

The Jacob Dash Line in London

With special thanks to: Mr N.M. Macmillan, Supervisor, Brompton Cemetery, London; John Cooper-Hammond, Deputy Principal, The City Literary Institute, London; Raymond Ryden, Farnborough, U.K.; The Baptist Historical Society, UK; Susan J. Mills, Librarian/Archivist, Regent's Park College, Oxford, UK; and Don Jenkinson, Bradford, Ontario, Canada.

Jacob Dash (1789-1851) & Charlotte Lawson (1789-1860)

Jacob Dash moved from the Isle of Wight to London some time before his marriage on 1st May 1809 to **Charlotte Lawson** (b.17 June 1789), daughter of Andrew Lawson & Elizabeth Moody. This marriage record comes from an old and much copied transcript of entries in the [Dash Family Bible](#). I have not sighted the bible – its whereabouts are unknown – but [Pallot's Marriage Index for England: 1780-1837](#) records that the marriage took place in the Parish of Kensington, London.

I have found no record of where Jacob Dash and his family lived in London, nor have I found any entries for them in the 1841 census, except for one record of an Edmund Dash, aged 20, working as a linen draper's apprentice in Grafton St, London. However it is doubtful that this is Edward, then 21, son of Jacob Dash & Charlotte Lawson, whose occupation in later records is given as wheelwright.

Little Wild Street Baptist Chapel, London

The Little Wild Street Chapel, founded in 1691, was one of the first Baptist churches in London. Little Wild Street was in the Holborn district of London, between Lincolns Inn Fields and Covent Garden. Originally it was a working-class area of small houses and slums, but these were cleared between 1898 and 1905 when a new roadway, The Kingsway, was built. A London map of 1861 shows the chapel on the east side of Little Wild Street opposite the Great Wild Street School. Little Wild Street was later re-named Keeley Street and the Civil Aviation Authority Building, erected in the 1960s, now stands on the site where the chapel was. Sadly, there is no plaque recording that this was the site of one of the earliest and largest Baptist churches in London. The former school on the opposite side of the street, extended and re-named Keeley House, now houses The City Literary Institute. There was a graveyard at the Little Wild Street church, where Jacob Dash was buried in 1851. There is no record of what arrangements, if any, were made for re-interment of the remains of people buried there when the church vacated the site in the early 1900s.

The entries in the family bible list the births of 12 children for Jacob Dash & Charlotte Lawson, and the deaths in infancy or childhood of 8 of them. The children that survived to adulthood are shown in bold type in the following list:

James Lawson Dash, b. 27 Jan 1810

Andrew John Dash, b. 26 Jul 1812, d. 20 Sep 1813

Elizabeth Ann Dash, b. 8 Oct 1814, d. 24 Oct 1815

John Dash, b. 15 Aug 1816 (bap. 16 Aug 1816, St Ann, Blackfriars), d. 2 Aug 1832

Edward Dash, b. 3 Nov 1818 (bap. 29 Nov 1818, St Ann, Blackfriars)

Charlotte Roland Dash, b. 6 Apr 1821, d. 15 May 1827

Mary Hannah Dash, b. 26 Apr 1823

David William Dash, b. 21 Aug 1825, d. 30 Sep 1826

Benjamin Dash, b. 14 Aug 1827 (bap. 9 Sep 1827, St James, Paddington)

Jacob Lewis Dash, b. 8 Sep 1830 (bap. 3 Oct 1830, St James, Paddington), d. 12 Jul 1831

Jacob Dash, b. 14 May 1832 (bap. 16 May 1832, St James, Paddington), d. 8 Feb 1835

Charlotte Dash, b. 14 May 1832 (bap. 16 May 1832, St James, Paddington), d. 27 Sep 1832

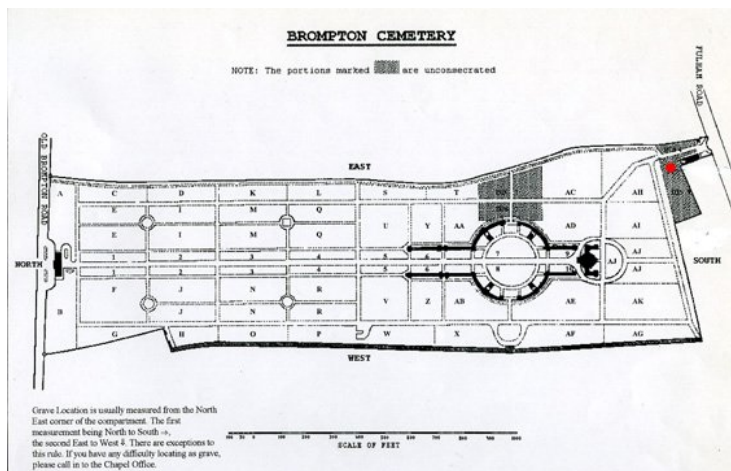
In official documents, Jacob Dash's occupation is given as labourer, carman (i.e. carrier) or brick-maker, so he may have worked in the gravel pits and brickworks that then existed in places such as Kensington and Hackney. The fact that 8 of Jacob & Charlotte's 12 children died in infancy suggests

that the family lived in crowded and unhygienic conditions. Nevertheless, despite these difficult circumstances, their son Edward showed in his adult life that he had gained a good education.

Jacob Dash and his son Edward were active members of the Baptist Church and members of the Church Committee of the [Little Wild Street Chapel](#). Their names are recorded as "Dash Senr" and "Dash Junr" in the minutes of church meetings. Edward was appointed a Church Auditor in 1851.

At the time of the census on 30 March 1851 Jacob was a patient at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London. He died there of cancer of the stomach on 26th April 1851, aged 62, and was buried at the Little Wild Street Chapel on 1st May after a service conducted by the Pastor, Rev. Christopher Woollacott. In the minutes of the Church Committee meeting of 26th May 1851 it is noted that Rev. Woollacott reported "that Brother Jacob Dash had departed this life".

Jacob's wife, Charlotte, is not listed in the 1851 census records, so her whereabouts at that time are unknown. However she was resident at 5 (or 5½) Farm Street, Kensington (Notting Hill), London, when she died on 13 January 1860, aged 70. She was buried on 18 January 1860 in Dissenters 3 Compartment (a non-consecrated section) of [Brompton Cemetery](#). Her gravestone still stood there in 1998 but there was no visible inscription on it. Behind and to the right of Charlotte's gravestone is the gravestone of Charles Brown, which is clearly inscribed.



Map of Brompton Cemetery, London
(The red spot marks the site of the grave of Charlotte Dash)



Grave of Charlotte Dash
Brompton Cemetery, London

To view marriage, death and burial records for Jacob Dash & Charlotte Lawson, [click here](#).

James Lawson Dash (1810-1834)

James Lawson Dash, the eldest child of Jacob Dash & Charlotte Lawson, was born in London on 27th January 1810. His occupation was given as bricklayer in his son's wedding registration. It was recorded in the family bible that he married in the Parish Church, Kensington, on 16th June 1833, but his wife was not named. The family bible also records that he died less than 12 months later, on 14th May 1834, aged 24.

A son, named **James Lawson Dash** after his father, was born about 1834 but it is not known if this was before or after his father died. He was born in Paddington, London, and lived there for most of his life before moving with his wife and family to nearby Kilburn in the early 1870s. Marriage and census records show his occupation as carman, carter, labourer or corn weigher. He married **Sarah Martha Arnold** on 25th December 1858 in the Parish Church, Paddington. Six children are listed in census records:

Ada Catherine Dash, b.1860, Paddington
 Alfred William Lawson Dash, b.1865, Marylebone
 Herbert Edward G. Dash b.1870, Paddington
 Albert James A Dash, b.1873, Kilburn
 Beatrice Ellen Dash, b.1875, Kilburn
 Martha Ann Dash, b.1877, Kilburn

James Lawson Dash (the son) died in London in 1887, aged 52. His wife, Sarah Martha Arnold, died in London in 1910, aged 72.

Beatrice Ellen Dash married George Charles Joseph Chapman in London in 1895, and in 1912 they emigrated with their children to Canada. In 1929 their only daughter, Beatrice Annie Chapman, married Frank Jenkinson, who had emigrated as a child with his mother and sister from England to Canada in 1913, joining the father who had emigrated on his own the previous year.

James Lawson DASH, b. 1810 London, England, d. 1834
 +Unknown (--?--), m. 1833 Kensington, London
 └ James Lawson DASH, b.c.1834 Paddington, London, d. 1887 London
 └ +Sarah Martha ARNOLD, b.c. 1838 London, m. 1858 Paddington, London, d. 1910 London
 └ ─ Ada Catherine DASH, b. 1860 Paddington, London, d. 1887 London
 └ ─ +Frederick William SHEPPARD, m. 1879 London
 └ └ Emmeline SHEPPARD, b. 1880 Hampstead, London
 └ ─ Alfred Wiliam Lawson DASH, b. 1865 Marylebone, London, d. 1915 London
 └ ─ Herbert Edward George DASH, b. 1870 Paddington, London, d. 1953 London
 └ ─ +Fanny BUCKLE, b.c. 1869 Wycombe, Bucks, m. 1896 Hazlemere, Bucks, d. 1926 London
 └ └ ─ Lawson E DASH, b.c. 1896 Marylebone, London
 └ └ ─ Hilda DASH, b.c. 1898 Hughenden, Bucks
 └ └ ─ Herbert Edward G DASH, b. 1899 London, d. 1899 London
 └ ─ Albert James Arnold DASH, b. 1873 Kilburn, London, d. 1947 Surrey, England
 └ ─ +Harriett WALKER, b.c. 1874 Stockingford, War, m. 1894 London, d. 1952 London
 └ └ ─ Annie Matilda DASH, b. 1896 Harlesden, London
 └ └ ─ Albert James A DASH, b. 1898 Willesden, London
 └ └ ─ Hart Herbert E DASH, b. 1900 Chelsea, London
 └ ─ Beatrice Ellen DASH, b. 1875 Willesden, London, d. 1920 Toronto, Canada
 └ ─ +George Charles Joseph CHAPMAN, b. 1877 London, m. 1895 London, d. 1958 Toronto, Canada
 └ └ ─ George H CHAPMAN, b. 1897 London, d. 1978, New London, USA
 └ └ ─ William F CHAPMAN, b. 1898 London
 └ └ ─ Percy C CHAPMAN, b. 1899 London, d. 1920 Mt Dennis, Canada
 └ └ ─ Reginald CHAPMAN
 └ └ ─ Beatrice Annie CHAPMAN, b. 1910 Fulham, London, d. 1986 Toronto, Canada
 └ └ ─ +Frank JENKINSON, b. 1908 Bootle, m.1929 Stewartown, Canada, d. 1968 Toronto, Canada
 └ ─ Martha Ann DASH, b. 1877 Kilburn, London
 └ ─ +Arthur William WHITTLESEY, m. 1902 London

Edward Dash (1818-1891)



Edward Dash, the 5th of 12 children of Jacob Dash & Charlotte Lawson, was born in London, on 3rd November 1818 and baptised at St Ann, Blackfriars, on 28th November 1818. Nothing is known of his childhood and schooling, but in his early adult life he demonstrated that he was highly literate and numerate, much more so than might be expected of the son of a labourer.

In official documents, such as his marriage and birth registrations of his children, and the passenger list when he emigrated to Australia, he gave his occupation as wheelwright, but census records and entries in his notebook show that in the 1840s and 1850s he also involved himself in a number of other occupations, such as bookkeeper, grocer, and confectioner. He was a committed member of the Baptist Church.

On 22nd May 1842 Edward married **Susannah Debney**, daughter of George Debney & Lydia Thompson, in the Parish Church, Kensington, London*. They had 5 children:

Edward George Dash, b. 22 March 1843, Paddington, London
David Benjamin Dash, b. 25 May 1844, Paddington, London
George John Dash, b. 05 October 1845, Saffron Hill, London, d. 22 July 1846, London
John Lawson Dash, b. 05 May 1847, Saffron Hill, London
William Lawson Dash, b. 21 Jan 1850, Clerkenwell, London

To view the marriage registration of Edward & Susannah and birth registrations of their children, [click here](#)

At the time of their marriage in 1842, Edward was living in Greyhound Road, Fulham, and Susannah was living about 3 miles away in Peel Street, Kensington. In 1843-1844 they were living in North Wharf Road, Paddington, and in 1845-1847 in Ely Court, Holborn, about half a mile from the Baptist Chapel in Little Wild Street. In 1850 they were living a short distance from Ely Court in St John Street. On census day 30th March 1851, Edward & Susannah with two of their sons, David Benjamin & John Lawson, were living in Cowcross Street, which intersects with St John Street, while their other two sons, Edward George & William Lawson, were living with Susannah's sister, Eliza Debney, at the St John Street address. The census recorder's note on the St John Street entry states, "Mr Dash keeps another shop where he and his wife reside". Edward's occupation is given as confectioner and Eliza Debney's as shopwoman, so it seems probable that both premises operated as residences and confectionery shops.

Edward DASH, b. 1818 London, d. 1891 Sydney, NSW, Australia
+Susannah DEBNEY, b.c. 1822 London, m. 1842 London, d. 1865 Ararat, Victoria, Australia
— Edward George DASH, b. 1843 London, d. 1891 Hamilton, Victoria, Australia
 +Mary Ann McLACHLAN, b.c.1844 Scotland, m. 1874 Victoria, Australia, d. 1920 Sydney
— David Benjamin DASH, b. 1844 London, d. 1918 Sydney
 +Elizabeth Maria LLOYD, b.c. 1854, m. 1871 Stawell, Victoria, Australia, d. 1898 Sydney
— George John DASH, b. 1845 London, d. 1846 London
— John Lawson DASH, b. 1847 London, d. 1933 Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
 +Emma Amelia BERRY, b. 1851 Melbourne, m. 1871 Victoria, Australia, d. 1927 Melbourne
— William Lawson DASH, b. 1850 London, d. 1924 Ballarat, Victoria, Australia
 +Margaret FERGUSON, b. Scotland, m. 1872 Lake Bolac, Victoria, Australia, d. 1910 Sydney

* In the 1891 death registration of Edward Dash it is stated that his marriage to Susannah Debney took place at the Little Wild Street Baptist Chapel, London. This entry, based on information provided by their son Ebenezer, is incorrect – the marriage took place at the Parish Church, Kensington, London. This was recorded correctly in the 1865 death registration of Susannah Debney, where Edward was the informant.

Edward Dash's Notebook. When Edward Dash emigrated to Australia in 1853 he wrote a day-by-day journal of the voyage in a small notebook. He used these notes as source material for an account he later wrote titled *Journal of a Voyage by the Ship Ann Dashwood from Liverpool to Australia, 1853*, a transcript of which is reproduced in the Emigration to Australia page of this website. In the first 13 pages of his notebook Edward recorded [financial accounts](#) for the years 1840 to 1853. These appear to be accounts paid or debts collected on behalf of a Mr H. Grover. The first entry was on 6 October 1840, when Edward was 21 years of age and unmarried, and the last dated entry was 25 April 1853, about 6 weeks before Edward left home on his journey to Australia. There are no clues in the accounts as to the nature of Mr Grover's business, but the entries in the balance sheet on Pages 12-13 suggest that the debts were owed by individuals, and that Edward was paid a fee of £1-5-0 per week for his work as bookkeeper/accountant/debt collector.

Emigration to Australia. Edward Dash applied through the London agents of Fox & Co. for a single 3rd Class berth from Liverpool to Melbourne, Australia, on the ship *Ann Dashwood*. In his notebook Edward recorded that he left home in London on Friday 3rd June 1853 and travelled by train to Sheffield where he spent the weekend with his brother, Benjamin, visiting Benjamin's fiancée, Sarah Highfield, and her parents at the nearby village of Thorpe Salvin, before continuing by train to Liverpool on Monday 6th June. On Tuesday 7th June he bought a mattress, boarded the *Ann Dashwood* and began to arrange his berth. The ship did not sail until 15th June. On Saturday 11th June Edward took out a life insurance policy on his life and sent it with his will, made in Sheffield a few days previously, leaving everything to his wife, to London. This was the only mention Edward made of his wife in his notebook or journal. After stopping *en route* for two weeks at Cape Town, where Edward and some other passengers were involved in court proceedings against the Captain for breach of contract in the supply of provisions and water, the *Ann Dashwood* arrived at Melbourne on 9th November 1853.

THE FOX LINE OF AUSTRALIAN PACKETS

ANN DASHWOOD, 873 tons register, W. BRUMWELL, Commander,
will sail May 30 for PORT PHILLIP.

GOLDFINDER, 1,380 tons register, W. FITZSIMONS, Commander,
will sail June -, for MELBOURNE.

Terms - saloon cabin 25, second ditto 19, third ditto 16 guineas.

No steerage passengers taken. Children 1 to 14 years half price, infants free.

For further particulars, plans, dietary tables, and to engage accommodation, apply to
William Barnett and Co.,

25 Philpot-lane, Fenchurch-street, London.

- *The Times*, London,
14 May 1853

Edward was joined by his wife, Susannah, and their four children, who arrived in Melbourne on the *Oracle* in September 1854.

Mary Hannah Dash (1823-1876)

Mary Hannah Dash, the 7th of 12 children of Jacob Dash & Charlotte Lawson, was born in London on 23rd April 1823. Nothing is known of her childhood or early adult life. At the time of the 1851 census she was aged 27, unmarried, a shopkeeper by occupation, and living as a lodger with a family in Chiswell Street, London.

On 16th November 1851 she married **John May**, a carpenter by trade, in the Parish Church, Kensington. During their married life they lived in the Paddington and Kensington areas of London. Six children are recorded in census records:

John May, b.1852, Paddington, London
Edward May, b.c. 1854, Paddington, London
James May, b.c. 1857, Paddington, London
Charlotte May, b.c. 1859, Pimlico, London
Elizabeth (Harriett) May, b.c. 1861, Kensington, London
Charles May, b.c. 1864, Kensington, London

Mary Hannah died at Dorking, Surrey, in 1876, aged 52.

Mary Hannah DASH, b. 26 Apr 1823 London, d. 1876 Dorking, Surrey
+John MAY, b.c. 1826 Lambourn, Berks, m. 16 Nov 1851 Kensington, London
├── John MAY, b. 20 Aug 1852 London
├── Edward MAY, b.c. 1854 London
├── +Maria (--?--), b.c. 1858 West Hartlepool, Durham, m.c. 1879, d. 1890 London
│ ├── Annie Mary MAY, b.c. 1880 London
│ ├── Edward MAY, b.c. 1884 London
│ ├── Maria MAY, b.c. 1886 London
│ └── James MAY, b.c. 1887 London
├── James MAY, b.c. 1857 London
├── Charlotte MAY, b.c. 1859 London
├── Elizabeth (Harriet) MAY, b.c. 1861 London
└── Charles MAY, b.c. 1864 London

Benjamin Dash (1827-1894)

Benjamin Dash, the 9th of 12 children of Jacob Dash & Charlotte Lawson was born in London on 14th August 1827 and baptised at St James, Paddington, on 9th September. The Family Bible records that he was a music teacher, but in census and marriage records his principal occupation was given as knife hafter (1851), carter (1853), grocer (1871), grocer & farmer (1881), and retired grocer (1889). He lived most of his adult life in the Sheffield and Worksop areas of South Yorkshire. He was living at Sheffield when his brother, Edward, paid him a farewell visit in June 1853, and together they travelled to the nearby village of Thorpe Salvin, where Edward met Benjamin's fiancée, Sarah Highfield, and her parents.

Benjamin married Sarah Highfield at St George's Church, Sheffield, on 14th August 1853. They had no children. Sarah died at Worksop in 1888, aged 59. The following year Benjamin married Hannah Scaggs (née Marsden), a 66-year-old widow and grocer of North Carlton, near Worksop. They lived

in the nearby village of Carlton in Lindrick. Benjamin died in 1894, aged 66, and Hannah died in 1904, aged 82.

Benjamin DASH, b. 1827 London, d. 1894 Worksop, Yorks
+Sarah HIGHFIELD, b.c. 1829 Thorpe Salvin, Yorks, m. 1853 Sheffield, d. 1888 Worksop
+Hannah SCAGGS (née MARSDEN), b.c. 1823, m. 1889 Worksop, d. 1904 Worksop