

Elizabeth Marion Gammell (Mott) (1871-1959)

Elizabeth was the second child and eldest daughter of James Stewart Gammell. She was born on 30 October 1871¹ in Outwood Yorkshire, where her father was the Vicar. In 1880 the family moved to Clifton, Bristol² and later that decade to Drumtochty in Scotland³. She was known throughout her life as 'Elsie' rather than Elizabeth.

Elsie married Charles Cheape Mott, son of C.J. Mott of Orwell House, Clifton-on-Dunsmore, Warwickshire on 29 April 1897 at a large society wedding at St. Palladius Church at Drumtochty.⁴

Elsie and her husband spent much of their married life at a house named Whitegates, near Ruthin in North Wales, and were immersed in country pursuits. They were particularly interested in horses and riding, but apart from this kept many pets. Elsie was an accomplished pianist and was steeped in country lore. She befriended many of the local gypsies and interested herself in their customs and welfare. She and her husband jointly wrote and published at least five novels *A Man of No Family* (1906); *A Thoroughbred in Training* (1907); *Betwixt and Between* (1921); *Clent's Way* (1923); and *The Sting of the Whip* (1930). In addition to this, Elsie was a regular contributor of articles to The Times Literary Supplement and in about 1920, published a collection of her poetry under the title of *Dryad's Trove and other poems*.

Charles Mott died on 27 November 1930⁵, and Elsie continued to live at Whitegates until she died, nearly 30 years later, on 20 December 1959⁶. They had no children.



Elizabeth M (left) with her brother, Sydney J (standing), her cousin Sydney A W (sitting second from right), and her sister Alice R (right)



(abchrystal)

¹ The National Archives; 1939 Register; Reference: RG 101/7582B

² Census 1881; Class: RG11; Piece: 2481; Folio: 83; Page: 11; GSU roll: 1341597

³ Census 1891: Fordoun; ED: 8; Page: 3; Line: 12; Roll: CSSCT1891_77

⁴ Aberdeen Press and Journal 1897-04-30

⁵ England & Wales, National Probate Calendar 1858-1966

⁶ England & Wales, National Probate Calendar 1858-1966