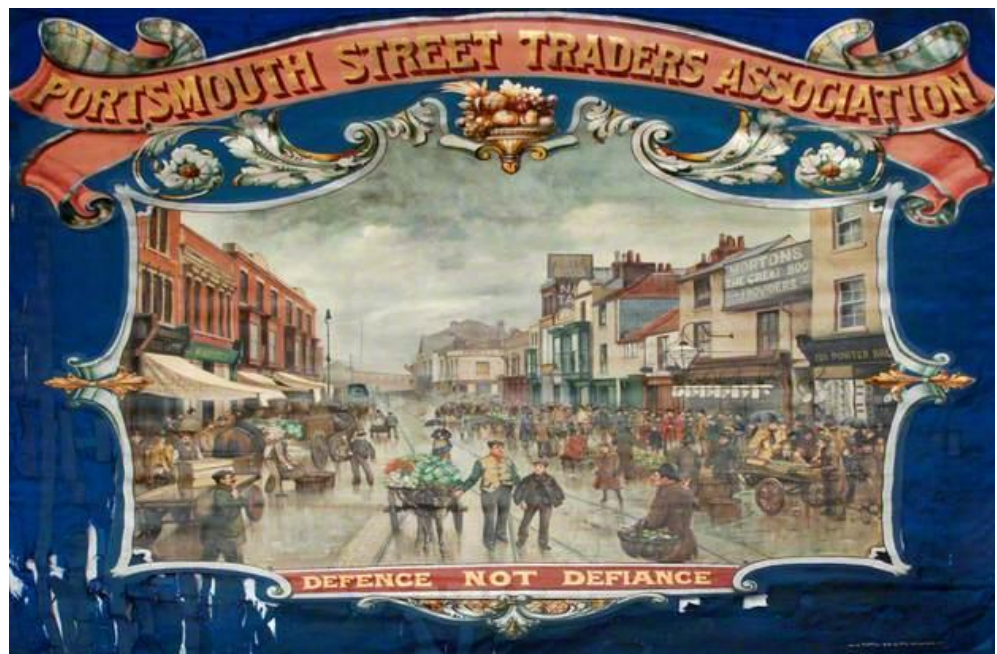


East Riding to East End:

A life of George Tutill - Regalia Manufacturer



Preface

It gives me great pleasure to contribute to a preface to Roger Logan's work on George Tutill. Building on the work of the late John Gorman, his painstaking researches cast new light on the early years of the most successful ever banner manufacturer. Tutill is an unsung hero of Victorian capitalism. Moving from fairground huckster to respectable businessman whilst fighting off numerous competitors, he did more than anybody could to mould working class artistic taste, with a legacy still felt today.

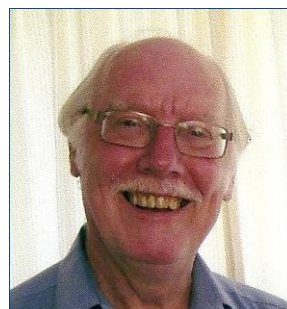
As a pioneer of mass production, his assembly line methods for large painted banners, predated those of Henry Ford. In Roger's citation (pp. 16-17) of a testimonial there is surely evidence that Tutill also predated the car manufacturer's 'built in obsolescence', as the Court members struggled to control his huge product in bad weather during a royal visit to the city. Nonetheless, by offering excellent customer care, Tutill built up decades of business from satisfied working class organisations. His firm continued making banners on the lines of the founders' original designs, into the 20th century, also providing work for generations of art school trained crafts people.

Roger has provided fascinating new insights on Victorian entrepreneurship, fraternalism and morality, focusing on a remarkable man and his world.

Nick Mansfield
Former Director, People's History Museum, Manchester

About The Author - Roger Logan

Roger Logan was born in 1947 into a family with friendly society connections going back to the 1860's. He was enrolled as an adult member of the Ancient Order of Foresters Friendly Society (AOF) in 1963, taking an active part for a few years, before a career in the Civil Service/Local Government took priority. He nevertheless maintained his interest, with a growing emphasis on the history of these fascinating working peoples' organisations based on co-operation and self-help.



In 1991 Roger became voluntary Joint Co-ordinator of the informal Foresters heritage trust established by the AOF. With the creation in 2005 of The Foresters Heritage Trust as a Charity Commission registered body, he was appointed one of the initial trustees. By now retired and living on the Isle of Wight, he served as Honorary Secretary and Director of the Trust, playing the lead role in the formation of the Museum & Archive at Southampton which opened in August 2007. In February 2009 he became the Trust's first paid, part-time Director/Secretary. In this capacity he was responsible for the heritage Presentation made at the Foresters Friendly Society 175th anniversary High Court meeting (annual delegates conference) at Manchester. Subsequently the role altered and he is currently (2012) trustee and Honorary Secretary of the Trust.

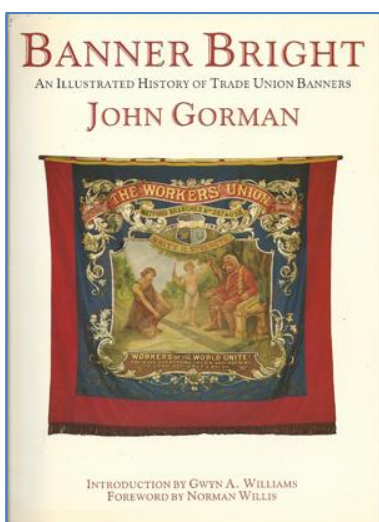
The ever expanding interest in the history of the friendly society movement led Roger to undertake academic research into friendly society Orders, for which he received the award of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) from Kingston University, London, in 2004. During this period he became aware of the name and activities of George Tutill and he made the work and life of this outstanding Victorian business man the subject of special interest. The results of this detailed and wide-ranging research found can be seen in the accompanying text.

Introduction

In the previously most comprehensive published account of George Tutill's life, John Gorman in *Banner Bright*, placed the birth in 1817, describing his father, Thomas Tutill, as an illiterate miller. ⁽¹⁾

His early life, as told to John Gorman by Ronald Caffyn, a manager at Tutill's relocated works at Chesham, in the post-1945 era, published in *Banner Bright*, suggested that he grew up as 'a travelling fairground showman.' ⁽²⁾ Out of this experience, it was said, grew the inspiration to produce lavish illustrative designs, similar to those to be seen on fairground caravans, booths and roundabouts. ⁽³⁾

The subsequent facts of Tutill's development as a banner maker were, as presented in *Banner Bright*, relatively scarce. According to Gorman, he established himself in business in 1837; a G. Tutill exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1847; by 1857 he was living at 8 Angel Terrace, St. Peter's Street, Islington, and by 1859 'possibly earlier', the business was installed at 83 City Road. By 1860 he was living at 14 Douglas Road, Canonbury. ⁽⁴⁾ In 1871 he moved to the Red House, Upton Lane, West Ham, where he lived 'with his wife Elizabeth, and their only child, Georgina, until his death in 1887.' ⁽⁵⁾



George Tutill died on 17 February 1887, his business passing to his daughter and son-in-law. ⁽⁶⁾ Even in this brief outline, if all true, an interesting and varied life emerged.

Recent research, published here for the first time, suggests that Tutill's life was far more eventful, and less of a natural ascendancy to middle class respectability, than revealed in *Banner Bright*. Both tragedy and triumph featured in a lifetime of just under seventy years which took George Tutill from the humble obscurity of a relatively quiet Yorkshire East Riding market town, via the East End of London, to national, indeed international, fame and acclamation.

Banner Bright contained an introduction by Gwynn Williams. He indicated that the emphasis in the book lay in Tutill's contribution and significance to trade union history, in particular the role and extent to which banners were used. Williams said that 'trade union work was his specialty', implying that production of banners, and many varied products, for other associations, was, in some way, secondary in importance. ⁽⁷⁾ He saw Tutill's decision at the age of twenty 'to make commerce out of banners' enabling him 'to grow with the unions.' ⁽⁸⁾ John Gorman noted that, apparently perversely, 'He ran a non-union shop while advertising himself as "Brother George Tutill." ' ⁽⁹⁾ The term Brother was, it should be noted, not used exclusively by trade unions but by many fraternal bodies, including friendly society Orders and Freemasons.

Both within the book and arising from its detail are many areas suitable for further consideration. Four areas in particular deserve attention in order to obtain a more rounded view of this 19th century artisan/entrepreneur who made a livelihood by supplying a wide range of co-operative associations of working people with what were modest works of art. The first area of research deals with family history, fleshing out his personal background. Secondly, a fuller investigation of George Tutill's links with friendly societies, the latter being of far greater significance to the majority of working men than trade unions in the 19th century, is made, to produce a better understanding of why he referred to himself as Brother. The third line of research covers his business activities, again principally in connection with friendly societies. The final facet reviewed is that of his contribution to the art world. The net result is, I hope, a better understanding of the life of this significant yet under-appreciated 19th century English working man.

References for Introduction

- (1) (BB, p. 47)
- (2) (BB, p. 48)
- (3) (BB, p. 48)
- (4) (BB, p. 50)
- (5) (BB, p. 52)
- (6) (BB, p. 54)
- (7) (BB, p. 17)
- (8) (BB, p. 17)
- (9) (BB, p. 53)

(a) The Family Man

The parish of Howden, in the East Riding of Yorkshire where George Tutill was born in the Spring of 1817, comprised a principal settlement area of a small market town surrounded by an agricultural district. Overall it was lightly populated, with 2,080 inhabitants in 1821 rising marginally over the next ten years to 2,130 occupants in 1831. ⁽¹⁾ The window dedicated to George Tutill's memory in Howden Church records his birth date as 16 April 1817, and parish records show that he was baptised on 19 April 1817. ⁽²⁾

His father was Thomas Tutill, his mother Elizabeth (nee Richardson). They had been married on the 16th August 1813, at which time Thomas was described as a miller. ⁽³⁾ The witnessing of their marriage at Howden church was by five witnesses. One was clearly from the bride's side, Sarah Richardson, but there were no Tutill's. There were other members of the Tutill family in Howden at the period, as shown in the parish burial registers of 1817, the year of George's birth, and 1821. On the former occasion, the burial of Mary Tutill, wife of George, was entered on 5 October 1817, aged 55. ⁽⁴⁾ On 7 January 1821, George Tutill, Miller of Hail Mill, Howden was buried, also aged 55. ⁽⁵⁾ At the time of his marriage in 1813, Thomas Tutill made his mark in the marriage register, rather than a signature. From this it could be concluded that, whether or not he was, as suggested, illiterate, he was unable to write. ⁽⁶⁾



George was Thomas and Elizabeth's only child recorded in the Howden baptism register. Of his early years nothing conclusive has been traced. If he received any education, it may have been at the long established Howden Grammar school, or at one of the small, private academies located in Howden run principally by single women. ⁽⁷⁾ There is no available evidence to confirm or refute the contention that during his youthful years he was involved with travelling fairs or shows.

By the time he was 21, George had left the comparatively rural surroundings of Howden and his life was moving on. On 28th June 1838, he married Emma Fairfield at St. Mary's parish church, Sculcoates within the expanding limits of Hull. ⁽⁸⁾ At that time he was living in Sculcoates in Savile Street whilst Emma's home was in Francis Street. The marriage certificate provides the first contemporary indication of his occupation, which was Artist. The two witnesses were Eliza Fairfield and John Bradbury. Only George's father's name, Thomas, occupation miller, was recorded. No father's name was recorded for Emma, not in itself unusual.

However, in one of the many intriguing twists in this story, although bearing the name Emma Fairfield, she appears to have been the daughter of Jacob and Sarah Wilks, of Crowns Court, George Street, Sculcoates. Her baptism took place on 15 January 1817 at St. Mary's, the parish church. ⁽⁹⁾ Intriguingly the entry preceding that for Emma is for Henry, son of Phillip and Sarah Fairfield, of the same address as the Wilks! Perhaps the entries were simply confused at the time of the original entries.

The marriage certificate evidence for George being an artist in business on his own account is not confirmed by a trade directory for Hull published in 1838, thus raising doubts about the accuracy of later confident statements that he started his banner making business in 1837. ⁽¹⁰⁾ At some point after their marriage in June 1838, the couple moved south, to just outside London, presumably full of hopes for a bright future. When the national population census was taken on 6th June 1841, the enumerator found George and Emma Tutill living in John Street in the parish of St Paul's, in the District of St George's-in-the East, Middlesex. ⁽¹¹⁾

John Street, later renamed Sheridan Street, lay to the south of Commercial Road, and to the north of Cable Street, in the heart of the East End. It had been built around 1813, being listed in a street directory of that year, although not appearing on a map of similar vintage. ⁽¹²⁾ The road consisted of terraced housing, some of it virtually back to back with houses in adjoining roads. Although un-numbered in the census books, George and Emma appear to have lived at number 36. Here, the principal head of household was Ann Pelham. She was accompanied by her daughter Louisa, and there was one further lodger, James Case. The latter's occupation of waterman was more associated with this dockland parish than that of painter, which is how George now described himself. Emma had no occupation shown.



The front cover of the 1895 Tutill Catalogue

Within months, tragedy struck. Aged just twenty four years, Emma died of consumption on 23rd November 1841. ⁽¹³⁾ With no occupation of her own, prevented perhaps by poor health, the couple had been living on George's earnings as an artist/painter. The impact of this dreadful event on George can only be guessed at. Certainly he appears to have remained single for many years after the death of Emma. Where he lived in the period immediately following Emma's death is unknown, however, by the end of 1847 he had left John Street.

In the December 1847 edition of the *Foresters' Monthly Miscellany*, a periodical connected with the Ancient Order of Foresters, George was listed as one of the metropolitan sales agents acting for the proprietor David Sampson, a former High Chief Ranger (national Chairman) of the AOF. In this list, he was recorded as living at Sun Court. This was located off the north side of Aldgate High Street, not far from St Botolph's church and the site of the old City gate. Income derived from this activity was, presumably, a useful supplement to that derived from his full time employment. ⁽¹⁴⁾

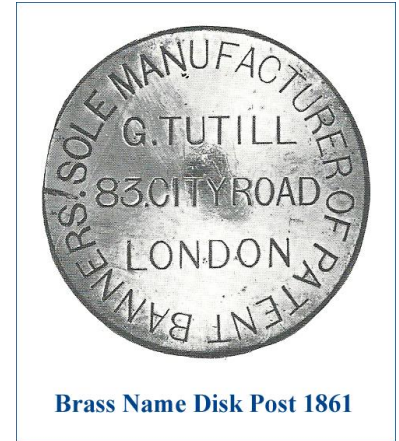
He appears to have continued living in Sun Court for the next four years with confirmation of his home address at this period being identified in the census taken on 30th March 1851. In this he was shown living, on his own, in a property containing two other households, at 7 Sun Court, where he was described as a widower. The small, compact Court was approached from Aldgate High Street, through an overhung entranceway. Sun Court's origins lay in the 18th century, although the age of the property occupied by George has not been determined. His energies had, it seems, been turned towards his business life, his occupation now being 'banner supplier'. ⁽¹⁵⁾

During the 1850s George's personal life took another interesting turn, although at a first glance the 1861 census, taken on 7th March, shows nothing unusual. George Tutill, artist (painter), still a widower, was now living at 14 Douglas Road, Canonbury, Islington, with two female servants. His situation had clearly improved since the days at Sun Court. However, there was also, remarkably, a six year old daughter, called Georgina! No mention of a Mrs. Tutill was made. ⁽¹⁶⁾ Reference to a daughter meant one of two things. Either he had re-married, produced a daughter, then lost a second wife, and was consequently correctly described as a widower. Alternatively, this Georgina was a daughter from a relationship outside marriage.

The answer creates an enigma which is difficult to completely resolve. On 24 February 1855, a couple with the names of Thomas Trout Bale and Elizabeth Allsop Bale became the parents of a baby girl. ⁽¹⁷⁾ They had been married for just under twenty years and already had two daughters. The new arrival was christened on 18 March 1855 at St James, Garlickhythe, just off Upper Thames Street, in the City. She was named Georgina Tutill Bale, creating an intriguing, and seemingly permanent, link between the Bales and George Tutill. At the time of Georgina's birth, the Bales were living at 190 Upper Thames Street in the City of London, close by St James church, where Thomas Bale kept an eating house. ⁽¹⁸⁾

Six years later, Georgina Tutill Bale was living with George Tutill, and described in the census, without the surname Bale, as his daughter. Elizabeth Bale, and two daughters, but no husband, was living at 6 Newman's Row, a short pedestrian route linking Lincoln's Inn Fields with High Holborn, just beyond the western boundary of the City. ⁽¹⁹⁾ The two daughters were aged 18 and 16 respectively, so that they were Georgina's elder half-sisters. Elizabeth Bale was not shown as a widow but she was head of household. Aged 41, she had thus borne Georgina at the age of 35. What brought George Tutill into contact with Elizabeth Bale, and what the circumstances were surrounding the birth of Georgina will, it seems safe to say, remain a mystery. Perhaps it was a chance visit by George for a meal at the Bale's eating house in the City which brought the two together.

That the relationship was maintained can be shown by the birth on 6 April 1862, of George Tutill's only son George. ⁽²⁰⁾ The birthplace was 6 Newman's Row and the mother's name recorded as Elizabeth Allsop Bale. Clearly she was the mother of George Tutill's son, but was she, at the time still married to Thomas Bale? Whatever the circumstances, Elizabeth bore George junior when she was 42. Sadly the child died in infancy of meningitis, on 26 September 1864, just under two and a half years old. ⁽²¹⁾ The death occurred at 6 Newman's Row. George Tutill, decorative artist, as he was described on George junior's death certificate, was not to have a male heir to inherit the major business that he created. The child's remains were subsequently buried in Howden Church graveyard. ⁽²²⁾



By 1871 George Tutill, now 53, and Elizabeth Bale were married, at least according to the 1871 census. No record of their marriage has yet been identified. ⁽²³⁾ They were living, together with daughter Georgina, aged 16, and three servants, at the 'Red House' in Upton Lane, West Ham in Essex. Once again George described himself as an artist. Ten years later, in 1881, he was away from home when the Census was conducted. He was on a business trip taking in Australia, where he attended the Melbourne International Exhibition, New Zealand, Hawaii, New York, San Francisco, Salt Lake City, and Chicago. ⁽²⁴⁾ The 'Red House' was occupied, on April 3, by his wife Elizabeth, 61, her two grand-daughters and one female servant. ⁽²⁵⁾

Exactly how the two grand-daughters fit into George's story remains to be determined. The elder was Caroline E. Shepherd, age 12, born in London. ⁽²⁶⁾ It has not been possible to identify her parents. The younger was Georgina T Bale, age 3, born in Chelsea, Middlesex. This Georgina, on the birth certificate called Georgina Amelia, appears to have been the daughter of John and Ann Bale, of Sinnerston Street, Chelsea. ⁽²⁷⁾

The Christmas of 1884 was not a happy occasion in the Tutill household. During the previous week, on 18th December, Elizabeth Tutill died, aged 65 years. She was interred in Emanuel Churchyard, located a short distance along Upton Lane from the Red House. ⁽²⁸⁾ George Tutill died on 17 February 1887, in his 70th year. In the churchyard of Howden Minster a memorial tombstone with the symbolic broken column was raised recording immediate members of the Tutill family. ⁽²⁹⁾ On this are the following words:-

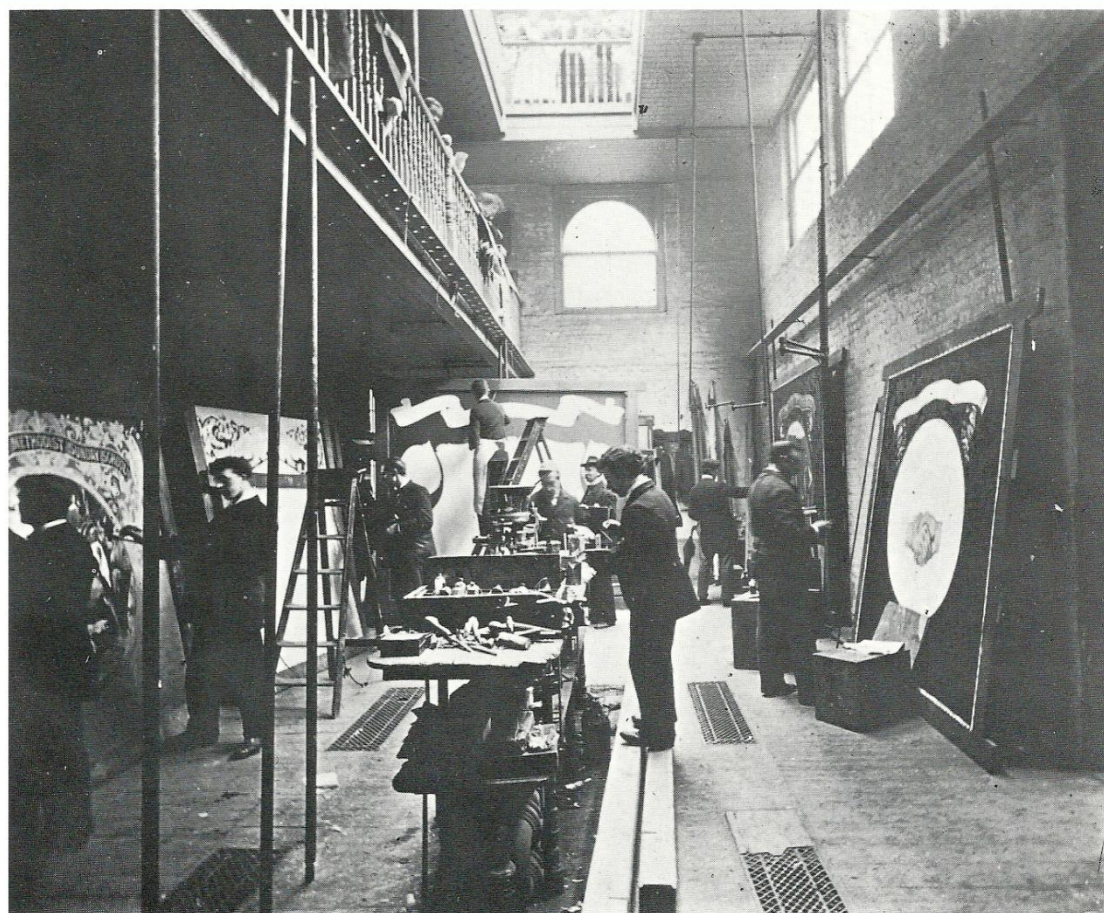
**Sacred to the memory of George only son of
Elizabeth and George Tutill
Born 6th April 1862 died 26th Sep 1864
Also
Elizabeth the beloved wife of George Tutill
Who died 18th December 1884
Aged 65 Years
Interred in Emanuel Church Yard, Upton, Essex
Also the above named
George Tutill
Who died 17th Feby 1887
In his 70th year**

Below this inscription on the memorial is further wording which records the maker as 'Palmer, East Rd, London, N.' It was George Tutill's own wish, in his Will, that he be buried in the 'Family Grave in Howden Church Yard' and for 'the sum of Five Hundred Pounds to be expended in carrying out the necessary expenses attendant on my funeral in erecting and building a monument and tomb in Howden Church Yard for my remains.'⁽³⁰⁾

A large decorated stained glass memorial window was subsequently constructed at the south west end of Howden Minster. The inscription along the base of the window reads:-

**To the glory of God, and in affectionate remembrance of
George Tutill, Esq. Born April 16th 1817. Died Feb. 17th 1887.
J B Capronnier, Bruxellensis, Fecit 1888.**

As someone who clearly perceived himself to be an artist/painter George Tutill would, I think, have appreciated the colourful content of the three segment window. The relevance of the biblical reference depicted, which is that of the story of Zaccheus, the rich publican who climbed a sycamore tree to see Jesus as he was passing through Jericho, is unclear.⁽³¹⁾ It would have been a source of satisfaction that the window was executed by Jean Baptiste Capronnier, a Belgian glass painter, whose work can be seen elsewhere in Yorkshire at Todmorden and in Lincolnshire at Appleby.⁽³²⁾ The window's permanency, as far as anything is permanent, should ensure the local immortality of the name of George Tutill.



Ground Floor Studio, City Road

References for Section (a)

- (1) Susan Butler and Ken Pows, *Howden, an East Riding market town* (1994), Gilberdyke Local History Group, Howden, p. 102.
- (2) EYRO, PE121/12.
- (3) EYRO, PE121/20.
- (4) EYRO, PE121/30.
- (5) EYRO, PE121/30.
- (6) EYRO, PE121/20.
- (7) <http://geocities.com/deko476/schools.htm>
- (8) Marriage Certificate.
- (9) *Sculcoates Baptisms, January 1813 to December 1820* (1988), East Yorkshire Family History Society, p. 30.
- (10) W White, *History, Gazetteer and directory of the West Riding of Yorkshire, including the City of York and the Port of Hull, 1837/38*.
- (11) HO. 107/697, f. 15, p. 21.
- (12) *Topography of London*. (1994), London Topographical Society Publication, No. 148.
- (13) Death Certificate.
- (14) *Miscellany*, 1847, December, back cover.
- (15) HO.107/1524 f.140 p. 13.
- (16) RG.9/141 f.88 p. 46.
- (17) Birth Certificate.
- (18) Birth Certificate.
- (19) RG.9/169 f.153 p. 113.
- (20) Monument inscription, Howden Churchyard and birth certificate.
- (21) Monument inscription, Howden Churchyard and death certificate.
- (22) *Howdenshire Gazette*, No. 1166, Friday 25th February 1887 (unpaginated)
- (23) RG.10/1629 f.25 p. 41.
- (24) *Banner Bright*, p. 53.
- (25) RG.11/1730 f. 145.
- (26) RG.11/1730 f. 145.
- (27) Birth Certificate.
- (28) Monument inscription, Howden Churchyard.
- (29) Monument inscription, Howden Churchyard.
- (30) G Tutill, Will.
- (31) Bible, St Luke, Ch. 19 v. 1-10.
- (32) www.hct.org.uk/chapel3todmorden.html; www.appleby-lincolnshire.co.uk/Whites.html.

(b) The Friendly Society Man

The earliest connection discovered to date linking George Tutill with friendly societies places him in, or near, the City of London, in 1842, when he was in his mid twenties. It should, however, be noted that Howden, his birthplace in the East Riding of Yorkshire, was the scene of the opening of an Ancient Order of Foresters Court (branch) in 1836. ⁽¹⁾ Court “Crow’s Nest”, No. 417, (named, it appears, after the landlord, Robert Crow), met at the *Kings Head Inn*, Bridge gate, Howden. By 1840 this was a thriving Court, with 80 members meeting fortnightly. ⁽²⁾ Speculation allows the possibility of the young George Tutill initially becoming aware of the Foresters whilst still living in his home town.

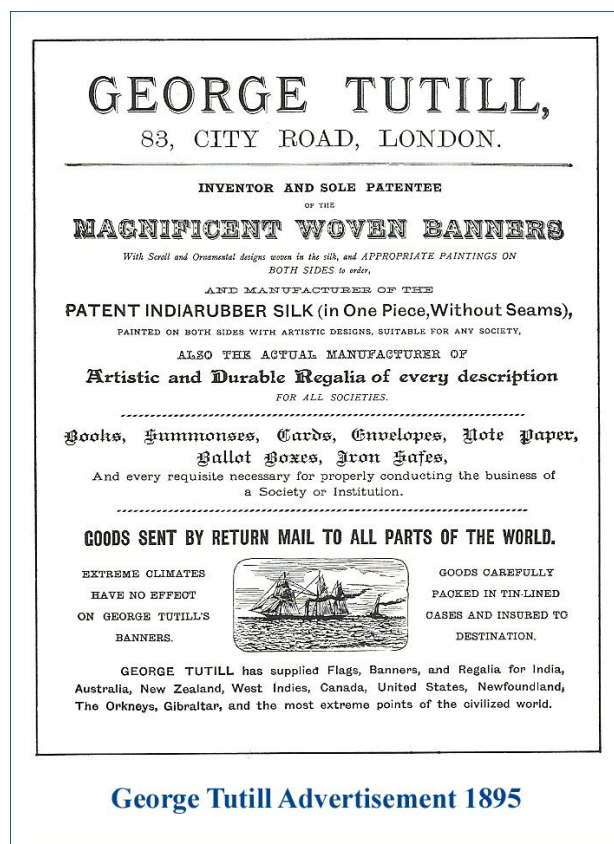
In March 1842, a new Court of the Foresters, was established at the *George Inn*, in Beech Street in the Barbican area of the City of London. Court “Uriah”, No. 1416, was formally opened for business by the Foresters’ London District Chief Ranger, Bro William Loader, assisted by the officers of Court “City of London”, No. 1253. ⁽³⁾

This was the Court that George Tutill joined on the 12th September 1842, although what attracted him to the Foresters in preference to the other Orders then making great strides is unknown. ⁽⁴⁾ Twelve months on, the presence of the Foresters national administrative body, the Executive Council (EC) in the metropolis between August 1843 and August 1844, generated increased interest in membership. The London EC’s term of office culminated in the Foresters’ annual delegate conference, called the High Court Meeting (HCM), being held at the North London Depository in Grays Inn Road, between the 5th to 9th August 1844. ⁽⁵⁾

Although he did not attend the London HCM as a delegate, by August 1844 George Tutill had become an active member of Court “Uriah”. That month he attended the formal opening of Court “Industry”, No. 1752 as sub-Chief Ranger (deputy chairman) of Court “Uriah”, No. 1416. ⁽⁶⁾ The venue for this was the *Prince of Wales*, Banner Street, St. Luke’s, where Samuel Wickens was the landlord. ⁽⁷⁾ Contemporary membership details for Court “Uriah” have not survived and details of the occupations are members are unknown. Tutill’s own calling of artist/painter would have fitted in well with at least one other member of Court “Uriah”. Third anniversary celebrations of Court “Star of Surrey”, No. 1392, held at the *Horse and Groom*, Newington to the south of London Bridge, in February 1845, recorded that ‘the room was most tastefully decorated with pictures and banners, etc. painted by Brother Moore of Court Uriah.’ ⁽⁸⁾

Interest in the culture offered by the likes of the Foresters and the Independent Order of Oddfellows (Manchester Unity) resulted in continued expansion, numerically and geographically. This was to have a significant impact on George Tutill’s Forestric career. In 1845, on Monday 13 January, Court “City”, No. 1810 was established.

This met initially at the *Turk’s Head*, Aldgate, not far from Sun Court where George was known to be living just two years later. ⁽⁹⁾ From this came the formation of the Foresters’ City of London District which was established in June/July 1845, initially comprising Courts 1416, 1810, and 1949.




GEORGE TUTILL,
83, CITY ROAD, LONDON.

INVENTOR AND SOLE PATENTEE
OF THE
MAGNIFICENT WOVEN BANNERS
With Scroll and Ornamental designs woven in the silk, and APPROPRIATE PAINTINGS ON BOTH SIDES to order,
AND MANUFACTURER OF THE
PATENT INDIARUBBER SILK (in One Piece, Without Seams),
PAINTED ON BOTH SIDES WITH ARTISTIC DESIGNS, SUITABLE FOR ANY SOCIETY,
ALSO THE ACTUAL MANUFACTURER OF
Artistic and Durable Regalia of every description
FOR ALL SOCIETIES.

Books, Summonses, Cards, Envelopes, Note Paper,
Ballot Boxes, Iron Safes,
And every requisite necessary for properly conducting the business of
a Society or Institution.

GOODS SENT BY RETURN MAIL TO ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.

EXTREME CLIMATES
HAVE NO EFFECT
ON GEORGE TUTILL'S
BANNERS.



GOODS CAREFULLY
PACKED IN TIN-LINED
CASES AND INSURED TO
DESTINATION.

GEORGE TUTILL has supplied Flags, Banners, and Regalia for India, Australia, New Zealand, West Indies, Canada, United States, Newfoundland, The Orkneys, Gibraltar, and the most extreme points of the civilized world.

George Tutill Advertisement 1895

An increasingly active member of the Order, George Tutill was elected inaugural District Chief Ranger (DCR) in 1845 by his fellow members, attending the Lincoln HCM in August 1846, where he was shown as DCR, representing Court "City", No. 1810. ⁽¹⁰⁾ Court 'City' failed to prosper and became defunct in 1848. George Tutill had the previous year returned to be a member of Court "Uriah", No. 1416, which met at the *Peacock Tavern*, White Cross Street in the City. This was, in 1845, a healthy court, with some 70 members, meeting twice monthly on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. ⁽¹¹⁾

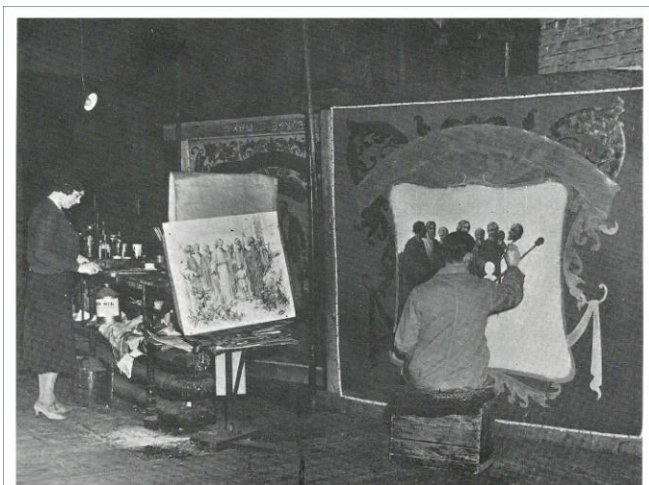


Tutill's duties as City of London DCR required him to attend the opening of new Courts in the District. On Thursday, 5th March 1846, in the company of Bro. Shiel, DSCR and Benjamin Constable, District Secretary, he was in Hoxton to open, in conjunction with the officers of Court 1752, a new Court at the *Duke of Gloucester*, Gloucester Street. Here, at the house of Mr Yardley, Court "Honour", No. 2070 was duly opened, with eleven members being initiated. ⁽¹²⁾ Just over a

month later he opened a further Court 'in a most impressive manner' in Romford. Here, on Monday 16th March 1846, Court "Liberty", No. 2071 was established at the *Sun Inn*. After the opening and closing ceremonies, the members proceeded to a supper to have an evening 'agreeably spent; a spirit of good feeling animating the whole party.' ⁽¹³⁾

As DCR he was also required to preside over the quarterly meetings of the District, attended by delegates from the constituent Courts. One of these took place on Friday 1 October 1847 at the *Red Lion*, Basinghall Street. At seven o'clock precisely the meeting was opened by Brother George Tutill, DCR, 'according to the form prescribed by the new Lecture Books.' ⁽¹⁴⁾ By now the City of London District comprised eight Courts, with 217 members. ⁽¹⁵⁾ At the meeting new District officers were elected for the ensuing year. Thanks were recorded to the retiring officers, for their services during the past two and a quarter years, confirming that Tutill was the first DCR of the District following its opening. ⁽¹⁶⁾ Delegates to the meeting agreed 'that a voluntary subscription be opened for the purpose of presenting PDCR George Tutill, with a testimonial of respect.' ⁽¹⁷⁾

The subscription list was closed at the January 1848 District meeting, and three months later, at the April meeting, delegates were shown what had been bought for Bro. Tutill. ⁽¹⁸⁾ The intention to make the presentation that same evening was thwarted, despite the fact that the delegates, after concluding business at 8.15 pm, remained 'in expectation of the arrival of the recipient' until just before 10.00 pm. With no sign of Bro Tutill, despite a messenger being sent out to find him, the delegates decided that the presentation would take place on 6th October 1848, the date of the next quarterly District meeting. They also resolved that the Mordant patent silver pencil case should be engraved with the words 'AOF, presented October 6th 1848, to Br G. Tutill, PDCR, by the City of London District.' ⁽¹⁹⁾



Banner Artist at Work

Earlier in the year, in January 1848, on Thursday 27th, he was present amongst the visitors at the anniversary meeting of Court "John of Jerusalem", No. 1808, held at Bro. Porter's in Roseman Street, Clerkenwell. The evening was enjoyed by some 50 members and friends who enjoyed an 'excellent dinner.' ⁽²⁰⁾

Previously, on 15th January, a ‘Grand Ball took place at the White Conduit House under the direction of Bro. Tutill, PDCR.’ ⁽²¹⁾ Attending an anniversary dinner of Court “Star of Marylebone”, No. 1829, on Wednesday 23rd February, he was amongst those noted for his contributing to ‘the good singing’ of various members. ⁽²²⁾

Evidence for his local activity is minimal after this; the demise of Court “Uriah” saw his membership being transferred to Court “Industry”, No. 1752 in c.1851. This marked the severance of his connection with the City of London District, as Court “Industry” was a member of the far larger London United District. He did not participate in district affairs as much as when he was with the CLD, but he did attend the July 1851 London United District Meeting as the delegate of Court No. 1752. ⁽²³⁾ One later reference to his continued presence recorded his appearance at the second anniversary of Sanctuary ‘Abercrombie’, No. 2953. Sanctuaries were branches of the second degree of the Ancient Order of Foresters, called the Ancient Order of Shepherds. This was on 25 March 1858, when at the *Abercrombie Tavern*, in Charles Street, Hatton Garden, he was called on to respond to the toast of ‘Prosperity to all kindred societies.’ ⁽²⁴⁾

George Tutill continued to be actively involved with the Order throughout the late 1840’s and 50’s. In most years between 1846 and 1861, he attended the annual High Court Meeting. Normally held in the first week of August each year, this was where policy making was conducted for the Order. General Laws were made and amended, benevolent grants were awarded to distressed members, and Arbitration Final Appeals heard.

Year	Location	Court	Status
1846	Lincoln	1810	DCR
1847	Newcastle	1416	DCR
1848	Manchester	1416	PDCR
1849	Birmingham	1416	PDCR
1850	Wakefield	n/p	-
1851	Westminster	1752	PDCR
1852	Knutsford	n/p	-
1853	Southampton	1752	PDCR

Year	Location	Court	Status
1854	Glossop	n/p	-
1855	Kings Lynn	1752	PDCR
1856	Rochdale	1752	PDCR
1857	Bristol	1752	PDCR
1858	Huddersfield	n/p	-
1859	Brighton	1752	PDCR
1860	Durham	n/p	-
1861	London	1752	PDCR

Table 1
George Tutill – Attendance at Foresters’ HCM’s
Sources: AOF EC QR 1848 – 1861
Note: n/p = not present

The Arbitration procedure was one of the basic tenets of the Foresters democratic procedures. Final Appeals were, at this period, heard by delegates at HCM serving on small committees. These considered appeals by members, Courts or Districts against decisions made in cases affecting them. George Tutill served on Final Appeals committees at the 1847, 1849, 1856 and 1861 HCM’s, on each occasion as Chairman. ⁽²⁵⁾

As both a member of the Foresters’ and as a businessman, George Tutill submitted a design, one of 37, for a new Membership Certificate for the Order in November 1856. The winning design was by Bro Aaron Green, who received a £20 prize, whilst Bro. Tutill's came second, gaining him £5. However, the Executive Council found it necessary to return his design for completion.

When this came back to the EC, he attached a condition that he should retain the copyright for the design, which the original advertisement had clearly indicated would become the property of the EC. As the Investigation Committee reported to delegates at the 1857 HCM, ‘The Council, finding this reservation affixed, have not paid the premium offered, but returned the Design to Brother Tutill, and in so doing we are of the opinion that the EC acted judiciously.’ ⁽²⁶⁾

In the 1850's he was associated with one of the many acts of benevolence which gave the Ancient Order of Foresters their deserved reputation as being more than just a large sick club. With others he was a member of a Committee of members from Court "Industry", No. 1752, who arranged the production of a small pamphlet of poems written by a member, Thomas Corrigan, in unusual circumstances, with the purpose of raising money for the member's children's benefit. ⁽²⁷⁾ The story of Thomas Corrigan, with its many nuances, and the publication of these poems suggests that George Tutill was a man with a forgiving nature, as well as some sentiment. Illustration 1 explains this.

Subsequent involvement with Court or District after 1861 is not visible in currently available records. Family responsibilities and the increasing demands of his business may have effectively forced him from continued devotion of time and effort to a cause he clearly fully supported. Tutill's death in February 1887 was noted briefly in the April Quarterly Report of the EC of that year, his being one of two recently departed 'veteran members', with 'a name well known to Friendly Societies.' ⁽²⁸⁾

His proclaimed self-description as 'Brother Tutill' was derived from his longstanding membership of, and involvement with, the Ancient Order of Foresters Friendly Society. His active participation during the 1840's occurred at a time when the Order was being established by the efforts of hundreds of members forming and then administering Courts and districts. Here was a true fraternal spirit, crossing occupational and status boundaries, where democracy underpinned members' activities in their efforts of self help. This was the context within which George Tutill's image as a Brother should be seen.

References for Section (b)

- (1) AOF Executive Council Quarterly Address 1836.
- (2) AOF *Foresters' Directory*, 1840.
- (3) *Foresters' Miscellany*, 1842, p. 74.
- (4) *Foresters' Miscellany*, 1910, April, p. 114.
- (5) AOF EC Quarterly Report October, 1844.
- (6) *Foresters' Miscellany*, 1844, p. 176.
- (7) AOF EC QR October, 1844.
- (8) *Foresters' Miscellany*, 1845, p. 76.
- (9) *Foresters' Miscellany*, Vol. X, No. 1, 1845, p. 25.
- (10) AOF EC QR October, 1846.
- (11) AOF *Foresters' Directory*, 1845.
- (12) *The Foresters' Magazine*, April 1846, no. 4, p. 71; *Foresters' Directory*, 1847.
- (13) *The Foresters' Magazine*, April 1846, no. 4, p. 71.
- (14) *Miscellany*, II, 1847, November, p. 39.
- (15) *Foresters' Directory*, 1848.
- (16) *Miscellany*, II, 1847, November, p. 40.
- (17) *Miscellany*, II, 1847, November, p. 40.
- (18) *The Foresters Magazine*, May 1848, No. 29, p. 484; June 1848, No. 30, p. 525.
- (19) *The Foresters Magazine*, June 1848, No. 30, p. 525.
- (20) *Miscellany*, VI, 1848, March, 1848, p. 135.
- (21) *Miscellany*, VI, 1848, March, p. 137.
- (22) *The Foresters Magazine*, March 1848, No.29, p. 455.
- (23) AOF LUD Quarterly Report July 1851.
- (24) *Foresters Miscellany*, 1858, Vol. I, No. III, July, p. 166.
- (25) AOF EC QR various dates.
- (26) AOF EC QR, 1857, September, p. 34.
- (27) History of Court "Industry", No. 1752.
- (28) AOF EC QR April 1887, p. 5.

(c) *The Business Man*

The professional career of George Tutill is far from easy to be conclusive about. The date at which he started in the business of banner production rests firstly on the claim he himself made in the 1860s and secondly a much later claim made after his death. In October 1865 he made the following statement about his experience in the artistic world. 'G. Tutill being THE ONLY ARTIST in the trade, and having had thirty-two years practical experience as an artist...' ⁽¹⁾ This statement was made in an advertisement for his firm published in the *Foresters' Miscellany*. If correct, and tying up with dates of birth, etc., it indicates that he started to earn a living as an artist, in 1833 aged 16.

Linking this to the statement above about his formative years in fairgrounds, he appears to have left home in about 1833, possibly spending the next four years on the road. I say four, because of the subsequent claim that the business of G. Tutill was started in 1837. ⁽²⁾ The accuracy of this date must be treated as uncertain, since it only appeared after Tutill's death in 1887, in the firm's advertisements, including one in the *Foresters' Directory* of 1892. The description of 'artist' on his marriage certificate of June 1838 (above, p. 4) provides the first definite information about his occupation.



In 1847, and not yet thirty years old, George Tutill was conducting a banner making and supplying business with an address for communications of 52 Banner Street, St. Luke's. An advertisement flier produced at the time, and circulated with the Foresters' Executive Council report for September 1847, got his name wrong but clearly referred to him, mentioning his position of District Chief Ranger of the Foresters' City of London District. [Illustration 1] The address given was that of the *Prince of Wales* ph, where Court "Industry", No. 1752 held its meetings.

An account of his professional skill and ability is contained in reports previously referred to of his involvement with the Grand Ball held at the White Conduit House in January 1848. Specifically described was his 'splendid display of allegorical banners [which] added lustre to the splendid Ball Room of this Establishment.' ⁽³⁾ This report continued in similar praiseworthy vein.

It is not within our powers to do justice to a description of the various beautiful designs emblazoned on the Banners, Bannerettes, Streamers, etc., which have taken above 1000 feet of silk in their construction; suffice to say that every one that attended was filled with admiration of the gorgeous scene. ⁽⁴⁾

In another report it was recorded that:-

the above Spacious saloon presented an appearance of unusual splendour and brilliancy ... having been decorated by Bro. Tutill with his monster array of banners, streamers, and Chinese lanterns. Many of the subjects were peculiarly interesting to members of the Order, as illustrative of events connected with the fraternity from olden times. Among the many which called forth exclamations of delight from the visitors, we may notice "The death of Robin Hood." Our gallant archer is selecting his last resting place by the aid of that weapon he so loved in life – his bow. "Robin Hood and his Bard carousing under the Greenwood Tree", was peculiarly good ... Turning from these and numerous other scenes from the "romance of history," we cast our eyes on a subject familiar to many of us, as one of the "dull realities" of the present day, viz. the civilized Forester of the nineteenth century in the act of relieving the sick brother on the bed of misfortune. ⁽⁵⁾

East Riding to East End:

A life of George Tutill - Regalia Manufacturer

The whole presentation was described as being 'unequaled, perhaps never attempted before'.⁽⁶⁾ At a second ball at the White House on 15th February 1848, Tutill further enhanced his reputation with, amongst others, a touching picture of 'The Widow and the fatherless'.⁽⁷⁾

Although word of mouth was clearly one way for Tutill to increase business, he thought it useful to place advertisements in the *Foresters Miscellany*, despite its circulation in the late 1840's being very small.⁽⁸⁾ It may have been through this medium that he was asked to provide a banner for the fifth anniversary celebrations of Court "Blossom of Kent", No. 1664. This included a parade through the streets of Greenwich and Deptford before arriving at the Railway Tavern, New Cross, at 3 pm in the afternoon of Monday 6th July 1848. Two banners were paraded, one the 'Grand Banner of the Order belonging to Court 518', the other 'the splendid banner supplied by Br. Tutill'.⁽⁹⁾

The relocation of the Crystal Palace erected in Hyde Park for the 1851 Great Exhibition to Penge in 1854, gave George Tutill a wonderful opportunity to bring to a wide audience the products of his business. The first of many annual Foresters fetes organised by members of the London United District took place on 28th August 1855, with an amazing 28,000 people present. This was dwarfed by the 45,000 attending the 1858 fete and it was here that Tutill displayed his wares.

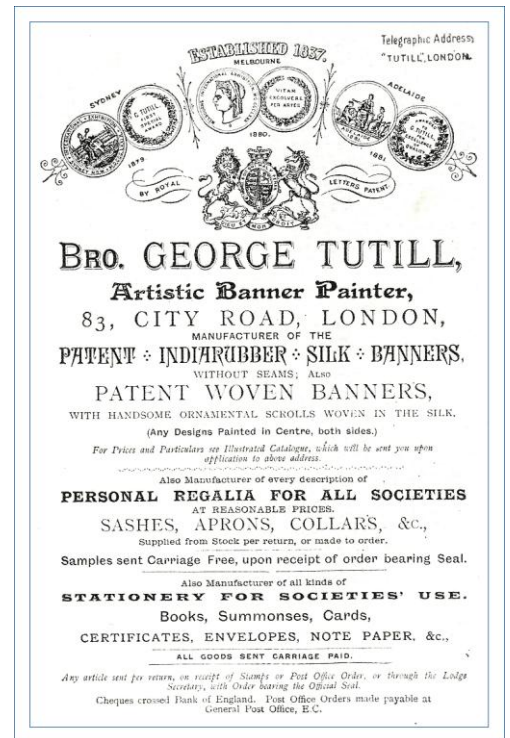
At one o'clock [on Tuesday 24 August 1858] a procession took place in the beautiful grounds of the palace, consisting of members of the Order headed by a band of forty five performers, and brethren in full costume, with flags and streamers supplied by different Courts, and painted by PDCR Tutill.⁽¹⁰⁾



By January 1859 orders for banners, regalia, arms of the Order, etc., were being invited to be sent to 14 Douglas Road, Canonbury, London (N).⁽¹¹⁾ The address for orders was changed to 83 City Road, London (EC) in the January 1860 *Foresters Miscellany*.⁽¹²⁾ The business remained at this address following his death until the 1939-45 World War.

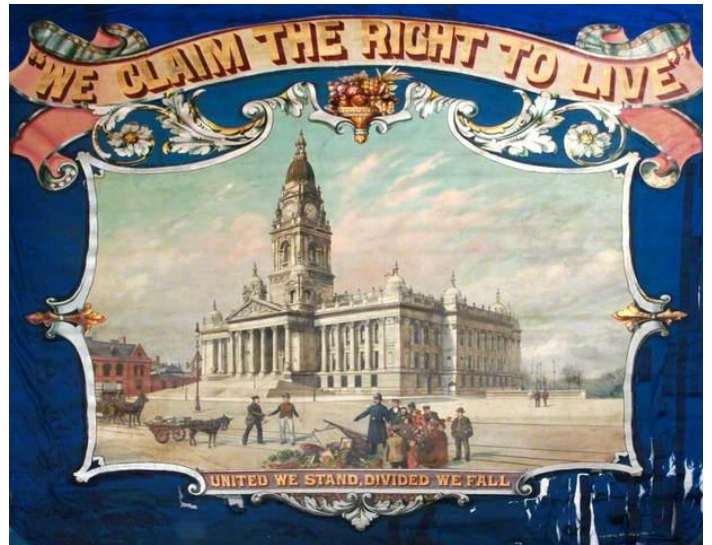
Business records of G. Tutill were destroyed in the London Blitz of 1940.⁽¹³⁾ Surviving annual accounts of the Ancient Order of Foresters provide records of centrally administered business placed by the Foresters' Executive Council with G. Tutill. Despite his close association with the Order it was not until 1879 that the name of the firm appears for the first time, and then it was for the supply of one banner!⁽¹⁴⁾ During the same year, one of Tutill's competitors in the banner market, William Elam of London, supplied two banners and 5 bannerettes.⁽¹⁵⁾

Who these items were sold to by the EC cannot be identified but it is probable that they were part of the increasing volume of items being sent overseas to the thriving colonial courts in Australia, Canada, etc. In 1881 a number of items were included under the heading of 'Miscellaneous goods obtained for Colonial Courts.'⁽¹⁶⁾



George Tutill visited Australia, where his firm won an award at the Sydney International Exhibition of 1879 and the Melbourne International Exhibition in 1880, where he was one of 13,000 exhibitors, but these accolades did not have any substantial effect on centrally ordered items. ⁽¹⁷⁾ '15 letters for officers sashes' paid to G Tutill were mentioned in the 1881 accounts but after that the firm received no further business from the EC during George Tutill's lifetime. ⁽¹⁸⁾ The firm won a further medal, this one at the Adelaide exhibition of 1881.

Direct purchase by Foresters Courts and Districts was the means that Tutill used to conduct his business of supplying banners and regalia. Members of Court "Victoria, British Queen", No. 545, meeting at Leek in Staffordshire were aware of George Tutill's products in 1849. Replacing an earlier flag which had, over the years needed repair, on 1 August 1849 an entry was made in the Court cash book for a payment to Bro G Tutill for a new flag. The cost of this was £15 15 shillings, to which was added 2s 6d carriage and 6d postage, making a total of £15 18 shillings. ⁽¹⁹⁾ [Illustration 2] A sale to a Manchester Court produced the following testimonial in 1857.



Sir and Brother – *The Banner has given the greatest satisfaction to the Members, and all who have seen it, say it is the handsomest they ever saw. The day we had it in use, which was on the Queen's visit to Manchester, I think could not have been much worse, for it poured with rain, and the wind blew so, that it took two men, to each pole, and other four men with ropes to steady it, so that if the weather is anything to go by, I should say it must be a good, as well as a handsome one. The Regalia was also much admired by all the Brothers, and I have no doubt you will receive further orders.*

Yours fraternally – Henry Whitehead, Secretary. ⁽²⁰⁾

Whilst in the early, flexibly regulated years of the Order, Courts were free to spend their accumulated funds how they wished, the increasing tendency to accept both Order *General Laws* and equally significantly, friendly society legislation, brought hitherto un-experienced constraints. Orders, Districts and Courts registering under the 1850 Friendly Societies Act, and its successors, were bound by decisions of the Registrar of Friendly Societies, John Tidd Pratt. Acting, as he believed, in the role of guardian of the members funds, he issued guidance on the legality of how funds could be spent. Management expenses were a particular *bete-noire*.



Amalgamated Stevedores Labour Protection League' Branch No.6

It was with this in mind that the Shrewsbury EC, in September 1861, responded to a query about the legitimacy of paying for a banner out of the management fund. 'As the use of a Banner cannot be considered necessary for the Management of a Court, the fund cannot be used for such an expenditure.' ⁽²¹⁾ The message appeared not to sink in, since one year later the same question was asked of the Portsmouth EC, with the same response. ⁽²²⁾ A hint as to where Courts were to find the money was given in a reply to a question about funding processions, where it was suggested that 'for all extraneous expenses, there ought to be a special fund in each Court and District.' ⁽²³⁾ The continuing problems associated with the funding of banner purchases was shown when the Portsmouth EC was

called upon to:

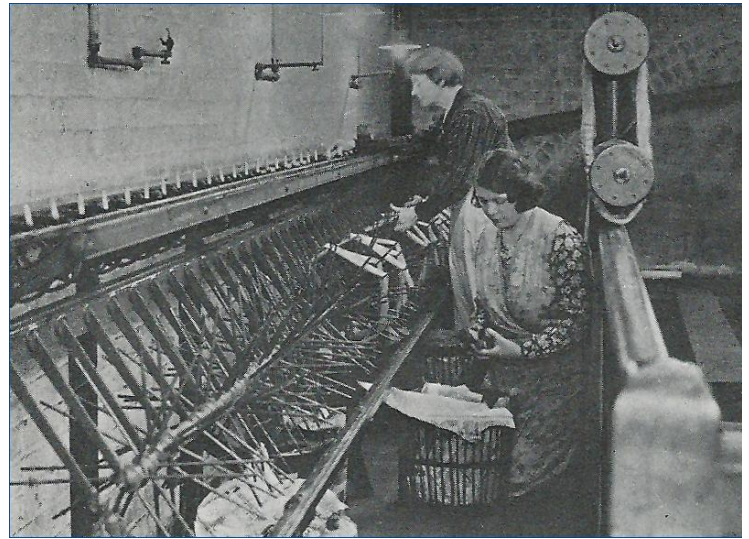
remind Districts and Courts of the necessity of strictly adhering to the 49th General Law, your EC having received a communication from Mr Tidd Pratt, calling attention to the very serious offence of misapplying the Sick and Funeral funds, for the purchase of banners, &c., by a Court. ⁽²⁴⁾

East Riding to East End:

A life of George Tutill - Regalia Manufacturer

George Tutill no doubt found the initial ruling disturbing, and significantly August 1861 was the last occasion when he attended a Foresters HCM. By now, however, his reputation was increasing and a visit by the press to 83 City Road in early 1862 suggests that business was booming.

On the morning of our visit to this gentleman's studio we found him engaged in painting a large banner for the brethren of the Manchester Unity of Oddfellows, and presently afterwards we were allowed to inspect a large stock of finished and properly seasoned banners adapted for all sorts of demonstrations by members of a vast number of Friendly Societies. The



great amount of artistic skill displayed in the designs impresses as greatly as we gaze upon banner after banner suspended from poles running across the room just under the ceiling.... Each banner is painted on rich silk, trimmed with fringe and streamers, with gilt cross pole and two bearing poles, so arranged with regard to the flags they support as to incur no danger from swaying in the wind, and fitted with brass knobs, straps and sockets. ⁽²⁵⁾

Resourceful friendly society members clearly did find a way to continue purchasing banners from Tutill, and other banner makers. Amongst the unsolicited testimonials received in 1864 and included in his firm's advertisement in October 1865, were those from Foresters' Courts and Districts across England. ⁽²⁶⁾ The Secretary of Court "Effort", No.2387 in Tunbridge Wells, Kent wrote:-

Dear Sir and Brother

The Banner was duly received, in good condition, considering the time allowed for its manufacture, painting, etc. It certainly is a superb Banner, and as a work of art, does you infinite credit. The designs for the bordering have elicited especial admiration, and the centre paintings are so carefully and artistically executed, that one is almost led to believe that they have been, in some way or other transferred from the canvas of some celebrated artist.

*Yours &c.,
C. W. Adie*



Broomfield United Methodist Church

Personal acquaintance with these works of art brought Tutill rewards from existing customers. Writing from Court "Carysfort", No. 1369 which met at Elton in Huntingdonshire, in May 1864, the Secretary recorded that:-

Sir and Brother

The Banner you sent to our court has given such great satisfaction to our members, that I have the pleasure to give you an order for another one, not for a Foresters', but for a Friendly Society.

W. Newton ⁽²⁷⁾

In similar vein was a short note sent in June 1864 from the Secretary of Court “White Horse”, No. 3184, based in Westbury, Wiltshire.

Sir and Brother

I beg to inform you that the Banner arrived here quite safe, and has given great satisfaction.

Hoping to give you another order shortly.

Yours fraternally

W. Miller ⁽²⁸⁾

Just how many Foresters Courts and districts purchased banners from G. Tutill during his lifetime is impossible to ascertain. In the survey conducted by the People’s History Museum, Manchester in 1999, the survival of 188 Tutill banners, associated with societies of all sorts was identified. ⁽²⁹⁾ Contemporaries rated the acquisition and display of one of his banners highly. On the occasion of the anniversary of Court “Temple of Peace”, No. 3296 at Maescymmwr, in July 1875, the parade was formed on leaving church, ‘the rear being brought up by a splendid new banner of Indian silk, supplied by Bro. Tutill, of London, and which was the object of general admiration along the whole route.’ ⁽³⁰⁾

In his Will, George Tutill left to his daughter Georgina Lewis ‘the stock in trade book debts goodwill and business of a Regalia Manufacturer.’ ⁽³¹⁾ To his Chief Clerk, William Henry Smith, he bequeathed ‘one fourth share of and in the net profits to be derived from my said business’ conditionally on his faithfully discharging his duties as Manager. Further it was a proviso that William Smith gave ‘his whole time and attention to ... the satisfaction of my daughter and trustees.’ Specifically, Tutill instructed that this was ‘in no way to be construed into a partnership but merely to be paid as a salary.’ ⁽³²⁾ The ordinary employees were not forgotten, with each man in employment at the time of Tutill’s death having more than five years employment, being given £20.

The legacy that can be shared today is that of the banners, sashes, collars, emblems and stars, created and marketed by George Tutill in a lifetime which saw him, along with one or two other major enterprising individuals, create and engage in an entirely new branch of manufacturing contributing to the lives of working people.



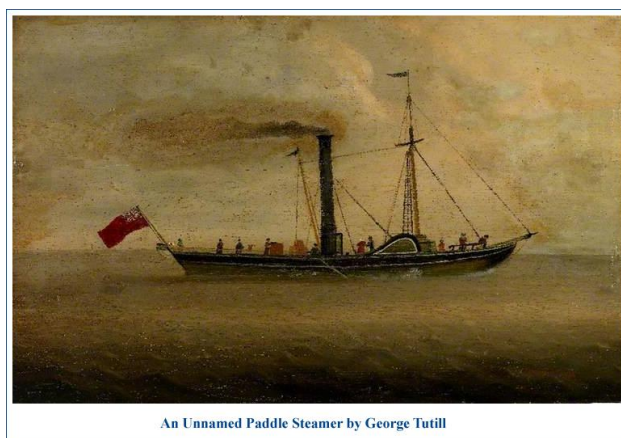
Trade Union Banner

References for Section (C)

- (1) *Foresters' Miscellany*, 1865, October, cover advertisement.
- (2) *Foresters' Directory*, 1892.
- (3) *Foresters' Miscellany*, 1848, VI, March, p. 137.
- (4) *Foresters' Miscellany*, 1848, VI, March, p. 137.
- (5) *The Foresters' Magazine*, February 1848, No. 26, p. 439.
- (6) *The Foresters' Magazine*. February 1848, No. 26, p. 439.
- (7) *The Foresters' Magazine*, March 1848, No. 27, p. 454.
- (8) *Foresters' Miscellany*, 1848, IX, advert.
- (9) *The Foresters' Magazine*, August 1848, No. 34, p. 533.
- (10) *Miscellany*, 1858, p. 287.
- (11) *Foresters' Miscellany*, January 1859, cover advertisement.
- (12) *Foresters' Miscellany*, January 1860, cover advertisement.
- (13) BB, p. 53.
- (14) AOF EC QR 1879, July, p. 78.
- (15) AOF EC QR 1879, July, p. 78.
- (16) AOF EC QR July 1881, p. 57.
- (17) AOF *Foresters' Directory*, 1901, inside cover advertisement.
- (18) AOF EC QR July 1881, p. 57.
- (19) AOF Court "Victoria, British Queen", No. 545, Cash Book, 1849.
- (20) *Foresters' Miscellany*, January 1859, cover advertisement.
- (21) AOF EC QR September 1861, p. 53.
- (22) AOF EC QR October 1862, p. 55.
- (23) AOF EC QR March 1862, p. 28.
- (24) AOF EC QR January 1863, p. 5.
- (25) *Oddfellows' Magazine*, April 1862, p. 115 (from *Weekly Chronicle* 16 March, 1862)
- (26) *Foresters' Miscellany*, October 1865, cover advertisement.
- (27) *Foresters' Miscellany*, October 1865, cover advertisement.
- (28) *Foresters' Miscellany*, October 1865, cover advertisement.
- (29) People's History Museum, National Banner Survey, 1999.
- (30) *Foresters' Miscellany*, October 1875, p. 525.
- (31) G Tutill Will.
- (32) G Tutill Will.

(d) The Artist

George Tutill's desire to be known as an artist, that is a painter of pictures, can be seen in two principal areas. As shown earlier, in at least three censuses, on his first marriage certificate, and on the death certificate of his son, he called himself artist or painter. In the advertisements for his banners he included references to a number of exhibitions and displays where as an artist exhibitor, he had revealed his artistic talents. By way of rounding off this consideration of a full and diverse life, an attempt is made to reveal the full range of his artistic achievements. Credit for the capacity to do this should be given to Algernon Graves, FSA, a man who produced several outstandingly comprehensive dictionaries of exhibitors at different 18th/19th century artistic institutions.



An Unnamed Paddle Steamer by George Tutill

(i) The Royal Academy

The single exhibit of a painting at the Royal Academy is the exception to the rule of knowledge of it coming from Tutill's advertisements. Neither the flier of September (?) 1847, nor an advert in the May 1848 edition of the *Foresters' Miscellany*, refer to any exhibit yet according to Gorman, in 1847 a G. Tutill exhibited that year. ⁽¹⁾ In fact, it was in 1846 that a painting, numbered 149 in the catalogue, entitled 'Scarborough Castle', by G. Tutill, was exhibited. ⁽²⁾ This, the first of George Tutill's paintings to be publicly hung, was presumably based on personal knowledge of Scarborough and area from the days of his youth. Intriguingly the artist's address was given as 52 Manor Street, St. Luke's. Was Manor a mis-description of Banner? 52 Banner Street was, it will be recalled the address of Samuel Wickens, Prince of Wales public house in the parish of St Luke's. As to the fate of this, the first of his paintings, could it survive somewhere?

(ii) British Institution

The British Institution existed between 1805 and 1867. Founded on 4 June 1805, it opened in January 1806. It had premises in Pall Mall, holding twice yearly exhibitions. In the Spring modern artists prevailed and in the Autumn the works of old masters were exhibited. The intention was to enable the display of larger items. ⁽³⁾ Tutill's claim to have exhibited here can be first specifically identified in January 1862. ⁽⁴⁾ Deeper research has shown that George Tutill displayed five paintings at the British Institution during the early 1850s. ⁽⁵⁾ Details of these were:-

Year	Title	No.	Size (to outside of frame)
1850	Douglas Bay	116	3ft. 1in. x 4ft. 4ins
1851	Laxey	58	3ft. 0in. x 4ft. 4ins
	Holy Island Castle	237	4ft. 0in. x 6ft. 0in
1852	Tare Mountain, Killarney	212	3ft. 3ins. x 4ft. 5ins
	Glengareff	275	2ft. 4ins. x 3ft. 3ins

Douglas Bay and Laxey relate to the Isle of Man, suggesting journeys made to north west England. Holy Island, situated off the north east English coast, and Killarney and Glengareff, in Ireland, hint at visits made to these scenic areas when Tutill was a young man. The occupation/address given for all of these paintings was painter/52 Banner Street. Since it is known that his domestic address was at Sun Court in 1851, it seems reasonable to conclude that rooms at the *Prince of Wales* ph, i.e. 52 Banner Street, St Lukes, served as a studio/ manufactory for both his paintings and banners.

(iii) Society of British Artists

The society was established in 1823, continuing as such until 1887 when Queen Victoria authorised the addition of the word 'Royal' to the title. As with the British Institution, George Tutill's involvement was first clearly identified 1862. ⁽⁶⁾ Two works were shown at the SBA by Tutill, one in 1855 the other in 1858. ⁽⁷⁾

Year	Title	No.	Priced at:
1855	Bantry Bay, Hungry Mountain in the distance	373	£15 15s 0d
1858	Mouth of the Humber	292	£21 0s 0d

The mouth of the River Humber was well within reach of Tutill's childhood home at Howden, whilst Bantry Bay, another coastal location, was in south west Ireland. The addresses recorded for the artist at this period suggest that periodically he was moving home. In 1855 an address of 19 Ashley Terrace, City Road, was given; in 1858, 8 Angell Terrace, St Peters Street, Islington was quoted.

(iv) The Royal Exhibition

Exactly what Tutill meant by this nomenclature has to be guessed at. The reference first occurs in an advertisement of April 1859, placing the event sometime before this date. ⁽⁸⁾ Possibly the reference was to the Great Exhibition of 1851, held in the building which came to be called the 'Crystal Palace'. However, two things argue against this. Firstly the 1851 exhibition was not royal. The full title, now seldom referred to, was 'The Great Exhibition of the Works of Industry of All Nations.' Secondly, and more persuasively, the *Official Description and Illustrated Guide* contained no reference in its several thousand entries to George Tutill, his products or his paintings. ⁽⁹⁾ Tutill's claim to have exhibited at a Royal Exhibition is, for the present, a mystery.

(v) The Great International Exhibition of 1862

No reference to exhibited works by Tutill have yet been located.

In all, eight paintings by G(eorge) Tutill can currently be identified. All were of coastal landscapes, which seems to have been his speciality. The first was exhibited in 1846 and the last in 1858, suggesting that this ceased to be an activity of such priority in his life.

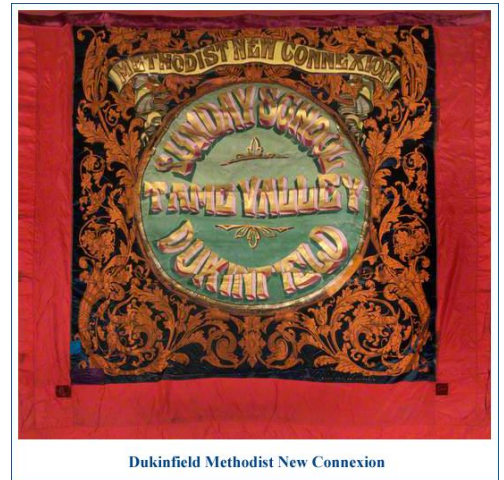
References for Section (d)

- (1) *BB*, p.50.
- (2) *The Royal Academy of Arts, A complete Dictionary of Exhibitors and their works from 1769 to 1904*, (1905), Algernon Graves, Henry Graves, London, Vol. 8, p. 48.
- (3) www.victorianlondon.org.
- (4) *Foresters' Miscellany*, January 1862, cover advertisements.
- (5) *The British Institution ; A complete Dictionary of Contributors and their work from the foundation of the Institution*, (1875. Facsimile 1969), Algernon Groves, Kingsmead Reprints, Bath, p. 546.
- (6) *Foresters' Miscellany*, January 1862, cover advertisements.
- (7) *Works exhibited at the Royal Society of British Artists Exhibitors, 1824–1893*, (1975), Antique Collector Club, Vol. 2, p. 468.
- (8) *Foresters' Miscellany*, April 1859, cover advertisement.
- (9) *Great Exhibition of the Works of Industry of All Nations, 1851. Official Descriptive and Illustrated Catalogue*, (1851), W. Clowes and Sons, London.

(e) Conclusion

The new light thrown on George Tutill's eventful life puts us in touch with a man of many parts. A personal life contained both sadness, with the loss of a young wife and later a young child, and joy, with the lasting female companionship of one who bore his only surviving child and the arrival later in life of grand children. The seemingly unorthodox nature of the early stages of this lasting relationship suggests a man of strong commitment. His achievements in the friendly society world, leading the expansion of the Ancient Order of Foresters in the City of London in the formative years of the Order in the metropolis, provides further evidence of active dedication to an ideal in which he believed. As a businessman he created and developed a flourishing business, supplying the entire spectrum of newly formed working people's organisations, who through association, engaged in mutual aid and support in a rapidly changing world. His contribution to the world of art was limited, yet it indicates a talent and a desire to use it.

There may be other aspects of George Tutill's life yet to be discovered. The evidence available to date shows an adventurous, open minded and considerate man. A successful self-made entrepreneur he achieved all that there was to be achieved in Victorian England. Yet, perhaps, inside there was sadness and regret, borne from personal experience. George Tutill was an extraordinary man and nothing that comes to light is likely to lessen the engaging attraction of this multi-faceted individual.



Dukinfield Methodist New Connexion



Banner from the Broomfield United Methodist Church



Banner from Dukinfield Methodist New Connexion

Appendix A

There was, in May 1898 a rather remarkable meeting at which Mr Tutill, whose death eleven years earlier is described above, apparently was present. According to the AOF Chester Executive Council:-

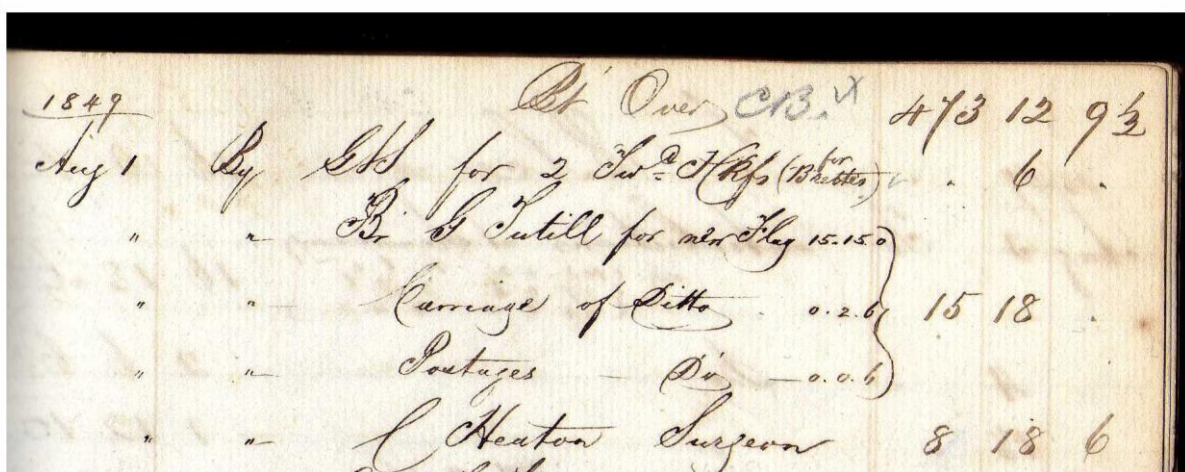
At a Council meeting held on May 13th [1898], Mr Tutill attended.

Mr Tutill stated that he fully understood the resolution of the last High Court, but that he wished to explain his position, which he did as follows. He started tendering to supply goods at Bristol; at that time Messrs. Slingsby had the whole of the work of the Order. Notwithstanding the cost of machinery necessary, they decided to compete but were unsuccessful. On that they brought out new designs, and were doing a good trade – in fact they became a formidable rival. On this the late PS approached the firm, and it was agreed that they should supply the Executive Council with goods, and cease selling authorised regalia except to the Order through the EC. This was only a verbal agreement with the Bristol EC but the result was that the prices were considerably reduced below that of Messrs Slingsby. The arrangements were that both firms should supply. Mr Tutill said that he had done good business with the Order, and his ribbons had taken on, but they could be improved upon. ⁽¹⁾

Who this person was is a mystery. It can only be presumed to be whoever was running the company bearing his name. According to John Gorman, the business passed to George Tutill's daughter *and son in law* on his death. Gorman identifies him as H. W. E. Storey, so was he the mysterious 'Mr Tutill'? ⁽²⁾ On the other hand, according to his Will his daughter's name was Mrs Lewis, so was it Mr Lewis? Or had she re-married? In offering this account of George Tutill's life, I hope to have shed some additional light on a man who was a Victorian success story. Clearly, however, there remain many areas where further clarification needs to be obtained.

References for Appendix A

- (1) AOF EC QR 1898 October pp. 56-9.
- (2) *Banner Bright*, p.59.



Entry from an 1849 Foresters' Court accounts book, showing a payment to G. Tutill