

one hundred years ago, and it is between thirty and forty years since they passed away. There are a few things however, that I can mention, and that is that the conditions of things when they were children, must have been very hard in deed, and child life in general must have been almost beyond our conception. Little children, being compelled to work in factories & in the coalmines, at from as early as six and seven years of age and also from fourteen hours a day and over, & little to eat and little to wear. The death rate must have been appalling.

"Oh God that bread should be so dear  
And flesh and blood so cheap."

In the following pages, I will endeavour to recall many little things which may be a source of interest. It requires a good deal of thinking, for all that is recorded is from memory, and as I have tried to focus different things, other little matters seem to come up, & it scarcely possible to

record in consecutive order, seeing that they extend to a time over seventy years ago. Briefly then as to my father and mother, Father, whose name was William, was born on December 31<sup>st</sup> 1821 at a place called Hesket in the county of Cumberland England, his father (my grandfather) died when he was very young, and later his mother married again to a man called Davies. Father I think had only one full sister, Elizabeth, but there were several <sup>brothers</sup> others in the second family, Nicholas, Lancelot Joseph I cannot recall of any others. From what Mother, whose name previous to her marriage was called Elizabeth Lancaster & was born at a place called Buttermae, in the Lake district of the County of Cumberland England. Her father and mother, both died when she was very young, and she was brought up by her Grandmother. Mother's birthday was December 28<sup>th</sup> 1828. Married in 1849. There were four children three boys and one girl, the eldest boy, died