

## The French Prisoners in Ashbourne.

By ERNEST A. SADLER, M.D.  
(See N.S. vol. II, p. 220).

ENTRIES in the Registers of the Parish Church, Ashbourne, referring to the French Prisoners of War on Parole in Ashbourne.

### MARRIAGES.

Aug. 15, 1808. By licence, Vincent Pierre Fillion, a French Prisoner of War, and Hannah Whitaker, both of this parish, Spinster. Vicar, Samuel Shipley.

Signed by Ed: pere Gillied [badly written]

Hannah Whittaker [very illiterate writing]

Witnesses: Severe Meynary [well written]

Marey Whitaker [badly written]

May 7, 1810. By licence, Louis Hugand, Bachelor, a French Prisoner, and Mary Whittaker, Spinster, both of this Parish.

Signed by W. Bayliff, Minister.

L. Hugand

Mary Whitaker } [all well written]

Witnesses: Margaret Whitaker }

Brar. . . . . [the rest obliterated by a thick flourish]

Oct. 18, 1810. By licence, Peter Laulke, Bachelor, Prisoner of War, and Ann Charles, Spinster, both of this Parish.

Signed: Saml. Shipley (Vicar).

Pierre Laulke.

Ann Charles [childish writing]

Witnesses: Pierre Journet

J. N. Ianguinet

Dec. 31, 1810. By Banns, Augusta Theodor Lidier of this Parish, Prisoner of War, and Ann Bull, Spinster, of the Parish of Mayfield.

Signed: Saml. Shipley (Vicar)  
Auguste Theodore Lidier  
Ann Bull's X mark

Witnesses: Antoine Dupin  
Sampson Gather [the parish clerk]

Dec. 30, 1811. By Banns, Peter Dupre, Prisoner of War in Ashbourne, and Elizabeth Whittaker, Spinster, of the Parish of Ashbourne.

Signed: Saml. Shipley (Vicar)  
Pierre Dupre  
Elizth. Whitaker [illiterate writing]

Witnesses: Jn. Ba. Lugud  
Mary Lugared

Nov. 26, 1812. By Banns, Otto Ernst d' Heldreich, Prisoner of War, and Margaret Whittaker, Spinster, both of this Parish.

Signed: Saml. Shipley (Vicar)  
Otto Ernst d' Heldreich [well written]  
Margaret Whitaker [fairly well written]

Witnesses: Geo. Eyre  
Sampson Gather [parish clerk]

Feb. 15, 1813. By Banns, Pedro Antonio Totoldi, French Prisoner of War, Bachelor, and Sarah Gettliffe, both of this Parish, Spinster.

Signed: Saml. Shipley (Vicar)  
Pietro Antonio Tedoldi  
Sarah Gettliffe

Witnesses: Geo. Gettliffe  
Henrietta Douglas

June 15, 1813. By Banns, Hyacinthe Beguinot, Prisoner of War on Parole, Bachelor, and Mary Charles, Spinster, both of this Parish, with consent of parents.

Signed: Saml. Shipley (Vicar)  
 Hthe. Béguinot  
 Mary Charles

Witnesses: Bt. de Charpinz  
 Samn. Gather [parish clerk]

Nov. 29, 1813. By Banns, Philip Louis de Burbure, Bachelor, Prisoner of War on Parole, and Elizabeth Slater, Spinster, both of this Parish.

Signed: Saml. Shipley (Vicar)  
 Phillippe Louis De Burbure  
 Elizabeth Slater

Witnesses: Pierre Notin  
 Sampson Gather [parish clerk]

Sept. 8, 1814. By Licence, Pierre Notin, of the Island of St. Domingo, Purser of a man of war, and a Bachelor, and Catherine Kent, of the Parish of Ashbourne, Spinster.

Signed: W. Bayliffe (officiating minister)  
 P. Notin  
 Catherine Kent [illiterate writing]

Witnesses: Hannah Kent  
 John Getliff

#### NOTES ON THE MARRIAGES.

Vincent Pierre Fillion was a Captain in the Army, captured in the National Store Ship, *La Astour* on 16 July, 1803.

Pierre Journet was an enseigne de vaisseau (midshipman) captured in the Merchant Vessel *La Manche* on 8 Jany., 1808.

J. N. Janguinet was 2nd Captn. of *L'Iphiginia* Merchant Vessel, captured 16 Jany., 1809.

Antoine Dupin belonging to the Brig of War *La Gotante*, was captured on Oct. 11, 1803, and discharged to Chesterfield 5 Sept., 1812.

Peter or Pierre Dupre, Lieut., was captured at Walcheren, 17 Aug., 1809, and was not discharged until 3 June, 1814.

Jean B. Lugud was Captain of the Arab Ship *La Paquet* captured on Sep. 16, 1808.

Otto Ernst d' Heldreich, a Lieutenant in the 2<sup>o</sup> Italian Regt. was captured at sea between Corfu and Otranto on Sep. 29, 1809, and not discharged until 3 June, 1814. He specially asked for the consent of the Transport Board in London to his marriage as the Vicar of Ashbourne would not put up the banns without their approval.

Hyacinthe Beguinot was a Lieutenant in the Army, captured at Walcheren on Aug. 17, 1809. He was discharged to the Transport Office, London, on June 11, 1813, four days before his marriage in Ashbourne. One of the witnesses to his marriage was Edd. Bart Charpin (called in the Register Charpinz) a Lieutenant in the Army, who was also captured at Walcheren on Aug. 17, 1809. He was one of the last prisoners to be discharged on May 14, 1814.

Philip Louis de Burbure was a Lieutenant in the "27 Regt. Chasseurs," captured in Spain on March 16, 1810. He left Ashbourne in the last batch of prisoners to be discharged on June 3, 1814.

Pierre Notin who witnessed de Burbure's marriage and who was himself married ten months afterwards (being the last French Prisoner of War to be married in Ashbourne) was a passenger in the Schooner *La Continelle* when captured on May 15, 1809. He was discharged on May 14, 1814.

The four Whitakers, who married respectively Fillion, Hugand, Dupre and d' Heldreich, were daughters of John Whitaker an Inn-keeper in Dig Street, Ashbourne.

Both Notin and de Burbure were quarrelsome and intemperate men and appeared in Ashbourne Court House for brawling and drunkenness.

#### BAPTISMS.

Feb. 16, 1811. John Francis Lewis Hugand, son of

John Francis Lewis Hugand, French Prisoner of War in Ashbourne, and Mary his wife, born Dec. 1, 1810.

[This entry, though made on the page for Feb, 1810, is dated 1811 at the top of the entry; and this is no doubt the correct date, the baptism having been entered as an after-thought in the wrong February. The entry is in a different hand-writing, and separated from the other entries of Feb. 1810 by a cross-line. The date of the birth given at the end of the entry supports this view, as does also the date of the parents' marriage; q.v.]

April 20, 1810. Emily Aspase, daughter of Vincent Pierre Fillion, and Hannah his wife (French Prisoner of war) born 17 inst.

Then follows in the register:—N.B. The last child was omitted to be registered, but on the oath of Elizabeth Dupre was privately baptized by the Rev. W. Bayliff.

June 28, 1813. Born 30 May, Theodore Otto Alexander son of Otto Ernest and Margaret d' Heldreich, French Prisoner (signed) Saml. Shipley.

Jan 15, 1815. Born Dec. 3/13. Louisa Ann, Dr. of Pedro Antonio and Sarah Titoldi, Compton, an Italian [see deaths, Feb. 27, 1815]

Dec. 1, 1815. Born 17 Novr., Louis Robert, son of Philip Louis and Elizabeth de Buibrice, Compton, Lieutenant in the French Service. Baptized by L. Brooks.

Jan. 26, 1816. Born 29 Dec '15, Louis Frederic, son of Pietro Antonio and Sarah Tetoldi, Compton, an Italian. Baptized by P. Belcher.

[Compton is a part of Ashbourne. The Rev. Paul Belcher was Head Master of Ashbourne Grammar School]

May 31, 1816. Born 9 April, Adolphus Leopold, son of Otto and Margaret Holdrick [d' Heldreich] Johnson's Yard, Prussian. Baptized by P. Belcher.

Aug. 1, 1817. Born July 6, 1817, Elizath., Daughter of Peter and Sarah Tidoldi, Compton, Italian.

Sep. 3, 1818. Born Aug 15, Alphonso Marcus, son of Otto and Margere [sic] Heldreich, Compton, Officer in French Service.

### BURIALS.

Jan. 13, 1810. Felix De La Motta a Polander, Prisoner of War on his Parole, taken at Walcheron, aged 28 years.

July 5, 1810. John Lasserres, French Prisoner on Parole in Ashbourne.

Jan. 1, 1811. Ormand Joseph le Borni de Kirnovan, Prisoner of War, aged 20.

Feb. 8, 1811. Anotoine Dupony, French Prisoner of War.

Feb. 27, 1815. Louisa Ann Titoldi, Compton, aged 1.

Mar. 28, 1817. John Langford, Church St., aged 60.  
[He was "Agent for Prisoners of War on Parole at Ashbourne"]

## The French Prisoners in England.

By ERNEST A. SADLER, M.D.

AT the end of the 18th century the frequency of Britain's wars abroad led to the accumulation in the country of a great number of prisoners of war, who were very unsatisfactorily accommodated in fortresses, castles, ships, empty warehouses, stables, etc. In 1793 the supplementary Militia Act was passed under which it was determined to spend £2,000,000 on the erection of barracks, of which there were few in England at this period, and still fewer garrison towns; and in 1794 the Transport Office was created for the superintendence of the Transport Service, and later for the management of the prisoners of war at home and abroad. Out of the £2,000,000 set aside for the erection of barracks, the first to be built was the prison at Norman Cross, which was spoken of not as a barracks, or even a prison, but as a depot. The site at Norman Cross in Huntingdonshire on the Great North Road was for many important reasons chosen as the most suitable for the erection of a prison for prisoners of war, and until 1809, when Dartmoor was built, it was not only the chief centre, but the only one for the purpose. Dartmoor, which was built of stone, became a Convict Prison in 1850, but the Norman Cross Depot, being built chiefly of wood, ceased to exist after 1815.

When Norman Cross was the only prison of the kind, the increasing calls on its accommodation led to a large number of prisoners being allowed out on parole in various

towns widely distributed throughout the country. Those who were allowed on parole were naval and military officers, commanders and first lieutenants of privateers mounting at least 14 guns, commanders and first mates of merchantmen, and non-combatants. Agents were appointed in each place to look after and pay the prisoners, who lodged either in the town itself, or in the neighbouring villages. Prisoners who broke parole, or who did not behave themselves were sent back to Norman Cross, where their liberties were greatly curtailed, and where the conditions of life were much more strict and unpleasant. The following towns in the Midlands, at some time or other, received French Prisoners of War on parole; Ashbourne, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Chesterfield, Derby, Leek and Lichfield.