

# SWINNERTON

## FAMILY HISTORY

**Heraldic and Genealogical Studies**

of the family

Compiled and edited by

Lt. Colonel I. S. Swinnerton T.D., J.P.

Beech Tree House, Norton Road, Stourbridge, Worcs.



VOLUME ONE

No. 8

MAY 1975

### FAMILY NOTES

Council member, the Rev. BRIAN SWINNERTON has just completed tutoring another of his Local Study Courses in Staffordshire - this one on "Staffordshire Churches". These courses are run by the Department of Liberal Studies of Stafford College of Further Education at which the Rev. Brian is a Lecturer. The next one will be on "Our Staffordshire Heritage" as this, of course, is Architectural Heritage Year.

Our Vice-President FRANK SWINNERTON has sent me a cutting from the Daily Telegraph headed "JANE SWINNERTON ON TARGET". Playing Hockey for Staffordshire, the young lady scored 4 goals in a weekend, one against Berkshire at Bisham and a hat-trick against Oxfordshire. Does anyone know to which branch of the family this young lady belongs ?

FAMILY GATHERING - SWYNNERTON CHURCH - Saturday, 26th July 1975. 3.30 pm.  
Full details separately. Book the date.

### A ROGUE SWINNERTON

"In the late Middle Ages, when the Crown's authority over the Barons had weakened, there were the usual outbreaks of disorder in the area; in the 14th century some local people were the victims of John de Wetales and ROGER SWYNNERTON and their associates. They stole from William Cook of Pelsall 2 pigs worth 6/- and they chased Robert of Essington, who took refuge in William Boweles's Manor House at Rushall, there the pursuers beseiged the house and shot arrows over the gate."

From "A Bit of Aldridge History" - the Aldridge Ratepayers' Association Newsletter, December 1974, sent in by Mr. Joe Swinnerton. (JS.147)

### NEARLY A PIRATE ANCESTOR

Mrs. Bernise Williams, Hon. Secretary of Cymdeithas Herodrol ac Achyddol Cymru, (The Heraldic & Genealogical Society of Wales) has drawn my attention to a mention of our name which had been completely unknown to me before. CHARLES OCTAVIUS SWINNERTON MORGAN MA(Oxon) FRS. FSA. DL. (B.15.9.1803 - d.unm. 5.8.1888) was the son of Sir Charles Morgan, Bart. and brother of the 1st Baron Tredegar. He was MP for County Monmouth 1841-1874. (The Morgans are reputedly descendants of Henry Morgan the Buccaneer!) I can find no genealogical connection with our family but, of course, there is a strong connection with Monmouth through the marriage in 1793 of THOMAS SWINNERTON the last direct heir of the Butterson family with Mary Milborne, daughter and heir of Charles Milborne of Wonaston & Abergavenny. I would think the two families were probably friends and Charles Octavius was named to commemorate this, possibly even after a godparent.

### THE MODERN SCENE

It appears we have a connection with the pop world! A cutting from the "Express & Star" for Wednesday, 11th December 1974, also sent in by Mr. JOE SWINNERTON (JS.147) reveals that the tour manager for The Slade pop group is a Mr. GRAHAM SWINNERTON. I remember seeing a picture many years ago of Humphrey Lyttleton's jazz band and the drummer there was also a Swinnerton. Who Graham is we don't yet know.



## ANOTHER EARLY GENEALOGIST ?

### "The Swynnerton Family".

Any information respecting the SWYNNERTONS of "Repynden, Melton, Tykenhall, Bottesford, Aldebrowe and Doddington" Co. Derby in the 12th and 13th centuries is particularly wanted for the Historical Account of the Swynnerton Family now in the press. Also a descent of the SWINNERTONS of Whitmore in Co. Stafford, 16th and 17th centuries. Also any Church Registers whatever or from any place, relating to the name of SWINNERTON. Any particulars will be acceptable and may be sent to the Editor of "The Reliquary" or to Mr. MASSY SWINNERTON, 10 Rue de Chateau, Chatou, Paris." (From "The Reliquary" No. 73, Vol. XIX. July 1878)

The interesting thing about this is that there is no such person as a Massy Swinnerton at this date and I can only conclude that it was the Rev. Charles Swinnerton using his wife's name as a 'nom de plume' or it was a misprint for MRS. Massy Swinnerton. Note that they had not at this period adopted the 'y'. The Rev. Charles frequently used nom de plumes when writing to journals, etc., one he was very fond of was 'Torbela'.

---

## STAFFORDSHIRE DIRECTORIES (3)

### WILLIAM WHITE'S DIRECTORY OF STAFFORDSHIRE.

1834.

ADBASTON Parish Knighton Village. 6 miles N. of Newport)  
SWINNERTON - JAMES Blacksmith (also farms Newport School property) (JS. 102)

BETLEY Parish (Ravenhall. 1 m. S. by W. of Betley)  
SWINNERTON - Wm. Jun. Gardener, etc. (WS. 24)  
SWINNERTON - Wm. Sen. Farmer (WS. 14)

ECCLESHALL Parish (Cotes Division)  
SWINNERTON - Thos. Blacksmith. (Slindon) (TS. 43)  
(Woodland Division)  
SWINNERTON - Miss Nancy (Sugnall Magna) (NS. 5)

HIGH OFFLEY  
SWINNERTON - Francis Blacksmith (High Offley) (FS. 12)  
SWINNERTON - Geo. Blacksmith & b. h. (Shebden) (GS. 2)

STANDON Parish  
SWINNERTON - John Farmer (JS. 168)

SWYNNERTON Parish  
SWINNERTON - E. Farmer (ES. 74)

STOKE ON TRENT Parish  
SWINNERTON - Thos. Cratemaker. Commercial Buildings (TS. 72)

NEWCASTLE UNDER LYME Parish  
SWINNERTON - Miss Sarah King Street (SS. 59)

TRENTHAM Parish  
"BUTTERTON is a small township 2½ miles W. by N. of Trentham mostly belonging to Thos. Swinnerton Esq. who resides in the Hall, an ancient stone mansion near the Newcastle and Drayton Road. (TS. 32)

### YOXALL

Benefactions to the poor: The interest of £50 left by Thomas Spateman, MRS. SWINNERTON and Margaret Burton is to be distributed in weekly doles of bread every Sunday.



The Society was founded in 1879 at Stafford and published its first volume in 1880. In 1936 it changed its name to The Staffordshire Record Society and is still publishing volumes of historical matters relating to Staffordshire today. In the first list of members 1879-80 published as a preface to Volume I appear the following :-

SWYNNERTON Charles, Oxon. Bengal Chaplain.

SWYNNERTON Joseph William, Sculptor, Palozzino Swinnerton, Maccao, Rome.

SWYNNERTON Godfrey Lloyd, Mercantile Marine.

SWYNNERTON Frederic, Artist, Paris & Rome.

These are all brothers, sons of CHARLES SWINNERTON of Douglas I. O. M. (CS. 14) and great grandsons of WILLIAM of Betley (WS. 15). The curious thing is that these are the only four who give their occupations, the rest of the list of members consists of just names and addresses. One can see the hand of the Rev. Charles in this !

We shall be dealing with this branch of the family in due course but, in the next issue shall be starting a new series of extracts - those relating to the family appearing in successive Volumes of the Collections.

---

"A SURVEY OF THE CITIES OF LONDON & WESTMINSTER, BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK AND PARTS ADJACENT". By Robert Seymour. The whole being an improvement of Mr. Stow's and other surveys, etc. London MDCCXXXV

---

Book 1. Page 250

SIR JOHN SWINNERTON, Merchant Taylor, Alderman and Lord Mayor of London in the year 1612, gave to Christ's Hospital the sum of 100 L and to the other three hospitals of St. Bartholomew's, St. Thomas and Bridewell 10 L to each house.

In the same year, Frederick, Count Palatine of the Rhine (called the Palsgrave) came into England to marry the Lady Eliz. K. James' daughter and on 29th October when the Lord Mayor took his oath according to custom the said Prince was entertained at Guildhall at the Mayor's feast accompanied with the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Duke of Lennox, Bishop of London and diverse earls and lords. After dinner the Mayor and his brethren on behalf of the City presented the Palsgrave with a very large bason and ewer richly gilded and curiously wrought with two great gilt pots suitable to the rest on each of which was engraven 'Civitas London'.

And upon the marriage the Lord Mayor and Aldermen presented the Lady Elizabeth with a chain of oriental pearl which cost above 2000 L.

Volume II, Book IV, page 80

Under a list of Mayors and Sheriffs -

1602 Sir Robert Lee, Merchant Taylor, Lord Mayor  
James Pemberton, John Swinnerton, Sheriffs.

1612 Sir John Swinnerton, Merchant Taylor, Lord Mayor  
Edward Rotherham, Alexander Prescott, Sheriffs.

---

#### THE BETLEY SWINNERTONS

Referring to our story of RALPH and his family in issue No. 5, Mr. HARRY SWINNERTON (HS. 31) has written from Chester with some very interesting information. He says - "My grandfather, HENRY SWINNERTON (HS. 22) was one of the four brothers. Years ago my father ALBERT (AS. 37) told me that the four brothers started building the town of Barrie in Canada, it was originally intended to call it Swinnertonville but as this was rather cumbersome it was eventually called Barrie. In a recent conversation with my uncle WILLIAM SWINNERTON of Shotton (WS. 55) now 87 years of age, he also confirmed the story. I assume CHARLES SWINNERTON (CS. 12) who died in Barrie and whose obituary you published in the same issue, was one of the four brothers, the two who came back were my grandfather HENRY and his brother JOHN (JS. 86)

---



## HOW MANY SWINNERTONS ?

In our last issue we estimated that we represented 0.008% of the population of the United Kingdom. A correspondent has rightly said that this is not an easy figure to assimilate or even imagine and that it would be easier to understand if we said that out of every 1,320 people in this country, one is a Swinnerton. The mathematics are, of course, approximate !

---

## WHERE DO THEY LIVE ?

The distribution of the family throughout the United Kingdom based on those who have telephones is equally interesting. The main distribution by country is :-

ENGLAND	149	SCOTLAND	3
WALES	7	N. IRELAND	4
ISLE OF MAN		1	

Analysing further we get :-

STAFFS	20	LONDON AREA	19
CHESHIRE & FLINTS	11	SOUTHERN COUNTIES	14
SALOP	7	EASTERN COUNTIES	2
W. MIDLANDS	15	ISLE OF WIGHT	1
BIRMINGHAM AREA	17	BRISTOL & S. WEST	8
MANCHESTER AREA	7	NORTHERN COUNTIES	14
LIVERPOOL AREA	10	LEICS. & NOTTS.	4
	<u>87</u>		<u>62</u>

The greater part of the family, therefore, as you can see, still live in the Midlands and adjacent areas from whence the family originally came.

---

## GENEALOGY & HERALDRY OUTSIDE THE FAMILY

There are two very important events coming up which you will be interested to know about. The first is the ENGLISH GENEALOGICAL CONGRESS 1975 which is being held at St. Catherine's College, CAMBRIDGE from the 26th to the 30th August this year. A full programme of lectures, visits and exhibitions has been arranged and day visitors are welcome.

The second is the XIII INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF GENEALOGICAL AND HERALDIC SCIENCES which is being held at Imperial College, LONDON from 31st August to the 7th September next year. An even fuller programme has been arranged for this and it will be attended by Genealogists from all over the world. Bookings are already being accepted and I can supply full details of both these if you are interested.

---

## WEST STAFFORDSHIRE POLL BOOK

				1868	
SWINNERTON	George	E. 456	Eccleshall	Sugnall Magna	(CS. 17)
SWINNERTON	Francis	E. 583	Eccleshall	Shebden	(FS. 13)
SWINNERTON	Wm.	B. 210	Bilston		
SWINNERTON	Wm.	N. 744	Sedgley	Princes End	
				Tipton	

---

## RELATIONSHIPS

Many correspondents, over the years, have asked me exactly how they are related to other members of the family. Overleaf is a chart reproduced by kind permission of the Cheshire Family History Society with instructions showing you just how to work these relationships out.



HOW TO DETERMINE RELATIONSHIP.

The chart illustrates the relationship between YOURSELF and a common ancestor. It could be extended indefinitely. Persons with a common GRANDFATHER are FIRST cousins.

Persons with a common GREAT-GRANDFATHER are SECOND cousins.

Persons with a common GREAT-GREAT-GRANDFATHER are THIRD cousins, etc.

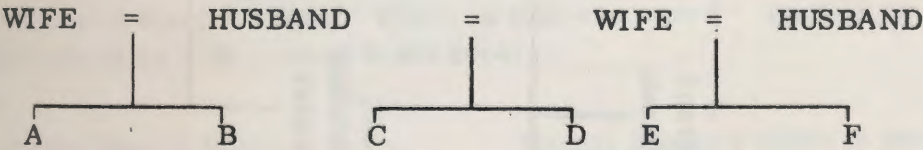
In order to determine your degree of relationship to any other descendant of a common ancestor :-

1. Determine the common ancestor, e.g. great-grandfather, great-great-grandfather.
2. Determine how many generations you are from this ancestor (you are three generations from your great-grandfather).
3. Determine how many generations the other person is from the common ancestor. If he, too, is three generations from the common ancestor, he is your second cousin. If he is two generations from the common ancestor, he is your first cousin once removed (your father's first cousin). If he is four generations from the common ancestor he is your second cousin once removed (the child of your second cousin)

There is an ambiguity in that "first cousin once removed" may be either your father's first cousin or your first cousin's child. These may be distinguished by "ascending" or "descending".

This chart may also be used to determine the relationship between ANY TWO DESCENDANTS of a common ancestor.

1. Determine the common ancestor of the two persons.
2. Determine the generation number of the person nearest the ancestor, how many generation steps he is from the ancestor.
3. Determine the generation number of the second person in the same way,
4. SUBTRACT the smaller from the larger number. This determines the number of generations one person is removed from the other, e.g. 4-2=2. Go to row 2 in the Table.
5. Now ADD the two generation numbers. This determines the degree of relationship 2+4=6. Go to column No. 6
6. Find the point where the Row No. and the Column No. meet and read off the exact relationship. - 1st cousin 2 removed.



A & B are HALF brothers (or sisters) to C & D  
E & F are also HALF brothers (or sisters) to C & D  
A & B are STEP brothers (or sisters) to E & F

