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From The Editor

As I start to edit this edition we are still reeling from the sudden floods in Campden on Friday 20th July. We feel for those in Park Road, Sheep St, Lower High St and Calf Lane, whose homes, businesses and lives have been so severely disrupted. We are reminded by residents of previous major floods in 1982, 1964, 1947, but are told they were not so severe as 2007. Please let me have your memories and photos of any of these events. 2007 has been significant as the 200th anniversary year of the abolition of the Slave Trade and July 28th saw the opening of the Court Barn Museum in Campden dedicated to Craft and Design in the North Cotswolds, so related articles feature in this issue. I am also pleased to include two submissions resulting from family history enquiries to the Archive Room, which bring us fresh knowledge, as does an interesting new acquisition to the CADHAS Archives.

Letters to the Editor

Following the spring issue of Notes and Queries Vol.V. No.4, the editor received a note from Vicky Bennett, ref. page 47, who spells her name with a 'y' not 'i' (apologies), reminding me that Eliot should be spelt with just one l. She also adds: "Just for the records, my research shows that Emily Hale was based in Campden 1934 July-November, 1935 Easter-November, 1937 July-September, 1938 July-September, 1939 July & August and sometime in 1957. My research is not necessarily 100% accurate."

Comment was also received from an enquirer, Sue Allitt of Horsham, West Sussex, who wrote: "Dear CADHAS, In your magazine, which arrived last week is an article [Vol. V. No. 4 page 43] by Zoë Bridges about Mark Gurton. He was my 2nd great-great-uncle, and I would like to contact Zoë. I really enjoy receiving your magazine, as it is well written and there is always something interesting in it."

We also had several letters and emails from members away from Campden who had been saddened to hear of the deaths of Allan Warmington and Alf Hathaway. One was from an old friend to the Society, Alan Izod of Cheltenham, who wrote: "I was very sorry to hear about Allan [*Warmington*] in Notes & Queries just received. I wondered why I didn't get a reply to an e-mail I sent on 12th Jan. I didn't know he had been ill. It seems a bit mundane now, in view of his death, but this is what I wrote to him about Campden: The New History:-

At long last I've just finished reading it. I hope it has received nothing but praise. On p.232 there is reference to 'old Farmer Big Shilling'. This must be William Nathan IZOD (b.1843 d.1921). He was known to be very stingy. Fred Coldicott's father was very indignant when William gave Fred 1/2d for holding his horse outside a shop for about half-an-hour. I was told by Campden Izods that William acquired his nickname when he was a lad. For rendering some sort of service he was paid sixpence. William complained that he didn't want a little shilling, he wanted a big shilling.

I like to believe that explanation."

Jill Wilson wrote on 31st July: "On another topic - a curious coincidence. Reading a detective story, there was a mention of a 'Margaret's Flood' - on a date when according to ancient weather lore flash floods might be expected. Looking it up in the Wordsworth Dictionary of Proverbs I found that on or near St Margaret's Day, heavy rain causing flooding might occur. St Margaret's day is 20th July! It's something like St Swithin's Day (15th July) I suppose, but not as well known."

Can anyone add anything to this weather lore or 'Margaret's flood'?

The Slave Trade and Barham Court Connection.

Carol Jackson

You will all have read, seen and heard much during this year about the history of slavery, 2007 being the bicentenary of the abolition of the Slave Trade in March 1807. Exhibitions, films, television programs and articles, all with different slants, and even a new postage stamp featuring Olaudah Equiano commemorate the movement, whilst displays at many National Trust properties show the connection between their owners and the proceeds of slavery. Did you know that Charles Paget Wade could not have bought Snowhill Manor and collected its contents without the money, which came from the family sugar plantations in St. Kitts and Antigua in the West Indies?

You will have been told of the triangular trade; British-made metal goods were shipped from British ports, of which Liverpool, Bristol and London were the three most prominent, to Africa to be traded with African merchants for slaves, who were then shipped as another cargo to the West Indies to work on the plantations, in exchange for sugar, tobacco, cotton and rum, sent to Britain, where these items were becoming essential parts of British life. In the 1780s alone it is said that 794,000 Africans were transported.

William Cowper, evangelical poet, (1731-1800) wrote in 1788

“I own I am shock’d by the purchase of slaves
And fear those who buy them and sell them are knaves;
What I hear of their hardships, their tortures and groans,
Is almost enough to draw pity from stones.
I pity them greatly, but I must be mum,
For how could we do without sugar and rum?”

Have you thought that the slave trade would not have flourished, if it had not been for men like Baptist Hicks, in whose Campden Banqueting houses he would have entertained visitors in the first quarter of the 17th century with fancy moulded sugar confections, marchpane and marzipans? Baptist is said to have lent money and speculated in the new investment of his day, ‘colonization’, for in 1616, ‘the Treasurer and Company of Adventurers and Plantations of the City of London for the first Colony of Virginia’ bargained to sell him and ten others ‘the islands called Bermudas and now called Somer Islands, being in the Ocean bordering on the coast of the said first colony, with all harbours, fishings, mines, etc. in the said isles’.

There were early protests against the slave trade and its horrors from Methodists and other evangelicals. British Quakers had banned slave trading among their followers as far back as 1760 and the abolition movement was gathering momentum as early as 1792 with many Britons refusing to eat slave-grown sugar and petitions being sent to Parliament. Olaudah Equiano (c1745-1797), born near the river Niger in what is now Nigeria, was captured at the age of 10, sold to slavers and transported to the West Indies. He learned English and bought his freedom at the age of 21. Subsequently he was appointed commissary of stores for freed slaves returning to Sierra Leone. As a former slave of a navy officer, he became an active campaigner against slavery, publishing his autobiography in 1789, which received much publicity.

William Wilberforce, born in 1759 to a merchant family in Hull, wrote in a York newspaper condemning slavers when he was a boy of only 14. After attending Cambridge University, he became an MP for Hull in 1780 at the young age of 21. He wrote in his diary: “God almighty has set before me two great objects – the

suppression of the Slave Trade and the reformation of manners". In 1785 he had a profound evangelical conversion and with his natural eloquence became the figurehead and leader of the parliamentary campaign for abolition of the Slave Trade. The bill was first introduced to Parliament in 1787. However, the bill was continually deferred or 'carried over', Wilberforce putting forward nine Bills, until finally on 25th March 1807, Act 60, An Act for Abolition of Slave Trade was passed. The 1807 act banned the trade in slaves, but this was only the start. The end of slavery itself came gradually, involving many advocates.

Barham Court had played its part in this first stage of abolition of the Slave Trade. Sometimes called Teston Park, (pronounced Teeson), Barham Court in Kent, was the home of the parents of Diana Middleton, born 1762, who married Gerard Noel Edwards (Noel) in 1780. His large portrait hangs in Campden Town Hall and his Pedigree Chart is mounted on the wall on the first floor of the Old Police Station in Campden, along with the Middleton family pedigree. Diana's father, Charles Middleton, born in 1726, was made a baronet in 1781 after an important naval career; he became MP for Rochester in 1784 and later in 1805 served as First Lord of the Admiralty, when he was created Lord Barham. On his death, Charles Middleton's title descended through Diana to her eldest son, Charles Noel Noel, and it was used by him until he was created Earl of Gainsborough in 1841.

In 1772 Barham Court was the home of Elizabeth Bouverie, shared with her childhood friend, Margaret Gambier and Margaret's husband Charles Middleton, who was helping Elizabeth manage her farmlands and estate. Barham Court house with the grounds was bequeathed to Charles Middleton on Elizabeth's death in the late 1790s. At the Maidstone Record Office there are records of the Teston system of farming and estate books of 1770 detailing Charles Middleton's management of the 220 acres, explaining how the land had needed draining, the meadows were overrun with anthills and rushes and fallowing was required. Documents detail how he sowed crops to provide straw for manure, grew potatoes, carrots, cabbages, hay & oil cake to feed his seven horses, four cows and twenty-six stalled oxen and there were forty hogs on clover leys. Then gradually crops were introduced and yields improved. A Teston Parish Magazine of July 1962 quoted from an 1800 manuscript found at Maidstone Museum: Charles Middleton "then retired to farming at Teston, which by his own sagacity and good sense, he carried to a higher degree of perfection than perhaps any other gentleman in England. This farm attracts the notice and attention of all those who are engaged in agricultural pursuits and visited by Mr Pitt, who got much information from Sir Charles."

During this period of the 1770s and 1780s, there seem to have been several philanthropic enterprises active at Barham Court. An article in May 1962 Teston Parish Magazine also quoted from the 1800 manuscript ... "Within the compass of her [Elizabeth Bouverie's] own neighbourhood, her liberality to the poor was great indeed. ... a large supply of medicine was kept at readiness for the poor, a room in her house called 'Strangers Room' was set apart for the reception of the sick and the naked and the indigent traveller, where he was relieved for a time with medicine, food and lodging and then sent away with health and strength and clothing and a little money in his pocket." Mrs Hannah More of the Sunday School movement was a frequent visitor, as was William Wilberforce who was then a young friend of Charles Middleton. After one of Wilberforce's visits to Barham Court, he wrote that "it has none of the grand features of your northern beauties, but for the charms of softness and elegance, I never beheld a superior to Barham Court."

It is said to be Lady Middleton, who inspired and supported Wilberforce in his fight against slavery. A plaque in the Teston church to Harriet Gambier says 'niece to Lady Middleton, prime mover in the cause of Negro emancipation and wife of Sir Charles Middleton, Lord Barham'. Dr. James Ramsay, the vicar of the Church of St Peter & Paul, Teston, had been a naval surgeon in the West Indies, where he was distressed by the plight of the slaves on the plantations. He was invalided, took Holy Orders and in 1781 was given the benefice of Teston by Admiral Sir Charles Middleton, with whom Ramsay had served. It is said that he secured the support of Prime Minister William Pitt and much of the preliminary work for the Abolition Bill was done at Teston in the Old Rectory.

Dr. James Ramsay died a few months after the Abolition Bill was first introduced to Parliament by William Wilberforce and his grave is below the east window outside the church with a memorial plaque inside which reads:

“While firm integrity, unaffected zeal for the public good, steady contempt of self interest, tender attention to each social duty, benevolence to the whole human race, and humble piety to God are held in estimation, the memory of James Ramsay, (whose earthly reliques are here deposited) will claim respect. Mingled with sorrow that his labours were no longer spared to the poor, the friendless and the oppressed, for each of whom of whatever clime or colour, his Christian Love and generous exertions, not disappointment could exhaust, calumny slacken, or persecution abate. He died on the 20th July 1789, aged 56.”

There is also a plaque on the churchyard wall marking the burial of his servant Nestor, a Negro whom he had brought back with him from the West Indies as a boy of 14 and who had lived with him as servant and friend for 22 years. The Nestor memorial reads:

“Buried here Dec. 26 1786. Nestor, a Black, 22 years a servant of James Ramsay, by Robbers torn from his country and enslaved, he attached himself to his Master, hating idle visiting, he was employed constantly in his work, being himself careful, he suffered not other servants to waste his property. His neat dress, his chaste, sober life, his inoffensive manners subdued the prejudice his colour raised, and made friends of his acquaintance. From his humble state he fixed his faith in Christ and looked up to Heaven for happiness. Reader, use thy advantages as this honest Negro did his misfortunes, for a spur to diligence in duty, and when thy Redeemer comes to Judgement, Thou shalt hear pronounced ‘Well done thou good and faithful servant. Enter into the Joy of thy Lord’.”

The final abolition of Slavery came in 1833, with another act in 1834 freeing all children under 6 in the West Indies and full emancipation being granted in 1838.

Sources:

Christopher Whitfield: History of Campden 1958

Teston Parish Magazines and other papers at Maidstone Record Office

Joan Severn: The Teston Story, 1975

Alan Bignell: The Kent Village Book

Barham Court, A Brief History, author and date unknown.

The Life and Times of Robert and Susan Roberts

Sue Allitt

I have been working on my family history for many years, but it is only since the advent of the Internet and Ancestry.com that I have made real progress. Many of my ancestors came from Campden and other places in Gloucestershire and this article is about my maternal great great grandparents, Robert and Susan Roberts.

Robert Roberts was born around 1826 in Llanfihangel Glyn Myfyr, Denbighshire, the son of a yeoman farmer, also named Robert Roberts. In February 1850, he married Susan Horne at St James's Church, Chipping Campden. His bride was the daughter of John Horne (died 1837) and Elizabeth (nee Hickman), farmers at Broad Campden. John Horne was almost certainly the child of that name who was christened at Weston-sub-Edge in 1792, the son of James and Edith, and thus came from a well-known Campden family going back through many years. Elizabeth was also from a very respectable background, the Hickmans having been the land agents for the Noel family during the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.



Robert's occupation is shown on his marriage certificate as draper and he was the proprietor of Roberts & Co at Commercial House in the High Street, where the Post Office is now situated. How he came from a farmstead in North Wales to a draper's store in Gloucestershire is a mystery. The wedding, however, must have been an interesting one, as the bride was heavily

pregnant and eight weeks later the happy couple became the proud parents of John Hickman Roberts, my great-grandfather.

The 1851 census shows Robert and Susan living above the shop with their baby son and a servant. Four more children followed in quick succession: Elizabeth (Bessie), in 1851, Rosellen in 1854, James Alfred in 1856, and finally Emily in 1858.

On the surface, the 1861 census shows a prosperous family, consisting of the parents and their five children, together with a shopman, a domestic servant and a visitor, Susan's cousin Elizabeth Hickman. Susan, by the way, has now been temporarily transformed into Susannah. What the census does not show is that Robert was slowly wasting away from phthisis (TB), and on 9th July 1862, he was buried in St James's churchyard, aged 36. Susannah was left to carry on the business alone and this she did for at least nine years. But in 1865, tragedy struck again. Little Emily, aged only six, was ill for twelve days with typhus fever, and on 25th September, she was laid to rest with her father.

When the 1871 census was taken, the family had begun to move apart. Susan was running the business, together with Rosellen and James, assisted by a milliner, a draper's assistant and a general servant. Bessie was working for a draper in Kensington and John was living in Grevel's House with his grandmother Elizabeth and her son Robert, acting as their farm bailiff.

In his book 'Chipping Campden', J. P. Nelson writes: "At one time, Grevel's House was a farm, actually the farmhouse of the Horne family, and John Horne's father was born there and the Hornes eventually bought it from the Gainsboroughs, perhaps in the big Gainsborough sale of 1869".

Nothing seemed to go right for long where the Roberts family were concerned. Once again, tragedy struck from out the blue. Elizabeth Hickman died in June 1871 at the age of 77 from "softening of the brain" and then in October her son Robert died suddenly of peritonitis. He was only 46 years old.

Sometime in the 1870s, Susan decided to call it a day and the business was sold or transferred to another Mr Roberts, who was no relation as far as I know. She moved to Edgbaston with her daughter Bessie, who had now returned from the bright lights of Kensington. In the meantime, following the deaths of his grandmother and uncle, which presumably put paid to his employment as a farm bailiff, John Hickman Roberts seems to have tried his hand at being a licensed victualler and an ostler, and in 1875, he married Mary Ann Warner. She was the granddaughter of Charles and Sarah Warner, farmers at Broad Campden, and her own father, a carpenter, had moved to Birmingham. Mary was working as a barmaid for her uncle and aunt, Mark and Jane Gurton at the Noel Arms Hotel, next to the draper's shop. I was pleased to read the article by Zoë Bridges in the Spring 2007 issue of this magazine, as it shed much light on the connections between the Roberts, Warner and Gurton families.

In 1880, Rosellen married Henry Hands, a chemist from Lyesbourne and in 1883 Bessie wed Charles Summerton, whose parents had kept the grocer's store close to the draper's establishment. [*Ed. Now the Co-op.*] Henry and Rosellen remained in Campden and brought up their family there, but retired to the South Coast some time after 1901. Charles Summerton was an estate agent's clerk in Solihull and Susan went to live with her daughter and son in law and their family. James Alfred worked in Birmingham as a draper throughout the 1880s.

Then another tragedy occurred, one which must have deeply distressed the whole family. John Hickman Roberts had become employed by T.W. Coleman's grocery in Campden High Street and then he, his wife and children, moved to Banbury, so that John could become the manager for the wine vaults at Coleman's store there. For some reason, he lost his job and became extremely depressed, complaining of continual head pains, possibly a side effect of his depression or maybe something akin to a brain tumour. Things began to look up when he obtained the licence of the Eagle Inn, Banbury, but before he took over, he was found floating in Banbury Canal. The coroner's verdict was simply "Found drowned", but the newspaper reports imply that it was almost certainly suicide. No one had witnessed the drowning and juries were reluctant to give a verdict of suicide. The reports are quite affecting to read, telling how John's widow broke down in tears and how several of the jurors were so moved by her plight that they gave her their fee afterwards.

It is strange to read the 1891 census report, as it was taken the day immediately following John's death. Mary Roberts is shown as a widow. More than likely, it was the first time she had had to describe herself as such and one can only imagine her

feelings. In Solihull, Rosellen was visiting her mother and sister, perhaps to impart the sad news to them.

After that, there was a time of peace for the family. James married in 1893 and settled in Birmingham and his two sisters, their husbands and their families were in a reasonably prosperous way. Susan finally died on 13th June 1907 at Bessie's home. Her body was brought home to Campden and she lies buried with her husband Robert and daughter Emily close to the West Door of St James's Church.

There is so much I will never know about my great great grandparents, but I visualise Susan as a brave and determined lady who did her best to bring up her family and run a business in the face of sadness and adversity. If anyone reading this has any further information or photographs of the families concerned, I would love to hear from you.

From the Archives - Campden Floods

Carol Jackson

The flooding of July 20th 2007 in Campden caused me to check the CADHAS archives for records of previous floods. There were several very interesting items.

Item ref. 2005/014/DO a cutting from the Evening Despatch dated Thursday 26.5.1932 with two photographs showing before and after, captioned: *'The majestic old chestnut tree which stood in the Main Street of Chipping Campden [at Leysbourne] until last Sunday [22.5.1932] when it toppled over owing to being undermined by floods'*.

Item ref. 2007/019/DO is a sheaf of Council correspondence dated 1955 and 1956 regarding an 'Inquiry into Flooding in Park Road', which ended in a Public Meeting on 16.5.1957 at the North Cotswold District Council Offices at Moreton. Amongst this file is a copy of a telegram sent from Tucker, Postmaster at London House, Campden. [The Post Office was there in those days.] It reads:

'Telegram sent at 8.30am 8.6.1955 to The Speaker, Speakers House, House of Parliament, London. Serious flooding again of houses in Park Road. County council will not act. District Council will not act. Parish Council have no powers and no money. Situation desperate. Please contact minister. We await instructions. I will come to London if necessary. Coles, Chairman of Parish Council.'

The file also contains a letter from Doctor D.E.Olliff, dated 1.5.1956:

'The repeated flooding of the Park Road houses, undoubtedly has an adverse effect on the health of the people affected. The houses are inevitably damp and unwholesome for several weeks after a flood and more important than this, the continual anxiety of the flooding happening, has preyed on these peoples' minds. In one case, [named] this anxiety was a major factor in the causation of her nervous-breakdown. The distress, and work and clearing up and repairing, which comes to these people as a result of flood water going through their houses, - has to be seen to be believed.'

Item ref. 2004/125/DO is a Town Council 'Report on the Flooding' dated 14.7.1982, which contains maps, analysis and photographs of the several areas of Campden hit by floods in that year.

Finally the Evesham Journal has many reports, which I have not seen in detail, on Campden floods. 18.5.1878 mentions the 'greatest storm since 1830' and 30.11.1872 tells of floods in Watery Lane, when 'Pigs were taken to bedrooms'.

Leaving Campden in 1877

Nicholas Ladbrook

A letter (ref. 07.003) in January 2007 from Betty Sheath of Dunedin, New Zealand asked CADHAS for information about Campden where Reuben Jackson married Sarah Ann Ladbrook (b. 1850) on 22nd Oct 1877. Our archive room volunteer sent the enquirer, a granddaughter of Sarah and Reuben, Campden brochures, postcards and census details.

Some months earlier in October 2006 another enquiry (ref. 06.071) was received from CADHAS member Nicolas Ladbrook of Bristol asking about Reuben Jackson. The coincidence of two people enquiring about the same person, lead to further enquiries and we put the two people in touch with each other to continue their researches. They turned out to be 4th cousins once removed, Nicholas descending from John Ladbrook (b. 1785), while Betty from John's younger brother Thomas (b. 1790) and they were pleased to be in contact. From their correspondence we have learned of their interesting family story.

During the 19th and early 20th centuries many thousands of people left these shores to find a better life for themselves. The most popular countries were America, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. One of those who left was an ancestor of mine, Sarah Anne Ladbrook. She was born on 26th January 1850 in Chipping Campden, one of nine children born to Thomas Ladbrook, a farm labourer and his wife Catherine, née Abbitts, living in Back Ends, somewhere not far from the Baptist Chapel. In the 1861 census Sarah was living with her grandparents Thomas and Ann Ladbrook in Sheep St Lane, Campden. In the 1871 census, now age 21, she was listed as a domestic servant in Ladbrook Yard. Sometime over the next six years she met her future husband Reuben Jackson.

Reuben was one of three children born to Edwin and Harriet Jackson from Redmarley D'Abbitot, Worcestershire. When Reuben started work he was an agricultural labourer possibly working with his father. The 1861 census showed Reuben living in Lowbands and in 1871 at Forty Green. Lowbands was an area purchased by a group called the Chartists. This group would purchase land and offer it to the working class people of the city. This would take the form of some kind of raffle or prize. The winner would get a property and five acres of land. I was told there are five such areas in the country. Forty Green has only five houses, all pre-dating 1845. Agricultural Labourers would tour the counties looking for work, which I imagine is how Reuben came to meet Sarah in Chipping Campden.

In October 1877 Reuben and Sarah married in the parish of Chipping Campden. They already had an eight-month-old son and were probably finding times very hard indeed. The decision was made to leave England and emigrate to New Zealand.

Reuben and Sarah departed from Plymouth on the 'Piako', a 1,075 tons three masted sailing ship, built by A. Stephens of Glasgow in 1877. The shipping list reads Reuben Jackson agricultural labourer age 28, Sarah Jackson age 27 and Arthur Edwin Jackson eight months and their accommodation was classed as family quarters. The ship left Plymouth on 19th November 1877 and arrived at Port Chalmers, the main port of the township of Dunedin. This was one of two very quick runs made by this ship, covering the 25,000 kilometres in 76 days 12 hours. This sea journey to New Zealand was known as the 'longest emigrant journey in the world'

Reuben and Sarah spent all their lives in Dunedin, Reuben remaining as an agricultural labourer. In the twelve years between arrival in 1878 and 1890 they had

seven more children, Henry, Willie, Annie, Alfred James, Francis, Harriet Katherine and the last being Alice Maud Jackson born 9th February 1890. *[Ed. The New Zealand enquirer was the now 81-year-old daughter of Arthur Edwin Jackson.]*

I am now in contact with two descendants of Reuben and Sarah, but I am sure there are many more. Maybe one day some will return to Gloucestershire searching for their ancestors from England. As family historians we should always pass on our findings to others as an aid to furthering knowledge and our search for our ancestors.

[Ed. In June 2007 another enquiry arrived from Carol Thomas of Sutton in Surrey asking the whereabouts of 'Water Lane', as the enquirer's great-great-grandfather, Thomas Ladbrook, lived there according to the 1861 census. Further questions of this enquirer revealed that her ancestor was Amy Millicent Ladbrook, a sister of Sarah Ann Ladbrook and therefore a fifth cousin once removed of Nicholas Ladbrook. These three enquirers have now been happily linked together. It is thought that the well-known Campden pig butchers of Lower High St, Charley (b. 1896) and Lawrence Ladbrook (b.1898) descend from Betsy (b 1813), a sister of Amy and Sarah's father Thomas.]

Archive Acquisition: Commemorative Tablecloth 1843

Judith Ellis & Olivia Amphlett

Earlier this year Mrs Elisabeth Brown (née Sparrow) donated a large tablecloth to CADHAS archives. A handwritten note with the tablecloth says: 'This tablecloth was hand-woven by the women of Chipping Campden, Glos. from linen thread made from flax grown in the district. It was presented to my grandfather Robert Stanley on the occasion of his 21st birthday in the year 1843. As his family were farmers and butchers the design shows a cow, a plough and his name and date. M. Vickery.' M. Vickery was Eliza Mary Makepeace, who married George Vickery. She seems to have been known as Mary, not Eliza. The inscription woven into the tablecloth itself actually reads 'Robert Stanley, Campden, 1843'.

Robert Stanley was born in 1822 and christened May 22nd. His parents were Robert and Elizabeth Stanley and he had seven siblings. Father Robert was a butcher and in the 1841 & 1851 censuses he is listed as being close to the George and Dragon, *[Ed. either where Kendal House or the Campden Gallery are now]*. Robert Stanley Junior is listed as butcher's assistant, but by 1861 his father had retired and he was the butcher and head of the household, having married Eliza Payne, 10 years his senior, on 12th April 1852. She was the housekeeper at Campden Vicarage and her employer, Canon Charles Kennaway, vicar of Campden from 1832 to 1872, conducted the wedding. Eliza Sarah Stanley, their daughter, was born on 27th March 1853. She married Frederick Henry Makepeace, a son of the retired Campden police superintendent and postmaster on Dec. 6th 1887 and Frederick and Eliza were listed as butchers in the Kelly's Directories of 1889 and 1897, possibly having taken over the business after their marriage, so that Robert Stanley could retire. Robert is listed as retired in the 1891 census and he died in 1892, aged 70.

Frederick & Eliza's daughter, Eliza Mary Makepeace, was born in 1889. In the 1901 census she was listed, along with her younger sister, Fredericia Henrietta, as a pupil at the school in Clifton House in the High Street run by her aunt, Miss Annie Makepeace.

Eliza Mary (shown opposite c 1909) became a teacher and was known as Miss Mary. Mr Don Ellis, speaking in 1984 aged 81 remembered Miss Mary, his first teacher at

the infants' school (where the library is now). She used to live next to Bennett's Shop. In about 1909 he recalls "I can still remember her going to the blackboard and putting a straight line down, we all had to copy it onto our slates. Then she would come and look at it. The next thing was a circle and we had to copy the circle. And from that we had a hook and we had to copy that. Now you see, all that is all to teach us our letters. Three straight lines an A, two half circles a B. And that was how we learned our letters."



She married George Vickery who had come to Campden c. 1906 to join the Guild of Handicraft as secretary. They settled in Rugby after the Guild closed.

The tablecloth is interesting as evidence that linen weaving was in existence in Campden in 1843. CADHAS is hoping to do more research into local flax and hemp growing and their products, linked to the histories of Twine Cottages in Back Ends and Rope Walk between the High Street and Back Ends.

A picture of the tablecloth can be seen on the CADHAS web-site at <http://www.chippingcampdenhistory.org.uk>.

Mrs Elisabeth Brown, who donated the tablecloth, is a granddaughter of Eliza Mary Makepeace (above) and her husband George Vickery and therefore a great great granddaughter of Robert Stanley. She donated it in memory of her mother, Joan Muriel Vickery, who is seen as a young girl in the photograph below. She was born in 1915 and died in 2002. She had inherited the tablecloth and kept it safe.



More on Alec Miller

Olivia Amphlett & Monica Bedding

Following Carol Jackson's interesting talk about Alec Miller, we visited Coventry Cathedral in March to look for the cross that Jane Wilgress mentions in her book* about her father. During the Second World War the works, which had been commissioned by Coventry Cathedral from Alec Miller before the war were destroyed. These included a statue of St Michael, a Bishop's throne, seven screens and a cross for the Children's Chapel (usually referred to as the Girdler's Chapel). Although we had an interesting visit seeing all the wonderful stained glass windows, we were unable to find the cross that Alec Miller had made as a copy of the original in the Girdler's Chapel. The guides on duty did not have any knowledge of either Alec Miller or the cross, so we had to return home having enjoyed the visit, but being rather disappointed not to have photographed the cross.

Subsequently, contact was made with the Archivist of Coventry Cathedral; she did not know anything about the cross, but emailed several pictures of the St Michael statue that had been in the old cathedral, one of which, in colour, shows how splendid it looked. She was able to tell us that in 2004 someone had been researching Alec Miller in Coventry and she would forward a letter to him. Because of data protection considerations it was not possible to give us his name and address.

At the beginning of April a call was made to Ron Clarke at the Herbert Art Gallery and Museum in Coventry to see whether he knew anything about Alec Miller. He could not find anything about him in the museum database, but mentioned Winifred King, who was involved with a group in the Arts and Crafts movement before the war, mainly in the fine art metalwork area. Sadly they had been bombed during the war and were disbanded. Winifred herself had created renaissance-type jewellery. Some of these items will be available for the public to see in 2008 at the museum. A Public Art Gallery web-site was due to open three weeks after our conversation and would include pictures of the old Cathedral. At the date of writing the web-site does not have such pictures. However the museum is being refurbished and this has delayed work on their on-line resources.

In April another email was received from the Coventry Cathedral archivist. She attached an additional picture of the inside of the old Cathedral showing screens, which may have been those carved by Alec Miller. It would be interesting to know if that is the case and if anyone knows what the screens looked like, perhaps they will be able to identify them from this photograph.

I received a letter from the person at Tenbury Wells who had been researching Alec Miller's cross in 2004. Unfortunately he did not have any further information. He had, however, seen the working drawings of the cross in the Alec Miller archive at the V&A and wondered whether it would have suited the style of Coventry Cathedral.

Jane Wilgress was unable to answer an enquiry about the location of the carved cross. She did, however, say that it was a small design, with a kneeling child and a cross in an arch; she also thought that there was an inscription.

If anyone has any further information about this cross we should be very interested to hear from them.

* Jane Wilgress: *Alec Miller* pub. CADHAS 1998