

INTRODUCTION

PART 2 – THE ORR FAMILY

As is the case with William and Fanny Stemp, we have no way of knowing what prompted Lorna Orr's parents - commercial traveller George Knox Orr and his wife Mary Hannah George - to migrate to Australia in 1912. In England the family seemed to be constantly on the move and perhaps George was just a restless kind of man. In Australia, too, he moved from New South Wales to Victoria and died in Queensland.

Times were changing in the early 20th century as George and Mary were making their decision to emigrate. Some of the notable events at the time included:

- **21 November 21, 1911 - Suffragettes stormed Parliament in London.** All were arrested and all chose prison terms.
- **1911 December - A National Insurance Act** provided cover against sickness and unemployment. Chancellor of the Exchequer David Lloyd George devised a contributory scheme of health insurance for those in employment, which provided payment for medical treatment. Grafted on to the act was a limited plan for unemployment benefit drawn up by Winston Churchill. A minimum wage was introduced. With this legislation, the Liberals laid the foundations of the Welfare State.
- **1911 - The first Michelin guide** to the British Isles was published to help travelers and included information on how to change a tire.
- **26 February 1912 - Coal miners went on strike.**
- **11 April 1912 - Ireland.** Reflecting their dependence on Irish Nationalist votes in the House of Commons, for the third time the Liberals proposed 'Home Rule' for Ireland. In response, Ulster Protestants and unionists formed the Ulster Volunteer Force, a paramilitary force which threatened the government with civil war if the measure was carried.
- **13 April 1912 Royal Flying Corps** was established and reflected British recognition of the growing importance of military aviation.
- **15 April 1912 – the White Star liner *Titanic*,** the largest vessel in the world at the time of her launch, sank with the loss of 1,503 lives
- **29 March 1912 - Captain Robert F. Scott,** British pole explorer, storm-bound in a tent near South Pole, made a last entry in his diary: "the end cannot be far."
- **1912 - The British Royal Navy E-class submarine** entered service.
- **1912 - Britain and France signed a naval treaty** to fend off the threat of the German navy

There is still much more to be learned about the ancestors of Lorna Marion Orr Costello Stemp and I hope that at some future time, one of her descendants will continue the research into the various branches of her family.

CHAPTER 19

LORNA MARION ORR (1916-1999)

Lorna Marion Orr was the daughter of George Knox Orr of Glasgow and Mary Hannah George of Radcliffe in Greater Manchester. Her parents emigrated to Australia in 1912 and she was their third daughter, born at *Granville*, Riverside Crescent Dulwich Hill, a Sydney suburb, on 11 July 1916.

Sands post office directories show listings for George K Orr at several addresses: at Riverside Crescent Dulwich Hill between Wardell Road and Beauchamp Street in 1915, and later at various addresses in North Sydney between 1920 and 1925 including at 45 Glen Street North Sydney in 1920, 53 Glen Street in 1922, and at 115 Carabella Street (east side) North Sydney in 1925. Interestingly, the latter is listed in the name of Mrs George K Orr.



Lorna, (L) with sister Grace (R)

At the age of 18, on 5 May 1934 at Clovelly, Lorna Orr, then living at Coogee, married Cedric Raymond (known as Sid) Costello of Woollahra. Sid was aged 20 and employed as a cleaner and presser for the dry cleaner at the Hotel Australia in Sydney. He had been born at Narrabri NSW, the son of Michael Stephen Costello and Rosemary Lloyd. A daughter Margaret Grace was born to Lorna and Sid on 13 December 1934. According to the electoral roll, Sid was living at 13 Spicer Street Paddington in 1936. Lorna was not recorded as she would still not have attained the age of 21, the then voting age.

By June 1937 the couple were living apart, Sid at 28 Campbell Street Paddington and Lorna and Margaret with her mother Mary at her residential at 36 Kings Cross Road Kings Cross, cleaning in return for board and lodging. Lorna petitioned for divorce on the grounds of desertion by non-compliance with a restitution order in May 1938 and the decree became absolute on 29 December of that year. Lorna's barrister was Miss C. Jollie. The court records contain a letter from Sid to Lorna saying that he believed that if he returned to her they would both be unhappy and he was in love with someone else. He expressed his regret and willingly agreed to pay maintenance to his wife and daughter. However, he then lost

his job and wrote to the court stating that he would bring alimony up to date when he could, but nothing further is known of this.

Lorna married for the second time on 4 June 1942, to Walter Matthew Stemp, he being divorced from Gladys M. Marriott with whom he had two children, Barry and Norma. Walter and Lorna had two children, Walter Neil born 20 May 1943 and Jennifer Mary born 6 May 1947. Lorna died on 3 September 1999 aged 83 at Chesalon Nursing Home Sydney.



Walter Matthew, Lorna and Walter Neil Stemp



Lorna and Margaret

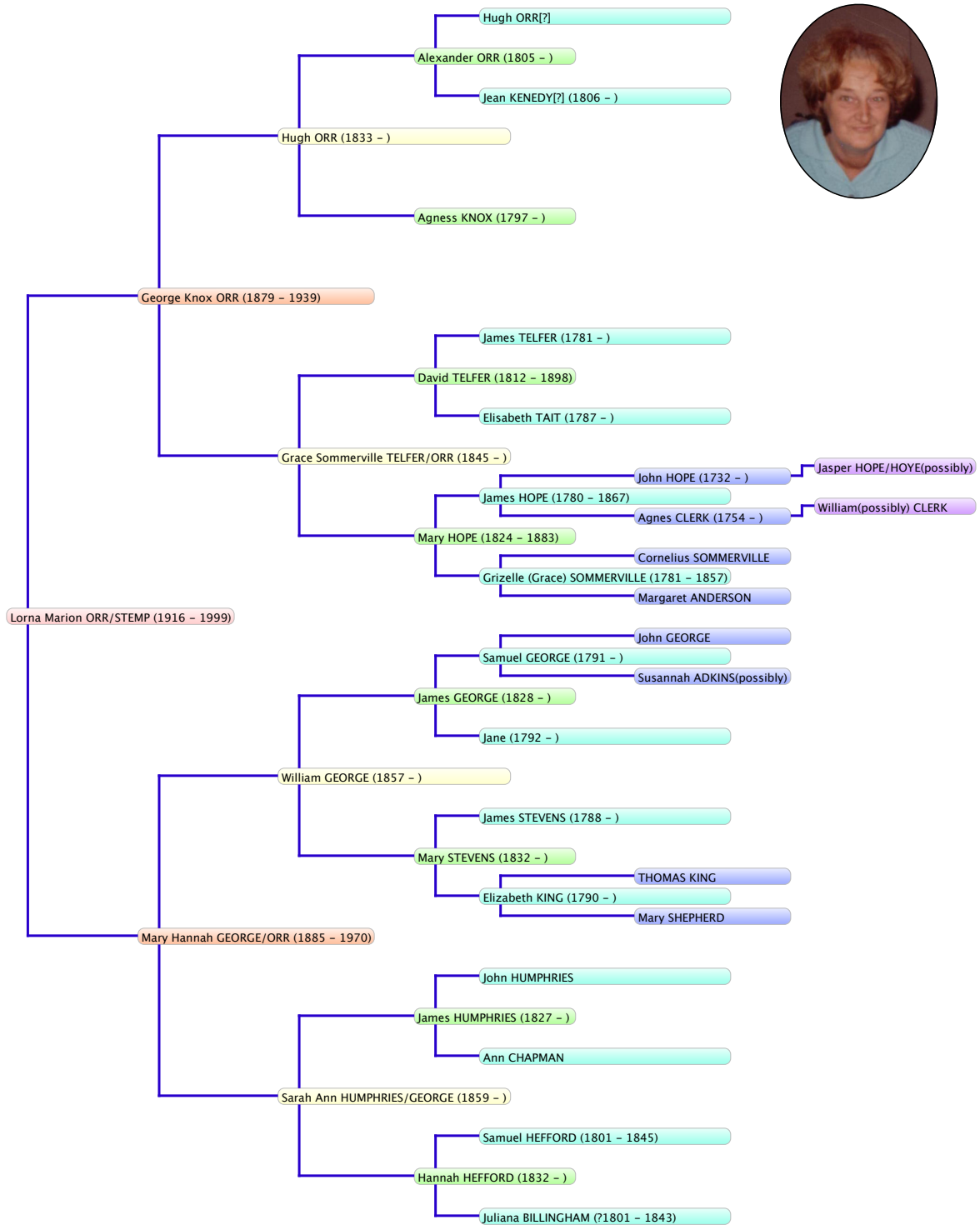


Wal and Jennifer



Mary Harding (Great-Grandmother), Lorna and Walter with granddaughters Sandy (L) and Donna (R)

FAMILY TREE OF LORNA MARION ORR



CHAPTER 20

GEORGE KNOX ORR (1879-1939) & MARY HANNAH GEORGE (1886-1970)

George Knox Orr and Mary Hannah George were the parents of Lorna Marion Orr. Mary was the daughter of William George and Sarah Ann Humphries.



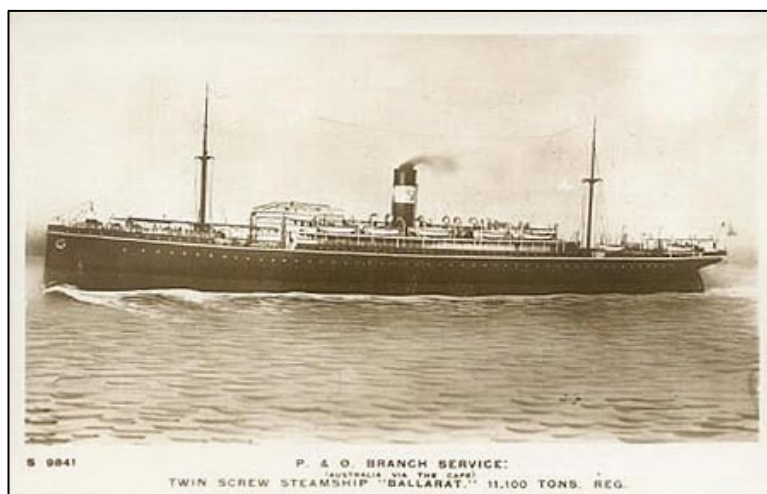
George Knox Orr, pictured left, was born at 5.15 am (Scottish birth certificates are very precise) on 31 March 1879 at 128 Woodlands Road Glasgow. His parents were Hugh Orr, bank agent, and Grace Sommerville Telfer and Sarah's were James Humphries and Hannah Hefford.

George was a Commercial Traveller and he and Mary married on 2 June 1909 at the Registry Office in the District of Chorlton Manchester/Lancaster. He was certainly a traveller in the general sense, living in many locations during his life. At the time of their marriage, George's address was 18 Norseman Street Ardwick and Mary's was 7 Moreton Street Birmingham and it is interesting to wonder how they originally met.



Their first child was Thelma, born in September 1910, at 9 First Avenue Selly Park, Birmingham. In the 1911 census, taken on 2 April, Mary is living at that address with Thelma, aged 7 months, and her sister Ivy George, aged 12. Presumably husband George was away from home on that date. I have been unable to locate him that year. Thelma died in 1911 at Kings Norton, Worcestershire. The couple's next child was Grace Claire, pictured left with her mother, born at 127 Wright Road Birmingham on 29 June 1912.

The Orr family emigrated to Australia, leaving London on 7 September 1912 on the *Ballarat*, and arriving in Sydney on 26 October. The *Ballarat* was put into service for the P & O Branch Line as an emigrant ship in November 1911 on a route from London to Adelaide via Cape Town. She was built by Caird at Glasgow, 11,120 tons gross, 515 feet in length with a capacity for 350 third-class passengers and 750 more if berths were put in the holds. In 1914 she was taken over by the Australian Government as a troopship.



I have been unable to locate Mary Hannah in the 1901 census and nothing is known of her whereabouts until her marriage in 1909 when she was living at 7 Moreton Street Birmingham. Possibly she was working in a live-in situation as she was no longer with her family, who had moved to 128 Princess Street Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire. Since the previous census, several more children had been born: Edith, 9, William J, 6, Walter George, 4, and Ivy, 2 and William senior was now a brewer's labourer. William and Sarah Ann George were still at the Princess Street address in 1911. I have been unable to locate death dates for either of them.



In Australia, it appears that Mary and William Orr had been living separate lives for some years and in 1937, Mary was conducting a residential boarding house at 36 Kings Cross Road Kings Cross. Following William's death, she remarried at age 55 to widower Charles Assiader Harding, a surveyor of 3 Eastview Street Wollstonecraft, on 20 February 1940. She died on 19 October 1970 aged 85 years in Fernleigh Convalescent Home West Ryde. Her last address was 2 Warwick Street North Ryde.

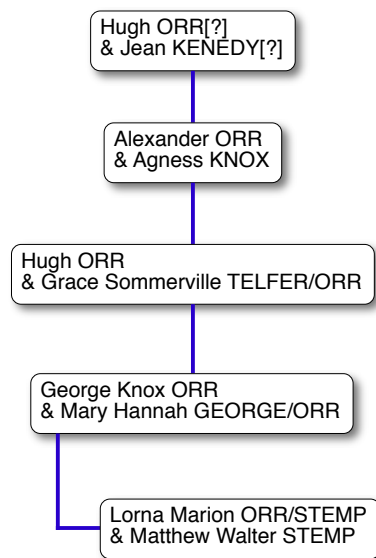
Grace Orr married Albert Vincent Harding in about 1953 and died on 19 January 1973, aged 60 at Ryde District Soldiers Memorial Hospital Eastwood. The couple had no children.

CHAPTER 23

HUGH ORR (1831-?) & GRACE SOMMERVILLE TELFER (1845-?)

Hugh Orr, father of George Knox Orr was born on 11 February 1833 at Kilbirnie Ayrshire Scotland and baptised on 24 February. His parents were Alexander Orr, born on 18 May 1805, baptized 26 May, and Agness Knox, born about 1797 in Kilbirnie. They were married in Kilbirnie on 30 July 1827. Alexander's parents were Hugh Orr and Jean Kenedy. Agness' parents are not known.

In the 1841 census Hugh aged 8, his parents and sister Agness aged 12 were living in Newton Street Kilbirnie. Alexander is a grocer.



In the 1851 census Alexander, now a tea, wine and spirit merchant and wife Agness, are living at 20 Newton Street Kilbirnie with daughter Agness Muir and their granddaughter aged 8, also named Agness. and were still at that address in 1861, with daughter Agness, now married Son Hugh had moved to Glasgow by 1851 and now aged 18, a writer's clerk, is lodging at 48 Portland Street Glasgow in the parish of St Pauls. I was unable to locate him in the 1861 census but his father Hugh, now a grocer and inspector of poor, mother and sister (now Agness Muir) were still living in Newtown Street together with a granddaughter, also Agness.



20 Newton Street Kilbirnie as appears in current Google Map

On 7 January 1870, at his fiancée's home, 6 Charing Cross Glasgow after banns, Hugh Orr, 36, of 10 Millers Bank Crescent Glasgow, Bank Agent, married Grace Sommerville Telfer. His mother Agness was deceased by that time.

In Glasgow, Hugh and Grace raised a large family. In the year after their marriage the couple is living at 10 Willowbank Crescent Barony Parish, Glasgow and ten years later, can be found living at Neil Cottage, Cessnock Road at Govan Church in Glasgow with children Alex, Robert, George K, Grace T and Jeannie Mack, presumably a lodger or servant. From the census details in 1881, the family had grown and it appears that they lived comfortably:

1881 Holyrood Quad, Parish of Barony, Glasgow

Hugh, 58, Bank Agent

Grace S, wife 46

Alexander, unmarried son, 19 Bank Apprentice

Agnes K, daughter 17

Hugh, 15, Insurance Apprentice

Robert W K, 14, Scholar

George K, 12, Scholar

Grace G, 10, Scholar

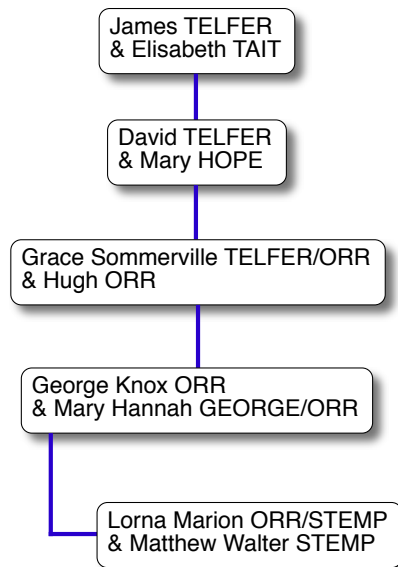
William M, 5

David I/T, 2

Margaret Lumsden, General Servant 23

CHAPTER 24 DAVID TELFER (1812-1898) & MARY HOPE (C.1823-1883)

David Telfer was a grain merchant, born 23 March 1812 in Bridgend, parish of Wiston and Robertson, Lanarkshire. His parents were James Telfer, a tailor, born Robertson 1781 and Elisabeth Tait, born Lanark 27 May 1787 who married on 13 February 1807 in Wiston and Robertson.



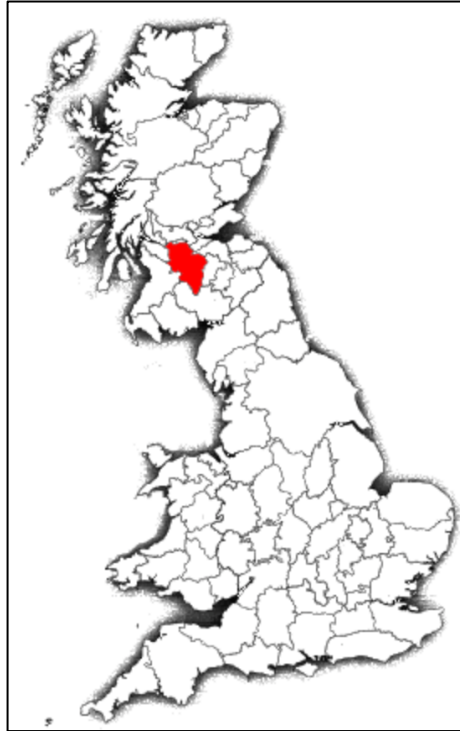
On 20 November 1843 at Lanark David married Mary Hope, born about 1823 in West Calder, Midlothian, died in 1883. They were the parents of George Orr's wife Grace Sommerville Telfer, and she was the eldest of their 13 children. Lanark is a small town in the central belt of Scotland.

Mary's parents were James Hope, born 5 October 1780 in Selkirk, and Grizelle (Grace) Sommerville who was born on 22 June 1781 at Carnwarth, Lanarkshire. Grizelle's parents were Cornelious Sommerville and Margaret Anderson.

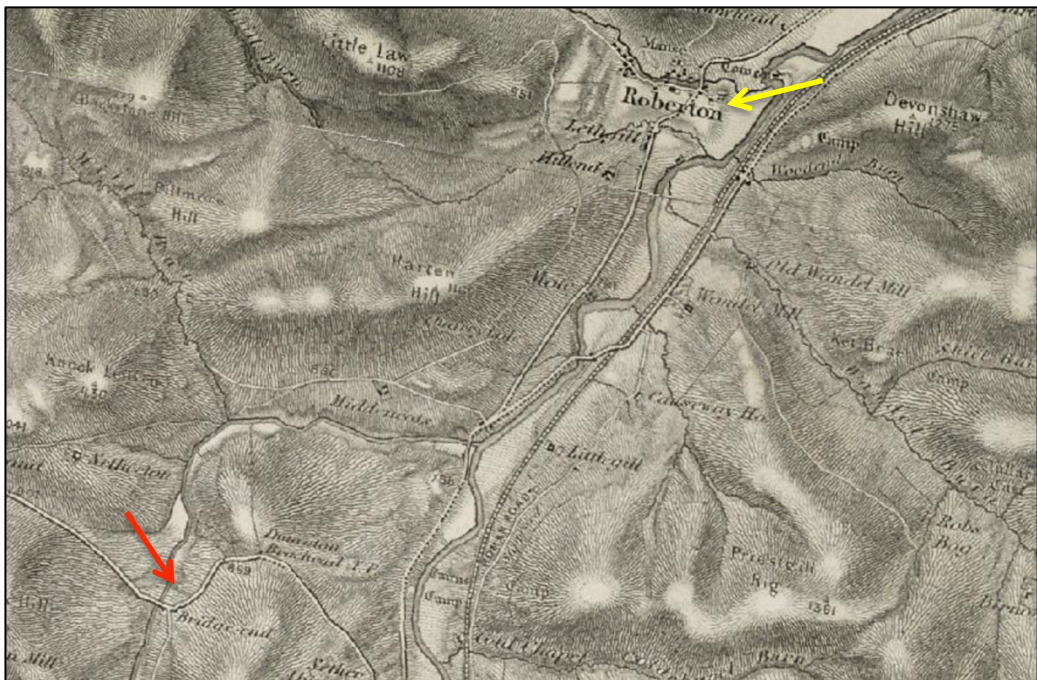


Roberton is described in Frances Groome's Ordnance Gazetteer of Scotland as:

A village and an ancient parish in the Upper Ward of Lanarkshire, standing near the left bank of the river Clyde, 3 miles SSE of Lamington station has a U.P. church, rebuilt in 1873. The ancient parish, lying around the village, was united to Wiston in 1772.

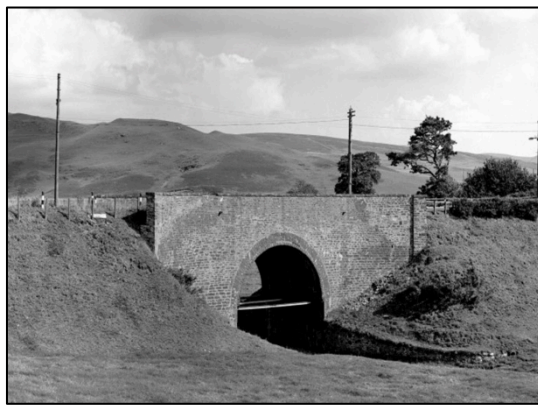


Lanarkshire shown in red



Bridgend indicated by the red arrow, Roberton by yellow.

David Telfer as a grain merchant and would no doubt have been very familiar with the Roberton grain mill and the toll bridge at the east end of the village as shown below.



David Telfer's parents were James Telfer, a tailor, born 1781 in Roberton, and Elisabeth Tait, born 27 May 1787 in Lanark and it is believed that Elisabeth's parents were Peter Tait and Isobel Mcfarlane who married in Glasgow on 15 May 1785.

By 1841, David had moved to Glasgow and is living in Sauchiehall Street St Stephens parish with Elizabeth Telfer, presumably his sister, and two years later, on 20 November 1843 in Lanark he married Mary Hope, a servant who was living in the household of William Meikle in Coothangbead. She had been born in West Calder in Midlothian County.

The children of David Telfer and Mary Hope were:

Grace Sommerville, born 21 February 1845, who married George Knox Orr

Eliza Tait, born 18 September 1846

James Hope, born 9 April 1848 (must have died b wa 1855 but unable to locate record)

David, born 17 March 1850

William Hope, born 11 June 1851

John Hope, born c.1853

Mary Hope, born 3 January 1853

James Hope, born 4 January 1855

Jessie Robertson, born 29 October 1856

Emma Stone, born 25 September 1858

Isabella Watson, born 7 December 1860

Alice, born c.1863

Edith, born c.1865

Beatrice, born c.1867

In the 1851 census the Telfer family of David, Mary, three children **Grace**, Eliza, James and David as well as Elizabeth Telfer, 28, visitor, Farmer's Daughter born Roberton and Mary Sommerville, 18, House Servant, born West Calder Eliza born Glasgow was living at 12 Rose Street Glasgow. David was a Grain Provision Merchant, 37, born Lanark Roberton, Mary born Midlothian, West Calder, Grace born Lanark, Glasgow.

In the 1861 and 1871 censuses the family was living at Sauchiehall Street 6 Charing Cross. Charing Cross today is a major road junction in the Scottish city of Glasgow. It is situated north of the River Clyde at the intersection of Sauchiehall Street, St George's Road, Woodlands Road, North Street and Newton Street, as well

as being at a major interchange of the M8 motorway.



Thomas Annan was commissioned by the City of Glasgow to photograph old streets and closes before they were demolished as part of the Improvements Act of 1866. The picture below shows a large crowd of people gathered in Saltmarket in 1866.



CHAPTER 25

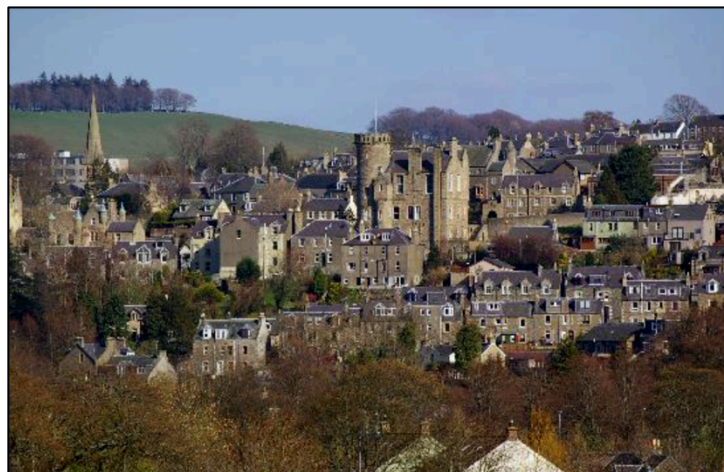
JOHN HOPE (c. 1732-?) AND AGNES CLERK (c. 1754-?)

John Hope, born in 1732 and possibly the son of Joseph Hope or Hoye, and Agnes Clerk, were the parents of James Hope and they married at Selkirk on 25 November 1769. The marriage certificate states that John was a servant to Mr Murray of Philiphaugh. This was John Murray M.P. (1726-1800), the 18th of his line, and head of a celebrated Border family, owning great estates in Ettrick and Yarrow. Through his mother he was related to the Dukes of Hamilton and Douglas, and the Earls of Selkirk, Dundonald, and March, and on his father's side to the leading freeholders of Selkirkshire. Although by the death of his brother in 1747 John Murray became his father's heir, he did not abandon his career at the Scottish bar.

Agnes Clerk was from the parish of Wilton according to her marriage certificate. The name William Hope *in Bole for the bridegroom* [I have been unable to discover what that phrase means] appears after her name and possibly this is James' father. It would seem she was born in Lilliesleaf Roxburgh in about 1754 and baptized there on 13 January. Wilton parish is to the south of Lilliesleaf so this appears feasible. Selkirk parish is to the west.



Selkirk Church



Selkirk, from Philliphaugh

CONCLUSION

It is quite clear that there are many gaps in the information currently available for the ancestors of Walter Stemp and Lorna Orr, and entries for some have been dubbed "possibly", but the pace of change in the genealogical world is phenomenal and there is no doubt that much more will be discoverable in the future.

Almost weekly, new indexes and records go online, especially on the sites of the big players Ancestry and FindMyPast. They include all kinds of indexes compiled over many years acquired from local family history and historical societies as well as a great variety of government and official records.

Digitisation of worldwide newspapers and major public library holdings, and most importantly, vast quantities of records held in Utah by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints is proceeding apace.

DNA is increasingly becoming an element of genealogical research and is proving useful for verifying lineage.

But the purpose of this book has been to record for the present generation as much as possible of what is known to date and hopefully the information can be built on in future years.

There has been much debate in the genealogy and family history world about how to ensure preservation of one's research for posterity. A daunting factor is that computer systems and genealogy programs are changing all the time and the family trees and accompanying stories residing in the computers of today's researchers will without doubt be unreadable even in a relatively short time. One only has to think back to 5¼ floppy disks of not so long ago, and CD for storage is in decline.

I have come to the conclusion that it is essential to have a paper record of all my years of enjoyable research to pass on to future generations and so for the Stemps and the Orrs, this it it!

Patricia Fearnley, September 2015