

## MEMORABILIA for LEVER-SIMPSON

This is a RECORD of booklets; books; as well as objects, such as a book held by Mark Goresky; steins held by Soma Goresky; tennis cups held by Bonnie Simpson, Rob Hannah and Dorothy Goresky. There are newspaper clippings and pages with information on such items as Alkington Hall, Lever Chapel.

More information can be found on the web at [dorothygoresky.org](http://dorothygoresky.org) and other web pages

There follows a complete list of these items. The list is recorded in alphabetical sections to indicate the separate envelopes in which they are held by Dorothy.

# A

## Booklets

1. The Restoration and Conversion of Alkrington Hall,  
Middleton, 1993-5 Keith Harnden.  
Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society
2. Pacific Studies - a journal devoted to the study of the Pacific -  
its islands and adjacent countries. Fall 1978  
Published by The Brigham Young University  
Hawaii Campus - Laie Hawaii, 96762  
This is accompanied by a letter from Peter Whitehead to  
me, dated September 15, 1980, calling attention to an item  
on pages 75 and 76.
3. The Bridge Builder seven and a half by ten inches.  
Sent to "Darling Olive" (Simpson) Christmas 1941  
From Aunt Kate with her Editor's note.  
A monthly leaflet with messages appropriate to the month  
with sayings and news.
4. Truth Triumphant  
Recitations from Life and Legend by Kate Ashton Lever  
This has a portrait of a *The Artists Little Model* by Kate  
The book was sent to my Father's sister, Ruby Lamont  
August 14, 1947

5. Oriel Record 1987 -

Grandfather Simpson went here as did other Simpson men but these records are long after his time.

6. Brochure of Alkington Woods Trail (two copies, one is better)

The brochure describes the trees along the trails and  
There is a map to show where the 12 trails are located.

7. Christmas cards from Kate A. Pearce-Ellis -

1936 to 1949 except for the years, 1937 and 1940. The picture of Kate in her chapter is in the 1946 card. All have her special religious greeting .

8. A copy of the July newsletter

of St. Philip and St James church in Tow Law that I picked up when I was there in 1974.

The copy was made for me August 21 1959or 1989?

9. The Book of High Sheriffs of the County of Lancashire

From AD 1154 to AD 1743

This book is in Mark's keeping. It is in poor condition and water-marked so records are not clear.

Kate wrote this in the front of the book

"This book was given by Katharine Ashton Pearce Ellis, nee Simpson, to her brother Sydney Seymour Simpson, Battleford Saskatchewan, 1925, to be kept in his family as a record of his mother's family, she being a direct descendant of the Levers of Lancashire, who became Lords of Lever at

the time of the Norman Conquest, 1066."

(signed) Katharine Ashton Pearce Ellis,

Hartpury, Gloucester, Feb. 16, 1925."

**(This is a printed record of Lever Sheriffs)**

The following shows Levers who were Sheriffs:

1529 Richard Asheton Esq; of Middleton

1579 Richard Asheton Esq; of Great Lever

1586 Richard Asheton Esq; of Middleton

1593 Richard Asheton Esq; of Middleton

1594 Richard Asheton Esq; of Great Lever

1598 Richard Asheton Esq; of Middleton

1607 Sir Richard Asheton Kn. of Middleton

Sir Richard was Knighted at the Coronation of King  
James the third

1624 Sir Richard Asheton Bar, of Whalley

Sir Ralph Ashton of Great Lever and Whalley, the  
seventh number of that name in the lineal descent and  
the sixth of that sir name. - unreadable here

1628 Edmund Ashton Esq. of Chadderton

1736 - Sir Darcy Lever KN LLD of Alkington

Aunt Kate has turned the book over and written in  
the Genealogical Tree of the Lever Family. She also  
noted:

"In 1066, Lefingus de Laever was one of two knights  
of Normandy who came to England with William the  
Conqueror. There follows exactly the same names as  
in the copy we have.

## Sir Ashton's Last Will & Testament

### B

These are two of the reasonably readable verses of a long poem by the poet, Percival Stockdale

#### A Poetical Epistle to Sir Ashton Lever

A Strange, unfashionable modern muse,  
Who, with charmed eye the works of nature views;  
Still fond to walk in her eternal road,  
And still despising perishable more;  
No flatterer of the great, nor of the vain,  
To Lever wakes her tributary Strain.

Yet, generous LEVER! In our leaden days;  
All thy reward may prove, the poet's praise!  
For, thy magnificent, and varied store.  
Which gives to science views unknown before;  
Which more unfolds the world's harmonious plan,  
The mind eternal, and the mind of man  
(It's master in some inauspicious hour,  
Meanly by wealth deserted, and by power)  
Like Houghton's works of art, may go  
To find a patroness in Russian snow;  
May be received (since taste is, here, no more)  
With genial ardour on a frozen shoar.

And these lines are also from the longer poem:

Repair to Lever's temple, and adore (lines 34 & 35)

And blush, and shudder, and be fools no more ...

We, surely, tread on consecrated ground: (lines 40 & 41)

How nature's Author strikes us all around.

(lines 13 to 16 repeat the same praise of Lever))

Lever expands creation's mighty roll;

Suggests our Maker to the languid soul;

Kindles, in torpid breasts, a generous flame;

And bids us glow with virtue, or with shame.

# C

The original pictures of the following are in a small envelope

- a) The Rev. Michael Henry family in Tow Law likely mid 1870's Lucy Claudine's note on back - Part of our family of 14 of whom 13 grew up.
- b) Separate photos of Michael Henry and wife, Elizabeth.
- c) Lucy Claudine Simpson - sister to my grandfather , Sidney Seymour; aged 24 or 25 (not used)
- d) Sydney, Harold & Myrtle in heavy winter coats -1998? 99?
- e) Holbein's portrait of child Ashton Lever
- f) Kate's painting of her father on stairway of Tow Law manse
- g) Picture of framed picture of Rev. Michael H. & stained glass window & altar
- h) Picture of the reredos painted by Kate on the wall behind the altar.
- i) Photo of plaque on church wall commemorating Micheal Henry's gift of the East Window
- j) Coloured photo of china
- k) Lever shield on Manor House mantle but originally on the door,
- l) Fireplace at Alkington Hall at the suite owned by John Pickup
- m) Dorothy at Tow Law church door - 1989
- n) Two photos of old school building where great grandfather was Headmaster.

- o) Two pictures of Ledsham church.
- p) Ledsham Rectory.
- q) Gravestones at Ledsham church.
- r) Picture of Family tree on Cartier dining wall.
- s) Coloured photo of Dorothy pouring from Lever china.
- t) Blurred photo of Tow Law Vicar's help & Dorothy holding church key.
- u) Sydney Seymour Simpson & Annie photos - when?
- v) Photo from Battleford archives of Sydney Seymour Simpson
- w) Photo of G.H. Simpson's tennis cups.
- x) Dorothy Lever Murray- beautiful picture of 16 year old but I can't find her on the family tree. (not used)



# D

There follows a mixture of articles that are difficult to sort as to a reasonable date sequence. The web pages are identified in some cases under "Extras for Lever". These are in another envelope.

**Extras for Lever** on the computer.

- a) 11 page article by Clare Haynes "A Natural Exhibitioner- printed out
- b) 9 page article by W. J. Smith- lots of corrections in it,
- c) A letter from W. J. Smith dated 4.8.97 accompanied by his original scratched up manuscript from which I printed out most of it for the chapter on Alkington.
- d) Five pages that I have of the Museum sale catalogue.
- e) 43 pages of the catalogue as printed for the Rotunda. This is listed here but I don't seem to have it. On the web look up" Rotunda Museum"
- f) Drawing of entrance to rotunda Museum.
- g) Cover for a catalogue to the Rotunda Museum.
- h) Sale catalogue for the museum sales. Eight pages are printed out. - and I DON'T have these either!!
- i) Cover for "The Young Sea Officer's Sheet Anchor" by Darcy Lever
- j) Map showing distribution of contents of Leverian Museum

Shorter articles and pictures in another envelope

- a) the original on Sidney Seymour from "*History of the Province of Saskatchewan.*"

- b) A newspaper clipping on "*The late Mrs. M.H. Simpson*" (widow of Michael Henry)
- c) Also - "A history of Lancashire; Rochdale Metropolitan Borough; Alkrington Hall & The Levers; a map of the area; a clipping on Alkrington Cave; copy of the "map" on distribution of Cook's voyages; large picture of cover to *Young Sea Officer's Sheet Anchor*; Lever Chapel.
- d) Large "black" pictures of Lever china; Hall with kids; house & Lake; Ashton at archery; Goblets;
- e) Longlevens School Song by Kate
- f) Letters to & from Gloucester Family History Society August 1996 & letter from Keith Risdale, Timbers Home
- g) clipping on G.H. Simpson tennis win. (Where is it?)

Copy of Family Tree done in very large Hand Printing in a separate envelope.

Book by Christine E. Jackson on Sarah Stone - in my keeping in den bookcase.