

LUCY'S CASKET

By Barbara Bender ⁱ

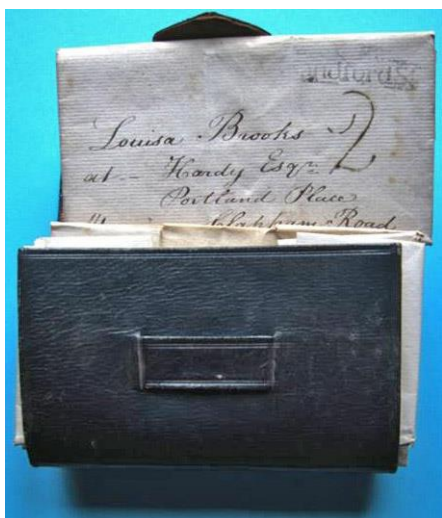
It's a recurrent daydream – to find an old trunk full of letters and photographs. In the small village of Branscombe in East Devon, where, for many years, the community oral history group has recorded peoples' memories, worked the archives, walked the footpaths, and put on annual exhibitions, we repeat, over and over, until people are bored with hearing us - : 'Don't throw things away; check your loft; put names on your pictures. You never know what's going to be important.'

In the summer of 2010 we were shown some fine photograph albums. Unusually, they had been meticulously annotated, first by someone called A.G. Tansley and then by his daughter, Margaret Tomlinson. There were portraits, wedding receptions on the lawn of the big house at Hazelwood dated 1903 and 1911, tents set up on the seashore, children with prawning nets. We were given permission to scan them. Then Margaret Tomlinson's grandson, Sam, rang. 'You'll be horrified,' he said, 'I've been up in the loft. There are three trunks full of letters and photos and other stuff. Come and look.' Not horrified – amazed, delighted, somewhat trepidatious.

There were two black tin trunks with A.G. TANSLEY painted on them in white lettering. The third was probably a slightly newer trunk with wooden ribs. They were full to the brim with apparently unsorted letters. It became clear that for the most part they belonged to A.G.'s mother, Amelia Tansley, a lady who kept every scrap of paper – letters, notes, invitations, programmes, tickets, photographs etc. etc. For the most part these dated to the second half of the nineteenth century. But among these items were two caches of earlier letters and memorabilia, and it is their story that I want to recount.

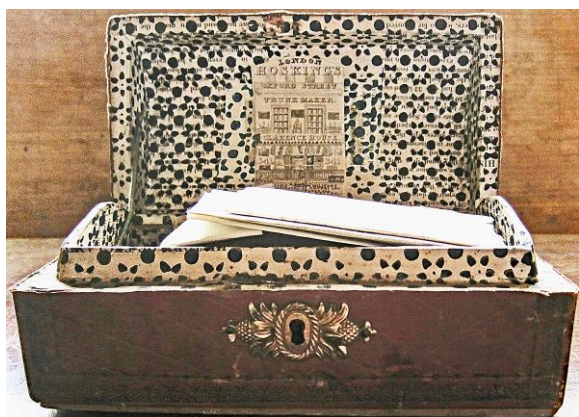
THE CASKET

In the bottom of one of the trunks were two water colour paintings. They were copies of classical pictures and one of them was signed *S. Tansley, 1806*. There was also a small black leather wallet containing seven letters. These were written



before envelopes were invented. The stiff watermarked paper was folded into small oblongs, closed with a blob of sealing wax, and then addressed. They were posted and franked. They were written, with one exception, by S. Tansley to Louisa Brooks during 1831 and 1832. They were letters of courtship, and when we first found them, we had no idea who these people were, or where they fitted in with the later correspondence. Could the S. Tansley of 1806

be the same as the S. Tansley of 1831?



Some time after we had started sorting through the trunks, another member of the family gave us a small casket that had, at some point, been removed from the collection.ⁱⁱ It was made of cheap imitation leather lined with newspaper with a design printed over it. It contained ten letters, similar to those in

the small black wallet. Below the letters, at the bottom of the casket, was a small silver pen and pencil, a little double magnifying glass, a silver thimble, and a tiny silver snuff box shaped like a book. There was also a crocheted purse just large



enough to hold a silver medal marked 'William IV & Queen Adelaide crowned Sep 1831', ten small silver four-penny pieces dated 1836 and 1837, and one bent and very worn silver coin dated 1817.

There was also a small box containing three gold rings to fit someone with small fingers. One was a plain thin wedding ring, another was set with small turquoise stones, and the third was a tiny oblong keepsake ring with a morsel of pale plaited hair (see page 9). There was also a gold pin with an inset amber stone. Finally – a bit of a shock – another small cardboard box contained a partial front



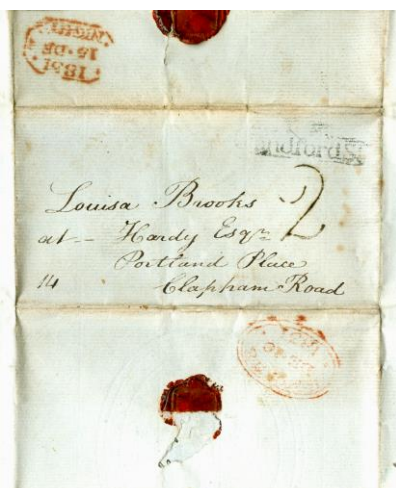
upper denture. The pink gum had decayed but the shaft to anchor it to the jawbone was still intact and the teeth were small and white.

In all, the black wallet and the casket contained seventeen letters, a doctor's bill, a prescription, and a recipe for calf's head soup. They covered a short period of time – just seven years, from 1831 to 1838 - plus one later letter, dated 1845.

Reading the letters, one can begin to conjure up the lives of a small lower middle class family living in London in the 1830s. What follows is based almost entirely on the letters and objects, except when, towards the end, it quotes from a book entitled *The Working Men's College 1854 – 1904*.ⁱⁱⁱ

COURTSHIP

Samuel Tansley – who was never called Samuel or Sam, even by his wife, but always Tansley or Mr Tansley – ran a small catering business, a 'ball and rout' business - at 11 Dorset Street off Baker Street in London.^{iv} He lived above the shop. Having inherited the business from his father in 1830, he felt, aged forty, that it was time to marry.^v So the young S.Tansley who signed the picture in 1806 was indeed the getting on for middle age S.Tansley who signed the letters of 1831.



We do not know how or when Samuel Tansley met Louisa Brooks – whom he always called Lucy. By the time of the first letter they had exchanged kisses. Lucy had come to London from Trowse Newton near Norwich where her father was the village wheelwright. She, like Samuel, could read and write, but her spelling was less predictable. In 1831 she was about 23 years old and was in

service with a Mr Hardy of 14 Portland Place, Clapham.^{vi} She and Samuel were 'walking out'. Sometimes she came over to Dorset Street, more often he walked to Clapham. They could only meet on Sundays.

Nov. 10. 1831
My Dearest Lucy,
I shall be glad to see you in Dorset St. on Sunday evening, according to your arrangement and likewise your friend, if you are quite sure that calling for her and waiting 'till she gets ready, will not hinder you too long, as you will have barely time to come, and go, and be a little while with us, and besides if she is with you now am I to get my dozen kisses, for you know you don't like to kiss before company, but as you are a good girl, I shall leave it to your own discretion whether to bring her now or stop 'till some day when you have longer time to stop, only mind not to be any later than you can help as you have some distance to go beyond Dorset Street
turn over

The first letter was dated 10 November 1831. Samuel was less than happy that Lucy intended to bring a lady friend to their rendezvous:

I shall be glad to see you in Dorset St on Sunday evening according to your arrangement and likewise your friend, if you are quite sure that calling for

her and waiting 'till she gets ready, will not hinder you too long, as you will have barely have time to come, and go, and be a little while with us, and besides if she is with you how am I to get my dozen kisses, for you know you don't like to kiss before company, but as you are a good girl, I shall leave it to your own discretion whether (sic) to bring her now or stop 'till some day when you have longer time to stop ...

It seems that Samuel and Lucy spend some time courting out of doors:

I hope you got no cold being in the damp so long last Sunday, and mind and dress yourself up warm next Sunday believe me my darling girl,

Yours Truly.

S. Tansley

P.S. remember you promised to lend me the book you were speaking of

In the second letter, written on 15 December 1831, Tansley is worried because Lucy has failed to keep her Sunday appointment with him -

send as long a letter as you can find time to write without stopping to consider how to express yourself in a fine manner but say what comes first to your mind as it occurs to you, as any thing written by my dear girl gives me pleasure to read, and the more natural it is express'd the more likely it is to come from the heart, you know you can ask me in writing some of those many questions which you said you meant to ask and had forgot, or any thing which you don't like to say you can write and I will answer all when I see you again.

He is, he says,

almost starving for want of kisses

and concludes,

I expect one twice as long in return from my darling. Pray accept my kindest fondest love and beleive (sic) me my dear girl

yours most truly,

S. Tansley

The next one (30 December) changes the place of rendezvous and hopes her Christmas went well, and the next, 23 February 1832, arranges another meeting. The fifth is dated 29 February. In it he mentions how he gets from Baker Street to Clapham and how long it takes. He has become a little more forward – instead of walking up and down outside her house, he will ring the bell if necessary, and perhaps step over the threshold!

I shall ... leave home about five o'clock and go my usual road through Stanhope Street and Stanhope Gate – High (sic) Park and if I do not meet you I shall take the liberty to touch your bell about half past 6 oclock.

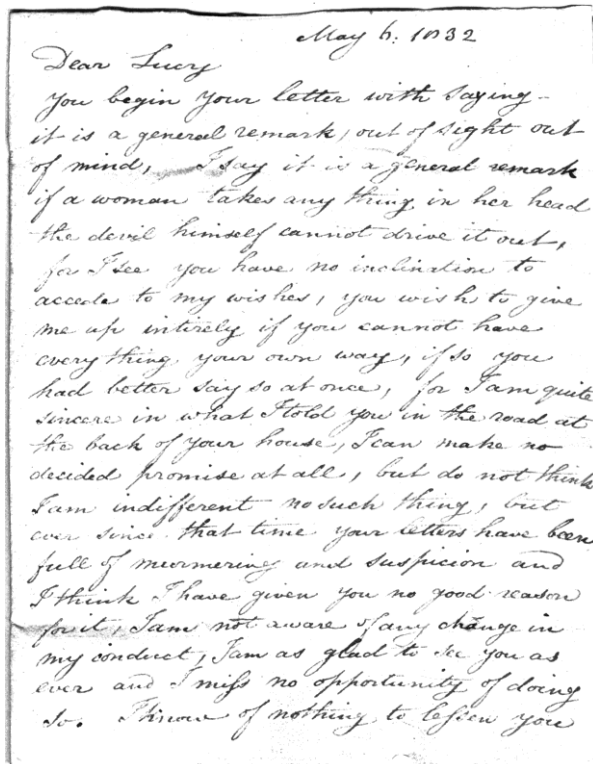
However, he realises that, even though it is Sunday she may not be free:

You are not mistress of your own time. I cannot expect that you can always meet my wishes, I by no means wish you to

inconvenience or embarras (sic) yourself to please me, pray let me know either by post or when you see me at your gate

He ends in fine style:

... the clock is striking one while I am writing and I have got a violent pain in the face, so good night or good morning which you please but sick or well, night or day, believe me ever yours,



By the sixth letter – already 28 February - Lucy seems to have become impatient and Tansley is not pleased. She has apparently said something about 'out of sight out of mind' and he replies:

if a woman takes any thing in her head the devil himself cannot drive it out.

He insists that he is - quite sincere in what I told you in the road at the back of your house, I can make no decided promise at all,

but do not think I am indifferent no such thing, but ever since that time your letters have been full of murmering [sic] and suspicion.

I am not aware of any change in my conduct, I am as glad to see you as ever and I miss no opportunity of doing so. I know of nothing to lessen you in my estimation except your wilfulness and that is in your own power to mend therefore don't be so cross there's a dear.

Another few months go by, and it is now November 1832, and Lucy, it seems, is still 'murmering'. By the time of the eighth letter, April 1833, Lucy has moved, she is now living at Mr Nelson's house, 55 Cumberland Market (near Regents Park).^{vii} Still nothing much seems to have happened.

A BABY AND A MARRIAGE

There's a gap, and a year goes by. We may suspect that Lucy had moved in with Samuel, but they have not yet married. In April 1834, Lucy is away visiting her parents near Norwich. Samuel addresses his letter to 'Miss Brooks at Mr J. Brooks's Wheelwright, Trowse Newton, near Norwich.' He writes –

With respect to your return I must quote my old saying "do as you think proper" if you find the country do you a great deal of good and you are getting fat it would be a pity to mind a week or two, but if you think you would do as well in London the sooner you return the better as I cannot do anything till you come, suppose you stop another week, and if you could contrive to come in on Sunday I could meet you at the coach office, or on Saturday night after shop is shut and then we should have all Sunday together ...

Mr Tansley

To Mrs. Williams & Thomas Surgeons &c.

1834.

June 11	Linniment	Mrs	2-6
Sep 15	Attendance on Mrs Tansley		3-3-0
16	Painkiller		1-6
17	Mixture		3-6
18	Pills		1-6
18	Mixture & Pills		6-6
19	"	"	4-6
20	"	"	4-6
	Painkiller		1-6
21	Mixture		3-6
22	"		3-6
	"		3-6
23	Mixture		3-6
24	"		3-6
25	" & Pills		4-6
26	"	"	4-6
27	"	"	4-6
28	"	"	4-6
29	"	"	4-6
Oct 1	"	"	4-6
2	"	"	4-6
3	"	"	4-6
4	"	"	4-6
5	"	"	4-6
6	"	"	4-6
7	"	"	4-6
10	Mixture	Baby	3-6
10	Linniment	Mrs	2-6
16	Mixture	Baby	3-6
23	Powder		1-6
24	"		1-6
25	"		1-6
	Cairns Fom		8/12-6

Nov

The next 'letter' is in fact a doctor's bill and things become clearer. Mr Stocker lists his fees starting with 'liniments' on June 11 1834, i.e. two months after Lucy's visit to her parents. Then, Sep 15, there is 'attendance on Mrs Tansley'. 'Attendance' costs £3.3.0 which is quite a lot of money and it seems reasonable to surmise that 'attendance' means confinement and that, in fact, baby Joseph has been born. Between September 16 through to December 22 there

are draughts, mixtures, baby mixtures, liniments, powder, and a vaccination (which costs 10s 6d). In all the bill, which Samuel pays nearly a year later, comes to £9 11s 6d.

Working back from the doctor's entries, Lucy would have been about three months' pregnant when she visited her parents. And between the visit and the confinement, Samuel and Lucy have got married. Samuel puts the thin gold ring on her finger on April 19th at the fine church of St Giles in the Field. ^{viii}

GETTING BY & GETTING ON

Two and a half years go by before the next two letters are written. It's now March 1837 and this time the letters are written by Lucy. One is for her parents, the other for her sister, all living near Norwich. It is clear from the postscript that she had thought that her brother would take the letters from London to Norwich, but John had failed to materialise and so – fortunately for us - they were never delivered.

Dear Mother you will see that I wished to send these letters and the few old things for Maria by John but his kindness did not reach so far as Dorset Street ^{ix}

21836 a 7
Dear Father and Mother
I happily embrace the opportunity of writing a few lines to you and my Dear boy hoping to meet you off well as it dears us about this time thank God for it. I have little to say just now but expect to hear much in return I hope you will write me a long letter about the child and your selves how you have been all this long cold winter and tell me how he gets on he is now past his half year as Mr Tansley or my self will come early in August to fetch him home. unless Mr Mincks to bring him up I should be so happy to see you here a little while but that you will let me know before the time is expired. his Father sends him a look and I send him a ball to play balls with his granddaddy but I hope he will not break your windows Mother, nor get the half past twof the clock. I long to see him and to hear him talk and if he can speak please let him leave his letters I hope My Dear Mother

It becomes clear that Lucy has had another baby, George. She is also helping her husband Samuel in the business and one way of coping has been to send the older child, Joseph, to stay with her parents. She asks fondly after him:

I happily embrace the opportunity of writing a few lines to you and my Dear boy ... I have little to say just now but expect to hear much in return I hope you will write

me a long letter about the child and your selves how you have been all this long cold winter and tell me how it gets on he is now past his half year as Mr Tansley or myself will come early in august to fetch him home unless my Dear Father and you can make up your minds to bring him up

She goes on:

His father sends him a book and I send him a ball to play balls with his grandpapa but I hope he will not break your windows Mother, nor yet the half past two /the clock/ (sic) I long to hear him talk and if he can speak plain let him learn his Letters

It seems that the little boy has already spent six months with her parents - so he probably went up to Norwich in October 1836 when he was just two. Lucy wants him to return to London in August, which means that he'll then have been away for about ten months. But Lucy says that if her mother's health is poorly she'd prefer him to come home rather than 'go any ware (sic) else'. She sends money for Joseph's keep -

I have sent you Josephs mony Mother, and for Father I send ten shillings all I can spare now

Times, she says, are difficult -

I assure you that trade has been very bad indeed this winter in London and still remains so, it has made 70 pound difference in our Books since Christmas less than Last year

Lucy has been missing her parents, and she makes a touching request -



A little bit of yours and fathers hair to put in a ring or Broach (sic) to remember you and as well as your pictures which I have got in gilt frames and shall always keep, perhaps you will give John a Lock to bring for me don't mind its being white it will look the more honourable and since nature has been so odd and unkind as to

separate us for Life we will have each other in mind as much as possible (sic)

Though the letter with this request never reached her parents, it seems likely that Lucy repeated the request and that her mother obliged. The little plait of hair in the keepsake ring in the box at the bottom of the casket are probably her parents' 'honourable' white locks.

Lucy ends with a quick mention of the new baby -

my Dear boy George grows a fine fellow and we are all quite well

The second letter from Lucy is to her sister Harriet Carr. Times may be hard, but perhaps she and Samuel are not doing too badly for Samuel has taken on Harriet's young son John as an apprentice. Lucy writes to reassure her sister and perhaps to answer some criticism that has been voiced. He is, she says,

A very good boy, and takes to the Business very well and Mr Tansley is very partial (sic) to him, and I believe John is equally the same to Mr T for nothing can be done without his Masters (sic) knowledge and consent

She goes on to describe how the two of them tease her -

You know Harriott how Tansley always plague me in joking, and indeed I am ten times worse off now then ever for John gives him a Lift every now and then and so between them I have a pretty Life in that respond ...

Young John is being well looked after -

Ever since he has been here I have got a bed room for him and a good bed and he live as we do in every thing and his cloths (sic) are always sent to the wash with ours, and the weeks pass on rapidly and although his wages may appear little he has bought a very pretty new hat and got his shoes well mended and always with a little mony (sic) in his pocket, and more then that, a soverign (sic) in the Savings Bank.(through our persuasion) and he very often gets money at the houses we serve and something (sic) drink as well.

Lucy then adopts a slightly hectoring tone -

... and always a good nights rest, but to be sure he has a days work to do first which he sees by this time must be done in London, and which to us all, in good health should be thaught (sic) a pleasure reather (sic) than a pain ...

Allow me say that if all Lads at his age ware as well situated as he is many a mother would be happier then they now are ... but one thing for John's sake, I wish he had a better Education, the wont of wich (sic) may keep him back in Life but it may not

These letters are full of life and give rare details of how a small lower middle class family, by boxing and coxing and working very hard, might gradually improve itself. The importance of relationships between town and country is very clear – young children being looked after by their country grandparents, older children arriving to work as apprentices, and money being sent to the country by those doing reasonably well in the town.

The next two letters come four months later. It's now July 1837 and this time Harriet is writing back to Lucy. She's sending her young daughter – also Harriet - to town for a visit, or perhaps to help Lucy. Young Harriet is already in service,

Dear sister

Harriot is coming at last to see you i (sic) suppose you began to think she was not coming as she have been so long about it but i (sic) hope you will excuse her as the person she is with could not spare her before

Harriet hopes that either Lucy or young John will be at the Bull in Highgate on Sunday night -

as she will be their (sic) by the Coatch (sic) that you and i went Down by when you came to Norwich

Meanwhile, in Norfolk, Harriet has been helping look after Lucy's little boy. There are some vivid descriptions -

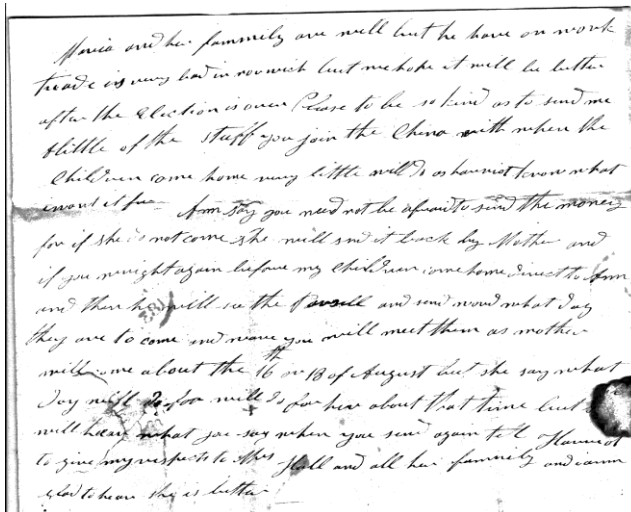
I never see such a little nip in my life as he is he is very well and grone (sic) very fast ...

Your dear little boy and sister Jenny is now come ... he is now calling his grandmother Poor old soul as he often do and to hear him talk you would be suprised (sic)

In her second, somewhat flustered letter, it becomes clear that Harriet and Lucy's mother wants to bring young Joseph back to London. Another (probable) sister Ann would like to come but has a problem with her bad-tempered husband William. A plot is being hatched whereby Lucy is to send a sovereign to Ann for the journey, even though Ann has already saved up the money and will repay it. Harriet spells the devious plot out several times -

but not think she want you to give to her as she have got the money by her but she think if you do so he will be more likely to let her come and if she do not come she will send it back by Mother or pay you herself when she come but not let him know

Interestingly, and unusually, there's a touch of politics:



... Maria and her family are well but he have no work trade is very bad in norwich but we hope it will be better after the election is over. Please be so kind as to send me a little of the stuff you join the china with ...

... Maria and her family are well but he have no work trade is very bad in norwich but we hope it will be better after the election is over. Please be so kind as to send me a little of the stuff you join the china with ...

One way or another, Joseph is safely returned to London. Six months later, a couple more letters are sent to Lucy. One from Ann James,^x dated January 1838, makes it clear that Lucy's second little boy, George, has now gone to stay in Norfolk. Ann is recommending a servant, who is on her way to London and should be fetched from the Boar and Castle in Oxford Street on the night of Monday 15th.

The second is from the servant-to-be, Martha Jones. She appears to be a person who has gone down in the world. She starts –

My Good Mrs Tansley

I trust you will not disappoint me respecting your situation – for I am numbering the days that must pass before I find myself in your little kitchen - believe me I am promising myself to be very happy in your situation - no doubt I shall soon fall into your ways - and you must not let the thought enter your mind that I shall feel above this and not willing to do the other thing - pray do away with such a feeling - I will prove to you a good servant and perhaps in time a little friend - pray tell Mr Tansley that I care but little about sallary (sic) common comforts is now my study – and that I shall find with you I think -

The letter continues -

you well know my situation in life - and in disposition - I think much like yourselves - . Save out of a trifle - respecting your little son - you can have no doubt but I respect him - then the little invisible will bring trouble with it but time will tell which will prove the best nurse -

This paragraph is rather obscure, but nonetheless ‘the little invisible’ surely means that Lucy is pregnant again. It seems that whilst Martha has gone down in the world, Lucy, who only six years earlier had been in service, is on her way up and about to have a maid!

SHORT LIVES

All seems to be going well – business and family are thriving. But then the letters stop. Our first assumption was that, for whatever reason, later ones had gone missing. But, in fact, something very much sadder had happened. Early in 1838, presumably shortly after Martha had arrived, Lucy died. We don’t know why, but we may guess that she died in childbirth and that the baby did not survive. There are, unfortunately, no ‘lieing in’, or ‘laying out’ accounts.



It seems likely that the casket belonged to Lucy, and that Samuel placed in it all the personal objects that belonged to her. Things that were precious to her, and to him - the letters, the three gold rings including the wedding ring and the keepsake ring with the plait of pale hair, the

double magnifying glass (perhaps Lucy was short sighted), the crocheted purse filled with small coins. Lucy and Samuel had just started courting at the time of William IV's coronation – perhaps the silver medal marked 'William IV & Queen Adelaide crowned Sep 1831' was his present? Small worn silver coins were often bent as love tokens – the one in the purse dates to 1817 and was probably a love token given one to the other. And perhaps the little silver snuff box shaped like a book was something Lucy had given to Samuel? And, of course, most personal of all, there were Lucy's upper dentures. There's no way of knowing when they were made for her, but a well-made denture must have been something of a status symbol and a sign that Samuel and Lucy were beginning to go up in the world.

Joseph was four, and George just two when she died. Samuel soldiered on, looked after the boys, and never re-married. Nine years later his first born son, Joseph, died. He was only thirteen. Eleven year old George had to leave school.

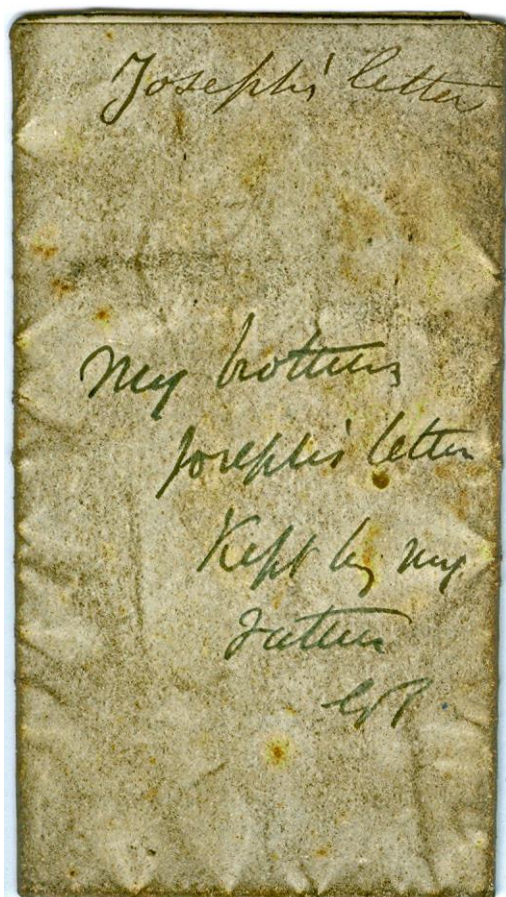
How do we know these things? Because George, having left school so young, joined the Working Men's College when he was nineteen. He went on to successfully expand his father's catering business, but retained his connection with the College and taught there for many years. In an account of the first fifty years of the College, he figures prominently. Here is what is said about his childhood -

His mother, a Norfolk woman, died when he was about two years old, leaving two boys, of whom George was the younger. Thus he never knew a mother's care ... The father was a capable hard-working man ... of careful and simple habits he brought up his children on the same lines. He worked all week, and on Sundays used to take his boys long walks into the country ...^{xi}

The account adds –

George was little more than eleven when his schooldays came to an end, and he was taken into his father's shop. His brother, who had been his constant companion, had by this time died at the age of thirteen; and he was left alone with his father ...

There's one more letter in the casket - a formal school letter penned by Joseph two years before he died. Mr Blake, the school-master, had obviously dictated it to the class and had made no allowance for Joseph being motherless.



... I have, my dear Parents, to add, that I trust the progress I have made in my various scholastic duties will meet with your approbation, and to assure you that I shall ever feel grateful for the opportunity you afford me for improvement, and for the many indulgences I experience; trusting I shall be prompted by this conviction, to increased exertions I now, my dear Parents, conclude by wishing you many happy returns of the present joyous season,

And believe me

to remain your dutiful

And affectionate Son
Joseph
TansleyAcademy
Wyndham St

The letter has been folded and the outside is dirty and worn. Written in pencil, on the outside, is -

My brother
Joseph's letter
kept by my
father
GT

GT - George Tansley - married Amelia Lawrence. Their son was Sir Arthur Tansley (1871 – 1955), founder of plant ecology and owner of the tin trunks found in the loft at Branscombe. ^{xii}

Such fragile letters, such fragile lives – illness, infant mortality, death in childbirth. And yet these letters, a hundred and eighty years old, are so immediate, intimate, sometimes even funny. In the background are the hubbub and difficulties of an industrialising metropolis; in the foreground a box full of stories and objects relating to real people, quite recognizable even after five generations, talking and quarrelling, getting by, getting on, knitting together all the resources and social networks at their disposal.

ⁱ This article was published in *Metropolitan, The Journal of the London Westminster and Middlesex Family History Society* in their issues of December 2017, March and June 2018. It's been very slightly emended for publication on the Branscombe Project website. For the article I used my professional (maiden) name, Barbara Bender. In the context of the Branscombe Project I write under my married name, Barbara Farquharson.

ⁱⁱ This casket had, at some point, been taken out of one of the trunks and had been in the possession of Margaret Tomlinson's daughter, Anna. Anna's husband, Peter Dickens, kindly handed them to us to put with the rest of the material that we were cataloguing. The contents of the casket were all of a piece except for a small box with a resin brooch in it, probably made by a child, perhaps in the 1950s or later.

ⁱⁱⁱ Rev. J. Llewelyn Davies, ed. *The Working Men's College 1854-1904*, London: Macmillan & Co.

^{iv} The street still exists, but the earlier houses have been replaced.

^v Whilst putting together a first draft of this paper, Elizabeth Tansley made contact. Although her husband Allan was not directly related to our Tansleys, she had collected invaluable data which she very kindly sent on. Thus we discover that on his

death in 1830 Samuel's father, Joseph, had two premises, one at 4 Hill Street, Regents Park and the other, from which the business was being carried out, at 11 Dorset Street. We also find that in 1801 he had been declared bankrupt. After Joseph's death, his daughter Mary retained a share in the Dorset Street business but this was 'dissolved by mutual consent' in April 1834. These details tie in neatly with the story the letters tell – shortly after his father's death, and having inherited the business, Samuel begins his courtship. At exactly the time that he marries Louisa, his sister gives up her share in the business.

^{vi} Portland Place seems to have disappeared, but there is a Portland Grove in Clapham.

^{vii} An interesting place to live. Close to the Nash terraces, the large square had only just been built. It was intended to be a hay market, but was never particularly successful.

^{viii} Elizabeth Tansley kindly provided information on the date and place of Samuel and Louisa's marriage.

^{ix} Given that Lucy wrote a ps to both letters, she must have thought that they were going to be delivered by some other means. But they weren't, and so she kept them.

^x Ann James seems to be Lucy's sister. She writes a rather good hand and it looks as though she has married up. But is Mr James the bad-tempered William, and is 'poor Ann' the same person as Ann James?

^{xi} See footnote iv, 131-132.

^{xii} Peter Ayres, *Shaping Ecology: The Life of Arthur Tansley*, Wiley-Blackwell (2012). A more general account of the contents of the three trunks was in a talk given by Barbara Farquharson posted on the Branscombe Project website.