MEATH BAKERS

The family who built Fenton [also see William Baker]

Walking tour index

Take a 'walk' around Fenton

Baker of Hasfield Court

Released 09 December 2002
Baker Family Records

B112 SAMPSON BAKER: b. 1610; merchant of Norwich and London.
B113 JOHN BAKER: m. 1670; issue.
B114 RICHARD BAKER: m. 1700; of London and Leominster.
B115 WILLIAM BAKER: m. 1736; of Bridgenorth, Co. Salop.
B116 WILLIAM BAKER: b. 1744; settled in Staffordshire, 1767; issue.
B117 WILLIAM BAKER: of Fenton; b. 1771; J. P. and D. L., Co. Stafford; m. 1794.
(1) WILLIAM: his heir, B118.
(2) Ralph Bourne: B119.

B118 WILLIAM BAKER: b. 1800; of Fenton House and Hasfield Court, Co. Gloucester; J. P. Staffs.; d. unm., 1865; succeeded by bro.
B119 REV. RALPH BOURNE BAKER: MA; b. 1802; of Hasfield Court, Fenton House and Doveridge Wood House, Co. Derley; Rector of Hilderstone; Rural Dean of Stone, Examining Chaplain to the Bishop of Meath; J. P. Cos.Stafford and Gloucester; m. 1845; had, with other ch.,
B120 WILLIAM MEATH BAKER: b. 1857; High Sheriff, 1896; m. (1) 1884, wife died 1906; m. (2) 1909; issue by 1st wife,
(1) William George Corbet (Rev.): b. 1885; M. A. Oxon.
(2) Francis Ralph: b. 1886; m. 1921.
(3) Edward John: b. 1887.

1881 census:
Dwelling: Hasfield Court  
Census Place: Hasfield, Gloucester,

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Marr</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Birthplace</th>
<th>Occupation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Frances Crofton BAKER</td>
<td>W 57</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Head</td>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>Householder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Frances BAKER</td>
<td>U 32</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Daur</td>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>House Holders Daughter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letitia Jane BAKER</td>
<td>U 28</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Daur</td>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>House Holders Daughter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Meath BAKER</td>
<td>U 23</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Son</td>
<td>Staffordshire</td>
<td>Landowner B A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alice Frances CROFTON</td>
<td>U 32</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Visitor</td>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helen Julianna JENKINS</td>
<td>U 36</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Visitor</td>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>Bond Holder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John BELMONT</td>
<td>W 59</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Servant</td>
<td>Marwood, Devon</td>
<td>Domestic Servant Butler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas SMITH</td>
<td>U 18</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Servant</td>
<td>Aston, Gloucester</td>
<td>Domestic Servant Footman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth An BEDDING</td>
<td>U 28</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Servant</td>
<td>Forthampton, Gloucester</td>
<td>Domestic Servant Housemaid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura BOX</td>
<td>U 27</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Servant</td>
<td>Llanrus, Monmouth</td>
<td>Domestic Servant Cook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clara Louisa JAMES</td>
<td>U 32</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Servant</td>
<td>Tipton, Staffordshire</td>
<td>Domestic Servant Ladies Maid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kate LAKE</td>
<td>U 16</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Servant</td>
<td>Ashleworth, Gloucester</td>
<td>Domestic Servant Kitchen Maid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rose Emme COLEBROOK</td>
<td>U 19</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Servant</td>
<td>Pembray, Carmarthen, Wales</td>
<td>Domestic Servant House Maid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisa WESTLAKE</td>
<td>M 39</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>Servant</td>
<td>Paddymore, Somerset</td>
<td>Domestic Servant Housekeeper</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

James Lamplugh Brooksbank married Monica Grace Lamplugh on 21 Sep 1912, divorced 1942.

In 1953 he married Madeleine Susan, daughter of Hugh Bryan, a rich widow who had two previous husbands:

1 Francis Ralph Meath Baker of Hasfield Court  
2 Lt Col Ardern Arthur Hulme Beaman DSP, JP

Edmund Brooksbank has rich memories of Hasfield Court, a country house in Gloucestershire, with its Elgar connections. He remembers Susan had three sons or grandsons from the marriage to Heath Baker: Clovis, Lysander, Josuah, Justin. All went to Eton.

1 Lysander Meath Baker, born 1968. Sales Director, Digivate www.digivate.com. Lysander has a degree in engineering from Cambridge, and a Masters in product design from the Royal College of Art. At his first job at Laura Ashley he learned to accept that sometimes it is OK to put flowers on things. He moved into buying and found himself at Innovations, where he learned how to assess whether new ideas would sell. He then helped to found Digivate.  

**London Times, Marriages**  
Name:Meath-Baker H Lysander L  
Gender:Male  
Father’s Residence: Meath of Gloucester  
Spouse/Fiancee’s Name:Oliver A Louisa  
Spouse/Fiancee’s Father’s Residence:Daniel of Washington DC  
Event Type:Engagement  
Event Date:27 Apr 2001
2 Joshua Meath-Baker Art Director : 1996

3 MEATH-BAKER WILLIAM JOHN CLOVIS born 1959 Spy

London Times, Marriages, 1982-2004 Record
Name: Meath-Baker W J Clovis Gender: Male
Spouse/Fiancée’s Name: Woodham-Smith Elizabeth D
Event Type: Marriage Event Date: 10 Aug 1985

4 Justin Meath Baker worked in partnership with Christopher Nevile on the redecoration of Harrington Hall, Lincolnshire, after it was gutted by fire. He founded Meath Baker Design in 1998. Among his recent commissions are the refurbishment of an 18th-century house on the Holkham Estate for Viscount Coke, a London apartment for Viscount Macmillan and a new hotel in Havana. Meath Baker Design Partnership is a dynamic and innovative interior design practice based in Clerkenwell, London, with 15 years experience of both domestic and commercial design. Justin Meath Baker is supported by an experienced team of Architects, Interior Designers and administrative staff.

London Times, Marriages, 1982-2004 Record
Name: Meath-Baker S Justin F Gender: Male
Father’s Residence: of Hasfield Court, Glocs
Spouse/Fiancée’s Name: Cairns Eliza R R
Spouse/Fiancée’s Father’s Residence: Geoffrey of Kenn, Devon
Event Type: Engagement Event Date: 8 Jul 1989

Descendants of William the Conqueror

See
http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~conqueror/genealogy_html/i34.html#i35903

1. *Priscilla Ann Gurney
   Marriage: 1958
   Status:
   Children:
   1. (William John) Clovis Baker
   2. (Samuel) Justin Francis Baker
   3. (Hugh) Lysander Luke Baker
   4. Josua Ralph Baker

The idea for Enigma Variations began one day in 1898 when Edward Elgar, after a tiring day of teaching, was improvising a melancholic tune on the piano. This caught the ear of his wife, Alice. So, to entertain her, he began to improvise variations on this melody, each one either a musical portrait of one of their friends. That is how the Enigma Variations, one of English music's greatest orchestral works, was born. Dedicated to 'my friends pictured within', each movement is entitled with the initials or name of the person it is based on.

The work consists of the theme (actually two contrasting melodic fragments), followed by 14 variations, the first four of which are:

1. "CAE." Caroline Alice Elgar, Elgar's wife.
2. "HDS-P" Hew David Stuart-Powell, a pianist friend with whom Elgar often played chamber music
3. "RBT" Richard Baxter Townsend, an amateur actor and mimic, capable of extreme changes to the pitch of his voice, a characteristic which the music imitates.
4. "WMB" William Meath Baker, "A country squire, gentleman and scholar...has just forcibly read out the arrangements for the day and hurriedly left the music room with an inadvertent bang of the door."
   WMB was squire of Hasfield, Gloucestershire and builder of Fenton, Stoke-on-Trent.

See Variation IV: "W.M.B." (Allegro di molto) [http://goo.gl/y90F12](http://goo.gl/y90F12)

Dora Mary Powell, née Penny, born 8 Feb 1874, daughter of Rev Alfred Penny and Dora Mary Heale. Following the death of her mother, she lived at Highfield with her grandmother while her father served in missionary work in the Melanesian and Solomon Islands. She rejoined her father at Wolverhampton, where he had been appointed Rector in 1895. Soon after he married Mary Frances Baker, who was a childhood friend of Caroline Alice Roberts, whom Edward Elgar married in 1889. As well as being stepmother of Dora, she was the sister of William Meath Baker, sister-in-law to Richard Baxter Townshend, and a close friend of Isabell Fitton, all of whom feature in Elgar's 'Enigma Variations'. In this way Dora Penny became acquainted with the Elgars and was to be characterised as 'Dorabella' (Variation X) of the Variations.