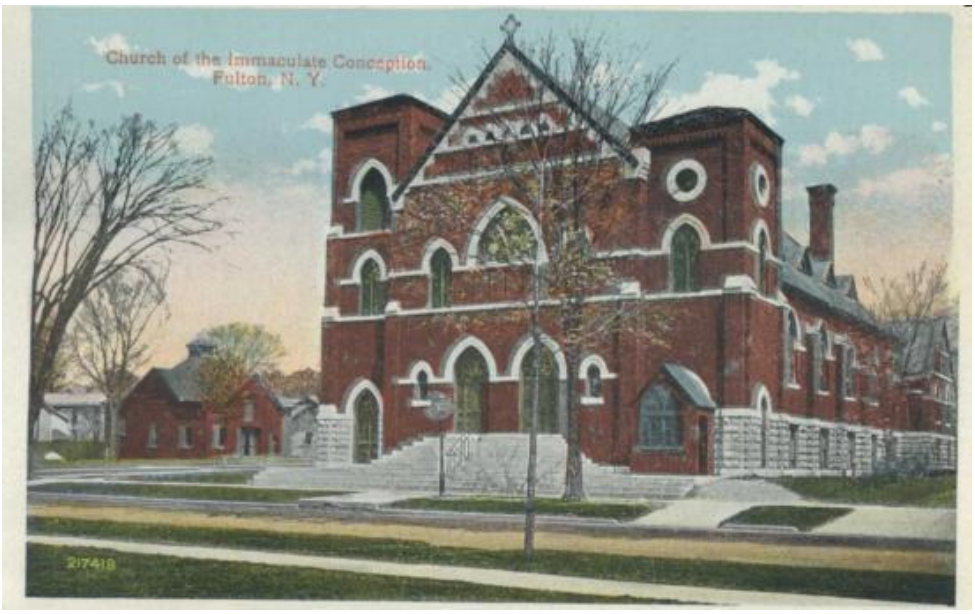
**Carrs and Prestons**

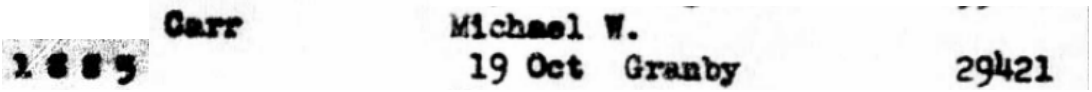
William Carr was born in Ireland in 1840. At some point in the 1870s he emigrated to the USA. The first definite trace of him is a small item in the Oswego Falls Gazette in August 1883, noting his wedding the previous Sunday to Julia O'Connor (b1855) at the Immaculate Conception RC Church[1] in Oswego Falls, Fulton, NY[2].




[1] *The Church of the Immaculate Conception (Roman Catholic) of Fulton had its beginning in the services which Father Kelley, of Oswego, instituted here about 1850. In January 1854, Rev. James Smith was appointed resident priest. The congregation increased in numbers, and the premises formerly occupied by the Fulton Female Seminary, on the corner of Third and Rochester streets, were purchased, the old building was fitted up for a house of worship, and about 1858 it was regularly consecrated by Bishop McCloskey. It was afterward enlarged and improved. Father Smith died here September 15, 1881. The present priest, Rev. P.J. Kearney, took charge September 29, 1879. Under his pastorate a magnificent brick and stone church has just been erected. The corner stone was laid September, 1889, and the imposing edifice was appropriately dedicated March 10, 1895. The lot on which it stands and the artistically carved altar were bequeathed to the parish by Father Smith. The structure is built in the Gothic style of architecture, contains twelve memorial windows, and cost about $50, 000.*

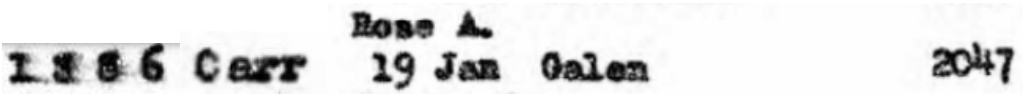
[2] *The city of Fulton is a community in two parts. The area on the west side of the Oswego River was formerly known as "Oswego Falls" recognizing the nearby rapids on the river. It was one of the first regions settled in the original Town of Granby. Settlement commenced in two west-side locations, the "Upper Landing" and the "Lower Landing." The community was incorporated as a village in 1835. In 1902, the Village of Fulton and the Village of Oswego Falls merged, and was chartered as the City of Fulton.*

A son, Michael, was born in 1885.


1885 Carr Michael W. 19 Oct Granby 29421

*New York State Births Index*

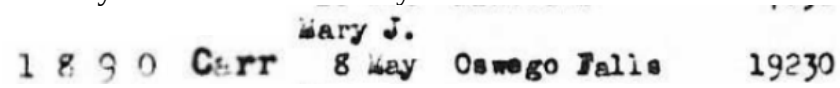
Below may be daughter Rose's birth registration (although Galen is some 35 miles from Granby and the month does not agree with that in the 1900 census). It is the only registration of a Rose that year, however.


1886 Carr Rose A. 19 Jan Galen 2047

In 1890, the following was noted in the Fulton Times:

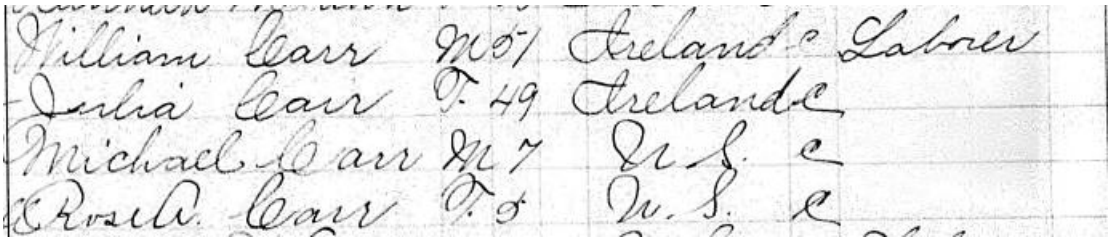
**"Scalded to Death**
A terrible accident resulting in the death of the eight months old child of William and Julia Carr occurred at Oswego Falls on Wednesday of last week. A little girl was taking care of the child when by some accident the tea pot on the stove was overturned and the boiling hot contents spilled on the breast of the infant, who died from the injuries the following day."

She may have been called Mary.

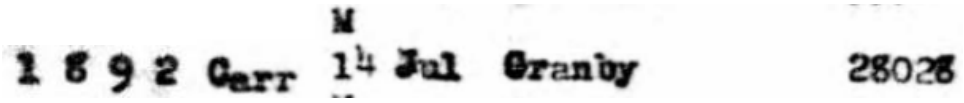

1890 Carr Mary J. 8 May Oswego Falls 19230

*NY State Death Indices*

The family is next identified in the 1892 New York State census, at Granby, a township which borders Fulton:

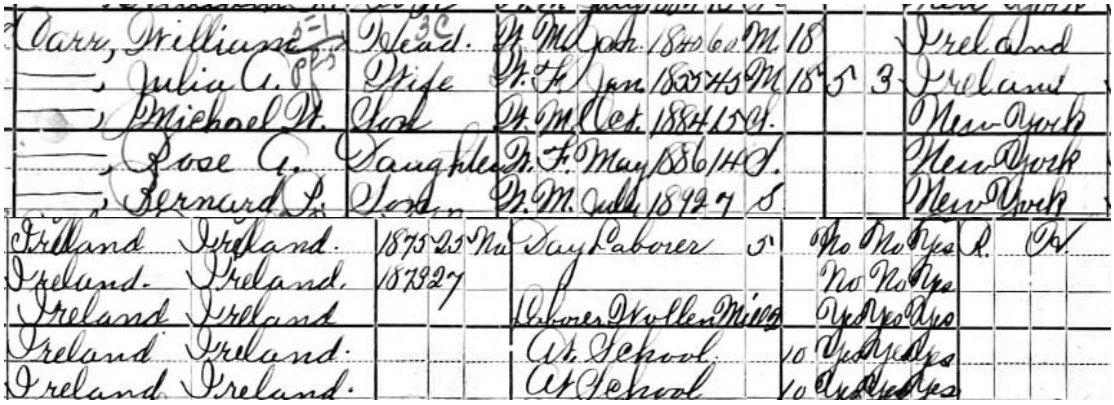

William Carr M 37 Ireland Laborer
Julia Carr F 49 Ireland
Michael Carr M 7 U.S.
Rosa A. Carr F 5 U.S.

Son Bernard was born in 1892.


1892 Carr M 14 Jul Granby 28028

*New York State Births Index*

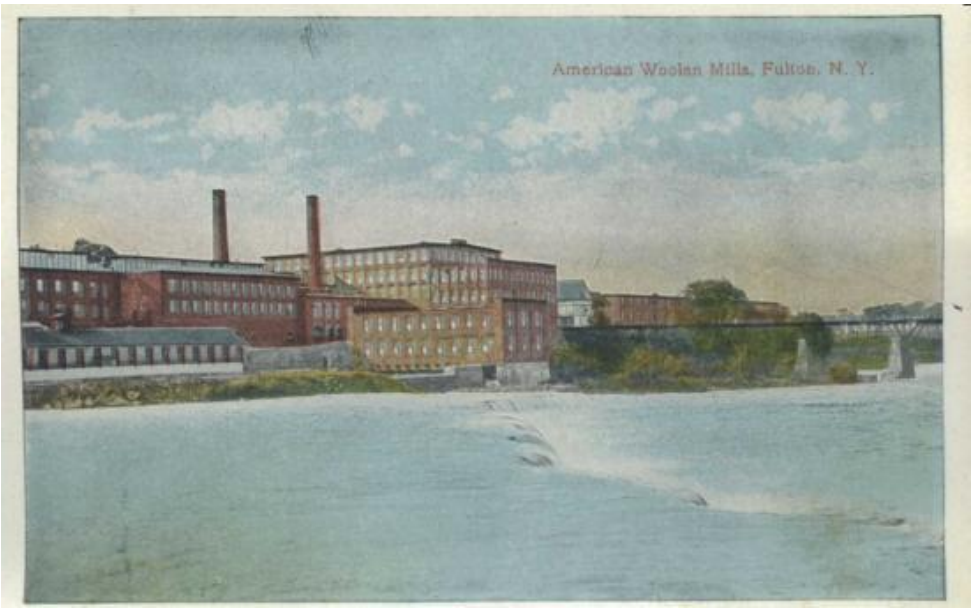
They are identified again in the 1900 US census, living at South First Street, Oswego Falls:



| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Carr, William | 5-1 | Head | 36 | M | Ire | Ire | Eng | 1860 | M | 18 | | | Ireland | |
| " Julia A. | 8 | Wife | | F | Ire | Ire | Eng | Jan 1855 | M | 18 | 5 | 3 | Ireland | |
| " Michael H. | | Son | | M | Pa | Ire | Ire | Oct 1884 | | 15 | | | New York | |
| " Rose A. | | Daughter | | F | Pa | Ire | Ire | May 1886 | | 14 | S | | New York | |
| " Bernard L. | | Son | | M | Pa | Ire | Ire | July 1892 | | 7 | S | | New York | |
| Ireland | Ireland | 1875 | 25 | Na | Day Laborer | | | | 5 | No | No | Yes | R | Dr |
| Ireland | Ireland | 1873 | 27 | | | | | | | No | No | Yes | | |
| Ireland | Ireland | | | | Laborer Woollen Mills | | | | | Yes | Yes | Yes | | |
| Ireland | Ireland | | | | At School | | | | 10 | Yes | Yes | Yes | | |
| Ireland | Ireland | | | | At School | | | | 10 | Yes | Yes | Yes | | |

William is described as a "day laborer" but also as unemployed for 5 months. Two deceased children are also noted. Michael is described as "laborer at woollen mills" and Bernard and Rose as "at school".

The "woollen mills' is probably the huge American Woollen Mills[3].




William is noted in the 1900 census as having arrived in the US in 1875 and as being a naturalised US citizen. Julia is noted as having arrived in 1873 and is not shown as being naturalised. William and Julia are both noted as being unable to read or write.

It is possible that William is the William Carr (labourer) who came to the US on the SS Calabria in April 1874 or the William Carr (mason, aged 36) who arrived in New York in September 1876 from Halifax, Nova Scotia aboard the SS George Washington. He may also be the William Carr (aged 40) noted in the 1880 census as being in hospital in Buffalo, NY suffering from asthma.

---

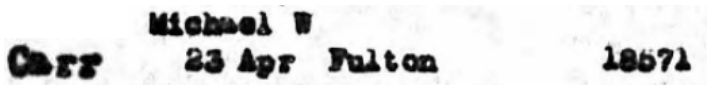
[3] *American Woolen Mills, a large textile firm located on the west bank of the Oswego River providing uniforms and other supplies for the US Army in both World Wars. Many early Polish immigrants lived in simple company housing and shopped at the company store during this time period. The factory-owned housing was eventually sold to the employee-occupants*

Julia, Rose and Bernard set off to the UK on June 25th 1900:

**OSWEGO FALLS. June «.—Mrs. William Carr. her son. Bert, and daughter. Rosie. left here for England yesterday for a prolonged visit. Mrs. Carr's parents are In England and she will probably be absent twelve months or more.**
*1900 Syracuse NY Daily Journal June 26 1900*

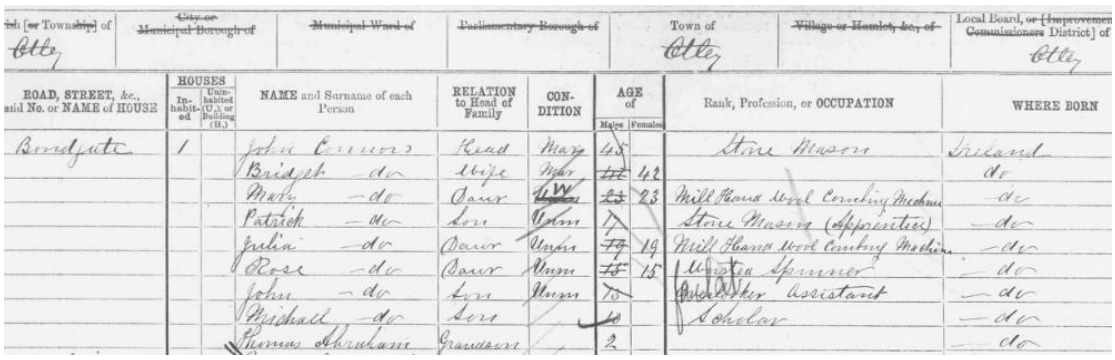
They never returned. William died in 1903 and is buried at St Mary's cemetery in Oswego Falls. The same year, in 1903, Michael is noted as "having had a few fingers crushed in the machinery at the Eureka paper mill".

Michael died in April 1905. Probate was granted to his mother, Julia.


Michael W
Carr 23 Apr Fulton 18571
*NY State Death Indices*

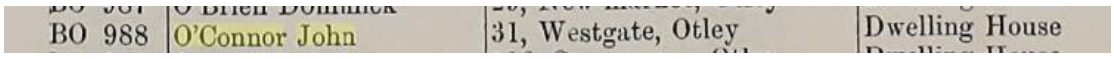
*"Fulton, April 24.—Early yesterday morning at the City Hospital occurred the death of Michael Carr, aged 19 years. The remains were removed to the home of Mrs. Mary Kerr, 174 West Second Street. The funeral will be held to-morrow morning at 9:30 from the Church of the Immaculate Conception. The Rev. P. J. Kearney, pastor of the above church, will officiate and burial will be made at St. Mary's Cemetery."*

Julia O'Connor was born in Waterford, Ireland in 1851/2, the daughter of John O'Connor, a stone mason, and his wife Bridget. In 1871, the family was living in Otley, Yorkshire[4]:


| ROAD, STREET, &c., and No. or NAME of HOUSE | HOUSES Inhabited | HOUSES Uninhabited (U.) or Building (B.) | NAME and Surname of each Person | RELATION to Head of Family | CONDITION | AGE of Males | AGE of Females | Rank, Profession, or OCCUPATION | WHERE BORN |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bondgate | 1 | | John Connors | Head | Marr | 45 | | Stone Mason | Ireland |
| | | | Bridget do | Wife | Mar | ~~44~~ | 42 | | do |
| | | | Mary do | Daur | ~~Marr~~ W | ~~23~~ | 23 | Mill Hand Wool Combing Machine | do |
| | | | Patrick do | Son | Unm | 17 | | Stone Mason (Apprentice) | do |
| | | | Julia do | Daur | Unm | ~~19~~ | 19 | Mill Hand Wool Combing Machine | do |
| | | | Rose do | Daur | Unm | ~~15~~ | 15 | Worsted Spinner | do |
| | | | John do | Son | Unm | 10 | | Errand Boy Assistant | do |
| | | | Michael do | Son | | 10 | | Scholar | do |
| | | | Thomas Abraham | Grandson | | 2 | | | do |

She probably emigrated to the USA in the 1870s and is first definitely identified there by her wedding to William Carr in 1883. The fate of both Johns, Bridget and Rose is not known. Michael may have died in Keighley in 1876 (a tailor aged 17). See below for Patrick and Mary.

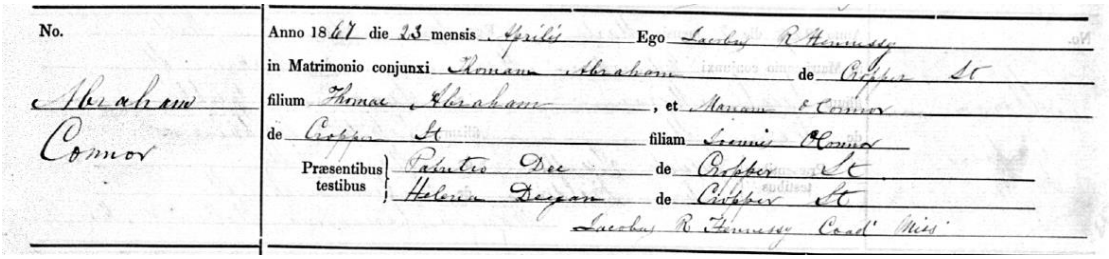
Who was the John in the 1889-91 Otley Electors Roll (he was not there in the 1891 census)?


| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| BO 988 | O'Connor John | 31, Westgate, Otley | Dwelling House |

*Return to the UK*

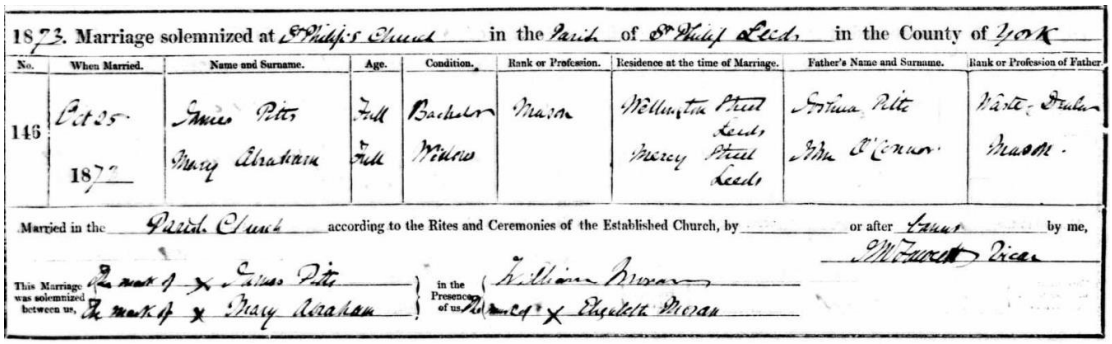
[4] *Thomas Abraham probably died in Q3 1871 (Wharfedale)*

In the 1901 UK census, Julia and Bernard Carr were living with Mary Pitts at 17, High Street, Idle. Julia was described as a ‘visitor’ and as ‘married’. Mary was the widow of James Pitts, whom she had married at St Phillip’s Church in Leeds in 1873. She was then already the widowed Mrs Abraham but her father is noted on the certificate as John O’Connor, mason. She had married a Thomas Abraham at St Nicholas in Liverpool in 1867.



No. Abraham Connor

Anno 1867 die 23 mensis April Ego Lawley R Hennessy
in Matrimonio conjunxi Thomas Abraham de Copper St
filium Thomas Abraham, et Mariam O Connor
de Copper St filiam Dennis Connor
Præsentibus testibus Patritio Dee de Copper St
Helena Degnan de Copper St
Lawley R Hennessy Coad Miss



1873. Marriage solemnized at St Philip's Church in the Parish of St Philip Leeds in the County of York

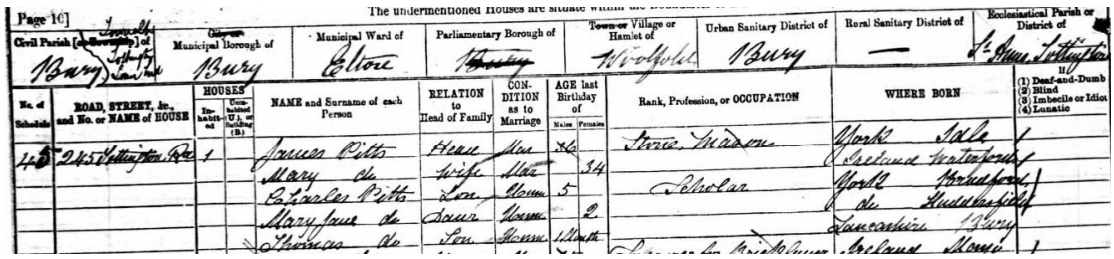
| No. | When Married. | Name and Surname. | Age. | Condition. | Rank or Profession. | Residence at the time of Marriage. | Father's Name and Surname. | Rank or Profession of Father. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 146 | Oct 25. 1873 | James Pitts | Full | Bachelor | Mason | Millwright Street Leeds | John Pitts | Waste Dealer |
| | | Mary Abraham | Full | Widow | | Mercy Street Leeds | John O'Connor | Mason. |

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, by or after Banns by me, M Fawcett Vicar

This Marriage was solemnized between us, the mark of x James Pitts
the mark of x Mary Abraham
in the Presence of us, William Brown, the mark of x Elizabeth Brown

Earlier, in 1891, Mary Pitts, already widowed twice, had her unmarried cousin Mary Foley living with her in South Fold, Idle. Both were drawers in a worsted mill. Mary Foley was also born in Waterford (1867), suggesting that John O’Connor had a sister who married a Foley. Mary Foley appears to have married a William Ryan of Leeds in 1896 and died during the first half of 1901.

The Pitts were temporarily living in Bury in 1881.

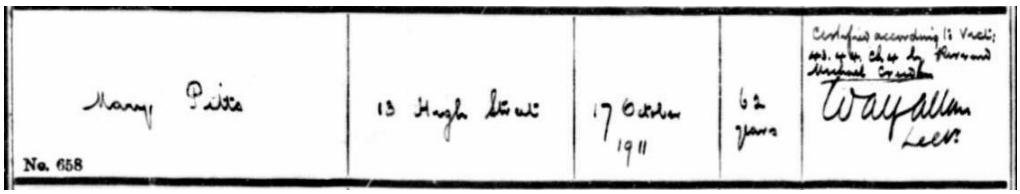


Page 16 — The undermentioned Houses are situate within the boundaries of

| Civil Parish [or Township] of | Municipal Borough of | Municipal Ward of | Parliamentary Borough of | Town or Village or Hamlet of | Urban Sanitary District of | Rural Sanitary District of | Ecclesiastical Parish or District of |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bury | Bury | Elton | | Woolfold | Bury | — | St Mary Tottington |

| No. of Schedule | ROAD, STREET, &c., and No. or NAME of HOUSE | HOUSES Inhabited | HOUSES Uninhabited or Building (B.) | NAME and Surname of each Person | RELATION to Head of Family | CONDITION as to Marriage | AGE last Birthday of Males | AGE last Birthday of Females | Rank, Profession, or OCCUPATION | WHERE BORN | If (1) Deaf-and-Dumb (2) Blind (3) Imbecile or Idiot (4) Lunatic |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 146 | 24 Hollingworth Rd | 1 | | James Pitts | Head | Mar | 40 | | Stone Mason | Yorks Idle | |
| | | | | Mary do | Wife | Mar | | 34 | | Ireland Waterford | |
| | | | | Charles Pitts | Son | Unm | 5 | | Scholar | Yorks Yorkshire | |
| | | | | Mary Jane do | Daur | Unm | | 2 | | do Huddersfield | |
| | | | | Thomas do | Son | Unm | 1 Month | | | Lancashire Bury | |
| | | | | | | | | | | Ireland Mayo | |

Mary Pitts died in 1911, although in the census that year she gave her birth place as Waterford.

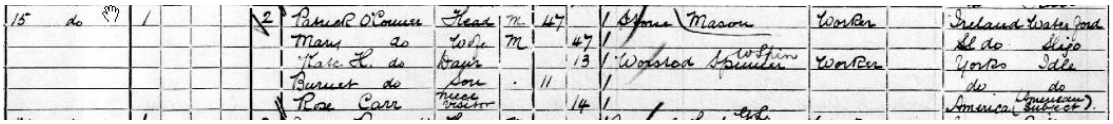


| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mary Pitts | 13 High Street | 17 October 1911 | 62 years | Certified according to Vacci; and 4 Wm. IV c 98 by Thos. and Shepherd Registrar Wakefield Leeds |

No. 658

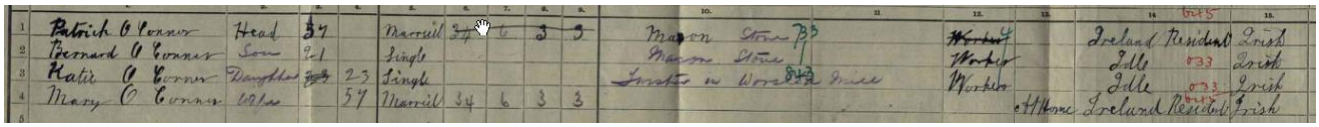
*Idle, Holy Trinity*

In 1901, Rose Carr was living at 15, Hall Lane, Shipley with her uncle and aunt Patrick and Mary O'Connor. Patrick was born in Waterford in 1854, making him an older brother of Julia.



In 1891, Patrick had been living at 31 High Street, Idle.

He had married Mary Carroll in Keighley in 1877. I cannot find them in the 1881 census. Patrick lived at Hall Lane until his death in 1930.

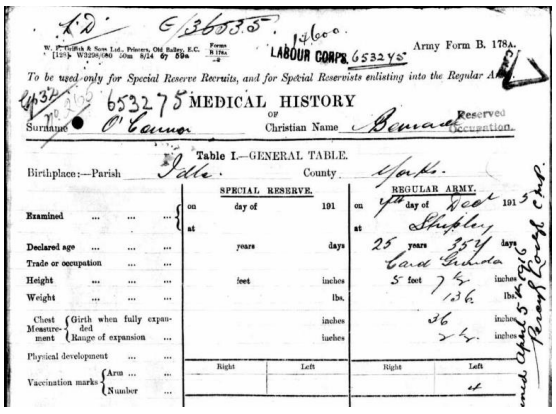


| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1132 | R | O | O'Connor, Patrick | 29 |
| 1133 | Rw | Dw | O'Connor, Mary | 29 |
| 1134 | Rw | — | O'Connor, Kate Helena | 29 |

Kate Helina O'Connor never married and died in Leeds in 1965, having lived her life in Shipley (see 1962 Electoral register below).

| | WEST CHURCH STREET | |
|---|---|---|
| 811 | Clayton, Frank—J | 1 |
| 812 | Clayton, Lily | 1 |
| 813 | Firth, Hannah | 3 |
| 814 | Firth, William H. | 3 |
| 815 | Miller, Albert | 7 |
| 816 | Miller, Edward | 7 |
| 817 | Thompson, Elsie | 7 |
| 818 | O'Connor, Kate H. | 9 |

Bernard O'Connor married Catherine McDonald in 1913. He served in the Labour Corps in WW1.



LABOUR CORPS 653275 Army Form B. 178A.

To be used only for Special Reserve Recruits, and for Special Reservists enlisting into the Regular Army.

653275 MEDICAL HISTORY

Surname O'Connor Christian Name Bernard Reserved Occupation

Table I.—GENERAL TABLE.

Birthplace:—Parish Idle County Yorks.

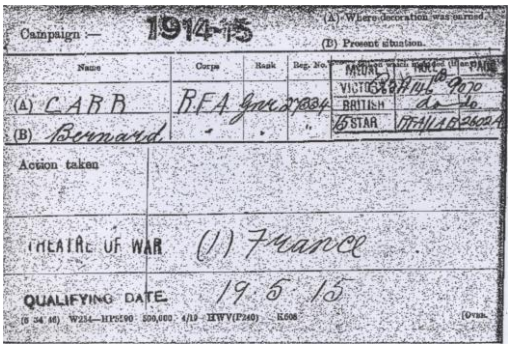
| | SPECIAL RESERVE. | REGULAR ARMY. |
|---|---|---|
| Examined | on day of 191 | on 4th day of Dec 191 5 |
| | at | at Shipley |
| Declared age | years days | 25 years 354 days |
| Trade or occupation | | Card Grinder |
| Height | feet inches | 5 feet 7½ inches |
| Weight | lbs. | 136 lbs. |
| Chest Measurement: Girth when fully expanded | inches | 36 inches |
| Chest Measurement: Range of expansion | inches | 2½ inches |
| Physical development | | |
| Vaccination marks: Arm | Right / Left | Right / Left |
| Vaccination marks: Number | | 4 |

They had daughters Rose (1913) and Mary (1923). They lived in Hall Lane until 1933 and were living in Hope Avenue, Shipley when Bernard died in 1952 (1951 Electoral register).

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 525 | O'Connor, Bernard | 15 |
| 526 | O'Connor, Catherine | 15 |

By 1911, Rose Carr had married Harry Coates, a warptwister at a worsted manufacturer. Julia and Bernard Carr were living with them. Julia is described as a 'widow' and Bernard was a labourer at a 'seal finisher'.

Bernard's war record (as a gunner in the Royal Field Artillery) was recorded as follows in the National Roll of the Great War, serving in France from 1915. "*Volunteering in November 1914, he proceeded to France in the following year and was in action at the battles of Hill 60, Loos, the Somme, Arras and Messines. He also fought in the retreat of 1918 and was so severely wounded in the subsequent Allied advance at Cambrai to necessitate his return to England. Invalided out in Oct 1918. Awarded the 1914-15 Star, the British War medal and the Victory medal*".


Campaign — 1914-15

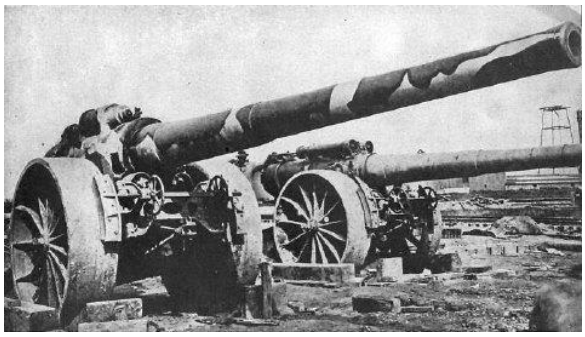
(A) Where decoration was earned. (B) Present situation.

| Name | Corps | Rank | Reg. No. | Medal with Rosette (if any) | Page |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| (A) CARR | R.F.A. | Gnr. | 73664 | MEDAL VICTORY BRITISH 15 STAR | Hill 60 do do |
| (B) Bernard | | | | | |

Action taken

THEATRE OF WAR (1) France

QUALIFYING DATE 19 5 15



Family oral history tells that he was gassed, and also partially deafened by the noise of the big guns.

Julia died on 13 November 1918 of pneumonia, two days after the armistice was signed, by which time Bernard (who registered the death) was living at 57 Tudor Street, Horton.

Bernard married Edith Downs Foster at St Cuthbert's Catholic Church in June 1924; on his marriage certificate, his father is noted as being a mason. They had one child, a daughter Mary.

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Carr Bernard | - | M | 14th July | 92 | M | Pile Fabric Textile Warehouseman |
| Carr. Edith | - | F | 4th Dec. | 00 | M. | Unpaid domestic duties |
| KIPLING Carr Mary | - | F | 9th June | 25 | S | at school |

*21 St Leonard's Grove, Bradford. 1939.*

Mary married Robert Furze Spencer Kipling in 1948 and they had one child, a son Michael Robert (1957).

*The Preston link*

On 13 November 1878, James Preston married Rose Ann O'Connor, Julia's sister, at St Mary's Catholic Church in Bradford. James Preston was a wool sorter (b Bradford 1856) and Rose Ann, a mill hand, had been born in Ireland in 1856.

They had at least five children, Margaret (b 1880), Oscar (b1881), Mary E (b 1885), Veronica (b 1890) and Rose (b1893).

In 1878, James was living at 12 Herbert Street, Saltaire and Rose Ann at 38 Skinhouse Street, Horton. By 1881, James and Rose Ann were living at 9 Alexander Street, Northowram and 1891 they had moved to Idle (where widowed older sister Mary lived by then).

James Preston was the son of James Preston (b 1827 at Pontefract). The elder James was an engine stoker, presumably at a mill, and in 1871 lived with wife Margaret (b 1828, Dublin, nee Laughton) and three other children (John, Mary and Elizabeth). John had been born in Dublin (in 1857) although the girls, like James junior, were born in Yorkshire. The family lived in Shipley, at Helen Street in 1871 and Fanny Street in 1861.

James Preston senior's antecedents are unclear. It is quite likely that he is the James Preston who was the son of John and Sarah Preston of Aberford near Garforth, east of Leeds and north of Pontefract. If so, then in 1851 he was a house servant for Edward Ellerton (aged 71) of Garforth.

James junior's son Oscar was working in a spinning mill by the age of 10 but by 1901 he was a cashier at a telephone office. He was living at home with James and Rose Ann, by then at 12 Copy Street, Bradford.

The 1911 census finds telephone clerk Oscar married to Sarah Helen ('Nellie') McGann (b1882, Bingley) with daughter Mary (b1907, Shipley) and son John (b1908, Newcastle upon Tyne). They were boarders with the Swift family in Sheffield at the time.

Nellie was one of the eight children of Matthew McCann and Sarah Galligar (b Ireland, 1847 and 1848 respectively) of Bingley, Matthew was a 'labourer (mason)'and later 'builder and contractor' and Sarah Ann and Nellie were worsted weavers. The McGanns appear to have arrived in England between 1861 and 1871.

John ('Jack') Preston married Frances Molloy at the Church of the Blessed Sacrament in Preston on 10th June 1939. Oscar is described as being a Post Office engineer's clerk (and Frances's father William a journeyman bread baker). The witnesses were Gerard Preston and Winifred and William Molloy, respectively Jack's younger brother and Frances's younger sister and elder brother. Jack and Frances gave their occupations as bank clerk and commercial clerk respectively.

Constructing a family tree shows that Bernard Carr and Oscar Preston were cousins and that Jack and Frances's daughter Sheilagh is therefore third cousin to Michael Kipling, to whom Jack and Frances were godparents.

*The Molloys*

Frances Molloy was the daughter of William Molloy and Frances Swarbrick, who were married in Preston in 1909. William was a bread baker and Frances a cotton weaver. In 1911 they lived at 50 Skeffington Road, Preston, along with William their son (aged 5 months) and Frances Swarbrick's mother, also Frances Swarbrick (aged 64).

William Molloy was the son of Joseph Molloy and Jane Catterall, who were married at the Sacred Heart, Accrington in June 1870. Joseph had been born in Ireland in 1850 and Jane in Preston in 1852. At the time of their marriage, Joseph was living in Oswaldtwistle and Jane in Church[5], a village just outside Accrington. He was a labourer (in an iron foundry, according to the 1871 census) and she a cotton weaver.

Joseph was in turn the son of Dennis and Maria Molloy. Dennis was a labourer at a chemical works in Accrington and had been born in Ireland in 1816. Maria was also from Ireland, having been born a year later. As none of the Molloys appear in censuses before 1871, it would seem likely that they emigrated to England between 1861 and 1870. Dennis and Maria lived at Church Lane, Church in 1871 and Joseph and Jane were living with them.

In 1881, Joseph and Jane were living at 5 Spring Cottages, Accrington and Joseph was working at a print works. By 1891, it would appear that Joseph Molloy was dead, as Jane was living with 8 children (4 daughters and 4 sons, the two eldest being cotton weavers aged 14 and 12 respectively) at 58 Shakespeare Road, Preston. Her father, William Catterall (b1828-31, Preston, a weaver) and Sarah Catterall her sister (b1878-9, Preston, cotton weaver) were also living with them. William Catterall was the son of Thomas and Margaret Catterall (both b1801 in Preston). Thomas was a weaver as, initially, was William. In 1851, the family resided in D Gorton Street, Preston.

The picture shows handloom weavers cottages in Snow Hill, Preston dating from the 1790s. At first cotton weavers worked at home in basement workshops seen clearly on this photograph. This photograph was taken prior to their demolition in the 1950s.

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[5] *The parish of Church, or Church Kirk, lies 1 mile west of Accrington. There were printing and dyeing works, as well as chemical works, iron foundries, cotton manufactories, a naphtha distillery, mordant works, and collieries.*

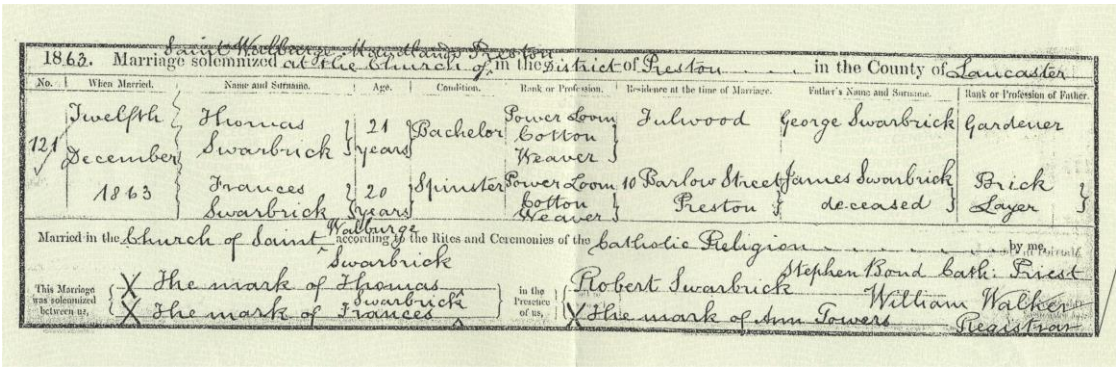
Around that time, new factories spinning cotton were being set up throughout Preston by people like John Horrocks. This was attracting workers from outside the area. Many became spinners in the new factories or handloom weavers, whose job was to weave cloth from the yarn spun in the factories. New houses were built to house the new workers

By 1851, William had married Mary Brown (b1834, Preston) and was a retail beerseller at the Cross Guns Inn, Brook Street, Preston Mary was described as a 'strawworker'. By 1881, William and Mary were living at 81, Cemetery Road Preston, where William is described as a 'gardener'.

Frances Swarbrick was the daughter of Thomas Swarbrick (b Fulwood 1845) and Frances Swarbrick (b Preston, 1846). Both were cotton weavers and lived at 37 Skeffington Road, Preston in 1901 and 1891 and 12 Caton Street in 1881.

Thomas Swarbrick was the son of George and Mary Swarbrick. George, a gardener/labourer, was born in Broughton in 1813. They lived at Nook Cottage, Park Terrace, Fulwood. George was the son of Robert and Mary Swarbrick (b 1782 and 1786 respectively, Robert at Salwick). Robert was a labourer living, in 1841, at Back Stanley Street, Preston.

Frances Swarbrick was probably his cousin, and it appears that there was somewhat of a 'shotgun' nature to the wedding, as the dates on the two certificate extracts below show



1863. Marriage solemnized at the Church of in the District of Preston in the County of Lancaster

| No. | When Married | Name and Surname | Age | Condition | Rank or Profession | Residence at the time of Marriage | Father's Name and Surname | Rank or Profession of Father |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 121 | Twelfth December 1863 | Thomas Swarbrick | 21 years | Bachelor | Power Loom Cotton Weaver | Fulwood | George Swarbrick | Gardener |
| | | Frances Swarbrick | 20 years | Spinster | Power Loom Cotton Weaver | 10 Barlow Street Preston | James Swarbrick deceased | Brick Layer |

Married in the Church of Saint Wallbrige Swarbrick according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Catholic Religion by me,

This Marriage was solemnized between us, X the mark of Thomas Swarbrick X the mark of Frances

in the Presence of us, Robert Swarbrick Stephen Bond Cath: Priest X the mark of Ann Towers William Walker Registrar

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 364 | Fifth March 1864 10 Barlow Street | Alice | girl | Thomas Swarbrick | Frances Swarbrick formerly Swarbrick | Cotton Weaver | X The mark of Thomas Swarbrick Father 10 Barlow Street Preston | Twenty sixth March 1864 | Henry Bradley Registrar | | |

Frances was the daughter of James Swarbrick, a bricklayer, who had died before the date of her wedding, and Alice Cooper, a power loom weaver, who married in 1841 at St Ignatius. Alice was the daughter of James Cooper, a tailor, and his wife Fanny. James Swarbrick was the son of Robert Swarbrick, a labourer. It is likely that this is the same Robert Swarbrick mentioned above, making James and George brothers and so Thomas and Frances (both of whom were aged around 18 and 17 rather the ages stated!) cousins.