

**The Ramsay Family of Wiston
(Direct Line)**

**Compiled by
Max R. M. Ramsay**

Summer 2016

The information in this document has been extracted from a major family-tree research done by Max William Ramsay, who is 'the present writer' referred to at some points in the text. Some later additions have been made by Max R.M.Ramsay in the interests of updating.

The Direct Ramsay Ancestral Line

The Ramsay Line

RICHARD RAMSAY

Little is known of him. He was probably born about 1720. In the birth entry of his eldest son he is described as 'Carter in West Milrig'. In the birth entries of his later sons he is described as 'Mealman'. The name of his wife is unknown, but as there were two granddaughters Grissal and Grizzel, it is possible that this was her forename. They had four sons:-

William Ramsay b. 1746

Christopher Ramsay b. 1748

Richard Ramsay b. 1749

John Ramsay b. 1751

CHRISTOPHER RAMSAY

Second son of Richard Ramsay. He was born at West Milrig 14.4.1748 and died 9.11.1816, probably at Lamington but was interred at Wiston. Like his father, he was a meal dealer at Wiston until after 1801, but by 1805 he was at Lamington Mains. He married Janet Pret at Wiston in Sept. 1797. She was born there 13.10.1769 and died at Lamington 19.3.1860 aged 90 years. In the Births O.P.R. at Lamington the minister wrote:- 'N.B. Janet Pret the mother of Mrs William Watson and hence the child's great-grandmother was present at this Baptism and though 87 years of age was in the enjoyment of apparent good health and all her mental faculties.' This evidently impressed him more than the fact that the child was born exactly two months after he had married the parents!

The 1851 Census Return shows that her unmarried son and a nephew and niece were living with her. They had three children:-

Richard Ramsay b. 1800

Janet Ramsay b. 1801

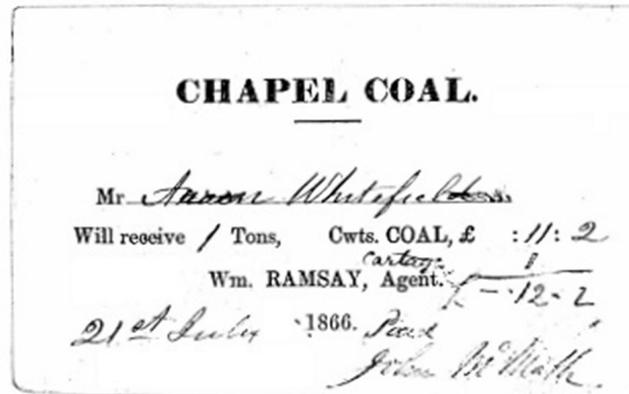
William Ramsay b. 1805

WILLIAM RAMSAY

Younger son of Christopher Ramsay. He was born at Lamington Mains 29.1.1805 and died at 5 John Street, Biggar 15.8.1886 aged 81 years. He is interred at Wiston. On 6.6.1834 he married Jean Smith at Grange Farm, Pettinain (not Grange Hill Farm as recorded in the Family Bible). She was born at Netherton, Carmichael 11.4.1803 and died at Biggar 17.1.1868 aged 64 years.

During the next few years William moved about quite a lot. On the marriage certificate he is described simply as 'in the parish of Biggar', but just a year later his first child was born at Carwood, a farm about two miles north of the town. He was probably a farm labourer of some sort. In 1837, two years later, his elder son was born at Lamington, and two years later his younger son was born at Callands, Lamington, where he was definitely a labourer.

By 1841 he had crossed the river to Symington where he remained for more than 20 years. Census Returns record him as 'Land Steward' living in the village in 1841, as 'Coal Agent' living at Newlands, Symington in 1851, and 'Coal Merchant' again living in the village in 1861. Before the death of his wife in 1868 the family had moved to 5 John Street, Biggar where he remained until his death in 1886 and his daughter continued there until 1898. It is not known how long he continued his coal business as Census Returns for 1871 and 1881 do not record his occupation.



The above is a reproduction of a receipted bill, one of many among a batch of papers sent in to Gladstone Court Museum, Biggar a few years ago.

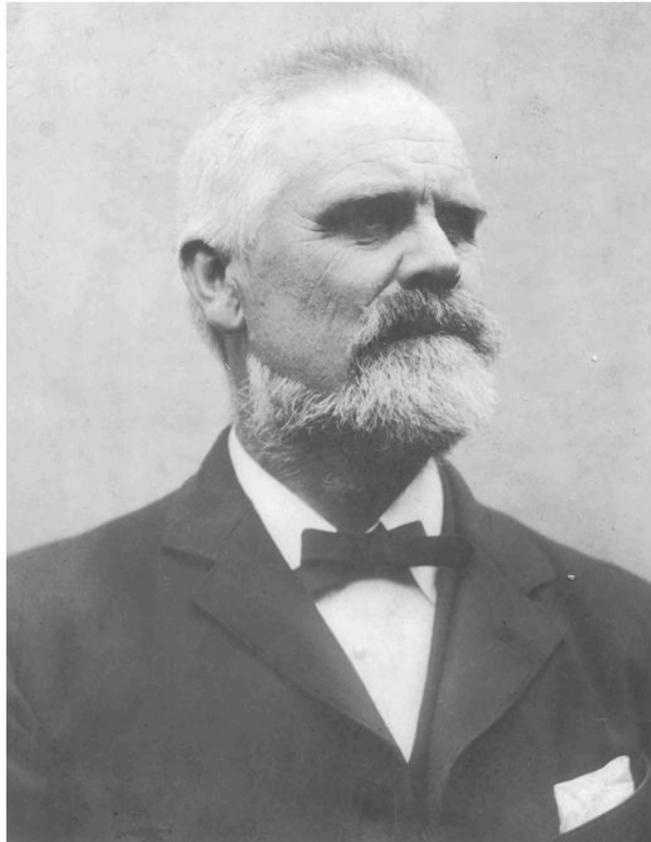
On his death, William left all his estate to his daughter, '*... who has for many years kept house for me without receiving any wages.*' There were three children:-

Jean Ramsay b. 1835

Christopher Ramsay b. 1837

Alexander Ramsay b. 1839

ALEXANDER RAMSAY



Alexander Ramsay (1900)

Younger son of William Ramsay. He was born at Callands, Lamington 12.10.1839 and died at Birkenhead 14.3.1919 aged 79 years. (It may be noted that in this case 'Alexander' is not a Ramsay name. It was derived from his maternal grandparents, Alexander Smith and Jean Alexander).

He was trained as a marine engineer and served his apprenticeship at Blackmore and Gordon at Port Glasgow, probably 1855 to 1860. It is not known when he first went to sea. The earliest reference to marine work is a testimonial letter dated 18.1.1870 certifying that he had been Foreman Engineer for three years in the African Steam Ship Company of Liverpool, in charge of repairs of engines, boilers and hulls. There is a note listing sailings from 27.3.1875 to 25.4.1900 at first as Junior, then 2nd Engineer, several as Chief Engineer and finally two as Refrigerating Engineer. He was 61 years of age at the time of his last sailing. It is believed he was the first to sail under the designation 'Refrigerating Engineer'. He was blind in one eye and must have bluffed his eye test for his 'ticket'. He was regularly seasick at the commencement of a voyage.

He was awarded his Board of Trade Certificate no 13356 as 'First Class Engineer in the Merchant Service' on 9.11.1878. It bears the unusual date 'Issued at Liverpool, 11th day of Liverpool 1878!'

There are gaps of some years among his sailings and it is not known what he did during these intervals. About 1927, his son William and grandson (the present writer) were sorting photographic negatives at Cammell Laird and Co. One was of a painting of H.M.S. Agincourt, sail and steam, and William remarked "your grandfather sailed in her." This would not be unusual, as engineers in the Royal Navy were civilians until 1914.

Obviously it was his profession which took him to Liverpool where he lived continuously after his marriage and probably several years before that. His period as Foreman, mentioned above, began in 1866 or 1867, and it is likely that he married on the strength of this promotion on 5.8.1867. His

wife was Janet Gray born at Neilston, Renfrew 24.6.1827 and died at Seaforth, Liverpool 10.3.1909 aged 81 years.

He was a member of the 'Free Operatives Biggar of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Scotland, Dated 17.10.1866'. He made his will on 8.9.1885.

During his widowed years he was a great walker. The writer accompanied him on many of these walks and acquired a detailed knowledge of Liverpool. He also latterly made annual visits to Biggar, sometimes via a coasting vessel. In 1916 when 76 years of age he climbed Tinto Hill 2320ft (a feat emulated by the writer at the same age). He found a poem stuffed in a crevice in the cairn at the top. It had been written by Dora (Endora) Dickson, a daughter of the schoolmaster at Corington and it led to a correspondence. She became Registrar and continued living at School House, unmarried, until her death in August 1971 aged 75 years. There were two children:-

Mary Gray Ramsay b. 3.10.1868, d. 13.1.1874 aged 5 years.

William Ramsay b.1871.



William Ramsay (1926)

Son of Alexander Ramsay. He was born at Liverpool 1.1.1871 and died of pneumonia during a visit to London 9.1.1929 aged 58 years. He was educated at Liverpool Institute and University College, Liverpool, Victoria University, where he studied Chemistry from 1887 to 1890 when he passed the examination for associateship of the Institute of Chemistry. He was admitted A.I.C. at the same date when he was 19 years of age. This was irregular, as the minimum age for admission was 21 years. He was elected to Fellowship, F.I.C. in February 1905. His occupation immediately after

qualifying is not known. From September 1891 to August 1894 he was Assistant Lecturer/Demonstrator at University College of Wales, Aberystwyth, followed by a short period of two months as Chemist at The Mawdach Copper Works, near Dolgelly, but the job was cut short when the mine closed temporarily for installation of boring machinery. In 1895 he was engaged in a soap and oil refinery, and later in the year became Chief Chemist at Laird Brothers, Birkenhead (later Cammell Laird and Co. Ltd.) where he remained until August 1927, i.e. 32 years. He was greatly interested in marine engineering problems, particularly corrosion of bronze propeller blades and brass condenser tubes, and he published articles on each. His final interest was a commercial process for chromium plating condenser tubes and this was adopted by J. Stone & Co. Ltd. Deptford. He named the technique the 'RAMAR' process, a name given by his widow to the house in Bebington where she lived with Marie Dingwall née Ramsay. He married at Langebrück, Saxony on 13.8.1898 Marca Türk, born at Dresden, Saxony 31.3.1871. She died at Bebington, Cheshire 29.6.1963 aged 92 years. There are three children:-

Marie Margarethe Ramsay b.1899

Alexander Gray Ramsay b.1902

Max William Ramsay b.1903



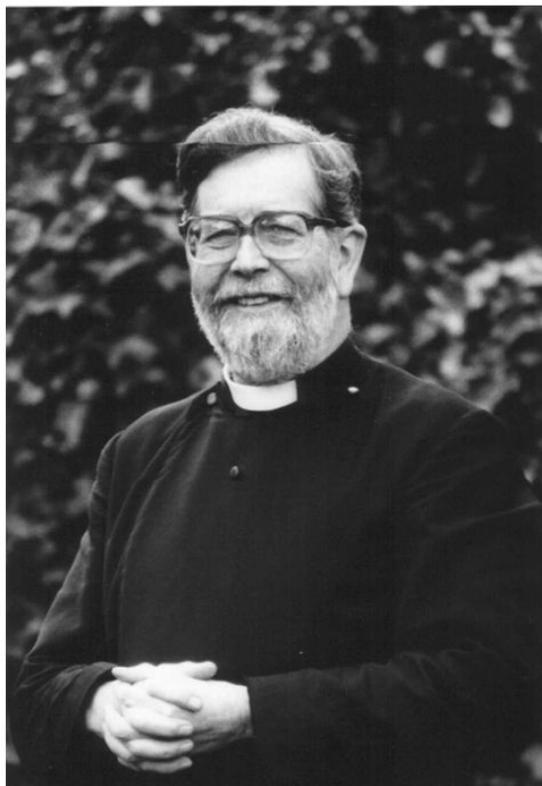
Max William Ramsay (1984)

Younger son of William Ramsay. He was born at Birkenhead 21.11.1903 and died at Ellerslie House, Bowdon on 25th June 1994. He was educated at Birkenhead Institute. He studied Chemistry at the University of Liverpool 1920 to 1925. B.Sc. (Class II Hons.) 1923, Ph.D. 1925. elected A.I.C. 1926 and F.R.I.C. 1943. C.Chem. 1975.

His entire working career was concerned with industry. He was Chemist at Cammell Laird & Co. Ltd., Birkenhead Nov 1925-March 1928 and Assistant to C.K. Bamber, India Office Analyst, Westminster, April 1928-Aug. 1936. He was Chemist and later Manager of the Nitroglycerine Section, Royal Naval Cordite Factory, Holton Heath, Dorset from Sept. 1936 to Sept. 1946. He was

Technical Officer and Manager of Nitric Acid Plants and Ammonia-based Fertilisers at Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., Agricultural Division from Sept. 1946 until his retirement in December 1966. He died at Ellerslie House, Bowdon on 25th June 1994. He was the writer of this history. He married Annie Nelson Ballantine on 7.7.1932 at Birkenhead. She was born there 10.5.1903 and died at Middlesbrough 2.12.1974 aged 71 years. There is one son:-

Max Roy Macgregor Ramsay b. 1934



Max Roy Macgregor Ramsay (1991)

Son of Max William Ramsay. He was born at Harrow-on-the-Hill, Middlesex 25.7.1934 and was educated at Poole Grammar School and Middlesbrough High School. He was engaged in National Service in the Royal Navy, 1952/4, serving in H.M.S. Devonshire and later in H.M.S. Triumph, spending almost all the time at sea. He studied Natural Sciences at Balliol College Oxford, 1954/8, B.A.(Oxon) 1958 and M.A.(Oxon) 1961, where he was also deputy to the then Organ Scholar. He was Cox of his College Boat.

He initially adopted an academic career, being Assistant Master at Wellington College, Berkshire 1958/67 during which time he was commissioned 2nd Lieutenant (T.A.) and later Flight Lieutenant R.A.F.V.R (T). In Sept 1967 he was appointed Lecturer in Chemistry and later Senior Lecturer and Head of Department at St. Katharines College, Liverpool. In 1982 he was accepted for ordination by the Bishop of Chester and trained at The Queen's College, Birmingham, receiving the Hoskyns Prize for Biblical Studies. After curacies at Hale and Nantwich he was appointed Vicar of Haslington-with-Crewe Green and subsequently of the two Dunham Massey parishes, retiring in 1996. He married at Sittingbourne 2.1.1960, Wendy Christina Law, born 22.12.1935. She is an Occupational Therapist. There are three children:-

Angus Charles Alexander Ramsay b. 1963

Alastair James Douglas Ramsay b. 1964

Diana Katharine Ramsay, b. 1966

ANGUS CHARLES ALEXANDER RAMSAY

Elder son of Max R. M. Ramsay. He was born at Wokingham, Berkshire 25.5.1963 and was educated at Liverpool Polytechnic (MEng), & University of Exeter (PhD). He is a career engineer with considerable academic and practical experience. He started the engineering company Ramsay Maunder Associates Limited to develop engineering software based on equilibrium finite elements and to offer specialist finite element consultancy to industry. He is a Fellow of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers and serves on the NAFEMS Education and Training Working Group. He holds the Piano Performance Diploma of the A.B.R.S.M. and in his spare time he is a classical pianist, and church organist for St Mary's Cofton, Devon.

ALASTAIR JAMES DOUGLAS RAMSAY

Second son of Max R.M. Ramsay. He was born at Wokingham, Berkshire on 4.10.1964. Educated at Helsby Boys' Grammar School, he joined the Navy as an Artificer Apprentice in April 1982. Subsequently qualifying as a submariner he served on a number of units before being selected for officer training as an Engineer (Training Management) and joining Britannia Royal Naval College in July 2003. He is currently the Education and Resettlement Officer for HMNB Devonport and associated units. He married Lynda Diane, nee Hough (born Chester 7.3.65) in April 1990 and lives in Devon with his wife and their daughters Emily Charlotte (born Plymouth 16.9.94) and Alice Imogen (Plymouth 22.5.97).

DIANA KATHARINE RAMSAY

She was born at Taplow, Buckinghamshire on 29.12.1966 and was legally adopted by Max R.M.Ramsay and his wife Wendy in June 1967. Educated at Helsby High School and subsequently at St Elphin's School in Matlock, she initially trained for nursing at Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital. Thereafter she pursued a varied career, obtaining an Upper Second Class Honours degree in English Literature from the Open University and subsequently a First Class Honours degree in Nursing. After working in the Leighton Buzzard area (for eleven years living on her own narrowboat!), she is now a Staff Nurse at Macclesfield General Hospital and owner of a house and field in Bignall End, Staffordshire.

Brief Details of Other Close Ancestors Mentioned Above

MARCA RAMSAY neé TÜRK



Paternal Great Grandmother of Max R.M.Ramsay 1938

Daughter* of Osmin Edward Türk. He was born 29.5.1850 in Dresden and died of a stroke in Langebrüch 5.1.1890 aged 39 years. He qualified as a pharmacist and practised for a short time but retired and interested himself in horticulture. He bought a large house, Waldfried, in Langebrüch. It had a large garden and gave him plenty of scope for his hobby, He married Marie Victoria von Tennecker, (mother of Marca Türk) born at Bautzen 26.8.1851 and died at Lausa 5.3.1929 aged 77 years.

Marca was born in Dresden 31.3.1871 and died at Bebington, England 29.6.1963 aged 92 years. She married William Ramsay, whom she had met when she was a governess in England, at Langebrüch 13.8.1897. *But see Appendix

JOSEPH AND HARRIET BALLANTINE



Maternal Great Grandparents of Max R.M.Ramsay. Golden Wedding 1942

Joseph Nelson Ballantine was born in Birkenhead in 1863 and died at Irby in 1944 aged 81 years. Following his father's trade, he was a master tailor and draper, setting up his own business in Birkenhead. For many years he was a prominent Christian worker in the district. He married in 1892 Harriet Davies from Wrexham, who was in service in Birkenhead. There were three children :-

Joseph Nelson Ballantine b.1893

Josephine Nelson Ballantine b. 1897

Annie Nelson Ballantine b.1903

ANNIE NELSON BALLANTINE

She was born in Birkenhead 10.5.1903 and married Max William Ramsay there on 7.7.1932. She contracted poliomyelitis in 1937 and thereafter 'coped' courageously despite considerable residual difficulty in walking and using her hands. She died at Middlesbrough 2.12.1974 aged 71 years. There is one son:-

Max Roy Macgregor Ramsay b. 1934

LEONARD AND MARIE DINGWALL



Uncle and Aunt of Max.R.M.Ramsay 1977

Marie Margarethe Ramsay, was the eldest child of William Ramsay. She was born at Seaforth, Liverpool 31.5.1899 and baptised at Langebrüch, Saxony 26.8.1899. She was educated at Birkenhead Girls Secondary School, and was employed in the Inland Revenue Department, Birkenhead. She married James Leonard Dingwall on 19.5.1925. He was born 24.8.1898 and died at Bebington, Cheshire 26.5.1974 aged 75 years. He served with the Royal Flying Corps in World War I and for the whole of his working life was a sea-going marine engineer in companies associated with Royal Mail Lines, finally becoming Senior Chief Engineer. Their son, Andrew Ramsay Dingwall (148) was born in 1932.

ANDREW RAMSAY DINGWALL



Cousin of Max R.M.Ramsay L to R : Marie Dingwall, Wendy Ramsay & Andrew Dingwall 1984

Younger son of Marie M. Ramsay, he was born at Birkenhead 13.3.1932 and was educated at Birkenhead School. He was a student apprentice at Leyland Motors Ltd. 1950/3 and then in their Sales Office until 1955, at the same time studying mechanical engineering at Preston. His career was interrupted by National Service with the R.A.F. 1955/7. On resuming with the company he became sales representative in Pakistan 1958/61, in Export Sales Department, London 1962/75, becoming Deputy Export Sales Manager in 1967, then Export Manager Middle East Operations and Director for the Company on the board of a Turkish associate, and since 1975 until his retirement he was London Manager for this associate.

FREDERICK AND WINIFRED LAW



Parents of Wendy Christina Ramsay 1963

Frederick (Fred) Sidney Law, the second of the seven children of Frederick Samuel Law, Master Builder, and his wife Mabel née Friday, was born 19/05/1909. A Master Builder, he married Winifred Lily Stratford in 1933. In his early adult years he was a cornet-player in the local Salvation Army band, where his father had been a trombonist, and was subsequently a faithful member of the Sittingbourne Wesleyan Methodist Church. During the Second World War he saw service in the Army, and, as a driver, took part in the Normandy landings. He died 27/04/1973.

His wife, Winifred Lily (Win), the youngest of the four children of Thomas Stratford and his wife Emily née Dalton was born 7/08/1913 and died in 1/07/2000. Her sister Ethel May lived with them for many years, and her brother Stanley Thomas had a long career as a Methodist Clergyman including war service as an R.A.F. Chaplain. Fred and Win had three children :

Wendy Christina, b.22/12/1935

Carol Ann

Joy Elizabeth, twins b. 3/10/1943

WENDY CHRISTINA RAMSAY

Wendy Christina trained as an Occupational Therapist at Dorset House, Oxford, and started work at Shenley Hospital, St. Albans. She married Max Roy Macgregor Ramsay, whom she had met at Oxford in 1954, in 1960. She ceased practising whilst their three children were growing up, but returned to work, retiring as Head of the Occupational Therapy Department at Warrington District General Hospital. In the 1970s she took up painting and has had many successful exhibitions of her work in oil and watercolour, donating the proceeds to charities supporting the care of ex-servicemen suffering from the physical and mental results of warfare. She served for many years as Secretary of the large Altrincham Society of Artists and was granted the privilege of Honorary Life Membership of that Society.

Appendix Marca Ramsay 1871-1963

Daughter of Marie Victoria Türk, née von Tennecker.

When MWR was researching the German side of the family tree, he discovered inconsistencies in certain birth, baptism, confirmation and marriage records:

Her baptism entry in the Church of the Three Kings, Dresden gives her name as '*Marga* von Tennecker (born out of wedlock)*'. It records her mother's name correctly but has a blank space where her father's name should have been inserted. The only godparent recorded is her grandfather; normally von Ternnecker girls had at two godmother and two godfathers. At this time, unless exceptional arrangements were made, a baptism would take place in the parish where the child was born. Marca's mother had left her family home ten miles from Dresden and was working as a housekeeper in a village some 38 miles away from the Three Kings parish. **The name-change from Marga to Marça came early but we have no explanation of this.*

Several earlier von Tennecker baptisms in the same church involving illegitimate children show a full set of Christian names for each child, a number of godparents and the name of the father recorded in full complete with military rank. It looks very much as if Marca's baptism was a 'hushed-up' affair conducted on a very minimalist basis.

Her confirmation certificate describes her as Marca Türk.

Her mother married the wealthy Osmin Edward Türk, a member of an 'upper-class' Dresden family, in April 1873 whilst Marca had been born in March 1871. If Osmin were Marca's father, one would have expected the marriage to have taken place as soon as the pregnancy was evident in order to legitimise the resultant child.

Although she was clearly known by the name Türk (vide the confirmation record), she was never legally adopted by Osmin and therefore should have retained the surname 'von Tennecker'. For an adoption to take place under the relevant law of that time, the name of the father of the child had to be produced, and it may have been reluctance to declare the father's name that prevented an adoption taking place. If Osmin E. Türk had been her real father, Marca would automatically have been legitimised by the marriage and would have become Marca Türk, but it is evident that this was not the case.

When she married William Ramsay, her civil marriage certificate records her maiden name as 'von Tennecker'. On the church marriage certificate, the written entry seems to have been made deliberately ambiguous. Translated, this reads ----"Marça, daughter of Marie Victoria née von Tennecker married to Osmin Edward Türk, deceased." Thus, it does not specifically record Marca's surname but, unless read with care, leaves an inference that it is Türk.

On the baptism certificate of Marca's eldest child (Marie), the mother is recorded as 'Marca Ramsay née von Tennecker'. The certificates of the two younger children record the mother as 'Marca Ramsay née Türk'.

In correspondence with his elder brother concerning these discrepancies Alex wrote: to MWR: 'I call to mind that when I was 18 or 19 years old father said to me "you know Edward Türk was not your mother's father?" I don't remember the context of his remark nor did I ask for any further information. I assumed that Grossmutter must have been married twice.'

MWR tried questioning Marca, his mother, about these discrepancies but she refused to answer his questions. In discussion with his brother and sister, Marie and Alex, memories emerged of two incidents which they felt might throw light on the affair and explain the need for concealment of Marca's father's name. The following is a copy of a document written, and signed by all three of them, which describes these incidents and offers a possible or, indeed, probable solution to the problem:

'In 1910 Marca Ramsay, as she then was, took her three children Marie, Alexander and Max, aged 10, 8 and 6 years respectively, on a long visit to her mother Marie Victoria Türk residing in Langebrüch at Waldfried, the house acquired by Osmin E.Türk. Certain events of that holiday have remained latent in the background of the memory of each of the children, naturally varying with the age spread. In view of all the foregoing which has come to light in the past few years, these events assume a special significance. The following account is the pooled recollection of the three children, some 75 years later.

The first event was a visit of Grossmutter (Marie V. Türk), mother (Marca) and the three children to Dresden. We stopped outside the Schlosspalast (royal residence) which stands without any obstruction on one side of the Theaterplatz. Without hesitation, Grossmutter walked straight into the building whilst we others waited outside. We were told to watch certain windows where we may see the King ([Frederick Augustus III](#)) and Grossmutter walk past. We may have been sceptical about this but we certainly did see her with a gentleman.

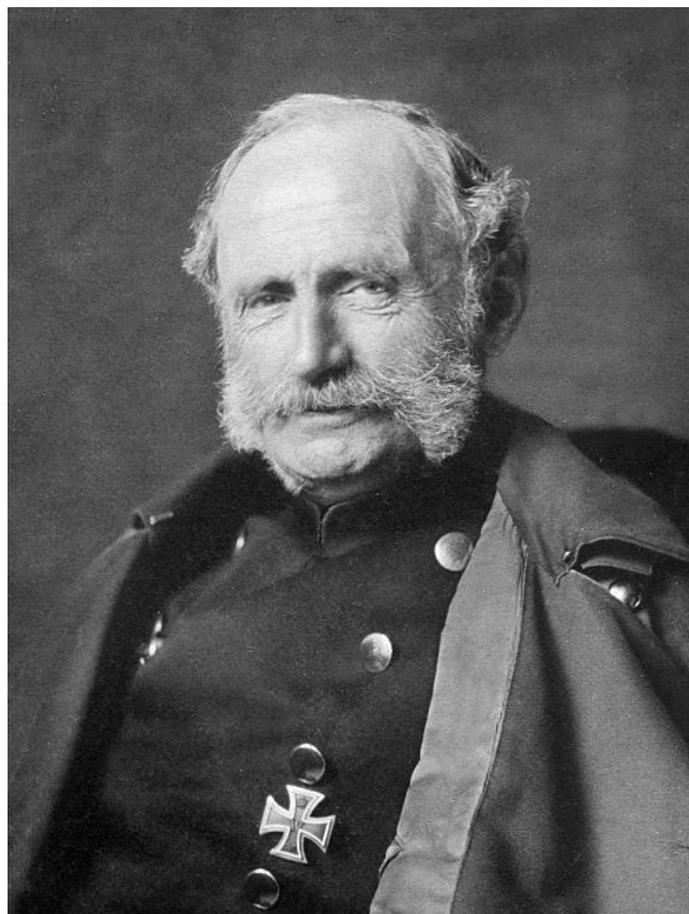
The second event was a royal stag hunt which took place near Langebrüch. The same group as before walked to the Hofewiese, an easy walk even for a child of 6 years. The area of the hunt was marked out with a copious amount of coloured tape. Although we were nowhere near the actual hunt, we were stationed outside the hunting lodge and saw the unloading of the carcasses from horse-drawn flat boxcarts. There were no other people about, apart from hunt servants i.e. it was a strictly private occasion. Whilst the shooting party was indoors, presumably at lunch, the king, garbed in Norfolk jacket and knickerbockers, walked across and spoke with familiarity to Grossmutter, inspected us and was heard to refer to the "kleine Engländer". It is possible that the king, seeing us only at a distance from a palace window, desired a closer look and either arranged a stag hunt or took advantage of a pre-arranged one for a surreptitious inspection when the hunting party was indoors at lunch and none other was present. The inevitable conclusion from these two events is that Marca was the illegitimate daughter of a member of the royal family. A close examination of the "family tree" of the Saxon royal house shows that the father of Marca could only have been either prince Albert or his brother prince Georg, both of whom later became king.

How Grossmutter in her late teens and in very difficult circumstances could have come into the sphere of the royal house is almost beyond comprehension.'

Marie M. Dingwall
Alex G. Ramsay
Max W. Ramsay

November 1986

Prince Albert of Saxony



Albert (full name: *Frederick Augustus Albert Anton Ferdinand Joseph Karl Maria Baptist Nepomuk Wilhelm Xaver Georg Fidelis*) ([Dresden](#), 23 April 1828 – Schloss [Sibyllenort \(Szczodre\)](#), 19 June 1902) was a [King](#) of [Saxony](#) and a member of the [House of Wettin](#).

Albert had a successful military career leading Saxon troops which participated in the [First War of Schleswig](#), the [Austro-Prussian War](#), and the [Franco-Prussian War](#). On the death of his father King John on 29 October 1873, he succeeded to the [throne](#) as King Albert. His reign proved uneventful, and he took little public part in [politics](#), devoting himself to military affairs, in which his advice and experience were of the greatest value, not only to the Saxon corps but to the German army in general. During his government, the Saxon monarchy became constitutional. In [Dresden](#) on 18 June 1853 Albert married Princess [Carola](#), daughter of [Gustav, Prince of Vasa](#) and granddaughter of [Gustav IV Adolf](#), the second to last king of [Sweden](#) of the [House of Holstein-Gottorp](#). Albert died childless and was succeeded by his brother, who became King [George](#).

Prince George of Saxony



George (Full name: *Friedrich August Georg Ludwig Wilhelm Maximilian Karl Maria Nepomuk Baptist Xaver Cyriacus Romanus*; 8 August 1832 – 15 October 1904) was a [King](#) of [Saxony](#) of the [House of Wettin](#).

On 11 May 1859 at [Belém Palace, Lisbon](#), he married the Infanta [Maria Anna of Portugal](#) (1843–1884), the eldest surviving daughter of Queen [Maria II of Portugal](#) (1819–1853) and her consort, King [Ferdinand II](#) (1816–1885)..

George served under his brother Albert's command during the [Austro-Prussian War](#) of 1866 and in the [Franco-German War](#). In the re-organisation of the army which accompanied the march towards Paris, his brother the Crown Prince gained a separate command over the 4th army (Army of the Meuse) consisting of the Saxon XII corps, the Prussian Guard corps, and the IV (Prussian Saxony) corps and George succeeded him in command of the XII corps. Prince George was a [Generalfeldmarschall](#) before his ascension.

It gradually became clear that George's elder brother [Albert I](#) (1828–1902) and his wife [Queen Carola](#) (1833–1907) would not have any children, thereby making George the [heir presumptive](#) to the throne. He succeeded Albert I as King of Saxony on 19 June 1902, albeit for just a brief two-year reign. He died in [Pillnitz](#) and was succeeded by his eldest son [Frederick Augustus III](#) (1865–1932), who was deposed in 1918.

King George was a controversial figure. He divorced by royal decree his eldest son from his daughter-in-law, Crown Princess Luise. Luise's flight from Dresden was due to her father-in-law threatening to have her interned in Sonnstein Mental Asylum for life.

Other Photographs

(Recorded here for interest, charm or amusement!)



William Ballantine 1895 {Gt-Grandfather of M.R.M.Ramsay}



Joseph & Harriet Ballantine + MRMR 1937





Harriet Ballantine 1941
{Grandmother of M.R.M.Ramsay}



Wedding of MWR & ANB 1932



MWR and ANR 1970



Marie Victoria Türk 1909

plus two von Tennecker cousins



Marie Victoria Türk 1926



Marie, Alex and Max W.Ramsay 1905



Angus, Diana & Alastair Ramsay (1971)



Max W., Marie and Alex Ramsay 1989



Alastair, Lynda, Wendy, Angus, Max, Diana At Angus' Doctorate, Exeter 1994



Wendy Christina Ramsay 1961



MRMR, Royal Navy 1953



MWR, ANR + L & M Dingwall at
wedding of MRMR & WCL 1960



Wedding of MRMR & WCL 1960



MRMR & WCR Golden Wedding 2010



MWR & Vicky, Haslington 1988

Claughton Higher Grade School 1909 (MWR Arrowed)



Memorial tablet to ANR and MWR in St Cuthbert's Churchyard, Marton-in-Cleveland, a place he maintained for many years showing particular hostility to dandelions. On a visit by MRMR, WCR and DKR in 2016 it was noted that there wasn't a dandelion to be seen anywhere in the churchyard. They're obviously still frightened of him. MRMR recalls that on one occasion when he remarked to Marca Ramsay, his Grandmother, that there were never any weeds in his Father's garden, Marca said, in her German accent, "Zey wouldn't dare!".

