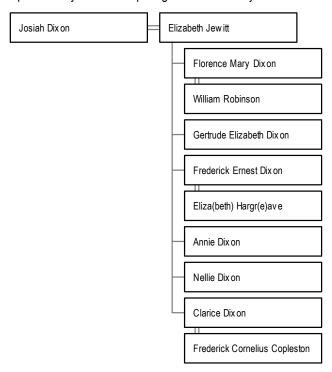
Josiah Dixon

Josiah was the youngest child and fourth son born to John and Elizabeth. He lived at home until his marriage to, yet another, Elizabeth three years before the 1871 census. This occurred on 25th January 1868 at St Peter's Chapel and the bride's maiden name was Elizabeth Jewitt. On the marriage certificate Joshua was listed as being 32 years old and Elizabeth a 35 year old spinster. Both were resident in Leeds at the time of the wedding, Josiah at Malvern Road, Holbeck, and Elizabeth at Randerson's Yard, Ellerby Lane. Both fathers, John Dixon and Thomas Jewitt were Woolstaplers. At the time of his marriage Josiah was a Bookkeeper but no occupation was listed for Elizabeth. There were two witnesses, with their names recorded as Alfred and Mary Anne Jowett, which presumably is not a misprint given the similarity between Jewitt and Jowett.



Elizabeth was born around 1842, in Leeds, to Thomas and Hannah Jewitt. For the 1851 census Elizabeth was not with her parents, but was visiting an aunt who was then living at 5 Spring Place, in the St Saviour's district of Leeds.

Mary Ward (W)	61		Leeds
Thomas Ward	22	Bookkeeper	Leeds
Elizabeth Jewitt	9	Scholar	Leeds

I have not located Elizabeth's mother, but have found her father for the same census – he was with his father at Northgate, Wakefield. I have included the family listing as the Jewitts, all hailing from Wakefield, were in the rag/wool trades."

John Jewitt	67	Tailor	and	Drapery	Master
		employing 1 man	Wakefield		
Elizabeth Jewitt	65		Wakefield		
Thomas Jewitt (M)	38	Wool Sorter	Wakefield		
John Jewitt	32	Tailor	Wakefield		
Fanny M Jewitt	26	Dressmaker	Wakefield		
Joseph Hartley	16	Apprentice Tailor	Wakefield		
Isaac Atkinson	14	Apprentice Tailor	Wakefield		

Given that all the children were born in Leeds, it is likely that only Thomas was in Wakefield in 1851. However, if the Jewitt family were not living in Leeds for the 1851 census, sometime between then and April 1861 they had moved to number 14 Randersons Yard, off Ellerby Lane in East Leeds.

Thomas Jewitt)	48	Wool Sorter	Wakefield
Hannah Jewitt	38		Leeds
Elizabeth Jewitt	18	Linen Weaver	Leeds
Jane H M Jewitt	9	Scholar	Leeds
Mary Jewitt	3		Leeds

1

Fanny M Jewitt 1 Leeds

And ten years later they are still in Leeds, having made a very short move to 33 Ellerby Lane. The family was blessed by a bevy of daughters, but apparently their large family did not include even one son. One daughter, Fanny Maria Jewitt, aged had died just before her fifth birthday in 1864 but by 1871 two more daughters had been born to Thomas and Hannah.

Thomas Jewitt	58	Wool Sorter	Wakefield
Hannah Jewitt	48		Leeds
Jane H M Jewitt	19	Woollen Weaver	Leeds
Mary Jewitt	13	Scholar	Leeds
Caroline Jewitt	9	Scholar	Leeds
Maria Jewitt	6	Scholar	Leeds.

This brings us back full circle to Joshua and Elizabeth who is not listed with her family in 1871 as she is now Josiah's wife. She has not, however, moved far from the Jewitt family home. In 1871 Joshua and Elizabeth are found, with two small daughters, at 17 Ellerby Lane, South East Leeds. Josiah's occupation is still bookkeeper – which was probably, but not certainly connected with the woollen industry.

Josiah Dixon	25	Bookkeeper	Leeds
Elizabeth Dixon	28	Wife	Leeds
Florence M Dixon	2		Leeds
Gertrude F Dixon	3 mths	Leeds	

Sometime in the next ten years the family moved to Headingley, presumably to a larger house to accommodate the growing family, but perhaps also because he has found a new job. In 1861 his occupation was wool sorter, so he would have been capitalising on his previous skills as Joshua is now a foreman in a woollen mill. Perhaps he was employed by the Burley New Mills (carpets) or the Burley Vale Mills (woollen) or the Cardigan Mills (woollen) all of which were situated on Milford Road which backed onto Langford Street.

Josiah Dixon	35	Yarn Foreman (Woollen)	Leeds
Elizabeth Dixon	38	Wife	Leeds
Florence M Dixon	12	Scholar	Leeds
Gertrude E Dixon	11	Scholar	Leeds
Frederick E Dixon	8	Scholar	Leeds
Annie Dixon	6	Scholar	Leeds
Nellie Dixon	2		Leeds
Clarice Dixon	2 mths		Leeds

1891 sees another move for the family, this time to 9 Athlone Grove, Armley and the older children are now gainfully employed. Unless the census taker made a mistake, Josiah has had a complete change of career so perhaps the mill job didn't work out, or perhaps there was a downturn in the business.

Josiah Dixon	45	Coal Merchant	Leeds
Elizabeth Dixon	48	Wife	Leeds
Florence M Dixon	22	Cloth Weaver	Leeds
Gertrude E Dixon	21	Cloth Weaver	Leeds
Frederick E Dixon	18	Iron Moulder	Leeds
Annie Dixon	16	Cloth Weaver	Leeds
Nellie Dixon	12	Scholar	Leeds
Clarice Dixon	10	Scholar	Leeds

Between 1871 and 1881 Elizabeth's father died, although I have not found a record for this. Her mother and some of her sisters had also moved by the 1881 census not to Cross Green Lane, close to Ellerby Lane.*

Hannah Jewitt	58		Leeds
Mary Jewitt	23	Cloth Weaver	Leeds
Caroline Jewitt	19		Leeds
Maria Jewitt	16	Domestic Servant	Leeds

Operating within the Ellerby Lane/Cross Green area were three mills, the Ellerby Lane Mills, the Hill House Mills, and a much larger concern, the Black Dog Mills. Any one of these might have provided employment to the Jewitts.

Hannah Jewitt did not live to be recorded in the 1891 census, having died early in 1885. Just six years after losing her mother, Elizabeth became a widow with the death of Josiah in the Apr-Jun quarter of 1891, shortly after the census of that year. The precise date is given by the death certificate. Josiah died on 12 May 1891 at home at 9 Athlone Grove, Armley. His occupation was given as Coal Merchant and, perhaps exacerbated by

this trade, his early death at age 45 was due to Chronic Bronchitis from which he had suffered for the previous 6 years. With the family when he died was his brother John Dixon, who, apart from being the Informant, no doubt assisted the family with the funeral arrangements.

For the 1901 we find Elizabeth living back at Headingley at 51 Haddon Road, with just three of her daughters and two boarders. Florence, Frederick and Nellie are not listed and an attempt to follow up on these, together with the other children - see notes below.

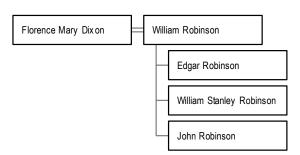
Elizabeth Dixon	58	Head (Widow)	Leeds
Gertrude E Dixon	28	Worsted Weaver	Leeds
Annie Dixon	25	Worsted Weaver	Leeds
Clarice Dixon	20	Worsted Weaver	Leeds
John Lund Johnston	24	Manager, Blanket Warehouse	Leeds
Joseph Broadbent (W)*	62	Engineering and Land Surveyor	Longwood

^{*} I have not checked as to any connection with the John Hirst Broadbent who married Elizabeth's niece Louisa Dixon. Coincidentally, perhaps, Elizabeth's brother-in-law Alfred and his family were living in Longwood for the 1871 census.

Elizabeth was not living in Haddon Road in 1908. and I have not found a likely match in the FreeBMD Index for the record of her death.

80 03

Florence Mary Dixon



Trying to locate daughters is always a challenge but I think I have been able to follow through correctly on Florence Dixon, the eldest child of Josiah and Elizabeth whose birth was registered in Leeds for the Oct-Dec quarter of 1868. It was from this registration that we find out that the initial M in the census returns stood for her middle name of Mary.

On 7th September 1895 Florence married William Robinson at the Holy Trinity Church, Armley Hall. At the time of her wedding Florence was 26 and living at 1 Evanston Avenue, Burley. William's address was given as 10 Ingleby Street. He was a 25 year old Plumber and his father was John Robinson, a Sawyer. As noted above, Florence's father Josiah was not alive to see his first daughter married off. Florence's sister Gertrude was one of the witnesses, the others being an Edwin Horner and Annie Robinson, presumably a relative of the groom.

By the time of the 1901 census the couple were parents to three boys, Edgar, William Stanley, and John, whose births were registered in Bramley in 1896 (Oct-Dec), 1898 (Jan-Mar), and 1900 (Oct-Dec) respectively. The family was living at 6 Pickering Mount, Armley, on 31st March 1901.^{xvl} (This and their previous address were either side of the Armley Goal).

William Robinson	30	Plumber, Glazier and Gas Fitter	Leeds
Florence M Robinson	32		Leeds
Edgar Robinson	4		Leeds
William S Robinson	3		Leeds
John Robinson	6mths		Leeds

Without knowing William's occupation he would have been very hard to trace as William Robinson was not an uncommon name! But based on his plumbing qualifications I have found the following. Working back from the 1891 census William is found at home at 58 Second Avenue, New Wortley on Sunday 5th April. ***

John Robinson	48	Wood Sawyer	Bradford
Ann Robinson	47	Dressmaker	Bradford
Rachel H Robinson	23	Worsted Weaver	Leeds
John Robinson	20	Heald and Reed Makers Apprentice	Leeds
William Robinson	20	Plumbers Apprentice	Leeds
Sarah E Robinson	12	Scholar	Leeds
Martha Dixon (Aunt)(W)	65	Living on own Means	Cowling

This return is interesting for a couple of reasons. First, William and John were twins. Second – who was Martha Dixon? A common name I know, but worth following up on.

I also did not know what exactly John was being apprenticed for, but a check on my old occupations listing revealed all.

A reed and a heald are both items of equipment used in a loom which weaves cloth. A reed is very much like a comb whose teeth are secured top and bottom and is a (more or less) solid piece of equipment, whereas the heald is not.

The heald is a series of threads into which an eye has been 'knitted'. The series of threads are held firm on wooden staves. Each single thread of the heald has an eye to separate the thread as it leaves the back beam (warp beam).

The warp thread will go through healds on alternate staves. The staves alternately move up and down to form a 'shed' for the shuttle whilst simultaneously making pattern in the weave. A 'shed' (as the space is named) allows the shuttle to cross through the space formed between the reed and open heald.

Warp thread then passes through the reed (usually made of metal) which keeps the warp thread separate. The reed, with its to and fro movement, 'beats' the weft thread into place (like a comb) as it is placed by the shuttle passing across the full width of the loom.

Ten years prior to this the family was still living in Wortley but this time at 18 Stapleton Terrace.

John Robinson	38	Wood Sawyer	Bradford
Ann Robinson	37	Dressmaker	Bradford
Rachel H Robinson	13	Piecer Woollen Cloth	Leeds
Samuel Sugden (Son)	12	Scholar	Dudley Hill
John Robinson	10	Scholar	Leeds
William Robinson	10	Scholar	Leeds
Sarah Ethel Robinson	2		Leeds

Apart from noting that at the age of 13 Rachel was contributing to the household's weekly income, the question of how Samuel (listed as son) fitted into the scheme of things. It was this that made me think that perhaps Ann was not William's mother.

This was confirmed by looking at the 1871 census, the first for William and, of course, his twin brother John where they are recorded with their family at 12 Farrer Street, North East Leads.**.

John Robinson	28	Wood Sawyer	Bradford
Jane Robinson	28	Dressmaker	Bradford
Rachel H Robinson	3	Scholar	Leeds
John Robinson	11mths		Leeds
William Robinson	11mths		Leeds

So here we have it — William was the son of John and Jane Robinson. There is a Leeds marriage registration for John Robinson and Jane Sykes for the Apr-June quarter of 1867. Sometime between the census night of 1871 and the 1877 Jul-Sep quarter Jane died as this is when John remarried. Ann Sugden, his second wife, was already widowed by the 1871 census where she was lodging with a family named Ogden in Bradford, together with her young son Samuel. Sarah Ethel Robinson was the daughter of John and Ann, and stepsister to Rachel, William and John (and of course also to Samuel Sugden who has made only a cameo appearance in this account).

John and Ann were still going strong for the 1901 census, living at 58 Second Avenue, Wortley.

John Robinson	58	Wood Sawyer	Bradford
Ann Robinson	57	Dressmaker	Bradford
Rachel H Robinson	33	Woollen Weaver	Leeds
Sarah E Robinson	23	Dressmaker (own account)(at home)	Leeds
Nannie Robinson (cousin)	47	Housekeeper (Domestic)	Otley
Eliza Brewer	43	, ,	US America (BS)

Hopefully the 1911 census will add to our knowledge of Florence and William and their family. Meanwhile - to finish with the 1901 census return. William's twin brother John had married a girl called Harriet Ann Kay in the last quarter of 1895 at Holy Trinity Church, Armley Hall and they had young four year old son, Harold. They were living at 15 Aviary Mount, Armley. Frustratingly the record is so hard to read so I cannot tell if John is still healding and reeding.

Kelly's 1908 Directory shows, however, that John did complete his apprenticeship as he is listed as a reedmaker living at 3 Pickering Mount, Armley – three doors down from where William and Florence had been

living in 1901. William is listed as a plumber of 145 Armley Road, which from a look at the map would have put them right next to the major Leeds Northern railway line. The boys' father John Robinson is also listed, still a Sawyer and living at 61 First Avenue, Green Lane, New Wortley.

80 03

Gertrude Elizabeth Dixon

Apart from a FreeBMD record of Gertrude's birth registration in the Oct-Dec quarter of 1870 (which also gave us her middle name), the census records in which she featured – 1871 – 1901, and the fact that she witnessed her sister Florence's wedding in 1985, I have no further information at this stage for Gertrude. For the 1901 census she was at home with her widowed mother, an unmarried woman of 28 working as a worsted weaver.

80 08

Frederick Ernest Dixon



The only son of Josiah and Elizabeth, Frederick's birth was registered in the Jan-Mar quarter of 1872. This FreeBMD record also provided his middle name – Ernest.

Frederick had left home sometime after the 1891 census. I have found a FreeBMD record of marriage for a Fred Ernest Dixon in the Oct-Dec quarter of 1895, registered at Bramley, which is being followed up. If this is proves to be "our Frederick" his wife was Eliza Hargreave (or possibly Hargrave). With the doubt over the correct spelling of Eliza's surname, searching for this person prior to her marriage is a nightmare. Hopefully the marriage certificate will prove enlightening – which in fact it does.

George Hargreave	30	Coal Miner	Armley
Ann Hargreave	28		Wortley
Eliza Hargreave	7	Scholar	Armley
John W Hargreave	5	Scholar	Armley
Florence E Hargreave	4	Scholar	Armley
Emily Hargreave	2		Armley
Annie Hargreave	3 mos		Armley

An increase in the family members may have required a move, and for 1891 the family is located, still in Armley, at 39 Main Road. Only one son is listed among the nine children. As if Ann did not have enough to do, she is now supplementing the family income as a grocer.

·U	General Labourer	Armley
8	Grocer	Wortley
7	Woollen Weaver	Armley
5	Iron Moulder	Armley
4	Housemaid	Armley
2	Scholar	Armley
0	Scholar	Armley
	7 5 4 2 0	8 Grocer 7 Woollen Weaver 5 Iron Moulder 4 Housemaid 2 Scholar 0 Scholar Scholar Scholar

Yet another daughter was born to this family before the next census, and to add to Ann's responsibilities, her husband George had died in early 1893, aged 42.202 With those children still at home at number 17 Main Street, Armley.2021

Ann Hargreave (W)	48		Wortley
Florence Ellen Hargreave	24	Worsted Weaver	Armley
Emily Hargreave	21	Tailoress	Armley

Annie Hargreave	20	Worsted Weaver	Armley
Edith Hargreave	17	Tailoress	Armley
Ethel Hargreave	15	French Polisher	Armley
Alice Hargreave	13	Scholar	Armley
Georgina Hargreave	7		Armley

I finally tracked down Fred and Eliza in the 1901 census, where they were named Frederick Ernest and Eliza Dixan. They had been married for just over five years, but there are no children listed with them at 16 Dewhirst Place, off the Tong Road.

Frederick Ernest Dixon 29 Railway Engine Cleaner(?) Leeds Eliza Dixon 27 Worsted Weaver Armley

They were living very close to Eliza's widowed mother. Perhaps Elizabeth and those sisters working as worsted weavers were employed at the Tong Road Mill. Frederick was employed by the Great Northern Railway.

80 03

Annie Dixon

Very tricky this one – there are so many Annie Dixons born about the same time, and in Leeds, that I am not even sure that I have the correct FreeBMD Birth Index registration. At this stage I have taken a punt that the record for the Jul-Sep 1875 is the correct one. Similarly, there are a number of possible marriages for Annie Dixon (assuming that she did get married). So at the moment, we leave Annie, aged 25 at the 1901 census, at home at 51 Haddon Road, with her mother and elder sister Gertrude. Like Gertrude, Annie is unmarried and earning her living as a worsted weaver.

8003

Nellie Dixon

Nellie was the fifth child of Josiah and Elizabeth Dixon and her birth was registered in the Jan-Mar quarter, 1879. When the 1901 census was taken Nellie was not at home and I have tentatively placed her, listed as Nelly Dixon, staying with two unmarried sisters at 10 Upper Townend Street, further down the Kirkstall Road from her mother's residence at Haddon Road.

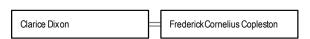
Emily Tolson 22 ?? Tailor (at home) Leeds Ethel Tolson 17 ?? Maker Leeds Nelly Dixon (Visitor) 22 Living on own means Leeds

The transcript is very hard to read, and what might be legible has been over-written by the enumerator. Nelly(ie) has no stated occupation – was she really living on her own means, or was she temporarily out of work?

A foray into the YorkshireBMD and FreeBMD came up with a possible marriage for Nellie in 1906 to an Alfred Morris. Disappointingly this did not prove to be the correct Nellie, as the father of the person who married Alfred Morris was Henry Dixon, Leather Finisher. Another 'investment' for a possible marriage between Nellie and a Walter Chadwick for June 1906 is a nil return on investment as this Nellie was too young and has been located in the 1901 census with her family, including father John (Dyer) and brother Herbert. Nellie is proving too expensive and pending some possible clues from the 1911 census, this is where we will leave Nellie Dixon.

80 03

Clarice Dixon



Josiah and Elizabeth's last child was Clarice, whose birth was registered in the Jan-Mar quarter of 1881. She made her first census appearance in 1881 at the age of two months when the family was living in Armley, so she would have been born in February of that year. She was the other unmarried sister at home at Haddon Street in 1901 and yet again she was a worsted weaver. Clarice was not a common name so I was fairly confident that the marriage registration between Clarice Dixon and Frederick C Copleston in Apr-Jun quarter of 1902 was that of "our" Clarice. The marriage certificate confirms this. On 26th June 1902 Clarice and Frederick were married at the Register Office, Leeds when she was 21 and he was 20. His address was given as 79 Elford Grove, Leeds and Clarice was living at 51 Haddon Row. Both were in work at the time, Frederick as a Journeyman Draper and Clarice as a Restaurant Waitress – whereas one year earlier she had been a worsted

weaver. The groom's father was Edwin Copleston, a Litho Artist. Doing the honours as witnesses were Clarice's brother Frederick Dixon and Louisa Coplestone who, as we shall see, was Frederick's sister.

Copleston is not a common name so it was relatively easy to trace Frederick's provenance. He was the eldest of eight children born to Edwin and Louisa Copleston. Louisa's maiden name was Peel, and the pair was married in the last quarter of 1880 in Nottingham. They were living at 90 Eversley Street, Toxteth Park Lancashire for the 1881 census. By the time of the 1891 census they had moved to 4 Santley Street, Lambeth, and had a young family.**

Edwin Copleston	32	Lithographic Artist	St. Lukes, London
Louisa Copleston	32		Nottingham
Frederick Copleston	9	Scholar	Nottingham
Louisa F Copleston	5	Scholar	St. Pancras, London
John H Copleston	4		Lambeth, London
Ellen E Copleston	1		Lambeth, London

The family had moved around a bit in the previous ten years, from Toxteth Park, to Nottingham where Frederick was born, and to St. Pancras and Lambeth where their three younger children had been born. They were to have one more child born in the London area before relocating to Leeds sometime between 1892 and 1895. For the 1901 census they were living at 79 Elford Grove, Potternewton, the address given by Frederick on his wedding certificate, and in one of the more 'desirable' solidly middle class areas of Leeds.

Edwin Copleston Louisa Copleston	41 41	Lithographic Artist, Chalk and Stipple	St. Lukes, London Nottingham
Florence Copleston	15		Camden Town, London
Herbert Copleston	15		Brixton, London
Ellen E Copleston	11		Brixton, London
Ada Copleston	9		Brixton, London
Harry Copleston	5		Leeds
May Copleston	2		Leeds
Agnes Copleston	7 mos		Leeds

Frederick was not with his family for the 1901 census and all efforts to locate him have proved fruitless. Nor does he appear in the 1908 Kelly's Directory, unlike his father who was listed as a Litho Artist of 7 Lunan Place, not far from his previous residence at Elford Grove.***

8003

¹ FreeBMD Marriage Index; Leeds:RB41/23; certified copy of Marriage Certificate MXD271273.

ii HO107/2319/p28.

iii HO107/2327/p20.

iv RG9/3375/p9.

v RG10/4549/p3.

vi FreeBMD Death Index.

vii RG10/4549/p34.

viii RG11/4539/p18. ix RG12/3681/p30.

x RG11/4514/p60.

xi FreeBMD Death Index.

хії RG13/4243/p4.

xiii Kelly's 1908 Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire, Vol 2, p177.

xiv FreeBMD Birth Index

xv FreeBMD Marriage Index; Leeds:CE3/A/236; certified copy of Marriage Certificate MXD271332.

xvi RG13/4212/p33.

xvii RG12/3677/p18

xviii RG11/4505/n14

xix RG10/4557/p35.

xx FreeBMD Marriage Index.

xxi RG10/4461/p31.

xxii FreeBMD Marriage Index 1837-1983; Leeds:CE3/A/245.

xxiii RG13/4211/p29.

xxiv Kelly's 1908 Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire, Vol 2, p727.

xxv RG13/4243/p4.

xxvi Certified copy of Marriage Certificate MXD271333.

xxvii FreeBMD Marriage Index.

xxviii RG11/4508/p24.

xxix RG12/3681/p33.

xxx FreeBMD Death Index

xxxi RG13/4213/p12.

xxxii Rg13/4213/p6.

- xxxxiii RG13/4243/p4. xxxxii FreeBMD Birth Index. xxxx RG13/4237/p14. xxxxii FreeBMD Birth Index.

- ** RS11/3549/p518.
 ** Assuming that Louisa F and Florence Copleston, and John H and Herbert Copleston, were respectively, one and the same.
 ** RS11/3649/p59; RS12/408/p21.
 ** PS11/3649/p59; RS12/408/p21.

- ziii RG13/4250/p25. ziii Kelly's 1908 Directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire, Vol 2, pp244 and 508.