Elizabeth Lord**, born before she married the errant **William Haining** — a wonderful rags to riches tale.



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. 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'.

Thanks to descendant Steven Muir for his help with this account, providing photos and newspaper cuttings. 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 — Leeds Intelligencer, 2 — Ulverston Mirror, 3 — Lancaster Gazette, 4 — Sheffield Daily Telegraph

ph1 — photo credited to wayoftheroses.co.uk, ph2 — credited to the Back in Settle Facebook site, ph3 — press cutting from the Oban Times and Craven Herald provided by descendant Steven Muir.