

SON SIX
ALEXANDER BLACK AND GRACE RUSSELL
OF
BLACKFAULDS

26.⁷

272

Lentilghow County HORSE TAX, per 36 Geo. III. Cap. xv. Survey continued

Date of Assessment.	Masters and Mistresses Names and Designations.	Actual N ^o . of Horses.	Horses		DUTY. L. s. d.
			table in Duty 21.	Horses not table.	
1797	Whitburn Parish Brotharw.	182	152	30	£ 15-4
1797	William Wilson in Craighside	3	2	1	4
	Andrew Merton Stonehiff	7	4	3	8
	Thomas Bishop in Broom				
	Langyffe	4	3	1	6
	John Bishop in Craighyffe	4	2	2	4
	John Heris in Tallhouse	2	2		4
	John Macdougall Braehead	7	4	3	8
	John Mack Tarvymuck	1	1		2
	John Ruffell Bonthead	3	3		6
	Andrew Lindsay Tallhouse	3	3		6
	Thomas Ruffell in Hous	3	2	1	4
	James Easton in Broom	1	1		2
	William Graham in				
	Burnside	1	1		2
	James Tennant in Little				
	Blackburn	2	2		4
	John More there	2	2		4
	Alexander Black in Black				
	fauld	2	2		4

Horse tax - 1797 - Scotland's Places.¹

¹<http://www.scotlandsplaces.gov.uk/digital-volumes/historical-tax-rolls/farm-horse-tax-rolls-1797-1798/farm-horse-tax-1797-1798-volume-05/261>

MELODIES AND MEMORIES PAGE 214

Alexander, married to Grace Russell, was owner and occupier of Blackfaulds. Even in those primitive days some were rich and some not so rich. Their sons were William, of Bents, and Alexander, of Woodmuir. Janet Cunningham was wife of the former, and Jane Russell was Alexander's wife. At Bents Farm there were three sons and five daughters. Alexander died young. William married Miss Gray, Whiteside, and, presumably, was farmer at Hartwood, West Calder.

John, third Bents son, who married Margaret Murray, Blackbraes, West Calder, was for many years in the G.P.O., Edinburgh, and on retiring had a cottage to live in built at Blackfaulds. One daughter (Mrs A. Martin) and her husband live near that place at present. John's eldest son became a Baillie in Lauder, and was succeeded as tailor and clothier there by a son. Another son is in Dalkeith, and another in San Francisco.

The Bents daughters were Christina, Mrs William Rankin. Her two sons became road surveyors. Of her four daughters, one still lives in Fauldhouse. Mary of Bents became Mrs John Bishop, Midseat, with sons and daughters. Grace was married to Mr Robert Froom, and has descendants surviving. Margaret was wife of Mr James Smith, Blackburn, who died in the summer of 1908, survived by a number of sons and daughters in Blackburn and elsewhere. The Blackfaulds daughters were Mary Mrs James Turner; Grace, Mrs William Waddell Reeves; and Elizabeth, who became wife of her cousin, John of Crooklands.

Note: When it came to the last son, JB must have tired of his saga as he related little about Alexander Black and Grace Russell's grandchildren; even for the male lines. As the purpose of this website is to outline the people mentioned or eluded to in *Melodies and Memories*, there are quite a few descendants missing from this document, forced by John Black's omissions. The accompanying family tree however does contain many more descendants than those listed in this narrative. Please refer therefore to the tree if your closest ancestor is not mentioned in this document.

*Reminder: * as JB didn't mention this individual, their story ends in the table whereas ^ tells you there is another generation within this document.*

The accompanying tree however might show several more generations than is in this narrative.

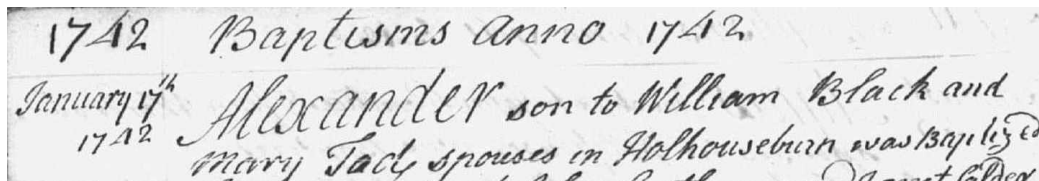
ALEXANDER BLACK AND GRACE RUSSELL

Residence - Blackfaulds, Fauldhouse, Whitburn

Alexander, married to **Grace Russell**, was owner and occupier of Blackfaulds. Even in those primitive days some were rich and some not so rich. Their sons were William, of Bents, and Alexander, of Woodmuir... The Blackfaulds daughters were Mary Mrs James Turner; Grace Mrs William Waddell Reeves; and Elizabeth, who became wife of her cousin, John of Crooklands.

ALEXANDER BLACK

Alexander was the youngest child and therefore born at Holehouseburn. He was baptised on 17 January 1742 and a few months later his father died.



1742 Baptisms Anno 1742
January 17th 1742 Alexander son to William Black and
Mary Tady spouses in Holhouseburn was baptiz^d

Parish baptism records – Whitburn, West Lothian.

BARBARA MUIRHEAD

Barbara was baptised in West Calder on 13 September 1751 to parents James Muirhead and Barbara Orr.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

Their marriage was found in the Whitburn Parish records on 9 January 1771 when Alexander was 28 and Barbara 19.

1771	Jan 9	Alexander Black of this parish and Barbara Muirhead in Carnwath parish
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Two years later the same source shows Barbara died on 20 March 1773. She was buried eight days later.

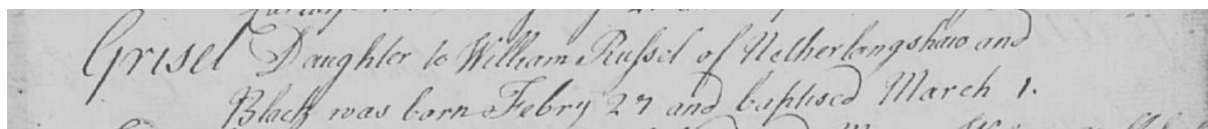
1773	Mar 28	Alexander's Black's wife in Blackfaulds
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It is probable Barbara died from childbirth complications, but the child may have initially survived. Although the following entry for the purchase of a mortcloth was not until April 1780, no subsequent children for Alexander could have been buried on this date, so the child we believe was Barbara's and although unnamed in the records, they would have been eight.

1780	Apr 6	Alexander Black in Fauldhouse, his child
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GRISEL/GRACE RUSSELL

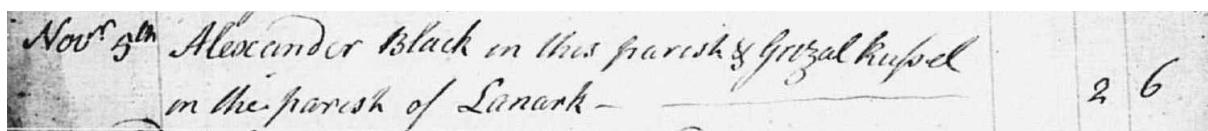
Grace's baptism is possibly the one below and therefore the spelling was Grisel Russel. This Grace was born on 24 February 1751 in the parish of Carluke. Her mother's name was possibly Elizabeth Black as a marriage for William Russell and Elizabeth Black was found in November 1742 at Lanark. Four children were found for this family: two baptised in Lanark and two in Carluke. The address on Grace's baptism is Netherlangshaw; Langshaw is today a farm due south of Carluke.



Parish baptism records – Carluke, Lanark.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

Alexander married Grace Russell on 5 November 1775 in Whitburn, nineteen months after the death of his first wife. Grace was from the parish of Lanark so the proclamation was read in both parishes. Alexander was 33 and Grace 24. The spelling now becomes Grizal.



Parish marriage records – Whitburn, West Lothian.

In total Alexander and Grace had eight children, not just the five surviving children named by John Black. The baptism records show some entries were squeezed in at a later date, between two other records, and we can offer no explanation for this.

	BIRTH/BAP	BIRTHPLACE	PARISH	MARRIED	DEATH/BUR
^Mary Black	26 Sep 1776	Blackfaulds	Whitburn	James Turner	03 Mar 1846
*William Black	02 Feb 1778	Blackfaulds	Whitburn	-	bef Feb 1780
^William Black	27 Feb 1780	Blackfaulds	Whitburn	Jean 'Janet' Cunningham	13 Dec 1859
^Alexander Black	28 Dec 1781	Blackfaulds	Whitburn	Jean 'Jane' Russell	08 Jun 1826
*James Black	27 Dec 1783	Blackfaulds	Whitburn	-	bef 1785
^James Black	23 Oct 1785	Blackfaulds	Whitburn	-	09 Feb 1860
^Elizabeth Black	20 Mar 1788	Blackfaulds	Whitburn	John Black	07 Oct 1872 NZ
^Grizal 'Grace' Black	31 Dec 1789	Blackfaulds	Whitburn	William Waddell	bef 1814

SON 6 - ALEXANDER BLACK AND GRACE RUSSELL

Alexander's property Blackfaulds was near Fauldhouse, a mile and a half from Liltie-co-kee.² Alexander owned the property when he was 30 and married to his first wife and we wonder if it had come through her.



*Blackfaulds bottom left to the right of Fauldhouse. Liltie-co-Kee is in the top right.
William Forrest Map 1799 – 1832.*

DEATH AND BURIAL

Grace's death has been identified as 8 March 1807. Alexander died in May 1810 according to the following entry in the Whitburn church records and he would have been 68.

1810 May 20th Mortcloth dues Alexander Black 9/6

Considering Alexander owned property, and John Black's assumption 'that some were rich and some not so rich' we thought we would find a headstone, but none survives. Blackfaulds does not appear to have remained in the family after his death.

SECOND GENERATION

MARY BLACK AND JAMES TURNER

**Residence - Burngrange, Whitburn, West Lothian
Lenny Moor, Cramond, Midlothian**

The Blackfaulds daughters were **Mary - Mrs James Turner...**

MARY BLACK

Mary was born on 26 September 1776 at Blackfaulds and baptised at Whitburn.

² *West Lothian OS Name Books, 1855-1859* Blackfaulds '[Situation] About 6 Chains S. by E. [South by East] of Fauldhouse Rows This name applies to Two Rows of Cottages, one storey high, and thatched, in good repair, formerly a farm house but now converted into dwellings for the use of the colliers and miners employed in the Coalpits of the surrounding district; they are the property of James Waddel Esq. of Crofthead House.' The Waddel's of Crofthead were connected to the Blacks by marriage.

SON 6 - ALEXANDER BLACK AND GRACE RUSSELL

JAMES TURNER

No birth or parentage can be located for James born around 1771.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

Although the marriage was not located, the following baptisms were found in the Whitburn Parish records for Mary Black and James Turner.

CHILDREN	BIRTH/BAP	BIRTHPLACE	PARISH	MARRIED	DEATH/BUR
*Grizel Turner	05 Jul 1804	Burngrange	Whitburn	-	08 Mar 1826
*William Turner	28 Apr 1806	Burngrange	Whitburn	Catherine Gray	18 May 1880
*Alexander Turner	26 Dec 1807	Burngrange	Whitburn	Agnes Gowans	01 Oct 1850 USA
*James Turner	04 Feb 1810	Burngrange	Whitburn	-	06 Dec 1844
*John Turner	08 May 1814	Burngrange	Whitburn	-	07 Mar 1839
*David Turner	13 Jun 1816	Burngrange	Whitburn	Jean Law	19 Aug 1897 USA

By the 1841 census they were living at Lenny Moor, Cramond, north of Edinburgh. James was a dairyman at the age of 70.

DEATH AND BURIAL



James died on 10 October 1841 and Mary on 3 March 1846. They were both buried at Livingston along with two of their sons.

Erected By James Turner, Burngrange in Memory of His Son John Turner D. 7.3.1839 Aged 21y. the Above James Turner D. 10.10.1841 Aged 70y. Also His Son James Turner D. 8.12.1844 Aged 35y, His Spouse Mary Black D. 23.3.1845 Aged 68y

WILLIAM BLACK AND JEAN/JANET CUNNINGHAM

**Residence - Bents, Whitburn, West Lothian
Meikle Harwood, West Calder, Midlothian**

William, of Bents... [married] **Janet Cunningham**. At Bents Farm there were three sons and five daughters. Alexander died young. William... John... The Bents daughters were Christina... Mary... Grace... Margaret...

WILLIAM BLACK

William was born on 27 February 1780 at Blackfaulds, Whitburn.

*spouses at Holehouse. was baptised
William son to Alexander Black & Grizel Mufel spouses
at Blackfaulds Whitburn Feb 27 1780
by John Hamilton and Jarlhrine Brown spouses*

Parish baptism records - Whitburn, West Lothian.

JEAN (JANET) CUNNINGHAM

Jean, or Janet as she was known, was the daughter of Alexander Cunningham and Christian Waddle.³ Her birth in Cambusnethan was not located but from her age at death it was estimated around 1779.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

William and Janet married on 25 April 1804 in Cambusnethan. Eight children have been located including Janet who JB omitted to mention by name. The baptism records show the children were born at Holehouseburn. Bents is now a small village due south of Whitburn.

CHILDREN	BIRTH/BAP	BIRTHPLACE	PARISH	MARRIED	DEATH/BUR
^Christian Black	28 Dec 1806	Holehouseburn	Whitburn	William Rankin	18 Nov 1881
^Grizzel (Grace) Black	08 Jan 1809	Holehouseburn	Whitburn	Robert Frood	18 Mar 1886
^Janet Black	03 Jul 1811	Holehouseburn	Whitburn	Peter Walker (R) then Thomas Currie	12 Mar 1873
*Alexander Black	16 Mar 1813	Holehouseburn	Whitburn	-	27 Mar 1833
^William Black	05 Mar 1815	Holehouseburn	Whitburn	Margaret Gray	bef 1855
^John Black	09 Nov 1817	Holehouseburn	Whitburn	Margaret Murray then Mary Thomson Sanderson	30 Mar 1891

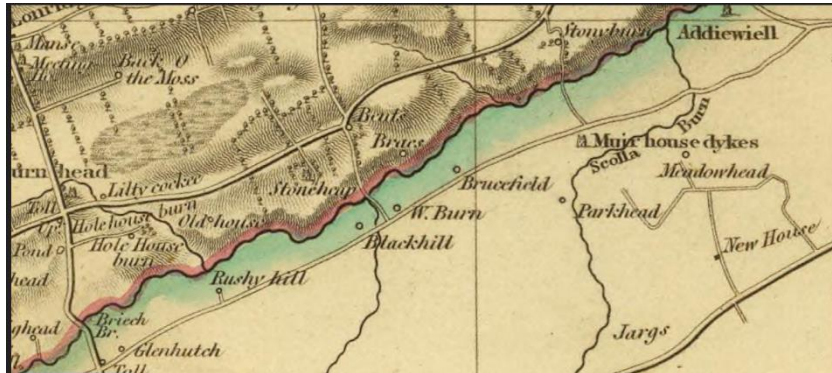
³ Janet's death certificate shows her mother was Grizel but this is incorrect.

SON 6 - ALEXANDER BLACK AND GRACE RUSSELL

^Mary Black	27 Mar 1820	Holehouseburn	Whitburn	John Bishop	31 Dec 1883
^Margaret Black	16 Jan 1824	?	Whitburn	James Smith	17 Oct 1898

Their eldest son Alexander died in 1833 and the Whitburn South Church has the following inscription:

**Erected By William Black, Tenant in Bents
And Janet Cunningham his Spouse
In memory of their son Alexander
Who died 27 May 1833 age 20y**



*Bents, centre with Liltie-co-kee middle left.
David Rumsey historical map collection – 1832.*

By the time of the first census, the couple were getting on in years and had two daughters and two grandchildren, Janet and Peter, living with them at Bents.

CENSUS RECORD SHEET			
DISTRICT: Whitburn, West Lothian			YEAR 1841
STREET Bents			
NAME	AGE	OCCUPATION	BORN AT:
William Black	60	farmer	West Lothian
Janet Black	60		Scotland
Janet Black	25		West Lothian
Mary Black	20		West Lothian
Margt Black	15		West Lothian
Janet Froid	12		West Lothian
Peter Walker	4		West Lothian

Despite their age, they had moved by 1851 to a farm known as Meikle Harwood, one and a half miles south of West Calder, and there were now three grandchildren in the house.

CENSUS RECORD SHEET				
PARISH: West Calder Midlothian				
STREET: Meikle Harwood				YEAR 1851
NAME	STATUS	AGE	OCCUPATION	BORN AT:
William Black	head	71	farmer 115 acres emp 2 lab	Whitburn

SON 6 - ALEXANDER BLACK AND GRACE RUSSELL

Janet Black	wife	71	farmers wife	Cambusnethan
Janet Black	daughter	29	house servant	Whitburn
Hugh Food	grandson	20	farm labourer	Whitburn
Jessie Rankine	granddaughter	18	house servant	West Calder
Peter Walker	grandson	13	scholar	Whitburn

DEATH AND BURIAL

Janet died in 1858 aged 79 at Bridgend. There are a number of Bridgends in the area, but it is always possible that this was the original Liltie-co-kee.

Black	1858	7/10	Alexander Cunningham	Whitburn	James Smith	1858
Janet	October		Farmer	Natural decay	Churchyard	son in law
	decent to earth		deceased			at Whitburn
	at 12 in P.M.				as certified by	
MARRIED	Bridgend		Jessie Cunningham	Dr. Medical	James Rankine	not present
			midwife name	Attendant	James Rankine	Registrar
			deceased			

Death certificate – Janet Black nee Cunningham.

William also died at Bridgend on 13 December 1859. His daughter Janet Currie was present at his death.

Black	1859	13/12	Alexander Black	Whitburn	Janet	1859
William	December		Black	Natural Decay	Churchyard	December 13
	thirteenth		Farmer			at Whitburn
	11.30 P.M.		(deceased)	Dr. Medical	as certified by	
Widower	Bridgend		Jessie Black	Attendant	John Black	James Rankine
			midwife name		son	Registrar
			Russell			
			deceased			

Death certificate – William Black.

Both Janet and William were buried in the Whitburn churchyard.

ALEXANDER BLACK AND JEAN (JANE) RUSSELL AND JAMES CRAWFORD

Residence - Whitburn, West Lothian
Woodmuir, West Calder, Midlothian

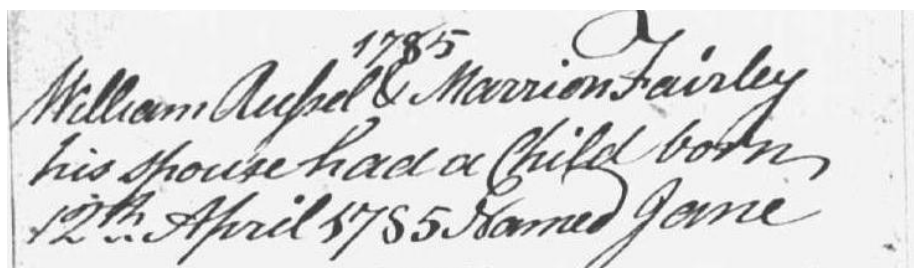
Alexander, of Woodmuir.... and **Jane Russell** was Alexander's wife.

ALEXANDER BLACK

Alexander's birth was recorded on 28 December 1781 at Blackfaulds, Whitburn.

JANE RUSSELL

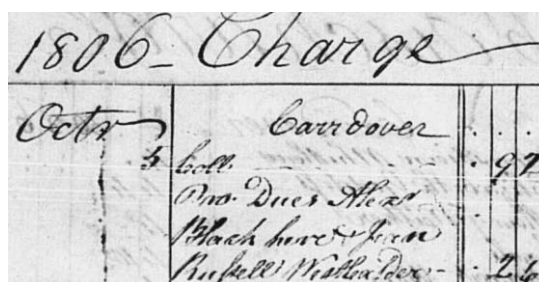
Jane was born on 12 April 1785 in West Calder to parents William Russell and Marion Fairley.



Parish baptism records – West Calder, West Lothian.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

Alexander and Jane Russell married on 5 October 1806 in Whitburn.



Parish marriage records – Whitburn, West Lothian.

None of their children's baptisms were found so birth years are estimated and none of their children were mentioned in *Melodies and Memories*. Information on *Ancestry* infers the family initially lived in Whitburn before moving to Woodmuir in West Calder.

CHILDREN	BIRTH/BAP	BIRTHPLACE	PARISH	MARRIED	DEATH/BUR
*Marion Black	abt 1807		Whitburn	John Thornton	07 May 1866
*Alexander Black	abt 1810		Whitburn	Jane Somerville	bef 1855
*Mary Black	abt 1812		Cambusnethan?	James Marshall	25 Sep 1879 ⁴
*William Black	abt 1814	Woodmuir	West Calder	Mary Black ⁵ then Marion Greenhorn	22 Apr 1878
*Jane (Janet) Black	abt 1815	Woodmuir	West Calder	John Strang	13 Aug 1882
*James Black	abt 1821	Woodmuir	West Calder	Elizabeth Hynd then Janet Russell	09 Dec 1889

⁴ Mary Black Marshall was not initially included in this family, but a DNA match and her death certificate showed she should be included in this family and her estimated birthdate fits perfectly. Her birthplace in the census as Cambusnethan is unusual but her death certificate names Alexander Black and Jane Russell as her parents.

⁵ William's death certificate shows his first wife was Mary Black, (as did his daughter's marriage certificate) but we are not sure if she was related.

SON 6 - ALEXANDER BLACK AND GRACE RUSSELL

*Margaret Black	abt 1823	Woodmuir	West Calder	Isaac Wood then Thomas Muirhead	30 Apr 1863
*John Black	abt 1825	Woodmuir	West Calder	Ann Reid, Jane Paterson then Margaret Ferguson	06 May 1901

Alexander was buried on 8 June 1826 and Jane remarried a few years later. Her son James's death certificate showed this information: 'Jane Crawford, previously Black, maiden name Russell.' Jane's second husband was James Crawford and they married on 8 December 1833 in West Calder. They were found on the 1841 census still living at Woodmuir, West Calder. Jean Black aged 20 could be Jane (Janet) who had lowered her age as was required.

CENSUS RECORD SHEET			
DISTRICT: West Calder, Midlothian			YEAR 1841
STREET Wood Muir			
NAME	AGE	OCCUPATION	BORN AT:
James Crawford	55	coal grieve	Scotland
Jean Crawford	50		Midlothian
Jean Black	20		Midlothian

The Janet below in 1851, is James's daughter and not Jane's.

CENSUS RECORD SHEET				
DISTRICT: Whitburn, West Lothian				YEAR 1851
STREET Longridge				
NAME	DESIG	AGE	OCCUPATION	BORN AT:
James Crawford	head	68	merchant and spirit dealer	Shotts
Jane Crawford	wife	66		West Calder
Janet Crawford	daughter	35	house servant	Cambusnethan

DEATH AND BURIAL

As stated earlier, Alexander died in June 1826 and was buried at Whitburn. Jane Russell died at Longridge on 17 August 1858 aged 74 She was buried in the Shotts Churchyard. Her daughter Janet's husband, John Strang was the informant

JAMES BLACK

James born on 23 October 1785 at Blackfaulds, was not mentioned in *Melodies and Memories* and died on 9 February 1860, unmarried aged 74. He had been a farmer and died at Drybridge, a village $\frac{3}{4}$ mile from Fauldhouse. He was buried in the Whitburn churchyard and oddly cannot be found on any census records.

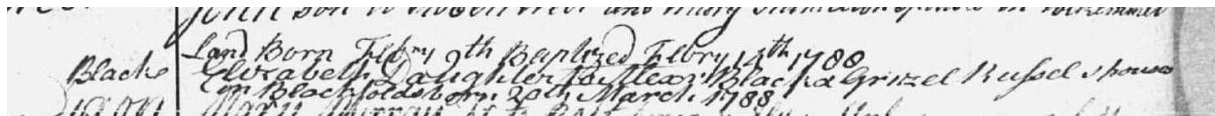
SON 6 - ALEXANDER BLACK AND GRACE RUSSELL

Black	1860	# 73	Alexander Black	Black	Church Yard	Sarah Macintosh	February 9
Inmate	February	1860	James	Black	Whitburn	Whitburn	at Whitburn
	Scyth		(Deceased)	son	at Whitburn	Whitburn	
James	21.12.1860		James Black	Medical attendant	Whitburn	Whitburn	Whitburn
(Single)	Drybridge		James Black	Whitburn	Whitburn	Whitburn	Whitburn
			Hybrid (Deceased)	Whitburn	Whitburn	Whitburn	Whitburn

Death certificate – James Black.

ELIZABETH BLACK AND JOHN BLACK

... and **Elizabeth**, who became wife of her cousin, **John** of Crooklands.



Parish baptism records – Whitburn, West Lothian.

Elizabeth was born on 20 March 1788 in Blackfaulds.

See ‘Son-2-2’ as Elizabeth married John Black a grandson from this branch. This couple immigrated to New Zealand in 1859. The attached tree for Son-6-Alexander also has full details on Elizabeth and John’s descendants.

GRIZEL (GRACE) BLACK AND WILLIAM WADDELL

Residence - Woodmuir, Whitburn, West Lothian

The Blackfaulds daughters were... **Grace, Mrs William Waddell Reeves.**

GRIZAL (GRACE) BLACK

Grace was born on 31 December 1789 at Blackfaulds, Whitburn.

WILLIAM WADDELL

Little can be found about this family, perhaps because on the marriage, William was simply shown as William Waddell and the addition of the surname Reeves by John Black is a mystery. One source says William was born on 21 September 1784 in Bathgate the son of George Waddell and Janet Hastie.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

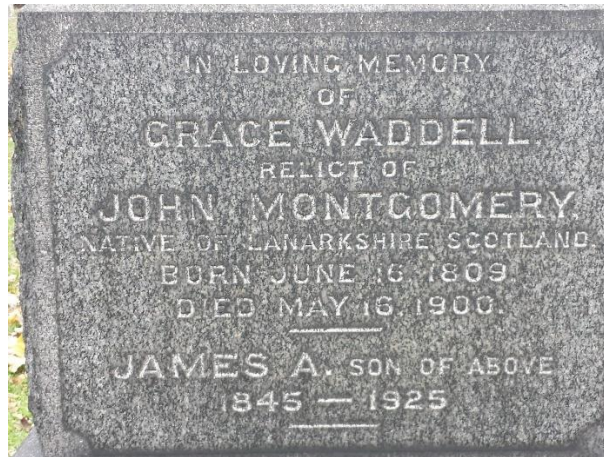
The marriage took place in Whitburn on 3 July 1808 and only one child was found, Grizel Waddell.

SON 6 - ALEXANDER BLACK AND GRACE RUSSELL

CHILDREN	BIRTH/BAP	PARISH	MARRIED	DEATH/BUR
*Grizel (Grace) Waddel	16 Jun 1809	Whitburn	John Montgomery ⁶	16 May 1900 Canada

DEATH AND BURIAL

If we have the right people, Grace died between 1809 and 1814 as William married Catherine Thomson in Shotts that year. William Waddell died in Ontario, Canada in 1871. Grace his daughter also went to Canada after the death of her husband John Montgomery in 1853 in Whitburn.



Headstone – Grace Montgomery, nee Waddell. Mount Pleasant Cemetery, Toronto, Canada,

THIRD GENERATION

CHILDREN OF WILLIAM BLACK AND JANET CUNNINGHAM

CHRISTIAN (CHRISTINA) BLACK AND WILLIAM RANKIN

Residence - Breich Water Toll, West Calder, Midlothian

The Bents daughters were **Christina, Mrs William Rankin**. Her two sons became road surveyors. Of her four daughters, one still lives in Fauldhouse.

CHRISTINA BLACK

Christina was born on 28 December 1806 at Bents in Whitburn.

Christian daughter to William Black and Janet Cunningham spouses in Houlehouseburn born 28 Dec 1806.

WILLIAM RANKIN

⁶ John Montgomery's sister Barbara Montgomery married Robert Black (Son 2.3).

SON 6 - ALEXANDER BLACK AND GRACE RUSSELL

William was born in Cambusnethan on 10 August 1799 to Andrew Rankin and Catherine Pettigrew.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

The marriage for Christina and William was announced in both the parish of Whitburn on 1 January 1830 and in West Calder on 17 January 1830. The pair made their home in the later location. Eight children were found but two died in childhood so John, despite not naming them identified the number of Christina's adult children.

CHILDREN	BIRTH/BAP	PARISH	MARRIED	DEATH/BUR
^Andrew Rankin	30 Oct 1830	West Calder	Jemima Young	05 May 1905
^Jessie (Janet) Rankin	19 Aug 1832	West Calder	John Smith	24 Jul 1893
^William Rankin	02 Sep 1836	West Calder	Agnes Smith	24 Jun 1894
^Catherine Rankin	22 Feb 1839	West Calder	John Brown	17 Mar 1932
*James Rankin	abt 1842	West Calder	-	abt 1849
*Christian Rankin	abt 1844	West Calder	-	abt 1844
^Christian Rankin	24 Feb 1846	West Calder	James Tweedie	13 Mar 1867
^Jemima Rankin	08 Dec 1849	West Calder	John Henderson	1893

William was a road labourer like his sons, as claimed in *Melodies and Memories*.

CENSUS RECORD SHEET				
PARISH: West Calder Midlothian				
STREET: Breich Toll				YEAR 1851
NAME	STATUS	AGE	OCCUPATION	BORN AT:
William Rankin	head	51	road labourer	Cambusnethan
Christian Rankin	wife	44	dressmaker	Whitburn
Andrew Rankin	daughter	20	scholar	West Calder
William Rankin	son	14	road labourer	West Calder
Catherine Rankin	daughter	12	bairnsmaid	West Calder
Christian Rankin	daughter	5		West Calder
Jamesina Rankin	daughter	1		West Calder



DEATH AND BURIAL

Christina died on 18 November 1881; William had died over twenty years earlier on 22 March 1864. They were buried in Whitburn.

In Memory of Will Rankin, born at Kirkhall Cambusnethan 10/8/1799, died at Breich Bridge, West Calder 22/3/1864. Christian Black his wife born at Holehouseburn, Whitburn 28/12/1806 died at Breich Bridge 18/11/1881 and of their

SON 6 - ALEXANDER BLACK AND GRACE RUSSELL

children, James 7 years, Christian 11 months, interred in the old Churchyard.

GRIZZEL/GRACE BLACK AND ROBERT FROOD

**Residence - Holehouseburn Whitburn, West Lothian
Netherton, Shotts, Lanark**

Grace was married to Mr **Robert Frood**, and has descendants surviving.

GRIZZEL (GRACE) BLACK

Grace was born at Bents, Whitburn on 8 January 1809.

**Grizzel daughter to William Black and Janet Cunningham spouses in
Houlehouseburn born 18 Jan 1809.**

ROBERT FROOD

'Robert Fruid' was born on 19 January 1806 in Carmichael, Lanark. His parents were Hugh Frood and Margaret Hamilton.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

Five children were located to this couple who married on 11 July 1829 in Whitburn.

CHILDREN	BIRTH/BAP	BIRTHPLACE	PARISH	MARRIED	DEATH/BUR
*Janet Frood	abt 1829	Holehouseburn	Whitburn	Alexander Lind	31 May 1897
*Hugh Frood	abt 1831	Holehouseburn	Whitburn	Elizabeth Fairley	1905
*William Frood	abt 1834	Holehouseburn	Whitburn	Catherine Calder	17 Feb 1864
*Alexander Frood	abt 1839	Holehouseburn	Whitburn	-	bef 1851
*Robert Frood	1840	Holehouseburn	Whitburn	-	07 Jun 1864

In 1841 Robert and Grace were living at Holehouseburn, directly across the road from Liltie-co-kee. Robert was an agricultural labourer. Janet, the oldest, was living with her grandparents William and Janet Black. Hugh at the age of eleven in 1841 was a male servant with William Black, his uncle at Bents and at twenty he too was living with his grandparents William and Janet Black.

CENSUS RECORD SHEET			
DISTRICT: Whitburn, West Lothian			YEAR 1841
STREET Holehouseburn			
NAME	AGE	OCCUPATION	BORN AT:
Robert Frood	30	ag labourer	Scotland
Grace Frood	30		West Lothian

SON 6 - ALEXANDER BLACK AND GRACE RUSSELL

William Frood	9		West Lothian
Alexander Frood	6		West Lothian
Robert Frood	4 mo		West Lothian

DEATH AND BURIAL



Robert died in 1880 and in 1881 Grace was living with her daughter Janet, married to Alexander Lind, in West Calder. Grace died in 1884. They were buried at Whitburn.

Erected by Hugh Frood in loving memory of his father & mother, Robert Frood & Grace Black, also his brother Robert Frood, also his children, Margaret Frood died 6/1866 aged 3 Yrs, William Frood died 5/1/1872 aged 2 yrs.

JANET BLACK, PETER WALKER AND THOMAS CURRIE

At Bents Farm there were... five daughters. [**Janet**]

JANET BLACK

Janet, the third of the five daughters, was born on 3 July 1811 and was the only one not named in *Melodies and Memories*. On the 1841 census she was 25 and living with her parents but also in the house was four-year-old Peter Walker. Relationships were not given, but logically, Janet was Peter's mother. The father was also Peter Walker but he and Janet never married.

CHILDREN	BIRTH/BAP	BIRTHPLACE	PARISH	MARRIED	DEATH/BUR
*Peter Walker	abt 1837	Bents	Whitburn	-	28 May 1859

Janet and Peter were still living with her parents in 1851 but later that year she married Thomas Currie when she nearly 40.

THOMAS CURRIE

Thomas was born on 25 July 1794 in Edinburgh. He already had a family when he married Janet at the age of 56. Janet and Thomas had one child.

CHILDREN	BIRTH/BAP	PARISH	MARRIED	DEATH/BUR
*Janet (Jessie) Currie	25 Sep 1853	West Calder	James Calder	24 Jul 1929

SON 6 - ALEXANDER BLACK AND GRACE RUSSELL

DEATH AND BURIAL

Janet died on 12 March 1873; her much older husband had predeceased her in 1870.

WILLIAM BLACK AND MARGARET GRAY

**Residence - Bents, Whitburn, West Lothian
Meikle Harwood, West Calder, Midlothian**

William married **Miss Gray**, Whiteside, and, presumably, was a farmer at Hartwood, West Calder.

WILLIAM BLACK

William was born on the 5 March 1815 at Whitburn.

William son of William Black and Janet Cunningham spouses in Houlehouseburn born 5 March 1815.

When his brother Alexander died at the age of 20, William became the eldest son. In 1841 William was unmarried and living at Bents as the head of the house and a young nephew and two workers were living in the household also.

MARGARET GRAY

Margaret Gray was born about 1823 in Bathgate and her parents according to one tree were James Gray and Agnes.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

William married Margaret Gray on 29 December 1844. Only two children were located.

CHILDREN	BIRTH/BAP	BIRTHPLACE	PARISH	MARRIED	DEATH/BUR
*Mary Sandilands Weir Black	abt 1845	Meikle Harwood	West Calder	James Eddie	24 Jul 1929
*William Black	abt 1847	Meikle Harwood	West Calder	Jane Shearer Simson	12 Feb 1909

In 1851 they were living at Meikle Harwood (not Hartwood as written by John Black), the childhood home where William grew up. His parents, William Black and Janet Cunningham were also living there.

SON 6 - ALEXANDER BLACK AND GRACE RUSSELL

CENSUS RECORD SHEET				
PARISH: West Calder Midlothian				
Street: Meikle Harwood				YEAR 1851
NAME	DESIG	AGE	OCCUPATION	BORN AT:
William Black	head	36	farm labourer	Whitburn
Margaret Black	wife	28		West Calder
Mary Black	daughter	6	scholar	Bathgate
William Black	son	4		Bathgate

DEATH AND BURIAL

William and Margaret had both died by 1855 and their burials are not located. In 1861 we found William, aged fourteen as an apprentice in Edinburgh and Mary aged sixteen living with her maternal grandparents in Bathgate.

JOHN BLACK AND MARGARET MURRAY AND MARY THOMSON SANDERSON

Residence - Edinburgh, East Lothian

John, third Bents son, who married **Margaret Murray**, Blackbraes, West Calder, was for many years in the G.P.O., Edinburgh, and on retiring had a cottage to live in built at Blackfaulds. One daughter (Mrs A. Martin)... John's eldest son became a Baillie in Lauder... Another son is in Dalkeith, and another in San Francisco.

JOHN BLACK

John was born on 9 November 1817 at Holehouseburn, Whitburn.

John son to William Black and Janet Cunningham spouses in Houlehouseburn born 9 Nov 1817.

MARGARET MURRAY

Margaret was the daughter of George Murray and Jane Robertson from Blackbrae a farm in West Calder and was born about 1818.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

John married Margaret Murray at West Calder on 7 February 1837. John mentions only four children but seven were located.

CHILDREN	BIRTH/BAP	PARISH	MARRIED	DEATH/BUR
^William Black	abt 1838	Longridge	Margaret Bayne Ness	21 Oct 1896
*Jean (Jane) Black	abt 1839	Longridge	Alexander Peters Wilkie	27 May 1917
*George Black	abt 1842	Longridge	Euphemia McAsh	aft 1871

SON 6 - ALEXANDER BLACK AND GRACE RUSSELL

*Alexander Black	abt 1844	Longridge	unknown	aft 1861
^Jessie Cunningham Black	1847	Leith	Alexander Martin	05 Jan 1924
^James Murray Black	09 Feb 1855	Leith	Catherine Dempsey	18 May 1931

In 1841 they were living in Whitburn but moved to Leith, Edinburgh around 1846.

CENSUS RECORD SHEET				
DISTRICT: Leith South, Midlothian			YEAR 1851	
STREET No 17e				
NAME	DESIG	AGE	OCCUPATION	BORN AT:
John Black	head	33	letter carrier	Whitburn
Margaret Black	wife	33		Mid Calder
William Black	son	14	tailor	West Calder
George Black	son	9	errand boy	Whitburn
Alexander Black	son	7	scholar	Whitburn
Jessie Black	daughter	3	scholar	South Leith

Margaret died on 3 December 1856.

MARY THOMSON SANDERSON

Mary was born in Edinburgh around 1841 and was younger than John's eldest daughter.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

The couple had six, possibly seven children. None were mentioned by John Black except for the eldest John who went to the USA. This son is a mystery as his father's first wife died in 1856 and his second marriage occurred in 1863; this John was born around 1861 and no birth is located under the name of John Black in Edinburgh between 1860-1861.

CHILDREN	BIRTH/BAP	PARISH	MARRIED	DEATH/BUR
^John Black	abt 1861	Edinburgh	Ann Graham	aft 1920 USA
*Peter Sanderson Black	12 Jun 1863	Canongate	-	24 Jul 1863
*Hannah Catherine Black	11 Nov 1864	Canongate	John Forbes	1936
*Peter Sanderson Black	09 Apr 1867	Canongate	Agnes Gavine then Christina Moyes then Jessie McAthie Mitchell	08 Oct 1934
*Richard Hodgson Black	26 Feb 1871	Canongate	Amy Henry	05 Apr 1955 England

SON 6 - ALEXANDER BLACK AND GRACE RUSSELL

*Alexander Black	06 Aug 1873	Canongate	unknown	aft 1891
*Robert Black	Feb 1876	Canongate	-	28 Mar 1877

DEATH AND BURIAL

There is no evidence, as claimed in *Melodies and Memories* that John built a house in Blackfaulds and instead we find John's death on 30 March 1891 in Edinburgh. Mary, unsurprisingly, was still alive in 1901.

<p>BLACK, John. Value of Estate, £337, 13s. 8d.</p>	<p>23 May.—Confirmation of John Black, sometime Letter Sorter, 5 Violet Bank, Spring Gardens, Abbeyhill, Edinburgh, latterly at 1 Park Villas, Spring Gardens there, who died 30 March 1891, at Edinburgh, testate, granted at Edinburgh, to William Black, Tailor, Lauder, Berwickshire, his son, Alexander Wilkie, Teacher, Longtown, Cumberland, Alexander Martin, Tailor, Fauldhouse, and Mary Sanderson or Black, 1 Park Villas aforesaid, his widow, Executors nominated in Will or Deed, dated 13 November 1877, and recorded in Court Books of Commissariat of Edinburgh, 20 May 1891.</p>
--	--

Probate - John Black.

Six days after John's death the census was taken.

CENSUS RECORD SHEET				
DISTRICT: Leith South, Midlothian				YEAR 1891
STREET 1 Spring Gardens				
NAME	DESIG	AGE	OCCUPATION	BORN AT:
Mary Black	head	51	letter carrier	Edinburgh
John Black	son	30	assistant schoolmaster	Edinburgh
Peter Black	son	24	student of arts	Edinburgh
Richard Black	son	20	telegraphist	Edinburgh
Alexander Black	son	17	telegraphist	Edinburgh

In 1901 Mary was living with her son John and his wife at 3 Comley Green but they were not shown as being part of the same household. Mary died in 1908.

MARY BLACK AND JOHN BISHOP

Residence - Midseat, Whitburn, West Lothian

Mary of Bents became **Mrs John Bishop**, Midseat, with sons and daughters.

MARY BLACK

Mary was born 27 March 1820 at Bents, Whitburn.

Mary daughter to William Black and Janet Cunningham spouses in Houlehouseburn born 27 Mar 1820.

SON 6 - ALEXANDER BLACK AND GRACE RUSSELL

JOHN BISHOP

John the son of John Bishop and Margaret Inglis was born in West Calder around 1800.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

In 1841 John was the head of house, aged 35 living with a number of male servants at Midseat where he was the tenant farmer. Mary was 29 and living with her parents at Bents. The marriage probably happened soon after, and it seems that John was seventeen years older than Mary. Eight children are located for the couple but most birthdates are estimated.

CHILDREN	BIRTH/BAP	BIRTHPLACE	PARISH	MARRIED	DEATH/BUR
*Janet Steel (Jessie) Bishop	abt 1843	Midseat	Whitburn	unknown relationship	17 Jul 1875
*William Black Bishop	abt 1845	Midseat	Whitburn	Lillas Storry Young	09 Oct 1904
*John Bishop	abt 1848	Midseat	Whitburn	-	24 Nov 1851
*Thomas Bishop	abt 1848	Midseat	Whitburn	-	28 May 1910
*Alexander Bishop	abt 1850	Midseat	Whitburn	-	30 Mar 1910
*John Bishop	abt 1853	Midseat	Whitburn	-	31 Mar 1894
*Margaret Bishop	31 Jan 1855	Midseat	Whitburn	-	15 Oct 1930

The Bishops remained at Midseat (now Midseat of Foulshells) about two miles west of Longridge for a number of years.

CENSUS RECORD SHEET				
DISTRICT: Whitburn, West Lothian				YEAR 1861
STREET Midseat				
NAME	DESIG	AGE	OCCUPATION	BORN AT:
John Bishop	head	57	farmer 130 acres 1 man 1 woman	West Calder
Mary Bishop	wife	40		Mid Calder
Jessie Bishop	daughter	18	dairymaid	Whitburn
William Bishop	son	16		Whitburn
Thomas Bishop	son	14		Whitburn
Alexander Bishop	son	11	scholar	Whitburn
John Bishop	son	8	scholar	Whitburn
Margaret Bishop	daughter	6		Whitburn
and 2 servants				

In 1871 the only servant in the home was Christina Smith, Mary's great niece.

DEATH AND BURIAL

SON 6 - ALEXANDER BLACK AND GRACE RUSSELL

John died on 28 June 1868 and Mary was shown on several census as the head of the house and the farmer of Midseat. She died in 1883 and both were buried at Whitburn.



In Memory Of John Bishop Farmer, Midseat, who died 22/6/1866 aged 66 years and of John his son who died 24/11/1851 aged 3 years also of Jessie Steele who died 17/7/1875 aged 5 months, Mary Black spouse of John Bishop died 31/12/1882 aged 63 years. John Bishop died 31/3/1894 aged 41 years, Alexander Bishop died 30/3/1910 aged 60 years, Thomas Bishop died 28/5/1910 aged 62 years, Margaret Bishop died 15/10/1930 aged 75 years.

In 1891 five of the unmarried children were still living at Midseat. Only one child married. We have not confirmed who Jessie Steele was who died in 1873 aged three months and was listed on the headstone.⁷

When Margaret Bishop died on 15 October 1930, the death notice stated she died at Midseat and she was the last survivor of the family of the late John Bishop.

MARGARET BLACK AND JAMES SMITH

**Residence - Brotherton, West Calder, Midlothian
Caputhall, Bathgate, West Lothian
Blackburn, Whitburn, West Lothian**

Margaret was wife of Mr **James Smith**, Blackburn, who died in the summer of 1908, survived by a number of sons and daughters in Blackburn and elsewhere.

MARGARET BLACK

Margaret, the youngest child of William Black and Jane Cunningham, was born on 16 January 1824. In 1851 she stated she was 25 but she was 27.

JAMES SMITH

James, her husband was two years younger than Margaret having been born on 14 May 1826 in West Calder.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

⁷ Possibly Jessie Steel born Shotts, 19 May 1873 to James Steel and Mary Hastie Thomson.

SON 6 - ALEXANDER BLACK AND GRACE RUSSELL

They married on 13 December 1850 and may have had a child out of wedlock as Robert was six months old on the census form. He was the first of their nine known children.

CHILDREN	BIRTH/BAP	PARISH	MARRIED	DEATH/BUR
*Robert Smith	1850	West Calder	unknown	aft 1871
*Janet (Jessie) Smith	06 Nov 1851	West Calder	-	aft 1901
*William Smith	Sep 1853	West Calder	Charlotte Clark	1928
*James Smith	23 Jan 1855	West Calder	unknown	aft 1891
*Peter Smith	20 Aug 1856	West Calder	-	1939
*Margaret (Maggie) Smith	12 Oct 1858	West Calder	James Seggie	10 Jun 1917
*Alexander Smith	13 Jun 1860	Mid Calder	Christina McNair Carlaw	1944
*Christina Smith	22 Jul 1861	Whitburn	-	1871
*Catharina Smith	28 Apr 1863	Whitburn	-	1865
*John Smith	22 Jul 1864	Whitburn	-	1874

By 1861 six of their ten children had been born.

CENSUS RECORD SHEET				
DISTRICT: Bathgate, West Lothian				YEAR 1861
STREET Caputhall				
NAME	DESIG	AGE	OCCUPATION	BORN AT:
James Smith	head	34	dairyman	West Calder
Margaret Smith	wife	35		Whitburn
Robert Smith	son	10	scholar	West Calder
Janet Smith	daughter	9	scholar	West Calder
William Smith	son	7	scholar	West Calder
James Smith	son	6	scholar	West Calder
Peter Smith	son	3		West Calder
Margaret Smith	daughter	2		West Calder
Alexander Smith	son	10 mo		Mid Calder

By the time of the 1871 census there were three more children, Christina, Catherina and John; their baptisms were at Bathgate, but the births appear to be at Whitburn. By 1881 they were living in the township of Blackburn as referred to in *Melodies and Memories*.

DEATH AND BURIAL

Margaret died in 1898 and, as also mentioned in the text, James Smith died in 1904. They are likely to be buried in Whitburn.

FOURTH GENERATION

CHILDREN OF CHRISTIAN/CHRISTINA BLACK AND WILLIAM RANKIN

ANDREW RANKIN AND JEMIMA YOUNG

... Christina, Mrs William Rankin. Her two sons [**Andrew**] became road surveyors.

ANDREW RANKIN

Andrew was born on 20 October 1830 in West Calder.

JEMIMA YOUNG

Jemima was baptised on 18 May 1835 in West Calder. Her father was James Young and her mother Jean Black. Although not related, Jean's sister Barbara Black had also married into the family.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

Andrew and Jemima married on 1 June 1860 in West Calder.

CHILDREN	BIRTH/BAP	PARISH	MARRIED	DEATH/BUR
*Jane (Jean) Rankin	10 Mar 1861	New Monkland	-	24 Nov 1945
*Christina Rankin	21 Jun 1863	New Monkland	-	21 Sep 1949
*Jemima Rankin	16 Jun 1865	New Monkland	-	21 Aug 1951
*Jessie Rankin	16 Sep 1867	New Monkland	-	13 Apr 1868
*William Rankin	14 Apr 1869	New Monkland	-	12 Aug 1945
*James Rankin	10 Jun 1871	New Monkland	-	27 Mar 1872

Jemima died in Airdrie in 1874 when she was 39, but on all the census records, all their children were unmarried and living at home. We haven't proved that they were all unmarried but it is the most unlikely scenario. On all documents, Andrew was consistently described as a road surveyor.

DEATH AND BURIAL

RANKIN, Andrew, Road Surveyor, 3 Miller's Place, Airdrie, died 5 May 1905, at Airdrie, intestate. Confirmation granted at Airdrie, 7 October, to William Rankin, Clerk, 3 Miller's Place aforesaid, Executor dative *qua* next of kin. Value of Estate, £2687, 3s. 3d. ADDITIONAL INVENTORY GIVEN UP 11 NOVEMBER 1908

Probate – Andrew Rankin.

JESSIE (JANET) RANKIN AND JOHN SMITH

The Bents daughters were Christina, Mrs William Rankin.. Of her four daughters [**Janet**]...

SON 6 - ALEXANDER BLACK AND GRACE RUSSELL

JESSIE (JANET) RANKIN

Jessie who appears to be known only as Janet was born on 19 August 1832 in West Calder.

JOHN SMITH

John, born around 1826 in Whitburn, was the son of a farmer, John Smith and his wife Janet Bishop. In 1849 John had a child called James McCall (later Smith) to Agnes McCall. John was named in the paternity case and James later appeared on the 1871 census living with his father and stepmother Janet Rankin. James's story with the Blacks continued when he married **Elizabeth Smith Black** (Son 2.1).

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

John and Janet married on 6 December 1861 in Mid Calder when Janet was nineteen.

CHILDREN	BIRTH/BAP	PARISH	MARRIED	DEATH/BUR
*John Smith	abt 1852	Mid Calder	Janet Howson	6 Dec 1909
*Christina Black Smith	abt 1854	Mid Calder	Joseph Dodds	18 Oct 1913
*Janet Smith	abt 1856	Mid Calder	-	aft 1891
*Catherine Smith	23 Mar 1858	Mid Calder	Samuel Whyte	19 Oct 1940
*William Rankin Smith	15 May 1860	Mid Calder	Margaret (Maggie) Marlin	03 Apr 1932
*Thomas Smith	29 Apr 1863	Mid Calder	-	1863
*Thomas Smith	18 Oct 1864	Mid Calder	unknown	aft 1901
*Margaret (Maggie) Smith	02 Jul 1870	West Calder	unknown	aft 1881

DEATH AND BURIAL

John and Janet died a year apart in 1892 and 1893 respectively.

WILLIAM RANKIN AND AGNES SMITH

The Bents daughters were Christina, Mrs William Rankin. Her two sons **[William]** became road surveyors.

WILLIAM RANKIN

William was born on 2 September 1836 in West Calder. All the census records show he was a road surveyor.

AGNES SMITH

Agnes was the younger sister of John Smith shown above the daughter of a farmer, John Smith and his wife Janet Bishop.

SON 6 - ALEXANDER BLACK AND GRACE RUSSELL

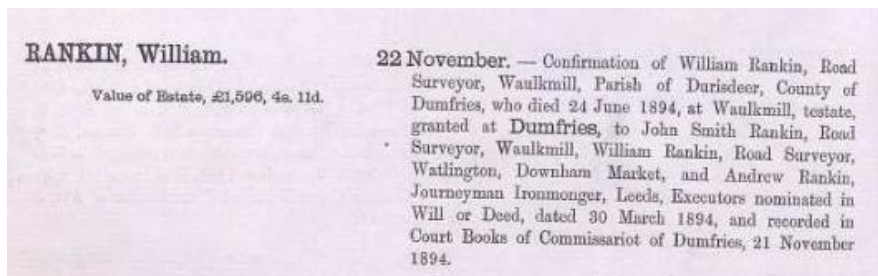
MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

William and Agnes married on 20 January 1865 in Mid Calder. They moved to Tranent where their first four children were born and then to Dumfries where William purchased a property known as Waulkmill.

CHILDREN	BIRTH/BAP	PARISH	MARRIED	DEATH/BUR
*William Rankin	31 May 1867	Tranet	Janet Maxwell	26 Mar 1937 England
*Janet Bishop Rankin	28 Feb 1869	Tranet	-	21 May 1952
*John Smith Rankin	11 Jun 1871	Tranet	Jane Maxwell	12 Apr 1928
*Andrew Rankin	12 Apr 1873	Tranet	Jane Kerr McGowan	05 Sep 1910
*Christina Black Rankin	29 Nov 1874	Durisdeer	Matthew McIver	10 Jul 1946 England
*Agnes Smith Rankin	20 Jul 1878	Durisdeer	Robert Gunn Davis	14 Feb 1947

DEATH AND BURIAL

William died in 1894, and as can be seen from his probate, two of his sons followed him into road surveying.



Probate - William Rankin.

Agnes died in 1910. The inscription at Morton Parish cemetery is lengthy.

William Rankin for 20 years road surveyor of Thornhill and Dumfries districts who died at Waulk Mill, Thornhill 24th June 1894 aged 57 years. Also Agnes Smith his wife who died at Carronbank 26th March 1910 aged 70 years. Also John Smith Rankin their son for 34 years road surveyor to Thornhill district who died at Waulk Mill 12th April 1928 aged 56 years. Also Jane Maxwell his wife who died at Waulk Mill 23rd February 1960 aged 78 years. Also Christina Black daughter of John and Jane Smith Rankin, Waulk Mill died 9th April 1947 aged 28 years. Also Janet Bishop daughter of the above William Rankin who died at Waulk Mill 21st May 1952 aged 83 years. This memorial is erected by his employees and a few friends. Also John Smith son of John and Jane Smith Rankin, Waulk Mill died 29th April 1957 aged 39 years. Also Ethel daughter of John and Jane Rankin died 11th June 1980 aged 73 years.

CATHERINE RANKIN AND JOHN BROWN

The Bents daughters were Christina, Mrs William Rankin.. Of her four daughters [Catherine]...

CATHERINE RANKIN

Catherine's birth is recorded as 22 February 1839.

JOHN BROWN

John's birth was not found but census records show his parent to be Alexander Brown and Elisabeth Lawrie. He was born at West Calder.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

The marriage took place at West Calder on 24 June 1859, and we found eight children. They may have all been born at Fauldhouse, but the registrations were mainly at Whitburn.

CHILDREN	BIRTH/BAP	PARISH	MARRIED	DEATH/BUR
*Christina Brown	20 Aug 1860	Whitburn	James Sommerville	1955
*Elizabeth Brown	21 Sep 1862	Whitburn	Alexander Anderson	28 Jul 1942?
*Janet (Jessie) Brown	01 Oct 1864	Whitburn	William Sommerville	19 Dec 1934
*Alexander Brown	27 Dec 1866	Whitburn	unknown	aft 1901
*William Brown	26 Jan 1869	Whitburn	unknown	aft 1891
*Catherine Brown	11 Aug 1871	Whitburn	John Gordon	1943
*Helen Simpson Brown	07 Dec 1874	Whitburn	John Grant Donald	18 Oct 1959
*Jemima Brown	1877	Fauldhouse	unknown	aft 1901 USA?

DEATH AND BURIAL

Both lived to a good age. John died in 1908 and Catherine at 93 in 1932.

CHRISTIAN (CHRISTINA) RANKIN AND JAMES TWEEDIE

The Bents daughters were Christina, Mrs William Rankin.. Of her four daughters [Christina] ...

CHRISTINA RANKIN

SON 6 - ALEXANDER BLACK AND GRACE RUSSELL

Christina was born on 24 February 1846 in West Calder.

JAMES TWEEDIE

James, born on 6 February 1838, has previously been documented as he married into the Black family twice and reference should be made to Son 4 to read his full story. Christina however was his first wife.

MARRIAGE AND CHILD

James and Christina married on 19 January 1866 at West Calder. Their only child Christina Rankin Tweedie was born on 2 March 1867 and eleven days later her mother died. James remarried Agnes Black in 1870 and had six more children.

The headstone for both females named Christina Rankin Tweedie was shown in the Son 4 document, along with further details about James and Agnes.

JEMIMA RANKIN AND JOHN HENDERSON

The Bents daughters were Christina, Mrs William Rankin. Of her four daughters [Jemima]...

JEMIMA RANKIN

Jemima the youngest was born on 8 December 1849 in West Calder.

JOHN HENDERSON

John claimed to be born at Whitburn around 1861 but this record is not located. At fourteen he was a servant in the Hamilton household.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

No marriage was found on the indexes for Jemima and John. They had one child who died at the age of sixteen.

CHILDREN	BIRTH/BAP	PARISH	MARRIED	DEATH/BUR
*Christina Henderson	09 Jun 1869	West Calder	-	1885

DEATH AND BURIAL

Jemima died in 1893 and John's death is not located.

CHILDREN OF JOHN BLACK AND MARGARET MURRAY

WILLIAM BLACK AND MARGARET BAYNE NESS

Residence - Lauder, Berwickshire

John's eldest son [**William**] became a Baillie in Lauder, and was succeeded as tailor and clothier there by a son.

WILLIAM BLACK

William, born about 1838 in West Calder.

MARGARET BAYNE NESS

Margaret was a lot younger and was born on 30 June 1850 in Lauder, Berwickshire.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

William married Margaret Bayne Ness on 13 June 1879 when he was 41. He was described as a bachelor of Lauder on the certificate. Margaret was 28.

1879	(Signes)			William Black	(Signes)	1879
on the 13 th June	at the Church of St. Andrew	1879	Lauder	Margaret Ness	at the Church of St. Andrew	June 13 th
day of June	Bachelor			William Ness	Minister of the Gospel	
at the Church of St. Andrew				Margaret Ness	at the Church of St. Andrew	
at the Church of St. Andrew				William Ness	at the Church of St. Andrew	
at the Church of St. Andrew				Margaret Ness	at the Church of St. Andrew	
at the Church of St. Andrew				William Ness	at the Church of St. Andrew	
at the Church of St. Andrew				Margaret Ness	at the Church of St. Andrew	
at the Church of St. Andrew				William Ness	at the Church of St. Andrew	
at the Church of St. Andrew				Margaret Ness	at the Church of St. Andrew	

Marriage certificate – William Black and Margaret Ness.

On the 1881 census he was 43 and Margaret was 30 and they had a one-year-old child. William was a tailor's cutter. They eventually had six children.

CHILDREN	BIRTH/BAP	PARISH	MARRIED	DEATH/BUR
*John Black	15 Sep 1879	Lauder	Margaret Hendrie	11 Jun 1937 Canada
*Isabella Wilson Black	02 May 1881	Lauder	William Hector Delahunt	10 Nov 1946
*Margaret Murray Black	1883	Lauder	John Henderson	1969
*Janet Hunter Black	09 Mar 1885	Lauder	Ian Peter MacEwan	04 May 1960 England
*Jane Black	25 Mar 1887	Lauder	-	19 Sep 1943
*William Ness Black	08 Mar 1889	Lauder	Edith Alice Gill	17 Apr 1951 England

SON 6 - ALEXANDER BLACK AND GRACE RUSSELL

CENSUS RECORD SHEET				
DISTRICT: Lauder, Berwickshire				YEAR 1891
STREET High Street				
NAME	DESIG	AGE	OCCUPATION	BORN AT:
Wm Black	head	53	joiner magistrate draper & clothier	West Calder
Margaret Black	wife	39		Lauder
John Black	son	11	scholar	Lauder
Isabella Black	daughter	9	scholar	Lauder
Margaret Black	daughter	8	scholar	Lauder
Janet Black	daughter	6	scholar	Lauder
Jane Black	daughter	4		Lauder
William Black	son	2		Lauder
James Black	apprentice	16	tailors apprentice	Edinburgh
Janet Lauder	servant	17	gen servant (domestic)	Lauder

James Black the apprentice living with the family cannot currently be identified as a family member.

DEATH AND BURIAL

William died at the age of 57 on 21 October 1896. The witness was his sister-in-law Annie Black of 3 Comley Green Place who had married William's half-brother John.

William Black	1896	Oct 21	57	John Black Walter (S.P.O.)	Fatty Heart Annie Black sister in law	1896	October 21st
Tailor & Draper	Twentyfirst	7th. 18th		deceased	As cert. by J. J. Thyrle	3 Comley Green Place	at Edinburgh
Margaret Ness	Ann Street	Edinburgh		Margaret Black M. J. Murray deceased	M. B.		Robert J. Webster Int. Assis. Registrar J.L.L.

Death certificate – William Black.

BLACK, William, Clothier, Lauder, died 21 October 1896, at Edinburgh, testate. Confirmation granted at Greenlaw, January, to Margaret Bain Ness or Black, his widow, Executrix nominated in Will or Deed, dated 29 May 1896 and recorded in Court Books of Commissariat of Berwick, 16 January 1897. Value of Estate, £4426, 0s. 10d.

Probate - William Black.

BLACK, Margaret Bayne(or Bain)Ness or, High Street, Lauder, Widow, died 4 October 1921 at Lauder, testate. Confirmation Duns, 9 May, to Isabella Wilson Black or Delahunt, wife of Sergeant-Major Hector Delahunt, Drill Hall, Duns, Janet Hunter Black or MacEwan, wife of Ian Peter MacEwan, Agricultural Adviser, 42 High Street, Oakham, Rutland, Jane Black, residing in Lauder, and William Ness Black, Teller, Bank of Scotland, Kelso, Executors. Will dated 15 November 1915 recorded with other Writs Duns 8 May 1922. Value of Estate, £33: 5: 2.

Probate – Margaret Bayne Black, Nee Ness.

JESSIE CUNNINGHAM BLACK AND ALEXANDER MARTIN

Residence - Blackfaulds, Fauldhouse, Whitburn

One daughter (**Mrs A. Martin**) and her husband live near that place [Blackfaulds] at present.

JESSIE CUNNINGHAM BLACK

Jessie who later proved to have the middle name Cunningham was born about 1848 in Leith.

ALEXANDER MARTIN

Alexander Martin was born on 22 Apr 1839 in Whitburn.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

The couple married on 22 May 1867 and had six children.

CHILDREN	BIRTH/BAP	BIRTHPLACE	PARISH	MARRIED	DEATH/BUR
*Alexander Martin	07 Dec 1867	Fauldhouse	Whitburn	Annie Beveridge	11 Nov 1961
*Margaret Murray (Maggie) Martin	31 Jan 1870	Fauldhouse	Whitburn	Robert Wilson	28 Oct 1912
*John Black Martin	09 Jul 1872	Fauldhouse	Whitburn	Elizbeth Atchison Haddow	08 Jun 1951
*William Martin	11 Mar 1876	Fauldhouse	Whitburn	Margaret Brown Brownlie	24 Sep 1949
*Elizabeth Finlay Martin	05 Nov 1878	Fauldhouse	Whitburn	James Black MacDonald	28 Jun 1941
*Jessie Black Martin	31 Aug 1883	Fauldhouse	Whitburn	William Chalmers	25 Aug 1971

CENSUS RECORD SHEET				
DISTRICT: Fauldhouse				YEAR 1891
STREET Blackfaulds				
NAME	DESIG	AGE	OCCUPATION	BORN AT:
Alexander Martin	head	51	tailor	Whitburn
Jessie Martin	wife	43		Leith
Alexander Martin	son	23	tailor	Whitburn
Maggie Martin	daughter	21	baker's shop woman	Fauldhouse
John Martin	son	18	tailor's apprentice	Fauldhouse,
William Martin	son	15	telegraph messenger	Fauldhouse

SON 6 - ALEXANDER BLACK AND GRACE RUSSELL

Elizabeth Martin	daughter	12	scholar	Fauldhouse
Jessie Martin	daughter	7	scholar	Fauldhouse,

The census records prove the accuracy of John Black's saga as the residence in Fauldhouse was given as Blackfaulds. Alexander was named as an executor in his father-in-law's will.

DEATH AND BURIAL

Alexander died in 1920 aged 81 and Jessie died on 5 January 1924 aged 76; both died at Fauldhouse.

MARTIN, Alexander, retired Tailor and Clothier, Fauldhouse, died 29 November 1920 at Fauldhouse, testate. Confirmation Linlithgow, 25 February, to Jessie Black or Martin, Dunscore, Fauldhouse, Executrix. Will dated 14 February 1911 recorded Linlithgow 25 February 1921. Value of Estate, £1533; 9: 6.

Probate - Alexander Martin.

JAMES MURRAY BLACK AND CATHERINE DEMPSEY

Residence - Dalkeith, Midlothian

Another son is in Dalkeith, [James Murray]...

JAMES MURRAY BLACK

James was baptised on 9 February 1866 in Leith.

CATHERINE (KATE) DEMPSEY

Catherine Dempsey was born on 11 October 1857 in Cupar; to Thomas Dempsey and Sabina Casserley.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

The couple married on 13 July 1877 in Edinburgh.

SON 6 - ALEXANDER BLACK AND GRACE RUSSELL

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1871. MARRIAGES in the District of *Saint Giles* in the City of *Edinburgh*.

No.	When, Where, and How Married.	Signature of Parties. Rank of Profession, whether Single or Widowed, and Relationship (if any).	Age.	Usual Residence.	Name, Surname, and Rank or Profession of Father, Name, and Maiden Surname of Mother.	If a regular Marriage, Signatures of officiating Minister and Witnesses. If irregular, Date of Conviction, Decree of Nullity, or Sheriff's Warrant.	Where & Where Registered and Signature of Registrar.
221	1871 on the <i>thirteenth</i> day of <i>July</i> at <i>St. Peter's Church Edinburgh</i>	<i>(signed)</i> <i>James Black</i> <i>Plumber</i> <i>Bachelor</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>128 High Street Edinburgh</i>	<i>John Black</i> <i>Little docters lane and Post Office</i> <i>James Black</i> <i>10, Murray's Close and</i>	<i>(signed)</i> <i>William Reddie</i> <i>Minister of the N. W. Congregational Church</i> <i>of Princes Street</i>	1871 <i>July 17th</i> <i>at Edinburgh</i>
	<i>After Banns, according to the forms of the N. W. Church</i>	<i>(signed)</i> <i>Catherine Dempsey</i> <i>Spinster</i>	<i>21</i>	<i>same place</i>	<i>Thomas Dempsey</i> <i>Gardener, and</i> <i>John Dempsey</i> <i>No. 6, Caferley</i>	<i>(signed)</i> <i>P. Hogg</i> <i>Minister of the N. W. Congregational Church</i> <i>of Princes Street</i>	<i>at Edinburgh</i> <i>at St. Peter's Church</i>

Marriage certificate – James Black and Catherine Dempsey.

They had six children, and we learn from the census and the marriage certificate that James was a plumber.

CHILDREN	BIRTH/BAP	PARISH	MARRIED	DEATH/BUR
*John Black	abt 1878	Edinburgh	Jessie Campbell	aft 1901
*Mary Jane Black	1879	Edinburgh	-	aft 1931
*Hannah Black	1882	Dalkeith	-	1884
*Margaret (Maggie) Black	1884	Dalkeith	Unknown Campbell	1931
*Catherine (Kate) Black	1889	Dalkeith	Peter Flockhart Lockhart	1979
*Jessie Black	1896	Dalkeith	unknown	19 Aug 1962

The family moved to Dalkeith where they remained all their lives.

CENSUS RECORD SHEET				
DISTRICT: Dalkeith, Midlothian				YEAR 1891
STREET Wicket				
NAME	DESIG	AGE	OCCUPATION	BORN AT:
James Black	Head	35	plumber	Leith
Catherine Black	wife	34		Shotts
John Black	son	16	app plumber	Edinburgh
Mary J Black	daughter	11	scholar	Edinburgh
Maggie Black	daughter	6	scholar	Dalkeith
Catherine Black	daughter	1		Dalkeith
Mary Reid	Sister-in-law	34	rubber worker	Dunfermline

DEATH AND BURIAL

James Murray Black died on 18 May 1931 in Dalkeith. Catherine died in 1938.

SON 6 - ALEXANDER BLACK AND GRACE RUSSELL

James Murray Black	1931. May Eighteenth	M. 76. years	John Black Writer (General Post Office) (deceased)	Hemiplegia 6 months occ. by John Cooper M.D.	Mary Jane East Daughter (Present)	1931. May 19th at Dalkeith
Journeymen Plumber (Retired)	6 h. 5. 12. 19th		Mary Black Mrs. Murray (deceased)		38 Black Street, Dalkeith.	P. E. Ryan App. Registrar. J. P. Reg.

Death certificate – James Black.

JOHN BLACK AND ANN (ANNIE) GRAHAM

John... [is] in San Francisco.

JOHN BLACK

John, a teacher was born around 1861 in Edinburgh. We are unsure who his mother was as discussed earlier.

ANN (ANNIE) GRAHAM

Annie, John's wife, was born on 18 May 1874 in Edinburgh to William Graham and Ann Finlayson. She too was a teacher.

MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

They married in 1893 in Edinburgh, and we find them on the 1901 census with two children.

CHILDREN	BIRTH/BAP	PARISH	MARRIED	DEATH/BUR
*John Black	abt 1897	Edinburgh	unknown	unknown USA
*Annie Black	abt 1899	Edinburgh	unknown	unknown USA

The family were living at 3 Comley Green Terrace before they left for the States prior to 1909.

DEATH AND BURIAL

Unknown.