English Origins of the William Stephenson and Thomas Stevenson Families of Hubbard, Trumbull County, Ohio

By Claire Prechtel-Kluskens

Both William Stephenson and his son-in-law, Thomas Stevenson, were enumerated as heads of household in Hubbard, Trumbull County, Ohio, in the 1870 and 1880 federal population censuses. This article presents preliminary research on their English origins.

**William Stephenson** (1815-after 1880) married Mary Ann Bone (1815-1890) in England. They had two known children; their daughter, Isabella Stephenson, married **Thomas Stevenson** (1827-1889) in England.

According to family tradition recounted by the late Loretta Mae Franklin McDonald Houk, Thomas Stevenson’s surname was spelled Stevenson while his wife Isabella’s maiden surname was spelled Stephenson. Census takers and other record keepers often had other ideas about how the surname was spelled, of course, so flexibility while researching is essential. Family members’ reported parishes of birth also vary widely in English census records. In this article, “Durham” usually refers to County Durham, England.

**William Stephenson and his wife Mary Ann Bone**

William Stephenson was born about 1815 at Houghton Le Spring, Durham, England. Mary Ann (Bone) Stephenson was christened 22 Jan 1815 (but not entered in the records until 17 Mar 1815) at Christ Church, Tynemouth, County Northumberland, England, daughter of George Bone, a driver in the royal artillery, native of Stokeslay parish, Hampshire, and his wife Mary Lumley, native of Claypath parish, Durham, daughter of Stephen Lumley. William was a coal miner in 1841, 1851, 1861, and 1880, and a coal digger in 1870. Their known children were:


ii. Mary Ann Stephenson, born ca. 1842; believed to have died in childbirth in March 1864. She married Hugh March [Marsh], pitman, son of Joseph March, pitman, at the register office in the District of Auckland, Durham, England, on 13 Nov 1860, with the ceremony officiated by Registrar Thomas Dean, and witnessed by William Stephenson and Robert Salkeld. Two known children: (1) William Marsh, born ca. March 1861, who likely died young; and (2) Elizabeth Marsh, born 8 Mar 1864; married first, William Samuels; married second, David Samuels (William’s brother) as his second wife.

1841 Durham Census with William Stephenson Family

In 1841, William Stephenson’s household was enumerated on Pigsford Street in the parish of Kelloe, township of Thornley, Durham, consisting of William, age 25, coal miner; Mary, age 25; and Isabella, age 4. Both William and Isabella were born in Durham, but Mary was reported to have been born in a different county.

1851 Durham Census with William Steveson

In 1851, the household of “William Steveson” was enumerated at “No. 140” in the village of Castle Eden, township of Monk Hesleden, Durham, consisting of William, age 36, coal miner, born at Castle Eden, Durham; wife Mary Ann, age 36, born at Tynemouth [sic, Tynemouth], County Northumberland; and daughters Isabler [sic], age 14, scholar, born at Hetton [probably meaning Hetton le Hole], Durham; and Mary Ann, age 8, scholar, born
at Thornely [sic, Thornley], Durham.

At the time of the taking of the 1861 English census on 7 Apr 1861, William Stephenson’s household was enumerated in the hamlet of Fyling Bridge [sic, Fylands Bridge] in the Township/Parish of St. Andrew Auckland, Durham, England, and consisted of the following: William, age 45, coal miner, born at Houghton le Spring, Durham; Mary Ann, his wife, age 45, born at Tynemouth, Northumberland; “Isabel,” his married daughter, age 24, occupation, “mason’s wife,” born at West Raintree, Durham; Mary Ann, his granddaughter, age 2, born at Sunderland, Durham; boarder and servant Ann Pringle, age 19, born in Scotland, along with her less than one month old son, William Pringle, born at St. Andrew Auckland, Durham; and finally his mother-in-law, Mary Bone, age 71, “formerly soldier’s wife,” born at Durham, County Durham. Living next door was William’s married daughter’s household: Hugh March [sic, Marsh], age 25, coal miner, born in County Lancashire; Mary Ann, age 18, born at Thornley, Durham; and their son William, age less than one month old, born at St. Andrew Auckland, Durham.

William’s date of immigration to the United States has not yet been determined, but it was certainly after the enumeration of the 1861 English census on 7 Apr 1861. Mary Ann is likely the “Mary Anne Stapleton [sic], age 38” recorded as arriving on the Constitution at the port of New York on 11 Jun 1861 with other members of this family, as discussed below.

In Hubbard in 1870, the household of “William Stephenson” consisted of himself, age 55; Mary A., age 55; and Elizabeth, age 7, born in Ohio. This Elizabeth was actually their granddaughter, Elizabeth Marsh. William owned $200 worth of real estate.

In Hubbard in 1880, the household of “William Stevenson” consisted of himself; wife, Mary A., age 64; “son” James, age 19, born in England, a coal miner; and granddaughter Elizabeth Marsh, age 16, born in Ohio. The identity of James is somewhat of a mystery; this is the first known record of someone with this name in this family.

Mary Ann (Bohn) Stephenson died in 1890, probably in Hubbard, and is buried at Hubbard Union Cemetery. William, whose death was not recorded in Trumbull County, is likely also buried there, but lacks a gravestone.

**Isabella Stevenson (daughter of William) and her husband Thomas Stevenson**

Thomas, son of “William Stephenson, a mariner,” was born in England about 1827. As mentioned above, Isabella Stevenson was christened at West Raintree, Durham, on 20 Aug 1837. “Thomas Stephenson,” widower, and “Isabella Stephenson,” spinster, were married by banns on 31 Jan 1858 at Saint Anthony Church, Tynemouth, County Northumberland, by curate Joseph Sumner. William Stephenson (presumably the bride’s father) and Paul Wayman were witnesses. Thomas was a mason in 1861; coal digger in 1870; and stone mason in 1880. Neither Thomas or Isabella could read or write; they signed by mark their marriage record, and Thomas signed by mark his declaration of intent. Their children, born at Hubbard, Trumbull County, Ohio, except as indicated, were:

iii. Isabelle Stevenson, born ca. 1862; married first, John Smith; married second, Sherman Klingensmith.
iv. Margaret Stevenson, born ca. 1864; married Christopher Kelley.
v. Elizabeth Jane Stevenson, born ca. 1866; first wife of David Samuels.
vi. Thomas Stevenson, born ca. March 1870; died 29 Apr 1870.
vii. Alice Stevenson, born 29 Jul 1871; married first, Frank Ives, 30 Jan 1888; married second, Samuel Brumagin.
viii. Sarah Stevenson, born 19 Sep 1872; died in 1897; buried at Hubbard Union Cemetery where her gravestone reads: “Sarah / 1874-1897.”
ix. John Stevenson, born 12 Sep 1875; married first, Mary Jenkins; married second, Gertrude Bell Tuttle.
Thomas Stephenson Declaration of Intent

Thomas has yet been located with certainty on any English census records, and the name of his first wife is not known. He has not yet been positively identified on a passenger list, but his declaration of intention to become a naturalized citizen indicates he arrived in the United States in May 1860. It is likely that he was the “Thomas Stevenson,” age 33, stone mason, born in England, who resided with the “John Hups” [sic, Hoopes or Hoops] family, in Neshannock Twp., Lawrence County, Pennsylvania, in June 1860.

They were recent English immigrants. John Hups, a coal miner, age 43; his wife Elizabeth, 31, and children Jane, 8; George, 5; and Martin, 3, were all born in England except Martin, who had been born in Pennsylvania.

As noted above, “Isabel,” a “mason’s wife,” was enumerated with her parents, but without her husband, on the 1861 English census, which suggests that Thomas had already left for the United States before the official census day, 7 April 1861. Very soon thereafter, Isabella and the remaining family members would board the Constitution at Liverpool for their voyage to America, arriving at New York on 11 June 1861. On the passenger list, Isabella Stephenson is the first listed person of this family group, followed by her two children, Mary Anne, age 2 years 6 months, and William, age 9 months; then “Mary Anne Stapleton, age 38” who may be her mother misrecorded as to both surname and age; then her brother-in-law Hugh March, age 21; her sister Mary Anne [Stephenson] March, age 19; and finally their son, William March, age 9 months. The birthplaces of Isabella and her two children are incorrectly given by “ditto” marks as “Wales,” the same birthplace as Margaret Morgan, a female listed directly above Isabella. The birthplaces for the rest of Isabella’s party were given as England.

The Combination Atlas Map of Trumbull County, Ohio (Chicago: L. H. Everts & Co., 1874), indicates that Thomas Stevenson, stone mason, native of England, settled in Hubbard Township, section 34, in 1863; this location was on Elmwood Drive SE, about 1000 feet south of the railroad tracks and Little Deer Creek. Thomas and his father-in-law lived near each other; in both the 1870 and 1880 censuses, their households were enumerated one after the other. The Atlas, however, shows William owned land in section 13.

In 1870, the household of “Thomas Stephenson” consisted of himself, age 43; “Isebel,” age 33; Mary, age 11; “Isebel,” age 8; Margaret, age 6; and Lizzi Jane, age 4. Thomas owned real estate worth $600. In 1880, the household of “Thomas Stevenson [sic]” consisted of himself, age 55; wife, Isabelle, age 45; and children, Mary A., age 20; Maggie, age 17; Elizabeth, age 14; Alice, age 11; Sarah, age 8; and John, age 5.

Thomas declared his intent to become a naturalized citizen in the Trumbull County Probate Court, 16 June 1870, and returned there on 1 November 1872, to have his petition for naturalization granted and take the oath of allegiance.

Thomas died of pneumonia at Hubbard, 13 Feb 1889, “age 60 years, 4 months” [sic]. Isabelle died of pneumonia on 27 Nov 1912 at the home of her daughter Isabelle Stevenson Smith Klingensmith, in New Castle, Lawrence County, Pennsylvania. Both are buried at Hubbard Union Cemetery, where a gravestone with incorrect information reads: “Stevenson / Thomas / 1828-1890 / Isabell his wife / 1836-1912.”

Selected Sources

- Marriage record, Thomas Stephenson to Isabella Stephenson, Tynemouth District, Northumberland, 1st Quarter 1858, Vol. 10b, p. 205.
- Parish Register Transcripts, Tynemouth (Northumberland), 1762-1851, PBT/2/255/1019 (Mary Ann Bone christening, 1815); Parish Register Transcripts, Newcastle Upon Tyne St. John, 1748-1854, PBT/2/192/367 (George Bone.
Christening, 1812).
- NARA Microfilm Publication T9, Tenth Census of the United States, 1880, Roll 1070, Hubbard, Trumbull Co., Ohio, E.D. 195, Sheets 43-44.
- Gravestones, Hubbard Union Cemetery, Hubbard, Ohio.
- Death certificate, Isabelle Stevenson, year 1912 certificate #104820, Pennsylvania State Archives (incorrectly gives her birth date as 4 June 1844, and her mother’s maiden name as “Bohn.”)

About The Author

Claire Prechtel-Klusken, an 8th generation Ohioan from Cuyahoga County, has been a projects and reference archivist at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), Washington, DC, since 1992, and has done genealogical research since 1976. She served on the board of the National Genealogical Society during 1996-2000, has published widely in genealogical publications, and lectures frequently. Her web site is <twelvkey.com>.

Civil War Tidbits from around Ohio: continued from Page 175

Mansfield Semi-Weekly Herald
Mansfield, O. Saturday, November 16, 1861

New Advertisements

CAVALRY AND ARTILLERY HORSES FOR COL. (SENATOR) SHERMAN’S BRIGADE CAMP BUCKINGHAM, MANSFIELD

Horses will be bought for this Brigade at the places and time named below:

- Akron, Friday and Saturday
- Alliance, Monday and Tuesday
- Wooster, Wednesday and Thursday
- Bucyrus, Friday and Saturday
- Lima, Monday and Tuesday
- Marion, Wednesday and Thursday
- Mt. Gilead, Friday and Saturday

AND AT MANSFIELD EVERY DAY

When and where they will be inspected and bought by Messrs. Boughton and Wise.

I will be obliged to any persons who have friends in the Brigade, or who are volunteers, if they will make an effort to have a large lot of good horses exhibited for sale on the days and at the places above mentioned. The horses, if suitable for the service, will be bought at what they are worth, and the cash paid.

J. J. ELWELL, Quartermaster U.S.A.

(Editor’s note: John J. Elwell was born in Warren, Trumbull County, Ohio in 1820. He was a physician in Ashtabula County in 1850 and an attorney in Cleveland in 1860. He was commissioned a captain in the Quartermaster’s Department in August, 1861, and served in that capacity throughout the war, including assignments as chief Quartermaster for U.S. forces operating on the Carolina coastal areas, and as Quartermaster for the prison camp at Elmira, NY. He was promoted to Brevet Brigadier General on 13 Mar 1865, and stayed on active duty for a year after the war. He lived in Cleveland after the war, and was instrumental in development of the Soldiers and Sailors Monument there. See OCWGJ, Volume VIII, #4, page 198.)