

(Whitt. 770. Blagrove v. Livingston. F. P, mentioned. Prob. a mistake for Deposns. 770 above).

In 1685 some lawsuit took place in which both James P. of St. Kitts & Chris. Jeafferson were interested.

Try also Chas. 1, ii. 115/146. Hickman v. P. ? 115/146.

Deposns. Chas. 1. P. 22/10. P. v. P.

B. & A. James 1. P. 25/60. Power v. Skynner.

Bridges 422/?. P. v. Castle brr.

Collins 49/?. P. v. Eldridge. 1.

Hamilton 656 (dt. 1711 ?). Bernard (for Barnan).

Chas. 1. c 68/3. Christopher v. Phippe.

## **Eversley and its Registers.**

*By Emma Elizabeth Cope.*

**I**T may be said, more or less with truth, that the history of a parish lies in the pages of its parish Register. With Eversley this is not so much a fact as with other parishes, for before the advent of Canon Kingsley the tract of country known as Eversley Village was sparsely populated and scarcely known. It had never produced any celebrity, its one historical episode was the unfortunate accident to the keeper, Peter Hawkins, who was shot by an arrow in Bramshill Park, an accident which cost the Archbishop of Canterbury bitter regret and deprivation of his office for awhile, and all due to ignorance, for had the accident happened now-a-days the poor man would not have bled to death as he did. The sole entry in the Parish Register runs thus, without any comment, among the burials, "Petrus Hawkins. July 25, 1621."

Eversley Register starts from 1559, but it is in reality a later transcript from the older books.

The village is curiously not near the church ; and one wonders why the village street is situated where it is. There is no reason for it such as the proximity of a large house or ancient site.

The surrounding parishes are Finchampstead in Berkshire, which was closely connected in many ways with Eversley ; on the Hampshire side, Yateley, Heckfield and Swallowfield.

In 1842 as a curate of 23 years of age Charles Kingsley came to Eversley, and in his "Life" it is recorded there were "three hamlets each standing on its own little Green." I suppose by this was meant Eversley Cross, Up Green and Bramshill Common. Eversley Street has no green, being along the road and adjacent to the little Blackwater River.

The registers of Eversley Marriages are included in Phillimore's Hampshire Registers. As I before said, the early portion was transcribed according to the Act of Parliament, so that the names may then have suffered some variations, but in the Phillimore Edition, among various errors due to inability to read correctly the old handwriting, a very curious mistake is made, the old capital letter H is written like our small h, but the loop part is long and detached. The copyist read it as Ezitt, whereas the name really was Hill; in old handwriting the double l had a line drawn through the letters, thus Ezitt was read instead of Hill and is so printed.

In 1560, when the Register begins, the Lord of the Manor was Anthony Brown, Viscount Montagu, non-resident, the Clergyman was apparently Thomas Barnes, and between 1582 and 1586 there are four deaths recorded of the Barnes family, three of them being infants. Turning to the baptisms we find Rhoda Barnes 20 April, 1576, Abigall Barnes 1582, as baptised in this parish; but in 1583 the entries of two baptisms, Edith, daughter of William Barnes and Elenor, daughter of Robert Barnes, is followed by Thomas Barnes son of the Parson, shewing that there were three families of Barnes resident in Eversley at this time. There is nothing in the Register to shew who the resident gentry were.

In 1582 Lord Montagu sold Eversley to Deodatus Staverton; at once the name Deodatus strikes one: "God given." It became a very favourite name in Eversley, shewing that the Stavertons (or as they sometimes spell it Stafferton) were popular. The first entry of the name Deodatus is that of Deodatus Helhouse 1564, and from the baptisms of Mabel and Lettice Staverton that same year we know that the Stavertons were living in the parish.

The Staverton Pedigree is given in the Berkshire Visitations of 1623. The family belonged to Warfield, and previously had owned the Manor of Stroudhall in Bray as early as 1426 and were connected with other adjacent parishes. Glancing down the Staverton pedigree the name Deodatus does not appear till the sixth son of Richard and Margaret Staverton of Warfield was so christened, so that it makes one think that he was the direct ancestor of the

Eversley branch. It was probably his son Deodatus Staverton who married at Popham in Hampshire in 1635 Mrs. Amy Hunt.

Altogether there were four Deodatus Stavertons in Eversley, 1613 to 1649. The Manor of Eversley was sold by the Stavertons in 1665. Sir William Cope remarked that the last member of the family buried there was in 1724. There are no monuments to the Stavertons. The last baptism was that of Jarvis Staverton, son of the rector, 1707.

Where the Westwoods lived I do not know, but there were several old houses, the Manor House, Warbrook, Glaston Hill, Brickhill Farm and Moor Place, all more than mere farm houses.

Dr. Wroth was residing in Eversley, probably parish doctor for a large district, he had children christened in Charles II. reign. This name I have come across in Berkshire pedigrees.

The Sellons too were well connected people—the same is misspelt in Mr. Phillimore's Transcript,—and there were yeoman farmer families, the Vans, the Banisters, a branch of the Banisters of Finchampstead, the Wythes or Wyeths, and others.

The Baileys of Eversley were the ancestors of Bailey the celebrated poulterers of Mount Street, London. But long before the Baileys became partners in that business they had been connected with London, as Richard Bailey of Cripplegate lived in Eversley 17th century. I am at present tracing the Bailey pedigree.

It would seem as if there was some connection between Burghfield and Eversley as the same names occur in both parishes.

The oldest names in Eversley are Alexander, Everid, Bayley, Marten, Kelsey, Chaundler, etc. The names which I note only a few times are Havell, Foster, Staveley, Arnold, Blondon, Wylder, Thayer, Richards, Pagett, Brommell, etc.

It is a great pity Family Bibles are gone out of fashion, and that the old English yeoman took so little interest in his forbears, that now the descendants cannot trace back. It is always interesting to collect pedigrees, and see the rise and fall of families, and their migration from country to town and possibly across the seas to find a home. Many from far lands would come back from the Colonies and enjoy a walk round the old parish, once the home of their ancestors, had those ancestors only written out their descent and some account of their native place, the spot they called home. But alas, such written records do not exist, and one can understand how the Colonial treasures any records and looks forward to a European trip.