

Some Notes clarifying information in the Nelson Scrapbooks and William Nelson of Tomoana.

William Nelson of Tomoana recorded in his diary on 1st January 1860 that he had been to tea at Katesgrove with Mont (his brother Edward Montague Nelson) who went to work at ‘Buckersbury’ on the 2nd. A newspaper entry found on the Internet has enabled the location of Katesgrove to be identified, viz. *East Suffolk Gazette and Beccles and Bungay Weekly News* 19 January 1869, page 5, column 5:

MARRIAGES

PHILBRICK --- WELCH. On the 7th January, at St Mary’s Parish Church, Reading, by the Rev. G. I. TUBBS, assisted by the Rev. G. Gordon SMYTH, George, fourth son of the late Mr John PILBRICK [sic], of Katesgrove, Reading, to Catherine Louisa, eldest daughter of Mr Alfred WELCH, of Great Yarmouth.

Two years later, George and Catherine appear on the 1871 Census with several relatives:

St Giles Parish		Reading	Church Ward			Reading	
Sch.	House	Name	Rel.	Cond	Age		Birthplace
252	Katesgrove House	George Philbrick	Head	Mar	29	Tanner’s and Brickmaker’s employing 43 hands	Berks, Reading
		Catherine L. –do-	Wife	Mar	26		Norfolk, Norwich
		George H. –do-	Son		1		Berks, Reading
		Charles –do-	Brother	Unm	31	Tanner and Brickmaker	–do-
		Elizabeth –do-	Sister	–do-	22		–do-
		Thomas –do-	Brother	Mar	27	H.M.S. Indian Marine	–do-
		Isabel –do-	Sis. in Law	Mar	21		India, Lahore
		Mary A. Bealey	Servant	Unm	24	Cook Domestic Servant	Wilts, Calne
		Alice Aldridge	Servant	–do-	22	Nurse Domestic Servant	Berks, Newbury
		Mary J. Hampshire	Servant	–do-	16	Housemaid Domestic Servant	Wilts, Cherton

John Philbrick, who died in the first quarter of 1865, (the deceased father of George and hence also of Charles, Elizabeth, and Thomas) is referred to as an ‘uncle’ which suggests he was Sarah Philbrick’s brother. We also know from her will that in 1851 she also had a brother Charles, which seems to have been a popular name in the Philbrick family.

Katesgrove House is now in central Reading but its position alongside the river indicates why it would have been an attractive place for the tannery business. There was a canal system that would enable goods to be transported from Reading to Warwick which incidentally would also pass the Stockton Cement Works.

Buckersbury was in fact Bucklersbury in London where G. Nelson & Co. had an office – there is an original invoice from the company inside a surviving account book in the Warwickshire County Records Office headed *Bought of G. Nelson & Co., Emscote Mills & 14 Bucklersbury, London.*

The same account book has entries for Mrs. Scruby at Moor End – this has been identified as the farm of William Scruby at Moor End Farm, Broxted, Essex – and E. S. Philbrick at Dunmow. He was Edward Swinborne Philbrick, tanner/currier of Great Dunmow another of Sarah’s relatives. The Swinborne

