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From *The Editor*

This is the sixth issue of the current volume of Notes & Queries and we shall start a new Volume VII in the autumn. Thank you all for sending your various researches and queries. This issue seems to have developed a mind of its own, as it is all about people. Interesting pieces have been included about two personalities from different eras, both born in Campden, each with clerical connections and one by Donald Holdsworth, past Chairman of CADHAS. We have the next installment of the Ebrington School story and two articles are a direct result of assistance given to enquirers. CADHAS's various ongoing and past projects - the parish register transcriptions, graveyard survey, analyses of Campden wills and house history - have each contributed to these researches and our correspondence has added more 'flesh to the previous bones' of some people. I look forward to your further articles for future editions of Notes & Queries.

Letters to the Editor

Christmas greetings were received from several past contributors and overseas members including the **Lord of Westington and Combe** in Holland, see Vol.VI No.4.

More on Culpeper in Broad Campden:

Following the last N&Q further information has been received on the subject of Culpeper in Broad Campden. **Richard, the son of Albert E. Potter**, the owner of Briar Hill Farm, wrote to **Peter Leyel**. "I was born next door to Briar Hill Cottage at Briar Hill Farm in 1949. The small factory to which you refer was set up in a small barn about 200 yards into the village and was part of the farm buildings belonging to the farm. I remember vividly helping my father clear out the barn sometime in the late 1950s, maybe 1958. A lot of the equipment was still there which was left in lieu of rent, including the main press, which we still have and use regularly as a cider press. The building has since been converted to a house. We as farmers moved from Briar Hill in 1972, but I stayed and now live in a house in the centre of the village."

Additionally, on the forum of the present day Herb Society (the follower of Hilda Leyel's Society of Herbalists), **Kevin Brown**, a member of the Herb Society, contributed the following information from a 1939 catalogue published by Culpeper House, headed "Culpeper's Vale of Evesham Factory 1937-1945. The Society of Herbalists have pleasure in announcing that a Culpeper factory has been started in the centre of the vegetable growing district in the Vale of Evesham for producing medicinal extracts of health giving plants and vegetables. The method adopted in the preparation of these juices preserves not only the vitamins but the chlorophyll, which, from a biochemical and biological point of view is one of the most interesting of all vegetable substances on account of the property of forming blood. These extracts contain all the organic mineral salts, vitamins and volatile essential oils and chlorophyll. The Culpeper method of preserving all the value of the fresh plant is that perfected and used by the German Government. In 1938, Mr. Christopher Leyel went to Germany, worked in the Government Laboratories to learn the process, then imported the necessary machinery and started a factory in the heart of the vegetable-growing district near Evesham. These juices are the best tonics obtainable, being both nourishing and curative. Price 3/6 per bottle, postage 5d. Each bottle contains a month's supply." Then follows a 2 page list of the juices and their properties.

Finally, if anyone wishes to see **Hilda Leyel** there are two snippets from silent news films made in 1920 and 1922 by British Pathe showing Hilda distributing prize cheques, typically for £2,500 - a considerable sum for those days, to the winners of the Golden Ballot lottery. See:

<http://www.britishpathe.com/record.php?id=19574> for the 1922 silent film and <http://www.britishpathe.com/record.php?id=27716> for the 1920 one.

More on Percy Cleghorn Stanley Hobart:

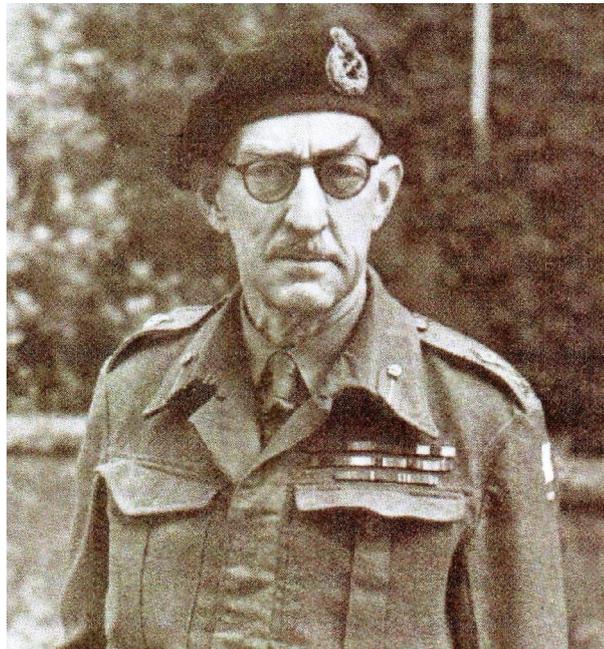
At a large family celebration last November miles away from and without any connection to Chipping Campden, your editor was seated next to **George Miles Hobart-Hampden Buckinghamshire, the 10th Earl of Buckinghamshire**. They talked about his name, he mentioned the city of Hobart in Tasmania having been founded by an ancestor and your editor, remembering the facts from Dennis Granger's article in N&Q Vol. VI, No 2, Spring 2009, asked if **Percy Hobart** was connected to

the family. The Earl was surprised that his dinner companion knew about Percy Hobart and confirmed that he was ‘a distant cousin of some kind’. Since then a file of papers has been received for the Archives with more information about Percy from which it is noted that “the flash or emblem [of his new tank division] was his family crest of the Blickling Hobarts [*Blickling Hall in Norfolk*]: A bull sable, passant, regardant.” It seems that the 10th Earl of Buckinghamshire’s line descends from Sir John Hobart of Blickling, 1st Earl and his 2nd wife, while from his 1st wife the line descends to the owners of Blickling Hall who left it to the National Trust.



Where Percy Hobart fits in to this family has not been found yet - Percy was born in Naini Tal, India, the son of Robert T. Hobart, Indian Civil Service (ICS), and Janetta Stanley of Roughan Park, County Tyrone. Percy’s sister, Elizabeth’s,

second husband was Lieutenant Colonel Bernard Montgomery [*they married on 27 July 1927*] and the present Lord Montgomery of Alamein is thus Hobart’s nephew. Percy’s last military job was commander of Chelsea Hospital and he died c.1959. However, the questions of why Percy came to Campden and where he lived there still remain unanswered. An internet reference has now been found saying that when Hobart joined the Local Defence Volunteers, precursor of the Home Guard, as a lance-corporal, he “was charged with the defence of his home village, Chipping Campden. At once, Chipping Campden



became a hedgehog of bristling defiance and Hobart was promoted to become Deputy Area Organiser.” In another article by Trevour J. Constable, entitled ‘They Called Him Hobo’, it states “In a modest home near Oxford, lean, bushy-browed Percy Hobart was preparing to leave for his Home Guard duties ...” So perhaps he did not live in Campden at all. Does anyone recognise him?

CADHAS member Bill Buckland and others say that the hollows and holes on Dover’s Hill near the trig point were caused by Hobart practicing his bridge-laying techniques on Dover’s Hill when it was closed for several years during WWII.

About W.W. Marsh

In December 2010 an enquirer asked about W.W. Marsh, c 1967, who was riding as a mechanic in a ‘Star’ early Edwardian car in an Isle of Man race and of whom the enquirer had a photo. CADHAS member Martin Samuelson was able to answer that he was Walter Marsh, of Izod’s Close, Campden, who had owned a ‘Star’ car. He had been a rubber planter in Malaya before being captured and taken prisoner by Japanese in WWII. When he left custody after the war all he had was a loin cloth with a toggle from which he hung his spoon.

THOMAS BRAVELL 1616 - 1655

A Little Known Hero of the Civil War in Dorset

Eve Edwards

Eve Edwards arrived in person at the Archive Room from Dorset in April 2010 asking what was known about Thomas Bravell/Bravill born in Campden in 1616. At the time references could be found in Rushen and the Church Wardens' Accounts, but it was not until we started transcribing some early wills, that other pieces started falling into place. So this edited abstract from our correspondence is a little about Thomas Bravell's life, but the enquirer asks still more questions – can you help?

The Clubmen were a phenomenon of 17th century, created by the English Civil War, but it was not until 1644 that they came to prominence. They are thought to be so named because of the clubs they carried and to have occurred in some ten counties, but in only five or six counties are they easy to trace, e.g. Herefordshire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Somersetshire, with the strongest Club in Dorset, encouraged by their neighbours in Wiltshire. The heyday of the Dorset group was not until 1644/45. They were formed by like minded individuals drawn from two distinct classes - the ordinary people, farm labourers etc. and the county gentry including the clergy. Their purpose was to protect themselves, their farms and animals, wives and daughters, from the depredations of the two opposing armies who marched and counter marched all over the country.

Both Royalists and Roundheads were extremely short of money and had little alternative but to feed themselves from the countryside through which they passed, slaughtering the livestock which represented farmer's wealth without permission or payment. Sometimes Warrants were handed out promising payment later, but these were seldom honoured. The contents of dairies, bakeries and grain stores were removed in the same way; farms and churches were desecrated and protest against the troops was extremely dangerous. It was exactly this situation which caused the people to 'club' together to protect themselves. Some Clubmen managed to remain neutral to both armies throughout the war, but other groups leant slightly towards the Royalists or the Roundheads. The Dorset Clubmen were sufficiently organised to consider and to bring about the issuing of Petitions to both combatants, complaining about the behaviour of their troops, but such appeals did little or no good.

Thomas Bravell from his quiet beginnings in the little Cotswold town of Chipping Campden where he had been born in 1616, matriculated on 7th December 1632 aged 16, entered Magdalene College, Oxford in 1634, obtaining Bachelor of Arts on 12th December 1635 - aged 19, Master of Arts on 23rd June 1638 and Bachelor of Divinity in November 1642. He became Rector of Compton Abbas, Dorset, in 1642 and was soon known throughout the county, becoming a leading member of The Clubmen. At a meeting at Sturminster Newton on June 24th 1645, he volunteered to carry a Petition demanding that the opposing parties should agree a lasting peace and control the ravages of their troops more strictly, to the King who was holed up in Raglan Castle, Monmouthshire, after his defeat at Naseby on June 14th, whilst others carried the same Petition to General Sir Thomas Fairfax, Commander of the Parliamentary Forces, who was with his army at Dorchester. Braving the marauding bands of ill disciplined soldiers on the journey, it is not known whether he was able to include a quick visit to the town of his birth, but in any case Chipping Campden was in the throes of its own very difficult times and it might well have been too dangerous for Thomas to visit. Behind him in Compton Abbas he had left his young wife Susanna

(nee Pym) and his baby daughter Susanna born in April 1644 and his neglected 'living'. But despite these petitions nothing changed, so Thomas Bravell and his comrades were forced on July 11th to address General Fairfax again threatening another course. Fairfax dispatched Colonel Charles Fleetwood from Sherborne with no less than one thousand horse to Shaftesbury on August 1st to detain the leading members, capturing them and returning with them to Sherborne where the Royalists were besieged in the Castle. Luckily the Reverend Dr. Thomas Bravell was not taken prisoner that day; possibly it being a Sunday, he was ministering to his flock in Compton Abbas, where the poignant ruins of his small Church are still to be seen.

The remaining free leaders held a meeting, calling all good men and true, gentry and labourers alike, to assemble on the heights of Hambledon Hill (see right) at dawn on August 4th to take a stand. Church bells were to be rung to alert them and each was to bring a weapon, be it flintlock,



sword, scythe or hay fork, along with food and drink. All were to wear a white 'cockade' in their hats and be accompanied by as many horses as could still be found, drums to march to, banners to fly and brave hearts; all with the purpose of marching on Sherborne to rescue their comrades taken on the proceeding day and even to help relieve the siege of Sherborne Castle where the Royalist Commander Sir Lewis Dyves bravely held out.

So on the morning of August 4th 1645 Reverend Dr. Thomas Bravell was waiting with courage and determination, pistol in hand, upon the Hambledon Hill fort with its ancient Iron Age banks and ditches, with his gathering band of Clubmen planning the advance upon Sherborne some fifteen miles to the west, when news came that Lt. General Oliver Cromwell was approaching from the west with a thousand dragoons. The Dorset yeomen had no alternative but to make their stand on Hambledon Hill above the Stour valley, action in which the Reverend Doctor of Divinity, Thomas Bravell, played a huge part. Cromwell hoped to avoid bloodshed and sent no less than three times to The Clubmen to ask for their surrender, but each time received in return nothing but defiance and musket shots. However, Cromwell's second in command, Major Desborough attacked the Clubmen from the rear; Thomas Bravell's voice could be heard above the chaos shouting to his men that they "must stand to it now and that rather than lose their armes he would pistoll them that gave back!" The engagement lasted for several hours before all resistance was put down, far longer than the reported 'one hour' mentioned later in the Parliamentarian report "The Table of the Motion and Action of the Army under His Excellency Sir Thomas Fairfax". Two thousand, five hundred Clubmen were present at Hambledon that day if we are to believe Cromwell's own assessment - and he personally controlled one thousand of his mainly mounted force, so some three thousand five hundred men and many horses took to the battle field. "Number of Slain: Sixty. Number of Prisoners taken: 400. Number of Colours taken: twelve. Commander of the Enemy: Master Bravel of Compton."

These events finally brought about mitigation of the behaviour of the armies - so some good came of it - and served to remind the Leaders of the time, that Englishmen would resist them when driven to it. Many of the gentry and clergy who took part in these activities were taken prisoner and were carried to London where the fate of most of them is obscure - but it is well known that many of them had their estates and parishes sequestered and it was many months after the cessation of the war that properties could be reclaimed and life be returned to more or less normality. Needless to say Thomas Bravell's 'living', any properties and goods he owned were sequestered, but how Thomas Bravel melted away after the fight and escaped capture is not known; his name does not appear in the list of prisoners published soon after and he certainly was not killed, for sometime in September 1646 he was appointed to officiate at Poorstock (Powerstock today) and to take the tithes together with those of Milton (Milton Abbas today) and from Witherston. He appeared on October 12th 1646, complaining to the Dorset Standing Committee about the fact that he was not allowed to officiate in any Parish until further orders. He and his family were ordered to leave The Parsonage at Compton Abbas within 20 days, although later Mrs. Susanna Bravell, his wife, petitioned on March 26th 1647 to be allowed to dwell in The Parsonage House of Compton Abbas. However, on April 8th the same year Thomas was summonsed before The Committee again and acknowledged his errors in the action on Hambledon Hill and 'professeth to give satisfaction in any private or public way that shall be required, and that he is a man sufficient in respect of his learning for the work of the Ministry, orthodox in his judgment and ready to submit to the discipline of The Church of England as it is now established.' It was therefore ordered that Bravell could again officiate in the parish of Compton Abbas until further orders. In 1650 Thomas Bravell was still in Compton Abbas appearing as Rector in The Survey of Church Livings and it would seem that he held this living until his death in 1655, for on November 7th 1655 a Mr. Samuel Beadle was approved for the Compton Abbas Church Living.

So what has been found about Thomas Bravell's beginnings in Chipping Campden?

From a will dated July 11th 1638 of Thomas Bravell, senior, the father of Thomas, the cleric of Dorset Civil War fame, it appears that his mother was Anne, there were other children (siblings of Thomas junior - Richard, Katherine, Susanna and Anna) and Thomas senior had two brothers Michael and William Bravell and a sister, Joane Bravell, who married a Mr. White. A daughter "Anne Bonner of Broade Campden" and Thomas Bonner, son-in-law, are also mentioned, so it is assumed daughter Anna married Thomas Bonner of Broad Campden. A daughter-in-law Mary Bravell is mentioned, so maybe she married Richard? In this will Thomas, senior, left money to the Borough of Chipping Campden: "I give to the Burrough of Chipping Campden the sum of three poundes six shillings and right power to remaine as a stock to and for the said Burrough forever and to be employed accordinge to the discretion of my sonne Richard Bravell and of the Bailifs and the ?main parte of the Capitall Burgesses of the said Burrough to be paied within six monethes after my decease" - what records are there in Campden of this? What is the connection with Saintbury? "I give to the Poore of Saintburie to be paied to the Overseers there."

And what was Thomas senior's profession or trade? He was obviously well enough off to be able to afford a University education for son Thomas and his will is quite lavish in the number of bequests, money, silver and property to his various children. In the 'General Accounts of the Churchwardens of Chipping Campden' the name Bravell crops up quite often as a Church Warden and being paid for lime or carrying

stone. Is there a list of names of pupils attending The Grammar School, which might show if Thomas junior had his early education there? Is there any evidence to show that the Bravells had some connection with Kent? It is noted that Thomas of Dorset died in Tunbridge Wells.

Are there any references as to where the family lived in Campden - house or street? Thomas senior left his son Richard Bravell (brother of the Dorset cleric Thomas) "the howse I nowe live in with the close, gardens, backsides, mounds, fences and all other the hereditaments and appurtenances whatsoever thereto belonginge." Also "I give and devise unto my sonne Richard Bravell all the ?residue and ?remainder of my parte of that howse and backside wherein Robert Smith the elder doth nowe inhabit and dwell in Campden aforesaid with the appurtenances thereto belonging."

In this latter respect CADHAS found and transcribed the Will of this Richard Bravell, 'gentleman of Chipping Campden', Thomas senior's son, dated 9th March 1654, (probate granted in London, 15 June 1655) and found that at that time he had five daughters Anne, Mary and three younger daughters under the age of 18 and a son - another Thomas Bravell. Richard bequeathed 'to my loveing wife the profitts of my lease in the mills and of my now dwelling house in Campden with my halfe yard land in Berrington belonging to it.' Could this be the house he inherited from his father? Richard also left to 'my sonne Thomas Bravell, my house in Chipping Campden in the markt place wherein Robert Davies dwelleth.' Could this be the second property he inherited, previously occupied by Robert Smith? Could he be the Richard Bravell in Rushen (p.121) who signed the conveyance of the South Chapel to Sir Baptist Hicks in 1629; and assuming he is the same man, aged about 40 'yeoman of Campden', was witness on 29th Jan 1649 in a dispute over tithes.

Can anyone add further information, from their deeds or knowledge on Thomas Bravell and his family?

"Then There Was The School" Part 2

Margaret Fisher & Pearl Mitchell

This extract is from a much larger paper deposited in CADHAS Archives, about Ebrington Church of England Junior School 1867–1893. We left Part 1 with the school in the hands of Mr Thomas Jacques, a young teacher and his two sisters, Mary Florence and Emily, who were pupil teacher and needlework superintendent respectively. The Inspector's report of December 1875 stated that "discipline, instruction and general efficiency were satisfactory."

An Inspector's report in 1876 said: "T. Jacques is intellectually well qualified for the duties of a school master. His lesson had been carefully prepared and was not uninteresting." Again in Ebrington in November, the report was that the children were in good order and their reading and needlework were very creditable. However, it was not long before Mr. Hornby and the school managers were aware that Thomas was becoming rather unsteady through drinking and was also keeping irregular school hours which he blamed on the poor timekeeping of the parish clocks! It was noted, however, that although, bad as he was, he was not entirely unable to do his work. Once again the Committee allowed a master to resign and therefore on 7th December 1876 Mr. Jacques and his sisters gave the customary three months notice. Before Thomas left Mr. Hornby gave him a "good, friendly talking to, which he happily took in good part" and the Vicar recorded in his book, "He was really a good fellow." Mr. Jacques instructed H. W. Smith and Righton of Evesham to sell his household furniture. The auction sale took place at the School House on Tuesday 27th February 1877 at one o'clock and comprised

"Iron and Wood Bedsteads, Toilet Glasses, Chamber Ware, Windsor Chairs, Ornaments, Fire Irons and an Armchair in Chintz". Also offered were "a nearly new Set of Croquet, nine Couples of Fowls, a Quantity of Wire Netting and numerous other valuable items." After leaving Ebrington Thomas saw the error of his ways and having got away from his 'evil associates', he pulled himself together again and did well.

The Committee of Management then experienced great difficulty in obtaining the services of a master, having advertised for five weeks in *The School Guardian* and two weeks in *The Schoolmaster*. With only two days to go before Mr. Jacques left they were at last able to appoint Mr. Rayner of Little Compton School, Warwickshire, as his successor. His salary was to be £100 per year with an unfurnished house and garden. Mr. Rayner was unable to take up his duties until April 10th, but on Monday March 12th he sent a note to Mr. Hornby informing him that he now wished to decline the position as he found he would be expected to pay the rates on the school house. The committee then gave up all hope of engaging a school master.

Worse was to come! They were now forced to employ a mistress! In desperation Elizabeth Mary Newcombe was appointed at a salary of £70 per year with coals for the school house, but she was instructed not to use more than six tons a year. Following the previous difficulties the Committee also had to agree to pay the rates on the house. When Miss Newcombe took up her duties on 14th May 1877 the school had been closed for nine weeks. It was closed again at the beginning of July for four weeks on the order of the Medical Officer of Health because there was an epidemic of measles in the village. Mr. Hornby wrote in red ink in his book that they had "to put up with only a mistress and unhappily got hold of Miss Newcombe". He tells us she came with excellent testimonials and was a woman who had led a perfectly blameless life but a more "absolute hopelessly inefficient teacher it would be impossible to imagine". Elizabeth Newcombe was supported by 21 year old Lucy Beavington from Ebrington Hall as an assistant teacher with an annual salary of £15 and Kate Elizabeth Wheatcroft as a pupil teacher who received £5 per year. There was also Maria Booker, aged 9, lighting the fires and sweeping out the classrooms for seven pence per week.

The school was examined by an Inspector in November 1877 and the report did not make particularly good reading; the children's arithmetic was bad, reading and dictation were only fair. At their February meeting the management committee requested Mr. Hornby to inform Miss Newcombe that, although she had fulfilled her duties honourably and conscientiously, they felt her health and strength were not up to the work and strain of the school and they might do better again to engage the services of a master, possibly making a change next Christmas. He sent her a copy of the minute with a letter saying they wished to be kind and considerate, but this was not to be a definite notice. They also chided her about her timekeeping, insisting that the children should be let out for dinner as near to twelve noon as possible at all times. Then Lucy Beavington resigned her position on the grounds of ill health and she left at the end of March. The school log book recorded that there was considerable insubordination by the pupils, which resulted in poor Miss Newcombe's conditional notice being made absolute. Few tears were shed when she left at Christmas 1878 and went to Pitstone, near Tring. Charles Hornby wrote, not very charitably for a vicar, that they had "put up with her for one and a half years". During this time the children had learnt nothing or next to nothing and had got into an utterly undisciplined state. *More will follow in a future issue of the next teacher, Mr. Rupert Burrell, and his time at Ebrington school.*

The Griffin Family of Broad Campden

Cheryl Griffin

This article came to CADHAS after a correspondence relating to the Griffin family of Broad Campden and coincidentally it links with Briar Hill Cottage, connected with Culpeper. Cheryl thanks the generous enthusiasts in CADHAS who went out of their way to follow up her family history notes, which are now filed in the archives.

I have only been to Chipping Campden twice, once on a beautiful day in May 1984 and again on a cold January afternoon in 1993. Both visits were too short. None of my direct line have lived in Broad Campden since the 1860s, as my great-grandfather, Thomas Griffin, moved away firstly to Upton-on-Severn, Worcestershire, where he married Jemima Tainton in 1864 and where his first three children were born and by the time of the 1871 census he and two of his brothers-in-law had moved to the coal mining village of Talke Pits in the Stoke-on-Trent area of Staffordshire. It was there that my father was born in March 1905, so the stories I heard were from Talke and of two generations on; no one had ever mentioned Chipping Campden within my father's hearing.

I began my family research in early 1981 and in January 1982 during a month long visit to England, I spent many hours in London scouring the big index books of births, deaths and marriages and searching through census records. Even though it was a cruel winter, I was one of the first on the doorstep every morning and my notebooks were soon filled with masses of information on the Griffin family and on other family lines for me to mull over when I returned to Australia. Then in 1984, I spent 12 weeks in the UK visiting friends and relatives and during that time, I spent a week at the Gloucester Record Office, filling more notebooks.

Gradually additional information became available through our local genealogical societies in Melbourne (my home town) and I no longer employed genealogists to do the research for me. It was much more exciting doing the research myself. Even so, I will always miss the anticipation of waiting for the post, hoping for an answer to my latest query. Now family tree has filled out through ancestry.com, 'find my past' and other online resources. However, it is through the rich material available at the Gloucester Record Office that I have been able to imagine the sort of lives my Broad Campden ancestors lived. Any of you with ancestors who were poor will know the frustration of not being able to find out more, but I found many resources at the GRO that helped me paint a more complete picture of what their lives were like.

Despite the difficulties, I have now traced 12 generations of my Griffin line, the first five of which were based in Broad Campden. The earliest person I can trace with certainty, Joseph Griffin, who married Ann Keyte in November 1734. I know little else about their lives. Their eldest son John, my 5 x great-grandfather, married Mary Smith in April 1762. John was a tenant farmer and took an active part in the community and at his death in December 1819, he left a will that indicated he was still working the land up to the



time of his death. *[John & Mary were buried in St James's Churchyard – the stone, see back, was logged in 1994 when CADHAS did the Graveyard Survey ref. I 25.]*

John and Mary's second son, also John, was my 4 x great-grandfather. He married Ann Leadbetter in November 1789 and remained in Broad Campden all his life. Not long after their marriage, John became a victim of the enclosure movement when he was served a notice to quit by his landlord, the Earl of Gainsborough. He thus joined the ranks of agricultural labourers and by the end of his life in 1851 he was described as a pauper.

John's eldest son, Thomas, was my 3 x great-grandfather and it is in Thomas's generation that the effects of enclosure became evident. Thomas struggled to make a living, found work elsewhere but finally returned to Campden aged 27, with wife Mary (Hewins) and three young children. Before his death aged 37, three more children had been born. His widow struggled on for many years, sometimes described as a pauper, sometimes an agricultural labourer, living with children and grandchildren and dying in 1863 aged 73.

Two of Thomas's male siblings left Broad Campden, ensuring a better life for themselves and their descendants. His brother James moved to Cheltenham and in following generations various individuals made their way to Portsmouth, Norwich and Brisbane, Australia. His brother John moved nearby to Batsford, where he worked as a groom in Lord Redesdale's stables. A number of John's children moved into service in London. Thus the move away from Campden began.

Joseph Griffin, eldest son of Thomas and Mary, was my 2 x great-grandfather and lived in Broad Campden all his life. He married Catherine Hewings in January 1836, but nine years later, after the birth of their five children, Catherine died. Joseph and his mother supported the family however they could. He worked as an agricultural labourer and during the hard winter of 1867, he, along with 150 other families in the parish, applied for poor relief.



The photo (left) is of Briar Hill Cottage, taken in May 1984, where Joseph Griffin, then a widower, lived with his widowed daughter Sarah Jeffrey and her children from the 1870s until his death in December 1890. According to Nelson's book on Broad Campden Sarah bought milk from the farmer (Buchanan) and made double Gloucester cheeses which were ripened in the attic and sold at Banbury. After her father's death in

December 1890 aged 78, Sarah moved to Oxford with her children, becoming housekeeper at St Edward's School for many years. By the time of Joseph's death, his eldest son Thomas, my great-grandfather, was firmly established in Talke Pits, Staffordshire. Joseph's other children did not marry or have children, so it is with Joseph that my direct connection with Campden ends. *[Joseph's gravestone was also standing in 1994, ref. H18 and this article answers a question we posed at the time – why was Charles Jeffrey d.1877 on a headstone with Joseph Griffin d.1890 - 2 men with 29 years age difference and buried 13 years apart?]*

A Forgotten Worthy:

Dr. Robert Payne Smith, Dean of Canterbury

Donald Holdsworth

Robert Payne Smith was born in Chipping Campden possibly in 1818,ⁱ he was the second child and only son of Robert & Esther Argles Smith, née Payne,ⁱⁱ who were married at St. Giles's church, Camberwell, Surrey on the 17th April 1815; how they came to meet is not known. Their children, christened at St. James's church in Chipping Campden, were Esther Argles 23rd August 1816, Robert Payne 16th April 1819, Sarah Anna 20th June 1821 and Delitia 10th October 1823. Robert and his younger sister Sarah Annaⁱⁱⁱ survived into old age, but Esther Argles was buried 9th July 1839, aged 22 and Delitia 2nd August 1826, aged 2, both in Chipping Campden churchyard.

Robert Smith, his father, was probably the Robert baptised at St James's church on 21st May 1784 and he was son of another Robert. How these Roberts were related to the famous Thomas Smyth, (1536-93), Lord of the Manor of Chipping Campden, is not clear, but a direct relationship was claimed. He is variously described as a Gentleman,^{iv} Ironmonger,^v Traveller^{vi} and Land Agent.^{vii} He died in 1827, leaving a substantial amount of money and property to his widow with three children.^{viii} In 1841 she is living in Campden, the upper side of the High Street, half-way between the George & Dragon Inn and Westcote House, with her daughter Sarah Anna aged 20, a visitor Sarah Averill aged 14 (not born in the county) and a servant, Mary Hands, aged 22. In 1851 she has moved to Whitley village, Basingstoke, where she is living with unmarried daughter, Sarah Anna. Esther Argles Smith died in March 1861 in Reading.

Robert Payne Smith was educated at the Grammar School in Campden, learning Hebrew from his eldest sister Esther. He gained a Townsend scholarship^{ix,x,xi,xii} to Pembroke College, Oxford, matriculating there in 1837, where he remained until 1850, by which time he had achieved BA 1841 and MA 1843. He studied classical subjects and also oriental languages, gaining a Sanskrit scholarship in 1840. His clerical career started with his ordination to deacon in 1843 and then to priest in 1844, by the Bishop of Lincoln, which was followed by two curacies, one at Lower Winchendon and the other at Long Crendon, Bucks. After this he became a classical master at the Royal High School and the incumbent at Trinity Chapel in Edinburgh. In 1853 he went to London as Headmaster of the Kensington Proprietary School, which he held until 1857. Owing to his wife's delicate health he returned to Oxford as Sub-librarian of the Bodleian Library,^{xiii} during which time he published the *Commentary of Cyril of Alexandria on St. Luke* in Syriac and English (1859) and translated from Syriac *The History of Johannes of Ephesus* (1860).^{xiv} He also embarked in 1860 on his monumental *Thesaurus Syriacus* which was still incomplete when he died.^{xv} Subsequently he was awarded the degree of Doctor of Divinity in 1865 and became Regius Professor of Divinity and a Canon of Christ Church.^{xvi} He relinquished these posts in 1871 when he became Dean of Canterbury Cathedral.^{xvii}

Robert married Catherine Freeman^{xviii} at St. Giles' church in Reading on the 1st August 1850 and they had two sons, Robert Payne (1851), William Henry (1853) and four daughters, Catherine (1855), Jessie (1856), Mary (1858) and Esther (1861).^{xix} Both their sons were born in Edinburgh and subsequently became clergymen, viz., Robert was Vicar of Milton, Kent and William Henry became Curate of St. Peter-le-

Bailey, Oxford 1878-83, Vice-Principal of Wycliffe Hall, Oxford 1880-83, before going to Rugby School as an assistant master from 1884 to 1938.

During his distinguished academic and clerical career Robert Payne Smith did not forget his old school in Chipping Campden and contributed a lengthy preface to a history of the school in 1879.^{xx} He also maintained contact with Pembroke College being a trustee for the Townsend Scholarships for many years. A Campden school prize was established in his name, viz., Dean Payne Smith, for the head boy.^{xxi} He died suddenly on the 31st March 1895 aged 77 and was buried in St. Martin's Churchyard, Canterbury near to his wife Catherine who died the previous year. A pulpit dedicated to his memory was erected in the nave of the Cathedral in 1898.^{xxii}
xxiii

ⁱ The Oxford NDB (Vol. 51, p. 289) gives a date of birth as 7th November 1818, the evidence for which is not stated. It would be expected to be much nearer the date of his baptism in 1819.

ⁱⁱ The Payne family lived and farmed at Leggsheath Farm, near East Grinstead in Sussex, see Augustus Raper *The Ashdown Forest Dispute – Notebook I* published in 1878. Ester Argles Payne was baptised 17th April 1784 at East Grinstead, Sussex, daughter of William and Mary Payne.

ⁱⁱⁱ She was living with her widowed mother in Basingstoke in 1851 aged 29. The 1891 Census for Canterbury Deanery shows Robert's sister Sarah A[nna] born in Chipping Campden aged 70, living with the family. Rushen in his history of Chipping Campden (page 162) states she was buried in the chancel of Campden Church.

^{iv} Foster, J. (Ed.) *Alumni Oxonienses (1715-1886)*. Oxford. 1887-92

^v Parish Registers, St. James's Church, Chipping Campden.

^{vi} Cowper, D.M. *The Lives of the Deans of Canterbury, 1541 to 1900*. Canterbury: Cross & Jackman, 1900.

^{vii} *Ibid.*

^{viii} Probate Will of Robert Smith of Chipping Campden 5th April 1824 proved 1827. PCC PROB 11/1729.

^{ix} Townsend Scholarships, for 4 years study at Pembroke College, Oxford were available for pupils of four schools, viz., Gloucester, Cheltenham, Northleach and Campden. They were established by the will of George Townsend of Lincoln's Inn, in 1682 and Little Aston Farm at Aston Blank, nr. Northleach, was purchased for the purpose.

^x Rushen, P.C. *The History and Antiquities of Chipping Campden*, p. 162. Privately published 1911.

^{xi} Cooke, R., *Chipping Campden School 1440-1990*, p.21-2, 34. Shipston-on-Stour: P. Drinkwater, 1990

^{xii} Horne, J., *A Short Account of the Chipping Campden Grammar School*, Evesham, W.H. Smith, 1879.

^{xiii} Craster, (Sir) Edmund, *History of the Bodleian Library 1845-1945*. Oxford: Clarendon Press 1952.

^{xiv} Crockford's Clerical Directories list many of his numerous scholarly works. In 1865 they are under 'Smith, Robert Payne' and in 1885 under 'Payne-Smith, Robert'.

^{xv} His daughter Jessie assisted in the completion of this great work.

^{xvi} He was also made a Canon of Christ Church which was attached to the living of Ewelme, Oxon

^{xvii} He was appointed by Queen Victoria on the advice of the Prime Minister, Wm. Ewart Gladstone.

^{xviii} Catherine Freeman was the daughter of the Rev. William George Freeman born in Uxbridge 20 May 1768. He was educated at Eton College and King's College Cambridge where he was a scholar in 1786 and a Fellow of the college from 1789-1812.

^{xix} The years of birth are estimated from the 1841 Census for Langley Marish, Bucks.

^{xx} Horne, J., *A Short Account of the Chipping Campden Grammar School*, Evesham, W.H. Smith, 1879. This contains a lengthy introduction written by Dr. Payne Smith.

^{xxi} Cooke, R., *Chipping Campden School 1440-1990*, p.21-2, 34. Shipston-on-Stour: P. Drinkwater, 1990

^{xxii} Collinson, P., Ramsay, N.L. and Spark, M.J. (Editors) *A History of Canterbury Cathedral*. Oxford University Press. 1995

^{xxiii} Anon. *A Guide to Canterbury Cathedral*, 23rd impression n.d.