



The Jasper Young Story

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Not very much is known about Jasper's early life. He was born in Kilmarnock in 1833, and was the eighth child of George Young and his wife, Mary Bain Young. On Jasper's birth certificate his Father is described as a "Shawl printer". Kilmarnock is not far from Paisley, so there probably was an industry there producing shawls of the same type.

The Youngs had five more children after Jasper, and with such a large family could afford few luxuries, and apparently Jasper had to take to his bed while his one and only pair of boots was being repaired. It would not have been considered "proper" to go to school barefooted! The standard of education in Scotland at that time was much higher than in England, and Jasper would have had a good grounding for his later very successful business ventures. All the same it is likely that he left school at the age of fourteen, and went into an ironmongers business in Kilmarnock belonging to his Uncle.

There is a story that he walked to London from Kilmarnock. He was possibly inspired to do this after reading an advertisement in the local paper, offering jobs to young men willing to go out to the Far East to join one of the many trading firms there. This may have been his first encounter with Edward Boustead, but as he would have been under twenty, was told to come back and apply for the job when he was older. Instead of returning to Scotland, he went to Manchester and joined the firm of "John Slagg & Co". This firm traded in "Grey cloth, and were commission agents and merchants" which no doubt Jasper felt would be useful to him later on.

He did return to Kilmarnock in 1854 as his Father was ill and soon after died. He returned again a year later just before he was about to sail out to a new life in Singapore, when his Mother also died. He was obviously very fond of his family, but felt the older ones quite capable of looking after his younger brothers and sisters, and that he would be more help seeking his fortune in the Far East.

Mr Edward Boustead had taken a liking to Jasper from the first moment he set eyes on him, so when he applied a second time for a position in his business and having reached the age of 22, he was immediately accepted. There is a copy of a letter from Jasper agreeing to

enter the firm of Boustead & Co; and expressing his hope that "his services will be such as to meet with your approbation, and to please accept my warmest thanks for your kind wishes". The writing is in a very firm "copy book" type, fashionable at that time, but showing great strength of character. Quite obviously Jasper had all the qualities needed for the job, adventuresome, physical strength and good health, and above all an acute and enquiring mind.

Edward Boustead had been one of the first of the East Indian merchants to set up business in Singapore. He had gone out as a young man of 28 to manage the enterprises of the newly formed Liverpool firm of "Robert Wise & Co". The voyage out had taken 138 days in the vessel "Hindustan" and the date was 13th March 1828. In 1831 he left Robert Wise, and set up on his own. In 1834 he was joined by Gustav Schwabe and the firm took the name of "Boustead Schwabe & Co". An Adam Sykes took over Robert Wise, but he too joined Bousteads when Robert Wise closed down in Singapore. The partnership enabled Edward to go further afield, and he spent some time in China and the Phillipines promoting trade. Very little seems to be known about his marriage except that he had one daughter called Nellie. His wife may have died in childbirth, as apparently during one of his visits to Manila, he started a liaison with a lady there, and years later, some consternation was caused in the London office, when a young man calling himself Eduarda Boustead from Manila, claimed to be Edward's son and demanding a share in his estate! As he could not prove legitimacy, he got nowhere, and returned to Manila empty handed. Later Edward left most of his fortune to his only Grand-son William Niven, who was Nellie's only child. Edward settled in England in 1851, four years before Jasper joined the firm.

When Jasper first arrived in Singapore, the decision to move the Straits Settlements from the Bengal Presidency and place it under direct charge of a Governor-General, had not materialised. This was a time of great prosperity, and all the merchants pointed to Singapore's thriving port under the free-duty policy and all that went with it. They became increasingly intolerant of the autocratic behaviour of "John Companys" governors, and the inefficiency of the Indian bureaucratic system. There was keen disappointment at the failure of the Governor-General to produce the reforms which the merchants believed he had indicated, and which they considered necessary to foster the continued development of trade in Singapore. Discontent reached a peak under Governor Blundell when the "Free Press" said "At no period in the history of the settlement have the representations and remonstrances of the European Community received so little attention". There was a spate of rumours, and serious

concern, particularly at reports that Calcutta was to send dangerous prisoners to Singapore's "OPEN SYSTEM" convict establishment, in which the prisoners were virtually their own warders. At a public meeting in which Robert Carrwood, a lawyer and Editor of the "Straits Times", was the moving spirit, it was decided to support a petition to the British Government by the Calcutta European merchants, demanding abolition of The East India Co. The Singapore meeting asked further that the "Straits Settlement's" be separated from India, and ruled direct from London. Singapore eventually became a Crown Colony in 1867.

Edward Boustead once he had settled in Clapham Common, sought out his old Friend, William Henderson, a successful draper in Liverpool. He had married while Edward was in Singapore, an old flame, a Yorkshire girl called Judith Nanson and had a large family. Much later Edward persuaded them to let their daughter Margaret come and stay in his house in London as a companion to Nellie. Margaret's family were particularly fond of her, so there was some consternation at the thought of her leaving home. But there was a reason for them deciding to let her go. Apparently some young man from a good county family had fallen in love with Margaret, but both had realised a union was impossible. Shop keepers were very much "BEYOND THE PALE" in those days, and both Margaret and her parents were sensible enough to realise this, so perhaps considered that going to London would ease things for her. She had the grace and charm that fits into any sphere, and it must have been a great thing for little Nellie to have her there. It just so happened at that time that Jasper was on his first leave home from Singapore, and had been taken into Edward Boustead's household, treated like a son, and was about to be made a junior partner. He was described as - tall and handsome, with dark curly hair, flashing brown eyes, and full of strength and vigour. He was apparently rather primitive in taste, but combined it with a "Man of the world" air, and very susceptible to feminine beauty. Anyway this canny, affectionate Scot swept Margaret off her feet. She was lovely to look at and attractive in every way, so it was a foregone conclusion that they would marry. All the same Edward was not at all sure how William and his wife would take it, so he sent Margaret back to Liverpool. However he didn't reckon with Jasper, who quickly followed and proposed.

Three years seem to have elapsed before they married in September 1863, so it is presumed Jasper returned to Singapore during this time. While he was in Liverpool Jasper had become friends with Margaret's youngest brother Isaac. At the age of 21 he went out to join a firm in Shanghai, but after two years there he joined Boustead's in Singapore. It

must have been a great comfort to Margaret to have at least one member of her own family in the strange land in which she found herself after her marriage to Jasper. Isaac was described as “clean living with a great aversion for deceitfulness or immorality in any form”.

Jasper and Margaret would have travelled out to Singapore by the new CAMEL route. This meant disembarking at Port-Said, travelling to Cairo by train, and from there by carriage along the old camel route to Suez, where one embarked on another ship to complete the journey to Singapore. This probably took about 45 days, but was a lot quicker than the long voyage round the Cape which previously had been the only way.

In the sixties there were over fifty European firms in Singapore, so obviously quite a few wives for Margaret to associate with. Later on Bousteads owned three large houses in the Tanglin district, called Balmoral, Holyrood and Abbotsford, but it is thought that the house Jasper took Margaret to, was situated at the North end of River Valley road, behind the main fareway Orchard road. All the old houses belonging to the heads of the Merchants (Tuan Besars – which literally means BIG Master) were two storied, with deep verandahs on three sides, and set in several acres of garden. These were green and colourful, with bouganvillia spread in great masses, canna beds, and many exotic shrubs and flowering trees. The lovely Tambusa trees made a park like setting, and Margaret must have been delighted at her first view of all this. One wonders how these women coped with the intense heat! There was only the PUNKAS to stir up what little air there was. These were overhead long cloths attached to a pulley and pole, and worked by some underling in the background. The long, high-necked dresses of the day must have been almost unbearable, together with the underclothes, tight stays or corsets, and stockings, which went with them. The men were not much better off, as although their trousers were made of cotton, it was still accepted that they wore a stiff collar and tie, waistcoat and coat, made of alpaca or some other wool. One can only hope that in the afternoon siesta or “Lie off” as it was called, and at night, that cool gowns of cotton were worn by both!

The European women would have got together in the mornings to compare notes and gossip. They were all waited on hand-and-foot by a regiment of servants, who ran the house and garden, and looked after any children, so they probably had too much leisure and delighted in any diversion in the way of social entertainments, dinner parties etc. Croquet and tennis were played in the time between tea and dinner when the heat of the day was less, but darkness came rapidly around 6.30. Some people walked down to “scandal point” or to the cricket club which was situated

on the padang by the esplanade and Inner Roads. Horses or Deli ponies would draw carriages so the ladies could ride in these, and there was also a great interest in sailing and most of the leading Europeans had their own boats. Boat races were held including those against the Malays in their "Kolehs". There was some rough shooting snipe and green pigeon, and for a few braver souls, still the odd tiger roaming the jungle of which there was still a big acreage on the island. Some people liked to walk in the early morning before the heat of the day, and many men stayed up late playing cards.

Marian North, a middle aged unmarried niece of Lord North, at that time was travelling the World. She was an exceptionally good artist of plants and trees, and when in Singapore she painted ardently in the gardens, and was overcome by the beauty and lushness everywhere. What she couldn't understand was that the European residents cared little for these glories around them, and lawn tennis and croquet reigned supreme and little else was thought of after business was over! Maybe this was so for the average male, but one feels that someone with Margaret's obvious perception, was certainly not immune to her surroundings.

There was little seasonal change from the hot and humid weather, and the dampness caused the heat to be more oppressive than in higher temperatures in drier climates. The mean temperature was 80°F and the highest shade temperature 93°F and the lowest 70°F, this was in February for the N.E. winds prevailed from October to April, and the S.W. from May to September. During the day one lived on the verandahs, which were large enough to have played a game of badminton in. They had no windows or doors, just a balustrade about 3ft high and otherwise open to the elements. The only protection when the wind got up and the rain beat down in all its tropical strength, were the roller blinds which were called CHICKS. These chicks were usually lined with blue canvas which cast a very attractive subdued light, which was extremely pleasant. It was a great relief to the eyes to come in from the outside into the gentle blue-green lighting that suffused the bungalows. In the evening the chicks would be raised again to let in as much air as possible, although once the oil lamps were lit you got the maximum number of bats, moths and flying cockroaches. Apart from the insects, every bungalow had a colony of pale little lizards, known as CHI-CHAKS, which was the sound they made. They were quite harmless and perfectly clean, running up the walls and across the ceiling intent on catching any insect that landed near them. The crickets would be noisy outside, and in the late evening trumpet beetles, that made an appalling noise, and sometimes the Night Jar, known to the Malays as the "TOCK-TOCK". They bet on this bird, as it varies the

amount of times it produced its call of “tock-tock”. During the rainy season the bull frogs would be busy, but one soon got used to all these noises and hardly heard them after a while. Mosquitoes were a plague, and malaria and dengi-fever attacked most people at some period. This was before the discovery that by oiling any stagnate water, they could be controlled, and later completely eliminated. It was a relief to get into bed under a mosquito net, and know one was then safe from all the innumerable pests, although even then a stray mosquito could sometimes manage to penetrate the net, and nearly drive one mad ping-pong round one’s head. There was always a little light in the room from the storm lantern which was placed each evening before retiring, outside the bedroom doors. These doors were swung on hinges with a space below and above for coolness sake, so it was possible to see sufficiently to stand up in bed, and attempt to kill the offending pests between one’s hands.

Each bedroom had its own bathroom reached by a flight of steps down to the ground floor. These were furnished with JAMPANS and a shanghai jar. The first was a simple commode, popularly known among the Europeans as a “thunder box”, while the Shanghai Jar was a huge ceramic receptacle from which you were supposed to ladle out cold water to bathe yourself. Due to evaporation through the porous clay, the water inside remained deliciously cold. The Chinese THUKANAYER (water carrier) would empty the Jampans twice a day, and when requested would also bring hot water which he placed in a small tin bath. The idea was that you soaped yourself with the hot water, and then poured the cold water over you to rinse. This, even in the heat, sometimes took a bit of a nerve, but once one had taken the plunge, it was heaven to feel really cool if only for a short time.

The indoor staff would have consisted of two or three house “Boys” – a term used regardless of their age, a cook, and the tukangayer, also one or two “amahs”, Chinese women, to do the washing and ironing and look after the babies. Outside there would be several Malay gardeners, and at least one Malay syce for the horses, as well as a Chinese gardener for all the pot plants that always adorned the covered way by the front entrance, and for decoration in the house. The Chinese servants all lived in a long separate building joined by a covered way to the main house. There would be other accommodation down by the stables, for the syces, their wives and children, and often Grand-Mothers and other relations and hangers-on. When a census was taken for an establishment of this sort, it was found that over 70 people were living in the compound!

Margaret had a sad and difficult time in many ways. She had more than one miscarriage before she finally produced a girl who was christened

Isabel, but this child died when she was just a year old. This must have been heart-breaking for Margaret and Jasper, who despite being so involved in his business, always had time for his babies who apparently he spoilt and loved very much. At last in 1868, five years after her arrival in Singapore another girl was born in October. This was Edith who was to be the eldest of their six children. Soon after her birth, news of their Father's death saddened Margaret and Isaac, but Margaret was pleased that she and Jasper were about to go home on their first leave, so she would soon be able to see the rest of her family again. They disembarked at Marseilles, as it was the custom to stay in the south of France for a while, resting after the long voyage. As it happened Margaret's eldest brother, William, was there on his honeymoon, so they met up, and also with another couple, a Mr and Mrs Cathcart Hannay, newly married, and on their way out to Singapore. For a few days the two couples stayed in the same hotel. One evening Jasper wanted to take Margaret to dine with friends of his, but she was reluctant to leave the baby alone in charge of the Amah until Mrs Hannay offered to keep an eye on her. It was strange that this encounter later lead to them all being very involved.

On arrival home, Margaret soon went up to Liverpool to be with her family. Her Mother had moved with her two daughters to the DELL, a house situated across the river and in semi-country. Margaret stayed there for some time, but then took a furnished house near by in Devonshire Park. Jasper visited her there whenever he could get away from London, but Mr Boustead was rather demanding in wanting his services, despite the fact he was meant to be on leave.

Edward Boustead who already had a large share in shipping, operating for many lines, was now taking a great interest in clipper-ship ownership, and he made sure that his Singapore partners had a fair share of the agency. This short but magnificent era of the clipper ships was believed by many to be the finest hour of the long history of sail. Jasper had shares in three clippers – built between 1863–1877. The best time for one of these ships from Hong-Kong to London, was 89 days in 1873.

During her time in Liverpool Margaret had another baby, a girl called Margaret, who was born in the rented house. This was in 1870, so when she and Jasper returned to Singapore after a year in England, they took with them the two little girls. Two years later another girl was born called Mabel.

Jasper joined the board of the Tanjong Pagar dock company and was chairman until he left Singapore for good in 1873. By this time he had been there for eighteen years, and Margaret for ten. It is fascinating to think they must have got to know William and Julia Hannay quite well

during this period. Very suddenly William died from a heart attack. He was the managing director of Martin Dyce & Co, and Jasper wrote to Edward Boustead in London explaining that the widow who was left with three small sons, was about to return home, and that he hoped that "OLD Martin" would see that the partners provided handsomely for the widow and her children. This sounds as if William Hannay was in debt to the firm, but later apparently his three sons received £5000 each, so it was probably only a debt on paper which was afterwards honoured. Jasper also wrote to Maxwell Hannay of James Findlay & Co in Glasgow, a brother-in-law of Julia Hannay's, asking him about a memorial to be erected over William's grave in Singapore, and suggesting he asked Julia what she considered a fitting memorial for her late husband. It is not certain where Julia first went after her return to England, but it seems likely that she went up to Scotland to Doon Park, near Dalbeattie, where her Mother and sister Dora had gone to live after the death of her Father who had been Minister of Tongland nearby.

Her two brothers had also died, both in India, so there was only Julia and Dora left. Dora later married John Maitland Gordon of Kenmure Castle in New Galloway, but they had no children.

Jasper must have found it sad to say goodbye to Singapore for good. Much later, one of his Grand-sons, Pat Hannay, wrote that as a boy he was terrified of him, although he had a deep regard for him, but when he was older and presumably got over his fright, he said he found him a terrific man, who rarely appeared to receive credit for his countless acts of consideration and kindness, perhaps because of his gruff manner. In his estimation Jasper was a tough, generous, thoughtful man, and as straight as a die. The respect with which he was regarded by the business community of Singapore, British, Malayan, and Chinese, was as genuine as it was wide.

Margaret, on the other hand, was obviously thankful to be back in England, and the fact that she now had three little girls, all healthy and attractive, was a great joy to her. The Suez Canal had opened in 1869, so their last two voyages had been a lot easier. They would have been accompanied by a Chinese Amah, and it was the custom for these women to help Mothers on the voyage, and then return to Singapore with another family wanting assistance. Margaret would then have employed a Scottish Nannie and nursery maid. She and Jasper set up home near Edward Boustead in Clapham, at a house called Mayfield. The London office was at 3, Lloyds Avenue, and there Jasper went daily driving over Westminster Bridge, but boasting that he never once went inside the Abbey. Occasionally one or two of the children would visit the Dell with

Margaret in the years between 1874 and 1879. Her Mother didn't approve of old Edward Boustead, and called him a wicked old man, and when her husband had died she removed the portrait of him that had hung in their former home. William has always defended his old friend, and told his wife that if it hadn't been for his generosity to them, they would have been in queer street. The business had flourished and the premises enlarged, and before William retired he had a prosperous drapery business operating under the name of William Henderson & Sons. Ultimately it was acquired by Harrods. Margaret's two older brothers who constituted the "sons" in the business were strangely unlike. Only 15 months separated them in age, but their dispositions were entirely different; the eldest William Nanson, was never strong or really up to the job. He really detested the drapery business but was given no choice, and had no hobby to relieve his boredom. He did enjoy riding and owned his own mare, Kitty. But even this ended in disaster when he fell off and broke his arm, and poor Kitty was found dead in a field, having been stoned to death by some dismissed warehouse men. He was so grieved that he never owned another horse. He married after he was thirty to a much younger girl called Emily Wheatly. John, the second brother was quite a public man in Liverpool, where he was born, worked and died. He owned a house in Grasmere for many years, and was more robust than either of his brothers. He played tennis when well over fifty, climbed Helvellyn, and drove his trap from Windermere station to Grasmere as often as he could get away from city life. He married Miss Gibbons, and they had three sons and two daughters. Issac, the youngest and Margaret's favourite, never married. He was better educated than his brothers, and through his friendship with Jasper had gone out to the Far East, and later became a partner in Bousteads. After Margaret came home from Singapore, she saw him again when he was on leave, but he did not come back for good himself until 1880. He used to send home wonderful presents of china tea, jars of ginger, and porcelain.

Jasper was obviously dedicated to his work, and there is little to indicate that he was really interested in much else except his family. This was soon enlarged by the birth of his first son Arthur, who was born in 1874. Another son, Bertram was born in 1876, and finally another girl, Alice, in 1877. They were described as charming, but with the exception of Mabel, a very robust, tom-boyish sort of family, ruled by a stern Scotch nurse and educated by governesses.

In 1879 Margaret found that once again she was expecting another child, and as she was not at all well towards the end of her time, she went up to Liverpool to be with her Mother and sisters and taking the children

with them. She had a cold, but came down to dinner one night and sewed a little dress she was making for the new baby, but feeling suddenly ill, she put the needle tidily in her work and this was not disturbed for 30 years, until her daughter Edith took it out to finish the little garment for her own child. The baby was prematurely born that night, and within a day or two Margaret died. All her six children went to see her to say goodbye for she was quite conscious but realised she was dying, and had some words with each of them, asking Edith to put some violets on her grave, and telling Maggie to be a good girl, and assuring Arthur he would get his tricycle for his birthday. Jasper had been summoned from London at the first alarm, when the coachman had been sent for the Doctor in the middle of the night. The sad interview with the children, and then her farewell to Jasper, makes one realise what a very strong and brave woman she was. Everyone was shattered by her death. The Hendersons were a naturally affectionate family, but Margaret held a place quite special in their love.

The devoted Aunts, Mary and Judith took turns to keep house for Jasper and to care for their loved nephews and nieces. One story about Arthur at that time, was after being in trouble in the nursery and going down to the drawing room, he would say "let's do a little poetry" hoping it would spin out his time there as long as possible!

Only a year after Margaret died Jasper married again. He had known Julia Hannay for some years, and after the death of her husband in Singapore, she had lived in London with her three sons and had often visited Margaret and Jasper at Clapham Park. All the same it came as a shock to the Aunts, particularly as to their dismay Julia thought it would give her more chance to win the affection of her step-children, if she disassociated them from their own Mother's family. This must have been very hard on them, not even being invited to Clapham Park. They were fond of Jasper as well as the children, and really suffered from this marriage. However after a year the separation came to an end, and Mary and Judith often visited the home again and found at least five of the children happy with their step-mother. Julia was a very capable manager of both home and children, and one of the Aunts with all her admiration of Margaret, often used to say that the Young daughters were better educated than they would have been with their own Mother.

One wonders how much Jasper and Julia looked upon their marriage as one of convenience rather than love, but there was obviously great mutual respect, and the joint family of five boys and four girls, seemed to work out very well.

Jasper and Julia were married in Glasgow, and it is possible that they spent their honeymoon touring the country-side south of there, to try to

find a suitable property in Scotland, where they could spend holidays. As Julia had been brought up in Tongland, near Kircudbright, and Jasper's home was in Kilmarnock, they obviously wanted to find somewhere in that vicinity. They finally came across the Estate of "Garroch and Carnavel" which consisted of 3,500 acres. Round the house, which was called "Ballingear", there were 150 acres of woods, and it lay three miles west of Dalry and New Galloway. It was a large mansion and had been built by a man called Grierson-Yourston in about 1845, but he died leaving his wife Emma in sole charge. She agreed to let the whole estate to Jasper for five years with the option of buying it at the end of that period. It is fascinating to imagine the move that used to take place from London to Scotland, probably only for a few months during the summer holidays and the shooting season. Apart from the nine children, there would have been Nannies, Governesses, cooks, maids, Butler and footman. They travelled by train to Dumfries, and from there took a branch line to New Galloway, where they would be met by carriages, and wagonettes for the staff and luggage. According to Jasper's youngest daughter Alice, when they arrived at the Carse bridge at the entrance to the Garroch Estate, Jasper would take the reins from the coachman Bills, and waving his hat in the air and shout "Hurrah Hurrah, we are home"! Another story she told, was that after the younger children had had high tea in the nursery, they were allowed to join the rest of the family for desert in the dining room. Still there was just time in-between, for them to race up to the Upper Loch and back over the Rob Roy hills and down through the pole wood, and then red in the face and out of breath, they would quickly change into their best clothes in order to appear in the dining room, and as the Nannies were apparently oblivious to this activity, the younger boy Bertie had to help do up the buttons at the back of her dress!

There was a permanent keeper and under keeper, as there was shooting right through the year with thousands of rabbits and the vermin to be kept down. The keepers would also be responsible for the young pheasants reared in the spring. By this time both Arthur and Bertie would be allowed out with the keepers who taught them the rudiments of handling a gun and field craft. Very likely they would only be allowed to carry a small gun, unloaded for the first year, so they could get used to handling it on getting over fences and dykes etc, and with dummy cartridges that had to be removed each time. Arthur was only eight when they first came to Garroch, and he and his brother loved the place from the start. So did Jasper, who got away from London whenever he felt he could leave the business. Gradually a small permanent staff was kept

there, so it was possible to be there at times when the whole family did not want to move from London. "Ballingear" was soon changed to "Garroch" by Julia who preferred the name, and the original old farm house of Garroch then became known as OLD GARROCH. The house stood about 400ft up from the river, and was approached by a long drive of nearly a mile, with a great many bends in it. The view down the valley to the south went as far as the distant hills beyond Castle Douglas, 18 miles away. The river Ken flowed through Dalry, and the village slightly to the East, could be seen from the house in winter. The woods behind rose up to 600ft so gave a good protection from the North. All the drive up to the house was planted with a mass of Rhododendrons and Azaleas, and a great variety of trees including some scots pine, so the setting for the house was very beautiful and in a commanding position. It was also well tucked away on a side road that ended four miles up the valley with the hill farm of "Clenrie", which at that time belonged to the Forbes of Earlston Estate. A mile or so south was the Estate of "Glenlee" then belonging to Wellward Maxwell. Slightly to the Southwest was the good heather hill of Glenlee.

A small formal sunken garden with a large pond was behind the house, and the front door was on the North side facing this, with the drive coming right up to it. Some way to the West, down the back drive was a large walled garden of almost an acre. Several gardeners were kept, and others worked in the woods, and saw-mill. There were several cottages, and two quite substantial houses. The largest and oldest, dating back to the 16th century was OLD GARROCH, and the other was "Ford House" used by the head keeper. A mile North of the house and above Old Garroch, were two artificial lochs. One of these was built to supply water for the grain mill situated by the bothy and behind the main house.

The whole family grew to love their times at Garroch, and as they grew older the eldest of Jasper's family, Edith, began to show a great affection for her step-brother Alexander – better known as Sandy. Arthur was at school at Harrow, and Bertie at Uppingham.

In 1880 Isaac came home from the East for good. He remained a bachelor and lived in chambers and spent a lot of time in his club, but he and Jasper remained firm friends and no doubt he visited Garroch as he was a keen fisherman. He eventually retired from Bousteads at the beginning of the century six years before his death. He thought the younger members of the firm should be given a chance, and as the eldest would give a lead to the other partners gradually to retire. As it happens he was not the eldest – Jasper was – but on being confronted with this by one of his sisters he replied "Jasper couldn't retire, it would kill him"!

Still, he went on keeping a small office at Leadenhall St where the firm had moved to, as he said it was handy if any of the others were away! Jasper must have taken advantage of this to go up to Scotland for short breaks, as he was becoming increasingly keen on shooting and proved to be a very good shot, as were his sons.

Isaac was endlessly good to his sisters, entertaining them in London, and even taking them up to Scotland to his fishing haunts.

Edward Boustead's daughter Nellie had married and had one son, and that boy was the Father of the actor David Niven. Apparently his Father did lessons in London with Alice, Jasper's youngest daughter. Years after that, both David and his Father stayed at Garroch. Apparently Edith's youngest son Johnnie met up with David in the last war. They were both in Scottish regiments, and they joined an outfit called the "Phantoms" whose exploits were probably unknown to the higher command!

Naturally there was quite a social life at Garroch, but nobody ventured far afield and most of the entertaining was at several big Estates nearby. One of the stories handed down by Alice, was when attending a dinner party at Glenlee Park before going on to a dance at New Galloway, the girls were waiting outside the front door in one of the carriages, when a young man who had gone back into the house to get his hat, came to them to say there was still another girl upstairs and why wasn't she with them. He had just caught a glimpse of her, but thought she was dressed in grey. The girls all held their breath before saying "But we are all here, that MUST have been the Little Grey Lady that you saw" "And who is she?" asked the young man, and the reply was that she was the resident ghost, quite harmless and usually haunting the woods between Garroch and Glenlee, but maybe she wanted to go to the dance too.

Picnics in the summer were often held, up at the loch or the larch Knowle nearby, or on the island in the loch, but sometimes an excursion was taken to Murrays Monument, which was situated on the old Edinburgh road – now The Queens Way – which was about 15 miles from Garroch, some distance in a carriage. There is a beautiful water-fall there, and in those days quite unspoilt.

The Garroch game book was started in 1882, but details were lost until 1896 from when each day's shooting was recorded giving the names of the guns etc. From these records it is obvious that Jasper – known as the Governor by his family – was a keen shot and spent a long time at Garroch shooting several days a month and often on his own. This was from August to November right up to 1906, the year before he died.

The family evidently spent Christmas and New Year in London, as his name never appears in the game book after December, nor did they ever shoot in January in his time. Also recorded in the game book is the fact that Jasper planted various woods on the estate in 1901, 1903, 1905, and 1906, and stocked the Upper Loch with Loch Leven trout in 1888. This was soon after he bought the place and his eldest son had just gone to Harrow.

Julia was a very formidable woman, loved by some and rather intimidating to others, especially the young. One rather gathers she took a hand in choosing suitable husbands for her step-daughters and not the ones they would have chosen for themselves, but this was not the case with Edith who had been in love with her step-brother Sandy for some years before she finally married him in 1898. As she was thirty by then, the delay may have been due to the fact that Sandy had joined the legal service in India, and so was probably there for some years before he could marry. On the other hand, Alice who was only twenty, married in the same year William Roper-Caldbeck, a Major in the Dublin Fusiliers who was some twenty years her senior. The other two daughters both married soon afterwards, Margaret to De Symons Barrow who was also in the army, and Mabel to T. G. McClaren in the KOSB's.

Jasper's two sons both married much later in life, as did Julia's two other sons, Cathcart and George. The girls were all married in London and by the time the family had moved from Clapham to a larger house, No. 74 Gloucester Road. Julia had a cousin known as "JU" who she apparently rescued from a convent in France, and then installed her permanently at Garroch where she occupied one of the best bed-rooms, but was seldom seen by the family and so was rather a mysterious character.

After the four girls were married, the family was somewhat scattered, Edith out in India, Alice in London where her first two children were born. Their Father had gone out to Africa soon after his marriage to fight in the Boer war. Margaret and Mabel, both being married to men in the army, were stationed with them wherever the regiments were sent. Alice's first child was a daughter, Julia, and then two boys Noël and Reginald, and later two more boys, Terry and Harry. She sometimes took them up to Garroch for holidays, and Reggie remembers being called into the conservatory to say good-bye to his step-Grand-Mother Julia, who he was slightly in awe of, to be presented with what they took to be a half crown piece – quite a decent tip in those days – only to find out in the carriage on the way to the station, that it was made of chocolate! This didn't exactly endear her to them, but to her own Grand-children she was apparently endlessly kind and generous. There is an amusing story about

her, which shows she was not a person to be trifled with. Her Father – The Rev. Dugald Stewart Williamson, was painted by Sir Henry Raeburn as a young boy. This was known as “The Schoolboy” and pictured him full length with his hand on the family bible. Before he died the Rev. Williamson went to stay with his younger daughter Dora, who was living at Kenmure Castle, New Galloway. As both his sons had died in India, and Julia was in Singapore, he gave the portrait to Dora to look after until Julia returned to this country and was able to house it, it being understood that it would always be handed over to the eldest member of the family. Dora and Julia had never got on, so when Julia was installed at Garroch and wanted the portrait Dora refused to give it to her. She felt that she was legally entitled to it, so after long delays and some procrastination on the part of Dora, Julia ordered her carriage and coachman to take her to Kenmure Castle, she was also accompanied by a footman. On arrival at the Castle, she instructed the footman to follow her, and strode into the drawing room where Dora and her husband John, were sitting either side of the fire place, above which hung the picture. She instructed the footman to take it off the wall, and without further ado returned to her carriage and drove back to Garroch. Neither Dora or John made any move to regain the portrait. The fee for the picture was said to be £25!

Julia was adored by her own Grand-children, and Pat Hannay, Edith’s eldest son, who spent most of his holidays with her when his parents were in India, wrote that he had a deep affection for her, and that he regarded her as one of the most wonderful women he had ever known. Whether Jasper felt the same about her one does not know, as by this time he had become a very reserved and rather gruff man, absorbed in his business, but also never happier than when he was out with his gun in the company of his sons, Step-sons, and friends who came to stay. As the boys were at different schools, Arthur and Bertie only met up during the holidays, but when they left school they both went into the business and spent some time in Singapore. They were great friends and were very upset when their Father died in London in 1907. His death certificate says the cause of death was “Heart disease, cirrhosis of the liver, dropsy and exhaustion”, a fairly formidable number of complaints, but perhaps not surprising as he drank claret for breakfast every day! I suppose he had a good life, certainly a very successful business one, but it seemed he never got over the death of his beloved Margaret who he adored, and this no doubt made him into the person he appeared to the outside world, very reserved and not easy to approach, but amazingly generous to anyone needing help. All the same one of his Grand-daughters, Julia, remembers being taken to see him in London by their Nannie. Julia Young was never there on

these occasions, and she and her brothers found him a very easy person. He had special things for them to play with, and being taken to see him was always looked forward to, so obviously he enjoyed the company of his Grand-children, and in particular those of his favourite daughter Alice, the youngest of his family.

Soon after his death Julia sold the London house and went to live permanently at Garroch. She seemed to be rather a lonely woman, and her Grand-daughter Heather, Edith's only daughter, remembers sensing this even as a child. Julia would talk to her and insisted on her dining with her every night when she was alone, in the enormous dining-room with a butler and footman to wait on them. Heather was about ten when her Grand-Mother died in 1915, but only two when she was taken to see Jasper at his death bed at No. 74.

Arthur eventually took over Garroch, and by this time, after spending a few years in Singapore, he had joined the Boustead office in London to follow in his Father's footsteps. Bertie also spent some years in the Far East, before joining his brother in London. In 1915 he married Olive Anley, but Arthur did not marry until after the war, when he wed Rose Paley, the widow of his great friend who had been killed soon after the beginning of hostilities.

P. R-C.



*Margaret Edith
Mabel Alice Arthur
Bertie*



*Margaret, Mabel,
Alice, Edith*

Margaret Henderson



Isaac Henderson



Mabel, Alice and Edith



Arthur Young, Aged 40