



MHG NEWSLETTER

No 41

Once upon a time in Mountsorrel in June

Leicestershire Mercury - Saturday 22 June 1850

Emma Wilmore and Frances Noon, mother and daughter, of Mountsorrel, were charged with assaulting Eliza Harley. Harley was at work at a neighbour's, when Wilmore, a little girlish looking person, went in and taxed her with being too friendly with her husband, and used language unfit for ears polite. Harley denied the imputation with some warmth, when Wilmore picked up a stone with which she hit Harley on the arm. She then went away, but returned with her mother, who went up to Harley and very politely slapped her twice on the face Fined 2s. 6d. each and costs, or fourteen days' imprisonment.

Nottinghamshire Guardian - Thursday 02 June 1853

Samuel and Edward Glover, cattle dealers, of Mountsorrel, were charged with being drunk when before the magistrates on the 28th of April. On that day defendants were convicted of assaulting a female, and both were so drunk and noisy when in court that the magistrates ordered the present charge to be laid against them. Both declared they were not drunk, but they were convicted and fined 5s. each and costs. Teddy, whose unshorn chin and ragged coat gave him a most wretched appearance, then begged for time to pay. He was told that although appearances were so much in his favour, the magistrates could not grant his application. He was reminded that he had not had that ragged coat on when there a month ago, and told that he had got himself up in that theatrical fashion exceedingly well, but it would not do— he must pay the money. Teddy, finding his dodge had failed, paid the cash and left the court.

Leicester Chronicle - Saturday 05 July 1834

CHARLES GLOVER, aged 15 was charged with stealing a watch, the property of John Prosser, from the premises of Lydia Briggs, of Mountsorrel on the 21st May. Verdict, Guilty." To be imprisoned three months hard labour, the last week solitarily; and to twice privately whipt.

Leicestershire Mercury - Saturday 01 June 1839

Edward Glover, butcher, was charged by Joseph Priestley, maltster, both of Mountsorrel with repeatedly annoying him. Mr. Priestley said that some time ago he was compelled to put the defendant into the Loughborough Small Debts' Court, since which period he had constantly threatened and annoyed him. Glover declared that he was the offended party, and to prove his position, called Mr. Priestley a rascal when before the Magistrates, for which he was bound over to keep the peace, it being very evident that man who could not keep his temper in a court of justice, would not be very careful elsewhere. He was accordingly ordered to find sureties to keep the peace for six months, himself in £10, and two sureties of £5 each.

Leicestershire Mercury - Saturday 13 June 1840

Wright charged Atherley, of Mountsorrel, with assaulting him. This was a miserably long and paltry case. Mr. Atherly's dog, a monstrous ferocious animal about 15 inches long and 9 high, had run after Wright's heels. He had kicked at it, when Mr. Atherley told him if he kicked that dog he would kick him. Words ensued, and the business ended in Mr. Atherley treading on Wright's toes. Mr. Atherley is pretty heavy man, so that a tread from him would be no joke. Mr. Atherley did not deny it, except that he did not, as he knew of, trample on plaintiff's toes, and called several witnesses who describe Mr. Wright's conduct as being very provoking. Mr. Atherley was ordered to pay the costs, and was bound over, himself in £30 and two sureties in £10 each.

Leicester Chronicle - Saturday 20 June 1840

Rose Miller, of Mountsorrel, was charged by Mr. Pridmore, Relieving Officer of the Barrow Union, with abandoning her child to the streets of Barrow-upon-Soar, from whence it was taken to the workhouse in a destitute state. She was committed to hard labour for three months, as a rogue and vagabond.

The Castledines

In the north west corner of the small graveyard behind St Peter's church four generations of the Mountsorrel Castledine family are buried. The first two generations have separate gravestones and the next two generations are buried with the family tombstone. The fifth generation with the Castledine surname was Theodore Augustus, the son of the son of William and Arabella (nee Castledine) Tucker. He changed his name in 1856 to Theodore Augustus Tucker Castledine and is buried in Rothley churchyard with his mother Arabella.

The first Castledine, Jonathan, was an immigrant from Syston. The Castledine name lasted for five generations in Mountsorrel.



Castledine Tomb

Generation one

Jonathan Castledine 1706-1773 was born in Syston. He was a victualler and brickmaker and had four children.

Three of his children, Alice, Ann, and Thomas, all married and had children.

His son John died at the age of seventeen. John was a framework knitter and in his will he left a frame to each of his siblings. He left his house and the rest of his estate to his brother, Thomas, and £22 to each of his two sisters. His father, Jonathan, left his two houses in Mountsorrel to one of his sons in laws and one of his grandsons. He left £200 to be divided between his grandchildren, but he left his son Thomas one shilling only, as he had already been provided for. (*presumably the brickmaking business*).

Generation two

Thomas Castledine d 1798 was a yeoman and brickmaker. He had two children, Thomas and Ann. He left his house and estate to Thomas and £1500 to Ann.

Generation three

Thomas Castledine 1767-1831 was brickmaker and farmer. He married Ann Gilbert in 1801 and they had six children. Three died in childhood, Selina aged 8 years, William 10 months and Priscilla aged 4 years.

The surviving children were Thomas, Frances, and Arabella. All, except Arabella, are buried in St Peters churchyard. He left his house in Mountsorrel and the land next to it, called Marsons Close, to his son Thomas as well as his other property and land in Newton Linford, Rothley, Quorn, Mountsorrel, Barrow and Loughborough. He left £2000 to his daughter Arabella Tucker. Frances never married and died at the age of thirty.

Ann Castledine 1765-1856 never married. She set up the Castledine Alms Houses Trust in 1853 in memory of her nephew Thomas. Bond Lane Close was purchased and given to the trustees on which were to be built four alms houses. The almswomen were to be paid six shillings per week. A respectable woman was to be paid six shillings per week to wait upon them. Almswomen were to be poor single women of good character, not younger than 45, and have lived in the village for five years. Ideally they should have a small income but if it exceeded £20 per year they were not to be eligible.

Surplus income from the trust could be used to build additional alms houses nearby and to buy bread to distribute to the poor. In 1896 they bought additional land next to the alms houses. As well as Bond Lane Close the trustees were given 7 acres in Loughborough to provide an annual income. They sold it in 1889 for £3900 which was invested in government bonds. By 1901 two additional alms houses had been built.



Generation four

Thomas Castledine 1805-1850 never married and at his death was living in Castledine Lodge (also called Rothley Lodge) This was once an isolated farm but is now a private house on the corner of Boundary Road. After his death the farm stock and household goods were auctioned off. They included about 40 in-lamb ewes, 4 bacon hogs, 4 sturks, 2 draught horses, ricks of wheat, barley, and beans, about 200 fleeces of wool, 6 wagons, 4 carts, 7 feather beds, 3 guns etc.

Arabella Castledine 1806-1882 married a surgeon, William Tucker, at the Old Church, St Pancras in London. They had five children. The eldest, William followed in his father's footsteps and was a medical officer at the Middlesex Lunatic Asylum. He died in 1869 aged 43 leaving a wife and three children. Another son Alfred died aged four.

Her other two children were Theodore Augustus born in 1832 and Georgina born in 1838.

In the 1851 census we find Arabella with her husband William and daughter Georgina living in Brixham. Ten years later Arabella was in London with Theodore and Georgina. She is recorded as a fundholder, married and the head of the household. Her husband was still in Brixham living alone with one servant. In 1871 she was back in Mountsorrel with her son, Theodore, at 176 Leicester Road and in 1881, again with her son, at 2 Loughborough Road.

Generation five

Georgina Castledine 1838-1877 married Joseph Fairfax Scott in Suffolk in 1864. In Mountsorrel in 1871 they lived in The White House opposite Arabella. Georgina died in 1877 and Joseph remarried. He had 13 children, 6 with Georgina and 7 with his second wife.

Theodore Augustus Tucker Castledine 1831-1896 was the last of the Castledines, inheriting land and property from his forbears. At the age of 19, still Theodore Tucker, he was working as a classics tutor in Kent. Theodore changed his name in 1856 because of a condition in the will of his mother's brother, Thomas, presumably to keep the family name going. But he never married and so the name died out anyway.

By 1861, described as a fundholder, he was with his mother and sister in London. Mother and son returned to Mountsorrel, living at 176 Leicester Road and then at 2 Loughborough Road.

Theodore later lived at The Lodge, in North Street Rothley, now the Old Farmhouse, where he lived on his own with his gardener, cook and two servants. He also spent time at Leicester Lodge in Eastbourne.

He was buried in Rothley cemetery with his mother, Arabella.

As well as his property recorded in his will he once owned the Red Lion on Loughborough Road, which he sold to the granite company for £730. They changed it to a coffee house in an effort to reduce drunkenness among its workers.

Each year he presented to each of his cottage tenants a piece of beef, *'for which they were truly thankful'*.



Old Loughbarians who went to Cambridge University

Charles Fairfax Scott (seated second left)



From the Will of Theodore Castledine

His estate was left to his sister's husband Joseph Fairfax Scott and their six children.

Legacy	Acres	Location	Beneficiary
A house and 2 closes	2	Syston	Rev Reginald Scott
A house and garden	2	Frisby	Rev Reginald Scott
The Syston estate	?	Syston	Rev Reginald Scott
Rothley Lodge Estate	35	Rothley	Edith Scott
Anchor Inn ,stables, field	1 acre	Mountsorrel	Edith Scott
5 cottages either side of Anchor Inn		Mountsorrel	Edith Scott
Two small farms	100	Sileby	Ernest Scott
1 Close and 11 common rights	1	Mountsorrel Hill	Ernest Scott
A cottage next to the Bull and Mouth		Mountsorrel	Ernest Scott
A cottage in Bond or Baron Lane		Mountsorrel	Ernest Scott
Rothley Lodge Farm	90	Mountsorrel/Rothley	Charles Scott
The old family house and garden on opposite side of road	20	Mountsorrel	Florence Scott
4 meadows, 2 next to 'The Island' and 2 on Betends Lane	16	Mountsorrel, let to William Pepper <i>Jelly Island and Betty Hensers Lane??</i>	Florence Scott
5 cottages in yard by Anchor Inn		Mountsorrel	Florence Scott
Rothley Grange farm	62	Rothley	Ethel Scott
A small field on the Main Rd	1	Mountsorrel	Ethel Scott
A house near the Bull and Mouth		Mountsorrel	Ethel Scott
A close called The Island		Mountsorrel	Ethel Scott
The Bull and Mouth and land	16	Mountsorrel	Cecil Scott
A house on Main Road		Mountsorrel	Cecil Scott
4 cottages in Bull & Mouth yard		Mountsorrel	Cecil Scott
3 cottages in Woods Yard		Mountsorrel	Cecil Scott
3 cottages on Main Rd near Woods Yard		Mountsorrel	Cecil Scott
A field on Rothley Plain	1	Newtown Linford	Joseph Scott
Atkins brick yard		Mountsorrel	Joseph Scott
£2000			Ernest Scott
£1500, watches, jewels, furniture, books, musical instruments, wines and liquors etc			Edith/Florence/Ethel Scott

Could Betends lane be the origin of Betty Hensers Lane?

Note: Bond Lane also called Baron Lane

Now and Then- The White Swan

The White Swan was a coaching inn situated opposite the Buttermarket. John Brown was the landlord from the early 1800's. Prior to that he was landlord of The Harrow on the other side of the road. In Pigot's 1828 trade directory it is recorded that the White Swan was also the post office and that John Brown was the landlord and postmaster. Letters arrived from London and the south at seven in the evening and from Manchester and the north at quarter to eight in the morning. They were dispatched immediately. Coaches to all parts of the country passed through Mountsorrel almost every hour. John Brown's brother Benjamin, who had fought at Waterloo, joined him for a while after he came out of the army in 1821, before he became a village constable. John Brown moved to the King William IV on Leicester Road around 1835 and his brother Thomas took over at the White Swan. Thomas died at the White Swan in 1838 and the next landlord was Edward Hickling, followed by Joseph Atherley. By 1849 George Bampton had taken over the White Swan. His son, also George Bampton, was still there in 1901. As well as being landlords father and son, between them, were at various times also farmers, insurance agents, grocers, rate collectors, agents for Burton Ales and excise officers.



In this painting done in 1842, attributed to John Fernely or his daughter Sarah, we can see the White Swan and what looks like the landlord, in his white apron, standing outside his pub. The landlord in 1842 was Mr Hickling.

1854 Sunday Amusements at Mountsorrel.

William alias Piggy Preston was charged with stealing, 3s. 6d., from Michael Burton who had been drinking at the White Swan, Mountsorrel, and at closing time, took out some ale to drink with others in a meadow where Piggy Preston stole the money. Preston denied this and called witnesses to prove it. The first appeared intoxicated, contradicted himself, and wasted the time of the court. It appeared from the evidence of these witnesses that Preston and Burton with other men were rolling about the hills in a state of blissful inebriety, having been shut out of the public-house during Divine service. After a lengthy deliberation, the jury acquitted the prisoner.

1870 Quarrymen v Navvies

Frederick Thornton was charged with assaulting Robert Bennett, having inflicted serious injury upon his head with an ale glass, which had been taken from Mr. Bampton's. The assault arose out of affray between the navvies from Cropston reservoir and the quarrymen at Mountsorrel.

Let no one be charmed by the name of Mountsorrel, for close on a mile along the road runs an abject townlet of the out of elbows down at heel variety with row upon row of mean cottages. Still stands the Black Swan, although it does little but stand being forlorn and forlorn. The White Swan a contemporary with its black brother is more fortunate and appears still to thrive. This is modern Mountsorrel but you can still see vestiges of the Mountsorrel from a hundred to three hundred years ago when the town depended for its existence on the road. Mountsorrel is precisely as described above, but still it is a charming subject for a sketch.

Standing on the cobblestoned footwalk by the side of the White Swan you look across to the granite crag, to a group of old houses and the singular temple like market cross.

So wrote Charles Harper in his book, The Manchester and Glasgow Road published in 1907



Sketch by Charles Harper



During the 1930's, 40's and early 1950's the White Swan had a darts team. In 1938 its rivals in Mountsorrel were the following eleven other teams:

Stag & Pheasant, Railway Inn, King William, Duke of York, Anchor Inn, Nag's Head, Bull & Mouth, Constitutional Club, Working Men's Club, Dog & Gun and the Prince of Wales



The White Swan in the 1940/50's

In February 1950 the license of the White Swan was transferred to The Lindens in Halstead Road. The Parish Council and the local residents objected but in March 1950 the Loughborough magistrates granted an application for a public-house, and the White Swan closed. Around 1963 the building was bought by a firm which, according to a Mr Lawrence Vendyback, a director of that firm living at 175 Leicester Road, had spent money on renovations and intended to turn it into a country club. This never happened and the building fell into disrepair

"I used to live in the old White Swan when it was no longer a pub. We moved around 1956 when I was eight. we had a lot of out buildings and I think eight acres of land that used to flood, my father use to keep 150 pigs and horses. People used to hold there noses walking by our house. Sometimes the pigs escaped on to the main road and ran away I'd jump on a horse bare back and go round 'em up, must have looked hilarious; the butcher across the road the bike shop owner next door, the local barber and the local bobby all chasing squealing pigs." **John Roberts**



The White Swan up for Sale

In 1963 a villager complained at a Mountsorrel parish meeting about the condition of the Old White Swan public house and was told that the property is on the ancient buildings list and cannot be demolished until the final list is released by the Ministry



A door hinge from the White Swan



Inn 'Menace To Public Safety'

19/1/68

THE Old White Swan inn on Leicester Road, Mountsorrel, "is a menace to public safety," declared Councillor Harold Newman during a discussion of the inn at the meeting of Mountsorrel Parish Council.

It is scheduled as a building of historic interest and therefore cannot be demolished.

One member said slates were falling from the roof, and Swithland slates were "not light to fall on anyone."

Councillor Newman declared the site spoiled the parish. Three cattle trucks were packed in the yard of the building, making the appearance very unsightly.

Councillor A. L. Palfrey said it might well be left standing another 30 years.

The clerk thought they might try to get it demolished, and it was agreed to make inquiries about the matter.

After it was demolished the site lay empty and derelict for many years until 1987 when houses were built on the site

Wildlife

Peace Garden

After a dry April, May has been wet and almost wintery, that is until we had a work party in Peace Garden when the sun shone on us (OK there was a slight shower as well!). With old and new faces in the Team jobs were soon sorted and the place is starting to look ship-shape once more. Some slight strimming damage was noted on two of the Armistice Centenary trees and Jeff has come up trumps with recycled tree guards. We've also enlarged the soil area around the trees which should ease the issue for the contractors and give us some space for some bulbs for autumn/winter planting. It was also good to see and hear the Swifts over the Peace Garden whilst we were working, numbers are still low and those that nest around the village were a good week behind previous years but hopefully as the weather improves so will their numbers.



Navins Wildflower Meadow

There was a slight mix up at the Navins Wildflower Meadow in late May when the grass-cutting contractor mowed a good deal more off next to the boundary boulders than was wanted, we've had an apology via the Parish Council. The meadow itself is now moving from the spring into early summer flowering with primroses, cowslips and oxlips, which were a real feature this year, now dying back and the cow-parsley around the edges shooting up along with red campion over to the edge of the copse. It'll be interesting to see what affect the cold and dry followed by cold and wet will have on flowering on the meadow .It's pleasing to note that both the bird boxes at the Peace Garden and by the Wildflower Meadow are in use.

And the buttercups are out by the 1860 Bridge."

