

I. FREDERICK CHARLES BROWNFIELD was the eldest son of Samuel Brownfield. He was born between April 1<sup>st</sup> and June 30<sup>th</sup> 1858 in Poplar.<sup>1</sup> In 1862 his father became the Deputy Superintendent of the Grand Surrey Dock and canal Company at Rotherhithe and the family moved to live in the Docks. At the time of the 1871 census, young Frederick aged 12, was staying with his grandparents James (75) and Martha Deane (71) at 37 the Terrace, Milton, Gravesend. James was a retired pilot. In the house were two unmarried daughters Margaret (37) and Esther (35) as well as a 19 year old general servant Louisa Horn.<sup>2</sup> In 1878 Samuel became Superintendent of the now amalgamated Surrey Commercial Docks and the family moved to a large house called 'Orchardleigh' by the main entrance. On 20<sup>th</sup> October 1880, Frederick married ALICE CREGUN, the 23-year-old daughter of a Physician and Surgeon. On the marriage certificate, it records that Alice's address was 10 Plough Road, Rotherhithe and that her father was deceased. Frederick's address was 50 Amersham Road, New Cross.<sup>3</sup> The witnesses at the wedding were Harry Munyard Brownfield, Nussy Isobel Cregun and William Cregun Faraker. Robert Faraker M.A. was the officiating minister.

The 1881 census shows that the newly married couple went back to live at 50 Amersham Road, with 1 un-named servant, but they moved on and by 1891 Frederick Charles and Alice were at 17 Jerningham Road, St Paul Deptford, with their two children Edith Alice and Frederick Samuel.

Frederick Charles Brownfield started his employment as a timber merchant but by 1885, he was the Company Secretary of The London Riverside Fish Market Company, whose premises were at Shadwell on the north bank of the Thames near Wapping and was set up in competition with Billingsgate Market, in the City. In an advertisement for a share issue in the Times of March 11, 1885 over F.C. Brownfield's name as secretary, it states "*The market is now in course of erection ...and will be open for business in October next*"<sup>4</sup> On Monday March 3, 1887 at the General Meeting some concern was expressed about the success of the market and although the costs were lower than at Billingsgate and the profits higher, some difficulty was reported in getting fish traders to use the market and 'Mr Brownfield had been to Grimsby, Colchester, Wivenhoe and elsewhere, placing before the fish owners the advantages of going to Shadwell'. However the meeting ended on an optimistic note with the statement that 'they did not intend to be beaten by Billingsgate'.<sup>5</sup> The Corporation of London did not take kindly to the competition and bought the market in 1900, after which it was slowly run down and finally closed in 1911. After the First World War the area was cleared and the site of the old market now forms part of the King Edward VII Memorial Park, which opened in 1922.<sup>6</sup>

In the 1901 census, they were living at 19 Harefield Road, which is in the civil parish of St Paul, Deptford. They had one servant, a 31 year old cook from Deptford, Louisa Major. Between 1906 and 1913, Frederick was living at 28 Greenwich Park and had reverted to being a timber merchant and timber surveyor. As eldest son, he took charge of Samuel's affairs on his death. About 1913 he moved to the Isle of Man where he owned a sawmill and fishing net factory.<sup>7</sup>

In 1913 a James Deane, possibly Frederick's uncle, died in Williamstown, South Australia. He was described as a ship owner and merchant. Frederick Charles Brownfield was a plaintiff on behalf of the sons of Samuel Brownfield, who with others contested his will.<sup>8</sup>

In 1915, Mr and Mrs F.C Brownfield gave a 'revolving entrée dish' to Nancy Brownfield, their niece, when she married Harry McCausland.<sup>9</sup>

Between 1921 and 1927, Frederick was living at 33 Shooters Hill Road.<sup>8</sup> Alice died there on Dec 23, 1927<sup>10</sup>

In the National Probate Register Index it states:

BROWNFIELD – Alice of 33 Shooters Hill Road, Blackheath, Kent wife of Frederick Charles Brownfield died 23 December 1927. Probate London 1 February to the said Frederick Charles Brownfield surveyor and Frederick Samuel Brownfield clerk.

Effects £1802 – 1s

In the Autumn of 1929, Frederick Charles married Margaret McGoven at St Georges Hanover Square.<sup>11</sup> He died in 1936; the probate register index reads:

BROWNFIELD, Frederick Charles of White Swan Cottage Broadstairs Kent died 9 September 1936 Probate London 16 November to Frederick Samuel BROWNFIELD oil company's official and Reverend Sydney Lawrence PORTER clerk.

Effects £6584 14s 10d

Woodcock, Ryland and Parker, 15 Bloomsbury Square London WC1, were still the family solicitors. Both Henry Woodcock Ryland and Sir George Parker were cousins of Frederick Charles Brownfield.

Frederick and Alice had two children:

(i) EDITH ALICE BROWNFIELD who was born in Amersham Road, New Cross on Sep 12, 1881<sup>12</sup>. On Feb 21, 1903 she married Sydney Lawrence Porter at the Parish Church at Shenfield. Sydney was a priest (a clerk in Holy Orders). The Rev. Canon Quennell conducted the service. Sydney was the second son of Joseph J. Porter of Mayfield, Hutton. Edith Alice was the only daughter of F.C. Brownfield of Ravensdale, Hutton, Essex. Sydney and Edith celebrated their silver wedding on February 21, 1930.<sup>13</sup>

They had at least one son, who was called David Brownfield Porter. His engagement was announced on September 10, 1935 to Margaret Violet Eliot, the daughter of a clergyman. At that time David was moving from being chaplain of Wadham College and Wycliffe Hall, Oxford, to be Vicar of All Saints' Headington,<sup>14</sup> they married in 1936 and had one son. Margaret died in 1956.<sup>15</sup> David became the Dean of the diocese of Edinburgh and Rector of St John the Evangelist, Edinburgh and on July 27, 1961 David married Mrs Pamela Cecil McNeil (née Lightfoot), widow of Mr Neil McNeil of 35 Cluny Drive, Edinburgh. The right Reverend K.C.H. Warner officiated. Mr Michael Porter was best man.<sup>16</sup> David Brownfield Porter was appointed Suffragan Bishop of Aston in 1961.<sup>17</sup>

(ii) FREDERICK SAMUEL BROWNFIELD was born in Deptford between October and December 1882.<sup>18</sup> In the 1901 census at the age of 18 he is recorded as living at home with his parents at 18 Harefield Road, St Paul's, Deptford employed as a commercial clerk.<sup>19</sup> In the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 1913, Frederick married Mollie MASON in Camberwell. They moved to the Isle of Man where his father owned a Sawmill and Fishing Net Factory.<sup>20</sup> On January 9, 1915 they were living at "Westbourne" Peel, Isle of Man, when Mollie was delivered of a daughter, Joan Mary BROWNFIELD. Sadly Mollie died suddenly from a cerebral haemorrhage two weeks after the birth on January 23, 1915.<sup>21</sup> Frederick did not get on well with his father and

four years later moved back to Blackheath. He married a second time to Norah GANN in Greenwich in the third quarter of 1920,<sup>22</sup> but did not have had any more children. He suffered with poor health due to arthritis. By the time of his father's death in 1936, Frederick was an oil company official.<sup>23</sup> He died in 1942..

The Probate Register reads:

BROWNFIELD – Frederick Samuel of 26 King Stone Avenue, Steyning, Sussex died 16 March 1942 at 10 Cidons Gardens Brighton. Probate Llandudno 28 May to Archie Corbet Seaton of no occupation. Effects £1987 – 16 – 10.

Joan trained as a nursery nurse at St Christopher's College in Tunbridge Wells, she then held several positions as nanny until the second world war, when she worked in a nursing home in Worthing, when in 1944 she was living with her step mother (Nora Gann) in Steyning in a house called "Hillside".<sup>24</sup>

Joan married Glen H. Good at Bramber Church, near Steyning in West Sussex in 1945.<sup>25</sup> Glen Good's father had been a close friend of Frederick Samuel when he was the Lloyd's Bank manager in Peel in the Isle of Man. In 1920 he had moved to Oxfordshire and Joan often spent holidays with the family. Glen Good was the District Valuer for Herefordshire and Worcestershire. They lived in Worcester where their two daughters were born, Sarah Joan in 1945 and Penelope Anne in 1949. In 1951 Glen Good bought a 200 acre fruit and hop farm in Tenbury Wells in Worcestershire, although he continued as the District Valuer until 1966. The farm as sold in 1968 and Glen and Joan moved to Bournemouth where Glen died in 1974. Joan moved back to Worcester in 1976 to be near her daughter and granddaughters. She died in Tenbury Wells in 2004 aged 89.<sup>26</sup>

## Sources

### *Frederick Charles Brownfield*

1. General Register Office Index, June Quarter 1858. Poplar Vol 1c, page 597
2. 1871 census RG10 0890 741a hse53
3. Marriage Certificate, St Johns, Deptford, October 20, 1880. No 40
4. Times Archive on-line Mar 11,1885
5. Times Archive on-line March 3, 1887 p11
6. 'London's Riverscape' p32.
7. Personal Communication Penelope Peel.
8. Times Archive on-line May 16 1915.
9. Newspaper report – Petersfield wedding. McCausland-Brownfield
10. The Blackheath register, Neil Hinds, Greenwich Local History Library.
11. Times Archive on-line Dec 28, 1927
12. Times Archive on-line September 12, 1881
13. Times Archive on-line Feb 21, 1930.
14. Times Archive on-line Sept 19, 1935
15. Who's Who
16. Times Archive on-line July 28,1961
17. Times Archive on-line Oct 13, 1961
18. GROl. 1882.4 Greenwich 1d, page 1009
19. 1901 Census on line . RG13 piece 535 folio 85 p.40
20. Personal Communication Penelope Peel
21. Times Archive on-line Jan 13,1915 and Jan 28, 1915
22. GROl 1920.3 vol.1d p2270
23. Probate register Frederick Charles Brownfield 1936
24. Wedding present list for TTK Allan and Joan Lilla.Brownfield
25. GROl marriages 1945.4 vol. 2b p.939.
26. Personal Communication Penelope Peel