

Huntley Family Tree

Author: Keith

Date: November 5, 2015

At the head of the Huntley tree is my great grandfather, Henry Frederick Olive Huntley. The [1851 census](#) records that he was practicing as a dental surgeon living in Southern Bay, Registration District of Exeter, District of St. Sidwell in the County of Exeter and at that time, was reported as being 28 years old and born in London. Searches of birth records have not found any mention of Henry Frederick's birth. We know that my grandpa Huntley stated he was a first cousin to the Marquis of Huntly (Gordon family) so it can be expected that his grandfather (i.e., Henry Frederick Olive's father) would be a Gordon. We also have been told that when the Gordon's lost much of their wealth they changed their surname to Huntley.

I have found a record of a Henry Gordon being born in 1823 in the [Regimental Birth Indices Supplement 1761-1924](#). The question is therefore, could this Henry Gordon be my great grandfather, later renamed Henry Frederick. O. Huntley? At least the year of birth ties in with the information in the 1851 census that Henry F. O. Huntley was 28 at that time. Looking at the ["The Peerage"](#) web publication which lists the nine children of George Gordon, the 9th Marquis of Huntly, there is only one who was serving in the military and who would have been old enough to be the father of a child born in 1823, namely Major Lord Henry Gordon. He was born in 1802 but did not marry until 1827 and earned the rank of Major in the service of the East India Company, We can conclude therefore that the child Henry Gordon reported in the Regimental Birth Indices and Henry Frederick Olive Huntley almost for sure, are the same person. If so, then Major Lord Henry Gordon was my great great-grandfather and Henry F. O. Huntley's father. Also, the 9th Marquis of Huntly would be Henry F. Huntley's grandfather and my great-great-great grandfather!. Further research is probably necessary to confirm this supposition beyond all reasonable doubt. However, the following is interesting and may be significant: According to the 1841 census, a Henry Huntley age 18 was living in New Bond Street, Westminster and a Captain Gordon age 40 was living in Suffolk Place, Westminster.

In 1847 Henry F. O. Huntley married a Sarah Richards Beedle (born in Exeter 1825). There were three children from the marriage, Henry Gordon, Georgina and Hubert Stobbs (my grandfather). Henry, the eldest, was born in the 2nd quarter of 1848 but died when he was twenty in 1867, Georgina was born on 1st December 1850 and grandfather Hubert Stobbs on 24th November 1852. The family lived in good style at 1, Barfield Place, Exeter. [The 1851 census](#) identifies a total of nine occupants of the building being Henry F. O. Huntley aged 28, Sarah his wife aged 25, their two children Henry G and Georgina aged 3 years and 3 months respectively and two servants together with the landowner Thomas Austen, his wife and a servant.

After only eight years of marriage, my great-grandmother Sarah was widowed when Henry Frederick Olive. Huntley died in the 4th quarter of 1855 at the early age of 32 (reason not yet known). Four years later, widow Sarah married again, to a George Hardy, commercial traveller.

With him, she had four more children, Alfred, Ernest, Theodore and Robert. Theodore was an Army Chaplain in World War I and won a Victoria Cross, but did not survive the war. A plaque in his memory exists in Exeter ([see Rev. Theodore Bayley Hardy](#)). Great-grandmother Sarah was widowed a second time when, eleven years after they were married, George Hardy died at the age of 50.

The [1861](#) and 1871 census records throw further light on the family. After the death of Henry Huntley senior in 1855 and her second marriage to George Hardy, great-grandma Sarah moved to a new abode nearby in the Exeter area. At the time of the 1861 census the family were living at Southernhay, St. Sidwell. The household totaled ten people - George Hardy and his wife Sarah, the three Huntley children Henry, Georgina and my grandpa, the first child Alfred from George Hardy, Sarah's mother Elizabeth Beedle, Sarah's sister Georgina Beedle, a housemaid and a cook. Sounds pretty cosy!

Ten years later in 1871 ([click to view census record](#)), the situation was not so cosy. The family was still living in Southernhay but great-grandma Sarah was now widowed and working as a schoolmistress. My grandpa's brother Henry Gordon Huntley had died, my grandpa's sister Georgina was working as a daily governess, grandpa at age 18 was working as a cashier, the eldest Hardy boy Alfred was not listed, and the remaining three were all at school. There were no servants. Clearly, they were struggling financially.

By [the time of the 1881 census](#) the family had moved to 124 Elgin Road Kensington (London) and was greatly reduced in numbers. Georgina and her half-brothers Ernest and Robert had fled the nest, but my grandpa, now 28 working as a draper's clerk and Theodore Bayley Hardy (17) still a scholar, were living at home.. According to the [Devon Heritage](#), Theodore "*went on to London University and in 1889 was awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree. The previous year, he had married Florence Hastings in Belfast. He embarked on a career as a schoolmaster and it was not until 1898 that he was ordained. His career as a teacher continued and eventually, he became headmaster of Bentham Grammar School, a post he held until 1913.*" I remember my father telling me during the last years of his life here that as a boy, on several occasions he visited with his uncle in Ireland during the summer.

The 1881 census reported [Alfred W. Hardy](#), now age 19 working as a school-teacher in a small private boarding school in Broadwater, Sussex. So far, I have not found any further records of Alfred Hardy except for an entry in the death register for Norwich, Norfolk reporting [his death](#) in the 4th quarter of 1937 at the age of 74.

So far, I have found no further records about the Hardy family. The youngest boy Robert is still not accounted for. At the time of the 1881 census, when he was no longer at home, he may have been in boarding school, but we need to check whether he shows up at the time of the 1891 census.

[My great grandma Sarah died](#) at the age of seventy-three during the second quarter of 1899, when my father was ten years old, in Thetford, Norfolk.

My grandfather's sister, Georgina Huntley, married a George Trobridge in the summer of 1879 (in Kensington, London). There were six children from the marriage; Arthur, Ethel, Hugh Frank, Dorothy, Ernest and Kathleen. Arthur died at the age of 21, Ethel married a David Simms and emigrated to New Zealand, Frank married Ethel Clay, Dorothy married John Rous Presland, Ernest married Jenny Pulsford and Kathleen, it is believed, remained a spinster. George Trobridge born in Exeter in 1851, and living in London at the time of his marriage to Georgina, moved to Ireland the following year with his wife and first-born Arthur to take up an appointment as headmaster of the Government School of Design in Belfast, where the family remained for the next twenty-one years. He exhibited in England, at the Belfast Ramblers' Sketching Club and in Dublin. He published *The Principles of Perspective as Applied to Model Drawing and Sketching from Nature* (1884) and *Swedenborg, His Life, Teachings and Influence*, and *The Foundations of Philosophy* (1904). He wrote a novel and contributed to journals and newspapers and in 1908 he returned to England.

As the result of a contact made through the internet with Eileen Trobridge's daughter Deborah Young (Frank and Ethel (Clay) Trobridge's grand-daughter), I have received an excellent history of the family prepared by Jack Simms ([see copy of his letter](#)). I have considerable memories of the Trobridge family mainly in my boyhood. I was very impressed with Ernest Trobridge's beautiful house, which was of futuristic design at that period (1930's) and we often met with Frank and Ethel Trobridge and their beautiful daughter, Eileen. I have received some very interesting pictures of the family from Deborah which I have placed into an album (see Trobridge photo gallery at [family web site](#)). The album also includes an interesting picture taken in 1951/2 showing my mother and father, Frank and Ethel Trobridge, their daughter Eileen and her husband Arthur together with the baby Deborah. This picture was recently extracted from one of my father's old photograph albums. Deborah, on my father's side, and Una, on my mother's side, are the only surviving cousins that I have traced so far.

My grandfather, Hubert Stobbs Huntley was born, in Barnfield House, St. Tidwell, Exeter, on November 22, 1852. At the age of 31, on February 13, 1884 he married my grandmother, Lucy Susanna Harley, who was three years his senior. She was the daughter of George Wills Harley, statuary. At the time of the marriage, which took place in the Parish Church, Upton-cum-Chalvey, Bucks, grandpa was living at 15, Ferntower Road, Highbury¹ and Lucy Harley was living in Church Street, Slough. Witnesses to the marriage were Theodore Bayley Hardy together with the bride's parents Sarah Harley and George Wills Harley. Henry Frederick Huntley (who

1

Description(s) from *The National Gazetteer* (1868):

"ISLINGTON, (or Islington St. Mary) a parish, forming part of the Metropolitan borough of Finsbury, in the Finsbury division of the hundred of Ossulstone, county Middlesex. It is an extensive suburban parish, 2 miles N. of St. Paul's, London and has stations on the Blackwall and Kingston and North London railways at Highbury, and a station on the Great Northern at Holloway. The parish includes besides Islington proper, the populous suburban districts of Highbury, Holloway, Ballspond, Battlebridge, Barnsbury Park, Kingsland, and Newington Green." (There is [more of this description](#)).

died when Grandpa was only three years old) was, identified in the marriage certificate as father of the groom..

The first child from the marriage was Margaret Doris, born December 15, 1884, at Ferntower Road, Islington¹, Sub-District of Highbury, Middx. My father had mentioned her to me, but she did not survive far beyond her first birthday and died in Ferntower Road on 26 March 1886 at the age of 14 months, so he never knew her. The cause of death stated on the death certificate was German Measles and Bright's disease. My father was, of course, the second child from the marriage. He was born June 2, 1889, at 6 Park Villas, Albion Road, Stoke Newington, London. Evidently, at some time during the intervening period, grandpa had moved from Islington to Stoke Newington.

I remember grandpa Huntley quite well, as he lived with us at 48, Bulstrode Avenue, Hounslow until his death at the age of 77, on December 4, 1929 (I was then six). Causes of death were cardiac failure, debility and senile glycosuria. The things I remember most about him were that in the mornings he always seemed to be buried behind a newspaper sitting in front of the kitchen range. I would creep up and then whack the newspaper hard, which would infuriate him! He had a thick moustache which would amuse me because it would get very wet when he drank his cup of tea. My cousin Una also has memories of grandpa Huntley and says he ate at a separate table and always had a high pile of dry white bread to accompany his meal.

I have virtually no memory of my grandma Huntley - I was only two when she died on December 6, 1925. She was evidently in a nursing home at the time of death (Osborne House, Heston) but did, I believe, live with my grandfather and the rest of us at 48, Bulstrode Avenue, Hounslow. I have vague memories of going upstairs to the back bedroom where a lady with a black frock and white lace around her neck would give me a biscuit - but that could have been my Aunt Mary who also lived with us at that time. However, we do have a mug inscribed "Lucy Susanna Harley, Born October 7th 1848" which, although in pieces could probably be reconstructed. This piece is, of course, over 150 years old and is probably the best family archive which we possess.

The Harley Family

According to the [1851 census](#), my grandmother Lucy was living in Church Street, Slough, Bucks (at that time a hamlet in the parish of Upton-cum-Chalney) with her father, mother, younger brother Richard, and a household servant Mary Mayhew. My grandmother, born October 7, 1848 in Windsor, was two years old at the time, while the younger brother, born in Slough, was 8 months. The same census gives interesting information about my great-grandfather and great-grandmother Harley, as follows:

George W. Harley	Age 28	Born in Torquay, Devonshire
Sarah Harley	Age 25	Born in Slough

George Wills Harley was recorded as being a Master Mason employing 3 masons, 3 labourers and one apprentice.

By the [next census in 1861](#) the family, still living in Church Street, Slough, had grown considerably. There were now six children, as follows: Lucy Susanna age 12 and Richard G age 10, George W age 8, Alfred S age 8, Sarah E age 6 and Mary F age one month. George Harley was doing very well at his business too, now listed as a Statuary Mason & Builder employing 50 men and 4 boys. The census also listed a servant Annie Grove and more importantly, a Mary Dodd aged 20, sister of George Harley's wife Sarah. This information led me to the maiden name of my great-grandmother Sarah Harley and I have identified her and her parents in the 1841 census living in Slough. At that time Sarah Dodd was 15, her father Richard Dodd and his wife Lucy were both 35. Richard Dodd's occupation was recorded as "Brick M."

There is a little more yet! The 1871 census shows the Harley family greatly reduced in size. to just George Harley and his wife, their daughter Lucy and sons George W. Jr., and Alfred. George W. Jr. age 18 was occupied as a stonemason, Alfred was a joiner while Lucy was practicing as a music teacher! Maybe, later in life she would teach her son - my father.

Finally, in the 1881 census, another daughter shows up!! The family is still in Church Street, Slough and numbers five people - George Harley, Sr. now 58 years old and his wife Sarah, their son Alfred, now switched to being a stonemason, and two daughters Mary, aged 20 and *Georgina*, aged 17. Georgina's occupation was reported as governess and scholar.

My great grandfather George Wills Harley and great grandmother Sarah (Dodd) Harley both died at the same age in Eton, in 1898 and 1901, respectively. At the time of the census in 1901 Sarah Harley was still at 5, Church Street, Slough and her son Alfred had taken over the business. Sarah passed in the 4th quarter of that year.

It is odd that my father talked very little about the Harley's despite the fact that his mother's six siblings must have multiplied to a significant number of cousins! Hopefully we can find some of their descendents.

Edited October 25th, 2019