

# PULVERTAFT PAPERS

**A Newsletter on the Pulvertofts & Pulvertafts**

*Published by Rear Admiral D. M. Pulvertaft,  
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## EDITORIAL

I am pleased to enclose with this issue of Pulvertaft Papers the index to Vol 3 which I had hoped to distribute last year. I had thought that by making these papers annual rather than biannual my duties as editor would have been halved. The trouble is that it is all too easy to slip out of the habit of this line of research and suddenly the end of the year looms and the deadline of the overseas Christmas post waits for no man.

You will see that both articles inside suggest to the family readers that you might be able to help me with material for similar articles in future issues. On family photographs, some of you have already contributed but there must be others who have spare portraits which could be added to my ever growing collection and I would particularly welcome Pulvertaft wedding photographs - ancient and modern. As far as medals are concerned, I would very much appreciate hearing from any of you who now hold the medals of your forebears and we will see what emerges.

Happy Christmas - D.M.P.

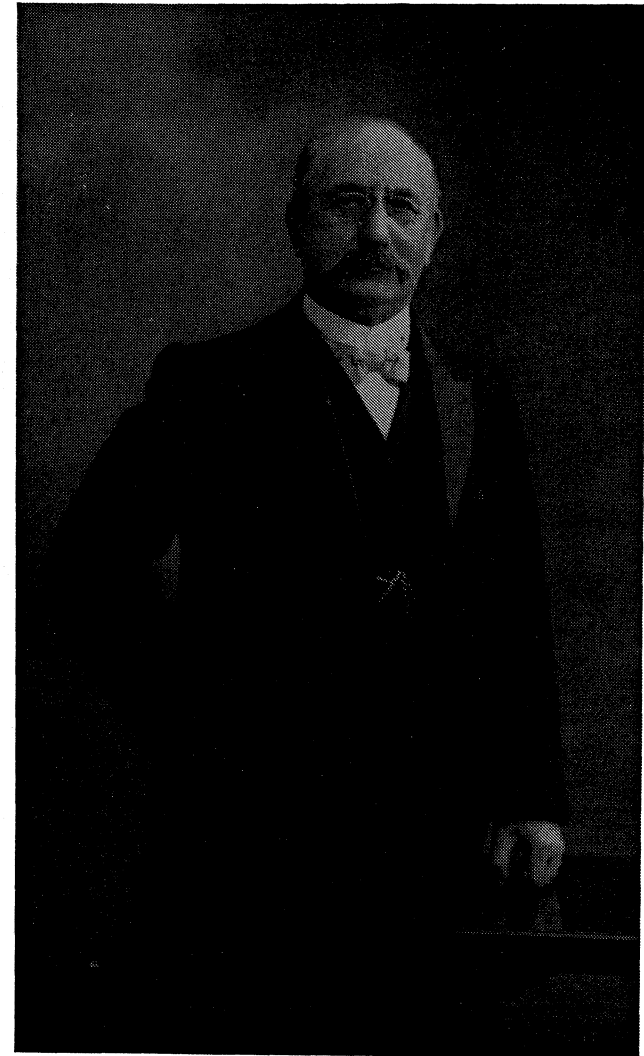
FROM THE PULVERTAFT PHOTOGRAPH ALBUM

The photographs chosen for this first selection from the Pulvertaft photograph album are of three Pulvertaft brothers: Robert (M04P), John (M07P) and James (M08P), the three eldest children of Thomas (M010) - see Vol 1, No 10 for details of Thomas and Vol 3, No 7 for how the three brothers between them were responsible for what I have always called the "modern" Pulvertaft family.

ROBERT was born on 25 July 1841 and was baptised at St Ann, Shandon on 8 August. He was only 23 when his father died in 1864 but he appears to have taken over the family business more or less single-handed as his next brother, John, was only just 16. Certainly by the time the 1871 Directory of Cork was published, Robert is described as a "brassfounder of 119 Georges St".

The year after his father's death he married Elizabeth Anne Bogan, the daughter of the one time governor of Cork gaol. They were married at Rincurran, Kinsale and over the next 20 years they had eight children, some of whom joined him in the brassfoundry which was later registered as "R Pulvertaft & Sons". Elizabeth died in 1910 and was buried at St Finn-Barr's Cemetery, Cork. Even though he was almost 70 when his first wife died, Robert married again in 1911 to Agnes MacDowell. He died 11 years later on 15 July 1922 and was buried with Elizabeth at St Finn-Barr's.

He had been a devout Methodist and in later life had become a Methodist lay preacher. This was reflected in his will which included generous bequests to the Wesleyan Methodist Home and Foreign Mission Funds and also to the Spanish & Portuguese Reformed Church Aid Society (with which his son, Thomas John, had become involved). What was surprising was that there was no mention in his will of his son - Amos William - who was by then running the family business. Had they fallen out perhaps?



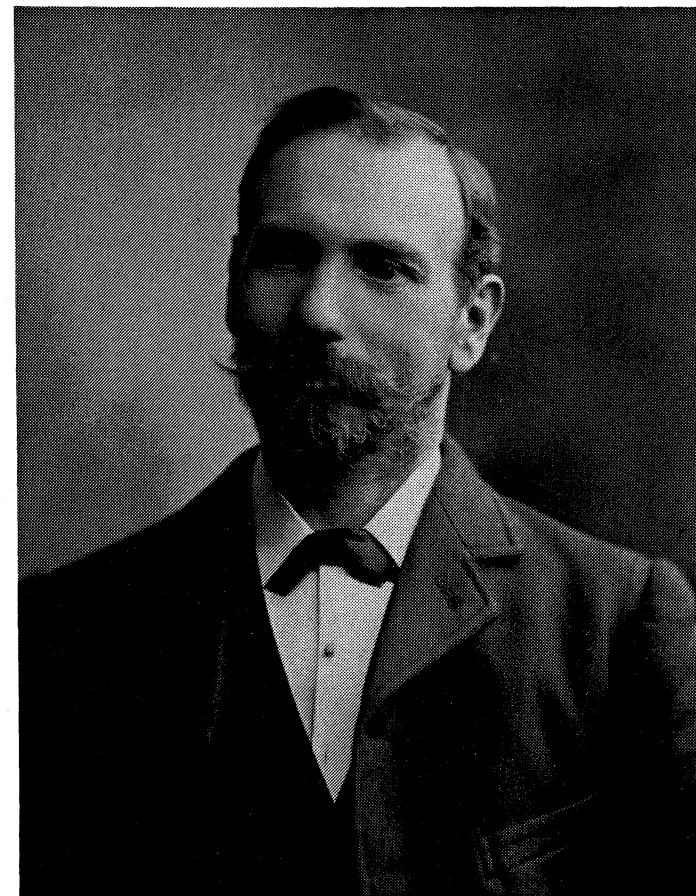
ROBERT PULVERTAFT



JOHN PULVERTAFT

JOHN was born on 19 December 1848 and was baptised at St Mary, Shandon on Christmas Eve. He joined his brother at the brassfoundry but there appears to have been no partnership arrangement as John is later described as the Works Foreman.

In 1869 he married Annie Victoria Waugh at St Peters, Cork by whom he had six children; the five shown in the modern family tree plus Richard Lloyd who was born in 1878 but died when only 11 years old. It was when Richard died in 1890 that John bought a burial plot at St Finn-Barr's cemetery where in 1899 he also buried his wife Anna. His second marriage - 1903 to Susan Hayes in Dublin - lasted for almost 40 years; John dying in 1941 and Susan in 1947. Both were buried at St Finn-Barr's.



JAMES PULVERTAFT

The baptism of JAMES has not been found in the Cork parish registers so perhaps his father had become a Methodist by the time he was born and it is there that we may find him. He married Agnes Adams in 1877 and was the most prolific of the brothers, having 14 children including the six sisters shown in Vol 3, No 5 of these papers. Although he is known to have worked at the family business, it was only as a fitter and turner and for 37 years he was with the brewers Beamish & Crawford.

Details of his death have not been found.

## PULVERTAFT MEDALS

During the summer I finally got round to displaying the medals which my father - William Godfrey Pulvertaft - had been awarded during his service career. It was something which I had been meaning to do ever since my mother died when his medals were passed on to me.

Devotees of Pulvertaft Papers will know from an article on "W.G.P" in Vol 2, No 6 that he served in the Royal Navy from 1920 to 1957 and was awarded an OBE in the Birthday Honours of 1943. He had seven medals:

Officer of the Order of the British Empire

Naval General Service Medal with "Palestine  
1936-1939" clasp

The Africa Star

The Defence Medal

The War Medal

United Nations Service Medal 1951 with "Korea"  
clasp

Coronation Medal - 1953

The specialists in this field do a wonderful job; each medal is cleaned, lacquered and given a new ribbon before the set is mounted on velvet and framed. Above the group is the small shoulder badge of an Aide de Camp to the Queen - which W.G.P. became for the last couple of years of his service - and beside his set is mounted a medal which my mother - Annie Joan Pulvertaft - was awarded for long service with the Women's Voluntary Service. They make a handsome addition to my family mementos.

The only other set of Pulvertaft medals of which I have details is that of Robert John Pulvertaft who served in the Royal Navy from 1888 to 1919 - vide Vol 3 No 3 of these papers. His daughter - Phyllis Colton - told me about them in 1992 and gave me a spare set of his medal ribbons made up for his working uniform.

A generation senior to W.G.P, the medals record his service during the First World War:

1914-1915 Star

British War Medal

Victory Medal

Long Service and Good Conduct Medal - 1906

Russian Medal "For Zeal" 1915

Russian Medal of St George 4th Class

Each is recorded on his Certificate of Service; the first of the Russian medals being received on 12 May 1916 - the second on 16 August 1918: "For services rendered in Battle of Jutland - (No 1273125)". Sadly only two of the set had passed down to Phyllis Colton when she showed them to me as, after his retirement from the service, her father had sold most of them so that he could help a poor family who lived nearby. The ones which had survived were the 1914-1915 Star and the Victory Medal.

So what other Pulvertaft medals have survived the passage of time? We certainly know of family members who served in the Boer War and others who served in the Second World War. If their medals have come down to any of my readers, please tell me something about them so that I can record them in future issues of these papers.

## NOTES & QUERIES

My thanks to Captain Andrew Mc Vean - an old shipmate from the days when we served together in HMS DREADNOUGHT in the late 1960s - who sent me a picture post card from the Derby Industrial Museum which he had recently visited. Amongst the exhibits he found one which was described as:

"A Villiers 1.5 HP single cylinder petrol engine that had been used for pumping water in 1919 at the house of the famous Derby surgeon, Guy Pulvertaft."

As Guy Pulvertaft (M38R) would have been only 12 years old in 1919, he is being given rather more credit than he deserves but, no doubt, he enjoyed the water when he did live there in his later life.

## Births

Congratulations to Lucy and Stanislas Boureau on the birth of their second son, Julien Pulvertaft Boureau, on 8 January 1998 in Rennes, France.

Congratulations also to James Longfield and Roz Pulvertaft on the birth of their second daughter, Rosanna Harriet Graham Longfield, on 22 January 1998.

Congratulations also to Rupert and Sally Pulvertaft on the birth of their second son, Charles Joshua Rupert, on 19 July 1998 in Nantes, France. He was baptised in London in the Lady Chapel of Westminster Abbey on 22 November.

Congratulations also to Craig Richardson and Sarah Pulvertaft on the birth of their daughter, Lois Richardson, on 5 September 1998 in London.