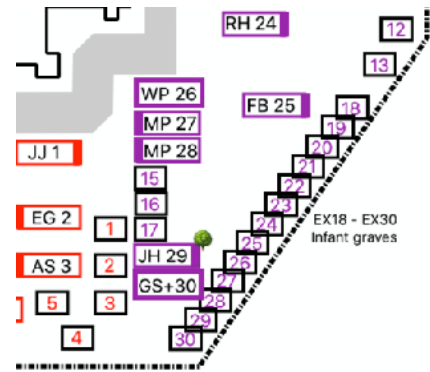


The infants' corner

The southeast corner of the graveyard was set aside for infant burials. It was not unusual for graveyards to have an area for infants, and this was a good position as the diagonal corner couldn't house full sized coffins! Why was it needed? It provided a burial place for infants if families hadn't already acquired a family plot of their own, or couldn't afford one.



Infant mortality was incredibly high throughout the 19th century – one in five infants didn't reach the age of five. During the first 15 years of this graveyard opening, 42% of burials were for infants aged five or under. Infant mortality in the cities was 30% higher than in the countryside.

The infants' corner provides the final resting place for 20+ infants who died between 1839 and 1845, the first six years after the graveyard was opened. They were buried in chronological order, generally, starting at the road end. None of these infants had a memorial stone. Other infants were buried during this period, but with members of their family elsewhere in the graveyard.

- 7 of the infants were less than a week old
- 3 were illegitimate infants
- 9 were children of working class families, most working in the cotton mills
- 8 were the children of tradesmen
- 14 were boys, 6 were girls

A couple of infant burials nearby were from wealthier families and had memorial stones erected at a later date.

Here are the first infants buried in the infants' corner:

Name	Age at burial	Burial date	Plot
James Clemmy	less than 7 days	2 March 1839	EX30
Richard Spencer	less than 7 days	11 December 1839	EX29
William Knowles	less than 7 days	26 December 1839	EX28
John Hall	8 months	4 March 1840	DX3
Ellen Gill	less than 7 days	12 July 1840	EX27
Dixon Haining	1 year 10 months	4 August 1840	DX4
Roger Higham	2 years	2 September 1840	EX26
Elisabeth Bilton	1 year 7 months	5 November 1840	EX25
Priscilla Walker	1 year 9 months	3 January 1841	EX24
John Coates Ralph	1 year 1 month	25 April 1841	EX22
James Towler	less than 7 days	6 May 1841	EX21
James Marsden	3 months	21 August 1841	EX23
Thomas Watson	2 years 5 months	30 September 1841	DX5
William Preston	5 weeks	16 May 1842	EX20
Alice Houghton	3 weeks	14 July 1843	EX19
Thomas Chippendale	less than 7 days	13 September 1843	EX18
Robert Knowles	1 year	7 April 1844	DX2
Elizabeth Walker	2 years 5 months	24 August 1844	DX1
Mary Hall	3 months	19 July 1845	DX3
Richard Riley	less than 7 days	24 April 1847	EX16

Here are a selection of the life stories of these infants . .

Infants' corner - illegitimate infants

Illegitimate – what a horrible word to describe those born outside marriage. In a severe case of Victorian hypocrisy many well-to-do men had a habit of associating with mistresses. With no reliable contraception available unwanted babies were inevitable. Famously, even Kings had mistresses and illegitimate children, often named ‘Fitzroy’ – son of the King. **King Henry I** (reigned 1100-1135) had at least 25 of them. **King Charles II** (reigned 1660-1685) had several mistresses, the most famous being **Nell Gwyn** and at least 13 illegitimate children, but no legitimate ones with his wife, **Queen Catherine**. Charles was known to look after them and their mothers quite generously. Even **William the Conqueror** is sometimes referred to as ‘*the Bastard King*’.

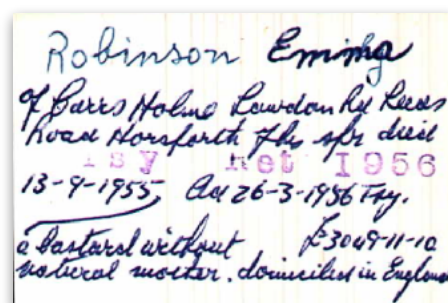


However, in general society, it wasn't much fun being the unmarried mum or her child. Through history they have been regarded as scandalous and on the bottom step of the society ladder. There was no organised welfare system, nor ‘*maternity allowance*’ and so unmarried mums had to work to earn money. Some lucky illegitimate children were brought up by their grandparents while their mums worked. 7 year old **Elizabeth Preston** was described as ‘*granddaughter, illegitimate*’ in the

1851 census return. Some others were accepted into a new family by understanding husbands when mums later married, although often described as a ‘*niece/nephew*’ on census returns to avoid the scandal!

Emma Robinson died, relatively recently, in 1955, aged 79. Such was the bias of laws against illegitimate children that the notes

attached to her probate documents described her as 'a bastard without natural mother'. The documentation was used to ensure her estate went straight to the state, rather than her cousins!



On the up side, illegitimate children provided proof of the mum's fertility which was regarded as 'God's purpose' and an desirable attribute of wives-to-be in order to continue the family line. In some areas of England pregnancy was regarded as an essential prerequisite to marriage! Some women used pregnancy to persuade boyfriends to 'do the right thing' although this didn't always end well. With no affordable divorce procedures there was little option but to remain unhappily married and a notable number of new dads absconded to the United States!

Over time, governments have tried to reduce this scourge on society by punishing unmarried pregnant women, or by fining men who were 'proven' to be the fathers of these children by issuing 'bastardy orders'. There was no DNA testing so the proof of paternity relied on witness statements. These days more than 50% children are born outside marriage.



The recorded death rate of illegitimate infants was twice that of those born within marriage, and unrecorded figures may be much higher. This could be because their mothers tended to be young, poor and inexperienced. Some illegitimate babies were unwanted and so were deliberately uncared for, or worse. Several TV drama productions include newly born illegitimate babies were just left outside to perish, either by mums who couldn't cope or by unscrupulous hospitals/religious institutions who then told the mother the baby had died. Another option was to have the baby adopted, formally or informally, scrupulously or otherwise, at varying cost. It's so rare these days, although still the focus of TV's Long Lost Family - born without trace.

James Clemmy, less than a week old

Poor little **James** has the dubious honour of being the second burial in the Holy Ascension graveyard after it opened in January 1839. His burial followed that of **Christopher Edmundson**, a wealthy solicitor. James was baptised on 28th February and was then buried on 2nd March right by the wall, EX30, the first in the area for infant burials.

James' mum was **Judith Clemmy** from Garsdale. Judith was born in 1819 and her father, **Arthur**, died when she was just five. Her widowed mother, **Mary**, had several illegitimate children after that but had also disappeared from records by the 1841 census. In this census, Judith, (who was actually aged 22) lived with four younger sisters, a brother and a 3 year old infant in Otley, working in a cotton mill – there weren't many options for orphaned children. It's likely that Judith and her siblings came to Settle to try and find work in the mills when she had little James.

Judith Clemmy	20	
Ann D.	20	Cotton Weaver
Elijah D.	15	✓ - 1
Isabella D.	15	& Weaver
Margaret Clemmy	14	Cotton Spinner
Robert D.	9	
Isabella Ward	3	

Fortunately Judith's luck turned around. In 1846 she married **Tim Metcalfe**, a farmer and they had two sons, **Arthur** (named after her father) and **William**. They lived near Harrogate. Despite the problems in her early years, Judith lived to the age of 63. How many times did she think about little James?

Working class infants

Most of the working class infants buried here were from families who worked in the mills. Being poorly paid, these families tended to live in cheaper housing which was cramped and unsanitary and so infant mortality was high. They couldn't afford any medical help.

In the early 19th century there were five cotton mills in Settle, employing hundreds of men, women and children. The Settle mills were behind the times in terms of mechanisation which meant that Settle mills avoided the Luddite Riots which rampaged the industrial north in the early 1800s. But it also meant that the mills became less productive than mechanised mills. By the 1850s, the Settle mills were so uncompetitive that they were no longer viable. Many Settle folk found work in the large cotton mills in Lancashire, many moving to '*Little Langcliffe*' in Accrington, and the overall population of the town fell by a quarter. When Hector Christie reopened the mills during the 1860s he needed workers so brought in many male and female workers from Cornwall and East Anglia. In Cornwall the tin mines were becoming unviable and in East Anglia machinery was replacing the need for agricultural labourers, so others needed work elsewhere.

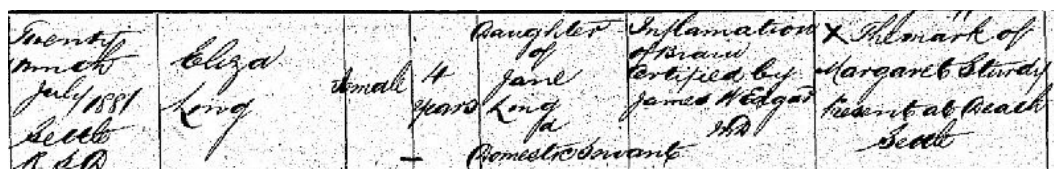
Teenaged **Jane Ling** was a typical candidate.

Jane Amelia Ling was born in 1853 in Kenninghall in Norfolk. Her parents **William** and **Jemima** worked as millers. Both Jane's parents had died by the time she was six, so at the time of the next census, aged eight, she was in a workhouse in Norfolk.

By the time of the 1871 census, Eliza was living and working at '*Shed cottages*' alongside Watershed Mill, along with nine other workers from Norfolk and three from Liverpool. In 1876, Jane fell pregnant with a daughter, **Eliza**. Whoever the father was, he didn't 'do the decent thing' and marry Jane. Without family nearby, Jane had no means of looking after Eliza while she worked as a domestic servant to a cotton manufacturer in Colne. So, at the time of the 1881 census, Eliza, aged 3, was 'boarding' with **Margaret Sturdy**. She was the widow of a gardener who lived in Poole's Row and will have received a small payment from Jane for her care.

Little Eliza died of ‘*inflammation of the brain*’ (encephalitis, most commonly a viral infection) in July 1881, aged 4, and is buried in the Ancient graveyard. Jane died of tuberculosis the following February aged just 28. Jane is buried in Giggleswick churchyard, unfortunately not with Eliza.

How lucky we are, and girls like Jane, to have a welfare system and the NHS today.



William Knowles, less than a week old

John Knowles, a tailor’s son, started working in the cotton mills in Langcliffe during the 1830s. On 22 August 1835 he married the first of three wives, **Dorothy Hudson**. Just six months later in February 1836 she died after giving birth to a son, **Joseph Knowles**, who survived. Dorothy died before Holy Ascension graveyard opened and so is buried in the churchyard at Giggleswick.

Three years later John married **Mary Caswell**. Her first son was **William Knowles** who was born and died in November 1839, less than a week old and is buried in the infants’ corner in EX28. Then Mary died in 1842 at the birth of her next son **Henry Knowles**, who survived, and was buried in EX17 close to her son William.

John’s third wife was **Margaret Scholey**. Her first two sons were both called John and both died in infancy in 1848 and in 1852. Concerningly there are no burial records for the first John who was only a few days old. The second John died, aged 3, is buried in EX12, close by. They had three other children who survived but John had three children and two wives to mourn.

When the mills went out of business John was one of the many who took their families to Lancashire to find work in the cotton mills there. Son Joseph (from his first marriage) was in his twenties when the rest of his family moved to Lancashire. He decided to stay in Settle and lived with his grandfather, **Jeffrey Knowles**, working as a greengrocer. He was an active member of the Settle Band. With the demand for servicemen, heightened by the Crimean War, Joseph volunteered to serve with the North Craven Rifle Corps. Unfortunately he had an accident with a horse which caused a severe injury to his spine and his eventual demise, months later, in March

Local

FUNERAL OF A RIFLEMAN.—On Sunday last, the members of the North Craven Rifle Corps followed to the grave the remains of their late comrade Private Joseph Knowles. The deceased had an accident some months ago with a kicking horse which he was driving. He was thrown against a projecting stone in a wall at the side of the road, and suffered from a severe injury of the spine. He has since gradually declined. The corpse was interred at Settle Church. On the way to the Church the band (of which deceased had been an active member) played "The Dead March." Although it was raining at the time, a large crowd of persons followed the funeral procession, and the Church was nearly filled during the reading of the Service. The volley firing over the grave was omitted.

1865, aged 29. *'Although it was raining at the time, a large crowd of persons followed the funeral procession and the church was nearly filled during the reading of the service. The volley firing over the grave was omitted'* (because he didn't die in active service).

James Towler, less than 7 days old

The Towlers were another fertile family. **Bartholomew Bentley Towler** and his wife **Ann Marsden** had at least seven children, with little **James** being the last. James was less than 7 days old when he died in May 1842 and was buried in the infants' corner, EX21. Their daughter **Betty Marsden** died in 1843, aged 20 and is buried nearby in EX15.

Bartholomew and his sons worked as agricultural labourers, living in Upper Settle where cheaper housing was available. On 5th January 1866, wife Ann, aged 68, was beaten up by **Joseph Young**

as she intervened between him and his poor wife **Elizabeth**. Joseph was pulling his wife into the street by her hair. *'Mrs Towler went to the rescue and struck the prisoner with a stocking she had in her hand, whereupon the prisoner turned upon her and kicked her.'* Dr John Simpson found some of the small bones of

labourer. Young had been drinking, and on his wife upbraiding him for his drunken habits, he commenced beating her and pulled her into the street by the hair of the head. Mrs. Towler went to the rescue and struck the prisoner with a stocking she had in her hand, whereupon the prisoner turned upon her and kicked her. She fell to the ground and was so seriously injured that medical assistance was called in, and on Dr. Simpson examining her injuries he found some of the small bones of the ankle to be broken. She had been under the treatment of Dr. Simpson for about a month. Several witnesses were

Ann's ankle broken and continued to treat her for the next month. When questioned, wife Elizabeth charitably said that he was *'generally a good husband except when under the influence of drink'* – some things never change.

The shock of this attack may have affected Bartholomew who died in the middle of February, just five weeks later, aged 70. Ann lived another 12 years before she died, aged 80. Bartholomew, Ann and their 25 year old son William are all buried somewhere in the Ancient graveyard, hopefully near daughter Betty and infant son James.

Joseph Goddard, 6 weeks old

During the construction of the Settle to Carlisle Railway line, 1869-1875, over 3,000 men came to this region for the well-paid but difficult and dangerous work it provided. Whilst life in the shanty towns at Ribbleshead captures the imagination and makes the headlines, there were workers who lived all the way along the line. Some workers and their families lived in 'navvy huts' along the route and many others lodged with local families. Conditions in the shanty towns were basic and unhygienic so disease spread

rapidly, especially in children. Settle graveyard was the final resting place for 23 navvies who died from disease or accidents. In addition there were deaths for 27 infant children and three wives of navy families. The Goddards are an example from our churchyard.

William Goddard was a miner from Derbyshire. In 1869 he married **Dora Marsden** whose father was a night porter at Chatsworth House. Miners make very good railway tunnellers and so William had no problem finding work on the construction of the Settle to Carlisle Railway. They were in Settle by 25 February 1870 when their son, **Joseph Goddard**, was born. Sadly, he was buried weeks later on 10 April in an unmarked grave.

William and Dora moved up to Ribbleshead living in the 'Jericho' navy huts. At the time of the 1871 census Dora would have been

Jericho	1	William Goddard	Head	Mar	28	Miner on A Railway
		Dora do	Wife	Mar	26	

seven months pregnant. Over the next three years William and Dora had three more children, **Elizabeth**, **Martha** and **William** but they all died and were buried at Chapel-le-Dale church. Daughter Martha lived the longest, for just ten months. Such was navy life. Can you imagine what this must have done to their mental health??

After the construction of the railway, William and Dora went their separate ways, lived with other 'spouses' and each had a child who survived, thank goodness.

Up at Ribbleshead, **Maria Dicken** had been widowed, but she stayed up there with their seven children making money from running a hut for boarding navvies. A year after her husband's death Maria gave birth to triplets – can you imagine that in a

navvy hut? Sadly, they all died and were buried at the churchyard in Chapel-le-Dale. She later remarried but then absconded to America with a different man 25 years her junior.

Tradesmens and professionals' infants

Tradesmen were next up on the social scale, followed by professionals. They had sufficient funds to pay for an education and an apprenticeship into a skilled trade or profession. Once completed, these men had an occupation for life. Understandably, many young men followed in their father's footsteps, only leaving the area if demand required. Women were expected to stay home and bring up children but, as the century progressed, some spinsters undertook apprenticeship in millinery or dressmaking, an occupation they continued until they married, of course. Because tradesmen and professionals were not living '*hand to mouth*' they had time to be involved in other activities around town so we have been able to find out much more about them.

Richard Spencer, less than a week old

The Spencers were a family of plasterers and slaters. Patriarch **James Spencer** moved to Giggleswick from Skipton to marry **Agnes Taylor** in 1800 and they had seven sons and two daughters. Sadly three, daughter **Nancy** and their two youngest sons, both called **John**, died in infancy and were buried in the Giggleswick graveyard (before Settle graveyard had opened). As was usual, their surviving sons continued their father's trade, living in the cheap end of town, in Upper Settle. Plastering was not a very well paid job.

Son **James Spencer** and his wife **Isabella Downham** had five sons and one daughter. Infant **Richard** was the fourth child and died, less than a week old, in December 1839, and was buried in the infants' corner EX29. Another son, **Jonathan Spencer**, died when

he was 19 in 1850 and is buried in *DX14*, not far from little Richard. James died, aged 57, in 1858 is buried somewhere in the Ancient graveyard, hopefully with Jonathan. Isabella outlived James, but died, aged 74, at the workhouse and so is buried at Giggleswick.

James and Agnes' son **William Spencer** had a terrible experience of child mortality with his wife **Frances**. They had nine children. Their memorial stone in Giggleswick graveyard tells an appalling tale, showing they lost seven children in infancy or childhood.

To the memory of the following children of William Spencer of Settle and Frances his wife:

Richard Spencer died 6th Feb'y 1837 aged 6 months

Anthony Spencer died 24th May 1838 aged 3 weeks

Henry Spencer died 19th May 1841 aged 9 years

William Spencer died 25th Sep'r 1841 aged 4 weeks

Agnes Spencer died 26th Dec'r 1847 aged 4 years

Albert Spencer died 16th March 1848 aged 19 weeks

Mary Ann Spencer died 26th Dec'r 1854 aged 15 years

Frances Spencer mother to the above died 12th Dec'r 1861 aged 50 years.

William Henry Spencer died Nov'r 7th 1873 aged 28 years.

Also of the above William Spencer of Settle who died July 14th 1884 aged 7



Their last remaining son, **William Henry Spencer**, found work as a railway labourer working on the construction of the Settle to Carlisle Railway. In November 1873 William Henry was working at the new Settle station ground as a fireman on an engine, shovelling coal into the boiler. He had a fatal accident '*Whilst engaged in his ordinary occupation he by some means got between the buffers of some waggons and was severely crushed*'.
crushed'.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—An accident, which terminated fatally, happened on Friday last to a young man, named William Henry Spencer, a resident of Settle, and employed on the new Station ground of the Settle and Carlisle Railway. Whilst engaged in his ordinary occupation he by some means got between the buffers of some of the waggons and was severely crushed. He was conveyed to his home, but only survived few hours. An inquest was held on the following evening at the Commercial Hotel, by Mr. Brown, the coroner, when a verdict of "Accidental death" was returned.

It's enough to turn a man to drink . . . In June 1853 William was so drunk that he broke one of his legs and also took out his grief in physical attacks on his wife who, understandably, left him went to live with their only remaining child, daughter **Nancy**. She had married **John Ball**, a quarry labourer and they had eight children. They supplemented their income by running one of the lodging houses in Upper Settle.

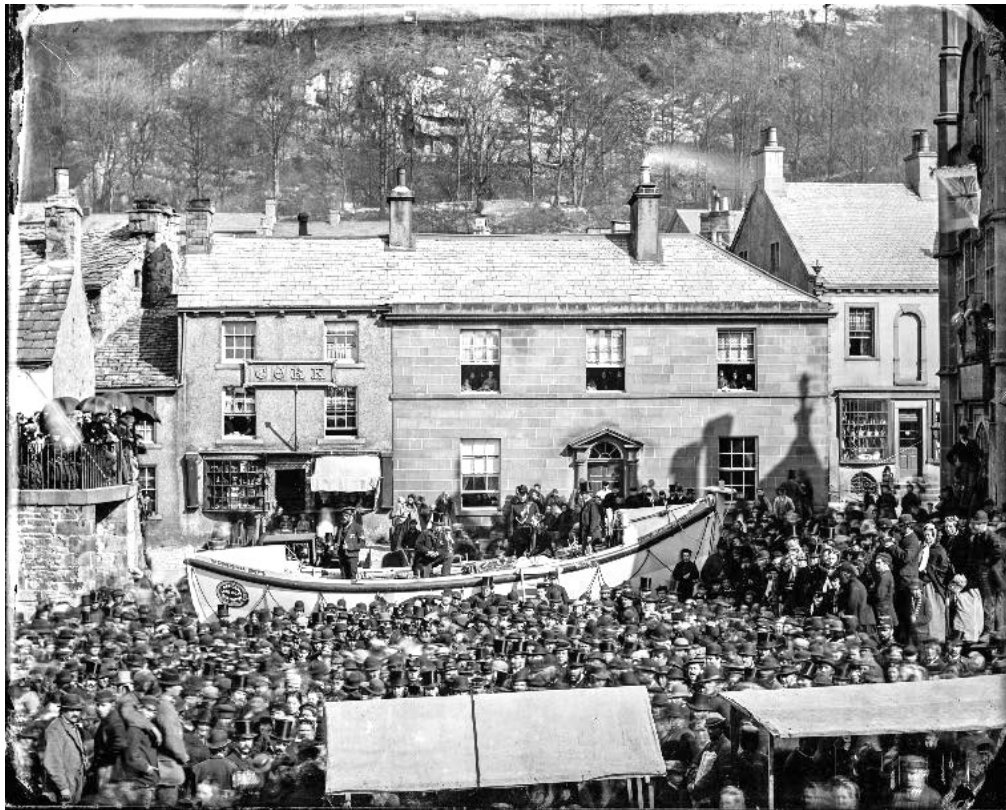
William spent his last days alone, in the workhouse.

Ellen Gill, less than 7 days old

Catherine Gifford of Settle gave birth to an illegitimate son, **William Gifford**. That was another wedding that didn't happen and, two years later, Catherine married **Joseph Gill**, a stonemason, from Pateley Bridge. Joseph was happy to bring up young William within the family. Joseph and Catherine had a further five children living in one of the eight houses in Chapel Square. Little **Ellen Gill** was their fourth child and died a few days after her birth. She was buried in the infants' corner, *EX27* in July 1840.

Catherine's illegitimate son, William Gifford, had a really successful life. He started life as a shoemaker in Long Preston but then became the town's Registrar for Births, Marriages and Deaths and the Assistant Overseer of the Poor, both very well regarded roles in the community. He married **Elizabeth Todd** and they brought up her niece, **Jane Todd**.

In an incredible snippet of history, William was on the committee organising the presentation of a life-boat to the RNLI. The Settle branch of the RNLI had raised enough money for a lifeboat, '*Ellen and Margaret*' which was paraded around the market place in Settle before transporting to serve at Hornsea, north of Hull. The



Settle Market Place, Lifeboat week, photograph by the Horner Studio. Horner Collection©NCBPT (CC-BY 4.0)

Settle RNLI branch raised enough money for seven lifeboats in all, saving over 120 lives.

William died in 1882, aged just 50, his obituary mentioning *'his every movement tended to the benefit and advancement of his fellow townsmen'*. He was also a correspondent for the Craven Herald newspaper and worked for the Mechanics' Institute. A good man. William was buried with his wife and niece in Long Preston. Not bad for an illegitimate son!

Dixon Haining, 22 months old

James Haining, born in 1807, and his wife **Mary Dixon** and a son **William Haining** arrived in Settle by 1837 from Northumberland. James worked at the gardens of Langcliffe Place, where mill owner **William Clayton** and his family lived. Their son, **Dixon Haining**, was born and died in August 1840 while they were in Langcliffe and is buried in the unmarked grave *DX4*, in the infants' corner. (Langcliffe church was not built until 1851.) The decline

of the mill will have affected James' post, so they moved to the Green in Upper Settle and had another son and a daughter.

James had a shocking death, run over by a cart wheel when his horse bolted. He left a substantial inheritance which will have helped to pay

FATAL ACCIDENT TO A FARMER AT SETTLE.—On Monday week, Mr. James Haining, a small farmer and gardener, was in charge of a horse and cart laden with timber, and the cart was coming down Upper Settle, when the timber got loose and came in contact with the horse's back, causing it to take fright and run away. Haining had hold of the horse's head, but he fell, and the cart wheel passed over his body, and so severely hurt him that he did not survive many minutes. He was sixty years of age.

for the memorial stone of such excellent quality, right next to little Dixon's grave.



In memory of James Haining who died December 14th 1868 aged 60 years. Also of Mary, wife of the above who died March 18th 1883 aged 80 years.

James and Mary's third son, another **James Haining**, was caught poaching on a couple of occasions. Rather than going to court on the last offence he decided the best course of action was to flee to Franklin County in Indiana, America. He made a good living farming with an American wife and a son.

Meanwhile, James and Mary's eldest son, **William Haining**, was an interesting but desperate character. In August 1855, he married **Elizabeth Marsden**. They were both 19 and Elizabeth was already six months pregnant with their son, **Joseph Haining**, but this must have been too much for William. Like his brother, William decided the best course of action was to board a ship bound for New York, describing himself as a farmer. Records for him stop – he probably changed his name. Fifteen years later 'widow' Elizabeth married a stonemason who worked on the railway and they had another three children.

In case you were wondering, son Joseph was brought up by grandparents while his mum went to work (as a nurse in Clapham) and found work as a grocer. He landed on his feet when he married **Jinnie Hartley**, [pictured] one of nine children of a cotton

manufacturer, **Henry Hartley** (with an impressive beard!) and they had two daughters. Well done Joseph!



Mary Emily Pierson, 2.5 days old

When little Mary Emily died on 3 July 1853, 2½ days old, her parents were wealthy enough to give her a memorial stone, all to herself, right next to the infants' corner. How come? She was the daughter of the church's second vicar **William Frederick Pierson** and his wife **Margaret Birkbeck**. In those days, vicars were some of the wealthiest people in society and the Birkbecks of Anley were the most significant landowners in Settle. You don't do much better than that, although all that money couldn't save little Mary Emily.

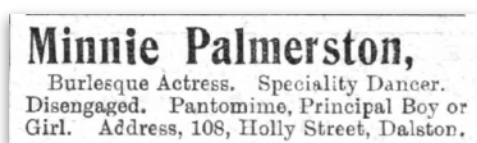


William was the vicar for 40 years and, over that time, saw an increase in the congregation and the status of the church. He donated the new ornate font, originally at the back of the church, and pulpit made of fine alabaster and oversaw significant alterations to the church, including the move of the organ from the upstairs gallery to its current position. He paid ¼ of the cost of the new parsonage (on Station Road) with the Birkbecks paying another quarter.

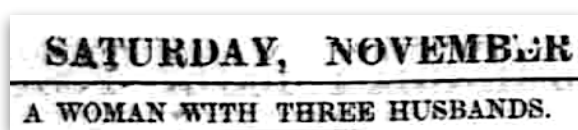


William and Margaret were buried with memorial stones right next to that of their daughter Mary Emily.

William and Margaret's children had respectable careers in the military and as vicars, and vicar's wife, except for their youngest son, **Alfred Graeme Pierson**. After William's death, fortunately, Alfred, '*a gentleman of no occupation*' found himself in a London court. He had married Minnie Palmerstone who was a burlesque actress and dancer – this would have been the pinnacle of scandal in those days. However, even worse, it transpired that she had



Minnie Palmerston,
Burlesque Actress. Speciality Dancer.
Disengaged. Pantomime, Principal Boy or
Girl. Address, 108, Holly Street, Dalston.



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER
A WOMAN WITH THREE HUSBANDS.

married before, twice in fact, so was a trigamist! Their marriage was annulled and Alfred married again but died a few years later, aged just 34. So, money can't buy you everything!

Frank and Guy Brewin, twins, 2 hours old

Twins Frank and Guy were the 7th and 8th children of **Arthur Brewin** and his wife **Mary Mossop**. Arthur was from London, the son of a gardener but became a schoolmaster. He must have been good as he obtained a post as a teacher at the prestigious St Bees College on the Cumbrian coast, and that's where he met Mary. Mary was a descendant of a successful farming family at Rottington Hall near St Bees.

From St Bees Arthur became an assistant master at Giggleswick School and they lived at Bankwell to bring up their large family. Arthur was a talented performer and musician, often performing with the Settle Choral Society and Settle Amateur Dramatic Society. *'I can just see Mr Brewin as the widow Melnotte making the pudding, while singing Roly Poly Gammon and Spinach. Heigh-ho says Anthony Roley. Can anyone today picture the excitement*

in the old town with such a great event as a local theatrical production?’ At Settle Church Arthur was the choirmaster and also led the church bellringers! Vestry records of 1893 tell us ‘the Church choir, assisted by a number of ladies attended the Northern Diocese Choral Festival in York Minster. The bellringers had gone to Scarborough for their outing. In particular thanks to Mr Brewin without whose careful training such excellent results could not be attained.’



Mr Arthur Brewin Esq, Settle 1865, photograph by the Horner Studio. Horner Collection©NCBPT (CC-BY 4.0)

The twins were born and died 2 hours later on 7th August 1894 with the cause of death being ‘*premature birth*’. They were buried with a small memorial stone just at the edge of the infants’ corner.



Frank and Guy twin sons of Arthur and Mary Brewin, buried 10 August 1874 IHS.

By the time Arthur and Mary died, the Ancient graveyard was closed as it was ‘dangerously full’ and they were buried in Giggleswick churchyard with a matching memorial stone. Arthur and Mary’s other six children were all successful. Their sons went from Giggleswick School to Oxbridge Universities with careers in the military (across the world) or the church. Their only daughter didn’t let the side down, working as a military nurse until she married and settled in South Africa. Who knows what those twins, or any of our infants, could have achieved if they had survived?