

MISCELLANY

A section covering information from a variety of sources, which it is hoped will help build a picture of the lives of people living in the Parish during the last three hundred years.

All entries are arranged in date order.

COURT BARON OF THE MANOR OF CHARD 24.10.1716

“To Court came John James holding by Copy Court Roll one close called Barnswell Lane three and a half acres and another close called Marlepitt Close two and a half acres; surrender and taken again by said John for self and Mary Cogan, Spinster, daughter of Mary Cogan of Chardstock. Fine £16 2s 6d”.

Source: Extracts from document held by Chard Museum.

1744 - INDENTURE FOR SALE

Indenture for sale dated 23.1.1744 between John Rounseval Gent. of the Parish of Chardstock and William Amos the younger, Yeoman now late of Pitcombe, Somerset, Francis Dight, Thatcher, of Axminster and Samuel Gray, Yeoman, of Axminster of ALL THAT messuage or tenement with garden lying in the back lane in Axminster near the Burnthouse.

Source: Item offered for sale on ebay (date unknown).

1791 - SALE OF COPYHOLD ESTATES

TO BE SOLD By Auction or Otherwise, at TYTHERLEIGH INN, in the Parish of CHARDSTOCK, in the COUNTY of DORSET on TUESDAY the 22nd of FEBRUARY 1791, Between the Hours of ONE and SIX in the Afternoon; THE FOLLOWING COPYHOLD ESTATES, in FOUR separate LOTS:

LOT 1 For Three Lives - A VERY compact FARM, consisting of a FARM-HOUSE, with convenient Out-Houses, Orchard, and several Closes of Ground, containing Fifty-two Acres or thereabout; and One Acre of Wood or thereabout; all adjoining and well watered; situate at Crawley, in the Manor of CHARDSTOCK aforesaid, now in the Possession of John Bishop, as Tenant thereof; subject to a reserved rent of 5s 7½d, and for an Heriot, the best goods.

LOT 2 For Two Lives - A HOUSE, Orchard, and several Closes of Ground, containing 15 Acres or thereabout; situate in the Tithing of Alston, in the Manor of CHARDSTOCK aforesaid; subject to a reserved Rent of 4s 0d.

LOT 3 For Three Lives - AN ORCHARD and Two Closes of Ground, containing Five Acres or thereabout; situate at Alston, in the South Tithing of the Manor of CHARDSTOCK aforesaid; subject to a reserved Rent of 1s 8d, and an Heriot.

N.B. The last two Lots, are now in the Possession of James Hoar, as Tenant thereof.

LOT 4 For Two Lives - AN ORCHARD and several Closes of Ground, lying together, and containing Twelve Acres or thereabout; lying in the South Tithing of the Manor of CHARDSTOCK aforesaid; now in the Possession of Timothy Hoar, as Tenant thereof, subject to a reserved Rent of 3s 3d.

For Sight of the Premises, apply to the TENANTS; and for further Particulars to MR LAX, Attorney at Law, WELLS; - MR TYLEY, of WEDMORE, or the said TIMOTHY HOAR.

Source: Poster produced by J E Lewis, Printer, Bookbinder and Stationer, Wells.

1814 - COURT BARON OF THE MANOR OF CHARDSTOCK (exact date unknown)

William Bond of Axminster, Land Surveyor, granted licence to let a house, garden and half an acre in the South Tything of the Manor of Chardstock, late Burridges.

William Bond of Axminster, Land Surveyor, granted licence to let a cottage and four acres called Purdishay in the Parish of Chardstock.

Source: Two items offered for sale by Abebooks September, 2008.

1847/1848 - REMOVAL OF PAUPERS

Extracts from the Chard Overseers account book for 1847/1848:

5.11.1847 - To expenses removing Ann Summers [from Chard] to Chardstock 3s 6d

14.3.1848 - To expenses removing Robert Pinney, wife and family [from Chard] to Chardstock 4s 6d.

Source: Chard Museum.

1858 - R BONFIELD OF CHARDSTOCK

Messrs Hill & Turner, based at Furnham Wharf, Chard, were merchants for coal, farmers' fertilisers and building materials. Their delivery book for the period 17.6.1858 to 14.7.1858 records a delivery to R Bonfield of Chardstock of eight and a half tons of culm and some stone; this may have been for lime burning or it may be connected with the Bonfield foundry at Crawley in the Parish of Chardstock.

Source: Extracts from document held by Chard Museum.

1859 - COURT BARON OF THE MANOR OF CHARD

Court Baron held 4.6.1859.

Holding described as "ALL THAT Cottage or Dwelling House with the Garden or Plot of Ground (now an Orchard) thereto adjoining containing by estimation half an acre (be the same more or less) bounded on the North by Carscombe Estate and on the other sides by Lands formerly parts of Chard Common which said Premises were some time since enclosed by Joseph Lawrence of Chard, Labourer, and are situate lying and being in the Tithing of Old Chard".

Following the death of Joseph Lawrence and Mary Ann his daughter (and the wife of Elias White), Eliza White, William Lawrence White and John White (daughter and sons of Elias White, Yeoman, of Chardstock) "by the direction of and in Trust only for the said Elias White his Executors and Administrators took of the Lord of the said Manor" the Reversion of the said premises TO HAVE AND TO HOLD unto Eliza White (aged about 13), William Lawrence White (aged about 10) and John White (aged about 5) for and during the term of their several natural lives and the life of the longest liver. Yearly rent 3s 0d. Heriot 5s 0d "when and so often as the same shall happen". Elias White paid a fine of £50 as the sole purchaser of the Copyhold and to have Eliza White, William Lawrence White and John White admitted as Tenants.

Source: Chard Museum.

1875 - CHARGE OF ATTEMPTED MURDER

At the Beaminster Petty Sessions, on Monday, before Lieut-Col. Cox and Captain Russell, William Larcombe was charged with attempting to shoot one Henry Willmington, with intent to commit murder, on the 16th instant [16.8.1875] at Churchill, in the parish of Chardstock, Dorset. Prisoner was brought before the same magistrates on Thursday last, when, owing to several witnesses being absent, he was remanded until this day, bail being refused. Mr Jolliffe defended prisoner - The prosecutor, Henry Willmington said: I am a mason. On the evening of the 16th instant I was having a pint of ale in a publichouse at Smallridge, where the prisoner was also drinking. We were not drinking together, nor had I said anything to him, when he came up to me and offered to fight, but I declined. He then went out of the house and fought with several others. I saw him knocked down several times, but did not join in the fight. I then went towards my home, when I again saw prisoner, who said someone had given him a "nasty clout" and that he would pay me out for it to-night. He then again offered to fight, but I would not, and said to him "You are up for a row to-night, Larcombe, so I shall go home another way". I then went home, where I had been about ten minutes when prisoner also came home. He lives next door to me. He again wanted me to fight, so I went out; but some women put him into his house and locked the door. I then went into my house. Soon after, I was standing at the door, when prisoner appeared at his door with a gun, which he put to his shoulder and pointed at me. I immediately took it from him, and in doing so let it fall to the ground, when it exploded. He struck me once, and I struck him, and we then parted. - By Mr Jolliffe: I and my two brothers, Tom and James, have been bound over to keep the peace toward my father. We had neither poker nor stick, nor any unlawful weapon with us outside the house. Did not burst the prisoners door open. Cannot say what the gun was loaded with. Was not drunk at the time. Had a row with my wife a short time ago, in consequence of which she left me for a short time. - Tom Willmington said: I saw the prisoner take down the gun and put it to his shoulder and point it at my brother. Heard prisoners wife say "Shoot him; shoot him". and prisoner replied "So I will; I will blow his brains out". - Alice Willmington corroborated. - Police-constable Marsh said: I am stationed at Chardstock. The gun produced was handed to me about midnight on the 16th instant by Henry Willmington, who was then drinky. I have had constant complaints made to me of the Willmington family. I know the prisoner to be a quiet man.

When I apprehended the prisoner he said Willmington had waylaid him and struck him with a stick, and that the gun was only loaded with a little powder to keep the birds off his seeds. - This concluded the case for the prosecution. - Richard Froom was next called, who said: I saw the prisoner on the night of the 16th instant going towards home. Prisoner told me that prosecutor had been beating him, and asked me to go home some way with him, which I did. Larcombe had three streams of blood running from his face. I knew nothing about the gun. - William Willmington said; I am the father of the prosecutor, and live at Churchill. On the evening of the 16th instant I went to the prisoner's house, where I found my son Henry and several others "in arms". The prosecutor then cried out "Stone him, stone him; he has not joined with us!". I then begged Larcombe to let me in, or they would stone me. Larcombe's wife unlocked the door and let me in and again closed the door. The prosecutor then came up with others and burst the door open, and Larcombe, in self-defence, caught up the gun, but did not point it at the prosecutor, who immediately took the gun from him and threw it on the ground. The gun, when on the ground, exploded. The prosecutor then took the prisoner and struck him against the wall. The prosecutor and my two sons, Tom and James, have been bound over to keep the peace toward me. - The bench, after taking the case well into consideration, dismissed it, advising the prisoner never again to use such dangerous weapons. - The prisoner then applied to the Bench to bind the prosecutor over to keep the peace, which they did, and required him to find two sureties of £20 each, and himself £20 for six months. Willmington, not being able to procure these sureties was removed into custody.

Source: Report in the Chard & Ilminster News 28.8.1875.

1875 - MR CHARLES WOODCOCK

It will give great satisfaction to his many friends in the neighbourhood to hear Mr Charles Woodcock, the son of the late Vicar of Chardstock, has been appointed Private Secretary to the Governor of Queensland, Australia, whose spontaneous offer of the post to a gentleman who had no introduction to him is a fair evidence of the estimation in which our young countryman and late parishioner is held in the Colony.

Source: Report in the Chard & Ilminster News 28.8.1875

1875 - BEWLEY FARM, CHARDSTOCK - TENTH ANNUAL SALE

Mr B Gage respectfully announces that he has received instructions from Mr Bright to SELL by AUCTION on WEDNESDAY, the 29th day of September, 1875, the following store SHEEP, IN-CALF HEIFERS, STEERS, CART COLTS, PIGS, WOOL ETC.

Comprising: - 40 rare six-tooth cross-bred ewes, in lamb; 40 cross-bred wether lambs; 4 in-calf three year-old heifers; 1 pair of three-year-old steers; 1 three-year-old cart colt, just broken; 1 ditto, under; 1 two-year-old cart ditto; 15 slip pigs; 130 fleeces of wool; and 100 ditto of lambs' wool.

The sheep and cattle sold from the above farm heretofore having given such general satisfaction, it is not necessary to make any further comment than that the above sheep and cattle were bred on the farm, and are of a truly valuable description.

Luncheon at one. Sale at half-past two punctually.

Source: Advertisement in the Chard & Ilminster News 25.9.1875.

1875 - COURT FARM, CHARDSTOCK

On Thursday evening Messrs R and J Wale of Court Farm, Chardstock gave their labourers and helpers in the harvest fields a substantial supper. Dancing and other amusements were indulged in till "the small hours", when the party broke up thanking the Messrs Wale, and not forgetting Mrs Wale, who has always a kind heart and is ever ready to help any poor persons in the time of need. The harvest in this parish has been bountiful and the weather for securing it delightful.

Source: Report in the Chard & ilminster News 25.9.1875

1875 - JAMES PINNEY

At the Beaminster Petty Sessions, on Friday, before S S Keddle Esq. - James Pinney, a farmer living at Chardstock, was bound, himself in £20 and one surety in £10, to keep the peace towards his wife, Martha Pinney, for the three months ensuing. It appears from the evidence that the accused has from sometime ill-treated his wife, locked her, with two children at her side, out of the house all night, and threatened that he would do her some bodily injury. He said he was sorry for what had happened, and that he would in future lead a more temperate life, and not give way to such evil passions.

Source: Report in the Chard & ilminster News 25.9.1875

1875 November - LORD AND LADY HENLEY'S VISIT

His Lordship, accompanied by Lady Henley, have, during the last few days, been on a visit to their estate [at Chardstock]. Tuesday last was quite a red letter day in the village, the tenants and school children being kindly entertained by them. In the morning the half-yearly rent audit was held, his Lordship and Mr Wale, the Steward, being both in attendance. Dinner was provided in the dining room of the college, and about forty of the tenants sat down, under the presidency of Lord Henley, the company including Messrs R Wale (vice- chairman), W Wale, J Wale, W Miller (churchwarden), J Deane, A Zeally, Waldren, W French, A Bently, T Hallett, Griffin, Apsey (2), Bright, Seward (2), Pope, B Miller, C Pratt, Poole &c. The repast, which was of a recherché description, was served up in excellent style by Mr Thomas Parris, of the George Inn. Full justice having been done to the same, the cloth was removed, and his Lordship proposed "the health of the Queen and the Royal Family", which was enthusiastically drunk. "The health of Lord Henley" was then received with three times three, on the proposition of the vice-chairman. In responding, his Lordship, after expressing his thanks for the kind manner in which his health had been drunk, said he had one or two remarks to make upon a subject which naturally came before them on that occasion, viz, as to the notice which he had given to most of his tenants - for he believed the Act only applied to those rated above £20 - to clear himself of the operations of a Bill which was passed in Parliament this last session, called the Agricultural Holdings Bill. This Bill was one of those unfortunate things which he called Permissive Bills, because they gave permission to people to adopt them or not, as they liked, and that always had seemed to him, after some parliamentary experience, to be a mistake altogether. He thought that members of parliament were sent to decide as to whether a thing was bad or good, to use their judgment, and make laws out and out - to enforce them upon the country or leave them along, making up minds one way or the other. This new Act had the permissive element introduced into it, and gave the power to either landlord or tenant to notice

themselves out of it, and so be free from its operations. He had had several opportunities, although he was not now in Parliament, to inform himself as to the provisions of the Act, and had come to the conclusion that on the whole it was better to notice himself out of it, and therefore he had done so. There was one part of the Bill to which he had no objection at all, and which he should think would be an improvement upon the present system - and he should be happy to adopt it, if only to avoid one custom of their Country, which he much disapproved of - he referred to the tenants having a whole year's notice instead of the present half-year. He was quite willing in their agreements to give in to that point if they on their parts would withhold from selling at the end of their tenancies the hay and straw of the farm. That was a bad custom, he thought, and left the farm impoverished, and therefore he suggested that instead of this being done the hay and straw should be taken at a valuation by the incoming tenant. He thought on the whole that a year's notice was a very proper time, and that, of course, was a point in favour of the tenant, and one on which he should be very willing to meet him. His principal objection to the Bill was that it gave a very complicated system of recompense to the tenant for permanent improvements done to the land. He should only be too glad - indeed he was sure any landlord would be, and would not think of preventing his tenant from laying out money in permanent improvements - to make a special agreement with him in such a case, without having recourse to the provisions of the Act, and so avoid perhaps law suits and difficulties of that kind. Having disposed of this subject, his Lordship proceeded to speak of the affairs of the day at Chardstock. This, he said, was certainly a rather depressing time for them all. They had not experienced such wet weather for many years, and it had done a great deal of damage in some parts of the country. One thing it had done: it had made all their grass fields look remarkably green and bright but he was told that there was no advantage in that, because these fields were so wet that they could hardly put stock upon them. Then another thing for congratulation was that they had had an immense crop of apples this year, but in reply to that he was told there was such a great quantity that they were worth nothing. It was difficult to say where one might congratulate people, but he supposed that altogether things were not so very bad, and that although the corn crop had not produced very largely, yet he was told that all over the kingdom there had been plenty of grass, so that setting one thing against another, he thought altogether that affairs looked tolerably hopeful. These immense rains proved more strongly than ever what parts of the respective farms required draining. His lordship made several suggestions with regard to the drainage of his estate, and said he was pleased to see that much of that land which was once rough and neglected and covered with furze now received careful attention and was productive. Much more, however, might be done in this direction. He expressed his great pleasure at seeing his lands look so well and his tenants prosperous. He trusted they would meet with a continuance of that prosperity, and begged to drink all their good healths. - The vice-chairman then gave "The health of Lady Henley", which was heartily drunk. In responding to the toast, Lord Henley said he was sure her Ladyship would highly appreciate the compliment just paid her. Her Ladyship took a great interest in the parish, and had, he believed, made many friends. - His Lordship then vacated the chair, and the company indulged in 'bacca, grog, and social chat. - At the same time Lady Henley was actively engaged with the school children of the parish, who were provided with cake and tea at the National School through her liberality, and each received a present. We need not add how great was the enjoyment of the little ones, and with what grateful hearts they were dismissed.

Source: Report in the Chard & ilminster News 6.11.1875

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1875 - TYTHERLEIGH, TATWORTH, FORTON, AND CHARDSTOCK PLOUGHING ASSOCIATION

The first meeting of the above Society took place last Friday in two fields near the Tytherleigh Arms Inn, in the occupation of Mr William Miller, of Lower Tytherleigh Farm. There were thirteen entries - namely, four in farmers or farmers' sons' class, six in the general carters' class, and three in the boys' class. The land was in excellent condition, and the ploughing satisfactory. The Judges were Mr Pile, of Branscombe; Mr J S Loveridge, Balls Farm, Musbury; and Mr John Brown, Wormstall Farm, Chiddock, Bridport. The Committee: Mr W Mills, Lower Tytherleigh Farm; Mr W House, Tatworth; Mr Waldren, Cotley, and Mr George Lumbard, Forton. Hon. Secretary: Mr W Miller jun., J C Langdon Esq., of Parrocks Lodge, president for 1875.

At the close of the ploughing a dinner was provided at the Tytherleigh Arms Inn, the president in the chair. There were present the Rev. H B Thompson, vicar of Tatworth, Messrs C and R Langdon, W Dommett, J C Bentley (vice-chairman), W Miller, sen. and jun., N J G Harriman, Joseph Hawker, Genge, Matthews, J Harris, Loveridge (2), W House (2), Roberts (2), F Denning, J Smith, Pile, Brown, Waldren, Lumbard (3), Griffin (2), Miller (6), Zeally, Burrows, Pady, French (2), Retter, Hallett (2), Seward, Vivian, Welch (2), Hawker (2), Pyle, Pope, Deane, Northcott, Phillips (3), Keetch, Newberry, Gibbs, Grabham (2) H Denning. Grace before and after meat was said by the Rev. H B Thompson.

On the removal of the cloth, the Chairman proposed "the health of her Majesty the Queen". It was, he observed, always most acceptable to every true Englishman, and he was sure the present company would drink her Majesty's health as it deserved to be drunk (The toast was received with boisterous cheering, and a verse of the National Anthem was sung).

The Chairman next proposed "The Prince and Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family", and observed that the mention of the Prince of Wales had at this time a singular significance attached to it. He had lately left these shores to visit their vast Indian Empire, and he was sure he carried with him their best wishes for a prosperous journey and a happy return. (This toast was also drunk with much enthusiasm, and "God bless the Prince of Wales" was given by Mr Harriman).

"The health of the Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese, and ministers of all denominations", was the next toast proposed by the Chairman, in eulogistic terms. It was an especial pleasure to have his vicar by his side, and he would speak, he was sure, as he ought, and they would duly entertain everything that fell from his lips (cheers).

The Rev. H B Thompson having expressed his thanks, said he was very sorry that he was the only clergyman present. He was not the vicar of this parish, and he was sorry that the Rev. Prebendary Woodcock, their vicar, was not with them, but he had no doubt he had some good cause to keep him away. With regard to the Bishop of Exeter, he was well-known to many of them, and he believed he was very much respected in his diocese as a hard working man (hear, hear). With respect to his Bishop - the Bishop of Bath and Wells - he was also known to many of that company, and was much respected, as were also, he believed, the clergy (cheers). He had two reasons for attending there - one was to do proper respect to Mr Langdon, their president, and the other was to show his sympathy and good wishes for this new institution (hear, hear). He hoped it might live long and prosper, and that it might do much good in the neighbourhood. He saw one very good motto in the room which behoved him as a clergyman to notice. It called their attention to this one important fact - that they could do nothing without God's blessing. He hoped they might all remember this in their life and practice (cheers).

Song - "The Flag of Old England", Mr W B House.

The Chairman next gave "The Army, Navy, and Auxiliary Forces". Their Army, he said, might be small but small as it was it was the glory and envy of other nations, and much of the happiness they enjoyed in England was produced from the fact that their brave men had gone before them, and fought and died for their country (cheers). They might depend upon it in time to come that the same strong sinewy arms that had done such good service in the past would do so again, if occasion required it, and notwithstanding anything that might be said to the contrary, they would ever see their good and gracious Queen ride triumphant over the waves (loud cheers).

Song - "The Englishman", Mr F Denning.

In responding to the above toast, on behalf of the auxiliary forces, Mr Churchill Langdon observed that the West Somerset Yeomanry Cavalry, to which he belonged, was not at all a bad regiment, and he had no doubt that it would do its duty if ever called upon (cheers).

Song - Parody on "You'll remember me". Mr G Stevens.

The Rev. H B Thompson proposed "The Lord Lieutenant and Magistrates of the County of Dorset" and coupled with the toast the name of the Chairman (cheers).

Mr Langdon, in reply, said he hoped that the scales of justice were evenly and justly balanced on all occasions. Their aim and object was to do justice to all men (cheers).

Song - "The Men of Merry, Merry England". Mr Northcote.

In proposing the toast of the evening, the Chairman said he was quite sure they would all agree with him that Societies of this sort produced the best possible results. They brought together landlords, tenants, and agricultural labourers, and friendship and good feeling was exhibited. He took that opportunity to animadvert upon the friendly relations between employer and employed. They might depend upon it that no strolling demagogues were wanted to instruct them what to do. They gave a fair week's wages for a fair week's work. He hoped next year prizes would be offered for long servitude, and for the best and cleanest cottages (cheers). He wished the Society every possible success, and assured them that nothing should be wanting on his part to help it on. He had the greatest pleasure in proposing "Success to the Tytherleigh, Tatworth, Forton, and Chardstock Ploughing Association" (loud cheers).

The prizes were then distributed by the Chairman. Addressing the competitors, he said he hoped that those who had been successful would be stimulated to still greater exertions; and that those who this year had failed would not despair, but would be determined next year to come off victorious. Subjoined is the prize list:

CLASS 1, FARMERS OR FARMERS' SONS - To the Farmer or his Son who shall best plough half-an-acre of land in a given time. A new plough, of the value of £5 5s 0d presented by Messrs Smith and Co., Chard; G W Miller, Chardstock: James Rockett, driver, 5s 0d.

To the second best, plough tackle, value £1 1s 0d: George Walden, Cotley: George Pearce, driver, 2s 0d.

To the third best; Benjamin Miller, Churchill, a gold pin, value £1: George Hounsell, driver, 2s 0d.

CLASS 2 - GENERAL CARTERS - To the one which shall best plough a certain portion of land in a given time, £2 2s 0d, Robert Aplin, in the employ of Mr Lumbard, Forton: Frederick Phippen, driver, 3s 0d.

To the second best, £1 10s 0d, James Sparks, in the employ of Mr Roberts, Tytherleigh:
George Pearce, driver, 2s 0d.

To the third best £1 0s 0d, James Roper, in the employ of Mr Diment, Stockham;
George Hoskins, driver 1s 0d.

To the fourth best 15s 0d, Henry Harris, in the employ of Mr W House, Tatworth;
John Bond, driver, 1s 0d.

To the fifth best 10s 0d, William Diment, in the employ of Mr Notley, Tatworth Farm;
Vincent Boyland, driver. 1s 0d.

CLASS 3 - BOYS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE - To the one who shall best plough a certain
portion of land in a given time £1 0s 0d, Thomas Hallett, in the employ of Messrs Deane,
Chilson; James Hallett, driver, 2s 0d.

To the second best 15s 0d, Thomas Grabham, son of Mr Grabham, Chardstock;
Joel Evans, driver, 1s 0d.

To the third best 10s 0d, Sidney Walden, son of Mr Walden, Cotley; John Collier, driver, 1s 0d.

The Rev. H B Thompson then proposed the health of the Chairman. He had mentioned him just now as one of the magistrates of the county, but now he wished to speak of him as a private gentleman (hear, hear). Mr Langdon was ever trying to do good, and to be useful to all his neighbours around him, and it was in that character that he (Mr Thompson) put him before them now (cheers). They had been talking of the merry merry men of England, and in their Chairman they had one of those good old squires they all loved and respected (loud cheers). With the toast he begged to couple the name of Mrs Langdon, a lady well-known and beloved in the neighbourhood, and the family, too, he would include in the toast, especially naming Messrs C and R Langdon - (The toast was drunk amid loud and continued cheering).

The Chairman said that his friend had quite taken the wind out of his sails. He never in his life presided over a more jovial lot of fellows, and if there was one thing more gratifying to him than any other it was to be associated with the generous-hearted yeomen of the country (cheers). He recognised their kind mention of Mrs Langdon, and expressed his sincere and unbounded thanks.

Mr Churchill Langdon was also called upon to respond, and in the course of his remarks he said he was glad that their first meeting was so successful, and he trusted they would hold many more, all of which he hoped to attend.

Song - "The British Lion", Mr W B House.

The Chairman said they all know that the success of the Society depended much upon its officers, and he had the greatest possible pleasure in proposing "the health of the Committee". (Cheers).

Mr J B House responded. He thought their first attempt was equal to that of their neighbours, when they set sail (hear, hear). He certainly hoped that next year the suggestions of the Chairman with regard to offering prizes for long servitude and clean and tidy cottages would be carried out (cheers). He was quite sure that if they possessed such presidents as Mr Langdon in years to come they could not but succeed (hear, hear).

Mr Dommatt next proposed the health of the Vice-chairman, Mr Bentley. - Mr Bentley responded. - The chairman next gave the health of the Judges. - Mr Loveridge said the

ploughing on the whole was very good; much better than it was at Hawkchurch last week. He thought they made a great mistake when they wanted nine-inch furrows ploughed; and let them plough eight-inch furrow first; they will find that will answer best. He was quite pleased with the ploughing to-day, and he hoped the newly-formed society would go on and prosper (loud cheers). Mr Pile and Mr Hawker also responded. - The Rev. Mr Thompson next proposed the health of Mr Dommett, of Chard. - Mr Dommett responded. He had himself been the means of establishing several of these societies - one at Thorncombe, one at Sidbury, and another at Yarcombe - and he thought they did a great deal of good. He was pleased to see his friend Mr Loveridge amongst them, as he was one of the Axminster Parliament. It was amusing to read the reports of the doings at the Axminster Board, or, as he (Mr Dommett) should call it for the future, the Axminster Republic (loud laughter). They all knew Mr Loveridge was a jolly fellow and kept things astir.

The Chairman gave the health of the Secretary, Mr W Miller, saying he was sure Mr Miller had spent a great deal of time in carrying out the arrangements, and they were greatly indebted to him and the committee for the way in which this, their first meeting, had gone off. He hoped that the society now started would go on and prosper.

Mr Miller, in responding, said he was proud that everything had passed off so satisfactorily; it was a very good beginning, and he hoped another year to be able to offer more and better prizes.

The next toast was that of the "Ladies", - Mr Bentley was called on to respond, but it was not his place to do so while there were so many younger men in the room. He begged to call on Mr Churchill Langdon. - Mr Langdon said he did not think it was fair for him to respond to that important toast. Mr Bentley must have had a great deal more experience of the ladies (laughter).

Our "Next Merry Meeting" was drunk with three times three.

Several other toasts were added, and there was a lively little spar between the Chairman and Mr Loveridge. - The Chairman said if Mr Loveridge would give up farming and put up for a member of Parliament for East Devon he would give Mr Loveridge his vote, and endeavour to send him up to the House of Commons as one of their representatives (loud cheers). Mr Loveridge responded. With regard to being a member of Parliament, that he never should be. They would not have him in the House of Commons; he should speak his mind too much (laughter). Mr Dommett just now was alluding to the Axminster Board of Guardians; he must confess it was a noisy lot, but they would have fair play, and do the thing that is right.

Source: Report in the Chard & Axminster News 6.11.1875

1875 - ISAAC BOWDIDGE AND FRANCIS BEER

Chard Petty Sessions 8.11.1875

GAME CASES - Isaac Bowdidge and Francis Beer, labourers, of Chardstock, were summoned for unlawfully committing a trespass by entering and being in the day time on a certain close of land in the occupation and possession of Mr William Miller, in search of conies, without having a license.

Complainant said he occupied Churchill Farm, in the parish of Chardstock. On the 4th October he saw the defendants on his land busily engaged in hanging up nets. He went up to within a few yards of them and said "Holloa, then you're busy at it". Defendants caught up all the nets they could and ran away, leaving two behind them, which he now produced.

Bowdidge admitted being on the land, but denied hanging up nets.

Mr Miller said he was confident upon that point.

Beer pleaded guilty.

In answer to the Bench, Supt. Everitt said there was a previous conviction recorded against Bowdidge, but he knew nothing against Beer.

The Bench fined Bowdidge 40s and costs (13s 6d), and Beer 20s and costs - the same.

Source: Report in the Chard & Ilminster News 13.11.1875

1875 - FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE

Chard Petty Sessions 8.11.1875

In reply to the Chairman, Mr Everitt said that the disease in his district was fast abating.

Source: Report in the Chard & Ilminster News 13.11.1875

1875 - LANDS AT HONEYHILL, CHARDSTOCK

TO BE LET BY TENDER, for a term to be agreed upon from Lady Day next, an ESTATE & LANDS called "Honeyhill", containing 24 Acres, more or less, of valuable watered meadow, pasture, arable, and orchard Lands, now occupied by Mr James Denning. There is a convenient Dwelling House and Homestead, with Labourer's Cottage and Garden. The tenant to pay all rates, taxes, and outgoings, and keep interior of building in repair. Tenders to be sent on or before 4th December, 1875, to Mr R Dare, White Horse Inn, Ilminster, or to Messrs. Dommatt & Canning, Solicitors, Chard. The owner does not bind himself to accept the highest or any tender.

Dated Chard, Nov. 10th, 1875.

Source: Announcement in the Chard & Ilminster News 13.11.1875.

1876 - AUCTION AT BEWLEY DOWN, CHARDSTOCK

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, by MR J CATFORD on WEDNESDAY, January the 5th, 1876, the undermentioned DAIRY GOODS, HORSE, HARNESS, SPRING CART, CHEESE, POTATOES, &c.

The property of Mr Charles Hitchcock, declining the dairy business.

Comprising: Powerful black horse, set of harness, spring cart, iron sulk, 7 milk leads and stands, 4 milk coolers, milking pails, 2 cream cans, butter and cheese tubs, churn and stand, milk hod, cheese press and lead beds, cheese vats & followers, curd mill, yoke, large beam and scales, weights, horse gear, copper furnace and fixtures, tubs and buckets, pigs' troughs, vats, pigs' ladder, hay knife, 22-round ladder, 16-round ditto, 3 other ditto, 2 deal tables, lot of fagot and hard wood, 12 cwt. of prime cheese, about 5 bags of Scotch and white rock potatoes, and various other useful articles.

J C has pleasure in observing that the Horse can be highly recommended, the Dairy Goods are in excellent condition, the Cheese of good quality, and the whole is intended for absolute sale.

Sale to commence at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

Dated High Street, Chard, December 27th, 1875.

Source: Announcement in the Chard & Ilminster News 1. 1. 1876.

1876 - COUNTY PETTY SESSIONS

Held on Monday, Jan. 10th, 1876 before the Right Hon. Viscount Bridport, J C Langdon, sen., and C Langdon, jun., Esqrs.

Mr Churchill Langdon sat for the first time as a Justice of the Peace for the Ilminster Division of the County.

ADJOURNED CASE - George Powell was summoned for trespassing in pursuit of game on land at Chardstock in the possession and occupation of Mr William Miller. This was an adjourned case. The defendant pleaded not guilty. - Mr Benjamin Miller said he was a farmer residing at Chardstock. His father rented a farm called Churchill. On the 27th November he was in "Coombe" Field, and saw the defendant there. He was close to the hedge, and about a dozen yards from the footpath. He saw a net over a rabbit's hole close to where the defendant was standing. Witness got over the hedge for the purpose of seeing if there was any one about. He saw no one, and went back into the field again where he had seen Powell, who was then walking off. He found the net had been taken away. Witness was not gone more than about two or three minutes. - By the Bench: He told the defendant when first he saw him that he should summon him. He only saw one net down. - Henry Cousins, labourer, in the employ of Mr Deane, Chilson, said he saw the defendant in the field in question. He had a net down over a rabbit's hole. He was about 110 yards from Powell, hiding behind a gate post. Defendant had nothing to say in answer, and was fined 10s and 10s expenses.

Source: Report in the Chard & Ilminster News 15. 1. 1876.

1876 - EVA DIAMOND

POLICE, Saturday. - Before Vaughan Hanning Vaughan Lee, Esq., M.P.

IMPUDENT ROBBERY - Eva Diamond, a young woman of Chardstock, Dorset, was brought up in custody by A S Hancock, charged with stealing at Ilton, on the 18th instant, a gold pin, a gold brooch, and a gold albert chain, of the value of £4, the property of Mr Charles Canes, blacksmith, of Ilton. It appeared from the evidence that the prosecutor was a blacksmith,

residing at Ilton and carrying on business at Ilminster. The prisoner's sister was the prosecutor's servant, and on Tuesday, the 11th instant, the prisoner arrived at the house of the prosecutor to take the place of her sister, who was obliged to go home on account of illness. On the morning of the 18th instant, prosecutor left his home at Ilton for his shop at Ilminster, leaving his wife (an invalid) and the prisoner in his house. About seven o'clock in the evening of the same day, from a communication he received from a neighbour, he returned to Ilton, when he found that the prisoner had decamped and had taken with her a gold pin, a gold brooch, and a gold albert chain. He gave information to the police, and the same evening A S Hancock started in pursuit of the missing "Eva", and at three o'clock on the following morning that officer found her in bed at a private house in Bath Street, Chard, with the stolen articles in her possession. On charging her with the theft, she at first did not make any reply, but afterwards said she took them because she wanted to get in the lock-up. She was then taken to the police-station at Ilminster. Prisoner, who said she hadn't anything to say in defence, was committed for trial at the assizes.

Source: Report in the Chard & Ilminster News 29. 1.1876.

1876 - MISS HAWKINS

Miss Hawkins, who has been national schoolmistress here for the past seven years, has been appointed with a higher salary to the schools, Beer, Devon.

A contemporary says: - St. Andrews College, which was built by the worthy vicar, the Rev. Prebendary Woodcock (now rector of All Saints', in this parish), which we are sorry to say has been vacant for the last two years, we hear is to be rented for a long term by the Rev. Robinson, of Chigwell, Esses, and we are glad to say it is to be re-opened very soon, when we hope the village will be a little more lively than at present, as it has been very quiet here for the past two years. The college is close to the beautiful church; it has a splendid view and is undergoing a thorough repair.

Source: Village report in the Chard & Ilminster News 25.3.1876.

1876 - JOHN APLIN

ACCIDENT. - On Thursday, the 6th instant, a boy named John Aplin, 11 years of age, in the service of Mr Bowyer, of Paradise, in the parish of Chardstock, was engaged feeding a chaff-cutter, when he got three of his left hand fingers in the machine. The tops of the middle fingers were cut off near the first joint; the top of the forefinger was cut nearly off just below the nail.

Source: Village report in the Chard & Ilminster News 15.6.1876.

1876 - CHARDSTOCK

We are glad to know that Chardstock will again become a scene of busy industry in that high and important work of educating the young. The Rev. H M Robinson, of Chigwell, has taken the premises so long used for this purpose by Rev. C Woodcock, and we trust that his labours will be as effective and as greatly valued by the pupils who may be able to benefit by the advantages held forth. Chardstock village must be in gala spirits this Easter-tide.

A SNOWDROP mania has, according to a correspondent, attacked several of the residents in this parish recently. It appears that some time ago a nurseryman expressed his willingness to buy any quantity of the little bulbs, and a dairyman undertook to grow a large supply for him. The secret oozed out, and a number of persons eagerly entered into the competition. Snowdrops were freely purchased, and the price rose rapidly as the time for the arrival of the expected purchaser drew nigh. Alas! he came not; and now those who are fond of spring flowers can buy one sort very cheaply at Chardstock.

Source: Village report in the Chard & Iminster News 15.6.1876.

1881 - CHARDSTOCK VILLAGE CRICKET CLUB

On Saturday an interesting match was played here between an eleven got together by the Rev. G H P Barlow and the village club. The result shows the village victorious by nine wickets, thanks to the batting of Mr Barlow and Mr Paris. For the Rev. G H P Barlow's side, Mr Woodcock put together 31 in capital style. His bowling also came well to the front. After the game was over the village players were supplied with a capital supper through the liberality of Mr P Woodcock, who also kindly gave refreshments during the game.

A full scorecard was printed in the newspaper, which named the teams as:

Village Club - Barlow, E Beer, Bond, W Forsey, J French, J Grabham, T Grabham,
W Guest, Honebun, G Newbery, Paris and E Scriven.

Rev. G H Barlows Team - Rev. G H Barlow, J Forward, S Forward, G Jackson,
J Jackson, B Matthew, G Matthew, H Matthew, C Michel, G Michel, E Smith and
W Woodcock.

Source: Village report in the Chard & Iminster News 27.8.1881.

1881 - CHARDSTOCK HARVEST FESTIVAL

We understand that the Harvest Festival service will take place at this church on Sunday evening next at 7 o'clock. The music will be a special feature, as the excellent trebles of the College choir will, we believe, be reinforced by members of Chard Choral Society and of Sherborne Abbey Choir. The evening offertory will be devoted to the funds of that most useful institution the Taunton Hospital.

Source: Village report in the Chard & Iminster News 1.10.1881

1881 - SALE OF MYRTLE COTTAGE IN THE VILLAGE OF CHARDSTOCK

Three miles from Chard and four from Axminster

Important and attractive Sale of the neat and valuable HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, CARPETS and RUGS, brass-mounted BEDSTEADS, handsome CHEFFONIERS, office and other TABLES, pier and toilet GLASSES, marble top WASHSTANDS, bedroom and other CHAIRS, BEDDING, the usual kitchen REQUISITIES, 8 small PIGS, &c.

MESSRS. GAGE and SON are instructed by Mrs KETTLEWELL, to SELL by PUBLIC COMPETITION on FRIDAY, OCTOBER the 14th, 1881, without reserve, commencing at one o'clock punctually, the following truly valuable FURNITURE, PIGS, &c.

Comprising - Large pier glass in gilt frame, 8 handsome drawing room chairs, handsome mahogany cheffonier, handsome chiffonier inlaid with brass with glass folding doors; mahogany two-lap table, mahogany butler's tray and stand, Brussels carpet, Queen's lamp, 2 pictures, mahogany coffee table, handsome mahogany writing table with drawers complete; handsome bookcase with glass front, shelves and drawers lined with crimson satin, mahogany music stand with drawer, a quantity of books, 6 pieces of capital old china, a quantity of glass and china, decanters, water bottles, sherry and other glasses, tea and breakfast set, sowing machine stand, 2 fenders, fire sets, sundry carpets, pole and rings, scuttle, floor cloth, box, &c.

THE BEDROOMS comprise - Two handsome brass-mounted iron bedsteads with furniture, 4 white counter-panes, 4 pairs of blankets, feather pillows and bolsters, 2 mahogany half-circle washstands with marble tops and ware, 6 bedroom chairs, handsome mahogany enclosed washstand with ware and glass complete, mahogany toilet glass, picture in gilt frame, table and drawers, chest of drawers, iron bedstead, hair mattress, wool ditto, handsome mahogany square toilet glass on twist supports, 3 towel horses, stair carpet, 2 Brussels carpets, mahogany round table, pier glass, toilet glass, mahogany chamber cupboard with marble tops, bedit, wool mate and rugs, picture, warming pan, scuttle, fender and fire irons, bath, foot bath and can, linen basket, poles and rings, blinds, lamp, Indian and Manilla matting &c.

KITCHEN comprises - Table and drawers, cupboard with drawers, 4 Kitchen chairs, plate rack, mats, linen airers, 2 plate warmers, table, stool, splendid tin safe bound with iron, dinner set, tea ware, jugs, basins, cups, bread pans, plate basket, brooms and brushes, housemaid's boxes, mahogany side table and bracket, paste boards, wire covers, plated dish covers &c.

SCULLERY consists of copper boiler, 10 saucepans of different sizes, stewpans, strainers, knife box, a quantity of tins and jars, water cans, sets of fire irons, large bell, large boiler and steamer, pans, stands, together with the usual kitchen and scullery requisites.

OUT-DOOR EFFECTS comprise - Eight nice young pigs, 2 iron stoves, a quantity of old iron, French trunk, leather portmanteau, large crate, ash box with doors complete, safe, 3 water butts, glass light and frame, wood, flower pots, garden tools, mowing machine, stove &c., with a multiplicity of other valuable lots.

The sale will commence at one o'clock punctually. As the lots are numerous therefore a punctual attendance is solicited.

The above will be on view the day previous to that of the Sale from 10 to 4.

Dated Sisterhood, Axminster, 28th September, 1881

Source: Sale notice in the Chard & Ilminster News 1.10.1881 and 8.10.1881.

1881 - CHARDSTOCK HARVEST THANKSGIVING

HARVEST THANKSGIVING - The annual harvest thanksgiving services in connection with St. Andrew's Church in this village were held on Sunday, and were well attended. The church is in itself exquisitely beautiful, but looked specially so on this occasion through the decoration introduced, which both as to design and execution were all that the best taste and unsparing pains could render them. The congregations were large, and in the evening very much

crowded, numbers even then being unable to get in; this may be accounted for in part by the fact that the musical part of the service was exceptionally good, the ordinary choir being ably assisted by some gentlemen from Chard.

Source: Village report in the Chard & Ilminster News 8.10.1881

1885 - SALE AT COAXDON

One mile from Axminster

IMPORTANT SALE of HEIFERS and CALVES, HEIFERS in-calf, PONY TRAP and HARNESS, PIGS, FOWLS, IMPLEMENTS, DAIRY GOODS, HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, 40 tons of MEADOW HAY, MANURE &c.

MR B GAGE respectfully announces that he has received instructions from Mr G Boon, to SELL by AUCTION on Tuesday, 17th MARCH, 1885 the undermentioned LIVE STOCK ETC:

COMPRISING: - Two four-year-old heifers and calves; 2 three-year-old in-calf heifers; 1 two-year-old ditto; 2 fat pigs; 5 year-old pony (very good); trap and harness (nearly new); cart and harness; 12 Minorca fowls; 6 pigeons; root pulper; turnip cutter; chaffcutter; pig troughs; wire netting; garden tools; bedding; several lots of early seed potatoes, &c; mahogany carved chiffonier; mahogany centre table; hair seat chairs in mahogany frame; pier glass, in gilt frame; sofa; maple wardrobe; washstand; dressing table; half tester; iron bedstead; with many other lots.

HAY &c - About 40 tons of prime meadow hay, to be carried off; 2 parts of ricks of meadow hay &c.

Four of the above heifers are of the Devon breed, and one is a splendid shorthorn and fit for a dairy. The pony young and quiet to ride and drive; the furniture is in a very good state of preservation; the hay will be sold with liberty of removal and in lots; and the whole is deserving especial attention. No reserve.

Sale to commence at Two prompt.

Sisterhood, 7th March, 1885.

Source: Announcement in the Chard & Ilminster News 14.3.1885.

1885 - SALE AT WHITE HOUSE DAIRY, CHARDSTOCK

TO BE SOLD by AUCTION, by MR B GAGE, on SATURDAY 21st, 1885, HEIFER YEARLINGS, HANDSOME BEY PONY, TRAP and HARNESS, PIGS, FURNITURE, &c, the property of Mr John Newberry, leaving.

Full particulars next week.

Dated, March 13th, 1885.

Source: Announcement in the Chard & Ilminster News 14.3.1885.

1885 - MR H R FARQUHARSON BEFORE THE ELECTORS OF WEST DORSET

On Wednesday evening Mr H R Farquharson, the Conservative candidate for the representation of the Bridport Division of the County of Dorset, addressed the electors in the schoolroom at Chardstock, there being a large audience composed principally of the labouring and working classes. Among those present were Mr E Stanhope Rodd, of Edencote House, in the chair; the Rev. E Evans, Capt. King, Capt. Charlesworth, Mr W S Bevis, Mr T P Eames, Mr E Eames, Mr J Eames, Mr J C Bently, Mr F Bently, Messrs R Wale, W Mules, H Smith, P J Rogers, Toms, Miller, J Long, T Akery, &c.

The CHAIRMAN in his introductory remarks, expressed his pleasure at seeing so many, of all classes, present; especially was he pleased to see so many of the labouring class present. There was a time when the labouring man did not care what Government ruled them, but now things had altered, and he not only took an interest in the Government of this country, but he also had a voice in the matter himself. (Cheers). He would put these questions to them: - During the last five years, has England suffered or gained under the Liberal Government? Has she gained in the esteem and friendship of foreign nations? No. (Applause). Has she gained in her war policy, which, unfortunately, just now we were in the middle of? No. (Applause). Has she gained in respect to her taxes being lessened? No. Lastly, has she gained in her trade and commerce? He feared not. (Applause). With regard to foreign affairs, he feared there was a dark and gloomy future before us. Our brave troops have entered on a long summer campaign, in which our picked officers and men were engaged, and they would have to get over again the dreary work of last autumn. Much blood has already been spent, and he feared still more would be shed, vast sums of money, and many good lives lost before the power of the Mahdi was "smashed". But he could "smash" him if we had to wait five years - may it please God it would be only one year before peace again reigned in the Soudan. (Applause). With regard to home affairs, the great topic of the day was the depression in trade, a question which intimately concerned them all. Much was said about "the cheap loaf", but he would remind them that the loaf which cost the least money was not always the cheapest loaf. It was not a cheaper loaf if it did not pay the grower to cultivate the land. (Applause). He should not like to see the price of bread lower than 6d, for then we should all be gainers - the poor man would not be out of work, the landlord would be able to let his farms well, and the agricultural labourer would have constant employment. (Applause). Mr Rodd then introduced Mr Farquharson, whom he believed, if elected, would uphold the honour of that county and the country at large, and do every thing that a loyal English gentleman should do for the welfare of the nation. (Cheers).

MR FARQUHARSON, who was greeted with applause, first referred to the fact of his candidature being supported by the Conservative association of the county, and, addressing himself principally to the labourers present, warned against the influence which would be brought to bear upon them in political matters. The employer of labour, who paid them their wages every Saturday night was their real friend and best able to give them advice. (Applause). But strangers would come amongst them, who would say anything that could be said against the landlord, the clergyman, and the tenant farmer. They must recollect that the Radical agitator never paid them sixpence; on the contrary, most Radical agitators were men living out of the pockets of the working men, and could not express an independent opinion, because they divided their livelihood by saying what would best please their hearers. These men never worked; he saw one of them the other day step into a gentleman's carriage in the grandest style: he had not done a day's work these 10 years, but was living out of the agricultural labourer's pockets. They should not be led away by these men: let them stick to their employers, who were best known to them, and had known them for years. (Applause). Advising his hearers further not to devote their whole attention to home affairs, Mr Farquharson said the Conservative party had never been opposed to true reforms, for it

had brought in an act which was the greatest assistance to the working classes every day, viz., the Factories Act, in spite of Radical opposition, an act which was a great blessing to this country. The Conservative party was not afraid of home affairs, but they were opposed to the wanton destruction of old institutions. The Liberals or Radicals, were fond of change, but they must remember that all change was not improvement; sometimes they would have a change for the bad, and if they would take the advice the Conservatives offered them they would well consider any change advocated by the Radicals, for the Radicals were so anxious for change that they would have it whether it was good or bad. (Applause). One of the changes they wished to bring in was a destruction of the old Church of England, They would not tell them so in so many words, but he was assured, this was part of the Radical programme. The church was an old institution, and, like everything that was old, it was possible it had its faults, but was that a reason for its destruction? Rather should they alter and improve its construction. (Applause). Look at the services the Church has rendered to religion. In nearly every village throughout the land they had their minister to preach religion to them, men who were highly educated and cultured. (Applause). Then they must remember that the Church of England did not cost the working man a penny. What reason was there then for pulling down the established Church. (Applause). Looking only at the question of the Church's utility, there was every reason for its being retained. (Applause). If they belonged to any of the Dissenting bodies they were obliged to pay their minister, and very properly too, but in the Church of England they had the services of highly educated men, to whose support the landlord and the farmer contributed, but not the working classes. (Applause). It was a common topic among Radicals that the Church cost the country ten millions a year, but this was utterly untrue: the cost was something like six millions a year, and the tithes were so arranged that the farmers paid them: if they did not they would be compelled to pay higher rents. Years ago lands and money were given to the Church and these tithes were the result of those gifts, but the Church was an entirely self-supporting institution. Within the last 20 years the volunteer subscriptions given by the Church for purposes of building and restoring amounted to over 20 millions of money, the whole of which was subscribed by the richer members of the Church. (Applause). Another question which he thought directly interested the country people, and in which the Radicals were going in direct opposition to their interests was that of the land. It was a question which was being brought up all round the country, and these agitators said to them "Take the land". (Laughter). They had got about 100,000 agricultural labourers one way or another out of work, a number of farms to be let, and a tremendous agricultural depression: he ventured to say, though not entirely, that the Radical policy was the cause of it all. He would endeavour to explain how this was. Mr Farquharson went on to say that the Radical policy for a division of the land was calculated to take away from it all capital, - a most essential requisite for the agriculturist and the land generally. He denounced such a policy as highly iniquitous, and observed that if the land was divided to-morrow morning, and every man had one and a half acres, they would grumble amongst themselves who should have the meadow land and who the hill-land. (Applause). It was the most impossible scheme ever conceived. (Applause). The candidate, as on the previous night at Thorncombe, referred at length to the questions of Fair Trade and the Egyptian policy of the Government, and then said there were two parties in the State and only two. They were Liberals (or Radicals) and Conservatives. The Radical party was the party of Communism: they wanted to take and divide everything up. This was a very dishonest policy. a policy which could not suit men who had anything to lose, and could not possibly suit members of friendly societies, men who had been saving and thrifty: it would not suit them to have their money taken from them; it would not suit him (Mr Farquharson) and indeed no one except the worthless scum who had not got a sue to their name and were as idle as idle could be. This was the Radical policy put forth to blind them, and they would find people of high position and of immense wealth taking part in this sort of money: Mr Pike, of the Labourers' Union, Mr Portman, Lord Wolverton, Mr Wedmore, Sir Richard Glyn, and Mr Mitchell! Did they ever hear such a thing? Here was Mr Portman, immensely rich - perhaps the richest man in England, - Lord Wolverton, a very wealthy banker - indeed the country had just been astonished at his wealth; they had these and Sir richard Glyn - and he only wished he was half as rich as he was; - these six men pretended to go hand in hand and agree.

One or the other was dishonest. They could not agree, and three of the men who were most honest of these six were Mr Wedmore, Mr Pike, and Mr Mitchell. Did they think that these people wished to divide their property among the working classes? (Laughter). Ask them for 6d and see if they got it, much less ask them for all they had. He (Mr Farquharson) would like to challenge them before that meeting, and the reporters were there to record it, that if they would divide their property (and it would be purely in agreement with what they professed) he would divide his - (laughter) - and next week he hoped they would each have a sovereign or half a sovereign sent round to them as the proceeds of Lord Wolverton's, Mr Portman's, Sir Richard Glyn's, and his own property. (Laughter and applause). He was very much afraid they would not take the offer. (Renewed laughter).

MR IRISH proposed a resolution approving of Mr Farquharson's views, and pledging the meeting to support him at the next election, which was seconded by MR MILLER, and supported by MR AKERY and the Rev. E EVANS. The latter gentleman said it gave him much pleasure to support the resolution. For his own part he was very much obliged to Mr Farquharson for his very able and interesting address. He had shown them very clearly the groundless nature of many of the statements which were made by the Liberal party, and he thought it was very desirable that those about to be enfranchised should have these matters put before them in a clear light. First of all, Mr Farquharson had touched upon the Church. They all knew that was a very crucial point with many of the Radical agitators, who tried to make out that the working people were taxed for the maintenance of the Church. It was nothing of the sort. The working classes did not pay one half-penny towards the Church. It was a self-supporting institution, and had been so for many centuries. The revenue of the church was derived from a time almost before the beginning of English history, and to say that she was supported by the English working people was to say what was untrue. He hoped they all venerated the church. She had always done a great deal of good, and he hoped would continue to do so in the future, and that in centuries to come she would go on benefitting our descendants as she had benefitted them and their forefathers. (Applause). It would surely be an un-English thing for us, who had inherited the Church and the benefits she had bestowed upon us, to deprive our descendants of those benefits. (Applause). Mr Farquharson had also touched upon the question of the cheap loaf, and the Radicals often alluded to this matter. They (the Radicals) were posing as those who gave the cheap loaf to the people, but they had no more to do with giving them the cheap loaf than they themselves had. (Applause). So long as God gave us sunshine and earth to produce the food, so long would they have cheap bread. The word "Radical" meant "of, or belonging to a root"; and Radicals, in olden times, were "roots" or "branchmen", who turned things topsy-turvy just for the sake of their own amusement. (Laughter). They came before them and posed as the labourers' friend. They said they were going to give them a distribution of property - to divide the property among them. What did that mean? Supposing the Radicals gave them a division of property to-morrow: next year we should want another division. (Applause). Some people had an inherent knack of keeping property, other people had a knack of getting property, and others again had the knack of squandering property, and so the same thing would go on for ever. There was a maxim, which was called "the good old man", that -

"They should take who have the power,
They should keep who can."

(Laughter). That was the rule of human life throughout, and no matter what the Radicals said they could not alter the principle of human character. A gentleman in the corner of the room had said something about the ruin of the country being caused by the Liberal Government, and he never said a truer thing in his life. We had had five years of Radical Government. They knew under what pretences that Government came into power. "Peace, Retrenchment, and Reform" was the backbone upon which Gladstone came into power in 1880, and that was the platform upon which he thundered away at Midlothian and every railway station he came to. (Applause). What had been the outcome of all that? Had we received all that was promised

us? In his further remarks, Dr. Evans contended that the foreign policy of the Government had been “shilly-shallying”, and English honor had been dragged in the mire to the delectation of foreign nations, whilst our taxes were higher. In conclusion, the rev. gentleman briefly referred to the question of Free Trade as introduced by Richard Cobden and John Bright, whose policy he denounced as “mistaken”. He trusted that all present would heartily support Mr Farquharson.

The resolution was then put to the meeting, and carried by a large majority. Some few interruptions occurred during the proceedings but nothing of an unpleasant nature, and the meeting terminated with cheers and the singing of the National Anthem.

Source: Announcement in the Chard & Ilminster News 14.3.1885.

1891 - CHARDSTOCK

On May 20 [1891], the usual half-yearly rent audit of Lord Henley was held at the George inn. There was a good attendance, and as usual a capital dinner was served by Mr and Miss Parris.

On Whit-Sunday, and also on Trinity Sunday, the Church was very nicely decorated by usual willing hands, and the services were well rendered, being conducted by the Vicar.

On Sunday last, we were visited by a very heavy hail storm about 10 a.m., which lasted about an hour.

On Tuesday, the 9th inst., Lady Henley gave her annual tea to the children of the National School. They assembled at 3 p.m. to the number of 140 and did full justice to the tea and cake which was provided in abundance. Afterwards prizes were given to every child who had passed in all subjects and made 220 attendances, each qualified child having two prizes, one of clothing or books and another of toys or playthings. Lady Henley also gave a special prize to the best boy and girl, and to the best needlewoman, and then some small consolation prize to those who either from misfortune of their own or parents fault had failed to pass, or make the proper number of attendances; there were games, scrambles and races, by means of which a pleasant evening was spent. The Vicar suitably addressed the children. Cheers were given for Lady Henley both after the giving of the prizes and on departure. The Misses Wale then helped to keep the children amused till evening when they were dismissed with a bun, and in many instances loaded with their presents.

Source: Village report in the Chard & Ilminster News 30.5.1891.

1897 - SALE OF “FURNHAM”, CHARDSTOCK.

FOR INVESTMENT OR OCCUPATION

SALE of a very Attractive RESIDENCE, with Convenient OUTHOUSES, GARDENS, and ORCHARDS, and known as “FURNHAM”.

MR ROBERT SNELL (assisted by Mr C Snell) has received instructions to OFFER by AUCTION, at the George Hotel, in Axminster, on THURSDAY, AUGUST 5th, 1897, at Three o'clock, in One Lot, and subject to the conditions of Sale that will be then and there read, that most DESIRABLE PROPERTY known as “FURNHAM”. The Dwelling-house comprises : -

Two large Front Sitting-rooms, Entrance Hall, Kitchen and Offices on the ground floor with four convenient Bedrooms. There is also a small Stable and Coach-house. Excellent Kitchen and Flower Garden in front, with Orchard at the back, and two small Orchards detached. The water supply is excellent, and the House is in good repair, most pleasantly situated commanding fine views, close to good roads, and about three miles from Axminster and four from Chard.

The property is held for the residue of a term of 500 years, which can easily be converted into Freehold.

For viewing apply on the Premises to Miss F S BENTLEY, the owner, and for further particulars apply to the AUCTIONEER, Summerleaze, Axminster, Devon, or to MESSRS CANNING & KYRKE, Solicitors, Chard.

Source: Announcement in the Chard & Ilminster News 24.7.1897

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1897 - RATIONAL, SICK and BURIAL ASSOCIATION,

Branch No. 662 - CHARDSTOCK

The Members of the NATIONAL SICK AND BURIAL ASSOCIATION beg to announce that they have arranged to hold their SIXTH ANNUAL FETE AND GALA in connection with the above Society on THURSDAY, JULY 29th, 1897.

The Members and Visiting Friends will meet at the Branch House at 11 a.m. and form a PROCESSION accompanied by the Colyton Volunteer Band, (under the Conductorship of Bandmaster G West), headed by the Banner of the Association. After parading the village, the members will attend divine service at the parish Church, and at the close of the service march to a field close to the village, where a PUBLIC DINNER will be provided under a marquee, at 1.30 p.m., by Mr George Heal, Green Dragon, Axminster, L B CLARENCE Esq., has kindly consented to preside. DINNER TICKETS 2s 6d each.

DANCING AND OTHER AMUSEMENTS.

Applications for Stalls, Roundabouts, Swings, Etc., should be sent to the Secretary.

Admission to the Ground 3d - All members taking part in the Procession will be admitted free. For further particulars apply to BENJAMIN PARRIS, Secretary.

Source: Announcement in the Chard & Ilminster News 24.7.1897.

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1897 - CHARDSTOCK - ANNUAL FETE OF THE RATIONAL SICK AND BURIAL ASSOCIATION

The sixth annual fete and gala of the Chardstock branch of the Rational Sick and Burial Association was held on Thursday under a combination of favourable circumstances. The members met at 11 o'clock at the house of the secretary Mr B Parris, and formed a very imposing procession, each one wearing his full regalia and some carrying flags and banners. The splendid banner of the Tatworth branch - one of the best to be seen in this part of the country - was borne in front by Messrs Notley and Harris, and was greatly admired. The Colyton Volunteer Band, conducted by Sergt. West, was in attendance. The processionists paid visits to Mr Spiller's and Mr Zealley's, where they were regaled with refreshments, and

ultimately attended divine service at the Parish Church, the Vicar (Rev. F Parham) preaching an appropriate sermon. Other parts of the village were afterwards paraded, and finally a "call" was made at the George Inn, where Mr Parris dispensed refreshments. At two o'clock the members repaired to the cricket field (kindly lent by the Vicar), and sat down to dinner under a marquee. The chair was taken by Mr L B Clarence, and among the company were the Rev. F Parham, Dr. Powne, Captain King, Messrs Clarence, jun., E Bragg, W Bragg, W G Notley, B Parris (in the vice chair), W Bowdon, J Grabham, G Thomas (Kilmington), Zealley, Apsey, Sheppard, Marks, Spiller, &c. Letters of apology were received from Mr Salter-Beviss, Colonel Williams M.P., Mr T Eames, and Major Langdon. Dinner was supplied by Mr George Heal, of the Green Dragon, Axminster, and was excellently served.

A short toast was observed, commencing with "The Queen and Royal Family". which was loyally drank.

Captain KING proposed "The Health of the Bishops and Clergy of all Denominations". He said it was always a wonder to him that, in the present day, men could be induced to go into the Church, seeing the miserable pay that they got. It showed that they (the clergy) were men of the right sort, who entered the calling out of principle, and not for the money it would bring them. He had heard a great deal about disestablishment, and if that was brought about it would very soon be followed by disendowment. Some people seemed to think that this would be a very good thing for the country and benefit agriculture; that they would then have light railways and other things, but he could tell them that he would rather take a third-class ticket and go to heaven, than go by first-class to the other place without being sure of ever returning. (Laughter and applause). Disestablishment might work alright in the big towns, where there were large congregations, but it would be a very bad thing in the villages. (Hear, Hear). In Chardstock they had a good church and a good clergyman - a gentleman who took an interest in the church and its services, and also in his parishioners. (Applause). Mr Parham also showed a great interest in their amusements and sports, which he thought was a very commendable point in the clergyman. (Cheers).

The VICAR responded, and alluded to the fact that Chardstock had now been transferred from the county of Dorset to Devon. He said they had no reason to be ashamed of their parish or its history, and he wished to take that opportunity of contradicting a statement that had been made respecting their village, implying that it was an unruly place, and that it had never been kept in order properly, nor had the benefit of a policeman. (Laughter). He dare-say they were as ruly and as unruly as other places, but no more, and as a parish they could feel that they were not taken away from Dorset because that county wanted to get rid of them, nor should they feel that they were going into Devon with their hats in their hands asking to be kindly taken over with all their many faults. (Applause). The county of Devon would find that they had no superfluity of naughtiness, and he wished to contradict the statement made the other day - it might be that it was done inadvertently, or by a slip of the tongue, but still it came from an official, and should not be allowed to go unchallenged. (Hear, Hear). Before resuming his seat, the VICAR submitted the toast of "The Navy, Army, and Reserve Forces", which found acknowledgement from Captain King.

The SECRETARY then read a satisfactory financial statement for 1896. The contributions to the sick and general fund amounted to £74 5s 5d; subsidiary fund £4 5s 1d; medical fund £17 19s 6d; balance December, 1895 £7 8s 6d; total £104 0s 1d. The chief item of expenditure was the sick pay, amounting to £28 13s 7d, but notwithstanding this, the branch had paid to the general fund the substantial sum of £42, and the balance in hand at the close of the year was £6 6s 8d. The society numbers 81 adult members and 15 juveniles.

In proposing "continued success to the Chardstock branch of the R S and B Association" the CHAIRMAN said nothing that was too good could be said in praise of societies like this, which were an encouragement to thrift and independence, and for people to help themselves and

each other. There was a great improvement year by year in the way these societies were managed. It used to be the custom - and was still in some places, he was sorry to say, - to divide the funds now and then, and those members who were getting old were sometimes not allowed to join again, which was a very hard thing to do, and he was happy to think that the affairs of their Society were managed very differently to this. They had a balance in hand, and he believed their society was established upon a solid wholesome, and deserving foundation. (Cheers). He coupled with the toast the names of the Medical Officer and Secretary. (Musical honors).

Dr Powne, in reply, said the friendly societies in that part of the country had made vast strides during the past 25 years, and now nearly every village had its society, and all of them were doing good work. He congratulated the members on the success achieved, and expressed the pleasure it gave him to do his best for them when his professional services were required. (Applause).

Mr B PARRIS, the secretary, spoke of the importance of the juvenile branch, and urged parents to enter their children for the same.

“The health of the Chairman”, proposed by the VICAR, and “the Host and Hostess”, by the CHAIRMAN, concluded the toast list, and an adjournment was made to the field where the rest of the day was enjoyably spent in dancing and other amusements. The church bells were rung at intervals, and the village was decked with flags and bunting.

Source: Report in the Chard & Ilminster News 31.7.1897

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1902 - SHOCKING TRAGEDY AT CHARDSTOCK - A WOMAN STRANGLED

A shocking tragedy occurred at Chardstock on Thursday, and threw the whole village into melancholy excitement - an excitement which has not been paralleled since the painful scene known as the Chardstock murder was enacted there some couple of years ago.

The facts are briefly these: Mary Anne Dolling, a widow woman, of about 52 years of age, has been residing with her parents at Farway Marsh, Chardstock, since the death of her husband in November last. Mrs Dolling had not been in the best of health recently, and was visited on Thursday afternoon by Dr. T S Balfour, of Chard. Almost immediately after the doctor's departure, the woman called her aged father, who was at work in the garden adjoining, to come in and have some bread and cheese and cider. The old man did so, and his daughter went to an outhouse. As she was away some time, her father went to look for her, and on entering the outhouse, a terrible sight met his gaze. His daughter was on the floor in a stooping position, with a piece of cord looped tightly round her neck. It was quite evident that deceased had strangled herself in a most determined manner.

The affair happened between four and five o'clock. Information was given to the police, and P.C. Small arrived. Artificial respiration was resorted to without effect. The Coroner has been communicated with, and an inquest will be held in due course.

Deceased, since the death of her husband, has been rather strange in her ways, but, as far as can be ascertained, has never hinted at suicide.

Mrs Dolling was born and bred in Chardstock, and leaves two children. Great sympathy is felt both for them, and for Mrs Dolling's parents.

Source: Report in the Chard & Ilminster News 27.9.1902

CHARDSTOCK SUICIDE

An inquest was held on Saturday on the body of Mary Ann Dolling, of Farway Marsh, who was found strangled in an outhouse the previous Thursday, as reported in detail in our last issue. Deceased's father, Joseph Hutchings, gave evidence bearing out the facts previously described, and the jury returned a verdict of "Suicide by hanging whilst of unsound mind".

Source: Report in the Chard & Ilminster News 4.10.1902

1902 - CHARDSTOCK

Mary Enticott, of Chardstock, was, at the Axminster Petty Sessions, on Tuesday, fined 5s and costs for using obscene language at Chardstock.

In Mr H Parris's garden at Smallridge can be seen a plum tree bearing a second lot of fruit, whilst in several places in Chardstock apple-trees are again in bloom.

HARVEST THANKSGIVING SERVICES were held at St. Andrews' Church on Sunday last. The Rev. F Parham preached to a crowded congregation both morning and evening. The church was nicely decorated for the occasion by the Misses Woodcock, Eames, Wale, and others. The services were full choral, and the offertories, amounting to £10 17s 0d will be divided between the Taunton Hospital, the Axminster Hospital, and the Agricultural Benevolent Society.

Source: Village report in the Chard & Ilminster News 18.10.1902.

1911 - CHARDSTOCK CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY

A meeting in support of the Church Missionary Society was held in St. Andrews Hall, when there was a good attendance to listen to an address by the Rev. E T Greenshield, of the Artic Mission, it being illustrated by lantern slides.

Source: Village report in the Chard & Ilminster News 25.3.1911.

1911 LAND TO BE LET CLOSE TO THE VILLAGE OF CHARDSTOCK

TO BE LET BY TENDER, on a yearly tenancy or for a term as from Lady-day next, the undermentioned Excellent CLOSES of MEADOW, PASTURE and ARABLE LAND, as now occupied by Mr William Jeffery.

No. on Ordnance	Name	A	R	P	
623	Townsend Meadow		1	3	23
626	Three Acres Meadow		2	2	37
622	Hoarestones Meadow		5	0	0
562	Allotment Pasture		4	0	0
520	Sheepland Arable		4	3	38
	Total		18	2	18

To view apply to R & C SNELL, Estate Agents, &c., Axminster, to whom Tenders should be sent, on or before THURSDAY, APRIL 6th, 1911.

N.B. - The Highest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.

Source: Announcement in Pulmans Weekly News 28.3.1911.

1911 - CHARDSTOCK

The junior members of the Boy Scouts have been examined in scout law, signalling and tracking by Messrs. King and Britton, and passed all tests. Uniforms will shortly be purchased.

A meeting of the Cricket Club has been held, and arrangements were made for the coming season. Captain King was elected Chairman, the Rev. A Lewis Hon. Treasurer, and Mr F King Hon. Secretary. Most of the old members have rejoined, and there are many new recruits.

Source: Village report in the Chard & Ilminster News 8.4.1911.

1911 - CHARDSTOCK - THE SMALL HOLDINGS DISPUTE. DEVON FARMERS' UNION SUPPORT MR LISLE SMITH.

A meeting of the Council of the Devon Farmers' Union was held at the Barnfield Hall, Exeter, on Friday, Mr J R T Kingwell presiding. - Discussion ensued on a case brought up by Mr W H Aplin (Axminster), where the County Council proposed to take part of a farm near Chardstock for small holdings. He and other members expressed the opinion that land ought not to be taken away from a tenant when he was working it properly. There was plenty of good land on the market which could be bought for the purpose of breaking up into small holdings. (Hear, Hear). The opinion was generally expressed that the member concerned should be supported in resisting the proposal of the County Council. - The Legal Committee was asked to consider a case where a cow purchased for £22 at public auction, without warranty, was found to be suffering from inflammation. - The case was referred to a Committee.

Source: Report in the Chard & Ilminster News 8.4.1911.

1911 - CHARDSTOCK

TERRITORIAL DANCE - there were about 40 present at this dance, which was held on Monday night. The music was supplied from Chard and dancing continued from 7.30 till one. The proceeds, after the payment of expenses, will given to the local Territorial funds.

EASTER AT THE CHURCH - The services throughout Holy Week were well attended, especially large congregations being present on Good Friday. On Sunday the services were again well attended, there being 121 communicants. The sacred building was artistically decorated by Mrs and Miss Lewis, Miss Eames, Miss K Eames, the Misses Wale, Miss Coombes, Mrs Smith and Miss Edwards. The choir rendered the anthem "Christ is risen from the Dead" at both morning and evening services.

EASTER VESTRY - The Easter vestry meeting was held on Wednesday evening in the Parish room, after an introductory meeting in the vestry. The accounts were presented by the Churchwardens, Messrs Eames and Wale, and showed that the total receipts by collections amounted to £35 3s 9d, and the expenses to £43 12s 10d, leaving a deficit of £8 9s 1d, which was supplied, however, from a local charity known as the "Lady Mead" charity. The retiring churchwardens were re-elected. The table of the church fees was then discussed and passed. A discussion took place re the introduction of a new stained glass window in the college chapel of the Parish Church, the plans being prepared by Messrs Burlison and Grylls. It was decided to apply to the Bishop of Salisbury for a faculty to proceed with the work. At the conclusion of the meeting the balance sheet of the voluntary school rate was presented by the vicar, Rev. A Lewis, and showed: collections £12 9s 4 1/2d; expenses 17s 11d, having a balance of £11 12s 9 1/2d available for scholastic purposes. In addition to this a subscription of £1 from Lord Henley and a similar amount from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners were amounted.

Source: Village report in the Chard & Ilminster News 15.4.1911.

1911 - CHARDSTOCK (ALL SAINTS)

C L B APPOINTMENT - The Reverend A W Bull of All Saints has been appointed assistant battalion Chaplain to the 2nd Battalion B.50 (Salisbury Regiment).

The Rev. T R Williams, Rector of Wambrook, preached at All Saints Church on Sunday evening, from the text "This day shalt thou be with Me in paradise".

Source: Village report in the Chard & Ilminster News 15.4.1911.

1911 - CHARDSTOCK

The children's service was largely attended by both young and old. The flower offerings were despatched to the London hospitals.

The Penny Dinners, organised by the Vicar (the Rev. A Lewis) and Mrs Lewis, are now ended. Under this scheme 3,215 hot dinners have been provided since Christmas, and, needless to say, have been much appreciated. Great thanks are due to the Vicar for the excellent organisation, to Mrs Lewis for the catering and disposition of the meals, and also to those who have lent their active assistance.

The Scouts Committee were present at the induction of new members in the Parish Room. After the ceremony the Rev. A Lewis addressed the candidates. A committee meeting was subsequently held, and the reports on the recent examination made by Messrs King and Brittain read. It was proposed that a saving bank be formed, and a Sub-Committee, consisting of the Rev. A Lewis, Messrs L Smith and T King, was appointed to make arrangements.

A re-union of the Church Missionary collectors has been held in the College. Tea was provided by the Vicar and Mrs Lewis, and the collecting boxes were opened. The box holders were 22 in number. The amount collected was further increased by the subscription of Miss Eames, Miss Downing, Misses A S, E and K Eames, Mr T D Eames, Capt. King, the Rev. A and Mrs Lewis, and Miss M S Lewis. The total received was £27 0s 2d, which, with subscription from Wambrook of £7 12s 6d, was forwarded to the headquarters of the Church Missionary Society.

Source: Village report in the Chard & Ilminster News 15.4.1911.

1932 - ALL SAINTS VILLAGE REPORT

CANON LEE, of Whitechurch, the parish in which the Rev. B H Warner worked before becoming Rector of this parish, is to preach at the evening service at All Saints on October 9th.

CHANGES AT THE SCHOOL - Mrs Davis, who has been a teacher at All Saints Church Schools for about six months, is leaving shortly to take up headmistress's duties elsewhere. Miss Polgrean, who is now teaching near Exeter, has been appointed to a position at the School.

A NEW PASTOR - At the moment the Methodist Church is without a minister. Pastor L A Piper has left the district and is entering Bristol University, but the vacancy will not be for long, as Pastor E A Kitchen, of Nottingham, is expected to come south in time to commence duties, in the district, which embraces the Axminster and Lyme Regis Methodist Churches, next week.

AMBITION OF RECTOR'S DAUGHTER - Miss Warner, daughter of the Rector, is making preparations to start a pack of "Brownies" for little girls from 7 to 10 years of age. When that is in full swing, it is hoped to inaugurate a Girl Guide Company, into which the Brownies can eventually pass. Miss Warner, we gather, was a Brown Arrow at Whitechurch, before coming to All Saints, and there she started a pack of Brownies with very great success. What is wanted now is someone to come forward and start a troupe of Scouts for the locality.

METHODISTS' HARVEST THANKSGIVING - Harvest Thanksgiving services were held at the Methodist Church on Sunday last, when the Rev. M Roy Smith, M C, of Chard, preached in the afternoon, and Mr A G Short, of Axminster, in the evening. There were good congregations, and harvest hymns were heartily sung. Mrs Spague was at the organ, and her daughter, Lydia, rendered in an extremely pleasing manner the harvest solos, "He giveth all", at the afternoon service, and "On the altar" in the evening. The collections were for the Chapel funds. The interior of the building had been very nicely decorated for the festival by Mrs Gigg, Mrs Spague and the Mr and Mrs Knowles. - On Wednesday, when the festival was further celebrated, there was a tea, in connection with which Mrs Knowles and Mrs Spague did very good work, and a public meeting followed in the evening. At this Mr A G Knowles was in the chair, and Mr Trenchard, of Seaton, was the speaker.

MONEY STILL WANTED - As announced in last week's "News", £80 was raised by or in connection with the fete held at Coaxdon Hall last August. This money is to be devoted to the provision of a new heating system for the Parish Church, and the work will probably cost more than the amount already in hand. At present paraffin stoves have to be utilised for the heating of the church, and it is proposed now to install a hot water system of heating. Tenders have been invited, and they will be dealt with by a meeting of the Church Council in due course. The church is already provided with electric light, but when the matter of heating is satisfactorily dealt with, there will still be the organ to attend to. Conversing with a News reporter on these improvements, Mr Warner said: "We have to raise more money, but it is alright when we have a little sum to start with as we now have After all, it would never do if we did not have mountains to climb". Certainly those connected with All Saints Church have "mountains" looming before them at the present time, but after the success of the fete, and under the genial leadership of the Rector, we feel sure they will climb them.

Source: Village report in the Chard & Ilminster News 1.10.1932.

1932 - ALL SAINTS REPORT

MR C PATTEMORE, of Churchill, is the "News" agent for All Saints, Churchill, Smallridge and district and readers are asked to give him instructions for regular delivery.

"BOBBIE" AT REST - TRIBUTES TO A POPULAR SCHOOLBOY

Impressive scenes marked the funeral on Sunday of little Robert John Horsey, a popular church choir boy and Sunday scholar, whose death the previous Tuesday caused keen sorrow throughout the neighbourhood.

"Bobbie" was only 11 years of age, and a feature of the funeral was the large number of his playmates present, while the bearers were four other young inhabitants - L Trott, C Bishop and the Masters Searle.

The Rector (Rev. B H Warner) officiated, and very beautiful was the choir's singing of the hymns, "There's a Friend for little children" and "The Lord is my Shepherd", and Psalm 23. Mrs G Seward was at the organ.

The chief mourners were Mr and Mrs W J Horsey (father and mother), Maisie and Joan Horsey (deceased's little sisters), Mr J C Horsey (grandfather), Miss C F Doble (aunt), Messrs. Victor and Clifford Horsey (uncles), Misses Kitty and Lucy Doble (cousins), Mr G Shire (uncle), Mrs Reg. Horsey (aunt) and Mrs Loving (friend).

The coffin, which was of polished elm, with nickel fittings, was covered with lovely floral tributes, among which were the following: - Fond love and sweet memories from Father and Mother to darling Bobbie; fondest love to dear Bobbie from sisters Maisie and Joan; to dear Bobbie from Granda and Aunt Lilian; to dear little Bobbie from Auntie Chortie, with fondest love; to dear Bobbie from Auntie Evelyn, Uncle George and Clifford; in loving memory of dear Bobbie from Uncle Sam and Cousins Kitty, Lucy and Frank; in affectionate remembrance from Auntie Maud and Uncle Reg; in loving memory of Bobbie from Uncle Vic and Aunt Kathleen; in loving memory and deepest sympathy from All Saints Choir; in loving memory from Mrs Dickenson and the Sunday school; with much sympathy, from Miss Holland; with happy and ever-loving memories of little Bob from J and L Loving; with deepest sympathy from Mr and Mrs Edwards, Mrs W A Long and Esme; with deepest sympathy from Miss V Coles; in affectionate remembrance from All Saints School; with deepest sympathy and love to dear little Bob from Mr and Mrs Dyke and family; in loving memory of little Bob from Mr and Mrs J Spiller; to dear Bobbie from all at Frogwell; in loving memory of dear little Robert from Mrs R Ebdon, Irene and Leonard; in kind remembrance of dear Robert from Mr and Mrs Hansford and family.

The funeral arrangements were carried out by Mr T Gigg.

Source: Obituary in the Chard & Ilminster News 8.10.1932.

1932 - ALL SAINTS VILLAGE REPORT

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING - A meeting of the Parochial Church Council was held on Monday, there being a good attendance of members present. Various proposals were considered in connection with the heating of the church, and a sub-committee was appointed to go into the estimates and plans. It was brought to the notice of the Council that certain repairs were necessary to the organ, and it was pointed out that the Church Council would be required to continue their efforts to raise money, as a considerable sum was still required.

MR AND MRS STADDON'S BEREAVEMENT - The sympathy of a wide circle of friends has been extended to Mr and Mrs Staddon, of Weycroft, in the loss of their youngest son, Gordon Staddon, aged 6 years. The little boy was taken ill in August, and later removed to the Devon and Exeter Hospital, where, despite great care and skilled attention, he passed away on Saturday last. Of a bright and cheerful disposition, little Gordon will be sadly missed by his friends at the All Saints day school. Particularly touching was the funeral, which took place at All Saints on Wednesday. In the absence of the Rector (Rev. B H Warner), the Vicar of Chardstock (Rev. S M Whitwell) conducted the service. Psalm 23, "The Lord is my Shepherd", was chanted, and the hymn, "There's a Friend for little children", sung, Mrs Seward presiding at the organ. In addition to the boy's parents and brothers and sisters, the children of the All Saints school attended the funeral. There was a number of beautiful floral tributes.

1932 - CHARDSTOCK VILLAGE REPORT

HARVEST FESTIVAL - Harvest festival services were held at the Parish Church on Sunday, when the preacher was the Vicar (Rev. S M Whitwell). The Church was tastefully decorated by ladies of the village, and good congregations were present at all the services. A children's service was held in the afternoon, when gifts of flowers, fruit, vegetables and eight dozen eggs were brought for the hospitals. The anthem, "O taste and see how Gracious the Lord is", was ably rendered by the choir, both morning and evening, Mr J Mitchell, of Axminster, being at the organ. The collections, amounting to £14, were on behalf of the local hospitals and the Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution.

Source: Village reports in the Chard & Iminster News 8.10.1932.

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1932 - HOLY CITY SHOW

NEXT YEAR'S EVENT TO BE HELD IN THE VILLAGE

The annual general meeting of the Holy City Flower Show was held in the Parish Room on a recent date, Mr A J Strawbridge presiding over a good attendance. Mr Hughes (hon. treasurer) presented the balance sheet, showing a credit balance of £25, after allocating £2 to the Chardstock Nursing Association and the village children a treat. The report was unanimously adopted, on the proposition of Mr W Miller, seconded by Mr C Virgin. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr Hughes, who has been hon. treasurer of the show for about six years. Thanks were also given to Mr G Hull and the members of the refreshment committee.

It was agreed that Mr Hughes continue as hon. treasurer. Some discussion arose as to whether the show should be held at Holy City or in the village of Chardstock, as it was pointed out that the latter would be nearer the main road and the 'bus route. After Mr Strawbridge had kindly offered to lend the committee a field in the centre of the village, it was agreed to hold next year's show at Chardstock, and also to ask Mr H A Douglas to act as President.

The following dance committee was appointed: - Messrs. W H Miller, H J Larcombe, C Male, S Satchell, A J Strawbridge, C Virgin, J Lane, and C Bonfield. The first dance is to be held in about three weeks time, particulars of which will appear in the "News".

Source: Village report in the Chard & Iminster News 15.10.1932.

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1932 - CHARDSTOCK - DEATH AND FUNERAL OF MRS M L PEARCE

The death occurred on the 1st inst. after a long and patiently-borne illness, of Mrs Madeline Louisa Pearce, aged 69 years.

The funeral took place on Thursday, the Rev. W M Whitwell (Vicar of Chardstock) officiating.

The mourners were Mr J Pearce (widower), Misses R and F Pearce (daughters), Mr and Mrs J and E Pearce (son and daughter-in-law), Mr F Pearce (son), Mr D Brownsell (brother), Mr and Mrs C Hunt (brother-in-law and sister), A. Hunt (sister), Mr and Mrs B Brownsell (brother and sister-in-law), A Collins (sister), E Spurway (sister), E Searle (sister-in-law), G Pearce (brother-in-law), A Walley, E Horne, E Brownsell, D Matthews, and B Searle (nieces), J G and F Spurway and R Pearce (nephews), B Enticott (cousin) and C Symes and D Harvey (friends). Amongst others present at the Church were members of the Mothers' Union, of which deceased was a member.

The bearers were Messrs. E Spurway, W Searle, G Brownsell and F Summers, relatives of deceased.

There was a wealth of floral tributes, which were inscribed as follows: - To a devoted wife and mother from her sorrowing husband and children and little grandson; with deepest sympathy from Dane, wife and family; in memory of our dear sister from Emily, Charlie, nieces and nephew; in loving memory of our dear sister from Alice, husband and son; in loving memory of my dear sister from Lizzie, Ernest and family; with deepest sympathy from Bert and Flo and family; in loving memory of my dear sister, Annie and Lucy; in loving remembrance of dear Louie from Lizzy and family; in loving memory of our dear sister-in-law from Mr and Mrs G Pearce and family; sincere sympathy from E Beer and family; in loving memory from the Mothers' Union; in loving memory of dear Aunt Louie from Lil, Fred, Betty; in memory of a kind neighbour and friend Mr and Mrs L J Eames; in ever-loving memory from Frank, Lill and Dixie; with much sympathy from Mrs and Miss Mallett, The Vicarage, Chard; with deepest sympathy from A Bindon; kind remembrances from Mr and Mrs Crowe and Gwen; with deepest sympathy from Dick; with heartfelt sympathy Clifford; with sympathy from all at "Edencote".

Source: Obituary in the Chard & Ilminster News 15.10.1932.

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1932 - CHARDSTOCK VILLAGE REPORT

NEW POSTAL ADDRESS - The letters, etc., for the village are now brought from Axminster by motor cycle instead of from Chard. as previously. The postal address of the village now is: - "Chardstock, Axminster, Devon".

DANCE - To augment the funds of the ex-Service Men's Association a dance was held in the St. Andrew's Hall on Wednesday of last week. Owing to so many other counter attractions, the attendance was somewhat limited, a company of about 70 being present. The duties of M. C. were carried out by Mr T Parris. The Empire Melody Makers, of Chard, provided greatly appreciated music.

Source: Village report in the Chard & Ilminster News 15.10.1932.

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WHIST DRIVE - A brightly arranged whist drive was held in the St. Andrews Hall on Wednesday evening, the proceeds being in aid of the street electric lighting fund. Owing to the inclemency of the weather, only nine tables were occupied, but those present spent a most enjoyable evening. Mr W H Miller was a most capable M. C. and Mrs J R Pratt presented the prizes to the following: - Ladies; 1 Mrs Early; 2 Mrs Bussell; 3 Mrs T Parris; consolation Miss K Matthews. Gents; 1 Mr S Apsey; 2 Mr O Case; 3 Mr E Apsey; consolation Mr A Fowler. A competition for a bottle of sweets was won by Mrs Early and Mr Brian Love, of Perry Street, whilst a table skittles competition was won by Mr W Miller with a score of 17. The organisers are grateful to the donors of prizes and refreshments and also to all who helped to make the evening a success.

Source: Village report in the Chard & Ilminster News 22.10.1932.
