



Pampisford People

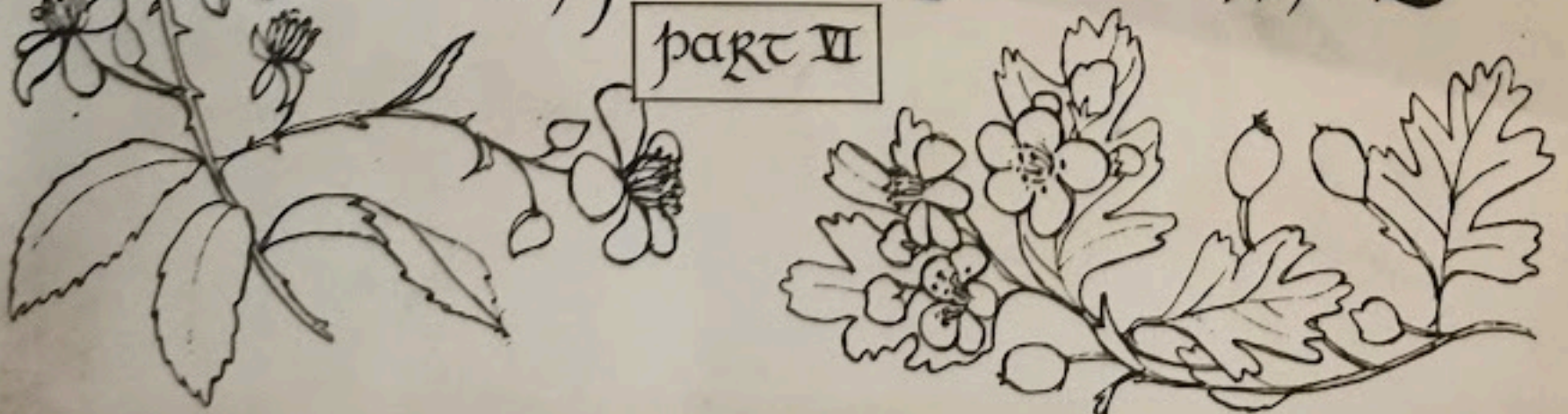


and

A Pampisford Flora

Compiled by O.C. Mayo

PART VI



PEOPLE

T.F. Teversham in Part I of the "History of Sawston" lists some of the names that have been associated with the area. In Sawston, for example, some of the local families can trace their names back in the church registers for two and three hundred years. Among them are the following.

Stubbins	Townsend	Hurry
Howell	Haylock	Dockerill
Barker	Churchman	Rowlinson

The Webb family reaches back to the 14th century and the Hills have generations to their name.

Pratt is another local name that continually recurs. It may have been derived from "Pyratts", one of the four manors of Sawston mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086.

Many other names occurring locally may not be retraceable through the church records in a direct line, but it is possible that they are related.

In 1086 the Norman-French, Geoffrey de Mandeville held Huntingdon's Manor in Sawston. The same Manor was leased to William Stubbinge (Stubblings) in 1609.

Many other familiar names appear to date from the 18th Century including Teversham's own. On March 29th 1719, Harry Simper had a daughter Elizabeth baptised in Sawston. Simper or Semper was a shortened version of Simperingham. This family moved to Pampisford over a century ago.



PAMPISFORD CHURCH REGISTERS

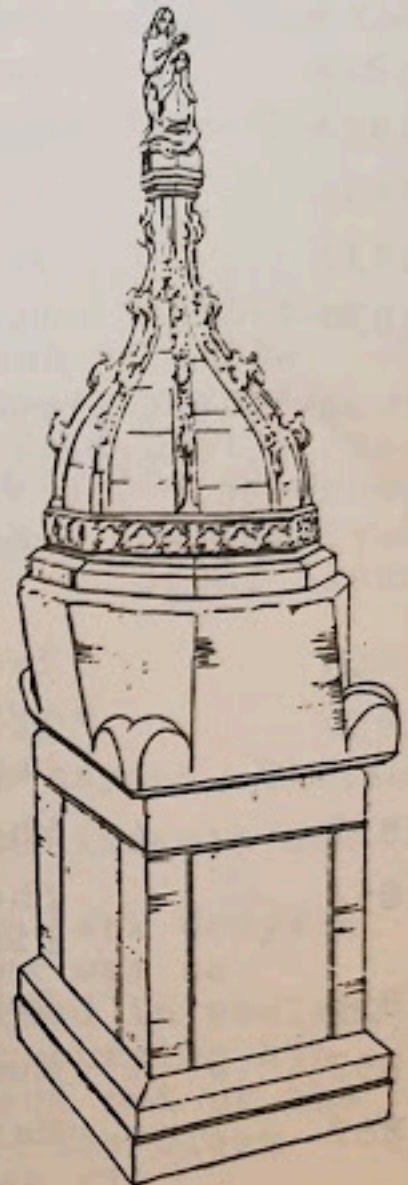
The Registers begin from the date as follows:

BAPTISMS	1560
MARRIAGES	1584
BANNS	1754
BURIALS	1561

The following lists are of selected extracts from the Church Registers

BAPTISMS

<u>DATE</u>	
1560-70	Keeler, Morley, Mortlock, Wakelin
1570-90	Brand, Fordham
1601	Ellis, Veere (Beere ?)
1618	Driver
1641	Osborne
1651	Nunn
1667	Webb
1677	Freeman
1700	Robinson
1702	Ward
1706	Purkiss
1739	Simperingham
1763	Dockerill
1764	Parsons
1768	Kifford (Kefford or Gifford)
1770	Brazer (Brazier)
1778	Rowlinson
1775	Belsham
1791	Gifford
1798	Minott
1816	Pratt



Up to this point no mention is made of the trades or occupations of the parents of those baptised. The majority of the population would have worked in agriculture as labourers.

As a matter of interest some of the later trades taken up by people of the above names are as follows:

Morley	Shoemaker, cordwainer
Hills	Shoemaker, papermaker
Freeman	Labourer, shepherd, clerk
Dockerill	Labourer, blacksmith, of the White Horse
Parson	Labourer, groom, housekeeper
Brazier	Shopkeeper, gamekeeper
Rowlinson	Labourer, church clerk, railway gateman
Gifford	Labourer, gardener, shepherd
Pratt	Innkeeper
Minott	Farmer

After 1809 trades are recorded of the male parent

1823 Mortlock of Abington - Mariner
1828 Wade - Schoolmaster and Sadler
1829 Heffer - Shopkeeper and Farmer
1829 King - Farmer
1834 Fenton - Blacksmith
1835 Fison - Labourer
1837 Harris - Papermaker

From 1846 a great number of baptisms take place of older people, suggesting perhaps an enthusiastic or over zealous incumbent. The Vicar at this time was the Reverend John Haviland who also built the new vicarage. He remained Vicar until 1863.

1848 Ives and Chapman - both railway servants
1850 Itinerant Braziers of Sheffield - 2 children baptised
1852 Wheston - Shoemaker and Farmer
1854 Shaw - Itinerant travelling gypsies of no fixed abode
1856 Smith - Millwright
1857 Hurry - Parchment maker and leather dresser
1862 Hamond - Labourer

From 1866 many of the population work in the paper making or leather industry.

1868 Smith - baker
1868 Waldock - of Pampisford Mill, farmer and (Corn) miller
1870 Smith - Schoolmaster (of Teversham)
1871 Nightingale - Leather dresser
1871 Moule - Journeyman and miller
1873 Hawes - Gamekeeper
1877 Dover - Ticket collector on the railway
1879 Scruby - Brewer
1879 Fison - Butcher
1880 Teversham - Factory labourer
1884 Balls - Gamekeeper

MARRIAGES

1635 Stubbinge
1780 Wm. Freeman and Mary Cole

BANNS

- 1804 Dec. 23. William Bignall of Chesterton to Sarah Runnals
Forbidden by William's father because the lad
was not of age.
- 1805 Aug. Baptised, Elizabeth born of Sarah Runnals.

BURIALS

In this section of the Register simple comments following the name of the deceased were often made, most often "a householder" or "a poor old man". The following selected extracts afford a small glimpse into the kind of people who died in the Parish and came to be buried in the churchyard.

- 1597 Gale Thomas - Son of Robert Gale, a poor wandering man
- 1610 Old Mother Holden - a widow
- 1613 Mortlock John - Old John - yeoman
- 1620 Hall - a poor stranger, as she sayeth, Elizabeth
- 1680 All the deaths recorded were of infants and children.
- 1727 William Parker Esq. of Hayling Park Croydon. 50/- given to the poor as there was no Affidavit that he had been buried in woolen. The Minister Mr. Mapletoft had for burying him in the church £1, being a person out of the parish, his fees were double. The Clerk Johnathan Baker had double fees £1.
- 1755 Elizabeth Parker of Croydon Surrey buried in linen and left £2. 10. 0d to the poor of this parish.
- 1771 A poor man from Castle Camps found drowned on our common
- 1776 William Parker Esq. of Croydon Surrey
- 1794 Elizabeth Hamond daughter of William Parker



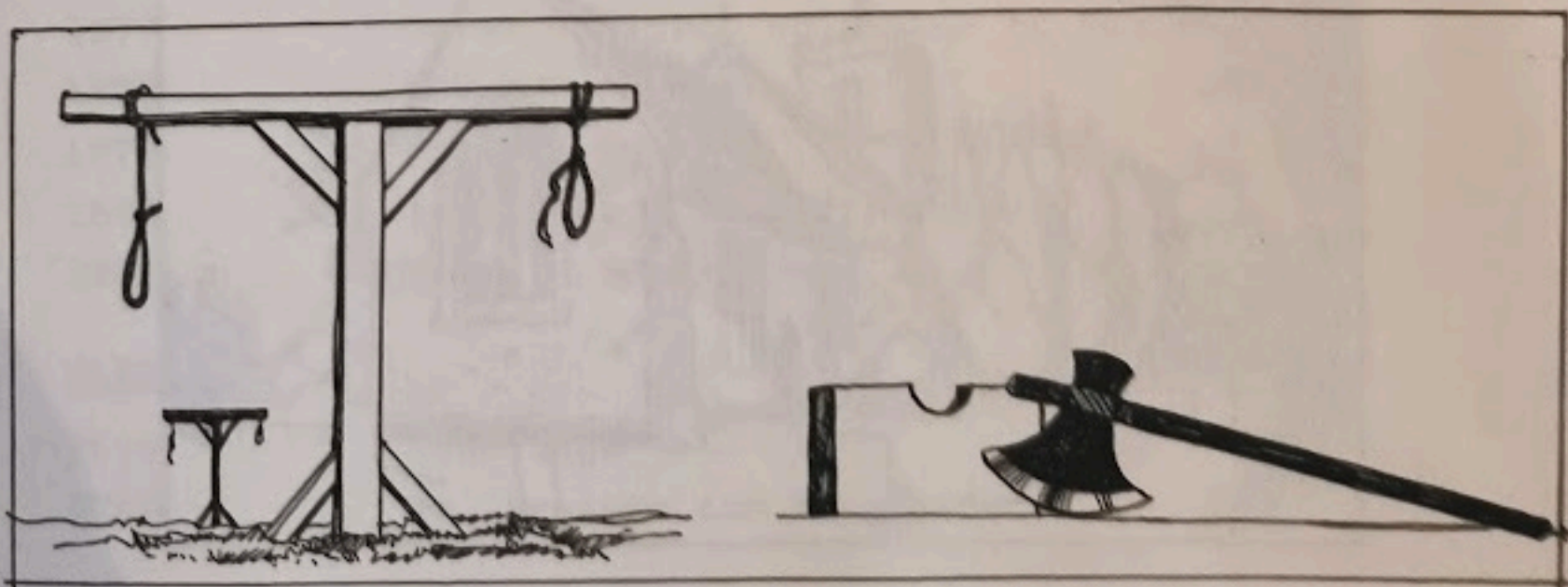
JOHN WEBBE OF PAMPISFORD and THE PEASANTS REVOLT OF 1381

In 1381 a Poll Tax, which proved unpopular throughout all sections of society was imposed on the population to pay for the long Hundred Years War with France. The discontent felt and the general hostility towards the country's own political programme began to surface. King Richard II was only 15 years of age at the time of the revolt, the exchequer was empty and the Crown Jewels in pawn. Many felt that the King's Ministers acted without conscience and when the tax of 3 groats* was imposed, 2/3rds of which was expected to be paid within 10 weeks or so, the population at large began to organise itself. In East Anglia three days of terror began on June 15th 1381. John Hanchach, a landowner from Shudy Camps, raised the whole of south-west Cambridgeshire. Educated and influential classes did not participate. Hanchach left Cambridge on June 15th for Duxford and then on to Steeple Morden.

John Webbe of Pampisford was an associate of Hanchach along with another rebel from Linton known as John Pepir. Webbe was described in the accounts of Ralph Wykes the escheator of Cambs and Hunts as a "Seven John's man" which meant that he was sufficiently wealthy for his goods to be enumerated. In today's terms he would be of good middle class standing.

After the rebels mustered the local populace, John Webbe led a revolt against Thomas Hasildon's manor at Steeple Morden. The manor was sacked and its goods and possessions sold - building and goods were destroyed by fire. As Webbe left the burning buildings behind him, he was arrested by a Justice of the Peace Sir John Dengayne. A witness gave evidence about Webbe's involvement in the sale of the manor's goods, alleging that Webbe had taken one shilling in part payment for a 60 shilling stack of peas. Other insurgents had carried away horses, cattle and jewels, all factors in Webbe's downfall. John Pepir of Linton was pardoned. John Hanchach and John Webbe were executed. The gibbet marked the final end of most rebels. Webbe however was taken to Royston and on July 6th 1381 beheaded. After the debacle Sir. Edmund de la Pole and William Locton of Sawston were appointed to deal with the local rebels.

* Roughly equal to a month's wages of a shepherd or ploughman.



THE MARSHALL FAMILY

Gell Marshall, described, as a freeholder of Pampisford, was Steward of Sawston Manor and involved with various local affairs. His Stewardship began in 1719 when there was no resident Lord of the Manor in Sawston. Stephen Corby of Huntingdon Farm, along with other substantial residents of the area, called on Mr. Marshall to introduce firmer measures in matters of law and order. Local people were flaunting Court Orders and didn't bother to pay fines or even turn up in Court.

It is almost certain that Gell Marshall was a descendant (on the female side) of Robert Gell, Doctor of Divinity - 1665 and his Wife Elizabeth Lawrence. Doctor Gell's altar tomb with its curious inscription was still in existence in 1815 when it was recorded* in the "Gentleman's Magazine". Gell Marshall's son Charles, who was born in 1713, was deeply attached to Pampisford and preferred to live and farm locally despite the opportunities his education offered. When William Cole visited the parish in August 1742 he called at Charles Marshall's home. This was probably the only house of any size in the village. Evidence of this is in the "Hearth Tax" records of 1664. This house existed somewhere on the site now occupied by College Farm.

William Cole's visit, characteristically, was a working visit whereby he set out to record the heraldry that was depicted in the windows of Charles Marshall's house.

In Mr. Marshall's Bed Chamber Window are these Arms viz:
Killingworth & Beryff Quarterly impales Allington of 6 viz:
1st Allington. 2nd Argent; 3rd Azure, 6 Mallets O. with a Canton Erm. for.... 4. R on a Bend A. 3 Leopards faces...
for 5 Gardiner. 6 as 1st. Under them is this inscription: JOHN KILLINGWORTH ESQ MARRIED BEATRICE DAUGHTER OF ROBERT ALLINGTON.

In the same window are these arms: Killingworth and Beryff quarterly impaling Cheyny of 9 coats, 3. 3. 3.
1st Quarterly A & G. a Bend fessile S. for Cheyny.
2nd G. 3 Hawks O. 3rd Barry of 6 A. & G. on a Bend R.
3. Mallets O. 4th R on a Fess dancette intr. 6 Crosses fitché O. 5th A a Chevron S & a crescent in the dexter Chief S. 6th Checuy O. & R. a Bend S. the 7th 8th & 9th lost. Under this note: JOHN KILLINGWORTH MARRIED ELIZABETH DAUGHTER OF WILLIAM CHEYNY ESQUIRE.

* See pamphlet on "Pampisford Church"

In my friend Mr Marshall's Parlour Window are
these arms 1st A. 3 Cinquefoils S for Killingworth. Crest
a seahorse, purple, gorged with a Ducal coronet B.

2nd Killingworth impales B on a chevron A.

3 Demy Lions rampant S intr. 3 Trefoils slipped
Guz with this inscription under them:

Richard Killingworth married Margrett daughter & heire
of Thomas Beryff.

Cole also recorded the following comments on Charles Marshall

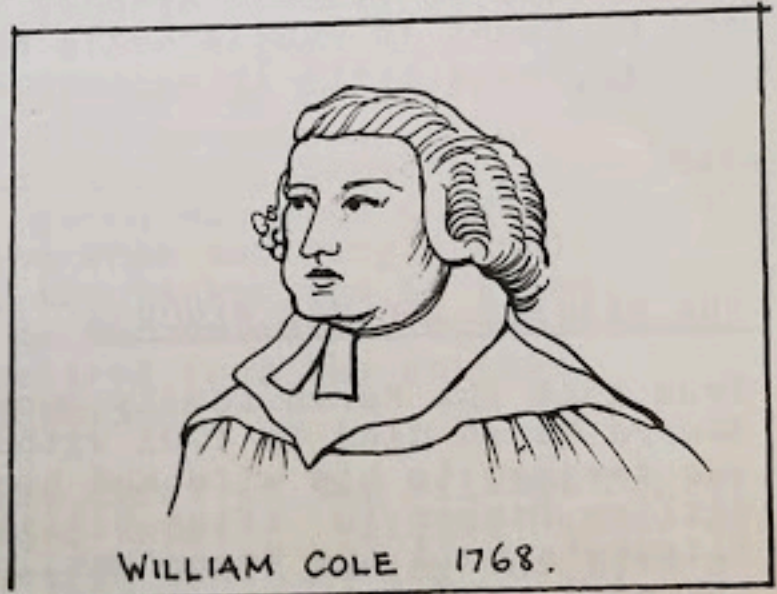
I think Mr. Marshall's father was a Counsellor of
no practice & his Christian name Bell: probably
the son of Dr. Bell's daughter Elizabeth: his son was
of Queen's College, Cambridge & the Inns of Court,
but taking to farming is quite buried alive, and
never sees anyone but Mr. Anddleston & Mr.
Westers's family, the latter of which is related to
him by one of his, viz: old Mr. Marshall's sisters
marrying a daughter whose son was of Clare Hall:
another sister married Mr. Apthorp & relation of
my brother Dr. Apthorp.

In 1795 Charles Marshall died and the following obituary
appeared in the local newspaper.

28th March 1795 OBITUARY CHARLES MARSHALL

ON Tuesday, died at Pampisord in the 82nd year of his age
Charles Marshall Esq. In the early part of his life he received
his education at Queen's College from where he went to the
Temple of one of the Inn's of Court where he proceeded as
Barrister at Law; but declining to follow the profession
he retired to his paternal estate where he has lived ever
since - he was a person of most respectable character,
just and virtuous, benevolent and pious, a sincere friend,
and worthy man and a good Christian whose loss will be
sincerely felt and regretted by all who knew him.

His Will was published later in that year and noted that he had land in Babraham, Duxford, Whittlesford and Ashdown in Essex as well as Pampisford where he chose to live and work. He was assigned as tenant to hold 3 estates of Queen's College for a term (unspecified) of years. His tenanted lands were left to Susan Grey. £100 was given to his housekeeper Sarah Tillbrook and "unto my faithfull servant William Freeman or his widow £100". Charles Marshall during the end of his life was also Steward of the Church Charity Estate.



WILLIAM COLE - 1714 - 1782

William Cole's father was described as a farmer and gentleman. He came to live in the area after marrying the rich landlady of the busy "King's Arms Inn" at Bourne Bridge. She was 21 years his senior and by 1712 after only a few years of marriage she died. Within 9 months however, William Cole's father married yet again and brought a new wife to reside at the "King's Arms". She was Catherine Apthorp* a widow of cultured upbringing and in 1714 she gave birth at the "King's Arms" to a son, William.

William Cole was greatly influenced by his mother despite the fact that she died by the time he was 12 years old. William, who was educated at a non-conformist school at Linton, became one of the most learned men of the 18th century. He settled eventually at Milton (the village with which he is usually associated) but he knew the local area around Bourne Bridge extremely well.

Despite his non-conformist background he eventually became a Minister for the High Church. He is however, better known for his untiring work throughout Cambridgeshire, where he spent his time investigating local antiquities. He wrote a number of manuscripts, the most valuable of which was his "Parochial Antiquities" where he recorded Coats of Arms, stained glass and objects found in local churches. The other work of great interest that he produced was his diary kept daily from 1765-1770. He recorded his visits to Bourne Bridge turnpike where he became acquainted with the very handsome Quakeress Mrs. Lagden, who ran the "White Hart Inn" opposite his own birthplace.

William Cole's industrious life gained him a reputation as Cambridgeshire's most celebrated antiquary. He died at his house in Milton in 1782.

His historically valuable description of Pampisford Church written in 1742 can be found in this series of pamphlets (see "Pampisford Church") and more about William Cole's life can be found in "William Cole of Milton" by W.M. Palmer.

* The tomb of Frances Apthorp, a relative of William's mother, can be found in Pampisford's churchyard. It is one of the oldest tombs still in existence in Pampisford Church-yard.

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THE PARKERS AND THE HAMONDS

From 1548 the Marsh family owned Pampisford Manor and when Edward Marsh died in 1701 without leaving an heir, the Manor was devised to his wife and her son on a previous marriage, William Parker I. After William's death in 1728 his widow Elizabeth held the Manor until her only son William Parker II succeeded around the year 1756. William Cole has left us with this account of William Parker II.

The worshipful William Parker justice of the peace for the county. This gentleman is my fellow collegian in two respects, as he was first fellow commoner of Clare Hall and afterwards of King's, but has left it now (1748) these 6 or 7 years. He lives with his mother at Choydon in Surrey, but has a very good estate in many parts of this country, particularly at Pampisford & Swaffham. He is a very ingenious young gentleman & a very good scholar, but supposed to be rather inclined to madness which actually broke out upon him some years after he quitted the university. He was a little black (ie dark) man, & the most bow-legged I ever saw. He died January 1776 & was buried at Pampisford.

William Parker II died in 1776 without issue; his Estate was therefore divided between his two sisters Elizabeth and Grace. When Grace died in 1781 she had devised her moiety to her sister Elizabeth who was by then the widow of William Hamond. Elizabeth, who also had interests in Croydon, ran the Pampisford Estate until her death in 1789. Her son William Parker Hamond inherited.

William Parker Hamond took an interest in Pampisford and during the General Election of 1793 he enthusiastically embraced the idea of becoming a local parliamentary candidate. Described as a "pretty kind of young man with a good estate in the country" he canvassed the area untiringly until he learned that John Mortlock, the banker was to stand. William quickly realised that he had no chance against such a formidable opponent and he retired from the contest. Mr. Mortlock was elected unopposed.

William Parker-Hamond became the first of the William Parker-Hamonds to inherit the Pampisford Estate. William Parker-Hamond I built the hall at Pampisford (circa 1820). During the 1860's he sold Hayling Park, his Croydon Estate, thereby making Pampisford the family's principal home.

William Parker-Hamond III inherited the estate in 1873, but on his death in 1884 the estate passed to his cousin Colonel R.T. Hamond who was the last of the Parkers or Hamonds to own the estate



Pampisford Hall

JOHN WHESTONE

John Whestone the Elder and his family resided in Pampisford during the early 18th century. John was described as a yeoman and husbandman. The family lived in the area near the present-day "White Horse" public house. When he was "sick and weak" in body he left his property to his son, also known as John. The younger John then left the property to his son John along with 1 shilling each to other members of his family in order that they should buy a pair of gloves in remembrance of him.

In the early 1750's another of the family of John Whestone died leaving the following Will:

" John Wheston desires Gods' pardon for all the sins that I have committed against him. I desire to be buried in the parish church-yard of Pampisford.

To son John: copyhold messuage with out houses & orchards, subject to legacy of £6 to his mother Thos. Weston

To 5 grandchildren: 5s each

To sons John & Thos: all moveable goods & chattels "

Witnesses: Rbt & Anne Beeten, Isaac Hally
Stephen Simpkinson, Edw Oyle and
Frances Patten. 1756

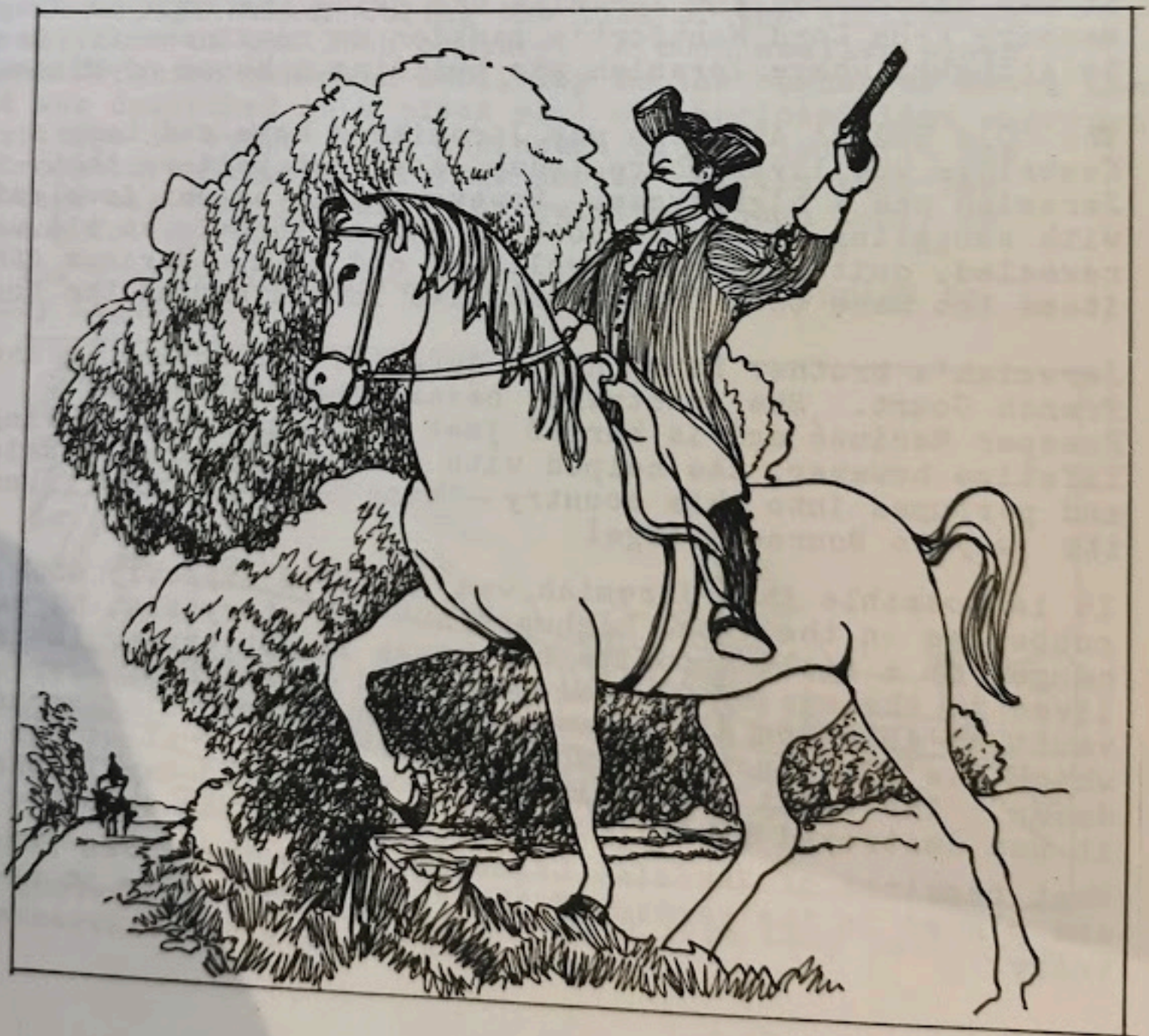
The later John Whestons of this line eventually became cordwainers or shoemakers. Although one member left Pampisford to live in Sawston in 1814, the Whestons were still making shoes in Pampisford into the latter half of the 19th Century.

Moorlach, since the collapse near the old barn should be put into repair and what ever trees are wanted. John Wheston may be taken down upon the Choritis estate
John R. - Loubz

THE LAGDEN FAMILY

Strictly speaking the Lagden family lived at Little Abington. However, the various exploits of the family and their influence affected Pampisford and for that reason the family is included here.

Jeremiah Lagden is one of the most legendary members of the family. His reputation as a notorious highway-man may or may not be deserved but after his death in 1804 speculation grew and he became Little Abington's most notorious character. He was the son of Emma Lagden, proprietress of the 'White Hart Inn' at Bourne Bridge. Emma was a Quakeress but seems to have belied the usual characteristics of that sect. William Cole knew Emma well and described her as "laying herself out to attract men.....gallantry was her ruling passion". Certainly scandal and intrigue surrounded the comings and goings at the busy 'White Hart Inn' and in 1776 tea and lace were seized by Customs and Excise Officers to the value of over £1,000. Smuggling was a regular occurrence and the Inn became a notorious rendezvous point along the busy Newmarket to London Road.



The 'White Hart' remained in the hands of the Lagden family after Emma's death, when Jeremiah's brother Robert took over the business. Robert was still the landlord in 1749 when it is recorded that he closed the Inn out of consideration for his customers, while his family were suffering from small pox. The 'White Hart Inn' which had begun life as a simple 2 roomed thatched and boarded toll-house, was finally dismantled after the death of Robert Lagden in 1787. A visit to the spot today reveals little more than the incessant flow of moving traffic and it is difficult to imagine the many colourful events that occurred there in the past. (see also pamphlet on Pampisford's early history).

JEREMIAH LAGDEN

In his youth Jeremiah was the post boy at the "White Hart" and is reputed to have made himself rich with monies stolen from the post.

Another story about Jeremiah is told of the time when he was steward to Lord Montfort of Horseheath. Lord Montfort was walking in his park one day when he tripped over a rope stretched on the ground. On making further investigations it was discovered that Jeremiah was using the rope to drag masonry from Lord Montfort's mansion in readiness for removal to Abington where Jeremiah was building a house of his own!

The 'Old House' Abington was Jeremiah's home and Lady Cambridge, who lives there today, does not believe that Jeremiah was a highwayman. However, that he was involved with smuggling, is in no doubt. Excavations in an old well revealed, quite recently, rolls of old silk. Various other items too have been found concealed in and around the house.

Jeremiah's brother Henry had a daughter who worked in the French Court. She eventually became the Mistress of Prosper Merimeé and is buried just outside Paris. During her lifetime however, she helped with the smuggling of precious silks and perfumes into this country — much of this booty found its way to Bourne Bridge!

It is possible that Jeremiah was involved directly with robberies on the local highways but the story that he was hanged in a field opposite his house is not true. In fact he lived to the age of 97 years and died in his bed. Jeremiah's vault at Abington did however lay in unconsecrated ground, which was another reason why speculation grew about his evil deeds. The vault lay undisturbed until World War II when it was destroyed by a direct hit from a German bomb.

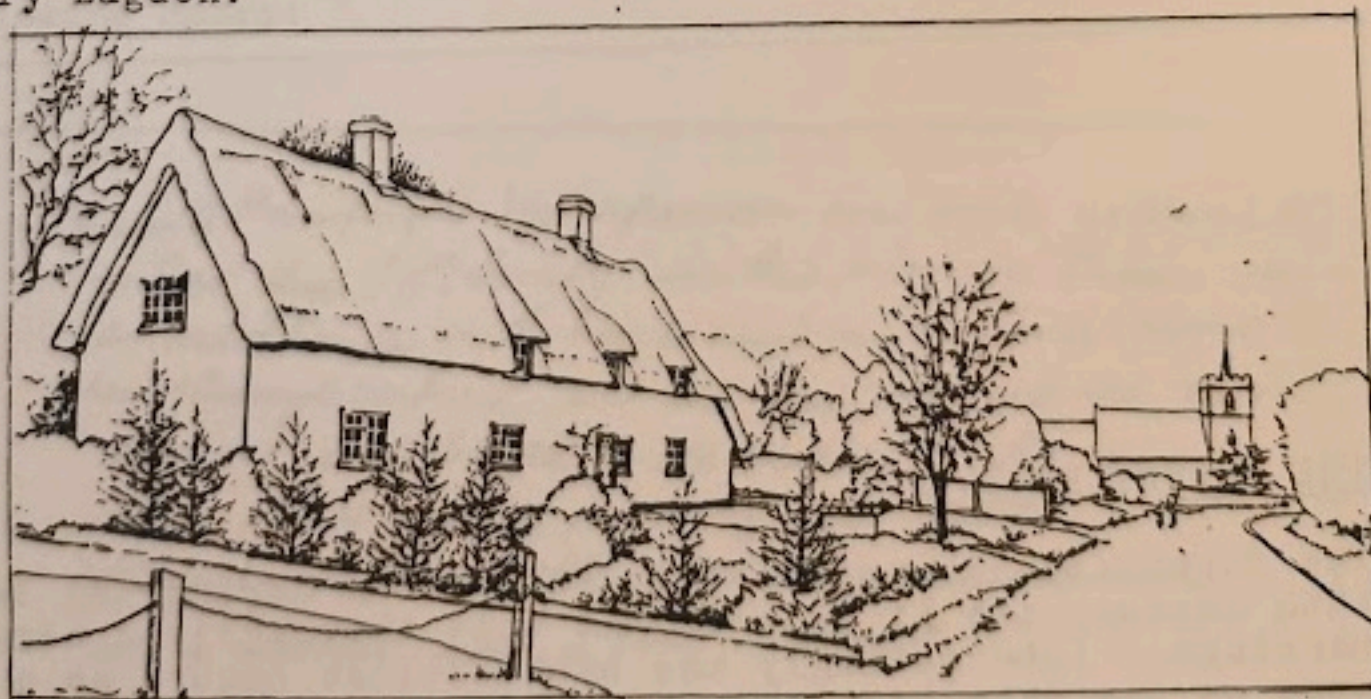
What remained of Jeremiah Lagden's family vault was removed and placed in the garden of the "Old House" where it remains today.

Whether or not his reputation is deserved, stories about Jeremiah thrilled and terrified many local children even up to this century. His ghost is said to have haunted the area, particularly along the Newmarket Road and woe betide any children who might stray too far from home-especially late in the evening!



During his lifetime Jeremiah had interests in Pampisford where he owned 2 pieces of land. The largest piece, of over 12 acres, was acquired from him by John Mortlock, the Cambridge banker, during the time of the inclosures at the turn of the 18th century. A much smaller piece which Jeremiah owned in 1801, lay on the corner of Beech Lane and was described as a piece of 'old enclosed land whereupon a cottage is built'. The inclosure map included in the Introductory Pamphlet of this series reveals that the Cottage was very probably the building known today as "Manor Cottage".

At the time of inclosure the cottage was occupied by Henry Lagden.



I am grateful for the help I received from Lady Cambridge in researching this section.

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THE KIMMONS (KIMMANCE) FAMILY WILL

The Kimmons Family lived in a cottage near the old inclosures at Brent Ditch End. In 1792 William Kimmons made the following Will:

I bequeath one shilling to my eldest son Stephen
..... to my son Henry the Freehold, tenement
orchard and garden, he allowing his brother
Stephen and sister Judith the kitchen end
while they remain single. I bequeath to my
daughter Judith, the Copper, the large
Kettle, the Boiler, the Pewter, 4 dishes and
6 plates..... The working tools, Hatchets,
Bills, Wedges, Beetled and Mattocks and
Pitch Bark to be equally parted between
my 2 sons.

The remaining part of ye furniture
to my daughter. As I have 7 skips
of Bees I give them to my 2 sons and
my daughter to be taken up at the
proper time, ye Honey, to be parted
equally between them. I also give to
Judith 3 tubs & 2 vassals.

.....

THE SCRUBY FAMILY

The Scruby Family appeared in Pampisford during the late 18th Century and it is possible that they arrived here via marriage. Interestingly the name Robinet occurs as a middle name on the male side and as a maiden name on the female side, and someone named Robinet had farmed the rectory lands during the 17th Century.

Died
Elizabeth wife of
William Scruby, March 30th 1799
aged 26

"Her God sustained her in her final hour,
Her final hour brought glory to her God,
His faith disarms Destruction;
Believe, then look with Triumph on
the Tomb."

Various members of the Scruby family became tenant farmers in Pampisford by the mid 19th Century. Thos Scruby farmed the Rectory and John Scruby farmed 270 acres - (probably College Farm). William Scruby also farmed in Pampisford but was also a maltster and brewer. During the 1840's William selected the site north of Brewery Road to begin a brewery and malt house as the water on site proved excellent for brewing. William, and later Charles Scruby, operated the brewery for the next 30 years. A small snippet of information about the family appears in Maynard's Manuscript which is kept in the County Archives Cambridge. On Tuesday June 7th 1836 N. Maynard made the following entry:

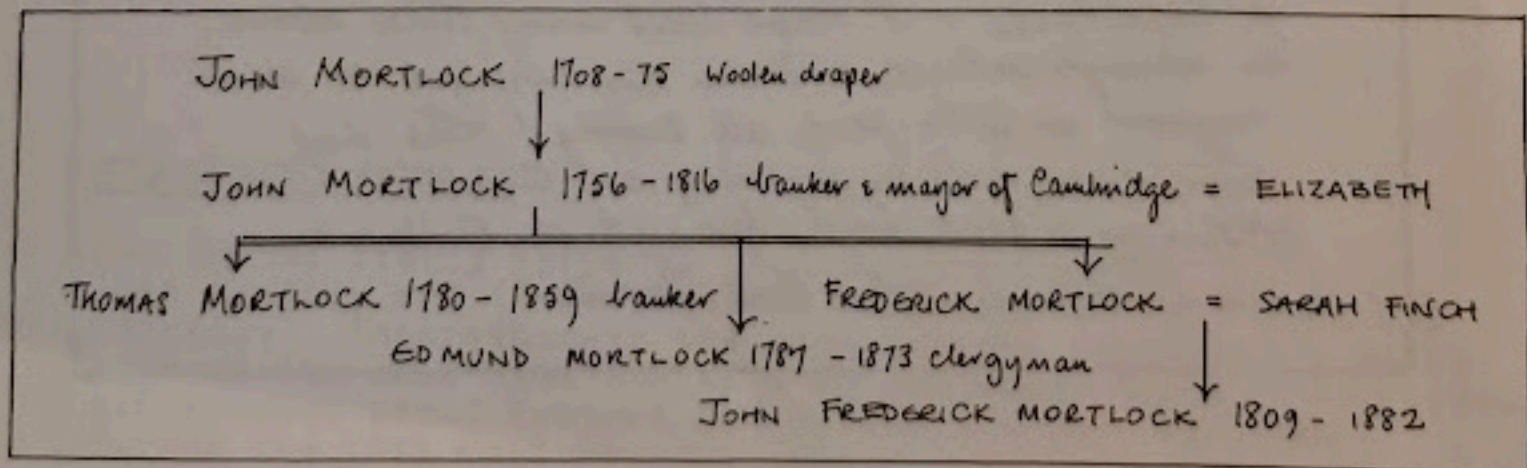
"I went to Pampisford this afternoon was quite astonished to hear that Mrs Scruby was this morning taken to a madhouse - I have heard many times about her strange conduct, and she has now got so outrageous as to be past all bearing! She has done herself mad by jealousy and liquor. Mr Scruby is gone with her with one of his men and 2 women with a Post Chaise"

THE MORTLOCK FAMILY

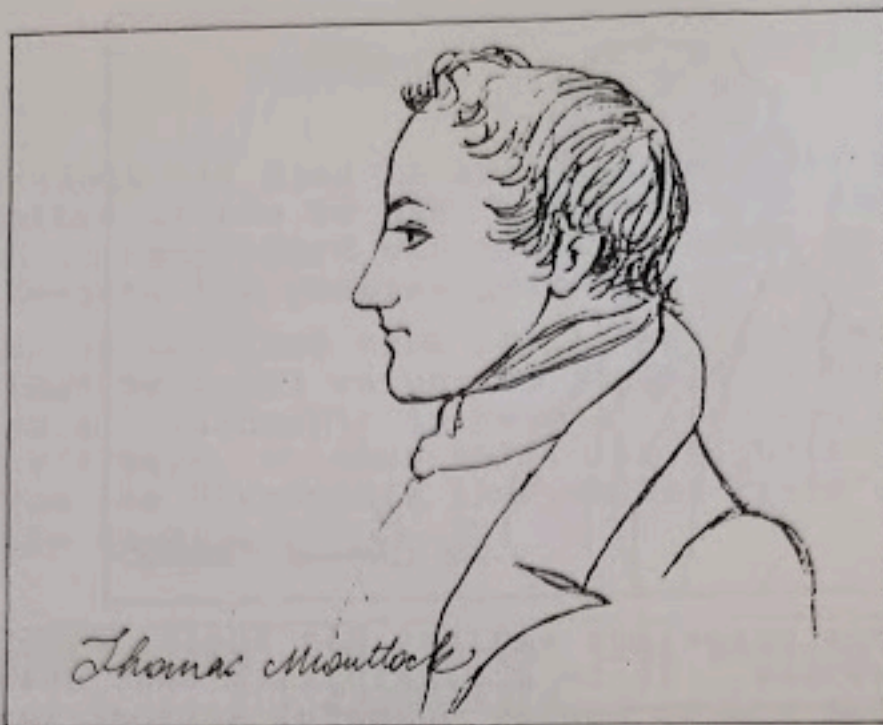
One of the earliest links between the Mortlock family and Pampisford appears in a charter dated 1526. Although it is possible that the family had associations with the village before that time.

The family was involved with sheep-farming both in Abington and Pampisford. Eventually John Mortlock (1708-1775) a Wool Merchant, began a wool business in Cambridge. His son, also named John, was to become one of the most powerful figures in Cambridge during the 18th century. He founded the first bank in Cambridge and went on to be elected Mayor of the town no less than 13 times before he died in 1816. He also became a Member of Parliament.

Because of his position, a considerable amount of power and influence was wielded by him and later by his sons both in the town and the countryside.



EXTRACT FROM THE MORTLOCK FAMILY TREE



The family estate included property at Abington and Pampisford as well as the bank in Cambridge. It amounted to a valuable inheritance, which on the death of John was passed to two of his sons - Thomas and Frederick. Frederick resigned his interest in 1820 and died in Leicestershire some eighteen years later.

Frederick's son, John Frederick Mortlock, had always believed that his Uncle Thomas was merely a Trustee of the estate. On his Father's death in 1838 therefore, John Frederick fully expected to inherit the Mortlock fortune. In this he was gravely mistaken as he had no legal claim. In the agreement his Father had made with Thomas all claims had been surrendered by Frederick.

John Frederick simply could not accept this and a strong conviction grew within him that he had been swindled out of his inheritance by his Uncle Thomas and other members of the Mortlock Family. It was a conviction that remained with John Frederick throughout his life, a life spent in continual pursuit of his "rightful inheritance".

Numerous Court actions taken against his Uncle Thomas produced no result except frustration for John Frederick, who then began a campaign to shame and humiliate his Uncle. One of the more bizarre actions John Frederick took was to set up a stall and a small tent in Peas Hill opposite Mortlock's Bank (now Barclays). Above the stall in large letters was a notice inscribed:

"APPLE STALL KEPT BY MR. MORTLOCK"
Nephew of Messrs. Mortlock bankers and the
right Reverend Lord Bishop of Lincoln

John Frederick wore a magnificent velvet lined coat and held a silver salver for collecting donations. Another notice said "NO CHANGE GIVEN". Naturally the apple stall became a focus of attention and attracted many supporters to John Frederick's cause. Should his Uncle Thomas appear anywhere in the vicinity he was met with cries of derision.



Despite various campaigns against his Uncle, John Frederick met with no success. It is a possibility that sheer frustration led him to employ unlawful actions against his Uncle's property. The 1830's and 40's were an age of seething discontent in the rural areas and arson was not uncommon.

In Pampisford, Thomas Mortlock's estate (now Rectory Farm) was tenanted by Thos. Scruby who suffered a number of fires during this period and the possibility of John Frederick having a hand in these arson outbreaks, as well as others in Abington, where his Uncle also owned land and property, cannot be ruled out.

By 1842 John Frederick's obsession over his "rightful inheritance" turned into a dangerous delusion. He wrote a series of threatening letters, not only to his Uncle Thomas but also to his Uncle Edmund, a clergyman, who he suspected had assisted Thomas in the outrageous swindle. Suddenly events moved at a great pace. Driven by frustration and fury John Frederick burst into his Uncle Edmund's rooms at Christ's College and shot Edmund before escaping through a window. Fortunately Edmund wasn't seriously hurt, but it was quite clear by now that John Frederick was a dangerous man and the law acted. He was arrested, brought before the Courts and ordered to be "transported beyond the seas for twentyone years".

After 15 years in an Australian penal colony John Frederick returned illegally to this country, during which time a description of a "man in peculiar attire" was recorded:

"About 5' 9" and forty years of age (he was actually 48) light hair with a moustache of darker colour. Square built, thick set and powerful. Dressed in a cutaway coat of brownish colour, dirty white Duck of Linen trousers - rather loose after the French fashion - with a French looking hat".

Foolishly he had returned to Cambridge. He was recognised, arrested as a convict at large and sent back to Australia for another 5 years. By 1864, when John Frederick's punishment finally came to an end, he was allowed to return home.

Thomas Mortlock had died in 1853 and had left the Abington and Pampisford estate to his nephew Edmund John Mortlock whose land in Pampisford was still tenanted by the Scruby family. Despite the passing years, much of it spent in exile, John Frederick had lost none of his conviction. He still believed that he would return to England to become Squire of Abington, a landowner in Pampisford and proprietor of Mortlock's bank — once more, the fight began! An extract from the "Cambridge Independent Press" of 1865 takes up the story.

23rd September 1865 - Man caught tres passing for game at
Pampisford

The mistake of a life - At the Linton Petty Sessions on Wednesday week, John Frederick Mortlock was charged with tres passing on the lands of Mr. Scruby in search of game. Mr. Naylor appeared for Mr. Scruby (instructed by Messrs. Francis, Webster and Riches). The defendant admitted that he had been upon the land, and had shot three partridges, but claimed to be the owner under the Will of his grandfather. On this Will being produced by the defendant, it turned out that the grandfather had left the property to the defendant's Father and his Uncle as "joint tenants". On it being explained to the defendant that it was an incident in joint tenancy that the whole estate went to the survivor, and that his Uncle having survived his Father it became his absolutely, Mr. Mortlock expressed his gratification to him that his mind had been relieved of a great error, and said that he would never repeat the tres pass. At the suggestion of the Chairman, on this happy explanation, Mr. Naylor agreed to withdraw the case, and this ended we hope for ever the source of bitterness and misery that has occasioned the throwing away a life that might have been of advantage to the owner and the public.

One week later the "Cambridge Independent Press" printed the following letter concerning the above report.

" Cambridge, Sept. 23, 1865

Sir, - My attention has been directed to a paragraph headed "Pampisford - The mistake of a life", in the chronicle of this day. It is a tolerably correct account, excepting on one point, of only part of what occurred, and therefore calculated to leave erroneous impressions.

I request that you will allow me to amend that statement, and call public attention to a matter of public interest.

The paragraph asserts that "it turned out that my father and his brother were 'joint tenants' and that therefore the said brother, being the survivor, was heir to my father and that my father's children were not his heirs and that thus I am not the owner of the land on which I was charged with tres passing".

But before I can believe this monstrous absurdity to be law, it must be pronounced as such by some high living authority.

No proof of 'joint tenancy' was offered, and Mr. Townley, the only Magistrate present, "suggested" that the question of ownership was one for a higher Court, and to the judgment of a higher Court I must endeavour to submit that question.

It seems so utterly incredible that a man's brother should have a legal right to a claim to be his heir to the exclusion of his children; that a "mistake" on this point will not, I imagine be thought very surprising. If this really be the law, surely the sooner it is altered the better.

However, be that as it may, my father was possessed of other property, which has also been silently certificated by persons not claiming as "joint tenants". I am here seeking the sanction of the Attorney General, under an Act passed in 1857, to proceedings in a Court of Justice, which possibly will discover who has been guilty of the "mistake".

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN FREDK. MORTLOCK

P.S. - If I rightly understand the desire of my grandfather, it makes me - the eldest son of my father - to be on his decease joint owner with his surviving brother, and at the death of that survivor, without heirs of his body, to be sole proprietor. "A devise to A and B jointly" and "A devise to A and B jointly, them, their heirs and assigns for ever" appear to me to have quite different meanings."

John Frederick continued his fight to the point of eccentricity. He made a Will leaving his "rightful inheritance of £300,000" to the inhabitants of Cambridge but, on a realistic level he died leaving effects to the gross value of only £154.8s.1d.

For the full account of John Frederick Mortlock's life see "Cambridge to Botany Bay" by A.E. Clark-Kennedy available from John Bluff, 9 Sturton Street, Cambridge. Mr. Clark-Kennedy, who is over 90 years of age, was not only related to the Mortlock family but is also the son of the Rev. Clark-Kennedy, Vicar of Pampisford from 1886-1890.

I am indebted to Mr. Clark-Kennedy for his help in compiling the above account.

EXTRACTS FROM THE CHARITY RECORDS OF THE 1830's

Rec ^d of Charles Lenton . . . do	25.10.0
Rec ^d of Tho ^s Mortlock Esq ^r right of shooting.	1.0.0
Garden Rents	1.0.0
Robert Mavell Rent due 1834.	1.10.0
William Rowleson 2 years rent 1834.	3.0.0

As Rev^d Ed. Mortlock's wish to stub up the quick fence he may have that liberty provided there should be oak post put down by him but at the expiration of the said lease it is agreed there shall be made a good live quick and fenced both sides and protected for four years by him in case the lease should not be renewed agreed to give



✠ In Memory of
William Freeman

formerly of the Coldstream Guards
having served his King and country
with fidelity and valour throughout the
great Peninsular war and at the final
struggle on the plains of Waterloo where he
was severely wounded this aged soldier
here rests in peace.

He departed this life
May 11th 1866
Aged 81 Years

O, LORD GOD, THOU STRENGTH OF MY HEALTH THOU
HAST COVERED MY HEAD IN THE DAY OF BATTLE.

WILLIAM FREEMAN - 1785 - 1866

Very probably the son or grandson of the William Freeman mentioned in the Will of Charles Marshall. He was a well known local figure who, when times were hard, pawned his medals to Mr. Parker-Hamond, recovering them whenever he could afford it. His extraordinary exploits during the Napoleonic Wars was related in the "Cambridge Independent Press and Chronicle."

" May 19th 1866 - Death of William Freeman - Veteran Soldier

Peninsula and Waterloo veteran - so few now survive of those old soldiers who won for us the glories of the Peninsula and Waterloo, that a passing notice may, it is hoped, be bestowed with interest upon one of these veterans, who died in the village on Friday, May 11th, aged 81. William Freeman, known well in this and neighbouring villages by the soubriquet of "Waterloo Freeman", joined his regiment, the Coldstream Guards, in the Peninsula: he was present at the great over-throw of the French at Viltonia, in 1813 (when, besides the trophies of victory, (143 cannon,) the spoil was so immense, in treasure, that "the fighting troops may be said to have marched upon gold and silver" without stooping to pick it up, in the words of the historian of the war; the plunderers following the army, rectified the omission); he was also with the regiment during the latter operations of the war and finally in 1815 bore his share in the crowning victories of Waterloo. He was with that portion of the Guard's Brigade which held the enclosures on the left flank and rear of Hongoumont. At the very close of the day, being stationed then nearer the crest of the position, on the slope towards Hongoumont, he received the severe and singular wound, the mark of which he carried to the grave: it deserves mention. The bullet entered the right temple very near the eye, and was taken out on the left side of the head, near the left ear. What was its course? The mark on the temple was to the last a deep indentation, showing plainly that the ball had not merely glanced. The man's constitution was such, that, after nine weeks in Hospital at Brussels, he rejoined his regiment in France. In hospital the medical men used to point to this and a somewhat similar case, as the most remarkable wounds among all the sad harvest of suffering gathered from that bloody field. When the regiment returned to England, he obtained his discharge and pension: the bullet, long preserved as a record and a trophy, finally became a plaything for children's children, failed to survive the stout old soldier it so nearly slew, and lost its chance of ever adorning any local collection of veritable curiosities, in which perhaps it might fairly have found a place. It must be added that Freeman was in all sense an upright, straightforward and hence respectable man: he died, sinking rapidly at the last, of complete old age, in his native village, and in the hope and the single faith of a Christian."

THE TRAGEDY OF THE WILSON FAMILY

William Farrington was a tradesman from Whittlesford who travelled around the local villages. He kept a diary wherein he recorded his every day life.

I am indebted to Tom Doig, who has the diary in his keeping at the Cambridge Folk Museum, for allowing me to re-print this extract which was entered by Farrington in June 1858.

- 1st Mr & Mrs Maynard have been to Duxford. Edwin has a swarm bees over the shop door and can't get them out. John Colborne has been over today and stayed (to) tea. Mrs Maynard was not very pleased when she got home. I suppose it was because S.A. & I were up the garden.
- 2nd E. Pearl has been to Thriplow and began to paint the pony cart.
- 3rd I have been to Laxton & Hinxton. Mrs Wilson's daughter of Pampisford Mill is almost a maniac. The Rev. Harland came in while I was there. Harriet came this morning and we went part the way home with her until we met Edwin. It is very warm and I have had the head ache. This is Whittlesford's Tradesmans club feast. They have hitherto had a band but this year they not. ~~Not~~ Nat's have they been to church.
- 4th Harriet, J. Colborne, Edwin & Gentle came over just as we were going to bed. Mrs. Wilson at Pampisford Mill cut her throat this morning and the daughter that has been ill for so long has gone out of her mind. They have sent her away this after noon. The woman has had a great deal of trouble and I should think done it under a fit of insanity. I saw her yesterday - she seemed fatigued but not more strange than usual. She paid me her bill and gave me the order for the goods I have sent today.

5th

We had a very heavy thunder storm this morning. It began at 7 and lasted about 2 hours. Mr Maynard got wet through going to Cambridge. I have been to Pampisford Mill and succeeded in getting the order to serve the funeral. It appears that while her husband was upstairs with the invalid daughter, his wife took his razor. The other daughter, and about 14 years old, saw her and followed her mother to the water closet and asked what she was going to do with the razor. I don't know what answer she made but threw the razor case down, pushed the daughter back and shut the door. The girl ran back to tell her father. He was there just in time to see her go off and took the razor from her hand. This happened about 20 mins past 8 yesterday morning. It is a very serious case and the poor man seems to feel it very much and the family seem to treat it very lightly. There is a younger daughter. I should say she is about 6 to 7 years old, ill with the typhus fever. She was taken ill the same day as her poor mother but the mother, they thought, had recovered. Perhaps it was a return of the fever that caused her to commit so awful an act. The same daughter they took to Luton yesterday afternoon. She is unconscious of the death of her mother. Mr. Mayette came in while I was there but I suppose he did not know me as he did not speak. I hear it is a tremendous cut - completely severed the wind pipe. What a change took place in less than 24 hours after I left on Thursday.

We have not been particularly busy this evening.

6th Sarah Ann & I have been to Linton and enjoyed ourselves very much. We went to see Mr Wilson's daughter who is now quite insane. We went about dinner time to see her. She knew us then. I went again about 8 o'clock and she called me Dr. Prond. It is very distressing to see her in such a state. She is continually talking, and says a very great deal about being deceived. I was never in company with a poor Mammai so long before. It is a very serious affliction and a very heavy trial for her father. She does not know of her poor mother's death altho. she talks a great deal about the dead. We met Mr Naplock of Monk and one of the Mr. Sheldons from Tripton there. In the afternoon ~~we~~ we went to church and heard the Revd. Cole preach a very nice sermon but the ride made us feel very sleepy. We got back about 9 o'clock. Edwin and his mother have gone to Farnham this morning to see his friends.

7th I have been to attend poor Mrs Wilson's funeral. She was taken in a Miller's cart as far as Pamprford Village and then carried by four bears. She was 44 years of ~~age~~ age. The husband appears to feel her death most. She was buried about 5 o'clock. Mrs. M., Hamet and Annie have been to Cambridge. This evening we have had a walk up the garden. Edwin and Gentle have been over. I have not felt very well.

8th This is Edwin Maynard's twenty first birthday. Edwin ~~Pearl~~ Pearl came home this morning. Hamet went to Duxford. Sarah Ann & I have been up the Church Walk for a walk.

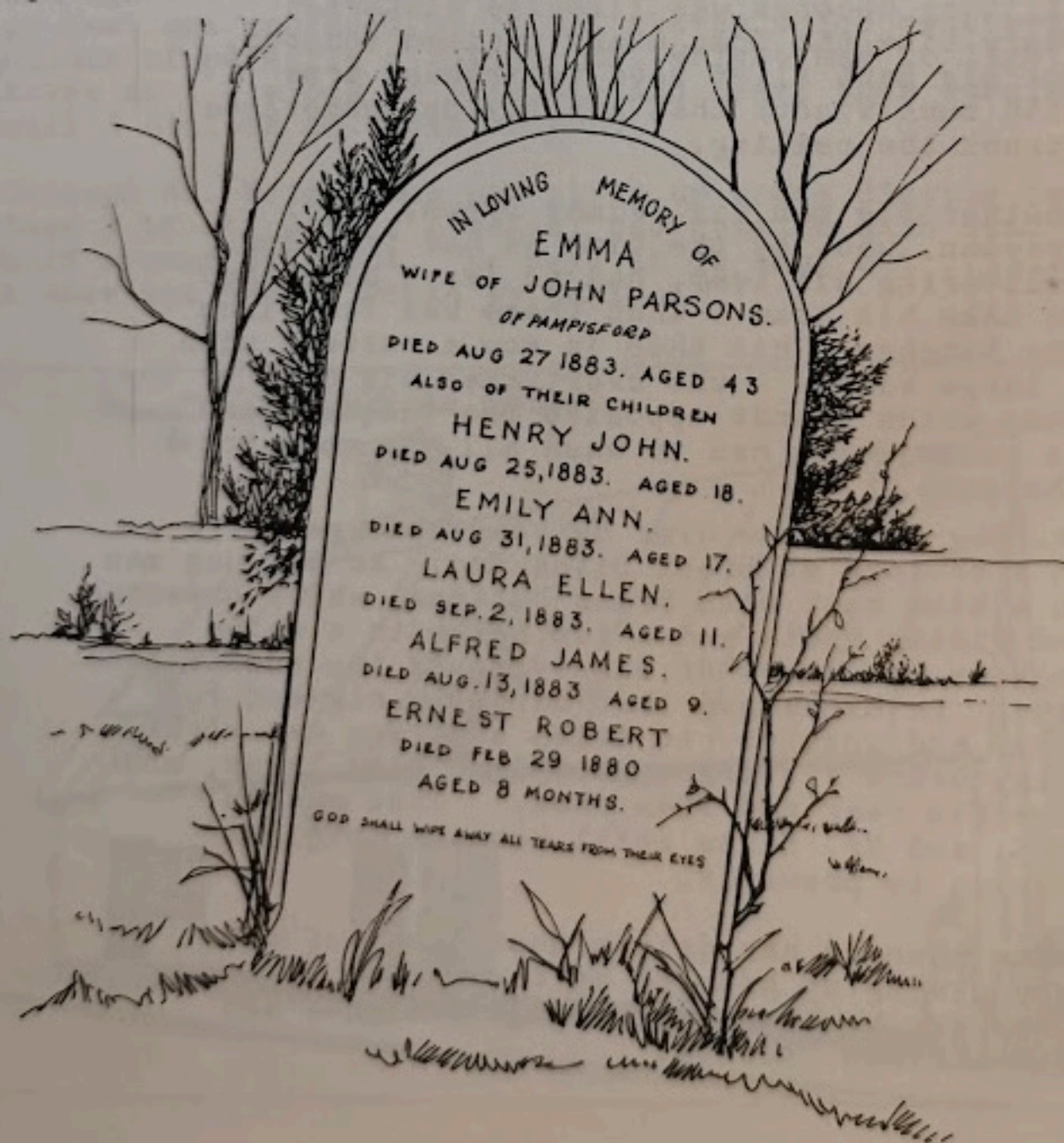
THE PARSONS FAMILY

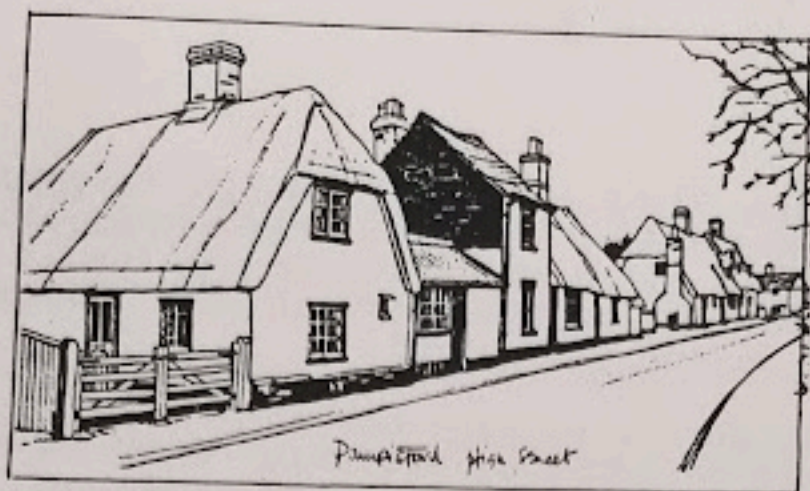
John Parsons and Emma Edwards were married in Pampisford Church in 1864. John worked as a labourer and lived in a cottage on Church Lane. Tragedy struck the family in 1883 when John's wife and four of his children died of typhoid. John and two other children survived.

Typhoid and Cholera outbreaks were not unknown in rural areas and could have devastating effects. Drinking water from wells often became contaminated from cesspits, especially after heavy storms.

Mr. Sonny Wright once pointed out that a wild rose grows by the Parsons grave-stone and during the time when he tended the church yard he took care not to destroy it. Happily Mr. Cliff Thrower, who cares for the church yard today, keeps up the tradition.

The tragedy of the Parsons family was not forgotten and steps were eventually taken to improve the water supply. The village pumps that we see today were installed above bore holes sunk very deeply into the chalk where a wholesome supply of water could be found. This local supply of water was greatly valued and when the idea of water on tap arose a great debate among the villagers ensued. Nevertheless by 1959 Pampisford was "on the mains".





In the 1960's Eric Rayner visited the village in order to write an article. The following extracts are taken from that article and also from the parish news.

" Pampisford's original vicarage, a timbered leaning place with an over-sailing storey, and a date of 1450 on its yellow wall, that has been a post office for generations. It was here, during the Second World War that Pampisford's Home Guard were captured, during a 'Scheme', by the enemy en bloc drinking tea and chatting amiably. The village thought it very funny but the high-up's running the war in this part of the world said some very harsh things.

Military decorum was likewise disturbed every time the Home Guard trained indoors, for big Bert Allen used to present arms with such vigour that his bayonet sometimes struck the ceiling.

Another big man was Jimmy Brown, the drayman, who, by the time he had finished delivering his beer, had to leave his horse to take him home. Then there was Ted Fison the butcher - his shop is now a cottage with a large window - who overturned his cart by the pump which stands opposite the Chequers and, in consequence had to wash all his meat under the pump.

Mr. Reg Hawes now over 80 years of age lives in a cottage at Brent Ditch End. As a young man in a blue coat with brass buttons, white breeches and riding boots and a top hat with a white cockade, he drove Mr Binney round the countryside. Later he exchanged that handsome rig-out for a cap and goggles, to drive a Daracq car with shiny brass fittings, acetylene head lamps, and paraffin rear and side ones. That was in 1908; and Mr. Hawes still has the original licence to prove it.

Since then he has driven most makes of car, only giving up his job at the Hall a few years ago because of failing eyesight; and with a clean licence.

The Gamekeeper at Pampisford Hall was a man called Will Ball, a father of nine sons, he was a blunt speaking man. He once told an old gypsy woman to clear off, using some swear words to make his meaning clear. The old woman not only swore back at him but prophesied that he would die in a ditch with his boots on. And that was just how he was found. Mr. Hawes was one of the men who helped to carry the body home.

Sonny Wright first worked at Pampisford vicarage at the age of 13, earning at that time 3 shillings per week. He later worked for 'Sawston Aerated Water Company' and did his rounds locally with a horse and van. He sold ginger pop at 9 pence for a dozen bottles.

Later Sonny worked for Mr. Gingell at College Farm, earning $\frac{1}{2}$ penny per hour - 3 shillings for a 72 hour week. Eventually he became bailiff under James Binney and lived at Yew Tree Cottage before moving to live at No.2 High Street. He worked for the Church as Churchwarden, Verger, Sexton and pretty well everything else for 48 years. Although the church now has electric strip heating, not so long ago heat was provided by 14 oil stoves which consumed 50 gallons of paraffin a month. Mr. Wright had to light the stoves at 4 o'clock on Saturday and leave them burning until 8 o'clock on Sunday night.

Although Mr. Wright has now given up grave digging he still rings 3 of St. John's 4 bells; one rope in each hand and a third around his foot. He says it is easy but I tried it once and nearly broke my ankle !"

