



# Campden & District Historical and Archæological Society

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## NOTES & QUERIES

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### **From The Editor-**

In this issue for a change we are focused more on some of the villages and places around Campden, than in the town itself. These two most interesting articles from Barbara Cookson and Martin Knight are once again direct results of contacts made through the Archive Room. Many of us regularly pass the house on Aston Road called ‘Taplins’, so it is good to know something behind that name. The diaries of Robert Newton Chadwick demonstrate what wonderful information can lie hidden in a family archive and how bland knowledge can be brought alive in the human context. In these recent days of snow as I have been compiling this issue, I have also been conscious of the weather, which is recorded in his diaries. An on-going correspondence with John Rowney has brought to light many local Rowney connections and both he and I would really like to have more information to link these and others into a comprehensive family tree, especially in light of the Noel arms on the Oxford portrait. Thank you all for sending your various researches and queries and I look forward to your further articles for future Notes & Queries.

## Letters to the Editor

Over the last 18 months an on-going correspondence has taken place between member **John Rowney** of Fleet, Hants and other CADHAS members. Through this exchange CADHAS has learnt a lot about Rowneys in the Campden environs, has built up a file of source material in the Archives and links to the Noel and Clopton families have been confirmed. However, John Rowney is still looking for the direct link to his family and asks if anyone can help connect these Rowneys below to his line in Evesham – his 7 x gt.grandfather **William Rowney** of Evesham, b.c.1660, was married c.1685 at Bretforton to Mary Adams of Bengeworth. He asks why was he married in Bretforton? Was there a Rowney vicar or advowson there? William Canning held the Grange at Bretforton. Who held the advowson there in 1660s?

These are the brief facts of the other **Rowneys in the locality**:

A map in St Lawrence's Church, **Mickleton**, shows 'Meane [Meon] **Rowney, Esq. Ld.**' near Mickleton & this could be Thomas Rowney of Oxford, see below.

In **Ilmington**, Rowney Farmhouse, (right) was thought to be owned by a **John Rowney** (b.c.1589 – d.c.1672/1694). He left £50 to Quakers of Broad Campden and he had a house with 3 hearths and land at **Hidcote**, Sandbach Hill. He was High Constable of **Kineton** Hundred c.1674 for 2 years. In 1683 John Rowney 'gentleman' was fined £100 for not going to church and spent time in Warwick jail. In 1686 John & Thomas Rowney, both of **Cubbington**, nr. Warwick, were discharged from a house of correction for an offence pardoned by His Majesty's proclamation. Thomas Rowney, son of William Rowney, b.c.1549 'of **Foxcote**' married Ann Canning 11<sup>th</sup> Aug 1589 at Ilmington. In 1612 a **John & Dorothy Rowney of Armscote** were 'presented' for not attending church and in 1619 for working on St Bartholomew's day.



**Nicholas Rowney** was Sheriff of **Coventry** in 1635, Coventry Church Warden in 1625, Mayor in 1643 and a Nicholas Rowney had 5 hearths in London.



**Arthur Rowney of Darlingscott** was interred at **Halford**, d.5<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1690 and Elizabeth his wife, d.3<sup>rd</sup> Sept. 1698, Thomas Rowney, their son and heir, d.Apr. 5<sup>th</sup> 1700, age 16. This wall monument (left), commemorating them with the Rowney arms, was erected by their daughter Elizabeth, widow of Nathaniel Mason of Stratford-upon-Avon.

**Simon Rowney of Darlingscott** went to Oriel College, matric. 4<sup>th</sup> Dec 1612 age 15 and became Bailiff of the Treddington Estate in 1642. His grandson, **Thomas Rowney** (right), was educated at Shilton, Oxon, married Elizabeth Noel, died of apoplexy at a Mayor's Feast and is buried at St Giles, **Oxford**. His



portrait (right) with Noel arms hangs in Oxford Town Hall. He built the Judges House in Oxford, gave land for St John's College and the first Radcliffe Infirmary, was Sheriff of Oxford 1691-2, MP for Oxford 1695-1727, magistrate 1714. A transcript of his will of 22.12.1721 gives much information. *Can anyone help further with the Rowney family tree?*

**Robert Newton Chadwick****Barbara Cookson**

*This article developed from a Spring 2010 query asking about Farncombe House and as a result CADHAS has obtained a transcript of the diaries of this gentleman from some of the periods when he was living at Farncombe near Broadway. They contain marvellous snippets of his life and times in their early married and child rearing years and are a mine of information, farming, names, activities, weather, life-style, Catholic connections and local events.*

In 2010 my husband and I stayed in Broadway and walked in my great grandparents' footsteps. We had such an interesting few days, exploring, finding familiar house names and getting a feel for the geography of the locality. When I was in my late teens, my grandfather gave me Robert Newton Chadwick's diaries, which run from 1866 to 1919 with some gaps and give a great insight into his life. It seems that between 1875 and 1888 he did not write diaries, because in 1888 he says he resumes his diaries after some time. As he gets older the entries are fuller. Once our children had all left home, I was able to transcribe these diaries, expanding them with information gained from censuses and the internet of the places, people and events he recorded.

My great grandfather was Robert Newton Chadwick (RNC), born 1842 in Grimsargh, near Preston, Lancashire. He was the son of John Frederick Chadwick and Alice Gillow (from the furniture family). In the early 1860s he spent time in Australia as farm pupil and in 1870 in Preston he married Gertrude (known as Gerty) Anderton, daughter of James Anderton and Mary Sidgreaves, and they had eight children: Mary Gertrude (called Minnie) b.8.2.1873, John Frederick Joseph b.25.5.1874, Robert Francis (my grandfather) b.7.9.1875, Edgar b.7.9.1877, Edith b.18.12.1878 d.4.2.1879, Evan b.18.4.1880, Wilfrid b.13.10.1881 and Hubert Ignatius b.18.7.1884. Gerty's sister, Ellen Frances Anderton (called Nelly), lived with the family soon after they were married and for most of her life. Another sister, Elizabeth Frances Anderton (called Missie), was a nun in the Franciscan Convent and Orphanage at Woodchester. [Ed. This is Woodchester near Stroud, now English Heritage, the Dominican convent started by William Leigh who converted to Catholicism in 1844. When he died in 1873 his widow retired to a small house (Chester Hill House) so that the Dominicans could benefit from the estate. Because the church and priory were built first, Leigh did not start Woodchester Mansion until about 1855; it remained unfinished on his death and has never been completed. The church is still used by the local parish, but the priory has since been demolished.]

RNC visited Broadway in March 1872, staying in the Lygon Arms "very comfortable old place". He bought the Farncombe Estate (right) and Willersey Farm (300 acres) on Fish Hill for £19,950 from Lord Beauchamp. William Moxam was the previous



tenant of Farncombe and Mr. Bird of Willersey Farm. The family moved into Farncombe on Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> 1873: "Went on from Birmingham to Farncombe with 2 nurses arriving for lunch. The place looks very pretty. Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> Working hard at getting the house in order. Monday 26<sup>th</sup> Another load of furniture arrived late at night. Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> Another load of furniture." There are many references to his purchases – a cabin dog cart, horses, wine: "1873 Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May Sent to Honeybourne for Mr. Fowle's wine from Bordeaux."

All the children, except the eldest two, were born at Farncombe. All the boys, except Robert, my grandfather, (Robert below about 13, photo possibly taken in 1888, with



RNC, about 46) who was considered not strong enough, were educated at Stonyhurst, near Clitheroe. A governess taught Minnie and the boys when they were young.

At some stage before 1888 RNC bought another 40 acres from Mr. Halliwell Phillipps. [See *N&Q VI 7ff.*] In October 1888 they took a house in Bournemouth for about a year to allow extensive alterations to take place at Farncombe and RNC seems to have been back and forth regularly during the year keeping an eye on the work – February and March 1889 have several mentions of pulling down the wall of the dining room and gutting the old part of

house and on April 12<sup>th</sup> he logged: "Fitting out foundations for the new building." In June a billiard table was erected "Payed (sic) Mr. Long for billiard table, lamps, chandelier etc. amounted to £67.10sh. 8d." The plasterer came on 1<sup>st</sup> July and the family moved back to Farncombe in mid July: "Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> July Left Bournemouth with Gerty, Nelly and all the children for home via Reading. Arrived all safe at home. Thank God and very glad to get home. Found things going on very satisfactorily." There are subsequent entries in 1890 about hot water apparatus, pipes and furnaces!

The weather features prominently, rain, thunderstorms, snow all dated and detailed: "1873 Sunday June 29<sup>th</sup> Early mass. Very fine morning. At 2 o'clock rain so I pitched a wagonload of hay onto the stack to keep the wet out of it. Rained all evening." From Feb 11<sup>th</sup> 1888 until 5th March he records snow, frost and very cold, with the children skating on the pond. "1888 Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March Beautiful day. Snow going fast. Busy fitting some hanging hooks in my dressing room and putting Bobby's box. Walked down to Broadway to fetch post. New housemaid came today. Margaret."

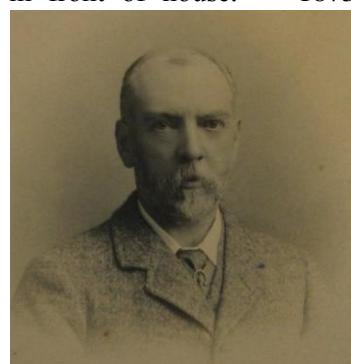
RNC was very active in local life; he was a Magistrate at the Chipping Campden Court, which we were able to visit, hardly changed from his day: "1888 Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March. Dull. Went to Campden for Petty Sessions, Bourne, Shekell, Bruce. We had a woman up for trying to cut her throat. Discharged her with a promise not to attempt the same again." [Rev. Canon George Drinkwater Bourne M.A., F.S.A. vicar of Weston Subedge, Thomas Stevens Shekell, Esq., D.L. of Pebworth Manor, Stratford-on-Avon and Samuel Bruce from Norton Hall, see *N&Q VI 3ff.*]

He rode with the North Cotswold Hunt, for which he was Secretary for several years and was very involved with the administration and the Master, Mr Rushout: "1873 June 21<sup>st</sup> Saturday Went to Broadway to see the hounds at the kennels by Mr. Rushout's

invitation. Met a Mr. Winniat, Mr. Griffiths etc., lunched at the Lygon Arms. Began cutting hay.” [Could this have been William Higford Griffiths of Bedfont House, Campden, local Solicitor and Clerk to the Magistrates?] Some weeks he was out hunting 3 or 4 times in the week and not only with the N.C., but also with the Heythrop Hunt, Lord Coventry from Springhill’s hounds, always logging where they hunted, what happened, the length of run, foxes taken, a good day or no sport, etc.: “1873 Saturday 13th September Met the N.C. hounds at 5am at Campden wood on Roger (“Sir Roger” one of several named horses – the others mentioned were Rifleman and Hermit and Blossom and Beauty with the Brougham), ran an old fox 2 or 3 miles. Returned home at 11.30.” “1873 Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December The N.C. hounds met at Farncombe today and found in our gorse close to Bilsworth cover, lost him and found again at Campden wood, ran the fox to Spring Hill [*sic*] and killed, found again there and ran 1 hour and ¾ towards Guiting and into Buckland wood, where we lost him.” He was also frequently out shooting birds and rabbits: “1873 Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> September Went to Child’s Wickam [*sic*] to shoot with Mr. Hall. Mr. Averill there, 8½ brace and 1 hare.” [Probably Isaac Averill of Southview, Broadway, a JP colleague.] “1893 1<sup>st</sup> September Shot with Knox Spring Hill. 3 guns – got 12 brace. 2<sup>nd</sup> September Shot Campden with Walsh got 10½ brace. Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September Shot with Major Knox – got 10 brace. 3 guns. Walsh the 3rd.”

He was very ‘hands on’ with the work of the farm, for which Frank Cotterill was the Farm Manager and often the farm activity is logged, mowing, hay cutting: “1873 Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August Finished thatching stacks.” He was also very into ‘do it yourself’ at home: “1873 Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October Busy laying out walk in front of house.” “1873 Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November Building hot house wall, wet day. Hauling timber.” “1874 Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March Snow and sleet all day. Cut down some trees in front of the house – nearly knocked my eye out with a branch.”

He socialised with all the prominent people in the area, the Howards at Foxcote, the Liffords of Broadway [James Wilfrid Hewitt, 5th Viscount Lifford at Austin House], Lord Elcho of Stanway, Canon Bourne at Weston Subedge, the Bruces at Norton Hall, the Walshes staying at Campden House, the Knoxes variously of Far Upton Wold, Blockley and Springhill (Major Vicesimus Knox was a J.P. colleague) and the Noels at Campden House: “1873 Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> July Drove to Northwick Park to see the picture gallery - a very fine collection.” “1888 Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> January Putting down floor in pig sty (sic). Mr. Rushout called to see me about the Hunt meeting. Walked down to Broadway in the afternoon. Called on Mr. Millet and saw him and Mr. Abbey. [The artists] Mr. M. has got a very nice picture on hand.” “Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> December 1888 Returned to Broadway. Called on Lifford, Mr. Roller and Millet where I had tea and saw his picture ‘The Trumpeter’, a very charming picture which he is painting for the Royal Academy next year.” He often had people to the house to play billiards after the refurbishment and played tennis at Campden House and Springhill. In 1888 several children’s parties at various houses are mentioned: at Farncombe on Thursday 12th January “Preparing for children’s party, which took place 5 to 9. There were 32 there and all went off well,” on 16<sup>th</sup> January at Canon Bourne’s house and on 23<sup>rd</sup> January at the Bruces of Norton Hall.



The family regularly went to confession on Saturdays and mass at least once a week at the Monastery of the Passionists in Broadway at St. Saviour’s church and to the Noel’s private chapel at Campden House, Combe, Chipping Campden until St. Catharine’s in Lower High St. was built in 1891. When it was raining, they sometimes did not go to mass, which since Farncombe is nearly at the top of Fish Hill

and the roads would have been very muddy, is understandable. There are interesting entries on two following Sundays in 1889: "3<sup>rd</sup> March Mass at Broadway at 10. Fr. Daniel asked the congregation to sign a protest against the action of the Government on account of their Irish policy and went on to abuse the government. Frederick and I left the church and complained to Fr. Raymund who agreed with me that what he said was most improper." "10<sup>th</sup> March In order to avoid a repetition of the insult of last Sunday, Frederick and I went to Campden for Mass and made acquaintance with the Rev. Bernard Lloyd the new priest, a pleasant gentlemanly man. Gave him £10 towards his new church. He is apparently a good conservative and tells me he got blank papers sent from Broadway for getting signatures for the National Protest and put them into the fire – their proper place." It seems RNC wrote a letter to the Evesham Standard on 6<sup>th</sup> March with the history of Fr. Daniel's political speech at church and comments, which appeared with a leading article on 9<sup>th</sup> March. The Catholic faith was very important to RNC: "1872 November 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Got leave for a private chapel at Farncombe from Dr. Ullathorne."

He often walked into Broadway which must have been quite strenuous. He seems to have had the energy of six men although every now and again he took to his bed with migraine and quite often mentions toothache: "1873 Wednesday 22nd October Bad toothache all day. Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> Toothache all day. Sent for Dr. Morris. Rhubarb pill. Friday 24<sup>th</sup> Toothache better." In 1888, "Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> January Fine day. Walked with children down to High Mass. Fr. Gregory preached. In the afternoon walked down to Halls and got up again with some difficulty on account of the gout of which an attack is coming on. I kept my foot up all evening and bathed it."

He spent a great deal of his time travelling - often by train from Honeybourne station, as well as Campden. "1874 Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January Left London at 10.15, found that the train yesterday by which we had intended to go had run into another and been smashed. Thank God. Arrived at Honeybourne at 2.30 and home at 3.45. Got on my horse Sir Roger and had an hour or so with the hounds." He often stayed in London (the Hotels Windsor and Glendower seemed favourite spots) to see the shows and exhibitions and to shop. Army & Navy Stores were regularly patronised, where it seemed nearly everything could be purchased and even shipped to Australia. He visited friends and relations in this country, especially in the Preston area. He was a frequent visitor to Rome and other European countries on the way, often away for months.

This is the 1891 census entry for Farncombe House, Broadway:

Robert Newton Chadwick	48	Living on own means	b. Grimsargh, Lancs.
Gertrude Frances Chadwick	49		b. Haughton, Lancs.
Mary G. Chadwick	18		b. Grimsargh, Lancs.
John F. J.	16		b. Preston.
Robert F.	15		b. Broadway, Worcs.
Wilfrid E.	9		b. ditto
Hubert I.	6		b. ditto
Helen F. Anderton	53	Living on own means	b. Lytham, Lancs.
Charlotte Hawtin	41	Nurse, Domestic Servant	b. Avon Dassett,
Florence Serty	28	Housemaid	b. Greet, Worcs.
Emily Gibbs	19	Under Housemaid	b. Broadway, Worcs.
Teresa Bosworth	16	Kitchen Maid	b. Wood Lane, Staffs.
1891: Stonyhurst College, Lancashire, where two boys were at school			
Edgar Chadwick	13	Scholar	b. Broadway
Evan Chadwick	10	Scholar	b. Broadway

Then, in 1893, "23<sup>rd</sup> October All left Farncombe en route for Western Australia. Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> Went down with some of our luggage to the Nairnshire lying in the S.W. India Dock."

On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December the ship docked at Fremantle Harbour and the notes of the 6 week sailing voyage are also fascinating. "Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December Went to the church for mass, but were late, then to the Custom House again and left Fremantle at 2 pm for Perth. Found all the Hotels very full, but found some rooms at the Court Hotel, Beaufort St. £2. 2. per week ea. Weighed ourselves at Fremantle Station:

R. N. Chadwick	11 st. 9 lbs.
Gerty	9 st. 9 lbs.
Minnie	10 st. 0 lbs.
Bobby	8 st. 9 lbs.
Nelly	7 st. 13 lbs.

I lost 5 lbs. since July last and 17 lbs. since Nov. 1892. Went to the Post Office for letters and found a large budget (probably a leather bag of post waiting for them). The night was cool with a breeze." So, the family moved to Queensland in Australia, having bought a sheep station called Undulla, west of Toowoomba, where they worked hard with the stock, land and house for 14 years.

It has always amazed us that they could go from a very comfortable life here to a very hard one in the Australian bush. The younger children remained in England to continue their studies at Stonyhurst. Mr. & Mrs. Chadwick returned to England in 1896 for a couple of years (living on Willersey Hill) leaving Frederick and Bobby to look after the sheep station. He seemed to be able to pick up where he left off, attending Petty Sessions in Campden and socializing: "1897 Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January Carpentering. Letter writing. Snow in the afternoon. In the evening went to the North Cotswold Hunt ball at Broadway. Very rough night, about 150 people there – the Gainsboroughs, Liffords, Gordon Duff [*of Ebrington Manor*], Mitfords [*of Batsford*], Dugdale [*of Sezincote*], Arnold, Millet, Heavens [*of Kiftsgate*], Ashwins [*of Bretforton Manor*], Fred Witts, Caustons, Fairfax, Stanton, Bruce, General Davies and son, Chichester, Navarro, Fox, Stacey [*then the Master of the Hunt*] etc. I danced with Lady Agnes Noel, Miss Stanton and Minnie. Good supper, took Mrs. Heaven in. Got home at 4am. Fine night but very cold." "1897 Friday 18<sup>th</sup> June Went up after breakfast with Canon Bourne to see his bonfire on Dover's Hill put up. Cold showery day. After lunch drove up again, very cold and stormy." "19<sup>th</sup> June We have spent a very pleasant week with the Bourne's. The best of everything, champagne every day and a hearty welcome." One main difference is that he and the family now seem to be cycling everywhere – to Campden, Saintbury, Foxcote, Broadway. "1897 Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> July Enamelled one of our old tricycles. All went to Garden Party at Middle Hill, Broadway (home of the Flower family). Everybody there. Very stupid, no tennis, but bowls and croquet! What a lot of imbecile duffers we are all becoming. It is the fashion not to play tennis, too much exertion: a few years ago we prided ourselves on playing set after set without becoming tired."

In 1897 they leased Farncombe to Mr. & Mrs. Barrett and the shooting to Mr. Gordon Duff. "Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> August Went by early train to London and met Mr. & Mrs. Barrett at Lumleys office and agreed to let Farncombe and some land, as G. Duff has with the shooting (house unfurnished) all but billiard table and some fixtures for £190 per annum. Returned 4.45 to Honeybourne." "1897 Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> August Gerty (right) and I lunched with the Gainsboroughs met the Bishop of Clifton Dr. Brownlow. He told me he had the same arms as the Chadwicks 8 martlets. Afterwards we all drove down to Campden Church to see the little Lord Campden confirmed. He is small and delicate looking. Nelly asked us to have tea at the Noel Arms and then home." (Lord Campden was Arthur Edward Joseph Noel, son of the 3rd Earl of Gainsborough b.1884 so he would have



been c.13 years old.) “Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> August Mr. Dale came over from Worcester for breakfast and Gerty and he and I went down to Farncombe to meet Mr. & Mrs. Barrett our new tenants and went through the house with them. They afterwards came up and lunched with us at Willersey Hill, and left immediately after. They are keeping on some furniture which we are asking £10 a year for.” “Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> August Confession. & H. Comm. Broadway. Heard from Mr. Barrett. They agree to £10 for the furniture and £5 by the year for piano. Evan and Wilfrid and I biked to Campden expecting to find cricket match there, but there was none.” Who leased it when they first went out to Australia is not known.

Between then and 1898 there is much activity with packing, moving stuff and sending off packing cases to Campden for Brisbane, with much help from Mr Skey from Campden and with many of their friends calling for tea, dinner, etc.: “Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October Met the Barretts again at Farncombe. Mr. Dale and two valuers came to check the inventory. Very busy all day. Bad headache all evening.” These worrying headaches continued until they left, RNC putting it down on odd occasions to smoking and consulted a doctor in London who gave him powders and pills to cure it: “Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> October Early down at Farncombe moving all our things out of the night nursery into the chapel which is to be our reserved room. Gerty, Minnie and Nellie and 2 servants all helping to carry up glass, crockery etc. Did a very good day’s work. Had tea with the Barretts, who are sleeping at Farncombe tonight.” They finally left on March 18<sup>th</sup> Friday 1898: “Left Glendower at 8.45 for St. Pancras and on to the Tilbury Docks and on board the Orizaba, 2nd class for Brisbane. Gerty had her purse stolen at the station. Very busy getting settled. Got off about 12 but lay still in the River for some time. Telegram from Mr. Barrett from Paris wishing us ‘bon voyage’.”

When they returned to Australia this time in 1898 the whole family left, so that Wilfrid and Hubert could go to school at Riverview near Sydney. The family came back to England ten years later in 1908 with the exception of Evan who remained in Australia and brought up a family there. Gerty died in 1909 on a trip to Rome. RNC never lived in Farncombe again, but rented a house in Bath and then towards the end of his life in Oxford, where he died in 1919.

It is known that during the WWI Farncombe was used as a Red Cross convalescent



different.

Thanks to Carol Jackson and the Campden & District Historical & Archaeological Society for help with filling in some details for me.

VAD hospital [*see left*] for British servicemen who wore blue hospital uniforms. It is thought that after Robert Newton Chadwick died, Farncombe was sold to a Mr. Pemberton. I have found it fascinating following Robert Newton Chadwick’s life through his diaries, when life was quite

## The Taplins of Campden, Blockley & Bretforton

**Martin Knight**

I had known for some time that I was related to the Taplin families of Campden and Bretforton, but it was only in 2010 when I visited the Fleece in Bretforton and stayed at 'Taplins', 5 Aston Road in Campden that I started to work out the relationship.

My great-great grandparents (father's father's mother's parents) were Job Taplin (1823-1857) and Elizabeth Beavington (1823-1898). Job was a carpenter and joiner and his father, William, was described in the 1841 census as a timberman. Elizabeth's father, Richard Beavington, was a farm labourer on his widow's death certificate, but on Elizabeth's second marriage certificate was as a baker. At the 1851 census Job and Elizabeth were living in Blockley and they had three children there: Emily Ann (b.1847), George Mansell (b.1848) and Alfred William (b.1850). Job died on 1st September 1857, probably of typhoid fever, having been ill only for three days. On 27<sup>th</sup> October 1857 Elizabeth, now a widow of just less than two months, aged about 34, took a second husband - James Tudor Taylor Osborne, a 39 year old hairdresser of Chipping Campden. They lived in Campden High Street, *[near the Market Hall, probably where the Mediterranean restaurant is now. The buildings behind were known as Osborne's Yard in 1871 census]*, but had no children. In 1861 James was a hairdresser and house agent; in 1871 he was a hairdresser and farmer of 20 acres employing 2 men; in 1881 he was simply a hairdresser, then living at the Swan Inn with Elizabeth and her son from her first marriage, George Mansell Taplin, who was the innkeeper. James Osborne died aged 64 in December 1882. By 1891 Elizabeth was living in Lower High St *[next to Dial House]* still with George. However, she died in February 1898 of influenza and bronchitis.

Of Elizabeth's three children, George Mansell Taplin is the one of most interest to Campden. After his father's death and his mother's remarriage, he lived in Blockley with his aunt Mary Beavington and was still there at the 1861 census. By 1871, aged 23, he was a carpenter journeyman, back in Campden living with his mother and stepfather, continuing to live with them through the next two censuses; in 1881 he was an innkeeper and joiner at the Swan Inn and in 1891 he was a timber haulier. It was only in 1895, at the age of 47 (the marriage certificate says 45) that he married Sarah Waine. *[Also known as Minnie, Sarah was the daughter of John Waine, Innkeeper at Rose & Crown, and his wife, the well known Campden character Polly Waine. In the 1891 census Sarah Minnie aged 27 was living with her parents just a few doors away from George.]* It was intriguing to learn that they were married in London, at Islington Register Office, but we may never learn why they were married there. They had four children: John George Mansell (b.1896), Nora Angelina Victoria (b.1898), Miriam Dora Evelyn (b.1899) and William Randolph Victor (b.1901). In 1901 the family were living in Sheep Street. George died in 1908, after which Sarah moved to Lower High Street, next door to her parents. In 1911 Sarah was a Grammar School cleaner and the three younger children were in school, but John, aged 14, was boarding in Bengeworth, working in the family tradition as a carpenter's apprentice.

John must have returned to Campden, for Paul Hughes in *Campden 1914-1918* records him as a member of the Campden company of the 5<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Gloucestershire Regiment. He served with the regiment all through WW1, was wounded three times and ended up as a sergeant with the Military Medal. He returned to Campden, where it is probable that he, as a returning soldier, qualified for one of

the Aston Road houses, into which his mother, grandmother and sisters also moved, although at some time in the twenties he moved to west London.

Nora never married. She served at Norton Hall, Mickleton, which after the outbreak of war, in October 1914, was set up as a Voluntary Aid Department (V.A.D.) Hospital, under the Commandant Miss Maye Bruce, lived with her mother at 5 Aston Road and died aged 90 in 1988, apparently never having lived away from Campden. Miriam also served at Norton Hall VAD. She was married in August 1932 at Kensington Register Office to Spencer Herbert Emlyn Jones, a motor mechanic; the marriage certificate records no occupation for Miriam. Spencer later joined the Metropolitan Police. Miriam died in 1947 at the family home in Campden. William joined the army in 1918 and served in Ireland until about 1922. In January 1935 he married Lillian Winifred Reynold in Camberwell and was then working as a bricklayer.

The Campden connections of George's sister and brother are limited. In 1861, his sister Emily Ann, aged 15 was working as a nursemaid at the Growman School, Merstow Green, Evesham and by 1864 she had married George Knight of Alcester. They had nine children, the fifth of whom was William Ernest Knight, my grandfather. The eldest of her children, George Alfred (b.1867) at the 1871 census aged 3 was living with his grandmother and step-grandfather in Campden and continued to live with them through the 1881 census, probably until he joined the army in 1886. I suspect that he may have had a better schooling than his brothers: he was certainly just that bit more successful in life than his brother William. George served for seven years in the army, leaving as a sergeant, and became manager of a cement works. William also served for seven years in the army, but never rose above the rank of lance-corporal. On leaving the army he joined the Warwickshire Police, retiring, as he had joined, at the rank of constable.

George Taplin's younger brother, Alfred William, lived in Campden with his mother and step-father until after the 1871 census. A hairdresser and farmer in 1871, thereafter he was a timber haulier, living in Mickleton in 1881 with his wife Ellen (nee Wyatt), who died in 1886 and by 1887 remarried to Annie Gertrude Phipps, the 23 year old grand-daughter of Ann Byrd, innkeeper of The Fleece in Bretforton. They had four children: Dorothy Gertrude (b.1887), Nelly Gwyn (b. and d.1890), Lola Almeda (b.1893) and Harold Lancelot (b.1899). The family continued to live at The Fleece, Annie presumably following her grandmother and her mother as licensee and Lola, their daughter, afterwards. Lola never married and so The Fleece passed out of



the war service of all four of the Taplins.

the family, into the hands of the National Trust. I had never seen before this CADHAS photo (left) of Lola (centre) in 1953 at the Fleece at a Green Howards reunion, who were stationed in Campden from September 1939 to January 1940. The Fleece was favourite place of the regiments. In 1980, the 5th Battalion Green Howards presented a Robert 'Mousey' Thompson table to Campden church. [See *N&Q* V No3, pg. 23.] I am indebted to Paul Hughes for the information about

## "Then There Was The School" Part 3

Margaret Fisher & Pearl Mitchell

*This extract is from a paper in CADHAS Archives, about Ebrington Church of England Junior School 1867–1893. We left Part 2 awaiting a new teacher, Mr. Rupert Burrell.*

Finally the Committee engaged the services of Mr. Rupert Burrell, guaranteeing him £100 per year if a third of the grant failed to bring his salary up to this level. Mr. Burrell was a certificated, but not trained, master, third class, who came from Houghton School near Huntingdon. His wife, Mary Ann, also certificated, would take charge of sewing and the infants. When the Burrells commenced their duties at Ebrington on Monday January 6th 1879 there were 43 standard pupils on the register together with a class of infants. This young married couple began their family life at Ebrington with the birth of their first child, Rupert George, who was born on December 19th 1879 and christened in the parish church on February 1st 1880. A second son was born in March 1881 but sadly Harry Bernard died in 1887 aged six. The first of their two daughters was Frances Mary, born in 1882, followed two years later by Arthur Edgar and finally Dora Bessie in 1885. The first six years of the Burrells' employment were exceptionally hard work for them as they tried to improve the quality of the village children's education while also attending to their own increasing family. ...

At the beginning of 1880 Lord Fortescue made an adamant speech on education in the Houses of Parliament. He did not sympathise with the retaining at school until the age of 13 (to be raised in 1881 to 14) of "big dunces" who could often "earn their living more easily than the more intelligent but less burly boys". Mr. Randall, the Fortescue Land Agent, supported him and expressed his concern that this proposal would cause hardship to parents, especially those with large families and drive up labour costs for the farmers at a time when agriculture was at its most depressed. The year 1879 had been one of the worst recorded for farming, with a season of poor harvests and penal taxes. It had begun as one of the coldest winters of the century, with much snow: June, July and August were three very wet months and winter began early again, with exceptionally severe frosts. This was the year a violent gale on December 28th caused the Tay Bridge disaster in Scotland, when the bridge collapsed and a train was blown into the estuary. To aggravate the distress, vast quantities of grain poured in from America and the first shipment of refrigerated beef arrived from Australia. No-one wanted to buy British! Farmers were ruined in every direction. The losses of 1879 were so heavy that the rents in Ebrington were in arrears and it was hoped that these would be paid out of the produce of 1880, a bad state of things and Mr. Randall dreaded the coming rent-collecting days. To everyone's relief the summer of 1880 provided some respite with splendid harvest weather, five weeks without rain until the very great floods on the 6th and 7th of October. The farming prospects for the coming year in the parish appeared to be marginally better.

Her Majesty's Inspector of Schools for this district, now J. D. B. Faber, Esq., following his first visit to Ebrington in 1879, gave a sympathetic report considering the serious difficulties of the past year. There was already great improvement under Mr. Burrell, but Mr. Faber stressed the need for continued progress and the urgent requirement for another set of books to be supplied throughout the six standards. In July 1880 he noted a poor showing of natural intelligence in the Ebrington children,

reporting, "There is a want of life and quickness all through the school, especially noticeable in the infants." Much good work had been done by the Schoolmaster, providing sound teaching and good discipline, although attendance was still irregular, continued improvements were still expected by the Management Committee.

By July 1883 Ebrington Church of England Mixed School was, at last, declared to be in an efficient state and the grant earned on the examination of 52 standard children was £47.2s.6d. In the November of the same year the school was inspected for the first time in Religious Knowledge, by the Diocesan Inspector, Rev. Charles H. Awdry. He was impressed with the way the infants repeated their texts and catechism distinctly but remarked that the older children's knowledge of scripture was rather uneven. He recommended that one book of the Old Testament with one Gospel should be studied as subjects for one year. Charles Hornby wrote a footnote saying that the credit for the conscientious religious teaching rested entirely with the excellent master and mistress, Mr. & Mrs. Burrell. He continued: "I myself, from want of teaching ability, not from want of will, having abstained from teaching."

The following year Mr. Burrell was struggling with his finances and he asked for an extra £5 on his salary. He also wished the local farmers to plough, clean and plant three acres of land for his use and the School Management Committee thought that, as he was such a good teacher, this could be arranged. This year, 1884, the first day school inspection under Mundella's New Code took place. The payment of the grant was now based on the average attendance during the school year and at Ebrington the £63.10s.6d. received was calculated on 57 standard children and 29 infants. Of the 55 standard children examined 53 passed in reading, 50 passed in writing and 48 in arithmetic. Forty-one passed in all three subjects and no child failed in more than one. What an improvement! Mr. Hornby wrote to Lord Fortescue in December enclosing the favourable Diocesan Inspector's report on the religious teaching and saying, "Your Lordship will I fear not be so pleased with my next sentence. This is a plea in 'forma pauperis' for a small special donation to meet a totally unforeseen and special expense in our school. A few weeks ago we discovered that dry rot had made its appearance to a serious extent in the class room (which was built only twelve years ago) underneath the infants gallery. If we had not fortunately found it out when we did, there might have been a very serious accident to some of the infants." This news was all the more shocking in these depressed times. They had temporarily propped up the gallery but needed between £5 and £6 to meet the repairs. Mr. Hornby was willing to take a share in the expense but all the farmers of the parish already supported the school with their subscriptions and could not afford any more. As there was no spare school money he was once again reduced to appealing to the Lords Fortescue and Harrowby.

School attendance continued to improve over the next few years and both the Government Inspector and Diocesan reports were favourable. ... 1888 had been "a calamitous year", the school having been closed three times for a period of three weeks at a time owing to outbreaks of scarlatina, measles and whooping cough. ...

Unhappily, an unfortunate incident in July 1892 overshadowed the good reports and improvements that had been achieved by everyone over the previous years. School Master Rupert Burrell was charged with assaulting and beating eight-year-old Ernest William Proctor, son of Thomas and Annie. *[More of this to follow in a future issue!]*