



DECEMBER 1987

SHIRLEY NEWS INTERNATIONAL Third Edition

AD 1086

WILLIAM ROLFE SHERLEY OF SURREY ENGLAND

On December 12th 1808, William Rolfe married Elizabeth Moore at Egham, Surrey England. The Surrey County archivist searched the records at the Guildford office and stated that according to the marriage register, the marriage which was by license was witnessed by John Moore and William Sherley and that the bridegroom was a bachelor from the parish of New Windsor, Berkshire. A search through the film of Surrey marriage Allegations revealed that Elizabeth was a minor aged eighteen and the entry includes an appendage stating "also appeared personally John Moore of Egham in the said county of Surrey, Gentleman, and made oath that he is the natural and lawful father of the said Elizabeth Moore and that he is consenting to the above inteded marriage". John Moore a signature is in beautiful copper plate handwriting.

Although we know from this that John Moore, witness of the marriage was the father of the bride we have no knowledge of the relationship between the groom and the other witness, William Sherley. The obvious assumption that this was the groom's father has not been proved.

We still do not know who were William Rolfe Sherley's parents.

William, in 1851 and 1861 census for Egham gives his birth place as "Woodcock Hill" Herts and his age would indicate that the year would have been 1786. This information is also given on his death record. Because there are records of a "Woodcok Hill" near Ricksmanworth and Northchurch in Herts., church records of the parishes in the vicinity were searched but without any success. It would seem that this family my not have been there for any length of time.

Information just to hand of a marriage on June 4th 1749 between Edward Sherley and Mary Rolfe at Mousford Township, Berkshire may prove to be another red herring or may open up some exciting new research lines.

After their marriage, William and Elizabeth set up home at Sunninghill and it was there that their first five children were born. Sometime between 1821 and 1824 they moved to the vicinity of Staines, Middlesex where William was a horsedealer but by 1827 he was the innkeeper at the New Inn, at Stanwell, Middlesex. The family has not yetbeen discovered in the 1841 census but William and Elizabeth are to be found in 1851 at Egham where they were innkeepers at the Catherine Wheel Inn. At the time of the census the inn was staffed by house-mail, a cook, a Boots and a Helper and was accomodating four lodgers. The Catherine Wheel Inn was listed in the Parliamentary Survey of 1650 as timber framed coaching inn with a brewhouse, a dozen food lodging rooms and stabling for 50 horses. The entry in Mathews Poor Law Map 1856 #418 reads Sherley, William tenant of His Majesty, stateb -#442, Catherine Wheel Inn, garden stabling, yard, pasture, cottage and garden #426 Humber Meadow.

William was still the innkeeper of the Catherine Wheel Inn at the time of the 1861 census but he died in 1866 between January and March at Windsor and was probably buried at Egham.

children

1. William Rolfebapt Oct. 15, 1809 d. 1809
2. Ann bapt July 28, 1811 Sunnyhill, Berks. married Frederick William Sidwell at St. Martin-in -the-Field, London.

Family tradition has it that at some time Ann was employed as a wet-nurse to the Royal family at Windsor and that Frederick was Librarian at the Castle. Unfortunately records at the Castle do not confirm this.

In September 1859, Ann, her husband and their six children and a newly acquired son-in-law set sail for Auckland New Zealand aboard the sailing ship "Jura".

(International Association member, Poppy Ward descends from this branch and the material is taken from her file).

3. Mary b. 1815 Sunninghill Berks. Eng.
4. John bapt July 21 1816 Sunninghill
5. Sarah b. 1821 Sunninghill
6. William Rolfe bapt June 20, 1824 Staines Middlesex England. He is to found in 1861 census return at Hansworth Rd. Twickenham. His occupation being "veterinary surgeon" In 1871 census gives their house the name of "DEVEREUX VILLA" - Hanworth Road. William is now a "Dealer in horses" and his wife is Rebecca. Their staff consisted of a cook, housemaid and a nurse.

children

- (1) William Rolfe b. ca. 1853 Twickenham [a veterinary student]
- (2) Lizzie L.
- (3) Mary
- (4) Lucy
- (5) Samuel b. ca. 1863 Twickenham
- (6) Maria
- (7) James b. ca. 1866
- (8) Nellie b. ca. 1869
- (9) John b. ca. 1870 Twickenham
7. James bapt b. 1827 d. 1828
8. James bapt April 18, 1828 at Stanwell, Middlesex. He emigrated to New Zealand where Mary Sidwell, daughter of his sister, Ann kept house for him. They had five children. The couple were legally married at Auckland June 12, 1900. He died Dec. 9, 1904.
 - (1) Lawrence b. 1873
 - (2) Elsie b. 1884
 - (3) Rosie
 - (4) Cecil Rolfe b. 1889
 - (5) Clyde b. 1893
9. Thomas bapt. Nov. 17, 1833 Staines, Middlesex England

THE SHIRLEY FAMILY IS REPUTED TO BE PART OF THE FERRERS BRANCH OF SHIRLEY AND TO HAVE BEEN CONNECTED WITH CHARTLEY IN STAFFORSHIRE, BUT NEITHER OF THESE BELIEFS HAVE SO FAR BEEN CONFIRMED.

SORRY FOR THE DELAY IN GETTING OUT THIS ISSUE OF THE NEWS! I HAVE BEEN VERY INVOLVED IN PERSONAL MATTERS.

from your editor.....

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND TRIP CANCELED

It is with deep regret that I shall not be coming. Poppy Ward had reserved our location etc. in New Zealand.

The unfortunate part is we heard from no one in Australia who offered any help in any way. I am sure they are there and I would have worked on this if there had been more time to prepare.

The other reason is my funds are limited and I have to be cautious. Since there was a lack of correspondence between me and the good people of Australia, I decided to postpone going until I can both find and help build interest there and my finances are in better shape.

New Zealand was more than ready. We heard from several and I looked forward to coming. It is a great disappointment for me too! I look forward to coming sometime in the future. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I HAVE EVER CANCELLED ANY TRIP!

I also felt pressure from the upcoming trip to Anderson County South Carolina in May 1988. I am committed to this trip because of our involvement with an old Shirley home built in 1820's that has been donated to the Shirley Association USA. We have been busy with legal work as we had to become non-profit. Now, we are busy working on fund raising ideas since much work has to be done to upgrade and refurbish this wonderful old Shirley home.

Several Shirleys from various states are coming to work on the house the last week of May. We need to raise funds for new roof, fence and etc. Much work to be done...that is for sure. What we can't get donated in material we must be prepared to pay for. We have not raised enough money yet and continue to work on new ideas for raising these funds so as to at least have \$10,000 to work with in May, 1988. We are putting together a cookbook of recipes that Shirleys USA members have sent. We will report later on this project!

CANADIAN SHIRLEYS FROM IRELAND

Michael Shirley born 1850 Ottawa, Canada
Was the son of Paul and Catherine
(McNamara) Shirley. Paul was born Tippeary
Ireland.

Michael married Alice Phelan July 21, 1875
Richmond, Canada. He was Vice President of
Phelan Shirley Company, Director of Nicholas
Oil Corporation and a Railroad Contractor.
He resided 40 years in Omaha, Nebraska USA.

Children

1. Mary married J.H. Crohn
2. John Phelan born July 12, 1878
married Henrietta Gunther. He also
was a Railroad Contractor. He served as
President of Citizens State Bank of
Albion, Nebraska USA for 15 years. John
was the former owner of North and South
Railroad, Wyoming USA.

Children

- (1). John Phelan b. Aug 12, 1905
Graduate of Yale University
 - (2). Robert Gunther b. Dec 19, 1909
Attended John Hopkins
 - (3). Gunther Philip b. Feb. 1, 1913
 - (4). Joseph Austin b. May 7, 1915
 - (5). Louise Mary b. Nov. 23, 1922
3. Robert Daniel married May Dugan
 4. Sophie
 5. Paul Vicent m. Mary Fuller



JOHN PHELAN SHIRLEY

From...Stemmata Shirleiana written in
1873 by Evelyn Philip Shirley: page 338.

"In Ireland the first notice which I have
found of any one of the name of Shirley
is in Dodd's "Church History," who mentions
Paul Shirley as having been born in Ireland
in 1595. He was for twenty years rector of
the Irish colleges at Salamanca and
Compostella and died in 1646. Soon after
this latter date there was a family of
Shirley in Dublin, one of whom, James
Shirley, eloped, previous to 1668, with
Miss Mary Ware, granddaughter of the
historian Sir James Ware, as we learn from

two scarce tracts, Dudley Loftus's
"Case of Ware and Shirly" and "The
Case of Mrs. Mary Ware and James
Shirly," 4to. 1669. In the county of
Kilkenny there is still existing family
of Shirley, said to be descended from
a certain William Shirley, who
accompanied King William III to Ire-
land and settled in the county of
Wexford.

From Shirley International Association
member, Ann Nosov.

*Will Correspond with anyone researching
the SHIRLEY family in counties Carlow,
Kilkenny and Wexford in Ireland. I am
especially interested in ancestors and
descendents of John and Deborah Shirley
and of Thomas and Catherine Shirley.
These two young couples were living at
Knocknabranagh, Old Leighlin, County
Carlow in the year 1800.*

Ann Nosov
3 Mylesview Place
Willowdale
Ontario, Canada
M2N 2M7

SHIRLEYS from Kilkenny Ireland to Canada

James Shirley b. Dec. 21, 1784 Bellmouf
House, Parish of Moth Hill, County
Kilkenny, Ireland. Died Aug 26, 1872.
Married Nancy Berry Dollaway.

They were the parents of Frederick
William Shirley born Aug 10, 1826
Richibucto, Kent County, New Brunswick,
CANADA.

Frederick married Sarah Robertson and
they were the parents of Samuel Robertson
Shirley born in 1859 who was the father
of Earle Thompson Shirley who was the
father of Kenneth Frederick Shirley who
is the father of our Shirley Association
International member, Earle Shirley of
Alberta County Canada.

From...Waterford County Ireland
Thomas Sylvester Shirley b. 1852 Waterford,
Waterford County Ireland. He died June 1924
m. Sarah Jane Children:

1. James Michael b. Feb 19, 1887 d. 1958
Liverpool. (father of member Thomas J.)
James went to USA in early 1900's and
became a citizen. Thomas J. his son
lives in Northampton, England.

COUNTY KILKENNY, IRELAND SHIRLEYS

James Shirley, Coroner b. ? d. 1888.
wife was Elizabeth _____

They were the parents of:

1. Thomas (single)
2. William
3. Henry
4. Richard
5. John
6. Francis
7. James (had no family)
8. Elizabeth
9. Jane m. James Shirley
- 10 Marion
- 11 Susan
- 12 Richard Joseph born Jan. 19, 1862
Garnaman House, Kells, Co. Kilkenny
m. Catherine Brennan

International Shirley Assoc. member,
James Joseph (son of Richard J.)
and his wife, Mary, write:

#2 William and #7 James went to USA.
Don't know where Henry "Harry" went.
#8 Elizabeth married _____ Linkson had
had a son Ray Linkson who died in
Australia. Jane m. James Shirley had
a son Harry who also went to Australia.

We claim our Shirley line came from
Dramatist, James Shirley 1596-1666 of
England. Our James Shirley the coroner
appears to us as an identical copy of
the Dramatist "Mermaid". Our crest
(Coat of Arms) stamped on the silver
Tea Spoons etc...was always our mark
of identity...Mermaid and JS.

England to Ireland Shirleys...

(See page 9 of Sept 1987 International
issue of the Shirley NEWS).

Isfield Shirleys:

Sir George Shurley, Lord Chief of Ireland
born 1569 and died 1647, buried Isfield,
Sussex, England. Married Mary Halfshed.

children:

1. Robert, Esq. married Margaret Verney
2. Mary
3. Jane
4. Anne married Fenton Parsons
5. Pelham
6. Arthur
7. George
8. Edward
9. Thomas
- 10 Penolopy m. Francis Selwyn

11. Dorothy
12. Judith d. young
13. Judith m. Samuel Crooke of Ireland
14. Henry

George served under King James and King
Charles for 28 years. He was born in
Isfield, Sussex, England.

Georges brother, John, married Jane
Sherley of Wiston, Sussex, England.
She was the daughter of Sir Thomas Shirley
the elder. Her sister, Cecelia, married
Lord Delaware West, first colonial
governor of Virginia USA in 1600's.

Because of debts to the crown, Sir
Thomas the elder and Sir Thomas the
younger, lost the family estate of
Wiston. This left the family without
a home.

Tradition says, this family left the
area and went to Ireland and Isle of
Wight.

Sir Thomas Sherley, the younger, Knight,
died on Isle of Wight. He married 1st
Frances Vavasour and they were the parents
of 7 children. He married 2nd, Judith
Bennett of London, widow of Mr. Taylor.
They were the parents of 10 children.

1. Cheyney d. young buried 1605-6
2. Henry, murdered. (Mentioned in a play
"The Martyred Doldier" printed 1638
3. Catherine
4. Elizabeth
5. Frances b. ca. 1598
6. Dorothy
7. Sir Thomas, knight b. 1597
8. John
9. Hugh
- 10 Thomas d. 1657
- 11 Robert b. 1624 Parish of Colbourne,
Isle of Wight
- 12 Richard b. 1625 (same)
- 13 Judith d. an infant
- 14 Ann
- 15 Judith married Sir Thomas Pelham
- 16 Elizabeth died an infant
- 17 Bridget b. 1623 Colbourne, Isle of Wight
- 18 Elizabeth

IF SOME OF THIS FAMILY DID GO TO IRELAND,
THEY HAD GOOD REASON TO DO SO. THEY HAD
AN UNCLE WHO WAS CHIEF OF IRELAND AND
COUSINS LIVING THERE.

Please excuse any mis-spelling of words.
I do my own typing and sometimes I am
doing this at mid-night when I am not at
my best. Also the way we spell words may
differ from your way and I transpose too!

IRELAND SHIRLEYS TO AMERICA

James Shirley b. ca. 1649 came from North Ireland to America about 1730. He lived in New Hampshire, USA. James died in 1754.

Married 1st Mary Wilson
2nd Anna _____

children:

1. John b. 1688 Ireland d. 1768 N.H.
m. 1st Janet Glenn
2nd Mary Miller, widow
2. James b. ca. 1690 Ireland d. 1700
3. Thomas b. 1692 died 1701
4. Hugh b. 1694 Ireland
5. Robert b. 1696
6. Henry b. 1698 In 1733 he went from Boston, Massachusetts to Jamaica in the Brigatine SARAH.
7. James b. 1700 d. 1796 N.H.
m. Janet Shirley 1726 Ireland
8. Thomas b. ca. 1710 d. 1776

SHIRLEYS IN IRELAND AS TAKEN FROM
STEMMATA SHIRLEIANA BY E.P. SHIRLEY

[written first in 1843 and again in 1873].

Sir Hugh Shirley of the 1300's was made Grand Falconer within the kingdom of Ireland...(see page 5 #9 of the first issue of the Shirley NEWS International)

Sir Henry Shirley, (son of George Shirley page 6, #16 of first edition of the NEWS) was the father of Robert Shirley who inherited the Chartley estate in the county of Stafford, with property at Newcastle-under-Lyne, the attendants adjoining Essex House in London, a rent-charge of 300 pounds going out of Havodwyn, Blavarion or Blagnaron, and Penarth, in the county of Cardigan and the other moiety of the barony of Faroney of Ireland.

Washington Shirley, second son of Robert Shirley, first Earl Ferrers, was born at Staunton Harold June 22, 1677. In the family accounting book at Chartley July 10th, 1693, entry refers to paying for bread and meat for Washington and his men as they came out of Ireland. He

entered Trinity College in Oxford where he remained three years. He married Mary, daughter of Sir Richard Levinge of High Park in the county of Westmeath Ireland.

Walter Shirley, grandson of Robert Shirley, first Earl Ferrers, was born 1725, educated at University College of Oxford. He was in Holy Orders, and Rector of Loughrea, in the county of Galway, Ireland. He married Henrietta Maria Phillips of Dublin. He died 1786 and was interred in St. Mary's church in Dublin. His children were:

1. John b. 1767 Loughrea County of Galway d. 1773 Bath
2. Walter b. 1768 Loughrea. In Holy orders, Vicar of Woodford Co. Northampton and Rector of Brailesford in the county of Derby England 1847.
3. Frances Anne b. 1770 Bath m. Rev. John Goring who was killed near his home in Mealiffe in the county of Tipperary Oct 23, 1829.
4. Henrietta Elainor b. 1772 Bath m. Rev Henry Bunbary
5. Anne Augusta b. 1775 Bath

George Shirley, son of Robert Shirley first Earl Ferrers and his second wife, Selina, was born Oct 23, 1705. He served as a Page to Queen Anne. He married Mary Sturt and lived at Ettington and Twickenham in Middlesex. He made additions to the Manor house of Ettington about 1740 and in 1776 made preparations for building a house on the family estate in Ireland. Soon afterwards the idea was abandoned until his grandson, Evelyn John Shirley, who laid the foundation of as extensive mansion in the Elizabethan style. It is built near a Lake called Lough Fea from whence place takes its name, in the parish of Magheracloane, in the western moiety of the barony of Farney and county of Managhan, commonly called "The Shirley Estate". Here during a considerable portion of every year he resided, thereby greatly aiding in the civilization and improvement of that part of the country.

We need pictures and more stories!!!
The NEWS is only as good as those who will help us to make it good! If it is to continue to be of interest, we must get more family information.

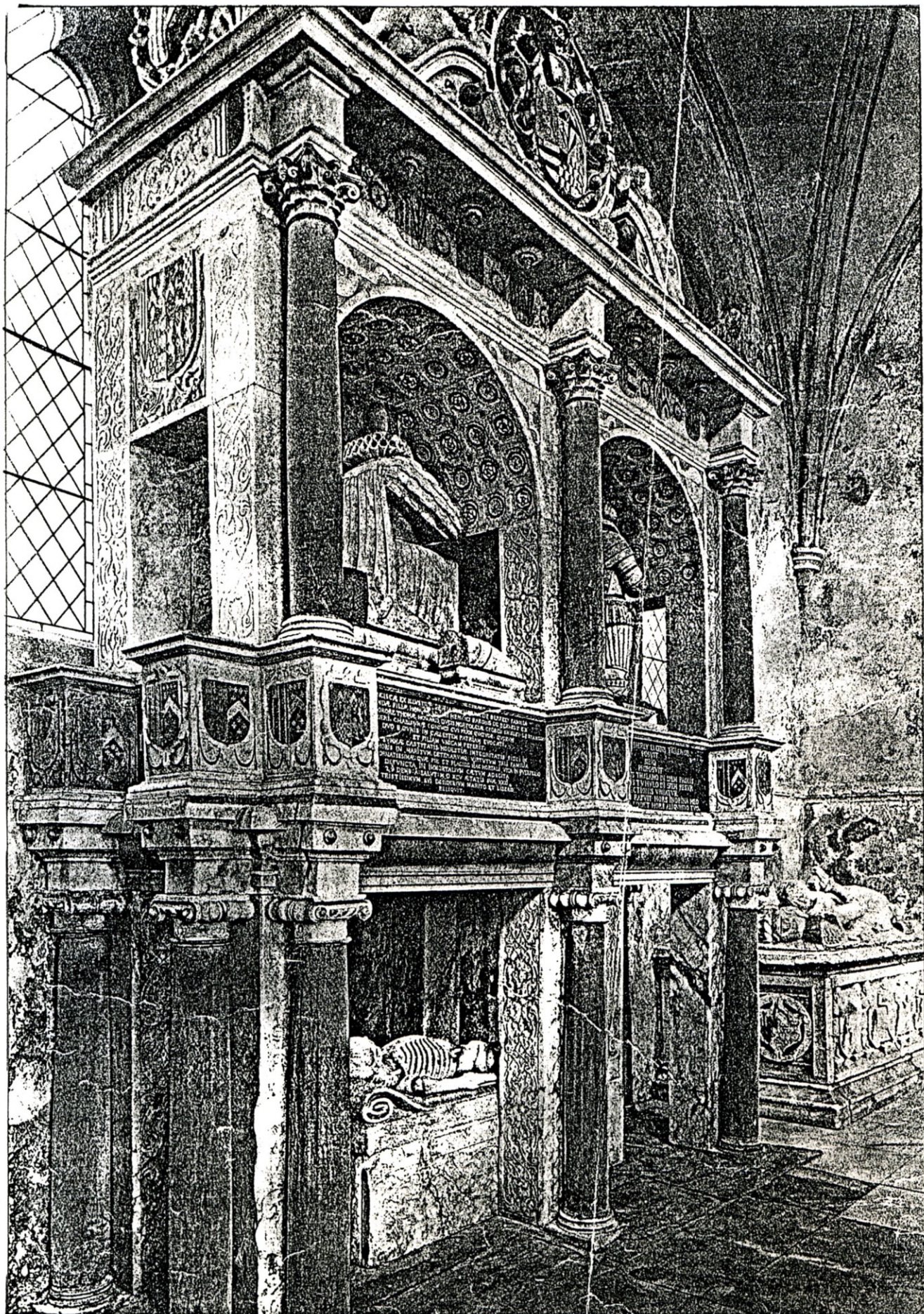
The Shirley Estate in Ireland



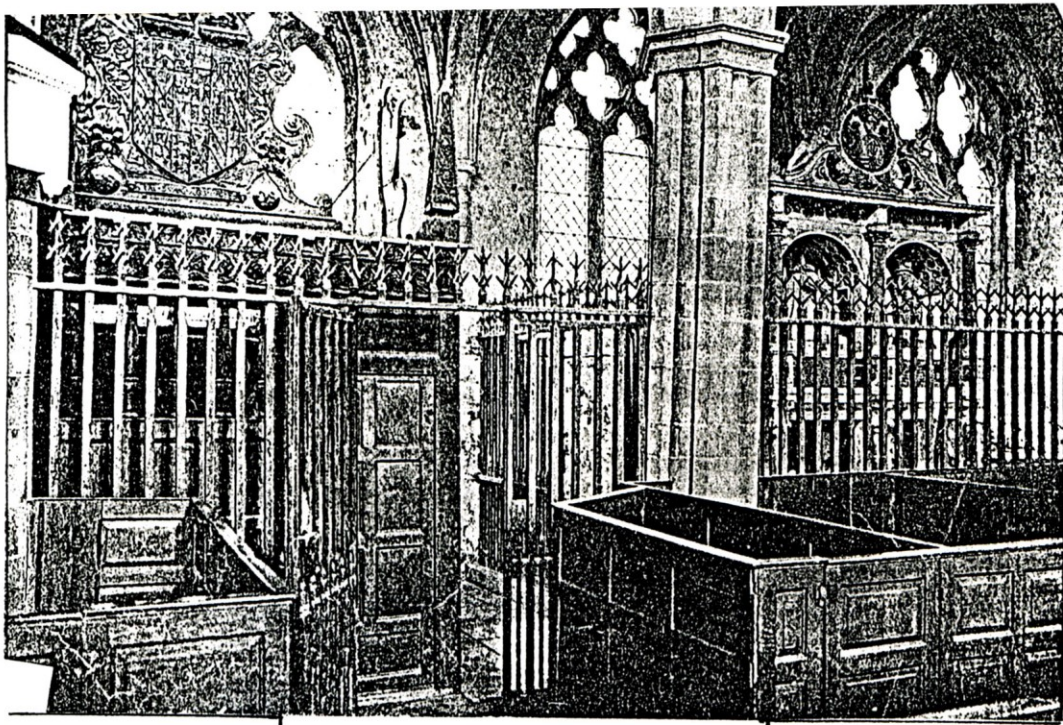
The Parish Church, Breedon



The Parish Church, Breedon on the Hill



BREEDON CHURCH: SIR GEORGE SHIRLEY'S MONUMENT



IN BREEDON CHURCH.



[continued from first issue of the
International Shirley NEWS...page 6]

16) Sir George Shirley.....

George Shirley after 20 years, had his grandfathers body removed from the churchyard and reinterred in the vault at Breedon on the Hill church. It was found to be as entire as if it had been newly buried and the winding sheet was found to be as new. The body had only a small black bruise on the top of the big toe caused by the pressure of the coffin.

Sir George Shirley, raised his own monument as was the fashion of that era. The monument is doublearched, two tiered and made of Chellaston alabaster, lying at the base a grotesque "cadaver" to remind us of ourselves after death.

The monuments represent his lordship and his lady wife dressed in Elizabeth Court dress and kneeling, on tasselled cushions, their children also kneeling, and infants in cradles. George died in 1622.

The north aisle of Breedon on the Hill was retained as the private property of the Shirley family and divided from the rest of the church by a massive iron grill. Also in the north aisle is the superbly carved Shirley pew dated 1627 and said to be one of the finest examples of it's kind in the country.

[see photo's of the above in this issue].

The iron grill serves to remind us of the generosity of Sir Frances Shirley for had he not bought the church, it could have well been left to ruin as did so many Abbey's and Priories at this time. Breedon on the Hill stands on the top of a hill and has a magnificent view for miles around. This has been a place of worship for one thousand and three hundred years total.

(credit to Mrs. Watson).

MARRIAGES NOTTINGHAM

Shirley

John m. Eliz. Wilson May 8, 1714 Sutton-

John m. Hannah Lindley Dec 15, 1789 Kirkley

Anne m. Richard Trewman Oct 20, 1859 Arnold

Christopher m. Tatler Mar 15, 1746 Mansfield

Samuel m. Sarah Blackburn Nove 24, 1808 S. Muskan

Thomas m. Melicent Willows Oct 20, 1755 Sutton in Ashfield

Timothy m. Rachel Brookes Aug 16, 1691

William m. Gertrude Green June 5, 1680 Selston

William m. Sarah Cox Feb 22, 1819 N. Miskham

Letter from Isfield, Sussex Eng.

from Rev. Dallings of St. Margaret's Church.....January 7th, 1988.

.....The hurricane of October 16th, (1987) blew over something like 500 to 1000 trees in Isfield and we were out of electricity for a week. The Isfield men opened the main roads around here with their chain saws. In one length of 3 miles 89 beech trees were across the main road. The church sustained 800 pounds damage to roof tiles from branches torn off the great oak. 2/3rds of this will be paid by the Insurance. Robert Smith the architect and Church Warden plan to start work on the Spire this spring and we estimate a cost of about 4000 pounds most of which we have raised with your help. We are also organising wether to put in electric light. I think the P.C.C will vote to retain the candles for the present.

On a sadder note, two of our hosts died last year. John Bridges of the Cottage who was a stepson of the last Squire and Tom Buckeridge of Rocks Cottage. The widows continue in Isfield. The hosts Rev. Dallings is referring to has to do with those who took about 7 people each from our tour of 1986, into their homes and fed them royally! One of the highlights of our trip.

[Should anyone like to contribute funds to continue with further expenses in the work they are about to do on the church, please send to Rev. Dallings at St. Margaret's Church Isfield, Sussex England TN22 5TX. THANK YOU!]

STAFFORDSHIRE ENGLAND

Jesse Shirley b. ca. 1819 m. Mary Naylor
He was the son of Joseph Shirley who in 1854 was a grocer. Jesse was a farmer.

Edwin b. June 20, 1872 Ipstones, Staffs.
m. Annie Smith, was a son of Jesse.

Jesse b. Sept 13, 1896 Fargylow, Alton, Staffs. was a son of Edwin. He m. Mable Nash.

Edwin Henry b. Mar 28, 1922 Crumpwood Farm Alton, Staffs. His daughter, Diane Lang supplied this information.

THE SHERLEYS OF WISTON

Wiston House, near Steyning, county of Sussex England, had been the home of the Sherley family since Sir Hugh Shirley married Beatrix de Braose. His descendants were prolific and settled in many parts of Sussex. Thomas Shirley, knighted by Queen Elizabeth I at Rye in 1573 rebuilt the house for his wife Anne, their three sons Thomas, Anthony and Robert and six daughters, Mary, Isabel, Elizabeth, Jane (married John Shurley of Isfield), Anne and Cecelia (married Lord Delaware West, first colonial governor of Virginia, USA).

In those days, knights were required to work in the service of the Queen and Sir Thomas spent a good deal of his time with the armies in the Low Countries (now Holland). He rose to be Treasurer of War, but when the armies failed to win their battles, Sir Thomas lost favour at court and had to forfeit his own lands to pay the soldiers. All he retained was the house and land at Wiston.

Of the three sons, Anthony probably achieved most in his life. He married Frances Vernon, a cousin of the Earl of Essex, (who was a favourite of the Queen for a time). It is said that this was an unhappy marriage and it led him to his roving life! Anthony followed Essex into battle in both France and Ireland and was knighted in both countries. This angered Queen Elizabeth who would not "have my sheep marked with a strange brand". In 1595 he sailed with his father against Portuguese settlements on the African coast. This venture failed but it seems they changed direction, sailed half way across the world and captured Jamaica in 1596! A year later Anthony returned, no better off for these adventures. More fighting in Europe followed but in 1598 he decided, he is reported to have said, "to do some extraordinary thing before I return back again." He set sail from Venice in an argosie, bound for Scanderoon with the intention of persuading the King of Persia, the Shah Abbas, to join the Christian powers against their common enemy, the Turks. With him on this expedition went his younger brother, Robert. On the journey from Babylon to Persia they were attacked by Arabs and all the jewels they had brought for the Shah were stolen. Despite this setback the two Sherley brothers were royally received by the Shah and in return for advice about armaments the Shah made Anthony a Mizra, or Prince. Shah Abbas obviously thought very

highly of the two brothers and Anthony his ambassador to the courts of Europe. Anthony then traveled back to and through Europe as the Shah's representative. First stop was Russia where Czar Boris gave him a cool reception (1599). Then on to Germany where he was well received by Emperor Rodolph (1600). From there to Rome where, for unknown reasons, he left in disgrace and returned to Venice. At home, his patron and kinsman, the Earl of Essex, had been executed and it is likely that those associated with him were out of favour too. However, when James I came to the throne it appears he gave Anthony many proofs of his favour. His journeys and exploits throughout Europe are too numerous to recall here. Towards the end of his life Anthony settled in Spain, the 'old enemy'. Despite having a sizeable pension from various sources, it seems that he was often in dire straits and on the verge of starvation. He died in 1630, in Spain.

Robert Sherley, Anthony's younger brother, fought in the Low Countries and accompanied his brother to Persia. He stayed at the Persian court when Anthony left, and married Teresia, daughter of a Circassian Chief. They had two children. In 1608 the Shah sent him to King James of England with a special letter. Robert went via the courts of several countries and was warmly received and honoured by them. When he visited the court at Rome, he wore full length Persian costume, with a crucifix on the turban. It is said he was "showered with empty honours". In 1611 Robert and Teresia returned home to Wiston where matters were in a sorry state. The brothers' father, Sir Thomas Sherley, the elder, had long been disfavoured at court and had to dispose of all of his properties and lands except Wiston. Sir Thomas died the year after Robert's return in 1612. Robert and Teresia set out for Persia again in 1613. They took nearly nine months but stayed in Persia until 1615. Then to Madrid Spain for seven years. From there to Rome for two years and thence back to the English court, where it is said, he suffered from intrigues and jealousy. At last he returned to Persia where he died aged about fifty at a place called Kazveen and he was buried beneath the threshold of his own house in 1628. His wife Teresia became a nun in Rome.

Thomas, the eldest of the three Sherleys, went to the Low Countries like his brothers and then to Ireland where he

was knighted. He married the daughter of Sir Thomas Vavasour, which displeased the Queen, and he was gaoled for fourteen weeks. He went back to the Low Countries but by this time his father had lost favour and fortune so Thomas bought two ships and became a buccaneer, attacking Spanish ships. In this was he hoped to restore the family fortunes. At first he was successful, but on his next trip he was captured by the Turks (1602) and imprisoned on the island of Zoa. From there he was taken to Constantinople (now Istanbul). After two years in prison, King James secured his release. Thomas returned home through Europe and arrived back at Wiston almost penniless (1606). He tried to set up trade companies and deal with the Orient but he failed and was accused of malicious practices and "interfering with the levant trade". For this he was imprisoned in the Tower of London. On his release his liabilities and debts were so great that he was forced to sell Wison, the family home. He retired to the Isle of Wight where he died in obscurity.

These three Sherleys saw more of the world than many of us ever will, with all our modern transport. Great adventurers they undoubtedly were; yet despite their connection in high places all over Europe, their lives ended in comparative obscurity and who, today, has heard of their marvellous exploits.

(Compiled by Geraldine Smith).

Little Missenden Buckinghamshire ENGLAND

(info from member George Edward John Shirley of Australia and his daughter Mrs. Young).

JOHN SHIRLEY married Elizabeth Hale Feb 22, 1731 Lt. Missenden. He lived at Chartridge and was a laborer. He died in 1762 at Bellingdon, Hamlet of Chesham. He was the father of:

John Shirley chr. July 23, 1732 Chesham married 1st Rebecca King 2nd Deborah Aronld He was the father of:

John chr. May 1761 He married Sussanna _____ November 6, 1786 Chetwode and was the father of:

James chr. Sept 1791 Little Missenden married Jemima Row Nov 10, 1814

children:

(children cont.)

1. John b. 1816 d. 1887 m. Mary Tapping
 - (1) James b. 1844 m. Eliz Nash
 - (2) George b. 1841 m. Sarah Payne
 - A. Ellen m. Edwin Dwight
 - B. John b. 1860 m. Grace
 - C. Edwin b. 1861 m. Agnes White
great grandfather of Geo Edw John, our member.
 - D. Rose
 - E. Amelia m. James Barker
 - F. Thomas
 - G. Jane
 - H. Issabella m. Wm. Brown
 - (3) Henry 1841 m. _____
 - A. William m. Margaret Dean
 - (4) Jane
 - (5) Emma b. 1862
 - (6) Eliz.
 - (7) Sarah
 - (8) William
2. George b. 1822 d. 1837
3. Sophia 1823 m. Wm. Bridges
4. Daniel 1828 m. Mary Butler
 - (1) Martha
 - (2) Joseph 1859
 - (3) Charles
5. Moses 1828 m. Sarah Saunders
 - (1) George 1853
 - (2) Charles 1856 d. 1857
 - (3) Edith
 - (4) Ada
 - (5) Charles
 - (6) Lilian
 - (7) James
 - (8) Jemmima

George Edward John Shirley emigrated to Australia in 1970.

BIRTHS TONBRIDGE, KENT, ENGLAND

Alice 1691 to Nicholas Sherley
 Ann 1696 to Nicholas and Alice
 Elizabeth 1649 to William and _____
 Elizabeth 1685 to _____ and Mary
 Elizabeth 1689 to Nicholas
 Elizabeth 1700 to Nicholas
 John 1665 to _____ and Elizabeth
 John 1687 to Nicholas
 Marth 1707 Nicholas and Alice
 Mary 1658 to William
 Mary 1701 to Nic and Alice
 Nicholas 1661 to William
 Nic 1694 to Nic and Alice
 Thomas 1697 to Nic and Alice

DARTBRIDGE, KENT

George m. Maudlyn Bettes in 1603
 Maudlen m. William Kente 1604

WILLISBOROUGH, KENT

John 1630 to Nicholas

OXFORDSHIRE ENGLAND SHIRLEYS

BARFORD

William and Ann

1. Edward 1773
2. Alice 1775
3. Thomas 1777
4. John 1779
5. Hannah 1781
6. Elizabeth 1783
7. Ann 1786
8. William 1799

DEDDINGTON

1. Sarah 1803-1804
2. _____ 1807
3. Edward 1810-1812
4. Thomas 1811-1839
5. Mary 1813-1813
6. Ann 1817-1838
7. Elizabeth 1820-1834

HEMPTON

John b. 1806 d. 1870

m. Ann Newport

1. William 1832-1833
2. John 1836-1893
3. Thomas 1835-1906

m. Ann Bartlett

- (1) Thomas Edward 1859-1940

m. Sarah Green

A. Edith 1890

B. Percival 1895-1897

C. Edwin 1889

D. Harry 1882

E. Kate 1901 m. Edw. Mobley

(parents of Brian Mobley
Int'l Shirley Assoc.
member).

4. Elizabeth Ann 1843-1883 m. Will Gunn
5. Mary 1846 m. Richard Haynes

William b. 1811 d. 1873

m. 1st Hannah Morby in 1835

m. 2nd Mary Ann Mason in 1852

1. Elizabeth 1836-1840
2. Henry 1837-184

3. Richard 1839-1927 m. 1st Ann Vincent
(was farmin in Hempton until 1927)

m. 2nd Sarah Wilkins

- (1) Martha 1865 m. Martin Randall

- (2) William 1867 m. Louise

- (3) Thomas James 1868 m. Edith

- (4) Mary Ann 1869

- (5) Edward Vincent 1877

- (6) James Ernes 1880 m. Rose Wheeler

4. Thomas 1840 m. Sarah

5. John Henry 1843-1910 m. Rachel

- (1) William

- (3) Emma

- (2) Alice

- (4) Harry 1886 m. Ellen

6. Charles 1847

7. Ann

8. William 1850

The earliest trace of the Shirley family from which line our family springs, appears to be at Great Barford; the first record at this church is that of the baptism of Thomas Shirley, son of William and Ann in 1777. This must mean that the said William was born about 1745, and to put this date into true perspective, this is the year of Bonnie Price Charlie's defeat at Culloden!

This same William and Ann had eight children, but one we are most interested in is Thomas who appears to have removed to Hempton just prior to or at the time of his marriage to Ann French in 1803 at Deddington Church.

However it should be said at this point, that there is no way of actually proving that this Thomas (m. to Ann French) is the same Thomas as he of Barford although the dates traced from burial records fit the birthdate circumstances exactly.

Their first child was born in 1803. In 1807 there is a Shirley registered in Parish records without Christian name, shown as "blank". There were then further children; among which were William (born 1811) and John (born 1806); neither of these appear in the Parish register but it is likely that the registration "blank" as above could be John.

It is a pity that we have no positive identification of relationship between these two or their probable parents, as it is from this point that the genealogical tree is accurate and proven.

It is interesting to note that there were two branches to the family; that of John, which is the writer's direct line, and the probable line from William. In the John line there is an unexpected two branches brought about by Shirley daughters marrying into families at Hanwell, and Sibford. This was completely unforeseen and it is possible, therefore, that there are still some distant relatives unknown as yet!

by Brian Mobley

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