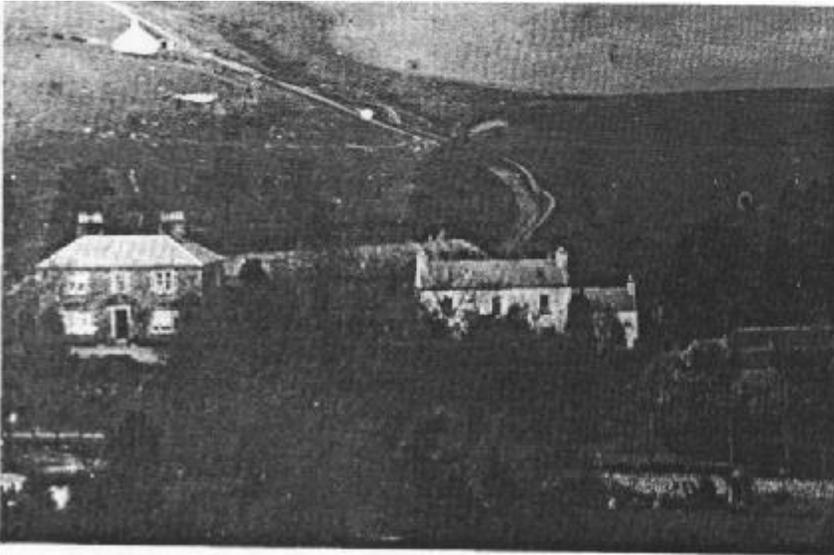


cartwrights' business could have further suffered. Thus two of the three brothers may have been forced to seek different work. A less romantic theory perhaps, but it may be nearer the truth.

The "Lost" Farmhouse

Taking the road from Heriot to Kilcoulter as you come down the rise, there you will see an old tree and a gate into the field on the left. Looking at the field round the tree, you will see nothing of note except a few old stones and mortar. What you are looking at is the site of a farmhouse called Broomyknowe, where almost two centuries ago John Pringle (another John) lived. The Ordinance Survey of 1853 shows this to be as big (or small) as other farmhouses and up the rise another building is shown but not named. Is this "Ashiebank"? Were teas served to travellers here? We are keen to know of further details. Do you have any information?

HERIOT MILL



The Tragedy of David Pringle

John Pringle of Broomyknowe had a son, David, born 1822 who, when he grew up, married Margaret Hastie and took over the adjacent farm at Kirklandhill. In January 1846, Margaret gave birth to a son James. Two years later, Margaret was again pregnant and on Christmas Day 1848 she produced another son. David never saw his second child because a few months earlier he had been kicked in the head by his horse. Margaret named the baby after his deceased father.

The departure or demise of Pringles in the Parish seems all the more surprising when one considers how numerous their numbers were a century or so ago. Further, the population of Heriot has not declined the way it has in other rural communities, e.g.

Population in 1755:- 209

Population in 1851:- 352

Population in 1983:- 220

The name Pringle, according to a book written in 1922, "The Records of the Pringles", is derived from Hoppringle (trjere are various spellings), a hill cottage *Vi* mile up a cart track beyond Hazelbank Quarry. Hoppringle was originally the site of an old pele tower and from here the descendants spread out over the Borders becoming involved in a variety of occupations including, in times past, the Border practice of reliving! Those living in Heriot in the 18th and 19th centuries generally seem to have been of modest means, engaged in farming or country crafts. Their absence from the Parish intrigues us. To paraphrase an old song, where **HAVE** all the Pringles gone? Please tell us.