

'Though seas divide us, yet our hearts are one': The 1910 Homecoming to Leicester

Cynthia Brown

In September 1910 around 300 of Leicester's 'wandering sons and daughters' returned to the town for a week-long 'Homecoming', the first event of its kind to take place in Britain. As such, it was widely reported beyond Leicester itself, and a telegram was received from the King at Balmoral offering the Homecomers 'a hearty welcome on their return to the old country... [we] hope their visit will be in every way an enjoyable one'. (1) The story of how this unique event came about is fascinating in itself, as is the range of countries to which the 'exiles' had migrated and from where they were now returning; but this very brief interlude in the history of Leicester has more to offer than its novelty. The programme of activities organised for the Homecomers by civic and business leaders reflects their view of Leicester as an enterprising and progressive town: 'a largely new, greater, and thoroughly up-to-date Leicester... unspeakably healthier, better and bigger'. (2) This was an image that they hoped to promote well beyond its own boundaries - even though many of its own residents, struggling with long-term unemployment or living in poverty in old defective housing, might have found it difficult to recognise. The Homecoming also proved an occasion for reflection on international affairs at that time, both in terms of obstacles to and opportunities for trade and commerce; and in a world where war seemed at least possible if not imminent, on relations between the 'Mother Country' and its Empire, and that 'other great English-speaking nation', the United States.

The train of events that led to the Homecoming started in 1908, we are told, with a pork pie. This was supplied by the well-known Leicester pork butcher George Folwell, and sent as a Christmas present from Edwin Crew, editor of the *Midland Free Press* (MFP), to friends in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in the American Midwest. (3) The 'pleasant memories of the old town' that it prompted resulted in correspondence between Mr Crew and Henry Hill, superintendent of a large footwear factory in Milwaukee, who was born in Leicester in 1847 and had emigrated to the USA over 40 years before. (4) This was published in the MFP, which had an extensive circulation in Leicestershire, Northamptonshire and adjacent areas as well as Leicester itself, attracting more 'reminiscent letters from many other natives of Leicester abroad, all dominated by the Homeland sentiment, and the love of early ties and associations'. (5)

Homecoming events – for former residents rather than later reunions of college students - were by then relatively common in the USA and Canada. They were first recorded in New Hampshire in 1899, and Milwaukee had hosted its own 'Celebration' in August 1909, commemorated with the issue of a brass medal. (6) 'Why not have a Homecoming to Leicester?' Mr Hill asked of Mr Crew on this occasion - to which he replied 'Why not?'. Both were immediately 'consumed by the idea' and took on the roles of Honorary Organisers; but the practicalities of arranging such an event were challenging to say the least. The Homecoming was originally proposed for May 1910, as 'the memory of the hawthorn bloom was declared to be overwhelming. There was a longing to see the violets, the buttercups and daisies, and to "hear the skylark sing", for nowhere are these so "sweet and fair" as in the dear old homeland. (7)

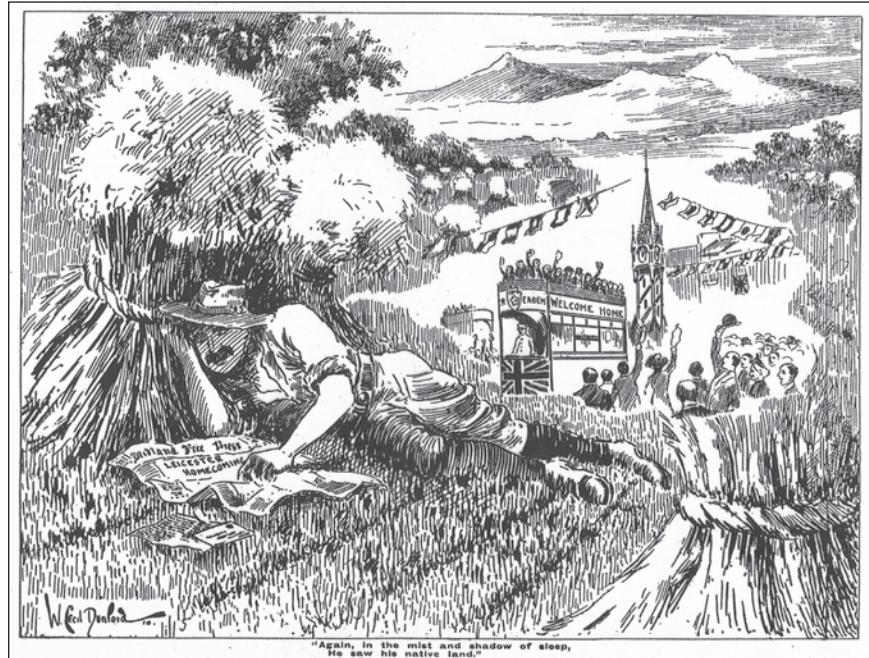


The cover of the Homecoming to Leicester Sept., 1910. Souvenir, by Edwin Crew. (From a copy loaned to the author. William Cecil Dunford, the artist, was an Assistant Schoolmaster employed by the Leicester Education Authority in 1911.)

'More prosaic considerations' caused it to be deferred until the week of Monday 19th September, not least the task of contacting potential Homecomers across the world to invite them. 'The Call' was published through the *Midland Free Press* and carried to different parts of the UK as well as the USA, Canada, South and West Africa, India, Australia, New Zealand and other countries to which Leicester 'natives' had migrated. In April 1910 a letter was also circulated from the Mayor of Leicester, the Conservative wine merchant Cllr. George Chitham, extending a 'cordial invitation' to Mr Hill and to 'any other Britishers who take advantage of what I believe will be a great and unique gathering of natives of the

old country'. Homecoming cards with pictures of Leicester's beauty spots were sent to every known address, followed by 'pass on' postcards to widen the field of contact. 'The Call' was also presented in poetic form, adapted from the *Milwaukee Homecoming Ode*:

Wanderer, 'tis the 'Home Call' sounding, Sounding in your heart and soul: Come back home, oh! Wandering children, Long you've wandered from the fold. See my arms are outstretched to you, Will you not obey the call? Your dear Leicester waits your coming, In her home is room for all. (8)



Homecoming cartoon with Leicester's Clock Tower, from the Homecoming to Leicester Sept., 1910. Souvenir.

The response was sufficiently encouraging by July 1910 for a programme of 'festivities', including a civic reception and visits to 'hives of Industry', to be drawn up with the Mayor and leading Leicester businessmen. In August Mr Crew was reportedly 'finding the celebration a bigger thing than was anticipated, each American mail bringing a large number of letters', while Mr Hill was 'answering enquiries from all parts of America. The British Societies in the States have adapted their badge with the words: 'I'm for Leicester. Are you?', while their labels bear the following phrase: 'The happy band of pilgrims going home to Leicester'. (9)

A special bureau was established below the Grand Hotel on Granby Street to greet and register them, and provide details of the programme. Around 150 had already arrived in Leicester or the surrounding districts two days before the official start of the event, travelling from the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, West and Central Africa and Madagascar; and within a day or two the number had risen to around 300. (10) There is no indication of how they were accommodated, but most presumably stayed with

family or friends. Among those disembarking from the *Canada* at Liverpool by way of Montreal on the morning of Sunday 18th September was Henry Hill himself. (11) Arriving in Leicester by train later that day, he had an emotional reunion with his brothers Austin aged 80, Joseph 75 – whom he had not seen for 50 years – and Thomas 66, along with his sister Annie – and met another (unnamed) brother for the first time: 'Having been introduced to other members of the family, he turned to a quiet little man who was wearing a frock-coat, and silk hat, and who was standing unobtrusively in the circle surrounding the home corner. In the fullness of joy at his home-coming, Mr. Henry

Hill shook hands with everybody; he was bubbling over with the high spirits and cordiality of a man who has not visited the land of his birth for many years. He shook hands with the quiet, little man, exclaiming, "How are you, sir?". The quiet little man was his brother, and he did not know it. He had never seen him before... it was most dramatic'. (12)

Another early arrival was Henry Green, who had emigrated to New Zealand around 1860. He was one of seven sons of George Green, boot and shoe manufacturer of Granby Street, former High Bailiff, Mayor of Leicester in 1894 and a JP, who died in 1911 at the age of 95. Four of his brothers had also moved to New Zealand, the eldest described as 'one of the "Old Settlers" of the country' (13) Henry Green himself started as a ledger-

keeper in an Auckland bank and worked his way up to become a bank manager. At this time he was said to be 'interested in mining matters', and served on the Gold Fields Commission of the Auckland Chamber of Commerce. (14) Only a small number of the other Homecomers are identified by name in contemporary sources. They included Lawrence Hurley, a Patrolman with the Milwaukee Police Department and nephew of John Hurley, a local publican and Councillor for the Wyggeston Ward since 1901, later an Alderman. He was described by a local newspaper as a 'tall well set-up young fellow with a distinct American accent', and by Henry Hill as 'the largest policeman in Milwaukee'. Later in the week, though appreciative of the warm welcome he had received, he declared himself 'not greatly impressed' by the control of the traffic in Leicester, particularly the blocking of footpaths which 'would not be permitted in American cities'. (15)

There are some clues to others from the report of a cricket match between a Leicester team and one of Homecoming 'Prodigies', whose innings were listed in the customary

manner in the local press. (16) With only initials and surname most are impossible to trace, but the G.M. Billings in the 'Prodigals' team can be identified as George Michael Billings, a 32 year-old schoolteacher at a public school in Shanghai, China. (17) Others feature in newspaper reports because their views on the Homecoming were solicited by local journalists - like Captain and Mrs Palleson of Timaru, New Zealand. Having travelled 'all over the world', the Captain declared that 'from the point of view of cleanliness and up-to-date conditions, Leicester is equal to Copenhagen, one of the most attractive cities in Europe'. Mrs Palleson, while generally in agreement, referred to the fact that women in Britain had yet to be granted the parliamentary vote, 17 years after it had been extended 'to great advantage' to women in New Zealand. (18) Perhaps to no one's surprise, Leicester's 'daughters' are otherwise conspicuously absent from accounts of the Homecoming, just as they were generally absent at this time from the higher ranks of business, trade and commerce. (19)

From Henry Hill's poem *The "Call" to Leicester*, along with newspaper reports, we can add more detail to the list of places from whence the Homecomers came: Boston, Pittsburgh, San Francisco, and Lynn, Mass., a major shoe-making centre; Baltimore, Denver and Seattle; Gunloch in Utah, and Okauchee Lake, Wisconsin; Oklahoma, San Leandro in California, and Saratoga Springs, New York; 'Mississippi's shores', and Honolulu; Quebec, Toronto, Vancouver and Yukon; and Amsterdam. For those who emigrated 30, 40 or more years before, the Leicester to which they returned was very different from the town they had left: one that, in the words of Edwin Crew, had been 'born again' as 'no mean city'. (20) By 1911 its population had risen to over 200,000 from around 95,000 in 1871, and its housing stock to over 50,000 from less than 20,000 - as reflected in suburban developments such as Clarendon Park, Stoneygate and Highfields, as well as the red brick terraces of the West End. New industries – engineering, cigar making, printing, cardboard box manufacture, chemicals, food and drink - had been added to those of hosiery and footwear, greatly expanding the range of employment for both men and women. The new electric tram system, opened in 1904, added further to the sense of a growing and enterprising town.



Homecomers talking to Henry Hill, the Leicester Pioneer. (Reproduced by permission of the Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland.)

In public at least, little or no mention was made of the continuing high levels of infant mortality in the inner municipal wards of the town, of long-term unemployment in the local footwear trade as new machinery was adopted, the political wrangling between the Liberals and the Labour Party over how this should be relieved, or the increasingly militant activities of local suffragettes. The Homecoming was an occasion for promoting the positive, as an outline of the week's activities will demonstrate. These started officially on the morning of 19th September with a presentation of 'credentials' to the Mayor by Mr Hill, who '... brought with him greetings from the Mayor of Milwaukee and other public officials, including the chief of the police, the chief of the fire department, and the district attorney... Mr. Hill also had a number of messages from Leicester men in America, who regretted their inability to be present'. (21)

In the afternoon around 200 Homecomers were taken on a motor car tour around Charnwood Forest by the Leicester Automobile Club, accompanied by the Mayor and Mayoress. The weather was 'not at all propitious at first. Rain fell in cold stinging drops, and the wind had the chill of autumn'; but in contrast to Leicester itself, 'all the beauty spots of the picturesque forest had been preserved from the hands of the builder, and the visitors had no difficulty recognising the places where they had spent many happy

hours years ago'.(22) Near the ruins of Lady Jane Grey's house in Bradgate Park Mr Hill 'lustily' sang a verse of the American national anthem, *The Star Spangled Banner*, before the Homecomers joined 'right heartily' in *God Save the King*, most 'being more familiar with that'. (23)

On the following day 'beautiful weather prevailed' for a reception and gala at Abbey Park, long transformed from the 'dismal swamp' of pre-1882 memory into the 'best laid-out and most beautiful park in the borough'. (24) It was originally suggested that Leicester's workpeople should be given a half day 'holiday' to share in the Homecoming, but this had been rejected by local employers on the grounds of potential hardship - not only their own in terms of lost production at a time of 'brisk' trade in the hosiery industry, but that of 'married women and girls engaged in the industry [who] help materially to keep homes going when the head of

the family, who may be connected with the boot and shoe trade, is on short time'. (25) Despite this, several thousand people besides the Homecomers attended. The afternoon featured aquatic sports on the river, and exhibitions of 'scientific lifesaving' and 'ornamental swimming'. Music was provided by the Corporation Gas Department Band - which 'seems to have improved in a marked degree of late. The various selections were rendered with that crispness one associates with the "crack" military bands'. The band returned for a second concert in the evening with the Leicester Choral Combination. This featured songs with 'Homeland' sentiments, among them *The Soldiers' Chorus* from Gounod's *Faust*, *Home, Sweet Home* by Edward Laud, and *The Kingdom of Hearts*, composed especially for the occasion by the choir's conductor Frederick Stork, a local music teacher. At dusk the park's American garden was illuminated with fairy lamps and Chinese lanterns, 'the effect being very pretty'. (26)

On the Wednesday, when the weather was again 'brilliantly fine', a tour of the town and suburbs across the whole tramway system was offered as 'an opportunity of viewing the remarkable development of the borough and "the beauty of its borders."...'. At 10 am six 'gaily decorated cars' awaited the visitors at the Clock Tower, along with a number of Town Councillors, Poor Law Guardians and the Tramways Manager Mr Lucas. It was not 'a gorgeous display', the *Leicester Daily Post* remarked of the tramcars, 'seeing that the decoration took the form of a string of streamers attached to the trolley-pole, but the flaglets at least reminded the public that there is a home-comers' festival in progress'. This was followed in the evening by a fancy-dress torchlight procession from Victoria Park through the main streets of the town, featuring decorated cycles in which 'the comic element was well represented'. Freed from their normal working day, this attracted 'immense crowds... quite an unexpected amount of interest and enthusiasm', while giving the Homecomers the chance in turn to 'see the local populace en masse'. Most of the shops remained open for the occasion, and were 'brightly illuminated and decorated in honour of the event'. (27)

On the Thursday morning the Homecomers were offered a choice of visits to some of Leicester's largest 'hives of industry', among them the hosiery factories of William Raven and Co. and Cooper and Corah, Carr Brothers' button-making works, Thomas Fielding Johnson's spinning mill, George Green and Sons' footwear factory, and the British United Shoe Machinery Company. In the light of increasing foreign competition and import tariffs, imposed

A Tour by Tram.



HOW THE HOME-COMERS SAW LEICESTER.

It was naturally desired that the home-comers should see the extent to which Leicester has enlarged its borders in recent years, and the excellent plan was adopted of setting apart half a dozen tramcars, gaily decorating them with flags and bunting, and then conveying the

visitors round the entire tramway route. Large crowds cheered the cars in the busy streets, and outside the principal Council schools the children were drawn up to shout a welcome. All through the week the entire car service has borne decorative streamers.

Homecomers touring Leicester by tram, the Leicester Pioneer. (Reproduced by permission of the Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland.)

amongst others by the USA and Canada, it was hoped that these visits would foster future trading links as well as demonstrating how Leicester's manufacturing activity had grown in size and scale. (28) 'When the initial arrangements for the gathering were being made', as the *Leicester Daily Post* noted, it was pointed out that the occasion would be a favourable one for "booming" the town, and in that way gaining some advantage from a commercial and industrial point of view. This being an age of advertisement, businessmen recognise that the homecoming festival has associated with it distinct elements of usefulness in the way of attracting world wide attention to Leicester's position as a great manufacturing centre. (29)

Some local businesses were not slow to "boom" their own wares to the Homecomers. Lea's store in Humberstone Gate extended a 'special invitation' to them to visit its new Drapery Arcade, while Heringtons' clothing and drapery store in Market Street advised that they would 'do well to make purchases of furs before returning'. (30) However, while American manufacturers were among Leicester's main competitors in the footwear trade, the USA was also an important market for locally-produced boots and shoes with the right appeal to potential customers: 'there is one firm in Leicester doing a very big trade, due to the introduction of a last enabling them to make boots and shoes in a style that appealed to Yankee taste. There is no doubt that for quality and smartness the footwear turned out by English manufacturers will compare favourably with anything of the kind made in America, or any other part of the world'. (31)

A lighter note was struck on the Thursday afternoon with the ‘serio-comic’ cricket match referred to above, reported in similar fashion by a correspondent who knew ‘no more about the technicalities of cricket than the man in the moon’. (32) The ‘Prodigals’, reinforced by the inclusion of Mr T. Crew from that well-known resort closer to home, ‘Birstall Sands’, lost by 247 runs to 62. (33) In the evening, fresh from the cricket field, where he had captained the Leicester team and was bowled out for seven runs, the Mayor hosted a civic reception for around 300 people at the Museum and Art Gallery in New Walk. Here he was presented by Mr Hill with a ‘handsome Masonic jewel’, as a mark of friendship on behalf of the Masonic brethren of Milwaukee. On the final day of the official programme, some of the Homecomers were entertained to a luncheon at the Temperance Hall, hosted by Mr J.E. Faire, President of the Leicester Temperance Society, and attended again by the Mayor. This was followed by a ‘conversazione’ and programme of music, and an invitation was extended to the visitors to take tea with Mr Albert Pickard, president of another Temperance organisation, the Leicester Band of Hope Union. (34) The Homecoming was clearly heavily dependent on ‘in kind’ contributions such as this from local businesses and social organisations, as well as the Borough Council itself - though a remark by Mr Crew that ‘We shall not only be able to pay for the hospitality of the week, but hand over a handsome balance, unless I am very much deceived, to a public charity’ suggests that the Homecomers themselves also contributed financially. (35)

At the civic reception the Mayor said ‘they had met there to do honour to many of their Leicester citizens who left England in their early days, and who had the courage and manliness to seek their livelihood in other lands’. (36) These qualities were not in dispute, but we know very little about why individual Homecomers emigrated from Leicester in the first place. Some may have gone to Africa as missionaries; but economic pressures at home and opportunities for work or land ownership elsewhere were perhaps the most powerful incentives, particularly in the years before Leicester’s manufacturing base expanded in the later nineteenth century, or during periods of high unemployment. However, the Homecomers had clearly ‘made good’ in their adopted lands, and were held up as an example to others who might consider a similar path, with a similar emphasis on the effort and determination required to achieve success.

Under the heading ‘How a Lestrian prospered in Australia’, one newspaper told the story of an unnamed man who had left Leicester for Australia with his wife with £7 in their

pockets. Most of this was consumed by a charge for excess luggage on board ship, paid off by auctioning a wedding gift of a smoking set. On arriving in Melbourne he obtained work within three days as a carpenter, and two years later had built his own house. While the family had encountered many obstacles along the way, he had ‘by strenuous work in various colonies, made enough to ensure comfort for the rest

of his days’, and had now returned to Leicester for good. (37) In the view of *The Times*, which devoted a column and a half to the Leicester ‘experiment’, the great majority of the ‘able-bodied, able-minded young men’ who had migrated to the United States from the industrial cities of the Midlands and North of England had been ‘highly successful’, something it attributed in part to the ‘more democratic’ communities from which they came, as compared with the south of England or London. (38)



Kangaroo plaque, one of several plaques on the Coronation Buildings in High Street, Leicester, marking Britain's links with its Empire. The buildings were opened in 1904.

Nevertheless, although emigration was actively promoted by the Leicester Poor Law Board and Distress Committee as a solution to unemployment, the early twentieth century was not the best of times for those thinking of following in the footsteps of the Homecomers. Even with Protectionism, conditions in some previously welcoming destinations such as Canada had deteriorated to the extent that potential migrants were advised to stay at home. In June 1908 the *Leicester Pioneer* quoted a letter from Hamilton, Ontario saying that ‘immigration is sadly overdone’. Girls recruited from Leicester to work in the footwear trade ‘did not make enough to pay board and passage money and they are in debt’, while a Hamilton newspaper declared that: ‘Our streets are literally lined with Englishmen seeking work. How can they get it when our own Canadian boys cannot find it?’ (39) In December that year a visitor to Leicester from the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada said that ‘Soup kitchens and overworked charity organisations were not in keeping with the theory that ‘Protection means work for all!’.(40) Mr W. S. Ladkin, one of the Homecomers from South Africa, ‘did not advise Englishmen to go out there unless they had friends there or some capital to back them up. Living is expensive, and there are a considerable number of unemployed in the towns, especially Johannesburg’. (41)

All this aside, the Homecoming itself was declared an ‘unequivocal success’. ‘The past week had been a very happy one’, Rev F. Lansdowne said during the ‘closing reminiscences’ at the Oxford Street Men’s Guild on Sunday 25th September. Family and friends had been reunited, and if the ordinary citizens of Leicester had not been as closely

involved as was originally hoped, the Mayor still felt there was ‘much to be thankful for that the people had shown such a great amount of interest in the movement’. (42) The national as well as local press had ‘anointed the project with its patriotism, its progressive spirit, and the valuable object lesson it was offering to the whole nation’, and played its part in raising Leicester’s profile as a major manufacturing centre across the world. (43)

Two further messages emerged from the Homecoming that reflect some of the anxieties hovering in the background at the time: the desire for world peace, and the importance of strengthening the bonds between Britain and those nations on which it might need to rely in the event of war. The Mayor was said to be: ‘emphatic as to the benefit of these international gatherings in promoting the cause of peace. On this subject there can be no doubt. Just in proportion as they are multiplied do they diminish the danger of recourse to the ruthless slaughter of the sword’. (44)

‘The more they saw of each other the better they liked each other’, he said at the civic reception: ‘and the fewer faults they saw. (Applause). They were all brothers, whether they belonged to England or any other country, and anything they could do to maintain peace it was their duty to do. (Hear, hear!)’.(45) Referring to the ‘high, wide and lively’ reception the Homecomers had received in Leicester, Mr Hill said that: ‘The Homecoming would help to form that brotherhood of man which ultimately would come, and was part of the leaven which was leavening the people of the United States... They loved their great grand country, but their homeland occupied a warmer position in their hearts’. (46)

We know, as they feared, that the days of peace were already numbered. Plans to organise another Homecoming event in the near future came to nothing, and it faded from memory; but for the insights it offers into the hearts and minds of the Homecomers and their hosts, it surely deserves its place in the annals of the ‘good old town’.

References:

1. *Irish News and Belfast Morning News*, 24th Sept. 1910.
2. *Leicester Daily Post* (subsequently LDP), 19th Sept. 1910. The Post was the only local newspaper to report the Homecoming in any detail.
3. *LDP*, 19th Sept. 1910. Edwin Crew was active for many years in the Wycliffe Society for the Blind in Leicester, and in the Loyal Order of Ancient Shepherds Friendly Society.
4. The factory is not identified but may be that of the F. Mayer Boot and Shoe Co., an imposing building opened in 1892 and known locally as The Fortress. In the early twentieth century it produced around 9,000 pairs of footwear a day (www.milwaukeemag.com/explorations-at-f-mayer-boot-and-shoe-co/, accessed 26th May 2018).
5. Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland (ROLLR): M710, Edwin Crew, *Homecoming to Leicester Sept., 1910: Souvenir*, Leicestershire Press, 1910. The Souvenir was also incorporated into another produced by Edwin Crew for the annual conference of the Loyal Order of Ancient Shepherds in Leicester in 1915 (ROLLR: L914.2).
6. *LDP*, 20th Sept. 1910; *Homecoming to Leicester Souvenir*, op cit. <http://woaholmen.hibid.com/lot/64998-121124-77977/milwaukee-homecoming-1909-brass-medal/> (accessed 23rd May 2018).
7. *Homecoming to Leicester*, op cit.
8. *ibid*.
9. *Nottingham Evening Post*, 27th Aug. 1910. British emigrants commonly formed their own societies for social contact and mutual support.
10. *LDP*, 19th Sept. 1910; 21st Sept. 1910.
11. Mr Hill had left Leicester for the USA in 1867, and worked in the footwear trade in Maine and Massachusetts before moving to Milwaukee at some point between 1900 and 1905. He became a naturalised US citizen in 1874. United States Federal Census, 1870 – 1910; Wisconsin State Census 1905, both accessed 23rd May 2018 at www.ancestry.co.uk; (U.S. Naturalization Record Indexes, 1791-1992).
12. *LDP*, 19th Sept. 1910.
13. *LDP*, 19th Sept. 1910; *Roll of Mayors of the Borough and Lord Mayors of the City of Leicester 1209 – 1935*, (Edgar Backus, 1935)
14. *LDP*, 19th Sept. 1910.
15. *LDP*, 19th Sept. 1910; 24rd Sept 1910. He was born in Wisconsin in 1886, and in the 1920 Federal Census he held the rank of Sergeant.
16. *LDP*, 23rd Sept. 1910. The ‘Prodigals’ included W. M. Bailey and T. Hurley, both from Mauritius; B. Healey (Amsterdam); W. G. Ladkin (South Africa); and J. T. Wheatley (Baltimore).
17. *LDP*, 23rd Sept. 1910; UK, Foreign and Overseas Registers of British Subjects, 1628 – 1969 – www.ancestry.co.uk, accessed 23rd May 2018
18. *LDP*, 19th Sept. 1910. The vote was extended to women in New Zealand in 1893.
19. Like Mrs Palleson, most were probably accompanying spouses or other male members of their family.
20. *Homecoming to Leicester*, op cit.
21. *Grantham Journal*, 24th Sept 1910.
22. *ibid*.
23. *LDP*, 20th Sept. 1910.
24. *LDP*, 21st Sept. 1910.
25. *LDP*, 24th Sept. 1910.
26. *Grantham Journal*, 24th Sept. 1910; *LDP*, 21st Sept. 1910.
27. *Grantham Journal*, 24th Sept. 1910; *LDP*, 23rd Sept. 1910.
28. *LDP*, 23rd Sept. 1910.
29. *LDP*, 22nd Sept. 1910.
30. *LDP*, 22nd Sept. 1010; 28th Sept. 1910.
31. *LDP*, 22nd Sept. 1910.
32. *ibid*.
33. *LDP*, 18th Sept. 1917. ‘I have been enjoying myself at Birstall Sands’ was the customary response of those who could not afford to go away when asked about their holidays.
34. *LDP*, 24th Sept. 1910.
35. *LDP*, 23rd Sept 1910.
36. *ibid*.
37. *LDP*, 20th Sept. 1910.
38. *LDP*, 23rd Sept. 1910.
39. *Leicester Pioneer*, 13th June 1908.
40. *Leicester Pioneer*, 13th Dec 1908.
41. *LDP*, 21st Sept. 1910.
42. *LDP*, 23rd and 26th Sept 1910.
43. *Homecoming Souvenir*, op. cit.
44. *LDP*, 23rd Sept. 1910.
45. *ibid*.
46. *LDP*, 26th Sept. 1910.