

OGILVIE, Charles
HARRISON (Helgason), Mabel Violet (1906-1999)

"Lines from the Lake by Jo Ashmore", Armstrong Journal, Armstrong,
Emmet, IA, USA- Wednesday, December 23, 2009.

SEPARATE ACCOUNTS OF THEIR FAMILY CONTACTS WITH BRITISH ROYALTY.

Lines from the lake

By Jo Ashmore



We were watching a morning talk show this week when Sarah Ferguson, the Duchess of York, was being interviewed about a new film with which she is involved, "The Young Victoria". Victoria, of course, is a several-greats grandmother of the Duchess' two daughters and reigned as Queen of England--or more appropriately, of the whole British Empire.

The Duchess researched the project for 17 years and said she was meticulous in sticking to the facts when the film was being made.

I can't wait to see it. I think it's interesting that I--and many of you who are reading this--know or knew people with relatives who once lived in and around Armstrong whose paths crossed that of the Young Victoria in the 19th Century.

Charles Ogilvie, step-grandfather of the late Oma Huff Mangold, came to Armstrong Grove in 1870 and later was a businessman in the town of Armstrong. A Scotsman, he was a teenager working as a clerk in a store in Edinburgh when he waited on a customer who came in to purchase a shawl for a lady who was outside in a coach: Queen Victoria.

And the great-grandmother of the late Mabel Harrison Helgason had emigrated from England where she had been a maid to the Queen's lady-in-waiting. That woman was Jane Martin, who came to the Armstrong area in about 1875. She was a stickler for proper behavior, especially in young girls, and Mabel was fond of saying, "I was raised on Queen Victoria!"