



I'ANSON TIMES

Editor:

VOL
ONE

ISSUE
No. 4

Here I am writing No. 4 of I'Anson Times! The first year gone! May I wish all I'Ansons and other interested people, the very best for 1977. I would also like to thank everyone for the many interesting letters I have received and if I have not answered them all, through forgetfulness or sheer poverty (!), they were nevertheless gratefully received.

Mr. Angus Goodfellow of Richmond, Yorks., newspaper journalist, placed an article in the "Darlington & Stockton Times" last September entitled "Calling All I'Ansons". Mr. Goodfellow and myself have collaborated on a couple of occasions to produce articles on the subject of "The Lass of Richmond Hill". The newspaper article brought a number of postal enquiries, and some new members! Our thanks to Mr. Goodfellow who is now receiving an honorary membership copy of the magazine.

There is quite a large list of members which I will defer to a later issue.

I'ANSON HISTORY OF THOMAS HENRY WOLSTENCROFT

The discovery of the family in the 1871 Census of Thirsk saved an awful lot of searching for Great Grandfather John I'Anson's birthplace. I was now armed with the knowledge that John was born at Ripon. The date for the birth was counted back to 1836 from his age in the Census and also his Death Certificate dated 1891, John died at the early age of 55.

Civil Registration (Somerset House now transferred to St. Catherine's House) did not start until 1837 so it was no good looking for a birth certificate for John. As the family was C. of E. the Cathedral Register was the place to look. However, before I had a chance to consult Ripon Registers the opportunity presented itself to visit the Census Room of the Public Record Office once more. I again struck lucky and found the family group in the Census of 1851, twenty years earlier than my previous find, and when Great Grandfather was still a teenager.

At this point I had no knowledge of his family, brothers and sisters and parents, so it was with great interest I copied the details down.

| name of street place or road & no. of house | name & surname of each person who abode in the house | relation to head of family | condition | age of | | rank or profession | where born |
|---|--|----------------------------------|-----------|--------|--------|-----------------------|---------------|
| | | | | male | female | | |
| Stammergate | John I'Anson | Head | married | 49 | 50 | tanner | Ripon |
| | Eliza I'Anson | Wife | " | | | housewife | Ripon |
| | Thomas | Son | unm. | 22 | | tanner | Ripon |
| | William | Son | " | 20 | | labourer | Ripon |
| | James | son | " | 18 | | stonemason | Ripon |
| | John | son | " | 15 | | stonemason | Ripon |
| | Isaac | son | " | 10 | | at home | Ripon |
| Total of persons | | | | 6 | 1 | | |

Stammergate with Allhallowgate are the two oldest thoroughfares in Ripon. Stammergate is from the abbreviation STA. Ma. for Santa Maria, so it means St. Mary's Gate which is strange as the name changes further towards the Cathedral to St. Mary's Gate. I failed to find the street on my last visit to Ripon only to discover the name has changed to

ide a selection of
Anson Correspondence jumping about over the centuries like a musical medley in various styles.

ASHBY ST. LEDGERS NEARE
DAVENTRY IN NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
SEPT. YE 18th/1697

Sir

Your obliging letter off the 7th instant I recd. , and shall bee very glad to be better acquainted with you iff youre buisnes att any time calls you Into the South I desier you will not ffaile to let mee see you att my house where you shall bee very welcome. I did not heare off any off my name until Lately except myselff and brothers and one Uncles son and having occasion this last year to go to ye North I heard there was som familie off my name in Yorkshire oute off which county wee came into the South about Henry ye 8ths time, wch makes me suppose yt we are not only namesakes, but relations though at some distance, thereffore I desier the ffavour off you, In your next to send Mee the pedigree off your ffamily, as far as Henry ye 7th or 8th Raign, iff you can, with ye marriages so ffar as you can with youre coat of armes and in return In my next you shall have Mine wth an exact copy as setteled By the Herald aboute 12 year ago. I have A brother setled in ye North that is youre Namesake* who I expect att Ashby within the ffortnight, and would have desierd him to have waited one you, or to have sent to you to have met him at My Landlady Dunwalds att Darlington. But when hee returns you shall not ffaile off a letter ffrom me, and pray in Your next let me know iff you can meet him there or any where els in or neare the road, Most convenient for you.

I suppose after a months stay in the South he will return. I doe think to bee in the North again (God Willing) about next Midsomer and yt shall endeavour to see you, but May have some call into the South before yt time and yt you will oblige me with A visit who am

Sr

Your unknown ffriend and Humble Servant
Bryan J'Anson

LETTER ADDRESSED TO WILLIAM I'ANSON OF YORKSHIRE

* William I'Anson, grandfather of Frances I'Anson "Lass of Richmond Hill"

SIR BRIAN I'ANSON - The Marques you have always given of your affection and fidelity to the Crown since the beginning of these troubles gives me entire confidence of the continuance of the same in future, of wch I have likewise bin assured by your sonne Dr. Janson, who is a person yt I esteem very well of. I write this to let you know soe much, and to assure you yt whatsoever marques of favour have bin conferred by my Father upon your selfe or your sonne, either in point of honour or advantage shall be made good to you by me as soon as it shall please God to restore mee to the power of doing it, and that you shall further find upon all occasions that I am truly

Your assured Friend
CHARLES R.

Sir Bryan I'Anson
From Paris December 28th 1651

The above is a letter from King Charles II in exile in France during the Commonwealth to Sir Bryan I'Anson

18 Sefton Road
Formby, Lancs
20/5/74

Dear Mr. Wolstencroft,

Many thanks for your interesting letter of the 16th May informing me of your relationship with the I'Anson family. I hope that the information I am able to offer you will be helpful in your efforts to advance your knowledge of the history of the family.

I would advise you that a complete (?) and comprehensive history of the family was published about 1915 by Arthur Bryan I'Anson of the Genealogical Research Society, and entitled "The History of the I'Anson Family". I believe that 12 volumes were printed, one of which was in the possession of my immediate family but along with other family papers, including the will of Ralph Mark I'Anson bearing his sister's signature (Frances "the Lass of Richmond Hill") was tragically lost in a fire. (Where are the 10 unaccounted copies ? - Editor).

I do know, however, that fortunately other volumes of the history of the family are available. One is to be found in the Library of the British Museum (Correct - Editor) and another in the Central Library of the City of Manchester which is nearer to your address (Manchester deny possessing the volume - Editor).

This volume will provide all the information you are looking for (Pure optimism - Editor) and no doubt will save you endless work.

You will read that the early origin of the family was to be found in the Forbes Clan of Scotland. Our branch of the Clan emigrated to France about a thousand years ago, a sort of William the Conqueror in reverse ! The name used was the French equivalent for Forbes "De Forbin".

The family apparently enjoyed a high social position and after some two hundred years it became fashionable to use surnames and so they began to use the name I'Anson de Forbin or the other way round De Forbin I'Anson.

About the time of Bosworth Field, was it 1485 ? I can never remember precisely, Jacque I'Anson de Forbin came from France to England and settled here, establishing the branch from which we are descended.

Looking at the pedigree to be found at the back of the book you will find that it begins with John of Hauxwell, Captain of a man-o-war in the time of Henry VIII and continues through the centuries to the time of publication about 1915. My name does not appear although those of my brothers and sisters do, as I was not born until 1917. (This tree really only follows three branches of the family the "Saltburn" I'Ansons, the "Darlington" I'Ansons and the "Aristocratic" I'Ansons. The rest do not appear but are capable of being attached)

You will also find that the report in the Northern Echo referring to William Andrew I'Anson of Denton Hall (who incidentally was my great uncle) as the last William Andrew is not correct (My error - Editor) as my father's name was William Andrew and so was my elder brother.

Frances I'Anson, the "Lass of Richmond Hill" was my great great aunt. My grandfather Thomas was the elder brother of William Andrew of Denton Hall. Both were doctors practising in Newcastle and both were M. R. C. S.

My grandfather had five children, two boys and three girls, not two children as mentioned in the "Echo" (Ouch ! - Editor)

Bryan I'Anson of Ashby St. Ledger was knighted by King Charles I for services in the form of maintenance of a troop of Cavalry and Foot Soldiers and cash to the sum of £10.000 to protect the King. A warrant in the form of a letter written at the Louvre in Paris by Charles II converted the knighthood to a baronetcy.

I believe this letter is in the archives of the British Museum (Public Record Office ? - Editor) but I have not had the opportunity of seeing it although I hope to one day.

The line from Sir Bryan descended through the Bankes I'Anson family of Corfe Castle to the Reverend Sir John Bankes I'Anson, a record of his name and his father before him is displayed on a plaque showing the Rectors of the church of Corfe Castle from, I think, 1150 onwards. Sir John died 28/10/1799 leaving no issue. It is very likely that I am claimant to the title, as the descendant of William, the third son of the 1st Baronet Sir Bryan of Ashby St. Ledgers.

If you have the opportunity, a visit to Ashby St. Ledgers would interest you. It is a little village two or three miles from Daventry in Northamptonshire and I feel sure it has changed little since the days of Charles I and the Catesbys * who first lived at the Manor House and which passed into my family's hands.

It is presently owned and occupied by Lord Wimbourne of the Guest family.

Next to the Manor House is the Norman church of St. Oswald (?) I think. Upon entering the church and proceeding to the altar, you will find marble relief sculptures of Bryan I'Anson Senior, the London draper (who founded the family - Editor) and his wife, Henrietta, facing each other and kneeling in prayer. Beneath them are three children, including Sir Bryan and elder brother John, who appear dressed in the fashion similar to Elizabethan times, a ruff about the neck, short jacket, high riding boots and riding spurs at their heels.

Above the statues is the coat of arms and the motto "Faire Mon Devoir" which I understand to be "My Duty First".

Great Great Grandfather William I'Anson, Frances's elder brother was a solicitor and visited the United States in 1797 staying until 1805. Upon his return he wrote two or three books, one of which was about his travels in the U.S. entitled "The Stranger in America" and he recorded speeches made in the House of Representatives by George Washington to which he personally listened and wrote down. This book is held in the Library of the University of Edinburgh.

I would confirm that my father's uncle William Andrew of Denton Hall left his estate and wealth to his nephew William Andrew I'Anson-Charlton and I believe an oil painting of Frances also went to the Charlton family by the same means.

Whether the name of Charlton was dropped as my great uncle requested in his will I do not know.

I trust that I have been helpful to you and should there be any further information which I may be able to impart I shall be only too pleased to do so.

My best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

LESLIE AINSDALE I'ANSON

*Robert Catesby was one of the Gunpowder Plotters with Guy Fawkes - Editor.

18 Sefton Road,
Formby, Lancs.
23/6/1974

Dear Mr. Wolstencroft,

Please forgive the delay in replying to your letter which I received some two or three weeks ago and may I hasten to thank you for the woodcut displaying the family coat of arms. It is really a very nice piece of work. I shall take pride in making a frame for it.

The arms as you have shown them, however, seem slightly different to the arms

shown in the village church at Ashby St. Ledger above two sculptings of Bryan Senior and John, the elder son of Bryan.

In place of the cross and cubit arm there is a mailed gauntlet holding a sword, the blade broken a few inches from the hilt which indeed forms a cross.

I have taken photographs of the sculptings and the interior of the church.

With regard to your comments upon the possible lapse of the arms, I would say that a pedigree was recorded at the College of Arms in 1897 (Norfolk 18 page 106) showing my father's descent from William I'Anson died 1723 (see asterisk in first letter - Editor) but it was not recorded that he (William I'Anson died 1723) was the grandson of the 1st Baronet. Armorial bearings were granted to my great uncle William Andrew I'Anson (of Denton Hall, Newcastle upon Tyne, see his correspondence in "Lass of Richmond Hill" dispute in "Notes & Queries" mentioned in issue 1 - Editor) for him and his descendants and for the other descendants of his late father.

This information came to me from J. P. Brooke-Little Esq., Richmond Herald of Arms.

If I chose so to do I could establish my legal right to these arms without much trouble. However, what I would really be interested in re-establishing is the Baronetcy which has lain dormant since 1799 and to which I believe I am the rightful claimant.

According to the Richmond Herald, in July 1971 when I last corresponded with him, there would be a great deal which would have to be proved and some of it could be difficult and correspondingly costly.

I do, however, find it difficult to understand that this would be so as the pedigree provided in the volume "The History of the I'Anson Family" clearly shows the descent of my father (I am not shown as it was published in 1915, I was born 1917) right back to the 1st Baronet and back to the first John I'Anson at Hauxwell, as recorded by Arthur Bryan I'Anson makes the descent clear.

Whether the Richmond Herald could accept this pedigree or not, I do not know, but if it was acceptable to the College of Arms I believe there would be little expense involved.

I apologise for omitting to comment on your idea for an I'Anson Society, I think it is an excellent proposition but I must warn you I have not the faintest idea how to organise such a venture. Naturally, I would offer whatever support I may be able to provide.

My best wishes,
Yours sincerely,
LESLIE AINSDALE I'ANSON

The arms of the above family vary slightly from the "Standard" I'Anson Coat of Arms and there are two mottos, I have both versions on file.

The History of the I'Anson Baronets will be the subject of a future issue - Editor.

The White House,
Alne, York.
Sept. 25th 1972

My Dear Tom,

In view of our recently discovered relationship I feel justified in addressing you as above.

I was interested in receiving your letter and learning of your interest in the family I'Anson. There are one or two points we should correct before proceeding with our study of the family history. Firstly, my father was William and not James, as

suggested by you, James being my father's brother and your great uncle. Your grandmother was always known to us as Aunt Jenny who was married to Harry Wolstencroft who, as you will know, was an iron moulder in York but of this you will be quite well aware.

So far as my grandparents are concerned, I confirm their names as John and Grace, the latter nee Langlands, and so far as I can remember, emanating from Morpeth, Northumberland. I am afraid I cannot confirm the dates you gave of their deaths although they will be roughly correct. The both died about the time of my birth in 1892. They had a big family consisting of three males and seven females as follows :

MALES : JAMES LANGLANDS

He was a rural postman attached to the Post Office in Thirsk and leaves a number of grandchildren of whom two are Phyllis whose present address is Mrs. J. Childs, The Bungalow, Sandhutton, Thirsk (my cousin and friend is now deceased - Editor), and her sister Winifred who is now Mrs. Carver of Northallerton (See membership list - Editor)

JOHN ROBERT

Another postman attached to the Thirsk Post Office who died as a young married man (1898 - Editor). I imagine Phyllis will give you details of his descendants (Mrs. Edie Downes of Thirsk died in 80's in July 1976 - Editor)

WILLIAM

Eventually a station-master on the North Eastern Railway and dying after retirement on December 28th 1953. He left one surviving son, the writer of this record (second son killed first World War - Editor), George Victor Langlands.

FEMALES: GRACE

Latterly living with her daughter, Grace, at Acomb, York and dying there. She lived to a good age of over 90 and leaves a daughter, Grace, and sons Kimberley and James. Her married name was Maguire.

FRANCES ANNIE

Married name Marshall. I have very little knowledge of her but if I can get further information I will pass it along to you. (Settled in London. Daughters Elsie & Edie Marshall - Editor)

"POLLY" (Mary Langlands)

I have also very little knowledge of her connections. (Married John Harrison and settled in Mirfield, Yorks. Best man and matron of honour at my grandparents wedding in 1899. Granddaughter is a member - Editor)

"SALLY" (Sarah)

Surname after marriage - Bell. She lived and died at Batley, Yorks. She lived to the age of 96, so far as I know her daughter is still living there. (also son, William Bell - Editor)

EMILY

Name after marriage - Andrew. She lived and died ~~there~~ with her son, Wilfred, at Blackpool some 20 or so years ago.

ELIZA

The eldest of the family. She married her cousin John I'Anson of Ripon so never changed her name. I hope to get further information for you. (Quite a large family of descendants in Yorks., I have not sorted out how many, became members without my knowing they were cousins ! - Editor)

JANE ISOBEL

Your grandmother and our Aunt Jenny. I think she was the youngest of the family.

I am sorry to hear about your father (died 1971). I remember his call upon me and I was very pleased to see him. I last saw him at Aunt Grace's funeral.

I don't know whether grandfather would be regarded as a master mason or not but he must

have been pretty well up in his trade. I have one or two specimens of his work which are very good. (Woodcarvings - Editor).

I will close now and hope to continue in the near future.

With kindest regards and best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

G. V. L. I'ANSON

(My father's first cousin who must share with William I'Anson of Ferryhill, Durham (son of Eliza I'Anson) the title of "Patriarch" of our branch of the I'Ansons, both cousins are in their mid 80's)

Westowe,
Galphay,
Ripon, N. Yorks.

1/10/76

Dear Sir,

I read the reference to your research on the I'Anson Family in the Darlington & Stockton Times and would like any family pedigree you may have worked out. Please let me know the price or, if printed in book form. Your grandmother is stated as Jane I'Anson of Thirsk.

My grandfather, George Ellis, was farm foreman for 29 years for Colonel I'Anson of Howe Hall Park, near Skipton Bridge, Thirsk. I have heard that Col. I'Anson's forebears were brewers at Melmeby, he had some public houses including the Railway Inn at Thirsk Station and one at Pickhill. I think they were sold before he died about 1928 when Howe Park was sold to Colonel Littleboy.

I think Col. I'Anson's wife was a Miss Husband *. They had a son, Jack, killed in the 1914-18 War*. This was a big blow to the Colonel as he would have carried on at Howe, the other son, Charles, was down south somewhere. There were three daughters, Mary Isobel married to a Mr. Watney***. I think they were brewers, etc. Dolly (Dorothy Clare - Editor) died rather young and the elder daughter (Nelly Ratcliffe l Editor) left Howe when it was sold.

I remember my mother and I having lunch with Col. I'Anson about 1927 and seeing stuffed birds they had shot and woodcarvings done by Miss Husband of Ripon (taught by my great grandfather ?? - Editor) and Jack's room which they had left as it was. Times have altered!

I am

Yours faithfully,

ALFRED E. HARLAND.

* Annie Jane, daughter of Charles Husband M. R. C. S. of Ripon

** Captain John Francis I'Anson, 3rd West Yorks. Reg. born 1/6/1883, killed at the Battle of the Aisne, France. 20/9/1914

*** Bertram W. A. Watney Esq. of Distillery House, Wandsworth S. W.

EXTRACT OF LETTER FROM MY COUSIN PHYLLIS I'ANSON (married name Childs) of SANDHUTTON, THIRSK, who died of cancer September 1975

..... The present owner of Howe Hall is Graham Littleboy, it was previously his father's - Colonel Littleboy and I think I'Anson before that. I knew Graham and Joan when they were children as Ethel Woods, their nanny, used to bring them to our house. I have photographs of Uncle Jim's (our member James Langland I'Anson) daughter sitting on Graham's pony. Ethel married Uncle Eddie's friend who was a chauffeur-gardener, Jim Smith.

I could use this contact one day to ask if I could take a photograph of Howe Hall as Ethel still keeps in touch with Graham and Joan.

Talking of Eddie (in reference to enclosed newspaper cutting of Eddie I'Anson's funeral in 1941, died as young unmarried man, sang in Thirsk Church choir), you will see he was very popular with rich and poor by the list of mourners. Mrs. Bell of Thirsk Hall (the Lord of the Manor's wife) was very fond of Eddie and often had him round to tea. Nancy Walker and her mother, of Ravensthorpe Manor are relatives of the Bells. Other names listed are from prominent business people to the poorest old lady who used to think Eddie was wonderful. You will notice that your grandmother, Aunt Sally, Aunt Grace, Elsie Marshall, Mrs. Downes nee Edie I'Anson, were there.

The references to the I'Ansons of Howe Hall have great significance to my branch of the family as my researches are beginning to show that the two families became one in the eighteenth century at Middleton Quernhowe.

The two brothers, John and Francis, became Innkeepers - John at Melmerby, Francis at Thirsk. Francis is my I'Anson family's ancestor. John is the ancestor of the I'Ansons of Howe Hall, but more of that in the narration of my researches.

I have been pondering about the programme for 1977. There has been some constructive criticism of the paper, mainly about it being too brief. The dilemma is this, do we stay at £1.00 per year and stick to two sheets or go to £1.50 or £2.00 and increase the size of the issue? I would welcome a consensus of opinion on this point.

Thank you for your interest and support in 1976.