

# Thomas Lyne, mason's mortar man

Thomas Lyne, born in 1842, was the son of a Cornish carpenter. Thomas spent most of his working life in Cornwall as a mason's mortar man, a tough working class job.

Aged 20, he married **Jane Ann Gilbard** who had four daughters before she died, aged 31. Two years later he married widow **Mary Jane Harris**, nee Congden (whose father had the wonderful name **Faithful Congden**). She already had two sons with her first husband **William Harris** and had a further daughter and two sons with Thomas.

In 1882 the whole family moved to Settle. The Cornish mining industry had been declining for decades and so workers in associated trades struggled to find work. Many had already come up to the Settle area to work in the mills or work on the railway.



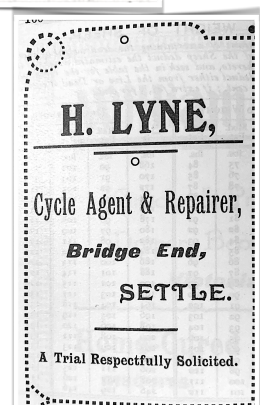
Thomas died, aged 49, in January 1891 and Mary Jane continued to bring up the remaining family with a bit of help from nieces and older children, living at Bridge End. The Settle Wesleyan Circuit Magazine remembered her death but said, *'although a most consistent and regular attendant at the services never became vitally connected with the Church'*, whatever that means [ph1].

On Saturday night, February 8th, Mrs. Lyne, of Bridge-end, passed away peacefully to her rest. Mrs. Lyne came to reside at Bridge-end with her husband and family 37 years ago and shortly afterwards lost her husband and has had charge of a large family who, we feel sure, will cherish loving memories of her care and the fine example she set in her domestic life. Several of her family have been connected with the Church,

but Mrs. Lyne although a most consistent and regular attendant at the services never became vitally connected with the Church. The funeral took place on Wednesday, the 12th, when a very appropriate service was held in the Church, conducted by the Rev. G. Yates. Several members of the Choir were present and greatly assisted in the singing of the appropriate hymns which had been selected, and the numbers present testified to the sympathy felt for the bereaved and also to the respect in which the deceased was held.

This grave contains Thomas, Mary Jane, Thomas' daughter **Mary Ann** and Mary Jane's son **William Harris**. Thomas's spinster daughters **Sarah Ann** and **Ellen** are in the unmarked grave **New IX17**. His daughter **Susan** and her husband **Frederick George Williams** are in the unmarked grave **New GX36**.

Son Harry worked as a cycle agent and repairer before moving to Keighley [LSA].



*This account has been compiled by Sarah Lister 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.*

*The life stories of people with italicised names have been researched as part of the graveyard project and can be found on [dalescommunityarchives.org.uk/settle](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'.*

*ph1 – kindly provided by Roger Taylor*

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