

## FOLLOW THE MONEY 5

John (The Captain) Casswell and his wife Joan Ponting, had a son Richard born about 1660 in Cherhill. His son Richard born 1683 in Cherhill, married Hester Pope and moved to Rowde eventually. His son, Richard Casswell married Lydia Drake in 1732 at Rowde. As was the custom, the groom usually married in the bride's home village.

They had three children, Mary who married Thomas Brain, Richard, who married Ann Marchant in St James church Trowbridge, and Francis who married Betty Hawkins in Bitton Gloucester.

Francis' family eventually moved to Wales and spread out across South Wales for several generations. There was no transfer of Caswell wealth that I could discover that was linked to this line of Caswells.

However, Richard and Ann Merchant's line was completely different. Richard Casswell of Trowbridge became churchwarden, gentleman, baker and more. He had moved to Trowbridge by 1760. He bought 2 houses on Back Street, now Church Street, on the site of the present Cooperative Stores. He left his residency real estate in trust for his grandson, James Casswell, son of his son, James who was already dead.

Somehow, the wealth of Yatesbury had transferred down, although it is not apparent in any wills of his ancestors to date. But just scanning through Richard's lengthy will, one can see there was a great deal of money involved.

The rather long and somewhat boring Will of Richard Casswell Scroll to the end of it for the overall result.

*This is the last will & testament of Mr Richard Casswell of Trowbridge in the county of Wilts Gentleman. First I give & devise unto Thomas Timbrell the elder of Trowbridge in the county of Wilts, gentleman, & William Edgell [hereinafter known as 'The executors'] of the same place further all those sworn appertances or townhouses or dwelling houses with the gardens heriditaments & apportanances thereunto belonging, situate lying & being at & near Duke Street in Trowbridge aforesaid, late the Duke of Rutlands, & in the occupation of John Pollard & others & also all those two other messuages, tenements or dwelling houses with the appurtanances lying & being in Cottles Barton in Trowbridge aforesaid late Robinsons, & now in the occupation of Mary Ball & others. To hold the same messuages, tenements or dwelling houses heriditaments & premises unto the said 'The Executors' & the survivor of them & the heirs of such survivors do & shall receive & take the rents xxx profits of the said messuages, heriditaments & premises from the first quarter day after my decease for & during the span of twelve calendar months next after my decease & which I xxx sha ll xxx into & be provided as part of my residuary personal estate & efforts & from & immediately after the expiration of the said xx x\* calendar xxx\* xxxx\* 'The Executors' & the survivor of them & their heirs of such survivor do & shall receive & take the rents, xxx\* & profits of the same messuages, heriditaments & premises & pay & apply the*

same during the minority of my granddaughter Ann Casswell Ball, daughter of my late daughter Lydia Ball deceased as herinafter mentioned, & where she shall attain her age of twenty one years do & shall pay the same unto the said Ann Casswell Ball into her own \* xxx\* hands for & during the term of her natural life for her own sole & separate use.& disposal \*xxx\* of any husband or husbands with whom she may hereafter intermarry wherewith he or they \*XXXXXXXX\*shall the same or any part thereof be in any way subject or liable to his or their \*xxx\* of their debts\*xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx\* but the \*xxx\* & receipts of my said grand daughter Ann Casswell Ball alone shall be sufficient\*xxxxxxxxxxxxx\* & \*xxxxxxx\* for the same & from & immediately after the decease of my said grand daughter Ann Casswell Ball to the use of the first son of the body of my said granddaughter Ann Casswell Ball lawfully to be begotten & the sons \*xxx\* of the body of such first son lawfully \*xxx\* & for default of such \*xxx\* \* xxx\* to the use of the second third fourth fifth & all other & every other the son & \*xxx\* of the body of my said grand daughter Ann Casswell Ball lawfully to be begotten \*severally? \*\*surrogatively?\* & in remainder one after another as they hall be in seniority of one & priority of birth and the several & respective heirs\*xxx\* of the body & bodies of all & every such son & sons lawfully issuing the elder of such sons & the heirs \*xxx\* of the body to be always preferred & to take before the \*xxx\* of such son & sons & the heirs \*xxx\* o f this & their body & bodies lawfully issuing & in default of such issue

I give & devise the same heriditaments & premises unto my grandson James Casswell, son of my late son, James Casswell deceased his heirs & assigns for ever. I will & direct that the rents issues & profit s of the same messuages, hereditaments & premises shall, until my said grand daughter Ann Casswell Ball shall attain her said age of twenty one years be by the said 'The Executors' & the survivor of them & the heirs of such survivor, placed out at interest or securities so as to accumulate & when she my said granddaughter Ann Casswell Ball s hall attain her said age of twenty one years be paid to her. But in case she shall happen to depart this life before she shall attain that age, I give & bequeath such accumulation unto my said grandson James Casswell & direct that the same shall be paid assigned or transferred to him accordingly.

I give & bequeath unto my grandson John Casswell, another son of my said son James Casswell deceased, the sum of one thousand & two hundred pounds their \*xxx\* \*xxx\*Consolidated Bank Annuities part of the stock now standing in my name in that fund and I will and direct that the same be paid, assigned or transferred to my said grandson John Casswell at the expiration of twelve calendar months next after my decease by my executors in trust hereinafter named but in case my said grandson should happen to die before the expiration of the said twelve calendar months then I will & direct that the said sum of one thousand & two hundred pounds, three per cent Consolidated bank annuities shall be continued out at interest by the said' The Executors' & the survivor of them & the executors or administrators of such survivor s & the interest or dividends thereof paid & applied for & toward the maintenance & duration of my said grandson James Casswell until he shall attain the said age of twenty one & shall pay, assign or transfer the said sum of one thousand two hundred pounds three per cent Consolidated bank Annuities unto him, my said grandson James Casswell , his executors or administrators to whom I give & bequeath the same & the interest or

dividends that shall become due & payable from my death until the expiration of the said twelve calendar months from my said decease \*xxxx\* shall be considered as part of my residuary personal estate & effects.

I give & bequeath unto my grandson Richard Casswell, another son of my son James Casswell deceased, the sum of one thousand pounds, three per cent Consolidated Bank Annuities, other part of the stock now standing in my name in that fund & I will & direct that the same be paid, assigned or transferred to my said grandson Richard Casswell at the expiration of twelve calendar months next after my decease by my executors in trust but in case my said grandson Richard Caswell shall happen to die before the expiration of the said twelve calendar months then I give & bequeath the said sum of one thousand pounds three per cent Consolidated Bank Annuities unto my said grandson John Caswell his executors or administrators & direct that the said 'The Executors' & the survivor of them their executors or administrators of such survivor do & shall pay assign & transfer the same to him or them accordingly & the interest or dividends which shall become due & payable therefore from my death until the expiration of the said twelve calendar months next after my decease I declare shall be considered as part of my residuary personal estate & effects.

I give & bequeath unto the said 'The Executors' the further sum of one thousand & two hundred pounds three per cent Consolidated Bank Annuities other part of \*\*\*\*\* now standing in my \*\*\*\*\* in that \*\*\*\*\* trust that they the said 'The Executors' & the survivor of them & their executors or administrators of such survivor do & shall receive & take the interest or dividends that shall become due & payable there from my death until the expiration of twelve calendar months next after & where I also declare shall be considered at part of my residuary personal estate & effects & from & immediately after the expiration of the said twelve calendar months in trust that they the said 'The Executors' or the survivor of them & the executors & administrators of such survivors do & shall receive & take the interest or dividends thereof & pay & apply the same unto my grand daughter Maria Ball the wife of Edward Ball of New Bond Street London, oilman, [=seller of lamp oil] for & during the term of her natural life to & for her own \*\*\* & separate use & disposal independent of her said pursuit or any future husband or husbands with whom she may happen to intermarry, wherewith he or they shall not in any wix inter muddle wither shall the same or any part thereof be in any \*\*\*\* subject or liable to his their or any of their debts \*\*\*\*\*

disarrangements or engagements but the receipt & Revision? of my said granddaughter Maria Ball alone under her hand shall be to the said 'The Executors' & the survivor of them & the executors or administrators of such survivor good & sufficient discharge & discharges for so much of the said interest or dividends as in such receipt or receipts shall be ex\*\*\*\*\* or \*\*\*\*\* to be received & from & immediately after the decease of the said Maria Ball upon trust that they the said 'The Executors' & the survivor of them & the executors & administrators of such survivor do & shall stand possessed of & interested in the said sum of one thousand & two hundred pounds three per cent Consolidated Bank Annuities in trust for such child or children of the body of my said granddaughter Maria Ball lawfully to be begotten in such shares & proportions manner & form as she my said grand daughter Maria Ball alone notwithstanding her \*\*\*\*\* & as if she was sole & unmarried shall at any time to times by her last will & testament in writing or any writing in the nature of or purporting to be her last will & testament or any

codicil or codicile thereto to be by her duly executed & attested by two or more credible witnesses shall give or bequeath the same & in default of such gift or bequest & as to such part or parts thereof whereof no such gift or bequest as aforesaid shall be made & subject thereto upon trust that they the said 'The Executors' & the survivor of them & their Executors or administrators of such survivors do & shall stand possessed of & interested in the said Sum of One Thousand & two hundred pounds three per cent Consolidated Bank Annuities in trust for all & every the child & children of my said granddaughter Maria Ball lawfully begotten or to be begotten to be equally divided between or among them if more than one share & share alike & if but one such child then in trust for such only child to be paid assigned or transferred to him her or them at his her or their age or ages of twenty one years & in the meantime continued out at interest & the interest or dividends arising there from to be paid & applied by the said 'The Executors' & the survivor of them the executors or administrators of such survivor for & towards the maintenance & duration of such child or children in such manner as they the said 'The Executors' & the survivor of them & the executors or administrators of such survivor shall think proper (?) & if any or either of such children shall happen to die under the age of twenty one years unmarried & without issue of his or their body or bodies lawfully begotten then I do direct that the share of him her or them so dying shall go to & be paid to the survivors & survivor of them. But in case my said granddaughter Maria Ball shall happen to die without leaving any such child or children or being such he she or they shall happen to die before the said age of twenty one years unmarried & without issue then in trust that they the said 'The Executors' & the survivor of them & the executors or administrators of such survivor do & shall pay & apply or otherwise assign & transfer the said sum of one thousand & two hundred pounds three per cent Consolidate Bank Annuities unto the executors & administrators of her my said granddaughter Maria Ball to & for his her & their own absolute use & benefit I give & bequeath unto the said 'The Executors' the sum of one thousand two hundred pounds three per cent Consolidated bank Annuities other part of the stock now standing in my name in that fund in trust that they & the survivor of them & the executors or administrators of such survivor do & shall receive & take the interest or dividends that shall become due & payable therefore from my death until the expiration of twelve calendar months next after & which I declare shall also be considered as part of my residuary personal estate & effects & from & immediately after the expiration of the said twelve calendar months in trust that the said 'The Executors' & the survivor of them & the executors or administrators of such survivor do & shall receive & take the interest or dividends thereof & as the same shall be received do & shall place the same out at interest either on Government or freehold security or securities so as to accumulate & which said sum of one thousand & twelve hundred pounds together with all accumulations as may be made thereof from interest or dividends as aforesaid I will & direct shall be paid assigned or transferred by the said 'The Executors' & the survivor of them & the executors or administrators of such survivor unto my grand daughter Susanna Gunstone Slade another daughter of my said daughter Mary when my said granddaughter Susanna Gunstone Slade shall attain her age of twenty one years. I also give & bequeath unto the said 'The Executors' the further sum of one thousand & two hundred pounds three per cent Consolidated Bank Annuities other part of the stock now standing in my name in that fund in trust that they & the survivor of them & the

executors or administrators of such survivor do & shall receive & take the interest or dividends that shall become due & payable therefrom from my death until the expiration of twelve calendar months next after & which I declare shall be considered as part of my residuary personal effects & from & after the expiration of the said twelve calendar months in trust that the said 'The Executors' or the survivor of them & the executors or administrators of such survivor do & shall receive & take the interest or dividends thereof & as the same shall be received do & shall put & place the same out at interest either on government or freehold security or securities so as to accumulate & which said sum of one thousand two hundred pounds stock together with all accumulations as may be made thereof from interest or dividends as aforesaid I will & direct shall be paid assigned or transferred by the said 'The Executors' & the survivor of them & the executors or administrators of such survivor unto my granddaughter Ann Gunstone Slade another daughter of my said daughter Mary. when my said granddaughter Ann Gunstone Slade shall attain the age of twenty one years but it is my will that in case any or either of my said three granddaughters, Mary Gunstone Slade, Susanna Gunstone Slade, & Ann Gunstone Slade shall happen to depart this life before she or they shall attain her or their said several & respective age or ages of twenty one years, Then I will & direct that the said 'The Executors' & the survivor of them & the executors or administrators of such survivors do & shall pay assign or transfer the legacy or legacies of her or them so dying together with such accumulations as may be made thereof from interest or dividends as aforesaid unto the survivors or survivor of them on her or their attaining the aforesaid age or ages of twenty one years to whom I give & bequeath the same accordingly & it is my further will that in case all my said three granddaughters Mary Gunstone Slade, Susanna Gunstone Slade & Ann Gunstone Slade shall all happen to depart this life before they shall attain their said several & respective ages of twenty one years, Then I will & direct that the said 'The Executors' & the survivors of them & the executors or administrators of such survivor do & shall pay assign or transfer the said three legacies so given to my said three granddaughters as aforesaid together with all such accumulations as may be made thereof from interest or dividends as aforesaid unto my said grandson the said John Casswell his executors & administrators to whom I give & bequeath the same accordingly all the residue & remainder of my freehold estates messuages lands tenements hereditaments & promises whatsoever & wheresoever situate lying & being in the County of Wilts or else where in the Kingdom of Great Britain both in possession reversion remainder or depository . I give & devise unto the said 'The Executors' & their heirs to hold the same hereditaments & premises to them the said 'The Executors' & their heirs upon trust in the first place that they the said Thomas Timbrell & William Edgell or the survivor of them & the heirs of such survivor do & shall receive & take the rents issues & profits there of until my said grandson James Casswell shall attain his age of twenty one years & put & place the same out at interest either on government or freehold security or securities & which I will & declare shall be considered as part of my residuary personal estate & effects & subject to the said 'The Executors' or the survivor of them & the heir s of such survivor receiving & taking the rents issues & profits of the hereditaments & premises so given & devised to them as aforesaid during my said grandson James Casswell's minority I hereby will & declare that I have given & devised the same hereditaments & premises to them & their heirs & do hereby again give & devise the

same to them & their heirs upon the trust & to & for the several use trusts interests & purposes hereinafter limited? expressed & declared of & remaining? the same (that is to say) To the use of my said grandson James Casswell & his heirs for & during the term of his natural life & immediately after the determination of that estate to the use of the said 'The Executors' & their heirs for & during the natural life of my said grandson James Casswell in trust & to the interest & purpose to preserve the contingent uses & estates hereinafter limited from being defeated or destroyed & for that purpose to make entries & to bring actions as occasion may require yet invert\*\*\*\*? to pound? & suffer my said grandson & his assigns to receive & take the rents issues & profits thereof to & for his and their own use & benefit & from & immediately after the decease of my said grandson James Casswell to the use of the first son of the body of my said grandson James Casswell lawfully to be begotten & the heirs \*\*\*\* of the body of such first son lawfully issuing & for default of such issue to the use of the sons & heirs of fourth fifth sixth & all & every other son & sons of the body of my said grandson James Casswell lawfully to be begotten severally successively & in remainder one after another as they respectively shall be in seniority of age & priority of birth & the several & respective heirs shall of the body & bodies of all & every such son & sons lawfully issuing the elder of such sons make of this body to be always preferred & to take before the younger of such son & sons & the heirs make of his & their body & bodies lawfully issuing & in default of such issue to the use of all & every the daughter & daughters of the body of my said grandson James Casswell lawfully begotten to be equally divided between or among them if more than one share & share alike to take as tenants in common & not as joint tenants & the several & respective heirs of the bodies of all & every such daughter & daughters lawfully issued & in case one or more of such daughters shall happen to die without issue of her or their body or bodies then as to the share or shares of her or them so dying without issue in trust for the survivor or survivors or others or other of them to be equally divided between or among them of more than one share & share alike to take as tenants in common & not as joint tenants & to the several & respective heirs of the bodies of such survivor or survivors & others or other of them & if all such daughters but one shall happen to die without issue of their bodies or if there shall be but one such daughter in trust for such surviving or only daughter & the heirs of her body lawfully issuing & in default of such issue to the use of my said grandson John Casswell & his assigns for & during the term of his natural life & from & immediately after the determination of that estate to the use of the said 'The Executors' & their heirs for & during the natural life of my said grandson John Casswell in trust & to the interest & purpose to preserve the contingent uses & estates hereinafter limited from being defeated or destroyed & for that purpose to make entries & to bring actions as occasion may require yet \*\*\*\*\* to permit & suffer my said grandson John Casswell & his assigns to receive & take the rents issues & profits thereof to & for his & their own use & benefit & from & after the decease of my said grandson John Casswell to the use of the first son of the body of my said grandson John Casswell lawfully begotten & the heirs \*\*\*\* of such first son lawfully issuing & for default of such issue to the use of the second third fourth fifth & all & every other the son & sons of the body of my said grandson John Casswell lawfully to be begotten severally successively & in remainder one after another as they respectively shall be in seniority of age & priority of birth & the several & respective heirs shall of the body & bodies of all & every such son & sons lawfully

issuing the elder of such sons & the heirs\*\*\*\* of his body to be always preferred & take before the younger of such son & sons & the heirs shall of his & their body & bodies lawfully issuing & in default of such issue to the use of all & every the daughter & daughters of the body of my said grandson John Casswell lawfully begotten to be equally divided between or among them if more than one share & share alike to take as tenants in common & not as joint tenants & the several & respective heirs of the bodies of all & every such daughter & daughters lawfully issuing & in case one or more of such daughters shall happen to die without issue of her or their bodies then as to the share or share of her or them so dying without issue in trust for the survivors or survivor & others or other of them to be equally divided between or among them if more than one, share & share alike. to take as tenants in common & not as joint tenants & to the several & respective heirs of the bodies of such survivors or survivor & others or other of them & if all such daughters but one shall happen to die without issue of their bodies or if there shall be but one such daughter in trust, for such surviving or only daughter & the heirs of her body lawfully issuing & in default of such issue to the use of my said three granddaughters Mary Gunstone Slade, Susanna Gunstone Slade & Ann Gunstone Slade their heirs & assigns for ever equally to be divided between or among them, share & share alike to take as tenants in common & not as joint tenants. I give & bequeath unto my said trustees 'The Executors' the sum of ten guineas each for their care & trouble in executing the trust of this my will.

All the rest, residue & remainder of my household goods furniture plate wearing apparel, money & securities for money, debts rights, credits & all other my personal estate & effects whatsoever & wheresoever & of what nature or & \*\*\*\*\* give & bequeath unto the said 'The Executors' upon trust that they & the survivor of them & the executors or administrators or such survivor do & shall as soon as may be after my decease, sell & dispose of such part or parts thereof as shall not at my death consist of ready money, for the most money?, & best price or prices that can or may be had or gotten for the same & also collect get in & receive all such debts, sums & sum of money as shall be due & owing to me at my decease & by & with the money to arise thereupon together with my ready money & other property heretofore directed to form a part of my residuary estate & effects do & shall in the first place pay my just debts funeral expenses, their own legacies & expenses & the expenses of proving this my will, & the remainder thereafter allowing my grandson James Casswell such sums as they shall think \*\*\*\* for his maintenance & placing out in life during his minority, put & place out at interest either on government or freehold security or securities & when my said grandson James Casswell shall attain his said age of twenty one years, pay the same together with the savings & interest that may be made from the rents, issues & profits of the hereditaments & premises given & devised to the said 'The Executors' & their heirs upon the trust aforesaid, during the minority of my said grandson James Casswell, his executors or administrators to whom I give & bequeath the same accordingly & I hereby nominate constitute & appoint the said 'The Executors' executors in trust, of this my last will & testament hereby revoking all former wills by me at any time heretofore made, & my will further is that my said trustees & executors & both of them & both of their heirs, executors or administrators shall not be charged or chargeable with or accountable for any more of the aforesaid trust, estates, monies & promises than they respectively shall actually receive or shall come to the ir respective hands by virtue of this my will, nor with

*or for any loss which may happen of the same estates, monies & premises or any part thereof so as such loss happen without their willful default nor any one of them for the other of them, but both of them only for his own arts, deeds, receipts disbursements & also that it shall & may \*\*\* \*\* for them my said trustees & executors & both of them, their, & both of their executors & administrators in the first place by & out of the aforesaid respective trust, estates, monies & premises, to deduct & reimburse themselves respectively. All such costs, charges & expenses as they or either of them shall respectively sustain, expend or be put unto for or by reason of the said several trusts hereby in them expresses? in relation to the same estates, monies & premises respectively, or the management or execution therefore any other thing in any wise relating thereto.*

*In witness whereof I the said estator Richard Casswell have to this my last will & testament contained in eleven sheets of paper set my hand & seal (to wit) to the preceding ten sheets my hand & to this eleventh & last sheet my hand & seal, the twenty eighth day of February in the year of our Lord, one thousand, eight hundred & nine.*

*Richard Casswell*

*Signed sealed published & declared by the testator Richard Casswell as & for his last will & Testament in the presence of us who at his request in his presence & in the pressure of oath other have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses.*

*Thomas Spackman*

*Edward Morgan*

*James Webb*

This will amounts to about ten thousand pounds in hard cash. Which in todays money would be about a million pounds or more. The properties would be worth much more.

The money distribution.

Ann Casswell Ball, property rents plus 1200 pounds

Grandson James Casswell (holds above properties until 21) 1200 pounds

Grandson John Casswell. 1200 pounds

Grandson Richard Casswell 1200 pounds Son of James

Grand daughter Maria ball 1200 pounds

Grand daughter Susannah Gunstone Slade 1200 pounds

Grand daughter Ann Gunstone Slade 1200 pounds

Grand daughter Mary Gunstone Slade 1200 pounds



9600 pounds cash. The properties are difficult to assess. Farms were involved and multiple properties in the town. The rents alone must have been considerable.

With all this wealth, I wondered if Richard Casswell had actually purchased the bells of St James Church because there were twelve bells in all. Six of them had inscriptions with RICHARD CASSWELL's name on them. He was the churchwarden - it is cast in iron!

Richard and Ann had several children, James 1757 married Mary GIBBS, Elizabeth 1761, Lydia 1765 married George Ball, Ann married Thomas Wittington 1768, Mary 1764 married Henry Slade GUNSTONE

Richard Casswell's son James was born 2 oct 1757 in Trowbridge. He became a victualler, owning The Blue Bowl Inn, premises opposite Polebarn Road.

10/Jan/1858 At Bratton cottage, St. Eleanor's Prince Edward's Islands, British North America. The wife of Albert CASSWELL esq. late of Trowbridge, a son and heir, on Wednesday last a merry peal of bells was rung in his native town to announce the event. Albert was the son of James Casswell and Susanna Gunstone Slade.

James Casswell and Susanna Gunstone Slade have Mary Ann, Martha, Albert, Henry, Amelia, Susanna Gunstone, Edwin Thomas, Emma, Maria, and Joshua Gibbs.

Mary Ann dies at 2 years old. Martha dies shortly after birth,

Albert marries Mary Paine and moves to Belleville Ontario Canada.

*Report in the Daily Sentinal Review, 22 Sept 1904.*

*Former Woodstock Resident Died Suddenly in Belleville.*

*Belleville, Ont Sept.22. Major Albert Casswell died last night suddenly. He was born in Wiltshire, England, in 1821, and was a member of the Royal Wiltshire Yomanry. In 1850 he came to Canada, living in Prince Edward Island , Nova Scotia, Montreal and Woodstock. Ont. For the last 20 years he had resided in this city. He was a veteran of the Fenians Raid, and was a mason and a Conservative. Major Casswell leaves a widow and one son and four daughters.*

In the Bratton records the birth of Albert is recorded to James Casswell & Susanna Gunstone Casswell 13 nov 1821.

Bratton/ Sourton Parish Register, LDS 1279341

Report in the Daily Sentinal Review, 22 Sept 1904.

Maj. CASSWELL DEAD.

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On Ken Rogers' notes, Albert was recorded as living in West Oxford, Canada in 1865, and Digby, Nova Scotia in 1877.

The Daily Sentinal review dated Thursday Oct 17 1901reports the foll owing:-

#### GOLDEN WEDDING

Celebrated by Major Casswell a former West Oxford Man.

Postmaster McCleneghan and others of the earliest residents of Woodstock still living here will remember Major Casswell, formerly of West Oxford and a brother of the late Edward Casswell of Ingersoll, once a widely known dairyman and cheese buyer of this country. All these and not a few others will be interested in reading the following report from the Belleville Intelligence of oct 8 of the recent celebration of the golden wedding of Major Casswell and his wife.

The major is a veteran of '66 and is a member of the Oxford veteran Association, as well as that of the Bay of Quinte. The Sentinal review joins heartily in the felicitations tendered to Major Casswell and his wife on the happy event herewith described.

Of course you know the major. Not a soul in Belleville but knows and admires the sturdy old English gentleman, who, though crowding onto his eightieth birthday, walks with the erectness of a young fellow of 50. Though time has silvered his hair, it has not dimmed his spirit, dampened the ardour of his patriotism nor weakened the enthusiasm with which he follows the Golden Rule. Truly one of nature's noblemen is Major Casswell, who with his estimable wife and family, has been a resident of Belleville since 1885.

It would be impossible for the major to live anywhere without making friends-everything in this world finds its level, as the realists say - but the kindly old gentleman never in his wildest dreams imagined t hat he had so many friends as turned out to meet him and felicitate him last night,when, at his cozy residence on Bridge St. he celebrated the 50th anniversary of his marriage.

Perhaps the easiest way to explain things would be to give the marriage notice, as it appeared at the time.

CASSWELL-PAINE- At the United Church of England and Ireland, Woodstock, Upper Canada, British North America, by the rev. William Betteridge: B. D . Albert Casswell and Mary Elizabeth Paine both of Ingersoll, October the 7<sup>th</sup> 1851.

And so last night surrounded by loving relatives and friends, the bride & bridegroom of fifty years made solemn thanks to God for their happy married life and the many blessings he had vouchsafed them.

An "At Home" was held from 7 to 11, previous to which the thanks giving service was held. The clergymen taking part were Revs. O C Elliot and Robert Wallace of the Baptist Church and Rev. Canon Burke. The members of the family and a few intimate friends were present.

A few minutes after 7 the guests began to arrive, and then the ladies of the family say the Major lost his presence of mind altogether. As tokens of esteem were rained upon him he fairly broke down. "Upon my word", he exclaimed, "I had no idea I had so many friends in Belleville"

The house was literally a mass of flowers, which had been sent by friends to the happy couple. After congratulations were over the guests were entertained in a musical way. Mrs. Campbell acted as accompanist: Miss Francis Casswell sang, as did also Mr. Milburn. Regrets were expressed at the absence of many members of the family who, being scattered all over America, found it impossible to attend.

Among those present was Mrs. Thos. Hislop of Ingersoll, who was married one year before the Major and Mrs. Casswell, the latter lady being brides maid at his wedding. Mr. & Mrs. Hislop celebrated their golden wedding last year. The function came to an end about 11 o'clock, when the guests formed two circles around the happy couple and sang 'Auld Lang Syne' Prof. Hunt played Mendelssohn's Wedding March as they retired.

Telegrams of congratulations were received from Montreal, Digby, NS . St. John, NB. and Chatham, NB. Letters of felicitation have been coming in on every mail for weeks past. Following are the members of the Major's family, together with their places of residence: Mrs. Flint, Toronto; Mrs Partridge, Petaluma, Cal.: Miss Casswell who is at present with Dr. Casswell at Gagetown, N.B, and Miss Frances Casswell at home. During their 50 years of married life Mr. & Mrs. Casswell have never lost a child or grandchild.

The presents were numerous and simply magnificent, and they would make many a latter-day bride turn green with envy. They included a rosewood cabinet from the Baptist Church, and a gold pencil from the Masons of this city.

One of the most pleasing features of the evening was the presence of the Fifteenth regiment in front of the house a few minutes before 11 o'clock. They came to show their respect for the Major as an 'old veteran ' and a man, and the mark of esteem was gratefully received.

We heartily join in the parting words of the scores who were present last night, that the lives of the Major and his estimable wife may be spared for many years to come.

Connie Harris has the ceremonial sword of Major Albert in her possession. On it is inscribed:- London Rifle Brigade.



Finians Raid. [https://archive.org/stream/cihm\\_23395](https://archive.org/stream/cihm_23395)

Purchase of rank.

[https://military.wikia.org/wiki/Purchase\\_of\\_commissions\\_in\\_the\\_British\\_army#](https://military.wikia.org/wiki/Purchase_of_commissions_in_the_British_army#)

It would appear that Major Albert Casswell was in a financial position to purchase his rank of Major at a cost of approximately £3,200. As of 2010, this would represent a value of one pound being worth £290 Or £928,000. Albert certainly had that sort of money from his inheritance.

I also found this estimate of current worth.

1837 (2018 equivalent) price of commissions

Rank	Infantry	Cavalry	<a href="#">Life Guards</a>	<a href="#">Foot Guards</a>	Half pay difference
<a href="#">Cornet/Ensign</a>	£450 (£40k)	£840 (£75k)	£1,260 (£112k)	£1,200 (£107k)	£150 (£13k)
Lieutenant	£700 (£62k)	£1,190 (£106k)	£1,785 (£159k)	£2,050 (£183k)	£365 (£33k)
Captain	£1,800 (£161k)	£3,225 (£288k)	£3,500 (£312k)	£4,800 (£428k)	£511 (£46k)
Major	£3,200 (£286k)	£4,575 (£408k)	£5,350 (£478k)	£8,300 (£741k)	£949 (£85k)
Lieutenant Colonel	£4,500 (£402k)	£6,175 (£551k)	£7,250 (£647k)	£9,000 (£803k)	£1,314 (£117k)

These prices were incremental. To purchase a promotion, an officer only had to pay the difference in price between his existing rank and the desired rank.<sup>[2]</sup>

The following is a transcript of the original poster announcing the sale of the Casswell farms. The original is in the possession of Connie Harris.

*TROWBRIDGE AND NORTH BRADLEY, WILTSHIRE*

*SALE OF TWO VALUABLE FREEHOLD FARMS,*

*SEVERAL CLOSES OF RICH PASTURE & ARABLE LAND,*

*ELIGIBLE BUSINESS PREMISES,*

*With Yards, Stables, &c.; three small TENEMENTS, and One COTTAGE and Garden.*

*MR. JOHN GRAHAM FOLEY*

*Is favored with instructions from the Owner, ALBERT CASSWELL, Esq. who is about to leave England,*

*TO SELL BY AUCTION,*

*At the Commercial Sale Room, the Parade, Trowbridge,*

*On Tuesday, the 27th day of May, 1862, at 3: o'clock in the Afternoon precisely,*

*TWO SMALL BUT COMPACT FREEHOLD FARMS,*

*VALUABLE CLOSES OF PASTURE & ARABLE LAND, &c.*

*Which will be sold in the following or such other Lots as may be decided upon at the time of Sale, namely,*

*IN THE PARISH OF NORTH BRADLEY.*

*Lot 1. All that small but compact Dairy Farm called "Woodmarsh Farm," with the Farmhouse, Cow Sheds, Outbuildings, Barn, Garden, and Orchards, containing together 27 Acres, 2 Roods, and 4 Perches, (more or less), lying near the turnpike Road leading from Trowbridge to Westbury, and now in the occupation of Mr. PETER BUTCHER, at the low yearly rent of j56, there were formerly three yearly chief rents payable out of this Estate, namely, j1 .10s. 5s; and 3s, 4d., but the said yearly chief rent of 5s. has not been paid for very many years.*

*IN THE PARISH OF TROWBRIDGE.*

*Lot 2. All those three Messuages or Dwelling houses situate in a certain place in or near the Conigree, in the Town of Trowbridge, called Shaul's Lane. AND ALSO the Cellar under a Tenement occupied by NANCY WHITMARSH, which said Messuages are now in the respective occupations of BENJAMIN PURNELL, HENRY CONNOR, and ELIZABETH BAILEY, and produce together a gross yearly Rental of E13;5;9.*

*The Purchaser of these Messuages will have the use of the Court behind, and the well of water in the same Court, in common with the Owners of the other Premises situate in the said Court.*

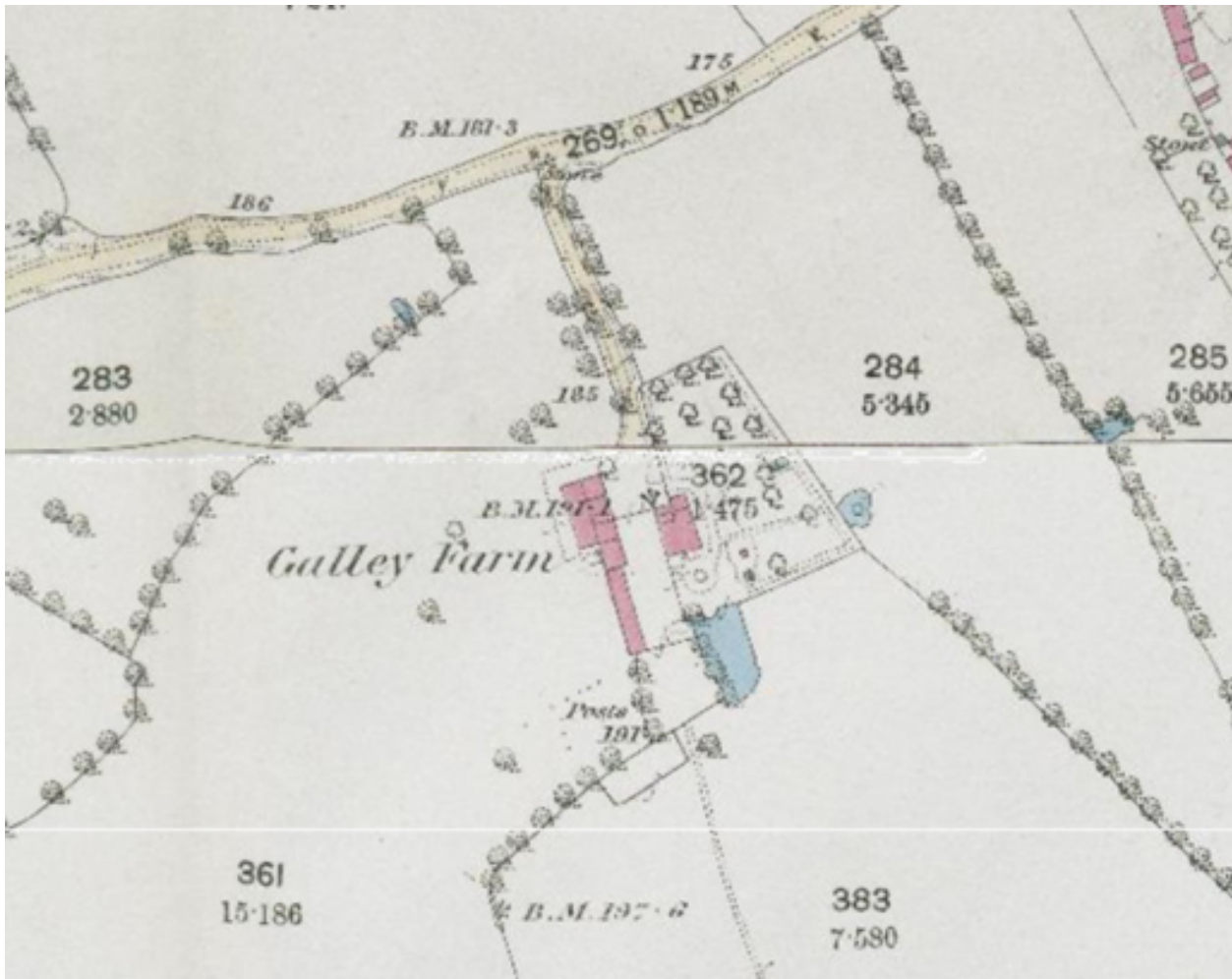
*Lot 3. All that capital Messuage, Shop, and Business Premises, with the Bakehouse, Stables, Yard, and Shed, behind or contiguous thereto, situate in Back Street, and now in the occupation of THE TROWBRIDGE CO-OPERATIVE INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETY, at the yearly Rent of E35.*

*There is an excellent Well of Water on the Premises. These Premises will be sold subject to a yearly rent of 6s.8d, and also to a Lease granted thereof to the said Society for five years, from the 25th December, 1861.*

*Lot 4. All that Piece of Allotment Land lately used as a Garden, situate in Holbrook Lane, within the tything of Studley, containing 20 Perches (more or less) and numbered 190 on the Trowbridge Tithe Apportionment Map, and now in the occupation of WILLIAM VINCE, at the Rent of E1 per annum.*

*Lot 5. All that Close of rich Pasture Ground called "The Home Close," numbered 247 on the said Tithe Map, containing 8 Acres, 3 Roods, 18 Perches, (more or less). AND ALSO all that other Close of Rich Pasture Ground called "The Paddock" thereto adjoining, numbered 234 on the said Map, and containing 1 Acre, 35 Perches (more or less), both of which said Closes are situate at Lower Studley, in the Parish of Trowbridge aforesaid, and are now in the occupation of Mr. JAMES VINCENT, Innkeeper and Farmer, at the yearly Rent of E22.*

*This Lot will be sold subject to an indenture of Lease thereof for 10 years from the 25th March, 1859. And also to a right of roadway for Cattle and Carriages through and over "The Home Close" to go to and from a Close of Ground called the Great Mead.*



*Lot 6. All that Close of excellent Pasture Ground called "Casswell's Close," numbered 56 on the said Map, containing by admeasurement 3 Acres, 1 Rood, 38 Perches (more or less), situate and being in Westfield, in London bridge Lane, on the road leading to Wingfield, within a short distance of the Town of Trowbridge, and now in the occupation of Mr. SAMUEL POLLARD, at the yearly Rent of E10:10:0.*

*Lot 7. All that capital Close of rich Meadow or Pasture Ground now called "Staffords," admirably adapted for gardens or building purposes, numbered 93 on the said Map, and containing 5 Acres, 3 Roods, 5 Perches (more or less), situate in Londonbridge Lane, in Trowbridge aforesaid, and now in the occupation of Mr. CHARLES GANE, at the yearly Rent of E18.*

*Lot 8. All that valuable Dairy Farm called "Galley Farm," situate at Studley, near to the town of Trowbridge aforesaid, containing about 41 Acres of very excellent Pasture Land, together with the capital Farmhouse, Stables, Cow Sheds, Garden,*

*Yards, and Homestead, now in the occupation of Mrs. MARY HUNTLEY, together with Lot 10, at the annual Rent of E124. The greater part if not all of this Farm is redeemed from Land Tax the piece of Land now called Trees (part of this Farm) will be sold subject to any rights of way existing through and over the upper part of the same.*

*Lot 9. All that Cottage, House, or Tenement, on the right hand side of the Road leading from Trowbridge to Westbury, opposite Holbrook Land, at Studley, in the Parish of Trowbridge aforesaid, together with the productive Garden thereto belonging, containing by admeasurement 44 Perches (more or less), and now in the occupation of JOB JONES, at the yearly Rent of E4:10:0.*

*Lot 10. All that Close of valuable Meadow or Pasture Ground called "Ash Mead" otherwise "Ash Leaze", (with a Close of Pasture Ground formerly called "Clements Paddock," now added thereto and forming part thereof,) situate at Studley aforesaid, and on the left hand side of the turnpike Road leading from Trowbridge to Westbury, numbered 207 on the said Tithe Map, and containing 8 Acres, 3 Roods, 4 Perches, (more or less), and now occupied with Galley Farm by the said MARY HUNTLEY.*

*N.B There is a Lane or strip of Land on the East of this Lot leading there from into therewith.*

*For leave to view apply to the respective Tenants.*

*Further Particulars, with Plans of the Estates, may be had 14 days previous to the day of Sale, at the Offices of the Auctioneer, the Parade, Trowbridge, or*

*MR. WEBBER, SOLICITOR, TROWBRIDGE  
J.DIPLOCK, PRINTER, TROWBRIDGE*

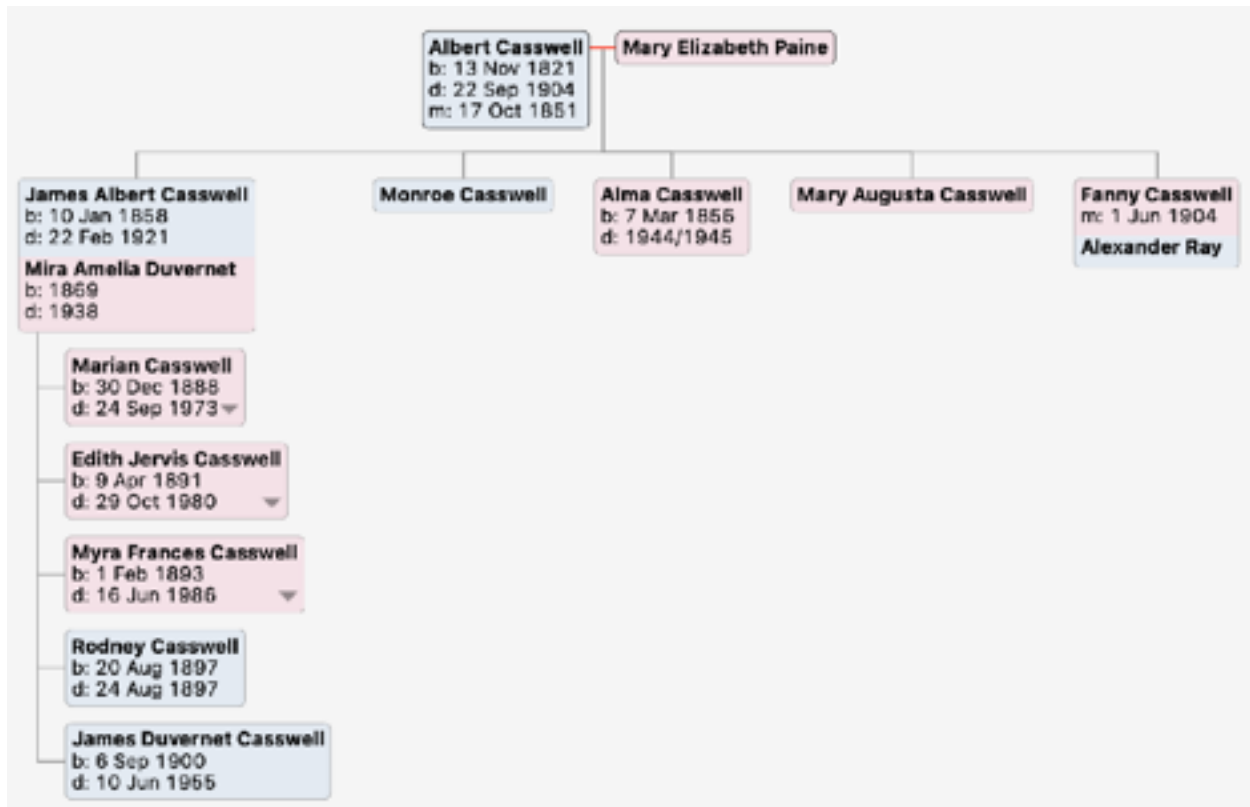
*Trowbridge, 21st April, 1862*

In 1865 Albert sold the Back Street property to the Trowbridge Cooperative Society.

In a book by Kenneth Rogers; 'The BOOK of TROWBRIDGE' Published by Barracuda Books 1984, the following was said about Galley Farm – "By 1688 Joseph Houlton the elder owned some 100 acres of land in Trowbridge and adjoining parts of Steeple Ashton, and also two copyholds, including one half of Galley Farm in Studley".

Albert's son James Albert became a doctor of medicine. In a cruel twist of fate, he attended the delivery of his premature son Rodney, who died 4 days after birth.





Albert, being the oldest sibling, was probably responsible for the administration of the sale of all the properties in Trowbridge. These had been spread among the grand children of Richard Casswell in his lengthy will. The decision to move everyone to Canada must have been quite challenging.

Albert became an Army major and I believe this sort of rank could be purchased. Albert's son studied to become a doctor, so there was obviously enough funds to pay for that education.

There seems to be enough money for all the siblings to live comfortable middle to upper class lives, and in the case of Edwin, to fund the purchase of large quantities of cheese from Ontario farmers and export them back to England, But, it appears Edwin's ventures eventually slowed and his funds diminished toward the end of his life.

So, for this branch of the family, the 'fortune' of inheritance was spread among several people and therefore no longer exists.