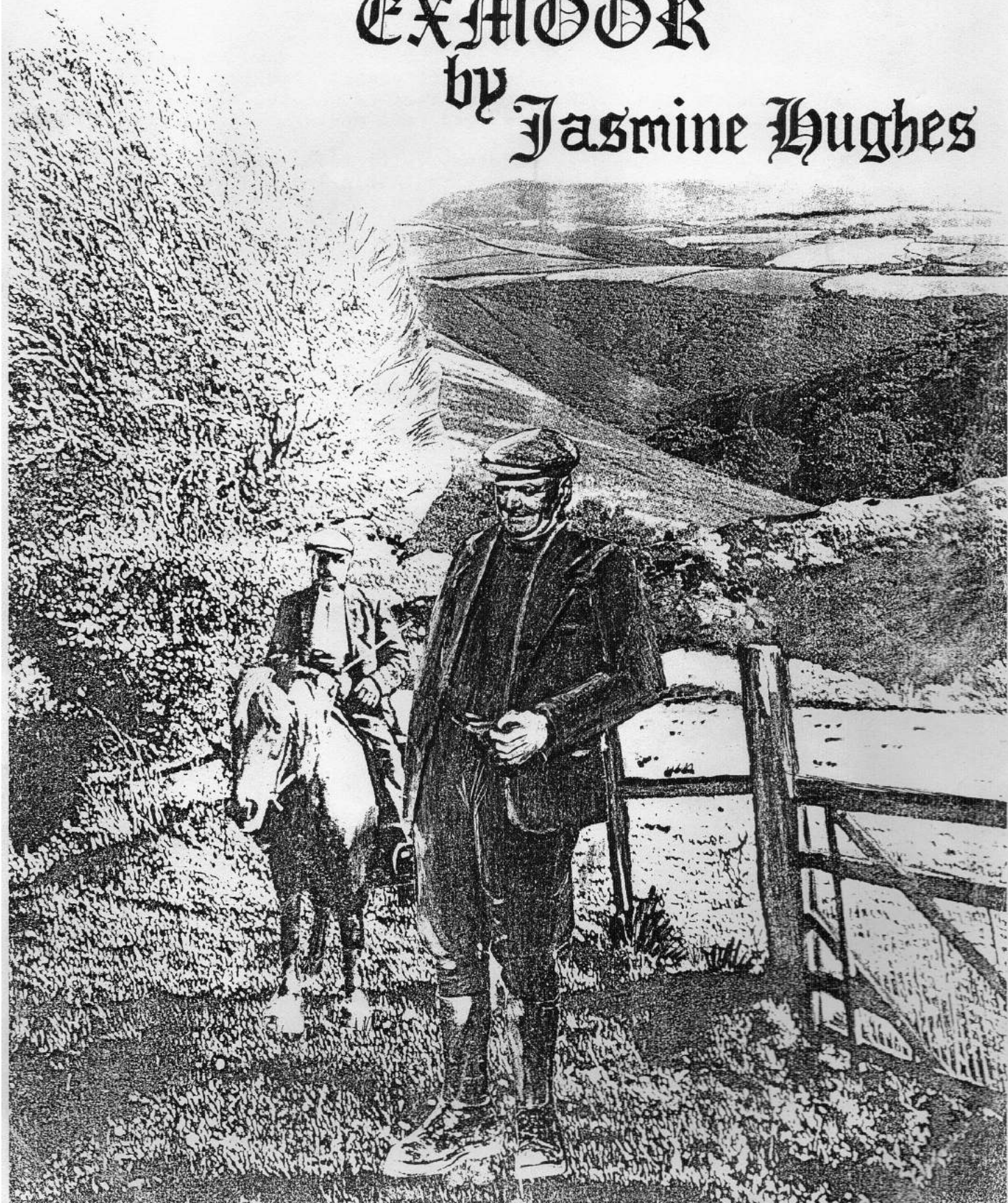


The
ARTERLS
of
EXMOOR
by
Jasmine Hughes



April on Waggon Hill.

Lad, and can you rest now?, there beneath your hill.
Your hands are on your breast now, but is your heart so still?.
Twas the right death to die, lad, a gift without regret,
but unless truths a lie, lad, you'll dream of Devon yet.

Ay, ay, the years awaking, the fires among the ling,
the beechen hedge is breaking, the curlews on the wing.
Primroses are out, lad, on the high banks of Lee,
and the sun stirs the trout, lad, from Brendon to the sea.

I know whats in your heart, lad, the mare he used to hunt,
and her blue market cart, lad, with posies tied in front.
We miss them from the Moor road, they're getting old to roam.
the road they're on's a sure road, and nearer, lad, to home.

Your name, the name they cherish, twill fade, lad, tis true,
but stone and all may perish, with little loss to you.
While fame's, fame, you're Devon, lad, the glory of the west,
till the roll's called in Heaven, lad, you may well take your
rest'.

Sir Henry Newbotts.



Acknowledgements.

I would like to begin with very special and posthumous thanks to my Father the late Albert Hughes, and special thanks also to my dear Aunt Beatrice, both of whom enthralled me with their reminiscences, while taking a keen interest in all my "discoveries", and patiently answered all the questions i continuously put to them. It is due mainly to their support and encouragement that gave me the aspiration to compile this brief account of our family history.

Thanks too, to my husband Frank, who had to take me wherever i wished to go, and then waited for me while i fought my way around wet and overgrown cemeteries, or knocked on the door of yet another family of "Antell's" or their descendants.

My sincere and heartfelt thanks to all you dear people who have helped either with information or the loan of precious photographs, for without you, much of what is contained within would perhaps never of been made available to us or to our future generations. Thankyou so much for making me so welcome in your homes, it has been my greatest pleasure to of met you all.

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be used for any further
display or duplication
without written consent
from the author.

*All The Best
and
Love
Jas*

Any enquiries please contact,

J Harris

Abbr, c-around that time.

"ag labs"-agricultural labourers.



This Antell "coat of arms" is said to be officially documented in Boltons American Armoury. The original description of the arms (Shield) is as follows-

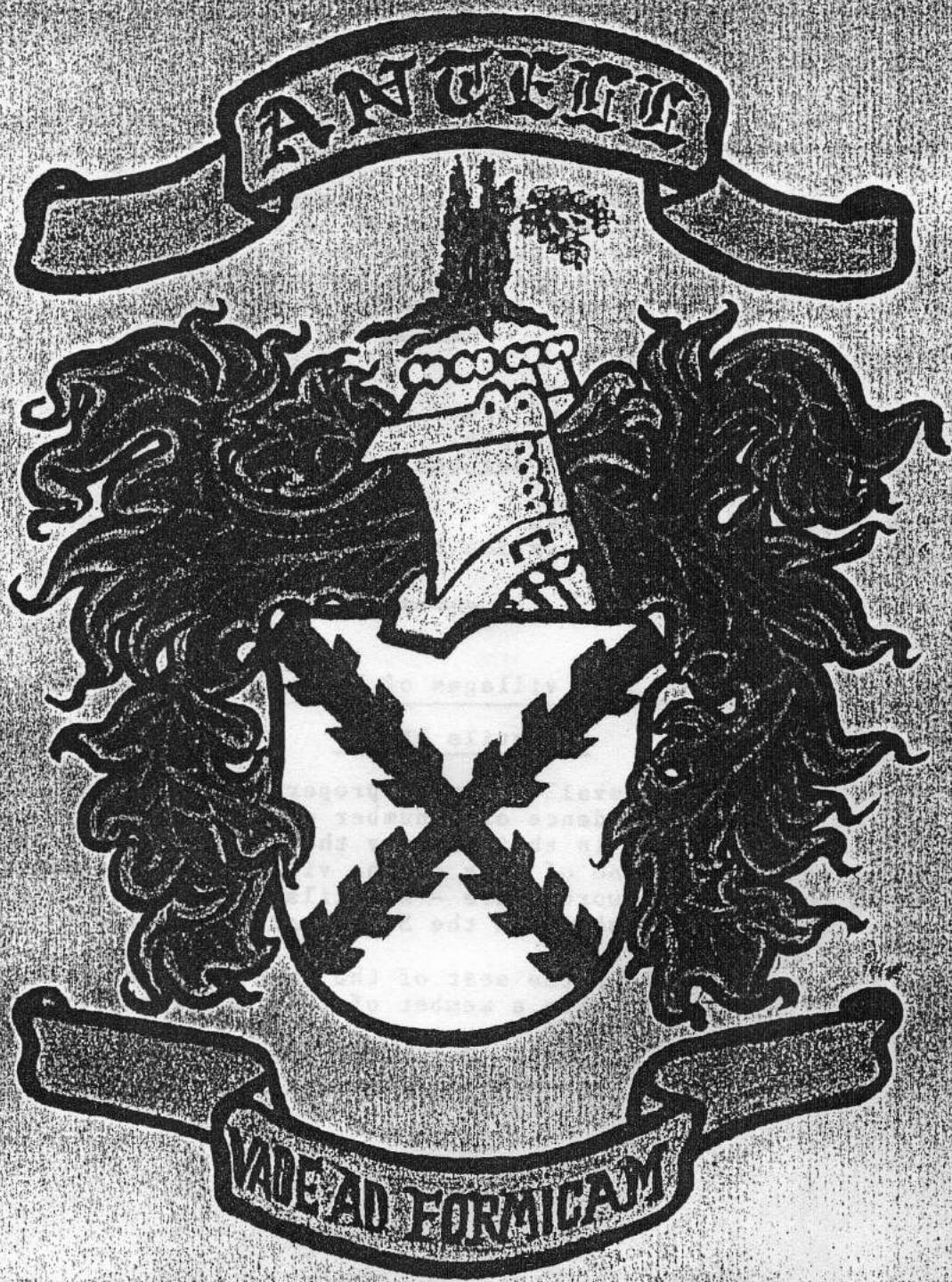
"Gu a Saltire or and in Chief a Crescent.

When translated the Blazon also describes the original colours of the Antell Arms as- Red, a gold St Andrews Cross and a Crescent in the upper third.

Above the Shield and Helmet is the Crest, which is described as "A Tree".

Note- most if not all families can trace a connection with a "Armiger" (someone who has been given the right to bear a Coat of Arms), but do not assume that the Arms go with the surname, they go to the lineal heirs of the men awarded to them, in strict accordance with the laws of Arms.

Certainly this particular Crest does not appear to be the one most commonly favoured by our own lineage, at least up until this time of my research.



Antell Coat of Arms.

Antell- Dorset, England,-origins Italy.

Date of Arms- 11/1200.

Name- Domesday Book- 1086/87.

Name meaning- from Norman Askell- Dweller by pool/water.

Taken from the name Anketell, the the Crest is as follows-

Argent- a saltire ragule vert - (green rugged diagonal cross with silver (or white) background.

The crest - an oak tree proper. acorned or (oak tree with golden acorns).

The motto is - Vade ad Formicam -

which means - Go to the ant -, this is believed to of been taken from Proverbs 6 v6-8.

Go to the ant, thou sluggard,
consider her ways and be wise.
Who having no guide, overseer or ruler,
provideth her meat in the summer
and gathereth her food in the harvest.

Meaning of colours etc-

Green - Hope, loyalty and truth.

White, (or silver)- sincerity.

Cross - Christian faith, denotes 3rd crusade - 1181/92.

Richard Cofur-de-lion.

Oak - Antiquity - strength.

Gold - Generosity - elevation of mind.

Extract from -

The lost villages of Dorset, (Ronald Good)

Anketils Place.

Apart from the mediæval. villages proper, mention must be made of the surviving evidence of a number of mediæval houses whose size suggests, that, in their heyday they supported populations comparable with those of many of the villages already mentioned. Among the most noteworthy are - Anketils Place, this stood just outside Shaftesbury on the Sturminster Newton Road, and near St James Church.

It is said to of been the seat of the Anketils since the reign of Edward the 1st, when a member of the family represented Shaftesbury in Parliment.

It was eventually bought by John Still, Bishop of Bath and Wells at the beginning of the seventeenth century, and was demolished in 1790.

4

Some history of the name
ANTELL.

The name Antell was first found in Normandy, where the family were seated since ancient times.

Most surnames have experienced slight spelling changes, a son might not have wished to spell his name the same way that his father had, some were errors many deliberate, usually a person gave his version to a scribe, a priest or recorder, not the way it should be spelt but the way it sounded.

Optional prefixes or suffixes were used as the name passed down through the centuries, or were adopted by different branches to signify a political or religious adherence, hence the many variations of the name, some of which include- Anctill, Anctil Anquetil, Antil, Antile, Antille, Anctille, Anctile, Anquatile, Anquetille, D'Anctill, D'Anctille, D'Anctil, D'Anquetil, D'Antil D'Antile, D'Antille, Danctille, Danctil, Danctile, Danctille, Danquetil, Anktill, Anktil, Anktille, Anktile, Antel, Antle, Antell.

The family name Antell became influential in Normandy, where they were seated with lands, estates and manors.

It is in the region of Normandy where the name is also mentioned in the form of "Anschetillus", who was a Domesday tenant under the reign of William the Conqueror, in the county of Essex in 1066.

Very early in the century, the family lent their name to the city of Anctiville, in the diocese of Coutances, situated in Normandy, and where they were well established.

For centuries, Normandy was part of the domain of the House of Blois, the Dukes of Normandy, who were the Kings of England and so it was considered an English possession.

From the time of the Norman invasion in 1066, the family were granted lands, manors and estates in the British isles, where the family spelt their name as Anketell, Ankettle, Anquetil, Ankill, Antell and Antill.

The family, as a noble family of France, confirmed with letters of patent and heraldic cap, contributed largely to the political as well as the cultural scene of the regions in which they settled throughout the centuries.

In return for their contributions many of the branches were granted titles of nobility.

In the Isle of Guernsey and Jersey the family held lands as the Anquetil, Antil in Kent and Antle in Dorset.

The Antles of Britain and France settled very early into Newfoundland, Canada. Notable amongst the family in this period was Anctil of Anctiville.

Settled in Newfoundland by the year 1835, were Robert Antle or Antill, as well as George Antell and Barny Antell who settled there by the year 1871, Thomas Antle reached that province in 1866.

The name Antell have been prominent in the arts, religion, politics and culture.

It is quite likely that we may never know for certain why the Antell brothers chose to settle in Devon at all, but let us examine some of the possibilities-

First I shall quote a native of Challacombe, the late Mr Huxtable, who told of the time when the Antell's walked from Dorset with their families and belongings carried on their horse drawn carts, what a long and arduous journey that must of been, though travel was nothing new to them, since according to census reports the family had led quite a "nomadic" existence. The brothers also bought with them, flocks of "Dorset Horns" sheep, though sadly these could not withstand the harsh and grim weather conditions here, and so subsequently all perished.



Dorset Horn ram - the 'all wool carpet' sheep

The "Tolpuddle martyrs".

Dorset in the nineteenth century-

The dwellings of the labourer were described as being little better than pig beds, the food being no better', in fact it was said that never was human wretchedness equal to their conditions, indeed even the "free" negroes fared better in America. In 1830 there was a general rebellion against conditions, and this resulted in the hanging of nine men, the transportation of 500, and the imprisonment of 600.

In Dorset the situation was much as elsewhere, but at Tolpuddle it was slightly worse. The general wage was 10s (50p) per week but at Tolpuddle it was only 9s. A spokesman for the labourers met the farmers at a meeting, witnessed by a Dr Warren, the Church of England vicar, and an increase to 10s was agreed, however to increase the profits of their land the farmers decided instead to reduce the wages to 8s (40p).

The infuriated men sought assistance from the local magistrate William Morden Pitt, who set up a meeting between farmers and the men at Dorchester under James Frampton, the presiding magistrate. At the meeting the men asked Dr Warren to confirm the arrangement as he had agreed, Warren claimed he had never heard of such an arrangement'. The men lost their case, and to rub the point home, the wages were cut to 7s, with a threat of 6s if peace were not forthcoming.

Such behaviour, the Church siding with the establishment, was not confined to Dorset, in South Wales it led to the rise of nonconformity. In Dorset many joined the Methodists.

George Loveless (the spokesman for the labourers) was himself a Methodist lay preacher.

Indeed it appears that many of the Antell's here were themselves followers of the Methodist religion.

And yet despite the dreadful conditions in Dorset, Devon was the poorest paid amongst the agricultural industry of them all.

Another descendant was told that the Brothers had come here with a "gentleman" farmer, so here may be another possibility- In the year of 1842, a Mr John Mathews took the Brendon Burton Estate and a thousand acres from Mr Knight.

Following this they had cattle and horses, along with many dairymen and labourers from Dorset sent down here.

6

William, Robert and James Antell.

These were the first known brothers who came to Devon in the 1800s, and so began the families of Antell's hereabouts. They were all sons of Thomas and Susannah Antell.

Since James appears to of been the first to arrive in Devon, i shall begin with him-

He was baptised on the 2nd of october 1815, at Maperton, Dorset. On the 1851 census for Parracombe, James then aged 35, described himself as a "dairyman", and gave his address as "Middle Rowley", Parracombe, living with him were his wife, Grace, and four of his children, George (7) Martha (4) Thomas (2) and Edwin who was just 7 months old, the children had all been born in Bagber Dorset, so evidently the family had not been in the area long before the census was taken.

Also living with the family at that time was a nephew, 17 year old Thomas, he was described as a "farm servant", and a "house servant", 30 year old Mary Combes, both of whom had been born at Stalbridge, Dorset, so it seems quite likely that these two had travelled here with James.

James and Grace then had another daughter, Mary, who was born in Parracombe in 1853.

The family must of moved to Challacombe shortly after this, since Challacombe church baptism records show that a son, Henry, was privately baptised on the 11th of december 1855, his parents given as James and Grace Antell, later records reveal that an infant, Henry Antell, had died and had been interred at the parish church on the 20th of april 1856, his address was given as "T,ford".

James next appears on the 1861 census for Challacombe living at "Twineford" (pronounced "Tinnerdy" by local residents), this census showed James now described as a "agricultural labourer", and his wife as a "dairywoman", there were again four children living with them at this time, Martha, Thomas, Edwin and Mary.

By the year of 1871, James and his wife were still living at Tinnerdy, along with three, as yet unmarried sons, George, Thomas and Edwin, all of whom were described as "ag labs", and two daughters, Martha, now a "dressmaker", and Mary a "servant".

The next Challacombe census for 1881, shows James again as an "ag lab" and living with his wife and his two daughters.

An infant was privately baptised on the 27th of december 1889, at "Twineworthy", Challacombe, she was named Martha Lilly Grace, her parents given simply as, Mary, (single parent), there was no mention of this child thereafter.

Next James and his wife were found on the census for Parracombe in 1891, they were now "living on his means", with their widower son George (head of house), and their daughters Martha (now housekeeper) and Mary, both of whom were eventually married.

James died on the 25th of january 1902.

According to Challacombe baptisms records, there was an infant "Bessie", who was privately baptised on the 5th of june 1869, her parents given as John and Mary Antell, this family did not appear again, so i have no further information of them at this time.

William.

William was baptised on the 12th of march 1809 at Maperton, Dorset.

He married a first cousin of his, Caroline Antell on the 24th of december 1838 at Lydlinch. Caroline had been born in 1816 at Holwell, Dorset.

The family then appear on the 1841 census at Gomershay, in the parish of Stalbridge, Dorset. William described himself as an farmer, the couple had two sons at that time, George aged 2 and John aged just 4 months old, there was also a 15 year old Patricia Bishop living with them as a family servant.

I next found the family in the village of Kingston Magna near Yeovil on the census for 1851, there were 3 sons now, John now 10, Alfred now 8 (also born in Stalbridge) Jacob aged 6, and who had been born at West Stour also born at West Stour was a daughter Julianne then aged 4.

I do not have the families whereabouts for 1861.

However the family appear on the 1871 census for Challacombe living at "North lane", William describing himself as an agricultural labourer, now had his wife and 2 sons Alfred and Jacob (both ag labs) and a daughter Mary, who had been born at Kingston Magna in 1852.

Next on the 1881 census for Challacombe, William and Caroline were now living on their own, with William described as a farm labourer. William died on the 25th of june 1883.

His widow Caroline, was found to be living with her son Jacob and his family at "Town Tenement" Challacombe, in 1891.

William was my G/Greatgrandfather'.

Robert.

Robert was baptised on the 21st of april 1811, also at Maperton, Dorset. His wife, Sarah Anne, was born at Harnham, Salisbury c1821.

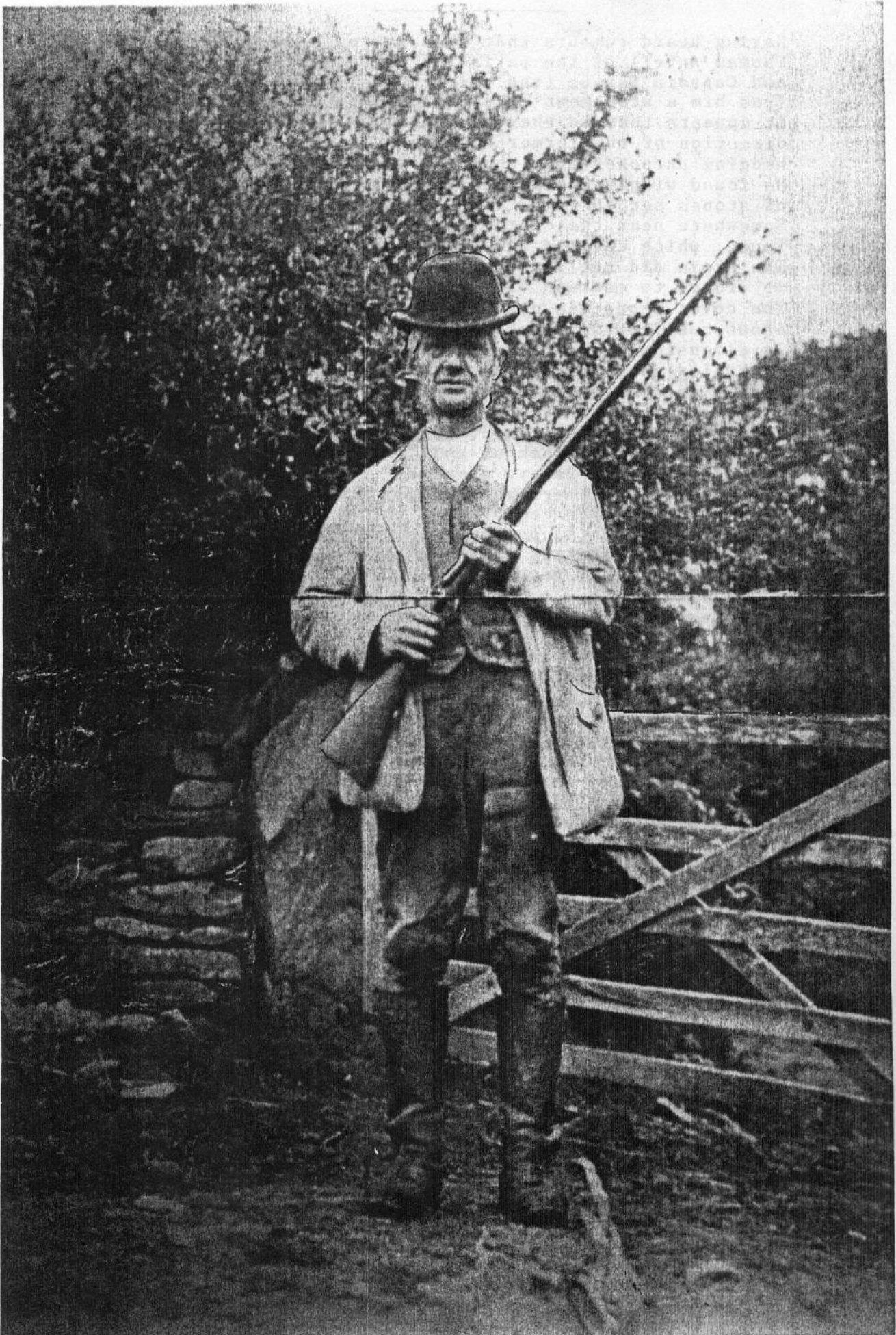
The couple had a son Walter, born in Bagber Dorset in 1849, sadly Walter had been born with an "affliction", and appeared to of been unemployable. Another son Henry Ralph, was born at Salisbury Wilts, in 1851, with the youngest son Albert baptised on the 7th of august 1855, his address given as "Challacombe mill", so obviously the family must of been here in that year at least, however i not been able to find their whereabouts on any census for 1861.

Going on to the census for Challacombe in 1871, and now giving their address as "Barton Town (by the church), Robert was described as an agricultural labourer, and his wife as a dressmaker, with just two sons living at home, Walter and Albert (now 15) and employed as a labourer at the lime quarry Challacombe.

The census for Challacombe in 1881, shows Robert now living with his son Henry and his wife Thurza, and giving their address simply as "Cottage". There was no mention at this time of Roberts wife nor their son Walter, until the Challacombe census for 1891, when Robert was now living with his wife and son Walter at no2 Barton Gate, Robert was now a retired dairyman, and his wife a retired dressmaker.

Robert died on the 15th august 1891, son Walter died aged just 50 in 1899, and Roberts wife Sarah Anne died in 1903, according to Challacombe church records.

James son, George Antell, 1844-1932



Having heard rumours that this Barrow had been opened by Thomas Antell of the parish of Parracombe, the Rev, J, F, Chanter and Captain Fergus (the writer), called on Antell, and obtained from him a statement of the circumstances of such an opening. It appears that in the year of 1885, Thomas Antell, by the direction of the farmer holding this field, removed stones for hedging purposes from the Barrow in question.

He found within the margin and covered by the mound, a circle of stones set on edge, and within this a "cairn". Somewhere near the centre of the Barrow, a flat thin stone was found, which covered the mouth of the "steyn", or "urn". The steyn did not long survive its discovery, and when broken it proved to contain "bones".

The cover stone was described as about two feet square, and about one foot six inches in diameter.

In dimensions shape and material, it appears to of closely resembled an inverted vessel found by the late Mr Doe, in a Barrow on Berrydown (Berrynarbour) but whether like that it was ornamented, or whether or not it had lifting "lugs", cannot now be ascertained.

The traditional "crock of gold" of Dartmoor, has for its counterpart, the "steyn of money" of Exmoor, and prior to the find, the farmer had jokingly informed Antell that they would share the proceeds, were the steyn found.

Of urn or contents, no trace now remains.

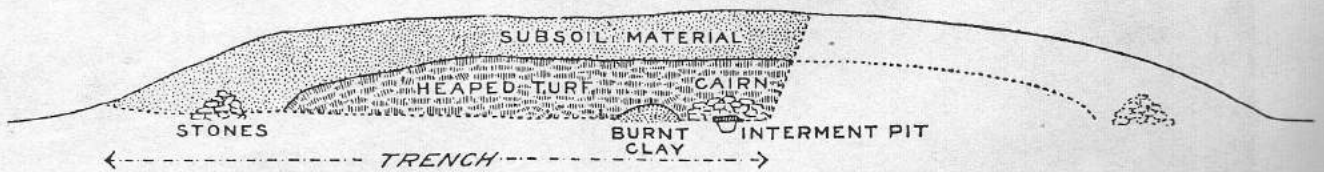
Thomas Antell insists that the bones were bones of sheep, and explains that he knows the animal well enough to recognise it, living or dead'.

His theory is that people working on the Barrows, took some mutton with them for refreshment, and had overlooked this pot, whereby it had got covered up, and so remained until he discovered it, hence this find of "potted mutton", surely the earliest recorded'.

We think there is no reason to attribute undue weight to his view on the matter.

The "ribs" which he describes, may well of been mans, and the writer has found elsewhere the same indisposition to admit to having disturbed human remains, otherwise his account of of the find is clear, and allowance being made for a natural absence of minor detail, is to our minds entirely dependable.

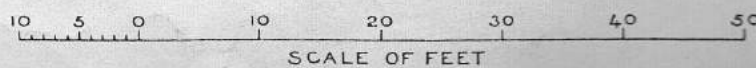
(Extracted from "The transactions of the Devonshire association", vol XXXVII).



CHAPMAN GROUP



ROE BARROW



M.H.R.

James son, Thomas Antell,
1848-1939,
seen here with his wife,
Susan (nee Tamlyn).



9

Jacob Antell.

Jacob was born at West Stour, Dorset in 1845, and was the 4th known son of Caroline and William Antell.

Jacob was also a younger brother to my Greatgrandfather John. At the age of 6, Jacob and his family were found to be living at Kingston Magna near Yeovil, where they appear on the census for 1851.

I have been unable to find where the family were living between then, until they next appeared on the census for Challacombe in 1871.

Jacob was then aged 26, and was still living with his parents at "North Lane", and described himself as a labourer.

Jacob married Henrietta, who had been born at Bratton Fleming in 1852, unfortunately i have not as yet been able to find the date nor the place of the marriage ceremony, however the couple were living at Barton Town Hamlett, Challacombe, when their first daughter Alice Ann was born in 1880, sadly this child died just five years later, nonetheless the couple were blessed with three more daughters.

Jacobs Father died in 1883, and Caroline, Jacobs Mother, moved in with Jacob and his family, at Town Tenement (Village) as is shown on the census for Challacombe in 1891.

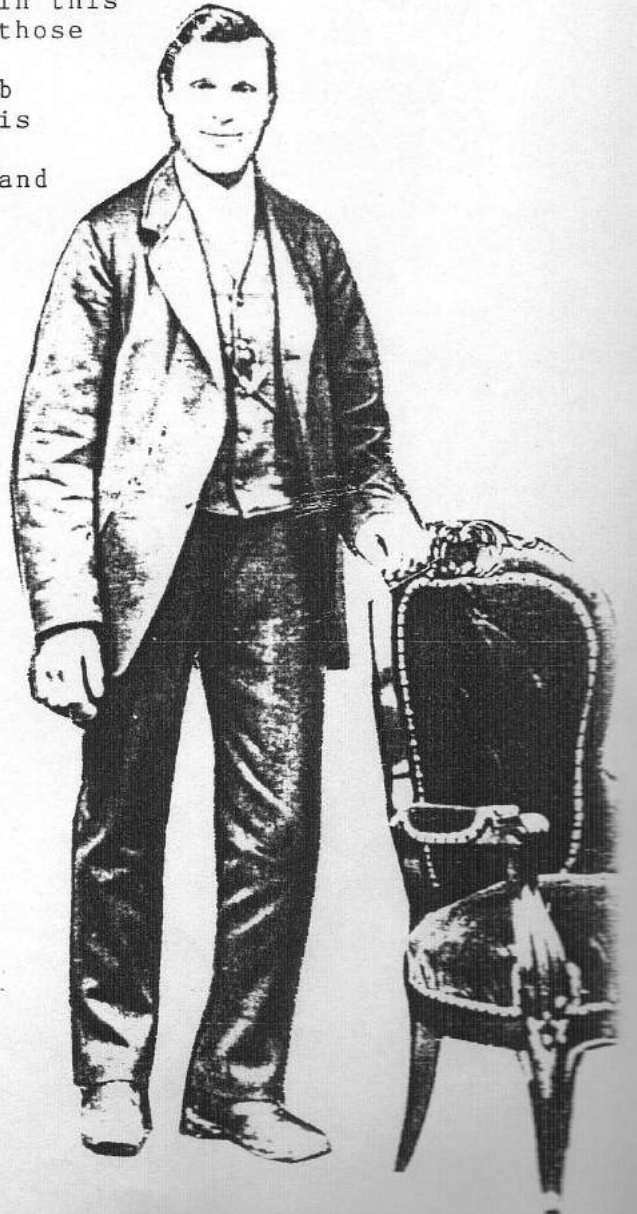
Jacob, like his Brothers and Sisters, was illiterate, though of course there was nothing unusual in this amongst the agricultural workers of those times.

A kind and gentle mannered man, Jacob was content to sit back, and allow his wife Henrietta, with her strict and stronger personality, rule his home and family.

Describing himself as a "Farmer of Land", one of Jacobs favourite pastimes was fishing, however, his wife refused to allow his "bounty" inside the house, instead Jacob had to be content to hang his catches from the trees in the garden.

Jacob passed away in 1926, followed by his wife, just 5 weeks later.

Both were interred at the Parish Church, Bratton Fleming.



Jacob.



Jacob, in his later years, pictured here with his wife Henrietta.

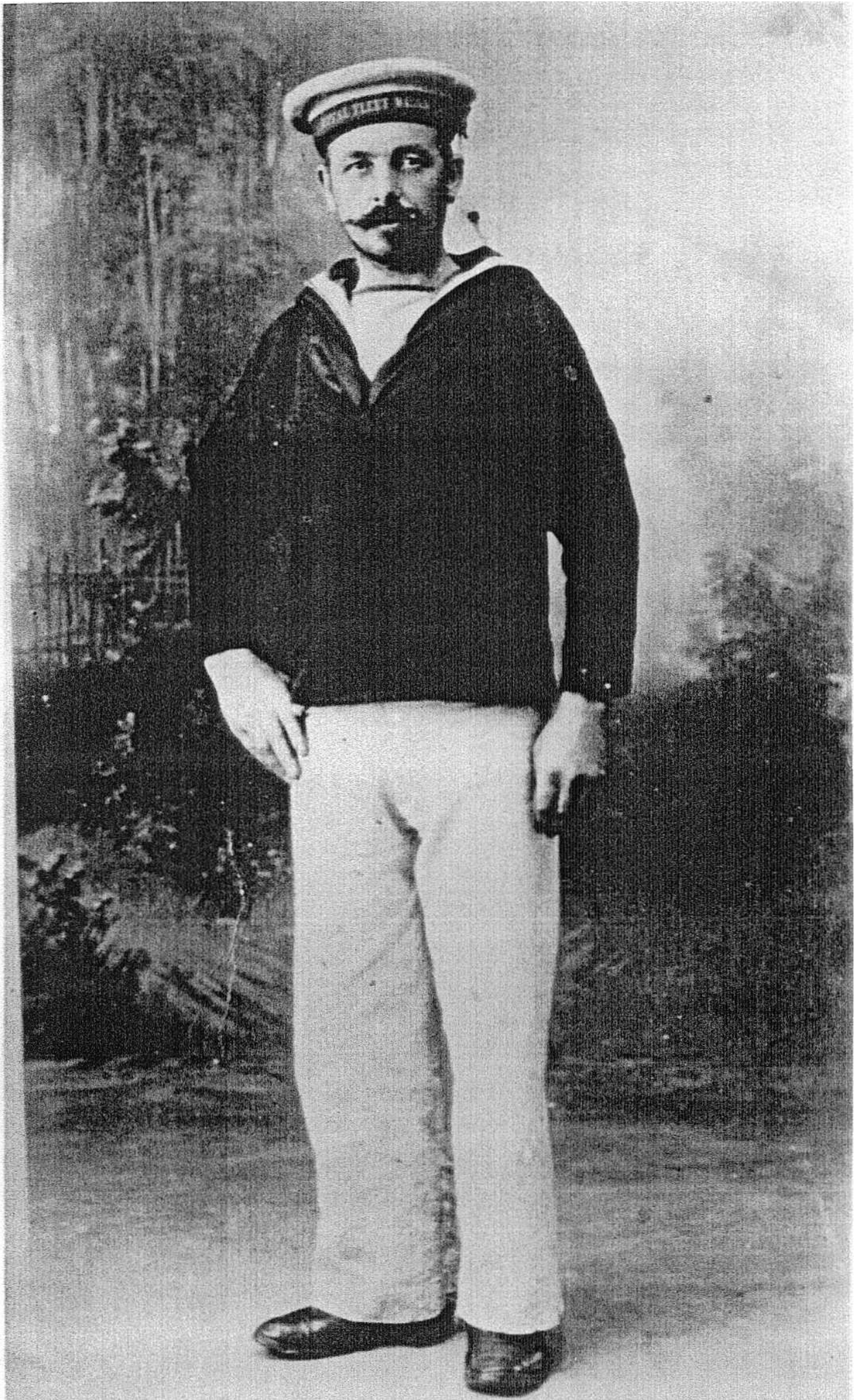
It has always been believed within our family, that Grandfather Herbert, had a brother named Jacob, unfortunately i have not found any evidence to substantiate this. However there are these following facts that might suggest that his birth has somehow been overlooked-
According to a newspaper report in the North Devon journal herald dated october 1920, reporting the funeral of my Greatgrandfather John Antell, stated that among the chief mourners, there was sons William and Frederick (who we can account for) but there was also a son Jacob, and yet another son (again unaccounted for) called Bertram
Of course we must keep in mind that newspaper 'obituaries' were not always completely accurate.

One of Jacobs daughters, Alice Helena (aged 24) on her wedding day to Richard Dallyn on the 28th of sept 1912, in the presence of Jacob and Albert Antell.

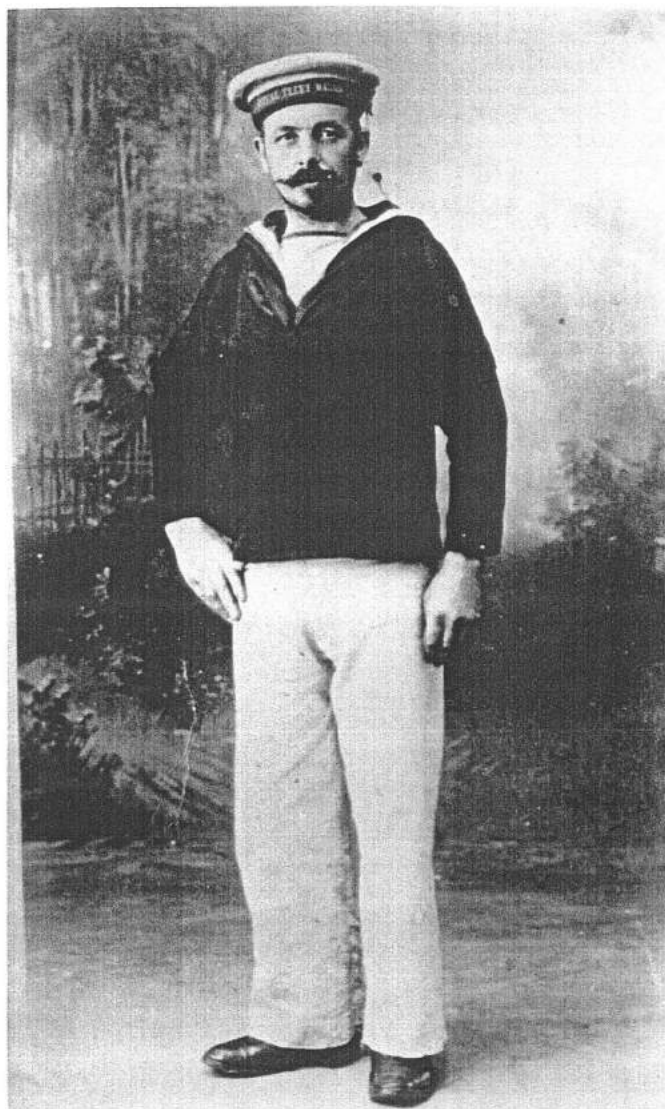


Batten

ILFRACOMBE



Edwin James Antell.



Edwin was born at Parracombe in 1876. He was a second cousin to my G.Greatgrandfather John Antell. Edwin joined the Royal Navy in 1898 and "bought" himself out after 11 years service in 1909, but was then enrolled in the Royal Fleet Reserve. When Edwin was recalled for service in 1914, he was reluctant to return to the sea, as he had a premonition that he would never return home. Sadly, Edwin's premonition became a reality when his ship, the H.M.S, Goliath, was sunk during the battle of the Dardanelles on the 14th of may 1915. He had left a wife Annie, (nee Harding Ley) and a son, Edwin Alfred Antell.

Albert, a son of Robert and Sarah Antell, was born in Challacombe, and was baptised on the 7th of october 1855, his address given as "Challacombe Mill". He was a first cousin to my Greatgrandfather John Antell. Albert had been employed as a labourer in the "lime quarry" at the age of 15.

On the 20th of april 1878, he was married to Lucy (nee Ridd) in the parish church at Challacombe.

The couple, living at "Twitchen", Challacombe, had five sons and five daughters.

Later the family gave their address as "Barton Town", Challacombe.

Lucy, Alberts wife, died in 1906, aged just 49 years old. Albert was employed as a "mole trapper", and made all his own traps. Moles were considered a great nuisance in any farming community, they were however a good source of income for Albert, since there was always a great demand for the mole "skins".

It was much to his families advantage that he kept an "apiary" which kept them all supplied with delicious honey.

Albert was a devout christian, and indeed became the parish church sexton, a much respected position that he held for many years, and a position that his youngest son Albert was to later inherit . There is a plaque inside the church, that reads-

In grateful memory of Albert Antell, 1945-1975.

Albert raised his children to love and honour the church as much as he himself did.

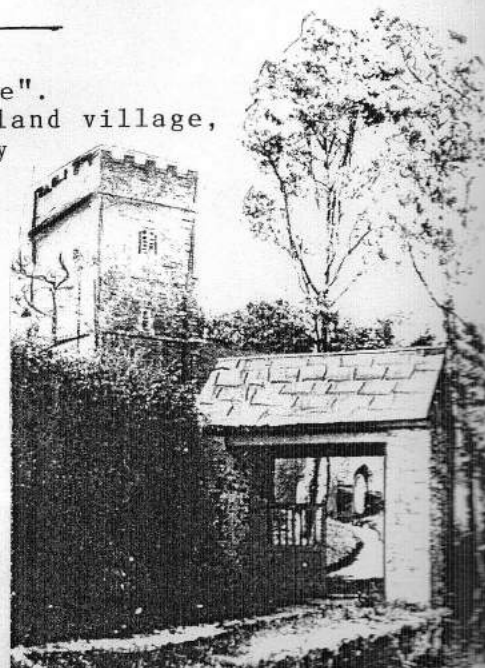
Although at times Albert could appear to be of a strict and formidable charactor, especially so of a sunday, which being the "Lords day", he would forbid any play or games to be indulged in whatsoever.

He can be remembered saying-

"Cards and dice were the Devils device".

Yet despite this, Albert was held in the highest esteem by all who knew him, and deeply loved by all his family. Albert died at "Ridge gate" (just above Bratton Fleming), and was interred at the Holy Trinity Chuch in Challacombe, where he had given freely so much of his time, love and dedication. on the 9th of january 1943.

Quote from John lloyd Warden Page, book, "Exploration of Exmoor" 1890. "Challacombe".
Superstition yet lives in this semi-moorland village,
An old man cannot be persuaded that every
illness entailed by his failing years
is the direct result of "witchcraft".



Holy Trinity Church.

Albert Antell



One of Roberts sons.

15



Henry Ralph Antell, with his wife Thurza (nee Ridd).
 1st cousin to our greatgrandfather John Antell.

c. 1910/15

Photo
 Taken at
 Norththorne.
 Bratton
 Fleming

W.S. Wood

W.S.

BEAR ST.
 BARNSTABLE

John was the second known son born to William Antell and his wife Caroline (nee Antell) (a 1st cousin). John was born at Gomershay, a tiny hamlett, one mile west from Stalbridge, Dorset, in the year of 1841. Johns family led a nomadic lifestyle, until making their home in Challacombe some time during the 1860s.

It was there at the Holy Trinity Parish Church on the 7th of October 1865, that John was married to his first wife Emily Charley, in the presence of John Barrow and Mary Pike, and since John, like many in the agricultral trade, was unable to write his name and had made his mark with a cross.

The couple had a Daughter, Caroline Maria, who was baptised on the 18th of february 1866 followed by a Son William Richard, who was baptised on the 29th of december 1867, the two infants were named after both sets of Grandparents respectively and baptised at the same Church of their parents marriage. in Challacombe.



JOHN

After a gap of five years, i next found that the couple had three more infants, and had been baptised at St Lukes, in Simonsbath (just beyond the Devon/Somerset border).

A Son George, was baptised on the 11th of March 1871, a Daughter Mary, on the 25th of December 1873, and another Son, James was baptised on the 20th of February 1876, their addresses given simply as "Exmoor".

The family had moved again, for on the 26th of May 1877, i found that the Daughter Mary had died aged just three years old, and was laid to rest in Lynton..

The following year in 1878 at Lynton another Daughter was born, she was also named Mary, though later became known as "Polly".

Now giving their address as "Barbrook Mill" a Son Frederick was baptised on the 24th of August 1879, to be followed by another Daughter, Louisa (named after a sister of Emilys) she was baptised on the 26th of March 1882.

Next at Lynbridge, i found a Charles, who had been born to- X and Emma, on the 4th February 1883, so bearing in mind Johns illiteracy, and that a Son Charles was later found to of been present at the funeral of Johns second wife in 1922, i think it is safe to assume that this Charles was indeed the last Son of Johns first marriage.

Sadly Johns Wife Emily died, aged just 41 years old on the 12th of January 1888.

John remarried this time to yet another Emily (nee Stiling). Where still at Lynbridge, on the 28th of June 1889, a Son, named John was privately baptised.

Twin Daughters were born on the 27th of May 1890, Elizabeth Anne, and Bertha Emily, tragically these died, and were buried just two days later along with their Brother John, who had died aged just eleven months old and was buried on the 29th of May 1890.

On the 29th of Agust 1891, while still at Lynbridge Emily gave birth to my Grandfather Herbert John, and again at Lynbridge four years later on the 30th of January 1895, another Son, Percy Edwin, was born.

Finally at "Furzehill", the couple had their last Son, Able Albert, who was baptised on the 10th of October 1897.

Sometime between 1895 and 1897, Greatgrandfather John, moved with his family to "Whin cottage", which is situated on the very edge of Furzehill Common.

"Whin" and "furze" were words used for what we more commonly know today as "gorse", and "Furzehill" is pronounced as "Fuzzill" by local inhabitants.

At this time, John is believed to of been working as a farm labourer for Farmer Rawle.

This picture below, was taken in 1993, and had undergone a great many alterations since Johns death in 1920.

We do know however, that the annexe to the left of the picture was once used as the stables, with the above extension added on in more recent times.



Like many families living in such remote areas, John had to be mainly self-sufficient, and raised his own fowl and pigs (which he would kill himself) to feed his family with. He would cut peat from the moors then stack it to "dry out", and in this way provided his home with fuel.

One of Johns grandsons, Leslie, can recall many happy times spent at his grandparents home, and remembers fondly the pet collie dog, which never left the little boys side.

As a small boy Leslie was not quite as robust and healthy as he might of been, however his attentive grandparents did all they possibly could to "build the little lad up", and they did this by providing him with nourishing meals of fried eggs and bacon (from their own produce) and fresh mushrooms that John had picked from the fields.



William Richard Skell
1867 - 1930

James Skell
1876 -

George Skell
1871 -

(note his medal)



Frederick Skell

Greatgrandfather To Ina Skell

Mr Gummer.

"A spoonful of medicine".

Greatgrandfather John had caught a "chill", so took himself off to visit the doctor, where he was given a bottle of medicine to take. However, John could not see the sense in having to carry the medicine home with him, and instead drank the bottles entire contents all in one go', having done this, John lay down in the hedge and remained there completely comatosed for a long time thereafter'.



Picture above, shows an (unknown) man from Dorset, being in a position that John had been himself'.

"A gallon of ale".

On another occasion when John was at his "local" (and probably already inebriated) he was challenged to drink a whole gallon of ale in one go'. John willingly accepted the challenge, and by lying flat on his back on the floor, downed the lot in one, and won the bet'.

Emily, (nee Charley) was Baptised on the 1st of November 1846 at Kentisbury, N,Devon.

She was the Daughter of a Farming Family, Richard and Maria Charley.

John, one of Emilys Brothers, was a Policeman at Bampton, while another Brother, Richard, on his return home from abroad, cut himself while removing the very large beard he had aquired, but unfortunately the wound became infected and sadly Richard died.

Emily was Married to my GreatGrandfather John Antell, in his then home Village of Challacombe, at the Holy Trinity Parish Church, in the presence of John Barrow and Mary Pike, on the 7th of October 1865.

A Daughter was born shortly after, and was Baptised on the 18th of February 1866, She was named Caroline Maria, after the couples respective Mothers, and a Son, born the following year was named William Richard, again after the couples respective Fathers.

Emily was to bear her Husband nine known Children in what was to be a short lifespan for her, since she passed away on the 12th of January 1888, aged just 41 years old.

The North Devon Herald
October 1920.

On Saturday, the mortal remains of Mr John Antell of Whim Ilkerton Lynton, who passed away at the good old age of 79 years, were laid to rest in the Lynton Churchyard extension. The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev J H Sandford) and the coffin was borne to the graveside by the following fellow club men of the deceased, who was one of the oldest members of the Lynton Society of Goodfellowship, commonly known as the "Old Club".

Messrs B Tucker, W Reed, Senr H Reed, R Squires, J Creek and J Delbridge.

The deceased being well known in the agricultural district, a large number of farmers attended the funeral as well as many members of the "Old Club", who wore regalia.

The chief mourners were Messrs William, Bertram, Jacob and Fred Antell (sons).

There were many choice floral tributes.

John died on the 16th of October 1920, in the Lynton Cottage Hospital.

Emily Antell- Johns second wife.

Emily Antell, (nee Stiling) was born at Broadhembury in 1855. On the Census for Lynton 1871, i found that her Father, Charles Stiling, was a Baliff Farmer of 103 Acres, at Thorneworthy Farm,

He had been born at Kentisbear in 1833, and died on the 5/2/1910. Also on the same Census, Emily was then aged 16, and employed as a "Domestic Servant".

On the 18th of August 1881, an Emily Delbridge was Baptised, her Mother was given as Emily Stiling of Lynbridge, and employed as a Domestic Servant, (no Fathers name was given).

Later i found that an Emily Delbridge Stiling had died, aged 4 months old, and buried on the 24th of August 1881, therefore i think it, s quite safe to assume that the Childs Mother, was the same Emily as Johns second Wife.

Little else is known of Emily, except that which i stated elsewhere, in that she was not fond of Johns Children from his first Marraige, and made no attempt to conceal this from them. When her Husband died in 1920, Emily moved to Lynbridge, to live with her own eldest Son, Herbert, who was himself already living in cramped conditions, with his own Family.

Emily's Granddaughter, Beatrice, recall's how Emily became ill constantly screaming, 'oh me head, oh me Head', until the day when Emily was suddenly taken away.

Poor Emily had been taken to the "Workhouse" at Barnstaple, where perhaps mercifully, she passed away on the 3rd of June 1922.

Emilys Granddaughter can remember the Brass mounted Coffin, and the Horse and Cart, which carried poor Emily to her final resting place, (i am told it, s in the 'old Cemetery' just inside the gate on the righthand side.

According to the obituary notice in the N.Devon Journal, dated the 8th of June 1922, only one Stepson 'Charles' was present along with her own three Sons, Herbert, Abel and Percy, at the Buriel.

N.Devon Journal. 8th of June 1922.

The Funeral of Mrs Antell, of *Hill Cottage Furzehill Lynton, on Saturday last, at the Parish Church Lynton. The service being conducted by the Vicar (Rev J.H Sanford).

The immediate mourners were-

Mr Herbert J, and Mrs Antell (Son and Daughter-in-law).
Mr and Mrs Percy Antell (Son and Daughter-in-law),
Mr Abel Antell (Son).
Mr and Mrs Charles Antell (Son and Daughter-in-law).
Mr Alfred Stiling (Brother).
Mr W Huxtable (Bother-in-law).
Mr H Meed.

Choice floral tokens were sent as follows-

In loving memory, from her sorrowing Son and Daughter-in-law (Herb and Minnie), from Eva and Percy, and from Abel.

In loving memory of a dear Grannie, from Leslie, Beatie, Cyril and Phyllis.

In loving memory, from Nell and Charlie.

In deep sympathy from Mr Priscott.

From Mrs Bowden.

From a Friend to a Friend, in heartfelt sympathy from Mrs S Crick.

In affectionate remembrance from Annie, Will and Family, Cross St.

The polished Brass Mounted Coffin bore the inscription-

Emily Antell, Died May 31st 1922, aged 67 years.

The Bearers were- Messrs Derman, Delbridge, Squire, Way, Widden and Pow.

The Funeral arrangments were carried out by Messrs J Cater and Sons (Barnstaple). (cause of death- heart disease & syncope).

*possibly a reporters error'.

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A brief summary on the children of my Greatgrandfather
John Antell.

1. Of Caroline Maria, i have found nothing other then her date of baptism.
She did not appear on the census for Lynton in 1881, when she would of been aged 15, it is likely that she would of working "in service" somewhere.
2. Of William - see William Antell.
3. Of George i found that he was not on the census for Lynton in 1891 when he would of been aged 20, but i did find a newspaper article in 1914 reporting that George Antell had won some of the races that had been held at the Lynton horticultural show.
His name was not among the mourners at his fathers funeral in 1920.
4. Of Mary, she had died aged just 4 years old.
5. Of James, i found that at the age of 15 in 1891, he was employed as a farm servant by George Saunders at Cheriton Brendon, but found nothing after this.
6. There was another Mary, who aged just 13, again in 1891, was also employed by the same George Saunders as her brother in Brendon, she was described as a "general servant".
I have been told of a Mary (known as Polly) who had gone to Wales to live, and there had married a Mr Gummer.
7. Of Frederick - see Frederick Antell.
8. Of Louisa - see Louisa Antell.
9. Of Charles i found nothing other then his incomplete baptism in 1883.
He did not appear on any census forms.
But he had attended his mothers funeral at Lynton in 1922.
10. A son John died aged just 11 months old.
11. Twin daughters died aged just 2 days old and were buried on the same day as their brother John.
12. Of Herbert - see Herbert Antell.
13. Of Percy - see Percy Antell.
14. of Abel - see Abel Antell.

William Richard Antell.

William was the first son born to my Greatgrandfather John Antell and his first wife, Emily (nee Charley). Baptised in Challacombe on the 29th of december 1867, he was given the name William, after his paternal grandfather, and Richard (for his middle name) after his maternal grandfather. William next appears on the census for Lynton in 1881, he was then aged 13 and still attending school, (no address was given). By the census for Lynton in 1891, William was described as a "boarder", and was employed as a "tailors assistant". Some time after, William moved to South Molton where he was married to Eliza Bradford.

The couple had four sons and nine daughters, and lived at no9 Duke street, South Molton.

At a "gentlemans outfitters", (Howes of 5 & 6 East street) William continued in his career as a "tailor", certainly he is remembered as always being immaculately dressed, which was always completed with a "bowler hat".

Unfortunately he was unable to walk without the aid of a walking stick, since he was "lame" in one of his legs (reason unknown).

More commonly know as "Bill", he was a very strict disciplinarian, especially towards his sons, and although appearing a little more amiable towards his daughters, their place, was "in the kitchen only".

Bill kept in contact with his younger sister, Louisa, (who had left this area, and was living in Cornwall), but it appears he made little or no contact with any of his younger stepbrothers who were living in, or around Lynton.

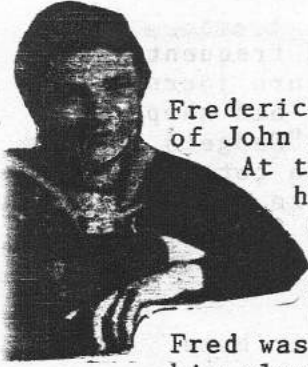
He did not appear amongst the mourners at his fathers funeral in 1920, nor his stepmothers in 1922.

Bill died after a brief illness, on the 22nd of january 1930, aged 62, and was interred at South Molton cemetery, and according to his obituary report in the N,D,journal, there were just two of his brothers and sisters present, Frederick and Louisa, nonetheless there were a great many of his own family in attendance, along with fellow brethren of "Ye Fortescue Lodge, No. 5799, R.A.O.B, of which Bill was a member.

The article also states-The interior of the grave was lined with ivy-the emblem of the order! with the Rev.Paul Elmont (superintendent Wesleyan minister) officiating, assisted by the Rev. Bro. R.C.W Lamplough-Lamplugh, of Barnstaple.



Frederick Antell.



Frederick was born on the 4th of aug 1879, and was the ninth child of John Antell and his wife Emily (nee Charley).

At the time of Fred's baptism on the 24th of august 1879 his address was given as "Barbrook Mill".

He was just a young lad of nine years old when his mother passed away in 1888, but as we know his father was remarried in a very short space of time following the untimely death of his first wife.

Fred was employed as a farm labourer until 1898, when giving his place of birth as "North Bridge" in the parish of Lynbridge Lynton, he volunteered to serve for 12 years in the Royal fleet reserve at Devonport, where despite standing just 5'4½" tall he became a "stoker".

During the 1st world war he gained a British war medal, victory medal, many good conduct badges and maintained a good record of achievement throughout his naval career.

On the 10th of july 1918, giving his address as NO 6 East Cottage South Molton, he was married to Florence (nee Reed) who came from a family with Gypsy ancestry, indeed the couples son (Fred jnr) can remember attending the funeral of one of his mothers relations whose encampment was near South Molton, and there in true Gypsy tradition, a funeral pyre was made of the deceased's caravan and all his possessions, set alight and reduced to ashes.

The couple had a daughter Gertrude Anne, in 1919, and in that same year Fred was demobilised but he requested that he might be reinstated, yet despite the excellent record he had earned himself his request was denied, thus saving the Navy having to grant Fred a pension later. Fred acquired the "nickname" of Gadget, believed to be due to him frequently asking "Whats this yur gadget for then"?. A son was born in 1925, he too was named Frederick, he also followed his fathers career with the Navy, and inherited his fathers nickname "Gadget".



UNION ST.
STONEHOUSE, PLYMOUTH

Frederick was very fond of one of his younger stepbrothers (Herbert), who lived at Lynton, and so Fred would frequently trek across Exmoor to visit him. Often on the return journey home to South Molton, he would stop to rest in an old shepherds hut on the moor, this hut was to become known as "Gadgets bedroom. Like many homes of that time Fred's home, Tiverton cottage' was very lacking in the home comforts which we take for granted today, such as electricity and water (that had to be carried up to the house from a well at the bottom of the garden)

Fred seen here with his wife outside of their home.



When the Antell men of South Molton got together in one of the pubs, they'd be heard to say-

Shall we sing?
or shall we shout?
whatever we'll do
we'll do it
TOGETHER'.

Being Antell's there is no doubt they would of done more then their share of the latter, but in actual fact they were indeed excellent singers, and locals can still remember what a pleasure it was to hear them, especially so at christmas time.

con-
At one time Fred was employed as a labourer for a local building firm, by the name of Saunder's.

Fred seen here (middle row, with moustache).



A newspaper report (not dated) read's as follows-
Last of the miners.

Few local men who have been actively engaged in mining are still living.
Mr D.J.C.Bush was at one time closely connected with companies engaged in the work, and Mr F Antell, of Tiverton cottages now employed as boiler man at the South Molton? assistance institution is the only remaining miner who worked the Exmoor deposits in the early 1920s.
He was then in charge of the steam engine working the pumps and other machinery.
Although the main riches of Exmoor lie in iron ore, there are other valuable mineral deposits near Charles.
Unber-used in the mixture of paint, has been found and was successfully extracted by one of the companies engaged in the mining of iron ore.

On the 4/3/1918 Lord Poltimore granted a lease to D.J.C Bush of Fort house, S/Molton, to search for minerals on his lands in N/Molton and Twitchen, this came to an end when all the capital of the South West mining syndicate had been lost in 1926. It was most probable that it was this company that Fred had been employed by.
Fred passed away in



Louisa Antell.



Louisa, named after a maternal aunt, was born on the 22nd of Feb 1882, and baptised on the 26th of March 1882.

She was a daughter of John Antell and his first wife Emily (nee Charley) whose address at the time of the infants baptism was given as "Barbrook Mill" (nr Lynton).

Louisa was just a little girl of six when her mother passed away in 1888, however her father was remarried a short time after, this time to Emily (nee Stiling).

The families address was now given as Lynbridge, Lynton.

Just eighteen months following Louisa's mothers demise, Johns second wife gave birth to the first child of "her" family, but unfortunately for the children of her husbands first marriage, she could not find it in her heart to give them any love nor affection and subsequently their life at home became difficult and unpleasant.

Louisa was given much of the housework to do, and this she had to do in her bare little feet, for fear of wearing out her boots. Like most homes of that time, Mondays were set aside for dealing with the families laundry, and on those days Louisa was kept away from school so that she could care for the younger children.

Eventually, just as soon as she was able, Louisa left home, promising on her departure that she would return home to visit only while her father still lived.

For a while, Louisa went "into service" at Lynmouth, and following this she went to work on a farm, for which she was better suited for, since it was the life she knew and loved. Later she moved to Newquay in Cornwall, and it was there that she met her husband to be, John Dawe.

John was a quarry worker and lived in Tintagel, but at weekends he would cycle all the way from there to Newquay so that the couple could continue their courtship, until eventually on the 15th of January 1913 at St Michaels Church in Newquay they were married.

War was declared, and John was called upon to serve his country, meanwhile Louisa worked hard (as she always had) until eventually she had saved enough money to enable her to buy their future home.

Later with her husband safely home, the couple began their family in 1920 with a daughter Amy, followed by a son Thomas in 1922, and finally another daughter, May in 1924.

Attending Church regularly, Louisa was a devout christian and saw to it that her children were raised in the same way.

If discontent at all, it was because she so longed for the farm life that she had been raised in, and so to overcome this she bought for herself a "smallholding", where happily she raised her own pigs and poultry.

There was precious little profit to be made from this venture however, since being the kind and generous lady that she was, gladly gave all her resulting produce away for no payment whatsoever, even during the lean years of rationing when food was scarce and people were being exploited by exorbitant prices her good nature would not let her accept any payment.

Despite her generosity however, Louisa could appear to be a very formidable lady indeed, and would stand for no nonsense nor unjustness from anybody.

Indeed she could withstand even the worst of the harsh Cornish winters, and was often to be found dressed in the minimum of protective clothing, happily working hard in her smallholding.

We know by letters found after Louisa's demise that she had loaned one of her younger stepbrothers the money with which to buy himself a horse and cart with, but evidently the stepbrother (who shall remain nameless) was unable or perhaps unwilling to repay the loan, indeed Louisa was threatening him with court action should it prove necessary, however the final outcome of this incident is not known, although we do know that there was little or no contact at all made between them thereafter.

Louisa had always been troubled by poor hearing and found this a heavy cross to bear, especially so in her later years when she became profoundly deaf, which according to her and other local Cornish folk was the result of living so close to the sea for so long.

John, Louisa's husband went on to become the foreman at the quarry where he worked.

He passed away in 1954, aged 70.

Louisa passed away on the 13th of february 1961, aged 79.





Grandfather
Herbert John Antell c1963

Grandad'.

I adored my Grandfather, who i believe must of "mellowed" a great deal with age, since of course he was then aged 59 when i was born in 1950.

He and my adored Granny, meant a great deal of comfort and security to me, for which i shall always remain grateful to them for.

Grandad never once raised his voice to me, preferring instead to tease me unmercifully, "fatty and tubby" (which i was) were amongst his favourite insults, but the cheekier i became in my quick retorts, the more he would be amused, and i was most always rewarded with a sixpenny bit'.

Carrying a "Staff" and dressed in moleskin trousers, leather leggings and "Hobnailed" boots, were his clothes for work, plus an old sack tied around his shoulders, should the weather be wet.

I can still remember the sound of those hobnailed boots on the grey flagstone floor in the hall.

Bread and "Sop" (bread soaked in hot milk) or a bowl of bovril was a meal he took most days.

Dressed for an evening out Grandad could dress as smartly as any man, in his navy threepiece suit with his fobwatch (pocket watch) a chain made up from silver threepenny pieces, (and which i, m happy to say still remains within the family today).

Grandads only known "claim to fame" took place in 1923, when he was chosen to take part as an extra in the play, Lorna Doone which was being filmed on location in N, Devon.

While working for the National Trust, Grandad painted and erected many of the signposts for the benefit of the tourists, and one sign in particular, stated that the walk from the Cottage Inn to the Cleaves on Summerhouse Hill, was just a five minute walk away- when all the locals will know that its at least a good half hours walk even for the hardiest of walkers- but thats just one example of Grandads humour'.



Herbert John Antell

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My Grandfather, Herbert, was the first surviving son born to John Antell, and his second wife Emily (nee Stiling). Herbert was born on the 29th of August 1891, his address given simply as "Lynbridge", Lynton.

By the year of 1897, Herbert had moved with his parents to "Whim cottage", Furzehill, which lies some three miles above Barbrook, which is where Herbert would of attended School.

Herbert became an unruly young man, and badly in need of much discipline, and so it was that when Frederick, Herberts older stepbrother, was at home on leave from his dutys in the Navy, John the boys Father, made Frederick the one responsible to punish Herbert for his misbehaviour, thus at Johns insistence, the brothers would partake of vicious and brutal fights, and yet despit this, it was Frederick that Herbert was more fonder of then any of the rest of his family, and so it was to remain so, throughout their lives.

Herbert went to work in the Iron Ore Mines at Simonsbath on Exmoor, he became the explosive expert there, being one of very few men to have a licence to use dynamite.

Herbert thought little of the daily trek from his home, across the desolate Furzehill common to Simonsbath.

At the mines Herbert would not of been "out of place" working among the hard drinking and rough fighting men.

The work was difficult, dangerous, and unpleasant, having to stand in freezing icy water up to their waists while the men worked.

Snails were plucked from the damp cave walls to make a warming "broth" (soup) for the miners.

However Herbert rarely spoke of any of his experiences that occurred during the time he worked there, he was however very well paid, and would rarely go home with less then £7 a week, (a very good wage for those times).

A newspaper report from the North Devon Journal, dated the 27th of March 1913 reads-

A peculiar accident befell Herbert Antell, 22, son of Mr J Antell, of "Whim" Lynton, on saturday. He works at the Iron Ore Mines at Simonsbath, and was at home for the weekend, when it appears he was standing near a stove, when he took out a handkerchief, at the same time pulling out a piece of paper containing a small quantity of gelignite, he immediatly put out his right hand to brush the paper off the stove, when the gelignite exploded, causing terrible injuries to his thumb and two fingers, he was conveyed to the Cottage Hospital, where Dr Jenkins amputated the thumb and two fingers. The unfortunate man is now progressing favourably.

As we know newspaper reports are not always known for their accuracy, and so here are the "actual" facts, as have been told to me from close members of my Grandfathers family-

On arriving home from work, Herbert would always shake out any dust and residue left in his pockets.

Unfortunately on this occasion, his pocket also contained a "cap" from off the top of a stick of dynamite, and it was actually this that fell out onto the top of the stove.

Immediatly aware of the imminent danger to his younger brother Abe, who was sitting close by the fire, Herb heroicly reached out his hand, taking the worst of the explosion himself, losing two fingers and the thumb from his right hand.

According to the newspaper reports Herberts fingers and thumb were amputated in Hospital, but in fact they were "blown off"

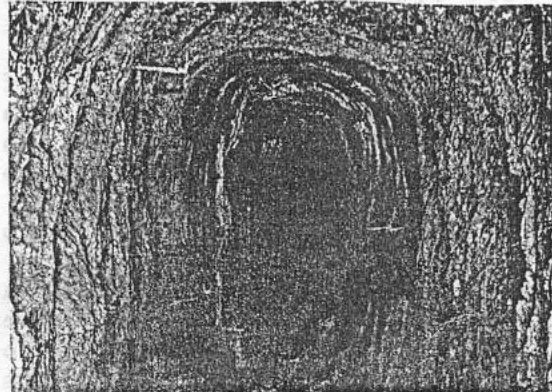


con-
by the explosion and had adhered themselves to the ceiling.
That Herb was taken to the Hospital, where he recieved his
treatment, is correct, but against the Doctors advice, he did
not stay there, and instead immediatly returned home.
My Grandmother was told by the Doctor that Herbert would surely
suffer "with his nerves" later in his life, due to the trauma
of his accident.

He was declared unfit for active service when the first World
War broke out in 1914, but adapted to the loss of his fingers
and thumb without too much difficulty, and later returned to
working with explosives, in places such as the quarry at Dean
steep, and on one occasion was offered some work on Dartmoor,
but unfortunately he was unable to blast through the granite
and had to return home.

Other tasks he undertook includes sinking wells for the farmers
and on one occasion, he and Stan Curtis were asked by Eric Watts
to blow up some old tree roots for him, and so Herb set the
charge, but when he put the two wires together, it exploded'
and the two men were surrounded by trees, mud and grass,
"raining" down all around them.
Herbert also took employment as a "water diviner".

Entrance to the Main Drift at Cornham Ford



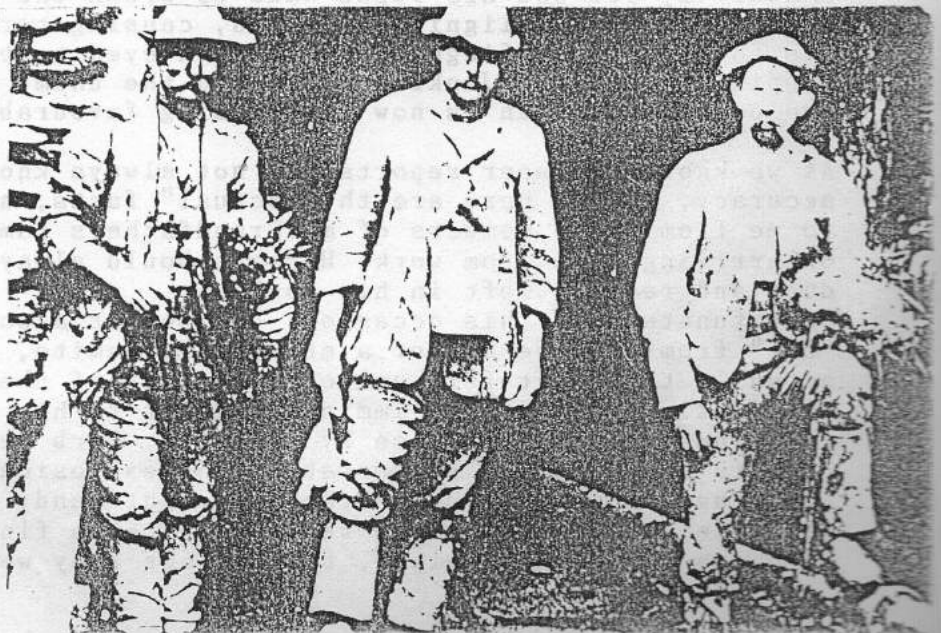
It seems likely that was one of the mines that Herbert was
working at before his accident.
Cornham Ford lies just off the B3358, between Challacombe and
Simonsbath.

In the year of 1913, there were twelve men working underground
and eight men working on the surface.

The mine was owned by the Exmoor Mining Syndicate from 1910,
until the mine was closed in 1913, after proving to be non
profitable..

The average wage (of fortyone hours per week) was twentyfour
shillings (£1.20p).

Miners at the
Brendon Hill Adit
c1913-



Roy and Lorna Nercombe, arrived at Watersmeet Valley to live in 1959.

After having successfully negotiated the difficult *Shammelway Hill that leads into the Valley, with his cumbersome furniture lorry, Roy paused at the bottom of the Hill to exchange pleasantries with Herb.

Leaning from the lorry's window, Roy (ever jovial) said 'Good morning' this is a very difficult hill, isn't it?, to which Herbert replied- 'Aye, well, and you've come down it once too bloody often'.

Obviously not one of my Grandfather's better days, and this then was Roy's first encounter with Herbert.

While working at Watersmeet, my Grandfather however, frequently called on Roy and Lorna, who lived and ran the Watersmeet Valley Cafe there,

Herbert helped them with many of the repairs and maintenance jobs that needed his expertise, and since the house had no supply of running water, he laid pipes that caught the water running down from the hills behind the house, directing the water into an outside tank.

He gave Lorna strict instructions that she was to leave the tap turned on at all times in order that the water should always "run clear".

The good lady dared not question the powerful and awe inspiring man, that was my Grandfather, and so needless to say, obeyed his instructions meticulously, and so the water continued to run freely, until that is, one very hot summer with little or no rain at all, and the water from the hills ceased to run, and the tank stood empty'.

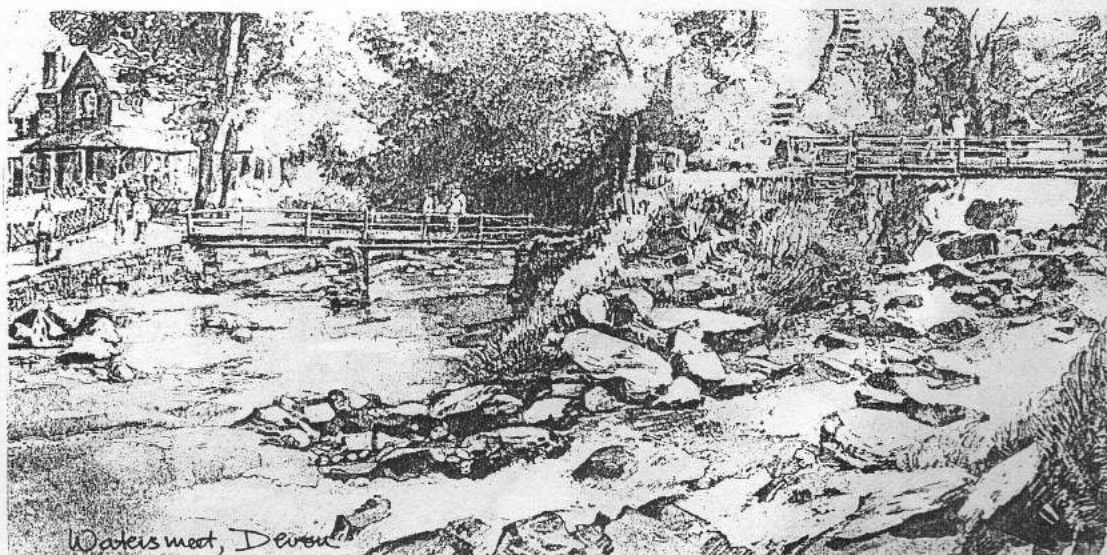
Mr Antell, cried Lorna, whatever can we do? - in reply Herbert roared at her, in a way that would strike terror in the hearts of the bravest of men, and said- 'How many times have I told you- NOT to leave that bloody tap turned on?'.

Yet despite this Roy and Lorna came to know Herb well, and like most people had a great respect for him.

Roy remembers a huge old tree, that was becoming a worry to him because of its age and close proximity to the back of the house and one day asked Herb what could be done about it?.

Roy does not attempt to conceal the amazement he felt towards the prodigious Herb, who despite the fact that he was then aged 60 years old, fell the mighty tree himself, keeping it well clear of the house, with the aid of ropes etc.

*Herbert was responsible for the building of the "Dry stone walls" that lined the road throughout Shammelway.



Herbert and the Donkey.

Many years ago, coal was bought into Lynmouth on a two masted Coaler from Wales, which was too large to tie up at the slipway, so lay at Anchor in the Harbour, whilst tenders shipped the cargo to and from the land. And so it was that one day, Herb and a Brother had taken their Donkey to Lynmouth to collect some coal.

With it,s heavy burden the poor animal began it,s ascent of the steep and arduous Lynmouth Hill, suffering a beating from the impatient Brothers, should it pause to rest. Eventually the trio came across a Priest, who felt a compassion for the Donkey, that the Brothers did not, and so the he said to them, why do you beat the poor creature so?, do ye not know that it was such a Beast as this, that carried the Holy Mary into Bethlehem ?.

Thus Herbert (being an Athiest) cared little for the Priest, and less still for the unwanted sermon, so scornfully he replied- well i hope twas a faster bugger then this one, or twould never of got there.




The reader will wonder at the harshness of the treatment that the Brothers bestowed upon the Donkey, but the men really knew no better, and indeed by most peoples standards today, they were capable of much cruelty, however we must keep in mind that they had been raised in a poor farming community, where animals were simply considered as a means of food or beasts to be worked, there was little room for sentiment nor compassion.

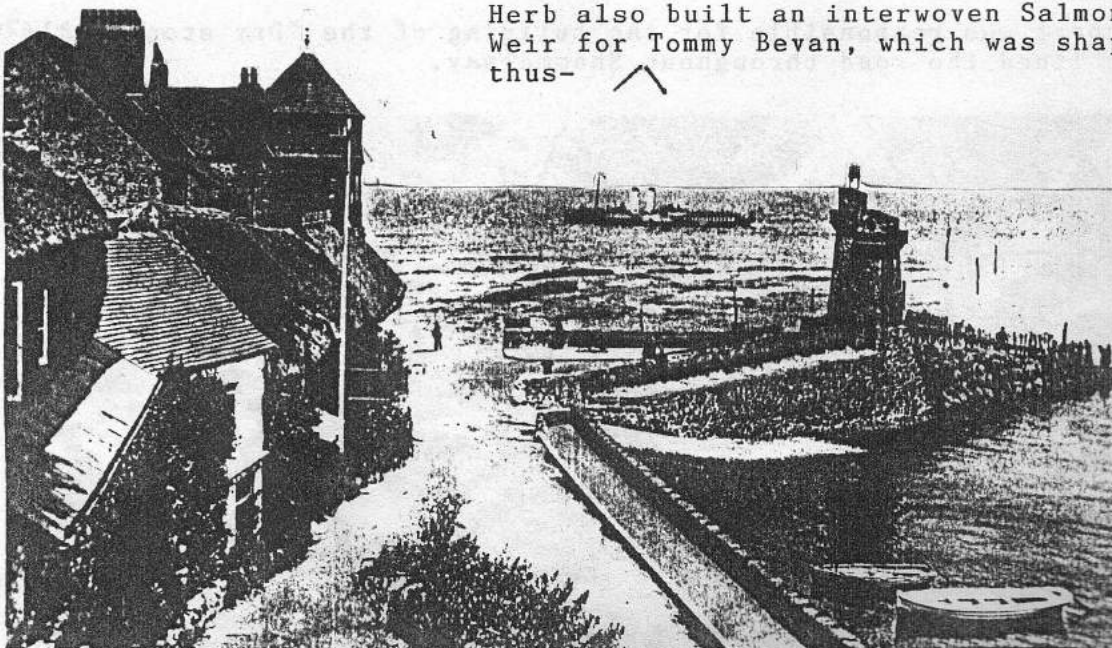
Lynmouth Harbour Wall.

After the Lynmouth Flood Disaster in 1952, Herb was employed to help rebuild the Harbour Wall, which had been swept away, that terrible night.

The work involved filling teachests with cement, these were then used as the fabric for the Harbour Walls.

Henry Glover was among the men working with Herb, and recalls how one day he took the opportunity to play a "prank" on the unsuspecting Herbert, by filling Herbs lunchtin with "Mullet", these of course were smelling quite badly by the time Herb came to open his tin, and not appreciating Henrys sense of humour- loudly roared- Wait till i catch the Bugger who did this! which must of left his workmates in fear for the fate of Henry, should he reveal that he was the one responsible for the misdemeanour.

Herb also built an interwoven Salmon Weir for Tommy Bevan, which was shaped thus- 



It is believed that Herb began his career with the National Trust, soon after the end of the Second World War. He was employed as an Estate Labourer, and his range of many duties included, building footpaths, bridges, stiles, fencing and collection boxes.

He was also employed as an Assistant Water Baliff for the fishery in the River Lyn.

He would haul the wood he required, all the way down the road through the Valley, from Combe Park, to Watersmeet Carpark, here he would winch the huge logs, down the steep embankments, to the Valley below, and there he stripped the wood of the long strips of bark he needed, to support the paths and steps, all held in place by the wooden pegs he made.

Visitors, to the Valley, often asked the proprietor of the Watersmeet Cafe, Mr Nercome, were the paths and steps safe to use?, with which, Mr Nercome would reply, if Mr Antell built them, then they were safe, beyond any doubt'.

In 1952, Herb did a great deal of work restoring the damage caused by the Lynmouth Flood Disaster, throughout the Watersmeet Valley.

As we know, Herb held a licence to use explosives, and this along with his great expertise, enabled him to be able to blow up the huge massive boulders, that had been brought down with the flood, and were causing problems with the flow of the river. Herb was highly respected and well thought of, indeed he so impressed a Mr Geoff Buckley, (a prominent member of the National Trust), that Mr Buckley, left a bequeath in his will, that Herb should continue to be paid a weekly wage, after his retirement until the time of his demise.

Despite this, Herb continued with his work, right up to the age of seventyfive, amazing all those around him with his outstanding strength and fortitude.

Despite being held in high esteem, Herbs workmates were careful not to fall victim of Herbs unpredictable and fiery temper, and one incident recalled, was when a log toppled from it,s pile and landed on top of Herbs foot,

Herb began swearing and screaming that he was going to kill the petrified Jimmy Moor, who was working with Herb at the time. Fearing for his own safety, Jimmy leapt on his motor bike, and roared off home, leaving Herb stranded there.

Another tale, is when a Mr Beven, made a sickle, the first of which to be made with a "crank", thus making the tool easier to hold.

Mr Beven was proud of his "invention", and wrapped it carefully with paper and string, and took it along to the workmans hut, at Watersmeet, hoping to gain Herbs approval. Proudly he handed the tool to Herb, who looked at it, in disdain, then declared it "nowt but a bit of bloody old tin", and in disgust threw it in the river.

It was a very deflated and unhappy, Mr Beven who returned home that day.



Herb at Summerhouse Cleaves.

This was the device my Grandfather used with which to foretell the weather conditions, it was simply a tall glass jar with a long necked bottle turned upside down, and placed inside the jar, which was half filled with blue coloured water, and on fine days the liquid would rise up the stem of the upturned bottle, and for bad weather the liquid would remain at the bottom of the jar.

A simple construction, but it did (and still does) forecast the weather quite accurately.

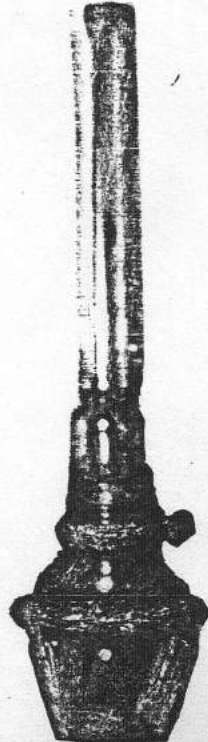
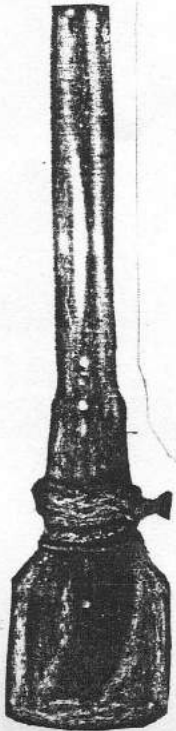


GOOD



BAD

two of
Granddads
oil
lamps



Due to the injury Herb sustained from his accident with the Gellignite, he was declared unfit for National Service during the First World War, nonetheless, he did become a member of the "Home Guards".

Certain members of the team however, did not take this responsibility too seriously, since ammunition was of a very short and limited supply.

Herb along with Tom Ridd, Brian Rawle, Dick Squires to name but a few, had to set out in groups of threes and walk to Saddle Gate some miles from Lynton, to arrive there by 12pm, and then to return home at 6am, and this they did from June until the Autumn.

Once again there were certain members of the group, who wished to make these excursions more of a "social" event, and so requested that the men should meet at the Crown Public House and then leave together from there.

However this request was rejected, since quite apart from the obvious reasons, they would of also endangered their own lives by becoming a more conspicuous target, and so the men were ordered to leave for duty alone from their own homes.

Herbert and the "Blackout Regulations".

A newspaper article in the N, Devon Journal Herald, dated June 4th 1942, stated that (amongst others) Herbert Antell of Victoria House Lynton, was fined 10s (50p) for offences against the Blackout regulations.

Blackout Regulations, as most of us will know, were introduced during the War years, they meant that all windows were completely covered up so that no light at all would be showing.

Now of course many things were hard to come by during the War however they could be provided by the many Solders stationed in the area at that time.

Deals were struck' and Solders agreed to leave any of the goods required, under the cover of Herbs dustbin at night.

To do this, the Solders would have to find their way up the rough and unlit path at the side of Herbs house, where the dustbin was kept.

Therefore it was necessary that some light were left on, for the benifit os the Solders--well worth the risk of a paltry 10s fine'.

Herbert and the Tramp.

At least two or three times a year, a herculean built Tramp standing at least 6'6" tall, and armed with a Staff', visited the Cottage Inn at Lynbridge.

One day he walked through the door and looked around at Herb and his drinking companions, and offensively said to them-- You white livered, yellow belly B-----s'- instantaneously Herb leapt from his seat, and although he was quite a "well built" man himself, was much the smaller of the Tramp, and yet with just one well aimed blow, knocked the Tramp unconscious, and straight back out through the door that the Tramp had just entered. Needless to say that the Tramp never returned to the Cottage Inn ever again.

On one occasion, Herb could be seen and heard fighting with one of his Brothers, Percy, up Summerhouse Hill, and after their rage was finally spent, the pair had beaten each other so badly, that they both had to crawl home'.

With his temper ready to erupt at a moments notice, fights were commonplace, and when one of his frequent barroom brawls broke out, grown men would run for cover or stand trembling in the corners of the room, but just as quickly as his rage had

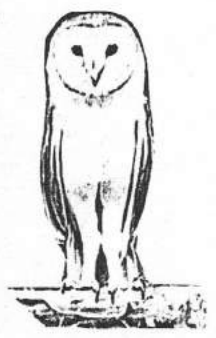
erupted, so it would just as quickly diminish, and peace would reign once more.

What a man is to one person, he may appear to be something quite different to another, and of course i had not had to live with the apprehension and terror that my Grandmother and her Children did when Grandad arrived home totally inebriated .

Sadly, during the time i have spent on my research, much of what i have been told might well of done a lot to dispel my own fond memories of my Grandfather and his Brothers, however it has never been my intention to discredit their name nor bring any embarrassment to the family, nonetheless those who have already read some of my work prior to it,s completion have commentated that much of the true characters of the men have been very much "glossed over", this may indeed be so, therefore the reader must put this down to some respect for family loyalty and that which i have not put down in print shall remain buried in the past forever'.

Speaking for myself, i truly thought that there was no man my Grandfathers equal- and i,m quite sure that those were his thoughts exactly'.

When Herbert Antell, lived at Lynbridge, Lynton, there was an owl, who used to annoy Herb, by sitting opposite the house, making a lot of noise. Unable to contain his temper any longer, one day, Herb threw a china cup, straight through the window, at the offending owl'. This so amused his Sister-in-law, Eva, that she wrote this little verse, and sent it to Herb'.



Compliments of the season.

We now must have a christening day, and rename our "Old Grumpy". For now i hear the kids all say, that Grumpys got quite 'chummy: The kids don,t even hear him growl, but i don,t know about the owl For if Grumpy, now did hear "Toowoo", another cup through the window , would go. Another event, we can,t ignore, he,s worked, one year, for one boss, begore'. So we know that he,s improving, and Cottage Inn,s ale, must be soothing. For he,s barman, boots and gardener, with no thoughts of being a wanderer. But sometimes now, he gets so weak, he spends a night upon a seat. Where his head gets heavier then his feet, and thats got Grumpy now quite beat. So if old Grumpy, now will take my tip, and grow some hair on his upper lip, his friends will find it worth their while to watch a change come over his dial'. And now "Old Grumpy", i,ll wish you "adiu", and wish a happy new year to you', And if,you,ll just give me the date, your one years toil, we,ll celebrate'.

On recieving this, Herb went out, and shot the unfortunate owl, put the body in an Easter egg box, (with it,s head protruding through the top) and sent it to Eva.



Eva Antell.

Percy Edwin Antell.

Percy was born on the 30th of January 1895, to John Antell and his second wife Emily (nee Stiling). Their address given at the time of Percys baptism on the 12th of October 1895, was simply "Lynbridge", Lynton. Percy was married to Eva (nee Lathem), and the couple had a son, Leslie Edwin, who was baptised on the 25th of May 1917, at which time the family gave their address as "Barton Town" Challacombe, N, Devon.

During the first world war, Percy fought for his country and was sent overseas to France, where he was unfortunate enough to have been badly wounded by having his right kneecap shattered by gunfire. Ironically it was a German soldier who came to his aid, and thus saved Percys life.

This injury however, resulted in one leg becoming shorter than the other, and so thereafter Percy was to walk with a slight limp.

This is all that is known of his career during the war, since like so many of the brave men who had survived the hostilities, very few wished to relive their suffering by talking of the horrors they had witnessed and endured.

Later Percy and his family lived at "Heddons gate" (nr Parracombe) in one of the two cottages there which belonged to two doctors who worked in London and who also owned a large house at "Heddons gate", which was used as their summer residence, and it was Percys job to tend the three large lawns and flowerbeds, while his wife Eva cared for the house, this arrangement lasted for nineteen years.

Another accident was to befall Percy, when one day he was chopping wood with which to light the fire with, when a piece of the splintered wood pierced his eye, unfortunately there was nothing that could be done to repair the injury, consequently the damaged eye was removed and replaced with a glass one.

The family moved again, this time to live in a bungalow at "Slattenslade", where during the summer months Percy was employed by the N,D,D council, and in the winter months he worked for farmers in the area, as a "rabbit cather".

They moved on again to another bungalow, this time in Martinhoe, and lived there for some years, until tragically Percys wife, Eva, was admitted to Lynton cottage hospital, and died there from a heart problem at the age of just 45 on the 23rd of January 1941.

Percy left Martinhoe to live in a flat which was attached to stables at Hunters Inn (again near Parracombe) and there he kept his faithful old horse, Bever.

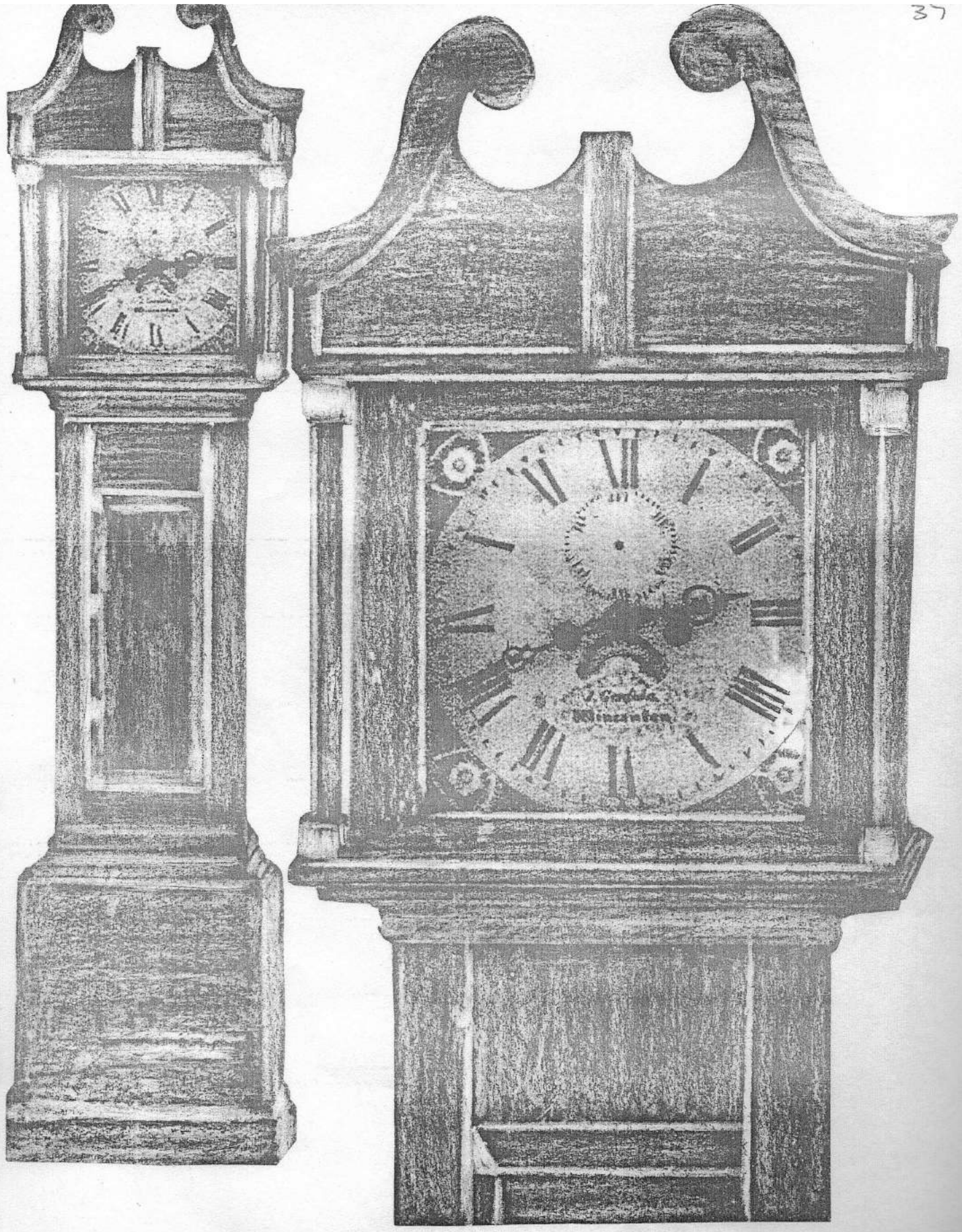
Later Percy bought and moved into the "Mill house" at Lynbridge Lynton, where he became the river baliff.

Later he worked again for Lynton council as a car park attendant during some of the summer months.

Percy died of leukaemia in the Lynton cottage hospital on the 7th of October 1971, aged 76.

Perry Antell seen here with Grandson Tony and Bessie The Horse





Made in Wincanton, this "majestic" old grandfather clock was bought here by our ancestors some time during the last century Happily it has remained within the family, and still stands proudly in the hallway of an "Antell" descendant today'.

Abel, (known as Abe). was baptised on the 10th of October 1897. He was the youngest son of John Antells, second marriage to Emily (nee Stiling).

Abe was born and raised at "Whin Cottage" Furzehill. During the First World War, Abe joined the Royal Navy, and after the War was over, he was awarded with a Silver Pocket Watch, which was inscribed, with his name on the back, in recognition of his services during the War.

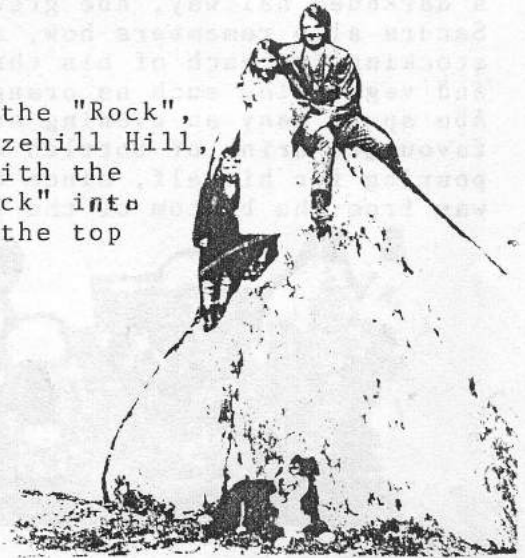
On the 14th of February 1925, and aged 28, Abe was married to a local girl, 26 year old Gertrude Ridd, at Barnstaple registry Office.

The couple had a son that same year, William Albert John, who was to be known as "Billy".

At that time the family were living at no12 Barbrook road, and Abe was described as a "Labourer".

Another son, Edwin, was born in 192 .

Abe, Gert and Billy, pictured here on the "Rock", This Rock was situated some way up Furzehill Hill, and was a great favourite play area, with the local children, who would turn the "Rock" into a slide", by pouring water, down from the top of it.



Billy.



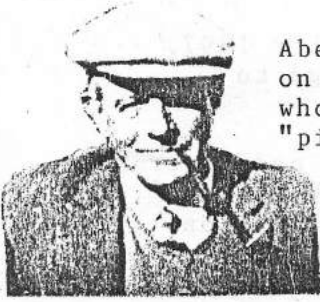
Billy.

During what was to be a very short lifespan for Billy, very few Motor Cars passed through the villages of Barbrook, but when one actually did, Billy can be remembered to say-
look, yur's another Bugger'.

Billy was a much liked and very popular little boy, but became ill and was taken to a Hospital in Bideford, where frightened and alone, he was placed in an isolation ward, since the Doctors suspected him to be suffering with infectious meningitis, sadly, for his Mother and relations who were unable to hold him nor give him any comfort at this unhappy time, able only to gaze at Billy through the glass in the door. Tragically Billy died there, after just a few days, on the 13th of January 1938, aged just twelve years old.

How sad then, that after his death, it was discovered that Billy's illness had not been of an infectious nature after all.

Abel Antell



Abe was perhaps the most widely known Antell who lived on Exmoor, and was described as a "Yangle" character, who though quiet enough when sober, would be ready to "pick a fight with a stone" when "in his cups", and then more often than not, he would create an argument or fight with the men he was drinking with, and this done, would then quietly leave the scene he had invoked.

Abe would "Dray Peat", (carry Turf) for the Shepherds living on the Moors, before becoming a Shepherd himself at Oar Oak in 1938, and later moving to Black Pits in 1958.

Fifteen years later in 1963, Abe moved again, to yet another lonely and isolated cottage at Fellingscott near Brendon, here his Granddaughter Sandra recalls how in a curtained recess in a darkened hallway, Abe grew his own tobacco.

Sandra also remembers how, at Christmas time Abe would fill a stocking for each of his three Grandchildren, containing fruit and vegetables such as oranges and swedes.

Abe spent many an evening at his "Local" imbibing in his favourite drink of bottled Guinness, which he insisted on pouring for himself, since he would not drink the Guinness that was from the bottom of the bottle.



The journey home after leaving the pub, would be no problem for Abe, for he had trained his Pony so well, that no instructions from the inebriated master were needed.

Indeed the Pony was even able to unhitch the gates that stood in his way, he could not, however, manage to close them behind him, and the next morning, on finding all their gates undone, Exmoor farmers, knew without doubt, that Abe Antell had surely been out across the Moors that night.

Extract from the book
Exmoor Wanderings
Eric Delderfield (1956)

Another Shepherd whose main charges were the Scotch Black Face Sheep, over the Chains by Lanacombe, was Abe *Hantell—he still thinks nothing of setting off for a walk over Brendon way, which takes him the best part of two hours, after an evening spent at Simonsbath.

*Note misspelling of surname.



Abe con-

It is remembered that Abe once owned a Silver Snuff Box, which was inscribed with the name of "Jac" or "Jacob", and this was believed to of been a Brother of Abes, however i have been unable to find any evidence to substantiate that there ever was any Brother so named, although there was an Uncle Jacob, who lived in Challacombe.

The Snuff Box has, unfortunately, long since been lost, or more likely, been sold outside the Family, as had Abes Silver Pocket Watch.

During his latter years, Abe became ill with a chronic heart condition, leaving him unable to negotiate any stairs, but despite this, was adamant in his refusal to have his bed bought downstairs for him, instead he insisted that a good friend and neighbour hauled him up and down the stairs, while still sat and tied in his chair, first thing in the morning and last thing at night.

Abe died at Fellingscott, in March 1980, and was interred at Brendon Church, amidst the Moors and Countryside he had lived all his life.



Gertrude Antell.

Gertrude Florence Antell, (nee Ridd) was born at "Dogsworthy", Countisbury, in the year of 1899.

Gert was one of seven surviving children having two Sisters and four Brothers. She was aged just fourteen when her Mother died, after giving birth to her 13th child, on the 13th day of the month, in the year 1913.

Gerts Father, Thomas Ridd, worked for as a Farm labourer for a Mr Haliday at Ashton Farm.

Thomas died in 1918.

Gert was living at Dean Cottage, above Barbroom, at the time of her marriage to Abe in 1925.

Gert or Gerty, as she was popularly known, is still remembered today, with much admiration. Working as hard as any man, baling up the sheep fleeces, at shearing time, as well as having the workers meals to attend to.

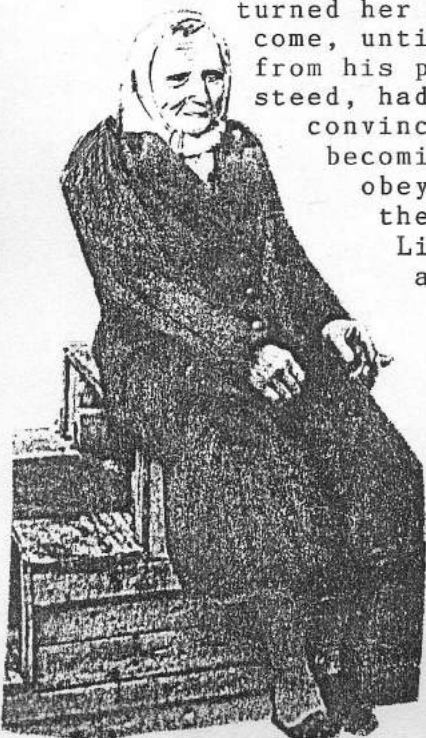
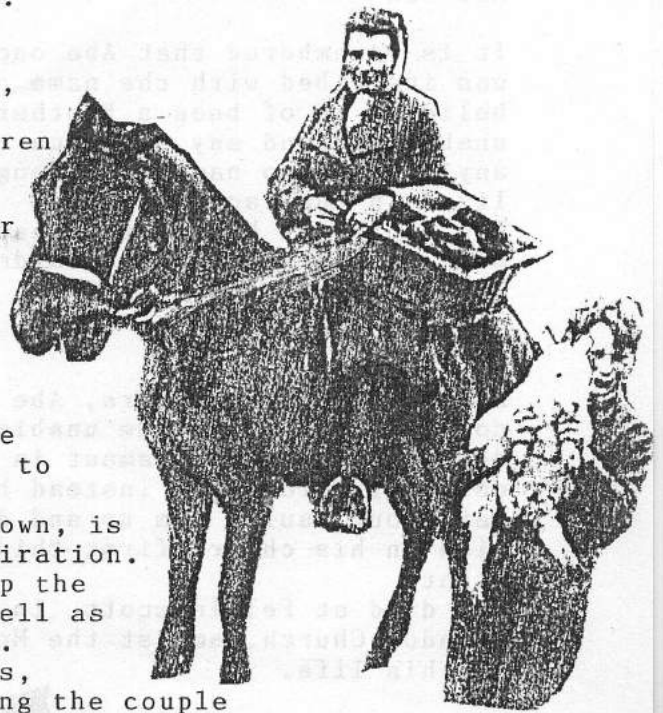
A friend of Abe and Gerts, Stan Curtis, remembers, one time when he was helping the couple at "Lambing time", and Abe was confined to his bed with an attack of gout, Gert, as was her custom, had seen to it that the workers had all been well fed with a huge and sustaining fried breakfast, very early in the morning.

Later that same morning, Stan returned to the farmhouse kitchen where to his dismay, found Gert had collapsed, and was lying prostrate on the floor, Stan panicked, since he knew that Gert suffered from a "heart condition", so he rushed to fetch his girlfriend Millie, they then had Dr Mold drive all the way from Lynton to the Farm at Black Pitts, to attend to Gert, however when the concerned trio arrived at the Farm they were all astounded to find Gert, fully recovered, and in the yard chopping wood.

There are many tales passed down through the family, of Abes and Gerts adventures after spending the evening at the "Local" and one of the favourite story, is of the night, when the couple were riding home late one night, and Gert became alarmed that Abe was not riding alongside of her, as he should of been, so she turned her pony, and rode back along the way that they had come, until eventually she discovered that Abe had fallen from his pony, however instead of remounting his trusty steed, had climbed instead upon a fallen log, quite convinced he was happily astride his pony, but becoming very agitated that the "Pony" would not obey his masters instructions and continue with the journey homewards.

Living all her married life with Abe, in remote and isolated Shepherds Cottages on Exmoor, Gert thought little or nothing of walking or riding her pony, great distances across the desolate Moors to the nearest village for her shopping or visiting.

Gertrude died in 1988, and was interred at Brendon Church, as was her Husband before her.



Grandmother, Edith Minnie Antell.

Edith (nee Crick), and more fondly known as "Min" by her many friends, was born on the 25th of november 1889, when her family were living at "North Furzehill" farm, (above Barbrook) nr Lynton.

At Barnstaple registry office on the 4th of april 1914 she was married to Herbert Antell. At that time she gave her address as "Orchard Place", Lynton, While Herbert (Grandad) gave his address as "Furzehill", and was employed as a farm labourer, so evidently he was still living with his parents at that time.

Gran, however did not enter any employment for herself on her marriage certificate.

Nonetheless we do know that Gran worked hard all her life, mainly as a "domestic help" for Mrs Medway, the local butchers wife, and one arduous task that befell on Gran, was to scrub the steep concrete steps that led all the way from the house to the shop below, and to ensure that no dirt was left in the many cracks in the concrete, Gran had to scrub them with a "toothbrush".

Gran was rarely found without her "senior service" cigarettes (i remember the day when i tricked my Gran into coming to the front door, so that my sister Judy and i could take the photo of her in the doorway- Gran was not pleased as she was still wearing her apron'.

But Gran is fondly remembered for the warm welcome she extended to all who had the pleasure of calling on her, indeed, even now, some 33 years after her demise, i,ve been told that there has never been anyone able to cook like my Gran had.

Although i was just ten years old when Gran died, i know that i will not be alone when i say that she was everything and more that a "Gran" could ever be, and i,m so very glad that she had been ours'.

Gran died from a heart attack, at her home on the 19th of february 1961.

FUNERAL OF MR. WILLIAM CRICK, AT LYNTON

(A Brother of Gran's)

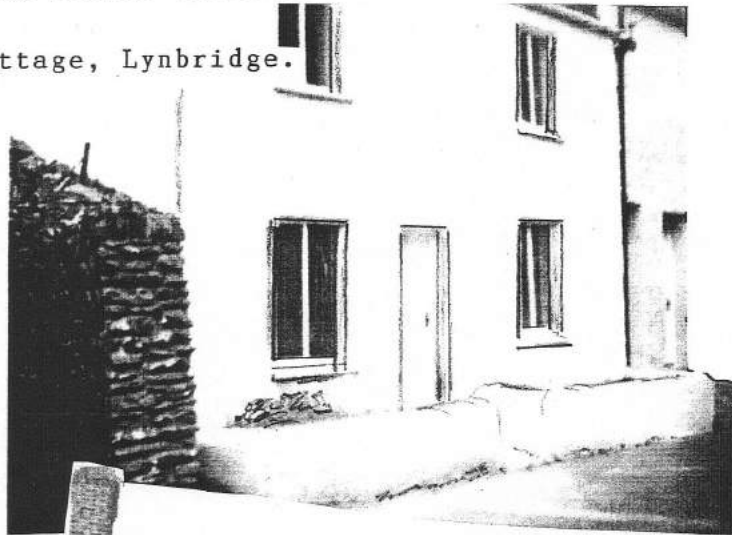
The funeral of Mrs. Edith Minnie Antell, who died at Victoria House, Lynton, aged 71, took place at St. Mary's Church. The service was conducted by the Rev. E. H. Souttar. Principal mourners were: Messrs. James B. Smith, P. Mercer, V. Richards, and R. Hughes, daughters; Mr. C. Antell, son; Mr. B. Crick, brother; Mr. M. Payne, nephew (representing Mrs. B. Payne, sister); Mrs. E. Slade, niece; Mr. and Mrs. A. Antell, brother-in-law and sister-in-law; Mr. P. Antell, brother-in-law; Mr. and Mrs. E. Antell, nephew and niece; Mrs. F. Curtis and Mr. and Mrs. W. Hobbs, cousins; Mrs. C. Antell, daughter-in-law; Mr. A. Hughes and Mr. R. Richards, sons-in-law; Mr. and Mrs. H. Medway, Mrs. M. Richards, and Mr. B. Hobbs. The husband, Mr. Herbert Antell, was unable to attend. ND34 MAR 2 1961

The funeral of Mr. William Crick took place at Lynton on Thursday when the ceremony was preceded by a service in the Parish Church. The Rev. A. G. Weston officiated and Mr. C. Vellacott was at the organ. Hymns sung were "O God our help in ages past" and "Abide with me." Interment was made in the New Cemetery. Mr. Crick was a member of the British Legion and the coffin was draped with the Union Jack. Deceased was aged 60 and served in the 1914-1918 war with the Royal Artillery. Whilst in German East Africa he contracted black-water fever, which had since severely impaired his health. Deceased was a Lyntonian by birth and was a son of the late Mr. W. Crick, farm bailiff to the late Mr. Tom Baker, of the Royal Castle Hotel. Mr. Crick was a member of the Lorna Doone Lodge (R.A.O.B.). Many old inhabitants were present at the funeral. The family mourners were the widow; Mr. Bert Crick, brother; Mrs. Huish, Miss A. Crick and Mrs. Herbert Antell, sisters; Mr. Huish (Bristol), Mr. H. Antell (Lynton), Mr. W. Essery (Combe Martin), Messrs. T. and C. Essery (Lynton), brothers-in-law; Mrs. Avery (Barnstaple), and Mrs. T. Essery, sisters-in-law; Mr. and Mrs. J. Jones and Mr. Frank Jones, and Mr. R. T. Reeves, cousins. Flowers were: From his devoted wife; Jack, Annie and family (Bristol); Fred and Rose (Barnstaple); Nance, Mollie, Bee and family (Bristol); Charlie, Annie and family; Brother Bert, Alice, Minnie and family; Will, Lizzie and Alma; Fanny, Tom and family; Jack and Mary; Lynton Hospital Staff; Mrs. S. Bale and Mrs. G. Sharo; Mr. and Mrs. W. Sharo and family; Mrs. Goode and Misses Hodges; Mr. and Mrs. W. Hobbs and family; and from Mr. and Mrs. C. Durman and family. Mr. Witney Jones carried out the

41

This was the house where my Grandparents began their married life, and raised their son and four daughters.

Rose Cottage, Lynbridge.



Victoria House, Lynton.



This was the house into which the family later moved into. There were four rooms on each floor, all of which Gran kept immaculately clean. Typical of its era, the floors in the hall, kitchen and scullery were made from "flagstones". There was a huge "black bodley" (stove) in the kitchen. In the scullery (with its hazardously uneven floor), there was a shallow sink with cold running water, and adjoining this room was a toilet with a "wall to wall" wooden seat. Electricity must of been installed some time during the "fifties", since i can remember as a small child, going up to bed by "candlelight", and i can also remember the enormous moths that would be lured into the room by the light'.

Perhaps not surprisingly "Victoria House" was known to be "Haunted", although we may never know if the "Ghost" was ever actually seen', we do know that when one was in the kitchen heavy footsteps could quite clearly be heard walking along the flagstoned passageway that led to the back door.

After my Grandfathers death in 1970, his daughter Phyllis remained in the house until her own demise in 1978, after which the house was subsequently put up for sale at the price of £12,500.

Grandmother 1907



1907



This picture of my Grandmother, Edith, (known as Min), was taken when she was in hospital, suffering from severe anemia. The "cure" for this complaint, in those days, was to be given "raw liver" sandwiches to eat, and if that was,nt bad enough she would also be bought a cup full of "liver blood" to drink, this however, she would empty into the nearby "flourishing" aspidistra plant'.

One of my Grandmothers, own remedy for a "cold", consisted of honey and cinnamon, mixed with boiling milk.

Another was a mixture of hot beer, and a little ginger.

I can clearly remember her giving me a cup full of some brown liquid (i thought it was vinegar) she then took the red hot poker from the fire, and immersed it in the "drink", (complete with burnt ash), i can remember the steam arising from the cup and all the little black bits floating about the drink,- here my memory fails me, (perhaps it was whiskey, and not vinegar).

Once a year, there would be a Christmas Party, at the Town Hall, in Lynton, for the local Children, and in order to make me look my "best", Gran would attempt to curl my hair for me.

This she did, by heating metal curling tongs, on the Black Bodley (stove), then she would have to check that they were not to hot, by testing them on newspaper, and all this would have to be done for each and every coveted curl.

I remember eating as much of Grans superb Christmas puddings, as i possibly could, the added attraction being the vast amounts of sixpenny (2½p) and threepenny (1½p) pieces that were contained therein.

Sugar lumps, and even sugar "sandwiches" were a great favourite of Grans, to give children.

Gran seen here with her son Cyril and daughter Rita

c.1927 44



Gran

43
c. 1958



Census for Challacombe 1871-

Challacombe Town, Barton Gate Hamlett-

name.	status	age	occ	born
William Jones		13	serv	Chall
Richard "	head	45	ag lab	Chall
Elizabeth "	wife	50		"
John "	Father	84	ret farmer	Lynton.
John "	son	13		Chall
Eliza "	daug	7		"

Baptisms for Challacombe-

date	name	occ	parents
25/10/186	Eliza Grace	lab	Richard & Elizabeth
1/10/185	Sarah Anne	Barton Gate lab	" "
28/3/1858	John	" "	" "
9/9/1859	William	" "	" "

Lynton Banns-

date	residing	name
10/3/1873	Lynton Challacombe	William Crick Sarah Anne Jones

Census for Lynton 1891-

name	status	age	occ	born
William Crick	head	39	herdsman	Culbone (Somerset)
Sarah Anne	wife	36		Challacombe
John	son	14		Lynton
Mary	daug	12		"
William	son	10		"
Bessie	daug	8		"
Alice	daug	4		"
Edith	daug	1		"

This indicates briefly some of Grans family-

John Jones = Joanna?

||

Richard Jones=Elizabeth

||

Sarah Anne Jones= William Crick

||

Edith Minnie Crick=Herbert Antell.

Beatrice was born on the 21st of July 1914, she was the first daughter born to Herbert Antell and his wife Edith. The family were living at "Rose cottage", Lynbridge, Lynton. Not so very many years ago, one had to of been born where you lived, to actually "belong there", and this was the situation between Lynton and Lynmouth, for despite the villages being just a mile apart, you were either "one of them", or "one of us", and so it was that Beatrice was eleven years old before her mother took her down the hill for the very first time to visit Lynmouth to watch the festivities of "gala day" on the august bank holiday.

Once a week, Mr Mills the baker from Lynmouth, would call at Lynbridge with his horsedrawn cart, and with great excitement Beatrice with her brother and sisters were allowed to choose for themselves a "sticky bun" from the cart. Aged just twelve, she began work as a "domestic help", preparing meals before attending school in the mornings and again during her school lunch break. After leaving school at the age of 14, Beatrice went "into service" for Mrs Medway in Lynton. Her day began when she was woken by a bell that rang in her room at 5.45am, and her first task of the day was to take an already prepared tray of tea to all the other occupants in the house, after this was done she would prepare the breakfasts for at least ten other people. Her own breakfast was taken at a little table in the corner of the room, with her face turned towards the wall.

Every Monday, Gertie Antell (an aunt of Beatrices) came to wash the weeks laundry for Mrs Medway, and after this was done, young Beatrice, dressed in her hated brown serge dress, had to carry the heavy load of wet laundry, up to a field (where Keals croft is now) and there hang it all out to dry. The ironing was also left to her, and this was done by using a "flat iron" that had been heated on the range, but "woe betide" should the results not be up to Mrs Medways satisfaction, or she would crease it all up and throw the whole lot on the floor, making Beatrice iron it all over again'.

Should by chance she had completed all her chores by 8.30pm, her employer would find her a pile of darning to do, since she was not allowed to go to her bed until 10pm. Not surprisingly Beatrice was very unhappy there, and left after just 11 months, much to her mothers dismay, for she feared that her daughter may not be able to find other employment in Lynton however she did, and became a "house and parlour" maid.

Later at the age of just 17, she moved away to Bristol, where she once again became a "housemaid" until eventually she took employment caring for an invalid. Later Beatrice moved to Windsor, and there became a "nanny" to a newborn infant.

It was there in Windsor that Beatrice met her husband to be, Lionel Smith, and it was during the Queens coronation week in 1937 that the couple were married. Lionels work meant that the his family were to move homes many times, before returning to Devon in 1961.

10/4/97
North Devon Journal



Veteran of Dunkirk dies at 83

DUNKIRK veteran Lionel Smith has died aged 83, two months before celebrating his diamond wedding.

Mr Smith, a retired police constable at Windsor and around Windsor Castle, lived at Causeway House, Northam Road, Bideford.

His was one of the first boats to land at Normandy but he was rendered deaf when both his ear drums were severely damaged.

Mr Smith was a life member of the Grenadier Guards, a member of the Royal British Legion, gave 50 pints of blood and was a traffic warden in Bideford and Barnstaple for 10 years.

He and his wife Betty met at the funeral of King George V and were married the following year. They moved to Lynton in 1961 and to Bideford in 1968.

Mrs Smith has just received a letter of condolence from Buckingham Palace. As well as a widow Mr Smith leaves a son and two daughters, 11 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.



Beatrice

Cyril was the only son born to Edith and Herb Antell. He was born on the 14th of January 1916, when the family were living at "Rose cottage", Lynbridge, nr Lynton. At the time of the infant's birth, his Grandfather John Antell said to the parents that the boy should have been named John, since he was the only son that they would ever have, and indeed his prediction proved to be correct.

As a young lad of fourteen, Cyril became a "telegraph boy" for the G.P.O., and made all his deliveries "on foot" for just ten shillings (50p) a week.

When the 2nd World War was declared, he was called upon to fight for his country on the 1st of September 1939.

He became a member of the "Kings Own Regiment", and departed for France on the 25th of April 1940.

At Dunkirk, Cyril had to crawl on his stomach past a field where the Germans were, and when he eventually reached a place of safety, his feet were so badly swollen from all the marching that he had endured, that his boots had to be cut free from his feet.

He was the last soldier to return home to Lynton and all the congregation in the Church were praying for him, until June 1940, when Cyril arrived safely home at last.

Later he returned to his unit, leaving Lincos in March 1943.

On the 3rd of November 1945, Cyril was married to a "Liverpool lass", Jane Blundell (more fondly known as "Dolly") and on the 23rd of August 1946 the couple had a son, William John.

Cyril returned to work as a postman for the G.P.O., and later became a "river baliff".

He passed away at his home in 1972.



Cyril helping to clear the damage caused by the Lynmouth flood disaster in 1952.

Vera May Antell.

Vera was born on the 30th of August 1923 and was the third daughter of Edith and Herbert Antell, living at Rose Cottage Lynbridge Lynton.

Known more fondly as Dodie with her quick repartee and "dry" sense of humour she was ever ready to lend a hand to anyone in need, but like all the family was not prepared to "suffer fools gladly".

With her sister Phyllis, Vera worked on an assembly line in an aircraft munitions factory at Brockworth near Gloster, during the 2nd World War.

When the War came to an end Vera returned to Lynton taking seasonal work in the Hotels there.

Some time in the late fifties Vera met and was married to Raymond Richards, the couple had no children of their own, and so Vera remained the wonderful Auntie that she had been.

Aged just 50, Vera fell victim to cancer, and died on Friday the 13th of April, in the Lynton Cottage Hospital.

Following her cremation in Barnstaple, her ashes were laid to rest in the family grave in the cemetery at Lynton.



Phyllis Patricia Antell



Phyllis & Vera

Phyllis was born on the 17th OF March 1919, and was the third child of Edith and Herbert Antell living at Rose Cottage Lynbridge Lynton. After leaving Schoo1, Phyllis went into service as a childrens nanny.

Later with the arrival of the War, she joined her Sisters in the munitions factory at Brockworth.

In the year 1947 Phyllis was married to a long distance lorry driver, Richard (Dick) Mercer.

The ceremony was held at Chippenham Registry office, the couple had kept their intentions a secret between them, despite the fact that Phyllis was living with her Sister Beatrice, in Windsor at the time.

Phyllis returned to Lynton with her Daughter to live with her parents in Victoria House. Phyllis was to live there for the rest of her life, and to care for her Father after her Mothers death in 1961.

Phyllis took employment as a "Putting green" attendant in Lynmouth during the summer months, where her nieces and nephews enjoyed many "free" games on the green.

She also worked for the owner of a Grocers shop in Lynmouth, and this employer thought so much of Phyllis that he left her a substantial amount of money after his demise.

Unfortunately, like her Brother and Sister before her, Phyllis also fell a victim to cancer, and died in her home on the 29th of July 1978.



Phyllis



Phyllis Patricia Antell,

Vera May Antell.

c-1929.

Rita was born on the 11th of february 1927, the youngest daughter of Edith and Herb Antell.

The family were living at "Rose cottage", Lynbridge, nr Lynton. Pampered at home as the "baby" of the house, Rita often found herself in trouble for mischief at school, and was sometimes punished for her misbehaviour, though she would not dare to confess to this at home, since her devoted Father would without any doubt of given the childs teacher more then a "taste of her own punishment" for daring to lay a finger on his precious daughter.

Rita left school at the age of fourteen, and her Father was able and more then willing to start her in a fruit and veg business of her own, the rebellious daughter however, wanted nothing more then to join her friends working in the village laundry, and subsequently this is exactly what she did do.

Rita was content with this for a while, until she decided she would like to join the "land army girls" but found to her dismay, that only girls aged seventeen years or more would be accepted, however this did not deter her, and so proceeded to alter the relevant dates on her birth certificate, but unfortunately in her enthusiasm, she made the whole document completely undecipherable, whereupon the certificate had to be destroyed.

At the age of sixteen, Rite went to Brockworth, to work with two of her sisters, Vera and Phyllis, in an aircraft assembly factory. However, little of Ritas efforts were of any use to anyone let alone the air force, and it was mostly returned as "scrap metal".

At the age of eighteen, in september 1945, Rita married my Father, at Windsor registry office.

Following in her Mothers footsteps, she became an excellent cook, and fed her family well, i particularly remember the delicious whortleberry pies'.

Rita returned to work with her friends in the laundry.

After a long suffering with cancer, Mother passed away at her home in Stone, Gloucestershire on the 17th of January 1998.



While it had not been my intention to include what we know of our families partners, (or where would it end?) This is about the most important of them all to me, for this is about my father, the late Albert Winston Hughes

Dad was born at Aley Green, Caddington, Beds, on the 23rd of november 1916.

His father was Cecil (known as George) and his mother was Ada (nee Hinks).

Dad told me of how his mother was one day cleaning the windows while standing on a chair but tripped in her long skirt and fell injuring her elbow, which dad believed resulted in her developing tuberculosis, of which she subsequently died from at Margate sanatorium.

His father remarried, but sadly she too was to pass away from the same dreadful disease.

But back to dad, who told me of how when he was aged just nine years old, he had a paper round as well as having to help with the housework, and being one of nine children there was a lot of work to do, however this meant that he was more often then not very late for school, for which he would be caned for when he did eventually arrive, and then would receive more punishment at home for being in trouble at school!

However dad's ingenuity was not affected by his frequent absenteeism for he was an intelligent and clever man who could hold a conversation on any given subject.

Dad left school at 14 and began work in his fathers business, that of plumbers, decorators and general estate repairs, though this arrangement did not work out too well, as so often is the case when one is employed by one's own family.

A keen interest in motorbikes, he was a member of the Royal Automobile club of London.

He was made an honorary member of the Luton athletic and social club, where he won many prizes for "walking races".

Dad married my mother* and moved to Lynton to live with her parents in Victoria house.

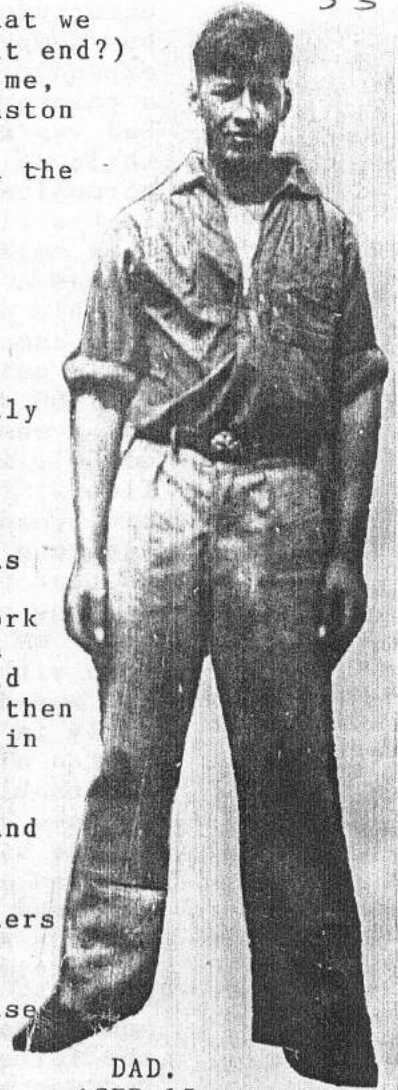
They then moved into a tiny cottage and from there moved into a council bungalow at Barbrook, which happily they had just left before the terrible flood disaster of Barbrook and Lynmouth in 1952.

Dad returned to Luton to work in the Vauxhall motors for a while and i can clearly remember how on his return home, he had spent the money he was supposed to of saved on a television' which got him into a lot of trouble with my mother'.

They were now living in a council house at Normans Cleave, which was almost at the top of Sinai Hill, high above Lynton, it was a long and arduous climb to reach it, but the superb panoramic views to beheld from the Cleave were second to none, though one did not quite appreciate them after a long day at work and the trek up the hill.

I can remember many outings in his "sidecar" and motorbike, which alas became a frequent "bone of contention" between my parents when dad was caught carrying out repairs on the kitchen table. As the family grew the bike was replaced by a "threewheeler" van, and there were many happy outings up onto the moors.

In 1958 dad became a bus conductor, which was a job he loved meeting so many people and seeing so much of the countryside, and sometimes we children would be able to go along on trips with him, i remember how proud i was that this man, looking so resplendent in his uniform and so courteous and helpful to the passengers, was my dad.



DAD.
AGED 15.

Unfortunately this work came to end when the southern national bus company decided that a bus conductor was no longer a viable expenditure, and so dad returned to his former trade, that of a painter and decorator for a local firm in Lynton.

Dad was a member of the Lynton town band and played the "tuba", while at home he often amused we children with a tune on his harmonica, and this was a skill which he never lost as later in his life he would play alongside "local characters" when they held "singsongs" entertaining visitors in one of the pubs. He was a member of the St Johns ambulance brigade and passed all his exams, gaining many medals and certificates, until the time came when he found that he had outgrown his uniform and could not afford to replace it.

In 1960 dad bought the two cottages just below the council house and i must add that i have since seen a photo of these taken c1860', indeed they still had spring wells under the kitchen floors, (which dad had to drain and fill in), there were also old bread ovens built into the walls, however dad worked alone and long into the nights until he had reconstructed the cottages so that they had become as one, and then moved his family into the now modernised cottage.

Later my mother developed a heart problem and was unable to cope with the long drag up the hill, and so they left there and moved into a large house in Lynton.

Sadly in 1976 my parents were divorced, and as dad grew older he too also developed a heart problem along with diabetes, he was unable then to cope with such a large house alone so had to move yet again, this time into a small bungalow in the centre of the village.

Dad was a tall well built man who walked in long strides his head and shoulders held high, with a friendly greeting for friends and strangers alike.

He rarely ever spoke any ill of anyone, preferring instead to dwell on the better side of a person, even if it was a struggle sometimes to find one', and of course if you were a member of the fairer sex then you were rated on your culinary skills.

Dad was a peace loving man, who hated any form of violence and stood firmly by his beliefs even if it meant he stood alone and here i must quote his brother, my uncle Peter, who said to me- sometimes it is the braver man who stands against the crowd, then one who goes along with it'.

In a small community like Lynton, one was always aware that unless you had actually been born there, then you were never quite "one of them", but dad never let this bother him and made many friends, in fact after dad died many people said to me what a great character he had been.


One thing i,m sure he will always be remembered for is his notorious home brew, but for those who had not had the misfortune to partake of such, let me explain- being a man "cautious with his means" dad would save on the expense of a pint in the pub (nats ****', he called it) and instead brewed his own beer at home, which he gladly offered to anyone who called, however this gesture was most usually declined, for "Alberts home brew" had quite a reputation, and dad was the only one brave enough to actually drink it, for it usually came complete with the hops he used floating about in it,s murky depths, just like grandad (Antells) potato wine that came complete with potato peel (added body) they claimed'.

Dad did not really take his diabetes quite as seriously as he should of done and was to suffer many related health problems in the last seven years of his life, though he rarely ever complained and bore his burdens bravely, for he had his two little terriers to care for, but the struggle to live eventually became too much and dad passed away on the 16th dec 1995, his ashes interred at Lynton cemetery in the "Valley of Rocks", where he had spent so many happy hours with his beloved pets'.

*see Rita Antell'.

LYNTON 'COACHING' DAY'S.

Most of us today have been told of the Beautiful Coach and Horses, that were the the transport of the day in the nineteenth century. However with the introduction of other means of transport, the days of the coaches with glistening bright colours, royal arms on the door panels, the Guards, resplendent in their smart uniforms, and the beautiful well trained Horses, were over. Few of us however gave little thought as to what happened to the Horses, when the Coach was no longer a viable expenditure. It is not a 'pleasant' story'. The popular character of the late Jim Sedgebeer had passed the necessary exam, which enabled him to leave School at the age of just twelve years old, and begin employment as an 'Errand Boy'. It was Autumn of 1919, a week before Jims 13th birthday, and Jim stood alone, eager to catch sight of his friends still at School. It was to be a day Jim was never to forget- With sadness filling his eyes Jim went on to tell me of how next to the School was a field (where Bottom Meadow is now) Jim went on,- i watched as they led the now redundant team of Horses into the field, i watched them attach 'Blinkers' to one of the Horses, and then they harnessed him with chains. That Horse was made to stand by sweating and shaking in terror as one by one each of his companions were Shot, one after the other, They were then harnessed to the Horse in chains, who had to drag the bodies over to the bank of the field , were they were unharnessed and pushed unceremoniously over the hedge and down the bank, until finally it was the turn of the poor wretched creature who had been forced to assist in this terrible deed. This then was the Horses reward for the years of toil, labour and devotion the Horses had given to his friend, the "Man".



BARNSTAPLE & LYNTON COACH

TIME TABLE.

JUNE, 1895, AND UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

JONES BROS., Coach Proprietors, LYNTON

POSTAL INFORMATION

Post Office, LYNTON.

Savings Bank, Insurance, Annuity and Telegraph.

Mr. Wm. Crooks, Postmaster.

Letters and delivery of parcels, 6.30 a.m. to 8.30 p.m. Letters should be posted in the post box at 6.30 a.m. and 4 p.m. and should be handed in before 7.30 a.m. and 3 p.m. Sunday delivery of letters at 9.30 a.m. Letter Box deposits at 11 p.m.

Letters, Stamp, Letters at 4.30 p.m.

Post Office, LYNNOURTH.

Savings Bank, Insurance, Annuity and Telegraph.

WEEK-DAY DELIVERY of Letters, & Telegrams from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

8.45 a.m. and 1.30 p.m.

8.45 a.m. and 1.30 p.m.

Letters sent should be posted not later than 7.30 a.m. 10.45 a.m. and 3.25 p.m. Parcel delivery to be handed in before 7.25 a.m. and 3.15 p.m.

SUNDAY DELIVERY of Letters and Telegrams at 9.30 a.m.

Letter Box closes at 4.30 p.m.

WESTWARD HO!

GUIDE, AND NORTH CORNWALL COACH SERVICE.

DOWN.

	a.m.	a.m.	p.m.
LYNTON Coach	dep. 8.0	11.15	5.0
WATERLOO	arr. 11.0	2.15	8.0
WATERLOO Train	dep. 11.10	3.30	8.40
Barnstaple	arr. 11.33	3.52	9.1
Barnstaple Coach	dep. 11.40	3.55	...
Clovelly	arr. 1.15	5.25	...
Clovelly	dep. ...	5.15	...
WATERLOO Coach	arr. ...	8.0	...

UP.

	a.m.	p.m.
WATERLOO Coach	dep. 9.0	...
WATERLOO	arr. 12.0	...
WATERLOO Train	dep. 11.35	5.15
Barnstaple	arr. 1.49	7.45
Barnstaple Coach	dep. 2.20	7.52
WATERLOO Coach	arr. 3.54	8.13
WATERLOO	arr. 6.30	8.00

at Jones Bros., Co., Lynton, Lynton

EXCURSION ARRANGEMENTS.

Every Saturday.

During the Summer an Excursion from WATERLOO to LYNTON, via Barnstaple, returning the following Monday. Monday Week or Monday Forthnight.

Dep. Waterloo 5.0 a.m. | Arr. Lynton 6.30 p.m.

For the Return.

Dep. Lynton 5.0 a.m. | Arr. Waterloo 5.0 p.m.

Through Return Fare: - 3rd Class, 2s. (including Coach Fare) | 3rd Class, 2s.

Every Monday, commencing June 10th.

During the Summer an Excursion from LYNTON and LYNNOURTH to WATERLOO, via Barnstaple or Saturday Week.

Dep. Lynton 9.0 a.m. | Arr. Waterloo 5.0 p.m.

For the Return.

Dep. Waterloo 9.0 a.m. | Arr. Lynton 6.30 p.m.

Through Return Fare: - 3rd Class, 2s. Coach Passengers Travel with which Coach runs in connection.

Lynton Society of Goodfellowship.

Founded in 1786, then for Male members only, and more commonly known as the 'Old Club'.

According to a report in the North Devon Journal, June 1914- states as follows-

That the Annual Club Walk and Festival of the Lynton Society of Goodfellowship, began with a service in the Parish Church, after which the members marched in procession through the streets of Lynton, headed by the Parracombe Brass Band.

At 2pm, a Dinner was held at the Imperial Hotel.

After Speeches and 'Toasts' were drunk, the Company then adjourned to the 'Valley of Rocks' where an enjoyable programme of Sports were held.

The report also stated that under new rules, Women were to be allowed to join the Club, and at that time the Club consisted of 195 members-33 of which were Women'.

Also among the new rules, Funeral Contributions which they had pay when any Member died, were also swept away, and Fines were also abolished - since it appeared they were never paid in any case'.

Then just a young Lad, the Late Mr Jim Sedgebeer, recalled the great excitement there was on the day of the Clubs Festivities, with the Men dressed in their full Regalia of purple and gold sashes, with tassels on the ends.

He recalled how once a year, in June, carrying their Club Banner, the Men would meet outside of the 'Valley of Rocks Hotel'- or as the Men would call it 'Top Hill'.

Accompanied by the Town Band, the Men would begin their March down the path and steps to Cloonavin' (known to the Men as 'Edmunds Steep'), and there they paused a while to speak with Miss Edmunds herself.

Proceeding with their March, they would then descend to Lynmouth and there, pay their respects to the 'Lord of the Manor', this done, the Club Members then Marched along the Street of Lynmouth to the 'Cliff Railway', and ascend once again to Lynton, where at the Imperial Hotel, they partook of a fine Buffet, to be followed by Club Speeches.

The Day would end with Sports and Games.

13 MAR 1941 PARRACOMBE NDSK

Mr. Frederick Antell, of Parracombe, who retired from the Post Office service recently after 33 years as postman, has been awarded the Imperial Service Medal. The presentation was made by the Head Postmaster of Bannistone (Mr. A. L. Pocock) on Friday at Parracombe Post Office, in the presence of the Sub Postmaster and Mrs. Parkhouse, and a number of the local staff. In making the presentation, Mr. Pocock said that it did not fall to the lot of every one leaving the Service to receive the medal. It was a high honour granted by His Majesty the King, and awarded only to those who had given long and meritorious service to the Crown. Mr. Antell had retired with a clean record after 33 years' service in the Post Office, during which time he had performed his duties efficiently, and had given complete satisfaction to the authorities and also, he had reason to believe, to all members of the public in the district in which he had served. "It therefore gives me great pleasure," Mr. Pocock continued, "to present this medal to you, Mr. Antell, on behalf of His Majesty the King, for your long and meritorious service. I congratulate you on winning it, and I hope you will live many years to wear it and to enjoy your pension." The medal was then pinned on Mr. Antell's breast by the Head Postmaster's daughter, Miss Margaret Pocock, who, together with the Sub Postmaster and others present, also warmly congratulated Mr. Antell on the honour he had received. Mr. Antell suitably replied.

N Devon Journal 9 JAN 1941 MOUNTED POSTMAN RETIRES

Mr. F. Antell, probably the only official mounted postman over a very wide area, has retired from the postal service at Parracombe, and has been the subject of a presentation.

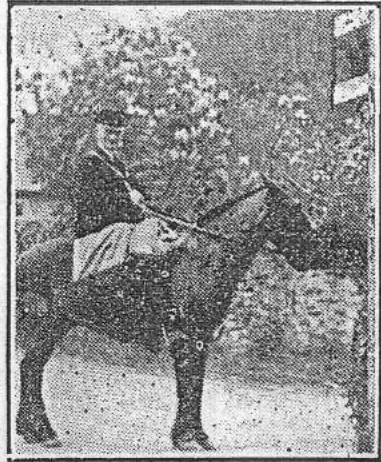
He retired on December 29th, and a pleasant little ceremony took place at the office on January 1st, when Mr. Corke, a retired P.O. official presented him with a case of pipes and a tobacco pouch subscribed for by Miss Cricombe, late postmistress, and Mr. A. Parkhouse, present sub postmaster, and staff of the Parracombe office, as a token of the esteem in which he has been held over the whole of his 32 years service.—Mr. Antell suitably responded.

He will be remembered as being postman in the Challacombe district, and later became the only official mounted postman, travelling to Woody Bay on a pony.

Mr. Antell was previously in China during the Boxer rebellion, and in the war of 1914-18 served on H.M.S. Warspite.

N Devon Herald 9 JAN 1941 MOUNTED POSTMAN

Retirement of Mr. F. Antill, Parracombe



The Parracombe district of North Devon has lost one of its most familiar figures by the retirement, on December 29th, of Mr. F. Antill, the senior postman at Parracombe. Mr. Antill was the only official mounted postman to be seen in Woody Bay and for some distance around. He had an interesting career before joining the postal service. He served in China during the Boxer Rising, and during the 1914-18 war on H.M.S. Warspite.

Mr. Antill made the Challacombe delivery for a time, and it was after this that he made his daily delivery by pony in the Woody Bay district.

At Parracombe Post Office on Wednesday of last week when Mr. P. Cooke, a retired P.O. official, presented Mr. Antill with a case of pipes and a tobacco pouch subscribed for by Miss Cricombe, late sub-postmistress, Mr. A. Parkhouse, the present sub-postmaster, and the staff of the Parracombe office, Mr. Antill feelingly acknowledged this tribute of the esteem in which he was held during no less than 32 years of service.

FUNERAL OF MR. JOHN ANTELL AT PARRACOMBE

21 MAY 1942

The death has taken place of Mr. John Antell, eldest son of the late Mr. and Mrs. T. Antell, of Higher Bodley, Parracombe. Mr. Antell, who was 62 years of age, was a native of the parish, and up to the time of his parents' death about two years ago he had lived in the district all his life. There are eight surviving sisters and brothers. One sister is living in America. The funeral took place on Tuesday, when the interment was made in Parracombe Old Churchyard. The Rector (the Rev. L. W. L. Walker, R.N., retired) officiated, and the family mourners were Messrs. Harry, Arthur, and Sidney Antell, brothers; Mrs. A. Dummett and Mrs. A. Ashton, sisters; Master J. Ashton and Miss N. Driscoll, nephew and niece; Messrs. J. Ashton and E. Dummett, brothers-in-law; Mrs. H. Antell, sister-in-law; Miss S. Tamlyn, Mrs. A. Heal, Mr. and Mrs. W. Shapland, Mrs. W. Leworthy, Mrs. H. Darch, and Mrs. F. Antell, cousins; Mr. G. Hawkes and Mr. R. Jones, uncles; Messrs. J. Blackmore, senr., and W. Heal, cousins; and Mrs. T. Butts and Mrs. D. Tolley. Mr. Bert Antell and Mrs. M. Waters, brother and sister, were unable to attend.

Messrs. F. Antell and W. Leworthy (cousins), W. Smyth, W. Creek, T. Barrow, and W. Delbridge were the bearers.

Others also present included Messrs. H. E. A. J., G. H., G. A., and R. H. Smyth, G. Shapland, J. Walters, F. R. Latham, J. Poole, A. Parkhouse, G. Delbridge, S. Dallyn (Martinhoe), Cook (Eastdown), H. Latham, F. Crocombe, F. Leworthy, H. Hancock, and G. W. Creek (Combe Martin), Mesdames G. French and J. Sloman, Misses C. L. Dovell and A. Ralph, Mrs. F. Crocombe, and Mrs. H. Harding.

Flowers were: In loving memory of dear John, from Harry and Lily; In ever-loving memory of dear John, from Ann, Ted, Muriel, Vi, and Nancy; With heartfelt sympathy, from Aunt Poll and family (Mill House); With kind remembrance, from W. and M. Pickard and family; In remembrance, from F. and E. Latham and Ruby; In remembrance, from all at East Bodley; In affectionate remembrance, from Will, Bine, Mabel, and W. Leaworthy; With kind remembrance, from Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Gammon (Sunnyside, Parracombe); In loving memory, from all at 1, Park Villa, Riddle, Loxhore; In deepest sympathy, from G. Walters and family; In loving sympathy, from Mr. and Mrs. Comer (Churchill); With deepest sympathy, from Mr. and Mrs. Brend (Churchill); To Uncle John, from Vanessa, Mrs. Philan; With deepest sympathy, from Mrs. G. Harding; With deepest sympathy, from Mr. and Mrs. S. Cook (Churchill, Eastdown); In affectionate remembrance, from brothers and sisters (London, Parracombe, Eastdown, and Gloucester); In kind remembrance, from Mr. Barrow and family (Hillands); In kindest remembrance, from G. and F. Delbridge and family; With sincere remembrance, from Mr. and Mrs. Sloman; With kind remembrance, from Hed and Mabel (Fair View); In loving memory, from W. and L. Shapland (Woodcote); and In loving memory, from Miss Dovell.

17 JULY 1941 NO 34 FUNERAL OF NAVAL MAN

Parracombe Victim of Crash

The funeral took place on Monday, July 7th, at Langley (Bucks) Parish Church of Chief Petty Officer George R. Antell, who was killed in the railway accident on July 2nd at Slough. Members of his family were present at the burial, and among the wreaths sent was one from the Commodore and Officers and from the Chief Petty Officers of his ship.

Deceased, who was the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. T. Antell, of Parracombe, served through the last war, was on H.M.S. Lion under the late Admiral Beatty, and took part in the raiding of Zebrügge, for which he was awarded the D.S.M. He leaves a widow and three children.

Henry Anthill

Elizabeth

George Anthill
bap 9 Dec 1705 Stalbridge
bur 24 Dec 1777 Marshull

Mary Bartlett
born c 1706
mar 24 May 1727
Shaftesbury

George Anthill
bap 7 Nov 1737 Marshull
bur 30 May 1802 Marshull

Elizabeth Board
born c 1733 Stalbridge
mar 14 Feb 1767 Marshull
bur 11 Aug 1808 Marshull

Robert Mantell = Priscilla facey
bap 17 Oct 1770 Storminster
d. mar 25 Mar 1799 Lydlinch
d.

* Caroline
born 1815 Holwell

Thomas Antell = Susannah Raymond
bap 16 Ap 1773 Storminster
died 31 July 1842 Bagden Storminster

Maria Antle = George Kunison
bap 17 Sep 1777 Storminster
mar 28 Mar 1804 Hinton St Mary
d.

John Antell = Anne Parsons
bap 6 Mar 1801 Buckhorn Weston
d. mar 25 Sep 1820 Dorington
d.

Mary Antell
bap 24 Feb 1805 Maperton

William Antell = * Caroline Antell
bap 12 Mar 1809 Maperton
died 25 June 1883 Challeacombe

Mary Antell
bap 24 May 1814
d.

George Biggen

Thomas Antell = Mary Reed
bap 4 Ap 1802 Maperton
d. mar 8 Jan 1829
d.

Elizabeth Antell = Michael Foot
bap 4 Feb 1807 Maperton

Robert Antell
bap 21 Ap 1811 Maperton
d. 18 Aug 1891 Challeacombe

Sarah Anne
born c 1821 Harnham
mar d. 20 Oct 1903 Challeacombe

James Antell = Grace Drew
bap 2 Oct 1815 Maperton
bur 25 Jun 1902

See Challeacombe (2)

See Challeacombe (5)

See Parracombe (7)

George A. Bell
b. 1871, 100 St. Louis
d. 1911, 100 St. Louis

Mary Corbett
b. 1871, 100 St. Louis
d. 1911, 100 St. Louis

George A. Bell
b. 1871, 100 St. Louis
d. 1911, 100 St. Louis

Edw. Bell
b. 1871, 100 St. Louis
d. 1911, 100 St. Louis

Robert Bell - Sarah Jones
b. 1871, 100 St. Louis
d. 1911, 100 St. Louis

Thomas Bell - Susan Stewart
b. 1871, 100 St. Louis
d. 1911, 100 St. Louis

John Bell - George Kline
b. 1871, 100 St. Louis
d. 1911, 100 St. Louis

Children
(1)

John Bell
b. 1871, 100 St. Louis
d. 1911, 100 St. Louis

Anna Jones
b. 1871, 100 St. Louis
d. 1911, 100 St. Louis

John Bell
b. 1871, 100 St. Louis
d. 1911, 100 St. Louis

Edw. Bell
b. 1871, 100 St. Louis
d. 1911, 100 St. Louis

George Bell
b. 1871, 100 St. Louis
d. 1911, 100 St. Louis

John Bell
b. 1871, 100 St. Louis
d. 1911, 100 St. Louis

George Kline
b. 1871, 100 St. Louis
d. 1911, 100 St. Louis

Thomas Bell - Susan Stewart
b. 1871, 100 St. Louis
d. 1911, 100 St. Louis

Children
(2)

Edw. Bell - Susan Stewart
b. 1871, 100 St. Louis
d. 1911, 100 St. Louis

Children
(3)

Robert Bell - Sarah Jones
b. 1871, 100 St. Louis
d. 1911, 100 St. Louis

Children
(4)

George Bell - Susan Stewart
b. 1871, 100 St. Louis
d. 1911, 100 St. Louis

Children
(5)

Children
(7)

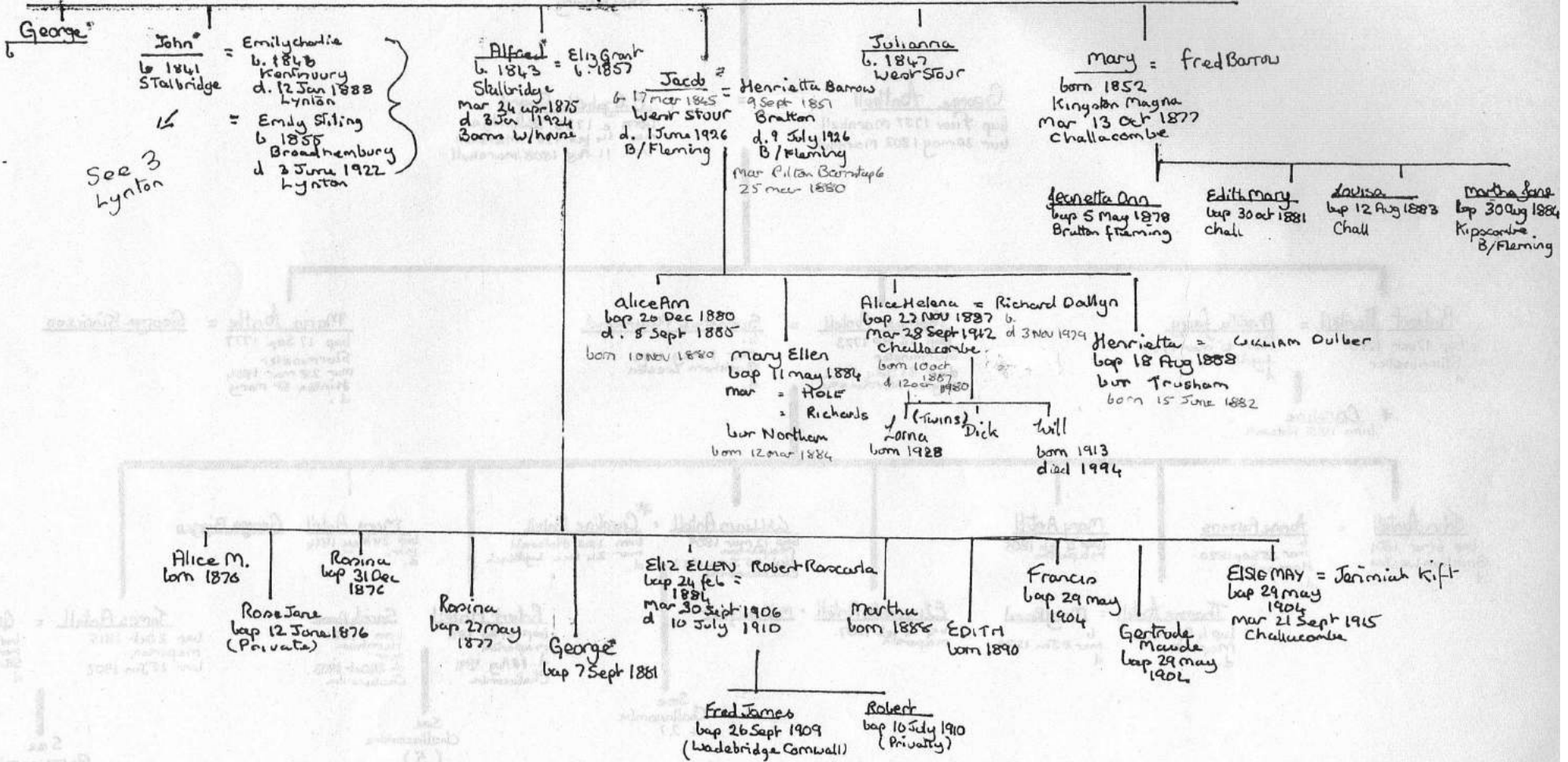
2
KIPSCOMBE

WILLIAM ANTELLS

CAROLINE ANTELL

bap 12 MAR 1809
Masepton
Mar 24 Dec 1838
LYOLINCH
died 25 June 1883

b. 1815
HOLWELL



W. M. T. M. T.

WILLIAM RICHARD ANTELL #
b. 1867 Chattercombe
d. 22 JAN 1930
S/matron

ERIZA BOARDFORD
b. 1870
d. 26 AUG 1936

(DUDLEY)
FREDERICK CHARLES = NELLIE
1903 - 1986

LILLY FONTAINE
1901 - 21 Oct 1979
= Charles Malcolm
b. 1893
d. 3 June 1968

ANNIE LOC

WELL = Mrs FEURES

DAISY UN
d. 1958

MAURICE

FLORIE = EDWARD EDINGTON

METIE = STANLEY COURTNEY
Mary = Brian Lock N. Molton
1 Son Dec
Sermy d. June 1943

GLADYS = ALFRED GAKER

KENNETH = CONSTANCE
(UNM)

CHARLOTTE = BILL CHUPP

WILLIAM EDWARD (RES)
b. 26 Nov 1907
m. 1935
d.

ARNES MA
b. 1915

MARY = Brian Lock N. Molton
1 Son Dec
Sermy d. June 1943

ARMY = CYRIL HOLLAND
Daw Daw Son
(Dec) (Dec)

JILL

STEPHANIA
b. 1936

CHARLOTTE
b. 1967, 26 Mar
= Sam Spar
10/5/93
Mark
Victoria man
b. 3/9/ =
Mark
Blair
June

Beryl
b. 16 June 1927
= Hector Stevens

Span
b. 1921
mr LEE

Len
b. 1919
(Dec)

GLEN
1929 - 1947.

STEPHANIA
b. 1936

Stanley
= Kingdom

Stanwyn
00 - 1969

Ken
= Nigel New

Beryl
b. 16 June 1927
= Hector Stevens

Span
b. 1921
mr LEE

Len
b. 1919
(Dec)

GLEN
1929 - 1947.

STEPHANIA
b. 1936

MARY = Brian Lock N. Molton
1 Son Dec
Sermy d. June 1943

ARMY = CYRIL HOLLAND
Daw Daw Son
(Dec) (Dec)

JILL

STEPHANIA
b. 1936

CHARLOTTE
b. 1967, 26 Mar
= Sam Spar
10/5/93
Mark
Victoria man
b. 3/9/ =
Mark
Blair
June

3
Lynton

John Hatell = Emily Chadie
 b. 1841 Gomershay Stalbridge
 mar 7 Oct 1865 Challacombe
 d. 16 Oct 1920 LYNTON.
 bap 1 Nov 1846 Kentisbury
 d. 12 Jan 1888 LYNTON

Caroline Maria
 bap 18 Feb 1866 Challacombe

GEORGE
 bap 11 Mar 1871 Simonsbath

MARY
 bap 25 Dec 1873 Simonsbath
 d. 26 May 1877 LYNTON

JAMES
 bap 20 Feb 1876 Simonsbath

Mary - Mr Gummer
 born 1878 (Wales)
 Lynton

LOUISA = John DAWK
 b. 22 Feb 1882 BARBROOK MILL
 d. 12 Feb 1961 TINTAGEL
 b. 1884 d. 1954

Charles
 bap 4 Feb 1883 LYNBRIDGE

1888
 Emily Died
 John remarried
 Emily Stilling
 b. 1855 Broadhembury
 d. 3 June 1922 Barnstaple Worky

WILLIAM RICHARD = ENZA BRADFORD
 bap 29 Dec 1867 Challacombe
 mar d. 22 Jan 1930
 S.E. South Malton (4)
 b. 1876 d. 26 Aug 1936

FREDERICK = FLORENCE REED
 bap 26 Aug 1879 Barbroke Mill
 mar 10 July 1918
 d.
 Amy 1920 Thomas 1922
 May 1924

FREDERICK = S. HARPER
 b. 1925 m. 1947
 Sally

GERTRUDE ANNE
 b. 1919

Abel Albert = GERTRUDE RIDD
 bap 10 Oct 1897 Fursehill
 mar 14 Feb 1925
 d. Mar 1980
 b. 1899

PETCY EDWIN = EVA LATHAM
 born 30 Jan 1895 LYNBRIDGE
 mar d. 7 Oct 1971 Lynton
 b. 1896 d. 23 Jan 1941 bur. Martines

Herbert John = Edith Minnie Crick
 born 29 Aug 1891 LYNBRIDGE
 mar 4 April 1914 died 3 May 1970 Barnstaple Infirmary bur Lynton
 born 25 Nov 1889 Fursehill
 d. 19 Feb 1961 Lynton

John
 Privately bap 28 June 1889 LYNBRIDGE
 bur 29 May 1891 (age 11 months) Lynton.

LESIE EDWIN = Key
 born 25 Jan 1917 Challacombe

Elizabeth Anne = Bertha Emily
 born 27 May 1890 LYNBRIDGE
 died 2 days old bur with brother John 29 May 1890 Lynton.

William Albert John
 b. 7 June 1925 Barbroke
 d. 13 Jan 1938 Sidford HOSPITAL
 bur Lynton

Edwin = Shirley
 b. mar

Tony = Rachel
 b. 1950
Tracy
 b. 1950
Mary

Phillip = Sandra
 1962
Kay

Beatrice Gwenpaine
 b. 21 July 1914 LYNBRIDGE
 mar 1937 = W.H. SMITH
 b. 18 Nov 191

CYRIL FREDERICK
 born 14 Jan 1916 LYNBRIDGE
 mar 3 Nov 1945 d. 1972 = Jane Blundell
 b. 1 Mar 1924

Veramary = A. Richards
 b. 30 Aug 1923 LYNBRIDGE
 d. 13 April 1978 LYNTON (N.C.)

Rita Evaline
 born 11 Feb 1927 LYNBRIDGE
 mar Sept 1945.

Albert Hughie
 b. 23 Nov 1923 CADDINGTON
 d. 16 Dec 1978

Wendy 1938
Veronica 1939
Andrew

WILLIAM JOHN
 b. 23 Aug 1946
 mar

PHYLLIS PATRICIA
 born 17 Mar 1920 LYNBRIDGE
 m. d. 29 July 1978 Lynton

R. MEACH
 b. 5 Feb 1910 LYNTON

Sandra 1943
Jeffrey 1946
Jasmine 1950
Steven 1953
Gor 1957

STEVEN b. 1980
CLAIRE b. 1982

Sudith Patricia

5
Challacombe

Robert Antell = Sarah Anne
bop 21 APRIL 1811
d. 15 Aug 1891
b. 1819 Hornham Wilts
d. 24 Oct 1903.

Susannah = Charles Coward
b. 1847 Bagber Dorset
Mar 12 May 1877
Challacombe
d. 9 May 1926
b. 1853
d. 19 Jan 1929.

Louisa
bop 7 Mar 1883
Challacombe

WALTER
b. 1849 Bagber Dorset
d. 6 June 1899
Challacombe

Henry RALPH = Thurga Ridd
c. b. 1850 Wilts Salisbury
Mar 18 APR 1877
d. 30 Dec 1942
Bratton Fleming
b. 1851
d. 26 Nov 1907
Bratton Fleming

Albert = Lucy Ridd
b. 1856 Challacombe
Mar 20 Apr 1878
died 9 Jan 1963
Challacombe.
b. 1857
d. 24 Nov 1906.

See G. Challacombe.

WILLIAM = Lena Pickard

John = Eva
b. 1882
d. 31 Aug 1963
b. 1880
d. 23 Oct 1955
LaxMORE

Blanche = Rudd Jones

PERCIVAL JOHN
b. 1912
Mar Oct 1925

EULENLANG
b.
d. 26 Aug 93

May
Dec b.
d. 1988

Colin John = Eliz Ann
bop 28 Nov 1943
Mar

Sylvia = Peter Stapland
bop 22 May 1940

Rodney John
bop 7 July 1968
High Bray.

Henry Anthill = Elizabeth

Mary Anne Anthill
bap 6 Sep 1698
Stalbridge

George Anthill
bap 9 Dec 1705 Stalbridge
bur 24 Dec 1777 Marnhull

Ann Antell bap 6 Oct 1727 Marnhull	John Antekell = Elizabeth Dean bap 2 Feb 1929 Marnhull mar 30 May 1757 Marnhull	Mary Antel bap 20 Apr 1732 Marnhull bur 14 Nov 1737 Marnhull	Hannah Antill bap 19 Sep 1734 Marnhull bur 4 Dec 1737 Marnhull	George Antell = Elizabeth Bond bap 7 Nov 1737 Marnhull bur 30 May 1802 Marnhull born c 1733 mar 14 Feb 1767 Marnhull bur 11 Aug 1808 Marnhull
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William Anthill bap 2 Jun 1757 Marnhull	John & Ebbv Antill bap 29 Nov 1758 Sturminster	Elizabeth Antill bap 26 Dec 1760 Sturminster	Mary Antill bap 26 Aug 1762 Sturminster	Temperance Antill bap 24 Oct 1764 Sturminster	John Antill bap 1 Jan 1767 Sturminster
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Priscilla facey =
mar 25 mar 1749
Lydninch

Robert Hantell
bap 17 Oct 1770
Sturminster

Thomas Antell
bap 16 Apr 1773
Sturminster
died 31 Jul 1842
Bagber
Sturminster

Susannah Maria
Raymond
mar 1 may 1799
Buckhorn
Weston
mar 2
Hint

Caroline *
b. 1815 HOLWELL

John Antell = Ann Parsons bap 6 Mar 1801 Buckhorn Weston mar 25 Sep 1820 Horsington	Thomas Antell = Mary Read bap 4 Apr 1802 Maperton mar 8 Jan 1829 Sturminster	Mary Antell bap 4 Feb 1805 Maperton	Elizabeth Antell = Michael Foot bap 20 Jun 1807 Maperton
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John & Susanna Antill Infants bur 2 Dec 1820 Horsington	John Antill bap 4 Nov 1821 Horsington	James Antill bap 26 Jan 1823 Horsington	Mary Antell bap 5 Apr 1829 Sturminster	John Antell bap 17 Mar 1831 Sturminster	Thomas Antell bap 5 Aug 1833 Sturminster	William Antell bap 1 Dec 1833 Sturminster	Robert Antell bap 12 Jul 1835 Sturminster	Alfred born c 1835 Stalbridge
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Rosina Antell born c 1878 Challacombe	Mary Jane Antell born c 1880 Challacombe	George Antell born c 1882 Challacombe	Elizabeth Antell born c 1884 Challacombe	Alice Antell born c 1886 Challacombe	Martha Antell born c 1888 Challacombe	Edith Antell born c 1890 Challacombe	Alice born Chall
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George Antell bap 30 Oct 1842 Sturminster	George Antell born Bagber bap 16 Jun 1844 Sturminster died 17 Aug 1932	Mary Anne born c 1873 died 19 Nov 1959	Martha Antell = George Hawkes born c 1846 Bagber died (sp)
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5 daughters

Martha Grace Antell born 28 Oct 1878 Parracombe mar Frederick Gibbs mar William Tipler died 5th Dec 1960 U.S.A.	Thomas John Antell born 16 Jul 1879 Parracombe died 14 May 1942 Parracombe	Henry William Antell born 16 Jul 1880 Parracombe mar Lilian died 27 Dec 1948 (sp)	Herbert James Antell born 20 Feb 1883 Parracombe died 31 Mar 1977 Hucclecote Gloucester	Alice Kathleen Hambleton born 12 Mar 1883 mar 16 Nov 1908 Wokinghan died 30 Apr 1982 Brockworth Gloucester	Edith Mary Antell born 24 June 1885 Parracombe mar Leonard Driscoll died 1922	George Richard born 15 Apr 1885 Parracombe died 2 Jul 1948 Slough
---	--	---	--	---	---	---

Thomas Edwin Antell born 5 Sep 1911 Cirencester	John George Antell born 16 July 1915 Cheltenham mar 6 Jun 1953 Westcliff	Eva Dorothy late Parry formerly Hall born 12 Jun 1922	Marjorie Kathleen Antell = James Harwood born 22 July 1917 Overbury mar 1946 died 1992 Brockworth	Joyce Antell = Don Doane
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Roger Howard Antell born Roger Howard Parry 5 Jan 1947	Patricia Mary Oliver mar 17 Jul 1971 Northampton	Ruth Anne Antell = Michael John Owens born 27 Feb 1954 Tunbridge Wells mar 26 Jul 1975 Tunbridge Wells	John Jason Antell = Susanna Mary Penman born 15 Sep 1956 Tunbridge Wells born 11 Aug 1957 Four Elms mar 20 Sep 1980 Four Elms
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Jaqueline Mary Antell born 28 Mar 1976	Nigel John Howard Antell born 24 Apr 1978	Jennifer Mary Owens born 7 Aug 1980 Dursley	Samuel David Owens born 28 Oct 1983 Stinchcombe	Judith Anne Antell born 29 Jan 1984 Bledlow	Philippa Clare Antell born 15 Sep 1986 Langley Lower Green
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John Antell
 b.1841
 Gomershay Stalbridge.
 Mar. 7 oct 1865
 Challacombe Devon.
 D. 16th oct 1920
 Lynton Devon.
 (see Lynton
 & South Molton).

= Mary Bartlett
 born c 1706
 mar 24 May 1727 Shaftesbury

Thomas Anthill = Jane Peryer
 bap 10 Nov 1740 mar 12 May 1766
 Marnhull Hinton St Mary

William Anthill
 bap 10 Jun 1745
 Marnhull
 bur 24 May 1749
 Marnhull

Mary Anthill
 bap 27 Jul 1747
 Marnhull

Sarah Antell Mary Antell Elizabeth Anthill Christover Antell Thomas Antell Jean Antell Jinerah Antell John Antel
 bap 21 May 1767 bap 6 Jun 1768 bap 23 Jan 1770 bap 12 Jul 1772 bap 19 Oct 1777 bap 5 Mar 1780 bap 7 Jul 1782 bap 27 Nov 1785
 Sturminster Hinton St Mary Marnhull Hinton St Mary Hinton St Mary Hinton St Mary Hinton St Mary Hinton St Mary

Antle = George Kinnison
 Sep 1777
 Sturminster
 Mar 1804
 Hinton St Mary

William Antell = Caroline Antell Robert Antell = Sarah Anne Mary Antell = George Biggen James Antell = Grace Drew
 bap 12 Mar 1809 born c 1815 * bap 21 Apr 1811 born c 1821 bap 29 May 1814 bap 2 Oct 1815 mar 26 Sep 1842
 Maperton Maperton Harnham Maperton Maperton Sturminster
 died 1881-1891 Holwell

Antell = Elizabeth Jacob Antell = Henrietta Mary Antell Walter Antell Henry Ralph = Thurza Albert Antell = Lucy
 343 born c born c 1845 born c 1852 born c 1852 born c 1849 Antell born c 1852 born c 1856 born c 1857
 age c 1857 West Stower Bratton Kington Magna Bagber born c 1852 Challacombe Challacombe Challacombe

Annie Antell Henrietta Antell Mary Antell Alice Antell Thurza Antell Sarah Antell Elizabeth Antell Henry Antell Alice Antell
 1880 born c 1883 born c 1884 born c 1888 born c 1879 born c 1881 born c 1885 born c 1888 born c 1890
 combe Challacombe Challacombe Challacombe Challacombe Challacombe Exmoor Exmoor Challacombe

Thomas Antell = Susan Tamlyn Edwin Antell = ? Mary Antell = George
 born 25 May 1848 born c 1857 born c 1850 born c 1852
 Bagber mar 13 Apr 1876 Bagber Parracombe Parracombe
 died 25 Mar 1939 Parracombe died 28 June 1940 Parracombe died (sp)

Edward Antell Fred Antell

Antell = Peggy Reid Emily Annie Antell Earnest & Sidney Antell Emily Margaret Antell Sidney Ernest Ellen Antell
 17 born 21 Mar 1888 born 29 May 1900 born 2 Aug 1893 born 19 Mar 1896 born 5 Mar 1900
 Parracombe Parracombe Parracombe Challacombe Challacombe Challacombe
 died 19 Jan 1889 Parracombe died 13 & 19 May 1891 mar Yearly Joseph Waterer Waterer
 died 1987 died 10 Oct 1978 Parracombe died 31 Oct 91 Braunton

Annie Antell Arthur Antell Freddie Antell
 born 17 Aug 1891 born 25 Dec 1894 born 20 Jul 1898
 Challacombe Challacombe Challacombe
 mar Edward Dommett died 29 Aug 1979 died 15 Sep 1899
 died 1986 Parracombe

Mavis Antell = Eric Brown George Antell = Pat Jackson

Louise Antell = Kevin Jones Dione Antell = Martyn Underdown Bruce Antell

Elizabeth Mary Antell
 born 4 Apr 1992
 Horsington

Taken from the Book- Young Thomas Hardy, by Robert Gittings.

AS will be seen from the notes, this study depends for much of its authenticity on the personal memories and knowledge of those related to Hardy, and still living in Dorset, Chief among those is my friend John Hardy Antell. His vivid family traditions, to which he always applies his own sound critical commonsense, have given a body and reality to the Hardys story that could not have come from any other source. Once more, his generosity has extended to long and friendly discussions, from which I have learnt much, that otherwise would have remained obscure.

I should like specially to thank Miss Gertrude S Antell, of Puddletown, for her reminiscences of the Antell family, her fascinating family records, and her kindness in providing me with family illustrations, which I have fully acknowledged elsewhere. (R G.)

HARDY.

Another port of call, was at his Aunt Mary's, in the high street. She had married the Cobbler, John Antell, and though her Children were much younger, she always had a welcome for the young Hardy, to whom she had nursed through his delicate first years.

Her Husband was a wild and interesting Character.

Self taught, he had dreamt of going to College, but poverty, hard work and drink had banished the dream.

According to Hardy's second wife, he was partly the model for "Jude Fawley", in "Jude, the obscure", (one of Hardy's novels). John's self taught Latin, and his great "mass of curly black hair" certainly seemed reproduced in Hardy's novel, and perhaps the manner of "Jude's" death, for his own, at the age of 62, is said to have been hastened by exposure through having spent the night in a ditch, after a 'drunken bout'.

The savage alternations of Jude's life, may well have been partly suggested, by what Hardy came to know of the Antell household. On one drunken occasion, John Antell beat up his wife Mary, and blacked her eye.

He had reckoned without her married sisters, Maria Sparks and Jemima Hardy.

They in their turn, beat him till he was forced to plead for mercy, and swear he would not touch Mary again.

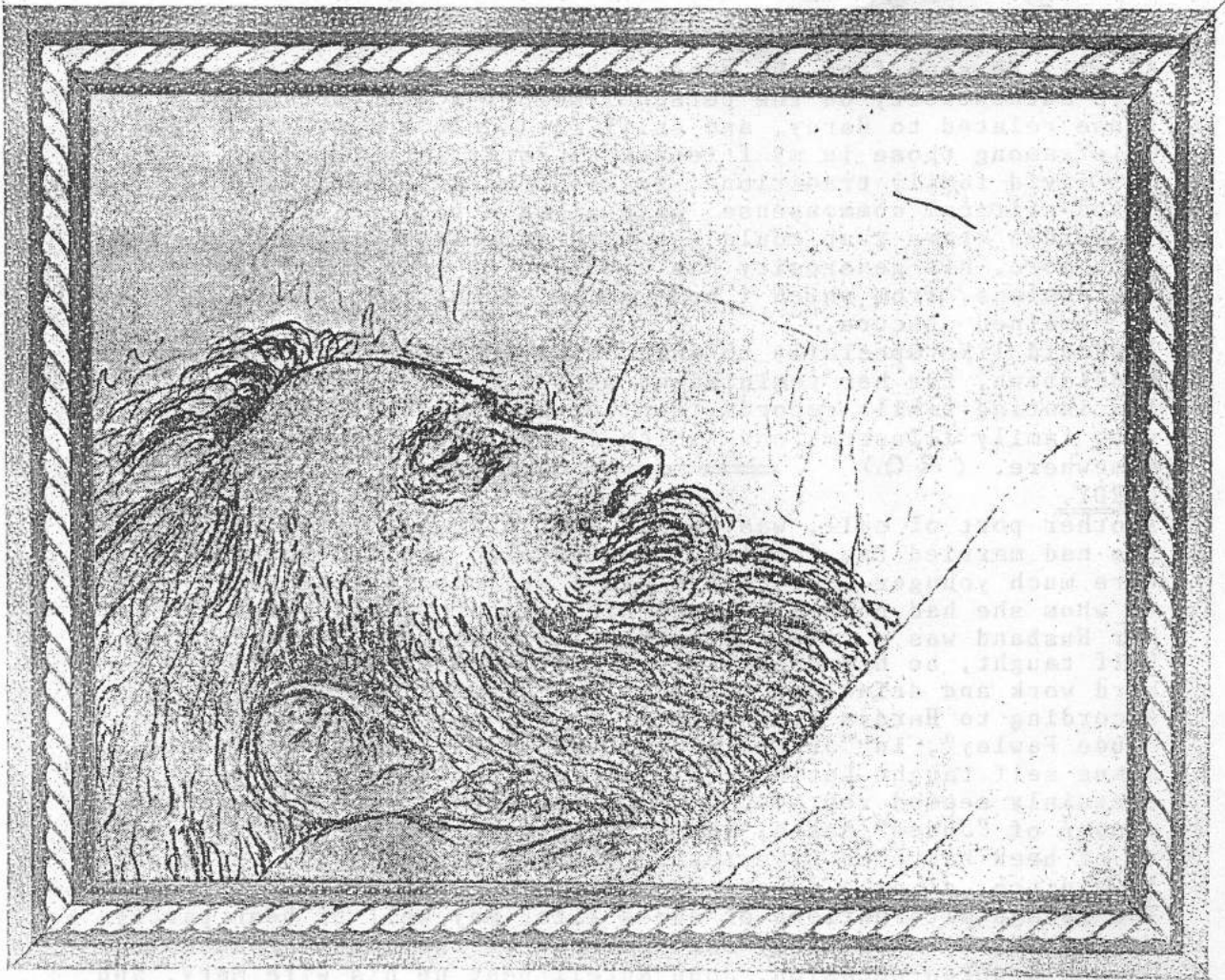
Hardy had little need to go outside his own relatives for the brutal facts of rural life, yet on the other hand, his dreams and ambitions, which he himself felt so early, were part of the same picture.

John Antell's struggling genius descended through his Family, a Son, John, who succeeded him in the business, wrote poetry of more than technical merit, had a talent for sketching and was a good musician.

Though the Sparks and the Antell Family were in the Craftman class, poverty was never far off.

Jemima Hardy, was housebound, with an infant son, no longer had the help of her Sister Mary Antell, herself coping with a "violently temperamental Husband and four children, John, George Francis and Mary (known like her Mother, as Polly).

John Antell died in 1878.



"Death bed" sketch, by John Antell junior,
of Hardy,s uncle by marriage.
John Antell, partly the original in
"Jude Fawley, in "Jude The Obscure".

IN MEMORY OF
JOHN ANTELL
Who was Born
----- 18...
Died ----- 1878

HE WAS A MAN OF CONSIDERABLE
LOCAL REPUTATION AS A SELF-MADE
SCHOLAR, HAVING ACQUIRED A VARIED
KNOWLEDGE OF LANGUAGES, LITERATURE
AND SCIENCE BY UNAIDED STUDY, &
IN THE FACE OF MANY UNFAVORABLE
CIRCUMSTANCES.

More extracts-

None of Hardy,s relatives attended his wedding in Paddington 1874 He took pains that Emma should never know the personages of his Puddletown background.

A well established Family tradition, illustrates how Hardy cut himself off from his Dorset relatives.

In the summer of 1885, they moved into the newly built house , "Max Gate", on the North-East Borders of Dorchester.

When they went visiting it was to the Gentry, not Relatives.

In the early 1890s Hardy and his wife, were enthusiastic in the craze for bicycling, a frequent ride was to Turnworth, whose Church Hardy had Architected.

Hardy read the lessons there.

There route lay through Puddletown, and memory records, how the Hardys would bycycle stiffly through the main road, looking neither to left nor right.

Cottage doors were full of close relatives, the "Hands", the "Antell,s," and visiting "Spark",s, but Hardy gave nor acknowledged greetings as he pedalled resolutely on with Emma.

From Jude the obscure".

When Jude came to Oxford as a young workman, another personal potrait takes over, this is John (known as Jack) Antell, Hardy,s self taught Cobbler uncle, who actually learnt enough Latin to open a Latin School in Puddletown, where he is even said to of taught the Squires Cricketing Son.

His fatal weakness for drink, contributes to the picture of rural ambition and failure, which Hardy himself actually commemorated by composing an epitaph for his Tombstone.

The year 1890, was one of deaths among relatives, one death was that of Mary Antell, (mother of Polly) of whom Hardy had probably seen more of, then any other relative outside his own home.

From "Emma". (Hardy,s Wife).

It has been suggested that the two years (June1883-June1885) spent in Glyde path road, are the period which Emma,s good relations with Hardy,s family, changed to hostility.

Though as long afterwards in 1891, Hardy wrote from London to Emma at Max Gate, that Polly Antell, Jemimas niece, then living with her Uncle and Aunt, in the Bockhampton Cottage,might be appointed "our agent" for paying the gardener, whether this was a request for Emma to get in touch with Polly, or a notification that he himself intended to do so, it shows that the parentel home and it,s occupants, could still be mentioned naturally to his wife.

It also shows that Emma, whether or not she had met Polly, knew who she was, and this was the only known breach by Hardy. in the "wall" that he had carefully maintained between Emma and his cohort of "lowly" relatives, the Antell,s Hand,s and Sparke,s, who populated half of Puddletown.

It is said that during this period, Emma was still making "infrequent" visits to the Cottage, which means that she must of indeed met Polly, and made the rest of Hardy,s "wall" extremly difficult to keep up, for this reason, the infrequency of the visits is more likley to of been of his dissuasion, then to a quarrel between Emma and the rest of the family.

The ease of his reference to Polly, seven years later does not indicate that, however few the contacts between Emma and his family had become, there was even then, any bad feeling.

If Emma seldom accompaied Hardy to Bockhampton, his relatives do not seem to of visited him at all, and this strengthens the idea that he was anxious to discourage any contact between them and Emma.

He took pains that Emma should never know the whereabouts of his
Home of Hardy, a relative attended his wedding in Paddington 1874



Hardy's relatives (foreground) in the High Street, Puddletown (identified by Gertrude S. Antell)

It also shows that Emma, whether or not she had met Polly,
newly arrived was, and this was the only known breach by Hardy in
the "wall" that he had carefully maintained between Emma and his
rest of "family" relatives, the Antell's, Hand's, and Spark's,
who occupied half of Puddletown.
It is said that during this period, Emma was still making
occasional visits to the Cottage, which means that she was of
aged respectably and made the rest of Hardy's "wall" extremely
difficult to keep up. For this reason, the intricacy of the
wall he was trying to build of his disunion, then to a
great extent, Emma and the rest of the family.
He made his reference to Polly, seven years later than his
reference to Emma, for the contacts between Emma and his
family had broken, there was even then, say bad feelings.
Emma's return to Puddletown, his relatives
were not to be visited, at all, and this arrangement the
wall that he was trying to build up any contact between them

John Antell, whose Grandfather was Thomas Hardys Cousin, writes about the great novelist and poets relatives.

The Uncle who impressed Hardy.

The weather that day in Upper Bockhampton-nov 14 1847, was very mild for the time of year.

The garden at Hardys cottage was colourful with a late flush of flowers.

Inside the cottage a wedding reception was taking place. The bride was elegant in her homemade gown, with matching poke bonnet decked in gay ribbon.

The bride smiled at a shy boy, small for his ten years, the young Thomas Hardy.

He looked on with curious eyes, as his Father and new uncle helped themselves from the cider barrel. Earlier in the day, from the cottage, the boys aunt, Miss Mary Hann and Puddletown cobbler John Antell had been married by the Rev Arthur Shirley at insford Church.

Thomas Hardy Senior was the best man and his wife Jemima Hardy, matron of honour.

Welcome.

Aunt Mary always had a welcome from Thomas, whom she had nursed through his delicate first years. This was Aunt Mary from Melbury Osmond.

When Jemima Hardy was very ill she had tried to persuade her husband, without success to marry her sister Mary "when she was gone".

Young Hardy was fascinated by the wild and talented John Antell with his great mass of black curly hair and the most remarkable pair of blue eyes that you could ever wish to see.

Years later in Far from the Madding crowd, Hardy introduced the old Maltster, based in part upon John Antells Father.

John who could write his name and had broken loose from the Cerne Abbas poverty trap.

In 1811 he came to settle at Puddletown as a maltster, and married Sarah Childs, from Melbury Way whom he bought with him. The younger John Antells darker personality contributed much to Hardys writing.

FLorence Hardy described him as a very clever man and a good self taught, classical scholar- in Greek Latin and Hebrew.

He was a knowledgeable country man, active in local affairs.

He knew all about the social conditions his relatives experienced in Cerne and he was determined to make good.

He was a man of the working class, who overcame his background to become a self-made man, employing others. He kept a pig and hives of bees on Puddletown Heath .

At 14 he was apprenticed by his father to Joseph White in the art of cordwainer at St Peters Parish, Dorchester, bound in the sum of £25. Joseph Antell made his mark as witness.

At Mr Whites, the apprentice was bound to faithfully serve his master "not commit fornication" nor contract matrimony within the said term. Neither should he play cards, dice or unlawful games nor haunt taverns.

Business.

By Sunday June 6 1841, he was back in Puddletown employed as a cordwainer with William Dennison in Duck Street or Backwater Puddletown, next door to the Mann's household.

His Father died in 1847 and he exchanged the old maltsters house at the end of Back Street, which was life property by agreement with the Squire, Lord Orford, for a house in Puddletown High Street and set himself up in business.

Mary Antell, a woman of the working class, bought up on the Poor Law dole, shared her husbands interests.

At Melbury Osmand, the Hanns possessed academic books handed down from the Sweetmans and Childs, Greek and Latin primers.

They had the poems of Stephen Duck, who was Poet Laureate and traditionally regarded by the Hann family as an ancestor.

Poetry was in their blood.

At Cerne Abbas the Digbys asked for John Antells hand-made shoes and boots, but were by all accounts, poor payers.

The wheel of fortune was turning. John Antells personal conflict began when he started losing business to the new shoe factories.



Mary (Hann) Antell,
Wife of John Antell.

Bitter.

In his workshop an earthen floored Elizabethian roundhouse, the young Hardy frequently sat under the lantern, listening to John Antell.

Later following his return to Dorset in 1867, he would read aloud from his writings under the same lantern.

John Antell's frustrations increased and he turned to alcoholism bitterness and violence.

One story was told of how after Sunday Church service, John Antell left his shorthand notebook in a pew under St Marys Church gallery.

The Vicar, the Rev Templer, discovered the notebook and decided it was witchcraft. Saying nothing, he took the notebook to Dorchester and sought the opinion of the curator of Dorset County Museum the local expert on sorcery. The curator decided the notebooks contents were harmless.

On hearing of the Rev Templer's action, John Antell, already enraged by the loss of his book stormed out of Puddle-town Church and changed his religion.

According to Michael Millgate, one of Hardy's biographers, John Antell's personality may have contributed to the class hostility in the "Poor Man and the Lady".

Millgate says clearly that John Antell's deeply divided personality was central to the whole conception of "Jude" (another of Hardy's books).

Hardy did say in a conversation with Mary Antell that in "Tess of the d'Urbervilles" he was thinking of the Antell's, "a family who had come down in the world".

Destructive drinking at Dorchester led Hardy to describe the fierce aspect of one of the



John Antell, Thomas Hardy's uncle, with a notice said to be a protest against the world.

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d'urberville profiles in Wool Manor as being like John Antell when drunk in his pub, the Noah's Ark, and to think of his Uncle's fiery flashes of temperment in describing "Tess". After seven years of wasting disease, described on the death certificate as a lumber abcess, John Antell died in 1878. The illness started, so it was said, by a sudden crack of a whip'. Returning home in his pony and trap from the Noah's Ark, he took a toss at the bottom of Yellham Wood Hill. They found him sodden and asleep in the hedge, where he had landed.

GRAVE

John Antell's last words, addressed to God, or perhaps the President of the immortals, were -
It is cruel to keep opening the gates and not let me in'. Hardy, who had so often sought his advice now in turn advised on the design of his Uncle's gravestone.
It is still there beneath a yew tree on the east side of Puddletown Churchyard

As the writer moved up in society
he distanced himself from relatives.

Ours is a class ridden society, where the God's live at the top of the social ladder, while at the bottom exist the "Gob's". This is a message my Great-Grandfather impressed upon Thomas Hardy as a youngster.
The "Gob's" deadly battle was waged, not so much as between good and evil, but as flesh and spirit existing in poverty. The fret and fever as Hardy described it in the foreward to "Jude", derision and disaster of a poor man's lot, played out beneath the shadow of Trendle Hill under the Cerne Giant. My story begins with a flashback to an ordinary sort of November day, ay Hardy's cottage around the turn of the century. The weather was raw and foggy, a season of leafless beech trees, sad and silent heath. But inside the cottage, all was warmth and bustle. Kate Hardy was stirring the pea soup over the heat of a wood fire.
Enter Polly Antell, the cobbler's only daughter, with duster singing the abstainer's song-
"Lay down the bottle and never pick it up again".
Elsewhere other cousin's sat around discussing wordly matters. Bockhampton cottage was for Mr Balfour, Puddletown cousins more radical bent.

Adored.

The adoration of Hardy by his sisters becomes overdone. If Tom's a God then the rest of us must be the "Gob's", said someone. The description stuck'.
As Thomas Hardy moved up in society, so he tended to distance himself from his relatives.
Conversely, his family frequently contributed major strands in the creation of his fictitious characters, and Hardy's uncle by marriage, John Antell, the Puddletown shoemaker, was partly the original of "Jude", The Obscure".
When Monmouth landed at Lyme, Cerne was home to a John Antell In 1711, one of his sons, also called John Antell, married Jeanne Stage, in the village church.

Hard.

Hard times came, enclosure laws curtailed the poor, a grazing cow produced an economic necessity, free milk. The farmers wanted money for their milk. Rough oats with milk is rather different from rough oats alone. It is small wonder social changes aggravated rural poverty and its consequences. Down, down, down went the Antell's fortunes. On March 8 1781, Messrs Davis and Thomas Combes, the Poor Law overseers gave George Scott, a shoemaker of the borough of Melcombe Regis £10 and Thomas Antell, a poor boy of about 11, to be bound over as an apprentice. The Poor Law was brutal and indifferent. The Cerne Giant had occasion to laugh in February, as the embarrassed overseer Thomas Coombes dealt with grocer James Coombes for his part in Mary Antell's condition. You see on May Day, the villagers used to climb behind the old Abbey site, to raise a tree trunk in the dark of night up on Treadle Hill within the ring above the Giant. It was the Major of Cerne's duty to climb the tree and fix a masculine cross of wood to the summit surmounted by an iron cockerel, the symbol of fertility. Then there was Cerne Abbas beer and cider by the jar, men and women danced the ancient pagan rites around the maypole with fire in their veins- until at last they stumbled away into the copses. Mary's condition cost grocer James twenty shillings and base-born Charlotte was in her pauper's grave long before the next tree was raised. Now Mr Digby intervened instructing that the Antell family, paupers, living on parish relief and charity money, should be incarcerated in Cerne's Duck Street Poor House. Within those cold walls, many faded away. Christian Antell died aged 20. Some like Grandfer Henry and the younger Henry lingered on for years. Others, like the younger Christian found their way back into the local community and there was those who went further afield. William to Wimborne and his brother John, a malster, to Puddle town. When Hardy died, they buried his ashes in Westminster Abbey. The service was a national event. I vividly recall many years ago seeing a curious "Gob" poem (poetry was in the family blood) written as a sort of salute at Hardy's Westminster funeral, it went something like this-

Ye Wessex matron's
young and old
weep no more cause
Tom Hardy's left this spot
Seek him noy at Westminster
you'll find him out at
Cerne, m'dear's.

*A view of
Cerne Abbas, the
village where
the Antell family
lived in poverty.*



The heart of Thomas Hardy.



A letter printed in the "Daily Mail", Jan 14th 1997, from a Mr Ben Gunby, Ilford Essex, reads as follows-
Question-was Thomas Hardy's heart really stolen by a cat?.

A gravestone in the churchyard at Stinsford, Dorset, where he used to preach, says his heart is buried there.

What became of the rest of poor old Thomas?.

I was present at Thomas Hardy's funeral as a chorister.

He died on Jan 11th 1928. The funeral was held on monday Jan 16th 1928, in

Westminster Abbey, when his ashes were committed in a grave in Poets corner.

In 1978, the 50th anniversary of his death, i invited as my guest to our annual "Old

Choristers dinner, an old surgeon by the name of Mr Neville Taylor. When he came to the Abbey

Thomas.

with me, he asked to see where the remains of Hardy were laid. As we looked at the tablet, inscribed "Thomas Hardy", died 1928, he revealed a bizarre but, he claimed "true story".

When Hardy died, it was decided that he should be buried in Westminster Abbey, however, the locals in Dorset wanted him to be buried in a chapel at the local Stinsford Church. It was ultimately resolved that his heart should be buried in the Churchyard, while his body should be cremated and the ashes be buried in Poet's corner.

A practising surgeon from Devon was commissioned to extract his heart. His assistant at the time was a young Dr Taylor, the brother of my friend. The extraction was made in a parlour next to the kitchen, and when it was completed, the heart was placed in a receptacle by the sink.

The surgeon and his assistant were invited to have a sherry with the second Mrs Hardy in the lounge, but when they returned to the kitchen they found a very large cat chewing the heart the young Dr Taylor rushed at it, but the cat escaped out of the window, and ran into the garden with the remains in its teeth.

The senior Dr, said to the young Dr Taylor, the only way we can get out of this, is for you to go to a nearby village, and get a sheep's heart.

It was that heart that was buried in a casket by the Vicar, H.C.B.Cowley. The cat was ultimately buried with Mrs Hardy, and so Hardy's heart found its true resting place.

B.G.



Editors conclusion.

During the time i have spent researching our family history and writing the brief compilations of family members that we remember, and even some on those that we never even knew existed (despite the fact that they were living quite close by, in neighbouring villages) and who to my knowledge, believed it was no more then mere coincidence that people of the same surname were living just a matter of four or five miles away, and indeed denied any knowledge of actually being related to us- but perhaps they had their reasons for this?, we may never know.

Nonetheless all the families that i have had the pleasure to meet with were only to pleased to welcome a new (however distant) member to their family, and one that had simply arrived on their doorstep, usually without any prior warning, expecting the poor souls to remember people, dates and events that had taken place many years ago, and all within the first hour of the my visit- i had so much to learn, and that it was going to take time was the first thing that i learnt.

Most of the people that i have written to, responded very well even if some knew very little that would be of any use to me, and there were just two occasions when the people i approached did not wish to be involved in any way at all, and they were local people.

Nonetheless the whole experience has been one i have enjoyed immensely.

There were times when i approached people with the question- did you know my late Grandfather Herb Antell?, and if you did can you tell me what you remember of him?, the reply only too often, went like this- "Cor my gawd aye", followed by a short devilish chuckle- which i came to know, much to my dismay, that they did indeed remember my Grandfather very well, and knew a great deal more then they ever intended to reveal to me'.

One dear lady i introduced myself to, as Herb Antell's Granddaughter, said yes, i can see you are, my dear- instantly a picture sprang to my mind of a corpulent white haired old man with a much "weatherworn" face, eyebrows that had more hair then most men have on their heads, not to mention ears that would rival those on the African elephant'.

Well, they do say that we do not see ourselves as others see us, and now i know why'.



Grandad

THE HISTORY OF DORSET.

(HUTCHINS)

(Shaftesbury)

Anciently a manor, now a farm, lies a little west of St James church. It was for a long period the seat of the ancient family of Anketell, one of whom was a representative of the borough of Shaftesbury in the reign of Edward 1.

42 Edw.111. John Anketil held at his death, lands at Shaston.

18 Edw.1V. John Anketil held at his death, this manor called Anketils place, the manors of East Almer and Leygh in Wimborne minster and other lands in the county.

Leland in his intinerary says, "they dwellid hard by Shaftesbyri under the hill, they posese it yet".

Coker, writing about the 1620 states, "and seeing i have remembered particularly houses, i may not over passe Anctills Place, seated on the south side of the town under the hill, which not long sithence was the seat on the ancient and well-respected family of the Anctills".

About 1619, Christopher Ancketyll the elder esquire (then of Stour Provost) and his son Christopher Ancketyll the younger gentleman (then of East Almer) sold this manor and estate to Thomas Still of Somerton co Somerset, esq, and the property remained in possession of this latter family for upwards of a century, until as Hutchins informs us, John Still esq of Anketells Place, the last of the eldest branch of this family dying unmarried 1735, and having wasted his estate in various projects, this farm was sold 1739, to John White of Newington co Middlesex esq, whose heir now possesses it.

There is a large handsome house, probably rebuilt by the Stills, the west part of it in 1680, the other part of it is much more ancient, and the whole has been much repaired by the late owner Mr White.

Opposite to the vestry of the church of St James, Shaftesbury, is a vault for the family of the Stills, and before probably for their predecessors the Anketils.

Persons living (1868) remember having conversed with those who had seen the old mansion of Anketells Place, which existed in their youth, as described by Hutchins.

The "Whites" about 100 years ago caused it to be pulled down, and their representatives subsequently sold the estate to Paul Benfield esq, by whom it was sold to Colonel, afterward Sir Mark Wood, Bart, who sold it to John Dyneley esq, of whom it was purchased by Henry Boucher esq, father of the Rev Henry Boucher of Thornhill the present owner (1868).

Of the old house there remains a considerable portion of one wall, which to the south of St James church, forms the fence of the road from Shaftesbury to Sturminster Newton, a road of modern date. This wall is still four or five feet high and bears in parts the appearance of great age, and it is so strongly built that it would be difficult to disturb it. There are still traces of terraces near the site of the old house within a stones throw of the church of St James to the south.

in different parts of this work, particularly under Stour Provost and Almer, where also the Anketells were long seated, which for the most part will be incorporated in the following narrative.^a

In Domesday Book individuals of this name occur as landowners in nineteen counties, those in Hampshire, Wilts, and Somerset holding directly of the King. The name occurs only once in Dorset, where Ansetil filius Ameline held lands in Tyneham, and it has been supposed, but perhaps rather hastily, by Hutchins, that the Anketills of Anketill's Place are descended from this individual. But it seems more probable that they derive their origin from one of the name in Wilts or Somerset, where at the time of this survey they were very numerous. The Norman pronunciation of this name rendered the letter *s* silent; hence it became Anchetil, and gradually Anchetill, Anketyll, and Anketell, &c. In the original form it is traceable to the Scandinavian mythology, and is derived from *Ans*, God or Master, and *chetil*, cauldron or pot. The name occurs in England as early as 833, and is subsequently of frequent occurrence in different parts of the kingdom,^b and it seems to have remained in use as a surname in several counties, chiefly Yorkshire, Norfolk, Lincoln, Berks, and Bucks, till about 1300, after which it is found in Dorset only. In this latter county, soon after the date of the Domesday survey, we find a family holding large possessions retaining the name Ansetil as its surname. Roger Anketil was a juror in Shaftesbury in 1243,^c and verderer of Gillingham Forest from 1244 to 1258, and Robert Anketil held the latter office in 1269. William Anketil and his wife Isabella occur in a suit in 1306 (see pedigree); Ralph Anketil in the same year; Roger Anketil in 1312, who we are told by Leland was one of the jury on an inquisition concerning the forest of Gillingham, 6 Edw. II. 1313; John Anketil, M.P. for Shaftesbury, and his wife Matilda, 1333 and 1349; Robert Anketil 1334; all antecedent to the commencement of the pedigree of this family given in the Heralds' Visitations of Dorsetshire.

9 Edw. I. on the occasion of the Nona Inquisition William Anketyll paid a tax of 13s. 4d. as an inhabitant of Shaftesbury, and on the aid granted for making the Black Prince a knight, William de Anketil was assessed in the hundred of Rydelone for the fourth part of a fee, which William Anketil formerly held.

The following individuals of this family were representatives for the borough of Shaftesbury:^d

34 Edw. I. William Aunkehill . . .	1306
6 Edw. III. John Anketill . . .	1333
7 Edw. III. Robert Anketill . . .	1334
9 Edw. III. John Anketill . . .	1336
10 Edw. III. John Anketyll . . .	1337
11 Edw. III. William Anketyll . . .	1338
12 Edw. III. Ditto . . .	1339
47 Edw. III. Ditto . . .	1374

In 1347 a licence was granted to William

Anketil to have an oratory in his mansion house, as set forth in the pedigree. In 1395 William Anketill and John Gome, by John Whyting their attorney, appeared against Roger Tournour of Hynton Martel, pleading that he should render them his reasonable account for the time that he was their bailiff and receiver of rents in Little Hynton.

Some years ago Mr. Devon, genealogist, made abstracts of the deeds at Kingston Lacy for Mr. Bankes, and the headings of these deeds are in a volume of MS. collections for Dorset by the same gentleman, lately bought for the British Museum. They relate for the most part to the neighbourhood of Wimborne Minster, and range from about A.D. 1250 to temp. Elizabeth. Subjoined is a list of those in which members of the Anketil family are principals:

I. 4 Rich. II. anno 1380. No. 121. Grant from William Filol to Elizabeth (Anketil) his daughter of the manor of Duddesbury, and lands in Canneford, Hamme Preston, and Hamme Aumerle.

II. 5 Rich. II. 1381. No. 29. Grant from William Filol to his daughter Elizabeth (Anketil), and William (Anketil?), his grandson, in tail, of the manors of Duddesbury and of lands in Lytel Canysford, Hamme-Preston, and Hamme-Aumerle, except a certain messuage called Prygge's Place.

III. 12 Rich. II. 1388. No. 71. William Filoll appoints William Anketil and John Filoll his attorneys to deliver to John Carse and Agnes his wife seisin of one fourth part of the hundred of Lousburgh, and all lands, rents, &c. in Sturminster Marshall.

IV. 15 Rich. II. 20 Oct. 1391. No. 2. Release from William Dockerell and Elizabeth his wife to William Anketill of right in their lands, &c. in Hamme-Preston.

V. 13 Hen. IV. 1411. No. 77. Lease from William Anketill, junior, to Laurence Taylour of Wimborne Minster, and Amice his wife, of one triangular croft near the Grynge in Wimborne to hold for lives; rent 2s.

VI. 5 Hen. V. 1417. No. 12. Lease from William Anketill to William Sey and Matilda his wife of one messuage, curtilage, and croft containing 6 a. in Leygh, to hold for term of their lives, rendering yearly 3s.

VII. 6 Hen. VI. 1426. No. 53. Grant from Robert the son of Thomas Boveknoll of Warham, to William Anketill and John Laurence of all his lands, tenements, &c. in Wimborne Minster.

VIII. 7 Hen. VI. 1428. No. 150. Lease from William Anketeyll to John Gofavre, draper, of Wimborne Minster, Agnes his wife, and Philip their son, of two shops in Cookerowe, situate as therein described in Wimborne Minster.

IX. 9 Hen. VI. 1430. No. 149. Pleadings wherein William Anketill of Lye, near Wimborne Minster, was summoned to answer Joh. Bisshopeston, of a plea of debt for money secured upon bond, and upon lands and tenements in Shaston.

X. 10 Hen. VI. 1431. No. 95. Lease from William Anketill of Leigh to Thomas Tryng of Westperle of the manor of Duddesbury.

XI. Same date. No 128. Grant from William de Anketill of Legh to John Sheve of Shaston of one close called Middlebeytell Moor, in St. James's parish in Shaston.

XII. Same date. No. 167. Grant from William Anketill to William Jamyn of a wood called Youngwood in Shaftesbury.

XIII. 12 Hen. VI. 1434. No. 55. Release from John Lawrence and William Anketill to Roger Hyll, chaplain, William Foster, John Archur, and John Gover. of all right in their lands.

^a See also hereafter under ALMER. We are informed that a history or memoir of this family will soon be published, which will embrace much interesting matter and many curious particulars, for which these pages do not afford room.

^b Many important families derive their descent from one or other of the Ansetills, amongst whom may be instanced the Earls of Bolbec, the De Harcourts, Earls of Warwick, the Princes of Capua, the De Meschinges, the Earls of Ashburnham, the De Grais, ancient Earls and Dukes of Kent, the extinct Dukes of Suffolk, the Earls of Wilton, Stamford, and Warrington, Lords Grey de Ruthyn, Earls of Lichfield, Lords de Ros, and the family of Riddell, Baronets in Scotland.

^c In the Plea Rolls Anketyll Sigge of Shaftesbury contests lands in 1201.

tenements, and pastures in Wimborne Minster and Stock Mead within the lordship of Hamme Preston.

XIV. 13 Hen. VI. 1434. No. 63. Grant from Thomas Anketyll of Leigh to William Bryse and Joan his wife, of Holt, of one close in Holt, and lands there.

XV. Same date. No. 201. Release from Thomas Anketyll of Leigh to William Bryse of Holt, of a close in Holt as therein described, to hold for term of life; rent 13s. 4d. yearly.

XVI. 14 Hen. VI. 1435. No. 33. Lease from Thomas Anketill of Ligh to John Sheve of Shaston and Agnes his wife, of a close called Middlebeytell Moor, in St. James's parish, in Shaston, to hold for life, &c.; rent 12d. Hedgloste, &c. (see deed No. 11).

XVII. Lease from Oliver Anketill to Thomas Curteys of Shaston and Joan his wife, of Nytheclose (setting out metes and bounds in Shaston).

XVIII. 3 Edw. IV. (1463). No. 192. Lease from John Anketyll to John Bouk of Leigh of a tenement and 6 a. of land (arable) in a close called Pechondys in Leigh, to hold for term of life; rent 4s. and to the Lord the King for the church, &c.

XIX. 13 Edw. IV. 1473. No. 80. Bond from John Blanford and William Martin to John Anketill, "Jantylman," in 40l.

XX. 14 Edw. IV. 1474. No. 132. Lease from John Anketyll of Wimborne Minster to William Martin and Joan his wife, of a tenement called the Hull, with a curtilage and close in St. James's parish in Shaston; also closes called the Lynches, Brendewodes, Strykelheigh, Fishermede, with many other closes as therein described, and bounded for a term of forty years, rendering yearly 114s. 8d.

And in the same abstract we find the following deeds :

1. 22 Edw. I. No. 14. Grant from Ric. de Bryone, Rector of the church of West Grimstede, diocese of Sarum, to Richard his son and Hugh Fillol, all his goods and chattels in the manor of Almere, called East Almere.

2. 22 Edw. I. No. 97. Grant from Ric. de Bryone, Rector of West Grimstede, to Hugh Fillol, of all his lands and tenements in East Almer, with all fishings, &c.

3. Ric. de Bryone, Rector of West Grymstede, appoints Hugh Fillol and Ric. de Bryone his attorneys to deliver seisin of his manor of East Almere.

12 Hen. VI. the list of considerable men in this county who were able to dispend 12l. per annum, returned into Chancery on oath by four commissioners, in all fifty-nine, contains the names of Thomas Anketil and William Anketil.^a

In the inquisition post-mortem, taken at Middleton Abbas 28 May, 18 Edw. IV. (1479) on John Anketyll, there are on the jury Ric. Turberville arm., Robert Turberville arm., Hugh Turberville, and Walter Turberville.

10 Edw. IV. 1409,^b a fine was levied between John Whityng, Thomas Belege, and John Anketill, querents, and William Anketill sen. Elizabeth his wife, and William Anketill junior, defendants, as to the manors of West Almer and Lychetmynstre, with appurtenances; the defendants recognise the aforesaid manors to be of the right of John Anketill, which he, Whityng, and Belege have of the gift of the defendants and Whityng. Belege and John Anketill paid to William, Elizabeth, and William Anketill 200 marks of silver.

In the proof of age of William Fyloll, 12 Edw. IV. 1472, among those examined on oath are Edmund Ayssheley de Upwymborne, esq. John Anketill de Lye, esq. and John Savage de Hampreston, esq.; and in the proof of age of Thomas Romesey, 13 Hen. IV. 1412, William Anketill, junior, being on oath, states that he remembers

the time of Romesey's birth, "because he (Romesey) was born in the house of his father William Anketill at Lye, and at the time of his birth he was sent by his father William Anketill senior, and all the other men, except the women, out of the house, "om'es alios homines pret' feminas exire de domo," &c.

By the inquisition post-mortem on John Anketill, 28 May, 18 Edw. IV. 1479, it appears that he held crown lands at Litchet Minster, Litchet Matravers, Wimborne Minster, Kyngeston Lacy, Bradford Bryan, and Barnard's Lea (in East Almere), which returned at his death to the King: and private lands at Sturmyster Marshall, the manor called Anketil's Place in Shaftesbury, lands in Shaftesbury, lands in Sutton Walrond and Stour Prewes, the manor of Duddesbury, and lands in Little Canford, Hamme Preston, and Hamme Aumerle, the manor of Leigh, and lands in Holt Leigh and in Cowgrove.

The inquisition post-mortem on William Anketill, 1524, refers to the donation of certain lands in 4 Rich. II. by William Fillol as above mentioned, the Anketills having continued to hold a portion of lands free, and a portion from the Fillols by the service of a rose and by military service.

William Anketill was certified as one of those that shall be made Knights of the Bath, 17 Hen. VII. 1501.^c

A.D. 1595, towards a certain provision of gunpowder which the gentlemen of the county of Dorset charged themselves to procure, Christopher Anketell, esq. contributed 100 lbs. and Christopher Anketill, junior, esq. 50 lbs.^d

Christopher Anketell was captain of the Glastonbury division of the Trained Bands, Sir Matthew Arundel being Colonel. In his company were :

36 corslets,
35 muskets,
19 cullirvers.^e

The will of George Anketill, proved 14 Feb. 1605,^f is so curious that we give it *in extenso*. This George was a younger son, and his property it appears consisted chiefly of his armour :

In the name of God, Amen.

And unto thee O! Lorde I commytte bothe my soule and bodie, Amen—the seventeenth of Maye, in Anno D'ni millesimo sexcentesimo tertio.

Item, I geve to my cosen Anketill, this following : A scarf of blew and yellowe lace. Item, my beste heade piece with the gorgett. Item, my best gauntlette, one of them he hath alreadye. Item, my case of guilte pistolles with the pendante of redde silke and sylver. Item, a flaske dressed with redde sylke and white. Item, my armynge swoorde that is sharpe pointed. Item, my ravens-bill of iron. Item, a lytle Spanishe pooche to put shott in; all which hangeth in the Oriall, savinge my armynge swoorde. Item, I geve to my wor (worthy) and moste lovinge good frende Mr. John Frances of Combeffre my gilte pistolles with fier locke, together with a double gilte key and a prunenge iron in him. Item, I geve my brother Humphrey Fraunce my bullet peece of sweete woodd. Remember to deliver my good uncle Frannces this followinge : Imprimis, my grate fier locke peece. Item, a case of pistolles that hangeth at the chymneis ende. Item, I geve to my godson William Anketill my brooche. Item, I geve him my lytle French piece that hath a fier locke, and hangeth before the chimney and is dressed with the bone. Item, I geve to my faithfull and moste lovinge good frende Mr. Kellett my dyall which I allways caried aboute me. Item, I geve to my sonne John Dewe my mydle peece that hangeth againste the chymney. Item, more to him a pistoll that hangeth nexte to the upper windowe. Item, I geve to J. Dela-

sorte an onlic (?) russett cloake, a canvass doublette, a paire of lyninges, and my seconde beste hatte. Item, I geve to my man Brooke my black cloake layde with russet lace. Item, my lether hose with the lynenges. Item, a pair of blewe knytt stockynges of yarne. Item, a canvass shirte. Item, a sleeveles jerkin. Item, my swoorde and dagger whiche he usually weares. Item, my canvass doublett pinked that is lyned with flannen. Item, I geve Paule Cope my olde doublett and hose of sackcloth. Mr. Cheyne oweth me eight poundes fower shillings in money. Item, I lente him a goulede brooche. Item, I lente him a pistoll with the pendente of redde sylke and sylver. Trewlie I paide well for his hier! He dothe wronge me in detaynenge of theis thinges before wrytten, from me. It troubleth me the more because I gave yt as before wrytten and sette downe. Item, I geve to my god daughter Elizabeth Dewe this following; haulf the sylver plate I have, my debts beinge paide, and half to the executor of the reste of the goods my wife hathe after my wyves decease.

GEORGE (ANCKETELL).

6 James I. Christopher Anketell, esq. was High Sheriff for Dorset; and in vol. iii. p. 223, in the second edition of this work, mention is made of Christopher Ancketil, esq. as one of the seven King's Commissioners on the disafforesting of Gillingham forest, 25 Feb. 1624.

In the time of the civil wars, Henry Anketell, third son of Christopher Anketell, esq. held Corfe castle for King Charles, and commanded in the castle during its last siege and capture by the rebels.^a He was in holy orders; was appointed chaplain to the Earl of Dorset circa 1623;^b was presented to the rectory of Mells, Somerset, 20 March, 1623;^c received on 18 May, 1625, a *Licentia de non residendo*, as "Henry Anketell, A.M. Rector of the parish church of Mells;" about this time became perpetual curate of the church of St. James, Poole; was appointed rector of Clopton or Clapton, co. Somerset, 10 April, 1635;^d was made prebendary of Wedmor 13 April, 1639, and prebendary of East Harptree 15 July, 1640;^e on 16 January, 1642, he and four others of Wadham college, Oxford, were made doctors of divinity;^f and on 25 January, 1643, he was made prebendary of Compton.

In February 1645 we find him as Colonel Anketell holding Corfe castle for the King, and though he was taken prisoner he managed to rejoin the King's side; for on the 25 July, 1645, a cavalry force of Cromwellians is stated in the newspapers of the time to have fallen upon the regiment of Colonel Anketill near Sherborne, a doctor of divinity, (in one paper called "the priest and malignant doctor,") whom they took prisoner with other officers, 40 troopers, and 150 horse. In September 1645 his estate at Stour Provost was sequestered, but compounded for.^g

On the 12 June, 1660, an address was presented to King Charles the Second, on his Restoration, from the nobility and gentry of the county of Dorset; among the signatures is that of Brereton Anketil, esq.^h

As it will presently appear that this family was at about this period transplanted to Ireland, it seems fitting to review its position of so many centuries, as evidenced by its intermarriages with families of note and interest. We will begin with the first marriage stated in the proved

pedigree,ⁱ William Anketoll with Elizabeth Filiol.^j

The Filiols were an ancient equestrian family (whose pedigree is given elsewhere in this work). The first wife of the great Duke of Somerset, the Protector, was Catharine daughter and co-heiress of Sir William Filiol, of Filiol Hall in Essex, and Woodlands, co. Dorset, knight, from which marriage descends the present Duke of Somerset. Through the Filiols, the Anketells were related to the Trenehards of Wolveton, and to the Audley family, Elizabeth daughter of the third Lord Audley having married William Filiol. (In later times John Anketell married Lady Lucy Touchet, daughter of the twelfth Lord Audley and Earl of Castlehaven.) Also through the Filiols there was relationship with the Strodes of Shepton Mallet (now the Chetham-Strodes of Southwell, co. Somerset), by the marriage of Geoffrey Strode with Elizabeth daughter of William Filiol of Marnhull (these Filiols were a younger branch of the Filiols of Woodlands, co. Dorset), and with the ancient family of Rogers of Bryanstone, a family which was nearly related to that of the Dukes of Somerset.^k

Through the marriage of Thomas Anketell with Jane Gawen,^l the Anketells became nearly related to the Tregonwells of Milton Abbey, the Cokers of Mapowder, &c.

By the marriage of George Anketell with Elizabeth Morton this family became nearly allied to Cardinal Morton, the able minister of King Henry VII., and the Mortons of that time were intermarried with the Turberviles, Husseys, De la Lyndes, Hodys, Fraunceises, Mompessons, the Anketells themselves being at the same time intermarried with the Hodys, the Husseys, and the Fraunceises.

The father of Elizabeth Phelipps, wife of Christopher Anketell, esq. Thomas Phelipps, esq. built in the later part of the sixteenth century the present house at Montacute, co. Somerset, one of the finest specimens of the Tudor style of architecture.

Through the marriage of Christopher Anketell, esq. with Elizabeth daughter of William Fraunceis, of Combe-Flory, the Anketells have two distinct descents from King Edward I. one through Thomas de Brotherton, Segrave, Mowbray, Howard, Wyndham, Fraunceis, and the other through the Lady Elizabeth Plantagenet, Bohun Earl of Hereford, Courtenay Earl of Devon, Fraunceis.

By the marriage of Elizabeth Anketell with John Huddye, the Anketells were connected with the Lytes of Lyte's-Cary.^m (John Huddye's mother was Mary daughter of John Lyte or Luyghte, of Luyghte's Cary.)

By the marriage of Christian Anketell with Nicholas Percy of Shaftesbury, the Anketells were closely connected with the Ashleys of Wimborne St. Giles, now the Ashley-Coopers, Earls of Shaftesbury, and the Mompessons of co. Wilts: These Percys were of distinction in Dorset from the time of Hen. II., when Gerbert de

Perci held divers knight's fees there; and the Mompeysonns were related to the Lords Zouch and the St. Maurs.^b

In 1636, Oliver, "son and heire" of William Anketill (see pedigree), received a grant of lands in the counties of Monaghan and Fermanagh in Ulster.

His tombstone, discovered in laying the foundations of Monaghan church (on the removal of the old church), is very curious, and by its evidence, conjoined with that of the last Heralds' Visitation of Dorsetshire, and the registry of his baptism in St. James's church, Shaftesbury, fully establishes his identity. The tombstone is now built into the tower of Monaghan church; the arms and inscription are in bas-relief. From a photograph of this stone, the accompanying engraving has been taken.



In 1666, his son Matthew Anketell, esq. received the Anketell's Grove estate, in the county of Monaghan, by patent. In 1688 he collected two troops of horse, and three companies of foot, in defence of the liberty of his country; he was killed at Drumbanagher near Glasslough, (treacherously) after having defeated the Irish. His body was buried at Donagh, but subsequently was removed to Glasslough (on the building of that church) with great solemnity, and in the tower of that church is his tombstone, of which the following is the inscription:

HERE LIES THE BODY OF MATTHEW ANCKETILL, ESQ. OF ANCKETILLS GROVE, WHO IN THE 37TH YEAR OF HIS AGE WAS KILLED AT GLASSLOUGH IN DEFENCE OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION AND LIBERTY OF HIS CUNTRY, MARCH THE 13TH, ANNO 1688.

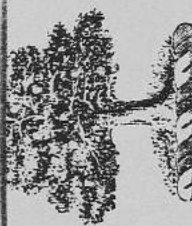
In 1753, his son Oliver Anketell, esq. being M.P. for the borough of Monaghan, received a gold medal, one of 124 such, given to 124 members of the Irish House of Commons, who, a worthy minority, held out against the Government in the great political struggle of that year, arising out of the determination of the King to deal with the surplus of the Irish income over expenditure, without asking the wishes of the Irish parliament as to its disposal.

In 1733 this gentleman obtained from the Heralds' College a certified copy of the pedigree of his family; this document is still in its possession.

In the Belfast News Letter of June 3rd, 1760, is the following notice of his death. "On Tuesday 27th May, died at his seat at Anketell's Grove, in the county of Monaghan, in an old age and very much lamented, Oliver Anketell, esq. who having been unanimously elected, represented the borough of Monaghan in Parliament for a considerable time past. To give the sum of his character, he was a true Christian Patriot and Gentleman."

In 1856, the tenantry of the Anketell's Grove estate presented Matthew John Anketell, esq. with a testimonial of silver, on which is engraved, "As an heirloom of the respect long felt by them for his time-honoured family, and as a token of their marked esteem and gratitude as well towards himself as to Mrs. Anketell for their uniform kindness and protection at all times, but especially during the years of the late distress and the severe visitations of Almighty God;" and an address signed by the tenantry "of all creeds and classes, clergy and laity," in which they assure him that his father "still lives in the memory and affection of the Anketell's Grove tenantry, among whom he once moved so actively."

Although the oldest known residence of the Anketells appears to have been at Anketell's Place, yet they were also for a long time seated at Lye, near Wimborne Minster, and at East Almer. As early as 1390 (13 Ric. II.) William Anketill had a suit about the latter place; and in the suit Anketil versus Still in 1619 above mentioned Christopher Ancketill, who is styled of East Almer, states that he has been obliged to charge his demesnes there with 500*l.* to be paid to the heirs of Sir John Rogers, knt. It does not appear by the will of Brereton Anketil in 1660 whether he possessed East Almer, for he leaves

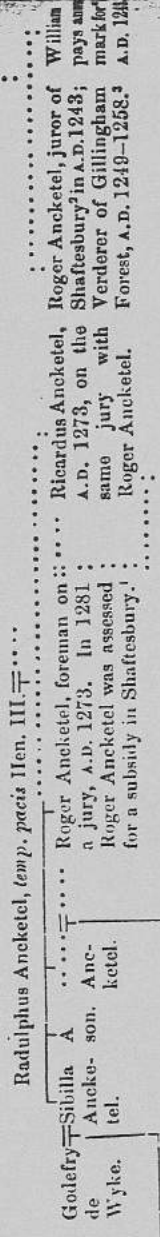


The Pedigree of ANKETELL, of Anketell Grove, in the county of Monaghan, at
 now (1868) representing the ancient family of ANCKETELL, of Ancketell's
 East Almer, and Stour Probst, co. Dorset.

(Compiled from public documents in the Record Office, from the Visitation Books, Herald's College, from
 Registers, Family Deeds, and other sources.)

Arms: Argent, a saltire ragulé vert.
 Crest: An oak tree proper, acorned or. Also the root of an oak tree erased, out of it a live branch issuing proper, acorned or.
 Motto: Vade ad fornicam.

The connection in the earlier portion of this Pedigree, as indicated by the dotted lines, is probable yet only conjectural.



Adam de Wyke, ob. s.p.
 John Anketel, sent as Essoignier by Radulphus Anketel, A.D. 1301, therefore it is probable that he belonged to this branch.
 Thos. Anketel, aged 53 in 1317, therefore born 1294, was juror on a proof of age of Isabella, dau. and heiress of John de Moels, whom William de Botreaux, Knt. married.
 Radulphus Anketel of Gillingham, temp. Edw. I. In A.D. 1299, succ. Walter de Wyke for certain lands which Radulphus Anketel his grandfather in time of Hen. III. had given with his dau. Sibilla in marriage with Godefrey de Wyke; Adam de Wyke the son of that marriage having died without issue, and Walter de Wyke the son of Godefrey by a second marriage wrongfully holding the lands, the King's writ was sent to the steward that Radulphus Anketel should be put in possession.⁶

John Anketel, son of William, M.P. for Shaftesbury 1333, 1336, and 1337. In 1346 there was an Assize to see if John Anketel and Matilda ... In the Fine Rolls on others had possessed William Whitinge and others of a messuage and 22 acres of land in Stour Probst.⁹ He died 22 Edw. III. at Shaeton, 1369.⁶ As to his relationship as son of William and father of William, see notes 19 and 21.

William Anketel, M.P. for Shaftesbury 1374, the first of the family mentioned in the Herald's Visitations. He had a suit in 1390 about Elizabeth, dau. of Oliver Puncelardon of Fiacombe, in the manor of East Almer, and another in 1393 about Duddesbury.⁴

2. John 1. William Anketell of Anketell's Place, and of Lye, mentioned in "The List of Gentry, 1433," was 46 years of age in 1426.⁵ This marriage must have taken place before 1408.
 1. Thomas, ob. s.p., 20 Jan. 17 Hen. VI.⁷
 2. Oliver Anketell of Anketell's Place, and of Lye, aged 30 years at his brother's death in 1408.¹⁶
 3. Peter, held lands in the parish of St. Lawrence, Shaeton.²⁴
 John Anketell of Anketell's Place, and of Lye, born 1428. Is styled "of Lye, armiger;" died 4 April, 1478, seized of these manors and of East Almer, and others.²¹

William Anketell of Anketell's Place, and of Lye, "armiger;"²² a King's Commissioner 15 Hen. VIII.; died A.D. 1524, in his 73rd year, therefore born 1463.
 Alice, Jane.
 2. William. Cecily, marr. Johnson.
 1. George Anketell, of East Almer, "armiger," died 29 Sept. 1586. Elizabeth, dau. of John Anketell, of East Almer in his Inquis. post mort. and in the Morton and Holy Pedigrees.²³

1. Thomas Anketell, of Anketell's Place, died during Jane, dau. of Antony Gawen of Northington, co. Wilts.²⁶
 1. George Anketell, of East Almer, "armiger," died 29 Sept. 1586. Elizabeth, dau. of John Anketell, of East Almer in his Inquis. post mort. and in the Morton and Holy Pedigrees.²³
 1. Christopher Anketell of East-Elizabeth, dau. of Thos.

John Anketell of Shaston, son and heir, died 1610; bur. 9 Oct. 1610, at St. James's Shaston; is styled "of St. Peter's, Shaston," in St. James's parish register.

1. Philippa, born 23 Nov. 1594.
2. Elizabeth, born 7 Oct. 1599.
3. Margery, born 13 Jan. 1601; marr. at St. Peter's Shaston 16 Mar. 1625, to Thomas Cooke.
4. Katherine, bo. 3 Feb., mat. 18, 1623.

2. William Anketell, second son of Elizabeth, Christopher Anketell, Esq.; by the places at which his children were baptized he was living at Almer and Shaftesbury in 1609 and 1611.

John, et. 14, 1623; bapt. at Sturminster. Frances, et. 12, 1623; bapt. at St. James's, Shaston. Oliver Anketell, Esq. "sonno and heire," et. 17, 1623. Received in 1636 a grant of lands in the county of Monaghan, and founded KETTLER'S GROVE. His curious tombstone: a certain jointure is in the tower of Monaghan church, compared with the Registry of St. James's Shaftesbury. ("Oliver, sonne of William Anketell, gent., was borne the 12th of November, and was baptized: till, deceased, and the 10th of the same month," 1609.) and with: mother of Matthew the last Visitation of Dorset, proves his identity; died 28 June, 1666.

Matthew Anketell, Esq. of Anketell's Grove, High Sheriff for co. Monaghan, 1681; J.P. 1675. Received the Patent of the Grant of the Anketell Grove Estate 28 Nov. 1666; was killed 13 March, 1688, "in defence of the Protestant religion and the liberty of his country; " is bur. at Glasslough, co. Monaghan.

2. Oliver Anketell, Esq. The Hon. Sarah-Caulfield, 2nd dau. of William, 2nd Viscount Charlemont, bapt. 28 Apr. 1688; died s.p. mar. 28 Feb. 1716; died Dec. 1742. Anne, eldest dau. of Charles Cootte, Esq. of Cootte Hill, M.P. for county of Cavan, sister of Charles, Earl of Bellamont, K.B.; bapt. 25 March, 1726; marr. 11 March, 1748; died June 1776; bur. in St. Anne's Church, Dublin. She was descended from the Lords Cootte, of Colony, of which family the Earls of Bellamont were a branch.

1. Prudentia-Maria, dau. of John Gorry, Esq. of Rockcorry, and niece of Charles last Earl of Bellamont; marr. 1780. She died Oct. 1781.

1. Anne, born 8 Oct. 1717; marr. 4 Nov. 1752, the Rev. Edward Lill, D.D., brother of Godfrey Lill, Justice of C.P. She died April 20, 1776; bur. at Glasslough.

3. George, whose will proved 12 Feb. 1605. See page 65.

4. John. Christopher Anketell of East Almer and Stour Provost, Esq. who in 1619 joined with his eldest son in the sale of Anketell's Place to Thomas Still, of Somerset, in co. Somerset, Esq. Edward I.

Getreda. Margaret, ux. John Doddington, of Doddington, in co. Somerset. Elizabeth, ux. Thomas Almer and Stour Provost. Brereton of Taunton, July 18, 1603.

Francis Anketell, Esq. et. 18, anno 1623; bapt. at the Chapel of St. John, Shaftesbury, Warcham, 1605; died at Shaftesbury St. Trinity, 19 Oct. and bur. in St. James's, Shaftesbury, 27 Oct. 1635, in the chancel.

Francis Anketell, Esq. By Inquisition his father, was aged one year in 1635; proved in 1661. His signature is the Gentry of Dorset in the Address of petition on the Restoration of King Charles II and left his estates to the son of Francis Henry Anketell.

Mary, dau. of Charles Wells, Esq. of Bannbridge, co. Hants. Francis Anketell, Esq. will at Doctors' Commons proved Sarah Matthews. The father, after his possession in Stour Provost, this family lost in 1733 at Stour Provost (where his estate there; this will conveyed much property elsewhere in co. Dorset, and co. Somerset.

2. Rebecca, born 28 Jan. 1718; marr. Samuel Colbton, M.D. April and had three children; of these two died young without issue, and the other, a dau. Sarah, marr. Mr. James Seaton.

3. Richard, born 1756; died 12 July, 1814, s.p.; bur. in St. Anne's Church, Dublin.

Almer, "armiger," so styled in the Visitation of 1574, aged 15 at his father's death, born 1521; J.P. 1579, 1585.

Christoph Anketell of East Almer and Stour Provost, Esq. who in 1619 joined with his eldest son in the sale of Anketell's Place to Thomas Still, of Somerset, in co. Somerset, Esq. Edward I.

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1. Prudentin-Catherine only child, died at Anketell Grove, at eight years of age.

1. William, born Dec. 30, 1792; died 28 April, 1822; buried in Wicklow churchyard.

2. Matilda, born July 15, 1795; died 28 June, 1819; buried in Wicklow churchyard.

3. Caroline, born May 8, 1797, marr. Oct. 1817, Augustus Woodville Amyatt, Esq. Lieut. Royal Irish Dragoon Guards; died three weeks afterwards; buried in Wicklow churchyard.

4. Elizabeth, died in infancy.

5. Jane, died in infancy.

1. Matthew-Anketell, Esq. of Anketell, High Sheriff for co. Monaghan, April 23, 1851; a Deputy Lieutenant of the co. Monaghan, and J.P.

2. William Robert-Anketell, Esq. of Anketell, High Sheriff for co. Monaghan, April 23, 1851; a Deputy Lieutenant of the co. Monaghan, and J.P.

3. Oliver-Charles-Anketell, Esq. of Anketell, High Sheriff for co. Monaghan, April 23, 1851; a Deputy Lieutenant of the co. Monaghan, and J.P.

4. Fitz-Ameline-Anketell, Esq. of Anketell, High Sheriff for co. Monaghan, April 23, 1851; a Deputy Lieutenant of the co. Monaghan, and J.P.

5. Max-Anketell, Esq. of Anketell, High Sheriff for co. Monaghan, April 23, 1851; a Deputy Lieutenant of the co. Monaghan, and J.P.

6. Maria-Anketell, Esq. of Anketell, High Sheriff for co. Monaghan, April 23, 1851; a Deputy Lieutenant of the co. Monaghan, and J.P.

7. Matilda-Anketell, Esq. of Anketell, High Sheriff for co. Monaghan, April 23, 1851; a Deputy Lieutenant of the co. Monaghan, and J.P.

1. Matthew-David-Anketell, born 5 Jan. 1841, son and heir; liv. 1868.

2. Oliver-Frederick-Anketell, born 27 Feb. 1850; living 1868.

3. William-Anketell, born 16 Mar. 1851; living 1868.

4. Henry-Anketell, born 4 May, 1855; living 1868.

5. Robert-Waring-Maxwell-Anketell, born 19 Nov. 1856; living 1868.

6. Augustus, liv. 1868.

7. Frederick-Anketell, born 18 Feb. 1858; living 1868.

8. Octavia-Mary, living 1868.

9. Augustus, liv. 1868.

10. Frederick-Anketell, born 18 Feb. 1858; living 1868.

11. Octavia-Mary, living 1868.

12. Augustus, liv. 1868.

13. Frederick-Anketell, born 18 Feb. 1858; living 1868.

14. Octavia-Mary, living 1868.

15. Augustus, liv. 1868.

16. Frederick-Anketell, born 18 Feb. 1858; living 1868.

17. Octavia-Mary, living 1868.

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Wake, then under age, and therefore a ward of the King; and also divers other lands and tenements with appurtenances in the same county, for the term of her life, of other lords; therefore, the King ordered that, because at her death her son William was under age, the lands should be taken into the hands of the Crown until such time as another order should come: which order did come a few days later, by which the King conceded back the above messuages, &c., in Shaftesbury, to the said William, son and heir of the said John Anketell, which messuage, &c., belonged to the said John.

13 In 1356 there is a suit between William, son of John Anketell, and Walter de Iland and his wife Matilda, and others, on a plaint by William Anketell of *novel disseisin*.

14 Fines. In 1363 the Abbess of St. Leeger de Praetice, versus William Anketell, claims a messuage and carucate of land in Stour Provost. A case of *mort d'ancestor*, which, if it could be found, might carry this pedigree further back.

15 The age of William Anketell in 1412 appears in the proof of age of Thomas Romsey, Record Office.

16 In some Visitations the name is Margery, daughter to Punchardon, or Margery daughter of Penraddocke; but a Punchardon Deed in the Record Office proves the wife of William Anketell to have been Elizabeth, daughter of Oliver Punchardon, of Faccombe, Hants.

17 In some most mort

1 Roger Anketell was on an Inquisition ad quod damnum concerning the third part of the Manors of Kingston and Mangerston, now Magston, which Matilda, wife of Robert Walerod, claimed as dowry; was witness between William Cusen and the Dean of Sarum, A.D. 1275; was on an Inquisition in 1275 and 1303, concerning the rights of the Abbot of Glastonbury, in Gillingham; was witness to a deed between the Abbess of Shafton and Richard Goviz, 1276; was foreman of a jury concerning the Rector of Gillingham's forest rights, 1279; was one of the grand jury for the bounds of Gillingham Forest, 1278; was foreman of a jury concerning rights and jurisdiction between John Barill, Seneschal of Shafton Abbey, and the Burgesses of Shafton, A.D. 1280; Michaelmas, 17 Edw. I., Roger Anketell and others acknowledged to Richard de Kirkbride that they owe him eight marks. Miscellaneous Assize Rolls, 6 Edw. II., Record Office, A.D. 1313, Roger, William, and John Anketell are defendants, together with Hugh de Blintestield, against Stephen de Blintestield; and in 1318 there is an assize to see if William and Roger Anketell possessed Roger Cockyn and wife Isabella of forty-eight acres in Shafton. In 1331 William Anketell, in a suit against Roger Lof or Luffe, is styled son and heir of Roger Anketell at the time of the Peace, Edw. I. In 1339, John, son of William Anketell, is mentioned in the Gillingham Rolls (now in the possession of the Marquess of Westminster). In 1330, and subsequently, Roger Melkonn carried on a suit against William Anketell because his dower were

set on to kill Melkopp's sheep, which trespassed. A jury there found William Anketell guilty. In 1337 a grand jury of twenty-four knights (milites) found that the verdict was false. Twelve years later, in 1349, Roger Melsopp sued John son of William Anketell, and many others, for beating him, &c.; and John states that he himself was wounded, and acted in self-defence; the case was postponed. From the foregoing, it appears that Roger, William, and John Anketell were father, son, and grandson. Richard Anketell is mentioned on a jury in A.D. 1263, on Joan de Neville, who held of the King in chief thirty shires of land at Sutton by the service of the third part of a knight's fee, and six shirates for half a knight's fee, of Dominus Alfred Lancel, at Piddle, her heir being William de St. Martin, then aged 32 (de Sancto Martino). In 1327 and 1334 he pays subsidies at Shaston and Stour Provost. In 1335^b is a suit of William Anketell, versus Ralph de Crontero, his receiver of moneys in Shaston. In 1337 is a suit, William Anketell versus Richard Haym and others, who broke into his close at Stour Provost and destroyed trees to the value of forty pounds. In 1346, on the Inquis. post mort., concerning the Manor of Silton, a William Anketell is on the jury (the lands belonging to Thomas de Norton). Richard de Hulle and Jane his wife concede to William Anketell lands in Shaston, A.D. 1316, and same date Robert Lof and Alice his wife concede to William Anketell and Isabella his wife lands in Shaston. 29 Edw. I., Gillingham Rolls, is an Inquisition by King's Writ, to see if Jacobus de Norton, miles, &c., concerning his manor of Silton by Gillingham, and William Anketell, is on the jury. A.D. 1301; and in A.D. 1301 is a suit, Richard de Dockesghe versus William Anketell, of Shaston.^c In A.D. 1303 William Anketell holds a fourth of a fee of the land of Mauvesin, in Redliane Hundred, under Reginald St. Martin. Geoffrey Mauvesin is along with Roger Anketell and Richard Anketell on a jury concerning the lands of Kington in 1273.^m In 1305 Osbert and Roger, sons of Walter de Wilton, and Walter, son of the said Walter de Wilton, wounded and maltreated John Fyryan the hayward (messer) of William Anketell, in the manor of Stour Provost; and again, Walter de Wilton, John de Maundevyle, Robert his son, Job. de Meynyll, are indicted within the borough of Shaston for assaulting, beating, wounding, and maltreating John Fyryan, who, in defending himself, and availing his death, slew the aforesaid John de Nevill; and for this he has the pardon of the King. In 1315 William Anketell (Angetell) is foreman on the jury on an Inquisition post mortem on Reginald de St. Martin; and in 1316 foreman on the jury on the Inquis. post m. on Lawrence de St. Martin.

¹ Plea Rolls.
² Forest Pleas and Pipe Rolls, Hen. III.
³ Pipe Roll, Somerset and Dorset.
⁴ Gillingham Rolls. His name is on a jury on an inquisition to try whether Matilda wife of Robert Walron had a right to a third part of the lands then held by Alan de Piugenot. The said Alan de Piugenot died in 1299, holding these lands of the heritage of Robert Walron, and on the inquisition thereupon the name of Radulphus Anketell occurs.
⁵ See Bishop's Registry at Salisbury.
⁶ Feet of Fines. In 1329 William Anketell and Isabella his wife have a suit against the Abbess of Frowes concerning a tenement in Stour Provost; and there is another suit between them concerning a common pasture in Stour Provost, and in 1331 a suit between William Anketell and Isabella his wife against the Abbot of St. Augustine, Bristol, and Walter de Tryl, concerning ponds in Fifield Abbas, close to Stour Provost.
⁷ Assize Rolls.
⁸ Inquis. post mort., lost, but recorded in the Close and Fine Rolls.
⁹ John Anketell died 22 Edw. III., as we find by a copy of an Inquisition post mortem 42 Edw. III., the original of which is now lost; but the Escheats, Somerset and Dorset, Harl. MSS. 4120, gives an abridgment of it in an ancient hand, which Hutchins probably saw. This Inquisition shows that in addition to other lands John Anketell held at Stour Provost certain lands of the Abbess of Frowes, which lands were then (as belonging to an Alien Priory) in the King's hands by reason of the war.
¹⁰ 8 Feb. 42 Edw. III.^o It was found by the Escheator's certificate that Matilda the widow of John Anketell (who died 22 Edw. III.), had held during the term of her life, till her death, of the heirship of her son William, son and heir of the aforesaid John, a messuage with appurtenances in Shaston by military service, of Hugh Tyrell, cousin and heir of John

¹⁶ Inquis. post mort., on Thomas Anketell.
¹⁷ The wife of this Oliver Anketell is not in the Visitations. It appears by the escheator's account in the Record Office that her Christian name was Johanna, and that she married secondly Robert Gannul.
¹⁸ The age of John Anketell in 1472 (44 years) appears in the Filioil proof of age, Record Office. He is there styled "armiger, of Lye."
¹⁹ "Armiger" is appended to the names of William Anketell and George Anketell, in documents in the Record Office.
²⁰ Inquis. post mort.
²¹ Subsidy Roll, 1321-5.
²² See Visitation of Gloucestershire.
²³ This is most probably the John Anketell, who is styled of Compton, in com. Wills, and of Newmarket, co. Cork, Ireland, Esq., who married Lady Lucia Touchet, eldest daughter of Mervyn Earl of Castlehaven and Lord Audley. He called his manor court in co. Cork, "Almer," and his doing so presumably pointed to his descent. He died at Newmarket, co. Cork, 12 April, 1638, and left a son John his heir.⁹ His widow married Colonel Garret Fitzmaurice, second son of Thomas the eighteenth Baron of Kerry. She died 16 Sept. 1662, and was buried the next day in St. Werburgh's Church, Dublin. John Anketell's daughter, Frances Anketell, married Thomas O'Grady, Esq., of Killyballyowen.^r
²⁴ Register, Combe Flory Church.
²⁵ See Will of Breerton Anketell.
²⁶ Herald's Visitation.
²⁷ In the Register of St. Cuthbert's, Wells, is the marriage, 14 Sept. 1644, of Captain William Anketell of Wells, with Joan Drowdrupp, of Lye under Mendip. In the Pedigree of Williams of Horringston it appears that in 1662 John Williams of Shitterton married Jane, daughter of William Anketell (probably this William). This marriage is in the Registry of Wintertorne Zelston (next Almer), 24 April, 1662.
²⁸ Thomas Anketell, of Bagshull, in com. Surrey. His Will was proved 24 Dec. 1641 and is at Doctors' Commons.
²⁹ See her Funeral Certificate, Herald's College.
³⁰ See Pedigree of Wells, vol. i. p. 688, from which it appears that she was about twenty years old in 1686. The Stour Provost Register gives the burial of a Mary Anketell in 1722.
³¹ Doctors' Commons.
³² The Stour Provost Registers previous to 1710 were lost.
³³ See her husband's will in her favour, Doctors' Commons.
³⁴ See her brother's will. Tenison and the Moores of the Drogheda family.
³⁵ See Lodge's Peerage, first edition.
³⁶ See Lodge's Peerage, under the head of Coote, Earl of Bellamont.
³⁷ See Burke's Landed Gentry.
³⁸ He bears the same arms as those of Rankin of Oreharthead, Scotland, confirmed to the Rev. G. Rankin, his first cousin. In 1753 George Rankin married Elizabeth, daughter of Ralton of Snittlegarth, co. Cumberland (the Raltons bear the same arms as the Ralstons). The third son of this marriage, Joseph Rankin, married Frances, daughter of John Frederick Falwasser, of Cookham, Berks (who came from Aalbe on the River Saale, in the county of Magdeburg in Germany), by his wife Sarah, daughter of Benjamin Stroud, by his wife Miss Colwell, the representative of Gregory de Colsell, to whom William the Conqueror granted the manor of Waltham in Essex, and all that extensive parcel of land called Epping Forest. In right of this descent the present Captain F. Falwasser of Sherborne bears the Colsell arms. The son by this marriage of Joseph Rankin, the present Henry Rankin, married Frances-Helen, dau. of the Rev. William Heath, Vicar of Inkborow, Worcestershire (of the Staffordshire Heaths), by his wife Miss Coussmaker, of the family of Coussmaker of Westwood, in the county of Surrey, descended from John de Coussmaker of an ancient and respectable family of Flanders, by his wife Mary, daughter of John de Vassy, Governor of Sas-van-gent in Flanders, of which family of Coussmaker is the present Baroness de Clifford in her own right. John de Coussmaker was high in the confidence of King William III.

³⁹ Assize Rolls.
⁴⁰ Fine Rolls.
⁴¹ Patent Rolls.
⁴² Register of Salisbury.
⁴³ See Gillingham Chartulary, British Museum.
⁴⁴ Inquisitions, Record Office.
⁴⁵ Coram Rege Rolls.
⁴⁶ De Banco Rolls.
⁴⁷ De Banco Rolls.
⁴⁸ De Banco Rolls.
⁴⁹ Feet of Fines.
⁵⁰ Gillingham Rolls.
⁵¹ Roll of Knight's Fees.
⁵² Originalia Rolls.

78

Family legend has it that the "first Antell", came to England as "personal bodyguard" to William the Conqueror. So let us now examine some of the facts and information that i have collected here.
 Taken from-

THE HISTORY OF THE FOREST OF EXMOOR
 E.T.MACDERMOT.

Appendix I.

WARDENS OF EXMOOR FOREST.

I. HEREDITARY WARDENS OR FORESTERS IN FEE AND THEIR DEPUTIES.
 1204—1461.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1086 | <i>Anschetil Parcarius, or Robert de Odburville.?</i> |
| In the time
of
Henry II. } | <i>Osbert Dacus.?</i> |
| 1199 | <i>William Dacus ("as his ancestors had it")?</i> |
| 1204 | WILLIAM DE WROTHAM I. |
| 1207 | WILLIAM DE WROTHAM II, Archdeacon of Taunton, by his attorney Richard de Wrotham I. |
| (1215 | John Marshal, during the king's pleasure). |
| (1216 | <i>Alan de Boclaunde, during the king's pleasure).</i> |
| 1218 | John Marshal, as guardian of Richard de Wrotham II. |
| (1222 | Brian de l'Isle, during the king's pleasure). |
| 1225 | RICHARD DE WROTHAM II. |
| (1250 | Adam de Grindeham, during the king's pleasure). |
| 1251 | WILLIAM DE PLESSY. |
| 1274 | RICHARD DE PLESSY, alias Richard de Barbeflet. |
| 1289 | NICHOLAS PECCHE I, in right of his wife Sabina. |
| 1295 | SABINA PECCHE. |
| 1308 | NICHOLAS PECCHE II. |
| 1323 | RICHARD PECCHE. |
| About | William de Montacute, as guardian of Thomas Pecche, who |
| 1330 } | died a minor. |
| 1333 | MATHEW PECCHE. |
| 1341 | SIR RICHARD DAMORY (by purchase).
1342. Mathew de Clivedon, Deputy to Sir R. Damory with certain limited rights.
1349. John de Bekynton, who had acquired the bailiwick of the forests for his life from Sir R. Damory, assigned his interest to Guy de Brian and Thomas Cary. |
| 1351 | SIR ROGER DE BEAUCHAMP (by purchase). |
| 1359 | ROGER MORTIMER, 2ND EARL OF MARCH (by purchase). |
| 1360 | Guy de Brian, during minority of heir.
1362-5. Richard de Actone. |
| 1372 | EDMUND MORTIMER, 3RD EARL OF MARCH. |
| 1382 | Sir Peter Courtenay, during minority of heir. |
| 1393 | ROGER MORTIMER, 4TH EARL OF MARCH.
1393-1405. Sir Peter Courtenay, deputy and lessee. |

From-WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR, by David C Douglas.
page 93- (the Duke and the new aristocracy.

The Bessin, too, produced an outstanding dynasty of "vicomtes".
At the beginning of Duke William's reign the "vicomte" of the
Bessin was Rannulf, who was the son of a "vicomte" named
ANSCHITIL'.

He married a daughter of Duke Richard III, and was among the
defeated rebels at Val-es- Dunes.

None the less, the office continued in the family, for he was
succeeded by another Rannulf (II) who was established at
Avranches before the Norman conquest, and who survived until
after April 1089.

Moreover, this second Rannulf married Maud, daughter of Richard,
"vicomte" of the Avranchin, thus linking together two powerful
vice-comital dynasties which were later in turn to determine
the succession of the earldom of Chester.

These descents have far more than merely a genealogical interest.
They reflect the rise of great feudal families whose possession
of the vice-comital office was to influence the growth of
Normandy and the fate of England..

It seems to have been generally assumed that there were only
two Rannulfs, (vicomtes of the Bessin), at this time,
namely Rannulf "Meschin" who became the Earl of Chester in 1120,
and Rannulf his father who married Maud, daughter of Richard,
"vicomte" of the Avranchin.

Chronology, however, makes it imperative to distribute them
into three,- namely (I) Rannulf, son of ANSCHITIL, WHO FOUGHT
IN 1047 at VAL-es-DUNES,

(II) Rannulf, presumably his son, who occurs in or before 1066,
and (III) Rannulf "Meschin".

R.A.D.N no111. The career of Anschitil is illustrated in many
other charters of an early date, particularly in those of Saint-
Wandrille (e.g. Lot, op. cit., nos 13,14).

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Chapter III.

THE THIRTEENTH CENTURY.



ON the death of King Edward the Confessor in January, 1066, three foresters, Dodo, Almar, and Godric, held half a hide of land in Withypool ("Widepolla").¹ Evidently they were foresters of Exmoor. They were evicted by the Conqueror and the land given to a Norman, one of the *servientes regis* of Domesday, Robert de Odburville by name, who held it in 1086, when the Domesday survey was made. From this, combined perhaps with the fact that the first warden of Exmoor Forest, of whom anything definite is known, held the same land amongst much other Somerset property at the beginning of the thirteenth century, it has been assumed that Robert de Odburville was the first Norman forester.

The late Mr. Eyton seems to have been the first to make the assertion. In his "Domesday Studies," published in 1880, he writes of Robert de Odburville:² "Robert de Auberville's Sergeantry was that of a King's Forester and to foresters of King Edward he succeeded in some estates;"³ but at another place⁴ in the same work he appears more doubtful on the point: "Robert de Auberville was a King's Sergeant (*serviens regis*). His services were probably in connection with the King's Forest. His Saxon antecessors were in one instance Foresters."

No evidence has been found which suggests that the forestership of Exmoor or of any of the other forests was appurtenant to this land in Withypool after the Conquest, or that it was held by Robert de Odburville. On the other hand there is, as we shall see presently, a distinct suggestion that the forestership of all the Somerset forests appertained

¹ Exon Domesday, Domesday Book, vol. iv, p. 443.

² Vol. i, p. 68.

³ The Withypool land seems to have been the only one.

⁴ Vol. i, p. 171.

fell to the Crown, probably by escheat, in the time of King Richard, and were granted by that king to William de Wrotham. If they had been held by the serjeanty of keeping the forests, they would of course have carried the forestership with them, and consequently there would have been no need for the county to make a present to King John to obtain William de Wrotham's appointment as forester. As a matter of fact they were held by knight's service. The Black Book of the Exchequer compiled in the early part of John's reign tells us: "William de Wrotham holds the land which was Robert de Oburville's for one knight's fee by grant of King Richard."

We now come to the charter granting the forestership to William de Wrotham and his heirs. It is dated the 12th May, 1204, and runs as follows:

JOHN by the grace of God King of England, etc. Know ye that we have given and granted, and by our present charter have confirmed, to our beloved and faithful William de Wrotham four librates of land with its appurtenances in Sutthone which were Gilbert de Fulkarmon's, to hold to him and his heirs of us and our heirs by the free service of one pair of gilt spurs or twelve pence yearly for all services and customs. Moreover we have given and granted to him, and by the present charter have confirmed, all the land which was William Dacus's, appertaining to the custody of the park of Niwentone, with its houses and buildings, and with all the office and custom which the same William Dacus claimed to have in the aforesaid park, and the custody of all that park with cablisch, and dead wood, and pannage of the same park, and all the bailiwick of the forestership which appertains and is wont to appertain to Niwentone, and the other lands of William de Wrotham which he has in Sumersete, to hold to him and his heirs of us and our heirs for ever, freely, quietly, wholly, honourably, fully, in all things and all places, by the free service of keeping the park and that bailiwick for all services. Witnesses—H. of Sarum, P. of Durham, S. of Bath, Bishops, At Southwick the 12th day of May in the fifth year of our Reign.

This was the original charter of the hereditary wardens of the Somerset forests, and as such was quoted by them whenever their authority was questioned. In 1343 it was confirmed by King Edward III in favour of the then warden,¹ and neither on that occasion nor on any other do we find any reference to an earlier grant of the office.

The forestership, it will be observed, appertained in 1204 and had been wont to appertain to Newton and William de Wrotham's other lands in Somerset. William de Wrotham

had at this time acquired three estates in Newton, which had formerly belonged to Robert de Odburville, Roger Estable, and William Dacus respectively. Presumably from its inclusion in this charter, the forestership appertained to the last of these; otherwise we should expect to find some reference to it in the former confirmation of 1199, and moreover William de Wrotham would have been the forester before that date by virtue of his grant from King Richard. Of this there is no suggestion, and it is in fact negatived by the payment of the hundred pounds to secure his appointment. The statement that the forestership also appertained to the other lands of William de Wrotham in Somerset is therefore difficult to understand, unless it refers to such lands as passed by this grant. Perhaps the point had been in dispute. The significant fact remains that not until he had acquired the custody of the park and the land held therewith from William Dacus did King John grant the forestership to William de Wrotham.

The custody of the king's park of Newton or Petherton had long been a hereditary office in the family of William Dacus, who succeeded to it in 1199. This is shown by the following entries in the Oblata Rolls of that year:

William Dacus gives the Lord King twenty marks and one palfrey that he may have his inheritance; to wit, the custody of the park of Niwentone.

'It is written in another place below in this roll.'

William Dacus gives the Lord King twenty marks and one palfrey for having the custody of the park of Peretone with its appurtenances as his ancestors had it, and as it was recognised before Geoffrey fitz Peter in the time of King Henry father of the Lord King then Forester² that he ought to have it.

His immediate predecessor in the custody of the park was, according to Collinson, Osbert Dacus, and it seems likely that the family was descended from Anschetil Parcarius of Domesday, who held land in Newton, and appears from his name to have been the keeper of the royal park there. Anschetil was a Danish or Scandinavian personal name and Dacus meant "the Dane."

On the same day—12th May, 1204, on which King John gave the custody of the park and the forestership of the

¹ See The Red Book of the Exchequer, p. 235 and note.

² Charter Roll, 5 John, m. 4; also Chancery Misc., bundle 12, No. 6.

¹ Oblata Roll, 1 John, m. 22.

county to William de Wrotham, he also gave by a similar charter¹ to William Dacus certain property at Ilchester,—

To hold to the same William and his heirs of us and our heirs in his² in Perrentone appertaining to the custody of the park of Perrentone,³ and in exchange for the custody of the same park appertaining to the same land, by the service of a fourth part of a knight's fee for all services and demands.

William Dacus had evidently surrendered his office of warden of Newton Park to the king by way of exchange for this property at Ilchester, and the king thereupon appointed William de Wrotham to the vacant office and to the forest-ship which went with it, thus carrying out his part of the bargain made in 1199.

A few days after the appointment of William de Wrotham as warden of the forests of Somerset, King John granted a charter to the men of Devon disafforesting all their county up to the old boundaries of Dartmoor and Exmoor as these existed in the time of King Henry I. This important charter⁴ was granted at Winchester on the 18th May, 1204, and the portion relating to the forests is as follows :

JOHN by the grace of God King of England etc. Know ye that we have disafforested all Devon concerning all things that appertain to the forest and to foresters as far as the metes of the old regards of Dertmore and Exemore as the regards were in the time of King Henry the first ; so that all Devon and the men dwelling therein and their heirs may be entirely disafforested and quit and discharged as to us and our heirs for ever concerning all things which appertain to the forest and to foresters, excepting the two moors before-named, to wit Dertmore and Exemore by the aforesaid metes. We will also and grant that the aforesaid men of Devon and their heirs may have the customs⁵ within the regards of those moors as they were wont to have in the time of the aforesaid King Henry, doing therefor the customs⁶ which then they were wont and ought to do therefor. And that it may be lawful for those who will, outside the aforesaid metes to assart, make parks, take all manner of venison, have dogs, bows and arrows and all other manner of arms, and make deer leaps, save within the boundaries of the aforesaid moors where they shall not be able to make deer leaps or enclosures. And if their dogs shall run into our forest, we will that they be fetched

out thence, as [the dogs of] other barons and knights, who have been disafforested and who elsewhere border on our forest, are fetched out thence.¹

Witnesses The Lord Herbert Bishop of Sarum, Geoffrey fitz Peter Earl of Essex, Baldwin Earl of Albernarle, William Earl Ferrers, Henry Earl of Hereford, William de Braose, Hugh de Neville, William Briwere, Simon de Pateshulle. Given by the hand of the Lord Simon, Elect of Winchester, at Winchester the 18th day of May in the fifth year of our reign.

For this charter the men of Devon paid the king a sum of money, which appears from the following entries on the Close Rolls² to have amounted in all to a thousand marks (£666 13s. 4d.)

4th July 1204. The King writes to the Treasurer and Barons of the Exchequer that he has received 300 marks of silver of the fine which the men of Devon made for the disafforesting of Devon.

4th October 1204. Order to the Collectors of the money for the disafforesting of Devon for 200 marks.

7th October 1204. Receipt for the sixth hundred marks³ of the same fine.

28th November 1204. Receipt for 100 marks.
7th June 1205. Receipt for 300 marks.

What portion of Exmoor Forest in Devon was disafforested by this charter we have no certain knowledge ; perhaps it embraced all the Devon manors which we afterwards find owing suit to the Swainmote Court. Some two or three years later a perambulation was apparently made and the western boundary of the forest fixed, for among a list of debts due to the king, which on the 3rd April, 1207, the sheriff of Devon was ordered to collect, appears the following item : "Of the County of Devon six score marks for having metes of the moors of Devon."⁴ No record of a perambulation has survived, but for reasons which have already been discussed⁵ there can be little doubt that the 'metes' then fixed were those described in the seventeenth century as—the Duns Brook, Long Stone (at Sandyway), Coles Cross, Two Barrows, Setta Barrow, Hore Stone, Edgerley Stone, Wood Barrow, Saddle Stone, Hoar Oak and the Badgworthy

¹ "Volumus quod ipsi inde deducantur, sicut et alii barones et milites inde deducantur qui sunt deaforestati et qui marchant alibi foreste nostre."

² The remainder of the charter relates to the powers and duties of the sheriff of Devon and has no reference to the forests.

³ Rot. Litt. Claus., pp. 2, 10, 11, 15, and 36.

⁴ Rot. Litt. Claus., p. 11, has "pounds" here, but as all the other sums are in "marks," this is probably a clerical error.

⁵ Pat. Roll, 9 John, m. 2 (Rot. Litt. Pat., p. 70).

¹ Charter Roll, 5 John, m. 3.

² The illegible words would appear from the context to have been "in excambium terre sue" = "in exchange for his land."

³ Charter Roll, 5 John, m. 2 (and "Rotuli Cartarum," vol. i, pt. i, p. 132); also Chancery Miscellanea, bundle 12, No. 6.

⁴ = Accustomed rights.