

## A Year in the Life of the Sauls – 1881

*The Sole Society is a family history organisation for all those with a family name of Sole or similar - including Saul. The following extract from the society journal is the fourth and final instalment in a series of articles detailing interesting events that occurred in the lives of Saul ancestors in 1881, as reported in the newspapers.*

*This extract about the Rev. William Saul, to be published in April 2021 is reproduced here by kind permission of the editor, Rosemary Bailey.*

A report in the *Carlisle Journal* on 9<sup>th</sup> December 1881 stated that:

*The Reverend W Saul, who had laboured in the Carlisle station of the Primitive Methodist Connexion several years beyond the usual term, has accepted an invitation in Newcastle and will reside at Blaydon-on-Tyne, it being intended to form Blaydon with several places now connected to Shotley Bridge and Stanley stations into an independent station, in harmony with a plan proposed by Mr Saul when in charge of the Shotley station.*

Checking who this was on the 1881 census I found he was William Saul residing at 45 London Road, Botchergate, Cumberland, aged 53 years, a Primitive Methodist Minister of Cecil Street Chapel, and born Doncaster, Yorkshire. His parents were Michael Saul and Margaret (nee Murgatroyde) and William was the second born of eleven known children. Michael was the son of James Saul and Anne Cawood and they are the earliest generation that we know of. They were Catholic but the earlier Catholic registers didn't record parents names, just the names of the godparents. We have recorded six children of James and Anne but as one child was named 'Joannes Septimus' (John Seventh) we must be missing one.

His wife was named Margaret and there were two resident daughters Anne Elizabeth (26) and Eva Elizabeth (20). Researching further I found a website for the Primitive Methodists and this contained a wealth of information about past Ministers including considerable genealogical information on William. He had been born on 1<sup>st</sup> October 1827 at Norton, near Doncaster to parents Michael and Margaret Saul. I was then able to find William on one of our Yorkshire charts. The biography stated that William had married three times. Firstly to Mary Wadsworth in late 1853 and to whom a daughter Ann Elizabeth had been born in 1854. Sadly Mary died in 1855. William remarried in 1857 to Esther Thornborrow and they had four children (the biography incorrectly states three). Esther died in 1864 and William married for the third time in 1869 to Margaret Brandth (clearly the Margaret on the 1881 census but not the mother of the two daughters). William died on 28<sup>th</sup> March 1889 at his home in St Mary's Road, Doncaster. The biography also gave information of what became of the children so all in all a lot of information here that I did not previously have.

The list of circuits in which William served is quite numerous so he had a very roving lifestyle. He spent a few years in the Channel Islands and it was there that two of his children were born. The biography was a very useful find and all stemmed from a small newspaper article.

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