**Research Log**

**For:** John Butson, 1835

**Research Objective:** Who were his parents, where born in England

**Researcher:** Kimberly Ford Gilboy FBO Meredith Anne French b 1988

**Background:**

* Birthdate on his headstone (photo in FindAGrave) indicates he was born 15 Nov 1835. (FAG also lists Solomon Butson as his father – there is no document or link for this)
* Wife, Sarah A Norton, was born 23 Mar 1843 in England.
* According to the 1900 US Census, both John and Sarah immigrated in 1864.
* There is a Robert Butson living in Topsham, VT in 1870 and 1880. John and Sarah’s eldest son, James, is living with Robert in the 1880 census. He is listed as Robert’s nephew – indicating that Robert and John are siblings. (According to the 1900 census, Robert also immigrated in 1864.)
* There is also a William Butson (age 35, b 1845) living next door to Robert Butson.

There was a John Butson bap 15 Nov 1835 in Upton, Somerset, England. Is he the correct person?

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| **Date** | **Question** | **Source** | **Comments** | **Document Name** |
| 12/28/16 | There was a John Butson bap 15 Nov 1835 in Upton, Somerset, England. Is he the correct person? | Ancestry.com – hint for John Butson, b 1835 | Inconclusive. There was a Robert Butson baptized on the same day (#227). Parents of both boys are William and Mary Butson. 15 Nov 1835 | Somerset Heritage Service; Taunton, Somerset, England; *Somerset Parish Records, 1538-1914*; Reference Number: *D\P\upt/2/1/6*Source InformationAncestry.com. *Somerset, England, Church of England Baptisms, 1813-1914* [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2016.Original data: Anglican Parish Registers. Somerset Archives & Local Studies, South West Heritage Trust, Taunton, England.P 29, No 226 |
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| 12/28/16 | How many John Butson’s are there during this timeframe in England? | FMP UK search. Terms: John Butson, b 1835, England (+/- 2 yrs) | * Not a match? John Butson, son of Soloman and Elizabeth was baptized 1 Mar 1835 in Cubert, Cornwall
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|  | Can I find info about John by looking at the other Butsons in Topsham? |  | Death record for Robert B Butson indicates he was born in Devonshire. Parents were Joseph and Mary Butson. ON 17 July 1907, he was 78 yrs. 1 mo., 15 days.  |  |
|  | Can we find John in an arrival list?  | Ancestry immigration and pass lists search. John Butson, b 1835. Arrival 1864. Lived in Topsham, VT. Isolated for US only records.  | Found 4 Butsons (plus wife) traveling on the same ship in 1864. John and Sarah were married. Robt Butson, age 34 (b 1830) – p 535Wm Butson, age 24 (b 1840) – p 535John Butson, age 28 (b 1836) – page 534; #169Sarah Anne Butson, age 23 (b 1841) (wife); #170Emily Butson, age 25 – page 534, #171 | 1864 John and Sarah Butson pasenger list New York NY.jpg2 May 1864, City of Limerick arrived in New York, New York. Departed from Liverpool, England and Queenstown, Ireland. Year: 1864; Arrival: New York, New York; Microfilm Serial: M237, 1820-1897; Microfilm Roll: Roll 239; Line: 27; List Number: 339Source InformationAncestry.com. New York, Passenger Lists, 1820-1957 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2010. |
|  | Can we find a marriage record for John Butson and Sarah Norton? | FMP – John Butson (1835 +/- 2) and Sarah Norton | Bingo!!! Banns for both John and William. * William Butson & Emma Frost, both of this parish. Banns on 3 Apr, 10 Apr, 17 Apr. (Marked May 2)
* John Butson & Sarah Norton, both of this parish. Banns 10 Apr, 17i, Apr, 24 Apr. (Marked May 2 – assume this is the marriage date)
 | 1864 John Butson and Sarah Norton also Wm Butson and Emma marriage banns Tiverton Devon Eng.jpg John Butson, 02 May 1864, Tiverton, St. Peter; Spouse: Sarah Norton. Devon, England. 2960A/PR/1/31. South West Heritage Trust. Devon Banns. ©Findmypast 1864Page 188, #659 and #660.  |
| 12/29/16 | What other English records can we find for John Butson? | FMP UK: General search: John Butson, b 1835 (+/- 5 yrs), Devon, England * Isolated for BMD records
 | Nothing under BMD – There’s another John married 1845 in Exeter. Tiverton is 15 miles north of Exeter.  |  |
| 12/29/16 | What other English records can we find for John Butson? | FMP UK: General search: John Butson, b 1835 (+/- 5 yrs), Devon, England Isolated for Census records | There is a John Butson working as a farm servant for John Pine in Morebath, Tiverton, Devon. John was born 1835 in Upton, Somerset, England. (Upton is 14 miles north of Tiverton, Devon – right on the border of Somerset and Devon.) | 1851 John Butson England Census Morebath Tiverton Devon Eng.jpg1851 England, Wales & Scotland Census Image. Morebath parish, Tiverton Reg Dist, Devon. Arch Ref HO107. Piece #1890, Folio 128, page 2. © brightsolid online publishing ltd. Page 128. Household 4. Household of John Pine.  |
|  | Can we find anything for William? | FMP UK – census results | Wm is age 3, son, in household of James Butson (25) and Elizabeth (26). William was born in Bampton – nearby.  | 1851 William BUTSON Eng Census transcription Bampton Tiverton Devon Eng |
| 12/29/16 | Can we find anything for William? | FMP UK: William Butson, 1847 +/1 2 yrs; Devon, England.  | Found full marriage record. John is on the following page. May 2, 1864. William Butson & Emma Frost; full age; bachelor and spinster; laborer; residence: tiverton; Fathers names: Joseph Butson – laborer; Richard Frost – shoemaker.  | 1864 William Butson and Emma Frost marriage record St Peters Tiverton Devon EngArch Ref: 2960A/PR/1/21Page 133, #266William Butson; 12 May 1864; Tiverton, St Peter, Devon, England; Archive: South West Heritage Trust; Devon Marriages;  |
|  |  |  | May 2, 1864. John Butson & Sarah Norton, full age, bachelor & spinster; Labourer, Residence: Tiverton; Fathers’ names: William Butson & John Norton. Both were laborers. Witnesses were John Norton and Mary Norton.  | 1864 John Butson and Sarah Norton marriage record St Peters Tiverton England.jpgArch Ref: 2960A/PR/1/21John Butson; 12 May 1864; Tiverton, St Peter, Devon, England; Archive: South West Heritage Trust; Devon Marriages;Page 134, St Peters, Tiverton, Devon. May 2, 1864. #267. |
| 12/29/16 | Can we find anything for William? | FMP UK: William Butson, 1847 +/1 2 yrs; Devon, England. (Isolated Births and Baptisms) | Baptism record: William Thomas Butson; 25 Nov 1849; Bampton; Father: James – labourer; Mother: Elizabeth; Abode: Tiverton Road.  | #303; p 39; Bampton parish; County: Devon; 1849. Archive: South West Heritage Trust; Arch Ref: 1269A/PR/1/4; Devon Baptisms; © findmypast |
| 12/29/16 | Can we find an 1841 census record for John? | FMP UK: John Butson, 1835 +/1 2 yrs, Devon, England. (Isolated Census). No obvious finds, so expanded to 5 year span.  | Pools Cottage, Upton, Tiverton & Dulverton, Somerset, England. William – 51 (abt 1790), ag lab; born somerset. Mary 53 (abt 1788), born Somerset; three children, including John (9 – 1832) and Robert (5-1836).  | 1841 John Butson and William census Upton Tiverton Devon Eng1841 England, Wales & Scotland Census. Arch Ref: HO107, piece 966, book 13; folio: 6; page 7. Tiverton & Dulverton REg dist.  |
| 12/29/16 | Can we find a civil registration record for John’s birth? | FMP – search BMD. Devon, Somerset, all of England.  | Impossible. Civil reg started in 1837. . . he was born in 1835 or perhaps earlier. Robert was also baptized on 15 Nov 1835.  |  |
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John Butson, b 1832, near Tiverton, Somerset, England. Parents were William & Mary Butson (b 1790 and 1788 in Somerset).

* John married Sarah Norton in St Peters Tiverton on 2 May 1864
* John & Sarah arrived in New York harbor on 2 May 1864 (truly . . . both recs say 2 May 1864).

Robert Butson, b 1836, was a brother

**Proof Summary:**

Three Butson males, all from the Tiverton area of Devon (near Somerset), immigrated on the same ship in 1864 with at least two of their wives and ended up in Topsham, Orange, Vermont by 1870.

* In the 1870 US Census, there were 16 Butsons living in Vermont (Ancestry search of 1780 Census only). All were members of three families, living in Topsham, Orange, Vermont. Parents were: Robert (40) and Elizabeth (39). William (25) and Emma (30) – a 22-year-old Henry Frost was living with this couple (Emma’s maiden name was Frost). John (34 or 36) and Sarah (28). Later census records indicate that at least two of these families immigrated in 1864.
* These three Butson men all arrived in New York on 2 May 1864. Emma and Sarah Butson were also on this ship.
* Two of the couples were married on 2 May 1864 (The dates on both records – which appear to have been original – are both indicated as 2 May 1864.) at St Peters Tiverton, Devon, England. They were: William Butson & Emma Frost. 2) John Butson and Sarah Norton.
* Further confirmation: These women’s maiden names – Emma Frost and Sarah Norton – were also cited in their children’s birth records in Topsham. Ages were also roughly consistent with those found in the English records.