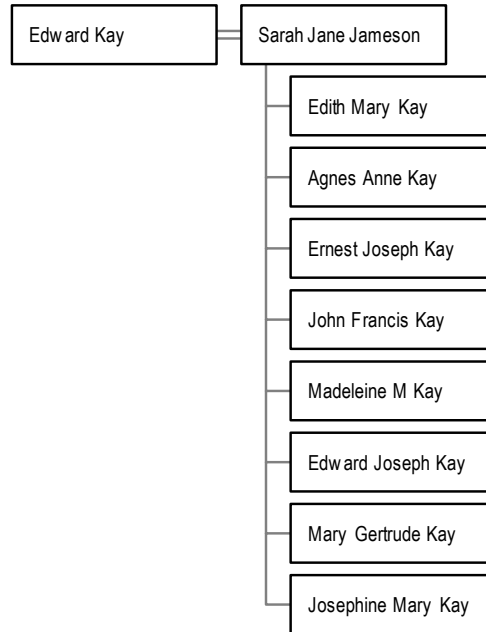


## Edward Kay



A search on Ancestry for a possible birth registration of Edward Kay, one year either side of his estimated birth year, returns only one entry – for an Edward Kay, with the birth being registered in the Jul-Sep quarter of 1841 in the Prescott district, Lancashire.<sup>v</sup> The year fits with the information gleaned from the 1841 and 1851 census, but not with the stated birthplace of Hunslet, Leeds. However, his mother Mary Kay was a native of Prescott, and she may have been back in her birth place when she registered the birth of Edward.

As noted above, Edward was living at home on the 1841 and 1851 census nights and for the 1861 census when he was aged 20 and earning his living as a School Master.<sup>#</sup>

The reason that Edward has not been located in the English 1871 census becomes apparent when account of the birthplace of 3 of his older children, who are listed with him, his wife and the rest of his family, living at 8 Burton Terrace, Sherwin Road, Lenton, Nottinghamshire in 1881.<sup>#</sup>

Edward Kay	40	Inland Revenue Officer (CS)	Leeds
Sarah Jane Kay	39		Richmond, Yorkshire
Edith Mary Kay	12	Scholar	Richmond, Yorkshire
Agnes Annie Kay	11	Scholar	Ireland
Ernest Joseph Kay	10	Scholar	Ireland
John Francis Kay	8	Scholar	Ireland
Madelene M Kay	6	Scholar	Richmond, Yorkshire
Edward Joseph Kay	4	Scholar	Nottingham
Infant Kay	under 1 mth		Lenton, Nottingham

In between the census years of 1851 and 1881 Edward had married, he and his wife had 7 children, they had lived at various times at Richmond in Yorkshire, Ireland and then finally in Nottinghamshire. Edward was now working for the Civil Services in the taxation department.

According to a marriage registration in the district of Richmond, Yorkshire, for the Jul-Sep quarter of 1867, the Sarah Jane who became Edward's wife would appear to have been Sarah Jane Jameson. Indeed this is confirmed by the marriage certificate. Edward and Sarah Jane married in accordance with the rites and ceremonies of the Roman Catholic Church at the Catholic Chapel in Richmond on 12 September 1867. They were both 26 years of at the time. Their respective residences were listed as Newcastle on Tyne (Edward) and Richmond (Sarah). The fathers cited were Edward Kay, deceased, Painter, and Robert Jameson, Yeoman. The witnesses (who incidentally left the 'e' out of their names) were Joseph Robert Jamson and Agnes Jamson, who we will see were siblings of the bride.<sup>v</sup>

Sarah Jane Jameson was born and raised in Richmond and who, in the 1851 census, is listed living with her family in the rather evocatively named Rosemary Lane, Richmond.<sup>vi</sup>

Robert Jameson	53	Bread and Biscuit Baker	Richmond, Yorkshire
Sarah Jameson	46		Duke Street, Lincoln Inn Fields, Middlesex

Mary Jameson	19	Dressmaker and Seamstress	Richmond, Yorkshire
William Jameson	16	Painter's Apprentice	Richmond, Yorkshire
Elizabeth Jameson	13	Scholar	Richmond, Yorkshire
Sarah Jane Jameson	10	Scholar	Richmond, Yorkshire
Ann Jameson	8	Scholar	Richmond, Yorkshire
Agnes Jameson	4		Richmond, Yorkshire
Joseph Robert Jameson	2		Richmond, Yorkshire
Sarah Jameson (niece)	10	Scholar	Richmond, Yorkshire
Margaret Jameson (niece)	5	Scholar	Newcastle on Tyne, Northumberland

There are in fact 2 Richmonds in Yorkshire, one in the south near Sheffield, and the other in the north, near the Northumberland border. While the listing for Sarah Jane does not provide much help as to which is the correct 'Richmond', an inspection of the neighbouring families, with birthplaces recorded variously as Leyburn, Catterick Village, and Bedale, would strongly suggest that the northern Richmond is the one of interest to us.<sup>vii</sup> Incidentally, the record of Sarah Jane's mother's birthplace is unusually detailed, and judging by the other entries for people not born in Yorkshire, this census enumerator was meticulously thorough.

Early 1800 commentators have described Richmond as follows :<sup>viii</sup>

The country round Richmond is extremely beautiful; the valley of the Swale seen from the terrace of the castle appears to great advantage. This place is admired by tourists for its romantic beauties, and by many is thought preferable to that "Rich Mount," on the banks of the Thames, to which it imparted its denomination four hundred years after the Earls of Richmond had built this castle on the Swale. Within the last ten years the population of Richmond has increased 15 per cent though for ages before it had been stationary, and the number of the inhabitants of the parish and the borough, which are co-extensive, now amount to 3,546, though according to the parliamentary returns of 1811, there were then only 3,050.

Ten years later, for the 1861 census, Sarah Jane is still at home, and the family is still living at Rosemary Lane, Richmond.<sup>ix</sup>

Robert Jameson	63	Baker and Gardener	Richmond, Yorkshire
Sarah Jameson	56	Baker and Gardener	Middlesex, London
Sarah Jane Jameson	20	Dressmaker	Richmond, Yorkshire
Annie Jameson	18	Milliner	Richmond, Yorkshire
Agnes Jameson	14	Scholar	Richmond, Yorkshire
Joseph Robert Jameson	12	Scholar	Richmond, Yorkshire
Sarah Jameson (niece)	10	Dairy maid	Richmond, Yorkshire
Elizabeth Swinbourne (visitor)(U)	54	Proprietor of Houses	Morton, Durham
John Jones (Boarder)	7	Scholar	Richmond, Yorkshire
Michael Holmes (Lodger)(U)	30	School Master	Ireland

Her father is still baking but has now added Gardener to his occupation. The three elder children are no longer at home, but Sarah Jane's cousin Sarah, is still with the family. Sarah Jane, like her older sister Mary, has become a dressmaker. Tantalisingly, also with the family at that time is one Michael Holmes, a schoolmaster who was born in Ireland, and who would have been the same age as Edward. Perhaps this man was the link between Edward Kay and Sarah Jane. Could Edward and Michael have been teachers in the same establishment at some stage, and would it have been Michael who encouraged Edward to spend some time in Ireland? Speculating still further, perhaps the two young men were teaching at the Free Grammar School at Richmond, an account of which is as follows :<sup>x</sup>

The Free Grammar School of Richmond", says our usual authority upon these subjects (Mr Carlisle), "is situated in the church yard of the low church, (St. Mary's) and was founded and endowed by the burgesses, on the 14th of March, 1568." The guardians and governors of the school and its revenues are the Mayor and Aldermen of Richmond, and in them, as the successors of the Bailiffs, the right of nominating the master is vested. The gross amount of the revenue, Mr. Carlisle states at £330. per annum, arising from land, but it happens to be within our knowledge, from an unquestionable source of information, that since his book on "Endowed Schools" was compiled, and even since the last visit of the parliamentary commissioners, the depreciation in the value of land has reduced the clear revenue of the master to a sum much below three hundred pounds a year. "All children, natives in the borough, and the children of all burgesses and other persons inhabiting in the said borough, and exercising any trade, mystery, or manual occupation therein, are entitled to be taught free in the said school." The number of boys upon the foundation seldom exceeds 20, and the average number of boarders and free scholars amounts to about 50 in the whole. The present master is the Rev. James Tate, M.A. (or as he is frequently called, Dr Tate, public estimation having conferred upon his worthy divine that honour, to which, by his learning he is well entitled.) This gentleman takes pupils at one hundred guineas a year each for board and education, of whom the number is limited, and does not exceed those of his own children. The usher, the Rev. E. J. Lockwood, A. B. who is engaged at a salary of one hundred guineas a year, takes ten boarders,

at forty-six guineas per annum. This school, which ranks among the first free grammar schools in England, has produced several eminent men, and from the estimation in which it is held at the universities, to which it yearly, (particularly to Cambridge,) sends its well qualified contributions, many more may be expected to proceed from the same source.

Tate sent up many scholars to Cambridge. (Known as Tate's invincibles.) 21 become Fellows, 13 of them at Trinity College.) Later Whig Prime minister, Lord Grey, patronised Richmond Grammar School. 1844-46: Lewis Carroll (real name Charles Ludwidge Dodgson), author of Alice in Wonderland and Through the Looking Glass, attended Richmond Grammar School when his father was Rector at Croft on Tees church, near Richmond.

Referring back to the 1881 Census, and extrapolating from the birth years of the children, it would seem that after they were married at Richmond, they continued to live there until after the birth of Edith Mary in 1869. Some time between then and the birth in 1870 of Agnes Annie, the family had relocated to Ireland. They were back in England (or at least Sarah Jane was) by 1875 for the birth of their fifth child at Richmond. Shortly after this, and by 1877, the family moved to Nottinghamshire, where the youngest two children were born.

From the 1891 census, we see that the family had moved yet again, sometime between 1881 and 1884.<sup>xi</sup>

Edward Kay	50	Superintendent Inland Revenue	Hunslet, Leeds
Sarah Jane Kay	50		Richmond, Yorkshire
Edith Mary Kay	22		Richmond, Yorkshire
Agnes Annie Kay	21		Meath, Ireland
John Francis Kay	18	Scholar	Meath, Ireland
Madelene M Kay	16		Richmond, Yorkshire
Edward Joseph Kay	14	Scholar	New Lenton, Nottingham
Mary Gertrude	10		New Lenton, Nottingham
Josephine Mary Kay	7	Scholar	Hereford, Herefordshire

Edward had clearly had a promotion and he and the family were now living at Broughton House, Ledbury Road, Hereford. We learn that the infant of the 1881 census is Mary Gertrude, and that another daughter had been born to James and Sarah Jane – Josephine Mary, around 1884.

Not at home on census night was oldest son, Ernest Kay. He has been located as a bachelor, boarding with James Swinburne, Widower, at 47 Eccles Road, Battersea.<sup>xii</sup> This James Swinburne (despite the different spelling of the surname) may have been related to Elizabeth Swinbourne, who was a visiting the Jamesons in 1861.

James Swinburne	70	Living on own means	Barnard Castle, Durham
Ernest J Kay	20	Insurance Clerk	West Meath, Ireland
Catherine S Fisher (Gt Niece)(U)	37	Housekeeper Domestic	Poplar, London

I have had no success in finding any of the Edward Kay family in the 1901 census. The elder girls may have married, but even searching on their first names has failed to find any of them.



<sup>i</sup> Free BMD Birth Index.

<sup>ii</sup> HO107/1345/9/p32; HO107/2321/p.3; RG9/3357/p15.

<sup>iii</sup> RG11/3340/p10.

<sup>iv</sup> Certified copy of Marriage Certificate MXD147100.

<sup>v</sup> Free BMD Marriage Index.

<sup>vi</sup> HO107/2381/p34.

<sup>vii</sup> The Bedale area was for many years the home turf of Mary (nee Kay) and William May and their children.

<sup>viii</sup> Description(s) edited from Langdale's Yorkshire Dictionary (1822) and Baines's Directory of the County of York (1823) and other sources.

<sup>ix</sup> RG9/3674/p26. Note: Jameson was transcribed as Tamson.

<sup>x</sup> Description(s) edited from Langdale's Yorkshire Dictionary (1822) and Baines's Directory of the County of York (1823) and other sources, and the website Richmond Online - <http://www.richmond.org.uk>

<sup>xi</sup> RG12/2063/p26.

<sup>xii</sup> RG12/439/p22.