

# The Bradbury Family from Saddleworth, Buckton Grange and Riversvale Hall

Charles Timothy Bradbury was born 22 September 1827 and baptised 17 December 1827 at the Independent Chapel, Delph in Saddleworth, the son of Timothy Bradbury and Jinny Buckley. He had two younger brothers William Henry born 17 February 1829 and Frederick born 13 August 1830.

William emigrated to America and became involved with the Civil War, Frederick also emigrated and went to live in New York.



William Henry Bradbury



Frederick Bradbury

Their father Timothy Bradbury, who with his brothers, operated cotton mills in England extending their business to America in the 1820s. Their mother Jane Buckley was related to the BUCKLEYS from Ryecroft Hall in Audenshaw. When their father died the executors of his estate obtained an apprenticeship for William in 1845 with John Henry Garside, where he trained to become an attorney and solicitor. He was then living at Ryecroft Hall with his guardian Mr James Smith Buckley who owned Ryecroft Mill. William emigrated in 1851 settling in Dwight (Livingston County) Illinois, where he practised law and was a published writer of essays and poetry. He served as a military clerk in the 129<sup>th</sup> Illinois Voluntary Infantry during the Civil War and was a paid correspondent to large newspapers in America and England. His Civil War letters, which are housed in the Library of Congress and published in a book *While Your Father is Away: The Civil War Letters of William H Bradbury*, edited by Jennifer Cain Bohrnstedt, copy in Local Studies.

The boys were given into the guardianship of Mr Buckley while their parents were away developing their interests in America. It is probable that the conditions prevailing in America at that time were not conducive to the education and development of children of good English families. William did use his education to good effect when he did eventually emigrate, both in civil and military life.

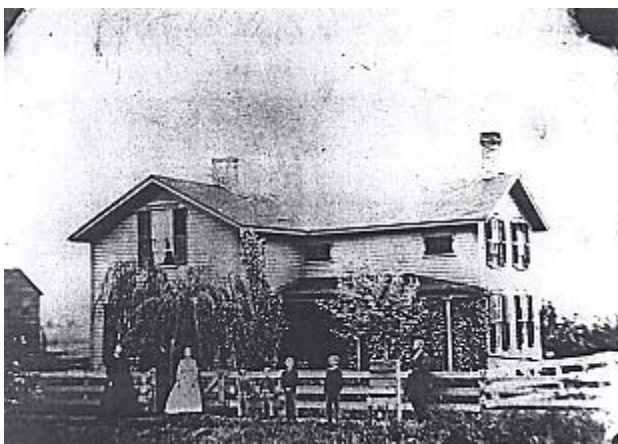
He also lived for a time in Droylsden where he met his wife Mary Brown the sister of his friend John Brown. William had been keen on going to America from a very early age and this must have rubbed off on his friend. When John married he decided to emigrate and took his wife with him. His sister Mary followed and met up with the couple on the prairie at Morris. William was also there and not long after a year roughing it on the prairie he married Mary on 14 August 1853. When the Civil War broke out, William entered the army as a private soldier. He left his wife in charge of his business affairs – quite unusual at the time. She also had a family to look after and his letters to her and their children reveal that they had a loving relationship.



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Mary Brown Bradbury

Topeka Home



## Bradbury Home

## Jane Bradbury aged 3

Jane Bradbury's daughter Mary Amelia Grant donated the letters and a huge collection of family papers, diaries – the Grant Bradbury collection to the Spencer Research Library at the University of Kansas where she had been Professor of Classics for 40 years.



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Timothy Bradbury pictured on the left married Jane (Jinny) Buckley had already emigrated in the 1830s, his parents Benjamin and Sarah were already established as cloth manufacturers in Germantown, Philadelphia.

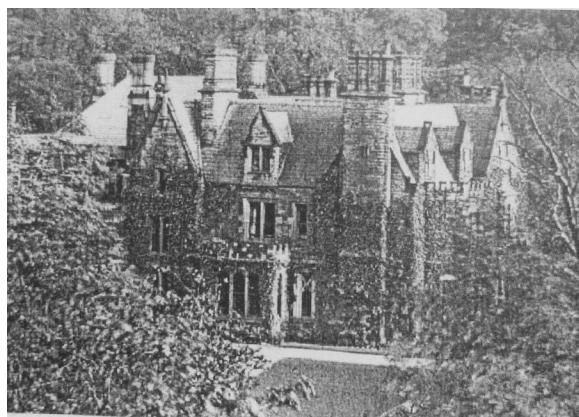
Only one of his sons, Charles Timothy Bradbury stayed in England. He was educated at Wharnton School and later at Sunderland's Academy on Stamford Street Ashton-under Lyne. He started work for Mr Buckley's Mill at Ryecroft and learned all aspects of the textile trade, rising to Managing Director of J H Gartside and co Ltd.

In 1861 he is living at Hall Green Terrace in Dukinfield with his wife Elizabeth and children Kate (6), Harold (4) and Emma aged 2. He is a cotton manufacturer employing 120.

In 1881 he is living at Buckton Grange and Managing the Calico Print Works there, with his second wife Mary – his children have left home. By 1882 he has moved to Riversvale Hall in Medlock Vale.



BucktonGrange



Riversvale Hall

## Kate Bradbury Griffith

Charles Timothy Bradbury's eldest daughter, probably educated at home, but did go to a finishing school in Switzerland. Although her father was a prominent and well respected businessman in the local community his daughter was equally well-known in a small group of passionate Egyptologists. Her intellectual capacity was well appreciated by her father, her husband and all those who had dealings with her.



She had many interests, but Ancient Egypt was her passion. She was acquainted with the leading Egyptologist and anthropologists of the day including Amelia Ann Blandford Edwards (1831-1892) and a supporter of Flinders Petrie.

She was also a keen painter and botanist and sent many samples of her drawings from around Riversvale Hall to the Ancoats Museum.

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She had many friends at Oxford including the man who became her husband, Francis Llewellyn Griffith, Professor of Egyptology Oxford

She accompanied Amelia Edwards on her lecture tour of America 1889-1890 as friend a supporter during periods of Amelia's failing health.

Kate became seriously ill in 1901 and travelled to London for an operation, which was not successful. Her husband took her to Silverdale near Morecambe Bay to recuperate, but this never happened and she is buried at Silverdale. Francis then returned to

live at Riversvale with Charles Timothy until he died in 1907.

In his Will after making several bequests to his servants, two of his friends and a generous donation to Old Chapel, the rest of his estate amounting to £42,000 to F L Griffith. It appears that the trust vested in him was well founded because shortly after his death he donated his estate to found the Griffith Institute at the Ashmoleum Museum at Oxford.

Charles Timothy Bradbury is buried at Old Chapel, Dukinfield a huge double slab.



**The Bradbury and Tomlins Grave at The Old Chapel - Dukinfield**

Right-hand side:

In Affectionate Remembrance of Elizabeth Ann wife of Charles Timothy Bradbury of Dukinfield who died June 7<sup>th</sup> 1863 aged 33 years.

*They also which sleep in Jesus will god bring with him.*

Also Emma daughter of the above who died November 19<sup>th</sup> 1879 aged 21 years.

*Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God Matthew 5.8*

Also of Harold their son who died November 15<sup>th</sup> 1884

*Because I live ye shall live also John XIV. 19*

Also of the above Charles Timothy Bradbury, J P of Riversvale, Ashton-under-Lyne who dies April 15<sup>th</sup> 1907

*Death is necessary to our constitution as sleep. We shall also rise refreshed in the morning.*

Left-hand side:

In affectionate remembrance of Jemima Tomlins wife of Samuel Bolton Tomlins, District Bank, Ashton-under-Lyne who died May 10<sup>th</sup> 1870 in the 74<sup>th</sup> year of her age.

*Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord*

Also of the above Samuel Bolton Tomlins who died September 8<sup>th</sup> 1879 in the 82<sup>nd</sup> year of his age.

*Yea saith the spirit that they may rest from their labours and the Works do follow them.*

Also of Mary Jemima daughter of the above and wife of Charles Timothy Bradbury who died May 2<sup>nd</sup> 1900 at Riversvale in the 77<sup>th</sup> year of her age

*They go from Strength to Strength*

Gay Oliver  
February 2011-02-15

Sources:

Images on the Civil War Soldiers pages:

[http://www.civilwarsoldiers.com/civilwar\\_photos/bradbury\\_family.htm](http://www.civilwarsoldiers.com/civilwar_photos/bradbury_family.htm)

*While father is away: the Civil War letters of William H. Bradbury*

By William H. Bradbury, Jennifer Cain Bohrnstedt, Kassandra R. Chaney – Google Books.

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*Carrbrook – a Peep into the Past* – The History on Your Doorstep Group

