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Microcassette 005M, Box 1

Mrs MP Mitchell as to Andre, Attwood, Bell, Wakefield, etc Families

11/10/1986. Track 1. 60 mins.

Mrs Mitchell – In talking about the Bells, the Quaker Bell Family was a very, one of the very powerful ones, there were the Bells, the Barclays, of course the Wakefields, aah, the Wilberforces, innumerable people but Priscilla Bell married Edward Wakefield and she became a great force with the Quakers. She believed not exactly in equality of women but she believed that women should be educated to the same extent as men so that they would be companions to their husbands and she encouraged frugality amongst the local inhabitants and she started what turned out to be the first savings banks. She ... I think it started, the banks, by encouraging the poverty-stricken locals to put a penny into the bank whenever they could and this was doubled by the Quakers themselves, the rich Quakers, and that really started the savings and it grew and it was taken over by, what should I say, better-known people, but it's gradually been given to her, the credit at last, of founding them.

Um, she was rather hard up, she had a husband who was a very handsome man. He had parents in a Gainsborough picture which has unfortunately gone to America and when any family crisis arose Mr Wakefield had hysterics, you get this entry in her diary quite frequently, and she started writing these improving books for young people. Wakefield's Botany was the best known and she wrote books on travel, books on the empire and they were the first books to be written solely for young people. They weren't children's books but they were for, what I suppose we would now describe as teenagers and she used to be paid 50 pounds for them and on that she

supported an enormous number of grandchildren, children and was a most generous woman. (40)

She kept a diary. Unfortunately the original has disappeared. As American woman professor, Ann Schteir who is now writing a life of Priscilla Wakefield - She's been over to England on many occasions and I've become very friendly with her and well, we've both been on the hunt for the original diary and I'm very much afraid from a letter I discovered 10 days ago that we may have come to the end of our chase and I don't believe that it exists any more, which will be very sad, but we have two extracts, one done by Harry Torlesse, the descendant of Edward Gibbon Wakefield's sister Catherine, and the other one was made by Fanny Torlesse. They were copied, I find now, together at the same time and I fear the original may have actually disappeared.

KTB – Was she living near the Torlesses.

Mrs M – They were, yes, they were, Fanny Torlesse came over from New Zealand and they went over to see another old cousin who had these, the diaries.

KTB – But Priscilla Bell, herself, I mean, was she near the ...

Mrs M – She lived at Tottenham.

KTB – Oh, yes.

Mrs M – That was quite near, yes, and she died in 1834. She kept a diary pretty well towards, till the end of her life. She had many interesting contacts, she knew the young Constable very well and I've used, I've given the man who's writing the Life of Constable all the information I had. She used to meet him sometimes and go for walks with him.

KTB – This would be on Hampstead Heath?

Mrs M – No, it was near Ipswich.

KTB – Oh, when he was painting for Willie Lutz.

Mrs M – That’s it, when he was very young, you see and she describes him as being a most charming, you know simple, unaffected man, and she was very fond of him. But she had this tremendous influence over all her descendants. She used to write to them with great love and affection but she always had to put in, you know, a little scolding as well. Or I’m sorry that you did this, or that, or the other, you know. (77)

But... and then, her... it was her sister’s son I suppose who was Francis Dillon Bell, and he as you know, went out to New Zealand amongst the early settlers and he bought a lot of land around Wellington. Unfortunately, for the rest of his family he sold it rather early before it had become so valuable.

Um, I’m trying to think what else I can say about her. There will be this book published ...

KTB – Well, this is where Barclays Bank comes into it?

Mrs M – They all come into it. They, there is in existence, I saw it hanging in an early Barclays Bank, a chart of all the Quaker Banks that were gradually absorbed into Barclays.

KTB – Somehow or other, Earlham comes into the picture.

Mrs M – Yes, well, the Gurneys of Earlham, aah, were again great Quakers and there was a Gurney Bank, aah, there are an enormous number of banks.

KTB – Somehow or other, you’ve talked to me about *The Small House at Allington*, but I can’t think why that comes into the picture somewhere.

Mrs M – Well, that comes in very much later. Um, as you know, Trollope when he wrote his books, he used to list whole descriptions of people’s houses and *The Small House at Allington* was, um, I’m trying to get, it’s now where, really at Cheshunt. There’s a little, um, church, a little ah, and there’s the River Lea flowing at the end of the garden and there’s this small cottage which um Edward, aah, Daniel Wakefield’s

daughter lived in when she came back to England and Trollope listed the description in, um ... Alice Freeman lived there, who was the niece of Edward Gibbon Wakefield and who was with him when he died, and they came back to England and Trollope came to stay at the big house-there was a very big house which belonged to Benjamin Attwood and was burnt down, I think oh probably about 100 years ago. Anyhow this appeared in the book and someone traced this, and I was staying with Edith Jervis, again a great-granddaughter of Daniel Wakefield, and we saw this in the paper but the association had been established and we rushed off to see the people and they were delighted to show us around and the cottage then was practically the same as when my great-grandmother stayed there. I mean they had the old conservatory and you know the same plants, and the walk by the river, it's all described in *The Small House at Allington*. (124)

KTB – Seeing you've mentioned the Attwoods. could you say something about this monument you unveiled at Birmingham, you ??

Mrs M – Yes, let's see now, begin the best way.

KTB – This is the Centenary, is it, of? ...

Mrs M – Well it was the Bicentenary of his birth.

KTB – Well, how have you got these Attwood papers then?

Mrs M – Well the Attwoods married into the Wakefield Family. There was a great link, I mean, there was tremendous political links originally and Thomas Attwood had a very large family and his eldest daughter married Dan Wakefield. Now, this was his second marriage, they were married at St Margaret's, Westminster. Um, he eventually went to New Zealand with Edward Gibbon and as you know he drew up the Act here and the Attwoods brought up my grandfather who was the eldest child of this Attwood ...

KTB – Well, where would this have been?

Mrs M – Ah, they lived in London for a short time and then when Daniel went to New Zealand, she returned to her parents, which was just outside Birmingham and my grandfather, Charles Marcus Wakefield, was brought up at, just in this house just outside Birmingham. He was devoted to his grandfather and in due course wrote um his life and it has been for a hundred years or more the standard work on Thomas Attwood. It's not well written unfortunately but it contains really all the known information about Thomas Attwood. (151)

There was an extraordinary business when Thomas Attwood offered to relinquish his seat in Parliament in favour of Edward Gibbon Wakefield.

KTB – I know there's a ...

Mrs M – You remember that.

KTB – Wakefield stood for Parliament, or was going to, wasn't he?

Mrs M – Well, he was going to and he was going to have Thomas Attwood's seat and then it all, I think through great political string-pulling, should I say, he was prevented really from doing it. It was a good thing as it was.

Well, Thomas Attwood having achieved the Reform Bill, rather foolishly, I think, actually went into Parliament himself. He'd done all this outside Parliament, I mean he'd prodded [Gray?] into activity and he'd had the most marvellous meetings in Birmingham, there's a, I have a large engraving called the "Gathering of the Unions". He started the political unions, he, well he thought that universal franchise would be the answer to many questions. I don't know that it was but he and the Wakefields were very close in their different ways. There was a wonderful meeting which my grandfather witnessed between Edward Gibbon Wakefield and Thomas Attwood. They went for a walk on the Malvern Hills together and they met a French beggar,

and the French beggar begged of course and Edward Gibbon Wakefield took his stick and shooed him off, you see, “begone, begone”, and Thomas Attwood who was a very gentle man was trying to give him some money and my grandfather watched this as a boy, and he must have been about 16 I think at the time, and he, afterwards used it to illustrate the difference in character of the two men.

KTB – Of course, hanging over all this was after all the French Revolution, it wasn’t so very ...

Mrs M – Well, Thomas Attwood is credited with having saved England from revolution ...

KTB – Well, this really is the point of it.

Mrs M – That is one of the most vital things. I mean he had this terrific power over masses of people and he did prevent them rebelling. There’s no question about it, I mean, the more that is written about him, it all comes out much more, the terrific influence he had. I mean he addressed um crowds of 200,000 on, in Birmingham and that sort of thing and he promised them that things would improve and of course they did. We got eventually the Industrial Revolution.

KTB – Everything makes one think there could have been a bloodbath there.

Mrs M – Oh, there would have been, there certainly would. I mean there were even articles in the *Times* about it, you know, saying that Attwood had saved the country from revolution. I can send you a lot of papers about it, you know. I hadn’t, on coming here thought about Attwood, you know, I’d rather put him out of my mind in favour of Wakefield. Well, unfortunately I’m in the same position towards the Attwoods as I am to the Wakefields. My brother was the last of that line. The descendants of Thomas Attwood, the male line, has completely died out. It’s tragic, but that is what happens.

KTB – Well, where does, is it Scholefield, come in.

Mrs M – Yes, he comes in on the monetary side and they had joint seats, Attwood and there were two seats, and Scholefield had the other one.

KTB – It's a fact that Scholefield was interested in founding South Australia to the extent that he was in the group that was connected with it. (199)

Mrs M – I think they, they were rather interchangeable the, the reform people and the Wakefield system because they were the power in the land, really at the time, they were the advanced thought, the radical thought.

KTB – Well taking ...

Mrs M – Of these two families and their connections ...

KTB – Taking another generation down, your parents then, where did they live?

Mrs M – My father was born at Uxbridge, then the, my two elder aunts were born in New Zealand. My grandfather came back in 1876.

KTB – Well, what was his name?

Mrs M – Charles Marcus Wakefield and ...

KTB – Well, he's the one who wrote the diary.

Mrs M – He's the one who kept the diary and ... which I've edited. I've written his life before he went to New Zealand and written his life afterwards.

KTB – Would Mr Andre like to make an index?

Mrs M – Oh, (*laughs*) well I have made my own index actually. No, I've done a tremendous lot of work on it, I've done a map of all the places that grandfather worked in, he did surveying eventually. He also classified the beetles of New Zealand and there were fourteen named after him. I can think of nothing more depressing that having a beetle named after you (*laughs*), but anyhow he then inherited, his mother inherited from one of the rich Attwoods quite a large fortune. She went to the funeral

of this, I think it was Benjamin Attwood and caught a chill and died immediately afterwards, so that the money actually came to her and she never had a chance of enjoying it and it was divided by her will with her son, Charles Marcus and her daughter, Alice Freeman, as Alice Wakefield had married the son of the great Professor Freeman, the great historian, and it was divided equally and that is really what we've been living on ever since. (223)

KTB – Well where did Charles Marcus live?

Mrs M – He then bought a place at Uxbridge and ...

KTB – That's on the northern line or somewhere, isn't it?

Mrs M – Yes it is, it's about 16 miles from London and it had a great deal of land and ...

KTB – This would be getting into the wooded country, would it?

Mrs M – Yes, it well very much elm country.

KTB – Yes.

Mrs M – very beautiful country and he a lake and a pond and a most beautiful garden. It was a Regency house.

KTB – Is the building still there?

Mrs M – No, it's all been swept away.

KTB – Yes.

Mrs M – Just before the war, um my grandmother died and an uncle, my father's younger brother who was married but had no children, he sold the property and my aunts lived on in a dower house until 1947 the last one died and it's now engulfed in a sea of modern houses.

KTB – You've got portraits of all these.

Mrs M – I have and I recorded it all for the Uxbridge Archives. They, the Archivist at Uxbridge came, and with a photographer, and we photographed the house, the gardens. I got a lot of sketches and photographs of it and it's all been very carefully recorded. (238)

KTB – Did he have a library?

Mrs M – He had a library which was rather dispersed but I've got quite a number of them, I have just on 2000 books.

KTB – Well, where did those papers of Edward originate, I mean they obviously originated with Edward but how did they come to you, through Charles Marcus?

Mrs M – Well, they came through about five different sources. Aah, my uncle, aah, Charles William Wakefield, left a number, not very many, to my brother, Edward Roger Wakefield. Um, aah, Alice Freeman, my great-aunt, left a number of papers to her daughter, Edith Jervis, who was a very close friend as well as a relation of mine and she left me all, or gave me rather in her lifetime, a tremendous number of Attwood and Wakefield Papers. Ah, a few came from my brother, he'd inherited them from his Uncle Charles William Wakefield.

KTB – Did he take any great ..., I suppose he didn't have the time?

Mrs M – Well, he hardly had time, you see he was killed at the age of 33 and then the last great number came from Admiral David Torlesse who was the descendant of Catherine Wakefield.

KTB – Who's living now, where?

Mrs M – And he's living at Sway in Hampshire, near Lymington.

KTB – But he's, of course, getting on in years.

Mrs M – He's, I think 84.

KTB – Yes, he wouldn't be so active.

Mrs M – But he's, he is very active ...

KTB – Is he?

Mrs M – But he didn't want to keep the papers and so he gave them to me.

KTB – Oh. Yes. Oh well. (256)

Mrs M – And so I think they are the only ones in private hands now, the family ... Wakefield Papers. But grandfather, who had a rather what shall I say disturbing sort of life, was shipwrecked. The *Blue Jacket* which was sailing from Wellington, I think, to um England, ah they got as far as about 500 miles off the Falkland Isles, so got around the Horn safely when the wretched ship caught fire and he was nine days in an open boat. There were three boats, there was a boat in which the sailors got and took all the gold, the ship's gold. They were never seen or heard of again. There was another boat which was manned by some of the ship's officers, that also disappeared, but grandfather's little boat was picked up by a 300 ton ship from Hamburg and he was rescued. He was in a very poor condition as you can imagine, he was paralysed and the ship itself was very, very badly supplied and so, although he was saved there was nothing for him to lie on. The sailors had nothing to give him and they were very short of clothes and so his journey back to England was one of great privation but he survived and after a year in England and travelling on the Continent he went back to New Zealand, and he would have stayed there indefinitely but he he'd married and my grandmother didn't like New Zealand life and in 1876 she persuaded him to come back to England and that's when he settled at Uxbridge.

KTB – Well getting back to Edward, you feel there's somebody in Ireland who might have some clues or something?

Mrs M – Well coming back to Edward Gibbon Wakefield's father who was a most remarkable man, you yourself remember those curious documents, don't you, the sort of Journal he kept?

KTB – No.

Mrs M – You saw in London ...

KTB – I can't remember.

Mrs M – Well you sort of put me rather onto their value. There were curious sort of jottings of his thoughts. (283)

KTB – I've forgotten that I'm afraid, I can remember vast numbers of things he'd picked up on the Continent.

Mrs M – Well anyhow, ah first ...

KTB – You've still got that?

Mrs M – I got everything, yes I never ...

KTB – Does it show any inkling of things to come as it were, as regards the son?

Mrs M – Well he was doing it when the son was, he was, he went to Blois and after the colonisation.

KTB – Well it was strange.

Mrs M – But why he did I don't, you see he began by being a sort of agent ...

KTB – He's described as a Land Agent, but is that right?

Mrs M – Well it's partly correct, I mean he did do that in Pall Mall I think it was 42 Pall Mall he had an office, but you see he spent a lot of time writing this report.

KTB – He must have been travelling round in very awkward conditions ...

Mrs M – He was and, but he wouldn't come home because he was rather enjoying it and this is what ... a gap, which I didn't know existed before but there is all this to be found out as to what he was doing. It is only the fact that somebody wrote to me from

Ireland saying could I throw any light on things. I said I'd never heard of this you know involvement with the linen and the silk trade in Ireland.

KTB – Was it the Northern part of Ireland, was it something to do with the linen?

Mrs M – It would be the south I think.

KTB – Well of course they have linen. What about this book though, there is a copy in Adelaide, I've seen it. It's a folio. He must have made an immense effort to write that book. (298)

Mrs M – Well this was a Government, it was inspired for the Government and it's called "Wakefield's Ireland" and I've got, I think, two copies of it and it is still quoted if you read

KTB – It must be an invaluable source of facts.

Mrs M – Oh it is and it's quoted to today and I as see someone now is working on another life of his, but he, you see he was not a great deal older than his son, I think he married at 16, and so they were more like brothers in a way than father and son. They, he died you see in 1856.

KTB – Well how did he, was he commissioned to write the book, you said?

Mrs M – I, he must have been commissioned I think.

KTB – But how, there must have been a lot of history behind that because you just don't write a book like that?

Mrs M – No, of course you don't and he went out and wrote this and I've got letters from his grandmother to him, you know, saying "You've been out there rather a long time, oughtn't you to come home you know, your family are missing you," and all that and he, I think he must have been there for several years.

KTB – Well how was the family subsisting, I mean...?

Mrs M – Well the, his children were living with his grandmother then, oh his mother, I mean Priscilla, the old Quakeress.

KTB – Was there some political background to all this, the troubles of Ireland seem to be endemic at all times, don't they?

Mrs M – Well I don't think there was any particular background, he I mean, he must have shown ability to have been given the job, and he must have gone fairly young because he did so many things afterwards. The book, the next thing after this book, he was asked to do a Government Report on the Asylums of England.

KTB – Well I think you had some papers. (317)

Mrs M – I've got a lot of these papers.

KTB – Well this is getting back to this sort of criminological approach.

Mrs M – It's coming on, that's the whole thing. It, they came on, I've got, mine are chiefly about the west of England. I propose to give a lecture on them in the local Museum Society. They've suddenly realised how interesting it would be to hear his "Report on the Asylums". There's one on "Exeter".

KTB – Actually, they were pretty grim I would think.

Mrs M – Terrible, terrifying and the condition, I mean, one case he said um, "I visited such and such an asylum" and he said "although the prisoners were in chains they were kindly treated" you know. Anyhow he did this in 1815.

KTB – Another thing I can't understand. France had had a Revolution in 1830, hadn't it? They'd had the King deposed. Things were pretty ...

Mrs M – How they went, I mean, Edward Gibbon Wakefield when he went backwards and forwards as a King's Messenger to Paris ...

KTB – Do you think he was really was more of a spy?

Mrs M – Well I don't, I don't know. I mean it is very difficult to tell but he was obviously doing pretty interesting work, but Bonaparte was still about ...

KTB – That's what I mean.

Mrs M – I mean, and he said in one of his letters, "Bonaparte is really off, at last".

KTB – It's a wonder the French authorities didn't take an interest in him.

Mrs M – They may have done but again one doesn't know what there are in French Archives.

KTB – You know the Public Record Office has Secret Service Files open to the public to a degree.

Mrs M – Well that would be worth investigating. (333)

KTB – I mean in Kew. You could, you see Mr Bloomfield ...

Mrs M – He investigated ...

KTB – He very cleverly found those papers in the files dealing with the Embassy at Turin, you remember ...

Mrs M – Yes.

KTB – That was something quite new, therefore there could be other things somewhere.

Mrs M – Well he said there were sacks, do you remember he told us ...

KTB – I've forgotten.

Mrs M – There were sacks of papers.

KTB – I expect there are.

Mrs M – And I mean if somebody had the energy to ...

KTB – It's very daunting, ah the Papers of Lord John Russell fill 100 boxes.

Mrs M – Oh, don't!

KTB – Anyhow shall we stop for a moment?

Mrs M – Yes. (339)

KTB – You see, which Andre married which Wakefield.

Mrs M – Well the, our connection with the Andre's was through my mother who was a Miss Andre marrying my father. She was Edith Miriam Andre.

KTB – Well how did they meet?

Mrs M – They lived at Horsham and they came, their great claim to fame was in the fact that Major John Andre who had come over with his parents from France, I don't know whether he was born in France, I think he was born in England, but his parents aah of course aahwere Huguenots. They left the country, they lived outside Blois, they went, after the Revocation of the Edicts of Nantes, they went to Switzerland and they gradually moved towards England and so about 1750 they were living in Bath and Major John Andre, I think must have been born there, anyhow his family, his mother, father ahh three sisters and a younger brother all lived there. He was a very fine artist, he had to have a profession and he went into the army, the British Army, and he got involved in the American War of Independence. He fought there for about four or five years, he was asked to meet the traitor General Benedict Arnold, who for consideration of 30,000 pounds was prepared to sell the plans of West Point to the English, and later Andre went to meet him and he had the plans in his boots. There's no very clear line of demarcation between the independent,,,aah

KTB - Lines

Mrs M – the lines and he thought he was in his own lines and he was not. He met a sort of marauding band who he thought were attached roughly to the English Army, well actually they were rebels and they took him prisoner and after considerable time he was tried by Washington and sentenced to death. I have you know, the copy of the

Death Certificate and it was considered a very grave blot on Washington's career.

(368)

Well the English, after the war was over, gave a knighthood to William Andre who was Major John Andre's younger brother and he is our ancestor and the Andres here are the direct descendants of Sir William Andre.

KTB – Well the innumerable or at least numerous ? at Ceres- have not been identified much, I take it?

Mrs M – I think they have pretty clearly.

KTB – They have?

Mrs M – Yes, yes they seem to know and I, they've kept it up, um they've gone the whole way down you know through the ...

KTB – Is there a Family Tree of the Andres?

Mrs M – Oh yes, yes. I'm going to look at it when I go back to Ceres - again. I haven't got that but I'm going to see if perhaps I can get a photostat of it.

KTB – Well at some time the Andres must have married the Jacquemarts

Mrs M – They did. Um, err I think she was an heiress and she was a great painter apparently. I haven't seen any paintings of hers but they are really artistic and they left their house and contents there I think in 1912 which are now has become the Jacquemart-Andre ...

KTB – Well it ...

Mrs M – err Museum.

KTB – It does seem highly probable that the link between France and the Wakefields must be through the Andres. (381)

Mrs M – I don't think so. I don't, you see they only came into it with my mother (who started it?),

KTB – Oh, yes that's true.

Mrs M - You see, there's no, but ...

KTB – Be too late.

Mrs M – Too late, but behind that they also involved in the, as merchants and silk merchants and that and so if one followed the same line, one might get information on both families.

KTB – The thing that's caught my attention was Robert Gouger was in this movement of families ...

Mrs M – Yes.

KTB – And you see I've found out through this card index system that he had a silk manufactory in what is now the school at Sherborne in Dorset.

Mrs M – Really.

KTB – And the building is still there but after the dissolution of monasteries a lot of these buildings became secularised as you know.

Mrs M – Yes they did. (388)

KTB – And became rather degraded by these silk manufactories at a later stage and Gouger was one of these people that were doing it and his father too, so ...

Mrs M – Look I can follow that line of thought.

KTB – But that means that could be the way that the Wakefields and the Gougers struck each other.

Mrs M – Because I know the Wingfield Digbys, who are the great power in Sherborne. You know, there is Lord Digby and there is the Wingfield Digby who were the Church Digbys and there is one who was at Oxford with my brother, Basil Wingfield Digby, who is Dean of Winchester and I could write to him and ask him about that.

KTB – Well the school's still there.

Mrs M – It is, my father was, my father was still at Sherborne, was at Sherborne.

KTB – Eh, well that is of course in Dorset not Devon.

Mrs M – No, but it was quite easy to get down then.

KTB – Yes.

Mrs M – And especially we can, I can, I can follow that line of thought to see if they know anything it.

KTB – Yes.

Mrs M – Well particularly interested in Phil?.

KTB – Well it's just that this question of what was going on at Blois...

Mrs M – Yes.

KTB – Seems to originally ... to come into view, doesn't it?

Mrs M – You see there were two Andre houses near Blois one was called (Southsell?) and the other Gibville.

KTB – Yes. (401)

Mrs M – And once in a bus when I was on a tour, a wine tour, with Andre Seymour and my first husband we, as the bus passed I suddenly saw Gibville?. You know, imposing gates with the name on it, but when you are on a tour of course you can do nothing about it. And the same as the Attwoods, you see, had this silk connection and one of the younger, one of Thomas Attwood's ...

KTB – Well, was he a weaver, Attwood?

Mrs M – No, they were, well I don't..., I ..., well they were bankers and, in Birmingham but I don't think they had anything to do with weaving then.

KTB – No.

Mrs M – But a younger brother of Thomas Attwood went out and he had a silk factory near (Blois?) and I may have some documents on that. I'll try and see when I'm, I've kept the Attwood/Wakefield things a bit separate because of, you know, working on them.

KTB – Well can you say anything, there's no doubt Lord Durham and Wakefield were in Canada, we know that. Is there any further suggestion you could make about that side, the Canadian Wakefield was dealt with by Mr (Bloomfield?)

Mrs M – I think I can't add really anything useful about that, I don't seem to have any papers. I've got a rather fine engraving of Durham which must have been given to ... by ...

KTB – I think I mentioned I found out that this Bowes Museum belonged to this Lady Bowes and somehow the ...

Mrs M – She was French, wasn't she?

KTB – Yes she was but Hutt ...

Mrs M – Was she a French actress? (416)

KTB – Yes, well Sir William Hutt apparently had a Parisian Theatre he owned and had a very strange sight of, with all this theatrical activity in Paris but he and, there was some place called (Gibbeside?) I find here, there was some estate somewhere near Durham that belonged to Hutt and this, a lot of activity between Durham and Hutt and New Zealand and South Australia, Wakefield seems to have been rushing up and down to Lord Durham's estate.

Mrs M – The activity of the man because he used to cross the Atlantic and he went across several times, at least three times I think to America, Canada I mean.

KTB – It's hard to see how he fitted it in all in the time, he must have been terribly strong.

Mrs M – He must have been, ‘cos I mean in 1843 he was in Ameri..., in Canada and when he heard of the death of Arthur Wakefield who had been killed by the Maoris, he then immediately came home and eventually of course went to New Zealand.

Most extraordinary activity!

KTB – You mentioned when you came to Adelaide that time, he caught this chill, didn’t he, and he spoke for six hours or ...

Mrs M – And he drove home in an open carriage and they describe it as rheumatic fever, well as you know he’d already had a stroke in England which he had recovered from remarkably well, I mean it took a long time and he was never quite as strong but this, I don’t know really what it was, but it meant that he, he, he ceased all activity.

KTB – Well getting back to the house in Wellington, was there any contents extant in your day, I mean what was the state of the house?

Mrs M – Well, the, um he had a house of his own in Tinakori Road in Wellington.

KTB – This was a wooden house. (435)

Mrs M – This was a wooden house and it’s, I have been trying to identify it, one... I don’t believe we ever shall. It came out in sections, there was an explorer who lived there and I can’t offhand remember his name, but anyhow when Edward Gibbon came out he bought this house and he lived there. When he became very enfeebled he, where he died was in the house in Wellington Terrace.

KTB – Didn’t he have some faithful secretary or I can’t think of his name.

Mrs M – He had a, he had a, a sailor, a man who happened to sail out with him ...

KTB – Who was he?

Mrs M – Called William Schmidt.

KTB – Oh, yes.

Mrs M – And William Schmidt was his devoted servant and I, I don't know how educated he was but he did the most exquisite woodwork. I have a box made of all the New Zealand woods, inlaid with ivory which Edward Gibbon Wakefield had made for my great-aunt. She was the little girl Alice, Alice Wakefield who was with him when he died.

KTB – Well what happened to the adopted Portuguese girl?

Mrs M – She married and I don't know what was ...

KTB – Nobody knows ...

Mrs M – Nobody knows what happened to her but William Schmidt did rather well and eventually had a very good hotel. He ran that and people, my grandfather even stayed there. He became very prosperous, so he must have been a man of some intelligence.

KTB – But what happened to Wakefield's Papers, we don't know? (449)

Mrs M – Well, what happened unfortunately that Daniel Wakefield had a lot of them and he died rather suddenly on circuit and the Papers disappeared then with his death.

KTB – Well does anyone know where Daniel was living in New Zealand?

Mrs M – Yes, um he was, it was his house err where Edward Gibbon Wakefield died, at the Terrace.

KTB – Is it extant?

Mrs M – Well, it's where the site of the Wakefield House, you see, it is known as Wakefield House now and ...

KTB – This is a modern building?

Mrs M – Unfortunately, the, my grandfather inherited and kept this little tiny piece of land with the old house on it in Wellington Terrace, the Terrace Wellington rather and when he died he left it to his wife and then to go on to the family. She left it to my

uncle, Charles, who was u..., who was married but had no children. He then left it for life to his two sisters and after their death to my brother. My brother was killed in the war, the, my aunts quite wrongly managed to sell a Perpetual Lease on the house which was a dreadful thing to do and I through my brother's Will inherited this tiny piece of land with the house on it. The New Zealand Founders' Society at some time before I came into it bought this Perpetual Lease and all I own is the actual piece of ground which I've hung onto. They then, the Founders' Society if you please, destroyed the old house and built on it a tremendous tall building which is now of tremendous value and I get a very small rent for it but the rent has to come up for review in 18 months' time, we've got to the end of the 21 years lease and then I hope I shall either get a very good rent or I may be able to sell it to the Founders' and then I shall start the memorial to Edward, to the Wakefields which will be at Cambridge.

KTB – Mm.

Mrs M – Now this is established, it's accepted by the University and by the Institute of Criminology at Cambridge that they shall be Wakefield Scholarships.

KTB – Mm. (472)

Mrs M – At my death there will be enough money to start them but I hope very much if the New Zealand things solve themselves that I shall be able to get a memorial going in my lifetime.

KTB – There was some professor whose name I completely forgotten.

Mrs M – Well Professor Sir Leon Radzinowicz was the founder of the Institute of ...

KTB – Is he living?

Mrs M – Yes, very much so but he is living in Philadelphia unfortunately, but I am in close correspondence with him and he will get the whole thing going, I mean he'll send it off, you know, because he's the greatest living criminologist. I think he's

probably the greatest criminology of all time..., criminologist of all time. He's brilliant. He's just finished his Great History of the English Criminal Law in five volumes. We had a wonderful party last year to celebrate it in London and this was at Lincoln's Inn which was rather suitable because err Daniel Wakefield, err no Daniel the elder um ...

KTB – I noticed they refer ...

Mrs M – was buried there.

KTB – I notice he's mentioned there as Daniel Jnr.

Mrs M – Yes, because you see his uncle was then alive, Daniel Wakefield.

KTB – He must have been better known perhaps than the son, than Daniel.

Mrs M – Well I think he was, he was a barrister and bencher of Lincoln's Inn, but the trouble with him was that he would, if his clients were poor, he never took any money.

KTB – No I've heard that, yes.

Mrs M – And he was Daniel and you see this one that was, we call Daniel Bell Wakefield to distinguish him.

KTB – Yes. (486)

Mrs M – But he didn't himself use the 'Bell', we use it, I mean it is used historically because, to differentiate between the two. The Daniel, plain Daniel Wakefield, um never came out to New Zealand, I don't think he had any interest in it at all. I've never discovered anything but as I say so many Papers have disappeared but he's down on that isn't he?

KTB – These names in many cases are unknown to me,

Mrs M – **I'll put my glasses on and see what I know of any of them.**

KTB - do any of those names, some of them are well known names, Henry Lytton Bulwer is well known.

Mrs M – Yes.

KTB – But some of those aren't to me although I've heard of them but see George Groat's well known, Benjamin Hawes was a soap boiler they tell me.

Mrs M – Oh, what a wonderful thing.

KTB – Rowland Hill was well known because of penny postage. Matthew Davenport Hill, does he come under your notice at all? He was Recorder of Birmingham I think.

Mrs M – No, no, I can look on my Birmingham Papers.

KTB – Well William Hutt, you see. William Hutt and Lord Durham and Wakefield must have been very close.

Mrs M – Yes I think they were. Molesworth of course was tremendously ...

KTB – You see there must be ...

Mrs M – But Montefiore ...

KTB – Well this is the Montefiores again.

Mrs M – Now you see that I've told you about, haven't I because ...

KTB – There could be papers you see about South Australia in the Montefiore Papers. (496)

Mrs M – I think I'll try writing to the Bishop and see if he knows anything about it.

KTB – There was a Museum, I happened to be at London University College in Gower Street, I was with some people and there is a Montefiore Jewish Museum, have you ever ...

Mrs M – No, I haven't come across ...

KTB – They are very much the leaders of the Jewish Community, aren't they?

Mrs M – And you see this Joseph Parkes of Birmingham ...

KTB – Well that’s ...

Mrs M – I’ve got a book on him.

KTB – Yes, well as a matter of fact I’ve got that book too.

Mrs M – You’ve probably got that too, yes.

KTB – But he was very active with people who’ve finally produced Hilaire Belloc.

Mrs M – Oh really.

KTB – There was a Madame Bodichon. Did you ever, who founded Girton College.

Mrs M – No.

KTB – Parkes became very connected with a literary group later but there could be some link between Parkes and Wakefield almost certainly ...

Mrs M – There must have been, yes I think there must and a ...

KTB - The poet (Scroop, is there Scrope?)

Mrs M – No that doesn’t ...

KTB – Well Dr Southwood Smith, you find references to all these people in all sorts of books but ...

Mrs M – Yes.

KTB – But nothing very much though ...

Mrs M – You see, John Street, that was where we had the ceremony, you know the New Zealand Prime Minister ...

KTB – Well this is at Adelphi. (505)

Mrs M – At John Street, Adelphi, and it was just a, a stone’s throw from where the Charing Cross Medical School had its headquarters for many years and I was Vice-Chairman of the Medical School and we used to have our meetings there. It was funny, when I was sitting there you know doing the Hospital affairs, I was thinking about Edward Gibbon, just you know ...no distance ... at 7 Adelphi.

KTB – Actually, so I'll stop.

Mrs M – This is from Priscilla who was a Bell err to her grandchildren, you see, Priscilla Wakefield. I haven't any of the actual Francis Dillon Bell letters, you know in connection ...

KTB – Well, what has this lady in the USA likely to be doing?

Mrs M – Well she's writing Priscilla Wakefield and she's trying to get all the material, I've given her all the material I have.

KTB – Yes.

Mrs M – We've discussed it, I mean she's young, I think she's probably 40 you know and she's very active, very, she's very much in the feminist line which I don't agree with ...

KTB – No.

Mrs M – You know, she may turn Priscilla into a more modern character and I'm using my influence to prevent her as far as possible but it will be a very good book.

KTB – What part of the USA does she come from?

Mrs M – She's a, um, she's, she's working in, she's American but she's working at the York um, err University of York ...

KTB – Mm.

Mrs M – In Canada and she's had a certain amount of disappointment because they seem, what shall I say, without conscience, the publishers.

KTB – That's quite true I'm afraid.

Mrs M – And they abandoned, ...she had a publisher and they were going to publish and then they abandoned her. She's now got a definite contract with someone else but

it means it's thrown back the publication by about two years. She's written a number of pamphlets and things about Priscilla Wakefield, that's how she became interested.

KTB – Is she interested in the subject of children's books or just greater study? Or has she ...

Mrs M – She's done those exhaustively.

KTB – Yes.

Mrs M – They're coming in her book, as she'll, I've got I think 12 but there are 20 she's discovered and there's a wonderful picture, I don't know if you saw it when you were over, um it's well known, of Edward and Priscilla Wakefield and Catherine Bell ...

KTB – Mmm.

Mrs M - And it appears in the books originally as 'by Gainsborough'.

KTB – Mmm.

Mrs M – And then it was discovered it wasn't Gainsborough and it was attributed to oh, what's the man now, oh, wait I'm trying to get the name, um Zoffany ...

KTB – Yeah.

Mrs M – Because he painted, and now it's discovered that it's somebody quite different and less known but it's a most magnificent picture.

KTB – Yeah.

Mrs M – Well this, I have the illustrations, I went to Norwich with my husband Douglas about four years ago and we had a slight dispute as to which places we would visit our last morning there and he wanted to go to the Castle Museum and Picture Gallery, I'd rather wanted to see the Gulbenkian Collec..., the new Museum and as a good wife should I gave way. We went to this, I went into a room and there was this picture, and terrifically strong colours quite unQuakerish, you know, and it's a most

beautiful thing really, I mean the reproductions were very bad in the books, as we knew it, and so I've been able to um put her onto that, it will be illustrated in full colour in her book. I, a cousin of mine was there the other day, a New Zealand cousin, and they sent me a most beautiful colour reproduction, he is a very good photographer. So this is a most exciting discovery.

KTB – Mm.

Mrs M – Um, you know, so things just falling into place for once and that was a great help.

KTB – Irma O'Connor sent me two black and white photos you probably have, one of some item in silver ...

Mrs M – The inkstand.

KTB – And then something in ...

Mrs M – A little picture of ...

KTB – Embroidered.

Mrs M – Yes, those are the only two things she seems to have but one is the inkstand, a silver inkstand, which was given to Priscilla Wakefield and so you know rather ...

KTB – Where is that now?

Mrs M – She has it.

KTB – Well.

Mrs M – Irma has it.

KTB – Irma's book reproduced some other things. (545)

Mrs M – Well, they were mostly ours I think as she gives no acknowledgement, well what err I've got Edward Gibbon Wakefield's Seal, the one that he used every day and I got from the Freemans his telescope um they gave it to me some years ago and Douglas and I took it to New Zealand with us 'cos it's very heavy.

KTB – Mmm.

Mrs M – And I thought the best thing was to take it, it was rather a nuisance flying you know by air but we got it there and it's now in the Museum at Christchurch.

KTB – Mm.

Mrs M – And that was the thing he used on his voyage out.

KTB – Mm.

Mrs M – And so that was rather interesting. But apart from vast numbers of letters of his I really haven't any objects.

KTB – Do you have Wakefield's letters?

Mrs M – Well I have ...

KTB – That you were given.

Mrs M – I have these you know, I've got this 46 letters I've only just discovered, that he wrote ...

KTB – Well what are they about?

Mrs M – They're chiefly domestic, they are written as, when he was newly married and being a ...

KTB – Well this item here, which is this, this is about the ... (554)

Mrs M – This I only, um I was staying with David Torlesse about five or six years ..., well when Irma O'Connor came over and we were there with David and he came down, he'd been looking at papers during the night and he came down with this and said I've just discovered this and it's a rather yellow sort of, you know it's, it's this sort of size, err pamphlet you see has got all these, what have I got, that is, how many actual pages have I got, err seven, eight pages you see of this and it struck me that you might like to have it.

KTB – Yes, well thank you very much. Actually I think I’ve discovered that there was some particular animus between Lord Broome and Wakefield.

Mrs M – There were many great battles between people, I mean he was hated as much as he was loved, I mean people either fell under his influence ...

KTB – But there was some political backing to that too.

Mrs M – Oh yes, there was but I think that you’d better have
KTB – Yes thank you very much. (563)

Mrs M – Because as I said it’s a bad copy because it wasn’t done properly.

KTB – Actually, the prints are very often clearer than the originals.

Mrs M – Well, that is very clear and I don’t know if you would like to have this family? pedigree ...

KTB – Yes I would indeed.

Mrs M – Because I got this, this again is badly, you know it wasn’t the proper people, it was just the ordinary commercial thing, they just ran it through but that gives you ...

KTB – Oh thank you.

Mrs M – The whole tie up of all, I mean it’s, and the Torlesses I got put down there. David gave me, worked this out for me and so you’ll find all the ramifications, you see the enormous number of children of Edward, Edward Wakefield, the father of Edward Gibbon, they’re all there.

KTB – Well does anyone know much about Susan Crash the wife, the first wife, of Edward, I mean ...

Mrs M – No. She was, I think she was the daughter of an Essex farmer, I mean, they weren’t of any ...

KTB – No.

Mrs M – Note, they're not worth chasing back and you see this is where, as I say they go back, there's another pedigree of the Wakefields of um, Westmoreland, and I've got pedigrees, I think I've got 50 family pedigrees of different things, you know, I mean people who my cousin, a Thomas Attwood, the last of the Attwoods, left my brother all his heraldic things, and, and all the family pedigrees and they're, they don't help the history very much but of personal lives they all link up tremendously. I can, you know, err provide quite a lot of early ones but they're no good about the history of the founding. (575)

KTB – Well does anyone know much about this Edward? You see you've got another Edward.

Mrs M – Yes, yes, they go on. There were three Edwards in a line, I think, and um one of them was very extravagant and, you know, wasted all the family money and that was why err Priscilla Wakefield, Priscilla Bell who was, had to earn money to keep the family.

KTB – Well, err this Catherine Gurney was a relation of the Gurneys of Ireland.

Mrs M – Yes, she was indeed and this Catherine Gurney Wakefield, you see, and um she married Torlesse.

KTB – Well how do the Torlesses suddenly appear in the scene.

Mrs M – Well they appeared because um err Catherine, the eldest of the Wakefield girls of this lot, married Martin Torlesse who was a Vicar of Stoke By Nayland and that's how that ...

KTB – And the Rectory is still there?

Mrs M – The Rectory is still there.

KTB – And the Church is there? (582)

Mrs M – And the Church is there.

KTB – And Long Melford is still there.

Mrs M – And Long Melford and um, what's the, I trying to think ...

KTB – You very kindly took me to Long Melford.

Mrs M – Yes.

KTB – I very much appreciated that because ...

Mrs M – It was a nice call, wasn't it?

KTB – It was a striking place.

Mrs M – It is a lovely place and I've gone back there quite often. I took Irma O'Connor all around there.

KTB – Well when was she in England?

Mrs M – She was, err she'd been a number of times. I suppose it must be at least 20 years ago, I'd have to look in my diary. Anyhow she came to stay and I took her down to Stoke By Nayland and the Constable Country and we had a very good time, you know, um seeing all the Wakefield. At Nayland Church they have a Constable portrait of a, of a, not a portrait but a Saint over the Altar and the, one of the portraits I have of, not Wakefield, but um on the Attwood side um a 'MarrHouse' is probably a Constable. He was a young, very handsome man. His wife was painted by Opie. I haven't many portraits but I have these two oil paintings which are very beautiful.

KTB – I see here Felix married Marie, Barrie? of Blois.

Mrs M – Yes.

KTB – Again there must have been ...

Mrs M – Again you see the link must have come and he was one of the much younger ones. (594)

KTB – This is a very big family this ...

Mrs M – This you see was Edward’s family, Edward Gibbon was the ...

KTB – Well where did Edward, I mean these people this, if Edward was writing books and travelling around Ireland ...

Mrs M – And producing all these families.

KTB – And what was he doing with all his family, I mean ...

Mrs M – And that was what his mother was complaining about that they, or he ought to come home and just keep an eye on them. They had, they had a most extraordinary careers. Um, if you bring it over I’ll tell you a little bit about them. Err this first of all Sir Edward was a runaway marriage. Daniel ah made a runaway marriage first of all, then he married the, you see he ran off with the de Burgh heiress, then he married Angela Attwood. Um Captain Arthur, well that’s got, you see it’s got lost, I ...

KTB – Yes.

Mrs M – It needs joining up but that was Arthur, Captain Arthur Wakefield. He was unmarried and he was massacred by the Maoris. Um William Hayward Wakefield was the man implicated first of all with Edward Gibbon’s second, err with his elopement and he had a year imprisonment in Lancaster Jail.

KTB – Well how did he become a Portuguese Knight?

Mrs M – Well, he then went out um he entered the Army, I think he was in the Army when all this happened. Anyhow he fought most gallantly on the Continent, he was, he was both in the Spanish, I think, and the Portuguese Armies and he became very distinguished, much decorated in the Portuguese Army, and he went out to New Zealand, you see, to found Wellington and he drew up the, he was involved with the Treaty of Waitangi and that sort of thing. (608)

Then there was another ah John Howard who went into the Army, the Indian Army

and he ran off with this wonderful Princess and all his descendants, I seem to have seen quite a number of them, that again ...

KTB – Well, who's this Radolinski?

Mrs M – Yes, that was the Count Radolin and then created Prince, err Prince. He was, Radolinski he was born and created Prince Radolin. I believe, as I say, one of the descendants came to see me this summer, if you please.

And then of course you've got Felix, who I think was, err he was aggressive and rather tiresome generally. His house is still standing.

KTB – Well Felix comes down to South Australia.

Mrs M – He comes down, yes , ... you get all this coming down ...

KTB – (More Priscilla, another Priscilla?)

Mrs M – And then the, the, the Priscilla was a Missionary in India, this one and Persil I know nothing about, he died young, didn't he?

KTB – Mm.

Mrs M – I think it says there.

KTB – Passed away in India, do you think?

Mrs M – Yes, I don't know what, no I simply don't know anything about him. And then of course, as you know, this is where Irma O'Connor comes in, um her father , her grandfather , oh well anyhow, it was Edward Jerningham and she comes down that and then as you see there.

KTB – Well have you got this book, Edward Jerningham's London Diary?

Mrs M – I have, yes.

KTB – Yes, well you were mentioned as having given things to the author. Are you in touch with that lady Professor somebody?

Mrs M – I haven't been, I can be, I mean I, you know I could. (620))

KTB – Well she has made a big effort writing that book, editing that.

Mrs M – She was a charming woman.

KTB – Was she?

Mrs M – Oh absolutely delightful.

KTB – Would she still be about?

Mrs M – I should think so, I mean ...

KTB – I felt rather inclined to write to her but I haven't

Mrs M – I think I should, I'll try and find her address. (621)

