

**LORD HERBERT AUSTIN –
AN INVENTOR, AUTOMOTIVE
PIONEER AND MANUFACTURER**

*by Zeta Austin Lambert, R. J. Wyatt
and Patricia Biebuyck Austin*

Editor's Note: The following is based largely on the book *Lord Austin The Man*, by Z. E. Lambert and R. J. Wyatt, published by Sidgwick & Jackson, London 1968. Editing was done and additional information included through the efforts of Patricia Biebuyck Austin.

Herbert Austin was born on 8 November 1866 at Grange Farm, Deep Mill Lane, Little Missenden, Buckinghamshire, England, the second son of Giles Stephen Austin and Clara Jane (Simpson) Austin. Herbert remembered his father as "a competent, sensible, and robust farmer who smoked a clay pipe and who often played the organ at the parish church." Giles Austin was a Yorkshire farmer, but like many others in the mid-1800s, his farm was not particularly successful. A long period of depression in agriculture, often aggravated by the Corn Laws, ruined the small farmers. Their interests were not protected by a Farmer's Union or government subsidies or price fixing agreements, and banks were reluctant to provide financial support. After years of hardship, many farmers were often forced to either sell their leases or give up their freeholds as they could not pay rents or taxes. It was not uncommon for the son of a freeholder to become an agricultural laborer on the very lands that his parents had owned. Giles Austin was fortunate that his brother happened to be the estate architect to Earl Fitzwilliam, and it was probably due to his intervention that Giles was appointed farm bailiff on the Wentworth Estate in Yorkshire. Herbert was a young child when the family moved to their new home at Wentworth. Giles and Clara had six children:

- G1. ERNEST, *circa 1882 he tripped over a bucket of water left by a young maid in a dark corner of the back stairway. He fell down the stairs, fractured his leg which became gangrenous, and he died within a few weeks.*
- G2. HERBERT, *b. 8 November 1866*
- G3. WALTER
- G4. JACK
- G5. HARRY, *died circa 1960-61*
- G6. ALBRED WENTWORTH

The birth dates for Walter, Jack and Harry are unknown, but "they followed in quick succession." Herbert Austin recalled his early days at Wentworth as pleasant and comfortable. "There was always enough to eat, but little left over for luxuries." Herbert attended the local village school, and later his father

AOA Photo 858

Herbert Austin as a young man.

managed to send him to Rotherham Grammar School. At the early age of six he exhibited a talent for freehand drawing, which he called 'scrawling.' Herbert was most fascinated by geometrical and perspective sketching, and developed a keen eye for sizes and proportions. These capabilities enabled him to express his innovative ideas through sketches throughout his life. Herbert completed his formal education at Brampton Commercial College, where he remained for two years. Given Herbert's drawing abilities, his parents believed he would make a good architect, and his uncle, an architect himself, agreed to take Herbert on as an apprentice. Herbert tried it for a while, but architecture had little appeal for him. While awaiting a possible apprenticeship with the Great Northern Railways shops, he improved his freehand drawing skills and won prizes for his life-size crayon enlargements of photographs.

Experience and Love in Australia

In 1883 Herbert's uncle Walter Simpson from Australia visited the family at Wentworth for a number of weeks. He was an engineer and Herbert was fascinated with his uncle's tales of Australia, and found himself "with a great yearning to go out and try my luck in this land of wonderful promise." His parents approved, so Herbert joined uncle Walter on his two-month return voyage via the Cape of Good Hope aboard the ship *Austral*. It was 110° in the shade when they arrived in Melbourne. They saw the Melbourne Cup race that same day, but Herbert felt horses were useless; one end bit, the other kicked, and the middle needed to be fed. For transportation he considered horses uneconomical and outdated. The next morning Herbert Austin began working with his Uncle Walter, who was works manager for Mephan Ferguson, a general engineering firm. Their 'works' at

that time consisted of a corrugated iron shed with a floor of ashes and sand, there was a foundry and a forge and equipment consisted of lathes and drilling machines. Herbert began at the bottom, learning all aspects of the mechanics craft, and at seventeen he helped to design and build a successful toggle press for making joints in transmission belts. One day he sliced through the tip of his right hand index finger in a lathe face-plate. It healed completely, but the tip was deformed permanently. It was about this time he applied for his first patent for a locking plate for railway fishplate bolts.

In 1885 he left Ferguson to break away from his uncle's influence, and to gain more experience in higher quality engineering. He joined the Cowan firm, agents for printing presses and Crossley engines. He helped to set up a gasoline engine at the Melbourne Agricultural Show, one of the first occasions that a non-paraffin-powered engine had been demonstrated in Australia. Next Herbert went to the Longlands Foundry Company in Melbourne, which made locomotive boilers and wheels. There he received training as a mechanic, and in his spare time he attended the Hotham Art School to improve his drawing skills.

About this same time Herbert Austin met and fell in love with an Australian girl, Helen Dron, the seventh daughter of Scottish parents who had left Scotland and settled in Melbourne early in their married life. This attractive girl, with her fair hair and blue eyes, was not only witty and vivacious, but also had an active mind and the ability to think for herself. The young couple talked for hours about his dreams and ambitions, and even in those formative days, Helen believed in this determined Englishman, in spite of the fact that her sisters thought him 'nice but a little mad.' Whenever they were alone in the parlor, Helen's parents insisted that she knit or crochet, producing sufficient results to account for the time spent with her young man. Helen would bribe her sisters to do the work to show to her mother, and she did the same for them!

Herbert and Helen were married on 26 December 1887, they could not afford a honeymoon. Three days before the wedding, Herbert gave up his job at Longlands, and started a new job as manager of an engineering workshop owned by Richard Parks. They were developing a new sheep-shearing machine for inventor Frederick York Wolseley, brother of the famous Field-Marshal Viscount Wolseley, who had been in Australia since the 1860s. The new shearing machines proved unreliable, and their customers reverted to the slower but more reliable hand tools. Herbert loved to tackle tough problems. He worked day and night to improve the crude and primitive driving mechanism, and his enthusiasm and abilities so impressed Wolseley that after three months he asked Austin to join his company as its engineer. He

went to a large shearing station to study their machines in the hands of operators. Conditions were primitive, he worked in a 120° shearing shed living on mutton and tea. The table legs stood in cans of water to prevent ants crawling up them and reaching their food. He returned to Melbourne with many ideas for improvements, some of which he patented before the company moved to Sydney, where the Austins spent their eleventh and last year in Australia. On 10 March 1893 he transferred all his patent rights to the Wolseley Sheep-Shearing Machine Company Limited in exchange for eighty £5 shares in the British company. The company had been experiencing manufacturing problems, and that summer offered him a management position in England which Herbert accepted. Helen was thrilled at the idea, for she had always wanted to travel and to visit England. She thought they would only be away for a few years. Had she known they were leaving Australia for good, it is doubtful her enthusiasm would have been so great. Much later, in 1929, Herbert in retrospect observed of his time spent in Australia:

"It was during my work in the Australian Bush that my life's greatest ambition found birth. It was then that I discovered the urgency of the transport need, for I was able to observe the difficulties and dangers under which the outback settler was compelled to live and labour... It was in these same isolated places, and greatly affected by such circumstances, that I made a kind of compact with myself that I would one day, by some means or other, build motor cars that could be used by these lonely but lovable people of the bush, and by such means as I could provide the "Never-never" would be robbed of much of its inhumanity, cruelty and terror."

Return to England

Given short notice by Wolseley, they left Sydney in a great hurry, selling their home at a loss. Herbert later noted that financially, they were 'sailing very close to the wind.' Their daughter Irene Austin, born in 1891, was in the throes of whooping cough, and Helen was ill with stomach trouble. Helen knitted socks during the long voyage, but when she reached the heel, discovered that she had mislaid the pattern. Herbert, never even having touched a knitting needle, took over the work and turned the heel successfully by working it out mathematically. Other ladies asked if he would do the same for them! The last day of the voyage Herbert spent his last ten pounds to buy a pair of binoculars from a frail and obviously needy old man, leaving but a few shillings in his pocket. Helen was furious. He replied 'But Kiddie, the old man needed the money.' Herbert had seen someone in need and just could not refuse to help. They landed at Tilbury on a gray day in November 1893, mother and daughter still sick, and Herbert just having celebrated his 27th birthday. They were all feeling rather depressed, and wondering whether the upheaval was going to be justified.

Specifications Problem

Herbert Austin found the Wolseley operation beset with difficulties, as hundreds of faulty components were being shipped back from all over the world. Wolseley only assembled parts supplied by other firms in the Midlands. He discovered that Wolseley had failed to provide their suppliers with precise detailed specifications, requirements and standards. One of his first tasks was to set up a separate workshop to examine new components as they arrived, and to repair faulty parts that had been returned. Then, still faced with poor quality parts, Herbert felt the company should manufacture its own parts, but this would require larger premises. The Board of Directors would not consider a costly move, so without getting their consent, Herbert impulsively bid £5000 for a factory on Alma Street, Aston. He was prepared to borrow money and buy the factory himself if the Board would not consent. Eventually they did, and Wolseley moved to the Sydney Works at Aston. About this time the family moved into a new house, Berwood Grove, Erdington, and their only son Vernon Austin was born circa 1895.

It was not long before Herbert realized it was difficult to utilize a factory efficiently producing machinery for which there was a seasonal demand. He obtained some orders for machine tools from a cotton machinery maker and produced bicycle parts for Birmingham and Coventry cycle manufacturers. Herbert regarded cycling as an excellent form of exercise, and joined a local club to take part in weekend runs and rallies. Helen objected to being left alone so often on weekends to look after the housework and children. One Saturday morning, feeling particularly annoyed at the prospect of being by herself, she crept into the garage while Herbert was finishing his breakfast, and spiked both of his bicycle tires with a hatpin. This kept him at home all day mending punctures!

First Horseless Carriages

During 1894 Herbert and H. H. Mulliner visited Paris to investigate the possibilities of using pneumatic tires on horse-drawn carriages. They may have seen the famous Paris-Rouen trial held on 22 July that year, or might have examined some of the crude petrol cars which competed. It seems fairly certain that this was the first time Herbert Austin saw a 'horseless carriage.' He attended the Paris International Exhibition in 1895 and examined the crude internal combustion engine vehicles that were in existence at that time. He built his first experimental car that same year, and wished to produce motor cars. However, the Wolseley Directors were against making vehicles at a time when they were virtually illegal to use

AOA Photo 860

Earliest surviving photograph of the Wolseley Autocar

upon the roads, and it was not until May 1896 that the Directors voted him £2000 to manufacture cars. Austin's work was done more or less in secret, but there is evidence that he incorporated ideas developed by Léon Bollée, a Frenchman who had designed a horizontal petrol motor for a tricycle, and who also held a December 1895 patent on a three-gear shifting mechanism for powered cycles.

The 'Wolseley Autocar Number 1' was first shown at the National Cycle Exhibition in December 1896 at the Crystal Palace. The company's first catalog in late 1896 or early 1897 stated 'Everyone was pleased with it, and our only regret was not being able to show it in motion. We intend, however, to take the first opportunity to give intending purchasers a free trial on the road.' Herbert's pleasure in producing a moderately successful vehicle was tempered considerably when his wife Helen was taken desperately ill with tuberculosis, and part of a diseased bone in her jaw had to be removed, a very serious operation in those days. The doctor despaired of being able to save her life, but she had the will to live and recovered after a nine-month illness. About this time Herbert's youngest brother, Harry Austin, joined him as an employee at Wolseley's. They were to work together for the next forty-five years. They often would disagree, particularly in the early days, but were intensely fond of one another, and never got in each other's way.

Motor car production expanded gradually over the next few years, but funds were tight, and Wolseley Directors were neither able nor willing to finance the production of cars on the large scale Austin considered necessary for development. He tried to obtain financial backing from other sources. Letters written to potential backers reveal his strong sense of being taken for granted by Wolseley. His contract with the Sheep-Shearing Company expired in March 1900. On 18 February 1901 Vickers Sons and Maxim Limited took over the machine tool and motor manufacturing sides of Wolseley, forming the Wolseley Tool and Motor Car Company. Herbert Austin signed over his patent interests to the new company, and was contracted to manage it until March 1906. His salary was set at £500 per year plus 5 percent of the net profits.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 881]

NOTE: Pages 861 through the top half of this page (861) contain the 1850 US Census for North Carolina and have been deleted here. This census is available elsewhere on this web site.

The Queries that comprise the bottom of this page, follow:

QUERIES

866-1. **Daniel Austin** was born in 1783 in Connecticut. He first married Adah Dorman of Hamden, Connecticut. Adah died in 1815 and is buried in Hamden. One of their sons was Henry Austin 1804-1891, a prominent architect of New Haven. There were other children: Francis, Adah, Merwin (also a successful architect, working mostly in Rochester, New York), and Wyllis. After Adah's death, Daniel married Elizabeth —, they had a daughter Esther born 1830 in Canandaigua, New York. Daniel apparently lived in Ontario County, New York for the rest of his life. Henry Austin was my great-great-grandfather. I can trace Adah way back, but am stuck on Daniel Austin's line.

866-2. **David H. Austin** was born in 1789. He was first married to Nancy Watson in Cayuga County, New York, they had eight children. David served with the Scipio Rangers in the War of 1812. After Nancy died in 1831, he moved to Michigan where he married Lydia Babbitt. They lived in Livingston & Oakland Counties, Michigan, and David held some public offices. He was a widower again when he died 7 July 1877 in Milford, Michigan. One of David's children was Nancy Maria Austin, born 22 March 1826 in Scipio, New York. She was married to Sidney Hudson, born 21 January 1822. Nancy died in Milford 11 January 1905. Sidney died 23 March 1911. Seeking information on both David and Nancy's parents.

Austins of America *Genealogical Society*

MAY 2004 NEWSLETTER

NEW AOAGS WEB SITE

Members who use the AOAGS Austin-Austen Research Center (AARC) or recently visited our homepage may have noticed a “new look” to our AOAGS web site, which is now easier to navigate and use. You can now review the latest status of our DNA project (see below), browse the AOAGS Library holdings, submit queries, renew your membership on line, etc. If you have not done so lately, try visiting our site: www.AOAGS.org. Membership continues to grow – the January 2004 newsletter reached 605 members and libraries – which enables AOAGS to gather and preserve information on Austin families for present and future researchers, and to assist those seeking their Austin roots. A big THANK YOU to all for your support through your membership!

AUSTIN-AUSTEN DNA PROJECT

As reported in the January newsletter, the Austin-Austen DNA Project got underway last fall, with several tests jointly sponsored by the AOAGS and the Austin Families Association of America (AFAOA). Since then a number of individuals have asked about their own participation, and some have had their line’s DNA tested. The Project involves “characterizing” or “profiling” Austin lines by its Y-DNA markers, so only the DNA of Austin males can be used. Austin descendants who are female or have a different surname must locate a male Austin relative who is willing to have his DNA tested. The results can then be compared to and included in DNA Profiles Table (see page 856). The latest version of the Profiles Table is always available on our web site via the “Projects” link.

A DNA test can determine whether or not your known Austin line is connected to one of the other Austin lines which have been profiled. DNA can sometimes establish a connection even where the “paper trail” has a “missing link.” A good example of this in the Profiles Table is Kit 14691 which matches exactly the DNA profile of the William Austin born circa 1700 in Ireland who resided in Virginia. However, DNA testing can sometimes lead to surprises. A putative descendant of Richard Austin of Charlestown, Massachusetts via Anthony and Nathaniel was disappointed to learn his DNA did not match the Richard line DNA profile. Further testing must be done on the Richard-Anthony-Nathaniel branch to determine where the male Austin line was broken. To join the DNA Project, use the “Projects” link at the AOAGS web site.

AOA Photo 867

The Family History Library in Salt Lake City is just “around the corner” from our 2004 Convention Hotel.

2004 NATIONAL AUSTIN CONVENTION

This year’s convention will be held on 9-10-11 July at the Best Western Plaza Hotel, 122 West Temple Street, Salt Lake City, Utah. Jointly sponsored by AOAGS and AFAOA, it is open to anyone interested in their Austin roots, and their spouses, children & friends. Come meet other Austin family researchers! Phone 800-366-3684 or 801-521-0130 before 2 July for reservations. Our special Convention room rate is \$79.00 for one or two adults or \$89 for three or four adults. Children under 18 stay free with parents. Daily parking is only \$3 for hotel guests. Convention Registration is \$50, or \$30 for family or friends who only wish to attend the Banquet. Please send your check before 1 July to our Convention Registrar: Lois Cody, 336 Pleasant Hill Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45215.

On Friday, 9 July at 3 p.m. there will be a tour of the Family History Library, the finest place anywhere to do genealogical research, and only steps from our hotel! Friday evening is our “Let’s Get Acquainted” gathering at the hotel where you can meet old friends or make new ones. Saturday and Sunday feature talks and workshops with Austin family genealogists available to help anyone seeking their Austin roots. Sunday evening cocktail hour precedes the Banquet, followed by an entertaining guest speaker. The 2004 AOAGS Austin Genealogical Research Award will then be presented, to honor and recognize an AOAGS member who has made a significant contribution towards the publishing of Austin genealogical research.

AUSTIN LAND SURVEYS OF DANIEL BOONE

by Willard Rouse Jillson

Editor's Note: The following information is based on the author's article entitled "Land Surveys of Daniel Boone," which was published in the *Register of the Kentucky State Historical Society*.

In the pleasant, early summer-time of 1769, Daniel Boone, at the head of a party of hunters and explorers, crossed the Cumberland Mountains and entered Kentucky for the first time. In the days that followed, his capture by Indians, his providential escape, his survival while others near him fell served but to harden him to the dangers of the "dark and bloody ground." Exposed to every hardship of nature in a hostile wilderness, following a longish tour of the "land on western waters," Boone returned to the settlements on the Yadkin, his wife and his children. After an unsuccessful attempt to the West in 1773, he braced himself for another long journey, and at the head of a hardy, self-sufficient party of axemen-explorers Boone blazed a trail – considerable portions of which are still in use, though greatly improved – through the Cumberland and the Wasiota Gaps into central Kentucky. Here in the Spring of 1775 he built the first log station-fort at Boonesboro on the Kentucky River in what is now northern Madison County, Kentucky. It was a monumental achievement, one that was destined to long endure as a testimonial to his greatness.

Years passed, and with them Daniel Boone, as the pioneer leader, witnessed all the comedy and tragedy found on the trans-Allegheny frontier as the spearhead of the Anglo-Saxon emigration advanced across northern-central Kentucky. Fort Harrod – established in 1774 – was a growing, upland community, as was Fort Boonesboro in the middle valley of the Kentucky River. Louisville, settled in 1778, and Lexington in 1779, were already flourishing villages reaching out from the central protection of strong palisaded forts. Land seekers, homesteaders, migrant explorers and border ruffians filled the land with an air of prosperity and high adventure. In the Fall of 1782 – that fateful year of the bloody battle at the Lower Blue Licks, in which he played a leading part, and did in fact lose his youngest son, Israel – Daniel Boone began to interest himself in land surveying in the wilderness.

When he actually began as a surveying assistant is unknown, but in December 1782 his name appears as a "land marker" on several large surveys made by John Shelby, Jr. for Evan Shelby, on the waters of Hickman Creek in Fayette County, Virginia, but now Jessamine County, Kentucky. Since Daniel had practically no formal schooling or academic training of any kind, it was, no doubt, his ability as a woodsman and his broad acquaintance with the forest-covered terrain of the Bluegrass country that served to bring about the demand for his services as a land surveyor. Thoroughly familiar for many years with the use of a compass, the rudiments of its technical application to land measurement with a chain were probably not really difficult for Boone. No doubt his natural aptitude, good judgment, high courage, ever present sense of direction and reputation for unswerving honesty were personal characteristics that gave him high rating among his fellow professional surveyors and the pioneering settlers generally.

On 7 January 1783 Daniel Boone first appears in the land records in full enjoyment of his commission in his own name as Deputy Surveyor of Fayette County, Virginia. On this day he completed the survey of 200 acres on Howard's Creek, then in Fayette, now Clark County, Kentucky, for William Bush. James Stevens and

Philip Bush were his chainmen, and William Bush the land marker and pilot. The land was acquired by Bush with Virginia Land-Office Treasury Warrant No. 524 assigned to him by Collett Jones. Thomas Marshall, Surveyor of Fayette County, accepted the Bush survey by his deputy Boone, and gave it Plat No. 138. A copy is in the Virginia Land Surveys, Book II, page 22 in the Kentucky Land Office in Frankfort, Kentucky. While the original plat of Boone's first land survey is lost, numerous other original surveys by this immortal early Kentuckian still exist, beginning with one for 1000 acres which Boone made for William Bush on Howard's Lower Creek on 8 January 1783. The Kentucky Land Office is a mine of lightly touched original land surveys by Daniel Boone. His surveys for Austin settlers are summarized below.

Boone Surveys for Austin Settlers

26. **JOHN AUSTIN**, 1000 Acres on Red River [a branch of the Kentucky]. Surveyed: March 3, 1784. Plat No. 2716. Fayette Co., Virginia. Joseph Scholl and Edmund Calloway were the Chainmen, Daniel Morgan Boone, Marker. Daniel Boone, D.S.F.C., and T. Marshall, S.F.C. Warrant No.1461 for 1000 Acres issued for £400. Oct. 19, 1779. Source: Virginia Surveys: Bundle 74 No. 2A. Note: Plat of survey is scaled 200 poles equals 1 inch. The land embraced by this survey is now in Powell County, Kentucky.

27. **JOHN AUSTIN**, 1000 Acres on Red River beginning at (A) the mouth of a Branch Two miles from the mouth of said River, Fayette Co., Virginia. Plat No. 2717. Surveyed: March 8, 1784. Joseph School and Edmun Calloway were the Chainmen, Danl M. Boone, Marker. Daniel Boone, D.S.F.C. and Thos. Marshall, S.F.C. Warrant No.1462, to John Austin, for 1000 A. for £400. Oct. 19, 1779. John Harvie R. L. Off. Source: Virginia Surveys: Bundle 74 No. 2A. Note: This is a good plat. It appears to have been copied for litigation. The land embraced is now in Powell County, Kentucky.

29. **THOMAS AUSTIN**, 1000 Acres on Red River a Branch of Kentucky. Beginning at "A" a Buckeye, Hickory and Linn at the mouth of the Lulbergrud (a Branch of Red River). Surveyed: March 10, 1784. Plat No. 2719. Fayette Co., Virginia. Warrant No. 1455 to T. A. for 1000 A. for £400, Oct. 19, 1779. Signed by John Harvie, R. V.L.O. Joseph Scholl & Edmond Caloway were the Chainmen, Daniel Morgan Boone, Marker. Daniel Boone, D.S.F.C. and T. Marshall, S.F.C. Source: Virginia Surveys: Bundle 74 No. 2A. Note: This is a good plat for reproduction – Scale 200 P. equals 1 inch. Variation 3 East. The land embraced by this survey is now probably in Powell County.

30. **JOHN AUSTIN**, 1000 Acres on the Second Creek below the mouth of Station Camp – a mile from the Kentucky river. Fayette Co., Virginia, Plat No. 2718. Surveyed: March 11, 1784. Joseph School and Edmund Calloway were the Chainmen, Danl M. Boone, Marker. Daniel Boone, D.S.F.C. and T. Marshall, S.F.C. Warrant: No. 3567 for 1000 A., £400 to John Austin, dated March 9, 1780. S. Carr, D.R.V.L.O. Source: Virginia Surveys: Bundle 74 No. 2A. Note: This is a good rectangular plat – copied evidently for litigation and broken along stream. The land outlined by this survey now lies in Estill County, Kentucky.

31. **CHAPMAN AUSTIN**, 4000 acres on Red River at the Great Beaver Ponds, a branch of the Kentucky in Fayette Co., Virginia. Plat No. 2721, a rectangle. Surveyed: March 12, 1784. Joseph School and Edmond Calloway were Chainmen. Daniel Morgan Boone, Marker. Daniel Boone D.S. and T. Marshall, S.F.C. Warrants Nos. 1457, 1458, 1459, 1460. Dated Oct. 19, 1779. John Harvie, R.V.L. Off. Each Warrant for 1000 acres cost £400. Source: Virginia Surveys: Bundle 74 No. 2A. Note: A good plat: shows Beaver Ponds in central southern part. Copied evidently for litigation. The grant on this survey was issued Feb. 21, 1786. The land embraced by this survey is now in Powell County, Kentucky.

**SOME DESCENDANTS OF
THOMAS AUSTIN OF BARBADOS**

*by Roger Brian Austin
Timothy John Smellie
and Bruce Merivale-Austin*

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 844]

T312-8. ARTHUR HYNDMAN PIERCY, *b. 13 May 1878, twin to Stella. He was commissioned a Captain in the 13th Service Battalion, the Durham Light Infantry in 1914 and was killed in action in the Battle of The Somme on 4 August 1916. Arthur has no known grave and is commemorated at the Thiepval Memorial to the Missing, situated between the villages of Bapaume and Albert.*

T313. ELIZA ARABELLA⁴ AUSTIN (*William Piercy³, William,² Thomas¹*) was born on 27 March 1837 at the family's "Land of Plenty" plantation in Essequibo, British Guiana. She was known as 'Ara' to T34 John Gardiner Austin, and she was his favourite cousin. On 26 January 1861, Ara married a young Englishman from the Secretariat in Georgetown called Augustus Frederick Gore, who was said to be a descendant either of one of Queen Victoria's 'wicked uncles' or perhaps one of their sisters. In any event, Augustus Gore possessed various items such as a sword and miniatures which had some connection with the Royal family. He became the Colonial Secretary of Barbados, and lived at Maxwell's great house in Christchurch where he was a friend and parishioner of Francis Bell Grant, Dora Helen Austin's father. Later he became Administrator of St. Vincent. Not long after her marriage, Ara was the unfortunate victim of a carriage accident which injured her spine. After some years as an invalid, she died in 1876, leaving a family of five little girls:

T313-1. CECILIA EMILY, *d. 1 November 1943*

T313-2. MARY, *d. 1891*

T313-3. ELIZA CHARLOTTE, *d. 8 November 1948 in Oxford*

T313-4. ADELAIDE ISABELLA, *d. 17 May 1947*

T313-5. DORA LAETITIA, *d. 27 February 1914 in Richmond*

None of these daughters married and their lives were sad, existing as they did in genteel poverty, selling off their father's souvenirs and furniture when they were in difficulties. Dora kept in touch with these cousins and visited them in Addison Road, London where they lived in lodgings, occasionally taking a niece or nephew with her, but she herself was in no position to offer financial assistance, which in any case, they would have been too proud to accept. The last sister died in a nursing home in Oxford.

T314. CHARLES PIERCY⁴ AUSTIN (*William Piercy³, William,² Thomas¹*) was born on 23 March 1839 in British Guiana. He was christened on 27 March 1839. He had a career in the Government Service of British Guiana and eventually became Receiver General. On 18 August 1868 in St. Pancras, London, he married Rosalie Ann Sarah Crosby. She was born 5 January 1845, the daughter of a

well-known character in the colony of that day, who was the Protector of Immigrants. The East Indians regarded Crosby as a true friend and the phrase 'go to Crosby' when they were in trouble persisted long after his death. Charles and Rosalie themselves both died in early middle age, the former a few months before his father, leaving a family of eight. These were sent away from Demerara in charge of the eldest daughter who was only eighteen at the time. They stayed first with relations in Barbados and then went on to England where presumably their uncle and aunt made arrangements for the care of the orphans.

The Colonial Office List for 1888 gives Charles Piercy Austin's career as follows: Clerk of Records, Government Secretary's Office and Immigration Agent in British Guiana, 1860; Acted as Assistant Government Secretary, March to November 1863, February to June, 1866 and October 1866 to March 1867; Private secretary to Governor Sir Frank Hincks, September 1865 to May, 1866; and to Lieut. Governor Major Mundy, October 1866 to September 1867; Assistant government secretary and assistant receiver-general for Berbice, April 1868; Acted as stipendiary magistrate February to June 1872; Assistant government secretary 1874; Acted as government secretary July 1875 to January 1876, March to August 1877, June to December 1878, and on several other occasions; Acted as auditor-general December 1878 to September 1879 and February to July 1866; Acting immigration agent June and July 1881; Receiver-general 1879.

Rosalie Austin died on 10 June 1888, Charles died on 19 April 1892 in Georgetown, British Guiana. They had eight children:

T314-1. MARIE AUGUSTA PIERCY, *b. 13 May 1869, d. 26 April 1945. m. Montague Wood Taylor, no children.*

T314-2. ROSALIE FREDERICA PIERCY, *b. on 30 September 1870, d. a spinster in 1944.*

T314-3. CHARLES JAMES EVELYN PIERCY, *born 20 March 1872 +*

T314-4. MAUD MEHETABEL WINIFRED PIERCY, *b. on 5 September 1874, d. a spinster on 20 December 1954.*

T314-5. ALICE COLIN MURIEL PIERCY, *b. in 1876, she d. on 27 March 1895 in Paris.*

T314-6. JOHN WYKEHAM PIERCY, *b. 17 June 1882, d. 26 February 1894 in Stanway Rectory, Colchester.*

T314-7. WILLIAM CROSBY PIERCY, *b. 12 June 1844, d. 15 June 1975. He joined the firm of Jardine Matheson. He was threatened with tuberculosis and the firm sent him to Los Angeles, most generously paying all expenses. He was cured and about to return when the 'talkies'*

came along and anyone with an English accent was at a premium. 'Bill' (as William Crosby Piercy was known) happened to have not only the accent but a good enunciation and an attractive manner. He got into the Paramount Studios in Hollywood, was a passable actor and quickly made a good deal of money, a lot of which went to helping his family, education of younger members etc, especially John Edmund Piercy Austin, a child of his younger brother Hugh Cecil Havelock Piercy Austin, who was only a baby when his father died in 1892. Bill was tall and straight, and in 1929 he married a sweet little American, Dora Mae Howe, who had been in silent films. They had a large Spanish-style bungalow on Beverly Hills and Bill was a 'feature' so that trippers would stroll across the front lawn and tick him off in their little books when they had done the 'stars'. He lived latterly in Corona del Mar, 75 miles north of San Diego, California. Bill and Dora had no children. See Austins of America page 694 for more on his film career.

T314-8. HUGH CECIL HAVELOCK PIERCY, *b.* 14 February 1888. +

T318. CHARLOTTE BRUCE⁴ AUSTIN (*William Piercy*³, *William*,² *Thomas*¹) was born on 18 March 1849 in Kingston House (Austin House) Georgetown, British Guiana. She was known as 'Cousin Brucie.' On 28 August 1879 she married Frederick Harcourt-Hamblin of Demerara. Little is known of Frederick but he was probably in the Government service and he died young leaving his widow with two small children. Charlotte returned to live with her parents at Kingston House in Georgetown, and after her mother's death kept house for the Bishop. She died on 18 June 1942. Charlotte and Frederick had two children:

T318-1. BRUCE, *d.* 1890 while at school in England of some childish complaint.

T318-2. MEHETABEL, *m.* Richard M. Preston, son and private secretary of the then Governor of British Guiana, Lord Gormanson, an impoverished Irish peer. They had five ch: Anthony, Jennico, Elizabeth, Dianne & Christopher. The family was Roman Catholic and Mehetabel changed her faith. That the Anglican Bishop's granddaughter should take this step scandalized her relations and was a shock to the entire community.

T341. CHARLES WILDAY⁴ AUSTIN (*John Gardiner*³, *William*,² *Thomas*¹) was born on 19 January 1837 in Demerara, British Guiana. He was christened in Saint George's, Georgetown. He was known as 'Toto' to his family and friends and is always referred to thus by J.G.A. He was the eldest of the ten children and Emma named him after her father and brother. As a small child he was for a few years in England at Thickthorne where his father aspired to be an English country gentleman but the best of his youth was spent in

Demerara, and, when old enough, he was sent to the newly founded Queen's College.

From the first of J.G.A.'s letters to his sister Belle in 1855 (the year after she left the Colony) we gather that Charles was a tall, lanky youth then 18 years old and over 6 ft in height, probably very like his nephews of later years in appearance. On leaving school he had a minor post in a government office or perhaps a business firm. Early in 1856, J.G.A. reports 'the Governor has given Toto a commission in the Militia as 2nd Lieut.:. He is obliged to go every morning and afternoon up to the Garrison to drill, so with his office work besides he is pretty well engaged.'

In May that year their mother left for 'Home' with the six younger children, Toto and J.G.A. remaining with their father in Georgetown. A little later on father too left Demerara on leave, and while in England, was sent to Hong Kong as immigration agent. Not long afterwards J.G.A. was offered and accepted a post in Barbados, leaving Toto behind, so we hear less about him. It is not known when Toto himself left Demerara, but the probability is that his father, on his first tour in Hong Kong, met the original Jardine of the famous firm of Jardine Matheson and Co: who offered the young man a clerkship with far better prospects than in Demerara. He possibly accompanied his father on his return to China for the second tour at the end of 1860. Toto was then 23.

At all events he was in Hong Kong in 1862 for according to Mr Cecil Clementi 'Mr J. G. Austin, when about to leave China, appointed his son Charles to be his *locum tenens* under a power of attorney. After Mr Austin's departure there was difficulty with regard to funds to finance the despatch of Chinese to Demerara and instructions reached the Governor to reduce the immigration establishments on instructions from his father in China. In Hong Kong, Mr C.W. Austin had already given up the buildings rented for depots and dismissed all clerks, writers etc.'

This responsibility must have been a great worry and anxiety to the poor young man. He lived in Jardine's Mess at East Point where, towards the end of the same year (1862) he contracted a virulent form of dysentery which proved fatal. He died 1 December 1862 in Hong Kong, where he was buried in Happy Valley Cemetery. The news of his death was not received in England and Barbados until the following January, a very great grief to his family, none more than to J.G.A. who was heart broken at the loss of one who, he says, 'had been his best friend and companion as well as his brother'.

T342. JOHN GARDINER⁴ AUSTIN JR. (*John Gardiner*³, *William*,² *Thomas*¹) was born 19 July 1838 in Demerara, British Guiana. He was christened in St George's, Georgetown. J.G.A. was born in Demerara and with Toto and his baby sister Belle spent a few formative early years England, where he must have acquired that love for 'Home' which lasted throughout his life and which he passed on to his eldest daughter Mehetabel.

When 'Papa' or 'the Governor' was obliged for financial reasons to return to Demerara, J.G.A. was sent with Toto to Queen's College where the education must have been of a high quality judging by his letters which are those of a cultured young man, although he himself regretted his lack of higher education.

On leaving school at the age of 16, he had a temporary post in the Secretariat, taking in the place of a friend, Euan Lucie-Smith who was ill for some months. Later, J.G.A. must have been appointed officially, for he remained there two years. In an early letter to Belle he wrote:

"I have given up all hope of seeing you at Home, even if Mama goes. Indeed, unless I had a good deal of money I don't see any use for I am rather too old for school and not old enough for college. You will be glad to hear that I have saved from my six months' salary \$300.00 which is not to be despised. I only hope that I may soon get another situation so that I can go on adding to the heap, but I am afraid it will be fearfully diminished if I don't. My present views are - after working here until I am 20 (I will be 17 next month) - I hope to have saved enough to keep me for two years at Home if possible. I would like to go to college and join the Church, but if I can't do that I will spend the greater part of my time on the Continent and then I will have to look for something else out here again."

His hopes of going to college were never realised and the following year he wrote sadly: -

"When I reach England, if ever this should take place, it will be almost too late. Youth, the season of education, will have passed and then what can I be but an ignoramus?"

However he took piano lessons practised hard and recounts to Belle that he could play a polka 'but not fast enough to dance to!' Later on, in Barbados, he had no money for music lessons nor time to practise, always a matter for regret to him.

These early letters give us an insight of the colony's social life in the mid-nineteenth century, with their descriptions of balls at Government House, theatricals and tableaux vivants. Towards the end of 1856 the young man was offered a post in Barbados by his 'Uncle

AOA Photo 871

John Gardiner Austin Jr., his wife Dorothy Frere (Grant) Austin, their children Mehetabel and Jeffrey.

Rennie' who had married J. G. A.'s mother's sister, Fanny Wilday (see Chapter 17, *The Rennie and Wilday Families*). Uncle Rennie was a partner in the Colonial Company of which Michael Cavan & Company in Barbados was a subsidiary. This firm, which gave its name to Cavan's Lane in Bridgetown, was founded in 1797 by James Cavan, an Irishman who came to Barbados from Virginia. He was later joined by his brother Michael. They did not confine their business activities to the island for they had also founded a firm in London, first known as Cavan Bros: & Company and this eventually became the Colonial Company. Michael Cavan died in 1832, and was buried in a vault in St. Michael's Cathedral. He was succeeded in partnership by his nephew Michael McChlery, who had joined the firm a few years earlier.

The 'Barbadian Newspaper' of 5 November 1836 records that 'the branch of the Colonial Bank under the agency of Mr Michael McChlery will transact business at Cavan's House at the Pierhead.' The Colonial Bank, founded by Royal Charter in 1836 is now Barclays International. In 1838 the same newspaper states that

Cavans would receive silver dollars at 6/6 currency and doubloons at £5.

AOA Photo 872

John Gardiner Austin Jr.'s home Enmore in Barbados

During this early period the firm operated its own shipping line. In April the 'Barbadian Newspaper' gives an account of a fleet of new ships belonging to Michael Cavan & Company adding 'there is another being built at Bristol of 5,000 tons to be called the 'Enmore' after the old established residence of the firm on the outskirts of the city.' However, they ceased to operate their own vessels when appointed agents for the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company. It was in this firm that J.G.A. was offered a junior clerkship at a salary of \$60 a month. Promotion in the Government Service was slow and in 1856 prospects in Cavan's were far better. It was impossible to foresee the great depression of the decades to follow when the bottom fell out of the sugar market. In later years J.G.A. would speak wistfully of his contemporaries in the Secretariat in Demerara who had risen high in the Colonial Service. Perhaps he would have been better suited temperamentally to that type of career rather than to the ruthless competition of the business world.

However when he arrived in Barbados in January 1857 all was set fair. He was a little homesick at first but soon made friends and entered into 'society' and was as good a snob as any. His friends included the Pitchers and the Thomases, with the latter he spent weekends at Villa Nova in St John. He was often entertained at Bishop's Court by the Parrys to whom he had probably brought an introduction from his Uncle Piercy, the Bishop in British Guiana. The Parrys had six daughters so there was young company to enjoy.

Time passed pleasantly enough, although he longed to get away and see his family, especially Belle. He evidently enjoyed his job and worked hard although he complains occasionally of the boredom of sewing on his own buttons, the mosquitoes and the heat. To escape the worst of the hot weather the bachelor clerks of Cavans moved from their 'Mess' over the Pierhead office to Merrywing Hall in Christchurch, which J.G.A. says was like 'another clime'. The young men rode their horses back and forth each day between the city and their temporary country home. Merrywing Hall stood on the site now occupied by Blue Waters. He enjoyed his recreations, mentioning particularly the exhilarating sea bathing at Hastings. In 1861 he describes the festivities attendant on the visit of Prince Alfred, Queen Victoria's second son, during which

J.G.A. acted as an extra A.D.C. to the Governor. He saw a good deal of his cousin, Preston Bruce Austin, Vicar of St. James Church and on one occasion he accompanied Uncle Rennie on business to Trinidad to visit the Company's estates in that island. He mentions many 'young ladies' who had to be 'ladylike' to meet with his approval, but it was not until 1864, aged 25, that he met his future wife, Dorothy Frere Grant, known as 'Dora.' She was the daughter of Rev. Francis Bell Grant (1811-1888) and Annette Moore. The Rev. Grant was from an old and prominent Barbados family. He lived and worked mainly in Barbados, though he spent seventeen years in Antigua. He kept diaries and those that have survived are for the six years 1867 and 1870-1874. The originals of these diaries are in the Rhodes House Library, Oxford. On 10th February 1864 J.G.A. wrote excitedly to Belle:-

"...though it is nearly 2 o'clock, I cannot let this mail go away without conveying to you myself the all-important intelligence that I've 'been and gone and done it'- in fact that a certain lady, Dora Grant by name, with very pretty eyes has taken pity on my forlorn condition and has promised to see me safely through this vale of tears...Papa, no doubt, will make you a more trustworthy description than I can. My only regret is that she is barely recovered from a bad attack of fever in which she has lost most of her beautiful dark hair. Dora is the daughter of a clergyman here, is 23, about your height, large bright eyes and is very clever and sensible."

The path of true love did not, at first, run at all smoothly. They had planned to get married soon, as J.G.A. was to go on a business trip to England, followed by some leave. He had hoped to take Dora with him as his wife and introduce her to his family there, but for some reason the engagement was frowned upon. Dora was but a poor clergyman's daughter and perhaps Papa had hoped for a better match for his handsome young son. There is also a legend that Uncle Rennie would have liked his daughter Agnes to marry J.G.A. At all events this letter is sent to sister Belle on the 25th April 1864:-

"... You will have heard ere this of the kettle of fish and bobbery kicked up by my engagement. It is no use fretting, so unpleasant though the sentence is, it must be endured. Dora and I are still young so can afford to

wait. It is true that a few days ago I was not in so reasonable and philosophic a frame of mind, but time brings reflection and I am bound to admit that my seniors have a right to feel annoyed. I send you a bad photo of Dora but the only one worth anything and one of your humble servant.”

J.G.A. went to England alone, via North America. From New York he wrote to his mother, then in England but preparing to journey herself to British Honduras to join Papa. The time was that of the American Civil War.

“July 20th 1864.

... We left Jamaica on the 10th and arrived here on the night of the 17th so that in point of time we had a splendid passage, but as regards comfort and meals it was the reverse. There were only two of the sailors who knew anything about steering and we had no mate nor a barometer. We had two squalls, our cabins leaked like sieves, the floor was covered with two inches of water. We have to thank God for a tight little vessel for our swift passage. When just off the harbour entrance we sighted a Pilot Boat and our fool of a Captain, instead of showing our colours, said it was unnecessary. The upshot of this was that we were mistaken for a Confederate cruiser and away went the Pilot Boat at a fearful speed as it was blowing a gale. We at last put up a signal but it was an hour or two before it was answered. You of course have heard of the boldness of the ‘Tallahassie’ coming into New York harbour and capturing several vessels. We anchored on the lower Quarantine Ground for the night, about 50 miles below New York. The next morning, the Health Officer boarded us and we were all in fear and trembling for small pox had broken out in our ship. However, after an hour’s delay we were released but the steamer and all our baggage were quarantined. The ladies were not even allowed to land their reticules. The steamer that took us up to New York had two vessels to tug it, so it was not long before we landed. We had eaten no dinner so you may imagine with what vigour we attacked the good cheer afforded us at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. Then, chartering a trap we went to drive in the Park (probably Central Park). It is very pretty but all is new, the trees only 4 or 5 foot high and the stone and masonry white. The Yanks are trying to copy the Bois de Boulogne. We strolled down Broadway to Nibbles Theatre but soon came out as the acting was villainous and the heat intense. After strolling for a little and after some refreshment, we sank into the luxurious beds. I woke refreshed and after a bath was set up for the day, but the nuisance of having no clothes was very great so after investing in a toothbrush (60 c!!!) I turned in at a Barbers’ and got shaved and brushed, then went down to

Wall St. to enquire about our baggage, for the steamer had been released during the night. It was only after five hours hard driving, walking and boating that I got my luggage. To effect this I spent \$3.00 boat hire, \$3.50 bus ditto. Bribe to the Customs official £1. Champagne for the brute \$1.20 besides taking a bundle of my best cigars, to save, as he said, duty! Travelling is done quickly now, weeks instead of months. I leave New York for Gaspe, Canada, one day next week, return to complete my business in Baltimore and Philadelphia and then will start for England.”

The next letter is to his mother from Montreal in which he describes his journeying to Niagara, to Lake Ontario, shooting the rapids on the way which is ‘great fun’ and the American boats are ‘floating houses’. He has invitations to spend days in every state in the Union. Poor Dora!

However their marriage took place on March 14th 1866 at St. Michael’s Cathedral in Bridgetown, the ceremony being performed by the bride’s father Francis Bell Grant. Dora blamed Uncle Rennie for the postponement of their marriage. In due course, she had seven sons, each of whom bore a family name such as Wilday, Gardiner, etc., but Rennie was conspicuous by its absence, although Mr. Rennie of London was godfather to their third son.

The first home of the young couple was at Little Waterford in Hastings Road (now apartments) and there in the following year their eldest child Mehetabel Emma was born. Later they moved to The Farm in Passage Road which was a large family establishment, partly inhabited by some of Dora’s relations. Here three boys were born, the first of whom lived only a month and the second two years, sad and deeply felt losses for the young parents, but their third boy survived, another John Gardiner Austin who rose to the rank of Brigadier in the Army and died at the age of 86.

Things were going well in business and in 1872 the head of the firm, Mr. Baird, a Scotsman, retired and J.G.A. aged 34 succeeded him as senior partner. The family moved to Enmore, the old established residence on the outskirts of the city mentioned by the ‘Barbadian Newspaper’. Enmore is the name of a Somersetshire village and it is probable that from the early days of colonisation there was a house or cottage of that name near Bridgetown, called thus perhaps by a homesick West Countryman.

The two Cavan brothers, founders of the firm, had bought a parcel of land north of an adjoining property belonging to the Martindale family. The road bounding the two properties is still called Martindale’s Road. The

AOA Photo 874

John Gardiner Austin Jr. Family circa 1900. Standing left to right: Harold Bruce Gardiner Austin, Francis Elwyn Gardiner Austin, Dora Helen Annette Austin, John Gardiner “Ruff” Austin, Mabel Louis Frere Austin. Seated left to right: Dorothy (Frere) Austin, John Gardiner Austin Jr., Ruff’s wife Margaret (Drew) Austin.

house, Enmore, the Cavans built on their land was designed as the residence of the senior partner of their firm. They furnished it handsomely, sending to London for furniture and canteens of silver (some of which still survives) so that they could entertain in style. This house was considerably damaged by the 1831 hurricane but was rebuilt during the ensuing years and the present building dates from that period. It is two storied, constructed of blocks of the local coral sandstone with a parapet roof to reduce danger from hurricane, the rooms of pleasant proportions and surrounded on three sides by wide, shady verandas, these paved in grey and white marble squares. This material was employed extensively at this time. Being brought out in ballast from Europe it was comparatively cheap to use as well as being elegant in appearance. The baths were made of marble, one big enough for the children to use for swimming, the goldfish swam in a marble pool and even the kitchen sinks were of marble.

The house had all the amenities of that era, including a beehive-shaped hurricane shelter, a well with windmill to supply the water which was brought by conduit and ‘drip-stones’ for purifying and cooling it for drinking. There was an enclosed yard with airy rooms for the women servants (slavery had been abolished in 1834) whilst the men servants were accommodated over the coach house and stables. There was also a wine cellar which may have been a vestige of the older house. There were wide pastures of guinea and sour grass to feed the horses in and in one paddock roamed deer imported from Canada.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 895]

NOTE: Pages 875 through the top half of 879 contain the continuation of the 1850 US Census for Massachusetts and have been deleted here. This census is available elsewhere on this web site.

QUERIES

879-1. **John Austin** was married on 21 February 1801 in Person County, North Carolina to Margaret "Peggy" Barrett. I have the list of their children, but would like to learn about ancestries of both John and Margaret.

879-2. My Austins come from Liverpool and Blackburn, Lancashire, England. I would like to contact anyone with Austins from this area. Seeking any literature that is specific to the Austins of Lancashire.

879-3. **William Austin** in 1800 was in Franklin County, Virginia. His son David Austin moved to Floyd County, Virginia. David's son Thomas Austin was born in 1800 and married Nancy Martin in 1827 in Patrick County, Virginia. In the 1840s They moved to Russell County, Virginia, where the family has lived ever since. Thomas' son Flem Austin begat Joseph Cephus Austin who begat Yonnie Zempfry Austin who begat Robert Joseph Austin who was my father. Any help on this line would be appreciated.

879-4. **Ralph John Austin** was born ca. 1895 in Topeka, Kansas, to a woman with last name Bolus. He was then adopted in Texas (perhaps the Dallas area) by a man named William Austin. I am seeking any information available regarding Ralph John Austin's ancestry.

879-5. **Willard Austin** resided in Belleville, New Jersey, in the late 1800s until 1910 or 1920. He married Adeline Spear b.1842 d.1913, who was previously married to John Kingsland. Seeking Willard Austins ancestry.

879-6. **Jotham Austin** was born circa 1751 in Hancock, Massachusetts, the eldest son of Isaac Austin, who is in fourth generation of the Robert Austin of Kingstown, Rhode Island line. I am searching for Jotham's birth and marriage and death records. Jotham was not mentioned in his father's will, although he is in the 1800 Census along with brothers, David Austin, Isaac Austin Jr., and Pasqua/Pasco Austin in Hartford, New York, five miles north of Argyle, Washington County, where his father & brother Rehoboam lived. Seeking anything on Jotham.

879-7. **Amy Adeline Austin** was born 25 June 1825 in New York. She married in 1841 in New York to William Henry Hurlbert. They later moved to Clay County, Nebraska, and were among the first settlers of

the county. Amy died 10 November 1915 in Nebraska. Her obituary listed her children as: Elizabeth Nightingale, Cathryn Wager, Frederick Hurlbert, Charley Hurlbert, Emily Perry, Chauncey Hurlbert, William Hurlbert, Silas Hurlbert, Ida Mae Elwood, Minnie McCarty, and Elnora Berg. Seeking help in finding Amy Austin's ancestry.

**LORD HERBERT AUSTIN –
AN INVENTOR, AUTOMOTIVE
PIONEER AND MANUFACTURER**

*by Zeta Austin Lambert, R. J. Wyatt
and Patricia Biebuyck Austin*

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 860]

Early Road Racing

Herbert Austin participated in the 1000-mile car trial competition in 1900. In 1902 he persuaded Wolseley Directors to develop three special racing cars. In May 1902 he took one 30 h.p. car to the Bexhill speed trails, but was outmatched by competitors. In 1903 three of the Wolseley cars took part in the Paris-Madrid race, driven by Austin, Foster and Porter. Austin had lubrication problems and a connecting rod seized and was pushed through the crankcase. Foster also failed to finish the race, and Porter was killed when he lost control on a turn and was thrown into the wall of a house. Word was sent to Austin's home at Berwood Grove to reassure his wife that her husband was safe. The maid misinterpreted the story and rushed to Mrs. Austin crying "Madam, the Master's dead." Helen was so shocked by the news that she fainted. Fortunately she suffered no ill effects, despite the fact that the birth of her last child Zeta was imminent.

Although he was General Manager of the new Wolseley Tool & Motor Car Company, Herbert Austin continued consulting with Wolseley Sheep-Shearing Company, and was its Chairman of the Board between 1911 and 1933. The Motor Car Company sold 270 vehicles in 1902, 341 in 1903 and 850 in 1904, but in 1905 the company's gross income fell by a half. Albert Vickers encouraged Austin to adopt the newer vertical type of engine, but he obstinately refused. During an extended visit to Paris in 1905, Herbert received a letter from Vickers asking for his resignation. He replied by 2 November and asked the company to purchase back his 2nd mortgage debentures.

The Austin Motor Company

Two years before leaving Wolseley, Austin had hired two young draftsmen to design the first Austin car, working in the bedroom of Austin's home. A third young man was engaged as a private secretary. Austin had been searching for suitable premises to manufacture his own cars, and this matter became more urgent after he left Wolseley. On 4 November 1905 Austin and his staff of three visited a small derelict 2½-acre factory known as White & Pikes. It

AOA Photo 880

In lighter moments Herbert Austin often called his wife Helen "My Lady." In 1913 she dressed the part.

was in the Longbridge District on the south side of Birmingham, situated on a Midland Railway Company branch line track. When it became known that Austin was interested in the property, people were horrified, saying that he would never get labor in such an isolated spot. Austin carried on regardless of public opinion. Herbert estimated the factory buildings and land would be about £10,000 and that he would need £7900 for additional plant, and £600 per week to cover wages and overhead. He estimated four months before the first chassis could be produced, and that the output would be two per week after that. One of his staff later described Austin:

"While his chief characteristic was an almost superhuman energy, he was a very likable personality. There was real affection between him and his staff and although he would become completely engrossed when engaged on a job, he could be very human as well."

Captain Frank Kayser of Kayser, Ellison & Company, steel manufacturers of Sheffield, advanced him £20,000 and Harvey du Cros of the Dunlop Rubber Company and one or two others helped Herbert raise the remaining capital. The Austin Motor Company was launched. Even before the factory purchase was accomplished, Austin and his staff moved in. One room he annexed as his private office, using it for the rest of his life. From its windows he watched the factory of his dreams grow and spread until it all but covered the surrounding landscape.

Austin and his team had less than three weeks to prepare for the Motor Exhibition being held on 17-25 November 1905. They hurriedly made special drawings of the car and its dimensions to exhibit at the show. Considerable interest was shown by the public, and a number of actual orders were secured based only on their drawings. The first model was to be a 25-30 h.p. car, with a four-cylinder vertical engine and a governor to regulate its speed. The first car was chain-driven and had four forward speeds. Austin, however, soon realized that a more silent drive would be more advisable, and so an alternative bevel-gear axle was brought into use. Another unusual new feature was the positioning of the petrol tank at the rear of the car. The clean layout of the chassis started a new trend in the general design of motor cars, and the life and reliability of these early models undoubtedly helped establish a foundation upon which the dependability of Austin-made cars was built.

The First Austin Car

The day in April 1906, when the first car was completed and on the road, was the culmination of an achievement which was never forgotten by those who took part in its production. Clouds of smoke issued from the exhaust, and petrol and oil leaked from joints which were not sufficiently tight. The heat and the language from all concerned was indescribable, but was ready at last, and with Austin at the wheel, it proceeded out of the factory gates and up the Lickey Hills on its first test run. The launching of this first car was also an occasion for a press luncheon at the factory, at which the official opening of the Austin Motors Works was also celebrated. Two of the subsequent press comments were as follows:

“The engine ran with great smoothness and sweetness. The Austin car struck me as being exceedingly well designed and workmanlike and an excellent example of the combination of refinement and strength.”

“Unquestionably Austin cars are destined to figure in the front rank among high-class petrol vehicles.”

AOA Photo 881-1

Herbert Austin's first drive in the first Austin car in April 1906 as clouds of smoke issue from the exhaust.

AOA Photo 881-2

The Austin Motor Works manufacturing plant in Longbridge District of south Birmingham, England in 1906.

At the Olympia Exhibition opening 13 November 1906, Austin displayed two polished models, including a 25/30 h.p. Longbridge Limousine listed at £800. By the end of 1907 270 employees worked at Longbridge, 120 cars had been turned out, and Austin was already contemplating further extensions to the building. By 1910 nearly 1000 workers were employed at the Austin Company and Herbert found it necessary to start using a night shift.

Rabbits and Birds

Herbert Austin was very attached to animals. Once he brought two Belgian hares back from Brussels, as a gift for the children. Late as always for the train, he raced down the platform clutching a hamper with the hares. A porter shouted "Sir, there's something broken in your hamper, and it's running out." Austin chuckled as he shouted back, "It's all right, it's only rabbits." On Sunday afternoons he sometimes could be found studying one of his motoring papers, with one of the family's tame rabbits sleeping on his knee, placed there by his young children. One day Helen came into the room just in time to hear him saying, as he mopped up a large pool on the seat of the chair, "Naughty Bunnie, we mustn't let Mummy know." After that episode, all rabbits were banned from the house. Of all live creatures, Herbert like birds the best, even to the extent of sitting up all one night in the early 1900s, trying to save the life of a young owl with a damaged wing, by feeding it on brandy and water. Unfortunately the owl died the next morning.

Herbert was very fond of music, particularly of grand opera, and he knew most of the stories by heart. When listening to opera broadcasts he would often describe the scenery at length. As a young man he played the violin well, and with feeling. This accomplishment was quite usual in his generation, when everyone was expected to perform with some instrument at parties. Herbert also enjoyed the theatre, and was for many years a member of the Council of Governors of the Shakespeare Memorial Theatre at Stratford-upon-Avon. When the new theatre was built, he designed an improved tip-up seat because "When I go there I want to be sure of a comfortable seat." Among his many gifts Herbert possessed a photographic mind. It was said that if he passed through a room once, he could then draw everything in it in detail, and in the correct position. Such powers of observation must have been a tremendous help in his career.

Austin Racing Cars

Austin cars starting racing in 1908, barely four years after manufacturing began. The Austin Motor Company was one of the few British firms which consistently

supported Continental contests in the early 1900s, as Herbert realized that such publicity opportunities could not be overlooked. With all he must have had to contend with at that time, to enter racing as well speaks volumes for his organizing ability. The first Continental event was the French Automobile Club Grand Prix, held in June 1908. Austin entered three of his six-cylinder cars as 100 h.p. racers. Filled with excitement, Austin booked the entire Hotel du Cygne to accommodate the 60 personnel who accompanied the cars to France. One car was damaged during pre-race practice, and another totally wrecked. Austin refused to give up, he repaired the damaged vehicle and stripped the other. With spares sent over from Longbridge, he constructed a new racer to make up his team of three. Six out of the first seven cars to finish were German. While not fast enough to win, two of Austin's cars were the only British cars to finish the course, proving their high reliability.

By 1910 the 40 h.p. Austin Touring Car had proved so successful that it was entered in the Russian International Tour, which started on 30 June. The route went 2139 miles from St. Petersburg, Kharkov, to Moscow. Forty-six cars started. The conditions were appalling even for those days, with some roads resembling plowed fields. By 13 July 1910 many cars had broken springs, broken steering gear, and bent axles. One of the six cars remaining was the Austin, which made such a successful run that it brought home the Saint Petersburg Automobile Club Trophy. Herbert was justly proud of the car's performance, and he widely advertised the fact that it had run non-stop in the most severe trial on record.

By 1911 the Austin Company was producing six models with both short and long wheel bases, and a wide range of body designs. Considerable extensions were made to the factory. Production rose to about 1000 cars per year. Austin entered new markets producing stationary and marine engines. Austin stationary engines drove lighting systems used on farms, country homes, etc. Powered by two 380 h.p. Austin V-12 engines, the launch *Maple Leaf IV* won the British International Trophy Contest in 1912, and brought the award home from America. The following year this success was repeated, and the Austin Motor Company opened a London office and showroom.

A Disaster Avoided

Through the years Austin had become a comparatively rich man. In 1910 he moved to Lickey Grange, situated on 200 acres of park land not far from Longbridge, and the family remained there until 1942. In January 1912 Helen decided to visit her parents in Australia, who she had not seen for about twelve years. Herbert suggested she go via New York, sailing on the maiden voyage of

the *Titanic*. Helen was extremely nervous of anything mechanical which had not been well tried out, and she refused the suggestion, saying she did not believe any ship to be unsinkable, whatever the experts said. This remark started a very heated argument which lasted until Austin capitulated through boredom, agreeing to her going via Suez if that was what she wanted. Herbert was always profoundly thankful that his wife was not persuaded by his argument to sail on the ill-fated liner.

Expansion and World War I

In July 1913 a two-ton lorry was added to the Austin line, the first production of commercial vehicles at the factory. To further expand his company, Austin decided it was time for it to become a public concern rather than a private company. In February 1914 shares were issued successfully, and the capital was increased to £250,000. Austin estimated that this expansion would increase sales to £550,000 a year. The expansion which he had envisaged for peaceful purposes, was instead used for wartime production. On 4 August 1914 Great Britain declared war on Germany, and in September the Russian Army ordered 48 armored cars from the Austin Motor Company (photo below). Three Russian officers visited Lickey Grange one Sunday morning. One spoke only Russian, another poor English, the third poor French. Austin was a good linguist and able to converse with everyone, while Helen, using a language which did not need words, completely captivated the Russian general.

AOA Photo 883-1

The first series of Austin armored cars built in 1914.

By 1915 the bottom had dropped out of the automobile market, and Austin had to find additional work to keep his factory going. Adding to his difficulties conservative government officials were reluctant to place orders with the young factory which had only produced motor cars to date. Not for a moment did Austin ever lose sight of his workmen's fear of insecurity and unemployment. Through persistence Herbert Austin obtained orders for munitions, and by the autumn of 1915 the changeover to wartime production was in full swing at Longbridge. Many men were being called to service with the Forces. Austin arranged to employ 3000 Belgian refugees who

arrived penniless in England and unable to speak English. It even became necessary to employ women, although Austin never really liked the idea. Production covered a wide range of war materials: eight million shells, 2000 trucks, 650 guns, armored cars and ambulances. The latter became well known for their comfort, and one of them won the *Croix de Guerre* for its services in 1917. During the war Britain was also hit by the Spanish influenza, and between two and three hundred coffins were made during one week at the Longbridge Works.

Early in 1916 Herbert faced another serious problem. His workforce had reached 22,000 employees, and his Longbridge factory had trebled in size. Local housing was exhausted, workers had to travel 30 or 40 miles to their lodgings. Bus transportation was limited by petrol rationing. Many workers traveled to the factory by trains and were often delayed. Some workers were spending only four hours at home, becoming so tired that many were falling asleep on the job. With a scarcity of both labour and materials for construction, Austin ordered a number of sectional wooden bungalows from America. The exporters put all the sides on one vessel, and all the roofs on the ill-fated *Lusitania*, so Austin found himself with a lot of roofless buildings.

AOA Photo 883-2

Longbridge Estate today is known as Austin Village.

He sent an S.O.S. to America for more roofs. The roofs bypassed the enemy submarines safely, and Longbridge Estate was born. It soon had four rows of fifty bungalows on 120 acres, interspersed at intervals with brick-built semi-detached homes. Each of the dwellings had its own garden. Roads and paths were constructed, street lighting was added later. The interior layout was advanced for that time, with built-in cupboards, bathrooms and indoor toilets. In a short time a thriving community was established. Today it is known as Austin Village, and in 2002 this plaque was erected to honor Herbert Austin.

AOA Photo 883-3

(Photo of a round plaque commemorating the life of Herbert Austin, 1866-1941)

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 902]

**JANE GOODWIN AUSTIN:
NEW ENGLAND AUTHOR AND
RESIDENT OF CONCORD AND
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS**

by *Leslie Perrin Wilson*

Editor's Notes: The author is the Special Collections Curator for the Concord Free Public Library in Concord, Massachusetts. She writes on local historical and literary topics, and is a regular contributor to *The Concord Journal* newspaper, where most of this material appeared in October 2003. It is published here with the permission of the author. Jane Goodwin Austin's husband descended from Richard Austin of Charlestown: *Loring Henry*⁷ *Austin*, *Loring*⁶ *Austin*, *Jonathan*⁵ *Austin*, *Benjamin*⁴ *Austin*, *Ebenezer*³ *Austin*, *Richard*² *Austin*, *Richard*¹ *Austin*.

Ask anyone to identify the famous authors who lived in Concord, Massachusetts during the mid-19th century, and you probably will not hear the name of Jane Austin among those mentioned. But Austin – a successful and popular author in her own time and a woman who managed the difficult task of combining marriage, family, and literary pursuit – was a Concord resident for a time. Although now occasionally confused with English author Jane Austen, Jane Goodwin Austin – historical novelist, gothic romancer, adventure writer, and author of works for children and young adults – was a thoroughly American product.

Jane Austin was no doubt drawn to Concord in part by her kinship to the Rev. Hersey Bradford Goodwin, who from 1830 until his untimely death in 1836 served as Ezra Ripley's junior colleague at the First Parish here. Moreover, Concord's powerful sense of place and acute consciousness of its own history must have appealed to Austin, who was inspired by the past and by her ancestors' role in it. However, in her writing she celebrated the history of Pilgrim Plymouth rather than that of Puritan Concord. Through both her paternal and maternal lineage, she descended from multiple *Mayflower* forebears.

Mary Jane Goodwin was born on 25 February 1831 in Worcester, Massachusetts, to lawyer and historian Isaac Goodwin and his wife, poet Elizabeth Hammatt Goodwin. Isaac died while Jane was still a toddler, and the family moved to Boston, Massachusetts. Privately educated, the girl displayed an early interest in history and genealogy and a talent for incorporating historical fact into engaging stories.

On 24 June 1850 in Boston, at the age of nineteen, Goodwin married Boston architect Loring Henry Austin, born 7 December 1819, the son of Major General Loring Austin and Sarah Wendell Orne. The couple had four children, three of whom survived to adulthood. When childbearing and childrearing no longer required her full energy, she turned to writing in earnest. Her first book, *Fairy Dreams*,

was published in 1859. Four years later, in 1863, the Austins took up residence in Concord, in the former Barzillai Frost house (now 235 Main Street).

Jane Austin's youthful aspirations were transformed into a full-fledged, prolific literary career while she lived in Concord. She found the local landscape and historical heritage congenial and enjoyed the opportunity to form personal bonds with other authors. A friend of both the Emersons and the Hawthornes, Jane was particularly close to Louisa May Alcott, another writing woman with an interest in creating stories for young people and a penchant for the gothic.

Austin's output was prodigious. She wrote for publication in such widely-read periodicals as the *Atlantic Monthly*, *Harper's*, *Frank Leslie's*, and *Putnam's*. Some of her books – *Cipher*, for example – first appeared serially in periodicals, and later as separate volumes. Following *Fairy Dreams*, Jane published *Kinah's Curse* (1864), *The Tailor Boy* (1865), *Dora Darling* (1865), *The Novice* (1865), *The Outcast* (1865), *Outpost* (1867), *Cipher* (1869), *Moonfolk* (1874), *Mrs. Beauchamp Brown* (1880), *The Desmond Hundred* (1882), *Nantucket Scraps* (1883), *The Story of a Storm* (1886), *Dolores* (1890), *Queen Tempest* (1890), *The Twelve Great Diamonds* (1892), *It Never Did Run Smooth* (1892), *The Cedar Swamp* (1901, posthumously), and her "Pilgrim Series" (issued between 1881 and 1891) – *Standish of Standish*, *Betty Alden*, *A Nameless Nobleman*, and *Dr. LeBaron and His Daughters*. She died before completing her fifth Pilgrim book.

The gothic novel *Cipher* was published in parts in *The Galaxy* between October 1868 and April 1869 and in book form by Sheldon and Company of New York in 1869 (see photograph on next page). The extensive Jane Austin holdings in the Concord Free Public Library Special Collections include a copy of the book version presented by the author herself in 1873.

The printed dedication of *Cipher* to Louisa May Alcott reveals the literary and personal connection between Austin and Alcott:

"My dear L.: Do you remember standing with me upon the bridge, and tossing chip boats into the river, and how eagerly we watched to see which should drift ashore, or wreck themselves against the stone pier, or remain idle and motionless in the eddy pool, and which should glide safely through the arch and down the smooth stream beyond? Come, now, and help me launch another venture, the little craft called "Cipher," whose construction you have watched with

AOA Photo 558-1

Frontispiece and title page from Jane Goodwin Austin's book 'Cipher,' published in 1869. The caption reads "Here's a poor creature and her baby freezing to death." Photograph courtesy of the Concord Free Public Library.

such ready sympathy and interest, and to whose freight you have so largely contributed. What is to be its fate?"

Austin further elaborated upon the metaphor, urging at the conclusion of her dedication,

"... standing hand in hand, [let us] watch the fortunes of our little craft, thanking God that, should she sink or should she swim, she does not carry our lives or our happiness with her."

Although they both lived in a town the name of which had become synonymous with transcendental idealism, the two women writers apparently shared a pragmatic understanding of the distinction between their lives and their art.

In the early 1870s, the Austins moved from Concord back to Boston. By the 1880s, their former home on Main Street was one of the "must-see" stops on the tourist's itinerary. Loring Henry Austin died on 21 February 1892. His wife spent her final years in Roxbury, writing until the end of her life. She died at the Roxbury home of one of her daughters on 30 March 1894. At least some of her writings remained in print decades after her death.

Closely associated with Boston by residence and with Plymouth through choice of subject matter, Jane Goodwin Austin does not belong to Concord in the way that Henry David Thoreau and Ralph Waldo Emerson do. Nevertheless, while living here she found her mature voice and the confidence to express it and at the same time cultivated a considerable popular audience. Her life in Concord was integral to the emergence of this gifted, energetic, and versatile woman as a recognized New England author.

QUERIES

886-1. **Benjamin Beecher Austin** was born 13 August 1826 in New Haven, Connecticut, a descendant of John Austin of New Haven. He married circa 1854 Elizabeth Griffin in Missouri. My great-great-grandfather is found in the 1860 Census of Falling Springs, Douglas County, Missouri. He is listed as "B. B. Austin" age 32 born in Connecticut, his wife Elizabeth age 23 was born in Missouri, as were their three children: Margaret age 5, William age 3 and Eli age 1, my great-grandfather. Also found in this census was Henry C. Austin, age 23 born in Connecticut, brother to B. B. Austin. Seeking any available documentation to confirm that B. B. Austin is indeed the Benjamin Beecher Austin of Connecticut, and that B. B. Austin's wife was Elizabeth Griffin.

886-2. **James Austin** was born in 1808, supposedly in the Wythe County or Carroll County, Virginia area. He married Virginia Britton/Bratton circa 1825. When he died she put on his death certificate that his parents were John & M. Austin. Should it have been James & M. Austin? This is a major stone wall. Help needed please!

886-3. **James A. Austin Sr.** was born in July 1817 in Nicholas County, Kentucky. The 1880 census shows his father born in New York and his mother in Virginia. James m. Emily Rice on 7 December 1840 in Bracken County, Kentucky. They spent most of their married life in Maysville, Mason County, Kentucky. They had five children born in Bath County, Kentucky, then five born in Maysville: James A. Austin Jr. b. 1843 d. 1914 Maysville; Frances Austin b. 1845 d. 1926 Maysville; Mary Alice Austin b. 1847 d. 1852 Maysville; William E. Austin b. 1849 d. 1893 Maysville; Hudson Rice Austin b. 1850; John Curtis Austin b. 1852 d. 1852, Anna B. Austin b. 1853; John Curtis Austin b. 1857 d. 1859 Maysville; Charles Phister Austin b. 1859; Edward Austin b. 1864. Emily d. 26 April 1893 Maysville. James A. Austin Sr. d. 11 November 1896 Maysville. Seeking his parents.

886-4. **Daniel L. Austin** and wife Ann Steadman were both born circa 1800. Their daughter Ann Austin was born 1 September 1828 in New York. She married John Nixon before 1855 in New York, and they moved to Shiawassee County, Michigan. Ann d. 15 April 1899 in Victor, Michigan. Her death certificate gives her parents names. Would like to learn anything on this Austin line.

886-5. **Benjamin Austin** was born ca. 1841 in Onondaga County, New York. His mother's name was Eliza, and he had siblings born in New York from 1837 to 1849: James Austin, Adeline Austin, Francis Austin, Williard S. Austin. He had other siblings born in Michigan from 1850 to 1854: Ira Austin, Alice A. Austin, William Austin and Chancy Austin. They appear in the Ottawa, Michigan 1860 census, in various houses with Eliza then married to Joseph Hermon. Seeking Benjamin's ancestry.

886-6. **Frederick Carlton Austin** was born 2 June 1853 in Skaneateles, Onondaga County, New York. He was married 11 May 1887 in Chicago, Illinois to Anna S. Barker, born 7 January 1855 in Michigan City, Indiana, the daughter of John Barker and Cordelia E. Collemar. Frederick established the F. C. Austin Manufacturing Company (see company letterhead below) which made road construction equipment, earth moving equipment, well and prospecting machinery, etc. Anna died 30 June 1922 in Hamburg, Germany, while she was traveling abroad. Frederick died 11 June 1931 in Pasadena, Los Angeles County, California. Seeking more information on this family and would like to contact descendants.

AOA Photo 886

Letterhead dated 14 October 1893 from F. C. Austin Manufacturing Company in Chicago, Illinois (Query 886-6)

**SOME DESCENDANTS OF
JEREMIAH AUSTIN AND HELEN THURSTON
OF JONES COUNTY, IOWA**

*by Carolyn Austin Kingston
and William John Neal*

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 854]

S246-3174-212. PAUL LAWRENCE¹¹ AUSTIN (*John Philip*,¹⁰ *Carl Eugene*,⁹ *George Thurston*,⁸ *Jeremiah Corliss*,⁷ *Edward W.*,⁶ *Jonathan*,⁵ *Jonathan*,⁴ *Zebediah*,³ *Thomas*,² *Samuel*¹) was born on 15 October 1942 in Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada. As a boy he would help out on his father's ranch. He attended school in Cochrane, Alberta, through grade 7. Then he went to an English boarding school, Vernon Preparatory School in Vernon, British Columbia for two years. Following graduation from the Cochrane High School in 1960, Paul attended the University of Calgary for one year in 1960-61, majoring in Zoology and minoring in Geology. The next summer he drove a tour bus for Brewster Bus Lines in Banff, Alberta. He traveled through Europe in the winter of 1961-62. After taking two more years of courses at the University, Paul worked the winter of 1964-65 in Freeport, Bahamas. He returned in 1965 to Banff, where he started working full time for Brewster.

Paul met Kathryn Jeanne Kerr in 1966 and they were married in Banff on 28 September 1968. Jeanne was born 7 January 1944 in Broadview, Saskatchewan, the daughter of William and Eunice Kerr.

In 1969 Paul and Jeanne Austin purchased the Scratch's Bungalows, later renamed as the Hidden Ridge Chalets, located on the Tunnel Mountain Road in Banff. They began operating this business in the summer of 1970. It was only open from May to October, since the cabins, although heated, only had summer water. During these years they had two daughters, Jennifer and Kelly. Paul replaced all the old cabins with heated water and Gothic arch frame chalets and several large condo style units with underground parking. The Hidden Ridge Chalets started operating year-round in 1980.

Paul and Jeanne separated in 1983 and divorced in 1987, but they and the children continued living in Banff. Paul bought Jeanne's share of the motel, and continued to run it until he sold it in November 2000. Paul had a son Philip Reid Treutler born in 1987.

In 1991 Paul acquired a 57-foot power boat for ocean cruising. He was an excellent navigator, and made

AOA Photo 887

Paul Lawrence and Paula Rebecca (Mattison) Austin in March 1996 at Kapalua Bay Beach, Maui, Hawaii

various trips, including one in 1992 to Glacier Bay in Alaska with his father Philip, half-sister Carolyn and husband Barry.

In 1992 Paul Austin met Paula Rebecca Mattison, who was born on 2 March 1956 in Halifax, Nova Scotia. She had moved to Moncton, New Brunswick with her family in 1965. and earned her bachelor's degree in Physical Education in 1977 from the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton. After graduation Paula moved to Banff. She worked at various Banff and Lake Louise hotels, including the Canadian-Pacific Hotels in both locations. Paula and Paul Austin were married on 1 March 1996 in Maui, Hawaii. She retired upon their marriage in 1996, and Paul is now retired as well. They have helped both of Paul's daughters and their husbands to get into the motel business for themselves in Kelowna, British Columbia.

Until his father John Philip Austin died on 4 January 2004 in Windermere, British Columbia, Paul would visit his father regularly. Paul and Paula now spend 8 to 10 weeks a year cruising the waters around Vancouver Island. The rest of the year is spent either at home in Banff or visiting

AOA Photos 888-1, -2

Daughters of Paul L. Austin – Left: Jennifer Dawn Austin and husband Peter Lloyd Cates. Right: Kelly Lee Austin and husband Richard Harold Waterhouse.

with their children's families in Kelowna. Paul had two children by his first wife Jeanne, and a son born in 1987:

- S246-3174-212-1. JENNIFER DAWN, *b. 27 October 1972, was m. 22 May 1999 in Banff to Peter Lloyd Cates b. 28 September 1967 in Jasper, Alberta. Ch: Megan Dawn b. 5 January 2001, twins Paige Ashley and Nicholas Austin b. 16 May 2003.*
- S246-3174-212-2. KELLEY LEE, *b. 3 October 1975, is an avid golfer. She was m. 25 August 2001 in Banff to Richard Hal Waterhouse, b. 1971. One ch: Owen Daniel b. 12 November 2003 Kelowna.*
- S246-3174-212-3. PHILIP REID TREUTLER, *b. 1987 in Banff, he and his mother Jacqueline Marie Treutler lived there until moving to Edmonton in 2001.*

S246-3174-213. SALLY ANNE¹¹ AUSTIN (*John Philip,¹⁰ Carl Eugene,⁹ George Thurston,⁸ Jeremiah Corliss,⁷ Edward W.,⁶ Jonathan,⁵ Jonathan,⁴ Zebediah,³ Thomas,² Samuel¹) was born 19 August 1947 in Calgary, Alberta, and raised on the family ranch in Grand Valley near Cochrane. She was a fine horsewoman, and good with animals. Later she had a small farm at Toby Creek, Invermere, British Columbia, then she moved to Windermere. Sally had a daughter Glenda born in 1966. She was married in 1969 to Jack Jolie, born in Kimberly, British Columbia. They divorced in 1973, and Sally was married second on 26 October 1973 in Banff to John Thomas Wilkinson, born 19 May 1934 in Ottawa, Ontario. John was in the Royal Canadian Air Force 1951-1956, and was exchanged to the U. S. Air Force as a jet pilot during the Korean War.*

John worked in open pit mining for Westrox Industries, retiring in 1989 because of a heart condition. John had a successful heart replacement, a year later he was out on the golf course. He also loves hunting. John and Sally do volunteer work for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, he received the Attorney General's *Citizen of the Year Award* in 2000. Sally had two daughters by her first husband Jack, and a son by her second husband John:

- S246-3174-213-1. GLENDA BYINGTON, *b. 6 August 1966 in Edmonton, Alberta, and given up for adoption. Circa 2000 Glenda contacted Sally, they and their families met, and have been in constant contact ever since.*
- S246-3174-213-2. SHELLY LYNN JOLIE, *b. 20 April 1970, m. John Grunwald, they later divorced. Shelly is now a licensed practical nurse working full time in the Columbia House, an extended care facility in Invermere. She is a warm, caring individual. Her son Matthew loves to fish and often gave his grandfather his catch to eat.*
- S246-3174-213-3. SHAWNNA LEE JOLIE, *b. 31 March 1972 in Kimberly, British Columbia. Shawanna loved whales. She is now working at the Fairmont Hotel in Fairmont, British Columbia, where she now lives in her own apartment. Shawanna often looked after her nephew Matthew when her sister Shelly was working.*
- S246-3174-213-4. SHANE AUSTIN WILKINSON, *b. 6 October 1974 in Invermore, British Columbia. He now works in Calgary for West Jet Airlines.*

AOA Photos 888-3, -4, -5

John Thomas & Sally Anne (Austin) Wilkinson (top), Sally's daughters Shawanna Lee Jolie (bottom right) and Shelly Lynn (Jolie) Grunwald with son Matthew.

THE AUSTIN SCOTTISH CONNECTION*by Harold Austin Steiner*

The sound of pipes echoes through the glens and the clansmen gather to meet whatever new challenge awaits them. That was yesteryear and then the challenges were real and frequently bloody. Today the gathering of the clans is symbolic, but the romance lingers, and few of Scottish descent, or others enamored with Scottish customs, can hear the bagpipes, see the colorful tartans and clan banners and not want to share the traditions. Those whose ancestors were Austins can become part of this pageant because they too have a Scottish connection. Since the surname Austin is traditionally considered to be of English origin, it is logical to wonder how this Scottish connection came about. A definitive answer requires a brief excursion into Scottish history and the origins of the Austin surname itself.

Scottish Clans and Septs

Scotland in the Middle Ages had a turbulent political and social environment for two major reasons: the Scottish Crown's continuous disputes with England kept the country in turmoil and envy, greed, avarice and ambition within the clans caused them to fight among themselves as well as with outside enemies.

Clan is a derivative of the Gaelic word "*clanad*" which means "children, family" and the most pragmatic way to insure safety and stability in the environment noted above was to have a large protective force of armed "family" men loyal to the chief of the clan. In fact, attaining clan status depended on the ability of a chief to raise a large force of men within a short period of time to defend the clan and its lands and property.

The great clans of Scotland, with large populations of clan members, could always raise enough fighting men to counter a threat. However, smaller families with fewer members were vulnerable and, to achieve a modicum of protection and continuity, some banded together as a loose confederation. The heads of the minor families swore allegiance or fealty to the chief of the major family of the confederation and pledged to serve the chief in peace and war. The minor families that banded together in this manner, irrespective of differences in origin or surname, were called "septs" of the major clan.

Some minor families either had or attained clan status themselves, and with time the bonding strengthened and the confederations became as strong as any major single-family clan. Today one of the most durable examples of this family bonding is the Clan Chattan composed of a number of major and minor clans, including Shaw, MacBean, MacPhail, Davidson, Maclean, MacQueen, MacThomas, Mackintosh, MacPherson, Farquharson, MacGillivray and MacIntyre.

The Austin Surname

During the "Dark Ages," from the 5th to the 11th centuries, people were largely illiterate, lived in rural communities or small villages and had little need to identify one another except by their given names. When necessary, people might identify themselves by their given names and the locality where they lived.

Linguists and onomatologists generally agree that the Normans introduced the vernacular use of surnames in Britain after their conquest in 1066. The practice caught on slowly, but their institution of religious and civil bureaucracies, and their need to officially identify people, spurred the growth of surnames. In 13th century Britain about a third of the male population had the forenames *William, Richard and John*.¹ Obviously a more definitive identification method was needed, and British surnames became fixed from about the 13th century.

The acquisition and use of surnames have been affected by many factors, including social class and structure as well as cultural traditions. For example, British surnames, with which we are concerned, reflect the history of Britain as an oft-invaded land. British surname roots include, but are not necessarily limited to, derivatives from Latin, Celtic, Gaullist, Old Norse, Old Germanic, Old English, Old French and Middle English, plus others of ethnic origins.

Four sources serve as basis for native British surnames: (a) the name of an ancestor, (b) the name of the locality or place where an ancestor lived, (c) the occupation or affiliation of an ancestor, (d) a description or nickname of an ancestor's physical attributes such as face, figure, temperament, morals or habits.

It is generally accepted that the modern English surname *Austin* evolved from the ancient name Augustine that is a diminutive of the Latin word *Augustinus*, meaning "venerable, majestic, dignified, renowned." The most noteworthy individual identified by that diminutive was Saint Augustine (354-430), who is credited as being the progenitor of the Austin surname. He was the Bishop of Hippo and his influence on Christianity is considered second only to that of St. Paul. He advocated one could best serve God by living an austere monastic life, and he formulated a set of canons (rules) on how this should be done. The Lateran Synod of 1059 urgently exhorted the clergy of cathedrals and collegiate churches to live together and adopt some form of regularized common life. Pious monks responded to the appeal and bound themselves together in religious orders. Some of these orders took vows of poverty, obedience and chastity and, in honor of Saint Augustine, they became known as the Augustinian Canons.² In England, they were sometimes known as the Black Canons or Black Friars because of the austere, all black habit they traditionally wore. Philosophically the Augustinian Friars were bound by poverty, and in the early years they adhered strictly to this policy. However, gradually

AOA Photo 890**Ruins of Bolton Abbey in Yorkshire, erected by the Black Canons of the Order of Saint Augustine in 1145.**

they began to receive lands and goods from nobles as well as lay people. By the 12th century some orders had erected priories and abbeys,³ some of which reached a grand scale. A striking example was the Bolton Priory – which later became an Abbey – shown in the photograph above.

In time, the Augustinian Canons name was shortened to the Austin Canons and, by the 13th century, the once mendicant Order of St. Augustine had evolved into what was known as the Austin Friars. Circa 1328, the mother house of the Austin Friars was established at Clare in Suffolk, and a priory and church were constructed. The priory still stands, but the church suffered the fate of other Catholic religious houses when King Henry VIII dissolved the Catholic Church in Britain in 1539. Centuries of neglect and vandalism have left only the ruins of these once awe inspiring structures.

Many of the priories, abbeys and monasteries were not cloistered. Daily chores and tasks needed to be done and religious lay people answered the call and worked with the monks and priests. It is generally accepted that the English surnames *Austin*, *Austen*, *Austing*, *Auston* and other variants evolved among the lay people who were religiously associated with the Austin Friars.

The Old French name *Aoustin* is a vernacular form of *Augustine* or its variant *Augustin*. After the Conquest, these identifiers were common as a Christian name, especially in Latin, but were rare as a surname. Gradually, however, these Christian names evolved into surnames in the vernacular form as *Austin*, *Austen* or the other variants that became more common in Medieval English.

The earliest recorded use of Austin and its variants as a vernacular identifier dates from the early 13th century. *Austinius de Bernardeston* was recorded in the Feet of Fines of Suffolk in 1224, and literally identifies an individual whose name was an early variant of *Austin* who was from Bernardeston. Similarly, *Austins de Beston* was recorded in the Place Names of Norfolk in 1230. *Ostin ate Putte* was recorded in the Subsidy Rolls of Somerset in 1327. *Henry Austin* and *Edith Austine* were recorded in the subsidy Rolls of Worcester in 1275. *Avice Austyn (Austynes)* was recorded in the Subsidy Rolls of Essex in 1327.

Note that most of these early recordings were in counties in the eastern and southeastern parts of England and this leads to the conclusion that the surname Austin most likely evolved and became common in that part of Britain. This is confirmed to some extent by the number of Austin genealogies and pedigrees recorded during the Heraldic Visitations in the eastern and southeastern shires in the 17th and early 18th centuries. From this region, those bearing the surname Austin spread slowly throughout the English speaking world. Today the surname is fairly common and thousands of family members and genealogists are trying to trace their ancestors back in time.

Unfortunately, the early-recorded Austin data outlined above implicitly confirms that, unless one is descended from royalty or the early aristocracy, the chance of generating a true Austin genealogy or family history that goes beyond the 12th or 13th centuries is practically nil. As disheartening as this conclusion might be, the above analyses have established some useful facts. We have presented a reasonable case for the origin of the Austin surname and generally localized where early Austin families were established in Britain. Next we shall try to establish the Scottish connection.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 906]

Austins of America *Genealogical Society*

SEPTEMBER 2004 NEWSLETTER

AOAGS CELEBRATES 25TH ANNIVERSARY

AOA Photo 891

The *Austins of America Genealogical Society* celebrated its 25th Anniversary in August 2004. For a quarter of a century AOAGS has assisted Austin family genealogists in researching and publishing their lines, fulfilling the Society's goals of helping Austin family researchers and preserving their research for posterity. AOAGS members have compiled *Austins in the Federal Census of 1850* for all states and have now started doing the 1860 census. AOAGS has made many Austin documents from its vast collection available via the "Research" link on its website. The AOAGS *Austin-Austen Research Center* (AARC) now holds the largest collection of Austin historical and genealogical documents available anywhere. Last year the Society established the *Austin-Austen DNA Project* which has already helped several researchers to discover their Austin lines (p. 912). The first issue of the Society's newsletter *Austins of America* appeared in August 1979. The newsletters are also being published in three hard-covered books, the first is currently available. Lauded by many genealogists and well received by Austin family researchers, the newsletters now reach over 600 members and libraries, and have no doubt contributed greatly to the Society's rapid growth. AOAGS is the largest group of Austin family researchers in the world, with members from several countries. With more than 25 years of Austin genealogical data collection and experience, the Society will continue serving its members throughout the world.

SOCIETY NAME CHANGE ANNOUNCED

At the 2004 National Austin Convention in Salt Lake City AOAGS Director Dr. Michael Edward Austin announced that in February 2005 the Society's name will be changed to the *Austin Families Genealogical Society* (AFGS). The new name better reflects the international nature of the Society's membership, since the Society now includes many members from Australia, Canada, England, New Zealand, Scotland, and the United States. A new AFGS Constitution is being drawn up for approval by the full membership, and AFGS officers will be elected by the full membership early in 2005. The AOAGS January 2005

Leeds Castle in County Kent, England has served as a Norman stronghold, a royal residence for several of England's medieval queens, a palace of Henry VIII, and a retreat for the powerful and influential.

newsletter will complete the third and final volume of The *Austins of America* series. All subsequent newsletters published by AFGS will be under the banner of the *Austin Families Register* series. The Society will sponsor International Austin Conventions (next column), and its web site will soon change to www.austins.org.

2005 INTERNATIONAL AUSTIN CONVENTION

The first International Austin Convention will be held on 16-18 September 2005 at the Christ Church University College in Canterbury, Kent County, England. Kent is the "Austin heartland" of England. The convention is being sponsored by the AOAGS under its new name, the *Austin Families Genealogical Society*. Arrangements are being coordinated through Dr. Roger Brian Austin of Sherborne, Dorset, England. Roger received the AOAGS *Austin Genealogical Research Award* in 2002 for his collaboration with Timothy John Smellie in updating and republishing *An Old Colonial Family*, a book on the descendants of Thomas Austin of Barbados (page 781).

Convention attendees will reside at Lanfranc House on the college campus. Talks by local genealogists and historians and by AFGS members will include Kent, Genealogy in Kent, the Austins of England, Austin DNA Testing, and other topics of interest to Austin family researchers. Tours of Canterbury Cathedral and its archives, the Kent County Archives, Hever Castle and Leeds Castle (shown above) are now being planned. Please circle the dates on your calendar. Full details will be found under the "Conventions" link on our web site and will appear in your January 2005 AOAGS newsletter.

NOTE: Page 892 and the top half of this page contain personal photos of the 2004 National Austin Convention, and are eliminated here.

2004 CONVENTION IN SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

The 2004 National Austin Convention was held on 9-11 July in Salt Lake City, Utah, jointly sponsored by the Austins of America Genealogical Society (AOAGS) and the Austin Families Association of America (AFAOA). Friday afternoon a group of attendees were taken on an LDS Family History Library tour, and on Saturday two convention talks explained how to use the Library. Art Sikes spoke about doing *Upstate New York Genealogical* Beverly Mackay Sikes Suffield CT Harold Austin Steiner Las Vegas NV Doris McGilvary Steiner Las Vegas NV *Research*, Mike Austin explained the *Austin-Austen DNA Project*, and Liz Carlin reviewed *Progress in Southern Austin Research*. On Sunday Jim Carlin spoke on *Adding Documentation to Your Austin Research*, Carol Austin gave hints for *Searching Census Records Online*, Joe Austin solicited participation by *Austins of America at the Keith Clan Gathering* in Las Vegas in April 2005, and Hal Steiner told a tale of *Murder and Genealogy*. Following the AFAOA and AOAGS business meetings, attendees chose Seattle, Washington, as the site for the 2005 National Austin Convention, to be held in early June.

On Sunday evening Sue Ellingson Osborn took a group photo during the cocktail hour. Rev. Marsha Wood Davis gave a moving Invocation before the banquet, and after a fine dinner Guest Speaker Jessie Dell Clawson of Salt Lake City gave an interesting talk on *Utah Pioneers*. AOAGS Director Dr. Michael Edward Austin closed the convention after presenting the Society's 2005 Eagle Award to AOAGS Genealogist and Associate Editor Patricia Biebuyck Austin of Concord, Mass. (next page).

AOA Photo 894-1

Austin Genealogical Research Award recipients at the 2004 National Austin Convention in Salt Lake City, Utah. Left to right and year of award: Harold Austin Steiner 1997, Elizabeth Austin Carlin and James Herbert Carlin 1998, Patricia Biebuyck Austin 2004, Bonnie Austin Bigolin 1999, Gay Gaston Martin Jr. 2001 & Roger Brian Austin 2002.

AOA Photos 894-2, 3

Hal and Doris Steiner (above) & Jack and Ernestina Austin (below) hear the Old Salt Lake Jail's 'Singing Sheriff' melodiously explain "I'm My Own Grandpa" to a large group of Austin Convention genealogists.

**PATRICIA BIEBUYCK AUSTIN
RECEIVES EAGLE AWARD AT THE
2004 NATIONAL AUSTIN CONVENTION**

The Austin Genealogical Research Award has been presented at Austins of America Genealogical Society conventions since 1997, and recognizes "members who have made significant contributions to publishing Austin genealogical research." The 2004 "Eagle" was awarded to an AOAGS Genealogist and Associate Editor, Patricia Ann Biebuyck Austin of Concord, Massachusetts for her numerous articles published in the Society's newsletter, *Austins of America*. Besides researching and writing her own articles, for the past 25 years Pat has proofread all newsletter articles in her role as an Associate Editor, and she has often helped Austin family researchers discover their Austin roots in her role as an AOAGS Genealogist.

In September 1960 Pat married Mike Austin, a senior at Notre Dame. Their family appears in *Austins of America*, starting on page 584. After Mike retired in June 2003, they took up golf and intensified their support of AOAGS. Pat exercises daily at *Curves*, even when traveling. They spent a week in March 2004 golfing at their Florida timeshare, and in May enjoyed visiting friends Alice and Gay Martin in Mississippi. In June they began a 6085-mile trip to visit friends and family in New York, Indiana, Iowa and Idaho, and to attend the 2004 Convention in Salt Lake City. In retirement Pat and Mike are now busier than ever!

**SOME DESCENDANTS OF
THOMAS AUSTIN OF BARBADOS**

*by Roger Brian Austin
Timothy John Smellie
and Bruce Merivale-Austin*

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 874]

The first inhabitants of this mansion were the Cavan brothers, then Mr. McChlery, then Mr. Baird himself (referred to by J.G.A. as the 'Old Gorilla'), then John Gardiner Austin, Jr. With J.G.A.'s occupation a turtle crawl was built, for turtle meat and soup were popular in these days of opulent dining and he was hospitable and loved entertaining. Part of the grounds were leveled and turned into grass tennis courts. The Enmore Tennis Club met every Tuesday afternoon for over 20 years and, in the opinion of its members, to belong to this club was the hallmark of 'good society.'

The next few years passed happily and the family increased to eight. Relatives and friends from Demerara and elsewhere were welcome guests at Enmore, the visits either social or for convalescence after illness. Trips to England were regular occasions, and on one of these the eldest daughter was left at school at 'Home.'

J.G.A. had also been appointed honorary consul by Norway, Sweden and France. Although honorary, there was nevertheless a great deal of work and responsibility attached to the appointments, particularly with regard to shipping. Later he was honored by being made a Knight of the Scandinavian orders of St. Olaf and of Vasa.

Towards the end of the 1870's the price of sugar went down and down. The effect of this was felt by merchants as well as by planters whose estates were often thrown into Chancery. The good times were at an end. In the mid-1880's it proved impossible to maintain Enmore. It was sold and the family moved to Bay Cottage, a far more humble dwelling next to the Great House (Bay Mansion) of the old Bay Estate, facing the sea. Transport from Bay Cottage to Bridgetown by mule train was easier than it had been at Enmore and it was, here that the five boys, 'Ruff', Arthur, Harold, Malcolm, Frank and the two girls, Daisy (D.H.A.) and Mabel spent their schooldays. There was no question now of their being sent to England, and the boys were educated at Harrison College and the girls at Queen's College, but somehow the eldest girl was kept at 'Home' until she grew up.

These years were saddened for J.G.A. by the deaths of his own brothers and sisters. By the early nineties he and Belle were the only two left of that big family. Enmore had been bought by a Mrs. St. Hill whose relations lived nearby at Stockton. On her death it was found that she

had left instructions in her will that J.G.A., for whom she had an affectionate respect, was to have the first opportunity of buying back the property should he be able to offer any reasonable amount for it. Such was the poverty of the times that big houses with several acres of land were changing hands for a few hundred pounds. J.G.A. did not even have this small amount but his children were growing up, one son at least was a wage earner, and they all agreed to contribute their savings, most of which must have been gifts from godparents and relatives or their shares in the fleet of lighters operated by Cavans. Belle sent money from Sweden and a certain amount was left on mortgage, so in 1898 the family moved back to their dearly-loved home, just in time for the hurricane of September that year. This hurricane was not to be compared in violence with that of 1831 and the house was not seriously damaged.

J.G.A.'s last years were clouded with business worries and anxieties which affected his health. Early in 1902 he died suddenly of a heart aneurysm and with him the old firm of Cavan's ceased to exist and went into bankruptcy. Enmore was left to his widow, Dora, who continued to live there with the unmarried children. Her son Harold worked successfully to revive the family firm, under the name of Gardiner Austin & Company and was later joined by his youngest brother, Francis. Such was the respect felt for J.G.A. in the business world that most of the agencies for which Cavan's had been responsible were now handed on to his sons in the new firm. One of the most important was that of Lloyds and J.G.A.'s grandson, Bruce Wilday Gardiner Austin, was invited to London by the directors of Lloyds to receive a silver plaque, given to the firm of Gardiner Austin & Co. in recognition of over 100 years of faithful service. This was the third silver plaque in the western hemisphere to be awarded, only New York and Montreal being senior to Barbados.

The Scandinavian consulships too were passed on. In due course Harold became a Knight of Vasa and Francis became a Knight of Saint Olaf. After the Second World War, Francis' son Bruce, mentioned above, who had succeeded him as Consul for Norway, was also made a Knight of the same order – three generations of unbroken service to the Kingdom of Norway. On Harold's marriage in 1904, his mother decided to vacate the house in his favour, he to pay her a rent of £100 p.a. The small mortgage outstanding was paid off by Harold's bride with wedding present money. Dora and D.H.A. left Barbados for England where they spent the rest of their lives.

John Gardiner Austin Jr. died on 8 March 1902 in Barbados, and was buried there the same day. Dorothy

died on 25 June 1916 in London, leaving Enmore and all of its contents to Harold, with the exception of certain bequests itemised separately. The reason for this, given in her will, was that he was the son 'in possession.'

The house was once again a family home and the tradition of hospitality was kept up until the death of its owner, then Sir Harold Austin, in 1943. It was sold and eventually the site was redeveloped and became a hospital. Now the old deer paddock is covered over with buildings and the land where once the elite of Barbados society played tennis is built over with accommodations for medical staff. The ruins of the old windmill alone remain as a reminder of the past. John Gardiner Austin and Dorothy Frere (Grant) Austin had ten children:

T342-1. MEHETABEL EMMA GRANT, *b. 21 January 1867*

+

T342-2. CHARLES PIERREPONT GARDINER, *b. 21 October 1868 d. 26 October 1868. Bur. St. Leonards, Barbados.*

T342-3. JEFFREY HUGH GARDINER, *b. 14 March 1870 d. 5 December 1872. Buried St. Leonards, Barbados.*

T342-4. JOHN GARDINER, *b. 20 June 1871 +*

T342-5. ARTHUR PIERCY GARDINER, *b. 2 August 1873 +*

T342-6. DORA HELEN ANNETTE, *b. 12 November 1874 in Enmore, Barbados. She d. 15 March 1955 in Amersham Hospital, Buckinghamshire, England. She was buried 21 March 1955 in Golders Green Crematorium. Much of this Austin line genealogy is based upon her notes.*

T342-7. HAROLD BRUCE GARDINER, *b. 15 July 1877 in Enmore, Barbados. He was an excellent cricketer and regarded as one of the fathers of the West Indies cricket team.*

T342-8. MABEL LOUISA FRERE, *b. 15 Dec. 1878 England, m. Charles Edward Yearwood 18 February 1903. He d. 18 June 1935, she d. 15 July 1958 England. No issue.*

T342-9. MALCOLM BURNETT GARDINER, *b.24 May 1880 +*

T342-A. FRANCIS ELWYN WILDAY GARDINER, *b. 10 April 1882 in Enmore, Barbados +*

T343. MEHETABEL PIERCY⁴ AUSTIN (*John Gardiner*³, *William*², *Thomas*¹) was born on 29 February 1840 in Demerara, British Guiana. As a baby she shared in the family's migration to England and in the 'country gentleman' episode in Warwickshire. She must have been about four when her parents returned to Demerara with the two older brothers and two younger ones born in England. Little is known of the ten years she then spent in Demerara, except that her mother Emma was considered very modern and rather daring in allowing her daughter to discard frilly

AOA Photo 896

Axel Dickson and Mehetabel Piercy Austin

pantalets, the proper dress for little girls of the period, despite the tropical heat. She must have had a governess for there was no girls school in Georgetown. She was described by a cousin, in later years, as 'such a handsome girl' being blue-eyed and fresh-complexioned.

At fourteen Belle was dispatched to her grandmother in Bonn, spending a few days in Trinidad with Burnett relations en route. Seventy years later she described to a great-niece, with great accuracy, the appearance of Bonn, the capital. From Bonn she began a correspondence with her brother J.G.A. (then 16 years old), his part of which for the next ten years has survived. She learned German, although no great linguist, and studied music and singing with masters. Two years later she was joined in Bonn by Mama and the younger children.

By the time Belle Austin was grown up, her father had embarked on his expedition to China and had settled his family (except for the two elder boys left behind to work in Demerara) at Porchester Terrace, Bayswater, London, where there was much entertaining among a wide circle of friends, both colonial and English. She went to concerts and theatres and J.G.A. makes occasional sly references to her 'admirers.' In 1862 he wrote an excited letter of

congratulation on her engagement, not unmixed with sadness that he would no longer be of first importance in her life. Her fiancée was a young widower, Axel Dickson, who was of Scottish descent but born 14 December 1826 in Sweden and raised there. He was one of four brothers, the family having made a fortune in timber, supplying pit props for coal mines. Their London agents were the Parks, family friends of long standing. Axel's first wife Charlotte Wilson Dudgeon (1829-1860) had been a Scotswoman who died leaving him with three little girls.

The engagement was not long and their wedding was at Holy Trinity near Westbourne Grove in London on 31 July 1862. The honeymoon was spent in Paris after which Belle found herself *chatelaine*, at the age of 22, of a huge house near Gothenburg called Kyleberg (which is pronounced Chuleberg). There was a large staff, on a feudal scale, of indoor and outdoor servants. One of Belle's first tasks was to learn Swedish which she never spoke really well. Her husband and children often poked gentle fun at her mistakes in grammar and pronunciation. Many of the necessities of life, butter, soap and candles were made on the estate. Belle's clothes, and later those of the daughters, came from Paris.

The year after the wedding J.G.A. wrote an enthusiastic letter of welcome to a niece, another Mehetabel but known as Lillabell and he accepted the responsibility of being her godfather. All letters after this contain 'love to my little god-daughter.' Members of Belle's family frequently visited her at Kyleberg and her youngest sister, Helen, who was not much older than the eldest step-daughter, shared a governess with the step-children.

Then there was a serious financial crisis. Axel had lent a considerable amount money to his friend, a local bank manager. This manager misappropriated the bank's funds and Axel lost all the money he had lent. The family left Kyleberg and moved nearer to Stockholm where one of Axel's brothers owned a large property called Skeppsta. On this property there was a hunting box, so called, but actually a large and roomy house which may have seemed small to the Dicksons but palatial to the Austin cousins. Axel was appointed land agent and looked after the forest and scattered farms which were all part of the estate. There was a big garden and in the grounds a lake on which there was boating in summer and skating in winter. The move took place in the late seventies or the early eighties and Skeppsta provided a happy holiday home for J.G.A.'s children in the years that followed.

Axel nearly saw the new century in, dying in 1899, sometime after which Belle, together with two of her unmarried daughters, moved to the little township of Södertälje on the Gota Canal, joining Lake Mälaren to the sea and about 50 miles from Stockholm. Here she spent the remainder of her life, first in a large villa set in its own grounds and then in a roomy flat.

AOA Photo 897

Mehetabel Austin

Belle was an outstanding personality and the senior member of the family for many years. She outlived her own generation by over forty years and was 'Aunt Belle' to numerous nephews, nieces and their children, many of whom had never met her. Belle's 100th birthday on 29 February 1940 was a grand occasion, with tributes of gifts and flowers coming from near and far, and personal greetings from the Swedish royal family. Unfortunately it was wartime so no English relations could be present. She lived for three more years, finally succumbing to the flu on 27 December 1943.

Up until the time of her death Belle retained all her faculties, keeping up an enormous correspondence with relations to the third and fourth generation writing to them for any special occasion. She crocheted shawls (some of which are still intact) for new family babies and knitted socks for the troops, particularly for the Finns, whose country to her great indignation had been invaded by Russia. On the whole Swedish sympathies during the Second World War were with the Axis. Not so Belle's. She would hear no talk of an Allied defeat and remained stoutly British though she died before she could see her faith justified. Axel and Mehetabel Piercy (Austin) Dickson raised twelve children. Their first three daughters were by his previous marriage, the last nine by Mehetabel:

T342-1. BLANCHE

T342-2. FLORENCE

T342-3. ALICE

T342-4. MEHETABEL EMMA, *b. 23 May 1863*

T342-5. LOUISA HELEN, *b. 7 June 1866*

T342-6. EDITH ALLEYNE, *b. 18 September 1868*

T342-7. AXEL JAMES AUSTIN, *b. 27 October 1869*

T342-8. CONSTANCE AGNES PIERCY, *b. 9 January 1871*

T342-9. ETHEL MARGARET, *b. 1872 d. 2 June 1872*

T342-A. GERTRUDE CAROLINE, *b. 5 June 1873*

T342-B. OSCAR CHARLES WILLIAM, *b. 27 October 1875*

T342-C. GRACE MARY, *b. 25 March 1877*

T344. HUGH PIERCY⁴ AUSTIN (*John Gardiner*³, *William*,² *Thomas*¹) was born 15 November 1841 in Thickethorpe, Warwick, England. He was one of the first pupils at Queen's College in Georgetown, British Guiana, which was founded by Bishop Austin in 1844. In a letter to Belle when Piercy was 13½, J.G.A. (about 16 himself) wrote:

'Piercy is too fat. You have no idea what a size he is. I dare say you remember what I was. Well he is just about double my size and not so tall. You can imagine what a rum puncheon he is. I, on the contrary, have grown thin and very tall. I am very near Toto. There is only 2 inches between us.'

Piercy accompanied his mother to England soon after this and 'assumed a more respectable size.' At one time there was an idea that he should go to sea, but instead he went to Hong Kong as a clerk in Jardines, where he died on 14 September 1870 of fever, a bachelor. He and his brother Toto lie in adjoining graves in the Happy Valley Cemetery in Hong Kong.

T513. PRESTON BRUCE⁴ AUSTIN (*Wiltshire Stanton*,³ *Richard*,² *Thomas*¹) was born on 9 December 1827 in Llwcoed, Aberdare, Glamorgan, Wales. He earned his degree at Trinity Hall, Cambridge. He was ordained a deacon in 1851, and received an LL.B. degree in 1857 and an LL.D. in 1876. He was a priest in British Guiana in 1852 and must have spent some time there for J.G.A., who knew him well and thought him a splendid fellow, wrote in 1855 'Uncle Piercy, Uncle Charles and Aunt F. dined with us last night. Francis could not come, poor fellow, as he was bothered with a meeting of Preston's old friends, the Old Women who accuse him now of taking their money.' Preston was then in England and in touch with J.G.A.'s sister Belle, for J.G.A. writes to her: *'Tell Preston that he ought to send something for the Kitty Church as the people there were always such favourites of his. They are, I believe, the best people in Demerara, they turn out in large gangs and take timber, bricks etc., to the site of the new church without any charge.'*

Preston spent some time in Germany (possibly as English Chaplain at a Spa) and was not in Barbados when J.G.A. arrived there in 1857 but was expected at the end of the 1858. J.G.A. writes from Merrywing Hall, Rockley, to which Cavan's Mess had moved for the hot weather: *'The town is intensely hot and Preston would do well to delay his coming as long as possible'* adding primly *'I am sorry to hear he has bought a dog-cart, which does not become a clergyman.'*

In the next letter to Belle, Preston Austin is expected in a fortnight's time and was to go to Dayrell's, a small estate about 4 miles from Bridgetown. By the following year he was settled at St. James' Church, first as curate but soon as Rector for J.G.A. writes his sister: *'Preston his been inducted into the living. Is he not a lucky fellow? Only out here two years and to obtain what many a poor devil has been mainly wishing for ... Those who know him say the Bishop has made a good selection. He was formally inducted on Saturday and mounted a swell up and down coat and M. B. waistcoat.'* We do not know whether Preston lived at a rectory or at nearby Husbands, a property he had acquired by his marriage to Ann Eliza Griffith on 9

December 1854, who had inherited it from Goodridge relations. Ann was born in 1833. D.H.A. writes that Annie *'was something of an heiress and perhaps spoilt. She was kind and affectionate but neither wise nor intelligent - not the wife for a man like Preston.'* The old mill at Husbands, bearing the date 1729, is still in existence. J.G.A. was very attached to his second cousin Preston and spent many weekends at his house in St. James, riding along the coast road from Bridgetown. He was godfather to his third son, Preston Bruce, nicknamed 'Snobbie.'

During Preston Bruce's rectorship a new church, St. John the Baptist, was built in St. James parish on land given by the then owner of Holder's Plantation. The Governor and churchwardens, accompanied by Preston, rode around the district and finally decided on a site near Thorpe's. Preston stayed in St. James from 1860 until 1865. From 1875 to 1880 he was Rector at St. Philip. During this time the Pope-Hennessy riots took place and Preston, who combined the duties of a parish rector with those of an editor of a newspaper, the *Agricultural Reporter*, was among the commissioners chosen to go to the Colonial Office in London to represent local opposition to Gov. Hennessy's scheme for federation of the Windward Islands and consequent loss to Barbados of the privilege of self-government. Perhaps this was because he had signed a 'Petition to the [Barbados] House of Assembly on the Religious and Social Conditions of the Labouring Classes.' The Federation of the West Indies was finally inaugurated in 1958, but failing dismally after a trial of five years, it was dissolved.

In 1880 D.H.A. records that Preston left the West Indies and the Church *'under a cloud.'* The nature of the cloud she does not disclose, but Preston does not appear to have been unfrocked. The next twenty years of his life were spent in England and for some time he was Rector of All Hallows, Lombard Street, London. After the death of his wife 5 August 1900 in Barbados, he returned to Barbados to live with one of his sons until he died in 1908. His grave is at St. John the Baptist Church, St. James, of which he is described as 'the Founder.'

T513-1. PIERCY GRIFFITH BRUCE, *b. 1855 in Barbados, he was a chaplain in the Indian Army. He married Evelyn Oldfield. Piercy died at Buntingford, Hertfordshire.*

T513-2. WILTSHIRE STANTON BRUCE, *b. 1857 +*

T513-3. PRESTON BRUCE, *b. 1859 +*

T513-4. EUSTACE PRINCE, *b. 1861 in Barbados, he resided in Trinidad and in Los Angeles 1927. He died a bachelor.*

T513-5. CHARLES WARE BRUCE, *b. 29 July 1862 +*

T513-6. GARDINER BRUCE, *b. 20 April 1864 +*

T513-7. ALLEYNE BRUCE, *bp. circa 1866 in Barbados.*

T513-8. MAURICE BRUCE, *b. 1868 d. as an infant*

**PAST AND FUTURE
AUSTIN FAMILY CONVENTIONS**

by Michael Edward Austin

Note: This article is based upon AOAGS Library records dating from 1923, and include Edith Austin Moore's "desk copies" of her Robert and Richard books, all her manuscripts, letters, newsletters, reunion photographs and early membership records. The Austins of America Genealogical Society (AOAGS) and the Austin Families Association of America (AFAOA) owe a great deal to Edith's early endeavors.

Genealogist Edith Austin Moore began compiling Austin family records in 1912, attempting to find the parents of her great-grandfather Edward Austin, born 30 June 1773 in Rhode Island. Edith suspected that he descended from Robert Austin of Kingstown, Rhode Island, but could not find the connection. In 1941 her brother Henry Warner Austin hosted a reunion in Washington, D.C., inviting Robert descendants from around the U.S. Edith showed her pedigree charts at this first national Austin family reunion, but never found her "missing link." Edith died in 1979 (see obituary on *Austins of America* page 3). Recent DNA testing (page 910) has disproved any link to Robert.

At a second meeting held in Ithaca, New York in 1942, the *Austin Family Association of America* (AFAOA) was organized "to help me with my genealogical work on the Austin family," according to Edith's notes. Regional and national Austin family reunions have been held annually since then, except during the war years 1943-1945. In 1977 the organization was renamed the *Austin Families Association of America*. In 1979 Dr. Michael Edward Austin and Carol Leighton Hull founded the *Austins of America Genealogical Society* (AOAGS) "to encourage the publication of Austin family research," and most reunions after 1979 were supported by both organizations. In 1983 AOAGS introduced computerized research to the reunions (*Austins of America* page 86). From 1998 to 2004 "National Austin Conventions" were sponsored jointly by AOAGS and AFAOA. A complete listing of national Austin family gatherings is shown on page 900.

Due to its increasing international membership, AOAGS will become the *Austin Families Genealogical Society* (AFGS) in February 2005 (see announcement page 891). In the future, AFGS plans to sponsor International Austin Conventions in various countries to better help Austin family researchers worldwide discover their Austin roots. Many Austins around the world originated in England, so it is

AOA Photo 899-1

(Invitation to "an Austin Family Reunion and Picnic – August 9, 1941 – Washington, D. C.)

appropriate that Canterbury in Kent County, England was chosen as the site of the 2005 International Austin Convention (page 891). While the AFAOA declined an AFGS invitation to jointly sponsor the 2005 convention, it did agree to jointly sponsor future International Austin Conventions whenever they are held in North America.

AOA Photo 899-2

Edith Austin Moore showing the Robert Austin line to Walter Warner Austin, former Mayor of San Diego California, guest speaker at the 1941 Austin Reunion.

AOA Photo 900-1

Attendees to the first national Austin family reunion held in Dupont Park in Washington D.C. on 9 August 1941. Shown at the picnic left to right, standing: Mr. William C. Austin of Arlington, Virginia, Mrs. Henry Warner Austin of Washington, DC, Mr. Howard Austin of Ohio, Mrs. Walter Warner Austin of San Diego, California, Miss Austin of Arlington, Virginia, Mr. John Frazier Austin, U. S. Navy, Mrs. William C. Austin of Arlington, Virginia, Miss Nan Marie Austin of Washington, DC, Mrs. Grace Austin Powell of Glen Cove, New York, Mrs. Austin of Hornell, New York, Mrs. James Gaston Austin of Hornell, New York, Mr. Austin of Hornell, New York, Judge James Gaston Austin of Hornell, New York, Mr. Charles Austin Marlow of Vermont, Miss Jean Pauly of California, Mr. Walter Warner Austin, former Mayor of San Diego, California, Mr. Henry Warner Austin of Washington, DC, Mr. Thomas Austin of Bethesda, Maryland, Mrs. Miller Andrus, Takoma Park, Maryland. Sitting: Mrs. Edith Austin Moore of Brooklyn, New York, Miss Mary Ann Austin of Washington, DC, John Henry Austin of Washington, DC, Billie Andrus of Takoma Park, Maryland, Mary Ellen Andrus of Takoma Park, Maryland, Mrs. Luella Austin Calkins of Los Angeles, California.

Mrs. Moore had hoped some Austin would show up at the picnic who could give her details about her great-grandfather Edward Austin who was born in Rhode Island in 1773 and married Anna Herrington, born in 1774 in Exeter, Rhode Island. When the picnic broke up about dark that information was still uncharted on the family tree which had been nailed to an oak in the shady grove. There were consolations, however, including fried chicken with all the trimmings.

AUSTIN REUNIONS AND CONVENTIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

- | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1941.....Washington, DC | 1973 ... Gloversville, NY | 2003Richmond, VA |
| 1942..... Ithaca, NY | 1974Schenectady, NY | 2004Salt Lake City, UT |
| 1943-45 not held | 1975 Amarillo, TX | 2005Seattle, WA |
| 1946..... Ithaca, NY | 1976 ...Albuquerque, NM | |
| 1947..Adams Center, NY | 1977 Logan, UT | |
| 1948.....Webster, NY | 1978 ... Binghamton, NY | |
| 1949.....Mexico, NY | 1979 South Pines, NC | |
| 1950..... Perry, NY | 1980.... Springfield, MO | |
| 1951..... Gansevoort, NY | 1981.Colorado Springs, CO | |
| 1952.....Scotia, NY | 1982..... Chattanooga, TN | |
| 1953.... Bemus Point, NY | 1983..... Dayton, OH | |
| 1954....Westminster, VT | 1984.....Carbondale, IL | |
| 1955....Framingham, MA | 1985..... South Bend, IN | |
| 1956..... Lowville, NY | 1986 Amarillo, TX | |
| 1957...Williamsburg, VA | 1987Las Vegas, NV | |
| 1958..... Mystic, CT | 1988Salt Lake City, UT | |
| 1959..... Perry, NY | 1989Gallipolis, OH | |
| 1960.....Elmira, NY | 1990 Suffield, CT | |
| 1961.... Gloversville, NY | 1991 Austin, TX | |
| 1962.....Mexico, NY | 1992Sunnyvale, CA | |
| 1963.....Troy, PA | 1993East Lansing, MI | |
| 1964.....Fairville, NY | 1994Nashville, TN | |
| 1965..... Massena, NY | 1995Fort Wayne, IN | |
| 1966.....Heath, MA | 1996Salt Lake City, UT | |
| 1967 Ellisburg, NY | 1997Waltham, MA | |
| 1968 Warsaw, NY | 1998Salt Lake City, UT | |
| 1969 Hartford, CT | 1999Washington, DC | |
| 1970 ... Gloversville, NY | 2000 Madison, WI | |
| 1971 .. State College, PA | 2001 Pittsfield, MA | |
| 1972Mexico, NY | 2002Denver, CO | |

AOA Photo 900-2

Edith Austin Moore

Her pursuit of her Austin line led her brother Henry Warner Austin to organize the very first national Austin family reunion and picnic in 1941.

**THE DESCENDANTS OF
EDWARD HORTON AUSTIN
OF MAINE AND MASSACHUSETTS**

*by Helen Harriet Austin Baxter
and Raymond Francis Austin*

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 702]

S213-2515-1316. MELISSA ELIZABETH¹² AUSTIN (*Michael Edward*,¹¹ *Raymond Francis*,¹⁰ *Edward Horton*,⁹ *Frances E.*,⁸ *Peter Amos*,⁷ *Amos*,⁶ *Peter*,⁵ *Hezekiah*,⁴ *Thomas*,³ *Thomas*,² *Samuel*¹) was born 18 October 1978 in Boston Massachusetts at the Brigham and Women's Hospital. Her family lived in Concord at the time. At age four they moved to Kwajalein in the Marshall Islands. There Meli became active in Brownies, was on the swim team, and enjoyed soccer, roller-skating and ballet. Her favorite activity was snorkeling with her father. Once she felt a bite on her big toe. She screamed and swam towards her father but felt another bite. She turned around to face the predator: a 7" trigger fish! At age eight Melissa recalls several visits viewing a mummy at the British Museum in London, and touching the famous Rosetta Stone while an armed guard glared down at her. She also remembers climbing the leaning Tower of Pisa before it was closed, feeding pigeons in Florence, river rafting in Alaska, and weeding a wonderful vegetable garden with her Grandpa Biebuyck in South Bend, Indiana.

Melissa returned to Concord with her cat BJ in 1990. At age 11 she found it hard adjusting to the Sanborn Middle School environment after her tropical paradise on Kwaj. At Concord-Carlisle High School she played clarinet in the band, was on the swim and volleyball teams, and took private dancing and art lessons. Kwaj snorkeling led to an interest in marine biology, so after graduation in 1997 she enrolled at Fairfield University in Connecticut as a biology major. Fairfield proved too quiet for Meli, so she transferred to Northeastern University in bustling Boston. She soon changed her major, enrolling in the School of Nursing. Melissa graduated in 2002 with a B.S. degree in Nursing, and now works as a Registered Nurse at Brigham and Women's Hospital... only a few hundred feet from where she was born!

Melissa still enjoys painting, pottery, reading and travel. Having seen parts of Canada, Italy, England and the Marshall Islands with her parents, she now yearns to explore the rest of the world. She traveled to Australia in March 2004, traveling with a large group

from England, Germany and the United States. She enjoyed cuddling a koala bear, petting kangaroos, and Great Barrier Reef snorkeling. She is looking forward to future adventures.

AOA Photos 901-1, -2, -3

Melissa Austin at her Northeastern graduation with best friend Katie Heinle and a koala bear in Australia.

**LORD HERBERT AUSTIN –
AN INVENTOR, AUTOMOTIVE
PIONEER AND MANUFACTURER**

*by Zeta Austin Lambert, R. J. Wyatt
and Patricia Biebuyck Austin*

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 883]

First Airplanes Produced

Longbridge entered a new field of production during the war, that of building aeroplanes. Some 2000 planes and 2500 engines were built. A flying ground was needed for testing purposes. There was some waste land at the back of the factory, but its natural formation of bumps and hollows made it unsuitable for a runway. Austin decided to level the ground. This colossal task was put into operation. It meant months of arduous labor, as a lot of digging had to be done by hand, and the debris carried away in small trucks on a single rail, in much the same way as coal was transported in the mines. After several months an excellent runway was made available for testing the smaller type of aircraft built at that time. After the war it became a very useful test track for cars.

Knighthood and Parliament

In 1917 Herbert Austin received official recognition of his vital services to the country during the war through his outstanding work at Longbridge. He was honoured with a knighthood by King George V. Herbert received this honour with great pride, and with pleasure that his work should have received recognition. He was now a Baron with the title of Lord Austin of Longbridge. Soon thereafter he was made an Honourary Colonel in the Worcestershire Territorial Army, and in the 46th North Midland Divisional Training Battalion, R.A.S.C. (T.A.). Now able to wear a uniform, Herbert tried desperately to get permission to go to France, to witness some of the military conditions first-hand. The authorities refused to grant this, however, as he was considered too useful to be allowed to take such risks. In 1918 Austin stood for Parliament, and was elected as the Unionist Member for the Kings Norton Division of Birmingham, a position he held until 1924. The House of Commons interested him, but he found parliamentary work too restrictive and slow for anyone of his dynamic nature, revealing this opinion in a speech some years later.

AOA Photo 902

Sir Herbert Austin (1866-1941)

Austin Scholarship Founded

During the last year of the war, Herbert began an official apprenticeship program. Many young men had worked at Longbridge since its founding in 1905, and gone on to positions of authority all over the world. Their success proved that their comprehensive training at Longbridge was an excellent foundation for a commercial career. A new program began to offer training in engineering or in commerce, and permitted young men to attend technical colleges. An Austin Scholarship was founded to enable successful candidates to continue with their studies at Birmingham University. About 75 boys were enrolled at the beginning of this project. Herbert always showed a great interest in the project, and only a few days before his death in 1941, he invited a number of boys up to Lickey Grange so he could personally present them with the scholarship certificates which they had won.

Post-War Troubles

The Great War ended in November 1918, and a general depression swept over the country. Production resources which had been so carefully planned for the war effort were no longer required, and idle machinery became a liability. Austin faced the problem of saving Longbridge from total ruin. After the peace came, Herbert concentrated on an economical 20-h.p. car model he believed would be acceptable to most people. It had a centrally-controlled gearbox which made it easier to get in and out of the driver's seat from the off-side of the car. The car sold initially for £485, but rose by £200 by 1920. An engine similar to the car's engine was used in an Austin tractor which ran on paraffin and won many agricultural show awards between 1919 and 1921. For a brief period Longbridge continued to produce two aeroplanes, one the Austin

Greyhound, a two-seater fighter, the other the Austin Whippet, a single-seater biplane with folding wings. An extensive reorganization was undertaken at Longbridge between 1918 and 1921. Orders were coming in fast, but the incessant drain on resources due to the reorganization brought Austin's dreams to a point near disaster. It became impossible to keep matters balanced, and in due course an Official Receiver had to be appointed. To add to Herbert's problems, his private affairs were also in a state of flux, since many of the firms he had invested money in were also in a bad way. He was unable to liquidate any of his assets to gain the capital which he personally desperately needed. Following the practice of many businessmen, he had kept very little money in hard cash. In 1920 he came close to bankruptcy, with most of his investments worthless, his business close to insolvent, and his debts mounting daily. He went from being a wealthy man to having virtually nothing at all in a matter of days. When news of his financial embarrassment leaked out, a number of extremely kind friends offered him help. That help, coupled with Herbert's foresight in concentrating on one car model, restored The Austin Company to health, with Sir Herbert still the main source of its strength. In 1921 his imaginative boldness led him to produce smaller cars. His 12 h.p. Austin became popular with the public because of its reliability and long life. It stayed in production until 1935. At one time 90% of the London taxi fleet were Austin cars, and American films in later years would show an Austin 12 h.p. taxi whenever they wished a particular scene to be identified as being in the British capital.

The Austin Seven

The ten years between 1922 and 1932 were some of the most productive of Herbert Austin's career, and saw the birth of his famous Austin Seven car. Many people say the idea for the light and easily-handled car was created in Herbert's mind by the number of women who were beginning to take up driving. He also saw it as attractive to the cycle-car user. Lady Austin felt she had been the first to suggest the idea to Herbert, when out driving one Saturday afternoon they passed whole families on motorbikes and in sidecars who were soaked to the skin in the pouring rain. Whatever the source of the idea, the car's original design was entirely the work of Austin himself. The Baby car only had 7 h.p. It was received with much laughter, and few took it seriously. Even his own friends and co-directors scoffed at a car they considered little more than a toy. Herbert Austin

AOA Photo 903-1

The most successful of Herbert Austin's own designs was the famous Austin Seven.

withstood their ridicule, and persevered with the help of a young draftsman working in Herbert's billiard room at his home, Lickey Grange, and whose wages he paid personally.

AOA Photo 903-2

(Austin 7 Logo)

Finally off the drafting board, Austin proudly drove the Austin Seven from out of the factory, insisting that three sheepish directors go with him on the first test run on Lickey Hill. In November 1922 the Seven was exhibited for the first time at the Olympia Motor Show. It created enormous interest. Hundreds of people examined it, but wondered whether anything so small would stand up to use, and what the neighbors might say about such a tiny car. A few adventurous people bought the car, but not until one was sold to a Cambridge undergraduate and reported in the evening papers did the Seven suddenly acquire snob value, it was definitely 'in'. The famous little car would bring pleasure and comfort to thousands of people, and financial benefit to the many concerned with its sale. The standard Sevens averaged 45 miles to the gallon.

Austin Seven Wins Grand Prix

A year after it was put into production, an Austin Seven appeared on a race track with only slight modifications. On 4 May 1923 another Seven, with a fabric body, carefully tuned engine and slightly-altered gear ratio was entered into the Grand Prix at the Monza track in Italy. That day the little Austin ran beautifully for the entire 250 kilometers, and Austin's son-in-law Arthur Waite, who was driving, ran neck-and-neck with an Italian. The Italian had to stop to change plugs, but the Austin Seven continued in great style, covering one lap at over 64 m.p.h., and it won with an average speed of 57 m.p.h. Its performance had terrific repercussions in England, as this little Austin was the first British car to have the honour of winning a Continental race since 1914.

Herbert Earns a Tip

Britain was hit by a one-week General Strike in 1926. Longbridge was fortunate to have only a few men out on strike, and work continued at almost full strength during the whole period. Austin was driving home one evening during the eventful week when he noticed two old ladies laden with parcels, trudging along the roadside, and he offered them a lift. Unaware of his identity, they insisted on giving him two shillings for his kindness when he dropped them off at their cottage gate. He arrived home minutes later, most amused, and showing his wife the tip said, "I couldn't refuse to take it in case I hurt them, but what on earth shall I do with it?" Austin always wore a bowler hat, and those who worked with him took notice of the angle at which he wore it. If the hat was pushed forward it meant he was in an amiable mood, but if it was balanced far back on his head, then trouble could be expected and it was advisable to keep out of the way.

Charitable Works

Herbert Austin, unlike many physically strong people, had a great understanding and sympathy for the sick, and many of his charitable interests were connected with hospitals. He was intensely interested in the fight against cancer, and from the early 1930s he made magnificent contributions to hospitals in London and Birmingham. In June 1933 he presented an ambulance to Birmingham General Hospital, and in March 1934 he donated £4000 to build and equip a Deep X-Ray Department there. That same month he attended the Motor Show in Berlin, and despite his business commitments, he took time to visit large hospitals in Berlin, to study their latest methods of x-ray therapy. After the tour he gave replicas of the x-ray equipment he had seen in Berlin to the Birmingham General Hospital and the London Cancer Hospital. He paid expenses for a team of doctors to visit Germany to see the equipment in actual use. In May 1936 he donated £250,000 to Cambridge University for the extension and further endowment of the Cavendish Laboratory. Austin was a friend of Lord Rutherford, the leading physicist at the Laboratory at that time.

Lady Austin's Sweet Peas

The local horticultural shows always interested Lord Austin, and produce from his own gardens was entered at these events. A number of cups were presented by him to the Lickey Horticultural Society, and his wife Lady Austin usually won one of these with her entry of sweet peas. When opening one of these shows, he would proclaim his great love of a garden, and stressed the importance of fresh

AOA Photo 904**Sir Herbert and Lady Austin in the 1930s**

vegetables in one's daily diet. He was fond of walking around his Lickey Grange gardens in deep thought, with his hands clasped behind his back, and he enjoyed sitting under trees admiring his flowers.

Lord and Lady Austin celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on 27 December 1937. The first of the many gifts which they received was a gold salver, presented to them by the employees of the Longbridge factory. On 4 March 1938 they officially received their Anniversary gift from the Austin Dealers and Distributors, a cheque for £7500. At their request the cheque was donated to two Wards at the Birmingham Hospital Centre, which were named after Lord and Lady Austin. They also were given a Book of Remembrance, containing the names of the 1000 subscribers. Lord Austin appeared to be deeply touched by this gift at the ceremony.

World War II

In March 1939 Lord Herbert Austin, being Chairman of the Board of Management of the Birmingham United Hospitals, had the honour to receive King George VI and Queen Elizabeth when Their Majesties opened the new Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham. He also conducted them on a tour of inspection around the Shadow Aircraft Factory at Cofton Hackett, which had been built, equipped and managed by the Austin Motor Company, and was already turning out planes. Not long before the war began, Austin told his daughter that he had seen a German map of Longbridge marked by the Nazis for bombing, should war be declared. In the three hectic days following the declaration of war, the factory was completely blackened out, and 120 acres of roof were obscured. Beneath the blackout the tooling and the production plans were changing at an astonishing speed. Longbridge was fortunate to lay in Lickey Hills, and the surrounding country hills made it difficult for enemy planes to find it. Herbert was again faced with solving innumerable problems in preparing the facilities for wartime production, and the number of employees rose to 32,000 people between 1939-1945. In mid-November 1940 Longbridge received its only air attack, a daylight raid in which six were killed and twenty-five wounded.

End of a Career

While attending the funerals of those who had died in the attack on Longbridge, Herbert, at age 72, caught a severe chill which turned to double pneumonia. This weakened him seriously, and he died only four months later from a severe heart attack. Herbert Austin was buried at the Lickey Church, situated on the brow of the Lickey Hills. He had often attended Sunday morning services there, and it was where both his daughters had married. The land slopes down steeply from the church towards his beloved factory, and when the wind is in the right direction, the sound of the roar and throb from the workshop blows gently over this strip of ground where the body of this great man rests in peace.

Tributes to a Great Man

The funeral drew many striking tributes from Austins associates in business and philanthropy, and from the thousands of employees at Longbridge. There was a large congregation at St. George's Church in Edgbaston for Herbert's service, and when the cortege reached Longbridge on its return journey for internment, some 15,000 workers stood bareheaded along the roadside outside the factory in silent tribute. This avenue of employees stretched for nearly half a mile, and included members of the Home Guard, Austin contingents of the Nursing service, the Red Cross, St. John Ambulance Brigade, and the A.F.S. The service at Edgbaston was conducted by Mr. Haysom. The following is extracted from an account of the service that appeared in the press:

He gave himself unremittingly to his work until the very end. His work was his life and his intense delight. The Works which he founded were his pride and joy. He was part of those Works in every way and a man's man with every worker. But Lord Austin combined, in an almost amazing way, the practical with the ideal. It was this rare combination that made him a genius. He was not only a great worker, he was indeed a visionary.

Herbert Austin enjoyed comfort, and he admired and liked to be surrounded by beautiful things, but he hated to see money wasted on unnecessary luxury merely for the sake of gathering possessions. He often said that there is so much poverty in the world that no one should have more than they needed for their personal wellbeing. Though his home was comfortable and beautiful, there was never any ostentation. In his Will Herbert left sufficient money to his two daughters and grandson to ensure that they would be secure for life, but if they desired more than this, they would have to earn it for themselves. The rest of his fortune he left to charity, and this resulted in making about £32,000 available (in 1968 pounds) for distribution each year to those in need, a fitting memorial to the philosophy by which he lived.

Herbert's beloved partner, Helen, who had herself been suffering from a serious illness, died only a year later. Lord Herbert Austin and Lady Helen had three children:

- G21. IRENE, b. 1891 in Australia, she married in October 1918 to a young Australian Army Officer, Captain Arthur C. R. Waite, later a Colonel and awarded the Military Cross. After he left the Army, Waite drove Austin racing cars, including an Austin Seven car he took to victory in the Grand Prix in Monza, Italy on 4 May 1923. In 1928 the couple moved to Australia for a time. There Arthur took up a position in Melbourne, and he entered the 1928 Australian 100-mile Grand Prix. By 1930 they had returned to England, and Waite continued to make racing history driving the Austin Seven racers.
- G22. VERNON, was b. 1895 in England. He completed his apprenticeship at the Longbridge Works where he started at the bench like any other boy. He father had expected him to take up a minor executive position in the factory, but Vernon always wanted to take up the Army as a career. His father grudgingly agreed to his son serving in the Forces for a year, at the end of which time, Vernon would choose between a military and civilian career. After a year of service, Vernon returned to civilian life, but remained on the Army Reserve List of Officers. He was a mechanic for a new Austin sports car. On 4 August 1914 he was recalled to military service. News reached his family on 22 January 1915 that he had been killed at La Bassee. It seemed ironic that after having passed unscathed through the retreat from Mons, the battles of Marne and Aisne, and the fierce fighting of Ypres, he should be shot by a sniper concealed in a tree when he was walking on a tour of inspection with his Commanding Officer one morning. As a small boy, Vernon had often said he would like a military funeral when he died. As a result, his father felt obligated to fulfill his wish, so he made arrangements to bring Vernon's body back to England where it was buried with full military honours at the little church of St. Martin, Canterbury, where Vernon had attended Sunday Services while a scholar at Kings Canterbury.
- G23. ZETA ELAINE, b. 1902 in England, married C. P. Lambert at the Lickey Church. She was the source for much of the material in this article, through her book which she published in 1968 (see Reference 1 below).

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THE AUSTIN SCOTTISH CONNECTION

by Harold Austin Steiner

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 890]

In addition to the religious basis, there was, a more secular source whereby the root of the surname Austin might have evolved *in situ*. This took place in the regions of England and Scotland opposite the northern European countries that were the home of the Vikings, who were the scourge of England and Scotland after the 9th century. At first the raids by the Norse were piratical in nature, but eventually they became strategic as they occupied large blocks of the northern part of what we know as England and Scotland. There they established Norse enclaves and ruled them by the code of Scandinavian law known as the Danelaw.

The language of these Norse foreigners was an Old Norse Germanic dialect, and many of the words were similar to the Teutonic words of Old English, so that these languages merged as the people merged. The end result was the importation of Norse family names, place names and words into the Old English language.

The uncommon Austin variant surnames *Oston*, *Ostin* or *Osten* apparently evolved in those regions where the Old Norse and Old English cultures had merged. Consider the name *Oston*. The prefix ‘*os*’ is a derivative of the Old Norse name for a ridge or a hill. The suffix ‘*ton*’ is a derivative of the Old English ‘*tūn*’ which was an enclosure, settlement or village. As villages became towns the suffix followed and now we have Middle-ton, Washing-ton, etc.

Thus the word *Oston* translates to “hill settlement.” In the development of surnames, a “John who lived on the settlement (farm) on the hill” could very easily have gained the identifier John Oston. We find this suffix in other surnames such as Wins-ton (a friendly farm), Johns-ton (John's farm), etc. It follows that the surname *Osten* and *Ostin* and its variants could have become established surnames in the Danelaw part of Great Britain and later in Middle English were anglicized to *Austin* and its variants. Even in Colonial America, Austin was sometimes written as *Osten*, *Ostin* or *Osteen*. One of the earliest recordings of this surname in the Middle English form was *Ostin atte Putte, 1327*.

Since we are following the Scottish connection, we cannot leave the subject of the Austin surname without including the following argument. There are some who claim the ancestral roots of the Austins go back to the region along the Solway Firth that was known as the Kingdom of Strathclyde. The Norse invaded and settled in this region, known as Galloway, during their incursions into the British Isles in the 8th and 9th centuries. This was one of the last remaining Celtic controlled areas and, as was their custom, the Norse intermarried with the early Celtic settlers and their cultures merged. If the

surname Austin evolved from the Old Norse *Ostin*, etc., as hypothesized above, then it is possible the ancestral roots of some Austins could indeed go back to early Strathclyde. However, this is conjecture, and needs to be proven beyond a reasonable doubt.

Regardless of their point of origin, there were some Austin families who held lands and estates in the ridings near the Scottish Border region and were prominent enough to acquire clan status with their own tartan and all the other trappings. The most ancient Austin Coat of Arms for this region was recorded in the 12th century. The tenure and activities of these Scottish Austins is not documented and this would be a challenging subject for further study.

These Scottish Austins were a relatively minor clan in a region that through history had been the pathway of the armies of both the Kings of Scotland and England as they moved against each other. This was not a stable political or social environment. In those situations such as this it was customary for minor clans to seek protection and security by aligning themselves with other more powerful clans. The alliance of interest to Austins was – and still is – with the Clan Keith of Scotland. This being the case, Austins should have some knowledge of the history of their ally.

The Keith Surname

The origin of the surname Keith and those who bear the name is unclear. Some claim the name and ancestral family to be of Pictish origin. There are others who claim the surname was derived from the Old Scottish word for “wood or woods”. The Gaelic name is *Ceiteach*. What is known with certainty is that the Keith family flourished in the Lowlands of Scotland from early in the 12th century and with time has spread to other parts of the world. Today the clan is an active participant in furthering Scottish traditions.

King David I of Scotland (1124-1153) had supported the Normans and brought many Norman families into Scotland and gave them lands and titles in return for providing knights to fight for the king. David favored the formation of burghs and population centers and there was a great influx of Norman, Saxon, European and Scandinavian settlers into Scotland. Many of these newcomers settled in the District of Keith in East Lothian. The lord of this district was Baron Herveus, who had found favor with the king and witnessed royal documents as well as other services. His estate became known as Keith Hervi.

Upon King David's death, his son Malcolm IV (1153- 1165) ascended the throne. During his reign, Herveus (Hervey) de Keith, son of the baron, was appointed as the king's Marischal (Marshal), who was a high official in the house of the king who commanded the cavalry and the military forces of the sovereign. William I or William

the Lion (1143-1214), brother of Malcolm IV, ascended to the Scottish throne in 1165 and Hervey Keith continued in the office of Marischal. From this time forward the position became hereditary and the Keiths continued to serve the Scottish kings well.

The Keith families became numerous, continued to grow in wealth, power and importance and became politically and socially important throughout the Lowland districts of Scotland, particularly in Aberdeenshire. In 1148, the hereditary office of Marischal was made into an Earldom and the lord became the Earl Marischal.

As noted earlier, the political climate of the Border Region was unstable. Continued friction between the sovereigns of England and Scotland – often resulting in actual conflict – created difficult decisions of who to support. In 1291 Edward I of England demanded and secured recognition as the feudal overlord of Scotland. The Scottish throne was contested, and he ruled in favor of John de Balliol, a grandson of William the Lion, who was crowned king of Scotland (1292–96). The Keiths were still in royal favor and Edward I appointed one of Hervey Keith's descendants to be one of the four Deputy Wardens of Scotland.

Scottish kings and nobles resented the English king's continued incursions into their lands and policy-making prerogatives claimed to be within the realm of Scotland and, by the beginning of the 14th century, the mood for Scottish independence was rampant. Into this arena came one of Scotland's greatest heroes, Robert the Bruce, who was crowned Robert I, King of Scotland (1306–29). The first years of his reign were very tumultuous and forays against the English were not successful. However, by 1314, Bruce had consolidated his position and forces and defeated the English king at Bannockburn.

By 1308, Sir Robert Keith, Deputy Warden of Scotland, had abandoned his allegiance to the English king and joined Robert the Bruce in his quest for Scottish independence. As Marischal, he commanded the Scottish cavalry at Bannockburn and defeated the English cavalry.

For these deeds, the King granted the Keiths much of the forfeited English lands and forests, and the Keith family continued to gain both political and social importance. They built castles, founded colleges and, as Wardens, they were the custodians of the crown

AOA Photos 907-1, -2

Charles II loyalists defended Dunnottar Castle against Cromwell's forces for eight months in 1651-2, until heavy English cannons took their toll on castle walls.

jewels and royal papers of Scotland, which were known as the Regalia. The principal seat of the Keiths was the stronghold at Castle Dunnottar in Aberdeenshire (see photograph in next column) and it was there that the Scottish Regalia were safeguarded during the long eight-month siege by Cornwell's troops in 1651 and 1652. Later, in 1677, the Royalist Keiths were made Earls of Kintore and became the hereditary Chiefs of the Clan Keith.

The fortunes of the Clan Keith continued their upward trend until early in the 18th century when the Keith Clan's allegiance became misdirected. The Keiths had always been Royalists and they had supported the Jacobite cause to return Bonnie Prince Charles Edward Stewart to the Scottish throne. But George Keith, the 10th and last Earl Marischal, supported the ill-fated Jacobite Risings in 1715 and 1719 that ended at the Battle of Culloden. The Keith's lands and holdings were forfeited and George Keith fled to the Continent. As a respected and influential noble in exile, he served in various offices in several European courts.

This very brief chronology of the Clan Keith primarily champions the actions and achievements of the Keiths. Although not explicitly identified, others were involved in the episodes discussed above. Clearly, many who belonged to the Clan Keith and who contributed to the successes of the Clan did not bear the Keith surname. Some descended through maternal lines. Others were genetic Keiths who assumed different surnames, and still others come from families that had gathered under the banner of the Clan Keith since early times.

We know there were Scottish Austin families living in Aberdeenshire and that there was a close association between the Austins and Keiths that had developed after the Austins gave crucial aid to the Earl Marischal during a time of crisis. Afterwards, the Austins were willing to unite and become a sept under the banner of the highest ranking noble who, in this case, was the Earl of Kintore and Chief of the Clan Keith. The Austins have been closely aligned with the Keiths since that early time. Unfortunately, any detailed records of the activities of Scottish Austins during this period either do not exist or have not yet been scholarly researched.

Later we shall see that the Austin tartan has contributed to Clan Keith's history, so a little background on tartans will be helpful. Today tartans and kilts have become synonymous with the Scottish Highlands, but their history began long before there was a Scotland. The origin of the tartan most likely was the tunics of the ancient Romans or Celts. The early Celtic people were very skilled in dyeing materials for clothing and they wore gay colored checkered squares sewn together in different patterns. The practice continued through time and by the 17th and 18th centuries, both the men and the women of Scotland and North England wore long shawls or outer wraps of woolen cloth, usually patterned in colors similar to those of the ancient Celts.

Tartan is from Old French *tiretane* meaning some kind of linsey-woolsey material. The English definition is a woolen cloth with a tartan or checkered cross-barred pattern with narrow bands of various colors. When we bring in the traditional wear of the Highlanders we have to introduce the word *plaid*. The Highlanders of old would have worn a large piece of woolen tartan material wrapped round the body, belted at the waist and pinned over the shoulder. It no doubt also served as a blanket while campaigning hence the word *plaid*, which is from the Gaelic *plaid*e meaning blanket. A tartan plaid has crossbars of three or more colors combined in designs distinctive of different clans and families. Over time the tartan has come to be used for heraldic purposes. When the tartan was worn as a garment girded at the waist the lower part was tucked up and pleated around the waist. The word *kilt* means to "to tuck up" from the Middle English *kilten* originally of Old Norse origin. Not every clan or family had a tartan, for getting a tartan approved was a slow and not guaranteed process.

Some tartans had subdued colors designed primarily for the purpose of camouflage when hunting game, but there is no evidence that either the Keiths or Austins had such a 'hunting' tartan. We do know from clan and tartan history that the Austins had a tartan. The tartan's background was green with blue and black crossbars. Today's modern Keith-Austin tartan has the same blue plaid pattern on an attractive green background. Apparently the Clan Keith at first did not claim a traditional tartan, and when the Austins became a major sept of the Clan Keith they contributed the Austin

AOA Photo 908

The Keith Crest and Austin tartan contributed to Clan Keith.

tartan to the Clan. Today it is identified as the Clan Keith tartan whereas, in proper tartan terminology, it should be known as the Keith and Austin tartan. Although they have the same heritage, pattern and colors, both the Austin and Keith tartans are often identified separately in tartan and clan histories and descriptions. Interested readers can view the tartan in color on the AOAGS web (see above) or by entering the term "tartan" into one of the Internet search engines.

Since the Clan Keith was a confederation, then clearly many who belong to Clan Keith today do not bear the Keith surname. Other families have gathered under the banner of the Clan Keith since early times. These septs bear the surnames Austin, Dick, Dickson, Dixon, Dixson, Falconer, Harvey, Haxton, Hervey, Hurrie, Hurry, Kite, Lumgair, MacKeith, Marshall, Urrie, and Urry. We have established an Austin Scottish connection to Clan Keith. Austins are considered equal to Keiths in the Clan and are entitled to share in the traditions, crests, tartans and other trappings of the Clan. The author is indebted to Larry Keith of the Clan Keith Society for the information and advice that he provided for this article. To learn more on Clan Keith, or to become part of the Austin Scottish connection, visit www.keithclan.com.

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2. P. H. Reaney, *A Dictionary of English Surnames*, published by Routledge, London, 1991 (page 19).
3. *The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language*, Fourth Edition, published by the Houghton Mifflin Company, 2000.

NOTE: Page 909 and most of page 910 contain the 1850 US Census for Florida and have been deleted here. The census data can be found elsewhere on this web site.

AOA Photo 910

John Henry Austin (1929-2004) attending Washington Redskins football game 10 August 2004.

**DR. JOHN HENRY AUSTIN DNA TEST
DISPROVES EDITH AUSTIN MOORE'S
THEORY ON HER AUSTIN LINE**

The late John Henry Austin, a nephew of Edith Austin Moore, appears in the first Austin Reunion photo (p. 900). After earning a B.S. degree at Syracuse University and M.S. degree at M.I.T. in sanitary engineering, John was a Fulbright Scholar at Delft Technical University in The Netherlands in 1953-54. He worked for the U. S. Public Health Service before serving in Vietnam in 1957-59 with the U. S. Operations Mission, developing training courses in rural water supply and sanitation in collaboration with the World Health Organization. After earning his Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley in 1963, John enjoyed a successful academic career at the University of Illinois and at Clemson University, where he was head of the Department of Environmental Systems Engineering.

John joined USAID in 1981 as an environmental engineer, retiring in 1992 to join the faculty of Colorado State University as Professor of Water Resources. Among his many awards, in May 2004 he received a Lifetime Achievement award from the Bureau for Global Health. Just months before his death at his Arlington, Virginia home on 17 August 2004, Dr. Austin agreed to have his DNA tested for the Austin-Austen DNA Project. His Y-DNA proved that Edith Austin Moore was not descended from Robert Austin of Kingstown, Rhode Island.

Austins of America *Genealogical Society*

JANUARY 2005 NEWSLETTER

SOCIETY NAME CHANGE IN FEBRUARY

As was announced in your September 2004 newsletter, the *Austins of America Genealogical Society* (AOAGS) will become the *Austin Families Genealogical Society* (AFGS) next month, to better reflect the increasingly international nature of the Society's membership. The Society now includes over 600 members from Australia, Canada, England, New Zealand, Scotland and the United States, and the Society's name change should encourage new memberships from those who believed the Society was only concerned with Austins in the United States. Most Austin families around the world ultimately trace their Austin lines back to England, Scotland or Ireland.

AFGS CONSTITUTION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The new AFGS Constitution is enclosed with this newsletter, along with a ballot for approval or disapproval of the Constitution and the election of new AFGS Officers. Members are requested to fill out and return their ballot as soon as possible to the address shown on the ballot. Results of the balloting will be made available via the 'Staff' link at the Society's web site at www.austins.org.

MEMBERS INTERESTS AND E-MAIL LIST

If you follow the 'Members' link at the AFGS web site, you will discover that to date about 16% of the Society's members have chosen to list their Austin line interests, along with their e-mail address so that other researchers are able to contact them. If you would like your Austin family research interests included, you can submit your information via the link at the top of that web page.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SOCIETY

As members continue to contribute new information on their Austin lines, many new lines become available at the *Austin-Austen Research Center* (AARC). Follow the 'Research' link at our web site. Among the new books in the Society Library are *Tales of Taunton* donated by Roswell Wallace Austin of San Diego, California, and *The World of E.J.A. – Life and Letters of Elizabeth Jane Austin 1827-1905*, donated by Mary Ann Austin Harlan of Staunton, Virginia. Another rather unique gift was received recently from Richard Silas Pomeroy of West Linn, Oregon: a beautiful 27" by 40" Austin family fan chart drawn up

AOA Photo 911

Canterbury Cathedral is where Archbishop Thomas Becket was murdered in 1170 by four knights loyal to Henry II. As recorded in Geoffrey Chaucer's classic *Canterbury Tales*, pilgrimages to Saint Thomas' tomb were popular until 1538, when Henry VIII destroyed his shrine in the Trinity Chapel within the Cathedral.

by John Osborne Austin circa 1890. We want to thank everyone for their generous contributions.

INTERNATIONAL AUSTIN CONVENTION

The 2005 International Austin Convention will be held on 16-18 September 2005 on the campus of Christ Church University College in Canterbury, Kent, England. This first AFGS meeting held outside the United States will convene in historic St. Martin's Priory, built in 1550. Dr. Roger Brian Austin of Sherborne, Dorset, England, has arranged the fine meeting facilities, tours, and some excellent speakers. Convention attendees will check into Lanfranc House on the campus on Thursday, September 15th, and will enjoy an informal 'wine and nibbles' getacquainted party that evening. Friday morning we will tour Canterbury Cathedral (photo above) and its Archives, followed by a coach tour of the Kent countryside. After lunch in a 14th century pub in Chillenden, we will tour Dover Castle and World War II tunnels. Then we relax at Dover cafes. We return to the College for dinner, then hear a talk *Canterbury's Key Place in English History*.

Saturday and Sunday are filled with Austin workshops and talks of interest to Austin family researchers. Please see the enclosed Convention Flyer for further details. We hope to see you all in Canterbury for what is expected to be our best Austin Convention ever. Join us and meet fellow Austin family researchers from around the world!

QUERIES

912-1. **Sally Austin** - daughter of a John Austin. She married John Clayton, who was born 16 January 1758 in Manchester, England, and died 10 September 1832 at age 74. His second wife lived in Farmington, Maine. Buried - Gay Cemetery. John Clayton had ten children. Seeking data on Sally Austin.

912-2. **Richard H. Austin** married Elizabeth Jones, their son Melvin H. Austin b. 1864 m. Malinda Travis. They were all from Kentucky. Seeking information on Melvin.

912-3. **Isaac Baden Austin** married to Nancy Fletcher. Their son George A. Campbell Austin was born on 2 October 1834 in Casey County, Kentucky. He married Martha Jane Vaught on 24 September 1856 in Pulaski, Kentucky. Would welcome anything on George Austin.

912-4. **Edwin M. Austin** born circa 1833 in New York was perhaps the son of David Austin and Amanda Potter who resided 1830-1880 in various New York counties. He m. Anna —, their son Melvin Adelbert Austin b. 1861, perhaps in Pontiac, Michigan. What happened to Edwin after 1861? Would like to determine his ancestry.

912-5. **Nancy Austin** born circa 1823 North Carolina, m. Robert Bertram Roberts b. in North Carolina ca. 1820. She d. 9 September 1888 Haywood County, N. Carolina, buried Green Hill Cemetery. Seeking anything on Nancy.

912-6. **Thomas W. Austin** was born in November 1836 in Missouri. His parents were both born in Virginia. I would like to learn more about Thomas Austin's ancestry and descendants.

912-7. **Benjamin Austin** of Schuyler, Herkimer County, married, 10 February 1820 in Utica, New York, Harriet Hubbell. They had three children: Marie Louise Austin b. 9 January 1822 in Utica m. 20 November 1843 in Utica to Charles Henry Olcott; Juliet Amelia Austin m. Richard Smith Barnum; and Matthew H(ubbell?) Austin married Cornelia Knowlson. Matthew d. 6 May 1888 in St. Louis, Missouri. Seeking Benjamin's parents.

912-8. **John Austin** born 1820-21 in Tennessee, married Elizabeth Rodgers, nine children: Bryant Austin b. 1843 in Mississippi m. Teresa Adaline Trice; John Richard Austin b. 1845 Mississippi; James Allen Austin b. 1846 Louisiana; Mary E. Austin b. 1849 Louisiana; Rebecca H. Austin b. 1851 Alabama; Sarah A. Austin b. 1853 Alabama; William J. Austin b. 1855 Alabama; Abraham Austin b. 1857 Alabama, and Lucy America Austin b. 1859 Alabama. John's second wife was Charlotte Real, seven children: Senthia Elizabeth Austin, Margaret E. Austin, Gideon Thomas Austin, Robert Franklin Austin, Seth Austin, Emily Austin and Tennessee Austin. I am trying to find the father and mother of John Austin.

AUSTIN-AUSTEN DNA PROJECT STATUS

Editor's Note: AOAGS initiated the Austin-Austen DNA Project in September 2003, as announced in our JANUARY 2004 newsletter. That issue also explained how DNA testing could be of help to Austin genealogists, and gave many members their first glimpse of this intriguing subject. Excited about the possibilities of this new research tool, many have asked about DNA testing and getting their Austin line tested. This article attempts to answer some of these questions.

PROJECT PURPOSE

The Project's purpose is to construct a DNA Profiles Table which Austin family researchers can use to 'look up' their Austin line. Each line in the Profiles Table characterizes a documented Austin line through its Y-chromosome DNA profile, a set of 25 numbers or 'markers.' By comparing their own Austin line Y-DNA numbers to those in the Table, researchers can determine whether or not they have any connection to a documented Austin line. The current Table is shown on page 929, the latest version is always available at our web site www.austins.org via the 'Projects' link.

MATCHING Y-DNA

If your Austin line Y-DNA matches a documented Austin line in the Profiles Table, then your Austin line is somehow connected to the documented line. It is important, however, to realize that your research is not yet complete. The YDNA match does show *you are related* to the documented Austin line, but it does not show *how you are related* to that line. You still need to pursue traditional genealogical 'paper trails' in order to establish your exact connection to the documented Austin line. People are often too eager to claim their earliest known Austin ancestor is a descendant of the Y-DNA-matching documented Austin line. While this is possible, their ancestor might also have been only a distant cousin to the earliest progenitor of the matching line.

NON-MATCHING Y-DNA

Not everyone will discover a match to his Y-DNA in the Profiles Table, for a couple of reasons. You may be the first person in your Austin line to have submitted his DNA for testing. There are many Austin lines which remain to be tested, and future tests may eventually provide a match to your Y-DNA. The chances of a match will increase over time as more test results are added to the Table. However, it is also possible that in some generation of your Austin line the documented Austin father is not the actual father, perhaps a result of infidelity or adoption. In this case your Y-DNA will never find a match in the Table. In any event, comparing your DNA results to those in the Profiles Table will show you which Austin lines you do *not* belong to. This information can save you from wasting time pursuing the wrong Austin line. Edith Austin Moore was the classic example. Had DNA testing been available to her, she would not have spent 67 years seeking an impossible connection between her own Austin line and that of Robert Austin of Kingstown, Rhode Island (see *Austins of America* p. 910).

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 928]

**SOME DESCENDANTS OF
THOMAS AUSTIN OF BARBADOS**

*by Roger Brian Austin
Timothy John Smellie
and Bruce Merivale-Austin*

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 898]

T514. FRANCIS WEBSTER⁴ AUSTIN (*Wiltshire Stanton,³ Richard,² Thomas¹) was born or baptized on 4 February 1829 in Clapham, Surry, England. He went to school in King's College, London. He then attended Jesus College in Cambridge, received his B.A. in 1855 and M.A. in 1876. He was ordained deacon in 1856, and was Curate of St. George's, Georgetown, Demerara in 1856. He was Garrison Chaplain there during 1857-1861, Rector of St. Michael's, Berbice and St. Paul's, East Coast Demerara 1871-1873, Rector of All Saints', Berbice, 1873-1884, Archdeacon of Berbice 1883-1884 and of Demerara 1884-1890. He was Vicar-General, Diocese of British Guiana, 1888-1890, and Rector and Dean of St. George's Cathedral, Georgetown, 1884-1890. He was Curate at Coulston, Wiltshire 1891-1892 and Rector of West Ilsley, Berkshire, 1892-1895. He is often mentioned in J.G.A.'s letters of the 1850's when the latter was in his teens and Francis nine years older. He must have been a curate at one of the churches in Georgetown when J.G.A. watched with interest the progress of the courtship between Francis and their cousin Joseph Austin Pierce. Called 'Jo', she was born in 1837, the daughter of Joseph Gibson Austin and William Edward Pierce. Young curates were ill paid and J.G.A. writes: 'Mrs. Thorne tells me that Preston does not approve of the match on account of the poorness of both parties, but one must remember that young ladies of fortune are not picked up every day!'*

However the couple was married in 1858, after J.G.A. had left for Barbados. He was invited to the wedding but was unable to spare the time to go to Demerara for the occasion. Jo only survived nine years. She died on 29 September 1867, leaving a family of three, after which Francis married Jane 'Jeanie' Murray from Trinidad. By this time he was an Archdeacon and his finances had improved, so that he was able to support his second family of seven children in addition to his first. He was living in Abingdon, Berkshire, in 1904 and died there in 1905. Francis had four children by his first wife and seven by his second wife:

T514-1. MARY ISABELLA, *m. 8 July 1880 in All Saints, New Amsterdam to William Campbell Harragin, a Georgetown magistrate. She died in 1933. Four children: Lilian Maude 'Lily', Piercy, Walter (later Sir Walter Harragin, K.C.M.G.) and Irene Mary. Lily m. 8 October 1921 Claude Burton, an Eastbourne College schoolmaster. Lily d. 23 December 1955 in Pevensey, Sussex, Claude d. in 1956. Piercy married Billie —, they had a dau. Norah. Walter was Chief Justice of Gold Coast, he m. Madge Hardy of Berkhamstead, they had two sons & two daughters. Irene d. 4 September 1959 a spinster.*

T514-2. EUSTACE, *he lived in Demerara. He was a bachelor and committed suicide.*

T514-3. JOSEPHINE, *she died a spinster, aged about 30*

T514-4. HELEN, *d. as an infant.*

T514-5. EDWARD MURRAY, *b. in 1874, Ned was in the Cape Mounted Riflemen and fought in the Boer War. When the Riflemen were disbanded in 1913 he was transferred to the 4th Pioneer Battalion of the South African Defence Force. The memoirs of his brother-in-law Thomas Bonser give the following account of Edward: "Ned started off in a bank in the city, but he did not like it, and went to South Africa, where he obtained a commission in the King's African Rifles. He fought through the Boer War, and then in 1914 went back to England and fought right through the 1914-1918 War, in the trenches of Flanders. That must have been a horribly uncomfortable war, quite apart from the danger of being killed, wounded or gassed. Four years of war fought from trenches and dugouts, half full of water most of the time, left Ned crippled with arthritis of both hips (there were no replacement hips in those days). He returned to his home in Grahamstown, and never went back to England. He had two children Barbara and John, whom I have never met, but with whom I correspond every Christmas, sadly they both caught meningitis as children, and were, as a result, slightly handicapped."*

T514-6. EDITH MURRAY, *m. 25 May 1907 Thomas Newbold Bonser at Abingdon, Berkshire. They had a son Thomas.*

T514-7. MYRA, *b. circa 1874, she married but had no children.*

T514-8. FRANCIS MURRAY, *b. 1881 +*

T514-9. WALTER MURRAY, *was a Private in 10th Battalion, the Imperial Yeomanry and served in the Cape Colony and in the Orange Free State during the Boer War. He d. 1901 of disease (probably cholera or typhoid, as did so many others) at Bothaville, in the Orange Free State, 200 km southwest of Johannesburg.*

T514-A. WENTWORTH MURRAY, *Like his brother Walter, he was a Private in the 10th Battalion, the Imperial Yeomanry and was involved in actions in Cape Colony and the Orange Free State. After his return to England, he studied at Lichfield Theological College was ordained a deacon in 1903 and a priest in 1904. He was at churches in Smethwick in 1903, Wilmslow in 1903-6, and St Peter's, Caversham in 1906-11. He returned to South Africa where he was Assistant Chaplain in the Church Railway Mission from 1911-14. In 1915 he was commissioned with the rank of Major into the 1st Battalion the Duke of Edinburgh's Wiltshire Regiment. This Regiment saw action in several battles in France and Belgium, and we may suppose that Wentworth served as a Chaplain to the Regiment. He was awarded the M.C. for service during World War I. After the war, Wentworth returned again to South Africa and was Rector of Harrismith, Orange Free State from 1919. In 1922, he returned to England he became Vicar of Holy Rood, Swinton from 1922-24, and of St. John the Baptist, Yacombe from 1932-39.*

He lived latterly in Weston Manor, Honiton, Devon. In 1919, he m. Celia Mary Aldred. According to relatives, he wore 'loud' coloured shirts, had a booming voice and told outrageous stories. Wentworth Murray Austin d. 1954. their son Ambrose Theodore Wentworth Austin was born 29 February 1924. In World War II he was a Lieutenant in the 12th Battalion, Parachute Regiment, Army Air Corps. He died on D-Day, 6 June 1944, during the Normandy landings. He is honored at the Bayeux Memorial, Calvados, France, but has no known grave.

T514-B. FRANCES

T514-C. ALAN MURRAY, b. 1883, he m. May — from Carbis Bay, Cornwall and they had a daughter. He served in the Royal Navy and was Paymaster on H.M.S. Hawke. According to Naval records and the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, the Hawke was a 7300-ton Edgar class cruiser launched in 1891 at Chatham. By 1914 it was used mainly for training. On 14th October 1914, while only about 60 miles from the coast of Scotland, near Peterhead, the Hawke was torpedoed by the German submarine U9 and sank within a few minutes with the loss of 348 lives including that of Alan Murray Austin. There were only 70 survivors.

T515. JOHN BIRD SUMNER⁴ AUSTIN (Wiltshire Stanton,³ Richard,² Thomas¹) was born 24 March 1830 in Walton, Yorkshire, England but emigrated to Natal, South Africa. Shelagh Spencer mentions John in Volume 1 of *British Settlers in Natal 1824-1857 - A Biographical Register*: "He went to South Africa and was living in Durban in 1851. He appears to have been associated with Adolph Coqui in bringing a 5000 lb consignment of ivory from 'Overberg' in 1854. Edward Snell bought the lot at 5/4½d per lb. When a request to Coqui to stand for the Legislative Council was prepared in January 1859 Austin was one of the signatories. In January 1856 Austin entered into the lease of 60 acres of R. P. (Dick) King's farm 'Isipingo'. This was due to run for 50 years but Austin sold it in April 1862. Austin died after taking a dose of five grains of 'strychnia'. In reporting this the 'Natal Star' stated he was well known in Durban and was 'respectably connected' but had for some time been 'a victim of intemperate habits.' According to his death notice he did not have any land in Natal, but had a small property in Barbados."

John Bird Sumner Austin died by suicide in 1862. He had never married Jane Calverley, but they had a son:

T515-1. WILTSHIRE STANTON, b. 1859, he became a farmer and a storekeeper of Walker's Lease, Umgodi, Ixopo District. He died a bachelor in 1886.

T516. RICHARD⁴ AUSTIN (Wiltshire Stanton,³ Richard,² Thomas¹) was born on 2 December 1833 in Stainton, Pembroke, England. He is described as 'of Milford Haven.' He went up to Christ Church College, Oxford, from where he

matriculated in 1856. He was married in London in 1858 to Julia Mary Rogers from Dublin, who was born in 1841. After the birth of their first son Richard in 1859, the family emigrated to Melbourne, Australia, where Richard became a school teacher. Four more children were born before Richard died in Melbourne in 1870, leaving Julia with two surviving children. In 1885, Julia married a Scot, Anthony Brown (1839-1910), apparently after she had borne him two children, both of whom died in infancy. Julia died in Melbourne in 1906.

T516-1. RICHARD CHARLES, b. in 1859 in London, d. a few months later in 1860 of scarlet fever in Melbourne.

T516-2. JULIA SARAH ANNIE, b. 1862 in Gardner, then on the outskirts of Melbourne. She died in Gardner before 1868.

T516-3. RICHARD WILTSHIRE STANTON CHARLES, b. 1865 Melbourne, d. 1868 Melbourne of diphtheria

T516-4. FRANCIS SUMNER WARE, b. 1868 +

T516-5. JULIA SARAH MARY, b. 1870 in Fitzroy, Melbourne, m. 1894 William Stewart Anderson, five children most b. Footscray, Melbourne: Vera Gordon b. 1895, Hector Richard b. 1900, Alice Marion b. 1903, Flor Julia b. 1906 and William Stewart b. 1909. Julia d. 1959 Footscray.

T51A. WARE PLUMTRE⁴ AUSTIN (Wiltshire Stanton,³ Richard,² Thomas¹) was born on 29 January 1842 in Milford Haven, Pembroke, Wales, the youngest of the large family. He was in the Madras (India) Civil Service, where he served as a judge for 40 years. He married Frances Laura Greenaway. She was born in 1847, a daughter of Colonel Greenaway of the Bengal Lancers, in India. Frances Laura was the author and composer of many hymns. Ware died on 30 March 1907 in Oxford, Frances died there in 1941. They had seven children:

T51A-1. WARE, b. 29 September 1867 +

T51A-2. CHARLES FRANCIS WEBSTER, b. 7 February 1869 in Calicut, India. He was christened on 26 March 1869. He died 28 May 1869 in Calicut and was buried there

T51A-3. THOMAS F?, b. 11 August 1870 in Calicut, India. He died there in 1870.

T51A-4. WILTSHIRE STANTON WARE, b. 22 March 1872 +

T51A-5. MABEL FRANCES 'ZETTI', born 22 December 1876 in Arcat, India. She m. Charles William Entrine Pittar, formerly of the Indian Civil Service. They visited her brother Sumner Francis Austin when he was living in Dresden, for there are photographs of Charles and Zetti taken in that city. Zetti died in 1956 in Oxford. This couple had two daughters.

T51A-6. KATHLEEN MARGARET, b. 1 September 1880 in Guildford, Surrey, England, she m. Hermann Schindler.

T51A-7. CHARLES GREENAWAY, b. on 4 October 1882 in Guildford. went to St. John's College, Oxford, where he earned an M.A. degree. He was for sometime in the Indian Civil Service. He m1. in Oxford Margery Lillian Sharpe, daughter of a hat manufacturer. He m2. Lillian Little. He d. 13 November 1944 in Horswell, Surrey.

- T51A-8. SUMNER FRANCIS, b. 24 September 1888 Anerley, Kent, attended St. John's College, Oxford, where he earned an M.A. degree. At Oxford he studied with the intention of joining the Indian Forest Service, but in 1910 Sumner went to Dresden to study music and singing. Sumner's first engagement was at the Royal Theatre in Potsdam. He was interned at Rhuleben from 1914 to 1918. On his return to England he became a well known actor and baritone with Sadler's Wells Opera and with the Carla Rosa Opera. He performed in and he produced operas in England and in other countries. Laterly he became the technical director of the Sadler's Wells Opera. Sumner was the Don in Mozart's 'Don Giovanni' and a critic wrote in 1924 that "The "Don" of Mr. Austin was the fittingly outstanding personage: he used his beautiful voice very artistically, looked the part and acted with easy versatility." He sang Schumann's *Dichterliebe* song cycle. Commenting on Sumner's performance at the Wigmore Hall, a critic wrote in 'The Times' of 24 October 1924 that "...the singer established such an intimacy between the composer, himself and his audience that the smallest touches told. The 'Monologo di Orfeo' was a master-piece of expressive singing." Sumner was for a time a Captain in the British Army Intelligence Corps. Sumner married Dorothy Stirling, née Blackwell, in 1921. Dorothy was a sister of Sir Basil Blackwell of the Oxford publishers and book sellers. Her first husband had been killed in World War I. Dorothy was a fine pianist and a great help to Sumner in his musical career. She died in 1979. He died in 1981.
- T551. RICHARD⁴ AUSTIN (Charles Adye³, Richard,² Thomas¹) was born in 1832 in Yorkshire, and christened in the village of Raskelf, Yorkshire, a few miles north of York, in 1832, but lived much of his life in Brazil. He was Acting Consul at Pernambuco from 1864 to 1865; Acting Consul and Post Office Agent in the British Consulate in Rio de Janeiro from 1872 to 1873. Subsequently, he held positions in the Rio Consulate until he retired from the service in 1880. In 1872 in Rio he married Emma Victoria Sarah Violet Albertazzi, a lawyer's daughter who was born in 1845 in Marylebone, Middlesex, England. Sometime after the birth of their fifth child they returned to England, where Emma died on 12 June 1882 in Bournemouth, Hampshire, at the birth of her sixth child, who did not survive. A few months later, Richard married in London to Kate Dring, who was born in 1861. When they were married he was 50 and she was 21. They had four children. After her husband died, Kate and her three surviving children went to live in Framlingham, Suffolk, where she had relatives. Richard died in 1899 in London, Kate died in 1924. Richard had five children by his first wife Emma, and four children by Kate:
- T551-1. GEORGE RICHARD, b. 1872 Rio de Janeiro +
T551-2. KATE FRANCES, bp. 1873 d.1954
- T551-3. ALICE MAUD, bp. 1874 d.1954
T551-4. PERCY HAMILTON, b. 1875 in London. He died of typhoid fever in 1898 in Wilcannia, N.S.W., Australia.
T551-5. JESSIE MARY, b. 1877 Rio de Janeiro She went with her parents to England and lived in London with her father and stepmother.
T551-6. FLORENCE, b. 1884, she was known as 'Flo.' There is no information on her early life. After a whirlwind courtship, she m. circa 1918 in London to a Canadian. They then went to live in the town of Niagara Falls, Ontario. She died in 1924, apparently childless.
T551-7. CHARLES ADYE, b. 1887, he was known as 'Charlie' to his siblings. He m. Margaret Elsie 'Madge' — and they emigrated to South Africa. Several letters from Madge survive, but most were written after Charlie's death in 1917. Evidently, there were no children from their marriage. Madge married again, a Mr. Bignoux, and went to live in Canada.
T551-8. EDWARD CROSBY LEFROY, b. 1891 d. 1897.
T551-9. ARTHUR GORDON, b. 1898 +
- T556. CHRISTOPHER EDWARD LEFROY⁴ AUSTIN (Charles Adye³, Richard,² Thomas¹) was born on 2 March 1841 and was christened in Surinam, probably while his parents were staying with his grandfather, Richard, on Plantation Kleinhoop, en route for Pernambuco, Brazil. [Note: A Christopher Edward Lefroy born in 1785 was for ten years the British commissary judge in Surinam for the suppression of the slave trade. He wrote 'Outalissi: a Tale of Dutch Guiana,' a novel about the brutality of slavery in the colony. It seems likely that Richard Austin knew Judge Lefroy and, in admiration of his work to suppress the slave trade, honoured the Judge by persuading his son Charles Adye to confer the Judge's names on his grandson born in 1841, and the forename Lefroy was subsequently given to several of Christopher's descendants.]
- Christopher Austin was educated at Gloucester Cathedral School and at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, where he gained his B.A. in 1862 and M.A. in 1870. He was assistant master at Rossall School, Fleetwood, Lancashire from 1862 to 1865, was ordained a deacon at Gloucester in 1865, a priest at Oxford in 1866, during which time he was also a curate at Tormarton, Gloucestershire. From 1866 to 1867 he was a curate at St. Sebastian, Wokingham. On 25 June 1867 at St. Mary de Lode Parish Church in Gloucester, Christopher married Emily Jane Ashbee, the daughter of John and Ada Ashbee, from Wotton-under-Edge. His father Rev. Charles Adye Austin officiated. He was assistant master at Blackheath Proprietary school from 1868 to 1870, headmaster at Rossall Preparatory School, was at Cheltenham Juvenile Proprietary School from 1870 to 1885, and headmaster

of the Junior Department of Cheltenham College from 1885 to 1896. In 1896 Rev. Austin was appointed the Vicar of Broughton (near Ollerton, Nottinghamshire). He retired from this appointment in 1922 and went to live in Bournemouth, Hampshire, England with his wife Emily Jane. She died there 1 January 1930, he died there on 30 November 1931. They were both buried in Boscombe Cemetery in Boscombe, Hampshire, as were their three daughters. Christopher and Emily had six children, their sons were known by their second forenames:

- T556-1. CHARLES BRUCE LEFROY, *b. 1870 England, Bruce was educated at Cheltenham College. He served in the Bechuanaland Police and went on the Matabele Expedition. He also served in the Chartered Company's Police. He died of typhoid in Johannesburg in 9 July 1896 and is buried in a common grave in Braamfontein Cemetery there. He never married.*
- T556-2. ROBERT GORDON LEFROY, *b. 28 December 1871 +*
- T556-3. EDWARD NEVILLE LEFROY, *b. 10 November 1873 +*
- T556-4. ADA MAUD, *b. 1875 Cheltenham, d. spinster 1927.*
- T556-5. KATE EVELYN, *b. 1877 Cheltenham, d. spinster 1954.*
- T556-6. JESSIE CONSTANCE, *b. 1882, d. spinster 1965.*

T558. AEMILIUS SAUNDERS⁴ AUSTIN (*Charles Adye³, Richard,² Thomas¹*) was born in 1847. He emigrated to South Africa where in 1874 he was appointed third clerk in the General Post Office in Natal, and in 1878 was authorised to practice as a chemist and druggist and to dispense medicine, also in Natal. He served as a Medic in the first Boer War, 1880-1881. Aemilius married Helen Sarah Berning, who died in 1874. In 1878 he married his deceased wife's sister, Margaretha Maria Johanna Theodora 'Maggie' Berning, born in 1857. He died in 1910, she died in 1932. They had five children.

- T558-1. CHARLES HENRY BRUCE, *b. 1883 +*
- T558-2. HELEN VIOLET, *b. 1884, m. A. E. Browning, three children: Errol, Stuart & Elsie Sheppard. Helen d. 1904.*
- T558-3. VERNON WENTWORTH, *b. 1887 in Newcastle, Natal, m. Elsie Peck. Vernon worked for Barclays Bank, becoming a branch manager, and retired as a Bank Inspector. He died in 1982, Elsie died in 1983. Their son Michael Francis Wentworth Austin, b. 1923 in Natal, educated at Michaelhouse, Balgowan, Natal. He was in the 3rd Fighter Squadron of the South African Air Force and was killed in action in 1943 in Italy and was buried in the Military Cemetery in Milan, Italy.*
- T558-4. MARGUERITE MARY MYRTLE, *b. 1892, m. E. H. Doveton. He d. 1940, she d. 1965. Three ch: Phyllis b. 1915, Audrey b. 1917 and Douglas b. 1922. Phyllis m1. John Kable and had three ch: Edwin, Lindsay and Paul. John Kable d. 1957, Phyllis m2. John Bertram. Audrey m. Robert A. Wood and had three ch: Brenda b.1948, Owen b.1951 and Mark b.1954. Douglas was a dentist in Port Shepstone.*

He m. N. Petty and had four ch. David b.1953, Colin, Neil and Patricia.

T558-5. EMELIUS SAUNDERS 'EMIL', *b. 1896 +*

T612. EDWARD⁴ AUSTIN (*James Dear,³ John,² Thomas¹*) was born on 29 June 1823 in Bridgetown, Barbados. He took Holy Orders and married Elizabeth Sarah Clark. Reverend and Mrs. Austin had six children:

- T612-1. JOHN HENRY EDWARD
- T612-2. JAMES DEAR
- T612-3. BERNARD
- T612-4. DOROTHEA MARY
- T612-5. ROSE ELIZABETH
- T612-6. EDITH LUCY

T624. EDMUND HAYES⁴ AUSTIN (*Thomas,³ John,² Thomas¹*) was born in 1840 in New York. In 1871 he was married to Hannah Fuller of Gaylordsville, Connecticut. They had four children:

- T624-1. JOHN FULLER, *b. 1873*
- T624-2. ELVIRA REED, *b. 1878*
- T624-3. MARY ELIZABETH, *b. 1881, m. Lewis W. Burr from Bridgeport, Connecticut.*
- T624-4. THOMAS, *b. 1882, m. 1905 Julia Genevieve Hungerford.*

T625. JAMES CHAPMAN⁴ AUSTIN (*Thomas,³ John,² Thomas¹*) was born in 1843 in New York and was named after his mother's brother in law, James Chapman. He married Susan —, they had two daughters:

- T625-1. ANNA EDITH
- T625-2. ELVIRA MARY

T627. LEONARD STRONG⁴ AUSTIN (*Thomas,³ John,² Thomas¹*) was born on 26 February 1846 in Stratford, Connecticut. He is written up in *Who Was Who in America, 1897-1942*, vol. I, p.37: He graduated from the Sheffield Scientific School at Yale in 1868 and did postgraduate work at Yale, Columbia, and the Colorado State School of Mines. He did mechanical engineering work until 1877, was a chemist for the Exploration Company on the East Coast of Patagonia, South America from 1877 to 1879, a chemist and foreman at Germania Lead Works from 1880-1886, a superintendent of various smelting works in the U.S. until 1902, professor of metallurgy and ore dressing at the Michigan College of Mines from 1903 to 1909, and in private practice after that. He authored several books and papers: *Metallurgy of the Common Metals*, 1906, 5th edition 1920; *The Fire Assay*, 1907. Annual contributor to *Mineral Industry*, on 'Metallurgy of Copper' in 1903 and *Appleton's Yearbook*, 1911-1920. Leonard Austin was married on 7 June 1881 in Salt Lake City to Mary Elizabeth Watson, born in 1856. He visited Demerara when he was an old man and went to the "Land of Plenty" plantation, where his grandfather John had been part-owner. He met younger relatives in the colony and contacted Dora Helen Austin with whom he carried on a correspondence on family matters. She always referred to Leonard as 'Our Mormon cousin'

because he lived then in Salt Lake City, Utah, but he was an Episcopalian. He submitted numerous entries to the International Genealogical Index. He was residing in Los Angeles, California when he died in 1929. Mary died in 1933. Leonard and Mary had three sons:

T627-1. FRANK PIERCY, *b. 1882 in Salt Lake City, d.1886.*

T627-2. ARTHUR, *b. 1884, he was killed in an explosion in the United States.*

T627-3. LEONARD ALLYN, *b. 1889 in Lemhi, Idaho, d.1890.*

T628. FRANCIS BAYNES⁴ AUSTIN (*Thomas,*³ *John,*² *Thomas*¹) was born in 1848 in Stratford, Connecticut. He was married in New York to Mary Lucy Weston, believed to be from a Maine family. They had two children:

T628-1. WILLIAM, *thought to have married and had three sons.*

T628-2. MARY LIVINGSTONE

T711. SARAH PIERCE⁴ AUSTIN (*Richard Barker,*³ *Joseph Gibson,*² *Thomas*¹) was born on 15 July 1837. She was married to John Sutherland Gordon on 5 April 1866 at St. Philip's Church in Georgetown, British Guiana, by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, William Piercy Austin, assisted by Rev. Thomas Farrar. John had been the manager of both Plantations Enmore and Paradise in British Guiana in 1862, and had been widowed in 1864. After his marriage to Sarah, Josias Booker II sold him a half share in Plantation Greenfield, on the East Coast of Demerara. This was the Booker family's private estate, which had never been part of the wider Booker partnership. In the late 1870s, John Sutherland Gordon was attorney for Plantations Melville, La Belle Plaine (Wakenaam) and Skeldon. Sarah died on 27 September 1872 at Plantation Greenfield, the day after giving birth of twins. She was buried in St. Mark's Church, Enmore, East Coast of Demerara. John Gordon died in 1880 in Edinburgh. Sarah and John had five children:

T711-1. JOHN RICHARD COLIN, *b. 1868 Plantation Enmore.*

T711-2. WILLIAM JAMES SUTHERLAND, *b. 1870 Plantation Greenfield, he lived in Concrete, Washington.*

T711-3. JOSEPHINE MAXWELL, *lived in the United States.*

T711-4. SARAH PIERCE, *b. 26 September 1872, d. age 2 months.*

T711-5. MELICENT, *b. 26 September 1872, d. age 2 months.*

T712. JAMES DEAR⁴ AUSTIN (*Richard Barker,*³ *Joseph Gibson,*² *Thomas*¹) was born on in 1838 in Barbados. He was living in Surinam when he was married on 31 March 1869 in St. Michael's Cathedral in Bridgetown, Barbados to Helen Lillian Grogan of Barbados, who was born in 1843. James managed or owned an estate called Exchange in the parish of St. Thomas in Barbados. He died on 27 May 1904

in Barbados. James and Helen had nine children who were contemporaries of those of J.G.A. to whom he was known as 'Cousin James':

T712-1. JAMES PIERCY, *b. 1870 +*

T712-2. NORMAN BOSCH REITZ, *he m. Constance Grogan, their son Roderick Austin became manager of a soft drinks company. He married and had two children.*

T712-3. MILLICENT ELISE, *m. Arnold Jordan, they had two children. Arnold and one of the children drowned in a flood near Speightstown, Barbados. Elise remarried and with her surviving son, Austin Jordan, went to live in the USA. Austin Jordan was very successful, he m1. a New York socialite. After she died, he m2. Charlotte — and they had a daughter.*

T712-4. ALLAN GORDON, *lived in Demerara, but retired to Barbados where he died in 1939. He did not marry.*

T712-5. HELEN LILLIAN, *emigrated with her sister Ethel to the United States. She lived in Los Angeles, but retired to New York, where she died a spinster.*

T712-6. MAY ETHEL, *emigrated with her sister Helen to the United States. Ethel became a hospital nurse, she died a spinster.*

T712-7. KATHERINE DORA, *m. Ernest Crumpton of Barbados, they had no children. Like her sisters Helen and Ethel, she emigrated to the United States.*

T712-8. BRUCE INNIS

T712-9. SARAH PIERCE

T713. MELICENT ANN⁴ AUSTIN (*Richard Barker,*³ *Joseph Gibson,*² *Thomas*¹) was born 5 May 1840 in Blenheim, Leguan Island, Essequibo, British Guiana. She was christened on 4 June 1840 in Saint Peter's, Essequibo. She was married 13 August 1857 by her cousin Bishop William Piercy Austin at St. Philip's, Charlestown, Georgetown, to Deacon Thomas Farrar, born 21 December 1830 Holbeck, Leeds, Yorkshire, the son of James Farrar and Harriett Armitag. He was educated at Leeds Grammar School and, after completing training for the priesthood, went to British Guiana in 1854, arriving there on Christmas Eve. The following January, he was ordained a deacon and appointed Curate first in the Berbice River District and then at St. Margaret's, Skeldon. In Berbice Thomas met Melicent. During his thirty-nine years as a priest, he played an important role in the Diocese of Guiana. In 1865, he was appointed as the Chaplain at H. M. Penal Settlement, Mazaruni and as the minister in charge of the Lower Essequibo Indian Missions, positions he held for about eight years. From 1873 to 1883 he was Rector of St. Paul's, Sparendam (Plaisance), Demerara, then he became one of the first

AOA Photo 914 – T51A-5 Mabel Frances Austin

AOA Photo 915 – T51A-8 Sumner Francis Austin

AOA Photo 917-1 – T713 Melicent Ann Austin

AOA Photo 917-2 – (T713) Dcn. Thomas Farrar

Canons of St. George's Cathedral, Georgetown. A year later, Thomas was appointed Archdeacon of Berbice and Rector of All Saints' Church, New Amsterdam, Berbice. In 1890 when T514 Archdeacon Francis Webster Austin retired, Thomas became Archdeacon of Demerara. In 1892 Bishop William Piercy Austin died. The charge of the Diocese of Guiana devolved upon Thomas, but he would not allow himself to be nominated to Queen Victoria to fill the vacant episcopate because he felt the Church's interests would best be served by the appointment of a younger man from England "who was imbued with home influence." Despite his busy life as a priest, Thomas found time to write, including a book entitled *The Christian Ministry - A Manual of Church Doctrine*, for which in 1881 the Archbishop of Canterbury awarded him an Honorary Bachelor of Divinity. He also wrote: *Notes on the History of the Church in Guiana*. At the time of his death, Thomas was Vicar-General of the diocese, while continuing as Rector of All Saints' Church. Melicent was described as "a person who endeared herself to all those who came in contact with her. She was unassuming, was of a somewhat retiring disposition, but exercised a great deal of charm on those who enjoyed her society." Her son Cecil observed: "I do think that she was a very wonderful woman. One of her main characteristics was that she thought no ill and said no ill of anyone, which is a thing we could all emulate." Thomas died 21 August 1893 in Georgetown, Melicent died 16 September 1925. The last six of their fourteen children were born at St. Paul's Rectory in Sparendam:

- T713-1. JAMES HENRY, *b. 3 August 1858 at sea off 'Maida' on the Corentyne coast, British Guiana, not very far from Port Mourant Sugar Estate. He d. 24 October 1859.*
- T713-2. MELICENT, *b. 30 October 1860 Holbeck, Leeds.*
- T713-3. ANNE, *b. 13 May 1862 in Holbeck, Leeds.*
- T713-4. WALTER, *b. 20 April 1865 in Corentyne, Berbice.*
- T713-5. NICHOLAS, *b. 1 October 1866 in Georgetown.*
- T713-6. MARIE, *b. 2 March 1869 in Mazaruni, British Guiana.*
- T713-7. EDWARD, *b. and d. 20 June 1870 in Mazaruni.*
- T713-8. ELLEN, *b. 26 September 1871 in Mazaruni.*
- T713-9. PIERCY AUSTIN, *b. 1 September 1873 Demerara.*
- T713-A. CECIL, *b. 6 March 1875 in Demerara.*
- T713-B. ALFRED, *b. 10 October 1876 in Demerara.*
- T713-C. JOSEPHINE MARTHA ALICE, *b. 27 March 1878*
- T713-D. ADA BLANCHE PIERCE, *b. 10 December 1879*
- T713-E. EDITH LOUISA FANNY, *b. 25 February 1882*

T714. JOSEPHINE GIBSON⁴ AUSTIN (*Richard Barker,*³ *Joseph Gibson,*² *Thomas*¹) was born 10 January 1842 in British Guiana. The name 'Gibson' probably derived from the surname of her maternal great grandmother. Josephine met her future husband, Guillaume Jacques Abraham Bosch Reitz, at Kleinhoop, her father's estate in Surinam. They married in Georgetown on 21 July 1858. Guillaume was born 11 May 1825 in Breukelen, near Utrecht, Holland, but had settled in Surinam in 1851, where he was once President of the Court of Justice and President of the Colonial Assembly. After He died on 16 February 1880 in Surinam,

AOA Photo 918-1, -2

Josephine Gibson Austin

Guillaume Jacques Abraham Bosch Reitz

Josephine brought all their children, except Philip, back to British Guiana, rejoining the Austin clan where they adopted British Nationality. She died in Georgetown in 1917 and is buried there. In her memory, a wooden altar table, dated 7.6.1917, was presented to Christ Church, Georgetown. She was fondly remembered as 'Granny Bosch Reitz', bonneted and always carrying her little but much prized embroidered handbag. Josephine and Guillaume Bosch Reitz had nine children, all of them were born in Paramaribo, Surinam:

- T714-1. GERTRUDE ELISABETH SOPHIE, *b. 20 January 1860*
- T714-2. RICHARD DIRK, *b. 13 October 1861*
- T714-3. GUILLAUME JACQUES ABRAHAM, *b. 23 Oct. 1863*
- T714-4. JOSEPHINE WILHELMINA, *b. 3 November 1864*
- T714-5. PHILLIPE JOHN, *b. 12 February 1867*
- T714-6. CHARLES JAMES, *b. 21 February 1870*
- T714-7. SARAH JANE, *b. 13 October 1873*
- T714-8. EDWARD, *b. 19 May 1874*
- T714-9. MELICENT MARIE, *b. 10 September 1879*

T716. SAMUEL INNISS⁴ AUSTIN (*Richard Barker,*³ *Joseph Gibson,*² *Thomas*¹) was born 17 May 1845 in "Bathsheba's Lust" on Johanna Cecilia, Essequibo, British Guiana. He spent his life in British Guiana. He married on 3 June 1880 in St. George's Cathedral in Georgetown to Alice Elizabeth Veness. Called 'Elfie,' she was born in 1845, daughter of Archdeacon W. T. Veness of British Guiana. Samuel managed the Plantation Belle Plaine (later renamed Marionville) on Wakenaam Island in Essequibo, where he died relatively young on 4 September 1888. Samuel was buried on 6 September 1888 in St. Paul's Churchyard, St. James Parish, Essequibo: Alice died 31 May 1930 in Woking, England. They had three sons:

- T716-1. RICHARD ARTHUR HUGH, *b. 24 November 1881 +*
- T716-2. HERBERT WILLIAM DARE, *b. 17 December 1883 +*
- T716-3. BRUCE INNISS

FIFTH GENERATION

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 3 of the AFGS *Austin Families Register* newsletter]

NOTE: Page 919 and part of page 920 contain the 1950 US Census of Arkansas and have been deleted here. This census is available elsewhere on this web site.

THE THIRTY-ONE-YEAR QUEST FOR THE PARENTS OF MOSES G. AUSTIN

There are many success stories concerning researchers discovering their Austin roots, but due to limited space in our newsletters we are seldom able to report on most of these. In February 1986 a Minnesota researcher published a query seeking the parents of her earliest known Austin ancestor (*Austins of America* Query 175-14). She finally learned their identity in February 2000, fourteen years after her query was published! Now we are pleased to report on another Austin family researcher whose perseverance led to success after a thirty-one year quest for the parents of his earliest known Austin ancestor.

Our persistent researcher is Mr. Russell Ambrose Williams, a resident of Sparta, Wisconsin. Russ became interested in his roots at an early age, being curious about his name. His middle name came from his grandfather Hiram William Ambrose, who was married to Caroline Amelia Austin, born on 14 December 1837 in Bolivar, Allegany County, New York, the daughter of Moses G. Austin and his first wife Sophronia Bradley. Russ' first name provided a second "Austin connection," for he shared it with a cousin Russell Austin, who was a great-grandson of this Moses G. Austin. According to both family tradition and the 1880 Federal Census for Greenfield, Missouri, Moses was born circa 1811 in Delaware County, New York.

Russ started keeping a family file in 1938, about the time his first daughter was born, but he could find little concerning Moses G. Austin except for his immediate family. Russ did not really become a genealogist until 1973, after being transferred to work in Madison, Wisconsin, where he discovered the Wisconsin Historical Society and its fine collection of genealogical records.

Russ joined AOAGS in 1979 and has been a member for over 25 years. He received his first *Austins of America* newsletter in August 1979, and felt he was doing rather well in his research. In September 1980 Russ responded to the *Austins of America* Query 10-2 on Moses G. Austin, in August 1982 he authored an *Austins of America* article "Moses G. Austin & Family" (page 43), and he published additional *Austins of America* queries. Moses had a second wife named Elizabeth. Russ' article speculated she was a neighbor, Elizabeth Gordon. Russ now believes that Moses' second wife was young Elizabeth Ewing, born circa 1833, the daughter of William and Elizabeth (McWilliams) Ewing. The U.S. Government was offering land for \$1.25 an acre, so Elizabeth's parents went west, and so did Moses and Elizabeth Austin. They appear in Beetown, Grant County, in the 1855 Wisconsin Census.

Shortly thereafter they moved on to Forest, Richland County, Wisconsin.

Years of research ended in August 2004 when Russ received a telephone call from Ronald Edwin Austin of Ann Arbor, Michigan. Ronald had joined AOAGS in March 2004, visited the AOAGS Austin-Austen Research Center, and had come across Russ' queries. Ronald Austin provided Russ with notes from a *Wadhams Genealogy* book which stated that Elizabeth Wadhams had married a Nathan Austin and "removed into New York state." The will of Caleb Wadhams lists Elizabeth Austin's eleven children: the fourth was Franklin Austin, the fifth was Moses Austin. Census records show Franklin W. Austin was born circa 1808 in Massachusetts, Moses was born circa 1811 in Delaware County, New York. The long-sought-after Moses G. Austin even named his first son after his brother Franklin William Austin! Russ is grateful to Ronald Edwin Austin for finally solving his Moses mystery, and at age 86 he offers the rest of us some sound advice: "Never give up in researching!"

**THE DESCENDANTS OF
ISAAC AUSTIN AND BARBARA BENSCOTER
OF LUZERNE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

by Robert Krause Austin

AOA Photo 921

Reverend Isaac Austin (1828-1883)

Editor's Note: Rev. Isaac Austin is a descendant of Richard Austin of Charlestown, Massachusetts. The author previously published the 1853 pocket diary of his great-grandfather (*Austins of America*, page 667).

R22B-821. ISAAC⁷ AUSTIN (*Peter*,⁶ *Shadrach*,⁵ *Joshua*,⁴ *Anthony*,³ *Anthony*,² *Richard*¹) was born 29 August 1828 in Muhlenburg, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, and was the eldest of six children of Peter Austin and Cassandra Santee. He was reared on the farm with his brothers and sisters, and assisted his father with planting, harvesting, and other farm chores. Like his father and grandfather, Isaac became a farmer. He was married on 17 January 1850 in Muhlenburg to Barbara Bencoter. She was born on 4 December 1827 in Muhlenburg, the fourth of eight children of Isaac and Sarah (Harned) Bencoter, whose family is described in *The Van Benschoten Family in America*, authored by W. H. Van Benschoten:

"They live on the farm... between Muhlenburg and Sweet Valley – a large farm that all his boys worked hard on to clear up and get in shape. The woods along the road, said Miner, were but brush then the timber having been cut off. In the early time his father used to have to hunt up the oxen in the thickets in the mornings and frequently at this hour of the morning deer would startle through the brush; in which case the oxen would be forgotten as he hurried home for his rifle. One morning he shot three deer before breakfast; in all probability, though that breakfast was a deferred one. Sometimes of a morning the dogs would get after a deer in the brush-field when invariably the deer would take a course for South Pond. Then Isaac would snatch his gun and hasten by a short cut to that water, and concealed, would get his chance at the deer as it waded in."

"Bears were also plentiful in the mountains above Shickshinny in the early time and Isaac and his brother John used to trap for them. Once it is said an old bear broke the chain which secured the trap to a tree and when pursued with dogs gave one of them such a swinging blow with the chain end and trap hanging from his right paw as to kill him on the spot. It is said that Isaac came by quantities of wild meat for his own needs, and gave freely to all needy neighbors, for he was of a generous nature and could see no one in want."

Barbara was well educated in the public schools, and she taught for several years before her marriage. Her portrait appears on page 671. Much is known of Isaac Austin's life between 1853 and 1875, for he left several personal diaries in those years as part of his

legacy, along with some of his sermon notes and account books, now in possession of the author. Isaac was apparently active in educational circles, and his diaries have many references to his 'examining' prospective teachers. He also collected taxes, and his road taxes were paid in labor rather than in cash. His life and work on the farm are well chronicled (see *Austins of America* page 667). He thrashed wheat and oats, cleaned timothy, broke flax, ploughed fields, took potatoes to market in Shickshinny, planted apple trees, etc. In 1860 Isaac was ordained as a Minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The frontispiece for his diary bore the inscription "*Isaac Austin, Diary 1860, First year of his itinerant ministry.*" On 17 March 1861 Isaac Austin was appointed a Deacon in the Methodist Episcopal Church by action of the East Baltimore Annual Conference which met in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania.

Rev. Isaac and Barbara Austin remained on their farm in Muhlenburg for fourteen years. Most of his early church work was carried out in the geographic area between Shickshinny and Muhlenburg. There were few churches, so most of his preaching and exhorting were done when congregations met in school houses or private homes. Isaac's diaries list these as being Pine Creek, Cambria, Mosses, Montgomerys, Goods, Southold, Shickshinny, Columbia, Hoovers, Bethel, Harveyville, Bloomingdale,

The Rock School House, Dodsons, McKendree, Sorbers, Townhill, and the Van Horn School House. In 1864 his itinerant ministry took Rev. and Mrs. Isaac Austin to the 'Brick Church' at Lackawanna. Circa 1866 they moved on to the town of Northmoreland, then in 1869 to the town of Lehman, and finally to Centermoreland. While serving as the pastor at Centermoreland in 1881 he was struck by paralysis brought on by overwork. Following this stroke (for it was probably that, in modern medical terms), Isaac and Barbara Austin returned to their farm in Muhlenburg. Young people traveled miles by horse and buggy to be married by him after he returned to his farm. Barbara cared for and nursed Isaac for nineteen months, until his death on 15 March 1883 at age 54. Reverend Austin was buried in the family plot in the Benscoter Cemetery at Muhlenburg. The 5 April 1883 edition of the *Northern Christian Advocate* wrote warmly of him:

"He had a real combination of qualities that could hardly fail to make him a most successful minister. He possessed great physical strength and endurance. His was also a vigorous and manly mind. He abounded in the warmest sympathy and genuine friendliness of nature. He was withal a good preacher."

After Isaac died, Barbara Austin lived with her daughter Elizabeth in Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County. She died there on 27 April 1899. Her obituary in the 5 July 1899 *Christian Advocate* refers to Isaac's ministry as being

"distinguished, first for the great numbers who were converted through his influence, and secondly, because it was all performed within sight of his own birthplace. Scores of life-long neighbors were brought to Christ through his personal labors, and his memory is still cherished throughout that section."

Isaac and Barbara Benscoter Austin had seven children, the first six were born in Muhlenburg:

- R22B-8211. MINER BENSCOTER, b. 11 January 1851 +
- R22B-8212. EMELINE GARRISON, b. 28 July 1853, d. 23 July 1880. Known as 'Emily' she was an invalid for fifteen years, and suffered much during that time. Her mother devoted herself to her "helpless and suffering daughter" during these years. Emily never married.
- R22B-8213. SARAH ELIZABETH, b. 27 March 1856, she was a teacher in Wilkes-Barre. She d. 16 May 1930 at her home at 547 South River Street in Wilkes-Barre. Elizabeth was never married.
- R22B-8214. MARY, b. 15 October 1858, d. 25 November 1858
- R22B-8215. SHADRACH BOWMAN, b. 7 January 1860 +

AOA Photo 922

Miner Benscoter Austin (1851-1914)

R22B-8216. E. WADSWORTH, b. 16 November 1862, m. on 5 June 1894 Edith Tonkin at her father's home in Wilkes-Barre. 'Wad' owned the Austin Shoe Company. Edith died on 22 October 1936 at her home in Kingston, Luzerne County. Wad d. 1 June 1937 at the Mercy Hospital in Wilkes-Barre. They were both buried in the Hollenback Cemetery in Wilkes-Barre. Wadsworth and Edith had no children.

R22B-8217. R. CLARK, b. 1 December 1866 +

EIGHTH GENERATION

R22B-8211. MINER BENSCOTER⁸ AUSTIN (*Isaac*,⁷ (*Peter*,⁶ *Shadrach*,⁵ *Joshua*,⁴ *Anthony*,³ *Anthony*,² *Richard*¹) was born 11 January 1851 in Muhlenburg, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. An entry dated Monday, 15 March 1864 in his father's diary indicates he embraced Christianity at the age of thirteen: "... held meeting in the evening. 27 mourners, 10 converted. My oldest son Miner was among the converted. Bless the Lord all my soul and all that is within me praise his name." Miner Austin's elementary education took place in various 'little red school houses' in the villages where his father preached.

His musical education began shortly after the family moved in 1864 to Lackawanna, where he took his first music lessons from a Miss Downs. Miner entered the Wyoming Seminary in Kingston, Pennsylvania for the school years 1866-67 and 1867-68. On 27 July 1867 he received a Provisional Teacher's Certificate from H. Armstrong, the County Superintendent of Schools. That same summer he taught school at 'Fireproof.' In the fall of 1868 Miner moved to Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, and obtained a position in the music store of Professor Louis Praetorius under the following agreement: he was

AOA Photo 923**Ella Nora (Welch) Austin (1852-1942)**

to receive \$75, board and music lessons for the first year; \$150, board and lessons the second year; and \$225, board and lessons or be taken into partnership for the third year.

Organs were the principle article for sale in the music stores of that day, and it was customary to load a couple of organs on a spring wagon and travel through the countryside looking for customers. This was a portion of Miner's job. After a year Prof. Praetorius claimed that he could not afford to carry out the terms of his agreement, and so Miner left his employ and returned to his family who were then living in Lehman. There he contracted pneumonia. Upon regaining his health, he returned to the home and employ of Prof. Praetorius.

While still working for and studying music with Prof. Praetorius, Miner was married to Ella Nora Welch on 18 September 1873 in Dallas, Pennsylvania. Ella was born on 4 January 1852 on South Washington Street in Wilkes-Barre, the daughter of John H. Welch and Susan Houpt. She was educated in the public school of Wilkes-Barre, and later learned her trade as a dressmaker. They first lived on South Street close to the old South Street bridge. They moved to Sullivan Street a few doors from Main Street prior to the birth of their first child on 23 April 1876. Later they moved to a house at 249 Academy Street, located between South River Street and Carey Avenue, where Miner lived the rest of his life.

Miner remained with Prof. Praetorius until the business was sold to Holmes and Passage. He then worked for the new owners for a couple of years using his spare time to teach music. In 1877 or 1878 he became the organist for the First Methodist Church of Wilkes-Barre, when the congregation occupied the old brick church on North Franklin Street, retaining the position for fifteen years. Miner organized the First Methodist Episcopal Sunday School Orchestra in 1882, and he played with them continuously for thirty-two years.

Miner was an organizer of the Philharmonic Orchestra, the first Wilkes-Barre Symphony Orchestra and Riegs Band. He was the first president of the Ninth Regimental Infantry Band Association, which in turn became Alexander's Concert Band. After having been retired from the activities of church music for a

number of years, Miner again became active as organist and choirmaster at the German Reformed Church on South Washington Street above Ross Street. Here he continued to serve until incapacitated by his last illness. His son Charles reported on his father's health in a letter written to Lucita E. Krause dated 13 July 1909:

"I am quite worried about father – you know he thinks that he had a slight stroke while he was in New York, and he feels it in his hand yet – today the doctor ordered him to quit work and to give up smoking and go to the shore – he can't tell just how serious it may turn out."

Two days later in another letter to Lucita, Charles wrote:

"Father seems no worse and I hope he will take the doctor's orders and go to the shore, but as with everyone else, he finds it hard to give up his business. I hope he may live many years yet and you are sure to love him, for he is one of the finest of men, with ideals of the highest. He is far above anything I can hope to be morally, and I look upon him as a model."

Miner Austin was a member of the E. B. Harvey Lodge No. 839, Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF), serving as Noble Grand in 1875-76. He died at 10:30 a.m. on 27 March 1914 at age 62. After her husband's passing, Ella rented a house at 124 Academy Street. She was a frequent summer visitor at her son's cottage at Lake Nuangola where the front bedroom was always referred to as 'Grandma Austin's Room.'

In 1933 Ella moved in with her widowed daughter Edna Austin Honeywell and her two sons at 197 Academy Street. Although very active in her later years, Ella suffered a stroke in the fall of 1938 at the age of 86, and was confined to her bed for nearly four years. In 1941 she moved with Edna and her son Donald to 125 Charles Street. Ella died there on 2 September 1942 at 1:15 a.m.

AOA Photo 924

Ruth Thompson Austin (1895-1957)

Ruth Austin attended Wilkes-Barre High School, the Wyoming Seminary, and Syracuse University. She was an affiliate of the Wilkes-Barre Teaching Association, and she taught for over four decades at Coughlin High School in Wilkes-Barre. She taught English and helped students prepare yearbooks and various other publications. She was a member of the First Methodist Church. In November 1956 Ruth took a recuperative leave, and she went to New York City on 14 January 1957. She phoned relatives to send money to the Hotel Martinique but she never registered there. Relatives believe that she may have gone from New York to visit Atlantic City. On 24 January 1957 her body washed ashore on Lido Beach on the south shore of Long Island. She was fully dressed and still had a ring in a gold setting on her hand, but she had no coat, hat or handbag. Police identified her only through her shoes, which bore a unique serial number and the inscription "Doctor's Shoe Store, 16 West Northampton Street, Wilkes-Barre." The shoe store put the police in touch with Ruth's cousin Allen Austin, who contacted his sister, Miss Dorothy Austin, who was living in New York at the time. Dorothy went to Nassau and identified the body. The police said the condition of the body indicated that it had been in the water for three or four days. Ruth Austin was buried with her parents in Forty Fort Cemetery.

More than twenty-one years after Ruth's death, her cousin's son Gilbert Austin bought an old steamer trunk at a neighbor's yard sale which had a shipping tag with the name "Ruth Austin." The neighbor had bought it at a local auction house. The auctioneer said that the trunk had come from a home inundated by the 1972 Susquehanna River flood. The house had belonged to two Austin spinsters, one of whom had died, the other was in a nursing home (likely Ruth's first cousins, Marjorie & Dorothy Austin). Gilbert asked "Have you anything else from that house which might be of interest to an Austin?" The auctioneer gave him an old, beatup yellow shoe box with the comment "No one would want this but an Austin." The box held more than twenty books which had belonged to Gilbert's great-grandfather, Rev. Isaac Austin. They included an 1870 copy of the New Testament, a book of sermons Isaac had written and delivered, several account books, a bank book that belonged to Isaac's daughter Emeline, and several of Isaac's personal diaries (see page 667). Gilbert turned all the books over to his brother Robert K. Austin, the family historian.

at age 90 years and 8 months. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Howard E. Thompson, pastor of the Central Methodist Church in Wilkes-Barre. Her pall bearers were grandsons C. Clinton Honeywell, Donald L. Honeywell, Robert K. Austin, Gilbert D. Austin, Charles M. Austin, and a great-nephew Herbert Gregory. Both Miner and Ella were interred in the Austin family plot in the Oaklawn Cemetery in Wilkes-Barre. They had two children born in Wilkes-Barre:

R22B-8211-1. CHARLES MORGAN, *b. 23 April 1876 +*
 R22B-8211-2. EDNA MARGERIE, *b. 14 April 1886, she m. 22 April 1914 to Charles Weikel Honeywell, b. 10 February 1884 in Carverton, Pennsylvania. Charles d. on 16 June 1935 at 197 Academy Street, Wilkes-Barre. Edna d. 30 October 1957 at 64 Mallery Place, Wilkes-Barre, and was buried in the Oaklawn Cemetery. They had two sons: Charles Clinton Austin b. 10 April 1916 in Montreal, Quebec, Canada and Donald Lee Austin b. 23 September 1926 in Wilkes-Barre.*

R22B-8215. SHADRACH BOWMAN⁸ AUSTIN (*Isaac,*⁷ *Peter,*⁶ *Shadrach,*⁵ *Joshua,*⁴ *Anthony,*³ *Anthony,*² *Richard*¹) was born 7 January 1860 in Muhlenburg, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. He was married on 25 June 1884 to Nettie Allen, born on 18 February 1863. Shadrach was the Manager of the Wyoming Cutlery Company. He died on 28 October 1924 at his home at 51 Charles Street in Wilkes-Barre. Nettie died 16 February 1928. Their five children were born and died in Wilkes-Barre, and were buried in Oaklawn Cemetery. None of them ever married:

R22B-8215-1. ETHEL, *b. 7 January 1886, d. 17 January 1886* R22B-8215-2. HAROLD, *b. 15 June 1889, d. 12 May 1963.*

R22B-8215-3. MARJORIE, *b. 27 Aug. 1896, d. 13 July 1978*

R22B-8215-4. ALLEN, *b. 17 February 1900, d. 12 May 1963*

R22B-8215-5. DOROTHY, *b. 13 February 1904, resided for a while in New York City before returning to her native Wilkes-Barre. She was in a nursing home before she d. on 22 March 1987, and with her death this Austin branch came to an end.*

R22B-8217. R. CLARK⁸ AUSTIN (*Isaac,*⁷ *Peter,*⁶ *Shadrach,*⁵ *Joshua,*⁴ *Anthony,*³ *Anthony,*² *Richard*¹) was born on 1 December 1866 in Muhlenburg, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. Clark was married on 23 April 1893 to Ruth Sturdevant Thompson, who was born 25 June 1868 in Centermoreland, Wyoming County, Pennsylvania. Clark was a salesman. Ruth died at age 27 on 22 October 1895 in Luzerne County, only eleven days after giving birth. She was buried on 1 November 1895. Clark died on 2 September and was buried on 4 September 1902 with his wife in Plot 957 in the Forty Fort Cemetery, Forty Fort, Luzerne County. Clark and Ruth had one daughter:

R22B-8217-1. RUTH THOMPSON, *b. 11 October 1895, d. January 1957 (see her photo and article at left).*

AOA Photo 925-1

Charles Morgan Austin (1876-1943)

NINTH GENERATION

R22B-8211-1. CHARLES MORGAN⁹ AUSTIN (*Miner B.*⁸ *Isaac*,⁷ *Peter*,⁶ *Shadrach*,⁵ *Joshua*,⁴ *Anthony*,³ *Anthony*,² *Richard*¹) was born on 23 April 1876 in Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, and named after a friend of his father. He went to Franklin Street Grammar School in Wilkes-Barre, and graduated in 1894 from Wyoming Seminary in Kingston, Pennsylvania, where he had been President of the Amphycion Society and a member of the Banjo and Mandolin Club. Following graduation he worked for his uncle E. Wadsworth Austin at the Austin Shoe Company as a utility clerk and later as a salesman. In 1896 at age 20 he went to work for the Wyoming National Bank of Wilkes-Barre, located at Franklin and Market Streets, as a Junior Bookkeeper.

Known to his friends as 'Chap' or 'Charlie,' Charles Austin was one of the organizers of the Wilkes-Barre Bank Tellers Association, and played on their baseball team for two years. He was also an Officer of the West End Wheelmen (which later became the Franklin Club), and joined their Banjo Club. He participated in their minstrels for several years as a vocal soloist and an end man, and he also played the tambourine. In July 1899 Charles joined the Concordia Singing Society and he was an active member for 37 years, participating in five national singing contests and many minstrels and shows. In July 1906 Concordia won the coveted and prestigious 'Kaiserpreis' in competition at Madison Square Garden in New York City.

As a young man Charles spent much time at Harvey's Lake with other members of the Susquehanna Canoe Club, of which he was Commodore in 1904-05. It was at a cottage there that he met Lucita Krause on 5 August 1905. There was twelve years difference between their ages, but Charles and Lucita became good friends and went out together on numerous occasions. Their favorite dance number was 'Dearie.' Charles or 'Chap' adopted this name for Lucita and many of his letters greet her as 'Dearie.' They became secretly engaged in 1909 and were married on 15 October 1910 at the Presbyterian Church manse on Grant Street in Wilkes-Barre by Rev. John B. Craven. They apparently visited Baltimore on their honeymoon, for in 1914 Chap was visiting that city

AOA Photo 925-2

Lucita Edythe (Krause) Austin (1888-1967)

with the Concordia Singing Society and wrote Lucita from the Emerson Hotel, "we arrived... at the same station we landed at on our wedding trip."

Lucita Edythe Krause was born on 15 May 1888 in Lampazos, Nuevo Leon, Mexico. She was the first of five

children of Gideon Krause and Esther 'Etta' MacDonald. Gideon was a telegraph operator for the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company at Hazleton, Pennsylvania. He went to El Paso, Texas, and upon his return married Esther on 27 March 1885. They soon moved to Lampazos where Gideon became the Agent at Linares for the Mexican National Railroad, Water-Pierce Oil Company, and the San Carlos Copper Company. A letter from Lucita to her 'Papa' from Philadelphia when she was eleven years old indicates she was enrolled in school there and doing very well. She was staying with her Aunt Carrie and Uncle Claude (apparently the Krause side of the family).

Lucita's parents became ill in Mexico. In 1901 Gideon became paralyzed in his legs and partially paralyzed in other members of his body. Etta put him in the bed of a wagon and tried to drive him into Texas. They were denied admission because of the nature of his illness. After she propped him into a sitting position, a second try succeeded in gaining entry. He died 14 March 1901 and was buried in Austin, Texas. Etta suffered severely from rheumatism. She died of cancer 11 November 1902 in Wilkes-Barre City Hospital. Lucita was only 14 years old at the time, and went to live with her Aunt Sarah Deborah MacDonald Connor, one of her mother's younger sisters who had married DeHaven Lance Connor about seventeen months earlier. Lucita continued her education and graduated from the Wilkes-Barre High School in 1907 in the field of 'English Scientific.'

Following their marriage, Charles and Lucita moved into an apartment on the corner of Main and Ross Streets, and shortly thereafter they bought a half of a double block house at 67 Mallery Place. Later they purchased the other half of the house and kept it as rental property. In May 1911 they laid the foundation for a lake-front cottage on Lake Nuangola. For several years after the cottage was built, Chap had no car, so the family's clothing was packed into large trunks and shipped to Nuangola Station via the Wilkes-Barre and Hazleton Railroad, then transported via horse-cart more than a mile to the cottage. Each morning Chap walked to the station and took the train to work in Wilkes-Barre. After Chap bought his first car, a Chalmers, the trip was much easier for him, but moving to the lake with two adults, four children, assorted dogs, cats, birds and white mice was quite an adventure! Except during the World War II years, the family spent every summer at the cottage between mid-June and Labor Day.

AOA Photo 926

The Austin family in April 1941. Seated are Lucita Edythe (Krause) Austin, Charles Morgan Austin, and Esther Ellen Austin. Standing: Robert Krause Austin, Gilbert DeHaven Austin and Charles Miner Austin.

In his forty-three years with the bank, Charles Morgan Austin progressed to General Bookkeeper, then to the Correspondence Clerk in 1908. He became Assistant Cashier in 1915, Cashier in 1923, Vice-President in 1931, and Assistant to the President in 1933. He was very interested in genealogy and made many trips to the Austin and Benscoter farms and the cemetery in Muhlenburg seeking family data. He also corresponded with Alpheus E. Austin of Oregon and with many others concerning Austin family lines. For many years Lucita was the moving force behind annual MacDonald Clan reunions. She was also a charter member of the Irem Woman's Auxiliary, President of the Auxiliary to Dieu Le Vieu Commandry Knights Templar 45, and was active in the Wisemenettes (YWCA) and Salvation Army Auxiliary.

Sometimes called 'The Guv' by his family, Charles was an ardent fisherman, tennis player and ice skater. He was still able to do figure skating until he developed cancer in 1936, an illness which lasted for seven years. Lucita cared for him, and at one point never left the house for two years. Charles died 13 November 1943. After Chap's death Lucita remodeled the living room area into a gift shop which she ran during the winter months. She also remodeled the front of the cottage and ran her business there during the summer months. Late in 1955 her widower son Charles and his sons moved in

with her. In 1966 she sold her home and cottage and moved into a first-floor apartment at the corner of Sullivan and Franklin Streets, and Charles Jr. and his son Douglas moved in with her. Lucita died on 26 October 1967. She and her husband Charles were buried at the Oaklawn Cemetery in Wilkes-Barre. Their five children were born all born in Wilkes-Barre:

- R22B-8211-11. CHARLES MINER, *b. 24 November 1912 +*
 R22B-8211-12. WADSWORTH LANCE, *b. on 17 September 1915, d. 30 October 1916.*
 R22B-8211-13. ESTHER ELLEN, *b. 10 June 1917, m. 3 April 1943 Wilkes-Barre William Francis Hughes b. 3 December 1916 Wilkes-Barre, the son of William Aloysius and Iva Mary Prall Hughes. Esther d. 18 March 1990 Warren, Pennsylvania, William d. 1 January 1996 at Henry Mills, Pennsylvania. Ch: William Charles b. 1 December 1944; Susan Deborah b. 21 March 1948 in Port Allegany, Pennsylvania; Nancy Lucita b. 21 January 1955 in Dubois, Pennsylvania, unmarried, d. 12 May 2001 buried Barnes, Pennsylvania with parents.*
 R22B-8211-14. GILBERT DEHAVEN, *b. 20 January 1919 +*
 R22B-8211-15. ROBERT KRAUSE, *b. 20 September 1922 +*

TENTH GENERATION

R22B-8211-11. CHARLES MINER¹⁰ AUSTIN (*Charles Morgan,⁹ Miner B.⁸ Isaac,⁷ Peter,⁶ Shadrach,⁵ Joshua,⁴ Anthony,³ Anthony,² Richard¹*) was born 24 November 1912 at the Riverside Hospital in Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. He graduated from Coughlin High School in Wilkes-Barre in 1930 and from Bucknell University in 1935 with a B.S. in Business Administration. Charles was employed by S. S. Kresge Company prior to being drafted into the Army in 1942. He was a Staff Sergeant in the 126th Armored Ordinance Maintenance Battalion in General George Patton's 4th Armored Division. After his military discharge, he was employed in the sale and distribution of automotive parts. Charles married Anna Merel James on 6 November 1943 at her parents' home in Plains, Luzerne County. She was born 2 April 1915 in Plains, the daughter of Thomas and Margaret James. She died 9 November 1955 in Kingston, Luzerne County, and she was buried in the Pittston Cemetery in Pittston, Pennsylvania. Charles died 31 May 1968 of a heart attack at his South River Street home in Wilkes-Barre, and is buried in the Oaklawn Cemetery. Charles and Anna had three sons born in Wilkes-Barre:

- R22B-8211-111. CHARLES MINER JR., *b. 7 August 1944, m. 25 February 1966 in Wichita Falls, Texas to Brenda Faye Rollins, b. 8 September 1948 in Grandfield, Tillman County, Oklahoma. Two ch: Charles Miner Austin III b. 8 July 1968 and Alicia Ann Austin b. 1 February 1972. He and Jennifer Christian had a dau. Molly Rebecca Christian Austin b. 15 November 1994, but they never married and Molly is being reared by her mother. Charles m. 19 September 2003 in Topeka, Kansas to Renee Louise Ziegler.*
 R22B-8211-112. THOMAS JAMES, *b. 21 August 1946, m1. to Marie Helen Madrovsky in Wilkes-Barre. She was b. in Pennsylvania, d. 28 March 1976 in Rawlins, Carbon County, Wyoming, and buried*

in Albert, Luzerne County. Thomas m2. In May 1979 to Sharon Kratz. Thomas had two children by each wife: Tawnjean Austin b. 14 May 1966, Tiffany Ann Austin b. 22 July 1967, Jaimee Ann Austin b. 5 June 1980, Thomas James Austin Jr. b. 4 November 1982.

- R22B-8211-113. DOUGLAS ROBERT, *b. 22 August 1950, m. Brenda Shafer, b. 5 January 1952. Two children: Douglas Robert Austin Jr. b. 20 January 1972 and Marlyne Denea Austin b. 12 December 1974.*

R22B-8211-14. GILBERT DEHAVEN¹⁰ AUSTIN (*Charles Morgan,⁹ Miner B.⁸ Isaac,⁷ Peter,⁶ Shadrach,⁵ Joshua,⁴ Anthony,³ Anthony,² Richard¹*) was born on 24 January 1919 at home in Wilkes-Barre, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. In 1937 he graduated from Meyers High School, and in 1940 from Wyoming Seminary Dean School of Business. In school he was a competitive swimmer and diver, and later he became a swimming official for both PIAA and NCAA. In 1940 he joined Bell Telephone of Pennsylvania as a groundsman. In June 1942 he enlisted in the U. S. Army and attended their Communications School in Monmouth, New Jersey, and was commissioned 2nd Lieutenant in the Army Signal Corps. He was attached to General Omar Bradley's 12th Army in the ETO, where he participated in the battles of Northern France, the Ardennes, the Rhineland, and Central Germany as a Signal Officer. Upon being discharged, he was rehired by Bell as a Project Engineer. He retired in 1979. Gilbert was married on 11 July 1943 to June Elizabeth Day at the Methodist Church in Forty Fort, Luzerne County. Gilbert died on 6 August 1995 at 1082 Rutter Avenue in Forty Fort, Pennsylvania, and is buried in Hanover Green Cemetery, in Hanover, Pennsylvania. They had four children:

- R22B-8211-141. GILBERT DAVID, *b. 14 December 1944, m. 15 May 1965 in Easton, Pennsylvania to Vickie Kay Hughes, b. 25 September 1945 in Easton. Two children: Lori Lynne Austin b. 11 March 1967 and Scott David Austin b. 1 October 1968.*
 R22B-8211-142. THOMAS DAY, *b. 17 October 1946.*
 R22B-8211-143. CRAIG MACDONALD, *b. 26 March 1954, m1. 14 August 1976 in Easton, Pennsylvania Doreen Mae Powers, b. 15 September 1954. They divorced, Craig m2. Anne Frances Garrity, b. 14 April 1958 in Easton. They had two sons, Joshua James Austin & Zachary Thomas Austin. They divorced, he m3. Debbie Altman, one ch: Elizabeth Ann Austin b. 5 December 1994.*
 R22B-8211-144. AMY ELIZABETH, *b. 21 February 1958, m. 20 September 1986 Steven Bennett Halloran. Ch: Benjamin Gilbert Halloran b. 21 November 1990 & Patrick Jarvis Halloran b. 20 June 1993.*

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 9 of the AFGS Austin Families Register newsletter]

DNA PROJECT STATUS [CONTINUED FROM PAGE 912]**PARTICIPATION AND COST**

The Project invites participation by all Austin lines. Since Y-DNA passes from father to son (but not to daughters), the DNA donor must be an Austin male. If you are not an Austin male, you must find an Austin male relative (father, grandfather, uncle, brother or cousin) willing to contribute a DNA sample for your line. To participate, write to AOAGS (address on page 920) or visit www.familytreedna.com, the Family Tree DNA web site, search for the surname Austin, then submit the *Join Request Form* at the bottom of the web page. Our Austin-Austen DNA Project Administrator will request a copy of your known Austin line, from your earliest ancestor down to the DNA donor himself. After submitting this information, you will then be eligible to purchase a DNA Test Kit from Family Tree DNA at our reduced Project cost. The Kit itself is \$2, the cost of 25 - marker processing is normally \$229, but it is only \$169 for participants in our Society's Austin-Austen DNA Project.

PROJECT FUND

To date more than 47 Austin DNA tests have been done, 80% of them privately funded. To insure profiling all lines, the *Austins of America Genealogical Society* (AOAGS) and the *Austin Families Association of America* (AFAOA) have jointly established the *Austin-Austen DNA Project Fund*. Both organizations donate to the Project Fund, and private donations are also welcomed. You can contribute by credit card at the AOAGS web site (via the 'Projects' link) or by a check payable to: Carol R. Austin, 9726 Mirage Circle, Garden Grove, CA 92844. Carol is the Fund Coordinator, and works with other Austin family genealogists to select Austin lines and individuals to be tested. For each Austin line, the goal is to locate two male descendants who are as distantly related and as few generations distant from the progenitor as possible. After finding volunteers, Carol orders them Test Kits from Family Tree DNA. The volunteers then simply scrape the insides of their cheeks and return the Kits to Family Tree DNA for processing. The Project Fund goal is to help as many Austin researchers as possible, so it supports testing of documented Austin family lines based on their size, with the largest lines being tested first. As testing continues, smaller lines will be tested. If your Austin family line reaches the top of the 'waiting list,' the Project Fund will pay for testing two descendants in your line. If your line is small, the 'wait' could be long, even years! You might consider pooling resources with other family members or cousins to privately fund your own DNA test.

DNA TEST RESULTS

Processing Y-DNA samples generally takes about six weeks, sometimes even longer. Project participants' 25 marker results will then appear in the Profiles Table at the AOAGS web site. The present Profiles Table is shown on page 929, with each test identified by its unique Family Tree DNA Kit number. Note that for each Kit only the names of the first three generation males are revealed. Each subsequent generation is represented by an 'M' (for 'Male'), the last 'M' being the DNA donor himself. The bold numbers heading the 25 rightmost columns are DYS numbers which represent those specific locations along

the Y-chromosome where the 25 marker values are determined (see p. 836).

RELATIONSHIPS

Long speculation that the largest documented Austin lines (Richard of Charlestown, Robert of Kingstown, and Samuel of Boston) might be related was quickly disproven by NA tests. Indeed most of the larger Austin lines are unrelated, or at least their MRCA (Most Recent Common Ancestor) lived well before people first adopted their Austin surnames back in the 12th century. One exception to date has been the discovery that descendants of Jonah of Taunton and Robert of Kingstown share identical DNA! The paper trail connecting these lines has not yet been found, but we now know they are somehow related, perhaps back in England.

MUTATIONS

Profiles Table test results are grouped by Austin lines, with the background shading (white or light gray) indicating the groups. A number on a dark background indicates it does not match the expected result for that line, which is caused by a 'mutation.' More than two mutations implies no MRCA after the 12th century. Generally three or more darkened values indicate non-matching DNA, but exceptions occur since some DYS markers are correlated. One example is Kit 20539 which matches the Samuel of Boston DNA, despite having three darkened values, since its mismatches at DYS 464a, 464b and 464c are considered only a single mutation. DYS 389-1 and 389-2 are also correlated, so the fact that Kit 3128 differs at DYS 389-1 from Kit 18716 means that the difference at DYS 389-2 was also to be expected, and does not represent a second mutation.

BROKEN LINES

The large number of dark squares in Kit 14165 indicates that there is a 'break' in the male line between Robert Austin and the DNA donor, who does not descend from Robert via his male line. Similarly with Kit 13565, the DNA donor does not descend from Richard of Charlestown. Further DNA tests can determine where the breaks occurred.

UNEXPECTED LINKS

Two tests of the Joseph Austin of Dover, New Hampshire line are being processed. If they confirm the Kit 25387 results, then William Austin born in 1843 in Guyana (Kit 11744) would be related to Joseph Austin. He could be a descendant of Joseph, at the very least William and Joseph shared a common ancestor. The William Austin born 1654 Kent County, Maryland is also interesting. A DNA test of another of his descendants remains to be done, but if it confirms the results of Kit 18245, then William's Y-DNA is an exact match to that of Samuel Austin of Boston. This is a very exciting prospect for descendants of both lines, and may be helpful in locating their MRCA in England!

NOTE: Page 929 contains a sample image of the Austin-Austen DNA Project – Profiles Table as of January 2005 and is deleted here. Since being taken over by Arthur M. Sikes, Jr., the table has been completely revised, and of course greatly added to. Click [HERE](#) to see current table.