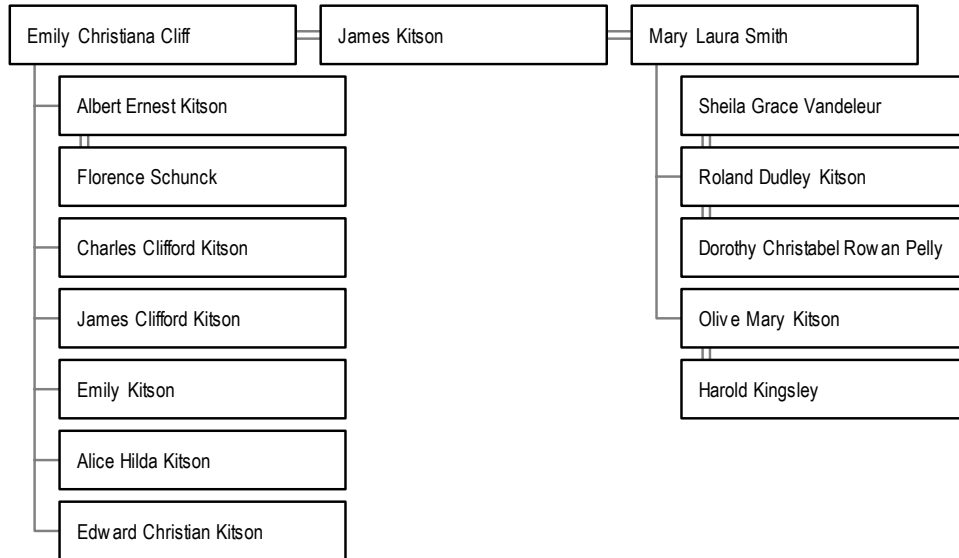


## James Kitson



James Kitson Jnr was born on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1835 in Leeds and baptised three weeks later at St. Peter's Church, on 16<sup>th</sup> October 1835.<sup>1</sup> Like his father before him, James married twice and fathered a number of children. As a young boy of 5, and again as a scholar of 15, James was living with his family for the 1841 and 1851 census returns. By 1861 James Jnr has moved out of home and is found, newly married, living at 1 Hanover Square.<sup>2</sup>

James Kitson	25	Iron Master	Leeds
Emily C Kitson	23		Leeds
Alice Seetre(?)	25	Housemaid	Otley, Yorkshire
Mary Marston	26	Cook	Otley, Yorkshire

When the census was taken James and Emily had only been married for about 6 months. They were married by Licence in a Unitarian ceremony on 20<sup>th</sup> September 1860 at the Mill Hill Chapel.<sup>3</sup> At the time James was 24 years old and, like his father, an Ironmaster, and resident at Little Woodhouse, Leeds. Emily was a 23 year old spinster, of Western Flatts, Wortley, the daughter of Joseph Cliff, Fire Brick Maker. There were a number of witnesses - James's father James, and his sisters Ethel May and Mary Ann Kitson, together with Emily's sister Clara Cliff and her brothers Joseph and William Cliff and a member of the Talbot family whose first name is indecipherable but who may have been Grosvenor. Emily was born about 1837 in Leeds was, at home with her family at Silver Royd Hill, Wortley for the 1841 census.<sup>4</sup>

Joseph Cliff	30	Fire Brick Maker
Alice Cliff	20	
John Cliff	8	
William Cliff	6	
Emily Cliff	4	
Clara Cliff	2	
Joseph Cliff	3 mos	

Although Emily has not been located in the 1851 census, the rest of her family has living at Western Flatts, Wortley and, as can be seen, Joseph did not actually make the bricks himself!<sup>5</sup>

Joseph Cliff	44	Magistrate, Borough of Leeds and Fire Brick Manufacturer employing 161 Men	Wortley
Alice Cliff	46		Wortley
John Cliff	18	Fire Brick Maker	Wortley
William Cliff	16	Fire Brick Maker	Wortley
Clara Cliff	11	Scholar	Wortley
Alice Cliff	8	At Home	Wortley
Martha Cliff	6	At Home	Wortley
Katherine Cliff	4	At Home	Wortley
Philip Cliff	2	At Home	Wortley
Harriet Dunbar	18	Governess	Suffolk

Margaret A Spence	20	Cook	Drax, Yorkshire
Elizabeth Norton	28	Housemaid	Pollington, Yorkshire

Within ten years of their marriage James and Emily had 'migrated' to Headingley and are found at Spring Bank House, 22 Otley Road, for the 1871 census, with three children.<sup>6</sup>

James Kitson Jnr	35	Iron Master	Leeds
Emily Christina Kitson	33		Leeds
Albert Ernest Kitson	7		Leeds
James Clifford Kitson	6		Leeds
Emily Kitson	4		Leeds
Rose Wood	34	Cook Domestic Servant	Scotland
Jessie Murray	31	Housemaid	Scotland
Fanny Steel	25	Nurse	Monk Fryston, Yorkshire
Hannah Smith	15	Nurse	London

Another child, not listed above, was Charles Clifford Kitson, a twin brother to James Clifford Kitson. Both were born on 6<sup>th</sup> December 1864 at 1 Hanover Square.<sup>7</sup> However I have found no further references for Charles, and very little else for James. Within three years of this census another daughter Alice and a son Edward were born to James and Emily, respectively in 1872 and on 30<sup>th</sup> September 1873, and Emily Christiana Kitson had died, her death being recorded in the Leeds district for the Sep-Dec quarter of 1873. She died on 6<sup>th</sup> October of that year at Spring Bank aged only 36. What became almost a family custom, Grosvenor Talbot (of Southfield, Burley) was in attendance. The cause of death was given as "Puerperal Peritonitis 5 days" following the birth of Edward.<sup>8</sup> Emily was buried on 9<sup>th</sup> October at the Kitson family church, St. John's, Roundhay.<sup>9</sup> A plaque on the wall of the church, recorded as W26 Large Imposing Monument, commemorates Emily together with her husband.

*In loving memory of The Right Honourable James, first Baron Airedale of Gledhow, who died March 16th 1911 aged 75 years and of Emily Christina his wife who died October 6th 1873 aged 36 years.*

At the time of the 1881 census, taken on 3 April, James was still a widower living at 149 Headingley Lane. He has a full suite of servants to assist him with the household, which also includes his half-sister Eva. Absent are the three older children Albert Ernest, James Clifford and Emily and they have not been located in the 1881 census.<sup>10</sup>

James Kitson Jnr (Wdr)	45	Iron Master	Leeds
Alice Hilda Kitson	8	Scholar	Leeds
Ed Christian Kitson	7	Scholar	Leeds
Eva Margaret Kitson (sister)	11		Scholar Roundhay
Annie Marie Whatoff	31	Housekeeper	Seddington, Leicestershire
Alice Hebe Barnes	23	Governess/Teacher	Middlesex, London
Frances Cole	32	Cook	Hayton, Yorkshire
Jane Brown	27	Waiting Maid	Retford, Yorkshire
Sarah Ann Mitchell	20	Housemaid	Meanwood, Yorkshire
Edith Higgins	16	Maid	Meanwood, Yorkshire

Just after this census James married, by Licence, his second wife Mary Laura Smith in the Parish Church of her home town of Dudley on 1<sup>st</sup> June 1881. Mary was twenty years his junior, the daughter of Edward Fisher Smith, Gentleman. Witnesses to the marriage were Herbert J. Gladstone (son of William Ewart Gladstone and a friend of James), a Mildred Constance Molineaux, and Emily Kitson (presumably James's sister and not his daughter).<sup>11</sup>

Mary was born about 1857 to Edward and Mary (née Roberts) Smith. For her first census Mary has been located in 1861 at home with her parents at The Priory, 90 Trindle Road, Dudley.<sup>12</sup>

Edward F Smith	50	Gent, Mining	Sedgley, Staffordshire
Mary Smith	44		West Bromwich
Mary L Smith	4		Dudley
Mary Bates	33	Cook	Wolverhampton
Harriet Cook	18	Housemaid	Dudley
Samuel Power(?)	21	Groom	Trysull, Staffordshire

In 1871 we find Mary at a girls' boarding school at 26 & 27 Hagley Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham in Edgbaston, run by a Miss Eliza J. Parkinson. For the 1881 census, just before her marriage to James Mary was a visitor in the Molineaux household at Homesleigh, Rotten Row, Lewes.<sup>13</sup>

Philip Horace Molineaux	36	Banker	Lewes, Sussex
Mildred Constance Molineaux (Sister)	24		Lewes, Sussex
Mary L Smith (Visitor)	24		Dudley
Sarah Pierpoint	55	Cook	Isfield, Sussex
Sophia K. Bennet	22	Housemaid	Nutley, Sussex
John Wratten	22	Footman	Isfield, Sussex

How many brothers and sisters Mary may have had is not known. However we have evidence of at least one brother, Oliver Smith, who was recorded as being 24 and a Teacher of Languages, BA, Oxon, in 1871, and still unmarried and at home with his parents for the 1881 census, and now described as a Barrister at Law.<sup>14</sup>

The 1891 census shows that James and his family have moved again, this time to Gledhow Hall, Chapel Allerton, a move that confirms the Kitson's status as one of the leading families of Leeds. The following is an account of the Hall prior to and after its Kitson period.<sup>15</sup>

The Hall was built on monastic land. In 1601 the estate was purchased from Elizabeth I by the Thwaites family. John Thwaites - Alderman of Leeds, died at Gledhow in 1671 aged eighty-five. His son-in-law, Edward Waddington, inherited the estate...

The Hall changed hands several times until 1764, when, on the death of William Wilson, merchant, the estate was sold to Jeremiah Dixon. During his time at Gledhow Jeremiah made considerable additions to the estate and redesigned the surrounding gardens, pleasure grounds, plantations and woods. He was responsible for the introduction of the Apherhously pine which became known as the Gledhow Pine. His initials and the date 1768 are still to be seen on the bridge across Gledhow Lane.

Jeremiah Dixon retired to Gledhow where he led the life of the country squire. On his death in 1782 the estate passed to his eldest son John. John, Colonel of West Yorkshire Militia and Deputy Lieutenant for the West Riding, regularly gave military displays on Chapletown Moor. At the conclusion of the Napoleonic Wars however, his interest in the Militia and Gledhow lapsed, and lacking his father's interest sold the Hall and moved to the other family estate in Norfolk.

During the next sixty years Gledhow Hall was home to several famous families, the Becketts, the Benyons and the Coopers. Extensive additions were made to the north and west side of the house and in 1878 the Hall was put up for sale. The property was purchased by James Kitson, later Baron Airedale, head of the Monkbridge Iron and Steel Company. A staunch Liberal, he became the first Lord Mayor of Leeds in 1896 and in 1902 he entertained the Earl of Roseberry at Gledhow, with two hundred torch bearers escorting them to the Hall. Prime Minister Gladstone was also a frequent visitor to the Hall. It was James Kitson who commissioned the impressive hand-painted Burmantofts "faience" tile bathroom, designed for a visit by the Prince of Wales in 1885.

During the First World War (1914-18), the Hall was used as a Military Hospital. Lord Airedale offered his Leeds residence to the authorities in the early stages of the war, and the Hall was turned into a Voluntary Aid Detachment (VAD) Hospital, almost entirely worked by voluntary aid staff.

And indeed, one of the visitors to the Hall for the 1891 census was Mr. Gladstone.<sup>16</sup> Absent from the home are wife Mary and their children Roland and Olive Mary (and they have not been located in the 1891 census). However, James's daughter Emily is back at home. Herbert Gladstone's visit may have had something to do with the forthcoming election campaign because, as seen below, James was a Liberal MP from 1892 to 1907.

James Kitson Jnr	55	Baronet, Iron & Steel Manufacturer	Leeds
Emily Kitson	24		Leeds
Alice Hilda Kitson	18		Leeds
Edward C Kitson	17	Scholar	Leeds
Herbert J Gladstone (Visitor)	34	M.P. Living on own means	St. Margarets, Westminster
Francis Cole	43	Cook	Pocklington, Yorkshire
Elizabeth Price	66	Nurse	Holywell, Yorkshire
Mary E Hernly	28	Maid	Nepham, Lincolnshire
Charlotte E Stephenson	22	Housemaid	Bradford
Mary Mitchell	19	Housemaid	Meanwood
Elizabeth Lennard	18	Scullerymaid	Thixendale, Yorkshire
Charlotte Potter	15	Scullerymaid	Monkstown, Yorkshire
Richard Smith	20	Footman	Malton, Yorkshire

James cannot be located in the 1901 census but his wife Mary and their two children, Roland and Olive, are found in London at 13 Kensington Court for the night of 31<sup>st</sup> March.<sup>17</sup>

Mary L Kitson	44	Ironmaster (Pig Iron)	Dudley
Roland D Kitson	18		Headingley

Olive M Kitson	14		Chapel Allerton
Alice E Cooper	33	Visitor	Stotfold, Bedfordshire
Sarah H Maddock	43	Cook	Misterton, Leicestershire
Annie P Felton	24	Ladysmaid	Hinstock, Shropshire
Lydia A Dezombie	26	Parlourmaid	Calais, France
Angie E Watts	25	Housemaid	Southampton, Hampshire
Annie J Porter	20	Between Maid	Isle of Wight, Sandown

James Kitson died on 16<sup>th</sup> March 1911 in Paris. He was buried 6 days later in Leeds. According to the obituary in The Times of Friday 17<sup>th</sup> March 1911, James Kitson's death was sudden and unexpected. He was apparently "well and hearty" immediately prior to suffering a heart attack after a train journey to Beaulieu where he had been staying with his son Roland and daughter Emily. The report records that the Town Hall bell at Leeds was tolled on receipt of the news of his death. Whether or not he had outlived his wife Mary is not known at this stage, but she is not mentioned in his will, which was probated at over £1million pounds on which to £150,000 was due in and death duties. Under the heading "Lord Airedale's Will – Estate Sworn at One Million" the Times carried the following account on 29<sup>th</sup> March 1911.

The will of the first Lord Airedale has been proved provisionally, the *Yorkshire Post* states today, for one million sterling.

The testator bequeathed to the Hon. Albert Ernest Kitson (who succeeds to the title) and the Hon. Edward Christian Kitson (sons), the Hon. Emily Kitson and the Hon. Alice Hilda Kitson (daughters) £10,000 each as pecuniary legacies.

The Gledhow Estate of 150 acres is devised to the Hon. A.E. Kitson (the second baron) and his sons in tail male, and the sum of £350,000 is directed to be invested and settled on the use of the Gledhow Estate.

Legacies are settled on the sons and daughters and their issue as follows :

To the Hon A.E. Kitson and the Hon E.C. Kitson, £50,000 each; to the Hon J.C. Kitson, £20,000; the Hon Emily Kitson, £50,000; the Hon Alice Hilda Kitson, £35,000; the Hon Roland D. Kitson, £50,000; and the Hon Olive Mary Kitson, £25,000.

In addition two further sums of £50,000 each are to be set aside out of residue for the Hon A.E. and the Hon E.C. Kitson and their respective issue, and the ultimate residue goes to the same two sons equally.

A codicil settles £4,000 on the testator's sister, Mrs Emily Playfair and her two daughters, and there are various other bequests, including three of £500 each to employees at Monkbridge, one of £250 to the testator's secretary, £1,000 to the Leeds Infirmary, £500 each to sisters-in-law, £1,000 each to his nephews, Mr. F.J. and Mr. H.H. Kitson, £500 to Mr. T.P. Reay, of the Airedale Foundry, £500 to the testator's butler, £250 to his gardener, £250 each to his laundrymaids, and £100 to his coachman.

From this we see that the surviving Kitson sons did very well, and did the unmarried daughters. It is interesting to see that sister Emily, who was by this time a widow, was not overlooked. Only two daughters of Emily are referred to and it is likely that these are Lillas and Audrey Playfair. The other nieces are not named, but the two nephews are Frederick James and Henry Herbert Kitson, sons of James's brother Frederick William Kitson. Only a brief reference is made to James Clifford Kitson, which at least establishes that he was presumably still alive in 1911. Finally, some of the family retainers were beneficiaries, and I am particularly pleased to see that the laundrymaids were not forgotten!

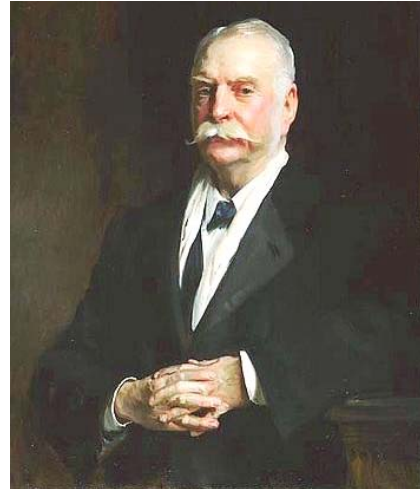
James (together with his brothers) capitalised on the entrepreneurship of the father no doubt encouraged and in response to the economic and technological climate of the time, and spurred on by the imperative of building and servicing an effective and affordable network of transportation, locally, nationally and internationally. The achievements this scion of the Kitson family have been succinctly summarised as follows.

He was educated in Wakefield Propriety School. He graduated from University College of London with a Doctor of Science. He was created 1st Baronet Kitson on 28 August 1886. He held the office of Member of Parliament (Liberal) for Colne Valley between 1892 and 1907. He held the office of Lord Mayor of Leeds between 1896 and 1897. He graduated from Leeds University with an honorary Doctor of Science. He was invested as a Privy Counsellor on 30th June 1907. He was created 1st Baron Airedale, of Gledhow, West Riding of York on 17th July 1907.<sup>18</sup>

The photograph below (left) shows Sir James Kitson in his study at Gledhow Hall in 1907 the same year as he was elevated to the peerage as Lord Airedale following his term as a Liberal MP for the Colne Valley from 1892 to 1907. With his elevation to 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Airedale, his wife Mary assumed the title of Baroness Airedale. No doubt there was some family discussion on the armorial bearings and the following was decided upon.



*James at Gledhow Hall, 1907*



*Formal Portrait – James Kitson, First Baron Airedale*

Or, on a pale azure, a pike haurient of the first, a chief of the second, thereon an annulet between two mill-rinds erect of the field. Upon the escutcheon, which is charged with his badge of Ulster as a Baronet, is placed a helmet befitting his degree, with a mantling azure and or; and for his Crest, upon a wreath of the colours, issuant from park pales proper, a demi-unicorn argent, gorged with an annulet azure. Motto - "Palnam qi meruit ferat".

Another of the Kitsons' achievements was their contribution to the establishment of the Yorkshire College of Science. While it is not clear from the extract below whether the James referred to is James Snr or James Jnr but if the former, no doubt the latter continued the family interest in the advancement of scientific education.<sup>19</sup>

An important motivating force for establishing the Yorkshire College had been the Paris International Exhibition of 1867. Visitors from the West Riding, particularly from the woollen cloth and textile industries, had been alarmed at evidence of the rapid development of new technologies on the Continent, which appeared to them to pose a considerable threat to the local cloth trade. They were particularly concerned at the superior scientific and technical education of European workers. As a result, on their return, Obadiah Nussey, a woollen manufacturer and James Kitson, a locomotive engineer, proposed to the Yorkshire Board of Education "a county college of science". Other industrialists backed them and the London-based Clothworkers' Company offered generous support which continues to this day....

and

The purpose of such a college was to have been the technical training of young manufacturers and science teachers. As a result, the college sub-committee was formed with Lord Frederick Cavendish as Chairman. By 1872, a scheme for a College of Science was prepared in which there were four endowed chairs : Mathematics and Engineering, Chemistry, Mining, Geology and Metallurgy, and Experimental Philosophy. This provision was later revised and the Yorkshire College of Science opened in 1874 with three endowed chairs : Physics and Mathematics, Chemistry, and Geology and Mining.



## OBITUARY.

### LORD AIREDALE.

We regret to announce that Lord Airedale died suddenly in Paris yesterday after a heart seizure. He had been staying at Beaulieu with the Hon. Roland Kitson and the Hon. Emily Kitson, his son and daughter, and was expected back at his seat, Gledhow Hall, either on Saturday or Monday next. The news was received in Leeds in a message from Mr. and Miss Kitson, according to which he died from a heart attack that came on in the train after a journey to Beaulieu early yesterday morning. Lord Airedale is stated to have previously appeared well and hearty. The Town Hall bell at Leeds was tolled on receipt of the news.

Lord Airedale, who was one of the leaders of industry in the North of England, was 75 years of age. He was the second son of Mr. James Kitson, of Elmete Hall, a former Mayor of Leeds, and one of the pioneers of the engineering industry in the North of England. His father started life in humble circumstances, but by frugality, perseverance, and a wise employment of his spare hours in self-culture built up a modest business which was the forerunner of great works directed in later years by Lord Airedale. The first locomotive seen in the West Riding was built by the elder Kitson, who was a friend of George Stephenson, and the story runs that he constructed it in a small room out of which there was no apparent chance of its being got. He was roundly chaffed by his friends on the matter, but for a reply merely shrugged his shoulders, and, as the saying goes in the North, "bided his time." Then, when the day for the "trial run" came he calmly knocked down one of the walls of the building and ran the engine out.

The late Lord Airedale had a more favourable start in life than his father, and completed his education at the University College, London. But he was full of business aptitude and ambition, and set himself to build up a great engineering concern. This he did with such success that at Leeds 2,000 hands are now employed by the firm, and the engines which are constructed there are known in all parts of the world. He devoted himself largely to the construction of locomotives peculiarly suited to the characteristics of the countries for which they were required, and some of these now climb the Andes and other great mountain ranges, whilst others traverse the deserts of India and the swamps of South America. Appreciation of his position in the engineering world resulted in his election as President of the Iron and Steel Institute (1888-90). He was also awarded the Bessemer gold medal.

### POLITICAL CAREER.

Lord Airedale was throughout life a warm supporter of the Liberal Party. It has been said of him that he was to Yorkshire what Dr. Spence Watson was to Northumberland. Like many another provincial Radical, he first took a prominent part in politics at the time of the Education Act of 1870. The West Riding of Yorkshire is a stronghold of Nonconformity, and Mr. Kitson, as he then was, found a ready audience for his plain, straightforward, if somewhat commonplace, style of oratory. He ultimately became President of the Leeds Liberal Association, and in this capacity took a conspicuous part in securing the return of Mr. Gladstone in 1880, and more recently of Mr. Herbert (now Lord) Gladstone, who for many years represented a division in the city. At Gledhow Hall a valued possession is a little book, in a very precious binding, of Mr. Gladstone's letters to "Sir James Kitson." It is marked outside "Leeds Election, 1880."

Mr. Kitson's political activities later took a wider form, and he was for six years President of the National Liberal Federation, as well as for a long period leader of the Liberal Party in Yorkshire. In July, 1886, he first sought Parliamentary honours, standing for Central Leeds as a Gladstonian Liberal. Mr. Gerald Balfour, who was his opponent, was returned by the small majority of 13 votes, the figures being, Balfour, 4,225; Kitson, 4,212. Mr. Kitson's disappointment was compensated for by his creation as a baronet about the same time. In 1892 he was selected as Liberal candidate for Colne Valley, and was returned by over 700 votes. He represented the constituency up to the time of his elevation to the peerage in 1907. In later years he saw growing up in the constituency a strong Labour and Socialistic element, and in 1895 one of his opponents in a three-cornered contest was Mr. Tom Mann, whilst the first representative of the constituency after he went to the House of Lords was Mr. Victor Grayson. In the House of Lords he had the pleasure of seconding the Address.

### CONNEXION WITH LEEDS.

Lord Airedale's connexion with Leeds was a very close and cordial one. He was Lord Mayor of the city 1896-7, and was made a Freeman about five years ago. He was also at one time President of the Leeds Chamber of Commerce. He frequently presided at the great Liberal demonstrations held from time to time in the Leeds Coliseum, and many prominent persons visiting Leeds and the West Riding stayed overnight or during a week-end at Gledhow Hall, including Sir William Harcourt, Lord Rosebery, Lord Morley, and Lord Gladstone. He seldom spoke without telling some story of his early life and vicissitudes, and generally finished with a word of advice to young and working men. As an employer of labour he was very popular. He gave freely to charitable objects, and presented to the Leeds Art Gallery Lord Leighton's picture "The Return of Persephone." Lord Airedale was a Unitarian and attended the Mill Hill Chapel, Leeds, the headquarters of Unitarianism in Yorkshire. For 14 years he was a Sunday school teacher there, and afterwards a superintendent.

In 1906 Lord Airedale was sworn of the Privy Council, and some time ago the University of Leeds paid a tribute to his prominence in the engineering world by conferring upon him the degree of Doctor of Science.

Lord Airedale was twice married—first, in 1860, to Emily Christiana, daughter of Mr. Joseph Cliff, of Wortley, and, secondly, in 1881, to Mary Laura, daughter of the late Mr. E. F. Smith, of the Priory, Dudley. His heir is the Hon. Albert Ernest Kitson, of Cober Hill, Cloughton, Scarborough, who was born in 1863. The latter married, in 1890, Florence, elder daughter of the late Mr. Edward Schunh, of Gledhow Wood, and has six daughters. He has two brothers, Mr. James Clifford Kitson and Mr. Edward Christian Kitson, and a half-brother, Mr. Roland Dudley Kitson.

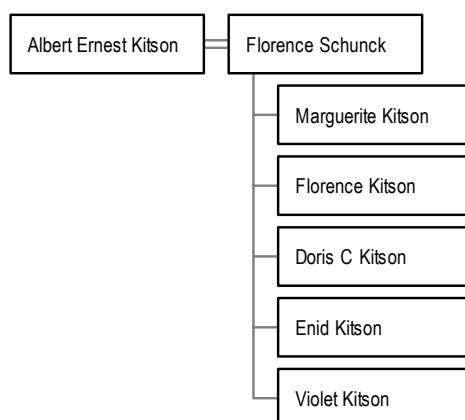


Gledhow Hall



The famous bathroom

## Albert Ernest Kitson



Albert Ernest Kitson, the oldest son of James Kitson and his wife Emily Christiana, was born in Leeds on 7<sup>th</sup> October 1863. For the 1871 census he was at home, a young boy of 7, at Spring Bank House, Otley. He has not been found in the 1881 census but the following extract from the Cambridge University Alumni, 1261-1900 describes his academic achievements between 1883 to 1886 :

Admitted pens at TRINITY, June 18 1883. Matriculated from Rugby School in 1883 and received his BA from Cambridge in 1886.

Albert reappears ten years later in the 1891 census by which time he was a young married man, residing at Bedford House, Private Road, Roundhay.<sup>xx</sup> The head of the household and his wife are outnumbered by a number of servants in what would have been a substantial home.

Albert Ernest Kitson	27	Director of Iron Works	Leeds
Florence Kitson	23		Adel
James Jarvis	28	Butler	Bransburton, Yorkshire
Minnie Paley	24	Cook	Skipton-in-Craven, Yorkshire
Alice Brown	23	Lady's Maid	Gateshead, Durham
Mary Wingate	22	House Maid	Leeds
Emma Bright	19	House Maid	Clowne, Derbyshire

### At the Bedford Cottage (1)

William Wardell	32	Coachman	Broughton, Lincolnshire
Emma Wardell	31		Lincoln
Frederick Shepherd (Board)	22	Groom	Leeds

### At the Bedford Cottage (2)

Robert Harburn	30	Gardener	Carlton, Yorkshire
Ellen Harburn	30		Mayfair, London
Hilda M Harburn	6		Newland cum Heath, Yorkshire
Gertrude Harburn	4		Newland cum Heath, Yorkshire
Agnes Harburn	3		Roundhay
Robert Harburn	1		Roundhay
Edith Harburn	1 mth		Roundhay

We have already come across the Schunck family in Celebration Part 2. In 1881 Alice Fretwell, daughter of William and Anne Fretwell, was employed by the Schunck family as a Governess. I do not imagine that the young Florence would have thought that one day she would be married to a cousin (albeit rather distant) of her erstwhile governess.

Ernest and Florence was another couple married at the Unitarian Mill Hill Chapel by Licence on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1890. Albert was 26 years old and Florence was aged 21. Their respective addresses were given as Gledhow hall, New Leeds, and Gledhow Wood, Leeds. By the time of the marriage Florence's father Edward, described as General Merchant, had died. Ernest was described as Gentleman and his father James as Baronet. The ceremony was witnessed by Ernest's brother James, and by J. Edw Schunck, a brother of the bride and M.J. Schunck – probably Florence's sister Marguerite – and a Charles J Innes, Rev.<sup>xxi</sup>

Florence's parents, Edward Baron von Schunck and Kate Lupton (another well-heeled Leeds family), were married relatively late in life - in 1867, when he was 51 and she was 34.<sup>xxii</sup> Edward Schunck had been born in Leipzig around 1826 and had subsequently moved to England and had become a British subject. He



established himself as a successful Yarn and Stuff Merchant. The 1871 census finds Edward, Kate and their family at The Willows, Adel cum Eccup where they would have moved to probably after the birth of their first child.<sup>xxiii</sup>

Edward Schunck	55	Yarn and Stuff Merchant	Saxony (nat. Brit Sub)
Kate Schunck	38		Leeds
Florence Schunck	3		Leeds
John E Schunck	1		Leeds
Eliza Norton	32	Governess	Diss, Norfolk
Eliza Clark	30	Nursemaid	Leeds
Mary E Butler	26	Housemaid	North Burley
Eliza Beever	44	Cook	Doncaster
Elizabeth H Campbell	22	Waiting Maid	Caithness, Scotland
Elizabeth Gott	17	Under Nurse	Marston, Yorks
Joseph Walker	19	Groom	Leeds
And in the adjoining cottage			
Thomas Dawson	35	Coachman	Semear(?), Yorks
Phebe Dawson	37		Holbeck

Some time after the birth of their second daughter, Marguerite, the family moved to Chapel Allerton In 1881 Florence, now a young scholar, is found at home with her parents at 266 Gledhow Lane.<sup>xxiv</sup>

Edward Schunck	65	Yarn and Stuff Merchant	Leipzig, Saxony (nat. Brit Sub)
Kate Schunck	48	Merchant's Wife	Leeds
John Edward Schunck	11	Scholar	Adel
Florence Schunck	13	Scholar	Adel
Marguerite Schunck	8	Scholar	Adel
Alice Fretwell	38	Governess	Barlby, Yorkshire
Caroline Tipping	28	Housemaid	Gt Malvern, Worcestershire
Emma Richardson	21	Housemaid	Lincoln
Anne Jones	21	Maid	Leeds
Elizabeth Fletcher	21	Kitchen Maid	Potter Newton
Mary I Milner	34	Mail	Filey, Yorkshire
Arthur Hawsworth	21	Groom	West Hartlepool, Durham
Ann Canswick	48	Cook	Durham

From the 1881 Census we know that Florence had at least one brother and one sister. Given the ages of her parents when they married there is little chance that they had more than 3 children. In fact, as noted above, by the time Florence married her father had died – almost a year earlier on 5<sup>th</sup> February 1889 at Menton, Alpes-Maritime France.<sup>xxv</sup> Just to take the Schuncks a little further in time, for the 1891 census Kate Schunck is still at Gledhow Wood, with her daughter Marguerite, now 18, and assisted by a substantial household of servants and retainers. Brother John married Mary Gertrude Illingworth, a girl from Bradford. By 1901 John was at Potternewton and carrying on business as an export merchant of yarns, wool and goods etc.<sup>xxvi</sup> He legally changed his name to John Edward Darnton. At least two children were born to John and Mary, the last being named Christian Darnton. Kate outlived Edward by over twenty years, dying on 16<sup>th</sup> May 1913.<sup>xxvii</sup>

A monumental inscription in honour of the Schunck family is found in the south section of St. Johns' Church, Roundhay, which reads as follows :

*In memory of Edward SCHUNK died at Mentone February 5<sup>th</sup> 1889 aged 73 years. Also Kate wife of the above Edward SCHINCK who died at Gledhow Wood May 16<sup>th</sup> 1913 aged 80 years. Also of John Godfrey son of John Edward and Mary Gertrude SCHUNCK and grandson of the above died July 4<sup>th</sup> 1901 aged 6 days.*

It seems that for each successive census the size of the household increases, not only in offspring but also in 'home help'. By 1901 Ernest and Florence have moved to Cober Hill, Cloughton, Scarborough complete with a retinue of servants. Three of the five children were born to Ernest and Florence in Leeds, presumably before they moved. Why Ambleside was the birthplace of Enid is unknown, nor is the reason for the relocation to Cloughton, just north of Scarborough.<sup>xxviii</sup>

Albert E Kitson	37	Director of Iron Works (Employer)	Leeds
Florence Kitson	33		Adel
Marguerite Kitson	8		Leeds
Florence E Kitson	8		Leeds
Doris C Kitson	6		Leeds

Enid Kitson	2		Ambleside, Westmoreland Cumb
Violet Kitson	1		Cloughton, Yorkshire
Charlotte Rieschke	32	Governess	Bradford
Emma L Connor	25	Governess	Blackburn, Lancashire
Clara A Smith	27	Cook	Sutton on Hull, Yorkshire
Ida A Pidmore	37	Housemaid	Rashall, Rutland
Agnes M Watson	18	Housemaid	South Eston, Yorkshire
Isabel Trotter	22	Kitchen Maid	Butterknowle, Durham
Jane E Riggins	25	Nurse (Domestic)	Richmond, Yorkshire
Eleanor A Hopps	19	Nurse (Domestic)	East Cowton, Yorkshire
Emmeline Riddell	31	Serving Maid (Domestic)	Nottingham

Also listed for Cober Hill are :

Henry Rollison	27	Gardener (Domestic)	Gledhow, Leeds
Lily Rollison	28		Leeds
Henry Wilson	34	Coachman (Domestic)	Bishop Thornton, Yorkshire
Elizabeth Wilson	34		Harworth on Tees, Yorkshire
Leonard Wilson	7		North Deighton, Yorkshire
Elsie Wilson	4		Huby, Yorkshire
Henry Harper (Bdr)	18	Footman (Domestic)	Shadwell, Yorkshire
William Bennison (Bdr)	21	Groom	North Cowton, Yorkshire
John Hemsley	25	Butler (Domestic)	Ruddington, Nottinghamshire
Alice Hemsley	20		Thring (?), Yorkshire

and at Cober Villa :

William E Tee (Vis)	51	Gardener	Earlsheaton, Yorkshire
Charlotte Tee	22		Dewsbury, Yorkshire

The need for so many people to assist with running the household seems less of an extravagance when you see the size of the establishment. The Hall was built in 1885 and served as a private residence until 1920 when it opened as a guest house to provide a centre for residential courses, conferences and holidays for individual guests and families.



*Cober Hall, Scarborough*



*Albert Ernest Kitson, 2nd Baron Airedale of Gledhow*

The source thePeerage.com fills in a few more details of Ernest's life :

He died aged 80 on 11 March 1944 without male issue. He was educated in Rugby School, Warwickshire and graduated from Trinity College, Cambridge University with a Bachelor of Arts. Like his father, and grandfather, he was a manufacturer of iron and steel. He was a director of the Midland Bank, Albert succeeded to the title of 2nd Baron Airedale of Gledhow, and to the title of 2nd Baronet Kitson on 16 March 1911.

Albert died at Stanstead, Essex. The reason for his moving to, or at least staying in Stanstead has not been established. It may have had something to do with the fact that Florence had predeceased him, having died on 8<sup>th</sup> July 1842. As noted above he died without male issue. The 1901 census lists five daughters but according to the obituary for his father James, Ernest and Florence had one more daughter who would have been born

after March 1901. Albert's titles were inherited by his younger brother – who in 1944 would have been, in fact, his step-brother Roland Dudley Kitson, his brother Edward Christian having died in 1922 and his other brother James Clifford having died sometime before 1944.



### James Clifford Kitson

James, the second son of James and Emily Christiana, presents something of a problem in tracing his life. We know that he was born on 6<sup>th</sup> December 1864 in Leeds and that his birth was registered in Leeds during the Jan-March quarter of 1865.<sup>xxxix</sup>

He was at home at Otley Road for the 1871 census as a boy of six but nothing further has definitely been found in subsequent census data for him. However, it is possible that he is the James C Kitson visiting the Taylor family at Douglas House, Langley Road, Surbiton on 31<sup>st</sup> March 1901<sup>xxx</sup>

Arthur S Taylor	41	Physician & Surgeon (own Account)	Kent
Ada Taylor	38		Bedfordshire
Evelyn Taylor	11		Surrey
Celia E Taylor	9		Surrey
Ruth Mary Taylor	7		Surrey
James C Kitson (Visitor)	36		Yorkshire
Elizabeth Johnson	32	Nurse	London
Emily Gadd	21	Cook	Surrey
Ellen W Corbyn	25	Parlourmaid	Suffolk
Louise White	24	Housemaid	Buckinghamshire
Louisa M Briggs	15	Kitchenmaid	London

Whether or not this is our James Clifford, we can presume that he was still alive in 1911 as he was one of the lesser beneficiaries of his father's will and he would have died some time before 1944.



### Emily Kitson

Named after her mother, Emily is another child of James and Emily who makes only a brief appearance in this record. Her birth was registered in the Jan-Mar quarter of 1867 at Leeds. Like her brothers Albert and James, Emily was at home with the family in 1861 at Otley Road.<sup>xxxv</sup> She would have been about six years old when her mother died in 1873. Again, as with her two older brothers, Emily has not been located in the 1881 census. However Emily, now 24, turns up back at home with her father for the 1891 census. Her step-mother and step brother and sister are absent from the household for this census, but Emily's younger siblings Alice and Edward are also at home.<sup>xxxii</sup>

No doubt a topic of conversation would have been Emily's recent trip to America. She and Hilda had accompanied their father on the Cunard ocean liner ss *Servia*, arriving in New York on 29<sup>th</sup> September 1890.<sup>xxxiii</sup> At the time of her launching in 1 March 1881 the *Servia* was the second largest of all ships in the world. The *Servia* had four decks and a promenade deck. It was the first steel-hulled Cunarder. She was also the first ocean liner lit by electric incandescent lamps. Though she never attained the Blue Riband, the liner tested whether steel hulls and electric lighting could work for transatlantic ships. The vessel was broken up and went out of service in 1902.<sup>xxxiv</sup> Emily received a handsome bequest from her father's will and there are a few references to her in the Times archives. For instance she was a member of the Victoria League and is mentioned as attending various society friends' weddings, although she herself never married. A notice in the Times of 25<sup>th</sup> April 1944 recorded her death on the 8<sup>th</sup> January 1962 at a Tunbridge Wells nursing home at the grand age of 95. A Kerbstone at St. John's Church, Roundhay, commemorates her passing.

FF2 Kerbstone

*Emily KITSON daughter of 1st Lord Airedale died January 8th 1962 aged 95 years.*

The last reference to her in the Times is an article on her will, under the heading Gift to London University, on 30<sup>th</sup> March 1962.

Miss Emily Kitson of Tunbridge Wells, daughter of the first Lord Airedale, left £32,266 gross, £31,582 net (duty paid £11,976).

She left £1,000 to London University for the benefit of University College, in memory of her father "who was a student at University College", £500 to the Kent County Association for the Blind, £500 to St. Dunstan's and £100 to the Old Contemptibles Association, Tunbridge Wells.



### Alice Hilda Kitson

Alice Hilda is another Kitson daughter who makes only a cameo appearance in this account. Her birth to James and Ellen Christian Kitson was registered at Leeds in the Oct-Dec quarter of 1872.<sup>xxxv</sup> It is unlikely that she would have had any memory of her mother as Alice was only about two when she died. Alice was recorded in the 1881 census at home with her widowed father and younger brother Edward, when the family was living at Headingley Lane, and again at home at Gledhow Hall with her father (now remarried), her sister Emily and younger brother Edward for the 1891 census.<sup>xxxvi</sup> I have found no record for Alice in the 1901 census, but she did appear on the passenger manifest of the RMS Celtic which sailed from Liverpool on 14<sup>th</sup> October 1904, arriving in New York on 24<sup>th</sup> October. According to the Passenger List, Alice Hilda, a single woman of 31 was travelling with her step-sister Olive Mary, together with her father Sir James Kitson and her step brother Roland Dudley Kitson. They were tourists and their final destination was listed as Washington.<sup>xxxvii</sup>

Celtic was the second White Star liner of this name, and was the first of White Star's turn of the century "Big Four". Launched in 1901, she was the first ship to exceed Great Eastern's gross tonnage and was the first ship ever to exceed 20,000 gross tons. Celtic made her maiden voyage, Liverpool-New York, on 26 July 1901. She served principally on that route until World War I, although she also did some cruising, and made a couple of voyages out of Southampton in 1907. Taken over as an armed merchant cruiser in 1914, she became a troopship in 1916. Celtic was a very lucky trooper; she survived the war even though she hit a mine in 1917, was torpedoed in 1918, and eluded at least one other U-boat attack. She returned to Liverpool-New York service after the war, and on 12 December 1928, was wrecked at Roche's Point, Cobh. There were no fatalities, but Celtic was a total loss and was broken up at the site. Demolition was completed in 1933.<sup>xxxviii</sup>

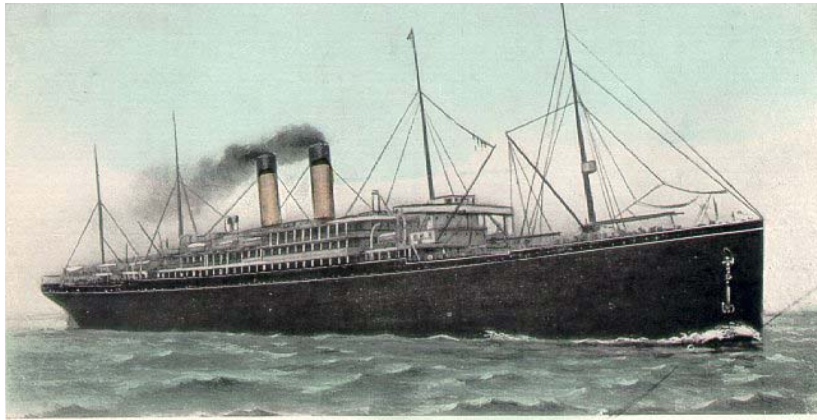
I have found no further records for Alice Kitson apart from a notice in the Times of 25<sup>th</sup> April 1944 advising the death on April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1944, of the Hon Alice Hilda Kitson, of Gledhow Grange Leeds, the second daughter of the first Baron Airedale of Gledhow, and the memorial services to be held at the Mill Hill Chapel, Leeds on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April. Alice, who never married, died just seven weeks after her eldest brother Albert Ernest Kitson.



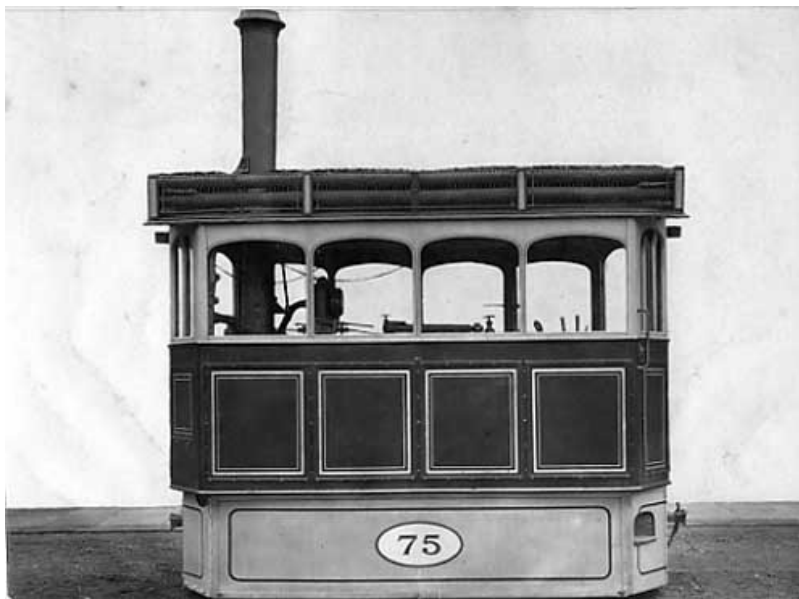
### Edward Christian Kitson

The last of the children born to James and Emily Christiana Kitson was Edward Christian who was born 30<sup>th</sup> September 1873 at Leeds. He would have no memory of his mother as she died within a week of his birth from complications following the delivery. The account of him is as brief as his life, and as skimpy as the records found for him. As noted above, he was at home for the 1881 census as a seven year old scholar and ten years later, still as a scholar, but now aged 17.<sup>xxxix</sup> Edward Christian has not been located in the 1901 census, but we know he was still alive and well, and studying for his M.A., from the following citation<sup>xl</sup>:

Edward Christian, Kitson admitted pens at TRINITY, June 18 1892. 3rd son of Sir James, Bart (MP) of Gledhow Hall, Leeds and Emily Christiana, dau of Joseph Cliff of Wortley. B. Sept 30 1873, at Leeds School, Harrow. Matric Michs 1892; B.A. 1895; M.A. 1902. Engineer. Entered the locomotive works founded by his grandfather, and later Secretary to Messrs. Kitson and Co., Ltd; finally Chairman of the Company. Died Jan 15 1922 at Leeds. [Harrow Sch Reg; Burke, P and B (sub Airedale); The Times, Jan 17 1922].



*RMS Celtic*



1882 View of a Kitson made number 75 steam tram engine. The chimney is visible towards the left.



1880 View shows a Kitson number 1 steam tram engine with a Starbuck number 22 horse car.

*Kitson produced steam trams from his Airedale, then later Monk Bridge Works. The Starbuck Car and Wagon Co Ltd's based in Birkenhead. This particular engine was first used for a passenger service on 17th June 1880 and completed the journey between Boar Lane and Upper Wortley in 20 minutes*

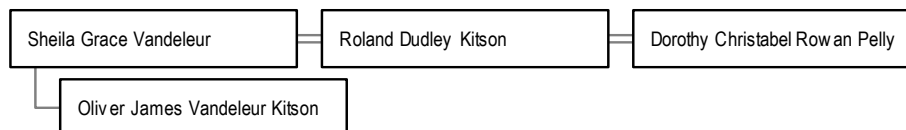
There is no evidence that Edward married. The cause is not known, but Edward Christian Kitson died on 15<sup>th</sup> January 1922 at Leeds just before his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday, and the following Monumental Inscription at St. John's Church, Roundhay, records the event.

*EE4 Horizontal Latin cross on shaped tomb*

*In Memory of Edward Christian KITSON born September 30th 1873 died January 15th 1922.*



#### Roland Dudley Kitson



Roland Dudley Kitson was the first of two children born to James Kitson and his second wife Mary Laura (née Smith). He was born on 19<sup>th</sup> July 1882 in Leeds, just over twelve months after his parents married, and his middle name is probably in 'honour' of his mother's birthplace.

Roland was educated at Westminster School and admitted to Trinity College, Cambridge University in January 1894. Having matriculated, he left in Cambridge in July 1901. Roland, his mother Mary, and sister Olive, have not been found in the 1891 census, but they were together for the 1901 census, staying at 13 Kensington Court.<sup>xii</sup> As noted above, Roland accompanied his father, sister Olive, and step-sister Alice Hilda on the RMS Celtic on a voyage to America in 1904.

On 1 July 1913 he married Sheila Grace Vandeleur, daughter of Francis Edward Vandeleur and Emily Vandeleur (née Conant) of Evelyn Gardens, Kensington. Edward was a civil servant employed in the War Office. Eighteen months prior to Sheila's birth on 13<sup>th</sup> October 1882, Frank and his family were living at 21 Gloucester Street, Westminster.<sup>xiii</sup>

Frank Vandeleur	34	Jun Clerk War Office	Plymouth, Devon
Emily Vandeleur	31		Windsor, Berkshire
Evelyn Vandeleur	4		Pimlico, Middlesex
Thomas Vandeleur	3		Pimlico, Middlesex
Elizabeth Cousins	24	Cook,	Northumberland
Sarah Walker	19	Housemaid	Ireland
Emma Kirby	34	Maid	Ashley, Northamptonshire
William Robinson	18	Footman	Pimlico, Middlesex

By the time of the next census, on 5<sup>th</sup> April 1991, Sheila Grace was a young girl of eight. Together with her parents and sister Evelyn (Evaline), she was staying with the Davies family at Broughton Grange, Walkam Road, Oxford. With both families it was a full household.<sup>xiiii</sup>

Bryam M Davies	50	Barrister at Law and Inspector Poor Law (School)	Fletcham, Sussex
Frances A Davies	44		Windsor, Berkshire
Maud F Davies	18		St George Hanover Square, London
Cecilia(?) C Davies	14		St George Hanover Square, London
Bryam H E Davies	12		St George Hanover Square, London
Warburton E Davies	11		Brighton, Sussex
Claud M Davies	9		St George Hanover Square, London
Frank Vandeleur (Bro-i-Law)	44	Clerk in War Office	Plymouth, Devon
Emily A E Vandeleur (Sis-i-Law)	42		Windsor, Berkshire
Evelyn Vandeleur (Niece)	14		St George Hanover Square, London
Sheila G Vandeleur (Niece)	8		St George Hanover Square, London
Sarah Hawkins	26	Cook	Wells, Somersetshire
Annie Willett	25	Parlour Maid	Syde(?), Gloucestershire
Agnes Clayton	23	Housemaid	Henley on Thames
Rosamund J Allern(?)	18	School Room Maid	Buckinghamshire

From the birth places, and the relationships in the list above, we can see that Frances Davies and Emily Vandeleur were sisters. The name Vandeleur caused headaches for the census transcribers, but eventually Sheila was located in the 1901 census under the name Vandaler. This time she and some of her family were in Rutland, again as part of an extensive household, headed up by Grace's maternal grandfather in the small

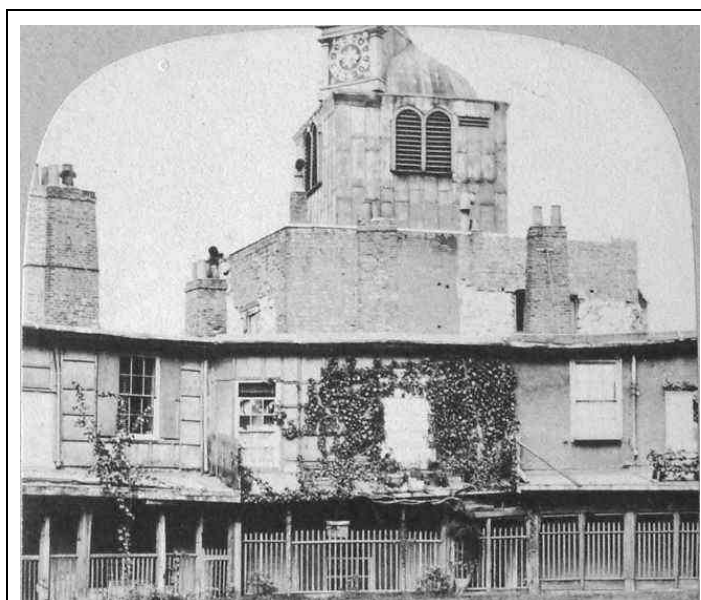


# village of Lyndon.<sup>xiv</sup>

Edward Nathaniel Conant (Wdr)	80	Living on own Means, Magistrate, Deputy Lieutenant	London
Gertrude Catherine Conant (Daug)	55		Windsor, Berkshire
Amy Louisa Emily Conant (Daug)	50		Paddington, London
Frances Annie Davies (M) (Daug)	54		Windsor Cloisters
Emily Ag Elizabeth Vandeleur (W) (Daug)	51	Living on own Means	Windsor Cloisters
Evelyn Gertrude Vandaleur (GDaug)	24		Pimlico, London
Sheila Grace Vandaleur (GDaug)	18		Pimlico, London
Jane Jackson	71	Housekeeper	Twickenham, Middlesex
Sarah Bornell	38	Cook,	Scamblesby, Lincolnshire
Grace Berridge	28	Lady's Maid	Rutland
Flora Hayes	26	Lady's Maid	Gloucester
Alice Cooper	27	Housemaid	Palgrave, Norfolk
Katherine Thompson	24	Housemaid	Sevenoaks, Kent
Ethel Spencer	19	Housemaid	Northamptonshire
Priscilla Meadows	21	Kitchen Maid	Leicester
Beatrice Maud Smith	20	Scullery Maid	Rutland
Harriet Hartley	58	Laundry Maid	Worksop, Nottinghamshire
Frances Annie Whitby	27	Laundry Maid	Sutton Bonington, Nottinghamshire
Lizzie Rudkin (Visitor)	19	Laundry Maid	Market Deeping, Lincolnshire
Lottie Hendrich	26	Lady's Maid	Sudbury, Suffolk
Arthur Lee Palmer	28	Footman	Scoulton, Norfolk
Alfred Jeffrey	21	Footman	Northamptonshire

As Edward Conant died very shortly after the 1901 census – his death was registered in the Oakham District of Rutland in the Jul-Sep quarter<sup>xiv</sup> - perhaps this was a gathering of the clan for what was probably a final visit to the patriarch of the family. We also see from the 1901 census that Emily Vandaleur is now a widow, her husband Edward having died in late 1900. His death was registered in Kensington for the Oct-Dec quarter.<sup>xvi</sup>

The variation in the census returns giving place of birth for Frances Davies and Emily Vandeleur as Windsor and then Windsor Cloisters intrigued me and I checked to see what the significance, if any, was of the word Cloisters. I think this refers to the Horseshoe Cloisters, which were part of the Windsor estate, the stereotype of which below shows what they would have looked like when the sisters were born.<sup>xvii</sup>



*The Curfew Tower and Horseshoe Cloisters in the 1850s from an exceptionally rare, early stereoview in the Royal Windsor Website Collection*

Having established Sheila Grace's credentials (!) we can return to Roland Dudley Kitson. By the time of his marriage Roland was a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion, West Yorkshire Regiment which he joined on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1912. He was then promoted to Lieutenant on 1<sup>st</sup> July 1914 and to Captain nearly twelve months later on 20<sup>th</sup> June 1915 and on 20<sup>th</sup> September 1916 he was a General Staff Officer, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade. He saw active service in France and Italy and was mentioned in despatches on 11<sup>th</sup> December 1917 and 30<sup>th</sup> May 1918. He was

awarded the MC on 4<sup>th</sup> June 1917 and the DSO on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1918. Apart from his Directorship of the family business Monk Bridge Iron and Steel Co.Ltd, Roland was also by 1923 a Director of Bolckow, Vaughan and Co.Ltd (another iron and steel works, based in Cleveland – and still operating today) and a Governor of the Bank of England.<sup>xlviii</sup>

One child only was born to Roland and Sheila – Oliver James Vandaleur Kitson – on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 1915. After a marriage of nearly 23 years, Sheila Kitson died on 8<sup>th</sup> August 1835 in London. Two years later on 16<sup>th</sup> September 1937 Roland remarried and his second wife was Dorothy Christabel Rowland Pelly, daughter of the Rev Canon Raymond Percy Pelly and his wife Alice. I have only briefly followed up on Dorothy through the 1891 and 1901 census returns. Born about 1884, in 1891 she was at home with her family at 1 Walden Place, Saffron Walden, Essex. Her parents certainly went forth and multiplied!<sup>xlix</sup>

Raymond P. Pelly	50	Vicar of Saffron Walden	West Ham, Essex
Alice S Pelly	45		Argyleshire, Scotland
Douglas R Pelly	26	Underwriter at Lloyds	Mitcham, Surrey
Alice M Durrant (M)	24		Wanstead, Essex
Ellen G Pelly	21		Wanstead, Essex
Margaret E Pelly	20		Matlock Bath, Durham
Raymond T Pelly*	9		Woodford, Essex
Dorothy C Pelly	7		Forest Gate, Essex
Ina Marjorie E Pelly	6		Forest Gate, Essex
Raymond Pelly*	3		Forest Gate, Essex
John G Marschall (Visitor) (M)	28	Clerk in Holy Orders	Nottingham
Emily E Marschall (Visitor) (M)	26	Lady's Maid	Pembrokeshire
Ellen Rickman (S)	38	Nurse	West Ham, Essex
Ellen Mary Rickman (S)	18	Under Housemaid	West Ham, Essex
Jane Ann Webster	32	Lady's Maid	Castnor, Herefordshire
Ellen Mary Fltches	34	Housemaid	Icklingham, Suffolk
Annie Elizabeth Pepperns	27	Cook	London City
Harry John R Say	16	Footman	Saffron Walden, Essex

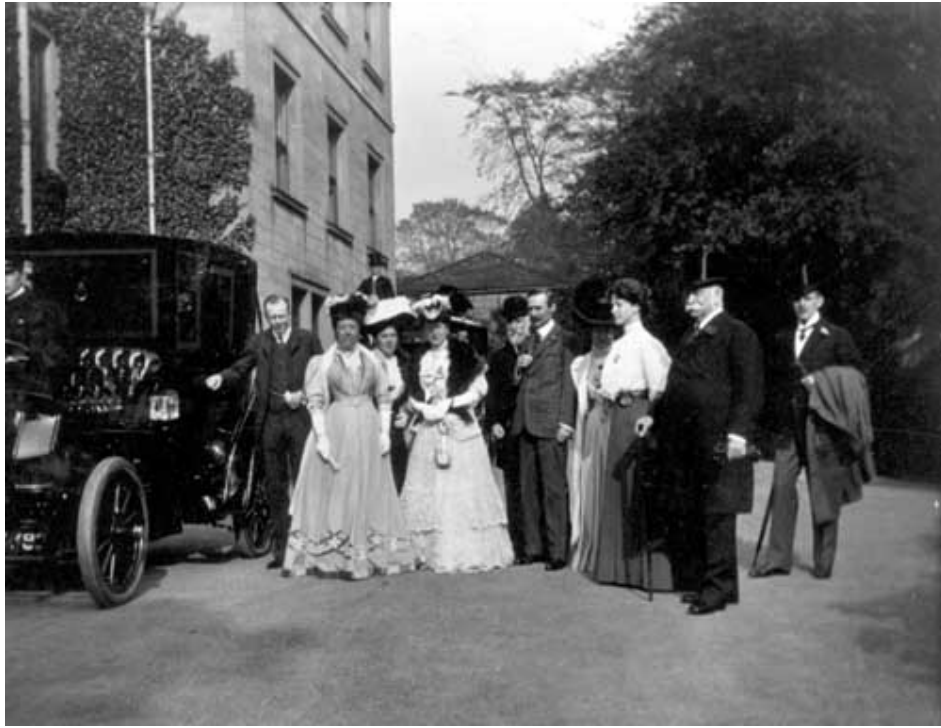
\*Unless the transcriber has made an error, having two sons named Raymond would have created some confusion!

Between 1891 and 1901 the family moved to Worcestershire where the census records them as living at Priors Mount, Malvern, in a much smaller household.<sup>l</sup>

Raymond P. Pelly	60	Clergyman, C of E	West Ham, Essex
Alice S Pelly	45		Scotland
Dorothy C Pelly	17		Forest Gate, Essex
Ina Marjorie E Pelly	15		Forest Gate, Essex
Caroline Ersenschmidt	58	Governess	Russia, Naturalised British Subject
Kate Oliver	31	Cook	Godalming, Surrey
Mary A Wixen	36	Housemaid	Henley on Thames
Alfred Woodward	21	Footman	Shepton Mallett, Somerset
Christopher Poole	16	Page	Ledbury, Herefordshire

When Roland and Dorothy married they were in their fifties. Within ten years of their wedding, on the death of his only surviving brother (step-brother James Clifford Kitson) on 11<sup>th</sup> March 1944, Roland assumed the titles of 3<sup>rd</sup> Baron Airedale of Gledhow and 3<sup>rd</sup> Baronet Kitson, and became a Peer of the Realm and his wife would have assumed the appropriate titles due to her. I am not sure when Dorothy died, but Roland's death occurred at the age of 75 on 20<sup>th</sup> March 1958. This is an appropriate point to record that, on the death of his father, Roland's only son became Sir Oliver James Vandeleur Kitson, 4<sup>th</sup> Baron Airedale of Gledhow and 4<sup>th</sup> Baronet Kitson and inherited the peerage. Oliver never married and on his death on 19<sup>th</sup> March 1996 the titles became extinct.





*1905 Sir James Kitson with a group of family and friends stand beside a chauffeur driven car outside Gledhow Hall.*



*1905 Sir James Kitson and Roland Kitson outside Gledhow Hall. Car with registration U45.*

## Olive Mary Kitson

From what I had been able to glean about Olive Mary Kitson, she barely warranted a mention in the account of the Kitsons. Born about five years after her brother Roland, the birth of this second child of James and Mary Kitson was registered in Leeds in the Apr-Jun quarter of 1887.<sup>1</sup> As noted for Roland, none of the 'new' Kitson family was at home with father James in 1891, and they were again not with him for the 1901 census as they were staying in London.<sup>2</sup> The only other record I had for Olive is that she was one of the Kitson party aboard the SS Celtic on the voyage to America in 1904. However, a search on the Times Archives revealed a little more information about Olive.



A Times notice of 27<sup>th</sup> October 1926 reads as follows :

### Marriages

Major H.B. Kingsley and the Hon. Olive Kitson

The marriage took place yesterday at All Saints' Church, Steep, Near Petersfield, of Major Harold Kingsley, DSO, 4<sup>th</sup> the Prince of Wales's Own Gurkha rifles, son of the late Colonel W.H. B. Kingsley, CB, the Hampshire Regiment, and of Mrs. Kingsley, River View, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary, and the Hon. Olive Kitson, daughter of Laura Lady Airedale, of Stoner House, Petersfield. The Rev. T.H. Masters officiated.

The bride who was given away by her mother, wore a dress of ivory crêpe remain with a train of ivory remain, and her veil was fastened with a wreath of orange-blossom. She carried a sheaf of Madonna lilies and wore a diamond pendant, the gift of her mother and a sapphire brooch, the gift of the bride-groom's mother. There were no bridesmaids. Captain F.E. Hughes was best man, and the reception was held at Stoner House. The guests included Lord and Lady Airedale, the Hon. Angela Kitson, the Hon Roland and Mrs Kitson, the Hon Mrs. Walter Chetwynd, Sir Henry and Lady Earle, Major-General Sir William Thomson, and Sir Ernest and Lady Spencer.

I have found no further information on Harold Kingsley prior to his marriage to Olive, who would have been about 33 years old at the time. I do not know if they had any children, and none are referred to in a short article in the Times of 11<sup>th</sup> August 1964 on Olive's will.

Mrs Olive Mary Kingsley of Warnford, Hampshire, wife of Brigadier H.E.W.B. Kingsley, left £200,307 gross, £197,909 net (duty paid £101,851). She left the residue of her property upon trust for her husband for life and then £1,000 to the RSPCA.

83 03

<sup>1</sup> IGI Individual Record C071935.

<sup>2</sup> HO107/1345/1/pp21-22; HO107/2321/p14; RG9/3392/p21.

<sup>3</sup> Certified copy of Marriage Certificate MXD339837. According to his obituary, James was a Unitarian who attended the Mill Hill Chapel and was for 14 years a Sunday school teacher there, and afterwards a superintendent/

<sup>4</sup> HO107/1350/1.

<sup>5</sup> HO107/2314/p17.

<sup>6</sup> RG10/4569/p7.

<sup>7</sup> Certified copy of Birth Certificate for Charles Clifford Kitson, BXCC620190.

<sup>8</sup> FreeBMD Death Index; certified copy of Death Certificate DYB609690.

<sup>9</sup> St John's Burial Register 1827-1921.

<sup>10</sup> RG11/4538/p34.

<sup>11</sup> Certified copy of Marriage Certificate MXD339925.

<sup>12</sup> RG9/2059/p21.

<sup>13</sup> RG10/3082/p8; RG11/1069/pp5-6.

<sup>14</sup> RG10/3300/p41; RG11/2876/p29.

<sup>15</sup> <http://www.fgww.co.uk/html/woods/gledhallhistory.htm>.

<sup>16</sup> RG12/3713/p30.

<sup>17</sup> RG13/19/p11.

<sup>18</sup> thePeerage.com.

<sup>19</sup> Official Leeds University website.

<sup>xx</sup> RG10/4569/p7; RG12/3714/p6.

<sup>xxi</sup> Certified copy of Marriage Certificate MXD339714. It is interesting that a Reverend (if I have read the certificate correctly) was in attendance. I am not sure if this was a requirement for marriages conducted in accordance with the Rites and Ceremonies of the Unitarian faith, and other Kitson marriages conducted at Mill Hill Chapel did not apparently have a clerical witness, or whether this Charles was just a family friend.

<sup>xxii</sup> Leeds:RB/37/138.

<sup>xxiii</sup> RG10/4300/p1.

<sup>xxiv</sup> RG11/4541/pp44-45.

<sup>xxv</sup> thePeerage.com.

<sup>xxvi</sup> RG12/3713/pp25-26; RG13/4248/p18.

<sup>xxvii</sup> thePeerage.com.

<sup>xxviii</sup> RG13/4534/p18.

<sup>xxix</sup> thePeerage.com; FreeBMD Birth Index 1837-1983. Incidentally, on the same page is the birth registration of a Charles Clifford Kitson who was his twin brother and who presumably died in early childhood.

<sup>xxx</sup> RG10/4569/p7; RG13/667/p4.

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- <sup>xxxii</sup> RG10/4569/p7.
- <sup>xxxiii</sup> RG12/3713/p30.
- <sup>xxxiii</sup> New York Passenger Lists, 1820-1957.
- <sup>xxxiv</sup> Wikipedia.
- <sup>xxxv</sup> FreeBMD Birth Index.
- <sup>xxxvi</sup> RG/11/4538/p34; RG12/3713/p30.
- <sup>xxxvii</sup> New York Passenger Lists, 1820-1957.
- <sup>xxxviii</sup> <http://web.greatships.net:81/scans/PC-CE17.jpg>.
- <sup>xxxix</sup> RG/11/4538/p34; RG12/3713/p30.
- <sup>xl</sup> Cambridge University Alumni, 1261-1900.
- <sup>xli</sup> RG13/19/p11.
- <sup>xlii</sup> RG11/104/p3.
- <sup>xliii</sup> RG12/1181/p4; Broughton Grange - Open Garden – Today the Grange is a very popular tourist attraction with its impressive 25 acres of gardens and light woodland in an attractive Oxfordshire setting. The centrepiece is a large terraced walled garden created by Tom Stuart-Smith in 2001. Vision has been used to blend the gardens into the countryside. Good early displays of bulbs followed by outstanding herbaceous planting in summer.
- <sup>xliv</sup> RG13/3014/p21.
- <sup>xlv</sup> FreeBMD Death Index.
- <sup>xlvi</sup> FreeBMD Death Index.
- <sup>xlvii</sup> <http://www.thamesweb.co.uk/windsor/windsorhistory/curfewsilhouette.html>.
- <sup>xlviii</sup> The Records of Old Westminster 1927 Vol 1.
- <sup>xlix</sup> RG13/1432/p1.
- <sup>l</sup> RG13/2784/pp30-31.
- <sup>li</sup> FreeBMD Birth Index.
- <sup>lii</sup> RG13/19/p11.