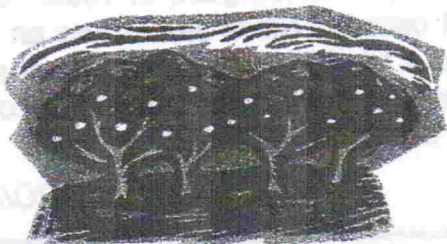


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THE APPLE ORCHARD

*The Apple Orchard is the newsletter of
the Appleby Research Organisation.*

The Appleby Research Organisation has, probably the largest database of Appleby Records in the World. It is a global record of family pedigrees compiled over many years from Vital Records and indexes together with data sent in by our members from around the world.

Visit us at: geocities.com/Heartland/Woods/2434

We welcome contributions and comments for inclusion in your newsletter, either by post to our UK address, or by E-mail to:
Applebyresearch@hotmail.com

Appleby Research Organisation is a member of THE GUILD OF
ONE-NAME STUDIES in the UK Registered No. 1620.

James Appleby - Actor.

James Appleby (born about 1830) married Emma Brown from Middlesex. She was aged 50 in 1881. They had a daughter who was born in Islington, in 1866. James was dead by the 1881 census. Since James was an entertainer he moved around a lot. I believe he was from a theatrical family, and that he may have been born in London. I would be grateful of any help.

L. Hammond ARO/AW81

Military Records.

We express our thanks to Robert H. Appleby from Durham, North Carolina, USA who has sent us the CD-Rom of "Military Records: Revolutionary War Muster Rolls" This has been added to our library under reference: *ARO/Doc/582* If you have any Appleby data records, either on paper or CD-Rom that you no longer need, we shall be pleased to add them to our growing library.

Census Online.

Well, at last the UK 1901 census is available on the Internet, however you may not know that in a major upgrade of the Family Search website at www.familysearch.org transcripts of national censuses can be searched on line, namely the 1880 USA, 1881 British and the 1881 Canadian census.

JOSEPH from WARWICKSHIRE

Joseph Appleby (labourer) married Margaret Hutchins on 7th July 1835 at St John the Baptist Church, Shoreditch. On the 1851 census his place of birth looks like Moreton in Warwickshire, and on the 1871 census just Warwickshire. I calculate his birth year as about 1812. When his children were baptised in Hackney he variously gave his name as George or Joseph!

Does anyone have a family that moved from Warwickshire to London? *Daphne Evers ARO/AW88*

THE SHEFFIELD FLOOD 1864

By the mid-1800's Sheffield was a booming town in the heart of the Industrial revolution. The town was in desperate need of a greatly improved water supply. The Sheffield Waterworks Company devised an ambitious plan to build four large reservoirs in the hills about 8 miles north-west of Sheffield. The first project was to be the giant Dale Dyke Dam, and construction work commenced on 1st January 1859.

Between 1859 and 1864 work continued on the dam, and by late February 1864, only a few finishing touches were required to complete the embankment. The reservoir was now almost full - the water level being just a few feet below the overflow weir. On Friday the 11th March 1864, at around 5.30pm William Horsefield, who had been working on the dam, was crossing the embankment on his way home. The weather was quite stormy, as it had been for most of the day, so he crossed a little way down the

slope of the embankment to avoid the strong wind and spray that was being whipped over the top of the dam. A little way down he noticed a crack running across the embankment. It was just wide enough for him to enter a finger, but was of such length to cause him some alarm. With great presence of mind he hurried off to inform some of his work colleagues - who were not yet quite out of sight.

Ultimately the Waterworks Chief Engineer, John Gunson, was sent for. Gunson who lived next door to the Waterworks Offices in Sheffield contacted one of his contractors, John Craven, who lived nearby and the two made their way to the Dale Dyke reservoir. It was around 10.00pm when they eventually arrived at the dam. After an initial inspection, Gunson concluded that the crack was merely a surface crack.

However, troubled by the sight of the current level and the stormy conditions he decided to lower the water level in the reservoir until a more extensive investigation could be carried out in daylight. The drain valves were opened, but it was evident that it would take several days to reach a "safe" level; so in desperation he instructed the navvies to place some gunpowder and blow a hole in the side of the by-wash to enable them to drain off the water more quickly.

The rain and persistent spray prevented the ignition of the gunpowder. The time was 11.30pm. Water was being liberally blown over the top of the dam. The pressure of wind, water and rain was frightening. Once more Gunson made his way back across the embankment to inspect the crack once more. It appeared not to have worsened, but as he glanced up to the top of the dam he was shocked to

see "water running over like a white sheet in the darkness". He declared later that "it went right under my feet and dropped down the crack" One of his colleagues, suspecting that something was seriously wrong, called to him to "get out of the way". Gunson looked up to see a breach appearing in the top of the dam. Feeling a sudden, violent vibrating of the ground beneath his feet, he quickly scampered up the side of the embankment. He was just in time, as a few seconds later there was a total collapse of a large section of the dam, unleashing a colossal mountain of water which thundered down the valley on to the unsuspecting population below. For two hundred and fifty people who lived in Sheffield and the hamlets in the valley below the dam, this was their last night on earth. Six hundred and fifty million gallons of water roared into Sheffield wrecking death and destruction on a horrific scale.

The first to die was a two-day old baby boy, among the oldest was **MARY APPLEBY** aged 63. Born Mary Marshall she married Colton Appleby on 30th June 1823. Whole families were wiped out; one desperate man trapped in an upstairs room in a terrace house, battered his way through five party walls to safety collecting thirty-four others as he went. A husband put his wife and five children on a bed on which they floated until the water went down. Total or partial destruction of property included 415 houses, 106 factories/shops, 20 bridges and 4478 cottage/market gardens.

ARO/Doc/583

APPLE BITE

From John S. Appleby FRHistS

(A) "Love Letters from the Front" edited by Jean Kelly were sent by Lieutenant Eric Appleby, FRA, (1893-1916) to his sweetheart Phyllis Kelly, (1892-1991) from March 1915 to October 1916. There are 200 letters.

ISBN 9 78881860 23154 - publ. 2000

Eric was from Liverpool and studying engineering in 1914. He enlisted in the Royal Field Artillery; trained at Athlone; and met Phyllis at a dance there.

He stated in a letter dated Thursday 30th September 1915 "I wonder if I have shown you our family crest.....It consists of a shield with six gold martins on a "field azure". Above the shield is an apple on a small branch and below is a scroll with the motto in English "Prepared for good or evil"

This coat of arms was that held by the Appleby family of Appleby Magna, Leicestershire. Eric also mentioned his sister but gives no name.

Eric was seriously wounded at Morval on Friday 27 October 1916 and died at the Meaulte Casualty Clearing Station the next day. He was buried in Grovetown Cemetery at Meaulte near Albert.

Phyllis Kelly never married but always kept Eric's picture at her bed-head. She died in 1991 and was cremated, her ashes were scattered on the River Shannon.

Appleby Shipyard.

Howard Hall in Canada has approached the ARO with an enquiry about David Appleby who arrived in Halifax, Canada in the late 1800's from England. He had three brothers, Edward, William and Thomas. He was told that there was a connection with the Appleby Shipyards. Can someone point him in a direction to get more information?
ARO/AQ290

Know your sources.

Here's nothing more annoying than trying - and failing - to remember which source gave you the useful information when you want to look it up again. Keep a record of your research, entering discoveries and information in a desk diary. It won't hurt to note down apparently irrelevant details, since they might be useful clues if you find yourself stuck further down the line. Knowing where people were born, where they worked or why they moved can be invaluable. Don't discount the apparently far-fetched stories about connections with the famous -if you check old newspapers or newspaper indexes in a reference library, you might find a report that your ancestor did meet Queen Victoria, or was a pilot to Lord Nelson.

Make a note of the source of every scrap of information you get. This is vital for double-checking facts and revisiting ground you've covered before. Find and make copies of certificates, dated letters and envelopes.