

**James Gibson (1779-1840) Businessman and Ship-owners of North Shields,  
Tynemouth Northumberland and his descendants in historical context**

**Index** **Pages: 2-5**

**Preface** **Pages: 6-9**

**Part 1- Scotland and England**

**Chapter 1** **Pages: 10-27**

**Introduction and historical orientation**

- Historical background that will be covered
- Historical and factual information related to Religion and Politics: Politics and Religion are very uncomfortable bedfellows
- History of Scotland and Northumberland
- The history of the surname Gibson in geographical context
- More Gibsons in Northern England than in Scotland in 1891
- Pivotal European, American and British historical events that impacted on history and people
- Introduction to the earliest four generations of Gibson families in historical context from (1689-1840) p. 19
- Relevant historical highlights influencing the above Gibson Families
- A summary of the impact of these historical facts and the development of the British Naval and Merchant fleet on Trade and Industrialisation on the population
- *(Those not interested in the background history please feel free to read only the sections that are of interest to you.)*

**Chapter 2** **Pages: 28-35**

**The Gibson story: from Farmers in Whittingham to Business people and ship owners in North Shields, Tynemouth**

**Chapter 3** **Pages: 36-55**

**The story of our direct ancestor of both South African families: James Gibson (1779-1840), farmer, Butcher and first Shipowner from North Shields, Tynemouth who married Mary Richardson from Brampton Cumberland and their descendants in England in historical context**

**Introduction to the Gibsons of North Shields**

- Basic facts and orientation to sailing ships of the era
- The GIBSON family ships registered at Port of Shields, Tynemouth (1829-1874)
- The interesting story of the first Gibson ship "*The Mary*"

The remarkable story and achievements of James Gibson (1779-1840) farmer, businessman and shipowner p. 39

- James Gibson and Mary Richards' children in England
- Following the timeline and events of James Gibson (1779-1840), and Mary Richardson-Gibson p. 43
  - In about 1806 they moved from Whittingham to Murton and in 1809 to North Shields, Tynemouth
  - The family Butcheries, Brock Farm and Christ Church, North Shields, Tynemouth
  - 1823-The Clive Street Business complex of James Gibson
  - 1834-The second Gibson ship "The Blessing" - barque, build in 1788 and owned by James Gibson p. 50
  - 1840- Death of James Gibson (1779-1840)
  - Voting rights and Property and value of money in mid 1800 England
  - The Children of James Gibson (1779-1840) and Mary Richardson-Gibson

#### Chapter 4

Pages: 56-77

The stories and families of two elder sons of James Gibson (1779-1840) Joseph and James Gibson ship-owners at Tynemouth

- The gifted eldest son Joseph Gibson (1809-1859) married Mary Stokes
  - The Ships owned and managed by Joseph Gibson (1807-1859)
  - Joseph Gibson the science enthusiast and able craftsman
  - The death of Joseph Gibson (1807-1859)
- James Gibson (1808-1866) Butcher, Farmer and ship owner is the topic of our next discussion. James married Isabella Jameson p. 66
- Death of James Gibson: Newcastle Daily Journal of 11 Jul 1866

The three surviving Children of James Gibson at his death in 1866 p. 69

- Joseph Gibson (1836-1874) married Louisa Spain and was the last Shipowner in the family and a very bright young man
- Joseph Gibson (1836-1874) selling off family assets p. 73
  - John Gibson (1843-1872) married Martha Oldroyd and was last surviving son of James Gibson (1809-1866)
  - The Children of John Gibson and Mary Oldroyd
  - The achievements of John Oldroyd p. 75
- Isabella Gibson (1845-1913) married Francis Hansell of Murton Estate-the last surviving child of James Gibson (1808-1866) and mother Isabella Gibson after 1874

#### Chapter 5

Pages: 77-81

The remainder of the children of James and Mary Gibson that remained in Northumberland England

- William Bell Gibson (1813-1813) died young
- Mary Ann Gibson (1815-) Married George Paul Amstrong

- Ann Gibson (1818- bef. 1861) born in Brock House, North Shields in 1818 and married Henry George Gibson from Hexham a pharmacist of profession.
- William Gibson (1826-1854) married Isabella born in Scotland in 1825

#### Surviving children of Ann Gibson (North Shields) and Henry Gibson (Hexham)

- James Henry Gibson married Emily Florence Peruzzi, daughter of William Peruzzi and Susan Webb and their children.
- William Henry Peruzzi Gibson married Mildred Mary Gibson, daughter of Wilfred Gibson and Ann Margaret Dees (Margaret), on 8 Jan 1902 in Hexham,
- Seven children were born from this marriage and this Gibson family is the most likely to still traceable up to the present. time
- Frances Ann Gibson-Humble was born on 22 Jan 1854 in Newcastle upon Tyne, England and died in Mar 1916 in Wandsworth, London aged 62.

#### Chapter 6

Pages: 83-91

#### The Dobson and Gibson families of Hexham

Elizabeth Dobson-Gibson (1810-1890) my gr. gr. Grandmother and wife of Thomas Gibson (1810-1843) artist- honoring her life

- Elizabeth Dobson was baptised in Cockshaw RC Church on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of Jan 1810
- Gibson Pharmacy-Hexham opened in 1834
- The ancestors of our Hexham Gibson family connection p. 88
- Jasper Gibson (1690-1752) son of Thomas Gibson above and next direct descendant married Margaret Leadbitter (1702-1777)

#### Chapter 7:

Pages: 92-108

#### Thomas Gibson (1810-1843), Artist

- Thomas and Elizabeth Gibson had four children but only two survived
- The personal story of Thomas Gibson (1810-1843) Artist
- Thomas Gibson (1810-1843) and the Phil and Lit p. 66
- The "Carlisle Journal" 11.03.1843 Portrait of John Ramshay Esq.
- The Thomas Gibson - Charles Dickens connection
- Death of Thomas Gibson (Carlisle Journal: 6.1.1844) p. 100
- The remarkable survival skills and character of the widow Elizabeth Gibson
- Elizabeth visited the Vicar of Lindisfarne in 1861 Northumberland and moved to Inchbrook soon after as in 1863 she owned a Bookstore in Inchbrook, Woodchester near Nailsworth
- Elizabeth died 29 Dec 1890 in Stone, Staffordshire, England (BDM Index Vol 6bPg 23)

**Annexure A:**

**Pages: 109-114**

**Descendants of James Gibson (1754-bef.1810) – in England**

**Generations 1-5 of our Gibson family in Northumberland including:**

- all known generations of descendants of **Isabella Gibson-Hansell (1845-1913)** (person 1.1.2.5.1. in text) as well as that of **Ann Gibson (1818-bef.1860)**
- all known generations of descendants of **Henry George Gibson's (1810-bef.1861)** (person 1.1.6 in text) **from Hexham** and Ann Gibson( 1818-bef.1860) that remained in England

**Note to Annexure A: Some family members were not discussed yet as they are in countries other than England and will be discussed in Part II. The direct lines to the two South African families are all in bold print and names will be underlined. The South African and American family members will also be marked with (\*) and discussed in part II**

**Annexure B:**

**Pages: 115-118**

**The Gibson related families of Hexham and ancestors of Henry George Gibson of Hexham who married Ann Gibson of North Shields**

**Note: Part 2 and 3: The stories of the South African descendants of James Gibson (1779-1840) Businessman and Ship-owner of North Shields and Tynemouth**

**South Africa**

**Part 2: Robert Thompson Gibson (1823-1868)**

**Pages: 117-190**

**Annexure C: The descendants of Robert Thompson Gibson and Augusta Rebecca (Mandy) Gibson**

**Pages: 189-190**

**Part 3: Dr James Gibson (1836-1872)**

**Pages: 190-338**

**Annexure D: Descendants of Thomas Gibson (1810-1843) (Artist) 3<sup>rd</sup> son of James Gibson (1779-1840) Farmer, Businessman and Shipowner from North Shields and grandson Dr James Gibson (1836-1872) in South Africa**

**Pages: 339-357**

## **Part 2**

### **The Tynemouth Gibson families in South Africa**

**The South African descendants of James Gibson (1779-1840) businessman, farmer and Shipowner of North Shields, Tynemouth Northumberland, England**

#### **Robert Thompson Gibson**

##### **Chapter 1**

**p. 121**

**A short History of South Africa as background to the stories of the two South African Gibson families**

##### **Introduction and orientation**

- A short history of European involvement in South Africa
- The first British Occupation of the Cape (1795 - 1803)
- Batavian Rule (Dutch) 1803 - 1806
- Second British Occupation (1806)
- The British Settlers (1820-1835)
- The Great Trek 1836-38 and “Boere” Republican Ideals and the Bantu tribal wars
- Voortrekker Settlement in the Orange Free State
- Voortrekker Republic of Natal with Pietermaritzburg the Capital
- Natal also a British Colony 1843
- The Orange River Sovereignty
- The Republic of the Orange Free State

##### **Chapter 2**

**p. 130**

##### **The journey from North Shields, Tynemouth to South Africa**

- From Scotland to Northumberland to South Africa
- Brock Farm and Brock Farm House
- The Gibson Business interests and other properties
- The Gibson ship-owners
- Death of James Gibson (1779-1840)
- England traded with most the countries of the known world
- Opportunities in the British Colonies

##### **Chapter 3**

**p. 136**

**Robert Thompson Gibson (1823-1868) the seventh son of James and Mary Gibson of North Shields, Tynemouth arrived in South Africa in 1843**

**Robert Thompson Gibson (1823-1868) merchant in early Natal, “Overberg”- OFS and Transvaal**

Introduction to his South African career and family p.136

- Introducing the family of Robert Thompson and Augusta Rebecca Gibson
- Robert Thompson Gibson farmer, business partner and “Overberg” trader
- R.T. Gibson bought the trading station at Nelsonskop
- R.T. Gibson’s nephew James Gibson arrived in Port Natal on 31 Oct.1857
- Robert Thompson Gibson the farmer and money lender
- The death of Robert Thompson Gibson p.148
- The family of Robert Thompson Gibson and Augusta Rebecca Mandy-Gibson

Chapter 4 p.153

Walter Peel Gibson (1858-1935) of Richmond KZN

Chapter 5 p.163

Robert Gibson (1856-1930) and Lavinia (Sadler) Gibson of Harrismith OFS

The Sadler family p.160

Chapter 6 p.163

Children of Robert and Lavinia Gibson of Harrismith

- Dr Robert William Beor Gibson (1883-1928) p.164
- Irene Ethel Gibson (1885-1970) a dear friend in the family
- Clement Walter Gibson (1889-1958) and Perla Siedle-Gibson p.172
- Charles Edward Gibson (1891
- Natalie Mary Gibson born 14 Nov 1894
- Allen Augustine Gibson b. 1904
- Austin Gibson b. 1905 married Florence Hilda Povall.
- Captain Guy Charles Gibson b. 1906 married Eva Dulcie Weiss
- Concluding remarks and hopes

Chapter 7 p.186

Related families of Robert Thompson Gibson (1823-1868):

The Mandy’s of Harrismith family and friends of the Gibsons

Annexure C p.189

The descendants of Robert Thompson Gibson (1823-1868) and Augusta Rebecca (Mandy) Gibson

## **Part 3**

### **Index**

p.190

### **Dr James Gibson (1836-1872)**

**Descendants of Dr James Gibson the son of Thomas Gibson (artist) 3<sup>rd</sup> son of James and Mary Gibson James Gibson (1779-1840) businessman, farmer and Shipowner of North Shields, Tynemouth Northumberland, England and Elizabeth Dobson from Hexham**

#### **Chapter 1**

p. 194

- **Introduction to the South African story**
- **Thomas and Elizabeth Gibson and children**
- **The birth and early life of James Gibson (1836-1872)**
- **The childhood of James Gibson according to the timeline and movements of Thomas and Elizabeth Gibson and family**
- **James Gibson (1836-1872) the student**
- **The enigma of Dr James Gibson birthplace on his death certificate now resolved**
- **Dr James Gibson arrives in South Africa**

#### **Chapter 2**

p. 201

**Dr James Gibson moved to Winburg the capital town of the Orange Free State in 1858**

- **Introduction and historical orientation**
- **The story of F.P. Schnehage and his family in Winburg: the future but reluctant father in law of Dr James Gibson**  
p. 205
- **F.P Schnehage and his wife Henrietta Schnehage, our maternal grandparents as well their first generation children played an important role in the Gibson family for many years**

#### **Chapter 3**

p. 220

**Dr James Gibson started his medical career and fell in love with the beautiful Schnehage daughter**

- **The difficult business of courting**
- **The marriage at Winburg of James and Martha Gibson and their children**
- **The discovery of diamonds in Kimberley**
- **A big present for Martha Gibson a John Broadway & Sons piano**
- **Grahamstown: the death of Dr Gibson**

## Chapter 4

p. 233

### The story of the ship “The James Gibson” stranded in East London, South Africa in 1874

- Terrible storms in the Eastern Cape, South Africa
- The last and traumatic voyage of the barque “James Gibson” was from London, England to East London South Africa in 1874

## Chapter 5

p. 241

### The Tribulations of the widow Martha Gibson and her young boys

- Introduction
- The pious grandmother baptised the family again
- Tragedy struck and Martha appear to have had a stroke
- Martha Gibson’s health deteriorated further and she was baptised too
- Martha Gibson died and Mary Elizabeth Gibson returned to England
- F.P. Schnehage became guardian of the Gibson children

## Chapter 6

p. 247

### Descendants of Arthur Clement Gibson (1865-1899) and Anna Maria De Villiers

- Arthur Clement Gibson at Leeds University, England
- The career and death of Arthur Clement Gibson (1865-1899)
- The widow Anna Maria De Villiers-Gibson
- Children of Arthur Clement Gibson and Anna Maria De Villiers
- Lilian Mary Rosalie Gibson +Johannes van der Spuy
- George Frank Clifford +Josephine Jooste p. 261
- Valerie Sybil May Gibson b. 1923 x Johannes Henricus Abraham
- Gilbert George Julian (Gilbert) Gibson 1928, x Yvonne Hope Campbell
- Josephine Annie Vera Gibson b. 1931
- Michael Arthur Joseph Gibson b. 1939 +Helena Elizabeth van Aswegen
- Eugene Delarey Gibson b 1942 + Beatrix Susanna Marx b. 13.8.1942
  
- Thelma Philomina Vera Gibson +Alexander Coulter
- Arthur Cyril Bertrand Gibson

## Chapter 7

p. 260

### Descendants of William Francis Parker Gibson (1867-1937) and Aletta Johanna Kramer (Lettie) (1868-1951)

- William Francis Parker (Willie) Gibson’s story



- The Children of William Francis Parker Gibson (1867-1937) Aletta Johanna Kramer (Lettie) (1868-1951)
- Caleb George Gibson (1891-) 'Überrest' and Cornelia Magdalena Kramer (1891-1968)
  - Gertuida Jacoba Aletta Gibson (Duifie) 1919, +Johannes Jacobus Kotze (Johan)
  - James Caleb William Gibson (James) b. 1920, + Isabella Johanna Magrieta Kramer (Bellie)
  - Hertzog Petrus George Gibson (Pat) b.1923 +Anna Eleonora (Nora) Dreyer
  - Irene Cornelia Magdalena Gibson b.1925 +Daniel Johannes van den Heever

p. 262
- James Nathaniel Frederick Gibson b. 1892, + Catharina Elizabeth van de Lith-Geldenhuis
 

p. 273
- Gilbert John Gibson b.1894,+ Bertha Margaretha Griesel
 

p. 274

  - Elsie Sophia Gibson b.1922, +Dirk van Breda du Toit
  - William Francis Parker Gibson b.1924, +Catherina Maria Thalwitzer
  - Johan David Gideon Gibson (Deon) b. 1926, + Magdalena Elizabeth Conradie
  - Aletta Naomi Gibson b. 1935, + Dr Frederik Johannes Strauss
- Adelaide Maude Gibson 1895, Winburg, Free State, South Africa x Albert George Enslin xx Willem Nicolaas Jacobus Saaiman
- Barend Theunis Gibson 1900 + Sylvia Ramsbottom daughter of William Ramsbottom b. Dublin, Ireland +Mathilda Wallace
 

p. 288

  - Loraine Gibson b. 24 Dec 1932 -1969 +Raymond Lund Biram
  - Gilmour William Gibson b.1939 married Paola Verna-Gibson
  - Conway Rupert Gibson b.1944, d.1971
- Irene Lettice Gibson b. Nov 1905, d. 6 Mar 1915,

## Chapter 8 p. 294

### Decendants of Charles Frederick Joseph Paton (Fred) Gibson (1869-1927) and Annie Eliza de Swardt

- Charles Frederick Joseph Paton (Fred) Gibson b. 16 Jul 1869, 'Grootkuil', Winburg
- Approximate timeline of CFJP (Fred) Gibson
- POWs return to Cape Town from St. Helena
- Volksblad article about Winburg and Fred Gibson ( 12 Aug 2014) – Charles Smith
- Annie Eliza de Swardt-Gibson died
- Charles Frederick Joseph Paton Gibson died
- Children of CFJP (Fred) Gibson and Annie Eliza de Swardt

### Gibson Nathaniel Gibson (1910-1965) + Henrietta Oberholzer p. 306

- Maria Elizabeth Gibson-Kingsley b. 21 Aug 1938
- Charles Frederick Gibson b. 26 Mar 1940
- Annie Jeanette Gibson b. 3 Jul 1941+Martin Johan Slabbert
- Dr Jan Albert Gibson b. 17 Jan 1947 +Maria Knauff b. 27 May 1946
- Nathaniel Gibson b. 15 Aug 1959, +Marie Ronel Pienaar b. 12 Feb 1961

**Frederick Gibson (1913-1985) +Violet Hofmeyr**

p. 331

- Yvonne Gibson b. 6 Jan 1936, d. 8 Feb 1998 +Hans Joachim Hilscher
- Jeanette Gibson b. 24 Apr 1938 died 05-04-2009
- Frederick Hofmeyr Gibson b. 22 Aug 1942, +Sharon Ellen Jooste, + Helen Maureen van Vuuren, + Carrol Moir + Kathleen Pauline van den Berg
- John Harold Gibson b. 12 Apr 1944 +Wanda Cecilia Beckwith b. 27 Sep 1951 p. 334

**Audrey Gibson b.12 Feb 1915, Johannes Jacobus Schimper b. 7 Jun 1907-p.335**

**Millicent Anetta Schimper b. 5 Dec 1935 +Lukas Meyer**

- Dr Audrey Meyer-Klopper
- Lukas Wilhelm Meyer

**Michel Casparus Schimper b. 11 Jan 1937, Marquard, Free State, South Africa, d. 25 Aug 1985, Marquard, Free State, South Africa +Jacomina Susanna Nel (Ina) b. 4 Nov 1937, Marquard, Free State, South Africa**

- Emmerentia Antoinette Schimper b. 7 Nov 1961, Marquard, Free State, South Africa +Christiaan Frederik Schoeman b. 26 Oct 1958, Pretoria, Gauteng
- Johannes Jacobus Schimper b. 19 Dec 1962, Senekal, Free State, South Africa +Laurene Buis b. 5 May 1963
- Audrè Schimper b. 11 Feb 1967, Bethlehem, Free State, South Africa +Christopher Dutton b. 10 Oct 1966
- Daniel Jacobus Schimper b. 12 Apr 1969, Senekal, Free State, South Africa

**Annexure E: Descendants of Thomas Gibson (1810-1843) (Artist) 3<sup>rd</sup> son of James Gibson (1779-1840) Farmer, Businessman and Shipowner from North Shields and grandson Dr James Gibson (1836-1872) in South Africa**