Chapter 21

Miscellaneous

Freemasonry

Freemasonry, by its very nature, is steeped in mystery. Without delving too deeply into the subject, the following article was discovered by Francis Jephcott of Sutton Coldfield, within the 'History of Freemasonry in Warwickshire'.

In the Grand Chapter Minute Book an entry dated 11th April 1783 read as follows:-

'Most E Companion Dunckerley by letter informed the Chapter he had granted a dispensation for a Chapter to be held at Birmingham by the name of the chapter of Fortitude and appointed Richard Jefcott, John Lloyd and John Hallen to act as Principals bearing the date of 6th inst. and requesting that a Warrant be made out from that date which was ordered accordingly.'

The Chapter of Fortitude

It therefore seems fairly certain that the Chapter was founded on 6th April, 1783.

The first return made to Grand Chapter gives a list of the members on 9th May, 1783. From this list it is possible to deduce who were the founders of the Chapter in addition to the three Principals named in the Grand Chapter Minutes.
The founders of the Chapter were very probably:

- Richard Jefcott  Toy Maker
- John Lloyd  Button Maker
- John Hallen  Button Maker
- John Walker  Merchant
- William Whale  Plater
- John Holland  Mercer
- James Tenning  Bucket Maker
- John Bryant  Brass Founder

The extension of Masonic opportunities in Birmingham could only have come about through the efforts of a group of Masons in the town. At that time there were only two practising Lodges. These were Numbered 41 and 176 later to be named St Paul's Lodge and St Alban's Lodge are lost and therefore some conjecture is necessary.

These extracts from the Minute Book indicate that Lodge No 41 (St Paul's) was having a bad period:

3rd January, 1783:

The Lodge was not opened this evening, the members being unavoidably otherwise engaged, it was postponed to the next stated night.

17th January, 1783:

Two members attended, the Lodge was not opened.

4th July, 1783:

At the Shakespeare Tav., New Street.

(Note: This was an ordinary meeting and there is no reference to the formation of a Chapter which must have taken place since the last Lodge meeting).

In the following year the Lodge Minute Book records the visit of members of St Alban's Lodge.

21st April, 1784:

Visitor, J Hallow of 176

15th October, 1784:

Visitors, Jeffcott and Lloyd of No 176

It becomes quite clear that the Chapter was formed by members of No 176 Lodge (St Alban's) as Hallow, Jefcott and Lloyd were all members of that Lodge.

It is known that John Bryant, the name of the seventh founder, was Tyler of both Lodges during that period so it is reasonable to assume he was the first Janitor of the Chapter.

Lodge No 176 (St Alban's) met at the George Inn, a large coaching house at the corner of Park Street in Digbeth, so it naturally follows that the first meeting place of the Chapter of Fortitude took place at the same inn.
Political Tendencies

In the counties of England, from 1429 up until the 1832 Reform Act, the right to vote was given to all men over 21 years of age who held freehold land or tenements whose annual net value was 40 shillings or more.

On the whole, the system of voting was a corrupt one, badly in need of the reform that was later to come. Voting was a public affair and a record was made of how individuals voted. Some of these records were felt to make good public reading and books were published for sale.

Election time often gave rise to coercion and even bribery by the agents of the prospective member for Parliament, to ensure that their man won. It may have been made quite clear to a tenant that the tenure of land could be affected by the way he voted. In general, conforming church goers voted Tory and non-conformists voted for the Whigs.

Up until 1774, voters had to live in the county in which their land was situated and the following example shows four Jephcott voters and how they voted.

Warwickshire Poll Book for 1774

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Voter</th>
<th>Parish</th>
<th>Candidates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Richard Jeffcoat</td>
<td>Atherstone</td>
<td>Holt Skip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Jephcott</td>
<td>Elmsden</td>
<td>Holt Skip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henry Jephcott</td>
<td>Allesley</td>
<td>Holt Skip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Jephcott</td>
<td>Willoughby</td>
<td>Holt Skip</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This brief extract shows great consistency among the Jephcotts. They all voted for the same candidates. Whether Messrs Holt and Skip were Whigs or Tories is not known.
Electioneering Lies

This item dates from 1837. It mentions Thomas and Georgiana Jefcoate who were Master and Mistress of the Kingswinford Workhouse around that time. The IGI tells us that Thomas Jefcoate married Georgiana Ensell at Claverley, Shropshire on 3rd March 1800. However, nothing else is known of them.

A cutting taken from the Black Country Bugle dated April 1985 gives additional information about that strange character, the Rt Hon John H Hodgetts Foley MP.

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ELECTIONEERING LIES!

It has been industriously represented, with a view to injure me in the opinion of my Friends and Neighbours, the ELECTORS OF EAST-WORCESTERSHIRE, that I went to Kingswinford Workhouse and pulled the Plugs out of the Beer Barrels, to prevent the Poor from having the Beer. I solemnly declare this to be a Scandalous Falsehood, which Mr. WEBB, another Guardian of the Stourbridge Union can bear witness to.

J. H. H. FOLEY.

Dudley, July 6th, 1837.
RECALLING A
DASTARDLY DEED
AT KINGSWINFORD
WORKHOUSE!

NO GO!

Mr. J. H. H. FOLEY has declared that he
did not go to KINGSWINFORD WORKHOUSE and
PULL THE PLUGS OUT OF THE BEER
BARRELS to prevent the Poor from having
the Beer.

HUMBUG!

If he did not pull the plugs out HIMSELF,
HE ORDERED the Housekeeper to pull them
out, and I solemnly declare he DID GO to the
Workhouse and did

Prevent the Poor from
having the Beer.

and that he would not leave the Workhouse
until EVERY DROP WAS MADE-AWAY
WITH. ASK Mr. and Mrs. JEFCOATE IF
THIS BE NOT TRUE, who were Governor and
Matron of the Workhouse at the same time.

In the Barrel of Ale in the Cellar I saw,
When FOLEY came there with his Horsewhip and Hat ;
With rage he was foaming, I can swear it is true,
He cried pull out the COCK... I cried Doodle Doo!

JACK SPIGOT.

Kingswinford Workhouse,
July 15, 1907

THOMAS DAVIES, PRINTER, HIGH STREET DICELEY.
When ‘Fearless’ Foley un-bunged the Paupers beer-barrels, in 1837

Kindly brought to our attention by Wordsley reader, Mary Skidmore, the poster reproduced on the right was issued in July 1837, to publicise and deprecate the callous wastage of good ale carried out by an eccentric Temperance campaigner of the period.

The ‘beer-burglar’ referred to was the Rt. Hon. John Hodgetts Foley M.P. who then resided at Prestwood House and dedicated his life to banishing ‘The Demon Drink’. The scion of a wealthy and influential family, his escapades were rarely reported in the local press and his opponents resorted to publishing leaflets in order to ‘expose’ examples of his violent acts.

Jack Spigot, the alleged composer of the verse at the foot of the poster (obviously a pseudonym for one of Foley’s detractors) was a name well chosen, for ‘spigot’ as is well known derives from the Latin ‘spick’ (meaning - a peg or plug for stopping a hole in a cask).

Foley often toured ‘the labouring districts’ on horseback and invariably horsewhipped any drunkard who was unfortunate enough to cross his path. He became so inflamed by a tavern sign ‘The Foley Arms’, in Brettell Lane, Amblecote, that he threatened to burn down ‘that citadel of Satan’, unless the sign was promptly removed. He often stated that he knew no fear in his campaign against brewers who he considered to be ‘the devil’s right hand men’ and, consequently, became widely known as ‘Fearless’ Foley.

His sudden descent upon Kingswinford Workhouse, on that July day in 1837 must have caused much consternation amongst the paupers who were queueing up for their daily ration of beer. Seeing their precious elixir dribbling away through the flagstones probably caused a near riot but, no doubt, the M.P.’s ready horsewhip quelled any such intentions, or attack upon his person.

On another occasion, he organised the forcible eviction of poor folk from a row of six alms-houses at Ashwood (the gift of the Hodgetts family - his maternal line) because he found ‘home-brewing’ taking place there. He then set fire to the cottages. They lay in a ruinous state for many years and were referred to as ‘Foley’s Folly’.

Eccentric (even mad) the Rt. Hon. John H. Hodgetts Foley M.P., may have been but his depredations afford us a chuckle and a glimpse of life as it was in our region around 150 years ago. We also have to thank the anonymous poet who sheltered behind the title ‘Jack Spigot’ for his lines upon an incident which, in hindsight, affords considerably more amusement than was experienced by ‘Fearless’ Foley’s ‘beer-swilling’ contemporaries...
That this Humane Poor Law Guardian
DID PREVENT THE POOR FROM
Having the Beer.

Committee Room, Talbot Hotel, Stourbridge.
10th July, 1837

"WE do declare that we were not present when Mr. FOLEY came to the Workhouse
at Kingswinford, and consequently cannot say (of our own knowledge) whether or not, he ordered
the Plugs to be pulled out of the Beer, but he certainly DID GIVE DISTINCT AND POSITIVE
ORDERS to the Matron to HAVE THE BEER TAKEN AWAY, and ON NO ACCOUNT
TO GIVE IT TO THE POOR in the Workhouse.—And we also declare, that the letter
we signed, at Mr. Collis's earnest request, addressed to Mr. FOLEY, and published by
Holland and Foley's Committee, was only intended to deny that we authorized a reference to us,
or that we heard Mr. Foley order the Plugs to be pulled out; and we did not intend to deny as
"WHOLLY AND ENTIRELY FALSE", that he prevented the Poor from having the Beer,
as is made to appear by the language of that Letter.

[Signatures]

THOMAS JEFFCOATE.
GEORGIANA JEFFCOATE.

Audacious, July 10th, 1837.

J. TOWLER, PRINTER, STOURBRIDGE.

EAST
WORCESTERSHIRE
ELECTION.

Messrs. ST. PAUL, and BARNEBY'S Committee having seen
a Hand-Bill, dated from Messrs. HOLLAND and FOLEY'S
Committee Room, containing a Letter from Mr. and Mrs.
JEFFCOATE, to Mr. FOLEY, respecting the Electioneering Squib,
"Jack Spigot"

have to offer in reply to that Letter, the following declaration,
from which it appears, that although Mr. Foley may not have
pulled the Plugs out of the Beer Barrels himself, yet it is

A FACT
A Lamentable and Fearful Fire

The following article was taken from the Sessions Order Books of Warwickshire and is dated 1655. It refers to a disastrous fire that consumed the dwelling houses and possessions of several families, including those of William and Thomas Jephcote. It demonstrates how the people in those days would organise a collection from the more well-off amongst them, to assist the unfortunate families.

EPITRENY 1655

[fo. 182d.]

ROYTTON, order for collection.—Forasmuch as it appeared unto this court by the testimony of divers credible witnesses now sworn in court that upon the thirteenth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred fifty and four there happened a lamentable and fearful fire in Roytton upon Dunsmore in this county which speedily consumed and burnt down to the ground the dwelling-houses, barns, out-houses, household goods, corn, hay and other provision of William Lapworth the elder, William Lapworth the younger, John Boddington, William Jephcote, Thomas Jephcote, William Clarke and Richard Pegge, the whole loss aforesaid amounting to the value of four hundred forty and seven pounds (besides the houses of others of good ability to the value of four hundred pounds at the least, who are to have no collection) to the great impoverishing of the said parties unless some course shall be taken for their relief herein, whereupon it is thought fit and so ordered that a public and general collection shall be had and made throughout this whole county of the charitable benevolence of all well disposed people as well within liberties as without for and towards the repair of the said losses, and it is earnestly recommended to the ministers of the several churches, chapels and other places of public meeting for the service of God that at such time or times as the said William Lapworth, William Lapworth, John Boddington, William Jephcote, Thomas Jephcote, William Clarke and Richard Pegge or any of them shall repair to them with this order or the copy thereof that they upon the Lord's day next after the receipt thereof when no other collection shall be made do publish the contents thereof to the people then assembled and also stir them up to a cheerful contribution in this behalf, and the churchwardens and officers of every parish and place where such collection is to be made as aforesaid are forthwith after the publishing of the said order required to collect and gather from house to house the alms and charitable benevolence of all well disposed people willing to contribute as aforesaid and what shall be by them so gathered to endorse upon the backside of this order or the copy thereof and pay over the same to the parties above named or to such as they shall appoint to receive the same and to none other person or persons. And it is further ordered that John Wilcox of Brandon, gentleman, and Humphrey Hale of Stivichall, gentleman, shall be and are hereby desired and authorised to apportion the money so collected to the several persons according to their respective losses to the end every person may receive his just proportion.

We have no more information as to how the collection went, but no doubt, the information is recorded somewhere, to be uncovered by one of us. William and Thomas were most probably the two youngest sons of Nicholas and Elizabeth Jephcote of Ryton upon Dunsmore, who are shown on the family tree for the Ansty Jephcotts (family BR).
Mount Jeffcott

It is a mystery how this mountain came to be named. It is located in central Victoria, Australia and was probably named after one of the brothers Sirs William and John Jeffcott, more likely the former (see family BJ).

This photocopy of an 1867 engraving was published in 'the Donald Times', a local paper for the area.
Taproom Strippers - 1874 Style

This is another gem from the Black Country Bugle, dated December 1984. On a page full of comical extracts taken from 1874 court records, was this item.

A Walsall woman named Norah Murphy was brought before the court on a charge of stealing a shawl and a pair of boots belonging to Ellen Jeffcott. It was stated that the prosecutrix and prisoner met in a public house and by selling their clothes, from time to time, during the day, got ‘blind drunk’ on the proceeds. After causing much disturbance amongst the male clientele, they were evicted in a half naked state and went to the prisoner’s house where Jeffcott fell asleep. When she awoke she was completely without garments and saw that Murphy was wearing her boots and shawl. She refused to return them and stated that she possessed them with the prosecutrix consent. Murphy was committed to the Sessions for further judgement.

By Hook or by Crook

By Hook or by Crook is the name of a book written by Fred Archer, a renowned author specialising in Black Country tales. The extract shown below mentions a Henry Jephcott. What I do not know is whether the tale is fact or fiction. I should like to thank June Jephcott of Stratford upon Avon for sending this to me.

Chapter 1

Carrants Field lies on the eastern side of the water and when the giant carve-up of enclosure was made in 1773 the brook was a dividing line. The Parish of Ashton, where earlier fields were mounded or fenced on Bredon Hill, had nine hundred and twenty acres of land enclosed by the Parliamentary Award. Lord Tyrconnel received three hundred and fifty-two acres for his land and tithes. The vicar seventy-nine acres for his tithes. Henry Wakeman, squire of neighbouring Beckford, one hundred and ten acres for land and tithes, and the Deacle Charity, eighty acres. Two other proprietors had over thirty acres, while thirteen Ashton men staked their claim and had allotments varying from a quarter of an acre to eleven acres. This was Carrants Field.

The parish itself was an area much larger than nine hundred and twenty acres, but the Baldwyn family, who had been here for five hundred years, farmed the lower slopes of Bredon and grazed that plateau of over nine hundred feet with
cattle and sheep. Enclosure had been no more ruthless here than in other parishes and it's heartening to know that thirteen labourers were able to keep an allotment although they lost the right to graze common land on Bredon because the common was fenced.

Henry Jephcott, a lawyer from Northampton, stayed at the Red Lion at Beckford to do the official business. He had other legal men with him to settle disputes. An Ashton labourer, who was dispossessed of his strip of arable, murdered Jephcott but he was never hanged at Gloucester Castle.

Chapter 3

'Well, you'll have heard tell of Henry Jephcott, likely - the lawyer who came here from Northampton to settle the parish award. Henry Jephcott was murdered. By a person or persons unknown was the verdict at the coroner's inquest. But do you want to know what really happened nigh on sixty years ago?'

'If it's truth, Thomas, let't have it,' Alf said.

'Long Fred's father was constable at the time, so that's where you come in Alf. A dutiful man, our Dad said, but he knew who murdered Henry Jephcott, and so did our Dad. Abel Dunn shot him with his flintlock. He waylaid him in the larch plantation behind the Red Lion at Beckford as he walked with his horse lantern to Beckford inn. Missing he was for some time. No one knew where the body was but Abel had put it in a couple of wheat sacks, weighed them with stone and they found 'un in Ashton moat pond'.

'Is that why Fred Dunn 'ull never go by that pond at night?' Spider asked Thomas.

'Maybe, but that's the truth and the truth needs no study. No one gave Abel away. He worked for Squire Henry until his death but it shows you, Alf, that thurs ways and means of not always telling tales about your neighbour even if you are appointed by the Vestry as a constable.'

How Many Ancestors?

Have you ever considered just how many ancestors you must have? The answer is impossible to calculate. If we are extremely fortunate, we may be able to trace our Jephcott family tree back to around the 15th century. Nobody has done it yet. In fact, the earliest that any Jephcott ancestry could be traced back (in 2000) is around 1650. Of course, we have family trees going back to the 15th or 16th centuries, but no Jephcott can prove a link with them.

There is another type of family tree that is not particularly relevant to our Jephcott research. It is known as a line of descent tree or a record of your direct ancestors. You start with yourself, then add your two parents, your four grandparents, your eight great grandparents, and so on. This type of tree would hold over two thousand (2047 to be precise) direct ancestors of yours if you were able to trace back ten generations. Ten generations, based on a thirty year per generation span, would take you back to the time of the Civil War. What might your ancestors have been, cavaliers, roundheads or don't knows?

The author's personal goal was 1024 ancestors over 10 generations. Since finding three illegitimacies in his ancestry with fathers unknown, this figure was whittled down to around 700. In 2020 he had discovered the identity of 121 ancestors, so he has a fair way to go yet! There is an example of this type of tree in the Family BM section.
And now for a bit of fun with mathematics! If you were able to trace back for thirty generations, you would probably have a date before the Norman conquest in 1066. Most of you will have heard of the Domesday Book which was compiled under the instructions of King William I, or William the Conqueror as he was known, amongst other less printable titles. He wanted to know who was who, who owned what and who could be taxed and by how much, in this, his new kingdom.

It has been estimated by wiser persons than us that, at that time, there were one million inhabitants of Britain. However, we have drawn up a chart, shown below, showing that we today, would have had nearly 537 million direct ancestors around that date.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>number of those relatives</th>
<th>relationship to yourself</th>
<th>assumed birth year</th>
<th>number of back generations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>yourself</td>
<td>1940</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>parents</td>
<td>1910</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>grandparents</td>
<td>1880</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>great grandparents</td>
<td>1850</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>32</td>
<td>great great great grandparents</td>
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<td>64</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>128</td>
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<td>256</td>
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<td>1640</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>9 times great grandparents</td>
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<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4,096</td>
<td>10 times great grandparents</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<tr>
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<td>ditto</td>
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<td>32,768</td>
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<td>1490</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65,536</td>
<td>ditto</td>
<td>1460</td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>131,072</td>
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<td>8,388,608</td>
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<td>268,435,456</td>
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<td>536,870,912</td>
<td>ditto</td>
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<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td>Domesday Book</td>
<td>1066</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

almost 537 million people as opposed to an estimated 1 million in 1066!

Either a lot of people were avoiding their new king or somebody did their sums wrong. Neither of these reasons would have of course applied. It simply means that there must have been millions of marriages between cousins over these past 1000 years, if only you could prove it. We Jephcots and those of predominantly Anglo-Saxon extraction, must all (including the Royal Family) be related somewhere along the line. What with comparatively modern day immigration and the mixing of races with our indigenous races, this theory must break down somewhere along the line.

When this book was last published in printed form in 2000, DNA was an embryonic subject for genealogy. Now it is a very real part of genealogy. We can go back thousands of years now. We Jephcott/Jeffcoats, etc. have proved it.
How Rare is our Surname?

The following table shows the 50 most common surnames in England and Wales, taken from the General Record Office at St Catherine’s House, London, from 1838 to 1851, as detailed. These are then compared with a study made of 1992 London telephone directories, together with a movement figure.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>GRO Frequency per 10000</th>
<th>Telephone Frequency per 10000</th>
<th>Movement</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Smith</td>
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<td>Jones</td>
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<td>+6</td>
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<td>Wright</td>
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<td>-2</td>
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<td>-17</td>
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<td>8188</td>
<td>38.3</td>
<td>18.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Walker</td>
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<td>Edwards</td>
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<td>21.0</td>
<td>-1</td>
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<td>20.5</td>
<td>+5</td>
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<td>Cooper</td>
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<td>31.5</td>
<td>17.7</td>
<td>-8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harrison</td>
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<td>Davis</td>
<td>6205</td>
<td>29.0</td>
<td>23.6</td>
<td>+17</td>
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</table>
Of course, there will be an element of regional variation, the further away from London one takes the sample, but it is put forward here as an example of how surname frequency has changed over the 150 year period.

On the basis of all spelling variants of our name, a variant of our surname occurs approximately once every 22,000 entries. We have a rare name indeed!

(Much of this has been taken from the 1853 Register General's Report, with additional information from notes circulated by Mr Martin Ecclestone during the Guild of One-Name Studies' 1994 AGM at Bath.)
A study of the electoral roll for the UK in 2000 (www.192.com), gave a total of 1291 voters, approximating to 650 households and perhaps 1700 people. The breakdown by variant as follows:

- Jefcoat - 6, Jefcoate - 147, Jefcut - 18, Jeffcoat - 164, Jeffcoate - 229

On the basis of 50 million people living in the UK, 1700 of us represents a one in 30,000 rarity value! The conclusion being - we have a rare surname indeed!

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**Insurance Records**

Guildhall Library, Sun Fire Assurance Records

(Ms 119 36 15, page 341) (source letter 562)

Coventry, Warwicks - 1724

Policy No 21421

John Jephcott, Barber, Bayley Lane - £300

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**Victoria County Histories**

The Victoria County History series is a collection of volumes covering the history of the counties of Britain. Most county libraries hold the relevant volume for their own county and sometimes for other counties also. I consulted the indexes to the volumes and found the following entries:

- **Victoria County Series - Worcestershire**
  - Vol II P.394
    - Reference to Charity Set up by Rev John Jephcott (will dated 3rd March 1712/3) in All Saints & St Lawrence Parish Churches, Evesham.
  - Vol IV P.505
    - Reference to John Jephcott of Pembroke College, Cambridge School on 30 Oct 1661 & was succeeded on 08 Jan 1662. Reference to Gunpowder Plot Celebrations.

- **Victoria County Series - Warwickshire**
  - Vol VII P.374 - Birmingham
    - Reference to Rev'd William Jephcote who was minister of St Peter's Parish Church in Old Church Road, Harborn, in 1715. There is an old painted board in the tower recording a charity of his.
  - Vol VII P.561 - Birmingham
    - Reference to will dated 1715 of William Jephcote who gave an annuity of £2 12s to be distributed weekly to four poor people of Harborne.
Reference to Henry Jephcott having added to freehold land of Ansty & being represented at the Cheylesmore court in 1617.

Assorted References and Unidentifieds

1990

Member No 71 of the Guild of One-Name Studies once knew a Jeffcoat family in Harrow, Middlesex. Father was an engine driver and there were three children - Ken born 1928, Norman born 1931 and Yvonne born 1933. Yvonne married in 1960 and lives in South Hutt, New Zealand.

Can you identify the family?

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Jephcoat - Mayor of Coventry

We were handed a slip of paper by a Mr C H J Beamish (Goons 1188) which stated that there was a Jephcoat, Mayor of Coventry and a Magistrate on Petty Sessions. The reference came from the Coventry Standard of 6th September 1861.

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USA

Letter 420 from Mrs Posie Joyce Conklin states that her mother was a Jeffcott who was descended from John and Sarah Vernon Jeffcott of Chapel Hill, Warwickshire, who emigrated to the USA in 1872. Posie has done some research into the Jeffcott family tree but I do not have any further details to date.

She also said that the physician present at the birth of her husband in Latouche, Alaska, in 1925, was a Jephcott.

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(Letter 934) 10th August 1995

From Mr M J Hinman, Assistant Archivist, City of Coventry Leisure Services to Jean Howard of Elmesthorpe. [Family AA]

Dear Jean

I have catalogued a large collection of charity records which include the following references:

54/39/7 12th Mar 1851. Tender by William Davies 'Jepcott' (of Styvechale) of £24 p.a. to rent Conduit Meadows, Spon End from Bond's Hospital trustees.

54/50/1 4th Apr 1845. Copy notice by Bond's Hospital trustees and their tenant John Scampton that Isaac Jephcott and Charles Dutton should not further trespass upon property which adjoins theirs by erecting a fence or wall.

54/50/2 5th June 1849. Report upon the state of Bond's Hospital's High Street property following Jephcott's depredations.

54/228/3 30th Oct 1787. William Jephcoat occupied a house on the northern side of Well Street.
54/243/6 4th Oct 1791. Lease by Coventry Corporation to Thomas Jeffcoat [sometimes called 'Jephcoat' in the same deed] (of Coventry, shopkeeper) of a house and back building on the eastern side of Cross Cheaping, from 24th June, 1789 for 21 years at £5.10s. p.a.

54/243/7 1st July 1794. New lease for 4« years from 24th June, 1810 at the same rate since Jeffcoat has had to rebuild the messuage because of roadbuilding.

54/243/8 29th Oct 1811. Lease by the corporation to the same man (Thomas 'Jephcoat', butcher) from 29th Sept 1814 for fourteen years at £10.10s. p.a. of 54/243/7's property.

also,


Dear Jean,

I have come across the following references which might interest you.

553/2/2. 5th Apr, 1762. Elizabeth Pickering, wife of Thomas, formerly Elizabeth Jephcott, widow, benefited under the will of Robert Sanders (of Coventry, roper) and sold her interest in a Much Park Street messuage.

553/5/1. 29th Aug, 1798. Francis Jeffcoat occupied a Bell Green Cottage.

567/8/31. c1930. Abraham W Jephcott of 293, Foleshill Road was a member of the Coventry Literary & Debating Society.
Let us end this chapter with some photographs of charts that the author drew up from 1981 onwards, when computers were a long way off in the future and creating family trees was a matter of learning calligraphy and finding the special nibbed pens and the ink to do the job. We now have a thing called a gedcom! Also we have the 1st edition and the last edition of The Jephcott Family book, as well as other J related items, an old bible (family BU), etc.
Some happy memories there.

JJ 16th May 2020