

THE KIPLING FAMILY HISTORY NEWSLETTER #3

NOVEMBER 2014

Welcome to the third edition of The Kipling Family History Newsletter. Canadian Kipling DNA result, report of a visit to Wimpole Hall (home of Rudyard's daughter Elsie), updates on the 'Cragg' and 'Missionary' family groups, a story of Kiplings in South Africa and plenty more of interest inside!

Kiplings in the First World War

Jack Kipling, who lives near Cape Town, has been researching his ancestor, Herbert Samuel Kipling. Herbert emigrated to South Africa in 1895 and served in both the Boer War and in the First World War. In 1916, he was captured at Delville Wood on the Somme and taken to Germany as a prisoner of war. Herbert's story up to the end of WW1 accompanies this newsletter.



Sgt. Herbert Samuel Kipling, back row, extreme right, imprisoned in Germany in January 1917

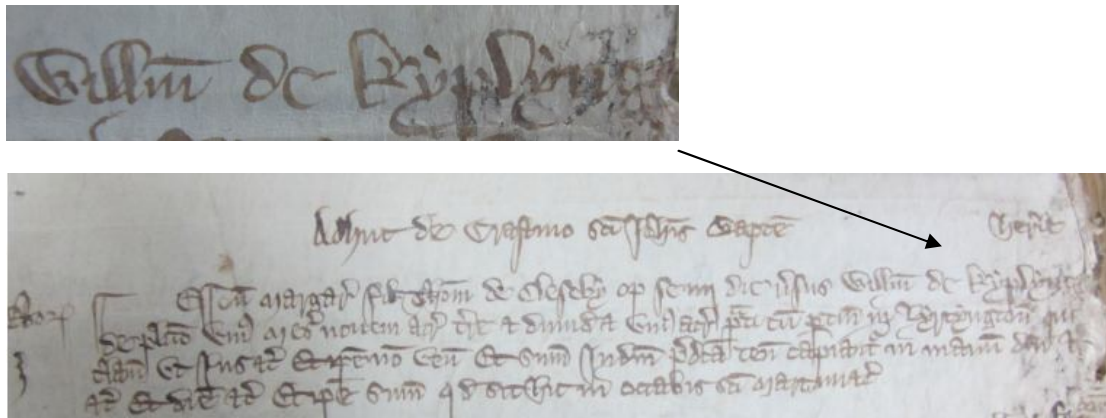
Jack has also prepared a second instalment telling the rest of Herbert's life and also that of his family, including son Bert, a famous Springbok hooker of the 1930s. This will feature in a future newsletter. Herbert kept in touch with family in the UK and Peter Smart and Carol Cronk, both with links to this family, have provided further useful information to help complete Jack's tales.

Completely changing the subject, I was surprised to find recently that a T B Kipling is listed on the Barnard Castle war memorial (situated in the grounds of the magnificent Bowes Museum). His name also appears on a memorial wall inside the parish church. He is not listed as a war casualty by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, nor have I been able to identify him from other sources.



The first use of the Kipling name

Previous researchers identified that the first known use of the Kipling name was in 1330 during the reign of Edward III, in the record of a land dispute at Lartington in Romaldekirk parish. Recently, I traced the very document at the National Archives at Kew – and here it is for all to see.



There is a prize for the best transcription and translation!

Family Groups Update

Jack Kipling and his ancestor Herbert are of the 'Missionary' Kipling family group, so named after Herbert's father, John Thomas, who worked for the London City Mission Society for many years. The LCM was founded in 1835 to bring preach to and generally educate and assist poor and working-class Londoners.

All that was previously known about John Thomas, was that he was the sole surviving son of George Kipling, a labourer from the poorer part of Lambeth. The only clue to George's ancestry was that he was the son of a John Kipling, mason, most probably from Yorkshire.

Recently, whilst looking at some information Dennis and Vivien Middleton had gathered years ago at the West Yorkshire Records Office, I realised that one of the Kiplings of Bishop Thornton (near Harrogate) was also once described as John

Kipling, mason. Moreover, he was also elsewhere described as the son of Thomas Kipling of Bowes.

The relevant Thomas is quite likely descended from a Dorothy Kipling, who had two children fathered by one Charles Bailey. So far quite speculative, but Jack has done a DNA test, the result of which did not match with either of the two common Kipling haplotypes but did match with the DNA of two American men called Bailey. So the DNA supports the paper records.

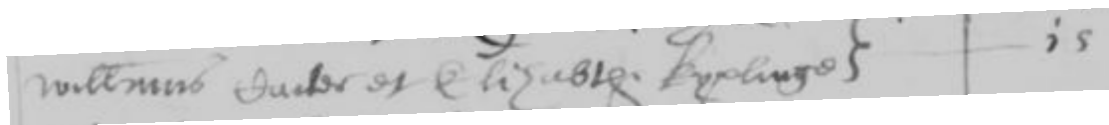
Dorothy Kipling spent her later years at Cragg Farm in Romaldkirk parish and I think it likely that her son with Charles Bailey also founded the Cragg family group.

In 'The Kiplings of Long Newton' on the website, I speculated that this family group also originated from Dorothy. So the Cragg, Missionary, Long Newton and Bishop Thornton family groups may very well be one and the same. A DNA test kit is in the mail to a member of the Cragg family group and early next year the result might further support this hypothesis.

I have put full accounts of both the Missionary and Cragg groups on the website <http://genealogy.kipling.me.uk/1911.html>.

Yorkshire Parish Registers

Findmypast.co.uk has recently published indexed images of a large set of Yorkshire parish registers, including several from Kipling territory, including Kirkby Ravensworth and Great Edstone. Most of the records were already known, having been transcribed previously. However, just seeing the images is of interest, such as the record below from Richmond of the marriage of an Elizabeth Kipling in 1576.



I have updated some of the Early Kiplings on the website with images and any additional information gleaned.

Findmypast promise a further set of registers in 2015.

A visit to Wimpole Hall

Wimpole Hall near Cambridge was bought by Captain and Mrs Bambridge in 1938 and was left by Mrs Bambridge to the National Trust on her death in 1976. Mrs Bambridge is better known as Elsie Kipling, Rudyard's only surviving child, who married Captain George Bambridge of the Irish Guards in 1925.



George and Elsie's headstone in the nearby churchyard describes her as "*Daughter of Rudyard Kipling, benefactress to the nation*".

Not only is Elsie buried there but a number of Kipling family possessions have been retained. These include a trunk of Rudyard, still bearing the labels from sea voyages to the Cape around 1900 and John Kipling's 'dead man's penny' (a memorial plaque given to families who lost members in 1914-18).



Among the many artefacts Elsie acquired for the hall was a long-case clock by William Kipling of London, whom as we now know was no relation.



THE KIPLING DNA PROJECT



Recently, the DNA test result of a member of the Kyplain family in Saskatchewan was received. It shows a close match to the other I-M253 Kiplings. The table below shows the probabilities of a common ancestor as calculated by the laboratory with a Kipling of the 'Pitcherhouse' Kipling family group

COMPARISON CHART	
Generations	Percentage
4	2.60%
8	20.25%
12	47.82%
16	71.43%
20	86.26%
24	93.98%

This result first of all confirms past research that many of the Kiplings (and Kyplains) of Canada and the Keplins of North Dakota are descended in the male line from John Kipling, a Hudson's Bay employee in the late 18th century.

However, it also provides support for the hypothesis I advanced in Newsletter #1 about the origins of this John Kipling, arguing that he was the John baptised at Bishopton in Durham in 1743 and not as earlier researchers had concluded, the John baptised at Barningham in 1724. All four of the Kipling family groups which have origins in Barningham have DNA of haplotype R-U152 and not I-M253.

Further, Thomas Kipling, John of Bishopton's father, could possibly be the Thomas Kipling baptised at Lanchester, also in Durham, in 1722, the son of Lancelot Kipling. Now Lancelot is an unusual first name and only one Lancelot Kipling is recorded elsewhere, baptised in 1688 at Soulby in Westmorland (see 'The Kiplings of Kirkby Stephen') on the website. Lancelot was the son of Richard Kipling, in turn the son of Thomas Kipling who is first noted signing the protestation returns at Kirkby Stephen in 1641. Perhaps the most intriguing question is why Lancelot was in County Durham in 1722 when what little is recorded of his later life is all back in Westmoreland

The early Kiplings of Baldersdale often also farmed on the western side of the Pennine watershed, so it is possible that Lancelot's grandfather Thomas was actually the Thomas baptised at Romal Kirk in 1607, the son of John Kipling of Cotherstone in Baldersdale. This would link him to the 'Pitcherhouse' family group (Pitcherhouse is a farm in Baldersdale, recorded as occupied by Kiplings at least as early as 1623).

Mike Kipling