

***Four Generation Compiled Lineage
John Clift and His Descendants
Cornwall, England***

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Preface

The preparation of this report has been an enriching experience for me—not only has it been the culmination of my capstone course, but the report itself has become the capstone of years of research and study of the Clift family. I first became interested in family history research and the Clift genealogy as a young girl, when at about the age of ten I began copying the records my father had assembled. I have been collecting, gathering, researching and compiling the histories of my ancestors ever since.

This paper is a four generation compiled lineage beginning with my 4th great-grandfather, John Clift. It is a comprehensive history linking him with specific descendants. The links between the generations are arranged in an unbroken chain and the generational format emphasizes three elements—the basic genealogical details of the individual subject, the life story of the person and a list of the subject’s children. The lineage-compilation formatting allows full biographies only for persons in the direct line, but I have included life-story data about the subject’s other children in the child-lists.

As I mentioned, I have been studying John Clift and his descendants for many years. Our family is fortunate to have many records for one of these descendants, our great-grandfather, Frederic Clift, and for our great-grandmother, Sarah Margaret Moody. Last year I prepared a narrative biography for these grandparents and with the help of many relatives I was successful in gathering all of the pertinent histories and records to write a complete and interesting story. I was also able to uncover a number of new items about the couple which helped paint a fuller picture of their lives, activities and accomplishments. For this report, I have drawn heavily upon that narrative.

This is an exciting time to be a family history researcher and genealogist. Over the past ten to fifteen years there has been an enormous “explosion” of possibilities on the Internet with regard to biographical and genealogical data accessibility. The digitization of historical newspapers, journals and books has opened the door to volumes of information previously unavailable. Records of baptisms, births, marriages, deaths and burials have been filmed, transcribed and indexed, paving the way for new discoveries and confirmation of genealogical details. I have obtained for my own records hundreds of England birth, marriage and death certificates. These have enabled me to advance the Clift research immeasurably. My membership in the Cornwall Family History Society has given me access to their research database. In addition and most fortunately, the Cornwall Online Parish Clerk scheme continues to post early baptisms, marriages and burials, as well as other records, on their free website.

John Clift and his wife, Jane White, appeared on the Cornish scene in the mid-eighteenth century—they didn’t leave much evidence of their lives and activities. Their two children, John and Jane Clift, were somewhat easier to trace forward, particularly John, who married and had children and a career in HM Customs. This John’s son, Richard Clift, made an even deeper impression in the records, though certain mysteries remain. Richard’s son, Frederic Clift, is the ancestor closest to our times and I hope this study will serve as a memorial to him and our forefathers. We have an interesting and, at times, complicated Clift ancestry, but it is my wish that we develop an appreciation and loving regard for them as we learn their histories.

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***Four Generation Compiled Lineage
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Cornwall, England***

First Generation

1. John Clift, of St. Martin-by-Looe, Cornwall, England, was born about 1740.¹ His death date is unknown, but it is likely that he was the John Clift, age 83, buried 17 January 1823² at the Talland Parish Churchyard in Cornwall. He married 27 February 1775³ at St. Martin on Looe Bay, Cornwall, England, **Jane White**, born about 1753⁴ and buried 21 June 1820⁵ at East Looe, St. Martin, Cornwall, England.

John Clift is my fourth great-grandfather and paternal end-of-line ancestor. Unfortunately, very little is known about him and his wife. His descendants are numerous, however, and branches of the Clift family extend across the ocean from the British Isles to the west coast of the United States. John and Jane Clift began their married life in St. Martin on Looe Bay and their children were born there. The records for the time and place are scant, but the baptism, marriage and burial registers of the Church of England parishes of St. Martin's and Falmouth, Cornwall, provide the basic genealogical details of the Clift family members. John Clift's occupation is not known, but St. Martin on Looe Bay was a coastal town and it is possible that his livelihood had something to do with the sea.

St. Martin-by-Looe, Cornwall, England

St. Martin-by-Looe is a village and close, small parish situated on the south coast of Cornwall to the east of Looe. Its name comes from dedication of the church to its patron St. Martin, Bishop of Tours of France. The parish church of St. Martin of Tours stands outside the civil parish in the hamlet of St. Martin about a mile north of Looe town's center,⁶ the parish being immediately east of the town and parish of Looe and seven miles south of Liskeard.

¹ Estimated, based on marriage date, birth of first child, and possible burial date.

² Cornwall Family History Society, "Burials Records," database, Parish Births, Marriages, Death Records, (http://members.cornwallfhs.com/research/process.research_burials.php: accessed 18 January 2012), entry for John Clift.

³ "England Marriages, 1538-1973," index; *FamilySearch*, (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 13 January 2012), entry for John Clift and Jane White, married 27 February 1775; citing Marriage Records, FHL Film 916,895, Indexing Project (Batch) Number: M05322-1.

⁴ Estimated, based on marriage date, birth of first child and age at burial.

⁵ Cornwall Family History Society, Burials – 1813-1837 Printout by surname Cliff/Clift 7 March 2002, entry for Jane Clift, buried 21 June 1820, fiche reference number 138 1/4, entry 146 ; citing parish burial registers.

⁶ *Wikipedia* (<http://en.wikipedia.org> : accessed 13 January 2012), "St. Martin-by-Looe," latest update dated 28 April 2011.

To the north, the parish is bordered by Morval parish, to the east by Deviock parish, to the west by Looe parish and to the south by the sea. In 1845, the chapelries of East Looe in St. Martin's parish and West Looe in Talland parish were merged to form the Looe ecclesiastical parish, which is why many of the earlier church records for Looe are found in Talland parish and St. Martin-by-Looe parish. The name *loo*, *looe*, or *lough* in the old "Scots and Irish tongues and the French, signifies a lough, a lake or pool of water, so it is sometimes used in the same sense in old British."⁷

Talland is located on the south coast of Cornwall at the head of Talland Bay, between Polperro to the west, and West Looe to the east, and is surrounded by beautiful cliff scenery. In fact, the parish church is dramatically located on the cliff-top at Talland and dates from the 5th century. Despite its peaceful appearance today, Talland boasts of many stories relating to smugglers and shipwrecks in its ancient past.⁸ Rumor has it that one fellow, by the name of Parson Dodge who was involved in smuggling in the 18th century, kept the lanes clear at night by spreading tales of demons and ghosts. It's possible that John Clift knew of these stories and may have dabbled in smuggling ventures himself—more on this subject later in this report.

Looe, East and West

The town of Looe⁹ is a small fishing port located around a small harbour and along the steep-sided valley of the River Looe which flows between East and West Looe to the sea beside a sandy beach. Though divided by the river, East Looe and West Looe are connected by a bridge that was placed there before 1411. This bridge burned down and was replaced by the first stone bridge, which was completed in 1436. The Pigot's Directory of Cornwall, 1830,¹⁰ described the bridge as being very "ancient" and having fourteen arches. Additionally, the directory indicated that "the situation of both these towns is very beautiful, and not exceeded in richness and diversity by any other in the county." Eventually, the old stone bridge was replaced by a seven-arched Victorian bridge which opened in 1853. Some of the 15th century buildings still stand today, though frontages were built on these old houses, so it is not immediately apparent how ancient they are.

East Looe and West Looe were originally separate towns. Between their incorporation by Queen Elizabeth in the 16th century (East Looe in 1571 and West Looe in 1553) and the Great Reform Act of 1832, West Looe and East Looe were renowned examples, politically, of "rotten boroughs," each returning two members (MPs) to the unreformed House of Commons, despite

⁷ Davies Gilbert, *The Parochial History of Cornwall, In Four Volumes, Vol. III*, (London: J. B. Nichols and Son, 1838), 119.

⁸ *GENUKI – UK & Ireland Genealogy* (<http://www.genuki.org.uk/big/eng/Cornwall/Talland/index.html> : accessed 21 January 2012), "Talland."

⁹ *Wikipedia*, (<http://en.wikipedia.org> : accessed 13 January 2012), "Looe," latest update dated 7 December 2011.

¹⁰ *Pigot's Directory of Cornwall, 1830*, Parish of Looe, East and West, 150; digital images, *Historical Directories, A University of Leicester Project*, (<http://www.historicaldirectories.org/hd/> : accessed 21 January 2012).

their tiny populations.¹¹ The right of voting belonged in the capital and free burgesses of each borough.¹² In 1830 East Looe was governed by nine burgesses, and West Looe by twelve. Each year a mayor, recorder and a court of aldermen were chosen from the burgesses.¹³ In 1878 the two towns merged under one governing body.

In its early days, Looe was a busy port, as well as being situated near one of the main roads from London to Penzance, thus affording “opportunities to the inhabitants for foreign and domestic trades and merchandizes to be imported and exported.”¹⁴ The textile industry had come to play an important part in the town’s economics, in addition to the traditional boatbuilding and fishing. Trade and transportation to and from thriving Newfoundland also aided the town’s success. There was a weekly Saturday market in East Looe and fairs on the 2nd of February and the 29th of September yearly.

It is anyone’s guess as to what part John Clift may have played in the commerce and community of Looe in the late 18th century, but by the beginning of the 19th century, Looe’s fortunes were in decline. War against Napoleon had taken its toll of the country; in 1803, the town formed a volunteer company to man guns in defense against attack from the French, and the blockade of 1808, preventing the Looe fleet from reaching their pilchard-fishing ground, put considerable pressure on the town.¹⁵

In 1817 the town was badly damaged by heavy storms and flooding. Even today, the low-lying parts of Looe suffer frequent flooding when the tide is high. When the Clifts were living there in the latter part of the 1700s, most houses would have been constructed with the living quarters upstairs above storage areas for boats, tools and fishing tackle.

The Clift Family

There were a number of John Clifts living in Cornwall, England, in the 18th and 19th centuries, but there are only two John Clifts who married in St. Martin-by-Looe—John Clift who married Jane White on the 27th of February 1775¹⁶ at the parish church and their son, John Clift, who married Elizabeth Oliver, on the 10th of October 1799¹⁷ at the same chapel.

¹¹ *Wikipedia*, (<http://en.wikipedia.org> : accessed 13 January 2012), “Looe,” previously cited.

¹² *Pigot’s Directory of Cornwall, 1830*, Parish of Looe, East and West, 150; digital images, previously cited.

¹³ *Ibid.*

¹⁴ Davies Gilbert, *The Parochial History of Cornwall, In Four Volumes, Vol. III*, (London: J. B. Nichols and Son, 1838), 119.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*

¹⁶ “England Marriages, 1538-1973,” index; *FamilySearch*, (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 13 January 2012), entry for John Clift and Jane White, married 27 February 1775; previously cited.

¹⁷ Cornwall Family History Society, Husbands Search Printout by surname Cliff/Clift 7 March 2002, entry for John Clift, wife Elizabeth Oliver; citing parish marriage registers.

A John Clift and a Robert Clift were listed as free burgesses (freemen of the borough) of West Looe in a catalogue index entry of the Cornwall Record Office, *AD689 Surrenders, West Looe*, a manuscript dated 1 October 1765.¹⁸ John would have been about 25 years of age at the time, but there is no other record to clearly identify this individual, which brings us back to the little we know—John Clift married Jane White in the early part of 1775. John was apparently about thirty-five years of age and Jane would have been twenty-two years old. As far as the parish registers of baptisms show, they were the only Clifts in the parish with children being born and baptized—and John and Jane Clift showed absolutely no originality when naming their children—calling their son John—and their daughter, Jane! The younger John Clift was christened in 1775 and the younger Jane Clift was christened in 1778.

In fact, the baptism record of John and Jane Clift's daughter, Jane, in 1778, is the last record we have of the couple until 1820, when the burial registers for St. Martin-by-Looe list the burial of a Jane Clift, age 67 on 21 June 1820.¹⁹ Her abode, or place of residence at the time of her death, was noted as East Looe. It is assumed that this individual is the wife of John Clift.

The burial registers of the parish churchyard of Talland, the nearby hamlet, list five individuals with the surname of Clift: Dorothy, Elizabeth, Jane, John and Robert. (Remember that the parish church of West Looe was originally at Talland.) I believe that John Clift, our end-of-line ancestor, is the John Clift who was buried at Talland on 17 January 1823,²⁰ at the age of 83. His residence was listed as West Looe. (Dorothy Clift, Elizabeth Clift, Jane Clift and Robert Clift, buried at Talland, all passed away in the latter quarter of the 18th century, well before John Clift's passing.)

It is interesting to note that after Jane (White) Clift's burial in 1820 in St. Martin-by-Looe's churchyard, there are no other persons with the surname of Clift buried there until 1866, when Jane Clift, age 87, was buried 10 January.²¹ It appears that Jane Clift, daughter of John and Jane (White) Clift, resided in the borough of East Looe all of her life. She is listed on the 1841 census²² at Castle Street as Jane Clift, age 30, School Mistress; in 1851, the census²³

¹⁸ Cornwall Record Office Online Catalogue, index, (<http://crocat.cornwall.gov.uk/DServe/dserve.exe?> : accessed 18 January 2012), search term: John Clift.

¹⁹ Cornwall Family History Society, Burials – 1813-1837 Printout by surname Cliff/Clift 7 March 2002, entry for Jane Clift, buried 21 June 1820, fiche reference number 138 1/4, entry 146 ; previously cited.

²⁰ Cornwall Family History Society, "Burials Records," database, Parish Births, Marriages, Death Records, (http://members.cornwallfhs.com/research/process.research_burials.php: accessed 18 January 2012), previously cited.

²¹ Cornwall Online Parish Clerks, "Burials," database, Parish of St. Martin by Looe (<http://www.cornwall-opc-database.org/search-database> : accessed 13 January 2012), entry for Jane Clift buried 10 January 1866; citing transcription of parish burials.

²² "1841 England Census," database, *Cornwall Online Census Project*, (<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com> : accessed 8 February 2005) entry for Jane Clift, Castle Street, St. Martin By Looe, Cornwall County; citing HO107/153, folio 25, p. 14; E.D. 1. (Note: her age is plainly written as "30," but her actual age was 63.)

records show Jane Clift, age 73, unmarried, living at Middle Market St., with or next door to the family of Josiah Cocking. Jane is described as “pauper, late School Mistress,” born in East Looe. In the 1861 census,²⁴ Jane Clift is still residing in the Cocking household on Higher Market Street and she is described as “Lodger, age 83, Formerly House Servt,” born in East Looe. Jane Clift died of “natural decay” 7 January 1866 at East Looe. She was described on the death certificate²⁵ as age 87 years, formerly domestic servant.

Children of John Clift and Jane (White) Clift

As discussed above, John and Jane (White) Clift were the parents of two known children:

- +2. i. JOHN CLIFT, christened 15 October 1775²⁶ at St. Martin by Looe, Cornwall, England, died 7 April 1833²⁷ at Falmouth, Cornwall, England, and buried 11 April 1833²⁸ at the Falmouth Parish Churchyard, Cornwall. He married 10 October 1799²⁹ at St. Martin by Looe, Cornwall, Elizabeth Oliver.
- ii. JANE CLIFT, christened 5 April 1778³⁰ at East Looe, St. Martin, Cornwall, England, died 7 January 1866³¹ at East Looe, Liskeard, Cornwall, England. Burial was 10 January 1866³² at St. Martin by Looe, Cornwall.

²³ “1851 England Census,” database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://content.ancestry.com> : accessed 19 March 2008), entry for Jane Clift, Middle Market St., Borough of East Looe, Cornwall County; citing HO1078/1903, folio 28, p. 25; Liskeard registration district, Looe sub-registration district, E.D. 5

²⁴ “1861 England Census,” *Ancestry.com* (<http://content.ancestry.com> : accessed 19 March 2008), entry for Jane Clift, Higher Market St., East Looe, County of Cornwall; citing RG9/1531, folio 114, p. 21; Liskeard registration district, Looe sub-registration district, E.D. 9.

²⁵ England death certificate England, death certificate (certified copy) for Jane Clift, died 7 January 1866; citing 5c/59/173, Liskeard registration district and sub-district of Looe; General Register Office, Southport.

²⁶ “England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975,” index; *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 13 January 2012), entry for John Clift, christened 15 October 1775; citing Church Records, FHL Film 916,895, Indexing Project (Batch) Number: C05322-1.

²⁷ *Falmouth Packet and Cornish Herald*: April 13th 1833: 7th inst. at Falmouth, aged 57 years, Mr. John Clift of the Customs.

²⁸ Cornwall Family History Society, Burials – 1813-1837 Printout by surname Cliff/Clift 7 March 2002, entry for John Clift, buried 11 April 1833, fiche reference number FP63 1/25, entry 358; citing parish burial registers.

²⁹ Cornwall Family History Society, Husbands Search Printout by surname Cliff/Clift 7 March 2002, entry for John Clift, wife Elizabeth Oliver; previously cited.

³⁰ “England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975,” index; *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 13 January 2012), entry for Jane Clift, christened 5 April 1778; citing Church Records, FHL Film 1,595,783, Indexing Project (Batch) Number: I03906-7.

³¹ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Jane Clift, died 7 January 1866; previously cited.

³² Cornwall Online Parish Clerks, “Burials,” database, Parish of St. Martin by Looe (<http://www.cornwall-opc-database.org/search-database> : accessed 13 January 2012), entry for Jane Clift buried 10 January 1866; citing transcription of parish burials.

Second Generation

2. **John Clift**, son of John and Jane (White) Clift, was born in East Looe, Cornwall, England, and baptized 15 October 1775³³ at St. Martin-by-Looe Parish, Cornwall, England. He died 7 April 1833³⁴ at Falmouth, Cornwall, England, and was buried 11 April 1833³⁵ at the Falmouth Parish Churchyard, Falmouth, Cornwall. He married in St. Martin-by-Looe, Cornwall, 10 October 1799³⁶ **Elizabeth Oliver**, daughter of Richard and Elizabeth Oliver, who was baptized 17 July 1773³⁷ at Saint Mary Steps, Exeter, Devonshire, England. Elizabeth (Oliver) Clift died 8 August 1863³⁸ at Falmouth, Cornwall, and was buried 13 August 1863³⁹ at the Falmouth Municipal Cemetery, Falmouth, Cornwall.

Marriage and Family

Obviously, John Clift's childhood and youth were spent in East Looe, Cornwall, with his parents and sister. But at about the age of 25 and on the cusp of the 19th century, he joined hands with Elizabeth Oliver, another resident of East Looe, and began married life. The couple was married 10 October 1799 in the parish of St. Martin by Looe, and though the church record does not include their ages, the names of their parents, nor John's occupation, both the bride and the groom signed their names. There were three witnesses to the happy event: Richard Oliver, Jane Oliver and John Pengelly. Elizabeth's father's name was Richard, so it's possible that he was the first witness listed.

John and Elizabeth Clift's first child, a son, was born 26 July 1800 in the borough of East Looe. Named *John Clift*—most likely in honor of his paternal grandfather—the baby was taken to Mary Magdalene-Wesleyan Methodist Chapel in Launceston, Cornwall for baptism on 21

³³ "England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," index; *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 13 January 2012), entry for John Clift, christened 15 October 1775; previously cited.

³⁴ *Falmouth Packet and Cornish Herald*: April 13th 1833: 7th inst. at Falmouth, aged 57 years, Mr. John Clift of the Customs.

³⁵ Cornwall Family History Society, Burials – 1813-1837 Printout by surname Cliff/Clift 7 March 2002, entry for John Clift, buried 11 April 1833; previously cited.

³⁶ Cornwall Family History Society, Husbands Search Printout by surname Cliff/Clift 7 March 2002, entry for John Clift, wife Elizabeth Oliver; previously cited.

³⁷ The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints [LDS], "International Genealogical Index," database, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 16 March 2002), entry for Elizabeth Oliver, christening 17 Jul 1773 Saint Mary Steps, Exeter, Devon, England; citing FHL microfilm 0933256, extracted christening records, Batch No. C051011.

³⁸ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Elizabeth Clift, died 8 August 1863; citing 5c/140/456, Falmouth registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

³⁹ Emily Middleditch, Falmouth Town Council, to Maurine Clift Nuttall, letter, 27 July 2009, citing burial register entry for Elizabeth Clift, widow of John (HM Customs); records of the Falmouth Municipal Cemetery, Falmouth, Cornwall, England.

September 1800.⁴⁰ John and Elizabeth had both been baptized in the Church of England and were married in a Church of England parish, so it is interesting to note that they had their baby baptized in a non-conformist chapel. Launceston lies right on the Cornwall-Devon northern border and is about 20 miles from East Looe, as the crow flies, so it is a mystery as to why John and Elizabeth Clift would take their firstborn child there for baptism at the *Methodist* Chapel. It is important to note, however, that it was not uncommon for the times for a person to be affiliated with more than one religion during his or her lifetime—people changed religions and sometimes traveled long distances to attend their meetings. Ministers also traveled large circuits keeping the vital statistics of several places in the register they carried with them.

Launceston, otherwise known as St. Mary Magdalene parish, is the ancient capital of Cornwall and the town provided the only crossing points over the River Tamar for many centuries as revealed by several impressive arch bridges, all of which date back to the 15th century or earlier. The original Anglican parish church, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene, began operating in 1380 and was replaced by the present church building in 1524, but there was also the chapel belonging to the Wesleyan Methodists in Castle Street.⁴¹

After their first child, John and Elizabeth Clift had eight more children in fairly rapid succession—babies were born every two or three years, with the last one arriving in 1817. However, unlike John Clift (born in 1800 in East Looe), Jenny, Charlotte, Richard, Jane, Elizabeth, Mary, Charles and James were all born in Falmouth, Cornwall—another coastal town in the southern part of the county.

It is not known exactly what prompted the move from East Looe to Falmouth, but it may very well have been related to John Clift's career. There are at least half a dozen recorded references to John's occupation, the first one being the baptism register notation for daughter, Mary Clift, who was baptized in 1813 in Falmouth. Her father's profession was noted as "Custom House Officer."⁴² A little background about the town and port of Falmouth and the role that the "Customs House" played in the community's daily life will help us get to know the Clift family a little better.

⁴⁰ "England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," index, *FamilySearch*, (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 10 February 2012), entry for John Clift, baptized 21 September 1800; citing Church Records, FHL microfilm 590672, Indexing Batch C06519-1; index entries derived from digital copies of originals housed in various repositories throughout England.

⁴¹ GENUKI: Launceston, St. Mary Magdalene (<http://www.genuki.org.uk> : accessed 10 February 2012), Church History, Non-Conformist.

⁴² Cornwall Online Parish Clerks, "Baptisms Nonconformist," database, Falmouth, Methodist Baptism Circuit (<http://www.cornwall-opc-database.org/search> : accessed 20 February 2012), entries for Mary, Charles and James Clift; citing transcription of circuit baptisms.

Falmouth, Cornwall, England

Falmouth⁴³ is a town and port on the River Fal on the south coast of Cornwall. It is both a town and a parish. The name Falmouth comes from the river Fal, which is a Norse/Danish Viking name, strongly suggesting that the Danes used the deep water harbor as a landing/resting place. During the Viking Age, the Danes did ally with the Britons of Cornwall, and the Vikings helped their Cornish allies by making pillaging raids on the South coast of Devon and Dorset, which was then controlled by the Saxons of Wessex, who were historically the enemies of both the Danes and the Britons.

Falmouth is the “gateway” to what is called the Lizard Peninsula and southwest Cornwall as a whole and is famous for its harbor. Together with Carrick Roads (another harbor), it forms the third deepest natural harbor in the world, and the deepest in Western Europe. Originally called *Peny-cwm-cuic*, which later became ‘Pennycomequick,’ it was the site where Henry VIII built Pendennis Castle to defend Carrick Roads in 1540. The main town was at Penryn. Sir John Killigrew created the town of Falmouth shortly after 1613.

In the late 16th century, under threat from the Spanish Armada, the defenses at Pendennis were strengthened by the building of angled ramparts. During the Civil War, Pendennis Castle was the second to last fort to surrender to the Parliamentary Army. After the Civil War, Sir Peter Killigrew received Royal patronage when he gave land for the building of the Parish Church, dedicated to Charles I, “the Martyr.” This parish church played a part in the lives of John and Elizabeth Clift, as six of their children were baptized there.

Though published about 28 years after the Clifts moved there, the 1830 Pigot & Co. Directory’s⁴⁴ description of Falmouth is relevant to their history:

The most authentic accounts date the rise of it subsequent to the year 1600. When Sir Walter Raleigh, returning from his voyage to Guiana, put into this harbour there was then only one house besides Arwenack House: from that time it has gradually increased, and is, at present, the most populous town in the county. It is somewhat remarkable, that there is no town in Cornwall, of any magnitude, of more modern date than Falmouth, and no harbour in England of greater celebrity in the annals of antiquity. The harbour of Valemouth has been famous in Europe, and even in parts of Asia, ever since this island has been known to the commercial world.

Further, the directory write-up explained that the trade and prosperity there fluctuated less than any other port town in the kingdom; it was the resort of fleets in wartime; the depot of naval stores; and the principal packet-station. Falmouth had the advantages of a good retail trade

⁴³ Wikipedia (<http://www.wikipedia.org> : accessed 13 February 2012), “Falmouth, Cornwall,” latest page update 12 February 2012.

⁴⁴ *Pigot & Co. 1830 Directory*, Special Combined Edition, CD-ROM (Gloucestershire, England: Archive CD Books Project, 2002); citing sections relating to Falmouth, Cornwall.

and “opulent families resident in the town and its vicinage.” The merchants were respectable, with breweries, roperies, ship building yards and several superior inns. The pilchard fishery industry, as well as the import of iron and timber for the use of the mines, were great sources of profit. Falmouth was a bustling, populous and prosperous sea-port, but “Falmouth derives its principal interest from the establishment of the packets for the West Indies, America, the Leeward Islands, Brazils, Portugal, and the Mediterranean: the facilities these vessels afford to commerce have been the primary means of improving the town, and enriching its inhabitants.”⁴⁵

The Packets

What are the packets? Again, it will be instructive to John Clift’s history to know about the important part the packets played in Falmouth’s history. Falmouth’s boom time as a sea-port officially began in 1688, when it was appointed as the Royal Mail packet station. This was a key strategic role, carrying mail and messages to and from the far flung reaches of the expanding British Empire. The packet ships were usually lightly-armed and relied on speed for their security, with the captains able to also carry bullion, private goods and passengers. For over one hundred sixty years, between 1688 and 1850, the packet ships filled the harbor, landing at Greenbank or Custom House Quay. The Packet Service made Falmouth the information hub of the Empire, second only to London for knowing the news of the day.⁴⁶ (The end of the Packet era came in 1850, a result of the steam age. The newly built steamships were faster and more reliable than the old sailing packets and could thus reach London whatever the weather or circumstance.)

What did the Packets have to do with John Clift? It just may be that he was involved in a famous incident in the history of Cornwall and the Packet Service installed at Falmouth—the Falmouth Packet Mutiny of 1810.⁴⁷ A discussion of this event and John Clift’s possible role will come later. At this point, however, more background needs to be given relative to the Board of Customs and the duties of customs officers—because, John Clift, by profession, was an Officer of HM Customs.

The Board of Customs

The Board of Customs, responsible for collecting His or Her Majesty’s Customs, had a very long history. The Board was created in 1643, under which the regulation of the collection of customs was entrusted to a parliamentary committee. Customs were the duties payable to the King or Queen on the import or export of goods. A Board of Excise was also created that same year, but operated separately from the Board of Customs. Excise duties were inland duties

⁴⁵ Ibid.

⁴⁶ *Falmouth Harbour Commissioners*, “A Brief History of Falmouth,” (<http://www.falmouthport.co.uk/commercial/htm/history.php> : accessed 13 July 2011)

⁴⁷ Arthur Hamilton Norway, “The Falmouth Mutiny of 1810,” *The Post Office Packet Service* (n.p.: 1895) Available at the Cornish Studies Library, Redruth, Cornwall, England. Article published in Volume 10 of the *Royal Institution of Cornwall Journal*. Arthur H. Norway was a former Post Office employee and wrote of smuggling and the packet service. Several extracts from Mr. Norway’s writings are published on the Falmouth Packet Archives 1688-1850 website (<http://www.falmouth.packet.archives,dial.pipex.com> : accessed 15 November 2001).

levied on home-produced goods and articles at the time of their manufacture (alcoholic drinks and tobacco) but were also levied on salt, paper and windows, among other things.

Whenever a tax or duty was placed on the export or import of materials or goods there have been individuals who have tried to exploit the opportunity of trade by illegally importing or exporting those goods. The export of tin from Cornwall, iron from Sussex and wool from many parts of Britain all gave rise to smuggling activity. Consequently, smuggling in Britain has existed for many centuries and was especially prevalent in the southwestern part of the country.⁴⁸ The resultant evasion of duties on imported goods was a loss of valuable revenue for the British Government, of course, and thus the institution of the Customs and Excise Boards, to guard the borders of the United Kingdom from smugglers. Customs men, like John Clift, operated within ports, collected duties on goods and attempted to prevent smuggling and the evasion of the import duties.

A small fleet of Customs Revenue cruisers patrolled the coastal waters to ensure that smugglers were unable to land their goods. Ashore, the Customs Officers could, in theory, call upon the local units of dragoons. However, against them were the vast majority of the public who welcomed cheaper goods and high illegal earnings as well as the local landowners who were often investors in the trade.⁴⁹ The Board of Excise had its own Revenue Cruisers and “Riding Officers” whose job it was to prevent the movement inland of smuggled goods which had eluded the Revenue cruisers at sea and the Customs officials in the ports. It was a confusing and overlapping system to have both groups of officers working the ports and patrolling the British coastline, but that’s how it worked for more than two hundred and fifty years. Further, although unarmed, Customs could call on the Royal Navy to assist in apprehending a non-compliant vessel and the Customs men also worked closely with the Royal Navy’s fishery protection squadron.

Town and Family Life

It’s easy to imagine, what with all of this activity in Falmouth—the packets sailing in and out and the customs officers going about their duties—that John Clift would have been busy and energized by his work. Some of the customs men on shore were often moved away from their home locations for fear of collusion between the coastguards, packet crews and townspeople engaged in smuggling ventures, but this does not appear to have been the case with John.

John and Elizabeth Clift’s second child, a daughter named Jenny, was born in August 1802⁵⁰ in Falmouth. Unfortunately, she died less than a month later and was buried in the

⁴⁸ Alfred Collins, “Historical Review of the Coastguard Service,” article posted on Mariners Website, British Coastguard Records (http://www.mariners_1.co.uk/UKCoastguards : accessed June 2009), page last updated 21 April 2002.

⁴⁹ Ibid.

⁵⁰ The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints [LDS], “International Genealogical Index,” database, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 18 October 2002), entry for Jenny Clift, born 22 Aug 1802 chr 8 Sep 1802 Falmouth, Cornwall, England; citing FHL microfilm 0267525, extracted christening records, Batch No. P001721.

Falmouth Parish Churchyard. Another daughter was born a year later, and a second son, Richard, arrived 29 January 1806.⁵¹ By the end of August, 1810, two more children had been born to the couple and their Falmouth household now must have been bursting at the seams with five children—the oldest just ten years of age, and the youngest, the newborn, Elizabeth.

Here is a wonderful and lively description of Falmouth, the packet port, which I would like to include at this point in the story of John Clift. This narrative is taken from the book, *The Falmouth Packets*⁵² by David Mudd and so vividly illustrates town life in the early part of the 19th century, right at the time when the Clifts were residing there.

A Spanish passenger passing through Falmouth in 1808, Don Manuel Alvarez Espriella, found, when he stayed at a waterside hostelry: 'The perpetual stir and bustle is as surprising as it is wearisome. Doors opening and shutting, bells ringing, voices calling to the waiter from every direction, while he cries 'coming' to one room yet hastens to another. Everybody is in a hurry here; either they are going off in the Packets and are hastening their preparations to embark, or they have just arrived and are impatient to be on the road homeward. Every now and then a carriage rattles up to the door with a rapidity which makes the house shake. The man who cleans the boots is running in one direction, the barber with his powder bag in another. Here goes the barber's boy with his hot water and razors; there comes the clean linen from the washerwoman, and the hall is full of porters and sailors bringing up luggage or bearing it away. Now you hear a horn blow because the post is coming in, and in the middle of the night you are awakened by another because it is going out. Nothing is done without a noise, and yet noise is the only thing they forget to put on the bill.'

The 1810 Falmouth Packet Mutiny

As mentioned above, the name Clift appears to have figured in the Falmouth Packet Mutiny of 1810. This important incident in Falmouth has been discussed by many historians, but a synopsis⁵³ of the event with mention of our ancestor was reported to me by a fellow member of the Cornish Genealogy Email List, Larry Faulkner:

In 1810 copies of an anonymous letter were circulating round Falmouth offering a reward to anyone who would carry out the murder of Joseph Platt, Philip Pope and John Clift. The authorities took the matter very seriously because not only had there been a mutiny in Falmouth Harbour but also the air was thick with talk of a revolution. The country was at war with France, and memories of the French Revolution were still fresh in people's minds. On Wednesday the 24th October 1810 three tide waiters from HM Customs climbed aboard the Prince Adolphus packet

⁵¹ The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints [LDS], "International Genealogical Index," database, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 18 October 2002), entry for Richard Clift born 29 Jan 1806 chr 21 Feb 1806 Falmouth, Cornwall, England; citing FHL microfilm 0267525, extracted christening records, Batch No. P001721.

⁵² David Mudd, *The Falmouth Packets*, (St. Teath, Bodmin, Cornwall: Bossiney Books, 1978), 8.

⁵³ Larry Faulkner, Cornwall, England, to Maurine Clift Nuttall, letter, 4 November 2001, description of Falmouth Packet Mutiny and Clift involvement.

just as she was about to sail. They demanded to know the contents of the seamen's chests, and when this was refused them they forced the chests open with crowbars and confiscated the contents. They were looking for contraband goods which the packetmen had been accustomed to take abroad to sell. The practice had been going on for many years and nobody thought it worth bothering about. However Joseph Platt was over zealous in his duty and thought to make an example. Before the day was out the crew of every packet ship in the harbour had gone on strike. The town depended on the packets for its very livelihood, and all commerce soon ground to a halt. When the news reached the government in London it caused widespread alarm. The Royal Navy was ordered to sail from Plymouth to Falmouth, arrest every packet ship and their crews, and escort them back to Plymouth. The whole affair lasted several months and had far-reaching effects on Falmouth. In 1825 the Royal Navy took over the running of the packet service, and in 1850 Falmouth ceased to be a packet station altogether. The reason for both these events can be traced back to the mutiny. It is a fascinating episode in Falmouth's history, and a highly complicated one.

As Mr. Faulkner stated, the Packet Mutiny *was* a fascinating episode in Falmouth's history and it *was* complicated. I have access to two or three accounts of the incident, but I have not yet located the narrative which mentions the three customs officers, *Joseph Platt, Philip Pope* and *John Clift*, by name. The account from which this quote was taken, is, perhaps, located in a local Falmouth repository. Unfortunately, my fellow family historian and informant, Larry Faulkner, has passed away, so a researcher residing in Falmouth will have to be employed to find the source naming John Clift as one of the customs officers involved. That, or a trip, myself, to Cornwall, will have to take place—and that is my dream—to visit England, the land of my ancestors. I will say, that I know for certain that Joseph Platt and Philip Pope were both officers in the customs and were contemporaries of John Clift. In fact, John Clift and Philip Pope would, many years after their departure from the scene, become connected, genealogically, by marriage between descendants.⁵⁴

As for the anonymous letter “circulating round Falmouth” offering a reward for the murder of the customs officers involved in the Packet Mutiny—it appears that this threat may have occurred a year or two after the incident. Mr. Faulkner indicated that the letter went out in 1810, but the following excerpt⁵⁵ from the newspaper of the day, *The West Briton*, dated 25 December 1812, sheds further light on the matter—and notice, this letter does not name John Clift or Philip Pope:

⁵⁴ Edward Colin Pope (grandson of Philip Pope) married Mary Ann Bowden Hollocombe (first cousin once removed from Christian Bottrall Hollocombe. C.B. Hollocombe became the wife of Richard Clift, son of John Clift.) Also, Mary Ann Bowden Hollocombe's uncle, George Allen (brother of Ann Allen who married William Hollocombe) married Elizabeth Pope Equino, granddaughter of Philip Pope.

⁵⁵ George Pritchard, Federation of Old Cornwall Societies, “Smugglers, Coastguard, Revenue Men of Cornwall,” *The West Briton* Archive (http://smugglers.oldcornwall.org/west_briton_archive.htm : accessed 13 February 2012), entry for Joseph Platt.

THREAT TO A CUSTOMS-MAN

Custom-House, London, December 1812. Whereas it has been represented to the Commissioners of His Majesty's Customs, that a threatening letter was on the 28th inst, received by Joseph Platt, an officer of the Customs, at the port of Falmouth, of which the following is a copy:--“Pray to God to forgive you, Joseph Platt, your doom is fixed as Perceval [the recently assassinated Prime Minister], received his death by a ball, so you shall fall. Your late proceedings with the packets, has driven me to despair, & ere I leave this earth, my determination is fixed to put an end to your wicked and cruel existence, unless you discontinue your committing such robberies as you and your crew has perpetrated for some time past. I give you, J. Platt, to consider of this as above until 30th March 1813, my dear friend although my cruel enemy, and my mien, for the sake of your soul, pray to Jesus to forgive you, I say again your fate is fixed. A friend to the community,

W.B. 28th Nov. 1812.—Falmouth

The said commissioners of His Majesty's Customs, in order to bring to justice the person who wrote or sent the said letter, are hereby pleased to offer a reward of fifty pounds to any person or persons who shall discover and apprehend or cause to be discovered and apprehended the person or persons who wrote the said letter.

One can only imagine the anxiety that the Clift family must have been feeling as the events of the Packet Mutiny were unfolding. Whatever the nature of John Clift's involvement, and in spite of any after-effects of the incident and the resultant anonymous letter threatening the murder of the customs house officers, life for John Clift and his family seems to have continued on in normal fashion for the time and place.

The customs office continued to function and John Clift remained an officer there. Besides collecting duties on imported goods and guarding against smuggling, he would have also been busy with the registration of ships.⁵⁶ A national system of registration commenced in 1786, though in some ports ships were registered from the 17th century. Ships with a burden of more than 15 tons had to be registered at the customs' office of their home port. The register noted a ship's name, home port, owners' names and addresses, the master's name and the date and place of a ship's construction and registration. The ports' customs officers also copied the information onto a transcript which was sent to London.

Family and Faith

Absent fame, fortune, or the advantage of probate records, the family history researcher is left to rely on the early church and parish registers to provide the important genealogical details of one's ancestors. Fortunately, the parish registers of St. Martin by Looe, Launceston, and Falmouth, Cornwall, England, provide the essential facts about the family of John and Elizabeth (Oliver) Clift. We know that John and Elizabeth started out in East Looe, but shortly after the birth of their first child, appeared in Falmouth, where the rest of the children were born and John worked as an officer of HM Customs.

⁵⁶ Mark Herber, *Ancestral Trails: The Complete Guide to British Genealogy and Family History* (Stroud, England: Sutton Publishing, in association with the Society of Genealogists, 2000), 379.

All of the children born in Falmouth up to this point, plus the oldest, John (who had been baptized in the *Methodist* chapel at Launceston in 1800), were taken to the *Church of England* chapel for baptism. As with the baptism of John Clift in the Wesleyan Methodist chapel in Launceston, the reason for the family's return to the established church is not clear.

The Falmouth Parish Church was dedicated to Charles I, the Martyr in 1665 and its official name is The Church of King Charles the Martyr.⁵⁷ The church was situated at the tope of Arwenack and Church streets. Not surprisingly for its location and antiquity, there are “a fair few links with the sea and those who occupy their business in great waters,” attached to the church, including memorials illustrating the dangers which could befall travelers in the days of the old packet ships, those involved with the packet ships or who met their end in various incidents at sea. “One of the flags that hang on either side of the gallery at the west end is peculiar to this Church. It is known as the Rector's Pennant. By Act of Parliament in the reign of King Charles II, the Rector of Falmouth was required to fly a red flag on the Black Rock, at the entrance to the harbor, as a warning to shipping. Until 1840 the Rector was paid sixpence for every decked ship that came into port. These days, [of course] port safety rests in the hands of the Harbourmaster, Trinity House and the Pilot Service. The arms shown on the pennant are those of the Killigrew family.”⁵⁸

Whether John and Elizabeth Clift were active in their faith and attended services at the parish church every week is not known, but they were in the building at least six times, having their children baptized. The parish records⁵⁹ of The Church of King Charles the Martyr provided not only the baptism dates for the children, but also their birth dates, which is an added bonus, as not all parish registers noted the actual dates of birth. Thus, we know that John Clift was born 20 July 1800; Jenny was born 22 August 1802; Charlotte was born 11 August 1803; Richard was born 29 January 1806; Jane was born 20 April 1808; and Elizabeth was born 29 August 1810.

After their sixth child was born, John and Elizabeth Clift had three more children,⁶⁰ predictably, two to three years apart—Mary was born 8 April 1813; Charles was born 29 April 1815; and James was born 3 September 1817. These children, however, were not baptized at King Charles, but were taken to the *Falmouth Wesleyan Methodist Chapel*, located in Killigrew street. Again, we may ask why the Clifts switched back to the non-conformist denomination—but there is no obvious explanation.

⁵⁷ Falmouth Parish Church, “A Short Tour,” and “Sea Links,” (<http://www.btinternet.com/~kcm> : accessed 3 November 2001).

⁵⁸ *Ibid.*

⁵⁹ Falmouth Parish (Cornwall, England), Computer Printout of Falmouth, Cornwall, England, p. 115; FHL microfilm 1145600, Item 1; baptisms for children of John and Elizabeth Clift (1802 – 1810).

⁶⁰ Falmouth Wesleyan (Cornwall, England), Wesleyan Chapel, FHL film 590671 Item 13 Births and Baptisms, 1813-1837; entries for Mary, Charles and James Clift.

The Methodist movement in Cornwall began in the mid-18th century when John Wesley and his associates began to visit Cornwall, holding small meetings in people's houses and meeting in the open air with large groups. Gradually chapels were built throughout the county, and the Falmouth chapel was erected in 1791 and enlarged in 1814. Wesley's main preaching was directed at the poor and uneducated miners and fishermen and their families in Cornwall. The established church, the Church of England, seemed to be the church of the more prosperous.

At least six denominations or connections of Methodists were represented in Cornwall in varying degrees of strength, but the Wesleyans were the original Methodists, from whom the other groups broke away. They were always the strongest denomination in Cornwall and were represented virtually all over the county. Methodism of all kinds had significant influence in Cornwall, and by the middle of the 19th century over 60% of churchgoers in the county attended nonconformist services.⁶¹

John and Elizabeth Clift were among those Methodist churchgoers, supposedly. Thankfully, the Falmouth, Methodist Baptism Circuit records⁶² included information regarding the family's residence and the father's profession. Consequently, we can confirm that in 1813, John Clift, Custom House Officer and his wife, Elizabeth, lived at Falmouth; in 1815, John Clift, Officer of the Customs and his wife, Elizabeth, lived at Falmouth; and in 1823, John Clift, Custom House Officer, and his wife, Elizabeth, lived at Falmouth.

The specific house the Clifts lived in is not known, but there are several sources which identify the street. In 1832, a list⁶³ was taken of those eligible to vote in the parish and town of Falmouth, and John Clift's name was included. He qualified for the list because of his house located in New Street. In 1841, Elizabeth Clift, age 65, was enumerated in the census⁶⁴ at a residence on Quay Hill, but the district included addresses at Higher and Lower New Street, Hull's Lane, Arwenack Street, Ropewalk and Swanpool Street, all of which seem to intersect within a block of each other, and a stone's throw from the seafront. The Custom House, where John Clift worked, was on the Quay. It's possible that at the time of the census the street names had been re-arranged, because just five years later, in 1846, one of John and Elizabeth Clift's grandchildren, Mary Jane Clift, died at the residence in New Street.⁶⁵ Motherless and just twelve years old at the time of her death, it stands to reason that Mary Jane was receiving care at the home of her grandmother, Elizabeth Clift.

⁶¹ Cornwall Council, Nonconformists, "Methodists," (<http://www.cornwall.gov.uk> : accessed 14 February 2012).

⁶² Cornwall Online Parish Clerks, "Baptisms Nonconformist," database, Falmouth, Methodist Baptism Circuit (<http://www.cornwall-opc-database.org/search> : accessed 20 February 2012), previously cited.

⁶³ Cornwall Online Parish Clerks, "1832 Voters List," database, Borough of Penryn & Falmouth Voters (<http://www.cornwall-opc-database.org/search> : 20 February 2012), entry for John Clift; citing transcription of Voters List.

⁶⁴ "1841 England Census," database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 14 February 2012), entry for Elizabeth Clift, Quay Hill, Falmouth, County of Cornwall; citing PRO HO107/154, folio 10, p. 12; Falmouth registration and sub-registration districts, E. D. 9.

⁶⁵ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Mary Jane Clift, died 16 August 1846; citing 9/45/492, Falmouth registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

John Clift Passes Away – His Family Carries On

Because John and Elizabeth (Oliver) Clift had so many children and because it was the expected practice to have the children baptized shortly after their births, we have a fairly solid chronological record in the parish registers of the couple's childbearing and childrearing years. Advantageously, in 1813, preprinted forms for baptisms were introduced, which called for additional information, such as the family's residence and the father's occupation. The church, obviously, was interested in its parishioners from cradle to grave, and the parish burial registers were often the second and sometimes the only and final record of a person's life.

In the case of John Clift, we have two records of his passing—the notation in the burial register and a short notice in a local newspaper. The burial register of the Falmouth Parish Church indicates that John Clift, age 57, was buried 11 April 1833.⁶⁶ The newspaper announcement⁶⁷ gives his date of death:

Falmouth Packet and Cornish Herald of April 13, 1833, 7th inst. at Falmouth, aged 57 years, Mr. John Clift of the Customs.

John had been preceded in death by two of his children and they were both buried in the old parish churchyard—Falmouth's King Charles the Martyr. Jenny Clift was buried 17 September 1802,⁶⁸ age 1 month; and Charlotte Clift, aged 23 years, was buried 7 Jun 1827.⁶⁹ Another daughter, Jane Clift, was buried in Falmouth parish churchyard 12 December 1833, age 25. This last loss came just eight months after John's death, making it a particularly tough year for his widow, Elizabeth.

Generally, in the early part of the 19th century, people did not retire from work unless they were incapacitated, so we might presume that John Clift carried out his duties as an Officer of the Customs until his death. Whether he continued working or not, John Clift did live long enough to see two of his children marry and perhaps became acquainted with several grandchildren. His son, John Clift, married Anne Stephens Bray 22 April 1819⁷⁰ in Falmouth, Cornwall, and the register noted the two were minors and married with the consent of their parents. The elder John Clift was one of the witnesses. John and Anne Stephens (Bray) Clift

⁶⁶ Cornwall Family History Society, "Burials Records, Falmouth, Cornwall, England," database, Parish Births, Marriages, Death Records (<http://members.cornwallfhs.com/research> : accessed 18 January 2012), entry for John Clift, buried 11 April 1833; citing Falmouth Parish Burials.

⁶⁷ Larry Faulkner, Cornish-Gen Mailing List Correspondent, Cornwall, England, to Maurine Clift Nuttall, letters, November 2001, relating information about John Clift.

⁶⁸ Larry Faulkner, Cornish-Gen Mailing List Correspondent, Cornwall, England, to Maurine Nuttall, letter, 3 November 2001, Falmouth Parish Register information for children of John and Elizabeth Clift.

⁶⁹ Cornwall Family History Society, "Burials Records, Falmouth, Cornwall, England," database, Parish Births, Marriages, Death Records (<http://members.cornwallfhs.com/research> : accessed 18 January 2012), entry for Charlotte Clift, buried 7 June 1827; citing Falmouth Parish Burials.

⁷⁰ Cornwall Family History Society, Husbands Search Printout by surname Cliff/Clift 7 March 2002, entry for John Clift, wife Ann Stevens Bray; citing parish registers for marriages.

had two children, a daughter named Anne Stephens Clift, born in 1819, and a son named John Thomas Clift, born in 1820. Both grandchildren were born in Falmouth, so it may be assumed that John and Elizabeth Clift observed their childhood years.

Richard Clift, second son and fourth child of John and Elizabeth Clift, married Mary Sims, 26 November 1831⁷¹ in Kenwyn, Cornwall, home of the bride. Given that a Jane Clift (Richard's sister?) was listed as witness to the event, along with William Sims, Mary's father, it does not appear that John Clift was in attendance at this marriage. Certainly, however, John and Elizabeth Clift would have known about the ceremony and been pleased to send their good wishes along. Richard and Mary (Sims) Clift's first baby did not come along until the end of 1833, so grandfather John Clift did not have the opportunity of meeting this grandchild.

By 1841,⁷² then, all but one of the children have moved out of the Clift residence in Falmouth, leaving Elizabeth Clift in the home with her daughter, Mary. Elizabeth Clift is age 65, and "Independent." Mary is age 25 and is a governess, according to the census enumeration. Son, Charles Clift,⁷³ is age 25 and living on his own in Arwenack Street—really just around the corner from his mother and sister. Daughter, Elizabeth and son, James, have not been located in the 1841 census.

The ensuing years brought more loss for Elizabeth Clift, widow of John Clift, Customs Officer. A family loss that impacted Elizabeth in a particular way was the death of her daughter-in-law, Mary (Sims) Clift, wife of Richard Clift. Mary died 9 September 1842⁷⁴ in Gwennap, Cornwall, shortly after giving birth to a daughter named Emma. Sadly, the baby died a week after her mother.

Then, Elizabeth's daughter, Mary, passed away, unmarried, in 1845. Mary Clift was buried in the Falmouth parish churchyard on 4 April 1845.⁷⁵ Mary's death certificate stated that she was a schoolmistress and that she died at the New Street residence. Like her father, her passing was mentioned in a newspaper:⁷⁶

⁷¹ Cornwall Family History Society, Husbands Search Printout by surname Cliff/Clift 7 March 2002, entry for Richard Clift and Mary Sims; citing parish registers for marriages.

⁷² 1841 England Census "1841 England Census," database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 14 February 2012), entry for Elizabeth Clift, Quay Hill, Falmouth, County of Cornwall; previously cited.

⁷³ *Ibid.*

⁷⁴ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Mary Clift, died 9 September 1842; citing 9/167/172, Redruth registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

⁷⁵ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Mary Clift, died 31 March 1845; citing 9/51/278, Falmouth registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

⁷⁶ 1845 Deaths: *The West Briton and Cornwall Advertiser*, Transcriptions of the Original Newspaper, 1836-1887, a project created by Julia Symons Mosman and Rita Bone Kopp (<http://freepages.genealogyrootsweb.ancestry.com/~wbritonad/cornwall/> accessed 24 February 2008).

West Briton and Cornwall Advertiser 4 April, 1845 DEATHS
At Falmouth, on Monday last, Miss Mary CLIFT, aged 32 years.

Richard's daughter, Mary Jane Clift, had passed away in 1846, as mentioned earlier; and in 1849 Elizabeth lost another daughter, the last of her five girls, her namesake, Elizabeth Clift. The death certificate⁷⁷ indicated she was the daughter of John Clift, Customs Officer. She died at Victoria Terrace, Falmouth, at the age of 38. Her death was also noted in the *West Briton and Cornwall Advertiser*,⁷⁸ 6 July 1849:

At FALMOUTH, on Friday last, Elizabeth, daughter of the late
Mr. John CLIFT, of H.M. Customs, aged 38 years.

Sometime before 1850, Elizabeth and John Clift's firstborn son, John Clift, had passed away—a record of his death has not been found, but his wife died in 1850, as a widow. No record of the death of her lastborn son, James Clift, has been found, either; he may not have lived to adulthood, as he is not found on any census. So by 1851, Elizabeth Clift, as far as is known, was left with just two sons, Richard and Charles, to sustain her in her old age.

Elizabeth Clift, widow of John Clift, is enumerated on the 1851 census⁷⁹ at 4 Victoria Terrace, Falmouth. This is the same address at which her daughter, Elizabeth, died in 1849, giving us a frame of reference for her move from the residence on New Street. The 1851 census is the first instance where Elizabeth, herself, names her place of birth as Exeter, Devon—so this piece of information was very helpful in establishing her identity as the Elizabeth Oliver,⁸⁰ daughter of Richard Oliver and Elizabeth, christened at Saint Mary Steps in Exeter, Devonshire. Also, living with her at census time are her three grandsons, John, George and Charles Clift! These are Richard's boys, all teenagers, presumably in the home to look after their grandmother—or for her to look after them. It was their sister, Mary Jane, who had died at Grandmother Clift's home in 1846.

⁷⁷England, death certificate (certified copy) for Elizabeth Clift, died 29 June 1849; citing 9/56/111, Falmouth Union registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

⁷⁸ 1849 Deaths: *The West Briton and Cornwall Advertiser*, Transcriptions of the Original Newspaper, 1836-1887, a project created by Julia Symons Mosman and Rita Bone Kopp (<http://freepages.genealogyrootsweb.ancestry.com/~wbritonad/cornwall/> accessed 24 February 2008).

⁷⁹ "1851 England Census," database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 15 February 2012), entry for Elizabeth Clift, 4 Victoria Terrace, Falmouth, County of Cornwall; citing PRO HO107/1911, folio 311, p. 17; Falmouth registration district, Mylor sub-registration district, E. D. 1f, household schedule number 53.

⁸⁰ "England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975," index, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 15 February 2012), entry for Elizabeth Oliver, christened 17 July 1773; citing Church Records, FHL Film 917105, Indexing Batch C05101-1.

By 1861, when the census⁸¹ was taken 7 April, Elizabeth had moved out of her own home and was living with her son, Charles and his wife, Selina, and their three children at a home on Wodehouse Terrace, in Falmouth. Elizabeth Clift was identified as an 88-year-old widow of a customs officer. Charles Clift had married Selina Mills in 1856⁸² in Madron, Cornwall, but they made their home in Falmouth, at Wodehouse Terrace, and raised their family there.

Elizabeth Clift remained in the home of her son, Charles, until her death on 8 August 1863.⁸³ She died of old age, being 92 years of age when she passed; and, again, she was identified as the widow of John Clift, H.M. Customs. Charles was with her when she died. It was a very sorrowful day in the Clift household August 8th, as Charles and Selina Clift also lost their little girl, named Emma Bithiah Clift,⁸⁴ that day. Emma was just three years old and died of hydrocephalus. Grandmother and granddaughter were buried in the Falmouth Municipal Cemetery the same day, 13 August 1863.⁸⁵

Neither John Clift, nor his wife, Elizabeth (Oliver) Clift, left a will. Elizabeth was fortunate in that she lived a long life, was able to help care for her grandchildren and received love and comfort in her final years in the home of her son, Charles. She was survived by two sons, eight grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren.

⁸¹ “1861 England Census,” database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 15 February 2012), entry for Elizabeth Clift, Wodehouse Terrace, Falmouth, County of Cornwall; citing PRO RG9/1566, folio 7, p. 7; Falmouth registration and sub-registration districts, E.D. 5.

⁸² England, marriage certificate (certified copy) for Charles Clift and Selina Mills, married 2 December 1856; citing 5c/553/494, Penzance registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

⁸³ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Elizabeth Clift, died 8 August 1863; previously cited.

⁸⁴ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Emma Bithiah Clift, died 8 August 1863; citing 5c/140/457, Falmouth registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

⁸⁵ Emily Middleditch, Falmouth Town Council, to Maurine Clift Nuttall, letter, 27 July 2009, previously cited.

Children of John Clift and Elizabeth (Oliver) Clift

John and Elizabeth (Oliver) Clift were the parents of nine children:

- i. JOHN CLIFT, born 26 July 1800⁸⁶ in East Looe, Cornwall, England, baptized 21 September 1800⁸⁷ at Mary Magdalene-Wesleyan, Launceston, Cornwall, England, died before 1850.⁸⁸ He married in Falmouth, Cornwall, England, 22 April 1819,⁸⁹ Anne Stephens Bray, born about 1795⁹⁰ and died 20 September 1850⁹¹ at Guy's Hospital, Southwark, Surrey, England. Anne Stephens Clift was buried 29 September 1850⁹² at St. Thomas, Southwark, Surrey, England. The Falmouth Marriage Register's entry⁹³ for John Clift and "Ann Stevens Bray" indicates that they were both minors and married with the consent of their parents. The witnesses named were John Clift, Thomas Bray and Mary Bray, but Anne's parents have not been determined. Apparently, John and Anne Clift were not enumerated in the 1841 census, as they cannot be located, but the death certificate for Anne indicates that she was the widow of John Clift—post office clerk at Falmouth. A record of John Clift's death has not been found. John Clift and Anne Stephens (Bray) Clift were the parents of two children: (a) Ann Stephens Clift, born 17 July 1819⁹⁴ in Falmouth, Cornwall, England, died before 1900;⁹⁵ married 10 March

⁸⁶ Mary Magdalene-Wesleyan, Launceston, Cornwall, England, parish registers, John the son of John and Elizabeth Clift (1800); FHL microfilm 0883931, Item 17.

⁸⁷ Ibid.

⁸⁸ John Clift's wife, Anne Stephens (Bray) Clift, was a widow when she died in 1850.

⁸⁹ Cornwall Family History Society, Husbands Search Printout by surname Cliff/Clift 7 March 2002, entry for John Clift, wife Ann Stevens Bray; previously cited.

⁹⁰ Anne Clift was age 55 years at her death in 1850.

⁹¹ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Anne Stephens Clift, died 20 September 1850; citing 4/337/374, St Olave Southwark registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

⁹² John Hanson and Monnica Stevens, transcriptions, "City of London Burials," database, *findmypast.com Parish Records Collection 1538-2005*, (<http://www.findmypast.com/lbSearchResult.action> : accessed 3 June 2009), entry for CLIFT Anne Stephens; citing City of London Burials.

⁹³ Susan Elizabeth Gay and Olivia Blanche Orme Fox, transcribers and editors, *The register of baptisms, marriages, & burials of the parish of Falmouth in the county of Cornwall, 1663-1812* (Exeter: Devon and Cornwall Record Society, 1914-1915), 644.

⁹⁴ Church of England, Parish Church of Falmouth, Cornwall, Parish register transcripts, 1813-1839, entry for Ann Stephens Clift birth (1819); FHL microfilm 916970. Also, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints [LDS], "International Genealogical Index," database, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 15 July 2001), entry for Ann Stephens Clift, christening 2 Jan 1820 Falmouth, Cornwall, England; citing FHL microfilm 933497 Item 2, extracted christening records, Batch No. C052781.

⁹⁵ 1900 U. S. Census, Essex County, New Jersey, Schedule No. 1-Population, New Jersey City, Eleventh Ward, p. 150, Sheet A7, North Sixth Street, House Number 211, Abrams, William G.; digital image, *Ancestry.com* (<http://content.ancestry.com> : accessed 12 October 2005); citing NARA microfilm publication. William G. Abrams is listed as a widower.

1844⁹⁶ in Westminster, Middlesex, England, William George Symons Abrahams—by whom she bore seven children; and (b) John Thomas Clift, born 26 November 1820⁹⁷ in Falmouth, Cornwall, England, died 15 August 1882⁹⁸ at St. George Hanover Square, Middlesex, England; married 4 July 1849⁹⁹ in Croydon, Surrey, England, Annes Mary Walley. They were the parents of five children.

- ii. JENNY CLIFT, born 22 August 1802¹⁰⁰ in Falmouth, Cornwall, England, and baptized 8 September 1802¹⁰¹ in the Falmouth Parish, Falmouth, Cornwall. She was buried 17 September 1802¹⁰² in the Falmouth Parish Churchyard, Falmouth, Cornwall, England
- iii. CHARLOTTE CLIFT, born 11 August 1803¹⁰³ in Falmouth, Cornwall, England, baptized 28 October 1803¹⁰⁴ in the Falmouth Parish, Falmouth, Cornwall, buried 7 June 1827¹⁰⁵ in the Falmouth Parish Churchyard, Falmouth, Cornwall.

⁹⁶ England, marriage certificate (certified copy) for William George Abrahams and Anne Stephens Clift, married 10 March 1844; citing 1/318/122, Westminster registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

⁹⁷ Church of England, Parish Church of Falmouth, Cornwall, Parish register transcripts, 1813-1839, entry for John Thomas Clift birth (1820); FHL microfilm 916970. Also, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints [LDS], “International Genealogical Index,” database, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 15 July 2001), entry for John Thomas Clift, christening 14 Dec 1820 Falmouth, Cornwall, England; citing FHL microfilm 933497 Item 2, extracted christening records, Batch No. C052781.

⁹⁸ England, death certificate (certified copy) for John Thomas Clift, died 15 August 1882; citing 1a/270/161, St. George Hanover Square registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

⁹⁹ England, marriage certificate (certified copy) for John Thomas Clift and Annes Mary Walley, married 4 July 1849; citing 4/89/61, Croydon registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

¹⁰⁰ The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints [LDS], “International Genealogical Index,” database, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 18 October 2002), entry for Jenny Clift, born 22 Aug 1802 chr 8 Sep 1802 Falmouth, Cornwall, England; previously cited.

¹⁰¹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰² Larry Faulkner, Cornish-Gen Mailing List Correspondent, Cornwall, England, to Maurine Nuttall, letter, 3 November 2001, Falmouth Parish Register information for children of John and Elizabeth Clift.

¹⁰³ The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints [LDS], “International Genealogical Index,” database, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 18 October 2002), entry for Charlotte Clift born 11 Aug 1803 chr 28 Oct 1803 Falmouth, Cornwall, England; citing FHL microfilm 0267525, extracted christening records, Batch No. P001721.

¹⁰⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁵ Larry Faulkner, Cornish-Gen Mailing List Correspondent, Cornwall, England, to Maurine Nuttall, letter, 3 November 2001, Falmouth Parish Register information for children of John and Elizabeth Clift.

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- iv. RICHARD CLIFT, born 29 January 1806¹⁰⁶ in Falmouth, Cornwall, England, baptized 21 February 1806¹⁰⁷ in the Falmouth Parish, Falmouth, Cornwall, died 18 December 1891¹⁰⁸ at Westgate on Sea, Margate, Kent, England. He was buried 23 December 1891¹⁰⁹ in the West Norwood Cemetery, London, England. Richard Clift married (1) in Kenwyn, Cornwall, England, 26 November 1831,¹¹⁰ Mary Sims; (2) in Mawgan, Cornwall, England, 9 September 1846,¹¹¹ Christian Bottrall Hollocombe.
 - v. JANE CLIFT, born 20 April 1808¹¹² in Falmouth, Cornwall, England, and baptized 19 May 1808¹¹³ in the Falmouth Parish Church, Falmouth, Cornwall, and buried 12 December 1833¹¹⁴ in the Falmouth Parish Churchyard, Falmouth, Cornwall, England.
 - vi. ELIZABETH CLIFT, born 29 August 1810¹¹⁵ in Falmouth, Cornwall, England, and baptized 27 September 1810¹¹⁶ in the Falmouth Parish Church, Falmouth, died 29 June 1849¹¹⁷ in Falmouth, Cornwall, England.
 - vii. MARY CLIFT, born 8 April 1813¹¹⁸ in Falmouth, Cornwall, England, baptized 16 May 1813¹¹⁹ in the Wesleyan Church, Falmouth, Cornwall, England, died 31 March 1845¹²⁰ in Falmouth, Cornwall and buried 4 April 1845¹²¹ in the Falmouth Parish Churchyard, Falmouth, Cornwall, England.

¹⁰⁶ The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints [LDS], "International Genealogical Index," database, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 18 October 2002), entry for Richard Clift born 29 Jan 1806 chr 21 Feb 1806 Falmouth, Cornwall, England; previously cited.

¹⁰⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁰⁸ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Richard Clift, died 18 December 1891; citing 2a/570/763, Thanet registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

¹⁰⁹ Ann Russell, West Norwood Cemetery and Crematorium, Norwood Road, London, England, to Maurine Clift Nuttall, letter, 1 May 2001, burial register information for Richard Clift.

¹¹⁰ Cornwall Family History Society, Husbands Search Printout by surname Cliff/Clift 7 March 2002, entry for Richard Clift and Mary Sims; previously cited.

¹¹¹ England, marriage certificate (certified copy) for Richard Clift and Christian Bottrall Hollocombe, married 9 September 1846; citing 9/145/67, Helston registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

¹¹² Larry Faulkner, Cornish-Gen Mailing List Correspondent, Cornwall, England, to Maurine Nuttall, letter, 3 November 2001, Falmouth Parish Register information for children of John and Elizabeth Clift.

¹¹³ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁴ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁵ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁶ *Ibid.*

¹¹⁷ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Elizabeth Clift, died 29 June 1849; previously cited.

¹¹⁸ Cornwall Online Parish Clerks, "Baptisms Non Conformist" database, Falmouth Methodist Baptism Circuit (<http://www.cornwall-opc-database.org> : accessed 2 June 2007), entry for Mary Clift; citing transcriptions of church records.

¹¹⁹ Cornwall Online Parish Clerks, "Baptisms Non-Conformist," database, Falmouth Methodist Baptism Circuit (<http://www.cornwall-opc-database.org> : accessed 2 June 2007), entry for Mary Clift; citing transcriptions of church records.

- viii. CHARLES CLIFT, born 29 April 1815¹²² in Falmouth, Cornwall, England, baptized 28 May 1815¹²³ in the Wesleyan Church, Falmouth, Cornwall, died 20 March 1885¹²⁴ in Falmouth, Cornwall and buried 24 March 1885¹²⁵ in the Falmouth Cemetery, Falmouth, Cornwall, England. He married in Madron, Cornwall, England, 2 December 1856¹²⁶ Selina Mills. Charles Clift lived his entire life in Falmouth and was an accountant, ship agent's clerk, and merchant clerk. He was a highly respected townsman and worked for many years for Messrs Fox and Co. G. C. Fox and Company was founded in 1759 and set up as consuls, ship agents and merchants, representing some 35 countries in a consular capacity.¹²⁷ Charles Clift held one public office of a "most important kind, the secretaryship of the Falmouth branch of the Royal Lifeboat Institution."¹²⁸ Charles and Selina (Mills) Clift were the parents of five children: (a) Janette Clift, born in Falmouth, Cornwall, England, 23 March 1858¹²⁹ and died 5 November 1957¹³⁰ in Falmouth, Cornwall, England; (b) Alfred James Clift, born in Falmouth, Cornwall, England, 19 June 1859,¹³¹ died 26 August 1919¹³² in Marylebone, London, England, and married 28

¹²⁰ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Mary Clift, died 31 March 1845; previously cited.

¹²¹ Larry Faulkner, Cornish-Gen Mailing List Correspondent, Cornwall, England, to Maurine Nuttall, letter, 3 November 2001, Falmouth Parish Register information for children of John and Elizabeth Clift.

¹²² The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints [LDS], "International Genealogical Index," database, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 18 October 2002), entry for Charles Clift born 29 April 1815, christened 28 May 1815 Wesleyan, Falmouth, Cornwall, England; citing FHL microfilm 883910, extracted christening records, Batch No. C065101.

¹²³ Ibid.

¹²⁴ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Charles Clift, died 20 March 1885; citing 5c/141/239, Falmouth registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

¹²⁵ Iris Boffey, Office Manager, Falmouth Town Council, Falmouth, Cornwall, England, to Maurine Clift Nuttall, letter, 24 January 2003, Clift burials in Falmouth [Municipal] Cemetery.

¹²⁶ England, marriage certificate (certified copy) for Charles Clift and Selina Mills, married 2 December 1856; previously cited.

¹²⁷ Hilary Hilton, Falmouth, Cornwall, England, to Maurine Clift Nuttall, letter 11 December 2001, Obituaries in Falmouth Papers for Clift; for Charles Clift, quoting *Lake's Falmouth Packet and Cornwall Advertiser*, March 28th 1885.

¹²⁸ Ibid.

¹²⁹ England, birth certificate (certified copy) for Janette Clift, born 23 March 1858; citing 5c/216/286, Falmouth registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

¹³⁰ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Janette Clift, died 5 November 1957; citing 7a/40/340, Falmouth registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

¹³¹ England, birth certificate (certified copy) for Alfred James Clift, born 19 June 1859; citing 5c/201/141, Falmouth registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

¹³² England, death certificate (certified copy) for Alfred James Clift, died 26 August 1919; citing 1a/462/411, St. Marylebone registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

March 1896¹³³ in Hammersmith, London, England, Beatrix Gaskell. Alfred James and Beatrix (Gaskell) Clift were the parents of three children. (c) Emma Bithiah Clift, born in Falmouth, Cornwall, England, 25 July 1860¹³⁴ and died 8 August 1863¹³⁵ in Falmouth; (d) Vesta Clift, born in Falmouth, Cornwall, England 8 November 1861¹³⁶ and died 15 July 1882¹³⁷ in Falmouth, Cornwall, England; and (e) Emmeline Clift, born in Falmouth, Cornwall, England, 11 January 1863,¹³⁸ died in North Petherton, Somersetshire, England, 16 September 1928,¹³⁹ and married in Mylor, Cornwall, England, 4 April 1893,¹⁴⁰ Arthur Henry Brown. No known issue.

- ix. JAMES CLIFT, born 3 September 1817¹⁴¹ in Falmouth, Cornwall, England, baptized 25 August 1823¹⁴² in the Wesleyan Church, Falmouth, Cornwall, England.

¹³³ England, marriage certificate (certified copy) for Alfred James Clift and Beatrix Gaskell, married 28 March 1896; citing 1a/404/169, Fulham registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

¹³⁴ England, birth certificate (certified copy) for Emma Bithiah Clift, born 25 July 1860; citing 5c/199/476, Falmouth registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

¹³⁵ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Emma Bithiah Clift, died 8 August 1863; previously cited.

¹³⁶ England, birth certificate (certified copy) for Vesta Clift, born 8 November 1861; citing 5c/198/377, Falmouth registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

¹³⁷ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Vesta Clift, died 15 July 1882; citing 5c/103/118, Falmouth registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

¹³⁸ England, birth certificate (certified copy) for Emmeline Clift, born 11 January 1863; citing 5c/221/271, Falmouth registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

¹³⁹ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Emmeline Brown, died 16 September 1928; citing 05c/318/73, Bridgwater registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

¹⁴⁰ England, marriage certificate (certified copy) for Arthur Henry Brown and Emmeline Clift, married 4 April 1893; citing 5c/267/150, Falmouth registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

¹⁴¹ Cornwall Online Parish Clerks, "Baptisms Non-Conformist," database, Falmouth Methodist Baptism Circuit (<http://www.cornwall-opc-database.org> : accessed 2 June 2007), entry for James Clift; citing transcriptions of church records.

¹⁴² Ibid.

Third Generation

3. Richard Clift, son of John and Elizabeth (Oliver) Clift, was born in Falmouth, Cornwall, 29 January 1806,¹⁴³ and baptized in the Falmouth Parish Church 21 February 1806.¹⁴⁴ He died at Westgate-on-Sea, Margate, Kent County, England, on 18 December 1891.¹⁴⁵ Richard Clift was buried in the West Norwood Cemetery, London, England, on 23 December 1891.¹⁴⁶ He married (1) in Kenwyn, Cornwall, England, 26 November 1831,¹⁴⁷ **Mary Sims**, daughter of William Sims, Jr. and Johanna Oates Sims.¹⁴⁸ Mary Sims was born about 1806,¹⁴⁹ probably in Kenwyn, Cornwall; and she died in Gwennap, Cornwall, England, 9 September 1842,¹⁵⁰ and was buried 11 September 1842¹⁵¹ in the Holy Trinity Parish Churchyard, St. Day, Cornwall, England. Richard Clift married (2) in Mawgan, Cornwall, England, 9 September 1846,¹⁵² **Christian Bottrall Hollocombe**, daughter of William and Jane (Bottrall) Hollocombe. Christian was christened in Mawgan in Meneage, Cornwall, England, 26 May 1816;¹⁵³ she died in Upper Norwood, Surrey, England, 15 March 1882,¹⁵⁴ and was buried in West Norwood Cemetery, London, England, 18 March 1882.¹⁵⁵

¹⁴³ The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints [LDS], "International Genealogical Index," database, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 18 October 2002), entry for Richard Clift; previously cited.

¹⁴⁴ *Ibid.*

¹⁴⁵ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Richard Clift, died 18 December 1891; previously cited.

¹⁴⁶ Ann Russell, West Norwood Cemetery and Crematorium, Norwood Road, London, England, to Maurine Clift Nuttall, letter, 1 May 2001, burial register information for Richard Clift.

¹⁴⁷ Cornwall Family History Society, Husbands Search Printout by surname Cliff/Clift 7 March 2002, entry for Richard Clift and Mary Sims; citing parish registers for marriages.

¹⁴⁸ William Sims, recorded will, parish of Kenwyn, Cornwall County, England, 1834; Cornwall Record Office, No. 297, p. 217, proved 4 November 1834; photocopy of original document in possession of Maurine C. Nuttall, July 2003. Reference: ". . . my daughter Mary the wife of Richard Clift of the parish of Gwennap. . ."

¹⁴⁹ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Mary Clift, died 9 September 1842; previously cited. Birth year estimated from age at death.

¹⁵⁰ *Ibid.*

¹⁵¹ Michael Kiernan, Redruth, Cornwall, England, to Maurine Clift Nuttall, letter, 28 June 2001, burial records for the parish church The Holy Trinity of St. Day.

¹⁵² England, marriage certificate (certified copy) for Richard Clift and Christian Bottrall Hollocombe, married 9 September 1846; previously cited.

¹⁵³ Mawgan in Meneage Parish (Cornwall, England), Christenings 1559-1875, christening of Xtian Batterath Hollocombe (1816); FHL microfilm 1145613, Batch No. C020931.

¹⁵⁴ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Christian Bottrall Clift, died 15 March 1882; citing 2a/172/371, Croydon registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

¹⁵⁵ Ann Russell, West Norwood Cemetery and Crematorium, Norwood Road, London, England, to Maurine Clift Nuttall, letter, 1 May 2001, burial register information for Christian B. Clift.

Early Life and Education

Richard Clift was the fourth child and second son of John and Elizabeth (Oliver) Clift. He spent all of his childhood and youth in Falmouth, growing up in a busy household, enjoying the companionship of three brothers and four sisters. It is not known exactly what kind of education Richard and his siblings received, though education appears to have been quite important to him later in his life and to those in succeeding generations.

There were certain individuals in England at the beginning of the 19th century, when Richard was being reared, who were in favor of widespread education for children,¹⁵⁶ and from the first decade of the century there emerged indications of new thinking in the field of education. In particular, a Bill was introduced into the House of Commons by Samuel Whitbread in 1807 which proposed to deal with the whole of the Poor Law and advocating making the parish responsible for education. It was proposed that each child should have two years of education between the ages of 7 and 14. It was thought that this would reduce crime and pauperism. This proposal was considered too expensive to implement, and for other reasons, as well, it did not succeed.

Until the late 19th century there was little central or local government involvement in education.¹⁵⁷ Most Cornish towns had grammar schools, which had some charitable endowment but were mostly fee-paying. A few charity schools specifically for the children of the poor were founded in the 18th century, and the number of these multiplied in the 19th century, most being established by the parish clergy, in association with the National Society, and some by nonconformist denominations, in association with the British and Foreign Schools Society. However, for most children in England, and presumably for Richard Clift and his brothers and sisters and the other children in Cornwall, education in the early 1800s “continued to be a ‘haphazard system of parish and private adventure schools’ (Williams 1961:134), with preparatory schools serving the academies and older foundations.”¹⁵⁸

Marriage, Family and Career

After Richard’s father died, his mother, Elizabeth Clift, continued to live in Falmouth, along with his brothers and sisters. Richard Clift, however, at some point before his father’s passing had moved out and on 26 November 1831¹⁵⁹ at the Parish Church in Kenwyn, he married

¹⁵⁶ Know Britain, The History of Education in England (http://www.know-britain.com/general/education_in_england_2 : accessed 16 February 2012).

¹⁵⁷ Cornwall Council, Voluntary Organisations (<http://www.cornwall.gov.uk> : accessed 16 February 2012), entry for Schools.

¹⁵⁸ Derek Gillard, *Education in England: a brief history*, Chapter 1:600-1800 Beginnings (<http://www.educationengland.org.uk/history> : accessed 16 February 2012), quoting R. Williams (1961) *The Long Revolution*: Chatto and Windus.

¹⁵⁹ Cornwall Family History Society, Husbands Search Printout by surname Cliff/Clift 7 March 2002, entry for Richard Clift and Mary Sims; previously cited.

Mary Sims, daughter of William, Jr. and Johanna (Oates) Sims. Jane Clift, probably Richard's sister and Williams Sims, Jr., Mary's father, were witnesses to the marriage. Mary and Richard were both twenty-five years of age when they married. Mary's father, William Sims (1762-1834) and grandfather, also named William Sims (1737-1821), were both notable mining engineers in the region. Richard's connection by marriage with the Sims family and the mining industry would prove to be a significant influence in his life.

Richard Clift and his wife settled in the village of St. Day in the Parish of Gwennap¹⁶⁰ and all of their children were born there. The parish is situated in the Deanery and Hundred of Kerrier. It is bounded on the north by St. Agnes, and a detached part of Kenwyn and Kea, on the east by Perranarworthal, on the south by Stithians, and on the west by Wendron and Redruth. Little is known about the saint that gave her name to this parish which is situated to the southeast of Redruth. Villages in the parish are Churchtown, Carharrack, Trevarth, Crofthandy and Sunnycorner. Two new parishes were created from parts of this parish: St. Day in 1833 and Lanner in 1845.

In the 18th century Gwennap was the hub of Cornwall's richest mining area, and it has been said that the mines of Gwennap yielded ten million pounds worth of copper and tin in the 19th century. It was on the closure of these mines that many miners left Cornwall to seek employment all over the world. By the 20th century most pits had closed down. For long periods together their produce exceeded in value £1,000 per day, and often more.

Besides the mining interests in the region, Gwennap is well known for its strong associations with *Methodism* and John Wesley.¹⁶¹ Given Richard's parents' propensity for going back and forth between the Church of England and the Wesleyan Methodist denomination, at least as far as the baptisms of their children, it is interesting to note John Wesley's activity in Gwennap. Wesley preached there numerous times in the 18th century to huge crowds gathered in the stepped open-air amphitheatre known as Gwennap Pit, which may possibly be a sunken floor of a filled-up mine. The great amphitheatre has remarkable acoustic properties and is considered Cornwall's "Albert Hall," over 300 yards round with grassy tiers of seats which crammed with thousands of people.

John Wesley preached to the miners and their families for the last time in 1789 and died in London in 1791. In 1806, the year Richard Clift was born, the Gwennap Pit was remodeled to make seating and standing arrangements for 5,000 people. On June 18, 1807, the Pit was reopened and has been used continuously for preaching ever since.

¹⁶⁰ *GENUKI – UK & Ireland Genealogy* (<http://www.genuki.org/uk/big/Cornwall/Gwennap/index.html> : accessed 18 March 2001), "Gwennap."

¹⁶¹ *Cornwall Guide*, "John Wesley and Methodism," (<http://www.cornwalls.co.uk/history> : accessed 18 March 2001). Also, *Cornwall Calling*, "Methodist Church in Cornwall," (<http://www.cornwall-calling.co.uk/churches/methodism> : accessed 1 March 2010).

It is easy to understand why Richard settled in the area. As we will see, he became a businessman, a merchant in various commodities, and eventually, he became a mining agent. Here was much in the way of opportunity and activity.

About two years after Richard and Mary Clift's marriage, their first child arrived. Born on the 31st of December 1833¹⁶² at St. Day in the parish of Gwennap, Mary Jane Clift must have been a welcome addition to the family. Both Richard's father, John, and his sister, Jane, had passed away earlier in the year, so the birth of child at the close of the year would have been a much happier event. Perhaps due to the non-conformist leanings of his parents and definitely impacted by the influence upon them of the history of *Methodism* in the area, Richard and Mary Clift had their baby daughter baptized at the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel in Carharrack almost eleven months later on 14 November 1834. The baptismal record¹⁶³ revealed that "Richard Clift of St. Day in the Parish of Gwennap in the County of Cornwall" was a "Merchant's Agent." His wife, Mary, was identified as the "daughter of William and Johanna Sims."

Shortly before Mary Jane's baptism, her maternal grandfather, Williams Sims, passed away. He had prepared his last will¹⁶⁴ and testament earlier in the year and it included mention of his daughter, Mary, wife of Richard Clift. In the will, Sims identified his daughter's husband as "Richard Clift of the parish of Gwennap. . . Gentleman." An addition to the will provides that the money bequeathed to Mary is for her sole use and that her husband has no claim upon it. This was a typical method for providing for married daughters under English Common Law and should not be taken as an affront to, or mistrust of, Richard Clift.

Richard's and Mary's family expanded rapidly over the next nine years as their children were born. In 1835 or 1836, they welcomed a son they named John, in honor of his paternal grandfather. Unlike his sister, Mary Jane, John was not taken for baptism at the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel and he was not baptized at the Church of England parish chapel, either. As it turns out Mary Jane was the only child of the couple that was baptized—signifying, perhaps, a lack of interest in religion or some kind of falling away regarding matters of faith.

The lack of church baptismal or christening records has definitely been a hindrance relative to researching Richard Clift and his family. In fact, it was only because of a brief notice in the *West Briton and Cornwall Advertiser* newspaper's 7 April 1837 edition¹⁶⁵ that we learned of the birth and sadly, the death, of the third child born to Richard and Mary Clift:

¹⁶² "England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975." index, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 1 February 2012), entry for Mary Jane Clift christened 14 November 1834; citing Church Records, FHL microfilm 590671; photocopy of microfilm image in possession of Maurine Clift Nuttall.

¹⁶³ Ibid.

¹⁶⁴ William Sims, recorded will, Kenwyn, Cornwall, 1834; Cornwall Record Office, The County Archivist, County Hall, Truro, Cornwall, England. Photocopy of original obtained and transcribed 5 July 2003.

¹⁶⁵ *West Briton and Cornwall Advertiser 7 April 1837*, Transcriptions of the Original Newspaper, 1836 – 1887, by Julia Symons Mosman and Rita Bone Kopp (<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wbritonad/cornwall> : accessed 15 October 2003), "Died on Tuesday, at Rock-house, St. Day, the infant son of R. Clift, Esq."

Died: On Tuesday, at Rock-house, St. Day, the infant son of R. Clift, Esq.

As indicated in his infant's death notice, Richard Clift and his family were living in St. Day. Another reference to the "Rock-house" is found in *A History of The Gwennap Parish*¹⁶⁶ by C. C. James:

"Rock House was built in 1837 by Richard Clift."

These are the only references we have to Richard Clift's home, called the Rock-house. It is intriguing to think about the house and what it must have been like, however. Certainly made of rocks—the fact that mention is made of it indicates a certain distinction and level in society of its owner and builder. It is also interesting to note that Richard Clift's name included the appendage, "Esq." An *esquire*, abbreviated "Esq." is a person of a certain social status; always rather vague in its extent, the term has become practically meaningless today, though it was often appended to the name of any man not possessing a higher title, such as that of knighthood or peerage or a clerical one.

Richard's and Mary's fourth child, George, was born July 15, 1838¹⁶⁷ at Gwennap. Because England instituted a system of civil registration commencing July 1, 1837, we are fortunate to draw upon the birth, marriage and death indexes for the certificates which give the details of these vital events occurring after that date. In George Clift's case, the birth certificate identified his father, Richard Clift, as a "Merchant's Agent" and his mother as Mary Clift, formerly Sims.

Another son, Charles, was born sometime in 1839. In spite of the requirements to register births, it doesn't appear that Richard or Mary Clift made the effort with this child's arrival to present the information to the registrar, as there is no civil record of his birth. Nevertheless, this is the only child of Richard and Mary Clift for whom we have adequate information to be acquainted with him as a person. We know something of his education and avocation and we know of his work and background as a schoolmaster. His life's activities have been well documented elsewhere and will not be treated here in depth, but it is instructive to note that education and literary pursuits were of great importance to him.

Richard and Mary continued to "grow" their family. The year 1841 started out well for the Clift family as they welcomed yet another son, James, born 27 January 1841,¹⁶⁸ at Gwennap. The family now consisted of five children: Mary Jane, age 7, John, age 5, George, age 3,

¹⁶⁶ C. C. James, Vice President of the Royal Geological Society of Cornwall, Bard of the Cornish Gorsedd, *A History of the Parish of Gwennap in Cornwall* (Penzance, Cornwall: C.C. James [self-published], 1949), 137.

¹⁶⁷ England, birth certificate (certified copy) for George Clift born, 15 July 1838; citing 9/230/461, Redruth registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

¹⁶⁸ England, birth certificate (certified copy) for James Clift, born 27 January 1841; citing 9/262/126, Redruth registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

Charles, age 2, and the newborn. Richard Clift registered James' birth two days after he was born and the certificate identified Richard's occupation as "Agent."

The 1841 England Census,¹⁶⁹ taken 6 June 1841, shows the family at St. Day in the parish of Gwennap. Richard Clift is age 35 and his occupation is listed as "Clerk." Enumerated with the family are two female servants, Eliza Magor, age 28 and Mary Dunstan, age 13. The Clifts' immediate neighbors include a carpenter, a lieutenant in the Royal Navy, copper miners, and a merchant. Like the Clifts, several families have servants in their households, indicating a certain degree of prosperity.

Contrary to the preceding one, the year 1842 brought with it multiple sorrows. On 20 August, Emma Clift, a daughter, was born to Richard and Mary (Sims) Clift. Emma's birth was not registered—perhaps there was no opportunity, for Mary Clift died 9 September,¹⁷⁰ not quite three weeks after the birth of the baby girl. Her cause of death was listed as "Puerperous Disease," which is a condition related to childbirth. She was 36 years old, and described as "Wife of Richard Clift, Agent."

The burial records¹⁷¹ for the parish church, The Holy Trinity of St. Day, reveal that Mary Clift "of Littlebeside" was buried 11 September 1842 aged 36 years. The cause of death was given as "Typhus fever after childbirth." There is a scribbled note in the margin of the register which appears to read "suddenly." Littlebeside is a hamlet close to St. Day and while it appears that Mary was buried in the churchyard there is no surviving memorial marking her grave. Just five days later, on 16 September 1842,¹⁷² baby Emma Clift followed her mother in death. Emma's death certificate gave her age as 4 weeks, and identified her as the "Daughter of Mary & Richard Clift, Agent." She died of "fever" and her father, Richard Clift, was present at her death at Littlebeside. There is no record of a burial for Emma Clift at St. Day Holy Trinity, but it is likely that she was buried with or near to her mother.

One can only imagine Richard's grief at losing his wife and baby daughter so quickly. He was left to raise the five surviving children by himself. He must have managed somehow, and quite possibly had the help of his mother, Elizabeth, at least, and possibly his sister, Mary, as well. From the census records there is indication that Richard had sufficient and adequate means and perhaps was able to continue to employ domestic help.

¹⁶⁹ "1841 England Census," Cornwall, Parish of Gwennap, folio 38, Richd and Mary Clift; PRO HO 107/137/12; FHL microfilm 241260.

¹⁷⁰ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Mary Clift, died 9 September 1842; citing 9/167/272, Redruth registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

¹⁷¹ Michael Kiernan, Redruth, Cornwall, England, to Maurine Clift Nuttall, letter, 28 June 2001; citing burial records for the Parish Church The Holy Trinity of St. Day.

¹⁷² England, death certificate (certified copy) for Emma Clift, died 16 September 1842, 4 weeks of age; citing 9/168/286, Redruth registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

More sorrow followed just a few years later, when Richard Clift lost his oldest child, daughter Mary Jane. The Cornwall Parish Records, Volume XXV,¹⁷³ had this notation:

1846 Mary Jane Clift, death: Gwennap, "Daughter of Richard of St. Day – Merchant"

Mary Jane's death certificate¹⁷⁴ gives us the details of her passing—she died 16 August 1846 at New Street, Falmouth—the home of her Grandmother Clift. She was 12 years old, "Daughter of Richard Clift, Agent." The cause of death was given as "Cholera Morbus, Inflammation of the Bowels,"¹⁷⁵ which sounds like a dreadful condition—indeed, it is defined as acute gastroenteritis occurring in summer and autumn and marked by severe cramps, diarrhea, and vomiting.

It is not known where Mary Jane Clift was buried, but the *West Briton and Cornwall Advertiser* had this notice of her death in the August 21, 1846 edition¹⁷⁶ of the paper:

At Falmouth. . .on Monday, the eldest daughter of Mr. R. Clift, of St. Day, aged 14 years.

Mary Jane Clift was actually 12 years 7 months and 16 days old when she passed away, leaving her father and four brothers to mourn their loss. It was very shortly after Mary Jane's death that Richard Clift married a second time. He had been a widower for four years when he married Christian Bottrall Hollocombe 9 September 1846¹⁷⁷ at the parish church in the Parish of Mawgan in Cornwall. Richard Clift's occupation was noted as "Agent" and his father's name and occupation were given: John Clift, Officer in H. M. Customs. Christian Bottrall Hollocombe was a spinster, residing in Mawgan, daughter of William Hollocombe, Gentleman. For Richard, this second marriage seems like a "rescue" of sorts—there are four little boys to take care of—Christian must have been willing to take on the challenge. And, apparently, this is an opportunity for a second chance at happiness.

¹⁷³ Nicole D.S. Paulsen, Colorado Springs, Colorado, to Maurine Clift Nuttall, letter, 1 November 1990, regarding Clift genealogy, referencing Cornwall Parish Records, Gwennap, Vol. XXV.

¹⁷⁴ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Mary Jane Clift, died 16 August 1846; citing 9/45/492, Falmouth registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

¹⁷⁵ John P. Friel, Dictionary Editor for the Publisher, *Dorland's Illustrated Medical Dictionary, Twenty-fifth Edition* (Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders Company, 1974), 308, "cholera morbus."

¹⁷⁶ Deaths, *West Briton and Cornwall Advertiser, August 21, 1846*, Transcriptions of the Original Newspaper, 1836-1887, a project created by Julia Symons Mosman and Rita Bone Kopp (<http://freepages.genealogyrootsweb.ancestry.com/~wbritonad/cornwall/1846> : accessed 4 March 2009).

¹⁷⁷ England, marriage certificate (certified copy) for Richard Clift and Christian Bottrall Hollocombe, married 9 September 1846; previously cited.

Marriage, Family and Career – Chapter Two

Christian Bottrall Hollocombe was christened 26 May 1816¹⁷⁸ in Mawgan-in-Meneage, Cornwall, to William Hollocombe and Jane Bottrall. The Hollocombe family's origins lie in Devonshire, Cornwall County's neighbor to the northeast, but they were residing in Mawgan-in-Meneage, Cornwall, from the late 18th century. William Hollocombe married Jane Bottrall in Truro, Cornwall, in 1801¹⁷⁹ and they settled almost immediately in Mawgan-in-Meneage, where all of their five children, including Christian, were born. William Hollocombe was a carpenter or builder; Jane (Bottrall) Hollocombe was a descendant of Richard Bottrell, an early 17th century resident of St. Just in Penwith, Cornwall.

It is not known how Richard Clift met Christian B. Hollocombe. Mawgan-in-Meneage, Christian's birthplace, is at least 10 miles southeast of Gwennap. Richard was 40 years old and Christian was 30 years old when they married. Richard's four boys were 10, 8, 7 and 5 years of age and so the new bride had her hands full caring for the children and the household. Nevertheless, they wasted no time in having a child of their own—Frederick Clift was born 1 August 1847¹⁸⁰ at Gwennap. On the birth certificate, Richard Clift, "Agent," is listed as the informant and father, residing at St. Day.

For the next several years Richard and Christian Clift occupied themselves with the raising of their family and at some point moved from Gwennap to a home in nearby Redruth. Redruth¹⁸¹ is considered to be the Cornish heartland, "predominantly a 19th century market town which became a metal mining center of international significance and which, with its neighboring parishes of Camborne, Illogan, St. Day and Gwennap, provided the world's industry with many of its most notable engineers."

While not an engineer, Richard Clift did make a name for himself in the mining community as a broker as evidenced by the following mention in the book *Essays in Cornish Mining History*,¹⁸² written and published by Denys Bradford Barton in 1970:

¹⁷⁸ The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints [LDS], "International Genealogical Index," database, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> accessed 15 November 1999), entry for Xtian Batterath Hollocombe, christened 26 May 1816, Mawgan in Meneage, Cornwall, England; citing FHL microfilm 1145613, extracted christening records, Batch No. C020931.

¹⁷⁹ The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints [LDS], "International Genealogical Index," database, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> accessed 15 November 1999), entry for William Hollocombe and Jane Bottrall, married 11 May 1801, Truro, Cornwall, England; citing FHL microfilm 0541765, extracted marriage records, Batch No. M009631.

¹⁸⁰ England, birth certificate (certified copy) for Frederick Clift, born 1 August 1847; citing 9/222/452, Redruth registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

¹⁸¹ Terry Knight, "Redruth 1906," *Cornwall Sheet 63.07, Old Ordnance Survey Maps* (Newcastle Upon Tyne, England: Alan Godfrey Maps, Publisher, 1999); information on Redruth taken from historical sketch included with the map.

¹⁸² Nicole D. S. Paulson, Colorado Springs, Colorado, to Maurine Clift Nuttall, letter, 24 July 1991, citing information from H. L. Douch of Truro, Cornwall, 22 February 1991 regarding Richard Clift, quoting D. B. Barton's work: *Essays in Cornish Mining History, Vol. 2* (Truro, Cornwall: D. B. Barton, 1970), 41.

“ . . . it is said the first Cornish mining broker in London was named Bawden c 1830. Richard Clift from St. Day was another broker, his introduction to mining being as a traveling clerk with the Harveys of St. Day, a knowledgeable school to be trained in, one imagines.”

This is a vital clue regarding Richard’s career—we learn that he began as a traveling clerk. The “Harveys of St. Day” reference bears further explanation. John Harvey¹⁸³ (1730-1803) was a Cornishman whose career started as a blacksmith and engineer at Carnhell Green near Hayle, in West Cornwall. In 1779 he established a foundry and engineering works at Hayle called Harvey & Co. By 1800 the company employed more than 50 people and continued to grow as Harvey worked with many of the great Cornish engineers and entrepreneurs of the day. These included Richard Trevithick, William West, and, more importantly, Arthur Woolf. In 1797, Harvey’s daughter, Jane, married Richard Trevithick.

John Harvey had four sons, but only Henry (1775-1833) survived to take over the foundry business, becoming an equal partner with his father about 1801.¹⁸⁴ Henry Harvey expanded the company in collaboration with Arthur Woolf, the chief engineer. At that time it was the main mining engine foundry in the world, with an international market served through their own port at Foundry Town, Hayle, Cornwall. When Henry Harvey passed away the business passed into the hands of one of his nephews—Nicholas Oliver Harvey (1801-1861). It is Nicholas Oliver Harvey that would have been a contemporary with Richard Clift, but it is hard to say which “Harvey” gave Clift the “introduction to mining. . .as a traveling clerk.”

Harvey & Co.¹⁸⁵ built up a reputation for world class stationary beam engines designed to pump water out of the deep Cornish tin and copper mines. The Cornish beam engine became world famous and was exported overseas. They remain the largest beam engines ever constructed, with the largest of all—having a 144-inch-diameter cylinder powering eight separate beams—preserved in the Museum De Cruquius in the Netherlands. The beam engines produced for the Dutch government were all in operation by 1852, enabling land to be reclaimed for polders. Harvey’s also produced a range of other products, from hand tools to ocean-going ships, including the *USS Cornubia*, which was bought by the Confederate forces of the American Civil War in 1861 and sold on 25th October 1865.¹⁸⁶

This is all very interesting—to contemplate Richard Clift’s start at first, a traveling clerk and then a mining agent/mine share broker in western Cornwall—at just the time when the Cornish mining engineers and the foundry and engineering works in the area were “taking off”

¹⁸³ *Wikipedia* ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Harvey_\(ironfounder\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Harvey_(ironfounder))) : accessed 18 February 2012), “John Harvey,” latest revision 16 January 2011.

¹⁸⁴ *Engineering Timelines*, “Harvey & Co. Iron Foundry” (<http://www.engineering-timelines.com> : accessed 18 February 2012), information about the company.

¹⁸⁵ *Wikipedia* ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Harvey_\(ironfounder\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Harvey_(ironfounder))) : accessed 18 February 2012), “John Harvey,” latest revision 16 January 2011.

¹⁸⁶ *Engineering Timelines*, “Harvey & Co. Iron Foundry” (<http://www.engineering-timelines.com> : accessed 18 February 2012), information about the company.

so to speak. Certainly, Richard would have been well acquainted with the history, the notable engineers, the various competing forces, and the prominent leaders in the industry—the owners and operators of the mines and foundries and their successes and failures. And, he was a part of that scene.

The 1851 Slater's Directory¹⁸⁷ lists Richard Clift as a mining agent in Redruth; Slater's subsequent directories for 1852 and 1853 list him in the section labeled "Agents-Mines." In addition, the 1851 census¹⁸⁸ taken at Redruth further describes his occupation: "Flour Merchant & Mine Broker." The census also gives the family's address—they are residing at 150 Trewirgie Terrace, Helston Road. At the time of the census there were two children enumerated—James Clift, age 12 [actual age was 10] and Frederick Clift, age 3. Two young adult women were also residents in the household—house servants. Where are the other boys, you wonder? As we learned in the study of John and Elizabeth Clift, John, George and Charles were staying with their grandmother in Falmouth. Whether this was a temporary or a semi-permanent arrangement is not known. While John Clift was working as a merchant's clerk, George and Charles were occupied as students.

It is apparent from the various birth, marriage and death certificates, as well as the directory listings and the censuses, that Richard Clift has found a comfortable niche in Gwennap and subsequently, Redruth, as a mining agent and mine broker. As alluded to previously, Redruth¹⁸⁹ was the capital of the greatest of all Cornwall's mining areas, important for its marketing, financial, managerial and institutional roles. Redruth and its surrounding district gave to the world, not only a vital material, but also a legacy of engineering innovation through the work of men such as Watt, Murdoch and Trevithick—and, of course, the Harvey's of Hayle, as mentioned above.

Richard's occupation as a mining agent deserves some explanation. What did a mining agent do? From what I have been able to learn, a mine agent¹⁹⁰ had an important job in the management of a mine. The principal officers of the mining companies were manager, chief agent and secretary. Because a company usually owned a number of mines, (many of the 18th and 19th century mines in Britain were privately owned, i.e., situated on large estates) some of them relatively small or not in full production, they employed a chief agent for the group and

¹⁸⁷ Slater's (late Pigot & Co.) *Royal National and Commercial Directory and Topography of the counties of Berkshire, Cornwall, Devonshire, etc., comprising classified lists of the merchants, bankers, professional gentlemen, manufacturers and traders* [1851, 1852, 1853] (Manchester & London: Slater, 1851-1853); digital images, *Historical Directories, A University of Leicester Project* (<http://www.historicaldirectories.org> : accessed 19 June 2007), entries for Richard Clift, Redruth, Cornwall.

¹⁸⁸ "1851 England Census," Cornwall, Redruth, folio 27, household 150, Richard Clift; PRO HO107/1915; FHL microfilm 221069.

¹⁸⁹ Terry Knight, "Redruth 1906," *Cornwall Sheet 63.07, Old Ordnance Survey Maps* (Newcastle Upon Tyne, England: Alan Godfrey Maps, Publisher, 1999); previously cited.

¹⁹⁰ Rita Warmington, Cornwall Family History Society, *Rootsweb: Cornish-L Archives*, "Mine Agent – Job Description" (<http://archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com> : accessed 22 January 2006), list thread question generated by Julia Mosman 11 January 2006, with responses from Malcolm Hitchens and Rita Warmington.

mine agents for the individual mines. The agents looked after the interests of the owners in managing the mine. They dealt with share holdings and often acted as tollers (calculating owners' dues) and hired and fired the workforce. They were not usually responsible for the day-to-day work within the mine, which was in the charge of the mine captain.

The mine agent would have been the link between the wealthy mine owner and what was actually happening at the "coal face." The mining agent would have been a combination of mine manager, supervisor, public relations specialist, finance manager, etc. As a single position, it would probably equate to a present-day consulting mining engineer. An excerpt from "Tales of a Cornish Miner"¹⁹¹ by John Vivian illustrates vividly the duties and activities of agents. The agent quoted in this piece, Henry Boyns, may even have been an acquaintance of Richard's—at the very least, he was a contemporary in the industry:

The Duties of Mine Agents

All the practical operations of a mining venture were controlled by a number of under-managers called agents or captains. A large mine might employ as many as three or four underground to supervise the work of tributers and tutmen, whilst others kept watch on the dressing floors at grass. These agents were invariably chosen from among the working miners themselves, being selected for their shrewdness, ability and knowledge of mining.

The captains affected a peculiar type of uniform, singularly unfitted for their work, one would have thought, consisting of high pole hats and white drill coats. Their duties were manifold and arduous; and the respect in which they were generally held was more than merited. Their position in the mine was made all the more difficult in that they were intermediaries between management and men, and thus responsible for enforcing sometimes unpopular decisions and policies upon the work people. Indeed a good mine agent needed to be more than a little of a diplomatist. Above all however, if he were to succeed in his profession, he must achieve satisfactory returns of tin and copper ore at the minimum of expense, a requirement which meant constant vigilance in every respect of the mine's working. A clear idea of what an agent's duties entailed is afforded in a manuscript letter written on November 21st 1864, by Henry Boyns, who for several years served as agent at Bootblack mine (Actually, Botallack Mine) under the great Stephen Harvey James. In this he stated:

¹⁹¹ John Vivian, *Tales of a Cornish Miner* (Penryn, Cornwall: Tor Mark Press, 1990), "The Duties of Mine Agents;" as quoted by J. Mosman, Online Parish Clerk for St. Austell Parish, Cornwall, England (<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~staustell> : accessed 2006).

"Since I heard so much about the duties of agents at you meeting on Friday and what is expected of them to meet the wants of the times, I have taken stock of my own doings, just to see how it would tally and what I have been about under ordinary circumstances. For the last 12 months ending September. I have taken charge and looked after on an average 154 men Tut & Tributers per month which broke on an average 302 fathoms per month. See that they were all working, answer all questions, order and arrange all tramming, two steam whims one working the skip about 18 hours per day the other about 9 hours, 3 timbermen with their assistants, and see that all shafts (and) tram-roads are kept in good order for the carrying out of the work. In referring to my workbook for the year I find I have been underground 190 days, go everywhere down & up throughout the mine and 'old myself ready to give an opinion on everything that takes place in the mine, the whole of the tutwork and measurements, not to trifle to keep the underground book right of 120 pairs of men with marks and prices. Keep account of the smithwork relating to the underground men, being better prepared to check evils that may be practiced, examine every sample of tin stuff and be satisfied it is right before it is settled for, make & keep up all plans for the working of the mine and dealings, arranging and designing new work for keeping up the wear and tear, filled with concern about the whole that they be successful, not forgetting the price of Tin."

Richard worked as a mine agent for at least 25 years—possibly from the time of his marriage to Mary Sims (whose father was a prominent mining engineer) to the time he left Cornwall for London. Surely, he was a frequent visitor to the Redruth Mining Exchange Building¹⁹² where mining business and ticketing (or bidding) for copper and tin took place. The Exchange's proximity to the railway station (1852) attracted many dealers to that part of town. It is amusing to note that in those days the mine captains were fined for swearing, the proceeds going to the Miners' Hospital at West End.

In addition, there is evidence that Richard, himself, was a participating owner of mine shares. Richard Clift, "mine broker of Redruth," was one of the 'adventurers in East Pool Mine,'" according to a record¹⁹³ in the Vicewardens' Court of Stannaries of Devon and Cornwall, describing a petition brought by Basset and others versus Eudy, East Pool Mine versus Wheal Agar Mine, Illogan, 15 July 1853. Richard Clift was also listed in the 1856 Kelly's Post Office Directory for Cornwall¹⁹⁴ in the Traders section:

Clift, Richard, mine share broker, Trewirgie Villa.

¹⁹² Redruth Town Council, "Redruth Town Trail" (<http://www.redruth-tc.gov.uk> : accessed 19 February 2009).

¹⁹³ "Online Catalogue," database, *Cornwall Record Office*, (<http://crocat.cornwall.gov.uk> : accessed 14 June 2007), entry for Basset and others versus Eudy, 1853, RefNO: STA/693c/533; citing Stannary Court Petitions in Equity: Cornwall.

¹⁹⁴ Frederic Festus Kelly, compiler, *Post Office Directory of Cornwall* [1856] (London: Kelly, 1856), 92; digital images, *Historical Directories, A University of Leicester Project* (<http://www.historicaldirectories.org> : accessed 29 June 2002), entry for Richard Clift at Redruth.

Further, Richard Clift was involved in a legal suit¹⁹⁵ regarding shares in the mine *Wheal Margaret* covering the years 1855-1859. Richard was the defendant and the plaintiff was Edwin Ley of Penzance. Books and papers about the transactions between the two were deposited 23 March, 11 April and 14 April 1860 by Richard Clift and 18 April 1860 by Ley. The final outcome of the case is not known, but the copies of the pages from an account book kept in the hand of Richard Clift appear to be a record of money debited and credited.

The names of numerous individuals are included with the amounts contributed. Richard Clift notes his own contributions as “Self.” For the Cornish family history researcher the names are so familiar: *Tyacke, Reynolds, Stevens, Mitchell, Jenkin, Pearce, Hocking, Lanyon, Collier, Kendall, Bawden, Dunsterville, Pike, Sims, Jewell, Rosewarn, Richards, Watson, Harris, Tippet, Polkinhorn, Petherick, Paynter, Williams, Cock, etc., etc.*

The mine in question, *Wheal Margaret*,¹⁹⁶ produced tin from 1790, 1798, 1840, 1855-77 and was listed in the 1856 Kelly’s Directory: *Wheal Margaret Tin Mine is in the parish of Uny Lelant, Cornwall. The company is on the costbook system, and consists of 112 shares. In 1855 the dividends were £1,904, or 7 per share. The purser is W. S. Arthur, of Penzance.*

Up to this point, there has been a consistent stream of information regarding Richard Clift and his family and their presence in Cornwall, including the litigation just mentioned, initiated in the spring of 1860. However, at some point before 1861, Richard Clift left Cornwall for “London,” and is found residing in the parish of St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, with his wife and son. The reasons for his departure are unknown, but perhaps it had something to do with the “long decline in the mining industry, brought about by international competition, be[ginning] in the 1860s. By 1880 two-thirds of Cornish miners had emigrated to the mines of the Americas, Australasia and South Africa. Tin mining lasted some 30 years longer but provided fewer jobs.”¹⁹⁷ I like the way one correspondent noted Richard’s move: “Some time later [after 1856] he took himself off to London.”¹⁹⁸ To this was added the good news—a brief footnote printed in the *Mining Journal*¹⁹⁹ of March 8th, 1879:

Richard Clift was a rich man with a second wife and children.

¹⁹⁵ The Catalogue, database, *The National Archives*, (<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk> : accessed 14 June 2007), Piece details J 90/992, Records of the Supreme Court of Judicature and related courts; Cause: Ley v Clift (1859 L. 132); photocopies of the first twenty-one pages of the file were obtained and are in the possession of Maurine Clift Nuttall.

¹⁹⁶ *Cornwall Calling*, “Wheal Margaret Mine, Cornwall” (<http://www.cornwall-calling.co.uk/mines/st-ives> : accessed 18 February 2012).

¹⁹⁷ Redruth Town Council, “Redruth Town Trail” (<http://www.redruth-tc.gov.uk> : accessed 19 February 2009).

¹⁹⁸ Nicole D. S. Paulson, Colorado Springs, Colorado, to Maurine Clift Nuttall, letter, 24 July 1991, citing information from H. L. Douch of Truro, Cornwall, 22 February 1991 regarding Richard Clift, quoting D. B. Barton’s work and the *Mining Journal* of March 8th 1879.

¹⁹⁹ *Ibid.*; H. L. Douch appeared to be quoting D. B. Barton’s *Essays in Cornish Mining History*; an inquiry placed with the *Mining Journal* offices indicate they have indexed copies of the *Journal* dating back to 1865, but no resources to conduct searches (<http://www.mining-journal.com> : accessed 21 September 2001).

Life in London

The 1861 census²⁰⁰ taken at St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, London, shows Richard Clift and his family living at 11, Palace Gardens Villas. Richard is 55 years of age and described as a “Member of Mining Exchange.” His wife, C. B. Clift, is 45 years of age and his son, Frederick Clift is 13. There are two servants in the household—Emily E. Weston, 21, is the House Maid and Mary Ann Prime, age 25, is the Cook.

It is unclear whether Frederick was the only son who moved with Richard and Christian to London. Richard’s sons, John and James, born in 1836 and 1841, respectively, have not been accounted for after 1851. Charles Clift, born about 1839, remained in Cornwall, and was a “lodger,” living at 23 Wodehouse Terrace in Falmouth, age 21, at the time the 1861 census²⁰¹ was taken there. On the other hand, George Clift, Richard’s fourth son by his marriage to Mary Sims, had enrolled at the University College London on 1 October 1857²⁰² and was a Medical Student there through the 1859-60 term. Perhaps George’s educational foray to London helped pave the way for his father’s relocation—who knows? A search of the 1861 England census has not produced an entry for George Clift, leaving us to wonder where he was living and what he was doing from 1860 to 1862. If he was living with his father and stepmother in Kensington while attending UCL, he was not home the night of the census in 1861.

George Clift passed his primary examinations²⁰³ in anatomy and physiology at the Royal College of Surgeons of England on 4 June 1862—surely cause for celebration for the Clift family. However, he was qualified for such a short period of time he did not make it to the list of *members* of the Royal College of Surgeons²⁰⁴—this because, regrettably, he passed away at Falmouth, Cornwall, on the 23rd of October 1862,²⁰⁵ at the young age of 24. It does not appear that George’s father, Richard Clift, was in Falmouth at the time of the death, as George died at the home of his uncle, Charles Clift of Wodehouse Terrace.

²⁰⁰ “1861 England Census,” database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 14 February 2005), entry for Richard Clift, 11, Palace Gardens Villas, Kensington; citing PRO RG09/13, folio 37, p. 68; Kensington registration district, Kensington town sub-registration district, E.D. 1.

²⁰¹ “1861 England Census,” database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 12 May 2007), entry for Charles Clift, 23, Wodehouse Terrace, Falmouth, County of Cornwall; citing PRO RG9/1566, folio 6, p. 5; Falmouth registration district and sub-registration districts, E. D. 5.

²⁰² Wendy Butler, Senior Records Officer, University College London – Records Office, to Maurine Clift Nuttall, letter, 21 July 2009; citing UCL records and the College Calendar regarding George Clift.

²⁰³ *The Medical Times and Gazette, A Journal of Medical Science, Literature, Criticism, and News*, Vol. 1 for 1862, June 7, 1862 (London: John Churchill, 1862), 603; digital images, *Google Books* (<http://www.google.com/books> : accessed 20 July 2009).

²⁰⁴ Geraldine O’Driscoll, Library & Archives, Royal College of Surgeons, to Maurine Clift Nuttall, letter, 24 July 2009; citing negative findings for biographical information kept for fellows of the college.

²⁰⁵ England, death certificate (certified copy) for George Clift, died 23 October 1862; citing 5c/142/183, Falmouth Union registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

Life goes on for Richard Clift and his family, but what impact the loss of another child had upon him is not known. Richard's son, Charles, married in 1863²⁰⁶ at Trinity Gray's in Middlesex—not far from Kensington, but there is no evidence that Richard was in attendance as the two named witnesses were unrelated to the bride and groom. Two days after Charles' marriage, on 8 August 1863,²⁰⁷ Richard's mother, Elizabeth (Oliver) Clift, passed away at Falmouth. Again, there is nothing in the records to indicate that Richard Clift was in attendance—but the possibility does exist that he made it home to be with her.

The 1861 census²⁰⁸ listed Richard Clift's occupation as a member of the Mining Exchange, so it would appear that his career has progressed to a somewhat professional level. In 1866, in fact, Richard Clift was called as a witness in a case²⁰⁹ involving the forgery of mining transfers. He was identified as a stock and share dealer of 48, Threadneedle-street. Exactly how Richard Clift fit into the workings of the Mining Exchange and eventually the London Stock Exchange is not clear, but he entered the heart of Britain's major commercial and financial center at a key point in time when the technological advances of the ticker tape and the telegraph would substantially change how the stock markets functioned.

For an idea of the circumstances and historical context in which Richard Clift found himself, a brief review of the history²¹⁰ of the "London Mining Exchange" is in order.

For much of the nineteenth century metal mining was regarded as one of the most unpredictable and speculative forms of investment on the capital market. The mines were attended with great uncertainty even when most expertly and honestly pursued. Immense profits could be returned for a trivial outlay or vast fortunes could be sunk without trace. Attracting gamblers, speculators, and the unwary they became a centre for fraudulent company promotion and share manipulation. In this atmosphere many brokers avoided dealings in mine shares and most mining companies were excluded from the Stock Exchange. Dealings in mine shares outside the Exchange were chaotic, inconvenient, and open to all forms of exploitation. From the mid-nineteenth century the more respectable mine share dealers tried several times to establish their own separate and permanent place of business where they could introduce regulations to enforce honest and trustworthy dealing.

²⁰⁶ England, marriage certificate (certified copy) for Charles Clift and Elizabeth Frances Daniell, married 6 August 1863; citing 1b/826/269, Holborn registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

²⁰⁷ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Elizabeth Clift, died 8 August 1863; previously cited.

²⁰⁸ "1861 England Census," database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 14 February 2005), entry for Richard Clift, 11, Palace Gardens Villas, Kensington; previously cited.

²⁰⁹ *The London Times*, January 30, 1866, London Times Archive Online; digital images (http://archive.timesonline.co.uk/archive/tol_archive/article : accessed 30 May 2008); search term: Richard Clift.

²¹⁰ Roger Burt, "The London Mining Exchange 1850-1900," in R. P. T. Davenport-Hines, editor, *Capital, Entrepreneurs and Profits* (London: Frank Cass and Company Limited, 1990), pp. 157-176; digital images, *Google Books* (<http://www.google.com/books> : accessed 20 February 2012).

The narrative continues, providing a good description of how Richard Clift may have conducted business in Redruth, Cornwall:

In the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries those metal mine shares that could be transferred easily were exchanged by direct contact between buyer and seller; or by public auction if a large portfolio of investment was involved. Such transactions were limited, usually taking place in the mining districts between individuals well-known to each other and required no extensive system of brokerage or organized marketplace. However, a marked increase in business during the decades around the mid-nineteenth century and the continued exclusion of most mining companies from the Stock Exchange, caused the evolution of a more sophisticated market.

The development or “evolution of a more sophisticated market” for mine share dealers and brokers would have coincided approximately with the time that Richard Clift moved to London. After a couple of false starts, a successful Exchange was formed in May 1855:

“The MINING EXCHANGE OF LONDON has accordingly been formed and is intended to be conducted upon the same principles as the Stock Exchange, as well as to transactions of legitimate business, as to the eligibility of persons to be admitted as members. . .the formation of the Mining Exchange must form an era in mining annals, and it is not a vain or idle speculation to look forward to an improvement, not only in the mode of conducting transactions relation to that extensive branch of commercial dealing, but also in the manner of arranging differences between members of the same body and of the same profession.”²¹¹

Unfortunately, the Mining Exchange had a number of significant difficulties and collapsed in 1857, raising “fundamental questions for the mining interest.”²¹²

The Mining Journal [magazine] now joined in the call for a more liberal and broadly based share market. It advocated a general association of the entire mining interest where ‘all classes of persons identified with metals and metallic manufacture may have free and regular intercourse, similar to other special branches of general commerce.’ A new less exclusive Mining Exchange could then be formed in close connection with, or as part of, this association, where brokers rather than dealers could conduct an honest and profitable business. Although over-optimistic in its hope of achieving general co-operation throughout the mining interest, the ‘less exclusive’ principles which the plan embodied were to find expression in the third Mining Exchange, launched the following year.

On the 22nd of October 1859 a new Mining Exchange was formed. The organization was concerned about providing a permanent place of business for those members who had been dealing in an outdoor market setting. At first, there was no effort to reform share dealings, though eventually regulations were introduced relating to subscription fees and a method for

²¹¹ Ibid., p. 164, quoting from the *Mining Journal*, 2 June 1855.

²¹² Ibid., p. 168.

judging disputes based on the merits of the cases. In spite of attempts at regulation and reform, this third Mining Exchange also failed after just one year when many of the more “respectable dealers and brokers became disgusted with the disreputable practices of the few and resigned their membership.”²¹³

Immediately plans were laid for yet another Exchange, based on the last, but with a doubled subscription. Many of the members of the old Exchange applied for membership. . . The new Exchange was not simply a revival of the old. . . the promoters took care to draw up a more detailed code of conduct [with] various. . . “gentlemen [laboring] so strenuously to bring about a reformation in the mode of conducting the mining share business of the metropolis, we seem now to have an institution which is based on a solid foundation. . .”²¹⁴

It appears that Richard Clift, noted as a member of the “Mining Exchange” in the 1861 census,²¹⁵ was involved personally as these events were transpiring. In addition, he may have read with interest or heard about what was happening in his home county, Cornwall:

At the same time as these developments in London, attempts were being made to establish mine share markets in the mining districts and large provincial cities. Motivated partly by the development of mining business in Derbyshire, and also the need for a regular market, the Chesterfield and North Derbyshire Mineral and Stock Exchange was established in Chesterfield in early April 1858. Similarly on the 27th November 1862 a Mining Exchange was inaugurated in Camborne [Cornwall], with rules modeled closely on the newly formed London Exchange.

How long Richard Clift remained connected to the Mining Exchange is not known, but it seems likely that he would have been affiliated with the exchange at least through the 1860s, while it was prospering:

By 1864 the Mining and Smelting Magazine was quoting the mine share markets of Cornwall, Birmingham, Manchester, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and Dublin as well as London, New York and San Francisco. Designed to offer locally the same facilities as those provided by the London Exchange, these new ventures usefully supplemented the offices of the long established local mine share dealers and brokers.

The fourth London Mining Exchange prospered throughout the eighteen sixties, becoming the most long-lived venture of its kind. For the first time it succeeded in enforcing strict and exclusive rules of conduct similar to those of the Stock Exchange and established for its members a high reputation for honesty and reliability. However, although achieving control of a large section of the mine share market, its supremacy

²¹³ Ibid., p. 171.

²¹⁴ Ibid., p. 171, quoting the *Mining Journal*.

²¹⁵ “1861 England Census,” database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 14 February 2005), entry for Richard Clift, 11, Palace Gardens Villas, Kensington; previously cited.

was never complete. Large numbers of ‘unprincipled men’ who were not members of the Mining Exchange, and who cannot under any circumstances, gain admittance continued to do business and to rig the market with rumours and speculative advertisements. Improvements in communications between London and the mining districts with the general introduction of electric telegraph helped reduced violent fluctuations in share prices, but attempts to further stabilize prices by reviving [a] . . . scheme for a large consolidated stock failed.

This fourth iteration of the Mining Exchange was not without its challenges, however. The winter of 1868-69 saw dissension in the ranks and many members, including some of the most influential, left the organization. “Most left for private dealing outside the Exchange, but many joined the Stock Exchange taking their business with them. With a much reduced membership, the Exchange lost its former prestige and acquired instead the reputation of a clique or ‘charmed circle.’ Although business continued for a few more years it was constantly declining and the Exchange finally collapsed sometime in the mid-eighteen seventies.”²¹⁶

There was another attempt at revival of the Mining Exchange in the late 1880s, but: “For the rest of the eighteen seventies and throughout the eighteen eighties the majority of mine share transactions lapsed into the ‘jungle’ of the unregulated markets of Finch Lane, Threadneedle Street, and Throgmorton Street.”²¹⁷

And, so we are right back at Threadneedle Street—Richard Clift’s business address as given in that 1866 *London Times* notice.²¹⁸ Threadneedle Street is located in the heart of the City of London in the financial district. The London Stock Exchange is several blocks away, but both the Bank of England and the Royal Exchange are on Threadneedle Street.²¹⁹

Croydon, Surrey

By the time of the 1871 census,²²⁰ Richard Clift and his family have moved to Upper Norwood, Croydon, Surrey. Richard appears to be actively employed—his occupation now described as “Stockbroker.” Perhaps he was one of the Mining Exchange members who seceded from the organization in the “winter of 1868-69.” Richard’s wife, Christian, and his son,

²¹⁶ Roger Burt, “The London Mining Exchange 1850-1900,” in R. P. T. Davenport-Hines, editor, *Capital, Entrepreneurs and Profits*; digital images, *Google Books* (<http://www.google.com/books> : accessed 20 February 2012), previously cited.

²¹⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 173.

²¹⁸ *The London Times*, January 30, 1866, London Times Archive Online; digital images (http://archive.timesonline.co.uk/archive/tol_archive/article : accessed 30 May 2008); previously cited.

²¹⁹ Geographers’ A-Z Map Company, author, *Master Atlas of Greater London (Street Maps & Atlases)*, (London: Geographers’ A-Z Map Company, 1967).

²²⁰ “1871 England Census,” database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 14 February 2005), entry for Richd Clift, Tusculum, Croydon, Upper Norwood, Surrey; citing PRO RG10/849, folio 19, p. 31; Croydon registration and sub-registration districts, E.D. 43.

“Fredk,” are residing with him in the household, as well as two female servants—one a cook and the other a housemaid. Frederick Clift is 23 years of age and is employed as an “Article Clerk.” Frederick Clift’s life summary will be featured in the next section, but briefly, article clerks were law degree graduates working as trainees or apprentices under the supervision of fully qualified solicitors. Meanwhile, Frederick’s half-brother, Charles Clift,²²¹ is working as a schoolmaster at the National School in Shackerstone, Leicestershire—living there with his wife and daughter.

Richard Clift is also listed in the 1871 Surrey Post Office Directory:²²²

Court Section

Richard CLIFT Tusculum, Church Road, Upper Norwood, SE

The address, “Tusculum,” refers to the name of the residence where the Clifts lived and appears to have been their long-time residence, as evidenced by a legal document dated 5 December 1872 wherein Richard and Christian Bottrall Clift make indenture between themselves and son, Frederick Clift, regarding “a leasehold house . . . at Westow Hill Upper Norwood.” The original “Indenture of Lease” was “the 12th day of March 1863.” The provisions made in this “Port Nuptial Settlement” would eventually become Frederic’s inheritance—the leasehold house and “present residence at Westow Hill. . . commonly called or known by the name of ‘Tusculum.’”²²³ During a visit to England in 2003, a great-great-great granddaughter of Richard and Christian B. Clift, Kerry Lynn (Clift) Spencer, was able to locate the house and take photographs.

Richard Clift was again listed at “Tusculum” in the 1878 Post Office Directory of Surrey²²⁴ and Richard and his wife were still residing at that address when the 1881 census²²⁵ was taken:

Croydon, Norwood

Dwelling: Tusculum

Richard Clift, Head, Mar, 75, Stock Exchange Share dealer, Cornwall Falmouth

Christian B. Clift, Wife, Mar, 64, Cornwall Mawgan

²²¹ “1871 England Census,” Leicestershire, Shackerstone, folio 23, Charles and Elizabeth Clift; PRO RG10/3240; FHL microfilm 839273.

²²² Sue Daws, Surrey Look-up Exchange volunteer, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, to Maurine Clift Nuttall, letter, 25 November 2002 (via email sdaws@artscape.demon.co.uk); citing directory listing for Richard Clift.

²²³ *Post Nuptial Settlement of the proceeds of sale of a Leasehold house and furniture at Westow Hill Upper Norwood and East India and other Stocks*, endorsed and drawn up by the office of J. R. Glynn and Edward Kennedy, Solicitors at 57058 Chancery Lane. An original copy of the document is in the possession of Maurine Clift Nuttall.

²²⁴ E. R. Kelly, editor, *The Post Office Directory of Surrey, 1878*, “Six Home Counties Directory,” (London: Kelly, 1878), digital images, *Historical Directories, A University of Leicester Project* (<http://www.historicaldirectories.org> : accessed 15 March 2004), entry for Richard Clift at Surrey.

²²⁵ “1881 England Census,” database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 14 February 2005), entry for Richard Clift, Tusculum, Croydon, Upper Norwood, Surrey; citing PRO RG11/821, folio 45, p. 14; Croydon registration and sub-registration districts, E.D. 53a.

In 1881, as in all the previous censuses for the family of Richard Clift, there were two female servants in the home. Absent from the household was Richard's and Christian's son, Frederick, who was by this time married with children and enumerated at his own residence.

The Passing of a Generation

The property named "Tusculum," had apparently been the Clift family's home from early in 1863 to at least 15 March of 1882, when Christian Bottrall (Hollocombe) Clift passed away. Her death certificate²²⁶ states that she died at "Tusculum, Church Road, Upper Norwood, Croydon." She was 65 years old, the "Wife of Richard Clift, Member of the Stock Exchange." The cause of death was "Angina Pectoris," and her daughter-in-law, "F. V. Clift," was in attendance when Christian died.

When Christian passed away, she was grandmother to two boys, Eric and Cyril Clift, sons of Frederick and Felicia V. Clift. Eric would have been 7 years old and Cyril would have been 4 years old. She had one sister still living, Jane H. Odgers, as well as a surviving sister-in-law, Martha Hollocombe. Both of these women were still residing in Cornwall, and there is no way of knowing whether they had remained in contact, or had maintained their family ties. There were half a dozen nephews and nieces—children of Christian's sisters—that were living and residing in Cornwall, but since Christian was much younger than her sisters, their children were considerably older than their Clift cousins, Eric and Cyril.

Christian Bottrall (Hollocombe) Clift was buried three days after her death, 18 March 1882,²²⁷ at nearby West Norwood Cemetery, known then, also, as South Metropolitan Cemetery. The cemetery²²⁸ was founded by its own Act of Parliament of 1836 and consecrated for its first burials in 1837. The grounds cover 40 acres and it was one of the first private landscaped cemeteries in London—one of the "Magnificent Seven" cemeteries of London and a site of major historical, architectural and ecological interest. The main gate is located on Norwood Road near the junction of Robson Road in the London Borough of Lambeth. The cemetery was built on the site of the ancient "Great North Wood," from which Norwood took its name. West Norwood Cemetery, along with some neighboring streets, now forms part of a conservation area.

We don't know how Richard Clift reconciled himself with the loss of his wife, though he may have continued working and living at the home on Church Road for a time. There are no records of his activities for the succeeding nine years. Then, on 5 April 1891 the census²²⁹ was

²²⁶ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Christian Bottrall Clift, died 15 March 1882; citing 2a/172/371, Croydon registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

²²⁷ Ann Russell, West Norwood Cemetery and Crematorium, Norwood Road, London, England, to Maurine Clift Nuttall, letter, 1 May 2001, burial register information for Christiana (sic) Bottrall Clift.

²²⁸ *Wikipedia* (<http://www.wikipedia.org> : accessed 21 February 2012), "West Norwood Cemetery," latest page update 11 February 2012.

²²⁹ "1891 England Census," database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 26 October 2005), entry for Richard Clift, 4, Cambridge Villas, Margate, Kent; citing PRO RG12/726, folio 29, p. 24; Thanet registration district and Margate sub-registration district, E.D. 2.

taken and Richard is found in much different circumstances from any he had been accustomed to previously. He was living in Kent County in the parish of Margate and was a “Boarder” in the home of Henry James and Sarah Hobding. Richard Clift was described as an 87-year-old widower, living on his own means. (He was actually 85 years old at the time of the census.) His connection to the Hobding family is unknown.

Richard Clift in his advanced years appears to be “alone.” No family members are nearby—are these strangers, the folks he is living with? Why did he move to Kent? We have no answers. Charles Clift, Richard’s brother, had passed away in 1885 and regrettably, his two surviving sons, Frederick and Charles Clift, were entirely out of the picture, living far away in other countries. Frederick Clift immigrated to the United States in 1888, leaving his wife and boys behind. Charles and his wife were still living in Lisbon, Portugal.

Eight and a half months after the census enumerator visited the residence at 4, Cambridge Villas in Margate, Richard Clift died there—18 December 1891. His death certificate,²³⁰ like the census record, lists him as being 87 years, when actually he was 85, soon to be 86. Richard Clift was of “Independent means,” and died of purulent cystitis and exhaustion. The following day, the deputy registrar received the news of Richard’s passing from Sarah Fulcher, who was present at his death and resided at 11, Ethelbert Terrace, Westgate-on-Sea.

No obituary memorializing the life of Richard Clift has been found, but he was buried alongside his wife, Christian, in the West Norwood Cemetery, London, on December 23, 1891.²³¹ Frederick Clift received notification of his father’s death via a telegram²³² sent to him on the 21st of December. The cable had been sent by the solicitor, J. Kennedy, and was received in St. George, Utah. The message was very brief:

*To Dr. Clift
St. George Washington Co. Utah
Father died Friday. Cannot find Will. doing all possible do you authorize
me to act temporarily.
J. Kennedy*

Frederick Clift also received a letter²³³ from Sarah Holiday relating the circumstances surrounding Richard’s death. This was a short four page note. Sarah Holiday appears to have been the nurse or attendant who took care of Richard Clift during his illness and death. She wrote that he had suffered for “nearly three weeks” and that they had done all they could do to save him.

²³⁰ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Richard Clift, died 18 December 1891; previously cited.

²³¹ Ann Russell, West Norwood Cemetery and Crematorium, Norwood Road, London, England, to Maurine Clift Nuttall, letter, 1 May 2001, burial register information for Richard Clift.

²³² *The Deseret Telegraph Company*, cable from London Eng. Dec 21 1891, photocopy of handwritten notice in possession of Maurine Clift Nuttall.

²³³ Sarah Holiday, Westgate on Sea, Kent, to Frederic Clift Esq M D, letter, 26 December 1891; copy of handwritten note in possession of Maurine Clift Nuttall.

“Mr. Clift took a severe cold in Brighton & had (as he told us) no attention then the Dr. says that that lack of attention when he was so seriously ill drove the cold inwardly & brought on the affection of the kidneys from which he died. All the money & papers which he left have been delivered to the Solicitor.”

There was a postscript to the letter in which Sarah Holiday explained that Frederick’s letter, dated “Dec 2nd,” had been opened “at your Fathers request by Miss Hebden of Brighton.”

I find it somewhat comforting to know that Richard’s son, Frederick, had been in contact with him shortly before he died. Hopefully, Charles had also written to his father and presumably received similar notification of Richard’s death. Richard Clift’s estate was submitted to the probate court on 30 January 1892 and letters of administration²³⁴ were granted to “Charles Clift of Rua Saraiva de Carvalho 39/41 Lisbon in Portugal Gentleman the natural and lawful son and one of the next of kin of the said estate.” The gross value of the personal estate was just £735 17s 6d.

²³⁴ Richard Clift, Grant of Administration to the estate of, London, 1892; Probate Registry, Duncombe Place, York, England. Photocopy of original obtained and transcribed 3 January 2002.

Children of Richard Clift and Mary (Sims) Clift

Richard and Mary (Sims) Clift were the parents of seven children:

- i. MARY JANE CLIFT, born 31 December 1833²³⁵ in Gwennap, Cornwall, England, and baptized 14 November 1834²³⁶ at the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel at Carharrack, Cornwall, England. Mary Jane died 16 August 1846²³⁷ in Falmouth, Cornwall, England.
- ii. JOHN CLIFT, born about 1836²³⁸ in Gwennap, Cornwall, England; died after 1851.²³⁹
- iii. CLIFT (Male), born in 1836 or early 1837²⁴⁰ in St. Day, Cornwall, England; died 4 April 1837²⁴¹ in St. Day, Cornwall, England.
- iv. GEORGE CLIFT, born 15 July 1838²⁴² in Gwennap, Cornwall, England; died 23 October 1862²⁴³ in Falmouth, Cornwall, England and was buried in the Falmouth Municipal Cemetery, Falmouth, Cornwall, on 28 October 1862.²⁴⁴ George Clift enrolled at the University College London on 1 October 1857 and studied Anatomy & Physiology, Anatomy, Chemistry, Medicine, Surgery and Midwifery.²⁴⁵ He passed the Royal College of Surgeons' primary examinations in Anatomy and Physiology on 4 June 1862.²⁴⁶

²³⁵ "England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975." index, *FamilySearch* (<https://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 1 February 2012), entry for Mary Jane Clift christened 14 November 1834; previously cited.

²³⁶ *Ibid.*

²³⁷ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Mary Jane Clift, died 16 August 1846; previously cited.

²³⁸ John Clift, age 5 in the 1841 England census at Gwennap, Cornwall, England. No church record of christening or baptism has been located. Civil registration did not commence until July 1837.

²³⁹ John Clift, born about 1836, has not been located in any records after the 1851 England census, when he was listed as age 16.

²⁴⁰ *West Briton and Cornwall Advertiser 7 April 1837*, Transcriptions of the Original Newspaper, 1836 – 1887 (<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~wbritonad/cornwall> : accessed 15 October 2003); previously cited.

²⁴¹ *Ibid.*

²⁴² England, birth certificate (certified copy) for George Clift born, 15 July 1838; previously cited.

²⁴³ England, death certificate (certified copy) for George Clift, died 23 October 1862; previously cited.

²⁴⁴ Emily Middleditch, Falmouth Town Council, to Maurine Clift Nuttall, letter, 27 July 2009, citing burial register entry for George Clift; records of the Falmouth Municipal Cemetery, Falmouth, Cornwall, England.

²⁴⁵ Wendy Butler, Senior Records Officer, University College London, to Maurine Clift Nuttall, letter, 21 July 2009, citing student records and college calendar.

²⁴⁶ *The Medical Times and Gazette, A Journal of Medical Science, Literature, Criticism, and News, Vol. 1* (London: John Churchill, 1862), digital images, *Google Books* (<http://www.Google.com/books> : accessed 19 July 2009).

- v. CHARLES CLIFT, born about 1839²⁴⁷ in Gwennap, Cornwall, England; died 19 January 1914²⁴⁸ in Falmouth, Cornwall, England, and was buried in the Falmouth Municipal Cemetery, Falmouth, Cornwall, England, 24 January 1914.²⁴⁹ Charles Clift married (1) 6 August 1863²⁵⁰ at Trinity Gray's, Middlesex, England, Elizabeth Frances Daniell. Elizabeth was born about 1833 in Truro, Cornwall, England,²⁵¹ daughter of Andrew and Elizabeth (Leverson) Daniell. One child, Beatrice Clift, born about 1861 in London, was named as their daughter on the 1871 census.²⁵² Elizabeth Frances (Daniell) Clift died 24 February 1893 in Lisbon, Portugal²⁵³ and was buried 25 February 1893 in the St. George's Church burial ground, Lisbon, Portugal.²⁵⁴ Beatrice Clift died 29 August 1938 in Lisbon, Portugal,²⁵⁵ and she, like her mother, was buried in St. George's Churchyard, 30 August 1938.²⁵⁶ Charles Clift married (2) in the parish of St. Mark's Battersea, London, England on 17 October 1894, Alice Jones, daughter of Henry Jones and Lucy (Outram) Jones.²⁵⁷ Alice (Jones) Clift was born 21 April 1848 in Ilkeston, Derbyshire, England,²⁵⁸ and died 19 January 1942²⁵⁹ in Bottesford, Leicestershire, England. Their

²⁴⁷ Charles Clift, age 2 according to the 1841 England census at Gwennap, Cornwall. No birth or baptism record has been located.

²⁴⁸ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Charles Clift, died 19 January 1914; citing 5c/215/469, Falmouth registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

²⁴⁹ Hilary Hilton, Falmouth, Cornwall, England, to Maurine Clift Nuttall, letter, 29 June 2001; citing Falmouth Town Clerk's Office—burial records for the Falmouth Municipal Cemetery, Falmouth, Cornwall, England.

²⁵⁰ England, marriage certificate (certified copy) for Charles Clift and Elizabeth Frances Daniell, married 6 August 1863; previously cited.

²⁵¹ Elizabeth Daniell was 8 years of age on the 1841 England census at Kenwyn, Cornwall, England, in the household of Andrew and Elizabeth Daniell.

²⁵² 1871 England census, Leicestershire, Shackerstone, Sparkenhoe, Charles and Elizabeth Clift; PRO RG10 3240/23/10; FHL British microfilm 839273 (census returns for Market Bosworth).

²⁵³ Stephen Freeth, Keeper of Manuscripts, Guildhall Library, London, England, to Maurine Clift Nuttall, letter, 11 May 2007, citing burial records of the Lisbon Chaplaincy.

²⁵⁴ Ibid.

²⁵⁵ Ibid.

²⁵⁶ Ibid.

²⁵⁷ England, marriage certificate (certified copy) for Charles Clift and Alice Jones, married 17 October 1894; citing 1d/1036/270, Wandsworth registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

²⁵⁸ The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints [LDS], "International Genealogical Index," database, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 1 November 2004), entry for Alice Jones born 21 April 1848, christened 21 May 1848, Ilkeston, Derby, England; citing FHL microfilm 1752154, extracted christening records, Batch No. C01845-9.

²⁵⁹ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Alice Clift, died 18 January 1942; citing 7a/638/199, Melton Mowbray registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

union produced no issue. We learn a good deal about Charles from his obituary,²⁶⁰ from which was extracted the following: “Educated at Kimberley House School, Falmouth, Charles Clift adopted teaching as his profession. After much expertise in various schools in England, including Hinckley Endowed School, he accepted the post as head of The British Protestant School in Lisbon, Portugal, a position he filled for 18 years. Afterwards he conducted a private English school on his own account. Charles Clift was also well known in Lisbon as a poet and wrote many odes and poems on public occasions receiving several acknowledgments of such from royalty and noble personages. After 30 years’ residence in Lisbon, Charles Clift [along with his second wife, Alice] returned to Falmouth, Cornwall, England in July 1909 and engaged in teaching until July of 1913. He was a most successful teacher and gained the affection of his students both English and Portuguese. Charles Clift was liked and esteemed by all who knew him, for he had great kindness of heart, though of a very retiring disposition.”

- vi. JAMES CLIFT, born 27 January 1841²⁶¹ in Gwennap, Cornwall, England; and died after 1851.²⁶²
- vii. EMMA CLIFT, born 20 August 1842²⁶³ in Gwennap, Cornwall, England; and died 16 September 1842²⁶⁴ in Gwennap, Cornwall.

²⁶⁰ *Lake’s Falmouth Packet & Cornwall Advertiser & Visitor’s List January 30th 1914* – Mr. Charles Clift; transcription of the obituary notice from the newspaper archives of the Falmouth Town Library by Hilary Hilton, Falmouth, Cornwall, England, to Maurine Clift Nuttall, letter, 29 June 2001.

²⁶¹ England, birth certificate (certified copy) for James Clift, born 27 January 1841; previously cited.

²⁶² A death record for James Clift, born 1841, has not been located and he has not been found in any census after 1851.

²⁶³ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Emma Clift, died 16 September 1842; previously cited.

²⁶⁴ *Ibid.*

Child of Richard Clift and Christian Bottrall (Hollocombe) Clift

- +4 i. FREDERIC CLIFT, born 1 August 1847²⁶⁵ in St. Day, Gwennap, Cornwall, England; and died 28 Mach 1913²⁶⁶ in Layton, Davis County, Utah, United States of America. He was buried 31 March 1913²⁶⁷ in the Kaysville City Cemetery, Kaysville, Davis County, Utah. Frederic Clift married (1) 3 June 1872²⁶⁸ at the Register Office in Brighton, Sussex, England, Felicia Victoria Jones; and (2) 31 December 1896²⁶⁹ in St. George, Washington County, Utah, United States of America, Sarah Margaret (Moody) Foster.

²⁶⁵ England, birth certificate (certified copy) for Fredrick [sic] Clift, born 1 August 1847; citing 9/222/452, Redruth registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

²⁶⁶ “Utah Death Certificate Index 1904-1958,” database, Office of Vital Records & Statistics of the *Utah State Archives and Records Service* (<http://images.archives.utah.gov/data> : accessed 8 February 2007), death certificate image, Frederick Clift, 28 March 1913, File no. 26, State Board of Health.

²⁶⁷ “Cemeteries and Burials Database,” database, *Utah State History* (<http://webapps.dced.state.ut.us/burials> : accessed 27 April 2004), citing Kaysville City Cemetery burial register information for Frederick Clift.

²⁶⁸ England, marriage certificate (certified copy) for Frederic Nelson [sic] and Felicia Jones, married 3 June 1872; citing 2b/367/60, Brighton & Hove Registration District; The Register Office, Town Hall, Bartholomews, Brighton, England.

²⁶⁹ Marriage Certificate, State of Utah, Frederic Clift and Sarah Margaret Moody Foster, married 31 December 1896 at St. George, Washington County, Utah; photocopy of certificate in possession of Maurine Clift Nuttall.

Fourth Generation

4. Frederic Clift, son and only child of Richard and Christian Bottrall (Hollocombe) Clift, was born in St. Day, Gwennap Parish, Cornwall, England, on 1 August 1847.²⁷⁰ He died in Layton, Davis County, Utah, in the United States of America, on 28 March 1913;²⁷¹ and was laid to rest in the Kaysville City Cemetery, Kaysville, Davis County, Utah, on 31 March 1913.²⁷² He married (1) in Brighton, Sussex, England, 3 June 1872,²⁷³ **Felicia Victoria Jones**, daughter of Capt. James Felix Jones, R.N.²⁷⁴ Felicia Victoria Jones was born about 1849, in Baghdad, Turkey, a British Subject;²⁷⁵ and she died in Branksome Park, Dorsetshire, England, on 9 November 1933.²⁷⁶ Frederic Clift married (2) in St. George, Washington County, Utah, 31 December 1896,²⁷⁷ **Sarah Margaret Moody Foster**, daughter of John Monroe and Sarah Matilda (Damron) Moody. Sarah Margaret Moody was born in Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah, 8 April 1859.²⁷⁸ She died in Inglewood, Los Angeles County, California on 14 January 1938 and was buried in the Forest Lawn Cemetery, Glendale, Los Angeles County, California, on 21 January 1938.²⁷⁹

²⁷⁰ England, birth certificate (certified copy) for Fredrick [sic] Clift, born 1 August 1847; previously cited.

²⁷¹ "Utah Death Certificate Index 1904-1958," database, (<http://images.archives.utah.gov/data> : accessed 8 February 2007), death certificate image, Frederick Clift, 28 March 1913; previously cited.

²⁷² "Cemeteries and Burials Database," database, *Utah State History* (<http://webapps.dced.state.ut.us/burials> : accessed 27 April 2004), citing Kaysville City Cemetery burial register information for Frederick Clift.

²⁷³ England, marriage certificate (certified copy) for Frederic Nelson [sic] and Felicia Jones, married 3 June 1872; previously cited.

²⁷⁴ England, marriage certificate (certified copy) for Frederic Clift and Felicia Victoria Jones, married in the Parish of Upper Norwood in the County of Surrey 3 January 1874; citing 2a/275/21, Croydon registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

²⁷⁵ "1891 England Census," database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 2 February 2012), entry for Felicia Clift, 34 Milson Rd., Hammersmith, County of London; citing PRO RG12/39, folio 41, p. 28; Fulham registration district, St. Paul Hammersmith sub-registration district, E.D. 23. Felicia Clift is 42 years old, born in "Bagdad Turkey in Arabia (B.S.)."

²⁷⁶ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Felicia Victoria Clift, died 9 November 1933; citing XXXX/375, Poole registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

²⁷⁷ Marriage Certificate, State of Utah, Frederic Clift and Sarah Margaret Moody Foster, married 31 December 1896 at St. George, Washington County, Utah; previously cited.

²⁷⁸ Sarah Margaret Moody Foster Clift, "More Memories," 1934 typewritten manuscript (photocopy) with a 1938 postscript by Tillie Foster.

²⁷⁹ Sarah Matilda Foster Anderson, "Life of Sarah Margaret Moody," undated typewritten manuscript (photocopy).

St. Day Beginnings and Redruth Adventures

Frederick Clift was born 1 August 1847²⁸⁰ in St. Day, Cornwall, England—the only child born to Richard Clift and Christian Bottrall (Hollocombe) Clift. As discussed in Richard Clift’s life summary, above, Richard was a widower with four sons when he married Christian. Frederick joined half-brothers who were eleven, nine, seven and six years of age, when he arrived. It appears from the census “snapshot” of the family in 1851,²⁸¹ that Frederick lived in a comfortable home in Redruth and had the advantage of being the child of a relatively well-off member of the community.

Redruth’s setting is dominated by the granite heights of Carn Brea²⁸² and Carn Marth—the rock formations having been produced eons ago by molten material and vapours escaping from great depths and carrying minerals into the rock’s fissures before setting. In later ages the granite was lifted by earth movements and exposed to weathering. On Carn Brae can be seen the remains of one of the oldest and largest human settlements in Cornwall, a 46-acre Neolithic hillfort. The hill is littered with folkloric names applied to the large rocks strewn about—*Giant’s Head*, the *Giant’s Cradle*, the *Giant’s Wheel* and the *Giant’s Crocks and Kettles*, to list a few.²⁸³

This geological history of the area may or may not have been of interest to Frederick as a young boy, but we do know that he enjoyed playing at Carn Brea. We are fortunate to get a glimpse of Frederick’s childhood adventures in Redruth as expressed in a letter²⁸⁴ written to him by his second cousin, Minnie B. Barker years later:

“What talks we should have, so often my thoughts fly back to Carn Brae & the scampers we had on your old Grasshopper’s back!”

Frederick Clift received his early education at the Grammar school at Helston. He likely began attending school in 1853, when he was six years old, and may have continued through 1858. What was once Helston Grammar School²⁸⁵ is now Helston Community College, a secondary school with the most pupils in Cornwall. The school has a long and distinguished

²⁸⁰ England, birth certificate (certified copy) for Fredrick [sic] Clift, born 1 August 1847; previously cited.

²⁸¹ “1851 England Census,” Cornwall, Redruth, folio 27, household 150, Richard Clift; PRO HO107/1915; FHL microfilm 221069.

²⁸² *GENUKI – UK & Ireland Genealogy* (<http://www.genuki.org/uk/big/Cornwall/Gwennap/index.html> : accessed 18 March 2001), “Redruth.”

²⁸³ Michael Tangye, *Old Ordnance Survey Map of Redruth 1906* “Carn Brea” (Newcastle upon Tyne: Alan Godfrey Maps, 1999)

²⁸⁴ Minnie B. Barker, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, to Frederic Clift, St. George, Utah, U.S.A., letter, late 1892. Handwritten manuscript and typed transcription in the possession of Maurine Clift Nuttall.

²⁸⁵ *Wikipedia* (<http://www.wikipedia.org> : accessed 2008), “Helston Grammar School.”

history because as a grammar school it boasted Derwent Coleridge²⁸⁶ as a headmaster (1825), his pupils including Charles Kingsley,²⁸⁷ John Duke Coleridge, Richard Edmonds, Thomas Rowe Edmonds, John Rogers, Henry Trengrouse²⁸⁸ and James Trevenen. Frederick's home in Redruth was nine miles north-northeast from Helston, so it is not known how he got there every day, though there was a railway service between the two towns.

Education

By 1861, Frederick had moved with his parents to Kensington, London, and from there, his pursuit of education is well documented.²⁸⁹ He attended the University College School in London at first. This school²⁹⁰ was an "independent school charity situated in Hampstead, northwest London, England." The school was founded in 1830 by the University College London, which had been founded four years before that. University College found that fewer students were being admitted than had been expected and that the quality of the school education of many of its applicants was inadequate and therefore took the decision to establish a school.

That Frederick Clift attended University College School is not surprising, given that his older half-brother, George, had attended University College London from 1857-60. The School was "original—it was never a boarding school. . .[and] it was one of the first schools to teach modern languages, and sciences, and it was one of the first to abolish corporal punishment."

Frederick Clift progressed from University College School to Christ's College at Cambridge University. As an alumnus of Cambridge, the details²⁹¹ of Frederick's educational pursuits are given as follows:

Clift, Frederick.

College: Christ's

Entered: Michs. 1865

Adm. pens. at CHRIST'S, Nov. 1, 1864. S. of Richard Esq., of Westow Hill, Upper Norwood, London.

Matric. Michs. 1865. Migrated to Magdalene, Oct. 1, 1866; B.A. 1870; LL.M. 1873; LL.D. 1879.

Adm. at the Inner Temple, Jan. 9, 1867, as Frederic C., age 20; s of Richard, stockbroker, of

Tusculum, Norwood, Surrey. Name withdrawn, June 18, 1889.

²⁸⁶ Derwent Coleridge was the third child of Samuel Taylor Coleridge, English poet, critic, philosopher and friend of William Shakespeare.

²⁸⁷ Charles Kingsley was an English university professor, historian and novelist.

²⁸⁸ Henry Trengrouse was an engineer and inventor of the rocket fired safety line—a device for aiding in the saving of lives in a shipwreck.

²⁸⁹ Irving Watson, ed. and comp., *Physicians and Surgeons of America (Illustrated) A Collection of Biographical Sketches of the Regular Medical Profession* (Concord, H. H.: Republican Press Association, 1896). Original reprint of the sketch of Frederic Clift, M.D. in possession of V. Stanley Clift, Hillsboro, Oregon.

²⁹⁰ *Wikipedia* (<http://www.wikipedia.org> : accessed 21 February 2012), "University College School."

²⁹¹ *Cambridge University Alumni, 1261-1900*, database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://search.ancestry.com> : accessed 20 April 2001), entry for Frederick Clift. Original data from J. A. Venn, comp., *Alumni Cantabrigienses* (London, England: Cambridge University Press, 1922-1954).

Some deciphering of the academic “shorthand” will help us understand what Frederick Clift accomplished. Frederick Clift, son of Richard Clift, Esq. of Westow Hill, Upper Norwood, London, was admitted as a “pensioner” to Christ’s College 1 November 1864. A “pensioner” is a student paying fees to his college for teaching and for board and lodging. Thus, we learn that beginning in November of 1864, Frederick Clift went off to University and took his lodging there on campus.

In Michaelmas term 1865²⁹² Frederick was formally admitted into the University (as distinguished from his admission into a College) and by 1 October 1866 he had migrated to the College of St. Mary Magdalene, from which he earned a Bachelor’s of Art degree in 1870; an LL.M. or Master of Laws²⁹³ in 1873; and an LL.D. or Doctor of Laws²⁹⁴ in 1879. Initially in his University education Frederick had set out to study medicine,²⁹⁵ attending the lectures of Doctors Lathman, Humphry, and Sir George Paget at Cambridge, but obviously changed course in 1867 and took up the study of law.

Even before completing his advanced degrees, Frederick had studied for the English bar and became a member of the Inner Temple,²⁹⁶ London, in 1867. The Cambridge University Alumni listing indicates that he was admitted to the Inner Temple as “*Frederic Clift*,” being age 20, the son of Richard Clift, stockbroker, of Tusculum, Norwood. (Frederick Clift’s name is spelled alternately as “Frederic” in numerous records both before and after this date.)

There is quite a gap in time from when Frederic Clift received his Master of Laws to the bestowal of the Doctorate—six years. He was busy, of course, living his life and starting a family. In the 1871 census,²⁹⁷ his occupation was given as “Article Clerk.” Normally, an article clerk is a law school graduate who must complete a practical education requirement before being allowed to practice, but Frederic was still working on his law degree at the time, perhaps getting a head-start on his way to a career as a solicitor. He seemed to be a young man with great ambitions, dedicated to gaining an education and obtaining advanced degrees.

²⁹² Michaelmas term is the first academic term of the academic years in a number of English-speaking schools, especially in the United Kingdom. Michaelmas term derives its name from the Feast of St Michael and All Angels, which falls on 29 September. The term runs from September or October to Christmas.

²⁹³ The Master of Laws is an advanced academic degree, pursued by those holding a professional law degree, and is commonly abbreviated LL.M. (also LLM or LL.M.) from its Latin name, *Legum Magister*, where the double L stands for the latin plural, because both profane and ecclesiastical law are included.

²⁹⁴ Legum Doctor or (LL.D. Doctor of Laws in English) is a doctorate-level academic degree in law. The double L in the abbreviation refers to the early practice in the University of Cambridge to teach both Canon Law and Civil Law, the double L indicating the plural, Doctor of both laws.

²⁹⁵ Irving Watson, ed. and comp., *Physicians and Surgeons of America (Illustrated) A Collection of Biographical Sketches of the Regular Medical Profession* (Concord, H. H.: Republican Press Association, 1896); previously cited.

²⁹⁶ The Inns of Court are unincorporated associations which have existed since the 14th century and play a central role in the recruitment, training of aspiring barristers, and continuing professional development of barristers.

²⁹⁷ “1871 England Census,” database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 14 February 2005), entry for Richd Clift, Tusculum, Croydon, Upper Norwood, Surrey; previously cited.

Marriage, Family and Career Beginnings

Frederic Clift married Felicia Victoria Jones, daughter of retired Captain James Felix Jones of the Royal Indian Navy, on 3 June 1872,²⁹⁸ at the Register Office in Brighton, Sussex, England. The Jones and Clift families were neighbors in Croydon, Surrey, living only three houses apart on Church Road. It is likely that this is how the two became acquainted. For some reason, the couple married under the assumed names of “Frederic Nelson” and “Felicia Jones” of “The Mall, Kensington,” and “Bedford Place, Brighton,” respectively. Frederic’s father was referred to as “Richard Nelson, deceased Accountant,” and Felicia’s father was listed as “Francis Jones, Stock-dealer.”

The marriage may have been an elopement of sorts, because they made it “official” eighteen months later when the marriage was solemnized after Banns in the parish church, All Saints, at Upper Norwood, Surrey, on 3 January 1874.²⁹⁹ Frederic Clift was identified as a Bachelor from Norwood with the profession of “Solicitor.” Richard Clift, Gentleman, was listed as the groom’s father. Felicia Victoria Jones was described as a Spinster residing in Norwood. Her father was named accurately this time as James Felix Jones, Captain, R.I.N. Captain Jones was one of the witnesses, along with Thomas Edward Watkin.

It is very interesting to note that the day before this marriage, 2 January 1874, an “Indenture”³⁰⁰ was made “Between **Frederic Clift** of Upper Norwood in the County of Surrey Gentleman of the first part **Felicia Victoria Jones** of Upper Norwood in the said County of Surrey Spinster of the second part **James Felix Jones** otherwise known as Felix Jones of Upper Norwood aforesaid Esquire the Father of the said Felicia Victoria Jones of the third part **Thomas Edward Watkin** of No. 11 Grays Inn Square in the County of Middlesex Gentleman and **Henry James Balchin** of Charlton in the County of Kent Clerk hereinafter called the Trustees of the fourth part.”

This very lengthy document—“*Settlement made on the Marriage of Mr. Frederic Clift and Miss F. V. Jones*”—seems to have been an instrument by which James Felix Jones provided certain funds for his daughter. Provision was made for the funds to be placed in trust. Likewise, Frederic Clift agreed to place “any real and personal estate of what kind or nature soever under any deed or will. . . in to and upon the same To have and To hold the said. . . hereby assigned unto the said Trustees.” The reasons for these legalities remain unclear—nevertheless it appears that a concerned parent was looking out for his daughter. Three years later, 15 August 1877, the former trustees were released and new ones appointed.

²⁹⁸ England, marriage certificate (certified copy) for Frederic Nelson [sic] and Felicia Jones, married 3 June 1872; previously cited.

²⁹⁹ England, marriage certificate (certified copy) for Frederic Clift and Felicia Victoria Jones, married 3 January 1874; citing 2a/275/21, Croydon registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

³⁰⁰ *Settlement made on the Marriage of Mr. Frederic Clift and Miss F. V. Jones, Dated 2nd January 1874; Appointment of new Trustees to Settlement made on Marriage of Mr. F. Clift (Endorsed), Dated 15th August 1877;* handwritten manuscript copy posted by S. R. Glynn, 48 Bedford Row, London, England to F. Clift M.D., Box 522, St. George, Washington County, Utah, U.S. of America; postmarked W.C. 24-6-92 [24 June 1892]; document in possession of Maurine Clift Nuttall, Granite Bay, California.

It is presumed that Frederic Clift began his practice of law in 1873 after being examined by The Law Society of the United Kingdom. His certificate³⁰¹ of examination reads as follows:

Hilary Term, 1873

In pursuance of the several Statutes, Rules, and Orders now in force touching the Examination of persons applying to be admitted as Attorneys of the several Courts of Queen's Bench, Common Pleas, and Exchequer, WE, being the major part of the Examiners actually present at and conducting the Examination of Frederic Clift of 'Tusculum' Church Road, Upper Norwood

DO HEREBY CERTIFY that we have examined him as required by the said Statutes, Rules and Orders; and we do testify that he is fit and capable to act as an Attorney of the said Courts and in the usual business transacted by Attorneys. Dated the 21 day of Janry 1873.

Of course, it would be a number of years before he obtained his Doctor of Laws degree, but it must have been gratifying to be able to commence work in his chosen career. The examination certificate gives his address as 'Tusculum,' but it is not known whether Frederic and Felicia are yet living as husband and wife, since this preceded their 1874 marriage. However, the marriage in 1874 does make it clear that Frederic and his wife have established themselves as a unit and are ready to begin a family.

Two sons were born to Frederic and Felicia Clift. The first, Frederic Hollocombe Clift, was born 28 September 1874³⁰² at the Clift family home, 'Tusculum,' on Church Road in Upper Norwood. The baby's father, Frederic Clift, was identified as a "Solicitor." The second boy, Cyril William Clift was born 5 July 1877³⁰³ at 16 Camden Hill Villas, Norwood. Again, the child's father was given as Frederic Clift, "Solicitor." Besides the birth certificates indicating Frederic's occupation, there are various court notices and directories which confirm that he is actively practicing law in London—and life seems to be good for the Clifts in Upper Norwood.

Upper Norwood and a New Venture

While the Clifts may have first set up housekeeping with Frederic's parents at 'Tusculum,' it appears that they moved a number of times around the Norwood area during the time their boys were growing up. The 1878 Post Office Directory³⁰⁴ of Surrey, Court Directory, lists "Clift, Frederick, Barton cottage, Beulah spa, Beulah hill, Upper Norwood s.e." There is also a second listing in the commercial section for "Clift, Frederick, solicitor, 21 Church rd."

³⁰¹ *Final Examination, The Law Society of the United Kingdom, certificate No. 32; Hilary Term, 1873; Examination of Frederic Clift; photocopy of original.*

³⁰² England, birth certificate (certified copy) for Frederic Hollocombe Clift, born 28 September 1874; citing 2a/192/343, Croydon registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

³⁰³ England, birth certificate (certified copy) for Cyril William Clift, born 5 July 1877; citing 1d/535/215, Lambeth registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

³⁰⁴ E. R. Kelly, ed., *The Post Office Directory of Surrey* (London: Kelly, 1878), 2307, 2313; digital images, *Historical Directories, A University of Leicester Project* (<http://www.historicaldirectories.org> : accessed 22 February 2012), entries for Frederick Clift at Surrey.

Three years later, at the time of the 1881³⁰⁵ census at Croydon, Surrey, the family is living at Beulah Hill, Sylvan Cot[tage] with two servants:

Frederick Clift, Head, 34, occupation: Solicitor Doctor of Laws, born St. Day, Cornwall

Felicia V. Clift, wife, 32, Turkey in Asia Bagdad BS Sub

Frederick H. Clift, son, 6, Surrey Upper Norwood

Cyril W. Clift, son, 3, Surrey Gipsy Hill

Julia Harris, Serv, Unm, 18, Domestic Servant, Wilts Wesbury

Alice A. Harris, Serv, Unm, 17, Wilts Wesbury

Frederic and Felicia Clift's various homes, 'Tusculum' on Church Road, 16 Camden Hill Villas, Barton cottage-Beulah spa-Beulah Hill, and now 'Sylvan Cottage' on Beulah Hill, are all within a mile or less of each other in Upper Norwood. Upper Norwood is an elevated area in south London, a residential district largely in the London Borough of Croydon with some parts extending into the London boroughs of Lambeth, Southwark and Bromley. "Home" is such an important concept to most people and where we live is often such a significant factor in our histories—therefore, some background about the area will add dimension to the history of Frederick Clift.

Upper Norwood³⁰⁶ is situated along the London clay ridge known as Beulah Hill and most housing dates from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries with large detached properties on the peak of the ridge and smaller semi-detached and terraced dwelling on its flanks. The hill offers panoramic views northward to central London and southward to central Croydon and the North Downs. For centuries the area was occupied by the Great North Wood—an extensive area of natural oak forest which formed a wilderness close to the southern edge of the ever-expanding City of London. The name 'Norwood' comes from the contraction of the 'North Wood.' Local legend has it that Sir Francis Drake's ship, *The Golden Hind*, had its timbers cut from trees in this area. The forest was a popular area for Londoners' recreation right up to the nineteenth century when it began to be built over. It was also the haunt of Gypsies with many local street names and pubs recording the link, notably Gipsy Hill. (See above—Frederic Clift gave the census enumerator Gipsy Hill as the place where Cyril was born.)

In 1831, well before the Clifts moved there, one of England's most prominent architects, Decimus Burton, designed a spa and pleasure gardens in Upper Norwood below Beulah Hill and off what is now Spa Hill. This location featured a "bowl of land on the south facing side of the hill around a spring of chalybeate water."³⁰⁷ The architect himself was responsible for the Beulah Spa Hotel (demolished about 1935) and the layout of the grounds. The official title of the place was "The Royal Beulah Spa and Gardens" and it became a popular society venue attracting large crowds. The spa closed in 1856 soon after the opening nearby of The Crystal

³⁰⁵ "1881 England Census," Surrey, Croydon, folio 11, Frederick and Felicia V. Clift; PRO RG11/0822; FHL microfilm 1341194, printout of transcription of image: accessed 23 September 1999.

³⁰⁶ *Wikipedia* (<http://en.wikipedia.org> : accessed 20 February 2012), "Upper Norwood," page last modified April 2011.

³⁰⁷ *Ibid.*

Palace, but as noted in the 1878 Post Office Directory,³⁰⁸ Frederic Clift resided in one of the cottages at the Beulah spa, Beulah Hill.

Another important place in Upper Norwood to consider is the Crystal Palace.³⁰⁹ The original building so named was a cast-iron and plate-glass building erected in Hyde Park, London, to house the Great Exhibition of 1851. More than 14,000 exhibitors from around the world gathered in the Palace to display examples of the latest technology developed in the Industrial Revolution. At the time, it was the largest amount of glass ever seen in a building and astonished visitors with its clear walls and ceilings that didn't require interior lights—thus a “Crystal Palace.” The building also had the first major installation of public toilets!

After the close of the Great Exhibition the Crystal Palace was relocated to a property named Penge Place, atop Sydenham Hill in Upper Norwood. The building constructed in 1854, “while incorporating most of the constructional parts of the Hyde Park building, was so completely different in form as to be properly considered a quite different structure—a ‘Beaux-arts’ form in glass and metal.” Still a magnificent structure, it was destroyed in a spectacular fire in 1936. The building's importance in the area led to the vicinity immediately around it becoming known as “Crystal Palace.”

At the time of the opening of Crystal Palace in Upper Norwood in 1854, road transport to the regions beyond, especially for the people who worked in London proper, was slow and limited. Then the railways began to build their suburban network and the West End of London and Crystal Palace railway soon followed with many intermediate stations. One of these intermediate stations, Gipsy Hill, opened in 1856. As the railways stretched out into the suburbs, builders were quick to see development opportunities near the new stations, enabling business men to travel from the City to their homes in less than half an hour. Gipsy Hill³¹⁰ was no exception in this regard. The area bordered by Woodland Road, Gipsy Hill and Westow Hill was built up. An early map³¹¹ drawn in 1867 shows that the four roads to the east of Gipsy Hill were called Camden Hill, Woodland Hill, George Street and College Street—all with homes and cottages. In addition, the Farmer's Directory of 1869³¹² indicates that Camden Hill Villas had become Camden Hill, containing a dozen private houses. In spite of the development, a rural atmosphere still remained. In 1893, one author³¹³ quaintly described the Gipsy Hill district and by extension, Upper Norwood, this way:

³⁰⁸ E. R. Kelly, ed., *The Post Office Directory of Surrey* (London: Kelly, 1878); digital images, *Historical Directories, A University of Leicester Project* (<http://www.historicaldirectories.org> : accessed 22 February 2012); previously cited.

³⁰⁹ *Wikipedia* (<http://en.wikipedia.org> : accessed 22 February 2012), “The Crystal Palace,” page last modified 7 February 2012.

³¹⁰ *Parish of Christ Church, Gipsy Hill*, “A History of Christ Church (1862 – 1967),” from a 1967 publication to mark the Centenary of the Church (<http://www.gipsyhill.org.uk> : accessed July 2002), references to Gipsy Hill.

³¹¹ *Ibid.*

³¹² *Ibid.*

³¹³ *Ibid.*, quoting author “Percy Fitzgerald book on the City.”

This district is about the fairest and most 'winsome' of all the suburbs. Covered as it is with villas and terraces, it still maintains its sylvan aspect. Crowds of busy men hurry up to Town for the day's work. Their houses are built in substantial and sometimes elegant style, and overgrown by luxuriant ivy.

In this description, notice the word 'sylvan.' "Sylvan cottage" on Beulah Hill was the name of the Clift residence in the 1881 census.³¹⁴ Whether or not the "Sylvan cottage" was substantial or elegant in style is not relevant to Frederic Clift's story, but one can easily imagine him as being in the crowd of busy men hurrying to Town (undoubtedly the City of London) for the day's work.

Frederic worked as a solicitor from at least 1873 through 1887, as documented by various legal notices, listings in the British Phone Books for 1884, 1885 and 1886 and an announcement by The Anglo-Portuguese Telephone Company Board of Directors, 31 December 1887.³¹⁵ In addition, Frederic Clift became Secretary of the Norwood Cottage Hospital in 1880 and served in that capacity until 1887 when he became a vice-president.³¹⁶ The facility was just a short distance from Beulah Hill.

In 1880 a committee was formed to establish a cottage hospital which would provide treatment for the sick poor of Norwood and the surrounding suburban districts. An appeal was launched and was met with enthusiastic support. It had been hoped to acquire a suitable site somewhere near Sydenham, but this proved difficult to find. Eventually a piece of land in Hermitage Road was selected on the basis it was on high ground and a short distance from the central point of the district. The Norwood Cottage Hospital³¹⁷ was officially opened in October 1882 by the Lord Mayor of London, Sir John Wittaker Ellis. The banker and politician, Sir Ernest Tritton (1845-1918) became its first President. As Secretary, Frederic Clift would have been intimately involved with the set-up of the organization and the build-out of the facility.

Built of red brick in the style of a small cottage, the hospital had eight beds. Its frontage of 130 feet ran parallel to Hermitage Road; the building had a depth of 155 feet. The hospital was extended in 1887 to include more bed accommodation. The hospital was considerably extended in 1894 and again in 1898, but Frederic Clift had moved on to other ventures before that, though it is interesting to know he had a part in the building of something that served the Norwood community and lasted for decades.³¹⁸

³¹⁴ "1881 England Census," Surrey, Croydon, folio 11, Frederick and Felicia V. Clift; PRO RG11/0822; FHL microfilm 1341194; previously cited.

³¹⁵ Photocopy of original notice entitled *The Anglo-Portuguese Telephone Company, Limited*, listing directors (Frederic Clift, Esq., LL.D.) and announcing report to be presented at *Adjourned First Ordinary General Meeting*.

³¹⁶ Irving Watson, ed. and comp., *Physicians and Surgeons of America (Illustrated) A Collection of Biographical Sketches of the Regular Medical Profession* (Concord, H. H.: Republican Press Association, 1896); previously cited.

³¹⁷ *Lost Hospitals of London*, "Norwood and District Cottage Hospital" (<http://ezitis.myzen.co.uk/norwood> : accessed 20 March 2011).

³¹⁸ During the 20th century numerous other extensions were built and various other equipment and apparatus modifications were made. The hospital sustained some damage during World War II, but by 1947 the damage had been repaired and the entire hospital was newly equipped and painted inside and out.

English Gentleman Becomes American Physician

It was early in the year 1888 and Frederic Clift, Solicitor and Gentleman, was a busy man. He was occupied in handling a number of legal issues for clients; he was on the board of directors for The Anglo-Portuguese Telephone Company; and he was serving as vice-president of the Norwood Cottage Hospital. Frederic and Felicia were now parenting two adolescent boys—Frederic H., known as “Eric,” was thirteen years old and Cyril was ten.

On the surface, things seem to be moving along quite well for the Clift family, yet there was something awry in Frederic Clift’s life, because quite abruptly near the end of April, he boarded the ship *Elbe*³¹⁹ at Southampton and departed England for New York, United States of America. He arrived there on 2 May 1888 and by May 28th he was on the west coast in Los Angeles, California, declaring his intention to become a naturalized citizen of the U.S.³²⁰

Many years later, Frederic explained³²¹ that he had come to America to “regain his fortune” as he had read how easy it was to make money here. That explanation seemed to make sense, as once he set foot in the U.S. he commenced an arduous odyssey to remake himself. However, what had motivated him to leave his wife and sons and to depart England so suddenly? The May 30, 1888, edition³²² of *The London Times* reveals the trouble. Frederic Clift was being summoned to bankruptcy court:

A first meeting was also held under the failure of Frederick Clift, LLD., a solicitor, lately carrying on business in Pancras-lane, City. The debtor recently absconded, and an adjudication of bankruptcy has been made. Owing to the state of confusion in which he has left his affairs it is impossible to estimate with accuracy the amount of the liabilities, but proofs for £10,000 were tendered at this sitting.

This is troubling—to see Frederic Clift described as a “debtor recently absconded” and to have his affairs portrayed as being in a “state of confusion.” It seems to be a sad and embarrassing situation—what could have gone so wrong? The question remains unanswered and it is not known how the bankruptcy case was resolved; nor is it known what direct impact it had on Felicia and the boys. Frederic never mentioned bankruptcy to anyone and left no records relative to the issue. This turn of affairs only came to light with the advent of 21st century digitization of historical newspapers, so we will leave this page in his history and turn to the next.

³¹⁹ New York Passenger Lists, 1820-1957, database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://search.ancestry.com> : accessed 17 June 2006); citing *Passenger Lists of Vessels Arriving at New York, New York, 1820-1897*, micropublication M237, Roll 518, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

³²⁰ Declaration of Intention, United States of America, State of California, County of Los Angeles, 28 May 1888, Frederic Clift; photocopy—original document held in possession of V. Stanley Clift.

³²¹ Sarah Matilda Foster Anderson, step-daughter of Frederic Clift, to V. Stanley Clift, handwritten note, 1959; citing “What I’ve been told or know about Dr. Frederic Clift, Grandfather of Stanley Clift and my Stepfather.”

³²² *The London Times*, May 30, 1888, London Times Archive Online; digital images (http://archive.timesonline.co.uk/archive/tol_archive/article : accessed 30 May 2008); citing Re: Clift, First Meetings and Public Examinations.

The English gentleman, Frederic Clift, is now on American soil, seeking a new beginning. In later years he explained that he had been in ill-health and was seeking a drier climate and a better life for himself and his family. He fully expected that his wife would bring the boys and eventually join him in this new life, but after a number of years had passed that wish was dashed when she ultimately and adamantly refused to come.

Frederic Clift had immigrated to America with the desire of practicing law and he was located for a short while in that pursuit in the states of Illinois, California and Nevada.³²³ However, by June of 1889, he was at Keokuk Medical College, Iowa, presenting himself for medical training. Less than a year later, Dr. Frederic Clift had certified to Keokuk Medical College that he had attended the Medical Department of the University of Colorado at Boulder during the “session of 1889-90.”³²⁴ Dr. Clift also worked for four months until the end of August that year as an assistant to the Resident Physician, Dr. Wm. Baker, at Arapahoe County Hospital at Denver, Colorado, performing with “faithfulness & assiduity.”³²⁵

Finally, on the 10th March 1891, Frederic Clift was admitted to the Degree of Doctor of Medicine by The Keokuk Medical College, Keokuk, Iowa.³²⁶ Dr. Clift had qualified himself to practice medicine in the United States in less than two years, apparently moving back and forth between Colorado and Iowa and two different medical colleges to do it. He was still a practicing attorney and now he was a medical doctor. With that degree in hand, he made his way westward.

A New Career, A New Faith, A New Life

A fuller history of Frederic Clift’s activities from this point forward is included in a narrative biography³²⁷ I wrote last year entitled “Great-Grandparents – Sarah Margaret Moody & Frederic Clift – St. George Widow Woman & the Doctor From St. Day,” so the summary that follows here is drawn from that. As I’ve studied his life, it has occurred to me that Frederic Clift lived two lives—the English version and the American version. He was a “new” man with a new career and other new adventures waiting for him on American soil.

³²³ Clive H. Clift, “A Brief Synopsis of the Life of Clive Hollocombe Clift,” undated handwritten manuscript (photocopy).

³²⁴ H. M. Hale, President, University of Colorado, Boulder, “to whom it may concern,” letter, 22 May 1890; photocopy of copy of note held in the personal effects of Frederic Clift and passed down to his grandson, V. Stanley Clift; original filed in Keokuk Medical College, Iowa.

³²⁵ Wm. Baker, M.D., Resident Physician, Arapahoe Co Hospital, Denver, Colorado, “to whom it may concern,” letter, 3 September 1890; photocopy of copy of note held in the personal effects of Frederic Clift and passed down to his grandson, V. Stanley Clift; original filed at Keokuk Medical College, Iowa.

³²⁶ The Keokuk Medical College, Keokuk, Iowa, certificate naming Frederic Clift to Degree of Doctor of Medicine, 10 March 1891; original certificate in personal possession of Maurine Clift Nuttall.

³²⁷ Maurine Clift Nuttall, “Great-Grandparents – Sarah Margaret Moody & Frederic Clift – St. George Widow Woman & the Doctor from St. Day,” 31 May 2011, submitted as the final paper for History 433, Writing Narrative Biographies, Brigham Young University, Professor Nancy NeSmith.

Frederic Clift, M.D. first settled in the practice of medicine at Manti, Utah, In March, 1891, but later in the same year removed to St. George. There, he was welcomed and able to employ his skills as a medical practitioner; and certainly the climate in southern Utah was what he was looking for—hot and dry. Nevertheless, Frederic was frustrated with “the hopelessness of the task [he] had undertaken in trying to bring about a reconciliation” with his wife, Felicia. He had received only one letter from her in three years, written in January of 1891—communicating “definitely & once & for all refusing to cancel the deed of separation or [to] join me in this country.”³²⁸

Frederic’s hope that his family would join him in the United States vanished—he had not the funds to live in England and his American medical degree would not qualify him to practice in Europe. And so he pressed forward, doubling down in his efforts to establish a successful medical practice in the environs of St. George. Additionally, in September of 1895 Frederic Clift, M.D. was examined by the Territory of Utah District Court in the County of Beaver and was found qualified to be admitted to practice as an attorney³²⁹ and counselor in the Second District Court. Coinciding with his admission to practice law, Dr. Clift completed the Naturalization process and became a permanent citizen³³⁰ of the United States. Dr. Clift advertised his law practice extensively in the local newspaper, *The Union* and he continued to be very active in the community as a physician.

Frederic Clift had been in the U.S. eight years and had been practicing medicine in “Dixie” for six years when he was baptized a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on 22 August 1896.³³¹ Certainly, six years in southern Utah, “Mormon” country, would have provided abundant exposure to the L.D.S. faith. Yet, there is some evidence that Frederic Clift came to the U.S. already a man of religious faith. Born in England and educated at Cambridge University, he had likely been well-schooled in the tenets of The Church of England. He had married Felicia in the parish church at Upper Norwood; he had attended a series of lectures on the Bible given at Westminster Abbey in 1884;³³² indeed, there is a reference inscribed on the back of a photograph taken in 1910 of Frederic Clift and John F. Milbank, noting they were “Divinity & Medical Students—1889.”³³³ Along with his study of medicine, Frederic had been studying religion, as well.

³²⁸ Frederic Clift, Provo, Utah, to Eric Hollocombe Clift, letter, 16 December 1905, photocopy of original manuscript held by Maurine Clift Nuttall.

³²⁹ Certificate of Admission, Territory of Utah District Court, County of Beaver, Second Judicial Court, Frederic Clift admitted to practice, 25 September 1895; original certificate in possession of Maurine Clift Nuttall.

³³⁰ Certificate of Citizenship, United States of America, Territory of Utah, 12 September 1895, Frederic Clift, at present of St. George City in the Territory aforesaid; photocopy of certificate, original held by V. Stanley Clift.

³³¹ Frederic Clift, “Seventy’s Genealogy,” handwritten note referencing his parentage and dates of baptism and priesthood ordinations; photocopy in possession of Maurine Clift Nuttall, original held by V. Stanley Clift.

³³² Chr. Wordsworth, D.D., Bishop of Lincoln, *On The Inspiration of the Bible: Five Lectures, Delivered in Westminster Abbey* (Waterloo Place, London: Rivingtons, 1884); photocopy of frontispiece with Frederic Clift’s name written in his own hand; original booklet in the records of Clive H. Clift, held by Wendy White.

³³³ Photograph of John F. Milbank and Dr. Clift, taken 5th July 1910 in New York, with handwritten inscription on reverse side; original photograph found in the records of Clive H. Clift and transferred to Maurine Clift Nuttall by Wendy White, 2011.

It appears that Frederic Clift's acceptance of the restored gospel of Jesus Christ as embodied in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is a significant and culminating step in the remaking of the English gentleman. Now Dr. Clift is "Bro. Clift"—"no more [a] stranger and foreigner, but [a] fellowcitizen with the saints, and of the household of God."³³⁴ Undoubtedly with renewed faith and probably some humility, Frederic continued his endeavors in both the medical and legal fields and more importantly, became acquainted with the widow, Maggie Foster.

Marriage and Family – Chapter Two

From about 1897 to 1902 there was no communication between Frederic Clift and his English family. The door to his former life had closed quietly and a new door opened with the Doctor's introduction to, and care of, the ailing Sarah Margaret (Moody) Foster in the warm St. George summer of 1896. He described his feelings, state of mind, and the actions he took in consequence, in a letter³³⁵ written to his son, Eric, in 1905:

—Age was creeping upon me—I had no guarantee of continued good health—I had not a friend to follow me to my last home on earth—When I say friend you know what I mean—I could only be released through death or the American law—Neither of us had any claim against the other under English law—I found the Am. law especially in one of the neighboring states liberal—some people say too much so—in regard to divorce—I therefore took the necessary steps alleging my offer of a home and her refusal to join me—and on the last day of 1896 I re-married. It is for this reason that I am able to say that I have no bitter feelings in my heart towards your mother—& that I am happier today than I ever expected to be in the early 90's—

Dr. Clift and the widow, Maggie Foster, married on December 31, 1896³³⁶ in St. George, Utah. Sarah Margaret (Moody) Foster was the mother of seven children by Solon Foster, Jr. and had been a widow for two and half years when she married her doctor. Her strong will, strong work ethic and strong faith were, perhaps, an inspiration to Frederic Clift. In addition to their faith, they both loved the literary life and together set out to make new lives for themselves.

Maggie's St. George residence, the old Foster homestead, was now an even fuller and busier household, with all of the Foster children residing with their mother and Dr. Clift. The children ranged in age from seventeen to four and a half. Frederic was busy with both his medical practice and his practice of law—still in partnership with John Ward Christian. Maggie continued working very hard to provide and care for her children. Her older boys had responsibility for looking after the farms in St. George and of taking care of the cattle and horses belonging to the estate, which were ranging on the Mt. Trumbull ranch. The six older children

³³⁴ Ephesians 2:19, Authorized King James Version, *The Holy Bible*.

³³⁵ Frederic Clift, Provo, Utah, to Eric Hollocombe Clift, letter, 16 December 1905, previously cited.

³³⁶ Marriage Certificate, State of Utah, Frederic Clift and Sarah Margaret Moody Foster, married 31 December 1896 at St. George, Washington County, Utah; previously cited.

were all in school and everyone had chores to do to keep the household running. The Foster children called Frederic, “Doctor,” not “Father,” as he left the sole care of them to their mother, but they all respected Dr. Clift and held kind, and even, affectionate, feelings for him. They appreciated his intellect and cultured manner and also his willingness to work with his hands—Frederic built a room onto their home, as well as a hay shed on one of their lots.

The union of Frederic Clift and Sarah Margaret (Moody) Foster Clift produced two sons. Vyvyan Botreaux Clift was born 14 May 1898³³⁷ and Clive Hollocombe Clift was born 31 October 1900.³³⁸ Both boys were born in the St. George, Utah, home, but their given names definitely reflect Frederic’s English heritage and Cornwall roots. “Vyv” and Clive were all American sons, however, who grew up in a large family of brothers and sisters. Clive remembered that the two families “lived as one happy family and I always thought of it as one family and not two families. . .there must have been considerable effort made by both my parents in striving to hold so large a family together and to see that they were adequately schooled.”³³⁹

That Dr. Clift was happy and proud of his American family is evident in that letter³⁴⁰ he wrote in 1905 to his oldest English-born son, Eric. Frederic described each of the Foster children as to their status and education and interests and then “come by two boys:”

The eldest is inclined to be tall & is doing well at School—he sharply resembles you & will I think make his mark—The younger is of Cyril’s build & disposition as sharp as a needle & full of Spirit & determination—the two in age & temperament resemble you two as I knew you & in watching them I am constantly reminded of yourself & Cyril & the days when we lived at Norwood.

Mission Call, Medicine, Move

When Frederic’s and Maggie’s firstborn, Vyvyan, was two years old, the Foster-Clift family faced an interesting challenge. To quote Maggie “. . .the doctor was sent on a mission to California.”³⁴¹ Frederic Clift had been a member of the Church for only four years and had been married to a widow with seven children for only a few months less than that—so this calling must have seemed like a daunting opportunity for the family. But, they moved forward in faith, presumably, and Frederic Clift reported to Salt Lake City 8 August 1900 and was ordained a Seventy in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He was set apart for his labor by

³³⁷ Utah State Department of Health, delayed birth certificate no. 3675 (1898), Vyvyan Bottreaux Clift; Division of Vital Statistics, Salt Lake City, Utah.

³³⁸ Clive H. Clift, “Interview,” typewritten transcription by Maurine Clift Nuttall of an oral interview conducted with Clive by V. Stanley Clift, 26 November 1976, Salt Lake City, Utah.

³³⁹ Clive Hollocombe Clift, “C. H. Clift Autobiography,” undated handwritten manuscript; photocopy in possession of Maurine Clift Nuttall.

³⁴⁰ Frederic Clift, Provo, Utah, to Eric Hollocombe Clift, letter, 16 December 1905, previously cited.

³⁴¹ Sarah Margaret Moody Foster Clift, “More Memories,” 1934 typewritten manuscript with a 1938 postscript by Tillie Foster; photocopy in possession of Maurine Clift Nuttall.

Bro. J. Golden Kimball who charged him to “be true and faithful to this great responsibility that is now placed upon you.” Elder Clift was to “go forth with a cheerful countenance, feeling that you are honored of the Lord in being privileged to be a witness of the Lord to the nations of the earth.”³⁴² Frederic Clift arrived in San Francisco, California on 10 August and began his missionary work.

Meanwhile, at home in St. George, Sis. Clift had her work cut out for her—to figure out a way to provide for the children at home, as well as helping her oldest son, June, prepare for his mission to Australia. There was another concern, too—Maggie was pregnant with Clive, who was born two months and twenty-three days after Frederic had left for California. Uncomplaining, she pressed on. While her husband was serving his mission, Maggie said, simply, “I had to work very hard to keep things going while [they] were away. I took boarders and also ran a Ladies Furnishing Shop.”³⁴³

“June” Foster left for his mission in January of 1901, traveling by train to San Francisco, where he met his step-father, Frederic Clift, before boarding a ship bound for Australia. Maggie’s second oldest son, John, graduated from Cedar City Branch Normal School in May 1901 and by August was enrolled at Stanford University at Palo Alto, California, beginning his studies after the holidays in 1902. Elder Clift made one or two connections with John Foster while they were both in California and Maggie managed to save up enough money to take a trip there with the two youngest boys before Frederic returned home from his mission.

Frederic Clift served in the L.D.S. California Mission, Sacramento Conference, from August 10, 1900 to July 12, 1902, keeping a small journal noting the places he traveled to, the number of families visited and revisited, tracts and books distributed, meetings held, children blessed, baptisms, people who entertained the elders, etc. In a conference³⁴⁴ held in Sacramento on 8 November 1901, Dr. Frederic Clift spoke on the “Gathering of Israel” and was called to succeed the departing Conference President.

Given some latitude as to his service—in addition to Maggie’s visit, Frederic attended a course of Clinical Lectures on Surgery, Gynecology and Skin Diseases from June 2nd to July 2nd 1902 at the San Francisco Polyclinic Post Graduate Medical Department of the University of California. A few days after that he gave his last missionary sermon in San Francisco on the subject, “Gospel of Jesus Christ, an Executive Gospel,” Frederic Clift left for home on the 13th of July.

³⁴² President J. Golden Kimball, “A Missionary Blessing,” Salt Lake Temple Annex, 8 August 1900, Leo Hunsaker, Reporter; photocopy of typewritten manuscript in possession of Maurine Clift Nuttall.

³⁴³ Sarah Margaret Moody Foster Clift, “More Memories,” 1934 typewritten manuscript (photocopy); previously cited.

³⁴⁴ *Deseret Evening News*: Saturday, November 16, 1901, Church Intelligence, p. 22; digital images, *Chronicling America – The Library of Congress* (<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov> : accessed 11 March 2011).

Upon his return to Utah, Frederic Clift was almost immediately back in the practice of medicine. By Thursday, July 17th he had moved to Lehi to set up shop. Later, Maggie and five of the children accompanied her to Provo, where they established a home. The primary reason for the move to Provo was so that the children could attend the Brigham Young Academy there. It was her determined goal that her children receive a good education and the educational opportunities were limited in southern Utah. Besides that, John Moody Foster recorded in his life history³⁴⁵ that, “Mother was tired of living in St. George; she said it was too hot for anyone except the Indians.”

Provo, Utah – Career Advancements – Professional Accomplishments

They had made the move north for the sake of the children’s education and advancement, but both Frederic and Maggie also had opportunities for educational enrichment and employment over the next decade. There were challenges, of course, but they met these as best they could. The first home the Foster-Clift family lived in at Provo was a red brick house on South Academy Avenue. A year or two later, about 1905, they moved to 331 East Center Street. Dr. and Mrs. Clift set about getting settled into the community.

Provo, Utah, was settled in 1849 and quickly was built up, becoming known as the “Garden City” because of its extensive fruit orchards, trees, and gardens. Brigham Young Academy³⁴⁶ was founded there in 1875 and the BY Academy building was opened in 1892. In 1903 it was renamed Brigham Young High School and this was the major draw for the Clift family’s move to Provo. Margaret got the children enrolled in school. Vyvyan and Clive, the youngest children, attended the Maeser and Parker Public Schools. Because Dr. Clift had not had sufficient time to build up his medical practice when the family first moved to Provo, Maggie—now known more formally as Margaret—once again took in boarders to help finance the children’s schooling.

Clive³⁴⁷ recalled that his early life was affected³⁴⁷ by his father’s medical profession:

In his attempt to provide a living for the family he moved at various times to different cities. The medical profession was not very lucrative in those days and money was always slow as far as the Doctor was concerned. Usually his bills were always on the bottom of the patient’s list as ‘Bills Payable.’ Dr. Clift attempted several times to find a community that needed his services, and he worked very hard wherever he served, but financial remuneration seemed never commensurate with his ability.

³⁴⁵ E. Grant Moody, Helen Foster Snow, Ruth Moody Ostegar, Thelma Carpenter Millet, and William A. Moody, eds., *The Moody Family Record*, “John Moody Foster,” Notes from the life of John Moody Foster (no publication place stated: published by the editors, 1957), p. 206.

³⁴⁶ *Brigham Young High School*, “BYH Historical Overview 1876-1968” (<http://www.byhigh.org/HistoryDecades> : 27 February 2012.)

³⁴⁷ Clive Hollocombe Clift, “C. H. Clift Autobiography,” undated handwritten manuscript; previously cited.

The lack of financial success wasn't from a lack of effort. There is voluminous evidence³⁴⁸ that Frederic Clift was always earnestly engaged in building a medical practice and advancing his career. He established practices in Lehi, Utah, in 1902 and in Heber and Charleston, Utah, in 1904. It is obvious that Dr. Clift is traveling about the area on a daily basis practicing medicine. Fortunately, after the family had lived in Provo for about a year, Frederic Clift secured an appointment as the Assistant Superintendent to Dr. Calder of the State Mental Hospital (formerly Utah State Hospital), enabling him to lead a more traditional lifestyle, with less travel. Aside from his daily work as a physician and whatever his duties may have been at the state Mental Hospital, Dr. Clift was intensively involved in the Utah Medical Association from the moment he arrived in Utah County.

His affiliation with professional associations extended over a period of at least fifteen years and his contributions included the following:

Vice President for Utah of the Medico-Legal Society of New York from 1895
Secretary-Treasurer of the Utah County Medical Society 1904-1908+
President of the Utah State Medical Association 1906-1907
President of the third Councilor District Medical Society 1907-1909

Dr. Clift did everything in his power to make life better for the citizens of the state of Utah and the matters he tried to address were varied and pertinent to the good health and safety of the communities. He was also a contributor to medico-legal literature and held certificates to practice medicine from the boards of California, Colorado, Illinois and Utah. He was an editorial collaborator to the *Utah Medical Journal*, which publication was printed in combination with the *Denver Medical Times*. Numerous letters, reports and papers were published in the *Journal* by Frederic Clift, M.D. over a four or five year period.

One of Frederic Clift's interesting papers, read before the Utah County Medical Society in 1909, was entitled "Alcohol As A Diet Or Medicine." Dr. Clift was interested in and trained for specific conditions that were not particularly appealing, but worthy of a physician's study and attention—mental illness, alcoholism, the regulation of prostitution and the attendant health and sanitation issues.

That he was a dedicated physician, there is no doubt, but the doctor also lobbied for the proper recognition that the responsibilities of the medical profession called for. Dr. Clift took an active role in discussions relating to physicians' fees. Inadequate compensation for services was not just a problem for Frederic Clift. Clive wrote of his father, "Many people have told me that Dad was an excellent doctor. Probably his ethics of rendering service first, with money a secondary issue, accounts for the lack of money that seemed so familiar in my earlier days."³⁴⁹

³⁴⁸ See "Great-Grandparents, Sarah Margaret Moody & Frederic Clift, St. George Widow Woman & The Doctor from St. Day," narrative biography by this author, 2011.

³⁴⁹ Clive Hollocombe Clift, "C. H. Clift Autobiography," undated handwritten manuscript; previously cited.

Frederic Clift, M.D., was also affiliated with Brigham Young University as an instructor³⁵⁰ at the University in nursing and obstetrics for the 1905-06 year and in the 1906-07 academic year at the Church Normal Training School. Interestingly enough, Frederic's work as a member of the BYU faculty paved the way for Margaret's membership and involvement with a woman's club in Provo—the Utah Sorosis.³⁵¹

The Sorosis was originally a literary club founded in New York in 1868 as a way to educate women about national and international topics. The Provo club began in 1897 and consisted of wives of Brigham Young University faculty who desired to learn about the world and who were determined to keep up with their intelligent husbands. Each member picked a subject to study, often a current political topic, and she would teach the other women. Literature and poetry were other topics for research and discussion. Margaret Clift joined the group and enjoyed this opportunity to mingle with other women who enjoyed literature and the advancement of knowledge. She also found a great outlet for her leadership abilities—at various times she served as assistant secretary, treasurer and finally, president.

In April of 1910 the Utah County Medical Society held a special meeting³⁵² with two Provo women's clubs, the Nineteenth Century club and the Utah Sorosis:

“ . . . for the purpose of considering health questions and creating an interest among the public in this important subject, this being in line with the crusade for health, sanitation and civic improvements for which Provo women are now doing most enthusiastic work.”

Remarks at the meeting were made by a number of individuals, including Mrs. Frederick Clift, president Sorosis; and Dr. Frederick Clift. On this occasion, both Margaret and Frederic Clift had the privilege of speaking on important matters pertaining to their community.

Church and Family

The time in Provo for Frederic Clift and his family was one of much study, reading and enrichment. Both Dr. and Mrs. Clift were involved in the community socially and professionally, as illustrated above. The children still at home were in school and progressing. Frederic and Margaret Clift were active and devoted members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Margaret and her first husband, Solon Foster, had both come from pioneer stock and all of Margaret's children were baptized into the Church when they reached the age of accountability. Vyvyan and Clive Clift were both baptized during the time the family resided in Provo. Before the move to Provo, Margaret Clift had been secretary of the St. George Relief Society.

³⁵⁰ Brigham Young University, *Catalogues and announcements for the academic year (Volume 1905-2906)* (<http://www.ebooksread.com/authors-eng/brigham0young-university> : accessed 2011), Members of the Faculty.

³⁵¹ Utah Phile Teras of Sorosis Club Records, L. Tom Perry Special Collections, Harold B. Lee Library, BYU.

³⁵² *The Herald-Republican, Salt Lake City, Utah, Monday, April 18, 1910*, p. 3, col. 4; digital images, *Utah Digital Newspapers*, The University of Utah J. Willard Marriott Library (<http://udn.lib.utah.edu> : accessed 25 February 2011), search term: Frederic Clift.

Dr. Clift had served an honorable mission and he continued to advance in his church education and experience. He was ordained a High Priest³⁵³ 7 June 1908 by Elder Harvey Cluff of Provo and admitted to the Quorum the same day. Besides researching and writing articles about medical issues, Frederic Clift was also writing articles for the L.D.S. Church magazine, the *Improvement Era*. From 1904 through 1907 he authored at least eight articles³⁵⁴ which addressed among other things, various translations of the Bible, the Jewish and Christian Sabbaths, and the lives of the “Fathers of the Early Church.” It is apparent from his work that Frederic Clift had a great love and respect for the scriptures and expended a great deal of time and effort to share his research and thoughts with others.

There were some fun times. Usually in the fall, Margaret would take the younger children back to St. George for the “Dixie Fruit Festival.” They traveled by train as far as Modena and then rode by stage the rest of the way. There was an abundance of free fruit and juicy melons. The boys enjoyed the cowboy rodeo, as well. When visiting St. George they always stayed with Margaret’s brother and his wife. Five of the Foster brothers lived in the area, so important family ties were maintained and strengthened on these trips.

Vyvyan and Clive were good students, earning As and Bs. Vyv did a lot of reading and both boys used the Provo “Carnegie” Library a good deal—their spare time nearly always spent reading books at the library. Clive was always mechanically minded and curious about how things worked and remembers watching his father install the first electric wiring lights in the Clift home on East Center Street. Frederic also built a “settee, mission style, and the upholstered cushions for it.”³⁵⁵ Both Vyv and Clive would later do remodeling work, carrying on Dr. Clift’s ‘Jack of all trades’ tradition.

It was during the family’s time in Provo that Frederic Clift re-established communication with his oldest English son, Frederic “Eric” Hollocombe Clift. Regrettably, he learned two years after the fact of Cyril’s death—Cyril had been working as a merchant marine, second officer with the P & O Steamship Company, when he died of pneumonia 19 December 1903³⁵⁶ in New South Wales, Australia. At the time of the correspondence with his father in 1905, Eric was married with a two-year-old daughter and was making a living as a consulting engineer.

³⁵³ Frederic Clift, “Seventy’s Genealogy,” handwritten note referencing dates. . .ordinations; previously cited.

³⁵⁴ See bibliography to “Great-Grandparents, Sarah Margaret Moody & Frederic Clift. . .”

³⁵⁵ Clive Hollocombe Clift, “C. H. Clift Autobiography,” undated handwritten manuscript; previously cited.

³⁵⁶ New South Wales, Commonwealth of Australia, death certificate (certified, true copy) for Cyril William Clift, died 19 December 1903; citing 1903/015071, Camperdown, Sydney; NSW Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages, Sydney.

From Salt Lake City Sanitarium to Kaysville-Layton Medical Practice

With Frederic and Margaret Clift, it seemed that nothing was more constant than change. Margaret would later describe the next change in their lives as “politics” *changing* at the State Mental Hospital. On 29 August 1910 Dr. Frederic Clift resigned the position of assistant physician. He had been associated with the state institution for five years, but announced that he had entered “into an arrangement with Dr. John E. Morton of the Kaysville Hospital, whereby the scope of the institution will be enlarged to provide sanitarium and hospital facilities.”³⁵⁷

Frederic Clift moved to Salt Lake City ahead of his family and opened the Clift Sanitarium. The facility was apparently situated midway between Salt Lake City and Ogden, Utah, and was advertised in conjunction with the Kaysville Hospital. The Sanitarium was open for the admittance of “Nervous, Mental and Maternity Cases requiring new environment or special treatment, also Alcoholic and Drug Habitues.”³⁵⁸

During the time the sanitarium was open, Margaret Clift contracted a severe case of small-pox, which was carried there by one of the patients, consequently causing the closure of the hospital for a time. The Clift Sanitarium operated for less than a year—Clive said that it “was too far ahead of the times,” and the upkeep proved to be “too expensive to make any money”³⁵⁹ so Dr. Clift had to give it up. Vyv and Clive attended the Emerson School for just half a term before the family had to move again—this time to “Five Points” in Davis County.

Taking another career detour, Frederic Clift, M.D. now returned to private practice, entering into a partnership of sorts with Dr. Morton at the Kaysville Hospital. The Clifts moved into the “Ellis” home³⁶⁰ on State Road, South, at the intersection of five roads, about a mile and half between Kaysville and Layton—this intersection being known locally as “Five Points.” The Clift home was very comfortable, with three acres surrounding the place. Dr. Clift added a room onto the residence which he used for an office and a place to keep his medical equipment. He worked with Dr. Morton at the Kaysville Hospital, but also tried to establish a medical practice. He advertised his services as a physician, surgeon and obstetrician and by early March 1912, Dr. Clift found it necessary to build three additional rooms onto the north side of the residence so that he could have a less public and more central location for his patients—confinement cases and cases of children. He also established a visiting schedule for the communities of Syracuse and Clearfield.

³⁵⁷ “County Medical Society Meets,” *The Salt Lake Herald-Republican*, August 30, 1910, p. 6; digital images, *University of Utah*, Marriott Library (<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov> : accessed 9 March 2011).

³⁵⁸ *Denver Medical Times*, Volume 31, by Utah State Medical Society, July 1911; digital images, *Google Books* (<http://books.google.com> : accessed 2 July 2008), 70.

³⁵⁹ Clive Hollocombe Clift, “C. H. Clift Autobiography,” undated handwritten manuscript; previously cited.

³⁶⁰ Clive H. Clift, “Interview,” conducted with Clive by V. Stanley Clift, 1976, Utah, previously cited.

Frederic Clift continued his service within the medical community and became secretary of the Davis County Medical Society. He was still attending and speaking at various conventions of Utah physicians; and, as secretary of the state medical board, addressed the conference of the State Federation of Women's clubs early in January of 1913.

The Clifts did not own an automobile; the Doctor's regular mode of transportation was a horse and buggy. Frederic used an old brick charcoal heater and a blanket over his lap to keep warm in the wintertime when making his rounds. Dr. Clift was called out to Syracuse on a wintery day in March 1913 to tend to a family who had suffered burns from a fire. He stayed with his patients practically the whole night and when he returned home he found he had contracted a cold. The cold turned into pneumonia and in sixteen days, on March 28th,³⁶¹ Dr. Frederic Clift passed away.

Remembering Dr. Clift

Ironically, the Englishman who came to the United States looking for a dry climate became the victim of the very illness he had sought to escape. It would be another twenty-eight years before the antibiotic, Penicillin, would come into widespread use. In 1913 the best thing a man could do to beat pneumonia was to "sweat it through." Doctor probably fought his hardest to do just that, but in the end he was unsuccessful.

The Clifts had been in Layton for only a few years and while Dr. Clift had more than \$2,000 in receivables on the books, only \$100 had been paid. Margaret did not have enough money to bury her husband, so her older children came to her aid and all contributed to pay the funeral expenses. Frederic Clift's doctor, Sumner Gleason, M.D., also the mayor of Kaysville at the time, generously signed over a lot in the Kaysville City Cemetery for "Sarah M. Clift and her heirs forever for the consideration of Five Dollars."³⁶²

Funeral services took place on March 31st at the Kaysville L.D.S. meetinghouse. Members of the Davis County Medical association attended in a group and acted as pallbearers. There were five speakers, including J. Golden Kimball of Salt Lake City. They all spoke highly of Dr. Clift's life and work and his devotion to duty under all circumstances. The "Dedicated Physician" was laid to rest in the Kaysville City Cemetery at the conclusion of the services.

Obituaries honoring Dr. Clift appeared in several publications. All mentioned his unusually broad education and his professional accomplishments and connections. His loss was lamented at all levels, personal and professional. He was "not only a good physician, but one who had the interests of humanity at heart at all times. . . He was a man absolutely without a selfish thought; one of God's noblemen."³⁶³

³⁶¹ "Utah Death Certificate Index 1904-1958," database, (<http://images.archives.utah.gov/data> : accessed 8 February 2007), death certificate image, Frederick Clift, 28 March 1913; previously cited.

³⁶² No. 281 Kaysville City Cemetery deed, certified 3rd day of December 1913; photocopy in possession of Maurine Clift Nuttall.

³⁶³ George L. Servoss, M.D., "Lost—A Friend," *Denver Medical Times*, Volume 32, 1913, Utah State Medical Society; digital images, *Google Books* (<http://books.google.com> : accessed 3 June 2011), 549-550.

Frederic Clift's friend and associate, John E. Morton, M.D. wrote a very eloquent remembrance³⁶⁴ of him, summing up the Doctor's legacy:

In his writings, as in speech, he aimed to cure some evil – to right some wrong. There is no man in our state who has attempted or accomplished so much in matters relating to medical laws. Always the same theme, - to improve conditions that the people would be better served, and disease prevented. He was working hard in the harness to this end, when the summons came. Through the pages of the Utah State Medical Journal, one may read what his efforts were; ever urging progress, improvement; and chafing under the lack of understanding and feeble support from those who should have been his ardent champions.

But the eye of faith, and whisper of hope, tells me there is no death; and were we able to take just one step more into the unseen world, we should find that this is true; for there should we meet our friend, - our brother.

Life Goes On

Dr. Clift's death left Margaret a widow for a second time. She was about to turn fifty-four years old. Vyvyan was fourteen going on fifteen and Clive was twelve and half. There was little money, but with that "eye of faith and whisper of hope" that Dr. Morton wrote of, Margaret Clift moved forward and made the serious and necessary adjustments she had to, to provide for herself and her family. They stayed in Layton through the summer of 1913, but then returned to Provo "as the two boys had to be educated and there was no work to be had for them [in Layton]."³⁶⁵

The problem, again, was how to make a living. Margaret decided to take students as boarders. Her daughters, Ruth and Tillie, both came home to live with her and all in all, they managed to get by fairly well. Vyvyan and Clive had lost their father, but they had a wonderful and resolute mother and she saw to it that they got their education. Vyv entered Brigham Young High School and Clive went back to Parker School for 7th grade and then moved to Provo Central for 8th Grade. From Central, Clive moved up to Provo High School. Obtaining money for education presented problems for the Clift boys, but through the cooperation of their half-brothers, Clive and Vyv were provided with summer work which enabled them to buy their school clothes and pay school tuition fees.

³⁶⁴ J. E. Morton M.D., "Dedicated to Dr. Frederic Clift," *Denver Medical Times*, Volume 32, 1913, Utah State Medical Society; digital images, *Google Books* (<http://books.google.com> : accessed 3 June 2011), 551.

³⁶⁵ Sarah Margaret Moody Foster Clift, "More Memories," 1934 typewritten manuscript (photocopy); previously cited.

Vyv graduated from Brigham Young High School in 1916 and went on to Brigham Young University for one year. Clive had two years of high school at Provo High and a third year at Brigham Young High School. If they had been able to afford it, both boys would have continued on at the University for a full four year college degree, but this was an unsettling time in the world and in Utah. World War I was going on. Family and financial considerations took them in other directions.

There was some difficulty in Provo obtaining work, but there were employment opportunities in Salt Lake City, so Margaret and the children decided to move to Salt Lake. By May of 1918 they were settling in and making adjustments and decisions regarding employment and careers. Margaret Clift married for a third time, William Reed Horizon Paxman 6 April 1919.³⁶⁶ He was her sister's widowed husband. They "thought it best to spend the rest of our lives together."³⁶⁷ Vyvyan married in 1922 and Clive married in 1924; both went on to have families and live exemplary lives. Margaret was widowed again in 1925, but with the help of her daughters, she managed—taking in boarders for the last twelve years of her life.

In tribute³⁶⁸ to her mother, Ruth wrote of Sarah Margaret Moody Foster Clift Paxman:

I am very proud to be one of her children, as she was one of the finest women I have ever known. I have often thought, and said, that if I was one half as great a character, as my Mother, I would be very thankful. . . I could depend on her.

Speaking of the life Margaret and Frederic Clift had together, Margaret's daughter Tillie³⁶⁹ later wrote:

The years rolled on and I became very much attached to the doctor and he took me into his confidence many times later, telling me of his life and aspirations and his many disappointments that he had encountered since coming to America from England, whence he had come to try to restore his family fortune.

I think that my mother was more satisfied with the type of life Dr. Clift could offer her than she was with the kind of life she lived as the wife of my father. His was the literary life and that was what she loved. However, they did not have the finances sufficient to lead the kind of life they both loved and it led to many disasters.

³⁶⁶ Sarah Margaret Moody Foster Clift, "More Memories," 1934 typewritten manuscript (photocopy); previously cited.

³⁶⁷ Ibid.

³⁶⁸ Ruth Foster Engilman, "Ruth Hedges Foster," undated typewritten manuscript (photocopy), Inglewood, California.

³⁶⁹ Sarah Matilda Foster Hedquist, "Life of Sarah Margaret Moody by her Daughter," undated typed manuscript (photocopy).

Indeed, they did not have the financial security they hoped for and there may have been several “disasters,” but Margaret and Frederic found a way to make the best of the way things worked out, leaving a rich legacy of faith in God, love of family, and appreciation for education.

Sarah Margaret Moody Foster Clift Paxman wrote her own personal history—this, in addition to what her nine children remember and have recorded, provide an illuminating and animated story. On the other hand, Frederic Clift’s history is outlined well by documents and certificates, newspaper and journal articles, religious and medical research papers, but only the briefest of personal thoughts penned in an unfinished two page letter to his firstborn son. Clive Clift, however, wrote on the edge of one of his autobiographical sketches³⁷⁰ his father’s personal motto—which gives his descendants a valuable glimpse into the man and how he wanted to be viewed—and with this, his story now concludes:

“Be to my virtue not unkind; And to my faults a little blind.”

³⁷⁰ Clive Hollocombe Clift, “A Brief Synopsis of the Life of Clive Hollocombe Clift, undated handwritten manuscript (photocopy).

Children of Frederic Clift and Felicia Victoria (Jones) Clift

Frederic Clift and his first wife, Felicia Victoria (Jones) Clift, were the parents of two sons:

- i. Frederic Hollocombe Clift was born 28 September 1874³⁷¹ in Upper Norwood, Surrey, England; and died 22 November 1922³⁷² in Branksome Park, Poole, Dorsetshire, England. He married in Beckenham Parish, County of Kent, England, 31 July 1902,³⁷³ Mary Lovell Simons, daughter of Alfred Lovell and Amy Louisa (Todd) Simons. Mary Lovell Simons was born 30 October 1875 at The Ridge, St. Ann, Jamaica, West Indies,³⁷⁴ and she died in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, England on 2 November 1976.³⁷⁵

Frederic H. Clift (also known in various records as Frederick H. Clift, Eric H. Clift, E. Hollocombe Clift, or E. Hollocombe Clift) was educated at Westminster School in London, being admitted there 29 April 1886,³⁷⁶ leaving April of 1888. Eric studied engineering and worked as a consulting engineer. There is evidence that he was affiliated with the Institution of Mechanical Engineers in London, as the Historical Manuscripts Commission³⁷⁷ lists a letter written 18 July 1899 by “F. Clift to Edgar Worthington, tendering a resignation as Hall Porter at the Institution of Mechanical Engineers’ headquarters.”

Eric was an inventor and he had many interests which had to do with mechanical and electrical engineering, including aviation, motor boat racing or “marine yachting,” and petroleum engines. In addition, E. H. Clift & Co. of London, manufactured the Sinclair (Electric Vehicles—specifically, the Clift Electric Victoria) from 1899 to 1902.³⁷⁸ Apparently the vehicle was capable of reaching 30 km/h.³⁷⁹ In 1906, Eric Hollocombe

³⁷¹ England, birth certificate (certified copy) for Frederic Hollocombe Clift, born 28 September 1874; previously cited.

³⁷² England, death certificate (certified copy) for Frederic Hollocombe Clift, died 22 November 1922; citing 5a/258/62, Poole registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

³⁷³ England, marriage certificate (certified copy) for Frederic Hollocombe Clift and Mary Lovell Simons, married 31 July 1902; citing 2a/1072/237, Bromley registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

³⁷⁴ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Mary Lovell Clift, died 2 November 1976; citing 22/1597/292, Cheltenham registration district; General Register Office, Southport. (Date and place of birth were given on the death certificate.)

³⁷⁵ Ibid.

³⁷⁶ G.F. Barker, Comp., *The Record of Old Westminster* (Chiswick Press: London, England) 1928 (Original data); *Old Westminster, Up to 1927*, Vol. 1, p. 194, database online, *Ancestry.com* (<http://search.ancestry.com> : accessed 8 February 2012).

³⁷⁷ Archon Directory, *Historical Manuscripts Commission*, “Institution of Mechanical Engineers Library,” Archon Code: 0381, database (<http://www.hmc.gov.uk/archon> : accessed 17 August 2002), reference: SEC 6/25 for Worthington, Edgar, with mention of F. Clift.

³⁷⁸ *Some EV History*, “Items of Historical Interest in the Development and Commercialization of EVs,” database (<http://www.econogics.com/ev/evhistc.htm> : accessed 23 January 2003), entry for E.H. Clift & Co.

³⁷⁹ Philippe B. de l’Arc, *Histoire de la Voiture Electrique 1899*,” database (<http://philippe.boursin.person.sfr.fr/velec/1899.htm> : accessed 9 February 2012), entry for E.H. Clift & Co.

Clift, Electrical Engineer, served as liquidator of the Kensington Motor Company Limited,³⁸⁰ with final disposition of the liquidation dated 24th January, 1908.³⁸¹ Further, in 1906, Eric H. Clift applied for a British patent relating to improvements in the internal combustion engine, the acceptance of the complete specification being dated January 16th, 1907.³⁸² In 1907, he applied for a Canadian Patent as inventor of an internal combustion engine.³⁸³ By 1911, Eric was employed on his own account as a “Consulting Engineer, Electrical & Mechanical,”³⁸⁴ and he was actively involved in the development of an “Aeroplane Compass.” He also produced a set of eight “Aerodrome to Aerodrome” aviation maps³⁸⁵ which are on file in the British Map Library.

Eric H. Clift authored a lengthy article entitled “The Aeroplane Compass” which appeared in the *Aeronautics Magazine*, August, 1911,³⁸⁶ describing his invention. His work in the early part of the twentieth century in the developing field of aeronautics earned him multiple notes of recognition in the *Bibliography of Aeronautics* by the United States National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics.³⁸⁷ In 1916, Frederic Hollocombe Clift also applied for a patent for an indicator actuated by floats—“An Improved Method of and Means for Measuring the Depths of Liquid in Open and Closed Vessels.”³⁸⁸

³⁸⁰ *The London Gazette*, August 24, 1906, digital image (www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues : accessed 23 January 2003), 5819.

³⁸¹ *The London Gazette*, January 28, 1908, digital image (www.london-gazette.co.uk/issues : accessed 9 February 2012), 678.

³⁸² *The Auto: The Motorists' Pictorial*, Vol. 12, The Automotor Journal, “British Patent Specifications.” Selected and Abridged by James D. Roots, M.I.Mech.E., Thanet House, Temple Bar, London, p. 202; digital images, *Google Books* (<http://www.google.com/books> : accessed 23 January 2003).

³⁸³ Canadian Intellectual Property Office, Canadian Patents Database (<http://brevets-patents.ic.gc.ca/opic-cipo> : accessed 5 November 2011), Patent CA 104912, Internal Combustion Engine, Hollocombe Clift, Eric.

³⁸⁴ “1911 England Census,” database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 9 December 2011), entry for Eric Hollocombe Clift, 51 Sinclair Rd., Kensington, W., County of London; citing PRO RG14/00255; Fulham registration district, South Hammersmith sub-registration district, E.D. 29.

³⁸⁵ James R. Akerman, editor, *Cartographies of Travel and Navigation*, Chapter 6 “Up in the Air in More Ways Than One, The Emergence of Aeronautical Charts in the United States” by Ralph E. Ehrenberg (London, England: The University of Chicago Press, 2006), 218; digital images, *Google Books* (<http://books.google.com> : accessed 9 February 2012).

³⁸⁶ Eric H. Clift, “The Aeroplane Compass,” *Aeronautics*, August, 1911, 121-122. Photocopy of article obtained from The British Library, Science Technology and Business, London, England, 19 October 2000.

³⁸⁷ United States, National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, *Bibliography of Aeronautics* (<http://www.ebooks.read.com/authors-eng/united-states> : accessed 9 February 2012), 289. (Digitized by Google.)

³⁸⁸ WikiPatents, *Great Britain patent 103390*, 1917-01-25 (<http://www.wikipatents.com/GB-Patent-103390> : accessed June 2009), entry for Clift Frederic Hollocombe, Abstract of GB103390; Clift, F. H. March 27, 1916.

On the 26th of July 1916, Eric Hollocombe Clift obtained an aviator certificate after completing exercises taken on a Caudron Biplane at the Beatty School, Hendon.³⁸⁹ In September, F. H. Clift submitted another patent for an air-speed indicator, called a “Pitot-tube apparatus.”³⁹⁰ The magazine *Flight* “Side Winds” of October 11, 1917, announced “an interesting trade development—an arrangement concluded by Messrs. S. Smith and Sons (Motor Accessories), for taking over the well-known aviation instrument business, including the patent rights of Mr. E. Hollocombe Clift, Bronnley’s Corner, Acton Vale. This will enable Messrs. Smith and Sons to offer a more complete range of aviation instruments, and as Mr. Clift will remain with them as consulting engineer on aviation matters, more developments may be looked for.”³⁹¹ At some point after this business arrangement, Eric and his family moved from their home in London to Branksome Park, Poole, in the county of Dorset.

He passed away at the age of 48 years on the 22nd of November 1922,³⁹² having suffered from pulmonary tuberculosis for five years. A secondary cause of death was listed as “exhaustion.” Frederic Clift otherwise known as Eric Hollocombe Clift left a very lengthy and detailed will,³⁹³ making provisions for his wife, his daughter and his mother. Apparently successful at the last, he left an estate valued at £24,541.

Frederic Hollocombe and Mary Lovell (Simons) Clift were the parents of one child, a daughter, Vivien Joan Clift, born in Kensington, London, England on 20 December 1903.³⁹⁴ Vivien never married and died in Newbury, Berkshire, England on 21 January 1945.³⁹⁵

³⁸⁹ Great Britain, Royal Aero Club Aviators’ Certificates, 1910-1950, database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://search.ancestry.com> : accessed 2008), 3266; entry for Eric Hollocombe Clift, includes photograph.

³⁹⁰ WikiPatents, *Great Britain patent 111308*, <http://www.wikipatents.com/GB-Patent-111308>, 917-11-29 (<http://www.wikipatents.com/GB-Patent-111308> : accessed June 2009), entry for Clift Frederic Hollocombe, Abstract of GB111308; Clift, F. H. Sept. 13, 1916.

³⁹¹ *Flight*, “Side-Winds,” October 11, 1917, digital image from FlightGlobal/Archive, Aviation History 1917 (<http://www.flightglobal.com> : accessed 8 February 2012), 1066.

³⁹² England, death certificate (certified copy) for Frederic Hollocombe Clift, died 22 November 1922; previously cited.

³⁹³ Frederic Clift otherwise Eric Hollocombe Clift, of Ardnave the Avenue Branksome Park in the County of Dorset, recorded will, 1922; HM Courts & Tribunals Service, York Probate-Sub Registry, York, England; photocopy of document received 18 April 2011.

³⁹⁴ England, birth certificate (certified copy) for Vivien Joan Clift, born 20 December 1903; citing 1a/241/216, Fulham registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

³⁹⁵ England, death certificate (certified copy) for Vivienne Joan Clift, died 21 January 1945; citing 2c/404/412, Newbury registration district; General Register Office, Southport.

- ii. Cyril William Clift was born 5 July 1877³⁹⁶ in Norwood, Surrey, England, and died in Camperdown, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia on 19 December 1903.³⁹⁷ He was buried 21 December 1903 in the Church of England Cemetery, Rookwood, New South Wales, Australia.³⁹⁸

Cyril was born at the Clift residence, 16 Camden Hill Villas, in Norwood, Surrey County. A little less than 4 years later, the 1881 census³⁹⁹ enumeration of the family reveals they had moved to Beulah Hill and were living in a residence named Sylvan Cottage. Cyril is age 3 and his birth place is given as “Gipsy Hill,” Surrey. The parish of Christ Church, Gipsy Hill, was located almost opposite of Camden Hill Road and was opened in 1862, so the information given on the census was accurate. Camden Hill Villas had become Camden Hill by 1868, according to a history of Christ Church.⁴⁰⁰

Nothing is known about Cyril’s educational background except that the 1891 census⁴⁰¹ indicates that he is age 13 and a “Naval Student.” Ten years later, the 1901 census⁴⁰² lists his occupation as “Tailor,” and he is described as a worker, age 23. Both he and his older brother, Eric, are enumerated with their mother at 51 Sinclair Road in Norwood, Surrey. Interestingly, C. Clift (Cyril) is also on the “List of Officers and Crew on shore on the night of Sunday, March 31st, [1901] belonging to the vessel”—the vessel being the ship *Java*, home port of Glasgow, employed in foreign trade, docked in London. Cyril is 2nd Officer, single, age 23 at last birthday, born in London. This second enumeration⁴⁰³ definitely casts doubt on the accuracy of the occupation given for him on the enumeration taken at home. Perhaps the enumerator heard “tailor” instead of “sailor?”

³⁹⁶ England, birth certificate (certified copy) for Cyril William Clift, born 5 July 1877; previously cited.

³⁹⁷ New South Wales, Commonwealth of Australia, death certificate (certified, true copy) for Cyril William Clift, died 19 December 1903; previously cited.

³⁹⁸ *Ibid.*

³⁹⁹ “1881 England Census,” database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 23 September 1999), entry for Felicia V. Clift, Beulah Hill Sylvan Cot, County of Surrey; citing PRO RG11/0822, folio 11, p.15; Croydon registration and sub-registration districts, E. D. 55.

⁴⁰⁰ *Parish of Christ Church Gipsy Hill, Parish History*, “A History of Christ Church (1862-1967)” (<http://www.gipsyhill.org.uk> : accessed 23 September 1999).

⁴⁰¹ “1891 England Census,” database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 2 February 2012), entry for Felicia Clift, 34 Milson Rd., Hammersmith, County of London; previously cited.

⁴⁰² “1901 England Census,” database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 24 September 2002), entry for Felicia Clift, 51 Sinclair Rd., Hammersmith, County of London; citing PRO RG13/50, folio 7, p. 5; Fulham registration district, South Hammersmith sub-registration district, household schedule 24, E.D. 28.

⁴⁰³ “1901 England Census,” database, *Ancestry.com* (<http://content.ancestry.com> : accessed 2 May 2006) entry for C. Clift (Cyril), vessel *Java*, Royal Albert Docks, London; citing PRO RG13/586, folio 97; West Ham registration district, Canning Town sub-registration district, household schedule 1, vessel *Java*.

The nature of Cyril's naval career and his plans for the future are not known, because, unfortunately, he passed away on the 19th day of December 1903 in the far away port of Sydney, New South Wales, Australia. Cyril William Clift's death certificate⁴⁰⁴ indicates that he died at the Prince Alfred Hospital, Camperdown, and that he was "Second Officer" of the P & O Steamship Company, the vessel *SS Victoria* being docked at Circular Quay, Sydney. Cyril had been suffering from septic bronchopneumonia for 14 days and had been in New South Wales just four days. He was buried there in New South Wales in the Church of England Cemetery.

The Peninsular & Oriental Steam Navigation Company was founded in 1836, sailing from London to Spain, Portugal and the Mediterranean. In 1845 P & O services were extended to Singapore and the Far East and in 1852 a bi-monthly Singapore to Australia run was started. The *Victoria*, at 6,522 tons, was in service from 1887 to 1909, when it was scrapped in Genoa.⁴⁰⁵ Cyril was a bachelor and died intestate, necessitating the filing of an Affidavit⁴⁰⁶ in the High Court of Justice, by his mother, Felicia Victoria Clift, and his brother, Mr. F. Hollocoombe Clift, dated 21 March 1904, at Brighton in the County of Sussex. Letters of administration were granted to Felicia Victoria Clift—the value of the estate was only about £150.

⁴⁰⁴ New South Wales, Commonwealth of Australia, death certificate (certified, true copy) for Cyril William Clift, died 19 December 1903; previously cited.

⁴⁰⁵ *The ShipsList*, "The Fleets" (<http://www.theshipslist.com/ships/lines> : accessed 2 October 2001), entry for Peninsular & Oriental Steam Navigation Company/P&O Line.

⁴⁰⁶ Felicia Victoria Clift & Mr. F. Hollocoombe Clift, Affidavit filed 22 March 1904/Letters of Administration granted 28 March 1904; England, Public Records Office, High Court of Justice Probate, Divorce & Admiralty Division, Strand, County of Middlesex; reference J121/5516 77315; in the goods of Cyril William Clift. Photocopy of original document in possession of Maurine Clift Nuttall.

Children of Frederic Clift and Sarah Margaret (Moody) Foster Clift

Frederic Clift and his second wife, Sarah Margaret (Moody) Foster Clift, were the parents of two sons:

- i. Vyvyan Botreaux Clift, born 14 May 1898⁴⁰⁷ in St. George, Washington County, Utah; died 4 September 1943⁴⁰⁸ in Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California; and buried 8 September 1943⁴⁰⁹ in the Forest Lawn Cemetery, Glendale, Los Angeles, California. He married in Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah, 11 May 1922,⁴¹⁰ Ella Amanda Peterson, daughter of Hugo Daniel Edward Peterson and Axeline Manuella Nielson. Ella was born 9 September 1900⁴¹¹ in Salt Lake City, Utah; and died 28 May 1979⁴¹² in Burbank, Los Angeles, California.

Though born in southern Utah, Vyvyan B. Clift spent most of his growing up years in the more northern Utah communities of Provo, Salt Lake, and Kaysville. He graduated from Brigham Young High School in 1916; attended Brigham Young University for one year; then completed a business course at the Salt Lake Business College. He worked as a bookkeeper of a small Exide Battery firm; then as an inventory clerk at Armour and Company. While working he took higher accounting courses with the LaSalle Extension University and the American Extension University. Vyv was employed by Salt Lake Hardware for six years, becoming assistant office manager and general bookkeeper. He then became connected with the Maytag Intermountain Company in Salt Lake City as office manager and secretary-treasurer. At Maytag he had supervision and control of the general books and the auditing and collections of about fifty retail shops.

In 1931 Vyv was given the opportunity of relocating to Los Angeles, California with the Maytag West Coast Company, Maytag Distributor for California and nearby states. Vyv and his wife, Ella, and their two children lived in several different homes in the L.A. area before deciding to build their own at 4010 South Bronson. The children, Stan and Dolores, attended 42nd Street Grammar School, Audobon Junior High and Dorsey High School. The family made wonderful friends and had an active social life in the community and church.

Committed to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Vyv served as Bishop's Counselor in the Emigration Ward in Salt Lake City and after the move to California he was called to be a Counselor in the Bishopric of the Arlington [Los Angeles] Ward. On April 14, 1940, Vyvyan B. Clift succeeded Lyman H. Robison in the office of Bishop of

⁴⁰⁷ Utah State Department of Health, delayed birth certificate no. 3675 (1898), Vyvyan Bottreaux Clift; previously cited.

⁴⁰⁸ Bishop Vyvyan Clift funeral program, Los Angeles, California; citing public information and family records regarding the birth and death of V. B. Clift. A copy of the program is held by this author.

⁴⁰⁹ Ibid.

⁴¹⁰ "Society," *The Salt Lake [Utah] Tribune*, Friday Morning, May 12, 1922, p. 5, col. 3; digital image, *Newspaper Archive* (<http://newspaperarchive.com> : accessed 11 July 2011).

⁴¹¹ V. Stanley Clift, "Stan's Memories," typewritten manuscript, 1980, Trona, California; histories and memories included in family genealogical records of the family of Hugo Daniel Edward Peterson and Axeline Manuella (Nielson) Peterson.

⁴¹² Ibid.

the ward. The new Arlington Ward chapel was completed during his tenure. The advent of World War II impacted the Maytag Company negatively—the washing machines were not being manufactured for civilian consumption—so Vyv sought new employment and was hired by Plomb Tool Contracting Company as “Steel Procurement” man. He was 44 years old when he started work at Plomb, and was planning to return to Maytag once the War ended. He had only been at Plomb Tool for one year when he died suddenly, without warning, on 4 September 1943, while playing golf with Severin L. Sorensen, his 1st Counselor in the Arlington Ward Bishopric, and another friend, Richard S. Summerhays.

Funeral services for Vyvyan B. Clift were held in the Arlington Ward chapel on September 8th, with almost five hundred people in attendance; internment followed at Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Glendale, California. In the words of those who knew him best: “The death of V. B. Clift creates a keen sense of personal loss. His business ability was coupled with an unusual capacity for making friends, and to those friends he constantly brought helpful inspiration. The memory of his genial smile and cheery companionship will long remain with those who were associated with him.”⁴¹³

Vyvyan B. and Ella Amanda (Peterson) Clift were the parents of two children: (a) Vyvyan Stanley Clift, born 25 October 1923⁴¹⁴ in Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah, living, married first, in Salt Lake City, Utah, 17 June 1947,⁴¹⁵ Kathryn Kerr, and married secondly (after Kathryn’s death) in Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California, 20 June 1964,⁴¹⁶ Glenda (Cheney) Watson; and (b) Dolores Clift, born 10 June 1928⁴¹⁷ in Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California, living; and married in Salt Lake City, Salt Lake, Utah, 31 August 1948,⁴¹⁸ John Taylor LeSueur.

⁴¹³ *The Maytag News*, November, 1943, p. 13, obituary for V. B. Clift 1898-1943.

⁴¹⁴ V. Stanley Clift, “My Life Story,” typewritten manuscript (transcription by Maurine Clift Nuttall of oral interview), 1982, Trona, California; citing personal knowledge and genealogical details included in family records.

⁴¹⁵ Salt Lake County, Utah, marriage certificate (photographic image) no. 110874 (1947) for Vyvyan Stanley Clift and Kathryn Kerr.

⁴¹⁶ V. Stanley Clift, “My Life Story,” typewritten manuscript, 1982; previously cited.

⁴¹⁷ Ella Amanda Peterson Clift, “Life Story,” typewritten manuscript (transcription of oral interview by Dolores Clift LeSueur), January 1979, Burbank, Los Angeles County, California; citing personal knowledge and genealogical details included in family records.

⁴¹⁸ *Ibid.*

- ii. Clive Hollocombe Clift, born 31 October 1900⁴¹⁹ in St. George, Washington County, Utah; died 22 October 1982⁴²⁰ in St. George, Washington County, Utah; and buried 27 October 1982⁴²¹ in the Kaysville City Cemetery, Kaysville, Utah. Clive married (1) in Brigham City, Utah, 9 August 1924, Myrtle Gleneva Davis, daughter of Albert Frederick and Jennie May (Wilson) Davis.⁴²² Myrtle was born 31 October 1907⁴²³ in Colorado Springs, Colorado and died 15 August 1976⁴²⁴ in St. George, Washington, Utah. Clive married (2) in Oakland, Alameda County, California, 6 May 1977,⁴²⁵ Regelia Naegle, daughter of Enoch Nephi and Leonora Francesca (Taylor) Naegle. Regelia was born 3 February 1900⁴²⁶ in Toquerville, Washington, Utah, and died 16 January 1986⁴²⁷ in St. George, Washington, Utah.

Clive H. Clift attended Provo High School for two years and then completed a third year at Brigham Young High School. Like his brother, Vyv, he had a desire to gain a college education, but the pressures of the family's finances and the difficulties brought about by World War I excluded him from pursuing that course. Instead, Clive went to work for Burroughs Adding Machine Company as a very young man and received specialized training in the mechanical field of the firm's operations. Training took him from Salt Lake City, Utah, to Detroit, Michigan, and also Redwood City, California. He received promotions to Service Manager at the Pocatello, Idaho business location in 1920 and to the Ogden, Utah facility in 1924.

In 1928 Clive was sent to Boise, Idaho as Service Manager. He and his family lived in Boise for 19 years, after which he moved back to Salt Lake City in 1946. Six years later, the Burroughs Company transferred Clive once again to Spokane, Washington. He found his health much improved and the opportunities for advancement better there, but Clive and Myrtle came back to Salt Lake City in 1957. Clive worked for Burroughs until October of 1965 when he retired after a career spanning 48 years.

⁴¹⁹ Clive H. Clift, "Interview," typewritten transcription by Maurine Clift Nuttall; previously cited.

⁴²⁰ Utah State Historical Society, comp., *Utah Cemetery Inventory*, database online, *Ancestry.com* (<http://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin> : accessed 9 November 2004), entry for Clive Hollocombe Clift.

⁴²¹ *Ibid.*

⁴²² "C. H. Clift Autobiography," by Clive Hollocombe Clift, undated handwritten manuscript, previously cited.

⁴²³ The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints [LDS], "International Genealogical Index," database, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 8 February 2012), LDS Church membership record of a deceased person; citing FHL microfilm 884421-884424, Batch No. H002031.

⁴²⁴ *Ibid.*

⁴²⁵ The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints [LDS], "International Genealogical Index," database, *FamilySearch* (<http://www.familysearch.org> : accessed 8 February 2012), LDS Church membership record of a deceased person; citing FHL microfilm (no source film # given), Batch No. H002187. Entry for Clive Hallcomb Clift (sic).

⁴²⁶ *Utah State History – Burials Database*, database online, State of Utah (<http://history.utah.gov/burials> : accessed 8 February 2012), entry for Regelia Naegle Clift.

⁴²⁷ *Ibid.*

Clive and his wife enjoyed 11 years of retirement before Myrtle's passing. A year later, in 1977, Clive married a second time and he and Regelia made their home in St. George, Utah. Clive was a life-long and active member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He loved hunting, fishing, swimming, camping and outdoor life. He was, obviously, a skilled mechanic, and his hobby of sorts was remodeling the various homes he lived in. Clive also enjoyed reading and made sure that the Clift family's history and various genealogical treasures were preserved. He loved his family and rejoiced in the many accomplishments of his daughter, son-in-law, and four granddaughters.

Clive H. Clift passed away 22 October 1982, just nine days short of his 82nd birthday. Funeral services were held at the St. George East Stake Center on October 26th and he was buried the next day in Kaysville Cemetery, Kaysville, Utah, alongside of his first wife, Myrtle.

Clive Hollocombe and Myrtle Genevra (Davis) Clift were the parents of one child, Genevra Mae Clift, born 18 April 1926⁴²⁸ in Ogden, Davis County, Utah, living; married in Elko, Nevada, 14 December 1974,⁴²⁹ Kent Delbert White.

⁴²⁸ Wendy White, daughter of Genevra Mae Clift and Kent Delbert White, provided the genealogical details for her parents and their family; citing personal knowledge and family group records in her possession. Wendy White's address is 12019 South Fort Draper Ave. #70, Draper, UT 84020. Her phone # is (801) 816-0878.

⁴²⁹ Ibid.

Comments and Conclusion

As I stated in the beginning, the assembly of this four generation compiled lineage has been a very fulfilling and gratifying exercise for me. At last, all of the information about my Clift ancestors has been incorporated into one comprehensive report that I will enjoy sharing with my family. In addition, I have taken the opportunity to reorganize all of the documents and data by subject and generation, so that I can easily find and refer to specific items as the need may arise.

As evidenced even by a brief look at the table of contents, it is obvious that more information is available in each successive generation—thus, there is more to discuss and explain as my ancestors come closer in time to my generation. I have been able to uncover a great deal of information about the Clift family and various new discoveries have helped to add depth and understanding to their life stories. Yet, family history is never “done!” There are still mysteries to solve and facts to be revealed. The following is a summary of those things that remain to be explained.

First Generation

We know only the barest of details about John and Jane (White) Clift who resided in or near St. Martin-by-Looe, Cornwall, England. These two individuals are the end-of-line ancestors, so the next research goal should be to determine who their parents were and where they were born. Church of England parish chest records, if available, should be searched for any mention of them. It would also be my goal to confirm that the John Clift, age 83, buried at Talland in 1823, is indeed our ancestor. Likewise, if there was any way to prove without doubt that the Jane Clift buried at East Looe in 1820 is our ancestor, it would be good. The burial registers give only their names and approximate ages.

Second Generation

Unlike his parents, ample genealogical details identify John Clift, son of John and Jane (White) Clift. What remains to be confirmed is his involvement in the 1810 Falmouth Packet Mutiny. This research would have to be conducted in Cornwall using the records held by the National Maritime Museum which holds the records of the former Cornwall Maritime Museum. These records include objects, pictures, models and archives relating to the history of Cornwall and the sea, and Falmouth in particular. Another place to conduct the search for mention of John Clift, officer of HM Customs would be the Royal Cornwall Museum in Truro.

Additional research goals for John Clift’s family include finding the death date and place for John Clift, born 1800; the burial place for Elizabeth Clift, born 1810; and the death date and place and burial for James Clift, born 1817.

Third Generation

The history, activities and achievements of Richard Clift have been well documented. In connection with this project I obtained the books, *Essays in Cornish Mining History, Volumes 1 and 2*, by D. B. Barton. Volume 2 mentions Richard Clift. Barton took much of his information from the *Mining Journal*, but the *Journal's* archives are not indexed nor available online. If there is an opportunity in the future to visit England and access the old editions, it would be great to find information about Richard Clift. Apparently there was a footnote in an 1879 edition describing Richard Clift as a “rich man with a second wife and children.”

The lives of several of Richard Clift's children are also well documented, but further research is needed to determine the following details about these children:

- Burial location of Mary Jane Clift, died 1846.
- Death date, place and burial of John Clift, born 1836.
- Burial location of male infant Clift, died 1837.
- Death date, place and burial of James Clift, born 1841.
- Burial location of Emma Clift, died 1842 (This infant may have been buried with her mother at St. Day Holy Trinity parish churchyard.)

Fourth Generation

We have volumes of information about Frederic Clift, son of Richard Clift and Christian Bottrall (Hollocombe) Clift. The family is fortunate to have preserved many original documents and certificates which were passed from Frederic to his two sons, Vyvyan B. Clift and Clive H. Clift. We need to make sure, at this point, that every item documenting Frederic's life is saved in an archival, electronic format. Various members of the family hold originals and copies of Frederic's documents and certificates. It may not be possible to have a central location for all of the artifacts pertaining to his life, but at the least, a summary list should be made identifying where everything is. For instance, I hold in my possession all of Frederic's certificates of professional accomplishments. I also have his *Bible* and his collection of *World's Best Poetry* and *John L. Stoddard's Lecture Series books*.

There are one or two mysteries remaining to be solved regarding the life of Frederic Clift—we do not have a record of his divorce from Felicia Victoria Jones, though a search has been made in the state of Nevada's records. We know about the 1888 bankruptcy action brought against him in the British courts, but do not know how the case was settled. Further research might reveal answers. It would also be nice to know where Frederic's son, “Eric” Hollocombe Clift is buried—Eric died in Branksome Park, Poole, Dorsetshire. Frederic's son, Cyril William Clift, is buried in Rookwood, New South Wales, Australia. If it were possible, the family should determine if there is a monument or grave marker of some kind and if not, provide for one.

~ End of Report ~