

WILLIAM BRERETON OF COLLINGWOOD HOUSE, DUBLIN

WILLIAM BRERETON & LUCY (WARD) BRERETON of DUBLIN

WILLIAM BRERETON¹ (c. 1822 -1901) *married Lucinda (Lucy) Ward*

This William Brereton of Collingwood House was a son of Henry Brereton, a gentleman farmer who could be one of the uncles of William Brereton of the Royal Irish Constabulary².

William settled in Dublin, became a coal factor and according to a few Dublin directories was also a cab proprietor. William was also secretary of the Magdalena Society. On 17 September 1847 he married Lucinda Ward in St. Peters Church, Dublin. Lucy and William had issue:

1) *Edward Henry Brereton*³ (21 July 1848, Dublin) *married Lucinda Mayfield*

*William Brereton*⁴, Buffalo, New York, U.S.A *married Maria Walden*

2) *Arthur Frederick Brereton* Ashford, Kent, England *married Edith May Simpson*

3) *Charles Alfred Brereton* (25 May 1860 – 30 August 1930) *married Francis Louisa Newcombe*

Frances Maria (Fanny) Brereton *married Charles Byrne, lived in the Orange Free State, Africa*⁵.

4) *Charlotte Elizabeth "Lizzie" Brereton* *married Richard Arthur Pearson Crofton. Some of the Crofton children immigrated to South Africa where their descendants remain.*

Lucy Wilhelmina Brereton (9 June 1857 – 24 July 1945) *unmarried*

Eleanor Mary (Minnie) Brereton (1 October 1862 - ?) *married Ebenezer McKenzie on 20 April 1892 in St. Peter's Church, Dublin, Ireland. They lived in Portugal and their descendants reside in Australia*

Anna Isabella Brereton (20 July 1866 – 1935) *unmarried*

1) EDWARD HENRY BRERETON (21 July 1848-1926) *married Lucinda Mayfield*

Although born in Dublin, Edward lived in London and was educated at Lady Castle Stewart's expense. She was his patroness for entering the Indian Civil Service and arranged for a tutor from Trinity College to attend him. However, as the date of the examination drew near, nerves overcame him and he ran away

¹ The source of anecdotal information: the family stories recorded by notes of Patrick Montague Smith

² A William Brereton, born 1825 was a member of the Royal Irish Constabulary. He is identified in the chapter on Breretons of Baltinglas, County Wicklow. It has been suggested that William was related to John Brereton of Dublin.

³ William's baptismal record, identifying the baptism as 29 January 1822, can be found in the church records of St. Peter's Dublin. His parents were identified as Henry and Mary Brereton. There are also baptismal records for many of his children- excluding Edward Brereton William Brereton and Frances Brereton.

⁴ The author has found a record for a William Brereton of Buffalo, New York. His death was reported in the Tonawanda News on 25 March 1907.

⁵ The Orange Free State was an independent Boer sovereign republic in southern Africa during the second half of the 19th century, and later a British colony and a province of the Union of South Africa

to sea. Lady Castle Stewart never forgave him, and when he returned home two years later she did nothing further for him. There is a picture of him at this period with a beard and little sailor's hat.

He eventually returned to London, and passed the Civil Service examination. When still struggling financially, he met seventeen year old Lucinda Mayfield the daughter of the leading Dublin jeweler of Grafton Street. They married and settled in North London and for forty years Edward served in the India Office. However, he never ceased to regret his youthful folly especially since Lady Castle Stewart's ward, Colonel Thompson, held a much more senior position which he believed could have been his. Edward and Lucinda had issue:

Arthur Frederick Brereton

Kathleen Mayfield Brereton

1.1) Evelyn/Eileen/Eveleen Brereton

William Joseph Brereton

1.2) Stanley Brereton

1.1) EILEEN BRERETON *married Michael Cockley*

Eileen performed on stage at the old Kensington Theatre (at a young age) and later at His Majesty's Theatre. She performed with Sir Herbert Tree in *A Midsummer Night's dream*, followed by *The Chocolate Soldier* and *Minstrels and Maids*. She also performed with her brother in the Beecham Opera Company.

While performing in *Minstrels and Maids*, Eileen met her future husband, Michael Coakley, a well-known dancer. They became engaged but their wedding was postponed due to the 1st World War; Michael returned to America. During the war she appeared at The Empire, Leicester Square in, *A Mixed Grill* with Jack Buchanan. After the war she sailed to America to marry her fiancé.

In the 1970's she was widowed and living in Freeport, Long Island.

1.2) STANLEY BRERETON *married Clarice Tagstaff*

Stanley became an actor. He and Leslie Henson started as boys in the Isle of Wight, UK in the *Shanklin and Sandown* concert parties. In 1915, they went London, England to be interviewed for a part in, *To-Night's the Night*. Leslie received the part in London and Stanley went on tour.

Stanley later played the lead role of Archie Pitt, opposite Gracie Fields in, *The Show's the Thing*, at the Lyceum and later on tour.

He married Clarice Tagstaff. Stanley died at Buckingham, England in 1939.

2) ARTHUR FREDERICK BRERETON *married Edith Simpson of Somerset, England*

Arthur like many of his family had a good voice and sang solos in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin. He married a Quaker, Edith Simpson of Somerset, and joined the Society of Friends. They had a son

Russell William Brereton of Eastcote, Middlesex, England

3) CHARLES FREDERICK BRERETON (25 May 1860- 30 August 1930) *married Frances Louisa Newcombe (great grandfather of Vanessa Ryan)*

Charles was born in Ranelagh, Dublin later immigrating to South Africa where he met his future wife Frances Louise Newcombe. They were married on 22 April 1887.

Charles was a hotel proprietor and lived in Grahamstown and Jeffreys Bay, Eastern Cape South Africa.

Charles and Frances had issue:

Percival William Newcombe Brereton born 10 May 1890

Kathleen Lucy Ward Brereton born 7 December 1892

Eileen Frances Rachel Brereton born 26 October 1894

3.1) Maxwell Charles Brereton born 27 January 1897 (Vanessas grandfather)

Arthur Frederick "Bobby" Brereton born 13 October 1900

Alan Robert Brereton born 25 May 1905



3.1) MAXWELL CHARLES BRERETON (born 27 January 1897 - ?)

Maxwell had a son Dr. David Brereton

4) ELIZABETH BRERETON *married Richard Arthur Pearson Crofton*

Elizabeth married Richard Arthur Pearson Crofton in 1880 and lived in Ireland where she attended vice regal receptions.

The story is told that once on a very special occasion when a royal Duke and Duchess were to be present, she did not receive the expected invitation. Undaunted, she presented herself at Dublin Castle and when she was asked for her invitation card she drew herself up saying *I am Mrs. Richard Crofton* and flounced past him to join the throng.