

## The Bishops of Broomhall.

**John Bishop (1793 – 22 July 1859)** was a grocer and tea dealer in High Street, Dudley in the 1830s. On 4 December 1838 in Kidderminster he married Elizabeth Mary Ford, born about 1813 in Brough in the Hope valley, Derbyshire. His father was a cabinet-maker and hers was a veterinary surgeon. Three years later the couple moved to Sheffield and ran a grocer and tea dealer's business at **189 Broomhall Street**, Sheffield, living in the adjoining house at **1 Hanover Square**. The buildings were across Hanover Square from St Silas's Church, where the underpass under Hanover Way is now. They had three children: John F. Bishop, Joseph T.F. Bishop and Mary Elizabeth Bishop. By 1851 they had taken on an apprentice. When John Bishop died in 1859 of 'consumption' (tuberculosis), his widow Elizabeth Bishop took over the business with sons John and Joseph as assistants and employing a porter. She probably continued to run it until her son Joseph took it over in the mid-1860s.



Figures 1 & 2. Elizabeth Mary Bishop née Ford (c. 1813-c.1887), grocer of 189 Broomhall Street.


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**Figure 3. John and Joseph Bishop, in their early 20s, when they were still helping in the grocery shop.** (Modern photograph from Ambrotype miniature with faces & hands slightly coloured pink. No name of photographer.)

**John F. Bishop (1841-1886)** was born in Ecclesall Bierlow. Until he was 21 he helped in the family grocery shop, then went to Edinburgh to study medicine, graduating in 1870. In 1873 he obtained his degree of M.D. and was awarded a Gold Medal for his thesis on *Antiseptic Surgery* – he was a house-surgeon and private assistant to the Professor of Surgery, Joseph Lister (later Sir Joseph and then Lord Lister), and was in private practice as a surgeon in Edinburgh. In 1881 he married **Isabella Lucy Bird** (1831-1904). She had already published *The Englishwoman in America*, *Notes on Old Edinburgh*, *Six months in Hawaii*, *A Lady's Life in the Rocky Mountains*, and *Unbeaten Tracks in Japan*, and later wrote about her travels in Malaya, Persia, Kurdistan, Tibet, Korea, China and Morocco. In 1891 she was the first woman to be elected a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society. But she and John were married for only five years – he caught an erysipelas infection from a patient on whom he operated and died aged 44.

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 <p data-bbox="373 913 603 931">J. MOFFAT, EDINBURGH.</p>	 <p data-bbox="874 891 1315 958"><i>Hammett Brothers</i> 350 OXFORD ROAD MANCHESTER.</p>
<p><b>Figure 4. Dr John F. Bishop (1841-1886),</b> LRCP, MRCS, MB, MS 1870 MD 1873, University of Edinburgh (Photo J. Moffat, Edinburgh, about 1881)</p>	<p><b>Figure 5.</b> Esther Hardesty, schoolmistress, had a school at 1 Durham Road, Ecclesall. The photo is dated 1889.</p>

**Joseph Thomas Ford Bishop** (14 July 1843 – 23 February 1925) was born in Brough and grew up in his parents' grocer's shop, which he probably took over when he reached the age of 21. His elder brother introduced him to an Edinburgh girl, Margaret Ramsay, and they were married there in 1869, returning to Sheffield to live at 1 Hanover Square, with Margaret helping Joseph to run the shop. By 1868, Joseph was politically active in the cause of Temperance (against alcohol), often presiding at meetings of the United Kingdom Alliance at the Temperance Hall in Townhead Street. Joseph and Margaret had three children: John Ramsay Bishop, Wilfrid Ramsay Bishop and Maggie Ramsay Bishop. Margaret died in November 1873, five days after Maggie was born. Her mother Agnes Ramsay helped Joseph to bring up the children until she died in 1878. In 1874 Joseph moved to Gorton (greater Manchester) to manage Gorton Gum Works. This proved to be the start of his career as a manufacturing chemist, patent agent and engineer's agent later in London and then in Manchester. During 1892-1903 he was secretary of Manchester Chemical Club and negotiated for a central place where the Manchester scientific societies could meet. When he died he was buried in Ecclesall churchyard. It is unlikely that he attended St Silas's church – he was married in a Free Church of Scotland ceremony and chose to send his two sons to a school run by a Moravian minister.



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**Figure 6. (Right to left) Harry Otto Thomas (57), Joseph Thomas Ford Bishop (79) and his daughter Maggie Thomas née Bishop (49), with Maggie and Harry's children: Ruth (6), Joyce (17) and Donald (21) in 1922.**

**Mary Elizabeth Bishop (1846-1891)** married **Alfred Tingle (1832-1877)** in Autumn 1865. He was a grocer and miller of 46, Charles Street, Sheffield, and retail shops at 111 South Street, Park, Sheffield; and at 35 Broad Lane. They had four children: John Bishop Tingle, Lilian Ella Tingle, Kate Tingle (1867-72), and Alfred Tingle (born a couple of months before his father died). Alfred Tingle appeared in the newspapers as tea importer, family grocer, miller, corn factor, and provision merchant, but also for 'wholesale adulteration of flour and meal' with alum, for which he was fined, and for breaches of trading standards. Mary was left a widow at the age of 30 and moved from Thorn Bank, Ecclesall Road, to Havelock Street, Ecclesall – she lived at No. 17 and her mother Elizabeth Bishop lived at No. 28. The children probably attended Miss Esther Hardesty's school at 1 Durham Road, Ecclesall. The family group **Figure 9** includes all Elizabeth Bishop's grandchildren – Mary Tingle's two sons John Bishop Tingle and Alfred and daughter Lilian and Joseph Bishop's two sons John Ramsay Bishop and Wilfird and daughter Maggie.

**John Bishop Tingle (1866-1918)** attended Sheffield Royal Grammar School<sup>1</sup> and from 1884 Owen's College, Manchester, and then in 1887-89 the University of Munich, from where he obtained his Ph.D. in chemistry. When his mother died (1846), he took care of his younger sister and brother, teaching Chemistry at Robert Gordon's College in Aberdeen. He went to the USA in 1896 and in 1907 was appointed professor of chemistry at McMaster University, Toronto, Canada.

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<sup>1</sup> Sheffield Grammar School was founded by letters patent of James I in 1604. It had various sites before taking over the Sheffield Collegiate School on Collegiate Crescent in 1884. It was renamed Sheffield Royal Grammar School (SRGS) in 1885, with the motto "Verbum tuum lucerna pedibus meis" – "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet". The headmaster in 1884–1899 was Edward Senior, M.A. In 1905 Sheffield City Council acquired both Wesley College and SRGS and they were merged on the Wesley site to form King Edward VII School (KES), named after the reigning monarch. Downloaded Feb 2014 from Wikipedia. Collegiate Crescent is close to Havelock Street.

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**Figure 7.** Probably **Mary Elizabeth Tingle** née Bishop with her young infant about 1868.



**Figure 8.** **Alfred Tingle**, miller and grocer, 1874 Photo: J. Crosby, Masbro', Rotherham.



**Figure 9.** Back: John Ramsay Bishop (with hat); John Bishop Tingle. Middle: Mrs Mary Elizabeth Tingle née Bishop, Lilian Ella Tingle, Wilfrid Ramsay Bishop. Front: Maggie Ramsay Bishop, Alfred Tingle, about 1886, perhaps at 17 Havelock Street, Ecclesall.



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**Lilian Ella Tingle** (1872-1951) kept house for her brothers, John and Alfred, and went to the School for Domestic Economy in Aberdeen, newly opened in 1891. In 1899 she crossed to the USA and was a schoolteacher in North Dakota, then moved to Oregon, where she was briefly Portland's first Market Inspector – perhaps her experience of her father's grocery taught her what to look for! In 1917 she founded and was head of the Department of Household Arts in the University of Oregon. She travelled extensively in Europe and 'the Orient' and wrote on home economics and travel topics for the *Oregonian* newspaper.

**Alfred Tingle** (born 1876) studied chemistry at the University of Aberdeen (living with his brother and sister Aberdeen, and university entry was possible at age 16), then obtained his PhD in chemistry from the University of Pennsylvania in 1899. He worked in universities in Wisconsin, China, and Oregon, and developed an improved process for producing paper pulp from wood shavings.

**John Ramsay Bishop** (1870-1913) followed in the footsteps of his uncle John F. Bishop, qualifying as a medical doctor from the University of Manchester. He practiced as a GP in Stalybridge, where his many poverty-stricken patients greatly appreciated him and often paid him in kind. He married a nurse, Sarah Bullough; their only daughter, Margaret, died aged 11 in 1911. Uncle and nephew were only in their mid-40s when they died.

**Wilfrid Ramsay Bishop** (1871-1950) was a tea-planter in Sylhet (now in Bangladesh), returning to Britain in his early 30s to work as an advertising agent for the publishers, Iliffe and Sons Ltd. He married Ann Elizabeth James and they had a son Brian Bishop (b. 1912), a metallurgist.

**Maggie Ramsay Bishop** (1873-1949) was housewife and a pianist. She was a year younger than her cousin Lilian, and very similar in appearance. She married Harry Otto Thomas in 1894. He was a grocer and director of his company, Otto Thomas Ltd, which had a chain of shops selling tea and groceries in and near London. He sold this business in 1903 and became a director of Iliffe & Sons Ltd, developing *The Motor Cycle* and other popular technology magazines. Their five children were: **Wilfrid** Ramsay Otto Thomas (1896-1916), a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant in the York and Lancaster Regiment, who was killed in the Battle of the Somme. **Hugh** Otto Thomas (1899-1984) served in the Royal Flying Corps/RAF (1917-19), learned tea-planting in the High Range of Travancore, south India (1919-26) and then helped to develop the tea industry in Kenya (1927-59). **Donald** Ramsay Otto Thomas (1901-88) was an adult educationist and chief education officer (1944-66) for the United Steel Companies – he lived on Ranmoor Road, Sheffield, and was awarded an honorary DTech by the University of Loughborough, which he had helped to university status. **Joyce** Margaret Ramsay Thomas (1904-59) married a tea-planter, John Watson, in Travancore (now Kerala), cared for her elderly parents, and emigrated with her husband to New Zealand. **Ruth** Wenefrede Thomas (1916-90) married an industrial chemist, John Robins, brought up a family and was active in the Marriage Guidance Council (now called *Relate*).

Maggie Thomas née Bishop's grandchildren (in 2014) are retired, mostly in their 70s or 80s. Their careers include a professor of political science (University of Central Lancashire), a lecturer in zoology (Cardiff University of Wales), a Devon hotelier, a professional photographer and physiotherapist, two management consultants, a farmer in Finland who also ran the local authority's computer system, an architect in Kenya, a district nurse in Aberdeen, a bank chief executive (before the 2008 crash) and an education psychologist.

Other Bishops with Sheffield connections include Joseph Wright Bishop b. 1821, grocer and corn merchant, son Joseph Wright Bishop b. 1855, architect, and grandson Joseph Wright Bishop b. 1896. Soon after JTF Bishop's son Dr John Ramsay Bishop died in 1913, JTF Bishop wrote to Joseph Wright Bishop, addressing him as "My dear Joe", so they knew each other well – but were they related? Any additional information about the individuals mentioned above, or their relatives, will be gratefully received.

**Sources:** pictures from Thomas family archives.