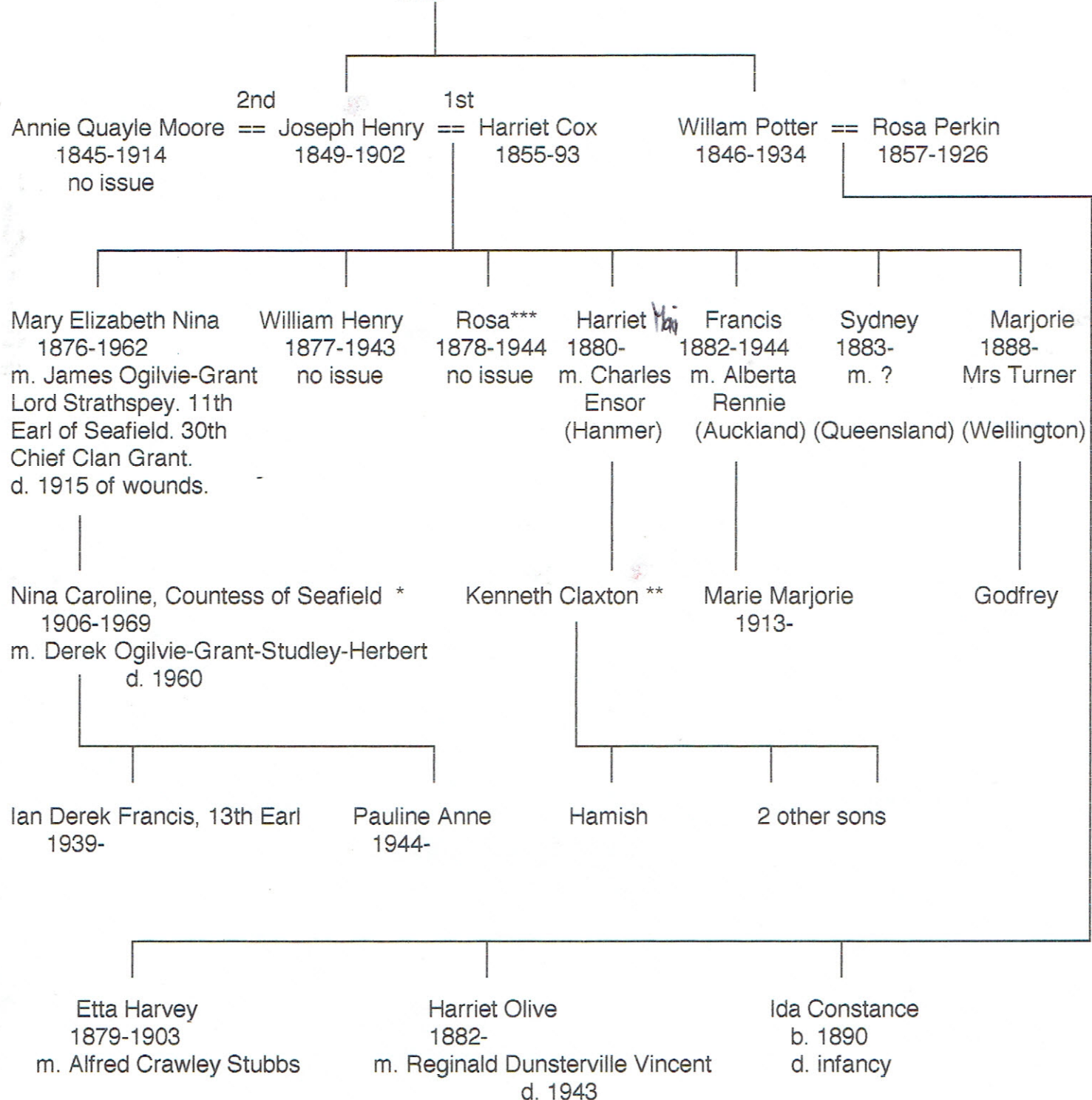


(Alfred's uncle)

TABLE P



* Friend and contemporary of Olive Townend (table L), her 4th cousin.

Now (1997) retired from farming at 17 Cheltenham Street, Hanmer Springs.
3 sons, including Hamish, a contemporary of Cameron Moore.
cf . Christs College Old Boys Register: June 1943 and June 1948.

*** Lived most of adult life in Jersey, Channel Islands. Committed suicide at Scarborough Cliffs.

Chapter marriage 20

"The writers of medical books tell us that 40 years ago 90 per cent of abdominal operations terminated fatally. Today, in the hands of special operators, and under favourable conditions as to hygiene, this rate has reduced..." - The Weekly News, December 1895.

On September 15, 1900, at St Barnabas Church, Fendalton Road, Christchurch, Annie Quayle Moore married Joseph Henry Townend, aged 52, a widower and doctor. The details given on the church register say that Annie was aged 50, a spinster, born in Sydney. If her age is correct that means she was born in 1850 and not 1843 or 1845. However, on Annie's death certificate her age is given as 69 which gives her birth year as 1845. Dr Townend was a Park Terrace neighbour, who lost his first wife in February 1893, leaving him, it is thought, with six children. The witnesses to the marriage were the magistrate, H W Bishop, Annie's next-door neighbour, and Walter Stringer, her solicitor. The couple were married by Canon Thomas Hamilton.

Townend was born in 1849 in Wolverhampton, England, and studied at Guy's Hospital, London, to obtain his medical degrees. He first visited New Zealand when he came out as medical officer in charge of 700 emigrants on the Rakaia in 1875. The following year he was in charge of 500 emigrants on the White Rose and then settled in Christchurch.

He set up his practice the following year in a small way charging a fee of one shilling and sixpence for his advice and the medicine. Later, as his reputation grew, he charged higher fees. He married Harriet in Christchurch in October 1875 but she died at their Park Terrace home in February 1893, aged 39.

Two years before his marriage to Annie, Dr Townend had been at St Barnabas Church to see his eldest daughter, Mary, aged 21, marry the 22-year-old Earl of Seafield, who was born in Oamaru, succeeded to the title when he was 12, and now lived in Christchurch. The earl's father, an obscure Oamaru resident, had succeeded to the Scottish title on the death of his father, who had himself unexpectedly succeeded to the title later in life. After marriage the young 11th earl and his bride, Mary, soon sailed for the United Kingdom and settled at the Scottish seat at Cullen, Banffshire, but the earl, a member of the Cameron Highlanders, was killed in action in World War One in 1915.

Dr Townend had three other daughters, Mai, who married Charles Herbert Ensor, Marjorie, who married a Turner, and Rosa, who did not marry. There were also two sons, Frederick Francis and Sydney Harvey, both attended Christ's College, Christchurch. According to the Macdonald Dictionary of Canterbury Biographies, Frederick died in Christchurch in 1944 after working as a market gardener, and Sydney, who achieved high sports honours at college, became a hotelkeeper and then a farmer in Queensland. However, in her will, Annie detailed Sydney as a sheepfarmer at Mount Lowry, North Canterbury, but he could have been a manager of the property.

Townend became a leading Christchurch surgeon and was for 11 years visiting physician to the Christchurch Hospital. He also founded the Strathmore Hospital which was well equipped by the standards of the time, even with a glass-lined operating theatre.

In fact, a Weekly Press article of December 12, 1895, said of Strathmore "...there is not... in the Southern Hemisphere today any hospital possessing the same specially constructed rooms... for the carrying out of the most delicate and important operations with the minimum of risk and advantage which up to now it has not been possible to obtain, whatever amount of skill or expenditure of money has been brought to bear."

The 30-room, private hospital, in Ferry Road, paid for by Mrs J Cochrane Brown, was used mainly for surgery. Mrs Brown said she was motivated by humanitarian grounds as there was a need for people undergoing surgery should have the best hygienic conditions.

The Canterbury Hospital Board chairman, W Moor, said Townend introduced the modern aseptic surgery and he was sure it would save many lives. He thought the procedures would be "taken up elsewhere in the colony."

Strathmore remained a private hospital until 1918 when it became a Girls' Receiving Home, run by the Department of Education.

Things had not always gone well for Dr Townend in Christchurch, for in July 1876 he found himself in the Supreme Court. His brother, William Potter Townend, was in the dock before Mr Justice Johnston facing a manslaughter charge "that he did feloniously kill and slay a male child born of the body of Amelia Isaacs, on or about the 20th day of May last." Mrs Isaacs was the patient of Dr Townend but brother William had assisted the doctor for nine months since his arrival in Christchurch.

Dr Townend told the court that his brother had attended some 1500 cases of midwifery over eight years. "In Canterbury he has attended 150 cases for me; in fact, nearly all my midwifery cases. He has had experience in the use of

instruments. He was a student at Guy's Hospital, London..." Dr Townend said.

William never finished his training at Guy's Hospital and it was common at this time for busy doctors to employ unqualified men to do their maternity work. The Coroner, John Coward, told the court that a pair of scissors were used in the birth - "not a proper instrument to use in the operation of craniotomy." He told the Judge: "These scissors are not such an instrument as a skilful practitioner would use for the purpose of facilitating the birth of a child, by compressing its head. They were likely to produce death in the child certainly. A skilful man would apply forceps..." Mr Coward added that he thought the child "had been destroyed unnecessarily."

Amelia Isaacs told the court that she engaged Dr Townend and when she was confined on May 20 she called for him. "He did not come, but the prisoner came instead. When he came in I said: 'You are not the doctor I engaged; you are Dr Townend's brother...'" William Townend said to her: "We are all good doctors. I'll do the best I can." Mrs Isaacs said she had difficulty with the birth of her first baby and her other two had been premature.

Nurse Elizabeth Inglefield said that Townend tried to deliver the baby for about two hours by ordinary means. "A few minutes after the scissors were used the child was born."

Dr Llewellyn Powell said it was usual for medical men not to carry their instruments unless they were going some distance but he thought a medical man would have waited for forceps to arrive.

The jury quickly came to a guilty verdict and Townend's counsel suggested a fine would be appropriate. However, Judge Johnston disagreed, saying the jury had found Townend guilty of "gross and culpable negligence for which the payment of a fine would not suffice." In sentencing him to six months jail without hard labour, the judge said that while prison was a disgrace he did not want him confined as an ordinary felon and hoped he could be kept apart from other prisoners.

There was obviously some sympathy for William Townend for an unsuccessful petition to annul the sentence was signed by 5000 people. In spite of his lack of qualifications Townend was appointed to the Christchurch Hospital staff three years later over protests by the staff. Doctors refused to work for the board but he was the only man available. By the turn of the century, William, worked with his brother, Dr Townend, in premises at 183 Colombo Street, but by now he was described as a chemist.

Dr Townend was to die in 1902 and William outlived him by 32 years.

Nothing is known about the courtship of Annie and Dr Townend, nor indeed anything of their short marriage. Supposedly they both continued to live in their own houses in Park Terrace for had Annie moved into Number 28 or the doctor left 28 to move into Number 96, Moore, now blind or close to blindness, would surely have suspected something was afoot. Their social circle must have gossiped about the union but seemingly not in front of Moore.

Sund 2003.

from David Gee

Information call 11/6/03

Sir — I am researching the life and times of George Henry Moore of Glenmark, Waipara, the richest farmer in New Zealand in the 1880s.

His daughter, Annie, married Dr Joseph Henry Townend in 1900 and I am keen to locate a photograph of the doctor and any of his children by his first marriage. Phone 03 332-6830 email: Thegees@paradise.net.nz — DAVID GEE

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W. P. TOWNEND, Consulting Chemist, Crystal Palace Buildings (corner shop), Colombo street, Christchurch. 172

TO LET, Five-roomed HOUSE, well finished, and HALF ACRE of ground in Polston street, Sydenham; rent 12s per week. Apply by letter J. R., office of this paper. 2552

TO ADVERTISERS.

Advertisements intended for insertion in the "Star" must be left at the office not later than a quarter to three p.m.

£350,858

Seafield sale

Manchester
Glasgow
25/9/75

By our Art Sales
Correspondent

Christie's finished yesterday selling the contents of Cullen House, a huge mansion in Banffshire which was once the home of the late Lady Seafield, the richest woman in Britain after the Queen. The total for the furniture, silver, books, paintings, and household goods was £350,858.

Lord Seafield has been forced to move out of the mansion by the cost of repairs, maintenance, heating, and lighting.

The sale lasted three days and included more than 1,600 lots. They ranged from seventeenth and eighteenth-century ancestral portraits of the Grant and Ogilvie families to tablecloths and pots and pans.

Glasgow Art Gallery and Museum paid £819 for a large copper stewing pan engraved "Castle Grant," and £787.50 for a portrait of a man said to be Brigadier Alexander Grant of Grant, by Joseph Highmore (1692-1780).