
The Samson Family

From Saarland, through St Malo to Jersey and New Zealand, 1720-1920

Mark Boleat - August 2014



James Albert Samson, his wife and children, picture probably taken in about 1906.

Standing, left to right, Marie (1889), Cecile (1888), Arthur (1884), Lucy (1879), Alfred (1880), Adolphus (1892), Albert (1890), Berthe (1887)

Seated, left to right, George (1886), James (1855) with his wife H el ene (1853) standing next to him, H el ene (1876), Julian (1877)

Kneeling: Charles (1893)

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Introduction

In 1816 in St Malo, France, Jacob Dominique Francois Samson, born in Trier in the Saarland, married Marie Jeanne Laurence Colas, born in St Alban, Brittany. In 1823 their son, Auguste Constant Samson, was born in St Malo. Some time between then and 1838, Jacob, Marie and Auguste moved to Jersey. Auguste and his wife, Jane Elizabeth Du Feu, had 14 children in Jersey. One of their sons, James Albert Samson, and Hélène Melanie Novert had 16 children.

This short paper traces the history of the Samson family, from its origins in an area fought over by France and Germany, to the move to Jersey and then the rapid expansion of the Jersey family. It does not claim to be comprehensive, concentrating on the direct ancestors of my grandmother, Cecile Hélène Samson, born in 1888. It also has a section on Augustus Philip Samson (1842–1888), a merchant seaman who emigrated to New Zealand and who left behind a documentary record of his passage. Generally, the paper is sufficient to enable the descendants of the Samsons in Jersey to understand more about their origins.

The paper is based largely on birth, marriage and death records in Jersey, France and Germany, together with census information for Jersey.

Lilla Briggs Sampson in *The Sampson Family* (Williams & Watkins/Bibliolife, 1914), suggests that the names Sampson, Samson, Sansom, Sansome and Sansum all refer to the same family, and that the Sampson family derives its name from the monastery of St. Sampson at Rouen. The book gives details of Ralf de Ste Sampson, an Archbishop of York in the 11th Century, and of the many Samsons and Sampsons who were descended from the early immigrants into America. But there is nothing to connect these records with the known ancestors of the Samsons in Jersey.

Earliest records

The first record of an ancestor of the Jersey Samsons is of Johann Henrich Sampsson, born in about 1720. He married Helena Bergmann, but little more is known about either of them. Their son Johann Franz Sampsson was born in Losheim, a town in Merzig-Wadern in the Saarland, on 22 November 1749. On 10 May 1779, his name having been shortened to Samson, Johann married Anna Margarethe Brettnacher, born in the nearby town of Betting on 20 August 1753, the daughter of Johannes Brettnacher and Anna Margaretha Schnetzer. Betting is in the Moselle, about 45 kilometres south of Losheim. Their marriage was in Waldwisse, between Losheim and Betting.

By 1780 Johann and Anna had moved to the historic town of Treves, now known as Trier, in the Rhineland Palatinate. On 17 September 1780 their son, Jacob Dominique Francois Samson, was born.

From Germany to France

The next record of Jacob is in St Malo, France in 1816. So why did he leave Trier, and why did he go to St Malo? The answer to the first question may possibly lie in the Napoleonic wars. Trier is one of the oldest cities in Germany, occupying a strategic place on the borders with France and Luxembourg. France claimed Trier in 1794 during the French revolutionary wars, but after the Napoleonic wars ended in 1815 Trier passed to the Kingdom of Prussia. Perhaps the upheaval during this period caused led to Jacob moving to St Malo.

The Samson/Colas marriage, 1816

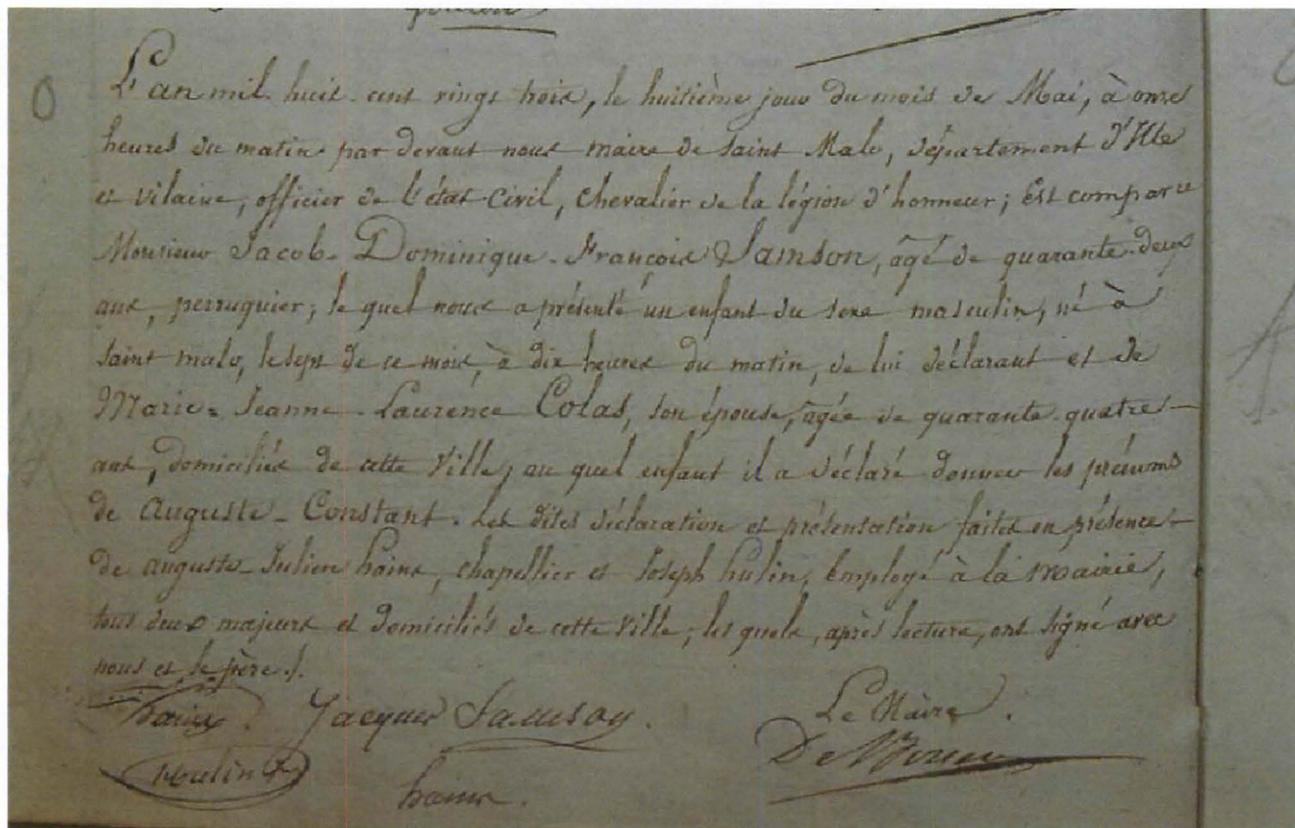
On 29 January 1816, Jacob Samson married Marie Jeanne Laurence Colas in St Malo. The marriage record helpfully gives full details of Jacob and Marie, and their parents.

The image shows two pages of a handwritten marriage record in French, written in cursive script. The text details the names and ages of the bride and groom, their parents, and the date and location of the marriage. The first page mentions the date 'le vingt-neuf Janvier mil huit cent dix-huit' and the names 'Jacob Dominique Francois Samson' and 'Marie Jeanne Laurence Colas'. The second page continues with details about the parents and the officiant.

The marriage record of Jacob Dominique Francois Samson and Marie Jeanne Laurence Colas, 1816, St Malo

The ancestry of Marie is well documented. She came from the commune of St Alban in Brittany, close to St Brieuc. She was the daughter of Joseph Yves Louis Colas (1743) and Francoise Briend (1749), both born in St Alban. Her Colas ancestry can be traced back in St Alban through Louis Colas (1714) and Louise Chretien (1709) and Jean Colas and Gilette Bertro (both about 1690).

Jacob and Marie's first child, Constance Augustine Marie Samson, was born in St Malo on 4 November 1818; she died in St Malo on 15 May 1819. On 7 May 1823, Auguste Constant Samson was born. There is no evidence of any other children.



The birth record of Auguste Constant Samson, 1823, St Malo

The move to Jersey between 1823 and 1838

Some time between 1823 and 1838 Jacob, Marie and Auguste made the 60-kilometre boat crossing from St Malo to the Channel Island of Jersey. There is no way of knowing when the move actually took place. We can speculate why they moved only by examining the economic history of Jersey.

Jersey has had several period of rapid immigration from France. In the second half of the 17th Century there was significant immigration by protestant refugees. The flow of refugees increased substantially after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685. At the end of the 18th Century there was massive immigration, this time of Roman Catholic refugees following the French Revolution. Jersey had benefitted significantly from the Napoleonic Wars, its strategic position leading to an inflow of money and people to the Island. Privateers based in Jersey also brought substantial economic benefit to the Island. There was a fear that the end of the Wars in 1815 would lead to a decline in the Island economy as a result of the withdrawal of British forces and the ending of privateering. In the event these forces were swamped by a growth in world trade. The next 40 years saw a massive economic boom, based on cod fishing, shipping and shipbuilding, wealthy immigrants and construction. Such a boom could not have happened without immigration, and the population of Jersey doubled from 28,600 in 1821 to 57,020 in 1851. Most of this immigration was from the British Isles. There was some French immigration in the 1820s partly to build the port of St Helier, but this source of work declined and the French-born population declined in the 1840s.

Auguste Constant Samson, 1823-1896 and Jane Elizabeth Du Feu, 1823-1897

Auguste Constant Samson moved to Jersey with his parents between 1823 and 1838, but by the age of 17 he was on his own, Marie Colas dying on 20 August 1838 and Jacob Samson on 11 December 1840. There are no other Samsons who could be related to Auguste in the 1841 Jersey census.

He was recorded in the 1841 census as a “tinman” (a tinsmith or tinker), living at La Motte Street, the same address as Peter Novert, whose daughter one of his sons was to marry. On 21 January 1842, when he was just 18, he married another 18 year old, Jane Elizabeth Du Feu, and in so doing married into long established Jersey families. Jane's origins can be traced back to Nicolas Du Feu (1684) and Marie Le Breton, Jean Du Feu (1719) and Jeanne Le Sueur (1713), Charles Du Feu (1764) and Marie Alexandre (1766), and Philippe du Feu (1796) and Elizabeth Amy (1791).

Auguste and Jane produced no fewer than 14 children between 1842 and 1865 –

- Augustus Philip Samson (16 December 1842), covered in the next section.
- James Alfred Samson (1 September 1844) who died on 19 June 1845.
- George Frederick Samson (1 February 1846) who died on 13 February 1847.
- Louise Jane Samson (19 November 1847) who married a man named Scriven, and also Adolphus Philip Letto. She died on 5 May 1899.
- George Alfred Samson (7 August 1849) who died on 13 February 1854.
- John Alfred Samson (16 August 1851) who married Mary Jane Baldwin. He died on 5 February 1905.
- Adolphus James Samson (4 July 1853) who died on 15 April 1857.
- James Albert Samson (17 February 1855) about whom much more later.
- Susan Mary Ann Samson (9 January 1857) who married George Edward Cauchois, a carpenter. She died in 1943 in Surry.
- Charles Thomas Samson (26 September 1858).
- Mary Ann Samson (3 May 1860) who married James Henry (Harry) Bright, a carver and gilder. She died on 27 December 1939.
- George Alfred Samson (29 July 1861) who married Alice White. He died in 1929.
- William Henry Samson (2 October 1862) who married Ada Louise Du Feu, his second cousin once removed. He died in 1944.
- Alfred Henry Samson (21 August 1865). He died on 25 February 1949.

Auguste's occupations, homes and family can be tracked through successive census reports and birth records of his children -

- 1840s The 1841 census records Auguste as being 18, a tinman living in La Motte Street, the same address as Pierre and Catherine Novert. In 1842 he was living in Halkett Place, in 1844 at 8 Beresford Street, and in 1845–49 at 22–24 Bath Street.
- 1851 Age 28, a tinman living at 19 Halkett Street with wife Jane and three children, Auguste (8), Louise (4) and George (2). Two of their children, James Alfred (1844) and George Frederick (1846), had died by then.
- 1861 Age 38, employing a man and a boy, living at 19 and 20 Halkett Street with Louise (13), John (10), James (6), Susan (4), Charles (2) and Mary Anne (1). Augustus (1842) was at sea and not recorded in this census and Adolphus (1853) had died in 1857.

- 1871 Age 48, living at 19 Halkett Street with his wife Jane and Louise (22), a shop assistant, James (16), a plumber, Susan (14), Charles (13), Mary Anne (11), George (10), William (8) and Alfred (6). John Alfred (20) cannot be traced in this census. Also living at this address was Susan Du Feu (44), perhaps a sister of Jane.
- 1881 Age 57, a plumber and gas fitter employing four men and four boys, living at Elizabeth Villa, 60 St Saviour's Road with wife Jane, Susan (24), a dressmaker, Mary (20) also a dressmaker, George (19), a tinplate worker, and Alfred (16) a draper's apprentice.
- 1891 Age 67, a plumber, living at Elizabeth Villa, with wife Jane and daughter Mary (30) and her husband Harry Bright.

Auguste died on 22 June 1896, his wife, Jane, dying a year later on 5 June 1897. His gravestone is in Almorah Cemetery, St Helier.



The gravestone in Almorah Cemetery, Jersey of Auguste Samson, his wife, Jane Du Feu, and their son, Adolphus, who died at the age of 3 in 1857.

Augustus Philip Samson, 1842-1888, and Mary Ann Laurens, 1844-1939

Augustus Philip Samson, born on 16 December 1842, was the eldest son of Auguste Constant Samson and Jane Elizabeth Du Feu, both of whom were just 19 when he was born. Unlike all his siblings he made his home outside Jersey, perhaps unusual for an eldest son. He is not recorded in the 1861 census, having "run away to sea". He was awarded his second mate's certificate in 1863, his first mate's certificate in 1865 and his master's certificate in 1867. He was on the crew of the Kite, which sailed to Australia in 1866, and captained the Accra to Archangel in 1870.

On 20 October 1871 he married Mary Ann Laurens, born on 22 July 1844, the daughter of Thomas Laurens, a cabinet maker, and Mary Laffoley.

In 1875 Augustus and Mary emigrated to New Zealand on the Countess of Kintore, leaving London on 18 March and arriving at Napier, Hawke's Bay on 8 June. Samson was identified in the ship's records as a sailmaker. He kept a diary of the voyage. His grandson, John Cameron, donated the diary of his grandfather's voyage to New Zealand to the National Library of New Zealand together with a letter, written in 1969, which summarizes the life of Augustus Philip Samson. Key extracts are reproduced below –

"Capt Samson decided to emigrate because, having married, the captain decried a shore job. Unable to get anything suitable in Jersey and knowing that quite a large group of Channel Islanders had already settled successfully in Hawkes Bay he decided to try his luck in the colonies. He appears to have held a slightly privileged position among the emigrants, possibly due in part to his appointment as schoolmaster, in part to his former status as a sea-captain.

Capt Samson was born in 1844 [actually 1842]. He was trained by his father as a plumber but, like some of his brothers, could not tolerate his father's excessively tight discipline and ran away to sea, gaining experience on voyages in various parts of the world. Incidentally, my brother (Mr A. M. Cameron of Nelson) on a recent visit to St Helier discovered that the Samson family still own the original hardware and allied business there. After gaining his master's certificate and using it in long voyages for some time, the captain married in 1870 [actually 1871] and took on short voyages while trying to secure a shore job (his letter of instructions for one such voyage to Archangel are included with his diary).

The captain was a literate and intelligent man but of limited formal education, in spite of his status as "schoolmaster" on the ship. The punctuation of the original diary is evidence of this. His idioms of vocabulary and construction are however not a mark of his education but probably of his Channel Islands origin and of the Channel Islands English dialect, which the Islanders use along with their Norman French patois. Captain and Mrs Samson were both bilingual.

It will be noticed that Mrs Samson was very frequently sick on the voyage and was granted various "medical benefits" by the doctor and from the captain's cabin. She was in fact pregnant before the voyage began, and in November 1875 in Napier gave birth to the writer's mother, Louise Mary Ann, later Mrs John Cameron.

Capt. Samson, in order to get employment ashore, finally reverted to his former trade of plumber. While engaged in his trade he fell one day from a high roof and became an invalid cripple. He died in 1888. His wife established a very successful dressmaking business before his death at their home in Shakespeare Rd. and successfully brought up a family of three daughters and one son.

Part of the diary is reproduced in *Salt beneath the skin*, edited by Tessa Duder (HarperCollins, 1999). The preamble mentions Pete McCurdy, a great-great-grandson of Augustus Philip Samson, who was the founding curator of the New Zealand National Maritime Museum.

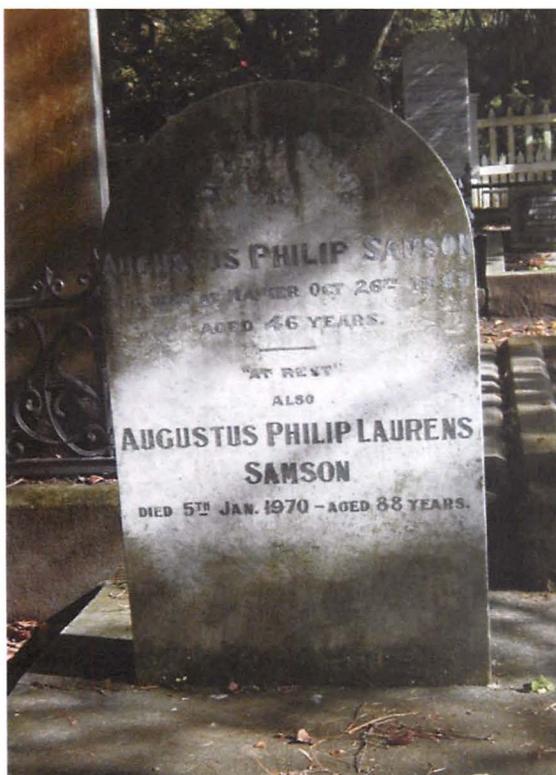
Mary Ann lived for another 40 years after the death of her husband, dying in 1939. She ran a successful dressmaking business.

The four children of Augustus and Mary were -

- Louisa Mary Ann Samson, born in 1875, who married John Cameron, a 24 year old clerk born in Glasgow, in Napier Cathedral on 5 April 1898. She died in 1969.
- Lydia Jane Samson, born in 1877.
- Hettie Maud Samson, born in 1879, who in 1908 married Arthur Haerero Deighton, born in 1883. She died in 1948.
- Augustus Philip Laurens Samson, born in 1881.

Augustus's son, Augustus Philip Laurens Samson, married Annie Frazer in 1901. The marriage certificate records him as being a blacksmith and his father's profession was recorded (almost certainly incorrectly) as carpenter. Annie Frazer was recorded as having "domestic duties" and her father, Archibald Frazer, was also recorded as a carpenter. Augustus and Annie had two children. Eileen Thelma Samson, born in 1902 in Auckland, married Robert Campbell, born in 1896, the son of Robert Campbell and Maggie Wade, on 5 January 1921 in Auckland. Augustus's and Annie's second daughter, Ellen Samson, was born in 1903.

Augustus was a log hauler and then a blacksmith. After his wife Annie died in 1928 he lived for a time with his mother in Wairoa. He died in Hasting in 1970.



A startling case of sudden death occurred in Hastings-street at about 8.30 o'clock on Saturday evening, when a man named Augustus Philip Samson dropped down without a word of warning near Mr Owen's chemist's shop. He was at once picked up and carried into the shop, and Dr. Hitchings was quickly in attendance, but he found upon his arrival that the unfortunate man was quite dead. Deceased was in his 47th year. There will be no inquest, as Dr. Innes had been treating deceased for a long time past for an old spinal injury complicated by heart disease. Death was the result of the

latter disease, the heart's action failing, and a certificate to that effect was subsequently given by Dr. Innes. Deceased, who leaves a widow and children to mourn his death, was insured for £300. He was also a respected member of Court Sir Charles Napier, A.O.F., and the brethren of the Court are requested to attend the funeral, which starts from his late residence at 3 o'clock this afternoon.

The gravestone of Augustus Philip Samson and his son, Augustus Philip Laurens Samson, in Napier, New Zealand, and the press report of the death of Augustus Philip.

James Albert Samson, 1855-1928 and Hélène Melanie Novert, 1853-1914

James Albert Samson, born on 17 February 1855, was the 8th of the 14 children of Auguste Constant Samson and Jane Elizabeth Du Feu. On 14 July 1875 James married Hélène Melanie Novert, their parents having been neighbours in La Motte Street in 1841. Hélène was the daughter of Pierre Laurent Novert, born in 1814 in Granville, who had come to Jersey, probably in the 1830s, and Catherine Ricou, who was born in Angers, Maine-et-Loire in 1816; Pierre and Catherine married on 2 May 1839 in St Helier. One generation back was Pierre Marie Novert, born in 1788 in Granville, and Marie Jeanne Joualt, born in 1785 in Granville. Marie Jeanne's father was Jean Joualt, born in 1750, some of whose descendants live in Jersey today. Catherine Ricou's ancestors can be traced back in Angers to Pierre Ricou (1787) and Catherine Houdet, Pierre Ricou (1759) and Jacquesine Morier, Pierre Ricou (1714) and Jeanne Tessier, Michel Ricou (1675) and Perrine Reine, and Jean Ricou (about 1650) and Françoise Tardif.

Pierre Novert probably moved to Jersey in the 1830s. He was a shoemaker. Jersey had a thriving boot and shoe manufacturing industry at that time, based on importing (free of duty) leather from France and exporting the manufactured shoes to North America. At the time of the 1841 census, Pierre and Catherine Novert, and their baby daughter Mary, lived in La Motte Street. Living either in the same building or next door was Auguste Samson. In 1851 Pierre and Catherine were still at La Motte Street, with five children. The property in which they were living was home to no fewer than 57 people, probably a grossly overcrowded tenement. By 1861 Pierre Novert had moved to 4 Seaton Place with five girls and two boys. Catherine had died in 1859. The youngest daughter was listed in the census as "Ellen", born in 1854. In 1871 Pierre was back in La Motte Street with two sons and two daughters including Hélène (the Ellen from the 1861 census). Pierre died in 1892.

James and Hélène produced no fewer than 16 children in just 19 years between 1876 and 1895 –

- Hélène Mary Anne Samson (10 May 1876), known as Nellie, who married Frederick François Aubert, a mason, John Syvret and Fred Blackmore. She died on 22 February 1936.
- Julian Albert Samson (1 November 1877), also known as Jules, who was a barber. He married Laura Anne Elizabeth Gray in 1902. He died on 25 April 1949.
- Lucy Emélie Samson (8 March 1879) who married Eustace John Scriven, who worked for the Prudential Assurance Company. Lucy died on 10 February 1962.
- Alfred Eugene Samson (22 August 1880), who joined the Navy and lived in Portsmouth. He married Ellen Jane Garnett, known as Nellie. He died in Portsmouth on 23 November 1949. He has descendants today in Australia.
- George James Samson (21 August 1881) who died on 4 September 1881.
- Arthur William Samson (21 August 1881), the twin of George, who died on 6 September 1881.
- Cecile Elisa Samson (1 October 1882) who died on 19 October 1882.
- Arthur James Samson (21 March 1884) who married Ada Evelyn Lawford. He died on 28 August 1956.
- George Henry Samson (9 March 1886) who married Alice Norman. He died on 8 September 1975.
- Berthe Marie Samson (9 May 1887) who married Tom Holden, a motor mechanic, and who lived in Guernsey.
- Cecile Hélène Samson (10 July 1888), about whom more later.
- Marie Lucie Samson (23 July 1889) who married Francis Walter Mourant. She died on 12 May 1970.
- Albert James Samson (28 December 1890) who married Florence Edith Hobbs, a shop assistant. He died on 19 November 1921.

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- Adolphus Paul Eugene Samson (2 February 1892), who married Ethel Mary Cox, a tailoress. He died on 8 May 1971.
 - Charles George Samson (9 August 1893). He married Jane Constance Le Masurier, a domestic servant, and died on 22 June 1932.
 - Rose Jeanne Samson (31 March 1895) who died on 16 April 1895.

As for James's father, we can trace much of James's and H  l  ne's lives through successive census and birth reports -

- 1870s In 1871, aged 16, a plumber, living with his parents at 19 Halkett Street; in 1876 at 15 Halkett Street, in 1877 at 24 Simon Place, in 1879 at Haimance Place.
- 1881 Age 26, a plumber and zinc worker, living at 51 Lower Bath Street, with wife H  l  ne, a milliner, and their eldest four children: H  l  ne (4), Julien (Jules) (3), Lucy (2) and Alfred (7 months). He was recorded at that address until 1882, then at 6 or 16 Halkett Street.
- 1891 Age 36, an ironmonger living at 16 Halkett Street, almost next door to where he had been born, with wife H  l  ne and children H  l  ne (14), Julien (Jules) (13), Lucie (12), Alfred (10), Arthur (7), George (5), Berthe (3) and Cecile (2). 51 Lower Bath Street and 16 Halkett Street were in fact the front and back of the same building.
- 1901 Age 47, a plumber, living at Elizabeth House, 61 St Saviours Road, the former home of his father, with wife H  l  ne, Jules (23) a shop assistant, Lucy 22, Arthur (17) a shop assistant, Albert (15), Berthe (13), Cecile (12), Marie (11), Albert (10), Adolphus (9) and Charles (7).
- 1911 Age 56, a plumber and oil merchant, living at Elizabeth House, with wife H  l  ne, George (24) a salesman in ironmongery, Berthe (23), Cecile (22), Marie (21), Albert (21) a salesman in ironmongery, Adolphus (19) a shop assistant, Charles (17) a shop assistant, and also a boarder, Amelie Rousselin (16).

H  l  ne died in 1914 and James on 6 March 1928. The *Jersey Evening Post* reported his death as follows -

"We regret to have to chronicle the death, which occurred early this morning, of Mr. James A. Samson, the well-known oil merchant, at his residence, No 30, Bath Street, after a protracted illness.

The deceased, who was in his 74th year, was one of the oldest established business men in this town, his success being due to his personal and strict attention at all times.

The late Mr. Samson, who was of a gentle disposition, took an active interest in local horse racing, and was more many years official starter at the various race meetings at Gorey, Les Landes, and more recently at meetings held under the auspices of the Jersey Race Club at Les Quennevais, a position which he had to relinquish when his health gave way.

He was at one time at Centenier of St Helier, and for some years past had filled the office of Roads Inspector for the Vingtaine de la Ville. He was also a prominent Freemason and was a Past Master of the Duke of Normandy Lodge.

Last year he underwent a serious operation, but never regained sufficient strength to undergo a second. He took to his bed on Saturday week and grew gradually weaker since then. He passed away peacefully, as stated, surrounded by the members of his family.

He leaves eleven grown up children, to whom we tender our sincerest sympathy."

James's business was large, serving much of Jersey. It was taken over by his son Adolphus, the company being known as A P Samson. A number of other family members were employed in the business.

Cecile Hélène Samson and Emile Joseph Louis Boleat

Cecile Hélène Samson was the 11th of the 16 children of James Albert Samson and Hélène Melanie Nover. She was born on 10 July 1888. The 1911 census, when she was 22, has nothing recorded for her in the occupation column. On 11 January 1917 she married Emile Joseph Louis Boleat. Emile had been born in Jersey on 4 March 1893, so was five years younger than his wife.

Emile was the fourth of five children of Yves Marie Boleat and Augustine LHermitte. Yves Marie had been born in the small commune of Trégrom, Brittany, in 1853, the fourth of nine children of Yves Marie Boleat and Jeanne Auffret. His ancestors can be traced back to the 1600s in the neighbouring communes of Lanvellec and Plufur, mid-way between Lannion and Morlaix in northern Brittany, and all were agricultural workers.

In April 1875 Yves Marie, aged 21, moved to Jersey, one of many Bretons to make the move. At that time Brittany was poor, and the central part, where the Boleats lived, was very poor. There was large-scale emigration, predominantly to Canada and other parts of France, particularly Paris. At the same time new potatoes were becoming a major industry in Jersey. The new potato season was short and there was insufficient local labour to harvest the crop. Jersey farmers travelled to Brittany and Normandy to recruit seasonal workers. In Brittany most workers were recruited from close to the port of St Brieuc, relatively few coming from the part of Brittany where the Boleats lived. For whatever reason, Yves Marie became one of those workers. He was followed within a few years by his younger brother, Joseph Marie, born in 1864.

Yves Marie was recorded in the 1881 Jersey census as a farm servant, aged 27, living at the New Pontac Hotel at Le Hocq, owned by Nicholas Arthur, a farmer and publican. In 1883 Yves Marie married Augustine Desirée Marceline LHermitte, born in 1862 in Jersey shortly after her parents arrived in the Island from Normandy. Augustine was the daughter of Francois LHermitte and Augustine La Hougue. Francois's ancestors have been traced back to the early 17th Century and largely lived in two small communes, Quettreville-sur-Sienne and Hambye, a few kilometres inland from the port of Granville. Francois was a labourer and it is very likely that this family were like the Boleats – poor agricultural workers for whom a move to Jersey was an opportunity to increase substantially their living standards.

Yves Marie seems to have been upwardly mobile. By the time of the 1891 census he was a farmer at Pied de la Rue Place, Main Road, St Clement, with his wife, his first three children and two servants, Pierre and Joanne Moal, both French. And in the 1901 census he still had two servants. He became a naturalized British subject in 1904.

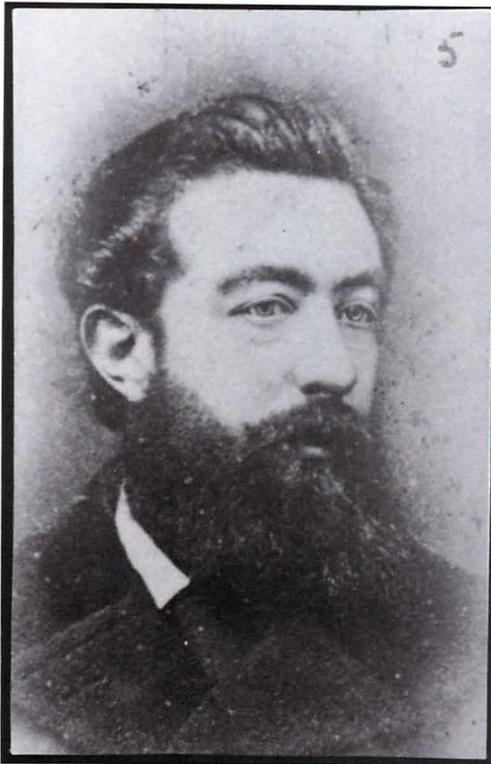
Yves and Augustine had five children between 1885 and 1895, Emile Joseph Louis being the fourth.

Emile and Cecile had seven children between 1917 and 1930 –

- Cecile Marie Boleat (18 November 1917) who married George Albert Pearmain. Cecile died in 1990.
- Yvonne Emily Boleat (29 March 1919) who married Bernard Perrée. Yvonne died in 2004.
- Paul John Boleat (29 October 1921) who married Edith Maud (Peggy) Still.
- Hélène Augustine Boleat (14 April 1923) who married Arthur John Pinel.
- Marguerite Lucille (Margot) (8 June 1924) who married Philip Sanderson.
- Emile Joseph (Milo) Boleat (2 October 1927) who married Doreen England. Emile died in 2000.
- Maurice Charles Boleat (21 January 1930) who married Beryl Derrien.

Emile and Cecile died within a few months of each other in 1970.

Photo Gallery



Augustus Philip Samson, 1842-1888, and Mary Ann Laurens (1853-1939).

Pictures taken in about 1872.

Pictures from the National Library of New Zealand.



Augustus Philip Samson's Master's Certificate



James Albert Samson and H el ene Melanie Novert



James Albert Samson, his wife and children, picture taken in 1894



Seven sons of James Albert Samson and H el ene Melanie Novert. Top row: Arthur, Jules, George and Alfred. Bottom row: Albert, Charles and Adolphus. The picture was taken in the same session in about 1906 as the picture on the first page.



James Albert Samson and his son Adolphus at the races



Five daughters of James Albert Samson and H el ene Melanie Novert; Lucy and H el ene are in the top row; Marie, Berthe and Cecile in the bottom row. This picture was taken in the same session as the picture on the first page.



Fleet of AP Samson vehicles



The Samson family taken in St Peter's Valley in 1915.



Albert and George Samson.



One of the earlier Samson vehicles



Emile Boleat and Cecile Samson pictured on their wedding day, 11 January 1917

