

### http://www.mylrea.com.au

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BOUT THE AUTHOR: Diana Banks is a Mylrea through her mother's family. Several years ago, she began writing the biography of her great great grandfather, John Mylrea, who was born on the Isle of Man in 1823.

In the course of researching John's story, she became an accidental authority on a variety of Mylrea clans and prepared a series of short histories in an attempt to find the web that links them together. To date, she has produced narratives about:

- The Fatally Flawed Family of Fildraw 1600-1800
- William McYlrea (Ballaugh) 1627-1692
- Edward Mylrea (Lonan) 1743-1784
- Nicholas Mylrea (Ballaugh) 1747-1823
- Three Daniels & a Thomas 1761-1934
- Thomas Mylrea, Farmer (Braddan) 1788-1860
- Basil Mylrea, Publican (Peel) 1791-1865
- Philip Mylrea, Stone Mason (Douglas) 1793-1861
- Frederick Thomas Mylrea, Military Man (London) 1803-1862
- The Brushmen of Bethnal Green
- Mylreas in 19<sup>th</sup> Century Lancashire

The patriarch in this story, Edward Mylrea, was almost certainly not a native of the parish of KK Lonan, but was instead from Braddan. His three sons enjoyed success in their chosen professions on the Isle of Man and in the United Kingdom. Another generation on, two of the sons of his son, Thomas, achieved great wealth, one in Liverpool and the other in Douglas. There is no clear evidence about why this particular family might have done so well since the Mylreas on the Isle of Man, with the exception of the Deemster line, did not generally distinguish themselves. Edward's Lonan family should not be confused with the MYLROIE clan that was already wel-established in Lonan. Not until the mid 1800s did the various spellings converge to MYLREA yet the MYLROIEs managed to maintain their unique spelling right up to present day Lonan.

Diana began her professional life as a teacher in central Queensland, went on to become a scholar at several Australian universities, and later a senior bureaucrat in Federal government circles. She has postgraduate qualifications from both Melbourne University in Australia and Harvard in the United States and is an experienced writer, although the Mylrea narratives are her first foray into biography.



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Source: http://woodsatlas1867.webs.com

**NOTE**: The spelling of the name MYLREA is a major stumbling block in all Mylrea family history research. So far, I've come across more than 30 variations included MYBREA, MYHEA, MYBRED, MYBRIA, MYLRIA, MYBREA, MYBREY, MILRAY, MEYLREA, MCYLREAN, MILREA, BYLREA and MACYLLERIAH.



# EDWARD snr

### 1843-1784

dward Mylrea was *almost certainly* the third son of Thomas Mylrea and Margaret Cowin, of Braddan. The name Edward is uncommon amongst the Mylrea clans on the Isle of Man, and there is no other candidate who might serve as the son of Thomas and Margaret.

What he did for a living in Lonan is unknown although he married in Lonan, had his family in Lonan, and was buried in Lonan. No documents survive to tell us if Edward married onto the land (his Braddan family had none to offer) or carried on a trade (such as tailoring) in the parish. He was only 41 years old when he died<sup>1</sup>, his youngest child barely 4 years old. Yet Edward left an important legacy for his sons led purposeful and successful lives and lived considerably longer than their father.

#### The Mylreas of Braddan

Edward's parents, Thomas Mylrea and Margaret Cowin, were married in about 1739, although no record of their marriage survives. In reasonably quick succession they had eight children:

- Thomas 1740<sup>2</sup>
- ∞ Philip 1741
- 80 Edward 1743
- e Margaret 1746
- ல William 1749
- ல John 1753
- ல Mary 1754
- ∞ Ann1758

Thomas probably belonged to the urban Mylrea clan that had been living in Douglas since the mid-1600s. Margaret was from Lonan, the daughter of Philip Cowin and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Will of Edward Mylrea (1784)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> No record of baptism survives but Thomas is mentioned first in the order of children in his father's 1773 will and can reasonably be assumed to be the oldest

Mary Clague. We know this latter piece of information from Mary's 1763 will which mentions *inter alia* a daughter named Margaret and a grandson named Edward Mylrea. Revealed is the source of the name Philip in the Braddan Mylrea clan!

On the baptismal record of his son, William, in 1749, Thomas snr was recorded as a weaver. Unusually for the day, he and Margaret owned their own home in Douglas half of which, in 1749 and already with five small children, they mortgaged for £7. They paid off that debt in 1755 and the following year again mortgaged their entire home for £14 – was this couple entrepreneurial or were they perpetually living beyond their means? In 1773 when Thomas snr died, the 1755 mortgagee was listed as a debt in Thomas's probate papers.

Thomas left his children sixpence legacy each (his wife was still alive). She might be the Margaret Mylrea who died in 1782. Of their children

- 89 Philip married Margaret Lewn
- 80 Edward married Dorothy Fargher als Kewley
- ல Margaret married John Crow
- 89 William married Jane Taggart
- ல John died in infancy
- >>> Mary married John Cottier
- Ann did not marry

#### **Edward & Dorothy**

This couple married in Lonan 18<sup>th</sup> November 1766. Edward was about 23 years of age; Dorothy was already a widow so she might have been a little older than Edward, to have been married before. They had seven children:

- & Edward 1767
- ະ Ellinor 1767
- ∞ Ellinor 1770
- ல Catharine 1772
- ະ Thomas 1774
- ະ Isabel 1777
- ல William 1780

Edward Mylrea died in 1784 and Dorothy died in 1822. Edward's will simply left everything to his wife and if Dorothy had a will, it has not survived so we will never



know who her first husband was and whether she had children from her first marriage.

Of their seven recorded Mylrea children

- 🔊 Edward married Elizabeth Christian
- » Ellinor must have died in infancy
- ∞ Ellinor nothing further is know
- $\infty$  Catharine nothing further is known
- 🔊 Thomas married Elizabeth Cowin
- 🔊 Isabella did she marry James Cleater?
- 89 William married Ann Fargher and later Ann Cowley als Gillins



## EDWARD jnr 1767-1839

Wylrea snr and Dorothy Fargher als Kewley. He might have been a twin because two Mylrea children were baptised on the same day in Lonan, both with a father named Edward Mylrea. The other child was Ellinor Mylrea who must have died during the ensuing 3 years, because another Ellinor was baptised in the family in 1770.

Edward jnr became a successful sea captain, living in Onchan, and married to Margaret Christian. He had several vessels - *Nancy and Ally, Friends, Three Sisters* - and he plied his trade between Douglas and Whitehaven, and later between Douglas and Glasgow.

In later years, the Mylreas lived in Castle Street in Douglas, and were for all intents and purposes, comfortably off. In the wills of both Edward and Margaret, their home in Castle Street is described as running to the sea shore but today the street hosts largely commercial enterprises. It is well separated from the sea by The Promenade and a row of relatively new establishments, mostly hotels and apartments, the result of extensive reclamation in more recent times, and looks much the same to the present day.



THE PROMENADE, DOUGLAS 1890s Source: Wikipedia

#### **Edward's family**

Edward jnr and Margaret Christian were married in Onchan on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1792. They had five children:

- ∞ Edward 1796
- ல Margaret 1800
- ະ Ellinor 1803
- ະ Jane 1805
- ະ Thomas 1810

Edward jnr died in 1839 and Margaret in 1849. Their infant son Thomas survived only four days. Of their other children, Edward became a shoe maker and went to live in Liverpool, Ellen married a tailor and they too went to live in Liverpool.

#### Tragedy

When Edward jnr died, he and Margaret had agreed to leave the bulk of their estate to their grandson, Edward, born in 1824. The estate comprised mostly the family home in Castle Street which of course was not to pass to young Edward until his grand parents had both died. However, the boy died in 1840 when he fell from scaffolding. Margaret Mylrea als Christian subsequently left the family home to her only son, Edward the shoemaker, father of the boy who was killed in a work accident.

With the death of young Edward, this particular line of Mylreas that descended from Edward Mylrea born 1743 in Lonan, had no male heirs.



## THOMAS 1774-1853

homas Mylrea was a tailor in the late 1700s and early 1800s in Lonan and later in Douglas.

Establishing the parentage of this particular Thomas Mylrea (the most common name in Mylrea clans) was not straightforward. According to his Memorial Inscription, he was born in 1770.

```
Old Yard (Lonan)
E18
Sacred to the memory of THOMAS MYLREA of Douglas
and formerly of this Parish who departed this life
on the 14th December 1853 aged 83 years
```

There is no baptism record for a Thomas Mylrea in that year (or the next) anywhere on the Isle of Man but because Thomas's Memorial Inscription is "written in stone", it cannot be arbitrarily set aside just because the facts don't fit.

However, census collections began on the Isle of Man in 1841 and the 1851 Census listed Thomas as 77 years of age (thus born 1774), from Lonan, and a tailor. His death notice in the Manx Sun newspaper in 1853, presumably inserted by a family member, clearly stated<sup>3</sup>:

MYLREA, Thomas of Factory Lane, tailor aged 79

again pointing to 1774 as his birth year.

It seems reasonable to conclude that Thomas Mylrea, the tailor, was indeed the child baptized  $7^{th}$  January,  $1774^4$  in Lonan, the son of Edward Mylrea and Dorothy

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Manx Sun 17/12/1853

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> BMD microfiche, Manx Museum

Fargher als Kewley. Moreover, it seems his MI had simply suffered a transcription error when researchers were collecting the MIs from Manx cemeteries.

#### Thomas's family

Thomas married Elizabeth Cowin on 30<sup>th</sup> October, 1802<sup>5</sup> in Lonan when he was about 28 years of age, and Elizabeth, 22 (the 1851 census also shows a six year age difference between the two). Elizabeth was born in Lonan, in about 1780<sup>6</sup>. Her parents were Philip Cowin and Margaret Curghey who married in 1763 and Elizabeth was their youngest surviving child. The name Philip Cowin was quite common in Lonan, and it remains an open question whether Elizabeth was a descendant of Mary Cowin als Clague, the same women who was the grand mother of Edward Mylrea, Thomas's father.

Thomas and Elizabeth had four children, all boys and all born in Lonan between 1803 and 1818. The 15 year time span suggests that there might have other children who did not live for very long (although no parish records record other births in this family). Their sons were:

- ∞ Thomas (baptized 21<sup>st</sup> August, 1803)
- ல William (baptized 4<sup>th</sup> August, 1805)
- ∞ Philip (baptized 19<sup>th</sup> February, 1809)
- ல John (baptized 16<sup>th</sup> August, 1818)

Each of their four sons eventually made his way to Liverpool, a thriving city and seaport which was steadily gaining prominence as a gateway to the new world, when Britain was establishing and maintaining its colonies in America, Canada, Australia and Africa. These young men might have gone to Liverpool because there were no opportunities for advancement on the Isle of Man or because their parents had already realised that Liverpool was where the future lay and had encouraged their sons to go beyond their Manx roots, and to seek "a better life".

When their son Philip Mylrea married in 1852<sup>7</sup>, he described his father as "a ship owner", a curious thing to do if his father's main occupation was as a tailor. Perhaps this scrap of information points to Thomas being something of an entrepreneur, a style that would well describe two of his sons in the coming decades.

<sup>5</sup> LDS IGI

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 1851 Census, Isle of Man

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Transcription (Attachment 1) says William, but wife and date indicate it was Philip.



#### A Professional Life

At some stage after the birth of their youngest son, John, Thomas and Elizabeth went to live in Douglas, at 1 Factory Lane (now known as Wellington Street). Thomas was a recorded as tailor there in 1841 and they were still in Factory Lane in 1851. Close by at 13 Factory Lane were John Muncaster and his family. Muncaster was a watchmaker, and his apprentices, including Basil Mylrea jnr, lived with them. This youth named Basil was the son of Basil Mylrea of Peel, and no relation of Thomas's.

Like so many men on the Isle of Man, Thomas also owned a share in a fishing smack. It was named *Intrepid* and the other shareholders were from Lonan<sup>8</sup>. This share he sold in 1825, when his address was Douglas, which narrows his transition from Lonan to Douglas to between 1818 and 1825. On the ship's register, he was listed as a tailor. However, the designation of Thomas as a ship owner in 1852 would hardly be warranted if *Intrepid* were Thomas's only vessel, and it is more likely that records no longer exist that show the extent of Thomas's enterprises.

Thomas and Elizabeth died in 1853 and 1857 respectively and are buried side-byside in Lonan. Their attachment to Lonan was such that they chose to be buried there although they had both died in Douglas.

```
Old Yard
E19
Sacred to the memory of ELIZABETH wife of
THOMAS MYLREA who departed this life
October 27th 1857 aged 78 years
```

By the time they died, they had seen all of their sons married and witnessed the introduction of their first grandchildren to the world. They also suffered the tragic early losses in their sons' families.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> <u>http://www.crewlist.org.uk/registers/registernamesearch.php</u>

#### 1. THOMAS jnr (1803-1845)

Little is known about Thomas Mylrea, the oldest child of Thomas Mylrea and Elizabeth Cowin. He was no doubt named after his father, a tradition of the day.

Because the name Thomas was so common amongst the Mylrea clans, it is always difficult to identify the correct Thomas without corroborating information. The first such information in this story is the presence of a Philip Mylrea at the marriage of a Thomas Mylrea on 14<sup>th</sup> April, 1836 in Liverpool. Given the presence of Philip, it is a reasonable assumption that this was indeed, Thomas the son of Thomas and Elizabeth of Lonan. His being a tailor (as the marriage register shows) also tends to confirm that this is the correct Thomas Mylrea.

Thomas Mylora of this Paris
of this Paris
this Fourtrenthe Day of
Thousand Eight Hundred and Thirty Lize
between us James James James Marine Marine Marine
Mybre An Eward and and

COPY OF THE MARRIAGE REGISTER FOR THOMAS MYLREA & JANE SMITH, 1836 SOURCE: ancestry.co.uk

The register shows that both Thomas and Philip could sign their names, and that their style was quite fluid. Their father had also signed his name on his will (while wife Elizabeth made her mark)<sup>9</sup>. Mortgage?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Will of Thomas & Elizabeth Mylrea 1853 <u>http://www.mylrea.com.au</u>



#### The family of Thomas jnr

Thomas Mylrea and Jane Smith had a daughter, Elizabeth Jane, born 9th June 1838 and baptized at St Catherine's church 22<sup>nd</sup> October of that year<sup>10</sup>. The child died in 1842 of a condition described on her death certificate as "water in the head". Three years later Thomas died of consumption which, according to his death certificate, was "not certified". On both of these certificates, Thomas was described as a tailor and draper.

The other information that ties this Thomas Mylrea to the family of Thomas Mylrea and Elizabeth Cowin of Lonan is the death certificate of Elizabeth Jane Mylrea. The child died at 4 Brownlow Street in Liverpool, the street known to be the home of William Mylrea, Thomas's younger brother. Moreover, the informant of the death of the child was John Mylrea, who also lived in Brownlow Street, and youngest brother of Thomas. In the 1841 census, John was living with William and his family although there is no sign whatsoever of Thomas and his wife Jane and daughter in that census. In fact, Jane<sup>11</sup> was living with her father, George Smith, her siblings and her little daughter, Elizabeth Jane.

Widowed and childless, Jane married Joseph Kirkham in 1847 in Liverpool, St Philip's church. She went on to have many children, and her second husband, Joseph Kirkham, became a man of wealth. Jane Kirkham died in 1864, aged 53.

In their twilight years and living in Braddan, Thomas and Elizabeth experienced the loss of their oldest son and his infant daughter in a very brief window of three years, 1842-1845. That little branch of their family had suddenly ceased to exist. Thomas's premature death without a son meant that the name MYLREA would not be passed on to another generation of the descendants of Edward Mylrea through his grandson Thomas jnr.

#### 2. WILLIAM (1805-1870)

William, the second son of Thomas Mylrea and Elizabeth Cowin, was a saddler and harness maker who was living in Liverpool by 1841, with his wife and son. His younger brother, John, also lived with the family at the time. William married in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> LDS IGI <sup>11</sup> MILRIA

1830 in Liverpool<sup>12</sup> at the age of 25 so he must have left the Isle of Man in his early twenties or even late teens. As the second son, William was obliged to find his own trade while his older brother, Thomas, would have been his father's apprentice.

#### The family of William

William's wife, Eleanor Williams, was born in Carnarvan, Wales. As well as their son William, they had daughters Mary, Anne, and Mary Jane. There was also a daughter Elizabeth, born in 1835<sup>13</sup>, and presumably named after William's mother, Elizabeth Cowin. However, she was not recorded in the 1841 census so must have died in infancy. The UK census collections show the family's ebb and flow:

William (35, saddler), Ellen (32, sic), William (10)<sup>14</sup> + John (22, bookbinder)<sup>15</sup>
William (45), Ellen (41), Mary (tailor,20), Ann (8), Mary J. (5)<sup>16</sup>
William (56), Eleanor (51), Anne (18), Mary Jane (15)

The early census collections will always throw up anomalies and family researchers must make what they can of the existing data. From census collections, it appears that William and Mary might have been twins, as William was 10 in 1841, and Mary 20 in 1851. On the other hand, William was christened in 1836<sup>17</sup> so he was actually only 5 or 6 years of age in 1841, and Mary theoretically was born in 1831, well before the marriage of William and Eleanor. Thus Mary might have been William's step-daughter, rather than his daughter and William jnr might have been the William Mylrea who died in Liverpool in 1856.

In 1841 the family was living in Brownlow Street; 1851 Ratcliffe Street; 1861 Great Newton Street. William snr died in Liverpool on  $1^{st}$  October, 1870, leaving effects worth less than £2,000<sup>18</sup>. He was 65 years of age.

Of the five known children of William Mylrea, only two appear to have survived daughters, Ann and Mary Jane. Ann married Edward Edwards in 1863 and Mary Jane married Daniel Henry Judge in 1867. Both inserted Mylrea into the names of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> See Attachment 1

<sup>13</sup> LDS IGI

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Christened 19 Sept 1836, St Peter, Liverpool?

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> MYLREW

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> MYLRAD

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> LDS IGI

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> National Probate Calendar, England & Wales [ancestry]



one of their children. When William died, Eleanor went to live with her daughter Ann (Edwards), a widow and music teachers. Eleanor outlived Ann, so she then went to live with one of her grand daughters, Charlotte Willis. At least two of William's grandsons migrated to Canada, probably around the turn of the century.

William's death with no surviving son meant that the name MYLREA would not be passed on to another generation of the descendants of Edward Mylrea through his grandson, William.

#### 3. PHILIP (1809-1888)

Philip Mylrea was the third son of Thomas Mylrea and Elizabeth Cowin. Like his father, he took up the trade of tailoring, perhaps serving his apprenticeship with his father after older brother Thomas had moved on to Liverpool. Thomas might even have deliberately left his father in order to make way for Philip to have that apprenticeship. In later years, Philip became a very wealthy man and the foundation of his wealth was his tailoring business in the thriving city of Liverpool.

Philip migrated to England in the 1820s, as older brothers Thomas and William had done before him . From the 1846 advertisement below, several important pieces of information emerge about Philip's work life. He was a draper; he had been a foreman for Messrs. Silver and Co for 12 years (that is, since 1834); and he was setting up his own business in Liverpool.



It is possible that Philip had worked for the Silvers before his elevation to foreman in 1834, at the age of 25.

#### Messrs Silver & Co.

There is no doubt that working for the Silvers laid the foundation for Philip's future prosperity, and did so in several ways. Established in 1794, the Silver's company was the second oldest shirt-making business in London<sup>19</sup>. From there the company expanded as new opportunities (not always in clothing) opened up. They became Colonial and Army agents, clothiers and outfitters principally to those in the Army and Colonial Service, as well as shipping agents for people travelling overseas. In 1823, they took on the challenge of providing lighter clothing for emigrants to Australia. By the 1840s, they employed over 3,000 people, and might have had even more employees undertaking piecework in their homes.



The founder of Silvers, Stephen Winkworth Silver, was clearly an entrepreneur, ever ready to expand his business when a likely prospect came along. The company's marks can be found on swords, a small knife that might have been the forerunner to the Army Swiss Knife, even life jackets.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> The Times, 27<sup>th</sup> September 1847 [Gale *enewspaper collection*]



When Charles Mackintosh introduced waterproof clothing, Silver's set up a factory at Greenwich, making similar garments. S.W. Silver & Co also had works for making waterproof cloth at 33 & 34 Nassau Place, Commercial Road East that were founded in the early 1830s. Later their activities expanded to include insulated wires and cables. They had a shirt-making enterprise in Portsea, and in 18<sup>\*\*</sup>, they expanded their commercial footprint to take in Liverpool, no doubt to catch the tide of emigrants passing through that busy port.

As a businessman, Silver had no time for union organization in the tailoring industry.



The company was originally in the Cornhill district of London. They also had an emigrants' fitting-out warehouse at 3 and 4 Bishopsgate Within.

<b>INDIVIDUALS</b> going abroad from the port of Liverpool are informed, by 5. W. SILVEIL and Ca., wholesale clothers, of Nos. 9 and 10, Cornhill, London, that they may PRO- CURE the whole or any part of an OUTFIT, from the contrart to the finest quality of model, likewise uniforms, accountements, eable duratizer, &c., as their branch bouse. Nose, 4 and 5. SL George's creterat south. Liverpool, at the same wholesale prices as at their warehouse in London. They thip and clear all bargage cut and home, and forward it to its destination, on passenger satisfy from abroad. Daily communication between London and Liverpool for thip saling information.	
A B. SAVORY and SONS, Goldsmiths, 14, Corn- A a hil, London, opporte the Bank of England.—The bert wrought Fiddle Pattern Silver Spoon and Forks, at 7t. 1d, per ounce: N.B. The following are the wright in general use, but the articlearmay be but lighter or heavier, at the same price per ounce. Fiddle Pattern. or a d. 2 a.d. Kinge Pattern is d. 2 d. 2 is Deckert ditto 33-7 2 16 15 0 12 Table spoon 33-7 4 15 18 3 is Deckert ditto 30-7 5 7 34 112 Deckert ditto 24-7 4 15 18 3 is Deckert ditto 30-7 5 7 34 112 Deckert ditto 24-7 4 8 16 6 Deckert ditto 30-7 5 7 34 12 Deckert ditto 24-7 4 8 16 6 Deckert ditto 30-7 5 7 34 12 Deckert ditto 24-7 4 8 16 6 Deckert ditto 30-7 5 7 34 12 Deckert ditto 24-7 4 8 16 6 Deckert ditto 30-7 5 7 34 12 Deckert ditto 24-7 4 8 16 6 Deckert ditto 10-7 5 7 31 6 15 0 per 10 24-7 4 8 16 6 Source ditto 10-7 5 7 16 8 16 3 5 per 10-7 5 10 16 2 10 2000 12-7 4 6 20 5 Source ditto 10-7 5 7 16 8 16 3 5 per 10-7 5 10 16 5 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	The Times 12 <sup>th</sup> December, 1834

Working for the Silvers might have given Philip Mylrea a rather unusual commercial grounding. Although clothing was its core activity, the company clearly moved with the times, and Philip would have witnessed over a decade or so the successes of entrepreneurial vigilance, and (perhaps) industrial manouvering.

#### Philip's family

Several years after his 1846 advertisement, Philip Mylrea married Anne Moore Martin<sup>20</sup> on 14<sup>th</sup> April, 1852 in Sefton, on the outskirts of Liverpool<sup>21</sup>. Anne had been born in Ireland and twenty years Philip's junior.

Their family soon began, and over the course of the next 17 years, they had 11 children, three of whom did not survive to adulthood:

- <sup>80</sup> Philip (8<sup>th</sup> March 1853-13<sup>th</sup> September 1856<sup>22</sup>)(see Attachment 1 p2)
- ∞ John (1854 26<sup>th</sup> September 1868<sup>23</sup>)
- ∞ Anne 1856
- to Alfred 1858
- ∞ William 15<sup>th</sup> January, 1859
- ∞ Gertrude Louisa 1860
- ∞ Amelia Moore 1861
- ∞ Percy Moore 1863
- & Walter 1865
- ∞ Mabel (1866 25<sup>th</sup> March 1867<sup>24</sup>) (see Attachment 1 p2)
- ∞ May 1868

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Anne's name in the Wedding Notice only had Anne Martin; LDS provides her middle name, Moore

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Liverpool Mercury 23<sup>rd</sup> April 1852 [Gale *enewspaper* collection]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Liverpool Mercury 11<sup>th</sup> March 1853; Liverpool Mercury 20<sup>th</sup> September 1856 [Gale *enewspaper collection*]

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Liverpool Mercury ....... [Gale enewspaper collection]
 <sup>24</sup> Liverpool Mercury 26<sup>th</sup> March 1867 [Gale enewspaper collection]



Philip's family was a stable and well-to-do one. The children were all born in Sefton, where their parents had married. They lived always at 6 The Esplanade, Waterloo, just to the north of Liverpool. And their financial security was clearly well established, because they kept three servants. Anne's widowed sister, Charlotte Webster<sup>25</sup>, lived with them for a time too. In fact, even after the death of their father, the unmarried Mylrea children continued to live at The Esplanade for a considerable period, at least 10 years.

Philip's wife, Anne Moore Martin Mylrea, died December 1869, six months after the birth of little May. Anne was 38 when she died, perhaps exhausted by the birth of so many children. Philip Mylrea died nearly twenty years later, on 19<sup>th</sup> May, 1888. His age was recorded as 78<sup>26</sup>. The Liverpool Mercury marked his passing:



As well as the three Mylrea youngsters who died while still young, two more Mylrea children died early in their adults lives.

**Anne** (the oldest daughter) had been married for only three years when she died at age 27. Her husband, Alexander Wylie, went on to become a successful businessman, Member of Parliament, and philanthropist. He remained close to Anne's family and was an executor of Philip's will.

**Percy Moore Mylrea** was 34 when he died in Sydney, Australia, in 1897. He had been the only son in the family to be sent to the prestigious King William's College on the Isle of Man, a sign perhaps that his father regarded this boy as the one with the most promise. Percy attended the college between 1877 and 1880, presumably

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> On the subject of Charlotte, a Peter Milrea born in Lancashire in 1816 and a draper, was staying with Charlotte Webster (b 1821) and her husband John in the 1851 Census. Could this have been Philip???

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> England & Wales, Free BDM Death Index 1837-1915

for the final years of secondary education<sup>27</sup>, and was destined for medical studies. In April 1894, he left London on the R.M.S. *Oruba*, bound for Sydney<sup>28</sup> and in keeping with his status, young though he was, he travelled 1<sup>st</sup> Class. Three years later, Percy died of diphtheria whilst living in a boarding house in inner city Sydney. Why he went to Australia and what he had done in the three years he was there is not known. He was unmarried and evidently he never completed his medical studies because his death certificate stated, "annuant, formerly medical student". Percy is buried a long way from home, at the General Cemetery in Waverley, Sydney.

After Philip's death, big brother Alfred, remained with the younger siblings at The Esplanade, Waterloo until they went off to make their own lives elsewhere. At some time in the late 1890s, Alfred and May (the youngest of the Mylrea siblings) removed themselves to Newton Abbot in Devonshire, where their brother William already lived with his wife and three children.

Alfred was the last of the Mylrea children to marry. He was in his early 40s when he embarked on married life in 1901, and his wife Helen Cory Liardet was about 15 years his junior. They had a daughter Beryl Edith Helen in 1904. Alfred must have sacrificed his youth in order to care for his much younger siblings while they grew up without their father. Alfred was an executor of his father's will. He met his wife Helen at Newton Abbot and made his home there.

**William**, despite having been apprenticed to his father in the 1880s, did not take up the tailoring profession. He married Ellen Eccles Shorrock (Bates) on 18/1/1882<sup>29</sup>, at St Gabriel's, Hulme, Manchester. Hulme had been the home of another Mylrea family, Basil Mylrea the watch and clock maker. However, there is no connection between the two families. William and Ellen had three children:

- Lionel William b 15/10/1882<sup>30</sup> in Stafford (m Constance Guy 2/6/1920) d 14/8/1940
- 🔊 Ivy Annie Haughton b 1885 d 19/6/1972 Did not marry
- Vera Helen Moore b 20/11/1888<sup>31</sup> (m George Guy Moore 15/7/1917) d 16/11/1949. Vera was described as "single woman" in her probate papers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> King William's College Register 1833-1927

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Sydney Morning Herald 17<sup>th</sup> May 1894 [NLA digital newspapers]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Liverpool Mercury 19<sup>th</sup> January 1882 [Gale *enewspaper collection*]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Liverpool Mercury 17<sup>th</sup> October 1882; Parkhead House, Haughton, Staffordshire [Gale *e*newspaper collection]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Daily News 28<sup>th</sup> November 1888; West Malvern [Gale *e*newspaper collection]



By 1891, William's family was living in Holm Wyckham, Mathon, W.Malvern. The Memorial Notice for Percy Moore Mylrea said that he came from Malvern so perhaps he had lived with his older brother and sister-in-law prior to leaving for Australia. William's only son, Lionel took holy orders. The husband of daughter Vera, George Moore, was also a man of the cloth.

**Gertrude Louisa** married railway manager/superintendant Richard Haig-Brown in 1889. Richard's father had also been a Manager of Railways. They had no children. They remained in the Manchester district.

Amelia Moore married solicitor Daniel Pellatt in 1887, and they had one son Hamilton Francis Moore, born in 1889. In 1911, this boy was up at university. Daniel Pellatt was another of Philip Mylrea's executors. This little family remained in the Oxfordshire area.

#### Walter

For a reason not set out in his will, Philip left Walter a disproportionate (and larger) share of his estate and this annuity was for life. No further record of Walter has been found and it is possible that this child was disabled in some way and thus in greater need of financial support. If he had been institutionalized, this would account for his absence in traditional data collections.

**May** married in 1907. She would have been about 40 years of age and her groom, St. John Vivian Beaumont Molyneux, two or three years her junior. He was a stockbroker of sorts, living in London in 1891, and born in Liverpool. She died in 1922, at Frimley House in Hampshire. There were no children

#### Business Man

Philip's grounding in the clothing trade seemed far from ordinary, and the tale of the Silver's enterprises fits well with Philip's own professional ambitions. His 1846 advertisement carried the promise of quality fabrics, and offered a broad range of services, some of which were in direct competition with the Silvers (Naval and Military uniforms) and some that were perhaps a new line altogether – ladies' habits and service liveries.

The year Philip went out on his own might have been quite significant. His employer, Stephen Winckworth Silver, had married Frances Susan Adams in 1812, when both were 21 years of age. They had five sons - Stephen, Frederick, Hugh,

Edgar and Walter. In 1846 his eldest son, Stephen William Silver, succeeded his father and perhaps Philip could not see himself working for Silver jnr so decided to set up his own business.

A tailor by trade, Philip must have also been an astute businessman. He was on the Committee of Great Eastern Building Society, established in 1859, a position offered to the business leaders in the Liverpool community. He might also have been in the right place at the right time. Liverpool of the mid-1800s was a boom city – a port and gateway to the waves of emigrants leaving all parts of the British Isles for life in the colonies. Work with the entrepreneurial Silvers or natural talent (or both) might have taught Philip how to grasp the opportunities. He probably also foresaw them and invested accordingly.

By the time he died, Philip was a wealthy man. His assets were sufficient to establish a family Trust for all his children, which might explain why his sons reported that they "lived on their own means", a term which presumably meant they did not have to work. Indeed, by 1911, each was in his own household, with at least two servants.

#### **His legacy**

In 1883, at the age of about 73, Philip was still listed as a tailor, at 21 Castle Street, in Slater's Directory of Liverpool and Cheshire. His youngest daughter, May, was 14 years old and at school. Son Percy (20) was a medical student, and older son William (24) was apprenticed to his father.

This was also the year Philip made his will. The document reveals a strong understanding of the value of having shares and real estate as a means of creating income flow. Presumably he held both kinds of investments at the time of his death because he refers to the selling off of assets. Philip held firm views about what could and could not be held in the family Trust. He eschewed mining shares. He clearly had an enlightened view of women, deeming that his daughters' income from the Trust was for their sole use, and not that of their husbands'.

However, the nature of Philip's holdings was not specifically disclosed in his will. He was also entitled to certain personal estate on the Isle of Man, a fact known only because probate of his will had to be settled in the Manx courts. Perhaps these holdings were his mother's bequests from several decades previously. The probate process was handled by his nephew, John Allen Mylrea, son of Philip's younger brother John.



Of the four sons of Thomas Mylrea and Elizabeth Cowin, Philip was the first to have sons who outlived their father and ensured that another generation of the descendants of Edward Mylrea of Lonan carried on the MYLREA name.

#### 4. JOHN (1818-1881)

Youngest son of Thomas Mylrea and Elizabeth Cowin, John, returned from Liverpool to the Isle of Man, probably in 1843, when he was about 25 years old meaning his stay in England was relatively brief. He advertised his new shop on 4<sup>th</sup> February that year in the Manx Liberal newspaper and said that he "had had the management of a first-rate bookbinding and store in Liverpool". The advertisement also invited inspection of his specimens of engraving and copper plate prints.

#### A Man of the Arts

When John returned to the island, his abiding interest in the Arts and in Manx culture was evident. He was not a printer but a publisher of guide books and other works. He produced a fine set of views from 1846 and published the splendid set by Burkill. He also opened a circulating library in October 1847<sup>32</sup>. In Leech's Guide 1861, John was listed as a bookseller and stationer, and as having a library, at 17 Duke St, Douglas. His neighbours were George and William Muncaster, watchmakers, two young men who would soon migrate to New Zealand, where their sister Eliza, widow of Philip Mylrea of Peel (younger brother of the earlier mentioned Basil), would also go in the 1870s.

John Mylrea developed, quite early in life, an interest and an expertise in the Arts, a far cry from his father's work as a tailor. He was also a founding member of the Manx Society, and took an active interest in the Thomas Street Sunday School, an important source of growth and development in Methodism in Douglas. He occupied the positions of Secretary and of Treasurer for some time.

Two decades later, in Brown's Directory of Douglas for 1881, Mylrea & Allen were listed as having books and stationery, and as music sellers. Evidently John had gone into partnership with Mr. Robert Allen and their shop was at 18 Duke Street adjoining Mr. Manson, druggist.

In the 1881 census, John was recorded as being blind, perhaps the reason that he had taken on a partner by then. His partner, Robert Allen, was the nephew of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> A Manx Note Book. <u>http://www.isle-of-man.com/manxnotebook/</u>

John's wife, Jane Allen. This young man had been born in Andreas as his aunt had been, one of the five children of Thomas Allen and Jane Taubman.

When John Mylrea of excellent memory Established it in strict integrity; His mantle in the after years had fallen On one well fit to wear it-—Robert Allen. To none more fit could it have been consigned, Since he in partnership had long combined; But he likewise had long since passed away,<sup>33</sup> ......

#### John's family

John Mylrea married twice. He married first in 1844, when he was 26 and recently returned to the Isle of Man. His wife was Jane Cain with whom he had a daughter Elizabeth Jane, born in 1845. Jane died in 1847, leaving her husband and two year old daughter (Recall that his brother Thomas also had a daughter named Elizabeth Jane, born in 1838). Thomas Mylrea was nominated as pledge to the will of Jane (Cain) Mylrea, and this must have been John's father, who was living in Douglas at the time of Jane's death.

John remarried the following year, this time to Jane Allen. Curiously, little Elizabeth Jane did not seem to live with her father and step-mother. She can be found in 1851 living with her uncle Jonathan Cain and his family. Elizabeth Jane died in 1858, aged 12.

John Mylrea and Jane Allen had one child, a boy named John Allen Mylrea. He was born in 1849, and was destined for great things. His father sent him to Oxford University in about 1869, and he was the first member of this Mylrea family to enjoy such a privilege (his cousin Percy Moore Mylrea would become the second member of this family to go to university when he began his studies in medicine some years later).

John Mylrea, son of Thomas Mylrea and Elizabeth Cowin of Lonan, died in Braddan in April, 1881. His obituary read:

Death has been very busy here this winter with many prominent citizens. On Wednesday, one whose name has been a word in our midst for many years was added to the list of the dead. On that day, Mr. John Mylrea one of our prominent citizens succumbed to an illness which attacked him some time ago. As one who for many

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> Duke Street and Market Place Douglas Past and Reminiscent" by W. Gell. Transcribed in A Manx Note Book



years was the leading tradesman in his line of business, as one of the first elected to the position of Town Commissioner, as one who was selected to represent the Nonconformist interest on the Education Board and as a man of intellectual power and decided opinions, he will long be remembered among us. His remains were yesterday interred in Braddan Cemetery, the funeral being very largely attended.<sup>34</sup>

#### John Allen Mylrea<sup>35</sup>

This boy was educated at the famous school in Douglas, Athole Academy, and had a promising scholastic career. On leaving school he became a student for admission to the Manx Bar, and was admitted in 1871. A few years later he was admitted to the English Bar, though he never practiced in that country. Indeed, he never followed his profession very actively in the Isle of Man either.

Presumably, his father had left sufficient wealth for John Allen Mylrea to be able to devote his time largely to the pursuit of artistic subjects. He was a connoisseur in painting, and his knowledge of music was profound. As an organist he was particularly able, and he had a mastery over several other instruments. For many years he was honorary choirmaster and organist at St. Thomas' Church in Douglas, and in this connection he was said to have directed the finest musical services ever experienced in the Isle of Man. He took a prominent part in the operations of the famous Douglas Choral Society, which gave admirable concerts in Douglas during the early 1870s, and subsequently he was at the head of the Douglas Orchestral Society, a splendid combination of amateur instrumentalists. John Allen was one of the most cultured men in the Island. As a linguist he was unrivalled among Manx people, while his acquaintance with classic literature was profound of character.

In 1881 he sought election to the House of Keys for Garff sheading, and was successful. He continued to represent the constituency up to the passing of the Redistribution Act twelve years later, when he transferred his affections to North Douglas, for which division he sat until 1900, when he resigned. He was by far the most graceful speaker in the House, his oratorical efforts being marked by an ease, polish, and finish which none of his contemporaries in the Legislature could approach, and which make present-day politicians look very small. Though by no means prolific of speeches, he frequently took part in the debates of the House and of the Tynwald Court, and his utterances always commanded the deepest attention.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> The Isle of Man Times and General Advertiser, Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> April . Gale Databases, 19<sup>th</sup> Century, British Library Newspapers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> Adapted from material presented in A Manx Note Book

In politics he was a Liberal-Conservative, his leanings being perhaps more in the latter than the former direction.

Upon the death of the late Sir John Goldie-Taubman, John Allen Mylrea was in the running for election to the Speakership of the House of Keys, but was just beaten by Mr A. W. Moore, the difference in voting being one.

In the 1880s, John Allen Mylrea commenced his connection with commercial life in the Island on being appointed a director of Dumbell's Banking Company. Afterwards he became a director of the Isle of Man Steam Packet Company, and in course of time he was appointed chairman of the board. He was also associated with the development of the Douglas Tramways and in the construction of the Electric Tramways from Douglas to Laxey and Ramsey, and from Laxey to Snaefell summit. He was a director of the Isle of Man Tramways Company, which concern collapsed soon after the failure of Dumbell's Banking Company.

For all his abilities, he did not have the business instinct, though in presiding at company meetings he was without compare in the Island. He had no talent for detail, and the fact that he trusted others too implicitly in this exceedingly important element in commerce was to him, in his last years, a matter of deep sorrow<sup>36</sup>.

John Allen Mylrea married Margaret Killey and one child May, was born in 1883. She died in 1973, not having married or had children.

The death of John Allen without a son meant that the name MYLREA would not be passed on to another generation of the descendants of Edward Mylrea through his great grandson, John Allen.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Adapted from his obituary published in the Manx Quarterly #10, 1911



# WILLIAM 1780-1850

- he youngest son of Edward Mylrea and Dorothy Fargher als Kewley remained in Lonan, and married Ann Fargher. They married in 1804, and had five children:

  - 89 Margaret (17<sup>th</sup> November 1809)
  - 89 William jnr (15<sup>th</sup> September 1811)
  - <sup>80</sup> Thomas (17<sup>th</sup> August 1817)
  - ∞ Jane (15<sup>th</sup> August 1819)

Ann died in 1839, and William remarried a year later, this time a widow named Ann Cowley with whom he had another child, Catherine in 1840. Was little Catherine's fate to become a house servant by the age of 10, working for Robert and Jane Kewley<sup>37</sup>?

Ann married Thomas Topliss in 1825, seven children four surviving Margaret married John Kewley in 1827, possibly nine children William jnr married Jane Killip Thomas probably went to the US after the 1841 census, when he is recorded living with his brother William and Jane (Killip) Jane – nothing further is known Catherine – did she marry James Clague?

#### 1. William Mylrea jnr (1811-1883)

William and Jane had 9 children although four died in infancy and a fifth died aged 20. William was a hatter in Laxey Glen but became a farmer – perhaps his father had land, and William jnr took over the farm when his father died, an unusual event given he had older brothers, but not impossible. The two surviving sons of William jnr became miners in the Laxey lead mines, and the two surviving

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> MYLROVE / MYLROIE – 1851 Isle of Man census

daughters married miners. Neither son seems to have married and the older son, Thomas, took over his father's farm.

#### 2. Thomas (1817-1891)

An online family tree provides details of a Thomas Mylrea who went to the US in the 1840s. This man married Isabella Whyte, and they had five children: William Alexander (1849), Jane Ann (Jennie) (1851), Thomas W. (1852), Edward L. (1854), and James Fred (1858). The family name had morphed into Millrea. US Census collections gave Thomas's occupation as "farmer" on Tioga, NY and three of his sons eventually went into business together. Burial records indicate that descendants of the family continue to live in Tioga.

Thomas MILLREA 1817-1891	THE RECORD. Tioga County, New York May 31, 1888 #2
	<pre>FIREMAN'S ELECTION. Last evening occurred the regular election of the Owego Fire Department. There was no opposition to the regular "ticket" and but little interest was manifested in the matter. Only thirty-five votes were cast, although there are nearly two-hundred active firefighters who are entitled to vote. The following are the officers chosen: For Chief Engineer, Frederick S. HODGE. For Second Assistant Chief Engineer, William A. MILLREA For Secretary, Thomas A. BRADY For Treasurer, Frank S. BLOODGOOD. NEW OFFICERS IN AHWAGA HOUSE. Owing to the election of Firemen William A. MILLREA, as Second Assistant Engineer of the Department No. 6 was obliged to choose a new foreman. They very wisely promoted Fred C. PENNY from position of First of First Assistant Foreman to that of Foreman and Second Assistant, E. D. COBURN was placed in Mr. Penny's former position and F. L. RAYMOND was elected Second Assistant to succeed Mr. COBURN.</pre>
	THE STILES FAMILY. Wednesday May 30. was the sixtieth anniversary of the birth of Mrs. B. C. STILES of Tioga and her five children, eleven grandchildren, and brothers and sisters surprised her on that occasion by a family reunion. There were present Mr. and Mrs. F. H. STILES, and three children, Mr. and Mrs. S. S. GOODRICH, and four children, Miss Sarah A. STILES, <b>Mr</b> . <b>and Mrs. William A. MILLREA, and four children</b> . Mr. Geo. B. STILES and with one or two exceptions all her brothers and sisters. Elegant refreshments were served and the occasion was a very valuable one to Mrs. STILES and her guests.



Writes Marcia Truman, great great grand daughter of Thomas Millrea "he married Isabella Whyte from Glasgow, Scotland, and worked at a paper mill in Lee, Massachusetts before settling in Owego, NY to raise his family. One of his sons became a lawyer; one farmed with him; two were merchants in town. His only daughter, Jane, stayed at the farm, but was a very accomplished quilter. His eldest son, William, was my great grandfather. William and his wife, Helen Goodrich Millrea, both died very young from tuberculosis, leaving 4 young children to be raised by their Millrea aunts & uncles."

Marcia kindly shared the following photographs:



Thomas as a younger man



THOMAS MILLREA. Died, Thursday, Dec. 17, 1891, at his home on Beecher Hill, Owego, N. Y., of heart failure, superinduced by the grip, Thomas Millrea, aged 73 years. Funeral Sunday at 2 p. at his late residence. His death follows close upon that of "his wife, but three days intervening, and her funeral was held yesterday. The children, five in number, have the heartfelt sympathy of all in their double bereavement.

Thomas's Obituary



Thomas's Funeral Card



Oldest son, William Alexander (Great grandson of Edward Mylrea of Lonan)



# ATTACHMENTS

#### ATTACHMENT 1

### The Parish of St Martin in the Fields, Vauxhall in the County of -- Lancashire --Marriages at St Martin in the Fields in District of Vauxhall, Liverpool

Marriages recorded in the Register for the years 1829 - 1837 Marriages for the Years 1829 - 1833

http://www.lan-opc.org.uk/Liverpool/Vauxhall/stmartin/marriages\_1829-1833.html

Marriage: 9 May 1830 St Martin in the Fields, Liverpool, Lancashire, England William Mylrea - Harness Maker Bachelor of Liverpool Eleanor Williams - Spinster of Liverpool Witness: Richard Jones; Mary Jones Married by Banns by: Nicholas Robinson, M A Assistant Minister Notes: With consent of such as the law requires Register: Marriages 1829 - 1837, Page 24, Entry 71 Source: LDS Film 1656205



.....

Marriage: 14 Apr 1852 St Helen, Sefton, Lancashire, England William Mylrea - 40 Tailor & Draper Bachelor of Waterloo Anne Moore Martin - 21 Spinster of Waterloo Groom's Father: Thomas Mylrea, Ship owner Bride's Father: James Martin, Captain with 38 Regiment Witness: Robert Rothwell; Elizabeth Elliot Married by Licence by: Jos. Clark, Curate Register: Marriages 1837 - 1864, Page 126, Entry 251 Source: LDS Film 1657555



The Church of St Luke, Great Crosby in the County of -- Lancashire --



## Burials at St Luke in the District of Great Crosby, Liverpool

Burials recorded in the Register for the years 1854 - 1869

Burial: 4 Apr 1854 St Luke, Crosby, Lancashire, England

Philip Mylrea -

Age: 3 yrs Abode: Waterloo in Litherland Buried by: J. Jones, M. A. Archdeacon of Liverpool Register: Burials 1854 - 1869 from the Bishops's Transcripts, Page 6, Entry 43 Source: LDS Film 1468974

Burial: 28 Mar 1867 St Luke, Crosby, Lancashire, England Mabel Mylrea -Age: Infant Abode: Waterloo Buried by: Jos. Clark Incumbent Register: Burials 1854 - 1869 from the Bishops's Transcripts, Page 35, Entry 277 Source: LDS Film 1468974