THE CREE FAMILIES OF FIFE AND DEVON by G H Cree **Cree Family History Society**

CREE BOOKLETS

The Cree Family History Society was founded in 1991 to encourage research into the history and world-wide distribution of the surname CREE and of families of that name, and to collect, conserve and make available the results of that research.

The series CREE BOOKLETS is intended to further those aims by providing a format by which family histories and related material may be published which might otherwise not see the light of day. A list of current and projected titles, and details of the Society may obtained from:

The Cree Family History Society 36 Brocks Hill Drive Oadby, Leicester LE2 5RD England.



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by

G H Cree

THE CREE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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The Cree Family History Society

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INTRODUCTION

I am both pleased and proud that this first volume of our series of *Cree Booklets* should be written by Hilary Cree.

Many readers, especially those with Cree connections, will have enjoyed *The Cree Journals* by Hilary's grandfather, Dr Edward H Cree, a man who combined his work as a Surgeon in the Royal Navy, with a rare talent as a diarist and accomplished watercolourist. He also had the good fortune (or is it simply ours in hindsight?) to be where the action was, at a time when Britain's sea power was at its zenith. The Chinese Opium Wars of the 1840s, pacifying the Borneo pirates, the War with Russia in the Baltic in 1854 and in the Crimea in 1855.

The biographical notes in Michael Levien's excellent Introduction to the *Journals* led me to seek links with other branches of Crees, and eventually to visit Hilary and Joan Cree in Devon. Here I was most hospitably received, and invited to rummage through the family papers. What I found, and what Hilary had modestly not told me about, was this almost complete account of his family history researches.

He had started these in earnest around 1979, probably while Michael Levien was editing *The Cree Journals*. The writing up was done mainly around 1985, to be set aside when illness robbed Hilary of his eyesight.

I have tried to restrict editing to a minimum in order to preserve the continuity of style of Hilary's original text. Recent researches have unearthed new information however, and this has been inserted where it is relevant. Editorial insertions are shown in square brackets. The order of the original material has been changed slightly to produce a more logical arrangement. The charts are my own, based on Hilary's manuscript outlines, but with more detail. The reader is urged to refer to the charts, as with any genealogical work, at the first onset of any confusion!

For illustration it was natural to turn to the paintings of E H Cree. The choice has been based not only on relevance to the text, but also on suitability for reproduction in monochrome.

The original diaries of E H Cree, of which the *Journals* are but a small part, are now deposited in the National Maritime Museum at Greenwich.

Hilary Cree has produced an excellent family history with just the right blend of anecdote, lively biographical narrative, and sound genealogical research. I hope that it will give pleasure to many readers, of present and future generations, and will encourage some of them at least, to investigate and set down in writing the history of their family.

Mike Spathaky 1st September 1991

NOTE TO THE SECOND EDITION

Brigadier Gerald Hilary Cree CBE, DSO died on 21st August 1998 at the age of 93. A lengthy obituary appeared in *The Times* of 25th August 1998. I am please to be able to publish this electronic edition of his family history.

MS 15th August 2004

1. ORIGINS

The Name

There are two main theories as to the origin of the name. Firstly, Dr G F Black in his *Surnames of Scotland*, the recognised standard work on the subject, states:-

CREE. A surname in Ayrshire and Glasgow. More probably a shortening of (MA)CRAE, than from the place name Cree.

About Maccrae, Macrae, he says that it derives from the Gaelic personal name MacRath, son of Grace, or prosperity. He says the name originated quite independently in more that one place and date and was given to individuals in no way connected with each other. It has its counterpart in Ireland. The name is spelt in various ways, the commonest in Ayrshire, being McCree. When a personal name became a patronymic, the Mac was often dropped, hence *Cree*.

Secondly, Harrison in his *Dictionary of British Surnames*, gives *dweller by the river Cree* as the origin. This is an attractive theory but unfortunately is not supported by any evidence. As a surname it is virtually unknown in Galloway and is not listed in *Galloway Family Names* by S A Russell. This does not rule it out completely, since people often took the name of their former abode when they had moved elsewhere. But what makes it so unlikely is the fact that the Scots never took the names of rivers as their surname; there is not a single other instance of it, according to David Dorward, an onomatologist of St Andrews.

There is no way of proving the matter conclusively except by a direct genealogical trace right back to the Middle Ages when surnames came into general use. Such a thing is hardly possible, for an ordinary rather obscure family. We have therefore to make our own assessment of the balance of probability. The Macrae theory does have some sort of evidence for it, whereas the River Cree theory is pure guess work. However, the Scottish Tartans Society, whilst favouring the first theory, does not think it provides sufficient justification for us to wear the Macrae tartan. The Tartan sellers would have you believe otherwise, being more interested in business than in strict orthodoxy. It is a particularly nice tartan!

According to the 1981 Telephone Directory the distribution of Crees in Scotland was as follows:

Glasgow	58	Tayside	24
Clyde Coast	46	Edinburgh	6
Clyde Valley	21	Central Trossachs	25
Lomond and Argyll	17	Fife and Kinross	8
Borders	1	SW Scotland	1
Aberdeen	6	Highlands and Islands	1
(London	12)		

The greatest concentration is clearly in the Glasgow area. The one entry in SW Scotland is the Captain of the Stranraer-Larne Ferry - an Irishman! The Directory for Northern Ireland contains 33, presumably descendants of Scottish settlers. Needless to say, the Cree Indians of North America, and St Katherine Cree Church in London, have no connection whatever. Their name is thought to be a shortening of "Christian".

Anthony Cree adheres firmly to the River Cree theory. He says his great uncle the late Donald Cree had documentary evidence to prove that his ancestor came from Newton Stewart at the end of the 17th Century. But we have not been shown the evidence. Anthony's father, Commander Charles Cree RN, in 1974 purchased the ruins of Castle Stewart believing it to have connections with his forbears. See sections on Coat of Arms.

Early Cree Families

The tradition is that before going to Fife the family lived in Perth. Certainly there are traces of Crees in Perth in the 17th Century. The earliest so far discovered related to Henry and Patrick Crie (the name is often spelt that way in documents) brothers and weavers of the burgh of Perth. Henry was heir to his brother of some tenements. The entry in the Retours of Fife and Perthshire is dated April 10th 1632 (E.xii.97). Next comes a list of 5 Crees (or Cries) who matriculated at the University of St Andrews on the dates shown. This list was prepared for me by the present Keeper of the Muniments, Mr R Smart:-

David	1682	Nothing further known
Henry	1660	ditto.
John	1683	Divinity student
Patrick	1702	Gild Brother 1713
John	1687	Came from Perth.

The last of these, John Cree, did an Arts course followed by a Divinity course. He was Tutor to James Makgill eldest son of David Makgill of Rankeillour. (This is an estate about 3 miles west of Cupar, on the A91. The estate is no longer owned by the Makgills. The present Baronet lives in Berkshire.) In 1702 he was appointed Librarian of the University of St Andrews and in 1706 he was appointed Clerk as well. Patrick Crie, student in the St Leonard's College (see above) witnessed his bond of security in 1703.

John Cree married Jean Watson and had three daughters Margaret, Cecilia and Agnes, but no son has yet been found. He had seisin in February 1710 of four and a half acres of Newgrange and two acres of Priory Lands in St Andrews, which he left to his wife Jean Watson on his death in 1718. This passed in time to his daughters Margaret, Cecilia and Agnes in 1787. The last was the wife of John Scot of Longraw. John Cree would have been 15 at matriculation in 1687.

(References to John Cree of St. Andrews: Testament Dative CC24/4/25, Service of Heirs 3rd December 1750, Recorded 1725 March, Monthly No 23)

[We now know from parochial registers that John Cree married Jean Watson in 1709. They had two sons, James (born 1710) and John (1712) and four daughters Elizabeth (1713), Margaret (1715), Cecilia (1717) and Agnes (1718). There may well therefore be Cree descendants, although none has yet been found. The significance of the Mackgill connection is that Rankeillour lies less than three miles from Kettlehill. MS]

The Henry and Patrick, students above mentioned, could well have been descended from the two brothers, weavers of Perth in 1633. Naming customs were conservative in Scotland at that time, the three eldest sons often being named after their paternal grandfather, maternal grandfather and father successively. The daughters similarly were called after their maternal grandmother, paternal grandmother and mother. Nothing has so far been found to connect the foregoing Crees with our ancestor William of Kettlehill, Fife, and further research in Perth is indicated.

There is also a record of John Cree, a writer (solicitor) in Edinburgh in 1697.

By the next century traces of Crees in Perth, Angus, Fife and Clackmannan became quite plentiful. The name is not so uncommon as is supposed and would indicate that they had been settled in this part of the country for a considerable time, wherever they came from originally. Unfortunately the information about them is rather scanty and it is impossible to establish links with any but a very few.

Coat of Arms

A Coat of Arms (i.e. crest, helmet, shield charged with heraldic emblems, and motto) can only be granted by the Earl Marshal in England (through the College of Heralds), or the Lord Lyon King of Arms in Scotland. Both act on behalf of the Monarch.

The grant is made to an individual person, not to the whole family, clan or surname, and is inherited by his lineal descendants only. Strictly speaking the grant should be renewed with each generation, upon proof of pedigree. A fresh grant (or "matriculation") will then be made. The crest will remain unchanged but the "blazon" of the shield will be slightly "differenced" for younger sons.

Edward Cree and his sons made use of a Coat of Arms. The crest was an arm in armour enbowed, wielding a scimitar, the shield was charged with a chevron and three crosslets and the Motto was *Delectat et ornat* (sometimes *Utilis et ornat*).

The same crest at least was used by his second cousin David. Canon David Stewart Smith (David's great-grandson) recently gave me a damask tablecloth embroidered with the words David Cree and Mary Cree and this same crest and motto. The cloth was probably a wedding present or part of Mary's dowry. The origin of this coat of arms is not discoverable. If David and Edward had inherited it, it must have been from thier nearest mutual ancester, their great-grandfather William of Forthar. But Robert did not use it to seal his letters to Percy; he used quite a different one, the head of a woman. However there is sadly no record of any Coat of Arms ever having been granted to a Cree by the Lord Lyon before 1974. In that year a grant was made to Commander Charles Cree RN upon his acquiring the Lairdship of Castle Stewart in Wigtownshire. The crest and motto are somewhat similar but the shield is different. It is based upon a Coat of Arms allegedly granted by the Lord Lyon to an ancestor. However, as stated above, the Lord Lyon's office was unable to confirm this to me. The late Donald Cree told me that the ancestor in question was his grandfather, Thomas Cree, a solicitor in London who was born in 1819 died 1894 and who was certainly not an ancestor of ours.

In Burke's General Armoury of 1842 there is an entry under Cree (Scotland) giving "Edward's" crest and with it an entirely different shield. It is impossible now to trace the person to whom the entry referred and it does not appear in the Lord Lyon's records. It is thought that somebody had it designed but thereafter failed to make formal application for a grant to the Lord Lyon.

In England the position is similar. The College of Heralds has only one record of a grant to a Cree. This was to John Cree of Owermoigne, Dorset, with whom we have no ascertainable kinship. The whole Coat of Arms is totally different from those described above.

It has to be said, therefore, that Edward's assumption of a Coat of Arms is hard to justify. What makes it even more irregular is the fact that the device on the shield (but not the crest) appears to be that of Kennedy of Knockgray, Kirkcudbrightshire, something that

would not have been passed by the Lord Lyon, who is bound to ensure that no two Coat of Arms can be mistaken for each other.

However, there was nothing uncommon about this. Coats of Arms became very popular in the 18th and 19th centuries and there were plenty of enterprising tradesmen ready to design one for you. Many people made use of unauthorised Arms in this way, probably through ignorance of the rules, though in Scotland it is still an offence to do so.

An interesting point about the crest of the arm wielding a weapon is that it or something like it is used by several Maccrae families. This would seem to indicate that whoever designed the crest for the Crees may have had the Macrae derivation in mind.

Sources of Information

Up till quite recently our only source of information was a family tree made out probably by Uncle Will when aged about 15 years. This he passed on to Dorys, who brought it up to date and gave it to me. Though invaluable it unfortunately contained some errors in the earliest generations. For instance, it showed William as coming from Aberdour and called his eldest son William, not mentioning James at all. Consequently we spent much time in fruitless search in Aberdour while all the time William was in Kettle.

The real break-though occurred when Canon David Cree Stewart-Smith, on seeing *The Cree Journals* got in touch. He is the great grandson of David Cree and Mary McAlpin, and his grandmother Margaret McDougall had her pedigree professionally traced. The result was a very comprehensive family tree which took us back to William of Kettlehill in the 1720's. This was a wonderful stroke of luck, without which our searches would have taken years longer, for we had been looking in the wrong place.

Research has continued in the light of this new information, with some success laterally though none as yet backwards from William and Margaret. We continue to look out for clues and remain hopeful.

Compulsory Civil Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths was not enforced in Scotland until 1855 (1837 in England). Before that the only records of this nature were the Parish Registers of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials. These were introduced in England in 1538, one of the few good deeds of Thomas Cromwell, First Minister to King Henry VIII. The system gradually spread all over Britain, but there are few Parish Registers in Scotland which go back much earlier than about 1620. These Registers are now all centralised in Scotland at the General Register House, Edinburgh, and in England in District Record Offices, where they are available for inspection by the public. They contain only the barest details and are not completely comprehensive.

The act of registration was voluntary (and free up till 1733, when a charge of 3d per entry was made, resulting in large scale abstentions!) It also depended on the diligence of the person responsible for keeping the Register and there are sometimes gaps. Nevertheless, the old parish registers are the genealogist's most valuable and accessible source of information. But they are not indexed and it is therefore essential to know the parish and approximate date of the event sought. Otherwise the search would be well-nigh impossible. However, matters will improve when the Mormon Church has completed its project of microfilming all the Parish Registers in Great Britain. The results will be computerised and alphabetically indexed by counties. They are working from North to South and are expected to cover Perth, Angus and Fife before long. This will greatly simplify our researches.

Various other records held in Edinburgh have been consulted, often with interesting results, such as the register of Deeds, Services of Heirs, Index of Sasines etc. But the searching of all Scottish records must be done in Scotland, either in person or by an agent, so that it all takes time.

Kettle

The parish of Kettle lies in the area known as the Howe of Fife, which extends eastwards roughly from the Lomond Hills. It is an open rolling countryside chiefly arable and woodland, well supplied with burns. At the time of our ancestors it produced grain rotated with flax to supply the distilleries and linen mills of Kirkcaldy and the other coastal towns.

The parish was at one time royal property, no doubt because of the proximity of Falkland Palace. Hence the name of the village, Kingskettle. In 1480 King James III granted the Barony of Forthar, about 2 miles WSW of Kingskettle, to Andrew Pitcairn, the 10th Laird of the Ilk, who added *and of Forthar* to his title. A Barony in this context was a subdivision of a large estate, controlled by a Bailie.

Forthar contained extensive lime works producing lime of a very high quality and giving employment to many. With its good farmlands and woods as well, it must have been a valuable property.

The Pitcairns were staunch supporters of the Stewarts, and became dedicated Jacobites. After the Rising of 1715 David Pitcairn, 19th Laird, forfeited his Pitcairn estates for his part in the affair. He again took an active part in the next, and final, rising in 1745, for which he was deprived of Forthar and made bankrupt. Before this however, he had begun to sell off parts of Forthar, hence the transaction of 1733 with William Cree. Another Pitcairn bought back Forthar later but with him, the 20th Laird, the estate finally passed out of the family, about 1820. Pitcairn House, long in ruins, is situated about one and a half miles to the East of Leslie.

The small hamlet of Kettlehill is situated on higher ground about a mile east of Kingskettle. It consists mainly of single storey cottages of the usual Scottish type, along both sides of the road, well-kept and tidy. There is no shop, school or pub and it cannot have changed very much in the last 250 years.

There is a large graveyard in Kingskettle, but no tombstone inscriptions relating to the Crees. But there are three Cree tombstone inscriptions in Dunfermline Abbey Churchyard, viz. Janet, Isabella and John. All are common family Christian names, but unfortunately no other details are given. There is also a possibility that an Agnes Cree was buried in Culross Abbey, but the name is not clear. No dates are inscribed.

2. WILLIAM CREE OF KETTLEHILL, FIFE.

William Cree is described in the sasines as a cordiner (or shoemaker) and a feuar (tenant) of Kettlehill, Fife. His wife Margaret Dall was the daughter and heir of John Dall also of Kettlehill. The name Dall is a fairly common one in that part. There are 48 Dalls listed in the 1982 Fife and Kinross Telephone Directory and there are two on the 1914-18 War Memorial at Freuchie, John (KOSB) and James (Black Watch). Unfortunately the name is not mentioned in Dr Black's *Scottish Surnames*. Mr David Dorward of St Andrews, an authority, believes that it is a place-name derived from the Gaelic word *Dall* meaning a trough, a meadow near water. There is a village Dall on the south side of Loch Tummel in Perthshire.

William and Margaret had four sons, John, William, Thomas and George. There is no record of their marriage or of the births of the three eldest in the Kettle Old Parish Registers, but the youngest George is shown there as having been born in 1724. This could mean that they married and lived in another parish before moving to Kettle in time for the birth of George, or it could mean a simple failure to register. Research continues. [Two more sons and a daughter have now been discovered. See Chart 1. MS]

The four sons produced between them nine grandsons and sixteen granddaughters. Of all this large family we can trace only the descendants of William, the second son, down to the present day. There may be now a large number of descendants of John, Thomas and George, but where they are we know not.

William and Margaret inherited from her father John Dall some property in Kettlehill, which John Dall had acquired from Patrick Russell of Balmalcolm, a nearby farm. The property consisted of houses, biggings (i.e. farm buildings), yeard and two rigs of land to the north side of Kettlehill. A rig, or ridge, was a strip of ploughland up to about 15 yards in width and unspecified length. The Ridge and Furrow system of cultivation was then practised before proper land drainage was introduced. By this system the ridges were ploughed from the outer edges towards the centre so that the ridge assumed a camber, thus allowing the rain water to drain off into the furrows so created.

The land was not then enclosed and boundaries were often vague, being marked sometimes by "march stones", easily movable. The sasine does not make any very clear definition but nevertheless it would appear that the Kettlehill property was quite a decent one, carrying with it as it did, right of pasturage, divot and turf cutting and commonty. What William did with the property we do not know, but evidently in combination with shoemaking no doubt, he did well enough to purchase land for each of his three younger sons. John of course would inherit Kettlehill.

As explained earlier, David Pitcairn, the Laird, was selling off parts of his Forthar property and in 1733 William, with his wife and son Thomas, purchased from him *one acres, three fourths of one acre and 25 roods of measured land, part of the lands of Holmiln of Forthar,* with rights of commonty (grazing, turf cutting etc.) and no contributions towards the minister's stipend or school master's salary, but only liability for cess and fen duty.



Part of Ainslie's 1775 map of Fife

The distinction between the *acres* and the *measured land* is that the latter would have been accurately measured by men with chains, whereas the *acres* would have been fairly approximate. The boundaries of the property were on the North the highway from Freuchie Mill lands to Forthar, on the South the highway between the "same" (Freuchie or Forthar?) and the corn yard of Holmiln. On the West, the lands feued by Forthar to William Cree, and on the East the other lands of Forthar. This description is vague enough in all conscience and not at all easy to reconcile with the 6" map. The landscape must also have altered considerably since the advent of the railway, but it would seem that the property lay somewhere on the North East side of Forthar Mill. It is presumed that Holmiln of Forthar is what is now called Forthar Mill. The meaning of the expression *Holmiln* is undiscoverable, perhaps it is a local word.

[Ainslie's 1775 map of Fife (1 inch to 1 mile) shows five locations, four of them mills, in close succession along the course of the Freuchie Burn which forms the parish boundary between

Kettle and Falkland. They are, from North to South, Forther Mill, Channel Hall, Wauke Mill, Whole Mill and Kirkforther Mill. On an early Ordnance Survey map (1854, 6 inch to 1 mile) there are similarly five locations, named respectively as Fruchie Mill (Corn & Barley), Channelhall Mill (Lint), Wauk Mill, Forthar Mill (Corn) and Kirkforthar Bleachfield (disused), which also has a Mill Dam associated with it. It would seem fairly certain that the Holmiln of Forthar referred to in the sasines corresponds to the Whole Mill of the 1775 map, and probably also to the Forthar Mill (Corn) of the 1854 and later Ordnance Survey maps. MS]

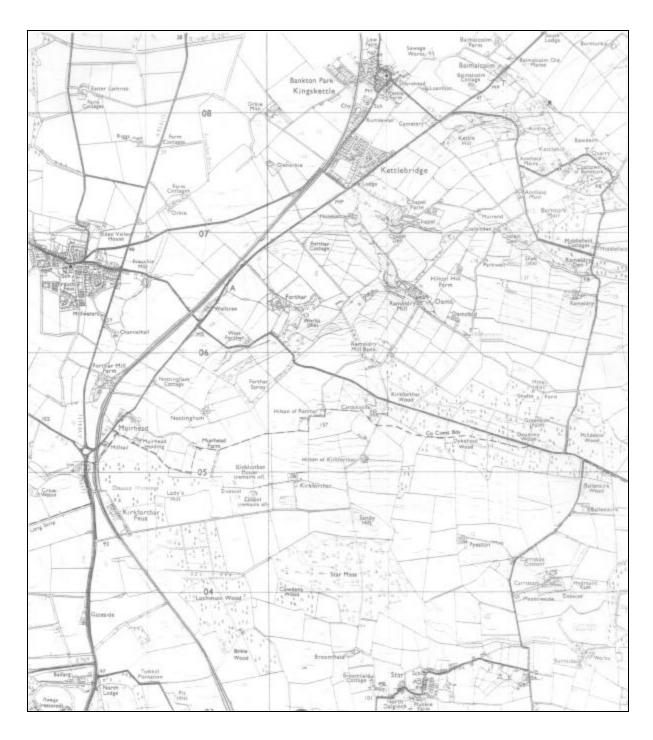
The description does however indicate that William was already the tenant of some land on the West side of the new property in Forthar. The extent of the new property would have been one and three quarters acres plus six and a quarter acres (i.e. 25 roods), a total of eight acres. The Scots acre is 5670 square yards as compared with 4840 square yards in the English acre, i.e. about one-fifth larger. Eight acres Scots therefore would be equivalent to about 9.6 acres English.

Next, in 1737, William the second son was provided with a small holding also in the Mill lands of Forthar consisting of 1, 2 or 5 acres (the accounts vary). George and Thomas then received parcels of land in Parkwell, and in 1751 Thomas made over his Holmiln of Forthar holding to his brother William. Finally, the eldest son John came into the Kettlehill property as previously described. William was evidently shrewd and far sighted, for during his lifetime he had ensured that each of his sons was provided with some land in his own right thus obviating any difficulties over inheritance later and even the necessity of making a will, because his wife Margaret held all the properties in liferent. The date of William's death is not known but must have been after 1753.

We have photocopies of the sasines themselves. They are long-winded legal documents written in a crabbed and often illegible hand. The most important, those dealing with the purchase of the Holmiln of Forthar property in 1733 and 1737, have been transcribed by an expert and cover five and a half pages of A3-size paper. They are presumably the equivalent of a modern conveyance but they nowhere contain any reference to the purchase price. One assumes that this matter would have been settled privately between the parties concerned before the deal was formally ratified by the drawing up of the sasine. This was finalised by the handing of "earth and stone" before witnesses and a bailey appointed by the solicitor or writer drawing up this sasine.

The Ancestry Of William Cree Of Kettle

William died about 1753. His youngest son George was born 1724 (last of four children). [Three more children, Robert, James and Margaret, have recently been discovered, making seven in all, with George no longer the youngest. MS] It would be a fair assumption that William was born between 1670 and 1700. The only baptism recorded during this period in Perth and Fife, according to the Morrison Microfiche of Old Parochial Registers, is that of William CRIE (this alternative spelling is often used) at Perth on 16th May 1694, his parents being James Crie and Isabel Blair. This could just conceivably be he; there is no proof.



Parish of Kettle, Fife (part of OS map 1:25 000). Reproduced from the 1990 Ordnance Survey map with the permission of the Controller of HMSO. (C) Crown Copyright.

The microfiche is not comprehensive; a number of parishes did not participate in the exercise (eg. Kettle and Aberdeen), and of course registration was not obligatory at that time. Still, this is the only clue we have at present (September 1985).

[The author's records include the following extract from the Old Parochial Register of Kettle Parish:

August 1 1694

Thomas Cray in Dames of Rameldry had a child called Thomas.

Another Thomas Cree was baptised in 1729, son of Thomas CREE and Margaret Littster in Cults, the next parish.

There are good grounds for suggesting that Cray was a mistranscription of Cree. In communities where literacy is rare, it is often left to the parish clerk or minister to transcribe what he hears as best he can. In Scotland and Northern England especially, the -ay and -ee sounds are easily confused. My own great great grandfather John Cree, of the Derbyshire Crees, was definitely recorded as Cray at his marriage in 1812.

Ramildry Dams was a hamlet in Kettle parish, not far from Forthar Mill, and very near to Parkwell where two of William Cree's sons were to receive lands. These two brothers were described as "of Cariston and Ramildry" - and one was also called Thomas.

These records imply that three generations of Thomas Crees lived at or near Kettle, the middle one being of the same generation as William and born in Kettle. Either he was William's brother, in which case William's father was Thomas Cree (alias Cray) of Dams of Ramildry, or he was a cousin. In both cases it seems likely that William was born in Kettle.

That the two families were rather more distantly related is still open, leaving as "just conceivable," as Hilary says, the idea that William's parents were James Crie and Isabel Blair of Perth. James Cree was the grandson of Henrie Cree, the younger of the two weavers of Perth mentioned in Chapter 1. The tradition that the Kettle Crees came originally from Perth is almost certainly true. Recent research shows a nucleus of six or seven Crie families living in Perth in the period 1620 to 1640, with clearly traceable links to neighbouring parishes, including Abernethy which is only ten miles or so from Kettle. MSI

MB 1.9.1991

Chart 1

3. WILLIAM CREE OF FORTHAR

William, the second son of William Cree of Kettlehill was born some time prior to 1724, the date of birth of his brother George.

In 1737, in conjunction with his parents, William acquired some of the Mill lands of Forthar, amounting to one, two or five acres (the accounts vary) from David Pitcairn the Laird. In 1751 his brother Thomas made over to him the Forthar Mill lands he had acquired with his parents in 1733. His holding in Forthar was now therefore increased by one and three quarter acres plus 25 roods, making a total of about 13 acres Scots of good farmland.

He married firstly Ann Marshall, probably the daughter of Andrew Marshall of Hiltown of Forthar. By her he had three sons and one daughter. Secondly he married Helen Marshall and had two daughters by her. No record of either marriage has yet been found and the relationship, if any, between Ann and Helen is not known. The date of his first marriage must have been about 1740 and the second 1754. Presumably he married Helen very soon after the death of Ann to provide a mother for the infant John.

William must have died before 20th March 1812 because on that date his eldest son James became inheritor of the Forthar property. James sold it soon after.

William Cree was a shoemaker like his father and elder brother John, according to one account. With his shoemaking and the very respectable little property in Forthar he must have done quite well. He raised six children. By his first wife he had the following:

- 1. James, who obtained the position of Postmaster at Aberdour, a responsible job. James married Jean Robertson and they had one son William, the progenitor of the whisky makers. James and his descendants are the subject of the next Chapter.
- 2. Jean born 1747. Nothing is known.
- 3. William born 1747. It was vaguely believed he was in the Navy but no record has so far been found.
- 4. John, born 1750, our ancestor whose story is related in Chapter 5.

By Helen he had two daughters:

- 5. Helen (1755) and
- 6. Ann (1758) but nothing more is known of either.

[The parish records of Aberdour and Dysart show three further children born to William Cree and Ann Marshall. So it seems probable that Ann and Helen Marshall were one and the same person. They were:

- 7. May, baptised in 1760 at Aberdour, who married John Younger at Kettle and at the next hamlet of Cults in 1799.
- 8. Andrew, baptised in 1762 at Dysart.
- 9. Jannet, baptised 1766 at Aberdour.-MS.]

The surname Marshall is amongst the sixty most common in Scotland. It derives from the French maréchal meaning originally farrier or shoeing smith. Some Marshalls claim

membership of the Clan Keith, the Earl of Keith having become Hereditary Earl Marischall of Scotland in the Middle Ages. The others think their name simply meant horse-attendant, ostler or groom.

The Battle of Prestonpans 1745

There is a family tradition that William Cree fought at the Battle of Prestonpans in 1745. At first sight it would seem unlikely, though not impossible - he was about the right age, in his twenties. And why should anyone wish to invent such a story? The big question is therefore - Which side was he on? The Battle of Prestonpans took place on the 21st September 1745 between a British Army brigade under General Cope, and about five thousand Jacobite rebels under the personal leadership of Prince Charles Edward, the Young Pretender.

After failing to intercept the rebels in the Highlands, Cope's force took ship from Aberdeen to Dunbar. On landing there they were reinforced by some dragoons and by Loudon's Highlanders. Their strength then totalled three thousand with six guns, when they set off towards Edinburgh along the coast road. Prince Charles had already entered Edinburgh after a triumphal march from the North-West, but the Castle continued to hold out against him.

Cope encountered the rebels near Prestonpans. He at once took up a good defensive position and awaited their attack. During the night the rebels were able to approach secretly by an unguarded track to within 200 yards of Cope's position. At first light they attacked, going first for the Dragoons on the flanks.

The Dragoons fled in panic, followed by the Artillerymen. The infantry held their ground but were unable to get off their second volley before the rebels were upon them in overwhelming strength. It was soon over. The Army lost 400 men killed and wounded and 1000 taken prisoner. Only 127 escaped. The Dragoons, though they led the flight, maintained some semblance of order and made for Edinburgh Castle, but the Governor refused to let them in. They then made the best of their way to Berwick, where they found their commander, General Cope had already reached safety.

The Dragoons put the blame for their unsoldierly conduct on their horses which were raw remounts quite uncontrollable under fire. The troops on the Government side were regular English infantry lately arrived in the country. To have taken part with them, William would have had to enlist. This would have meant abandoning his wife, family and estate for a term of years and we consider it most unlikely that he ever did so.

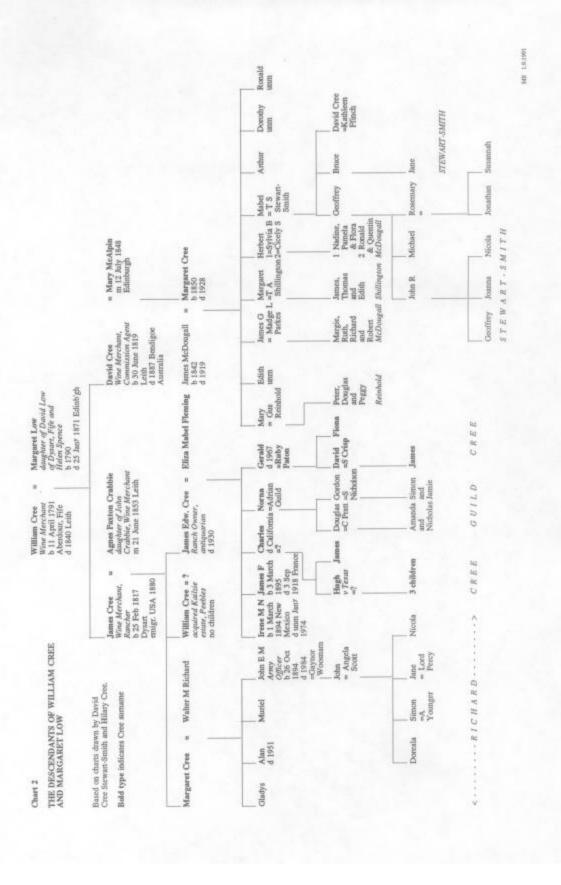
The artillerymen were merchant seamen from Dunbar. They would not have accepted William. There remains the Loudon Highlanders. This irregular corps, about 300 strong, was raised by the Earl of Loudon from his estates in the West, a long cry from Fife, and we do not believe it possible that William would have made his way over there to join them. Unfortunately no muster roll of the corps has survived so we cannot prove the point definitely one way or the other, but it remains highly unlikely that he ever served with them.

The rebel army, the Jacobites, was composed of Highland clansmen, wild men, Gaelic speaking, from the North and West who had little love for the Lowlanders and were detested and feared by them. William would not have found a place amongst them. Furthermore had he done so, after the rebellion he would have been penalised by forfeiture of his estates. But when he died his property was left intact and bequeathed to his eldest son James.

There is not much hope therefore that there was any likely place for him to have taken part in the Battle of Prestonpans. There is no direct evidence, but the circumstantial evidence is so strongly against the story that we must regard it as, at the best, highly dubious. It was probably invented by the author of the family tree and inserted to create interest



Edinburgh from Arthur's Seat, from a watercolour by E H Cree



4. JAMES CREE OF ABERDOUR AND HIS DESCENDANTS

James Cree, eldest son of William Cree and Ann Marshall, was born [probably in 1744] and died before 1820. He was Postmaster of Aberdour, Fife, and on 4th August 1812 he inherited from his father the Holmiln of Forthar property, which he sold on 29th May 1813 to Robert Thomson of Nottingham, son of Alexander Thomson of Dysart. Nottingham is the next farm to the Holmiln of Forthar lands. It seems possible that his brother John came also to live and work in Aberdour before moving south to England.

James married Jean Robertson, who died and was buried at Aberdour on the 12th March 1820 aged 71 years. They had only one child, William, born at Aberdour 11th April 1791, baptised on 17th of the same month and died at Leith in 1840.

- _ William married Margaret Low daughter of David Low of Dysart by Helen Spence his wife. Their two sons James and David were both born at Dysart, on 27th February 1817 and 30th July 1819 respectively. Soon after this William and his family moved to Leith where he was in business in Vanbrugh Place as a wine merchant and distiller. The business clearly prospered and both James and David went into it. [Their second cousin, Edward Hodges Cree of Devon, of whom more later, was on very good terms with James and David, and stayed at Vanbrugh Place on many occasions. MS] William died in 1840 but his widow lived on until she died on 25th January 1871 at 34 Royal Terrace Edinburgh.
 - a) James Cree went into the firm of John Crabbie and Son, also wine merchants in Leith, and eventually became a partner, the firm being known for a time as Crabbie and Cree. On 21st June 1853 he married Agnes Paxton Crabbie, daughter of John Crabbie of the firm. The marriage took place at the Crabbie's home, 27 Pilrig Street, Leith Walk, and was performed by the Rev. Dr Grant. In 1861 they were living at 7 Brinton Place, South Leith. They had three children: Margaret born 28th October 1855, William born 1856 and James Edward born after 1861.

Some time later a serious family quarrel took place as a result of which James left the firm and took his wife and youngest child James to America, leaving his other two children, Margaret and William in the care of their uncle, George Crabbie. He set up a ranch in New Mexico and did well, though by all accounts he was a difficult man. The story goes on that when he died he was so much disliked that nobody would bury him. Finally Agnes had to do so herself. Margaret and William contested his will because he had disowned them. Agnes went home, defended the action in the courts and won. The family breach was thus still further widened and was never really healed.

- (1) Margaret Cree married Walter Miller Richard of Edinburgh and had four children:
 - 1. Gladys Richard.
 - 2. Alan Richard. Died 1951.
 - 3. Muriel Richard.
 - 4. John Ernest Miller Richard was born on 26th October 1894. He was commissioned in the Black Watch on 18th August 1914 and retired as a Major in 1935. He became a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Territorial Army and was Honorary Colonel of a Territorial Army battalion of the Royal Scots. He was awarded the OBE and died in 1984.

John inherited the estate of Kailzie, Peebleshire, from his uncle, William Cree. He married Gaynor Woosnam. Their son John married Angela Scott and had four children, Doreala, Simon, who married A Younger, Jane who married (we think) Lord Percy, and Nicola.

- (2) William Cree married but had no children. He acquired the estate of Kailzie near Peebles which he left to his nephew John Richard.
- (3) James Cree the younger took over the ranch and in 1893 returned to Scotland and married Mabel Fleming, reputed to be of the same family as Mary Fleming one of Mary Queen of Scots' Four Maids. He took her back to New Mexico and in 1902 returned to Scotland and built himself the fairly large house called Tusculum at North Berwick. He retained the ranch and periodically revisited it. He was an antiquarian of some note and was responsible for discovering the Traprain Hoard. He died in 1930. He had the following five children.
 - 1. Irene Mabel Napier Cree was born on the 1st March 1894 in New Mexico. The names Mabel and Napier were from her mother. The origin of Napier is not known. The eldest daughter, she never married. She was educated at Queen Ethelburga's at Harrogate and lived all her life at Tusculum. After her mother's death she became responsible for looking after her father, brothers and sisters. During the 1939-45 War she ran the Officers' Club in Edinburgh and was awarded the MBE for her services. It was she who supplied all the information about her side of the family when Henrietta and I stayed with her in July 1969.

She converted Tusculum into flats, continuing to live alone in one of them for the rest of her life. She was found dead on 19th January 1974 just short of her eightieth birthday. Her death was reported by her rephew Gordon Guild from Bowdon, Cheshire, and the certifying Medical Practitioner was a David Cree.

- 2. James Fleming Cree was born on the 3rd March 1895 and went to school at Haileybury. In World War I he joined the Lothians and Border Horse and was commissioned in the Northumberland Fusiliers. He was killed in action in France soon after his arrival there on 3rd September 1918.
- 3. Charles Cree entered the Royal Navy and served throughout World War I. After studying agriculture at Cambridge he went to the USA to look after the family ranch in New Mexico. He later sold the ranch (in the depth of the Depression) but remained in the USA and married an American. By her he had two children, Hugh and James.
 - a) *Hugh Cree*, when last heard of, was living at Houston, Texas, married with three children.
 - b) *Charles Cree* served with the Royal Canadian Navy in World War II. He died at Long Beach, California, date unknown.
- 4. Norna Cree married Adrian Guild (of the Royal Scots Fusiliers) by whom she had two sons, Douglas and Gordon.
 - a) *Douglas Guild* married Coline Pratt and has two children, Amanda and Nicola. In 1974 he was living at Winkfield, Berkshire.

- b) Gordon Guild married Susan Nicholson and has two children Simon and Jamie. In 1974 he was living at Bowdon, Cheshire. After the death of Norna, Adrian Guild remarried, and his widow married Joe Weatherill who also lives at Winkfield.
- 5. Gerald Cree married Ruby Paton and had two children, David and Fiona.
 - a) David Cree married Sheila Crisp and had two children, James and another. In 1974 David was living at Grimsby.
 - b) Fiona Cree was living with her mother at Kirknewton, Mid-Calder in 1974.

Gerald died in 1967.

- b) David, the second son of William Cree and Margaret Low, went into the wine trade like his brother James, but in 1851 he is shown as a Commission Agent in the provision trade. On 12th July 1848 he married Mary McAlpin at Baccleuch Place, Edinburgh. They lived at 77 Constitution Street, Leith, and their daughter Margaret was born in 1850. Some time after this David went to Australia unaccompanied and presumably died there. [He died at Bendigoe in 1887. MS]
 - _ Margaret, their daughter, married James McDougall and was grandmother of Canon David Cree Stewart-Smith, presently of Lindfield, Sussex. He it was who recently gave me a damask tablecloth embroidered "David and Mary Cree" with the supposed Cree crest. His grandmother Margaret McDougall (née Cree) was very friendly with her first cousin, also Margaret Cree, the daughter of her uncle James.

5. JOHN CREE AND CECILIA HODGES

John, the third son and fourth child of William and Ann, was born at Kettle and baptised on 25th March 1753. It seems that he went to Aberdour with his elder brother James [and his parents] because, according to a letter from his son Robert to Anne Percy, he visited there about 1825 and still had friends there, in particular a Mr Coventry.

John was the last full-blooded Scot of our line. We know extremely little about him and less about his wife Cecilia Hodges. Their eldest son Robert was born in 1784 in England, exact locality unknown. Presumably they were married in about 1783, in England, since Hodges is a very English name. He must have left Scotland around 1780, when he would have been about 27.

John and Cecilia's next two children, Ann and Elizabeth were baptised at Upton St Leonards, Gloucestershire, on 6th August 1786 and 6th March 1788 respectively, but there are no other Cree entries in that period in the Upton St Leonards parish register. Probably therefore John and Cecilia were married, and Robert was born, before they went there. We have yet to discern where these events did happen.

[The professional genealogist who carried out this search for the author was not very thorough. John Cree and Celia Hoges (sic) were married at Upton St Leonards, Gloucestershire on 20th November 1783 - MS.]

The next child was Harriet but we do not have her birth details. The last child, John, was born and baptised on 23rd July 1792 at [Princes Street Independent Chapel,] Devonport, so his parents must have moved there soon after the birth of Elizabeth.

[Don Steel, in his book Discovering your Family History (BBC Books, London, 1986) points out that, "there was no parish of Devonport. The town which grew up around the dockyard was called Plymouth Dock until 1824 and was in the once rural parish of Stoke Damerel." MS]

It seems likely that John's occupation was concerned with the silk and linen business, since several of his children came to be involved in it.

- 1. Robert Cree, his first child, married Charlotte Street at Stoke Damerel parish church on 30th November 1805 and their family are described in the next Chapter.
- 2. Ann Cree, his eldest daughter married William Hancock, a mercer (see Chapter 7).
- 3. Elizabeth Cree, his second daughter married Stephen Giles, Lieutenent Royal Marines on 20th March 1810 at Stoke Damerel. He served first aboard HMS L'Impetieux, cutting out enemy vessels on the French coast, then on HMS Narcissus in Greenland waters and off the North coast of Spain, where he served ashore with Spanish troops under General Porlia. On board HMS Pactolus on the North America Station, he was present at the bombardment of Stonington in 1812. He served on HMS Glasgow, Genoa and Spartiate at Lisbon, and as Adjutant to Royal Marines detachments occupying Fort St Julian in the Tagus. He was made a Knight of the Tower and Sword, a Portuguese order.

He continued on HMS Dublin, Brazil and South Seas, as a Brevet Major. He was promoted Lt. Col. in 1847 and Colonel, 2nd Commandant, Plymouth HQ from 1851 to 1854. He retired on full pay on 14th May 1854 but died on 28th May 1854 at Newton Abbot.

Stephen and Elizabeth Giles had three children:

a) Henry Giles, born 1811, entered the Royal Navy on 2nd April 1824 as a Volunteer 1st Class. He was promoted Midshipman in 1826 and was Signal Midshipman on HMS Genoa at the Battle of Navarino in 1827. He became Mate in 1831 and served in HMS Dublin on the Pacific Station with his father. He served on HMS Caledonia, Flagship at Plymouth in 1838 and was promoted Lieutenant in 1842 and reappointed to the Caledonia. Owing to ill health he was not employed after 1844. He was promoted Commander and retired in 1851.

On 14th March 1844 he married Mary Webb, daughter of Mr T Webb of Darley, Liskeard.

- b) John Giles, born 1825, became a 2nd Lieutenant in the Royal Marines on 16th December 1845, entering through a direct commission. He was promoted 1st Lieutenent in 1848 and served on HMS Thetis and Caledonia in the Mediterranean. He died at Haslar Hospital, Portsmouth on 12th March 1852.
- c) Cecilia Giles, of whom nothing is known, execpt that she was a witness to the marriage of Edward H Cree and Eliza Hancock in 1852.
- 4. Harriet Cree married Joseph Best Mattock also at Stoke Damerel on 27th October 1818 and we hear of her no more.
- 5. John Cree, born 23rd July 1792 at Devonport, was a draper in partnership with a Mr Truscott at 24 Catherine Street, Devonport, in 1830. In 1844 he was a linen draper at 10 Cumberland Street, Devonport, and some time after that moved to London. Edward H Cree stayed with him at Kingsland, North London in 1850, after which there is no trace of him. He married Elizabeth Cardew Truscott on 18th July 1825 at Stoke Damerel. They had six children:
 - a) Cecilia died 22nd May 1829 aged nine months.
 - b) John died 26th January 1831 also aged nine months.
 - c) *George* was living in 1850 when Edward H Cree visited his Uncle John in Kingsland, North London.
 - d) Elizabeth married a Mr Roe.
 - e) Edward and
 - f) Mary both went to Australia.

Nothing more is known of any of them.

6. William Ware Cree, the last child of John and Cecilia, died young.

John Cree Senior died on 27th April 1826 while residing in Mount Street, Devonport. Cecilia was born in 1756 and died on 5th December 1833 while residing at Durnfield Street, East Stonehouse. Both John and Cecilia were buried at Stoke Damerel.

Cecilia Hodges

Born 1756 or 57. Died Devonport 5th December 1833[?]. Buried Stoke Damerel 10th December 1834[?], aged 77.

[In the three entries in the Upton St Leonards parish register, Cecilia's marriage and the baptisms of Ann and Elizabeth, her name is given as Celia, whereas in later records it is Cecilia, which then became a traditional name in the family. MS]

No research on the Hodges family has yet been undertaken. It seems fairly certain that there was a connection with Bristol. There was an Edward Hodges, born 20th July 1796 at Bristol. He was at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge and became Mus Doc in 1825. Later he became organist at Clifton Church. He died in Bristol in 1867, leaving two children in the USA. This Dr Hodges was certainly known to Robert who mentions him in a letter to Percy in 1832, after the Bristol Riots. He was too young to have been Cecilia's brother but could have been her nephew. Similarly he was too young at 20 to have been godfather to Edward Hodges Cree, who may therefore have been named after Cecilia's father or brother. There is scope for research in Bristol.

There were other cousins in Bristol mentioned by Edward Cree in his Journals. The principal one was W Bailey of Montague House, Kingsland, Bristol, and an Edward Hodges Bailey was a sculptor who died in 1867. Others mentioned were named Morgan and Collins, and a reference to Bedminster Lodge occurs. Edward also refers to Long Ashton as a scene of his boyhood, presumably when staying with Hodges relatives. Percy Cree was married at Bedminster but no details are available.

6. ROBERT CREE AND CHARLOTTE STREET

Robert, eldest son of John Cree and Cecilia Hodges, was born on 10th December 1784 in England. The precise place is not yet known, *[but was probably Upton St Leonards, just outside Gloucester.]* He died on 20th December 1851 at 17 George Street, Edinburgh, and was buried on the 26th. He married Charlotte Street at Stoke Damerel Parish Church on 30th November 1805, the witnesses being his father and brother-in-law, William Hancock. By her he had the following issue:

- 1. Cecilia Cree, baptised 27th October 1806 at [Princes Street Independent Chapel,] Devonport, died 25th February 1830 at Bridport.
- 2. Robert Weare Cree, born 1809, died 10 April 1829 at Bridport.
- 3. Edward Hodges Cree, born at Devonport on 14th January 1814, died Holloway, London, on 15th January 1901, of whom more later.
- 4. Ann Percy Cree, born 1818 at Preston, Lancashire, died October 1852 at Honiton, of whom more later.
- 5. John [Percy] Cree, baptised 4th September 1816 at Plymouth. He did not long survive.

Not much is known of Charlotte Street. She was born in 1785 and died at Bridport on 4th March 1833, aged 48. She had been ill for some years with epilepsy. Her mother lived in Devonport and was called Percy Bath. Presumably she had been widowed and remarried after her daughter's birth. Some letters from Charlotte to Edward survive but are barely legible, undated, and contain little of note. There is a memorial to Charlotte, Cecilia and Robert at the Unitarian Chapel at Bridport.

Robert Cree went into the linen and silk business and had, in 1812, premises in Fore Street, Devonport.

In about 1820 he became a Unitarian Minister in Preston, Lancashire, where he remained until 1828. In fact he took leave of his congregation there on 18th November 1827. He then moved to Bridport, Dorset, and served there in the same capacity until 1834, when he

left the Ministry and returned to commerce. His time in Bridport cannot have been a very happy one since he lost his two eldest children, Cecilia and Robert, and his wife Charlotte, within a few years of each other, having previously lost another child, John, in infancy.

The Unitarian movement was strong in Bridport, many of the leading families being members. He appears to have been on good terms with them and to have been conscientious in the performance of his office. He was interested in the education of the working class and instituted evening lectures and Sunday evening worship. He



Fore Street, Devonport, from a watercolour by Edward H Cree

also tutored three boys, Benjamin Gundry and two Colfoxes, at his house for a time, when there was a cholera outbreak in Bridport in 1832.

A series of twenty-six letters, which Robert wrote to his daughter Percy at boarding school at Tiverton, and later Ilminster, has survived and thrown much light on the Bridport period. The letters are well written, mostly still legible and a little stilted in the fashion of the times. They contain news of her friends at home and of the dog and cat, one or two homilies and reports on her mother's slowly worsening health and eventual death in 1833. The address of their home in Bridport is never given.

There are frequent references to journeys he has undertaken, the first being to Dorchester in 1831 to assist, in some way not described, in the Poll for the General Election. Sometimes he went to a neighbouring town such as Honiton to "supply the pulpit" but there are often journeys further afield whose purpose is not explained. He was, in fact, in Devonport only a few days before his wife's death. Is it possible he retained some of his business connections, perhaps to eke out his stipend?

His reasons for giving up the Ministry and leaving Bridport are not clear and there is no record of it in the archives of the Church, which have been examined by the Reverend Short, the late incumbent and church historian. But somewhat strangely, no minutes of vestry meetings during the whole of Robert's ministry have survived. The Reverend Short considers that there may have been some opposition to his original appointment by some of the congregation, who had not been consulted in the usual way. It is most unlikely that there were any moral grounds for his departure, because Edward and Percy continued to visit their friends in Bridport for many years afterwards.

On leaving Bridport, Robert went back to Devonport and stayed either with his brother or with one of his sisters. His last two letters to Percy in the series were written from there but only the final (October) one contains any reference to his own situation. He said he had just been "into Cornwall" and at Penzance had watched the Dublin packet steaming past, quite unaware that his son Edward was on board, en route to Trinity College, Dublin. He concludes by saying that his own future is uncertain.

He never seemed to have a settled home after this but to be constantly on the move. He was in Devonport in 1837 to see Edward launched on his career in the Royal Navy. In 1842 he was living in Redditch, Worcestershire, long the centre of the needle-making industry, from where he did an extensive business trip to Scotland, described in two surviving letters to Percy. In 1846 he arranged Percy's marriage and was at Woolwich to meet Edward on his return from China.

In 1850 he was staying with Percy at Honiton, in company with two young female relatives, Lizzie Cree, his brother John's daughter, and Harriet Morgan, relationship unknown but one of the Bristol family.

In March 1851 he was lodging at 17 George Street, Edinburgh, where the Census return described him as a widower aged 66, commercial traveller in needles, born in England. In December of that year he wrote from Dumfries to Edward in Edinburgh that he was ill and returning at once to Edinburgh. Edward met him at the station and took him back to 17 George Street. He moved in there himself and looked after his father until he died on 20th December 1851. It seems he was suffering from bronchial trouble. The funeral on the 26th December was attended by James and David Cree, Mr Crabbie and his clergyman. It took place at Warriston Cemetery; the grave a plain obelisk (number N 81) is simply inscribed Robert Cree. Born 1784 Dec 10. Died 1851 Dec 20.

We do not know when or how his Unitarianism began and there is no record of his ordination as a Minister. Certainly he was married, and his children baptised, in the Church of England, and he was buried by a Church of Scotland Minister. Percy continued a Unitarian until her death but Edward does not seem to have followed it. Probably it was difficult to keep it up in the Royal Navy. His children were brought up in the Church of England with no non-conformist leanings at all.

[The evidence points to Robert having been brought up a Presbyterian by his (Scots) father. His two brothers were baptised at Princes Street Independent Church, Devonport, and he baptised his youngest child at Norley Street Presbyterian Church, Plymouth in 1816. Following the repeal of laws against denial of the Trinity in 1813, when Robert was 19, many Presbyterian congregations became Unitarian, and it was in 1820 that we first hear of Robert as a Unitarian Minister. MSI

We have three pictures of Robert. The first, a miniature, shows a good-looking young man with brown curly hair and brown eyes. He is fashionably dressed in a blue coat with brass buttons, a frilled white shirt and an elaborate white stock. The second is a small pencil drawing, much faded, done in 1807 by an unknown artist. The face in profile is distinctly hansome with regular features. The same abundant locks are evident and in fact he looks quite dashing. The third is a coloured print from a daguerrotype done in Devonport in 1850, the year before his death. Here stoutness is beginning to show. He is clean-shaven but for a "Newgate Fringe", the brown curls are still clearly visible and he looks cheerful and benign. He is quietly dressed in a dark coat and waistcoat and dark neck-cloth.

Although he does not seem to have made a great success of his life, he did at least manage to put Edward through University, after five years medical apprenticeship, a process which cost money, as well as to send Percy to boarding school for some years. Restless by nature, the life of a traveller which he took up after leaving Bridport no doubt suited him well enough in the circumstances. Whatever his faults, his family stood by him and Edward and Percy in particular were much attached to him.

7. WILLIAM HANCOCK

Born 23rd February 1784 (or 82) Died 5th November 1859 at Penlee Cottage, Stoke.



Somerset Cottage, Stoke, from a watercolour by Edward H Cree

A mercer by occupation, William Hancock had business premises at 20 Catherine Street, Dock (as Devonport was then called). He was a Town Councillor, Mayor of Devonport in 1839-40, and a Justice of the Peace. He lived at Somerset Cottage, Somerset Place, Stoke Damerel, moving in 1858 a short distance to Penlee Cottage, Molesworth Road, Stoke.

One cannot escape the conviction that he was a sheet-anchor and benefactor to his extended family, not least to Robert Cree his brother-in-law, and to Edward, his nephew and later son-in-law. The portraits of himself and his wife which used to hang in the dining room at

Penryn, Tavistock, have long since disappeared but our grandfather clock is almost certainly his. He is buried in Stoke Damerel churchyard.

He married firstly *Ann Cree*, daughter of John and Cecilia and had the following eight issue:

- 1. William Hancock, died about 1825
- 2. George Hancock nothing known.
- 3. Ann Hancock, born 1810, died 1830
- 4. Cecilia Cree Hancock, who died at Belmont Villa in the 1860s. She married George Gilbard in Stoke. We do not know who he was but there were several Gilbards in Stoke at that period, a wine merchant, a solicitor, a mercer. Cecilia was Aunt Nettie's godmother, [Aunt Nettie being Annette, Edward Cree's daughter.] George and Cecilia had two daughters, who were apparently living at Teignmouth at the time of John Hancock's funeral, and a son George James Gilbard, born on 23rd September 1834. He was gazetted a Cornet in the 13th Light Dragoons in January 1859 and finished as a Major (Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel) in June 1883 in the 18th Hussars. He seems to have spent much of his service in the Mediterranean and was ADC to the Governor of Gibraltar in 1869-70, Brigade Major Gibraltar 1872-77 and DAAG Malta for a short time. He was killed in 1887 in a hunting accident. He was, unusually for a cavalry officer of those days, a graduate of the Staff College and must have been one of the earliest. There is a photograph of him in uniform and mounted, as a Captain in the 13th Light Dragoons.
- 5. Harriet Hancock married Henry Aldham. She died in 1908, as a letter to Aunt Nettie signed W H Aldham, Lowestoft, apparently her son, indicates. There appears to have been another son, Harcourt, but nothing further is known.
- 6. John Hancock married we know not whom and had at least two sons, one called Teddy. He owned the Hay estate, the whereabouts of which have not yet been established. On

his death in about 1866, he left directions that Hay Hall was to be sold and the remainder of the estate divided amongst the boys. He was buried in the unconsecrated part of the cemetery (presumably Stoke Damerel) where his wife had preceded him. (This information comes from a letter from Edward to his wife, not fully dated.)

- 7. Edward Hancock married Jessie, sister of Captain W C Aldham RN of HMS Valorous. The relationship to Henry Aldham, who married Harriet Hancock, is not known.
- 8. Charlotte Hancock married William Square, a surgeon, of 22 Portland Square, Plymouth. They had a numerous family, viz.
 - a) William Square married a Miss Miller
 - b) Ellen Square married a Mr [Charles Edward] Tanner and had children Ethel, Charles, Florence [and Frederick Courtney Tanner, the grandfather of Julian Higman who has contributed much to Cree family history research. MS]
 - c) Alfred Square married Miss Pollard
 - d) Eliza Square
 - e) Ernest Square
 - f) Alice Square
 - g) Bertha Square
 - h) Agnes Square
 - i) Kate Square
 - j) Eliot Square, an attorney. In 1844 he was living at 11 Mount Pleasant Terrace and was a witness at Edward Cree's wedding. There was still an Eliot Square in the 1973 Telephone Directory at 4 Queen's Gate, Lipsom, and a firm of solicitors, Square, Geake and Windeat at 7, The Crescent. Aunt Nettie and Uncle Will kept in touch with the Squares until they died, since when contact has been lost.

William Hancock married, secondly, *Eliza Teage*, on 24th May 1825 at the parish church, Stoke Damerel. Eliza was born in 1798, the daughter of Mr Teage and Eliza Tanner. Eliza Tanner was the daughter of the Reverend Henry Tanner, supposed to have been a colleague and supporter of the Reverend John Wesley. Eliza Teage had a brother who lived at Kenton near Exeter, with whom she was staying when she was thrown from a wagonette and killed in 1865.

William and Eliza Hancock had one child, a daughter:

_ *Eliza Tanner Hancock*, more usually called Lizzie. Born 12th July 1826, she married in 1854 Edward Hodges Cree, her cousin by marriage but no blood relation.

8. ANN PERCY CREE

The youngest surviving child of Robert and Charlotte Cree, Ann Percy was born in Preston, Lancashire, on 17 July 1818, and died at Honiton on 14th October 1852.

Ann was a common family name but Percy must have been from her maternal grandmother Percy Bath. Percy Bath's surname must at one time have been Street, since she was the mother of Charlotte Street. We assume she was widowed and remarried after Charlotte's birth.

In September 1828 Percy wrote from Bridport to Edward who was staying in Devonport. The letter is remarkably well written and composed for a child of ten, and shows the warm affection she had for her brother, four years her senior.

In 1831 she went to a boarding school for young ladies at Tiverton kept by a Miss Boyce. In 1833 she changed to another school at Ilminster kept by a Miss Baker. Why she should have gone to a boarding school is not clear but possibly it was because of her mother's increasing ill health.

She was clearly happy in Bridport and had many friends there. She used also to go to Devonport frequently, where there was by now a large family circle consisting of the Cree grandparents (John died in 1826 and Cecilia in 1834), Grandmother Street, alias Bath (who died in 1833), Uncle and Aunt Hancock and their numerous family including the Squares, Gilbards and Aldhams, and Mr Hancock's second wife Eliza Teage and her daughter Eliza, one day to become Edward Cree's wife. There were also Uncle and Aunt Giles with three offspring and Uncle and Aunt Cree with at least one son and a daughter, and perhaps Uncle and Aunt Mattock.

It is also clear that both Percy and Edward took every opportunity to revisit Bridport after they left. They stayed with friends and attended social functions which they would hardly have done if there was any disgrace attached to their father's departure from there.

In 1834 Percy's father left Bridport permanently and wrote to her from Devonport instructing her to go there for the Summer holidays. Whether she returned to Miss Baker's at Ilminster or continued her schooling elsewhere we do not know, nor exactly where she lived. Her father refers to "your Aunt" or "your Uncle" without ever specifying which particular one he means. Certainly she had plenty of relations she could go to, but in 1839 she appears to have gone to live in the household of a Mr March at the Iron Foundry in Bridgewater, Somerset. She stayed there until at least 1842.

In 1846 she was 28 and her father thought it time she was married. He had found what he considered a suitable husband in the person of John Melhuish, an attorney of Honiton, twenty-nine years Percy's senior, a childless widower in comfortable circumstances. Percy was not consulted in the matter but dutifully agreed. They were married at Bedminster on 12th February 1846, presumably from the house of the Baileys or other Hodges connections. No record in any of the parish registers can be found but an announcement in the Exeter Flying Post was discovered, giving only the bare facts. Percy then went to live in the Melhuish house at Honiton.

This has been identified as 41 High Street, from the sketch Edward made (*The Cree Journals* page 182), the conformation of the chimneys being unmistakable. Edward visited her there soon after her marriage and found her well but not greatly enamoured of her elderly spouse.

Two years later, on 11th May 1848, Melhuish died suddenly, intestate. According to Edward he had made a will leaving everything to Percy, but although a lawyer himself, had omitted to sign it. But in his marriage settlement, which was valid, he had settled his real estate on Percy for her lifetime. The personal estate was therefore divided up between Melhuish's brother and sister (whom he had not spoken to for years) and Percy, the brother getting the freehold as heir-at-law. In the end Percy was left comfortably provided for. Incidentally, the name of J March appears in connection with a mortgage of #600 in the statement of Melhuish's estate; perhaps he was the iron founder of Bridgewater.

When the house at 41 High Street was advertised for sale at #55,000 in 1982, we were allowed to look over it. It must have been a pleasant town residence with a large garden at the back, but had been somewhat neglected over the years.

In 1851 Percy married Isaac John Cox, an attorney and Town Clerk of Honiton. He was also agent to the MP for Honiton, Mr Locke. According to Edward, he was a clever and amusing fellow but a "desperate radical". He was Melhuish's solicitor and aged thirty-five.

For some reason, in the 1851 Census they were shown as living in the Red Cow, a coaching inn next door to 41 High Street. This might have been an enumerator's error.

They had a son, also Isaac John, who lived but a few months and died in March 1852. He was followed a month later by his father. There had been a contested election and Cox had thrown himself with such vigour into the campaign that, after its successful conclusion for his candidate the Liberal Mr Locke, Lord of the Manor, Cox was exhausted. Cox, Percy and Edward therefore went to Sidmouth for the weekend to recuperate. While there, Cox was taken extremely ill and died.

Percy never recovered from these sudden blows to her new-found happiness. Later in the year, she was about to move to Plymouth to make her home with Edward and Lizzie in their new house in Albert Street by the Hoe, when she was taken suddenly ill and died on 14th October 1852. Apparently she suffered from a heart condition. She, together with her husband and child, are buried in the Cox family vault in what was the Congregational churchyard, almost opposite to where they lived in Honiton. The stone was removed some time ago in a tidying up operation but the site is easily identifiable, being seven to eight feet North of the Aberdeen grave (which is still there) close to the West wall and yew tree.

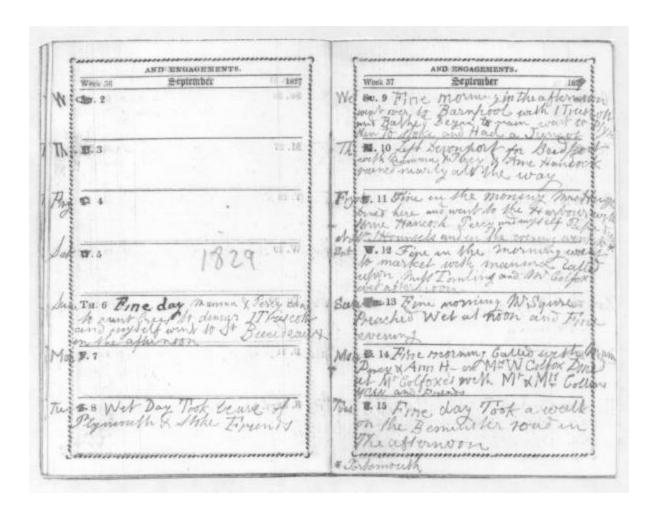
There is a picture of Percy in the family album taken after her marriage to John Cox in 1851. She has blue eyes and dark, rather straight hair parted in the centre. There is also one of John Cox. He looks fair, balding slightly, clean-shaven and on the plump side.

With the death of Percy, Robert's family was reduced to one, Edward. Four out of five children had died before reaching the age of thirty-five. Their mother was only forty-eight at her death. Perhaps there was a strain of ill health passed on by her which missed out Edward, thus enabling him to withstand a rigorous life and last almost half a century longer.

How Percy occupied her time during those twelve years between 1834 and 1846, with her father always on his travels and Edward away at sea, is hard to imagine. What was she doing all that time at the Iron Foundry in Bridgewater? Did she perhaps have some kind of a job, as a governess for instance? There is no mention of it in Edward's journals.

On reaching home after his first voyage Edward went straight to Bridgewater to see her and took her on a round of visits to Ilminster and Bridport. He then had to return to his ship and she returned to Bridgewater. That was in June 1839 and they were not to meet again for seven years, by when she had married Mr Melhuish a few months earlier.

Edward does not mention his father at all in the 1839 volume of his journals so he must have been otherwise engaged. It must have been a dull existence for Percy for all those years.



9. EDWARD HODGES CREE

Born Devonport 14th January 1814 Died Holloway 15th January 1901

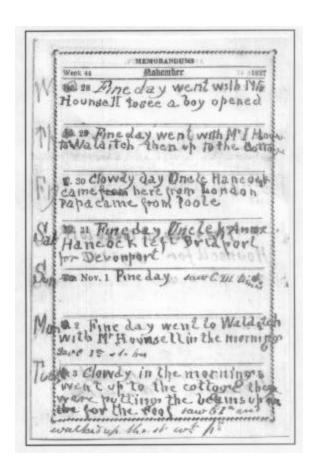
Edward was the third child of Robert and Charlotte Cree. This is the first time that the name Edward appears in the family. Probably he was called after a godfather Edward Hodges, a connection of his grandmother. It could hardly have been Dr Edward Hodges the organist, who would have been only eighteen at the time of Edward's baptism. Probably there was another Edward Hodges whom we have not yet traced. It is also the first time that a second baptismal name makes its appearance (except for the case of Edward's elder brother Robert Weare Cree who died early). He was baptised at Stoke Damerel Parish Church, Devonport in January 1814.

The family moved to Preston, Lancashire, in 1818 and stayed there for the next nine years. Edward went to to school in Preston, though which school we do not know. The present

Grammar School, although in existence at the time, has no records of the period. His father too had some hand in his education. According to a Certificate signed by him in 1837 at Devonport (as "late Dissenting Minister of Bridport"), Edward had received a classical education under his superintendence.

Whether he continued his schooling at Bridport we do not know. We have a small pocket diary which had evidently been passed on to Edward by his eldest sister Cecilia covering most of 1829. It does not mention any school but records that in October he was bound apprentice to Mr John Hounsell the doctor, for five years. Later he records that he had drawn his first tooth and was awarded the shilling fee by the doctor. Otherwise the diary does not say much about his work or situation. During the cholera outbreak of 1832 he went to live altogether at the Doctor's house to be on hand at all The Hounsells. Unitarians too. times. became his lifelong friends.

Other friends in Bridport included Ben Gundry, Tom Strangways and the two Colefox boys. Mr Thomas Colefox, a wealthy radical, was Chairman of the Unitarian Society of Bridport and had been responsible for appointing Edward's father to the Ministry.



Extract from the 1829 diary of fifteen year old Edward H Cree

In October 1834 Edward went to Trinity College, Dublin to study medicine. He was there for eighteen months and then moved on to Edinburgh for a similar period. At the end of it he graduated as a Licentiate of the Society of Apothecaries, the minimum qualification required to practise medicine in those days. We have no record at all of those years and do not know where or how he spent his vacations. In Edinburgh he certainly got to know his

[father's] cousins in Leith, William and Margaret Cree and their sons James and David. He may have done a trip to the Highlands during this period. A sketch book, which has now disappeared, indicated this.



The Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh from a painting by Edward H Cree

Edward returned to Edinburgh University in 1846-47 for a further course of study and obtained the degree of MD without which further promotion in the Naval Medical Service would have been denied him.

His first appointment to the Royal Navy was dated 8th June 1837. From this point, his life for the next twenty-five years is fully chronicled in his own truly remarkable journals. His life story is further amplified by Michael Levien in his excellent introduction published volume The Cree Journals (published by Webb and Bower, 1981). Exeter, These notes therefore only fill in the few gaps in these accounts. [See also Appendix

Besides his pictures for the *Illustrated London News*, three of his watercolours were reproduced in *Lines from my Logbook* by Sir John Dalrymple Hay (published 1898). The pictures are all of anti-piracy operations in the South China Sea.

On leaving HMS Orion, his last sea-going appointment, in November 1861, he was posted to HMS Saturn for duty in Pembroke Dock, from May 1862 until March 1863. He was promoted Staff Surgeon on 10th December 1862, and on 5th September 1864 was appointed Staff Surgeon, Portsmouth Dockyard. The appointment was for five years, during which time he occupied the very pleasant Georgian house in the Dockyard allocated to the Surgeon.

In 1869 he retired from the Navy with the Honorary rank of Deputy Inspector General of Hospitals and Fleets and began a new career as a General Practitioner in Holloway at the age of fifty-five.

Although the prison had been built some years previously, in 1850, Holloway was still a pleasant suburb. It must have produced a fairly remunerative practice, for Edward educated his seven sons and sent them all to Middlesex Hospital Medical School during this period.

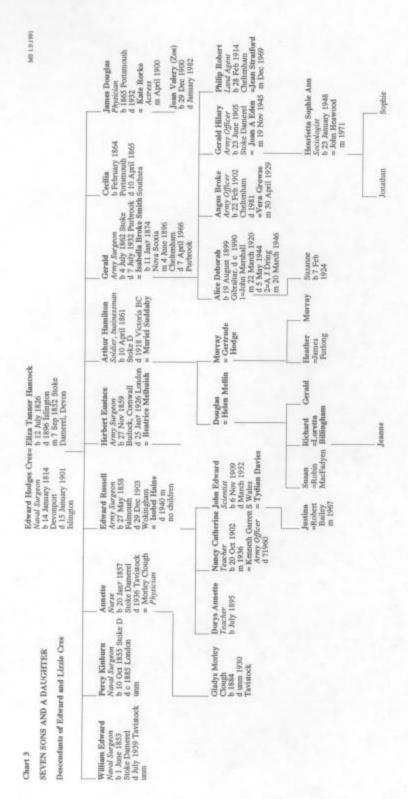
The three eldest, William, Percy and Russell were sent to Epsom College, a newly founded public school with a strong medical connection. He did not send the remaining boys there because Percy had suffered two attacks of rheumatic fever and he was not satisfied with the school's health care. We do not know where Herbert and Arthur went. Gerald and Douglas went to Highgate School by the day. All lived at home during their medical training and travelled by horse-omnibus to Middlesex Hospital in Berners Street.

In 1865 Edward's mother-in-law Mrs Hancock was killed by being thrown from a wagonette driven by her brother John Teage of Kenton near Exeter. Edward went down to Kenton at once to arrange matters with the Teages. It could be that Mr Teage was the parson there, according to a letter from Edward to his wife.

Some time in 1866 or later he went to Plymouth to attend the funeral of John Hancock, his brother-in-law. He went by sea from Portsmouth and had a fairly rough passage. He stayed with William Square at 22 Portland Square and said he would be leaving there shortly with William for Scotland, via Preston. William was going deer-stalking in the Highlands and Edward was going for a stay with James Cree in Edinburgh. No sketches from that visit have survived. (Source: two undated letters to his wife. He expresses the hope that the boys had got back to Epsom safely. They did not go there until 1866.)

Whilst still at Portsmouth Edward took the house at Potwell (near Purbrook) for a Summer holiday and another year he took the family to Newbury. Pictures of both these places survive. Two letters he wrote to Gerald in 1886 and 1887 survive. In them he indicates he is taking life more easily now that Will was doing most of the practice. He had begun work on his journals and had also been sketching in Sherwood Forest with Nettie. Nettie would then have still been living at Worksop with the Cloughs. [Nettie was his daughter Annette, widow of Dr Morley Clough.] It must have been soon after this that she came to live with Edward and Lizzie at Holloway, bringing the child Gladys.

Edward's wife Eliza died on 31st December 1895. After that Nettie kept house for her father and brother and continued to do so for the rest of her life. Edward himself died on 15th January 1901. He, his wife and others are buried, or commemorated in Highgate Cemetery, London. (See Appendix 2.)



10. SEVEN SONS AND A DAUGHTER

Edward Hodges Cree married Eliza Tanner Hancock, daughter of William Hancock and his second wife, Eliza Teage, on 7th September 1852 at the Parish Church, Stoke Damerel. The officiating minister was the Reverend F L Bazeley of Saint Dominick, Cornwall. The witnesses were William Hancock, Cecilia Giles and J Eliot Square.

They had the following children:

1. William Edward Cree was born at Somerset Cottage, Stoke on 1st June 1853. He died at Tavistock in July 1939 and is buried in Tavistock Cemetery. He was educated at Epsom College, Surrey (1866-1870) and at the Middlesex Hospital (MRCS, LSA) where he was a House Surgeon. He later qaulified as MD (Dunelm).

He became an Assistant Surgeon RN on 31st March 1876 serving on HMS Bellerophon, Flagship, in N America and the W Indies. He left the Navy after 3 years to join his father's practice in Holloway, which he eventually took over. In about 1910 he moved to Tavistock, Devon, where he continued to practise for many more years.

He was musical and played the 'cello, sometimes with the Plymouth Orchestra. He was unmarried and his sister Nettie kept house for him. When she died in 1936, William took on a housekeeper, Gertrude Davis. His house was Penryn, Watts Road, but he did not own it. In his will he left to Dorys, [his brother Herbert's daughter,] the portraits of his grandparents (Hancock) which used to hang in the dining room but cannot now be found. He also left to Dorys his father's journals, which Dorys handed on to me in 1956. All the other portraits by his father in the house he left amongst his nephews and neices and Miss Davis. All the residue of his property he left to Miss Davis who is believed to have sold everything. Dorys, Zoë and Angus attended the funeral and afterwards took away in Angus's car the journals and other bequests, including a mass of papers and parts of the original journals which then lay hidden until Dorys moved from Liss in 1979 and Nina [Justina, daughter of Dorys's brother John] discovered them.

- 2. Percy Kinburn Cree was born on 10th October 1855 at Somerset Cottage, Stoke Damerel. He was named Percy after his father's sister and Kinburn from the Russian fort in the Crimea where his father was serving at the time. He was educated at Epsom College 1866-70 and the Middlesex Hospital (MRCS, LSA). He was appointed Assistant Surgeon RN on 31st March 1877 and served on HMS Turquoise in the Pacific and at Chatham. He left the Navy in 1880 on account of ill health (consumption) and visited Switzerland, New Zealand and Australia between 1881 and 1885 in an attempted cure, but died on board ship on arrival at the Albert Dock and is buried in Highgate Cemetery. A good watercolourist, one of his sketch books survives. He was not married.
- 3. Annette Cree was born on 20th January 1857 at Stoke. She trained as a nurse at Great Ormond Street Hospital and married Dr Morley Clough. Dr Clough was in practice in Hambledon, Hampshire, but was taken ill with tuberculosis and took a long sea voyage to Australia in an attempted cure. He died on 12th November 1884 and was buried at Glympie, Queensland. Annette returned to England with her infant daughter Gladys and went to live with Dr Clough's people in Worksop, Nottinghamshire. Finding life there too restrictive she left after a few years and returned home to Holloway. She remained here and in Tavistock with her brother William and daughter Gladys until her death in 1936. She is buried in Tavistock Cemetery with her daughter and brother.

- _ *Gladys Morley Clough*, daughter of Dr Morley Clough and Annette Clough (née Cree). Born 1884. Died 1930. Buried in Tavistock Cemetery. Educated Cheltenham Ladies' College. She lived always with her mother.
- 4. Edward Russell Cree was born on 27th May 1858 at No 1, Tehidy Terrace, Falmouth. Called Russell from the name of his father's ship at the time, he was educated at Epsom College 1868-70 and the Middlesex Hospital (MRCS, LSA).

He entered the Army as a a Surgeon on 1st July 1880. He was promoted Major RAMC 31st July 1892 and Lt-Col 31st July 1900. He served in West Africa, Egypt, India, South Africa and Malta. He took part in the Sudan Expedition of 1885 (Suakin, Hasheem, Tofrek, Tamai) and was awarded a Medal with two clasps. He won a Bronze Star in S Africa 1899-1902 and took part in the Relief of Ladysmith, Spion Kop, Vaalkrantz, Tugela Heights, Pieters Hill, Laings Nek, operations in Transvaal ORC and Cape Colony 1900. He gained the Queen's Medal with 6 clasps and the Kings Medal with 2 clasps. He then became Principal Medical Officer of No. 1 General Hospital, Cape Town. He was Mentioned in Despatches on 30th March and 19th June 1900.

Russell married *Isobel Haine* who died in 1940 (she was called Aunt Birdie). They had no children. He died at Pinewood Sanitorium, Wokingham, Surrey on 29th December 1903.

5. Herbert Eustace Cree was born at Budock, Cornwall on 27th November 1859 and named Herbert after Herbert Hounsell of Bridport. Educated at the Middlesex Hospital (MRCS, LSA), he served for a short time at sea with the Eastern Telegraph Company. He became a Surgeon in the Army on 1st August 1885, Major RAMC 1st August 1897, Lt-Col 1st August 1905 and Colonel 1st March 1915.

On the Chitral Expedition 1895 he was awarded a Medal and Clasp, in China (Tientsin) 1900, a Medal and Mention in Despatches (London Gazette 14th May 1901). He was in the British Expeditionary Force France 1914-17 as Officer Commanding Base Hospital.

Herbert was known as Uncle Bertie in the family. He died suddenly on 25th January 1926 whilst travelling on the Metropolitan Railway Line, London. He married *Beatrice Melhuish* and they had three children:

- a) Dorys Annette, born July 1895. She worked for eighteen years for the firm of Hetivals in London. She took up language teaching after the Second World War, partly freelance and partly with Davies's and the London School of Foreign Trade. Coauthor with F W King of *Modern English Business Letters* which has a world-wide circulation, she lived at Liss in Hampshire until her death in 1990.
- b) Nancy Catherine, born 20th October 1902. Nancy trained at Chelsea College of Physical Education. She taught for six years at Athlone High School, Johannesburg and later in England and India. In 1936 she married Brigadier Kenneth Garrett, Indian Arny, who died in 1960(?). She lived in Durban and died in the late 1980s.
- c) John Edward, born 6th November 1909. He graduated BSc at the Imperial College of Science, London. During the Second World War he worked on explosives for the Government. Afterwards he set up his own firm for the manufacture of plastics. He died in March 1952 as the result of an explosion in his factory in South Wales. He married Tydian Davies in 1943 and they had one daughter:
 - _ Justina H Cree, born in 1945. Justina married Robert Bailey in 1967.

- 6. Arthur Hamilton Cree was born on 10th April 1861 at Penlee Cottage, Stoke. He studied at Middlesex Hospital but did not enter the medical profession. It seems that he and Gerald had a riotous time as medics in London and Arthur failed his finals. After acting for a time he went to Canada and joined the Royal North West Mounted Police. He served in the South African War with Lord Strathconan's Horse in the rank of Sergeant. On retiring from the RNWMP he set up in business in Victoria, British Columbia, where he died in 1918. He married Muriel Suddaby, who rendered distinguished service as a librarian to the City of Victoria, as a result of which an island was named Cree Island after her. Arthur and Muriel had two sons:
 - a) Douglas, who set up in the timber business and now lives at Duncan near Victoria. He is active in the Scout Movement.
 - b) Murray.
- 7. Gerald Cree was born 4th July 1862 at Penlee Cottage, Stoke and named Gerald after his godfather Gerald Yeo, Staff Surgeon RN. He was educated at Highgate School, Middlesex Hospital MRCS, LRCP.

He became a Surgeon in the Army 30th May 1885, Major RAMC 30th November 1897, Lt-Col 30th May 1905, Colonel 1st March 1915 and Major-General 26th December 1917. He served in India, Gibraltar, and the United Kingdom.

In World War I he went to France in August 1914 as ADMS 1st Division BEF and served through the Retreat from Mons. Sent home in November for a rest, he was appointed ADMS 9th (Scottish) Division (Kitchener's Army) then forming in the Aldershot area, with whom he went to France in 1915. In 1917 he was appointed DDMS XIII Corps still in France. In 1918 on promotion to Major-General he was sent to India as DDMS 8th Lucknow Division and played a part in the 3rd Afghan War. He was appointed DDMS Southern Command, Salisbury 1920.

He was created CMG in 1915 and CB in 1917 and was mentioned in Despatches four times (19th October 1914, 1st January 1916, 4th January 1917, 24th December 1917). He also received the Order of St Anne of Russia (3rd class) and the Médaille de la Reconnaissance Française (2ème Classe). His medals have been lodged at the RAMC Museum, Keogh Barracks, Ash Vale, Aldershot.

Gerald married, on 4th June 1896 at Cheltenham, *Isabella Sophie Alice Broke Smith*, daughter of Surgeon-General Philip Broke Smith of Cheltenham. She was born at Halifax, Nova Scotia on 11th January 1874. Her father was then Surgeon to the 87th Royal Irish Fusiliers. She was educated at Cheltenham Ladies' College and in Paris. They had four children:

- a) Alice Deborah Cree, born at Gibraltar on 19th August 1899. She was married at Lucknow on 2nd March 1920 to Lt-Col. (later Major Gneral) John Stuart Marshall, Indian Army, who died at New Delhi on 5th May 1944. She lived principally in India and in 1945 was awarded the Bronze Medal of the Kaiser-i-Hind order for services to India in India. On 20th March 1946 she married Major (later Lt-Col Sir) A J Dring, Indian Political Service, at Simla. She returned to England in 1947 and lived at Purbrook, Hampshire, from 1951 until her death at the age of 92.
- b) Angus Broke Cree, born at Cheltenham on 22nd February 1902. He was in the Royal Air Force from 1921 to 1926, being involved in operations in Wazirstan in 1923-24.
 Northern Rhodesia Police (Military Branch) later Northern Rhodesia Regiment 1926-49. ADC to Sir Herbert Young, Governor of Northern Rhodesia and Trinidad

1936-39. In World War II he was in the East African theatre of operations. ADC to Sir John Waddington, Goveror of Northern Rhodesia 1949. He retired with the rank of Major in 1949.

Angus was married on 30th April 1929 at Cheltenham to *Vera Growse*, daughter of E F Growse, late ICS. They lived at Pinelands, Cape Province, South Africa. Angus died in 1981.

c) Gerald Hilary Cree, the present author, was born at Stoke Damerel, Plymouth on 23rd June 1905 and educated at RMC Sandhurst. Hilary became a 2nd Lt in the West Yorkshire Regiment in 1924 and was with the King's African Rifles in Tanganyika Territory from 1931 to 1936. He commanded the 2nd Battalion West Yorkshire Regiment 1942-44, 1st Battalion 1946-48 and was Brigadier 1944-45 and 1953. Awarded the DSO in 1944, he became Colonel of the West Yorkshire Regiment 1946. He retired in 1957.

Hilary was married on 19th November 1945 at Winson, near Bibury, Gloucestershire, to *Joan Eden*, daughter of the late Lt-Col W R Eden CMG DSO Royal Artillery. Joan had worked as a VAD and in the War Office in World War II. They now live at Totnes in Devon. Hilary and Joan have one daughter:

_ Henrietta Sophie Ann Cree, born at Klagenfurt, Austria, (British Zone of Occupation) 23rd January 1948. Educated at Royal School, Bath and University of York where she graduated BA in Sociology in 1970. Henrietta is married to John He awood, with two children, Jonathan and Sophie.

Hilary Cree is the subject of the next Chapter.

d) Philip Robert Cree, born at Cheltenham on 28th February 1914. Educated at Cheltenham College and RMA Woolwich. 2nd Lt Royal Artillery 1933. Retired Captain 1940. Land agent for Cadbury's, Bourneville. He married Jean Stratford in 1969 and lives at Bourneville, Birmingham.

Gerald Cree retired on 12th December 1920 and went to live at Heathcote, Purbrook in 1921. (Heathcote and Ava, two small houses on the edge of Purbrook Common, had been left to Ella, his wife, by her uncle, Dr Harry Smith of Southsea.) He died here on 7th July 1932, after a long illness. He was buried in Purbrook Churchyard.

His widow *Isabella* contined to live at Purbrook until 1940 when she went to India to join her daughter. She returned to England in 1942 and stayed for some time in Cheltenham with her cousins the Peakes. On the death of both the Peakes in quick succession she took a flat in Cheltenham in order to make a home for their eight-year-old daughter, Mary Rose, until Deborah could take over. Eventually she was able to return to Purbrook.

Much of her furniture and household goods had been destroyed by bombing while in store in Portsmouth. She remained here until her death on 7th April 1966, living alone for the most part, but latterly with a resident housekeeper, Mrs Fletcher. However Deborah was next door in Ava and took on all the responsibilty of looking after her. She was ninety-two at her death and is buried with her husband in Purbrook Churchyard.

- 8. Cecilia. Born February 1864 at Portsmouth. Died 10th April 1865. Buried in Southsea but also commemorated in Highgate Cemetery.
- 9. James Douglas Cree. Born 1865 at Portsmouth. Educated at Highgate School and Middlesex Hospital. After qualifying he spent some years at sea as a Ship's Surgeon

with the P & O, Shaw Savill and other lines. He set up in practice in Burford, Oxfordshire and then Hampstead, London (at 337 Finchley Road). In 1920 he sold his practice and became a consultant at the Brampton Hospital and for the Sun Life Assurance Company.

Six years later he had a serious breakdown, the result of overwork during the war years, when he had stood in for several colleagues who had joined the Forces. He was a semi-invalid until his death in 1932 on the 21st January. He owned a holiday cottage at the village of Kuggar near Ruan Minor, Cornwall for some years and many members of the family stayed there.

Douglas was known as Tadger in the family. This began as a corruption of Roger Tichborne, to whom the child Douglas was thought to bear a resemblance. This got changed to Todger Richborne and finally to Tadger. The famous Tichborne case was on trial at the time.

He married the actress *Kate Rorke* in April 1900. She was born in 1864 into an old theatrical family. She was educated at Notre Dame School Southwark. Her first appearance on stage was as one of the children in *Olivier* with Ellen Terry. In 1880 she was engaged by Charles Wyndham and acted with the Criterion Company until 1885, when she joined the Vaudeville Theatre Company. In 1889 she was engaged by John Hare as leading lady at the Garrick where some of her best known parts were Leslie Brudenall in *The Profligate* and Mrs Goldfinch in *A Pair of Spectacles*. In 1894 she played with Forbes Robertson in *Dr and Mrs Neill* and toured with this play and *The Dancing Girl* in Beerbohm Tree's Company in the USA, also playing Ophelia to Robertson's Hamlet. She appeared at the opening of His Majesty's Theatre London as Alice Duvarney in *Seats of the Mighty* and later as Esther Eccles in *Caste* and Kate Verity in *The Squire*, both in London and in the provinces.

When she married Douglas Cree in 1900 she was at the height of her fame as an actress. In 1904 she played the name part in G B Shaw's *Candida* in the first public presentation of the play at the Court Theatre. According to Shaw, her performance on this occasion changed his luck, and to commemorate it he wrote a message in an edition of his plays given to her on her eightieth birthday. The book is thought to be in the possession of the Garrick Club.

In 1906 she became Professor of Drama at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. She continued to teach here and at her private studio for the next 35 years, and many famous actors and actresses have been her pupils. In 1941 she left London owing to the bombing, and went to live at her daughter Zoe's cottage in Hertfordshire. She died on 31st July 1945 and is buried in the cemetery of Little Hadham Parish Church.

Douglas and Kate had one child:

_ Joan Valery (Zoe) Cree, born 29th December 1900, died January 1982. Zoe was educated at the Convent of Sion, Hampstead and the Old Palace, Mayfield, Sussex. Finding it impracticable to take up medicine, she studied drama with her mother, but when about to be engaged by Basil Dean for the tour of Clemence Dane's Bill of Divorcement, she caught scarlet fever followed by rheumatic fever and was ill for two years. On recovering she took her diploma for teaching speech and drama. In 1928 she joined the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art and continued to teach there until the Second World War. During the War she worked at the Emergency Hospital at Bishop's Stortford for a time, and then took up teaching again after joining the staff of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

After the death of her mother she entered the Society of the Sacred Heart. She became Vice-Principal of a school in Newcastle upon Tyne, and was then on the teaching staff of the Digby Stuart College of Education, Roehampton.

For a full biography of Zoe Cree, see the booklet by the Sacred Heart Sisters, in particular Sister Elise Brooke.

11. GERALD HILARY CREE

[The brief outline on page 44 says more about the author's modesty than about his life of service to his country. What follows are my notes of an extended interview with Brigadier G H Cree during July 1991. MS]

Angus and I had chequered school careers, as our parents were in India and we were left in the care of Gladys [Morley Clough]. I was always getting ill, once while staying with Tadger and Kit in Cornwall, when I was operated on by Uncle Will at Tavistock.

I then lived in Tavistock and had a private tutor, but when I was just turned fifteen, I was sent to Kelly College, Tavistock. I joined at half term and felt like a fish out of water, midterm being a very unfortunate time to report to a new school.

My father and mother came home from India in 1920. When my father eventually decided to move me to Cheltenham College, I was already well over the normal entry age and I had not passed any sort of entrance exam, so I remained at Kelly College for a further four terms.

When I was sixteen and a bit, I was sent to Mr J Tinniswood's crammer at Camberley. He was very successful and seldom had a failure in the Army Exam. At seventeen and a half I passed the exams quite easily for Sandhurst. So I got into Sandhurst but didn't do at all well. I passed out in 1924 and was gazetted to the West Yorkshires and went to India.

I was very happy in India for four or five years and then moved to the Sudan for a year and then back to England. I was stationed at Strensall near York but couldn't bear England, so I asked to be seconded to the King's African Rifles. I was not best pleased at being sent to Dar es Salaam to continue square bashing, but I was then sent to an out-station at Arusha as subaltern for a year. Then I was back in Dar es Salaam as adjutant before being granted six months leave. I went home to Purbrook and spent some time at Cheltenham. Later I was promoted captain in command at Arusha. I enjoyed it there as I had a chance to do some big game hunting.

I spent a couple of years in England as adjutant to the 2nd Battalion of the West Yorkshires and then, in 1938 we were sent to Palestine at short notice. Law and order had broken down and Jerusalem was in the hands of the rebels. On the morning that we were to go in, prepared for a major battle, we found that the Arabs had shinned down the walls leaving only the ropes. Based at Ramallah north of Jerusalem we then set to work to pacify the country. This involved arresting all men of military age, but at New Year 1939, Parliament ordered that they were all to be released.

At Easter 1939 a White Paper proposed unrestricted immigration of Jews into Jerusalem. Of course the Arabs were furious. Then a quota was imposed on the immigration and the Jews were furious. They had illegal ships at Haifa and Tel Aviv with Jewish refugees from Russia and Europe. Then the War started and the whole trouble from the Jews and Arabs absolutely stopped. They even formed a joint regiment from Palestine.

At Christmas 1939 I was in the Sudan, which was peaceful until Italy came into the War. After a spell at the Middle East Staff College I was posted to Nairobi as DAAG of the 11th African Division. We saw some action in early 1940 against the Italians, but were mainly concerned with supervising the movements of Italian prisoners who had surrendered in their thousands - which I had to cater for. One problem was to clear them out of the way of Haile Sellassie and his army as he came into Addis Ababa where he was re-crowned Emperor in 1941 at the Old Palace. The remaining Italians surrendered to the British and we managed to rescue them from Abyssinia.

After the fighting in Eritrea, it was time for me to leave Africa. In August 1941 I was told to report to my Battalian at Kirkuk in Northern Iraq.

After a pleasant Winter in Cyprus we were involved in the catastrophes of the Summer of 1942 in the Western Desert. I got command of the [2nd West Yorkshire] Battalion in July 1942 - the Brigadier had got sacked. We then moved via Iraq and India to Burma.

At the end of 1943 we were involved in fierce fighting against the Japanese in the coastal area of Burma. The 7th Indian Division were in the East while the 5th were in the West. When the 7th went on the offensive, my Brigade were ordered to move over. Suddenly the Japanese advanced and got round our backs at Dong Bazaar. We were ordered to hold an area designated as the 7th Division Admin Box. We occupied some high ground not a moment too soon. They broke into the main dressing station as there were not enough troops to defend it, and just started to slaughter the patients. We could hear their screams but could do nothing until daylight when we counter-attacked. A company re-captured the dressing station and rescued some of the patients.

We were virtually surrounded, and counter-attacks had to be mounted continually for a couple of weeks until outside help arrived from some of the 7th Division. We marched out and then the 5th Division were flown to North Burma.

Here we were the reserve force in defence of a huge ordnance base at Imphal. It was subjected to nightly attacks by the Japanese. I had the job of restoring peace and tranquillity each morning. I told the Brigade Commander, "This can't continue," and he said "OK we'll evacuate it and you will supervise the operation." We got out OK and suddenly some aeroplanes started shooting us up. This was the Indian Air Force who had mistaken us for Japanese. It caused panic amongst the civilians being evacuated. We collected cartridges cases as evidence and the Indian Air Force people responsible were disciplined.

Guarding Imphal airstrip we failed to dislodge Japanese forces on the surrounding hills and were ordered to withdraw, so we marched over the hills to the main road. The Japanese had a vital road-block and I was told by the Brigadier to have the road open by twelve noon. We mounted a monumental attack sending a company round to the rear which unfortunately got shot down due to my poor instructions. However we continued to pour mortar fire into the post and the Japanese retreated. The road-block was re-captured just in time for the troops from Kohima to move through.

We were ordered to pursue the Japanese which we did, and kept pushing on and losing communications. This made it difficult to get the wounded and scrub typhoid cases out. We captured an airstrip to get them away. Eventually my battalion was so attenuated that we could only make one company. After advancing right to the River Chindwin, we were flown out to rest. [For his actions in Burma in 1944 Brigadier Cree was awarded the DSO.] I was told to report to HQ for a new appointment and was put in command of the East African Infantry Brigade whose commander had just been sacked. I flew to join them just as they had refused to go any further. I persuaded them to continue and a bridgehead at the Chindwin was established.

It was now obvious that the War was near its end. It was October 1945 and I'd had seven years abroad. I decided I'd had enough and went home to England.

I then got married to Joan. We'd been going to get married for many years. After a spell in Germany with the Control Commission, I was told to go home to command the 1st Yorkshire Regiment which was being re-formed. I was awarded the CBE in 1946, for what I

have never discovered, possibly as a sort of leaving prize. Joan came up to Morpeth in Northumberland with me and we lived firstly in hotels and then with the Chief Constable, whose boys Joan had the job of looking after.

Then we were posted to Austria, as part of the Vienna garrison at Bruck. We liked Austria, although we had to be very careful with the Russians. When Joan came out we were provided with a delightful house on the lake near Klagenfurt. We had a very nice time there with plenty of skiing. Our daughter Henrietta was born there.

After two years, much to my disgust, I was posted to the War Office and we moved to a house in Stanmore. I didn't enjoy commuting daily up to London. Eventually we went to New Zealand where I was Army Liaison Officer to the British High Commission in Wellington.

Two years later we were back in England. I was sent to Manchester to a Territorial Army command. We were very happy for our three years there and Henrietta went to a good school at Macclesfield. During the Suez crisis I was appointed sub-area commander for Ismailia, and was sent to Bulford on Salisbury Plain to organise this. The crisis was over before I left England and we disbanded the HQ in record time.

I retired from the Army in July 1957 and, after a brief time at West Meon in Hampshire, we settled at Ashprington in Devon where we spent twenty-one happy years. I took up dinghy sailing and raced various boats at Dittisham Sailing Club on the Dart, where they made me Club Commodore. Gardening was our main pre-occupation however; the place was a shambles when we took it over but we made that garden. Eventually we could no longer manage it and moved here to Totnes a couple of years ago.

And of course I have pursued my researches into the family history for over twenty years now. But I didn't really think that my notes would ever be written up and printed.

APPENDIX 1 Services of Edward H Cree MD

Dep. Inspector of Hospitals and Fleets

on the Retired List

[This is a transcript of a contemporary document outlining the naval career of Edward Hodges Cree.]

Royal Adelaide Assistant Surgeon from 8 June 37 to 30 July 37 doing duty at

Plymouth Hospital

Volcano 31 July 37 to 14 Octr 37 duty at Malta Hospital during the

prevalence of Cholera

<u>Firefly</u> 15 Octr 37 to 30 May 39

Mediterranean Station

Excellent 10 July 39 to 23 Sept 1839

Rattlesnake 24 Sept 39 to 2 May 43

East India and China Station At first taking of Chusan in 1840

Various operations in Canton River. Taking of Amoy. Second taking

of Chusan. Taking of Tchunghie and Ningpo in 1841.

At Woosung and Shanghie. Taking of Tching Kiang For in the Yangtze Kiang and at Nanking at the signing of the treaty of peace in

 $184\bar{2}$

<u>Vixen</u> Surgeon

3 May 43 to 11 July 46 East India and China Station

Operations against Pirates on the coast of Borneo including destruction of stockades at Brunei where we sustained a serious loss in killed and wounded, and afterwards at Manilla suffered from a

serious outbreak of Cholera.

Fury From 6 Aug 47 to 29 Novr 50.

East India and China Station

Operations against Pirates on the coast of China, including the destruction of a large Piratical Fleet in the Gulf of Tonquin under Sir

John Dalrymple Hay in 1849.

Spartan 9 June 52 to 19 July 52

Invalided in consequence of chronic dysentery contracted in China

Odin 22 Decemr 52 to 15 March 56

Employed in the Baltic during the War with Russia in 1854. Attack on Gamla Carleby where we lost six killed and fourteen wounded.

At Bomersund June 21 and in August

In 1855 in the Baltic at the fall of Sebastopol Sep 9, at the taking of

Kinburn Oct 17.

Invalided in Fe by 56 in consequence of return of Dysentery

Eagle 15 Decr 56 to 31 Jany 58

Training ship at Falmouth

Russell 1 Feby 58 to 9 Nov 61

Mediterranean Station

<u>Saturn</u> 10 May 62 to 1 July 62

19 Nov 62 to 9 Decr 62

Staff Surgeon

10 Dec 62 to 11 March 63 Duty at Pembroke DockYd

<u>Portsmouth</u> Dockyard

5 Septr 64 to 12 July 69

Placed on Retired List as Depy Inspector of Hospitals

Has two sons in the Navy One serving as Surgeon of H.M.S. Bellerophon the other Surgeon of H.M.S. Turquoise

17 Septr 1878

APPENDIX 2 Cree Graves in Highgate Cemetery, London.

The Cree graves are in the New Cemetery at Highgate. This is about 15-20 minutes brisk walk from the Archway Underground Station on the Northern Line, and less than ten minutes downhill from Highgate Village. To be sure of locating the graves it would be advisable to give the Cemetery Office a ring first quoting the references below.

Edward Cree's grave is situated some 75 yards from the entrance in Swain's Lane, just off a little path going up on the left from the entrance and beyond a beech tree shaped like a weeping willow. It is a couple of yards to the right of this path and consists of a polished marble or stone slab, without a headstone. It is inscribed as follows:

One end

The Family Grave of Edward H. Cree M.D. Deputy Inspector of Hospitals and Fleets

One side

In Memory of Percy Kinburn Cree Surgeon Royal Navy Died May 18 1885 aged 29 On board SS Dorunda in the Royal Albert Dock on the day of his arrival from Australia

And of Cecilia Cree, who died April 10 1865 aged 14 months interred at Southsea Hampshire

Also of Morley Eddison Clough MRCS LSA who died November 12 1884 Glympie, Queensland, Australia

Other side

Also of Eliza Tanner Cree, wife of Edwd H. Cree Born July 12th 1826 Died December 31st 1895

Also of Edward Hodges Cree MD DH RN Died 15th January 1901 aged 87 years

This grave's reference is 26650 square 69

Percy Kinburn Cree was interred on 23rd May 1885
Eliza Tanner Cree was interred on 4th January 1896
Edward Hodges Cree was interred on 19th January 1901
Edward Russel Cree (interred 2nd January 1904) and Laura Isabel Cree (interred 19th June 1940) are also buried in the cemetery, the grave's reference being 35402 square 70.

APPENDIX 3 The Diary of Fifteen-year-old Edward H Cree

This previously unpublished diary anticipates the more famous Cree Journals by the same author (edited by Michael Levien and published by Webb and Bower in 1981). It was written in 1829, in a Marshall's New Pocket Book for The Year 1827, (priced in pencil at 2 shillings). Edward has altered the days of the week for 1829 use.

The front cover of the diary forms a small wallet, within which is still preserved a double wrapping of paper. The inner sheet is inscribed:

Robert's hair. R W Cree died Friday Morning ½ past two O Clock 10 April 1829

Inside is a lock of brown hair. Robert, Edward's brother had just turned twenty when he died.

The diary is signed on the title page by Edward's older sister Cecilia, who was to pass away in February 1830 at the age of twenty-three. Cecilia is only referred to twice in the diary (apart from a note of her birthday), once to record her being unwell and again to note her departure for Bristol, whereas Edward's younger sister Percy is clearly a frequent companion. Edward's eye for the ladies, which he openly parades in his adult Journals, shows itself in a more secretive set of coded entries, as one might expect of a boy of fifteen. I leave the reader to decipher the code, and to guess who "E" might have been!

When the entries start, Edward has been staying for at least six months in the town of his birth, Devonport, where most of his relatives also lived. The 6th September entry suggests he is living at his Aunt Cree's (presumably Elizabeth, wife of John Cree), and other entries imply that, when his mother and sister Percy came to Devonport to visit, they stayed elsewhere, perhaps at Stoke Damerel (see 17th July). Their home however was about ninety miles away in Bridport, where Edward's father Robert Cree had recently become Unitarian Minister. Only a few months earlier the family had left the somewhat bleaker surroundings of Preston, Lancashire, and the sights and sounds of the Devon and Dorset coast must have been a pleasing contrast for the teenager.

The first entry may not be Edward's. It is a now faded and barely legible draft letter perhaps by Cecilia:

Mr dr Aunt

I have to thank you for yr last very kind letter containing so much interesting matter

I rejoice in my Uncles recovery. Yours must have been a very anxious time for the last few months with you. Present my most heartfelt congratulations to him on his accept[ance] of honours.

I was happy to hear of my Aunt Mattocks [deletion] rejoiced in Mr Ms [M's?] resignation though no much to him for

[After some blank pages, Edward's own entries start on 2nd March 1829:]

Mo 2 Robert's Birth Day

APRIL

Th 9 News came from home to say Robert was worse.

Fry 10 Nothing particular

Sat 11 News came today poor Robert was no more.

Sun 12 Dul day Went to see Mr Worsley

Mon 13 Left Devonport for Bridport. Fine Day

Th 16 Robert was buried. Dul Day

Su 19 Mr Tegan Preached Roberts funeral sermon.

MAY

Mon 4 Left Bridport for Exeter drank tea at Mr Wilks's went to Nothirst with him and W W. crossed the Exe.

Tu 5 Wet morn Went in the Cathed[ral] Breakfasted at Mr W's - went to see the cathedral again Went up in the Tower. Left Exeter for Devonport Wery [sic] Windy.

JULY

Fy 17 Percy's Birthday. Percy and Mama came to Devonport. Very wet evening. went to Stoke in a carriage.

Sat 18 Wet day. Did not see Mamma till the evening.

Sun 19 Went to Chapel to Plymouth and Dined at Mrs Worsly[?]. Fine Day

Fry 31 Fine Day. Bathed under Mount Wise in the morning went on the Breakwater with Uncle Hancock Mamma Percy and my cousin and dined on a stone then[?] I drank tea at Mr Hancock

AUGUST

Mon 10 Fine Day Papa came to Devonport

Sa 22 Fine day Papa left Devonport

SEPTEMBER

Sun 6 Fine day Mamma and Percy came to Aunt Crees to dinner

Tu 8 Wet day Took leave of Plymouth & Stoke Friends

We 9 Fine Morning. in the afternoon went over to Barnpool with I Truscott and bathed Began to rain Went to Ply[mouth] then to Stoke and Had a Juncit[?]

Th 10 Left Devonport for Bridport with Mamma and Percy and Anne Hancock rained nearly all the way

Fry 11 Fine in the morning Mrs Hugh[?] dined here and went to the Harbour with Anne Hancock Percy and myself Papa dined at Mr J Hounsels and in the evening went to Portsmouth

Sat 12 Fine in the morning went to market with Mamma called upon Miss Tomlin and Mr Colfox, wet afternoon

Sun 13 Fine morning Mr Squ[a]re Preached Wet at noon and Fine evening

Mon 14 Fine morning called with Mamma Percy & Ann H_ on Mrs W Colfox Dined at Mr Colfoxe's with Mr & Mrs Collins Mrs A H and Friends

Tues 15 Fine morning Took a walk on the Berminster road in The afternoon

Wed 16 Wet day Went with Mamma Percy and Miss A H_ to Miss Fornby[?] to tea

Th 17 Fine morning Wet afternoon Went to Mr J Hounsells to tea and cards with Mr Mrs Kedle and [--]

Fry 18 Showery Day in the morn went to the harbour with Mamma Percy and A H Papa retd from Plymouth in the evening

Sat 19 Showery Day went on the east road in the morn - went to Providence cottage in the afternoon called on Mr Hounsel

Sun 20 Fine day wet evening

Mon 21 Fine day Went to Loaders[?] with A H & Percy

Tue 22 Cecilia's Birthday [age] 23 Fine day Went to Mr Hounsells for the first time drank tea with a party at Mr W Colfoxes

Wed 23 Fine Day Freemasons Walked Mr & Mrs Hounsel & Mr Willians [sic] supped with us. papas after[?] came

Th 24 Fine day Went to Mr Bakers[?] to dinner with Mamma A H & Percy & Papa

Fry 25 Fine day saw a man Cupp[?] went to Mr T [or J?] Hounsells to tea with AH & Percy gpa very ply

Sat 26 Dull Day Wet evening

Sun 27 Fine day drank tea at Mr Colfox's

Mon 28 Fine Day

Tu 29 Fine Day

Wed 30 Fine day Dined at Mr Colfox's Mama & Papa went to Mr Chilsols

Th OCT 1 Sale Fine day Mama went to Mr Chilsols sale

Fry 2 Dul Day Went to Mrs A Hounsell to dine

Sat 3 Dul Day

Su 4 Fine day

Mo 5 Fine day Went to Mr W Colfox's to Dinner

Tu 6 Fine Day Mamma Papa A H - went to Mr Stevens's to Tea Percy & I to Mrs I Hounsell I went to Mr Stevenses in the evening.

We 7 Went to Tea to Mr J[?] Tomlin with P M P A H

[Papa, Mamma, Percy, Anne Hancock; Anne Hancock was Edward's nineteenyear-old cousin who, her mother Ann (Cree) Hancock having died, seems to have been taken in by Robert and Charlotte Cree, perhaps to help look after their children, in view of Robert's frequent trips away. Anne was also to pass away the following year. See page 32.]

Th 8 Fine day Dined at Mr J Hounsell's with M P P H

Fry 9 Dul day went to Mr Colfoxes to tea with Anne Hancock & Percy met Miss C.A.M Hounsel

Sat 10 Mil. Dul Day

Sun 11 Fine day Mr Hounsell was confined [deleted] delvd. [delivered] of a son * Herbert Eustace

M 12 Papa & Anne Hounsell went to Bristol. Bridport fair Went with Percy H to see the Learned dog

Tu 13 Fine day 2 days fair E. Hounsell & H came to tea ple[asant] even[ing] [This last entry and several others originally in pencil have been overwritten in ink. All the indications are that this was done by Edward himself, as the original entries start to be made in ink only a fortnight later. For 12th October only there seems to have been some slight editing in the overwriting. The very faint original pencil seems to end,] ..baby to our house I went out [?] with her on my own

W 14 Wet day

Th 15 Do 9 Houses were burnt down in Alley[?]

F 16 Do Papa [...] Bristol with Cecilia took a letter to Mr T Hounsels Heard the [...]. [In the margin:] *I

Sa 17 Slept at Mr Colfoxe also Fry-day night

Su 18 Fine day Percy [and] Ann tea at Mr T Hounsels I f[...] her and Em[i]ly[?] sd I squeezed her hand [/hard?] [In the margin:] *III

M 19 Wet day

Tue 20 Do

[At foot of page:] to light

W 21 Do

S 24 I was bound today to Mr Hounsell for 5 years

Sun 25 fine day went to Walditch to see the woman who was burnt with Mr H

M 26 Fine day Miss E Hounsell promised to let me pull out her tooth [...] no.

Tu 27 Fine day Went with Mr J Hounsell to Walditch [p 59]

W 28 Fine day went with Mr Hounsell to see a boy opened

Th 29 Fine day went with Mr I Houn[sell] to Walditch then up to the Cottage

Fry 30 Clowdy day Uncle Hancock came here from London Papa came from Poole

Sa 31 Fine day Uncle & Anne Hancock left Bridport for Devonport

Sun NOV 1 Fine day saw E III times

Mon 2 Fine day went to Walditch with Mr Hounsell in the morning saw E I & I c [..]

Tue 3 Clowdy in the morning. went up to the cottage & they were putting the beams up for the roof saw E I and walked up the st with hr. [See facsimile on page 37.]

Wed 4 Wet day SE1

Th 5 Fine day a great many Fire Works were let off before the House some friends were at our house E was here spent a very pleasant evening inaeca [?]

Fry 6 Fine day Sa E s to h I drew a man's tooth the first I ever drew Mr Hounsell made me take the shilling for it

Sa 7 Fine day

Su 8 Fine day SEIII S to h

Mo 9 Clowdy Day SEI

Tu 10 Clowdy day

We 11 Dul day I am reading Historical Romances from the library $\;$ quite dis at not s E

Th 12 Wet day Went to Walditch yesterday with Mr I Hounsell to see the

woman she is going on better than I expected

Sat 14 Dul day went to Walditch with Mr Hounsell to see the woman quite dis at not see E.m.

Sun 15 Fine day s E III times S I a h

Mon 16 Fine Frosty day went to Walditch

Tues 17 Fine F day

We 18 Fine Frosty day Went to Walditch went to Mr W Colfoxes to tea

Th 19 Fine F day Went to the cottage and in returning met Mr Hounsell & Harriet not E and I wondered were she was quite dis at not seing her

Fr 20 Dul cold day Went to Waldit[ch] by myself to see the woman she is going on very well

Sat 21 Dul day

Sun 22 Wet day S E II

Mon 23 Dul day

Tu 24 Stormy day went to Walditch on Mr Hounsells horse with him

We 25 Snowey day

Th 26 Dul Cold day

Fry 27 Dul day Went to Walditch on Mr Hounsell's Horse Met E I in the street

Sat 28 Dul day

Sun 29 Fine day S E II

Mon 30 Anniversary of the mar[riage] of Papa & Mamma 1805 Dul Went to Walditch with Mr Hounsell

Tue DEC 1 dul day Papa & Mamma went to Mr Colfox's to dine Mr Wood came here in the evening on his way to London

Wed 2 Dul day

Thur 3 Dul day Went to Walditch alone

Fr 5 Dulday

Sa 5 Dulday S E

Su 6 Dulday SE II

M 7 Fine Frosty day Went to Walditch

Tu 8 Fine day S E I

W 9 Dul day came into Mr B Goods hose I am still sleeping at Mr Colfoxes

Th 10 Dul day

Fry 11 Fine Frosty morning Went with Mr Hounsell a shooting He did not kill anything for the gunpowder was wet

Sat 12 Papa's Birth Day Fine day yesterday wet afternoon

Sun 13 Fine day S E II

Mn 14 Very fine warm day SE

Tues 15 Fine F Morning

W 16 Fine day was measured for a jackoat [jacket?]

Th 17 Fine F Morning Wet afternoon Went to Mr Broadleys to a dance spent a very pleasant evening E was

Fr 18 Frosty day slept at home last night for the first time for two months

Sat 19 F day

Sun 20 Fine day SE II

M 21 Fine day S E

Tu 22 Cold windy day. Tom Strangways came from school

W 23 Cold windy day went to Bradpole with some bills for Mr Hounsell and Strangways

Fry 25 Christmas day went to chapel with Tom S E

Sat 26 Fine F day went a shoot[ing] with Mr Hounsell & Tom

Sun 27 Fine do S E III

Mon 28 Do Went to Mr W Colfox to dinner

Tues 29 Do Went a shooting with Mr Hounsell I shot 2 thrushes

[The Cash Account pages for January to September are missing. On the October Cash Account page is written:]

My measure for Moon at Devonpt. Round the Brest 36 inches Waist 26 inch. From center of back down to elbow 18 'h Whole length of the Sleve from center of back 31 in My Highth

E Cree

eight Hight [This last, in the bottom margin, looks like a spelling trial for the word height.]

[The diary entries continue on the November Cash Account page:]

Wed 30 Dec

Went to Pyemore To skate Dined at Mr I Hounsells to dinn[er] with Alexr. Broadley & I Roberts

Thur 31 Fine F day

Fry 1 Jany

FFday wt. a shooting with Mr I Hounsell. Tom shot a blackbird & 2 Thrushes wt a skateing in the afternoon Papa went to Yeovil

Sat 2 stufft a hawk

Mon 3 Went to Mr Broadeys to a danse Tues 4 Papa returned from Yeovil

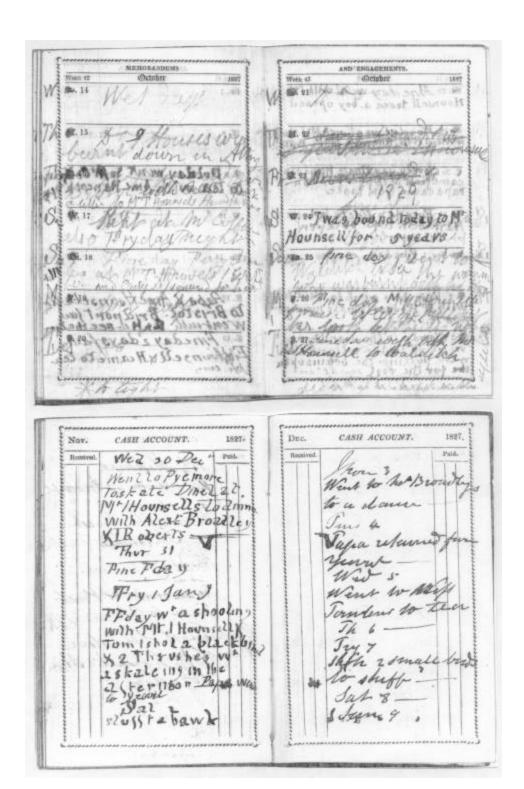
Wed 5 Went to Miss Jorndens[?] to tea

Th 6 -

Fry 7 shot 2 small birds to stuff

Sat 8 -

Sun 9 -



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