

CHAPTER

B6

The HEWITT Family

“Grocers from the Isle of Wight”

Our Great-Grandmother was **Laura Horwood Hewitt**, the mother of our paternal Grandmother, Lucy Mary Peachey. Laura was born in Hull, but the Hewitt family were new to the city, having migrated north around 1850. They had originated in West Cowes in the Isle of Wight and were a family of grocers. Our earliest known Hewitt was ...

Thomas Hewitt (b.1691)

Thomas Hewitt was our 6G-Grandfather. He was born in 1691 in Portsmouth, Hampshire, but must have moved to live in West Cowes on the Isle of Wight at some time within the next twenty years, as he was described as being “of West Cowes” when he married Mary Cook, widow, at Portsmouth on 15th October 1720. They had at least three children:-

Thomas Hewitt	b.circa 1723	in Cowes, Isle of Wight
John Hewitt	b.1726	in Cowes, Isle of Wight
Mary Hewitt	b.1737	in Cowes, Isle of Wight

Thomas Hewitt (b.1723) married Elizabeth and they had one child, Thomas (b.circa 1745). Thomas Hewitt (1723) died in 1785 in Cowes.

John Hewitt (b.1726) was our 5G-Grandfather (see details below).

Mary Hewitt (b.1737) married Richard Robson on 30th October 1763 at Northwood (Cowes), Isle of Wight.

We have no knowledge of the parents of **Thomas Hewitt (b.1691)**, although we know he had two brothers, John & Jacob. His brother **John Hewitt (d.1758)** was married to **Ann Godsall** of Brixton and when John died in 1758, he left the following *Last Will & Testament* referring to his brothers Thomas & Jacob, and also to his nephews & nieces (children of his brother Thomas. In particular, he makes our 5G-Grandfather, John Hewitt (b.1726), a significant beneficiary in his Will:-

In the Name of God Amen The fifth Day of August in the year of our Lord One Thousand seven hundred fifty and seven I JOHN HEWITT of West Cowes in the Isle of Wight in the County of Southampton Shipwright being aged and infirm in Body but of sound mind and memory (praised be God) Do make this my Last Will and Testament I recommend my Soul to God thro' Jesus Christ my Body I will to be decently interred at the discretion of my beloved wife and my worldly Estate (which it hath pleased God to bless me with) I dispose of as follows (that is to say)

I give to my Brother THOMAS HEWITT one shilling and to my Brother JACOB HEWITT one shilling And I will that my beloved Wife, ANNE shall have and enjoy all and singular my Goods Chattels real and personal Estate whatsoever during her natural life, incase she remains my Widow and incase of her Intermarriage with any other man I give and bequeath all that my Leasehold Tenement and Land called

Coombe Place which I hold of SIR JOHN BARRINGTON unto my Nephew JOHN HEWITT his Executors Adm. and Assigns, for whose life and others the same is granted to me, together with all other my Goods Chattels and personal Estate but in case she shall remain my Widow my will is that she may give the same to either of my said Brother THOMAS HEWITTs Child or Children she shall think fit and to their or either of their Executors Administrators and Assigns by her Will and I hereby give her power so to do.

Also I give to my said Wife All that my Dwelling House and Freehold Estate at West Cowes aforesaid during her natural life in case she continues my Widow and in case of her intermarriage with any other man I give and bequeath my said Dwelling House and Freehold Estate unto my Nephew JOHN HEWITT his Heirs and Assigns for ever but in case she continues my Widow my will is that she may give the same to either of my said Brother THOMAS HEWITTs Child or Children she shall think fit and to their or either of their Heirs and Assigns forever by her Last Will and Testament and in such case I give her power so to do.

And I nominate and appoint my said beloved Wife Sole Executrix of this my Last Will and Testament hereby revoking and making void all former and other Wills by me at any time heretofore made In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the Day and year first above written.

John Hewitt

Following the death of his widow, Ann Hewitt (nee Godsall) in 1767, her Last Will & Testament implemented the wishes of her deceased husband:-

In the Name of God Amen. I ANN HEWITT of West Cowes in the Isle of Wight in the County of Southampton, Widow, Relict, Deoentrix and Residuary Legatee of JOHN HEWITT late of West Cowes aforesaid Shipwright deceased being far advanced in years but of sound and dispairing Mind, Do in persueance of and agreeable to the power given to me in and by the said Last Will and Testament of my said late Husband and being here his Widow and unmarried since his Death and in order to make Disposition of my said Husbands Estate real and personal Intrusted with Given to me for my life or widowhood and for preventing controversies after my Decease amongst my Two Nephews THOMAS HEWITT and JOHN HEWITT and my Neice MARY the present wife of RICHARD ROBSON which three are the only Children of my Brother in Law THOMAS HEWITT the older, make publish and Declare this my present Last Will and Testament.

First and principally I Commend my Soul into the hands of Almighty God trusting wholly for pardon and remission of my Sins through the alone Merits of my Redeemer Jesus Christ and my Body I Comitt to the Earth to be decently Interred as near as conveniently may be to the Remains of my said late Husband, but not till Four days after my Decease at the Discretion of my Executor herein after named, and as for Estate real and personal that was my said late Husbands, and whatever also God hath or may enable me to add thereto, I dispose and Devise the same as followeth, that is to say =

I will that all my Debts and Funeral Expenses be paid off and discharged within convenient time after my Decease. Whereas my said late Husband (by his said Last Will and Testament) did give me Dwelling House now and at the time of his making and publishing such his will and Testament and at the time of his Death used as two Tenements or Dwelling Houses and is an Estate of Inheritance at West Cowes aforesaid during my natural Life in case I do and shall continue his Widow and in such case did (as is before suggested) Give me power to Give the same premises to such of his said Brother THOMAS HEWITTs Children as I should think so fit by my will and to his or her Heirs for ever in persuance of which power and for as much as I have hereafter Given a Leasehold Estate (part of my said late husbands personal Estate which I had the same power) to my Nephew JOHN HEWITT, and THOMAS being the older Brother of JOHN, therefore I do Give and Devise the said Dwelling House (now and before used as Two Tenements or Dwelling Houses as aforesaid) and Freehold Estate to the said THOMAS HEWITT the younger to Hold to the said THOMAS HEWITT the younger his Heirs and Assigns for ever.

And in further persuance of the power I am invested with, I do Give and Bequeath to my other Nephew JOHN HEWITT (the youngest Son of my said Brother in Law THOMAS HEWITT the older), All that Leasehold Tenement and Lands called Coombe Place (which was also a part of my said late Husbands personal Estate as aforesaid), situate in the Parish of Brixton in the same Isle and County and is held by Lease under SIR JOHN BARRINGTON, To hold to my said Nephew JOHN HEWITT and his Assigns for the remainder of the Estate Terms and Interest which (at my Decease) shall be unexpired therein.

Also to my Neice, ANN NEAL, and to her present Husband I Give and Bequeath Five pounds payable Six Months after my Decease.

And then All the rest and residue of the Estate real and personal which was the Estate of my said late husband as well as all and every other my own Goods and Chattels and Estate real and personal I do Give Devise and Bequeath to my said Nephew THOMAS HEWITT the younger and to his Heirs and Assigns for ever and do appoint the said THOMAS HEWITT the younger Executor of this my said will, Requesting him within a Month after my Decease to pay HANNAH (late HANNAH BITTLE) and

MARTHA CLARKE Spinster Three Guineas each as a recompense for their extraordinary watching and care of my said late Husband, And I do Revoke all former wills and Declare this for my Last Will and Testament In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal the Sixth Day of July in the Seventh Year of the reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third by the Grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith and so forth in the year of our Lord 1767.

Ann Hewitt

John Hewitt (1726 - 1797)

Our 5G-Grandfather was **John Hewitt**, who was born in 1726, at Cowes, Isle of Wight and baptised at Northwood. On 7th July 1751 he married **Ann Kneal** at Northwood (Cowes), Isle of Wight. At the time of his marriage, he described himself as a mariner. They had five children:-

John Hewitt	b.circa 1755	at Cowes, Isle of Wight
Mary Hewitt	b.circa 1757	at Cowes, Isle of Wight
Thomas Hewitt	b.1761	at Cowes, Isle of Wight
Jacob Hewitt	b.1763	at Cowes, Isle of Wight
Ann Hewitt	b.1766	at Cowes, Isle of Wight (d.1766)

John Hewitt (b.1755) married Mary and they had four children - John (b.1781, d.1800), Mary Anne (b.1784), Thomas (b.1786, d.1838) and Jacob (b.1788, d.1789).

Mary Hewitt (b.1757) married John Campbell in 1777.

Thomas Hewitt (b.1761) married Elizabeth Cox in 1794.

Jacob Hewitt (b.1763) was our 4G-Grandfather (see details below).

Ann Hewitt (nee Kneal) died in 1781 and **John Hewitt (b.1726)** subsequently remarried to Elizabeth (surname unknown). John died in 1797 and was buried in Cowes. Details from his *Last Will and Testament* are below:-

This is the Last Will and Testament of one John Hewitt of West Cowes in the Isle of Wight in the County of Southampton, Gentleman, whereby I commend my Soul to God and dispose of my worldly Estate and Effects in manner following (that is to say)

All that my freehold Messuage, Tenement or Dwellinghouse with its ??? situate in the High Street in West Cowes aforesaid which sometime since I purchased of my brother THOMAS HEWITT deceased and now in my own occupation. And also all that my Freehold Messuage, Tenement or Dwellinghouse situated in West Cowes aforesaid and now in the occupation of PHILIP FRANCES, I give devise and bequeath unto my beloved wife ELIZABETH and her Assigns for and during the term of her natural life or for so long as she shall remain my widow and unmarried in lieu ??? and satisfaction of her ??? and Thirds at Common Law which she can or may claim of in to or out of any Messuages Lands or Hereditaments that I now own or hereafter shall be seized of.

And from and immediately after her Decease or Intermarriage as aforesaid I give and devise the said first mentioned Messuage, Tenement or Dwellinghouse and ??? now in my own occupation unto my son JACOB HEWITT his Heirs and Assigns forever.

And the said last mentioned Messuage, Tenement or Dwellinghouse now in the occupation of the said PHILIP FRANCES I give and devise unto my daughter MARY, the wife of JOHN CAMPBELL and her Heirs and Assigns forever.

And all that my Freehold Messuage Tenement or Dwellinghouse with its ??? (being adjoining to the said Messuage I purchased of my said brother THOMAS HEWITT deceased and now used with the same as one Messuage) I give and devise unto my said son JACOB HEWITT his Heirs and Assigns forever.

And also all my Estate and ??? in a front pew in the Chapel at Cowes aforesaid, being situated on the South Gallery thereof I give devise and bequeath unto my said son JACOB HEWITT his Heirs, Executors, Administrators and Assigns. But I do hereby direct and declare that my said wife shall hold and enjoy a sitting for herself during her natural life or for so long as she is remain my widow.

And all those my two Messuage, Tenement or Dwellinghouses with the ??? situate in West Cowes aforesaid and now in the several occupations of GEORGE COOK and STEPHEN BURRIDGE and adjoining to a messuage now in the occupation of my said son JACOB HEWITT, I give and devise

unto my said daughter MARY, the wife of the said JOHN CAMPBELL and to her Heirs and Assigns forever.

And also all my Estate and Interest in a pew in the said Chapel at Cowes aforesaid in the South Gallery and adjoining to a pew belonging to CAPTAIN BASKERVILLE and also all my Estate and Interest to a sitting in a pew in the said Chapel near the North Corner thereof now in the occupation of ANN CARTER (the remaining pew of which belongs to THOMAS WELLSTED of West Cowes aforesaid) I give devise and bequeath unto my said daughter MARY, her Heirs, Executors, Administrators and Assigns.

And all that my Messuage, Tenement or Dwellinghouse situated in West Cowes aforesaid and now in the ... (unreadable)

John Hewitt

We can draw a number of conclusions about our 5G-Grandfather, John Hewitt (b.1726). In his Will, he described himself as a Gentleman and was the owner of quite a number of properties. Therefore, he was a man of some wealth. He had been a significant beneficiary from the Will of his uncle, John Hewitt, who died in 1758. this included the leasehold to a property called Coombe Place in Brighstone (Brixton). When he married, he described himself as a mariner. However, a mariner with wealth would not be an ordinary seaman. As his uncle had been a shipwright, it is possible that he also had interests in shipping, either as a ship owner or in terms of funding shipping expeditions. However, this link to shipping is simply speculation.

Jacob Hewitt (1763 - 1832)

Jacob Hewitt was born in 1763 in Cowes, Isle of Wight. He was our 4G-Grandfather. Local trade directories described his occupation as 'Baths (Hot & Cold)'. Presumably, this was some type of independent business with paying customers.

In 1788, he married **Ann Eccott** in Northwood (Cowes), Isle of Wight. However, she must have died fairly young as he later remarried to **Rachel Gover Tubb**.

He had two children with Ann Eccott:-

John Hewitt	b.1790	in Cowes, Isle of Wight
Jacob Hewitt	b.1791	in Cowes, Isle of Wight

He had one child with Rachel Gover Tubb:-

William Douglas Hewitt	b.1798	in Cowes, Isle of Wight
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In 1832, Jacob Hewitt (b.1763) died.

This is the Last Will and Testament of me, JACOB HEWITT of West Cowes in the Isle of Wight in the County of Southampton, Gentleman, made published and declared this twentieth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and Thirty.

I give unto my nephew THOMAS HEWITT the sum of fifteen pounds to purchase ??? for him and his wife to be paid immediately after my death.

I give ??? and bequeath to my two sons JOHN HEWITT and JACOB HEWITT All That my Messuage or Dwellinghouse with the Baths and Store thereto belonging or appertaining situate at West Cowes aforesaid and now in the occupation of my Son the said JOHN HEWITT to hold the same unto and to the use of them my said Sons JOHN HEWITT and JACOB HEWITT their heirs and assigns forever in equal shares as tenants in ??? subject to the payments hereafter mentioned.

I also give and bequeath with unto them my said sons JOHN HEWITT and JACOB HEWITT all that my pew or seat in the church of West Cowes aforesaid to hold to them their Heirs executors administrators and assigns according to the nature or ??? of the same in equal parts as tenants in ???.

I also give and bequeath unto my said two sons JOHN HEWITT and JACOB HEWITT all and singular the Household Goods and furniture, plate, Linen, china and Effects belonging to me in and about the said Messuage or Dwellinghouse in the occupation of the said son JOHN HEWITT. And

also all and singular monies, debts and securities for money due and owing to me or which I may be ??? of or entitled to at the time of my decease. To hold the same and every part thereof unto and equally between them my said sons JOHN HEWITT and JACOB HEWITT, their executors, administrators and assigns as tenants in common.

??? to and ??? freely charge and make chargeable the said ??? or Dwellinghouse, pew, Goods, Furniture and effects, monies, debts and securities for money so given and ??? unto and equally between my two sons JOHN HEWITT and JACOB HEWITT, their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns as tenants in common as aforesaid with the payment of my funeral expenses with the said ????????? or sum of fifteen pounds hereinbefore given to my said nephew THOMAS HEWITT and will all and singular made debt and debts as I may ave at the time of my decease.

And I give, ????????, and ?????????? unto my son the said JOHN HEWITT all those two ??? or dwellinghouses now in the normal occupation of RICHARD NETHIN and JOHN ??? at West Cowes

....

Jacob Hewitt

Jacob Hewitt (b.1791) was our 3G-Grandfather (see further details below).

John Hewitt (b.1790) married **Elizabeth Horwood** in 1815 at Cowes, Isle of Wight. They had four children:-

Harriett Hewitt	b.1818	in Cowes, Isle of Wight
William Horwood Hewitt	b.1821	in Cowes, Isle of Wight (d.1823)
Elizabeth Hewitt	b.1824	in Cowes, Isle of Wight
Alfred Hewitt	b.1830	in Cowes, Isle of Wight

William Douglas Hewitt (b.1798) married **Mary Roper Arnold** and they had five children. William Douglas Hewitt initially worked as a coal merchant, but by 1851 he had risen to become Secretary to the Water Company.

Horwood Family

At this point, it is probably worth saying a little more about the Horwood family as the paths of the Horwoods & Hewitts are intertwined and this is a significant factor in the reason that our branch of the Hewitt family came to Hull.

Elizabeth Horwood was a daughter of **William Horwood** and Elizabeth (nee Brinton). The Horwoods and the Hewitts were close business neighbours as William Horwood was a block & pump making business in High Street, Cowes, whereas Jacob Hewitt operated hot & cold baths in High Street, Cowes. However, they were probably close family friends as well, as William Horwood was one of the witnesses to the Will of Jacob Hewitt.

William Horwood married Elizabeth (Brinton) on 7th October 1788 in Cowes, Isle of Wight and they had four children:-

Elizabeth Horwood	b.1790	in Cowes, Isle of Wight
Daniel Horwood	b.circa 1791	in Cowes, Isle of Wight
Ann Horwood	b.1795	in Cowes, Isle of Wight
Harriet Horwood	b.circa 1816	in Cowes, Isle of Wight

Daniel Horwood married Charlotte and became a linen draper. He continued to live in Cowes and by 1851 he was retired and living at 39 St.Mary Street in Cowes. By 1861 he had moved to 36 St.Mary Street, but was listed as 'independent on landed property', probably as a result of inheritance from his father.

Ann Horwood married John Attrill on 25th July 1821 in Cowes.

Harriet Horwood married William Oake on 10th November 1836 in Cowes.

Horwood is not a common name and is not widespread across the country. During the 18th & 19th centuries, there were small pockets of this surname here and there. One

of those places was Hull, Yorkshire. Of the Horwoods living in or around Hull ...

Joshua Horwood married Ann Lagdale in 1773 in Hull. We have no information regarding the origins of either. However, they produced three children:-

Joshua Horwood	b.1781	in Hull, Yorkshire
Mary Ann Horwood	b.1784	in Hull, Yorkshire (d.1815)
Daniel Good Horwood	b.1798	in Hull, Yorkshire

Joshua Horwood (b.1781) became a surgeon. He married Harriet Foord in Hull in 1816 and they went to live in Bridge Street, Driffild, where they remained until Joshua's death in the late 1840s.

Daniel Good Horwood (b.1798) married Elizabeth Finnie in Hull in 1819. Initially they lived in Graham Row, Wilson Street, Drypool. Until the 1840s, he was described as a banker's clerk and later as a merchant's clerk. However, by 1851 it appears that he had improved his position and was running his own business as he was then a coal merchant & accountant, with an office in High Street, Hull. His home address was 3 Neville Street, Hull.

Joshua Daniel Horwood (b.1820) was the oldest son of Daniel Good Horwood. He became a timber broker and in 1853, he married Harriett Hewitt (nee Horwood) in West Cowes, Isle of Wight. We have no proof, but we believe that the Horwoods in Hull were related in some way to the Horwoods in Cowes, and therefore Joshua and Harriett were distant relatives. This marriage was a significant factor in our future destiny.

Jacob Hewitt (1791 - 1847)

Our 3G-Grandfather was **Jacob Hewitt**, born in 1791 in Cowes, Isle of Wight. On 6th November 1815, he married **Jane Reynolds** at Northwood (Cowes) and they had eight children:-

Emily Hewitt	b.1816	in Cowes, Isle of Wight
Laura Hewitt	b.1818	in Cowes, Isle of Wight
John Hewitt	b.1820	in Cowes, Isle of Wight (d.1821)
Jacob Charles Hewitt	b.1821	in Cowes, Isle of Wight
Ann Hewitt	b.1822	in Cowes, Isle of Wight
Thomas Hewitt	b.1824	in Cowes, Isle of Wight (d.1827)
John Hewitt	b.1826	in Cowes, Isle of Wight (died as a child)
Jane Hewitt	b.1827	in Cowes, Isle of Wight (died as a child)

Their mother, Jane Hewitt (nee Reynolds) died in 1829 and was buried in Cowes.

Jacob remarried to **Anne Underwood** on 8th June 1834 at Northwood (Cowes) and they had one further child:-

Thomas Henry Hewitt	b.1835	in Cowes, Isle of Wight
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Emily Hewitt (b.1816) married Henry Edmund Smith, a chemist & druggist and they moved to London. In 1851 they were living at Fryatutone Street, Fryerning, Essex. By 1861, the family had moved to 3 May Street, Shoreditch, London. However, by the time of the 1881 census, Emily was a widow and was living with her sister, Ann March (nee Hewitt) in Portsea, Hampshire.

Laura Hewitt (b.1818) married Alfred Harwood Hale Jewell at Alverstoke, Hampshire in 1845. They moved to 3 Union Terrace, Portsea, Portsmouth, Hampshire and in 1851 Alfred was described as a clerk, working at H.M.Dockyards. By 1861, the family had moved to 9 Park Terrace, Gillingham, Kent, but by 1881 Laura was a widow and had returned to Portsea, where she was living at 6 Chapel Row, with her unmarried



High Street, Cowes (c.1902)

Jacob & John Hewitt lived at 74 & 76 High Street.
The traffic may have been different,
but the buildings would have looked similar
when they operated as Grocers & Merchants in the 19th century.

daughter, Ellen.

Jacob Charles Hewitt (b.1821) was our GG-Grandfather (see further details below).

Ann Hewitt (b.1822) married William March, who worked 'in service'. They moved to Portsea and in 1861 they were living at 17 Ashby Place, Portsea. Ann was working as an upholsteress. By 1871, the family had moved to 7 Richmond Road, Portsea. They were still there in 1881, although by then, Ann was a widow. Living with them was Ann's widowed sister, Emily Smith (nee Hewitt).

Thomas Henry Hewitt (b.1835) joined the army. In 1881 he was living at 145 High Street, Newport, Isle of Wight. He was described as a retired Warrant Officer in charge of the Soldiers Institute. Living with him were his wife, Mary, and two of his children, both born in India. This suggests that some of his army career must have been serving in India.

In the trade directory of 1830, Jacob Hewitt (b.1791) was listed as a China & Glass Dealer, Grocer, Tea Dealer & Tallow Chandler, in partnership with John Hewitt, his brother. The description of Jacob and John as 'dealers' and elsewhere as 'merchants' suggest that they were not just owners of a corner shop, but were probably importers of goods from abroad and distributors, giving them a more significant status in the local community and beyond. In fact, it would not be appropriate to try and describe the activities of Jacob Hewitt without also detailing those of his brother, John Hewitt. They were lifelong business partners, lived in adjacent houses at 74 & 76 High Street in Cowes, and the wealth of their father was shared between them when he died.

As mentioned previously, **John Hewitt (b.1790)** married **Elizabeth Horwood**. They had four children:-

Harriett Hewitt	b.1818	in Cowes, Isle of Wight
William Horwood Hewitt	b.1821	in Cowes, Isle of Wight (d.1823)
Elizabeth Hewitt	b.1824	in Cowes, Isle of Wight
Alfred Hewitt	b.1830	in Cowes, Isle of Wight

Harriett Hewitt (b.1818) married Joshua Daniel Horwood of Hull, Yorkshire in 1853 at

Northwood (Cowes). The marriage was reported in the Hampshire Telegraph & Sussex Chronicle newspaper.

Alfred Hewitt (b.1830) joined the family business and became a grocer. In 1851 he was unmarried and living with his parents at 74 High Street in Cowes and working for his father as a grocer's shopman. He married Mary Elizabeth Entwistle of Kettering, Northamptonshire and in 1861 and 1871, Alfred, Mary and their children were both living at 76 Hight Street. However, by 1881, Alfred and his family had moved and were living at The Cottage in Cowes, where he was described as a grocer employing 2 men and 3 boys.

John Hewitt (b.1790) died in 1875 and was buried in Northwood (Cowes). His wife, Elizabeth (Horwood) had previously died in 1866 and was also buried in Northwood (Cowes).

Jacob Hewitt (b.1791) died in 1847 and was buried in Cowes. His 1830 Last Will & Testament was as follows:-

This is the Last Will and Testament of me, JACOB HEWITT of West Cowes in the Isle of Wight in the County of Southampton, Gentleman, made published and declared this twentieth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and Thirty.

I give unto my nephew THOMAS HEWITT the sum of fifteen pounds to purchase ??? for him and his wife to be paid immediately after my death.

I give and bequeath to my two sons JOHN HEWITT and JACOB HEWITT All That my Messuage or Dwellinghouse with the Baths and Store thereto belonging or appertaining situate at West Cowes aforesaid and now in the occupation of my Son the said JOHN HEWITT to hold the same unto and to the use of them my said Sons JOHN HEWITT and JACOB HEWITT their heirs and assigns forever in equal shares as tenants in ??? subject to the payments hereafter mentioned.

I also give and bequeath with unto them my said sons JOHN HEWITT and JACOB HEWITT all that my pew or seat in the church of West Cowes aforesaid to hold to them their Heirs executors administrators and assigns according to the nature or ??? of the same in equal parts as tenants in ???.

I also give and bequeath unto my said two sons JOHN HEWITT and JACOB HEWITT all and singular the Household Goods and furniture, plate, Linen, china and Effects belonging to me in and about the said Messuage or Dwellinghouse in the occupation of the said son JOHN HEWITT. And also all and singular monies, debts and securities for money due and owing to me or which I may be ??? of or entitled to at the time of my decease. To hold the same and every part thereof unto and equally between them my said sons JOHN HEWITT and JACOB HEWITT, their executors, administrators and assigns as tenants in common.

??? to and ??? freely charge and make chargable the said ??? or Dwellinghouse, pew, Goods, Furniture and effects, monies, debts and securities for money so given and ??? unto and equally between my two sons JOHN HEWITT and JACOB HEWITT, their heirs, executors, administrators and assigns as tenants in common as aforesaid with the payment of my funeral expenses with the said ??? or sum of fifteen pounds hereinbefore given to my said nephew THOMAS HEWITT and will all and singular made debt and debts as I may have at the time of my decease.

And I give, ???, and ??? unto my son the said JOHN HEWITT all those two ??? or dwellinghouses now in the normal occupation of RICHARD NETHIN and JOHN ??? at West Cowes

Jacob Hewitt

Jacob Charles Hewitt (1821 - 1897)

Our GG-Grandfather was **Jacob Charles Hewitt**, born 1821 in Cowes, Isle of Wight, the son of Jacob Hewitt (b.1791). Jacob and his brother John were in partnership and lived next door to each other at 74 & 76 High Street in Cowes. After the 1829 death of Jacob's wife, the children were still young and Jacob Charles was only about 8 years of age. We believe that John's wife, Elizabeth (Horwood), probably played a significant role in the upbringing of her nieces and nephews, the children of her brother-in-law, Jacob. We have this theory as throughout his life, Jacob Charles seemed to be very

close to the Horwood family, to the extent that he even included the name Horwood in the name of one of his children and in was carried through to subsequent generations even as far as the 1900s.

His father had died in 1847, and four months later, in November 1847, Jacob Charles Hewitt married **Charlotte Kemp** of Froyle, Hampshire. They married in St.Pancras, London and we

believe that the reason they had gone to London was probably because Charlotte's brother, Charles Kemp, was living there as he was in the Metropolitan Police. Charlotte may have been expecting their first child at the time, as she was also born in late 1847. One can speculate how Jacob Charles & Charlotte met, but our theory is that it was probably



Spring Bank, Hull (1906)

The Hewitts and the Horwoods lived in this area in the second half of the 19th century.
The area probably looked similar to this at that time.

through Jacob Charles' occupation. He had followed into the family business and become a grocer, but the family were also merchants and dealers and so they probably travelled in the role of selling their goods. One of Charlotte's brothers was also a grocer in Froyle, so perhaps the undertaking of grocery transactions led to the meeting of Jacob Charles & Charlotte.

After the birth of their first child, Jacob Charles and his family moved from London to Hull, Yorkshire. Again, one can speculate on the reason why they moved to the Sculcoates area of Hull, but our theory is that it was because of the Horwood connection as the Hewitts and the Horwoods were very close.

Initially, when Jacob Charles took his family to Hull, he took a job as a railway clerk and is listed as such in 1851. At this time they lived at 7 Nelson Street. Trade directories of the time indicate that Jacob Charles Hewitt became the manager of the Hull Old Foundry (1858-63). By 1871 he appears to have reverted back to the family business and was established as a grocer and beer-seller, an occupation which he pursued for the remainder of his life. The family seemed to move house frequently around the Spring Bank area. In 1861, they were living at 4 Richmond Terrace, and then at 10 Hopwood Street (1863), 11 Derringham Street (1867), 33 Clarendon Street (1871), 38 Clarendon Street (1882) and 97 Clarendon Street (1892).

Jacob Charles Hewitt and Charlotte had three children:-

Harriet Hewitt	b.1847	in Kentish Town, London
Martha Hewitt	b.1852	in Hull, Yorkshire
Laura Horwood Hewitt	b.1857	in Hull, Yorkshire

We know that the Hewitts and the Horwoods were close and in particular, Jacob Charles would have been very close to his cousin, Harriett Hewitt (b.1818) with whom he was brought up and he probably regarded her as a sister rather than a cousin. She married Joshua Daniel Horwood from Hull in 1853 and then they also moved to Hull.

Charlotte Hewitt (nee Kemp) died on 15th October 1892 at the age of 76 and was

buried in Western Cemetary, Hull.

Jacob Charles Hewitt died on 5th May 1897 at the age of 75 and was also buried in Western Cemetary, Hull. His cause of death was given as poisoning, and he may have committed suicide as there is a reference to his death in the book entitled '*This Rash Act*' (Suicide Across the Life Cycle in The Victorian City) by Victor Bailey, published by Stanford University Press, 1998 (page 319).

Laura Horwood Hewitt (1857 - 1934)

Our G-Grandmother was **Laura Horwood Hewitt**, born in 1857 in Hull, Yorkshire, the youngest daughter of Jacob Charles Hewitt and his wife, Charlotte (nee Kemp). On 28th July 1877, she married **John William Peachey** in Hull.



Laura Horwood Hewitt
circa 1930

For further information on the above, see the chapter on the PEACHEY Family.