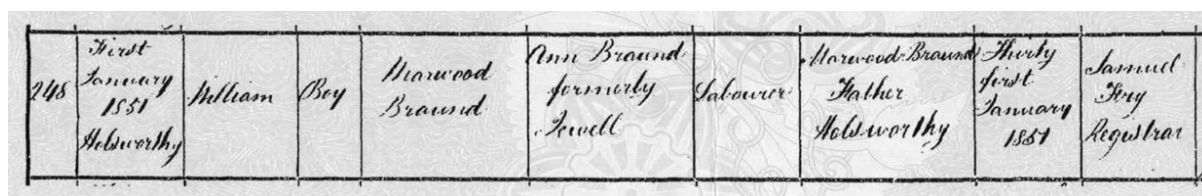


William Braund of Holsworthy

Branch 1

Michael Braund

William **Braund** (branch 1) was born in Holsworthy 21 January, 1851, the second child of Marwood (a labourer) and Ann née **Jewell**.

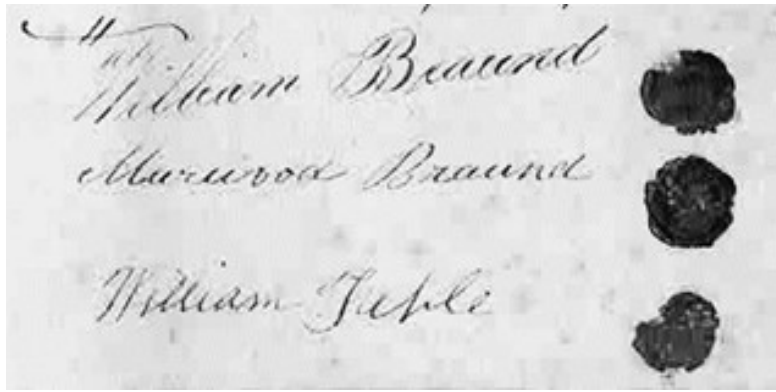


248	First January 1851 Holsworthy	William	Boy	Marwood Braund	Ann Braund formerly Jewell	Labourer	Marwood Braund Father Holsworthy	Twenty first January 1851	Samuel Bry Registrar
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Extract from William's birth certificate

The census of that year shows the family (Marwood, Ann, Hannah and a three-months-old William) living at North Street, Holsworthy. William's mother, Ann, died in 1855, from breast cancer, aged 41.¹ Marwood remarried in 1861, to Mary **Friend**, and in the census of that year we see Marwood now a journeyman malt master (a trained blender who is employed by someone else to blend whisky), Mary a cook and Hannah and William still scholars.

In 1864, William was assigned to William **Treble**, tailor, of Holsworthy, to serve a five-year apprenticeship as a tailor. Aged 13, William's career was defined. The indenture² set out in great detail the terms and conditions of his apprenticeship. It was created of his own free will and that of his father, Marwood, and in return for being taught the art of tailoring, William was bound to upholding many and varied conditions. He was not to waste his master's goods, "not play at Cards or Dice Tables or any other unlawful Games", "not haunt Taverns or Playhouses", "not commit fornication nor contract Matrimony within the said term", and "... in all things as a faithful Apprentice he shall behave himself". In return, William **Treble** had to "teach and Instruct" and to provide sufficient meat, drink, washing, mending, lodging "and other necessities".



The Seals of William and Marwood Braund and William Treble on the indenture

On the reverse of the indenture is a character reference from the Rector of Holsworthy church, the Rev. G.W. **Thornton**, MA:³

I have known William **Braund** during the time of his apprenticeship. He has always been steady, honest and industrious. For some years he was in regular attendance at my Sunday School and I found him earnest, well principled and desirous of self improvement. He (was) a member of my choir up to the time of his leaving Holsworthy.

15 November 1869

William survived his apprenticeship, for he was to remain a tailor for the rest of his working life. In 1871, William the tailor was boarding with Richard **Brown**, master tailor, Richard's wife, Emma, and baby daughter, Ann, in Marhamchurch village in Cornwall. It is reasonable to assume that William was employed by Richard.⁴ Interestingly, Richard, at 22 years of age, was only two years William's senior.

On 23 March 1878, William married Eliza Jane **Scorse**, in Kensington, London. William's older sister, Hannah, was a servant (cook) in the **Every** household at 11 Colville Square in Kensington in 1871.⁵ Hannah's living in Westminster may well have influenced William's and Eliza's decision to marry away from their home areas of Devon and Somerset. But, by 1881, William and Eliza, and baby Florence, were living at the tailor's shop in Bexley, Kent, only a few kilometres from their wedding place in Kensington.⁶ By 1891, William's and Eliza's household had grown to include five children and a boarder. Their tailor's practice was situated in Bexley's High Street.⁷ This 1891 census was the

first to record Albert Edward and Victor Samuel **Braund**. These brothers (Albert was my grandfather) died in the First World War and are two of the subjects described in my book *The Price of Conflict*.⁸

In Bexley, William took up showing poultry as a hobby. Over the next few years, he participated in several shows, with some success. At the Grand Show in Maidstone, in January 1889, William earned third place in both the Brown Leghorn Cock and Brown Leghorn Hen categories,⁹ improving in the second annual exhibition of the Faversham and District Poultry Society by winning first place in the Brown Leghorn Cock category.¹⁰ Another placing followed at the second annual show of the Dartford and District Poultry, Pigeon, Rabbit and Cage Bird Association, again in the Brown Leghorn Cock category.¹¹

Class 17.—Brown Leghorn cock.
1 H. D. Ladds, Swanley Junction, 2 H. D. Ladds,
Swanley Junction, 3 J. T. Brimsden, Sheerness, 4
William Braund, Bexley.

William Braund of Bexley awarded fourth place

William fell foul of the authorities when, in 1898, he was summoned by the rates overseers of Bexley for the non-payment of £1 4s.¹² There is no trace of follow-up action, so one might assume that he settled his debt. One might assume, also, that, given the date, the report was not an All Fools Day prank.

In 1901, the family was still at 58 High Street, in Bexley, William still a tailor. The Braund household now listed four children at home, with daughter Lilia visiting next door at the time that the census enumerator called.¹³ By the time of the 1911 census, William, Eliza and one child, Douglas, had moved to Weston super Mare, only a few kilometres from Cheddar, where Eliza grew up. William, aged 60, was still listed as a tailor.¹⁴ Eliza died in 1916 and William in 1926 and both are buried in St. Andrew's churchyard in Cheddar.

Eliza Jane **Scorse** was born on 20 August 1851 in Axbridge, only four kilometres from Cheddar, to Samuel **Scorse**, carpenter, and Eliza **Weeks**. It is most likely that Samuel was illiterate, for his signature box on Eliza's birth certificate shows "x the mark of". Aged nine in 1861, Eliza was living in Cliff Street, Cheddar, with her parents and four siblings.¹⁵ She had left home by the time of the next census and in 1871 was a servant at a school in Weston super Mare.¹⁶ By 1878, she had married William.



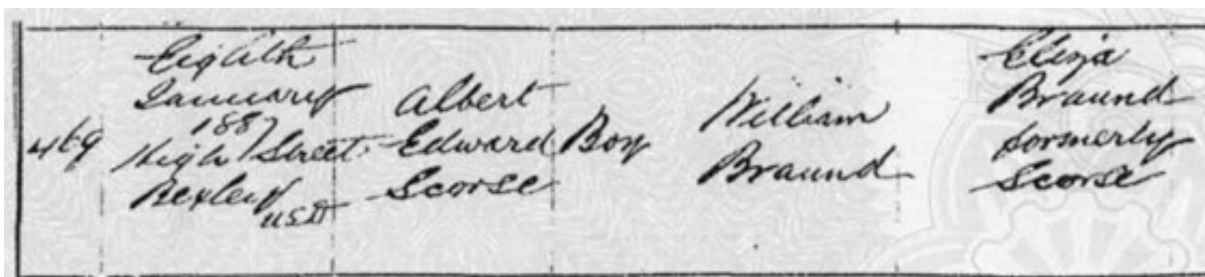
William and Eliza's Grave in St. Andrew's Churchyard, Cheddar
Michael Braund

A point of interest arises in the story of William and Eliza. The spelling of Eliza's family name has been recorded both as *Scorse* and *Scourse*. It is *Scorse* on her birth certificate, though is difficult to read, and on the birth index, and her son, Albert, was named Albert Edward *Scorse*

Braund. The name appears as *Scorse* on Albert's birth certificate, though does not appear at all on his military records.

Henry Adams	60	16
Mary Mistake	Serv	Unm
Eliza Scorse	60	Unm

Extract from the 1871 census for Eliza



Extract from Albert's birth certificate

Scourse appears on the 1861 census return, and on Eliza's marriage certificate and the marriage register.

1876 Marriage solemnized at <i>Lancaster Road</i> in the district of <i>Kensington</i> in the County of <i>London</i>							
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.
66	Twenty third March 1876	William Braund	27 years	Bachelor	Tailor	8 Western Terrace Kensington	Marwood Braund
		Eliza Jane Scourse	26 years	Spinster		Queens Gate Lynne Kensington	Samuel Scourse
Married in the <i>Lancaster Road Chapel</i> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the <i>Anglican</i> by <i>Certific</i>							
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<i>W. Braund</i> <i>E. J. Scourse</i>		in the Presence of us,		<i>W. Maynard</i> <i>Emma Stephenson</i>	

Extract from William's and Eliza's marriage certificate

Scourse has been the adopted spelling by the Braund Society.

1. Death certificate of Ann Braund.
2. In the possession of my brother, Richard.
3. According to Kelly's Directory of 1893, this was George Wright Thornton of the church of St. Peter and St. Paul, Holsworthy.
4. 1871 England and Wales census for Marhamchurch village.
5. 1871 England and Wales census for Kensington.
6. 1881 England and Wales census for Bexley.
7. 1891 England and Wales census for Bexley.
8. Braund, M.E., *The Price of Conflict. Braund fatalities 1805-1946*. The Braund Society. Devon. 2015.
9. *Maidstone Journal and Kentish Advertiser* 29 January 1889, page 3.
10. *Bromley and District Times* 24 January 1890, page 7.
11. *Bromley and District Times* 15 January 1892, page 6.
12. *Bromley and District Times* 1 April 1898, page 2.
13. 1901 England and Wales census for Bexley.
14. 1911 England and Wales census for Weston super Mare.
15. 1861 England and Wales census for Cheddar.
16. 1871 England and Wales census for Weston super Mare.