16 Aug 1832

Dr. Went in a small boat to Kangaroo Point & then proceeded on foot to the little settlement of Muddy Plains through Clarence Plains. Paying visits to houses on the way & district courts. The next day Dr. walked on to Muddy Plains & reached the house of Robert Mathers.

Part 2

The Reasons.

In the extreme S. E. corner of Cumberland, a few miles from Penrith, near the western slope of the Blue Mountains, locally known as the fells, which divide Cumberland from Northumberland, lies the little village of Melmerby. Here in the middle of the 17th century lived a family of small freeholders named Benson. They came of that ancient stock of hardy yeomen who dwelt in what was once part of the Ancient Brittle Kingdom of Strath-
Flax Hewes (23) Benson

Clyde, and afterwards for centuries the troublesome scene of Border strife and fray. These Cumberland 'statesmen' are a bloody race, of a stubborn independent spirit, farming with their own hands their little estates, often held in the same family for centuries. In wealth and comfort they were often fully the equal of the country Squire, and (as a modern historian remarks) in antiquity of possession of purity of extraction was often the superior of the Squire who looked down upon him as his equal.

The Bensons were worthy members of their class. The first of the family of whom we have any account is Miles Benson, born 1613, who held a small farm on which he had inherited near Henselby. This farm descended to his son John, born in 1648, who was from his son Joseph, youngest of a family of seven. When the boy was a year old John Benson sold the paternal estate for 600£, to become...

John Neele (24) of Benson

A tenant farmer in a neighbouring locality, and finally settled at Hether Harencrook. The moral, religious, degradation of social life, especially in the upper lower classes, has been sketched in black and graphic outlines by Green in his 'Hist. of the Long People.' Yet England was still sound.

In the hearts of multitudes of the middle class the old Puritan feeling lived strong. The Benson household had indeed little learning. It is said that John Benson's whole library consisted of Miers' Whole Duty of Man, a book of sermons, and the Bible. But he, this wise, cherished the old-fashioned piety of their forefathers, with its simple observances of church going, reading the Bible, prayer, and the quiet home in the Cumberland valley was an atmosphere well suited for the gentle and serious youngest son. His studious inclinations, and his religious feeling pointed him out for the Church. And this father placed him under the
Joseph, a young man of twenty-five, was the son of a Presbyterian minister, and had been trained from an early age to the study of theology and the classics. His family had preserved a valuable library for his use.

He had a picture of the old farm house, the big hall or sitting room, the kitchen, and the mistress and her maids busy spinning, the servants amusing themselves around the great wood fire at one end of the big hall, while at the other end, in far away in the biting cold, sits the boy student absorbed in his books, disregarding his mother's entreaties to take more thought of his comfort.

The boy was no weakling; he had the north country hardness, and delighted in accompanying his father's shepherds over the bleak fells, in the hard weather and wind. He would use long poles to rescue the buried sheep. In this training it is probable Joseph Benson owed the power of endurance which he showed in after life of the vigorous health which in spite of arduous
Mental labour he preserved nearly to the end of his days. When he left school at 16 he took a post as teacher in a school at Gamblesby, and here came to him the crisis that was to determine the future course of his life. When Joseph Benson was born England was quivering under the preaching of Whitfield, Wesley, but it was long before the wave of religious emotion reached these far-away Cumberland valleys. When Joseph was in his 18th year he came under the influence of his cousin Joshua Nation, who had been converted by the Methodist preachers, and induced the young man to cast in his lot with the new society. His life, blameless as it had been, now appeared to them better than heathenism. After a long period of mental anguish and struggle ensued before he could say that he had found peace. Hearing of a vacancy for a classical master at Wesley's school at Kingwood,
he set off in the depths of winter to walk across the snow-clad fells on his road to New Castle, where the great preacher then was. His father accompanied him for some miles, and the two parted from each other with floods of tears, to meet (as it proved) no more in this world. After weary wanderings on foot over England he at last found Wesley and was rewarded for his perseverance by being appointed classical master at Kingswood. But his heart was set on entering the ministry of the Church of England, and with this object in view he studied hard in theology, philosophy, and science, and at 21 entered his name at the University of Oxford to qualify for ordination. Here to his bitter disappointment he found his disposition to encourage learning, the instruction being so elementary that it was useless to him. Though of considerable classical attainments, of bluebeard conduct, he had incurred the displeasure of the
University Authorities in consequence of his connection with Wesley as a preacher of he was when the time to graduate the Vice Principal refused on that account to sign his testimonials for orders. Benson left without taking his degree. Nothing daunted still cherishing his desire to become a clergyman he qualified for orders, but the Bishop refused to ordain him on the pretext of his want of a degree, the real reason being his connection with the Methodists. Thus foiled in his hopes he was reluctantly compelled to turn to Wesley’s Society and in 1771 was appointed as a regular preacher one of the Wesley’s regular itinerant preachers. He rapidly grew to throw himself into his work with all the energy of his nature, and rapidly grew in influence. His labour was increasing and his talents became known. His reputation as a preacher of exceptional power increased, and he was appointed to the charge of the most important tours in the Kingdom.
especially to the large centres of manufacturing industry in the North and in the Midlands. Nelson came to be recognised as one of the leading men of the Society. His zeal to win indigent souls was indefatigable; his labours were unceasing. When he preached multitudes flocked to hear him. The word of the Lord burned in his heart like a fire. It was his habit to preach 6 times on a Sunday, beginning at 6 in the morning. For every week day he preached once, sometimes two or three times, constantly walking the long distances between the preaching stations. He became one of the most popular preachers in England, though in reading his printed sermons it is difficult to see where his power lay. It must have been special personal note which gave to his passionate exhortations their moving effect on large congregations, of which Rev. Prichard Hall to style him "Evangelistic," and Rev. Prichard Hall to declare that he was "absolutely
Irresistible." Healey fully appreciated his ability to tell his truths, cherished him as a valued and trusted friend and co-worker. At Healey's death Benson, if not the most brilliant, was without doubt the most trusted man in the Society. He had a wise tact, a calm judgment and a wise moderation which were of infinite service to the Council in the heated controversies which followed the death of the Automatic founder, and more than once by his influence and counsel he was able to avert the imminent danger which threatened the Society of being rent in twain. Thus progress through Cornwall on one of his missions of pacification strikes one with astonishment at the management of the power with which he retires. One is struck with astonishment at the power of men who have naturally one is struck with astonishment at the power with which this man, by nature and taste a retiring student, could sway huge crowds—
In the late 19th century, Benson was a prominent figure in the Church, known for his eloquent preaching. His sermons were well-received, and his influence extended far beyond his local congregation.

Not only as a popular preacher, Benson was also a respected figure in the Church. His sermons were known for their emotional power, and he was regarded with affection by the congregation. Benson was not only a minister, but also a scholar and theologian. He was well educated, and his sermons were often based on his extensive knowledge of religious texts.

Benson was both a popular preacher and a scholar. He was known for his ability to combine the two roles effectively, and his sermons were often well-researched and thought-provoking. Despite his intelligence and scholarly knowledge, Benson was also known for his humility and his ability to connect with his flock on a personal level.

Benson was a man of many talents, and he was well-suited to his role as a minister. He was not only a great speaker, but also a great listener, and he was always willing to listen to the needs of his congregation. His ministry was characterized by a strong commitment to helping others and by his willingness to serve them in any way he could.

Benson's influence extended beyond his local congregation. He was known for his great compassion, and he was always willing to go out of his way to help those in need. His ministry was characterized by a strong commitment to helping others, and he was always willing to lend a helping hand to those who were in need.

Benson was not only a great preacher, but also a great man. He was known for his kindness, his compassion, and his willingness to serve others. His ministry was characterized by a strong commitment to helping others, and he was always willing to lend a helping hand to those in need. His influence extended beyond his local congregation, and he was known for his great compassion, his kindness, and his willingness to serve others.
July 1800

1809

It is not to be wondered at that such close application should have told on him that he should have had painting feet. Yet such was his vigour that, where over 70 he had preached twice on a Sunday & walked 10 to 15 miles in the day. His last sermon was preached in his 82d year, and at that time he rapidly failed. He died at City Road, 15 Feb. 1821.

He was twice elected
At the age of 53 he was appointed Superintendent of the London Circuit & two or three years later Editor of the Methodist Magazine. Though here his wanderings as an itinerant minister came to an end, & he had his home in "Mr. Healey's House," hard by the City Road Chapel, he did not cease to preach but found ample field for ministerial and pastoral work in the Metropolis, & frequently in the provinces also. But his principal work was then now with his pen. Besides editing the Magazine, he wrote the life of his friend, Fletcher of Hadeley, & also prepared a new edition of Healey's Works. At the age of 62, by the express request of Conference he undertook his most extensive work, his well-known "Commentary on the Bible." In this work he gave 9 years continuous labour, frequently working in his study from 10 to 5 with very small intervals from 4 to 8 in the morning to 11 at night.
It was proposed that he should be buried in the same grave with Wesley, but his family preferred that he should lie in his own family plot, and so he lies in the little burial ground of the City Road Chapel, that famous sanctuary of Methodism, where the early worshippers of the faith are buried. A memorial tablet in the communion rails of the Chapel itself. 

Jan 1780. at the Parish Church, Leeds.

Note—Monument to Capt. Samuel Walker, (killed at Talavera) in the Leeds Parish Church.


* Joseph Surgeon London. 6.1780 d. 1853.


Fam. friend (33) Benson

Until her marriage, his daughter Anna; (my grandmother) acted as his amanuensis.

Nothing has yet been said about Benson’s domestic life. At the age of 33 he married Sarah Thompson, daughter of John Thompson, a well to do Confectioner near of Knottlington, Yorks. His wife was a woman of piety and intelligence and they lived happily together for 30 years. Of their family of 9, three sons & three daughters grew up and survived both parents.

Until the eldest boys went to Cambridge, Anne, the eldest of the daughters shared in the education of her brothers and obtained an acquaintance with both Latin & Greek. Until her marriage with my grandfather, 1811, she acted as her father’s amanuensis, assistant in his literary work.

The eldest son Joseph entered the medical profession; the second son John took orders & became Rector of Norton-sub. Hamdon, Somerset.
6. 1799 d. 1881
I remember him there in 1854

6. 1788 d. 1825.

6. 1795 d. 1882.

The youngest son Samuel also took orders and was for many years Curate at the Church of St Saviour's Southwark.
Joseph & John are represented by numerous descendants. Samuel though married but left no issue.

Of the daughters, Ann, the eldest, married my grandfather - Isabella married Higton, a cabinet maker, whom I met when in London in 1856. He then had a shop in Denmark St. He struck me as narrow and quieted by no means attractive. They had 5 children. A daughter survived until 1878 when she died unmarried. Sarah the youngest married Las Hammond, who was not a success in life. She left 2 sons & a daughter. Elizabeth, her only, twin, old maid & bachelor.

The descendants of Joseph Benson are therefore at the present day represented by the descendants of his son Joseph (the London Surgeon) who belong to various professions. There are the most part reformed in or about the metropolis.
2) The sons of John (the Somersetshire Rector), are to be found near the Old Somersetshire Home, at in Shropshire. Allied by Hear on the mother's side to the Elphins (descendants of Bernard Elphins, the apostle of the North), they cling to a very narrow school of Calvinistic faith. Though these children have of professors of Hertford have been the traditional instructors, one having qualified as a Doctor, and another showing some ability as an Artist.

3) Of my grandsons their family children the youngest son Samuel was the last survivor, dying in 1898(?) of grand children some 25 survive. Of great grandchildren more than 30.
In the days when George II was King, when the Rebellion of '45 was making the last effort in the Jacobite cause, when my great-great-grandfather's family were settled at Hylam, I was born in the year 1823. I was settled at Newcastle, in the year that the Rev. J. T. Walker migrated from Hylam to Leeds, and the Rev. J. B. Benson was born in the quiet Cumberland farmhouse at Mellersby, there dwelt in Aberdeen. There somewhere thenceabouts in the East of Scotland a family bearing the name of Walker lived somewhere on the borders of the Highlands. The Walkers were Rossland Scotch, either small farmers or mechanics. One of the sons, Andrew, having married a...
Ami Hamilton—Sarah Benson-Matthew in a letter to her brother Josephs dated 31st July 1752 wrote:

"My grandfather Andrew Matthew, was born on the 2nd month of 1754 and died at Leitholm near Coldstream on the 14th of the 6th mo 1826. My grandmother Agnes Hamilton was born on the 8th March 1752, was married in 1778 and died about 1829 or '30."

At Laudon May 1780

Fieithelwelts (37) Matthew

Jasnic named Ami Hamilton, migrated from the old home to seek more profitable work in the South. He settled down in the Royal Burgh of Laudon not far from the ancient town of Berwick on Tweed. Here and at a village 7 miles from Helms, to which he after removed, sons were born to him Robert (my grandfather) Andrew and Adam, and daughters Mary and Elspeth. Elspeth married a small farmer named Arriel and left a family one of whom was in 1857 living with her Aunt Mary in North London. Mary never married. I remember her well in 1857 a tall bony sandy-haired Scotchwoman and died in 1867 in London at a good old age the last of her family. Robert (my grandfather) was not content with his prospects on the Scottish border, and like..."
so many other Scotchmen turned his footsteps towards the more promising fields lying open to be exploited among the Southerns. At the age of 14½, (say 1795) he went up to London to seek his fortune. Probably, like many poor Scotch boys of that time, he made the journey on foot, with occasional calls in a wagon or other casual conveyance. In London he apprenticed himself to a fellow countryman named Romany, a house servant of the City. Then after 7 years his term of apprenticeship was out, he had gained his employer's confidence, that his Master confided the business to his care. Young Mathew then became himself a freeman of the City & a member of the Tabacco Co., set up the business for himself, finally removing to a larger shop at 21 St. S.
Bishopsgate St. The Mercer's business was an important and highly profitable one, in the days when the ordinary dress was grey stockings or grey worsted pantaloons with blue breeches, and draft gaiters for cold and wet weather, and the young Scotchman preferred. He kept up the old habits of pious observance and regularly attended the Presbyterian worship, until a relation coming up to London who had become a convert to the Methodists, who were gathering in their thousands with all the ardor of a new faith, young Mathew was induced to go to hear the preachers, and before long became an ardent member of Mr. Wesley's converts, of which he found a congenial atmosphere for his emotional temperament. He attended the Class Meetings and Sunday School was found for him in the Sunday School, where
Now the young lady added Scotchmen.

She was the kind of girl who was never

Missed.

writing letters and receiving

epistles with the fear and delight

of a young lady who found in composing

works and expressing her heart

the Bethel that real

 ideally.

Sam. Henslo (40) Mathew

he became Superintendent. It chanced

that at this school Ann Benson,

eldest daughter of the Rev. J. Benson,

was also a teacher. She was a

slight delicate friendship girl, with

an education far beyond what was

usual for girls in those days, including

Latin and Greek and some

acquaintance with philosophers like

Locke and theologians like Butler.

Of a meditative and thoughtful spirit,

she had much of her father's zeal

for religious work, a special

delight in teaching the young and

ignorant. The honest and cultivated

minister's daughter was not the

woman. The young Superintendent

was of a strongly constructed type.

It might be supposed that there could

be little in common between the young

Superintendent and the cultivated

Minister's daughter. He was of the

Lowland Scotch type, short and stocky.
with florid complexion & yellow hair.
Sturdy, practical, energetic, with
small advantages of education and
a bluff hearty manner, and professing
small advantages of education or
social surroundings, there could
hardly be a stronger contrast than
the Superintendent and the
delicately cultivated minister's
daughter. It was another instance
of "not like to take, but like in difference."
Here was a new type of womanhood.
Her delicacy & subtle refinement
crystallized attracted him, and he
soon found that his devotion was
not displeasing. It is not to be wondered
at that Anna's family should have
looked upon this attachment with
strong disapproval. But Anna had
her full share of the quiet tenacity
of her family, she had given her heart
to the young Scotch tradesman, and
after some qualms as to her duty, her
steadily persistently overcame the old
Scholars opposition. He gave a
Manfully reluctant consent—On 16th Oct 1811 they were married at St. Luke’s Church, Old St, London. Robert Mathew was then 33, his wife 7 years younger. On 14th Sept 1812 they had their first child, Sarah Benson Mathew, was born at the house in Sun Street. Two years followed, Joseph Mathew 17 Aug 1814. Robert Andrew 17 Aug 1815, just two months after Nathaniel.

At the baptism of this child was the occasion of a remarkable incident. As the result of a severe illness Anne Mathew had for 12 years been lost both power and feeling in her feet. Her father came to the baptism with the firm faith that God would restore her. After the baptism her father prayed fervently, especially pleading the promise of Christ that when 2 or 3 meet together to ask anything it should be granted. Immediately the prayer was answered. Anne handed the child to the nurse, rose from her seat and walked across the room. The lameness never
Four friends (45) Matthew 
returned. The miracle was even better attested. The lameness was notorious the cure instant & complete. Reveal the independent accounts of four competent witnesses, his father, her brother, her husband & another. There can be no possible doubt of either the lameness or the instant recovery. The explanations will be various according to the views of the reader.

Though cured of her lameness Anne Mathew remained more or less of an invalid, and found the management of her household beyond her strength. Her husband's sister Mary kept house for her, but she found the little self-taught eldest girl difficult to manage. My mother used to find in 'Mr. Alley House' where her grandfather lived, a haven of refuge, and to the end of her days retained a vivid remembrance of those quiet happy days, of the venerable figure of the small slight old scholar, thin faced, with large features, of pale complexion, and of his old
fashioned black knee-breeches & shoes with large buckles. In 1821 Joseph Beadon died. At this time there was much talk about the new colony in the South Seas, and many were setting out to try their fortunes in F.O. land. Pentworth & Jefferys also had just been publicised. They gave glowing dreams of the climate, treasures of the new colony, and the openings presented for settlers. Robert Mathen read the books and the idea of emigration began to take shape in his mind. In 1828 he might find a favourable opening as a letter for such a climate he might hope to see his wife's health restored. His friends scoffed the idea of such a far-off land, but conversations with Pentworth himself strengthened the idea. An additional incentive was the letters of the Rev. Mr Horton, the Wesleyan missionary at Motara Town, who strongly urged the emigration of Methodists, with
a view to the influence they would exert in bringing about a better social & religious tone in the colony. His wife had now by the death of her father lost the strongest tie to England, finding her husband's mind set on emigration, she resolved no longer to oppose him, and worked herself for the parting from home associations & for facing the unknown privations of foreign exile.

The Mathews now began to make their preparations. Brother Adam took over the business, fitting up furniture for a house in the bush. More procured, all available cash was turned into goods for the colonial market. In Oct 1821 the family went aboard the barque 'Hope' at Blackwall. It was ten days before they got to sea & then a violent storm overtook them in the Barrens narrowly escaping shipwreck, the ship was disabled 'Hope' ran into Flinders. Here it was found that the ship was questionably seaworthy.
Sam. Trendle (46) Matter
insufficiently found & carrying too many passengers. She was detained by the
authorities, after 6 hrs, the unfortunate passengers were kept waiting
for another vessel, which through the
influence of some members of the House
of Commons was eventually supplied
forthwith by the Government, the barque
Heroin, Capt. Ollier. But here instead
of the comforts of the Cabin, they had
to be content with the accommodation
of the lower decks & the fare of the
ordinary emigrant supplemented by
the supplies they provided for themselves.
The voyage was tedious & uncomfortable,
At Rio where they troubled the Captain
involved in some smuggling business
but to sea suddenly, leaving No Matter
of the passengers behind. It was
brought back by an English man of war,
Cutter. The passengers were numerous
including names whose names were after
well-known in the Colony. Hoskins, Dunn,
Geo. Carr Clark, Geo. Steele, John Walker,
Turnbull, Rev. Geo. Clarke (for 1/2) & others
of less note. At last after a voyage of
Sam. Threlfall (67) Mathew
of 20 weeks the 'Nerone' cast anchor in
the Derwent. Houses in Hobart were
scarcely dear, but my grandfather
secured a small two-story house in
Brisbane Street, then known as Potter's
Hill, at that time on the edge of the
bush surrounding the town. Here
he began business. Hobart was a poor
little unplanned town of mean one-
story wooden cottages, the streets
paved with stones still standing
in many of them, but from the
influx of immigrants, with capital,
the cost expenditure, the plentiful
supply of cheap labour under the
adjutant system, the colony was
rapidly developing and was exciting
the strong jealousy of Sydney which
it seemed faddish to rival if not
surpass.

The new settler however was not
content with his narrow quarters on
Potter's Hill. He bought a corner lot
from Connolly 90 x 120 feet Shs. 50
There were a ship with large windows of a style about it that made London House, the admiration of Robert swore. The business was of the usual sort, every description of article being included in the stock in trade. The profits were large, my grandfather prospered. But his wife's health was not restored, favored chiefly by their consideration for her, also by his yet unfulfilled desire to determination with which he had left England, viz. to become a settler on the land. In an evil day he took up a grant at Muddy Plains and began to sink his money in farming. Those were the days of free grants and Mother in virtue of the capital he could show had no difficulty in obtaining 1500 ac. eventually increased to 2500 ac. He could have got better land up country but chose the seaside for the sake of his wife's health. As soon as a small house could be put up my grandmother went down, her husband remaining
27 Aug. 1851.

[Handwritten text]

The process of the case itself was gradual. The trial was begun in the autumn of the year and was not concluded until the following spring. The evidence, which was abundant, was divided into three main parts:

1. The evidence of the plaintiff.
2. The evidence of the defendant.
3. The evidence of the witnesses.

The plaintiff's case was based on the fact that the defendant had promised to pay a certain sum of money. The defendant denied the promise and offered a counterclaim for damages incurred by the plaintiff. The case was heard in court and the jury was instructed to decide on the basis of the evidence presented.

The court ruled in favor of the plaintiff, awarding damages of £500. The defendant appealed the decision, but the higher court upheld the original verdict.

The case was a landmark in legal history, setting a precedent for the enforcement of promises in law. It was a great victory for the plaintiff and a lesson to all who might attempt to break promises.

[Signature]

John Doe

[Date]
Far, North 38 (50) (Matthew)

Gradually worse, the farm until in 1835, the farm and until matters were brought to a crisis, a heavy loss caused by the dishonesty of a man with whom he had dealings. The business had to be wound up. My grandfather struggled on at the farm for a little longer, but in 1835 that was sold for a fraction of what it had cost, and life had to be begun again.

Through the kindness of a number of friends, my grandfather was assisted to set up in business again in the premises in High Street, then where it is still carried on by his grandson Frank under the name of J.B. Matthews & Son. Here he again began to prosper, and as soon as he was in a position to do so repaid to his friends the money which they had advanced.

It was while the Matters were at Sandal Castle that they became acquainted with Sir Backhouse of Shibden, and as a result...
Farr. Kenols (57) Mathew
Most of the family were led to give up their connection with the Society of Friends. Robert Andrew was the first convert, then Mr. Mathew. His daughter, Later Joseph. Before they left Dundonald, the daughter became engaged to the Colker missionary.
In 1847 or 1848 my Grandfather married again. His second wife was a Yorkshirewoman from the Cleveland district - village of Skelton, & after of Whitby. Her brother was a ship Captain, one of the early traders to Hobart, who wrote one of the first books on the Colony. He took up land at Skelton on the Leis, Macquarie River, & was well known throughout the island, being a bluff, kind hearted eccentric character sailor. The marriage was a most fortunate one. Mr. Mathew was an excellent manager, but of placid temper,
and most lovable character & disposition. She was a most
Careful & affectionate wife, beloved
by her step grandchildren to whom
She showed the most unceasing
kindness. In fact she was an
ideal grandmother, and no
greater treat could be devised for
us in our childhood than a
day at the 'Cottage' in Upper
Liverpool Street, where we found
a perfect Paradise of delights.
She survived her husband & her
brother, living until 1872, attended
by the loving care of her husbands
numerous grandchildren, &
dying in a good old age, having
endured herself not only to them
but to many others in no way kin
to her, by her benevolence & goodness
of heart, through which never failed
come under the pressure of a
religious melancholy which clouded
her mind in the last years of her life.
See date.

**Family and Friends (55) Heatter**

There is no one of the family who lives in the vicinity who
more affectionate memory than the
good "Grandmother Mathew"
the only grandmother that most
of us ever knew, and who filled
the ideal perfectly.

My grandfather died after a
painful illness in 1855 or 1856
at the age of 75, universally
respected for his uprightness in
business. He still retained to his
though a staunch + consistent
friend he still retained to the
last much of the fervent Methodist
ways. The chief Methodist
characteristic that I remember
about him, was his habit of
singing hymns to himself.

His eldest son Joseph Benson
succeeded him in the business
whi he carried on for over 30 years
after his father's death. He married
Fam. Neils (54) Mather

Anna Maria, daughter of Jas. Cotton of Belvedere, Great Swanport, had one son & 3 daughters who grew up to maturity & her only survivor.

Joseph Beeson Mather partook largely of the Beeson character & strain also of the Beeson physique. He was never robust, suffering early in his younger days from long tedious illnesses, so that he was not always looked upon as likely to be long lived. But he must have had the Beeson toughness of constitution, for in his later years his health improved though subject to headaches, and lived to attain the age of 76. He had a certain caniness & closeness which did not come from the Beesons but was doubtless due to his Scotch blood, but in business his name was a synonyme for fair upright dealing in every respect. He had
a shrewd humour, which showed itself in a dry wit too kindly restrained to be called caustic, but which was at times discordant to the pretentions or impertinence. In his later years he largely left the management of the business to his son, and devoted much of his time to philanthropic religious work. His religious work was mostly in connection with his own religious society, though he was for long the Secretary of an active member of the Bible Society. But his chief concern in his later days was in the Juvenile Reformatory, in which he took a most constant, unremitting interest, devoting a large amount of time and trouble to the oversight of the establishment at the Cascades, and care for the comfort
(see Obituary Sketch by SBH in Hobart Mercury, 19 May 1870)

This only son, Joseph Francis, is a worthy successor of a worthy father. For a number of years prior to his father's death he had the chief care of the business. He succeeded to it, and has fully upheld its high reputation. One of the most noticeable features of his business life, is his care for his workpeople. How he employs a number, principally women & girls. In spite of the severe competition of prices, he steadily refuses to decrease his profits by paying low wages, insisting that a fair living wage is due to his employees, from whom he expects first-class work in return. For the comfort of the girls he has provided a pleasant airy room in which they can eat their mid-day meal, supplying
Mrs. Green's (57) Matter

Various are good selection of magazines for their reading for their amusement & improvement during the spare time of the dinner hour. His considerations of thoughtfulness for their welfare are not unappreciated. His cookpeople are devoted to him, and dread his mild remonstrance or reprove far more than the severe scoldings & penalties with which other masters enforce discipline & good work, while they look upon the possibility of dismissal as one of the greatest of calamities. He has therefore little or no trouble with his employees who give a willing service, and remain long years in his employ. One old man in particular has been with the firm over 40 years. Amongst business men there is no one more respected & trusted. Newlook upon him as incapable of doing an unjust or mean actioe; or deserving a hair's breadth from the truth.
Tall. Frank (58) Matter

Frank is retiring in his habits, somewhat slow in his speech, adverse to any public appearance, yet he does an astonishing amount of useful and laborious work, notwithstanding that his business (especially in these difficult times) would be quite enough for the energies of most men. He takes an active part in the affairs of his own religious society; is the life and soul of the management of the Friends High School (160 scholars) which owes much of its success to his organizing faculty, his careful attention to detail, this was done tactfully; and is also secretary to the Bible Society which absorbs a large amount of time. In addition to all this he finds time to write papers for the "Australian Friend," which he has for some time had the editorial chair, is a member of the Central Board of Advice for Hobart State Schools, and
T. M. [125]

H. Turner

takes an interested part in Trustee Acts and Local Improvement Associations, Chambers of Commerce, Mercantile Associations &c. In none of these is his part a perfunctory one. Everything he undertakes receives his best thought and is done thoroughly. At meetings, committee rooms, he makes no speeches, but, thinking out the matter beforehand, will often present himself with a short paper, containing a well considered scheme or pregnant suggestions, which are always listened to with [confidence] attention and respect.

Those who know wonder how it is that with this constant careful attention, which he gives to the minutest details of his businesses, he can find time to do twice so much. The secret lies in his methodical habits. His close economy of every minute of time,
Sam. Mend (60) matters
and his single-eyed aim to do good
useful work without any thought
of personal consideration, entirely
free from vanity or egotism, he is
satisfied to remain in the background
so long as the work which he thinks
desirable is done. Though not
robust, it is evident that he has
no small share of the toughness of
quiet tenacity which is the special
characteristics of the Reusen blood;
and much also of their ascetic
temperament, for he takes that no
recreations - being with difficulty
persuaded to take at long intervals
a few days quiet holiday in the
country for his health's sake, when
run down. His recreation of doing
good seems to supply all that
he requires.

Many years since he married
Margaret Ridbetter, daughter of
Fam: (61) Whitter.

The lost, better, a sea captain & a friend. He had a girl of considerable attractions, warm-hearted, lovable & charming - intelligent & well educated. He & his wife Maggie, were deeply attached to each other, but their happy married life was short. Maggie died in the year of her marriage. The blow to Frank was a severe one, more severe as she left no children behind her. He has not married again.

His second daughter, Etta, married Chauncey Robinson, a young stationer, who came out from England for his health - an amiable & upright man. They have two girls, and the marriage has had but one drawback, the state of the husband's health, which has now for some months laid him aside from work.
Emma the youngest girl, married Mr. Benson, a young friend of mine. He is a fine looking man, and has improved considerably. They have three children, and have been in Australia for some time.

Anna, the eldest, is unmarried and lives in the household which is located in a comfortable old house in Colville St., Holborn, surrounded by a fine garden which was the delight of John in his old days. They have given to their house the name of the old family home in Wales, and live there with Frank, Anna, and the Robey family.

Robert Andrew Mathew, Secondson of Robert & Annie Mathew, born 1815. "Uncle Robert" was a great favourite with us all. He was short, rather stout, (or rather thickset) fair complexion,
True. Thence (63) Matthew

Somewhat marked features. Nevers

of sanguine temperament, dreamy

outspoken + positive, somewhat methodic

but warm, hearted and impulsive;

of a more buoyant + open disposition

than his elder brother, and therefore

more attractive to the younger.

He had a great appreciation of humor,

and his laugh was good to hear.

Physically he was more of the

hatter than the Breeder, and from

the Scotch ancestry, he may have

got his strong will + decisive nature,

but he doubtless owed much of his

more steadfastness of his pertinacious

adherence to his own way to his

Breeder blood. Though the fact of

his family to join friends - and this

hypersensitivity was characteristic of

the man, he retained much of

the emotional Methodism, and in

later life associated himself closely

with Plymouth Brethren + other

extreme sectaries in Evangelistic
James Edwards (64) Matter

took among the poor at the People's Hall in Bathurst St. Leices-ter.

He always seemed to me to be more

in sympathy and perhaps even in his creed.

In his earlier life he was absorbed chiefly in business, but at a later period his business took quite a secondary place, and his benevolence became an absorbing passion. At the Hospital, at the Benevolent Society and elsewhere, he was indefatigable in relieving distress, comforting and helping those who had no helper. His zeal was

impulsive, his labour unceasing, and the poor and needy instinctively turned to Robert Andrews Matter for help and sympathy. To his warm heart the need always appealed, though the merit might be conspicuous. Wanting. He was therefore, in spite of a remarkably strong common sense, often the prey of the designing confes-
Tom Neale (65) Mather
and his recommendation of a case was not invariably taken as a safe credential of deserving merit. But men loved him all the more for his weakness - or charity. In his later days, until his bodily and mental powers began to fail the greater portion of his time energies was given to the care of the bodies and souls of the poor neglected, even the vicious.
In early life he was full of energy in business, indefatigable in work.
In youth he showed considerable mechanical skill for a time.
Carried on business as a wheelwright until success, but left it to learn the linen drapery business in Sydney.
He then became an assistant in 8 His shop, and, on my father joining up the linen drapery in 1848, Uncle Robert started on his own account in that line, taking the shop in Brock's Buildings where
Sun. Thrus. (66) Whattle

Tasmania, one of the best in Hobart, has been carried on down to the present day. For honest quality of goods, straightforward dealing the firm still hold the record, and through many vicissitudes of fortune and even when in sorely embarrassed circumstances their creditors have always placed a remarkable trust in their integrity, which has tide them over very severe crises.

Uncle Robert's wife was a daughter of Isaphilus Pollard. When she was quite a child her mother died and family circumstances not being happy she came to live with the Cottons at Kelvedon. Here Robert tumbled met her and fell in love. She must have been a beautiful girl, for she was distinctly handsome even in age. A large calm woman, with brown eyes and fair, a rather dark complexion, regular good features, and a good carriage.
A most lovable woman, of a sweet and placid temper which never was ruffled, and with a large heart, good common sense, Aunt Abe was admired and beloved by all, and by none more than by her numerous nephews and nieces, to whom she endeared herself by her warm, loving sympathy and her indulgent kindness. So many and such Grandmother matters and Aunt Abe remain in our most beautiful memories.

Her husband to whom she was tenderly attached died in 1881, and she survived him five years. In her last years she suffered from partial paralysis and nervous trouble which led to her entire seclusion, which clouded her mind with most painful mental depression.

Of the children several died in infancy, 3 sons and 3 daughters lived to take a part in life.
Robert, the eldest son, still carries on the business in Brecks Buildings, the
worthily successor of his father.

He married Annie, daughter of Capt.

Fisher, and has a family of 3 sons

and daughters.

Thomas, the 2nd Son, was for long

in partnership with his brother, but

retired lately from the business.

He married Eliza Gray and has no

family.

Joseph, the 3rd son surviving,
after various employments, married

a widow (by whom he has one son) and settled down as a State School

teacher until nervous trouble

compelled his retirement.

The eldest daughter Annie Pleman

married Fred Shoobridge, farmer of

Bushy Park, by whom she has a large

family of sons and daughters. She is

a woman of a fine self-reliant

character, the features may be traced

and in her
Sam. Matthews (69) Matthews

Many of the best traits of both her parents - a large heart and a strong common sense, with a fine tact. Vincent was one of her sons married Mary Garrett. Edith, the eldest daughter, a most amiable girl. Her qualities of heart and mind.

Married Rev. John, a Wesleyan parson. Arnis family seem to possess good capacities. Reared contain

Sarah, the second daughter, a gentle girl but of firmดรันทึก character. Became engaged to Edw. O. Cotton of Helmdon, but died at a comparatively early age, greatly lamented.

James the youngest married her cousin Theophilus Henry Pollard. They have no family.

Of the other sons of Robert Mathews,

the 3rd son John, a little quiet reserve man, who suffered from the loss,
Fam. Hendis (40) Mathew

was the least noticeable of the family. He was for many years assistant to his brother Joseph in the tailoring business, to which he had served an apprenticeship.

He married Isabella Biggs, daughter of Abraham Biggs, Carpenter & Builder, a pretty woman but doomed to die of consumption. Her husband did not long survive her, having caught the fatal disease from his wife. They had several children, weak in body and mind, who all died at a comparatively early age. Some of them however leaving frail and delicate children.

Samuel Benson, the youngest son, the only one born in Tasmania, remained a staunch Wesleyan to the end of his days & took an active part in the religious work of the sect, especially in Sunday School teaching.
Sam. Newell (71) Mather
He married Lyphena Barnett
(of a Hone family) had a numerous
family of sons & one daughter
who lived to maturity.
He was for long an assistant in
the shop of his brother Rob Andrews
In his later years carried on the
business of bookseller & stationer,
Chiefly of religious books.
He may be said to have been
altogether Mather of the emotional
type, his wife died early.
His eldest son William Bensus
became a Wesleyan preacher. The
rest sought their fortunes in Queensland
& other colonies, and I believe
have been more prolific than any
other branch of the Mather family
(except perhaps the Shootridge
family).
They represent the more material type
The only daughter, Lil, married James
Heyward who died young leaving a
son Frank & two daughters, Mrs Heyward
Talm. Thurs. (72) Martha

Mention special mention for her

good qualities and loving devotion
to her father during the long trying
illness (Creeping Paralysis) which
ended in his death. She has reason
to be satisfied with her children
who show the result of her good
wise training.

After this very long
digestion (of some 50 pages)
Concerning our relatives on
the maternal side it is
time to return to the Walker
family, and to continue its
story from the father's settlement
in Tasmania beginning with
the circumstances that led to my
career finally making his home
in Tasmania.