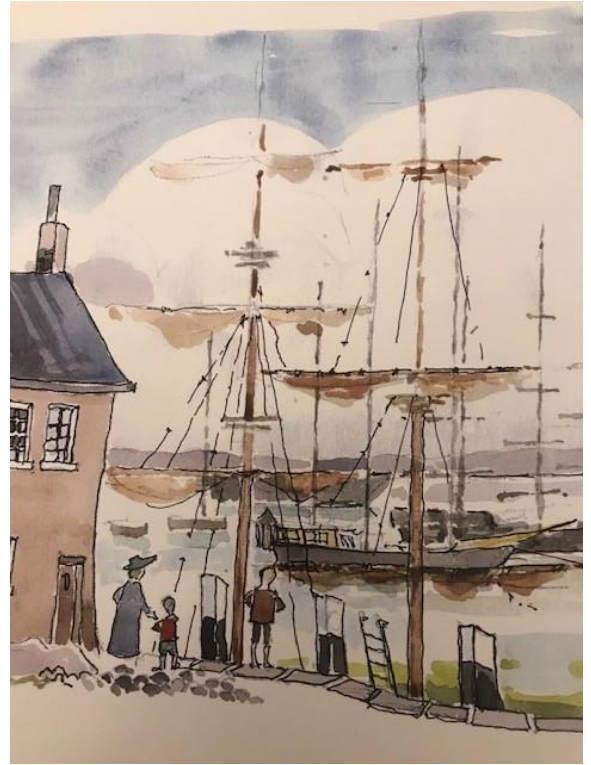


SECTION 2

THE SEEDLING GROWS

F) THE YORKSHIRE CONNECTION

Some of the refugees in Herrnhut were still anxious for their safety and others wished to travel to America to build another settlement. London was the centre for travel in the eighteenth century and a group of Moravians from Herrnhut waited in the city for a ship to take them across the Atlantic. In 1735 the group of men, women and children boarded the sailing ship, "The Simmond", to travel to America. On board they met the Yorkshire clergyman Benjamin Ingham, as well as John and Charles Wesley, and became good friends. The three clergymen were amazed at the bravery of the Moravians when they were in a violent storm at sea. As the waves crashed about then the main sail smashed to the deck and water poured in. It appeared that everyone would drown but the Moravian adults and children sang hymns and remained calm. They arrived in safety fifteen weeks later.



How long do you think it would take in a modern boat or an aeroplane to cross the Atlantic Ocean?



On his return to England Benjamin Ingham spent his time travelling the Yorkshire countryside on horseback holding outdoor religious services. When there became too many people for him to visit he remembered the Moravian friends he had made on board the ship Simmond and asked them to take over for him. About 1200 people signed up to become part of the Moravian organisation. (1742)