

The Parents And Siblings Of Emma Elizabeth Marris
William MARRIS and Ann CUTHBERT
 (Weblink Emma Elizabeth Marris her parents and siblings)

WILLIAM MARRIS

B about 1825 Rouston Walcot-Fen Lincolnshire England
 D 04 September 1869 Nelson NZ
 M 1st 01 March 1850 Sheffield England (2 issue)
 M 2nd 14 October 1862 Martin North Timberland England (2 Issue)

Ann CUTHBERT

B about 1826 Isle of Wight England
 D England

Betsy Ann UTTING

B about 1836 South Lincolnshire England
 D 13 December 1914 Nelson NZ
 M 2nd 1871 Nelson NZ William WALKER

Children:

1. Stillborn Male MARRIS born 1851 Sheffield England died 1851 Sheffield England
2. Emma Elizabeth MARRIS born 17 October 1852 Sheffield England
3. John William MARRIS born 24 January 1864 Nelson NZ
4. Francis Elizabeth MARRIS born 1866 Nelson NZ

The family history of
 William MARRIS and Ann CUTHBERT

Emma Elizabeth MARRIS married Charles Frederick Henry MANSSSEN. This is the story of Emma before her marriage to Charles. Most of the contents are the results of research that Living Male MARRIS has carried out over many years. I am very grateful for the use of this material.

On the 17 October 1852 at 1 Marton Street Sheffield England, Emma Elizabeth MARRIS was born to William and Ann MARRIS formerly CUTHBERT. Emma was baptised at St Johns Church Sheffield.

William Ann and little Emma continued to live in Sheffield until 1855. Upon William leaving his employment he was presented with a Silver Tea Service. This is now a treasured family heirloom in the loving hands of William's great grandson. The Tea service is inscribed as follows:

This Tea Service presented to Mr William Marris as a mark of esteem by the firm and assistants of Messrs. R & G Gray & Co Sheffield June 21st 1855.

The family lived in Manchester, Sleaford and later settled in Clyde Street Nottingham. This was not to be a happy time for Emma.

On the 17th July 1860 her mother Ann ran away with Mr William BURKE. Remember this was Victorian England and it was not the normal thing to leave one's husband, let alone leaving a child nearly eight years old.

Sometime after this William went to work in London. He left Emma in the care of his widowed mother, Elizabeth MARRIS who lived in Walcot Fen, Lincolnshire in the house built by her late husband William. This house still stands today but has changed much through

the years. It was while living in this house with her grandmother that Emma wrote a letter to her father. Emma was nearly nine years old. This original letter by Emma has survived and reads:

*Mr Dear Papa
I take up my pen to write out of the Fen
So you must excuse each mistake
And the next I send a better make
Is not for want of affection here
That I sis not write to Papa so dear
For Grandma and Aunt has been busy each day
And I have been helping to heap up the Hay
Jim had began to mow the Bank
And Uncle Osgerby has come down is lean and lank
He has broken his horses knees
And poor people begin to sneeze
He has sold Doctor for a 60 ponds debt
So up to London he has gone and the country left
Should you in the city meet
No doubt you will him greet
Grandma and Aunt join in love with me
Hoping soon your face to see
From
Your affectionate
Daughter Emma E. Marris
Walcot Fen
July 15 1861*

William filed for a divorce, which was granted on the 31st of January 1862. He returned to Walcot Fen in 1862 where he took up farming probably on his mother's property.

Later that year on 14 October 1862 at the Wesleyan Chapel in Martin North Timberland, William MARRIS married Betsy Anne UTTING. It is believed that Betsy was Emma's governess. William had known Betsy for some time as he had given her a book of poetry, which was inscribed "*From William Marris 16 October 1860*". This was three months after his first wife Ann left him. His second wife Betsy was a fine looking women, big but not beautiful and well educated. She had a great influence on the education of Emma. It was Betsy who taught Emma music.

William, Betsy and Emma left England from the London dock on the Barque *Electra* on the 18 November 1862 as Second Cabin passengers. They arrived in Nelson on the 30 March 1863, which happened to be Good Friday. A fellow passenger Mr William BOND would join the MARRIS family each year to celebrate their arrival on the *Electra*. Mr Bond was the editor of the early *Colonist* newspaper in Nelson. In later years he never failed to pay a visit to Emma on that precise day.

Two months after their arrival William applied to the Superintendent of Nelson for a job as Clerk. A letter in the National Archives shows that William was indeed as well educated man with a variety of skills, who could adapt well to any situation. William's address was Washington Valley.

On 24 January 1864 John William MARRIS was born to Betsy and William MARRIS. Emma now had a brother.

In 1866 William purchased a grocery shop in Waimea Road Nelson. Betsy and William ran the store together. Information from relatives tells that some of Betsy's money helped to purchase the store. Emma's baby sister Frances Elizabeth MARRIS was born in 1866.

William MARRIS aged 43 years, caught a chill and sadly died, on 04 September 1869. The death registration gave cause of death, Heart disease. He left his widow, Betsy and their children aged five and three years. Emma was 17 years old at the time. William was buried at the Wakapuaka Cemetery in Wesleyan block 1 plot 66.

Betsy was able to continue running the grocery shop. She managed to do this and bring up two younger children. Emma must have been a great help to her. Betsy MARRIS married a widower, William WALKER in 1871 and Emma was a witness to the marriage of her stepmother. This was about the time that Emma Elizabeth MARRIS left home and some say she took up a situation in Wellington. Four more years passed before Emma's marriage to Charles Frederick MANSSSEN in Wellington.

Betsy passed away on the 13 December 1914 and was buried alongside her first husband William MARRIS. This grave has a large marble cross with the inscription:

In loving Memory of William MARRIS died 4th September 1869, age 43 years. Also of his wife Betsy Ann UTTING died December 13th 1914 aged 78 years. "In My Father's House Are Many Mansions".

Emma was a small lady, only about five feet in height and weighed about six to seven stone. She had a good sense of humour and a great outlook on life, and was lovingly known to many of her descendants as Little Gran and other family members as Aunt Emma.

Hopefully one day Living Male MARRIS will write more on the MARRIS family and because of this I have only used some of his information.

William and Ann MARRIS their children and descendants

1- Stillborn Male MARRIS born 1851 Sheffield England died 1851 Sheffield England

2- Emma Elizabeth MARRIS born 17 October 1852 Sheffield England died 29 July 1947 Wanganui married **Charles Frederick Henry MANSSSEN** born 18 July 1847 Nelson NZ died 07 November 1924 Nelson NZ (15 Issue)

William and Betsy MARRIS their children and descendants

3- John William MARRIS born 24 January 1864 Nelson NZ died 01 April 1948 Nelson NZ married **Emily BLACK** born about 1870 died 02 June 1920 Nelson NZ (5 Issue)

4- Francis Elizabeth MARRIS born 1866 Nelson NZ died unknown married **James WIGELL**
born unknown died unknown (issue unknown)
