

# Chapter Nineteen

## Newcastle connection

Because of Sir Robert Mansell's establishment of his large glass factory in Newcastle, many Tyzacks settled in the North East of England. By 1624 Sir Robert claimed to supply London from Newcastle alone with 700,000 square feet of glass per annum<sup>1</sup>. Glassmaking Tyzacks went there at the behest of Sir Robert. They prospered there according to the parish register records because during the hundred years from 1750 there were many more Tyzacks in this region than anywhere else in the country. We find them first in Newcastle and then spreading to Howdon, North and South Shields and then the Sunderland region. Eventually they moved into other trades and some became Quakers.

In 1736 Bourne<sup>2</sup>, who had been the curate of All Saints Newcastle, says:-

*" Sometime in the Reign of Queen Elizabeth came over to England from Lorraine, the Henzels, Tyzacks and Tytorys. The Reason of their coming hither was the Persecution of the Protestants in their own Country, of whose Persuasion they were. They were by Occupation Glass-makers. At their first coming to this Town they wrought in their Trade at the Close-gate, after that they removed into Staffordshire, from whence they removed again and settled upon the River Side at the Place called from their abiding in it the Glass-houses. Deservedly therefore have so many of these Families been named Peregrines from the Latin Word Peregrinus which signifies a Pilgrim or a Stranger."*

There is a persistent uncertainty arising from this text. Bourne, who dwelt among the descendants of the refugees thinks that members of the original families were in Newcastle at an earlier time than when Sir Robert Mansell set up his works. The parish registers however refute this.

Bourne's suggestion, that Tyzacks went to Staffordshire via Close-gate is unlikely. Other family members went to Staffordshire. Sir Robert opened his glassworks in Newcastle just before 1616 but was unsuccessful in making good glass at first.

In late 1616<sup>3</sup> his venture at last succeeded, when he persuaded Edward Hensey and some of his relatives to come to Newcastle from the Sussex area, from where he had hounded them by means of the Privy Council, to manage and work in his Newcastle works. Edward Hensey died a year later and was recorded as a servant to Sir Robert.

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<sup>1</sup> English Glass, R.J. Charleston, Page 79.

<sup>2</sup> The History of Newcastle, Rev. Henry Bourne, 1736.

<sup>3</sup> E.S. Godfrey, The Development of English Glassmaking.. p 155

Other Lorrainers were in at the start at Newcastle. Samuel Tyzack christened his son Joseph on 20th October 1620 and also apparently in the same year a son Robert, (maybe one of these is a transcription error). Timothie Teswicke, a Frenchman, baptised his son John there in 1619 with Abraham Teswicke as a godfather. When Timothy Teswicke was at Northchapel in Sussex he had been indicted on 30th Nov. 1614<sup>4</sup> to appear before the officers of the Privy Council for infringing the patent of Sir Edward Zouch. Indicted with Timothie were Thomas Teswicke also of Northchapel, together with Edward Henzey of Northchapell, Edward Henzey, alias Boos of Westbarrow Greene, Peregrine Henzey, Tobias Henzey of Auford in Surrey, Joseph Henzey, and Daniel Henzey. Subsequently all except Joseph and Daniel were reported as appearing.

After that several of them, including Timothie, gave up making glass on their own account and left Sussex to work for Sir Robert in Newcastle. On 22nd June 1623 Thomas Tyzack married Ann Titterie at Newcastle and is probably the Thomas from Northchapel. In 1599 there was a Jacob Hensley in Wisborough Green. In 1615 Jacob worked for Mansell at Wollaton in Nottinghamshire with another glassmaker named John Squire and by 1619 Jacob is recorded as an employee of Mansell in Newcastle. Indeed from Newcastle parish records we know of several Tyzacks who had gone to Newcastle. At St. Nicholas' Church in the same town "*Tymothie Teswicke glass maker and Frenchman baptised his son John*" on 22nd November 1619. Abram Teswick, the godfather is of note because an Abram Tyzack was baptised in Newent on 20th October 1599. He was the "*sonne of a frenchman of the Glasshouse*". This Frenchman may have been Christopher Liscourt, which was an alias for Tyzack, or Christopher's son. Abraham Liscourt, who had been a glassworker in Newent, went to Newcastle at the behest of Mansell. Liscourt himself, under cross examination in the patent case against Mansell, admitted that he "*gave over, being sent for by the patentees*", this was probably in about 1618, when he moved to Newcastle-on-Tyne and to Mansell's employ.

With all these skilled ex-Lorraine glassmakers being recruited, the operations of the Newcastle glassworks were eventually successful. During the Civil War, 1642-1646, the works were disrupted but not closed. Soon after, they attained greater importance. By 1653, 2,706 cases were shipped and sold in London at 16s per case from Mansell's original three furnaces. Even before the end of the war the outlook for glass must have looked encouraging. In 1646, we find a competitor, Edmund Harris a London gentleman, taking a twenty-one year lease on a parcel of land at St. Lawrence Shore, on which to erect a glass-house. By 1653, Newcastle Common Council Books were describing "*new glass-houses and old glass-houses*". The first record of Tyzack as owners of the Ousebourne glasshouses was on 21st September 1679 when there was an order of the Common Council of Newcastle to grant a lease to Jacob Henzey, William Tizacke and Daniel Tittery of the Western Glasshouse. By 1696 there were a total of eleven glasshouses in Newcastle according to Houghton, who gave evidence to the House of Commons.

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<sup>4</sup> Acts of the Privy Council Vol. XXXIII f252 & 658.

In the 1736 text of Bourne, he gives the following list of Ouseburn glass-houses:-

High Glasshouses	The Western Glasshouse The Crown Glasshouse The Middle Bottle House The Middle Broad House
Low Glasshouses	The Eastern Glasshouse The Mushroom Glasshouse St. Lawrence Bottle House

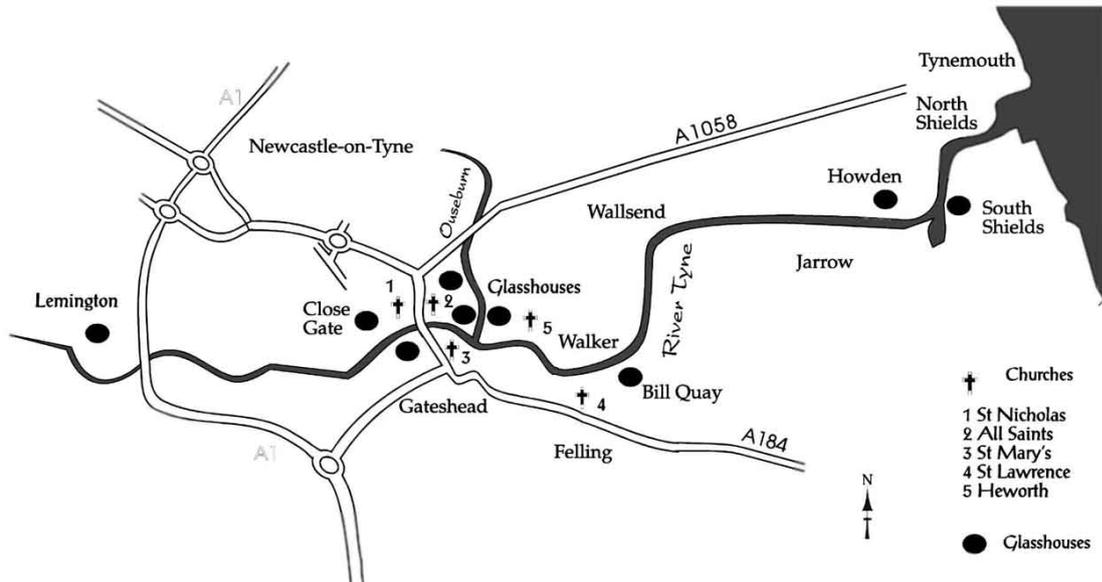
All of these except the last belonged to the Henzell and Tyzack families. As can be seen from the names the works made bottles and broad or window glass.

On the North side of the Tyne was Howdon, another important glassmaking area. The glassworks there were established by the Henzell-Tyzack families by arrangement with Sir Robert Mansell in the seventeenth century. In 1663 these works had attained considerable importance judging from the fact that they represented nine percent of the total rateable value of the whole of Willington Township, which included Howdon. Again the product was almost entirely window or broad glass. When the Northumberland Glass Company built four large glasshouses at Lemington in 1780, there were fifteen partners who put up the money. These included Joshua Henzell, who was put at the head, Paul Henzell, Gent., Jonathan Tyzack, Mariner, Sarah Tyzack, spinster, Martha Rawlinson (née Tyzack), widow. It was then, about 1790, that this company, under the management of Joshua Henzell, closed the Howdon Glasshouse which the Tyzacks and Henzells had operated for nearly one hundred and seventy years. Lemington Glass Works, on the north bank of the Tyne was among the chief recently surviving glasshouses.

The Henzells and Tyzacks, from Howdon and Ouseburn, had acquired the land from the Duke of Northumberland. The company flourished and by early in the nineteenth century had the four glass-works at Lemington plus the Close Glassworks just outside Newcastle. Towards the end of the century the works had begun to make electric light bulbs in large quantities. The then owners were Messrs. Sowerby and later GEC.

The last evidence of Tyzacks at Howdon was found in Joseph Tyzack of the parish of All Saints (Howdon) glassmaker buried 30th March 1789. The Tyzacks along with the Henzells were the main contributors to the glass industry in the Newcastle area. Indeed, 200 of the persons listed as glassmakers in the parish registers of Newcastle in the years from 1619 to 1700, originated from Lorraine. I could only find nine from elsewhere!!

The figure below shows the location of the early glasshouses in the Newcastle region.



Showing the position of several original glasshouses in Newcastle

There was a glasshouse in North Shields but little is known about it. A Zachariah Tyzack was a glassman there in 1737. On the south side of the Tyne one of the earliest glasshouses was that at Bill Quay. Brand notes it as there in 1694. By 1737 it was a bottle house. It was continuously in existence until well into the nineteenth century. Sowerby Glassworks was started in Gateshead in 1807.

When Mansell's monopoly came to an end it was replaced by the group monopoly of the City's Guild of Glassmakers. By the end of the seventeenth century the protectionist policies operated by this guild made it impossible for any newcomer to the glass industry to establish a works near Newcastle. The aspiring glassmaker in this area had to look for sites to the east, such as South Shields or even further afield to Wearside. Around 1696 a Sunderland Company of Glassmakers was formed. Its members built three glasshouses at Ayres Quay, Southwick and at Bishopwearmouth Panns. Later more glasshouses were established on Wearside. The boom period of Wearside glassmaking was the 1850's and 1860's. At that time bottles formed the main output but window glass was also made. Wearside was then about to embark on the manufacture of wares by the then revolutionary method of pressing. The Germans and particularly the Belgians were mounting a formidable commercial challenge. Their standard of living was lower and Antwerp at least was nearer to London than was Newcastle. Moreover ships, which carried coal to London from Newcastle did not need the sand for the return ballast as they now used water. Only glassmakers who

specialised, survived and those who relied on price to compete only survived if their natural local advantages favoured them.

Broad glass was superseded by crown glass as described elsewhere but it fought a reasonable rearguard action for many years and the method was developed in principal by new ideas for making sheet glass. George Ensell signed the Coalbournbrook lease in 1768 and by 1774 was in sole possession of that glasshouse. He has the distinction of acting as a commercial spy in Germany and bringing back the secret of sheet glass making which was a natural development of the old broad glass. George the English spy had been caught, sentenced to death but escaped to offer German sheet glass in the Birmingham Gazette in 1780.

German sheet and crown glass. **Honeybourne and Ensell** having established a manufactory of German sheet and crown glass near Stourbridge beg leave to inform the public that they may be supplied with any quantity on the shortest notice and upon the most reasonable terms.

Ensell glasshouse collapsed in 1785 and it was not until Robert Lucas Chance brought French and Belgian sheet glassmakers to Smethick that sheet glass reappeared. The Crystal Palace of 1851 was glazed in sheet glass which was the old broad glass brought up to date. In the nineteenth century machinery was applied to the broad glass process. An iron ring dipped into a pot of molten glass was drawn upwards to form a cylinder as much as fifty feet in height. This was then opened and flattened, just as the broadglass Lorrainers had done on a smaller scale. Sheets up to six feet wide and of almost unlimited length were also produced by drawing out the glass on an iron bar dipped along its length in the molten glass. The sheet so produced was then passed between rollers, cooling as it proceeded. Ultimately Pilkington of Lancashire invented and perfected the process of float glass, which has become the eventual successor to our broad glass. Float glass is the speciality of Pilkingtons who, in 1959, developed the process whereby a continuous ribbon of molten glass from the furnace floats along the surface of a bath of molten tin in a carefully controlled atmosphere. It is now used worldwide under licence from that company. This produces a flat sheet with a flawless surface.

The only Wearside survivor seems to have been James Jobling which was taken over by Corning of America. Corning had the speciality invention of Pyrex which is a borosilicate glass having good chemical stability and low thermal expansion.

The registers of the Newcastle area often contain reference to the occupation. We find that Tyzacks were recorded as broadglassmakers as late as 1788. When George Tyzack married Jane Sharp on 9th August 1788 at Woodhorn he was of Newcastle and

was recorded as a Crown and Broadglassmaker. His relative John Tyzack who witnessed the wedding was similarly recorded. This was the last definite reference found to broadglass. Although that is the last record of a Tyzack professing to be a broadglassmaker there were still numerous references to their being glassmakers. For example almost the last glassmaker record found to date is of Joseph Tyzack who married Jane Howells and who baptised Henry on 4th Jan 1845 at Monkwearmouth. Joseph was a glassmaker. Henry went on to become a glassmaker and died in 1906. Henry has living descendants.

### **Other Branches**

There were many Tyzacks in the Newcastle area. Today many persons are around who relate to them. We have some information, for example, on a Peregrine a Quaker merchant who was born 1706 and died 1770.

His obituary in the flowery language of the Newcastle Journal said, "*Sunday died at his house in Newcastle greatly lamented Mr Peregrine Tyzack; an eminent tradesman in many considerable branches of business, by which he acquired a handsome fortune with great reputation, and an unblemished character; and he was not more regular and careful in his commercial intercourse, than engaging and happy in a most pleasing behaviour amongst his friends, which endeared him to all his acquaintance, and made his company everywhere not only acceptable but desirable. In his healthful days no man had a finer flow of spirits, or more lively understanding, which was adorned with open good sense and winning affability. As he approached near his end, he was blest with great composure of mind and resignation, and expired without a sigh a struggle or a groan.*"

Peregrine was a poet and in the Bowes Museum at Barnard Castle county Durham are some of his poems bound in a second edition of Nicholas Amhurst's poems. I resist the temptation to reproduce them here. A recent reviewer says:- "*Though not of the highest quality, the poems are interesting and above average examples of the amateur verse of an educated man abreast of his times.*"

Peregrine is described as a merchant of Northumberland Street. When his daughter Martha was married to Henry Rawlinson at the Quaker Meeting House in North Shields, the Newcastle Chronicle said "... *her large fortune is her least recommendation ...*" Henry Rawlinson at the time of his marriage was a successful West India merchant. He sat as MP for Liverpool from 1780 to 1784. His descendant, Sir Henry Creswicke Rawlinson, Diplomat and Assyriologist, was born November 4, 1810 in Chadlington, Oxfordshire, the second son of Abram **Tyzack** Rawlinson. He entered military service in 1827 with the East India Company but is best known for his decipherment of ancient cuneiform.



Peregrine's will drawn up on 26th May 1770, is an impressive document. It principally concerns the management of trusts for his daughter Martha. He also left property in Pilgrim Street, Newcastle and a legacy of £200 to his grandson Tyzack Trotter the son of his eldest daughter Sarah.

Although born in Norwich, Peregrine returned to his family roots and settled eventually in Newcastle. All the family seemed to maintain their connections with Newcastle and its glass industry, even though the Peregrine who married Elizabeth took her to live in Norwich in 1702. In 1732 the Norwich Gazette carried an advertisement "

At Mrs Elizabeth Tyzack's, at the sign of the Six Bottles, in St. Margaret's Parish, Upper Street, is a large parcel of glass bottles, now to be sold, and she intends to carry on the said business, and will sell them as reasonably as anyone in Norwich, being one of the Owners of the Glass Houses in Newcastle."

There are overseas connections with the Norfolk branch. So far these link back to the marriage of Robert Tyzack and Ursula Milburn on 29th May, 1689. At least two descendants from this origin emigrated.

One was Richard Webber Tyzack, who was born to Fanny and Charles Tyzack on 23rd September 1817. Surprisingly Fanny née Webber, whose name is remembered by Richard's second name, was an orphan, brought up by her uncle. Webber was uncle's name. Richard Webber married Louisa Hawkins on 9th January 1844. In 1847 he appears in the London Post Office Street Directories as an agent for Tyzack's British Razor at No. 7, Berner Street, Commercial Road East. This must have seemed too dull for Richard because in 1849 he set sail with his family, for Natal. He was born at Wells in Norfolk, but he thought he would be much better off in the much talked about new colony of Natal. He sailed aboard the 680 ton barque Edward, from London, on 6th January 1850, together with Louisa and their three children. They arrived on 4 May at Port Natal after an interminable 112 days.

When they landed at the Point, Louisa rode, with the two younger children, up to Durban town in a buck wagon. Richard walked, and G. C. Cato carried the eldest boy, also a Richard, up on his back. At the town there was no house for them. A tent was found in the immigrants' camp where they stayed for a week or two. Then Richard Webber hired a room in one of the houses in Pine Terrace, at the corner of Stranger Street, opposite the present gaol. The immigrant's camp was beyond this, on a cleared patch of ground between the bush and the swamps. And there, a fortnight after landing in this strange land, Louisa gave birth to a daughter.

It was not long however before Richard Tyzack organised a better residence and when the Minerva was wrecked, a little later in the year, his wife cared for many of the wrecked passengers, in a comfortable thatched cottage in Union Street. No doubt she remembered how she felt on first arriving in the new land.

Richard Tyzack owned the first sewing machine imported into Natal. It was a big machine of heavy construction but was a particular attraction to towns-people. It brought a lot of business to him.

When the railway to Umgeni was opened in 1867, the whole town made holiday and celebrated the occasion but strangely did not travel by rail that day. They packed themselves onto the usual ox-wagons and creaked over the sandy ruts, winding along the banks of the Umgeni for an hour.

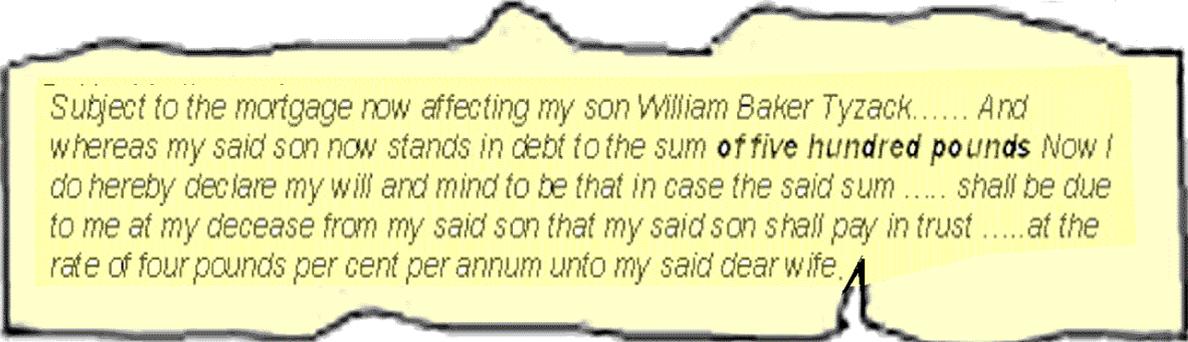
Richard and his wife and a Peter Lennox were the founders of the first Smith Street Congregational Church. When the Tyzacks arrived in Durban, church services were held under the big fig trees in Smith Street behind the house where Benjamin Greenacre and his wife lived a few years later, opposite the Prince of Wales Hotel. The first congregational minister christened Mary Ann Tyzack in the fifties. Mary Ann became Mary Ann Foaden on her marriage.

Richard left his mark on the town's records. He was a member of the Town Council from 1863 to 1867, being elected Mayor for the year 1865-66. After giving up his own business he was with The Natal Mercury on the commercial staff, and he was still working on 28 August 1895, when at the age of 78 he got a fatal chill. There are many descendants of this family.

Yet another emigrant from this branch was William Baker Tyzack. William was an ironmonger, born on 26th November 1823. William emigrated to Australia with his wife and family on the 1025 ton ship, the "Lincolnshire" in 1866. William is supposed to have worked for a "nut & bolt" firm in the City of Melbourne

It obviously cost money to emigrate. Here is an excerpt from his father James's will:-

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*Subject to the mortgage now affecting my son William Baker Tyzack..... And whereas my said son now stands in debt to the sum **of five hundred pounds** Now I do hereby declare my will and mind to be that in case the said sum ..... shall be due to me at my decease from my said son that my said son shall pay in trust .....at the rate of four pounds per cent per annum unto my said dear wife.*

He married Charity Juby and died in Australia. They had Mary Jane in 1852, Thomas William in 1854, Henry James in 1857 and Maria Baker in 1863. Their descendants live today in Australia.

Another William Tyzack, who was the son of William Tyzack and Ann Tulip, was born on 19th August 1797. He was a gentleman shipwright. William arrived in South Australia on the 478 tons Warrior, on 17th April 1840 with Captain Beckett out of London. He married Mary Ann Keyser on 9th September 1844. She was another emigrant aged 28 years, a domestic servant. They had three daughters, Mary Ann, Deborah, Sarah and a son Samuel.

In 1844 William had four acres of wheat under cultivation. Later he built the first flour mill at Bowden.

Son Samuel became wealthy as a result of his uncle's will.. His first marriage was to Mary Ann Price 25th March 1876 in North Adelaide. His second to Marion Grimshaw 2nd November 1904 in Harrogate York. When he died he left a house with 92 acres a coal company and a shipping company. He also became a benefactor to Sunderland Football Club.