

From Effie Whinfield to
Charles Edward Middleton-Stewart

6. Benton Terrace,
Newcastle / p. 2.
23.11.1934.

My dear Cousin,

Since writing to you last week
I have now been able to find the
following information.

As explained in my last letter
I have a very good neighbour, a
Sergeant in our Local Police force, who has
been very helpful to me at various
times since my husband's death. Well,
as both he & his wife are Roman Catholics,
I thought I could not do better than
put the matter in his hands. Sergeant
Gallyher was only too pleased to help me,
& has worked hard to do so.

He went to "St. Andrew's" Church,
which is the Mother Church of Newcastle,
& found they had already the matter

in hand + that enquiries were then
being pursued. The priest in charge
had searched all records at St. Andrew's
could find nothing, so he had passed
your letter (similar to the one you send to
me + which I now return) on to the
Rev. Fr. Sean of St. Mary's R.C. Cathedral,
the records of which church would be
of a later date. There is no trace of
any certificates amongst the records there,
but Father Sean, has searched the records
of St. John's Church of England here +
finds a record of David Turnbull +
Frances Middleton. Whether this is
a record of marriage or birth he does
not say, but I understand that copies
have been taken + forwarded to the
Bishop's secretary, so that you will
no doubt be hearing from that source
in due course.

To save time, I am sending this letter by air mail; as I gather you are very anxious for this proof that your grandmother's name was Frances Middleton.

With regard to Aunt Fanny, Sergeant Gallagher has advised me to try find out in which district of London she was living when last heard of. I am sure that he will be able to help through the Commissioners in London. I take it you will not mind any expense which may be incurred, & in the meantime will do my best to help in this way.

You ask if these are any old letters in the Desk I have. Last night Sergeant Gallagher called with the result of his enquiries, & Stewart brought out the Desk to show him. He was thoroughly

interested in it & he & Stewart spent quite a time turning over the various "treasures" it contains. Stewart is very proud of his "big box" & likes anyone who will go through it with him.

In my last letter I have told you that all the old watch interiors had been thrown out, but I am ever so pleased to tell you that they are still there all packed in a tiny round white box.

The only papers in the box are a letter dated "Cronstadt Dec. 13th 183- (be not sure of last figure). It is written to a Mr Hopper, by signed ~~Geo. Whinfield~~.

G. Whinfield. I do not think it will help you in any way as there is no mention of anyone Stewart in it. but I have

a copy of a Charter dated Liverpool 3rd June 1833. referring to "the Good Ship 'Lord Ravensworth' wherof Geo. Whinfield

Franklin 1860

is Master. of the one part, + Frank Spaight
Esq. of Limerick Merchant, & freight of the
Other Part." This is signed:-

Witnesses. H. A. Stewart. ~~Wm. Spaight~~ Jno Hunter.
Frank Spaight.
Witness. Wm. Spaight.

There is also a receipt Note & two
Certificates of Cargo Shipped.

According to the letter Geo. Wharfelt
was shipwrecked at the time he wrote it.
& simply tells of people he met there &
of how he got money to get home again.
If you think it advisable I will certainly
send them all out to you, but in
the meantime am going to take copies
which can follow later, the originals
will be carefully kept until you
return home, if you prefer it that
way.

You will be anxiously awaiting the
removal of Col. Stewart by now, & I only
hope this letter reaches you in good time,
so that you can both have a "how-was-
it."

With my very kindest regards
& Best wishes to you & your wife - whom
I'm trying to meet - not forgetting that
dear little Grandson (?) - you warned
me about.

Yours very sincerely,

Effie Whipple.