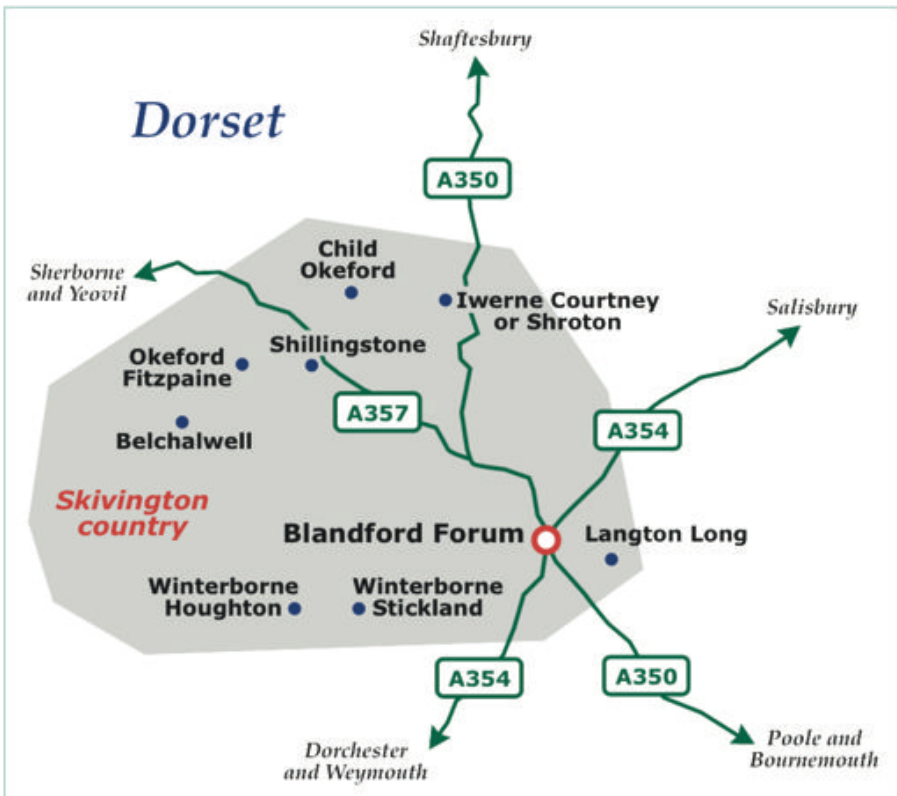


3

Dorset Skyvingtons

In the previous chapter, I traced the background of my grandfather Ernest Skyvington to the marriage of his grandparents Frank Skyvington [1845-1916] and Mary Ann Jones [1848-1870]. We shall now examine the Dorset genealogy of Frank Skyvington.



Item 3-1: Villages around Blandford Forum associated with Skyvingtons.

Earliest known ancestral relative

This chapter is based upon the earliest known ancestral relative who bears our surname: George Skivington [1670-1711]. So, I shall start with this man and work down slowly in a chronological direction towards the more recent generations.

Here is a summary of the path on which I am about to set out, starting at the top:

11	George SKIVINGTON [1670-1711] — Mary HALLET
10	George SKIVINGTON — Edith ?
9	Charles SKIVINGTON [1728-] — Elizabeth ROSE
8	George SKIVINGTON [1756-1785] — Amelia SEVIOR
7	John SKIVINGTON [1781-1851] — Grace PETHEN
6	Charles SKIVINGTON [1818-1881] — Eliza LEGG
5	Frank SKIVINGTON [1845-1916] — Mary Ann JONES
4	William Jones SKYVINGTON [1868-] — Eliza Jane MEPHAM
3	Ernest William SKYVINGTON [1891-1985] — Kathleen PICKERING
2	King Mephram SKYVINGTON [1917-1978] — Enid Kathleen WALKER
1	William John SKYVINGTON [1940-] — Marie Christine MAFART

Item 3-2: Skivington/Skyvington generations.

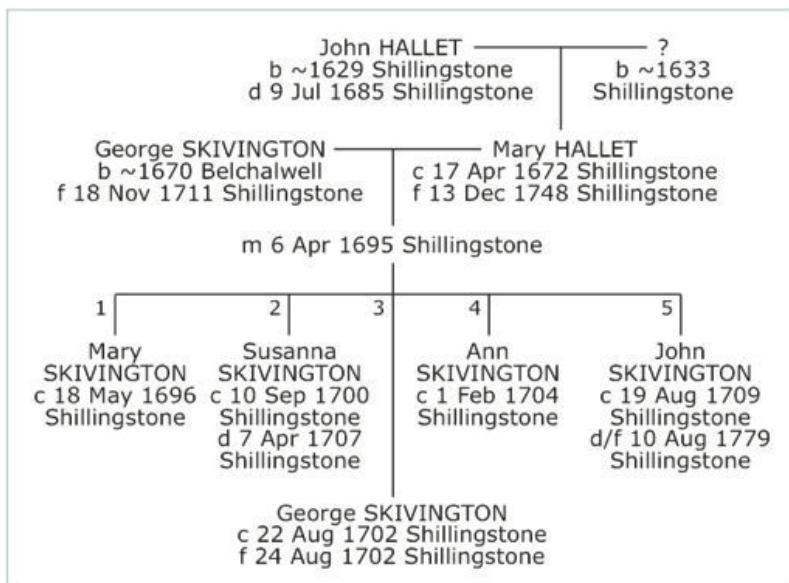
The little green triangles indicate the known existence of a father/son relationship. As you can see, this is only the case after the generation #9.

Since the lower five generations have already been presented earlier on, our Dorset story deals with the six generations #11 down to #6. Information will be handled in two steps:

- First, I present mainstream individuals in these six generations.
- Then I return to the top of the chart and work down through these generations in a more thorough manner, examining various related lines (marital links, cousins, etc).

Dorset patriarch: “Belchalwell George” [1670-1711]

The earliest Dorset Skivington I have found was born in Belchalwell around 1670. So, I shall refer to him as “Belchalwell George”.



Item 3-3: Earliest known Skivingtons in Dorset.

I strongly suspect that “Belchalwell George”, while not apparently a direct paternal ancestor of mine, would be a close ancestral relative. The son named George Skivington died as a baby. John Skivington’s family will be presented later on.

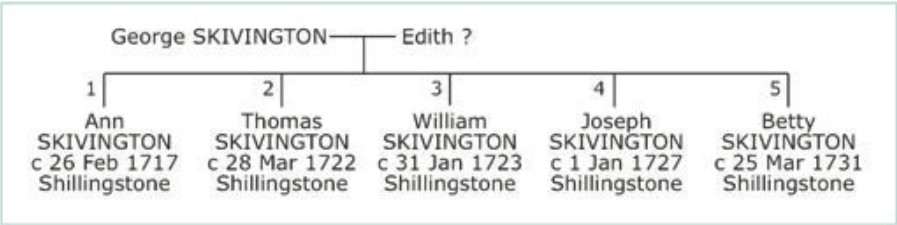


Item 3-4: Churches at Belchalwell (left) and Shillingstone (right).

Belchalwell was a Saxon settlement composed of two neighborhoods: Belle and Chaldwelle (cold spring).

“Shillingstone George”

The next generation is that of a Skivington male, also named George, in the village of Shillingstone, which is quite close to Belchalwell.



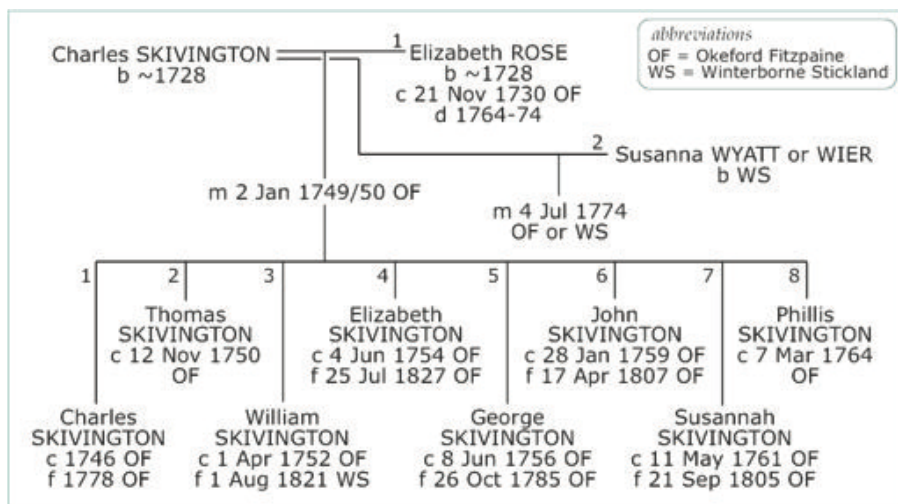
Item 3-5: Family of George Skivington of Shillingstone.

I would imagine that this "Shillingstone George" might have been a nephew of "Belchalwell George". It is possible (as I shall explain shortly) that "Shillingstone George" might have been a direct paternal ancestor of mine.

At the time of Edward the Confessor, Shillingstone manor belonged to Godwin [990-1053], Earl of Wessex. The Domesday Book indicates that the manor was given to a Norman family named Schelin. The village was then known as Schelin (or Shilling) Okeford, and it was the smallest of the three Okefords: Childe Okeford, Okeford Fitzpaine and Shilling Okeford. So, the later name, Shillingston (originally with no final "e"), merely meant the place of the Schelins... and has nothing to do with legends about a shilling coin.

“Charles the Elder” [1728-]

The following chart presents the family of Charles Skivington in Okeford Fitzpaine:



Item 3-6: Family of Charles Skivington and Elizabeth Rose.

This Charles was the earliest individual who can be explicitly identified as a direct paternal ancestor of mine. "Charles the Elder" (as I call him) could well have been a son of "Shillingstone George".

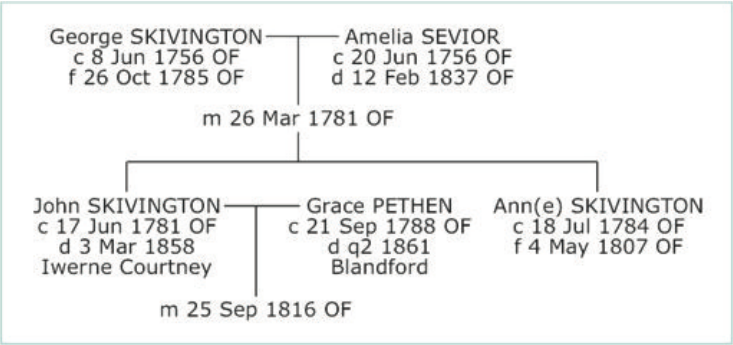


Item 3-7: Okeford Fitzpaine church.

My ancestral line passes through the fifth offspring, George Skivington [1756-1785]. We shall see, in a moment, that my ancestral line also happens to pass through the seventh offspring, Susannah Skivington [1761-1805].

“Okeford George” [1756-1785]

The following chart presents the family of this George Skivington:

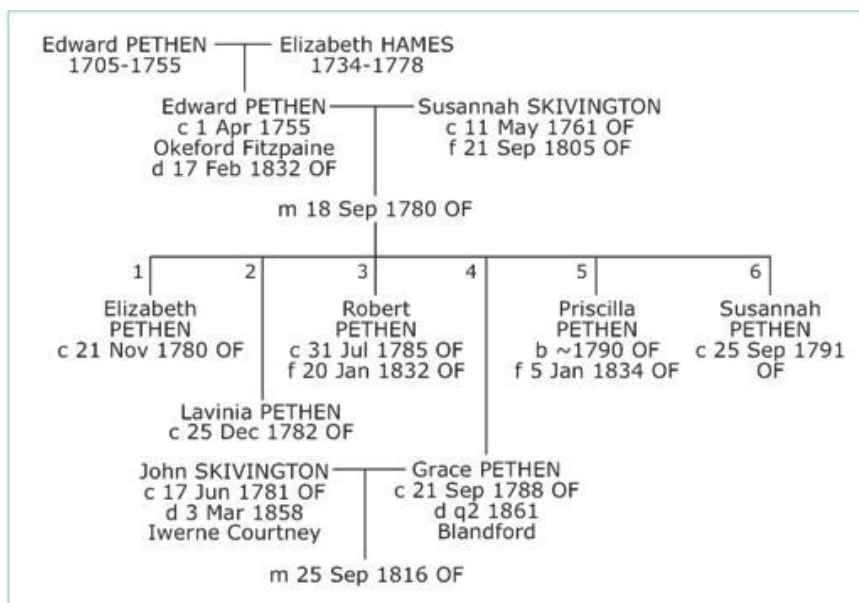


Item 3-8: Family of George Skivington and Amelia Sevier.

The unusual surname of George’s wife, Sevier, is subjected to all kinds of spelling variations: Seviour, Sevier, Sevyer, Seeviou, Siveyer, Sivier, Sivy, etc. It is derived from the Old English word for a sieve. So, Amelia surely had ancestors in the Middle Ages who worked as sieve-makers.

Susannah Skivington [1761-1805]

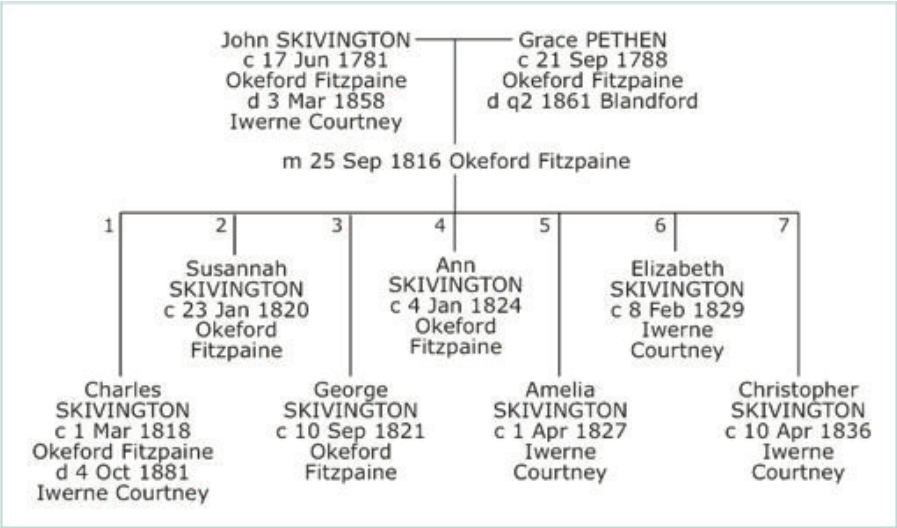
This chart shows that Grace Pethen was John Skivington's cousin:



Item 3-9: Family of Susannah Skivington and Edward Pethen.

John Skivington [1780-1858]

The following chart presents the family of John Skivington and Grace Pethen:



Item 3-10: Family of John Skivington and Grace Pethen.

The first four children were christened in Okeford Fitzpaine, whereas the last three were christened in Iwerne Courtney (“Iwerne” is pronounced like “Ewan”), also known as Shroton [item 3-1].

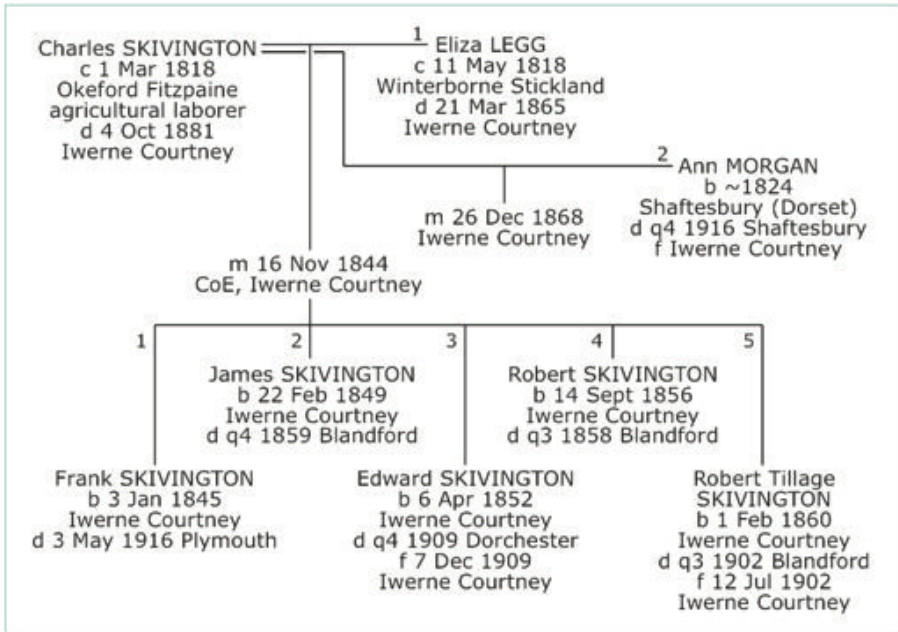


Item 3-11: Iwerne Courtney church.

My ancestral line passes through the first offspring, Charles Skivington [1818-1881].

“Charles the Younger” [1818-1881]

The following chart shows the family of Charles Skivington (whom I call “Charles the Younger”) and Eliza Legg:



Item 3-12: Family of Charles Skivington and Eliza Legg.

The eldest son, Frank Skivington, was my great-great-grandfather.

Notice the existence of two sons named Robert, the first of whom died young. Notice too that Charles remarried after the death of Eliza Legg.

Marriage of Charles Skivington and Eliza Legg

Charles Skivington and Eliza Legg were married in the parish church of Iwerne Courtney on 16 November 1844.

1844 Marriage solemnized <i>By Banns</i> in the				
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.
28	<i>November</i>	<i>Charles Skivington</i>	<i>of the</i>	<i>Bachelors</i>
	<i>16th</i>	<i>Eliza Legg</i>	<i>of the</i>	<i>Spinster</i>
Married in the <i>Parish Church</i> according to the Rites and C				
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<i>Charles Skivington</i> <i>Eliza Legg's Clerk</i>		
<i>Church of Iwerne Courtney in the County of Dorset</i>				
Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.	
<i>Laborer</i>	<i>Iwerne Courtney</i>	<i>John Skivington</i>	<i>Laborer</i>	
	<i>&c</i>	<i>James Legg</i>	<i>Laborer</i>	
Ceremonies of the <i>Church of England</i> by me,				
in the Presence of us,		<i>Geo. H. George, Curate</i> <i>George Skivington</i> <i>James Legg</i>		

Item 3-13: Marriage of Charles Skivington and Eliza Legg.

The groom's name is spelt "Skyvington" and the bride's name is spelt with a final "e". Both fathers were described as laborers. The groom's brother George Skyvington was a witness.

Birth of Frank Skivington

Frank Skivington, my great-great-grandfather, was born on 3 January 1845 in Iwerne Courtney.

REGISTRATION DISTRICT <i>Blandford</i>					
1845 BIRTH in the Sub-district of <i>Blandford</i>					
Columns:—	1	2	3	4	5
No.	When and where born	Name, if any	Sex	Name, and surname of father	Name, surname, and maiden surname of mother
444	<i>Third of January 1845 at Iwerne Courtney</i>	<i>Frank</i>	<i>Boy</i>	<i>Charles Skivington</i>	<i>Eliza Skivington formerly Legg</i>

<i>and</i> in the <i>hundred</i> of <i>Dorset</i>			
6	7	8	9
Occupation of father	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar
<i>Labourer</i>	<i>The mark of Eliza Skivington mother Iwerne Courtney</i>	<i>Twenty eighth of January 1845</i>	<i>H. J. Lann Registrar</i>

Item 3-14: Birth of Frank Skivington.

Death of Eliza Legg

On 21 March 1865, at the age of 44, Eliza Legg died of "consumption" (pulmonary tuberculosis).

REGISTRATION DISTRICT					
1865 DEATH in the Sub-district of Blandford					
No.	When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation
444	Twenty first March 1865 Sworne boustrey	Eliza Shirington	Female	44 Years	Wife of Charles Shirington Farm Labourer

BLANDFORD in the County of Dorset			
Cause of death	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar
3 Anne Harvey Consumption Not certified	Anne Harvey Present at the death Sworne boustrey	Twenty eighth March 1865	Walter Lance Registrar

Item 3-15: Death of Eliza Legg.

Second marriage of Charles Skivington

Three and a half years later, the widower Charles Skivington remarried.

1868. Marriage solemnized at <u>the parish Church</u> in				
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.
135	December 26 th	Charles Skivington	50	Widower
		Ann Morgan	40	Spinster
Married in the <u>parish Church</u> according to the Rites and Cere				
This Marriage was solemnized between us, { <u>Charles Skivington</u> <u>Ann Morgan</u> }				
in the <u>parish of Churchbury</u> in the County of <u>Dorset</u>				
Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.	
Labourer	Swine Country	John Skivington	Labourer	
—	Swine Country	Walter Morgan	Labourer	
monies of the Established Church, by <u>George Skivington</u> or after <u>John W. Mansell</u> by me, { <u>George Skivington</u> <u>Ann Roberts</u> }				

Item 3-16: Second marriage of Charles Skivington.

Ann Morgan was the daughter of a Shaftesbury shoemaker.

Death of Charles Skivington

On 4 October 1881, 64-year-old Charles Skivington died of a stroke in Iwerne Courtney.

REGISTRATION DISTRICT					
1881 DEATH in the Sub-district of Blandford					
No.	When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation
425	Fourth October 1881 Iwerne Courtney R. S. D.	Charles Skivington	Male	64 Years	Farm Laborer

BLANDFORD in the County of Dorset			
Cause of death	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar
Apoplexy. Certified by B. M. Spooner M.D. M.R.C.S.L.S.A.	X The mark of Ann Skivington Widow of the Decedent Present at the death Iwerne Courtney	Fourth October 1881	Walter Lance Registrar

Item 3-17: Death of Charles Skivington.

After the death of Charles in 1881, Ann survived as a widow for 35 years, and died in her native Shaftesbury in 1916, at the age of 92.

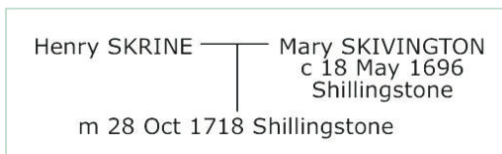
Back up to our earliest known ancestors...

Near the start of this chapter, I explained that I would begin by presenting "mainstream individuals" in six generations of Dorset Skivingtons, and that I would then return to the top and work down through these generations in a more thorough manner, examining various associated links. I refer to such individuals, who were not my direct ancestors, as "ancestral relatives".

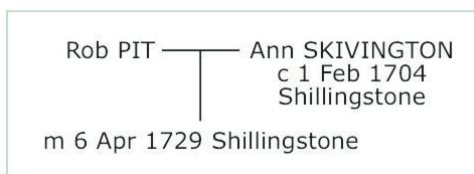
I have now finished my presentation of the mainstream individuals. So, let us move back to the late 17th century in order to take a look at various ancestral relatives.

Daughters of “Belchalwell George”

“Belchalwell George” had daughters named Mary and Ann [item 3-3]. Mormon IGI records refer to their marriages.



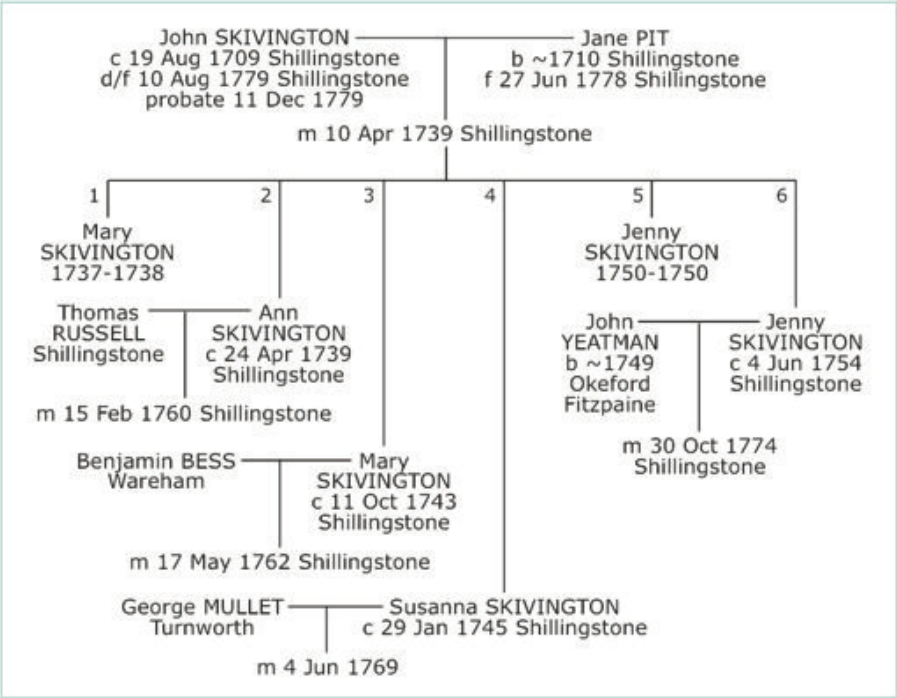
Item 3-18: Marriage of Mary Skivington in Shillingstone.



Item 3-19: Marriage of Ann Skivington in Shillingstone.

John Skivington, younger son of “Belchalwell George”

John Skivington, the younger son of "Belchalwell George", married Jane Pit (sometimes spelt “Pitt”), who may have been a sister of Ann Skivington’s husband, Rob Pit [item 3-19].

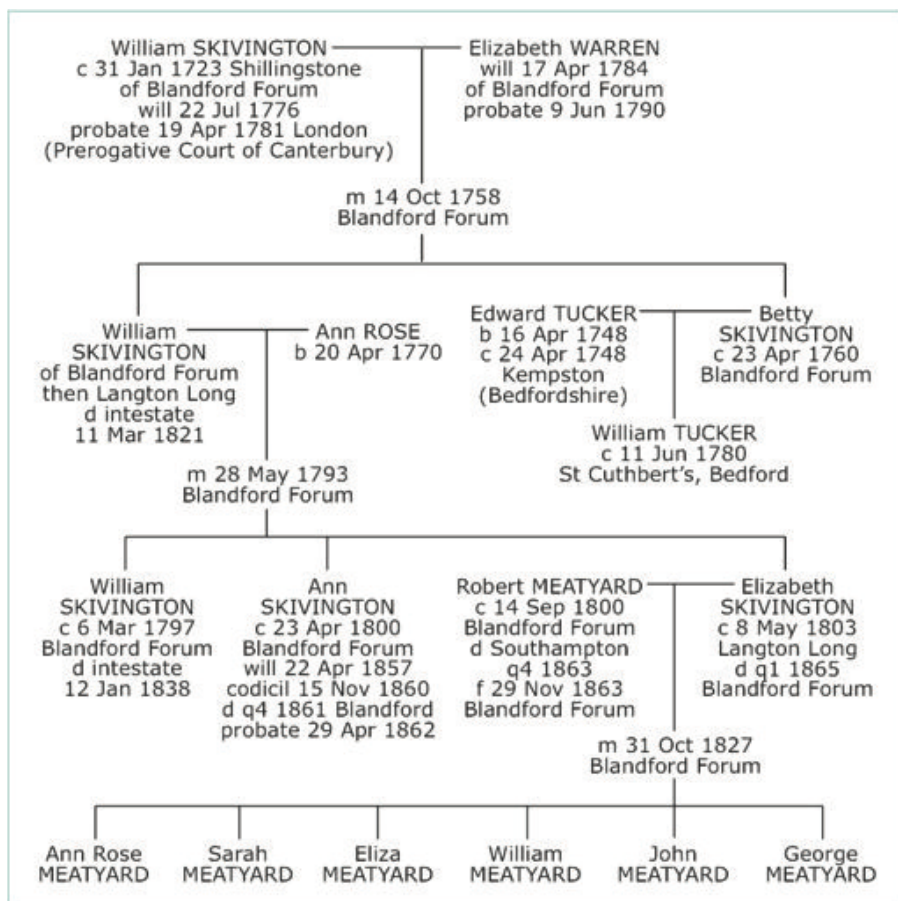


Item 3-20: Family of John Skivington in Shillingstone.

John Skivington, described as an “inholder” (no doubt a misspelling of “innholder”, an innkeeper), made a will in favor of his three elder daughters and their husbands. I have obtained copies of these wills (along with others, mentioned elsewhere in the present chapter), but I have not thought it worthwhile to include actual images of these documents in the present book.

William Skivington, son of “Shillingstone George”

“Shillingstone George” had a son named William Skivington, christened in 1723 [item 3-5]. He made a will, which reveals that he was an innkeeper in East Street, Blandford Forum. William’s will, which obtained probate in 1781, specified that all his possessions would belong to his widow Elizabeth for as long as she lived. She in turn made a will, which obtained probate in 1790. Elizabeth’s sole executor was her son William, married to Ann Rose.



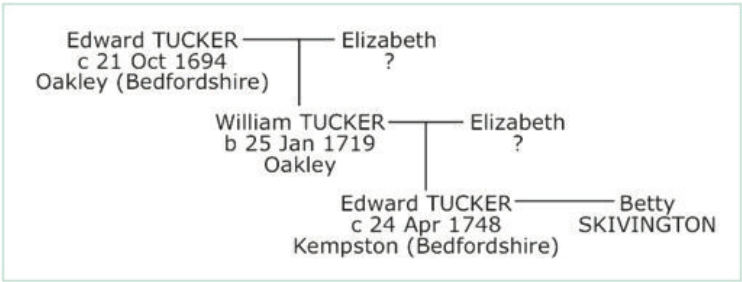
Item 3-21: Family of William Skivington of Blandford Forum.

The above-mentioned William died intestate in 1821, and his inherited possessions were passed to his son, also a William, who died intestate in 1838. His sister Ann, a spinster, made a will in 1857 (with a codicil in 1860) that transmitted the Skivington possessions in Blandford Forum to her sister

Chapter 3

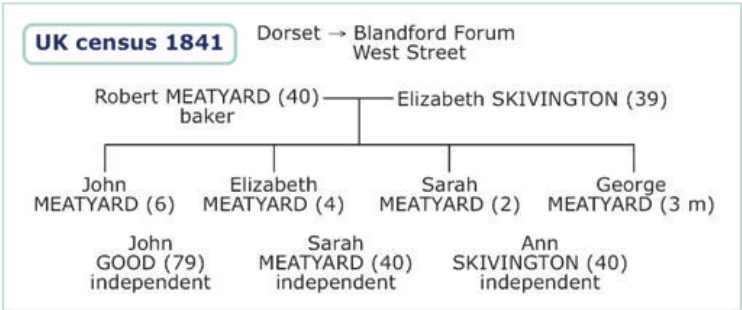
Elizabeth, married to the baker Robert Meatyard, and their six children.

Betty Skivington's husband Edward Tucker came from Bedfordshire.



Item 3-22: Parents and grandparents of the husband of Betty Skivington.

Ann Skivington's residence at 10 West Street appears in the UK censuses of 1841, 1851 and 1861.

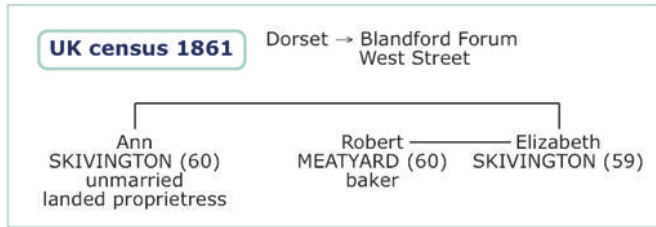


Item 3-23: UK census 1841, West Street, Blandford Forum.

Ten years later, the baker and his wife had seven offspring, and the eldest son, William, was also described as a baker. A 33-year-old female lodger worked as a dressmaker.

The image shows a handwritten entry from the 1851 UK census. The entry is for Robert Meatyard, a baker, and his family. The names and ages of the family members are written in cursive. The entry is for 10 West Street, Blandford Forum, Dorset. The names and ages of the family members are: Robert Meatyard (40), Elizabeth Skivington (39), John Meatyard (6), Elizabeth Meatyard (4), Sarah Meatyard (2), George Meatyard (3 m), John Good (79) independent, Sarah Meatyard (40) independent, and Ann Skivington (40) independent.

Item 3-24: UK census 1851, West Street, Blandford Forum.



Item 3-25: UK census 1861.

Ann Skivington's house still exists, at the principal south-eastern entry into Blandford Forum, on the corner between the Crown Hotel and Market Place.



Item 3-26: Ann Skivington's house near the center of Blandford Forum.

When the spinster Ann Skivington died in 1861, one of the properties she left to her Meatyard nephews was the *White Hart Inn*, East Street, Blandford Forum. Maybe her nephew William took over this inn, and used it as his bakery. He was described in the 1881 census as an innkeeper (at another place in Dorset), whereas John Meatyard was described as a confectioner.

The old address of the *White Hart Inn* was 183 West Street, but the street numbers seem to have been changed since then. Today, it is still a prominent Blandford Forum pub, called *The Dolphin*.

The term “hart” designates an adult male deer. In rural England, many inns and pubs evoked the exotic image of a white specimen of this animal, which was normally red. A *White Hart* establishment existed, for example (see the 1861 census), in Iwerne Courtney.

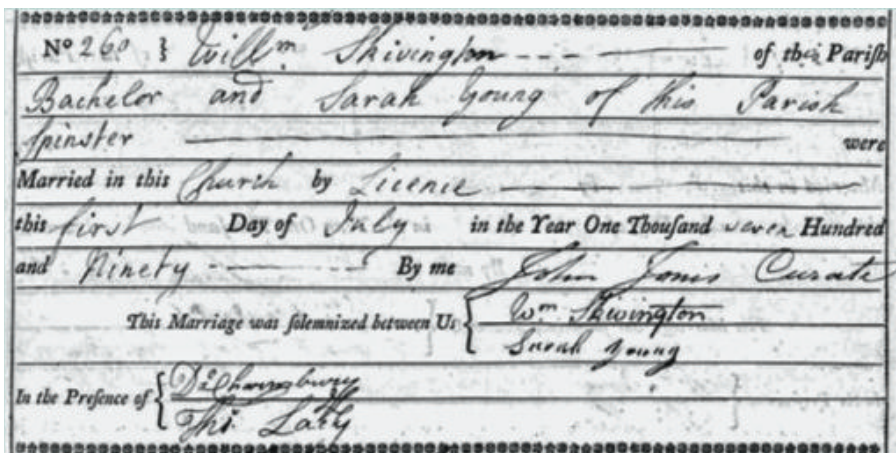


Item 3-27: Former White Hart Inn.

Behind the pub, an old building is still designated today as *White Hart Cottage*.

Intriguing second marriage

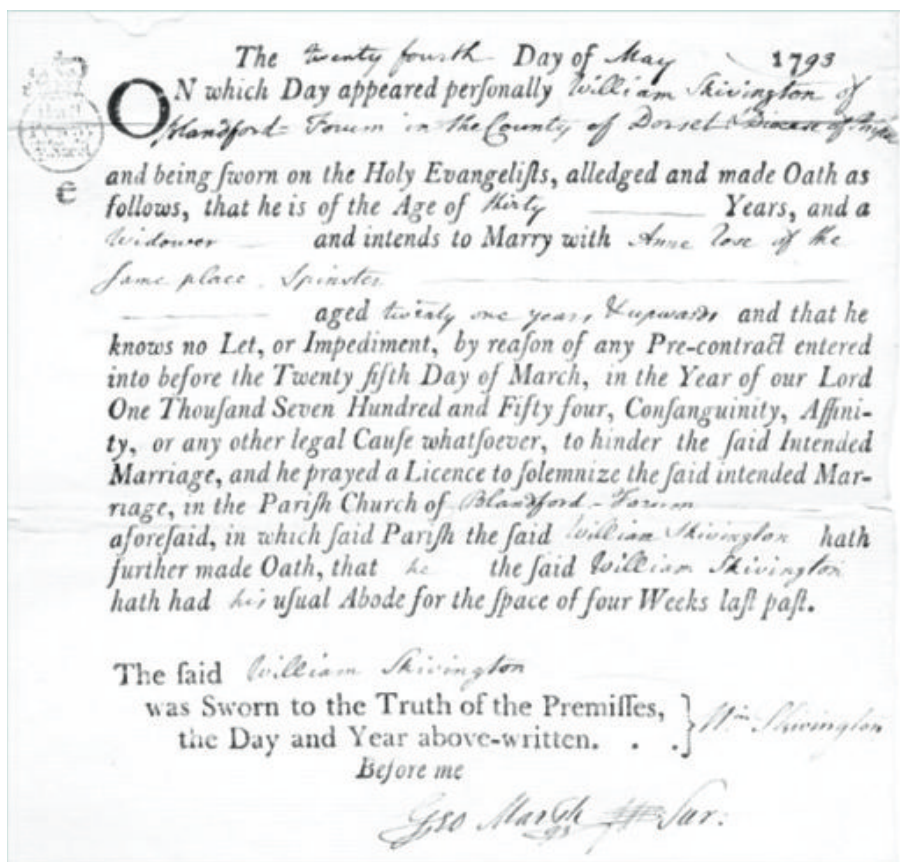
Before leaving these Skivingtons, I shall mention an affair concerning the second William Skivington mentioned in item 3-21. A researcher residing in Shaftesbury, with access to the Dorset History Centre in Dorchester, has drawn my attention to the fact that this William was in fact married, a first time, to a certain Sarah Young.



Item 3-28: Marriage of William Skivington and Sarah Young, on 1 July 1790.

According to the above-mentioned researcher, Sarah Young died on 18 April 1793. I have not yet, however, found proof of this date.

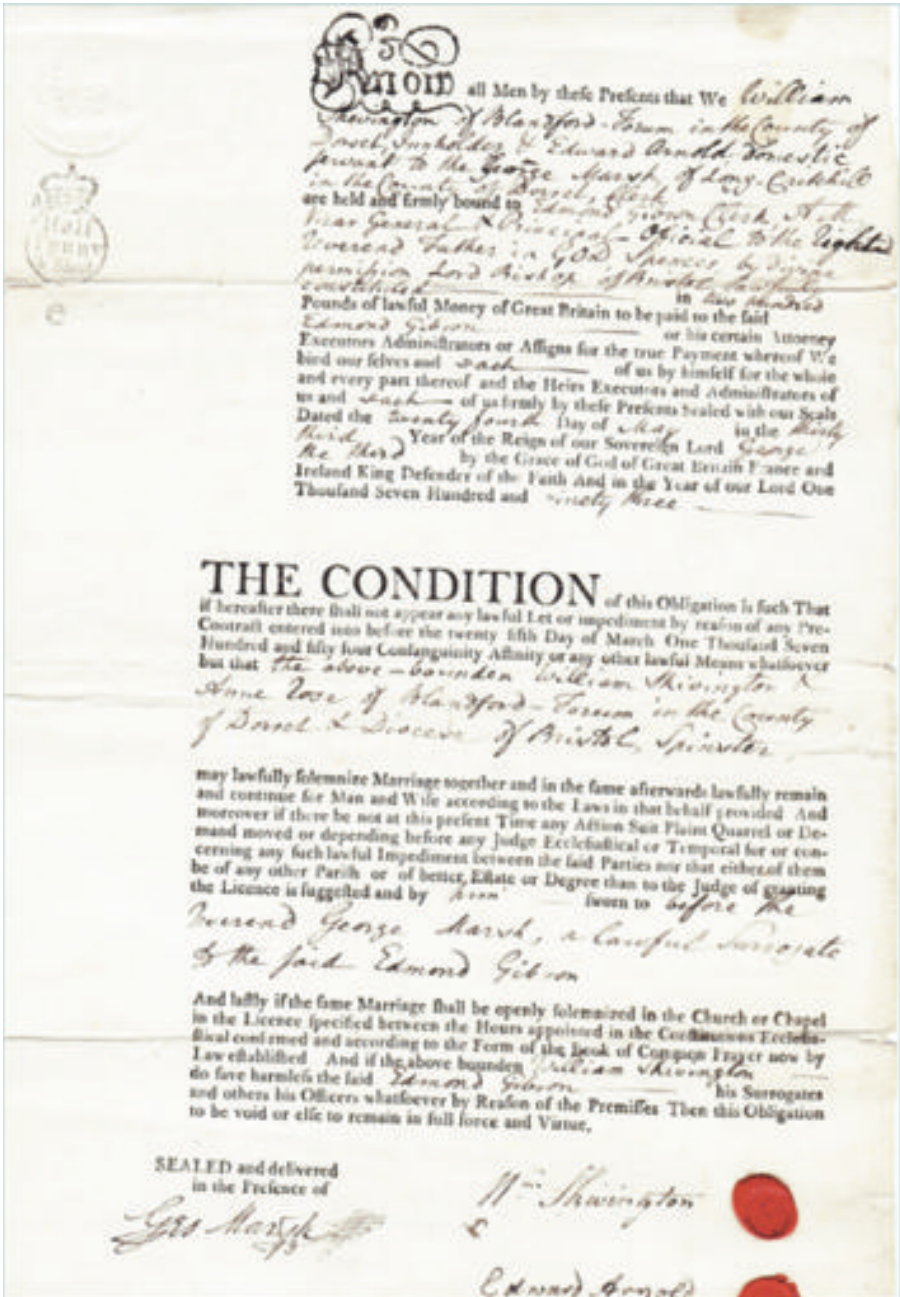
Two documents, both dated 24 May 1793 (a month after Sarah's alleged death), indicate that William Skivington was indeed a widower and that he wished to obtain a license enabling him to marry Ann Rose.



Item 3-29: First document concerning William Skivington's marriage license.

The second document [item 3-30] mentions the sum of 200 pounds. The license was no doubt of the kind created by the English Marriage Act of 1753, which came into force on 25 March 1754. The latter date is in fact mentioned explicitly in both documents.

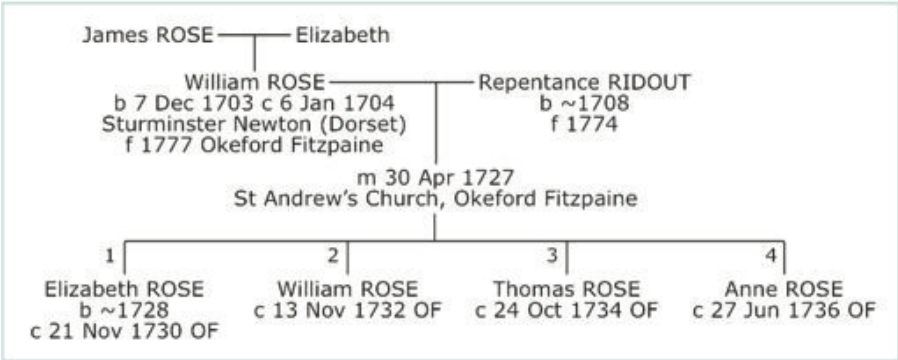
In a Blandford Forum directory of 1791, 28-year-old William Skivington was designated as the proprietor of the *White Hart Inn*, and described as a member of the local gentry.



Item 3-30: Second document concerning William Skivington's marriage license.

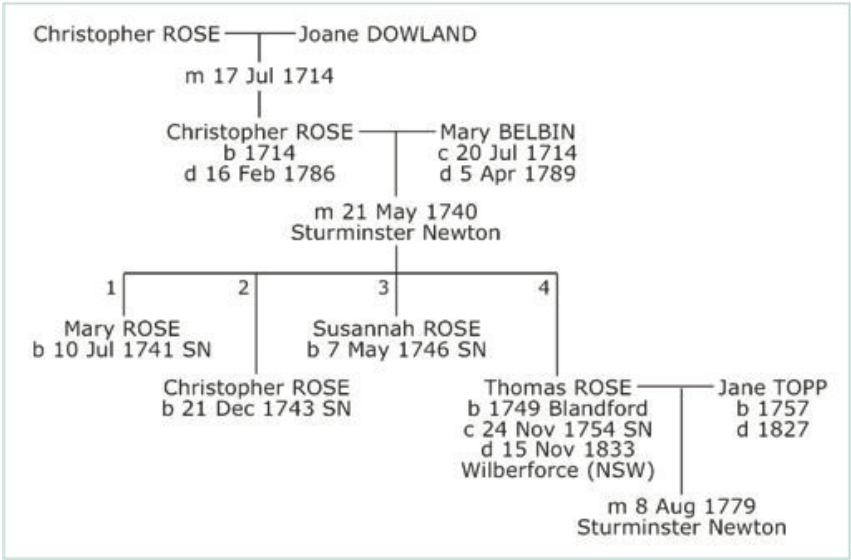
Rose family

We saw [item 3-6] that the first wife of my ancestor Charles Skivington was Elizabeth Rose. The following chart (in which OF stands for Okeford Fitzpaine) presents Elizabeth's siblings, parents and grandparents:



Item 3-31: Parents and siblings of Elizabeth Rose.

A Thomas Rose [1754-1833] of Blandford and his wife Jane Topp [1757-1827] were the first free settlers to arrive in Port Jackson, NSW, aboard the *Bellona* on 15 January 1793.



Item 3-32: New South Wales settlers Thomas Rose and Jane Topp.

The above charts indicate that these Rose folk were associated with the

village of Sturminster Newton on the River Stour, north-west of Okeford Fitzpaine.



Item 3-33: Sturminster Newton in Dorset.

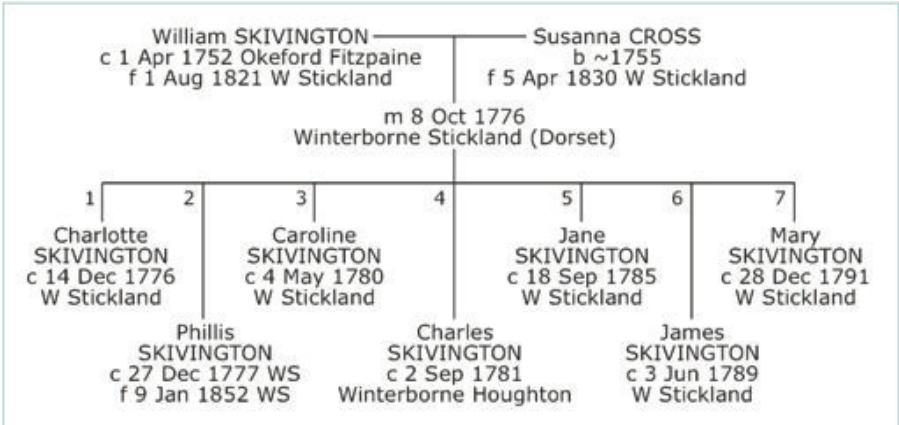
Comparing items 3-31 and 3-32, I would imagine that the respective grandfathers of my ancestor Elizabeth Rose and of the settler Thomas Rose—that's to say, James Rose and the elder Christopher Rose—were brothers in Sturminster Newton. In one branch of the family, Elizabeth stayed in Dorset and married a local fellow named Charles Skivington. In the other branch, an audacious descendant, Thomas, left for NSW in 1793.



Item 3-34: Church of St Mary's at Sturminster Newton.

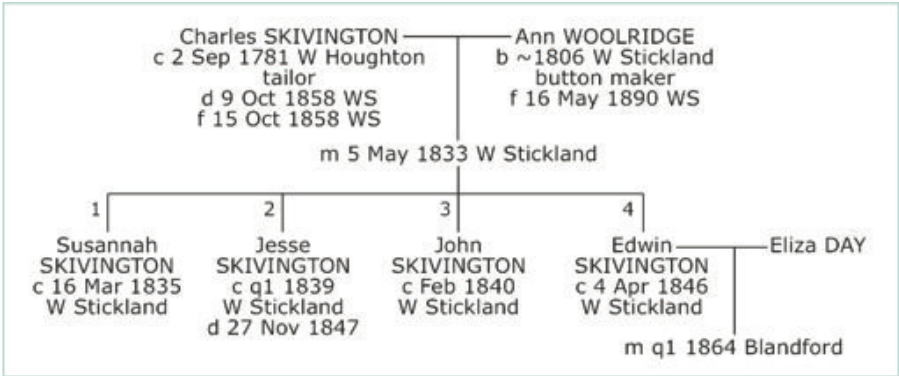
William Skivington, son of “Charles the Elder”

“Charles the Elder” had a son named William Skivington, christened in 1752 [item 3-6]. He married and lived in Winterborne Stickland [item 3-1].



Item 3-35: Family of William Skivington and Susanna Cross.

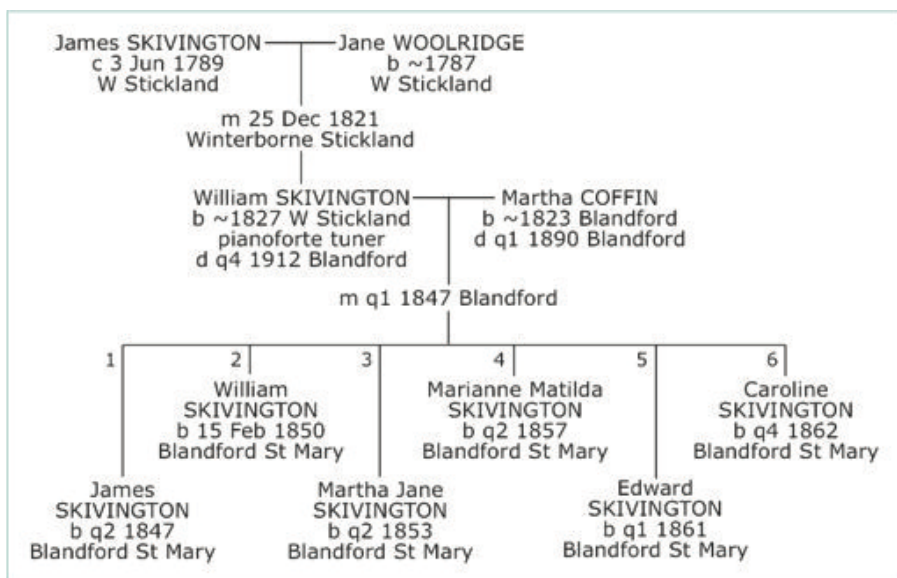
The two brothers, Charles and James, married Woolridge sisters.



Item 3-36: Family of Charles Skivington and Ann Woolridge.

In 1833, 51-year-old Charles, a village tailor, married 27-year-old Ann Woolridge, described as a button maker. After the death of her husband, Ann kept a small grocery shop in West Street, Winterborne Stickland. The UK census of 1881 indicates that she was still working there at the age of 75.

Today, in the grounds of the church of St Mary in Winterborne Stickland, monumental inscriptions can be found for Charles Skivington, his wife Ann and their sons Jesse and Edwin.



Item 3-37: Family of James Skivington and Jane Woolridge.

The 1841 census indicates that Phillis Skivington was living on her own:

	Phillis Skivington	60	Pauper	X	U
--	--------------------	----	--------	---	---

Item 3-38: Phillis Skivington at Winterborne Stickland, 1841 census.

The census agent has written “pauper”, and then crossed it out. In 1841, the Skivingtons housed Ann's brother James, an agricultural laborer:

1	Charles Skivington	55		Sailor	U
	Ann do	35			U
	Lusan do	5			U
	Joseph do	2			U
	James Woolridge	145		aj Lab X	U

Item 3-39: Household of Charles Skivington at Winterborne Stickland, 1841 census.

The baby John, christened in February 1840, was no longer there.

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James Skivington had moved to Blandford St Mary, where he is described as a brewer.

Ship of <i>Blandford St Mary</i> Enumeration Schedule									
HOUSES		NAMES of each Person who abode therein the preceding Night.	AGE and SEX		PROFESSION, TRADE, EMPLOYMENT, or of INDEPENDENT MEANS.	Where Born			
Uninhabited or Building	Inhabited		Males	Females		Whether Born in same County	Whether Born in Scotland, Ireland, or Foreign Parts.		
		1 James Skivington	46		Brewer	3			
		Jane		55		3			
		William	15			3			

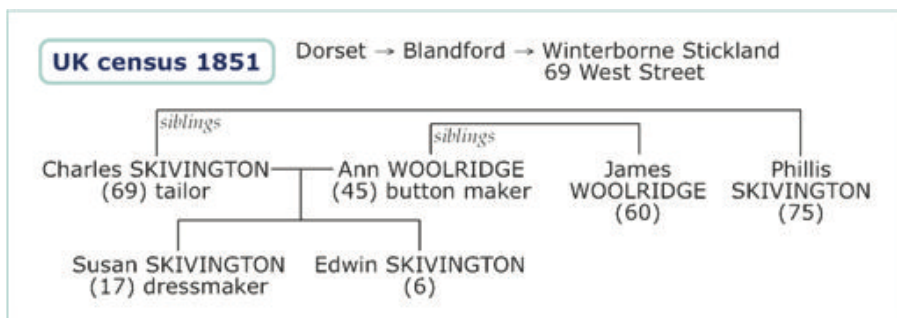
Item 3-40: Household of James Skivington at Blandford St Mary, 1841 census.

James was probably employed by the brewery founded in 1777 by Charles Hall in the Dorset village of Ansty, known after 1847 as Hall & Woodhouse. Their original brewery at Blandford St Mary was destroyed by fire in 1900. A new brewery, known as the Badger Brewery and owned by the Woodhouse family, still stands.

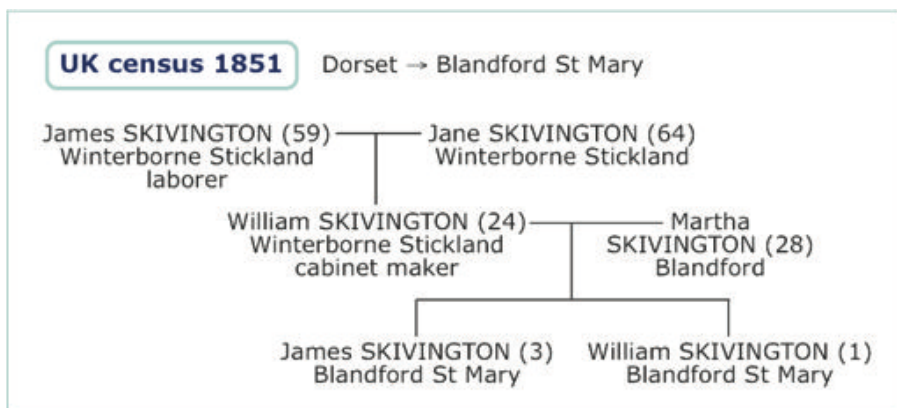


Item 3-41: Hall & Woodhouse brewery at Blandford St Mary.

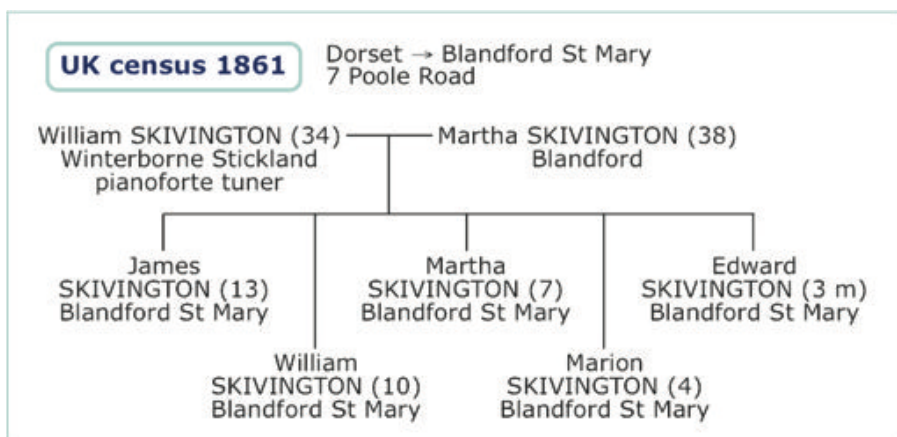
The 1851 census in Winterborne Stickland indicated that Charles's sister Phillis had moved into the house at 69 West Street.



Item 3-42: Household of Charles Skivington in Winterborne Stickland, 1851 census.



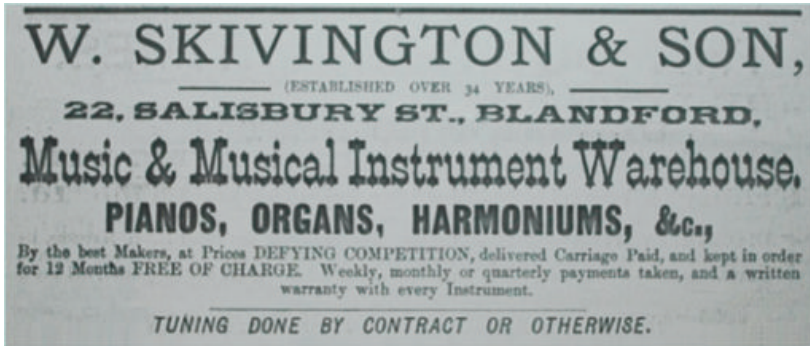
Item 3-43: Household of James Skivington in Blandford St Mary, 1851 census.



Item 3-44: Household of William Skivington in Blandford St Mary, 1861 census.

Skivington music business in Blandford

Described in the 1851 census as a cabinet maker, William Skivington [1827-1912] was appeared in the following census as a pianoforte tuner. He started a music business in Blandford Forum, which he ended up running with one of his sons.



Item 3-45: Skivington music business in Blandford Forum.

This ad indicates the existence of a warehouse in Salisbury Street. At one time, they had a store down on Market Place. When I visited the Blandford Forum museum in August 2007, I was thrilled to discover a Skivington pump organ, and to coax it (with much rapid and strenuous knee-bending) into blaring out a few old Anglican hymns. I imagined that I was hearing the same sounds that would have reached the ears of 19th-century Skivington relatives in that elegant Dorset city.



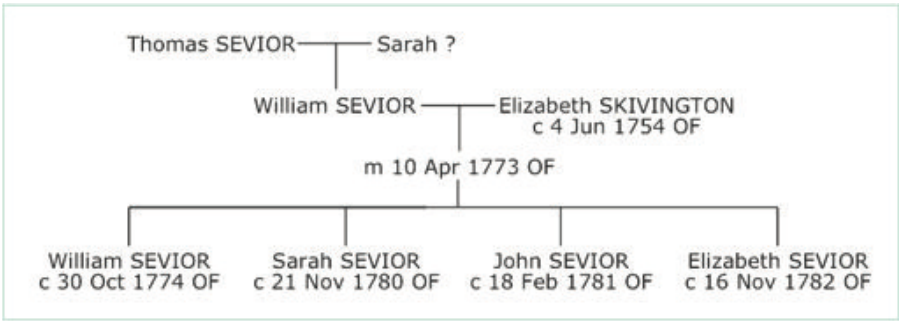
Item 3-46: Skivington nameplate on the organ in the Blandford Forum museum.



Item 3-47: Pump organ in the Blandford Forum museum.

Marriage of Skivington and Sevier siblings

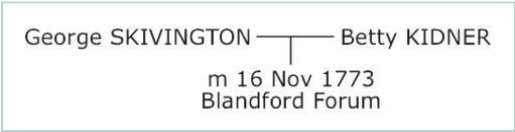
I mentioned [item 3-8] the marriage of George Skivington [1756-1785] and Amelia Sevier [1756-1837]. George's sister Elizabeth married Amelia's brother William.



Item 3-48: Family of William Sevier and Betty Skivington.

Likely cousin of "Okeford George"

In 1773, in Blandford Forum, another George Skivington married Betty Kidner.

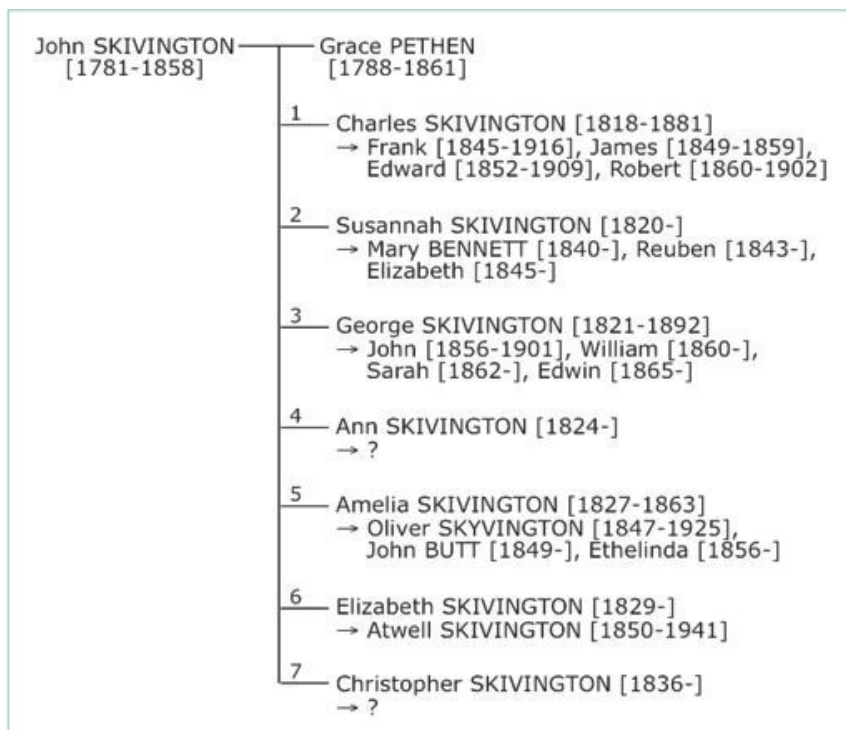


Item 3-49: Marriage of a likely cousin of "Okeford George".

Maybe this man was another grandson of "Shillingstone George" and Edith [item 3-5]: a son of either Thomas, William or Joseph.

Family of John Skivington and Grace

The family of my ancestors John Skivington [1780-1858] and Grace Pethen [1788-1861] was described in item 3-10. The following chart provides a summary of the various grandchildren of John and Grace:



Item 3-50: Grandchildren of John Skivington and Grace Pethen.

Descendants of these grandchildren are scattered throughout the world today (including, in particular, most if not all of the people who spell their surname as Skyvington). I shall now describe various individuals indicated in the above chart. First, though, let us look at what the early censuses (of 1841 and 1851) tell us about the people residing in the household of John Skivington and Grace Pethen at Iwerne Courtney.

Census of 1841 in Iwerne Courtney

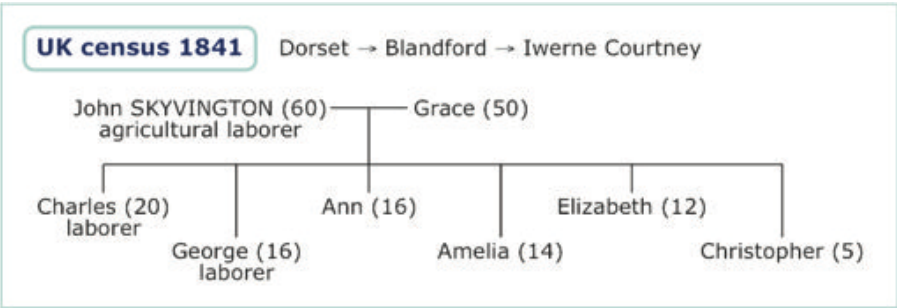
By the time of the 1841 census, the family of John Skivington and Grace Pethen had been settled in Iwerne Courtney for some 15 years (since the birth of Amelia). Here is their 1841 census data:

A handwritten census form from 1841. The first column lists names and ages, the second column lists occupations, and the third column lists birthplaces marked with a 'Y' for Dorset. The entries are: John Skivington (60), Grace (50), Charles (20), George (16), Ann (16), Amelia (14), Elizabeth (12), and Christopher (5). Occupations listed are 'Ag Lab' and 'Lab'. Birthplaces are all marked 'Y'.

Name	Age	Occupation	Birthplace
John Skivington	60	Ag Lab	Y
Grace	50		Y
Charles	20	Lab	Y
George	16	Lab	Y
Ann	16		Y
Amelia	14		Y
Elizabeth	12		Y
Christopher	5		Y

Item 3-51: Census of 1841 in Iwerne Courtney.

A letter Y in the last column indicates that the individual was a native of Dorset. My transcription of this data respects the “Skyvington” spelling adopted by the census officer.



Item 3-52: Household of John Skivington [1780-1858] in 1841.

We see that the eldest daughter, Susannah [item 3-10], had left home. We shall return to her case later on in this chapter.

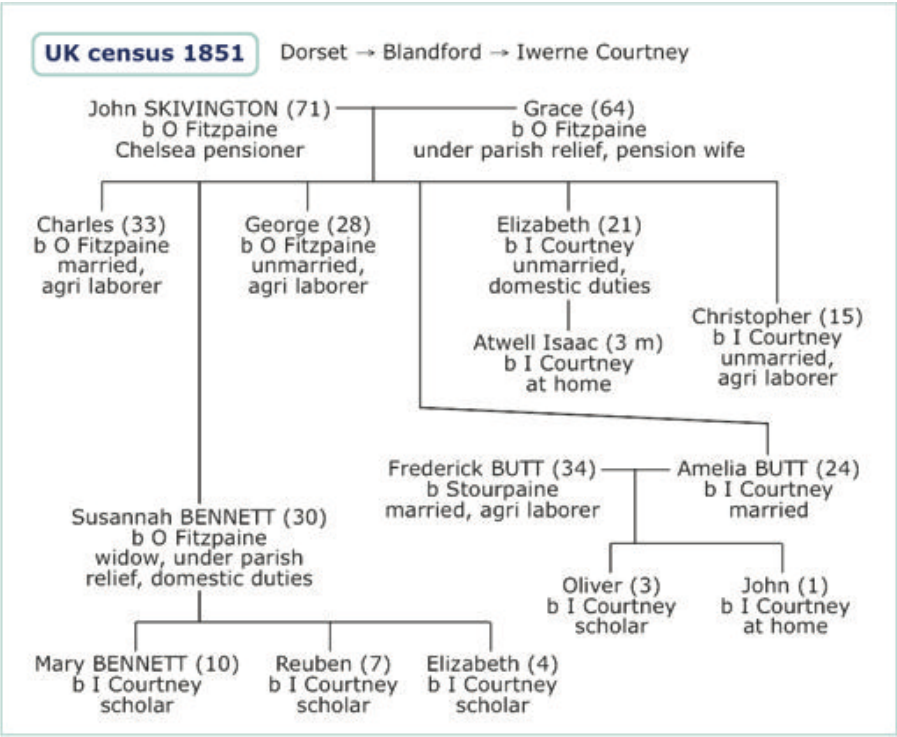
Census of 1851 in Iwerne Courtney

The 1851 census reveals that the household of John and Grace had greatly expanded.

52	Iwerne Courtney	John Skyvington	Head	Mar	41	64
		Grace	Wife	Mar		
		Charles	Son	21	22	
		George	Son	21	22	
		Elizabeth	Daughter	21		21
		Christopher	Son	21	22	
		Amelia Oliver	God-daughter			2
		John	Son			2
		William	Son			2
		Susanna Bennett	Daughter	Wife		22
	Iwerne Courtney	Mary Bennett	God-daughter			10
		Richard	God-son			1
		Elizabeth	God-daughter			1
		Frederick Bennett	Son	Wife		24
		Richard Bennett	Son	Wife		24
		John Parish Relief Pension Wp	Son	Wife		24
		Wm. Labouder	Son	Wife		24
		Son	Son	Wife		24
		Domestic Duties	Son	Wife		24
		Ag. Labourer	Son	Wife		24
		Scholar	Son	Wife		24
		at home	Son	Wife		24
		at home	Son	Wife		24
		John Parish Relief Pension Wp	Son	Wife		24
		Scholar	Son	Wife		24
		Son	Son	Wife		24
		Ag. Labourer	Son	Wife		24

Item 3-53: Census of 1851 in Iwerne Courtney.

The following transcription of the above data is easier to read:



Item 3-54: Household of John Skivington in 1851.

In this transcription, I have altered slightly the spelling of the given names Susannah, Reuben and Atwell.

I shall now examine the identity of the various individuals mentioned in the 1851 census. I deal with each of the children of John and Grace in the chronological order of their birth, starting with my ancestor “Charles the Younger” [1818-1881].

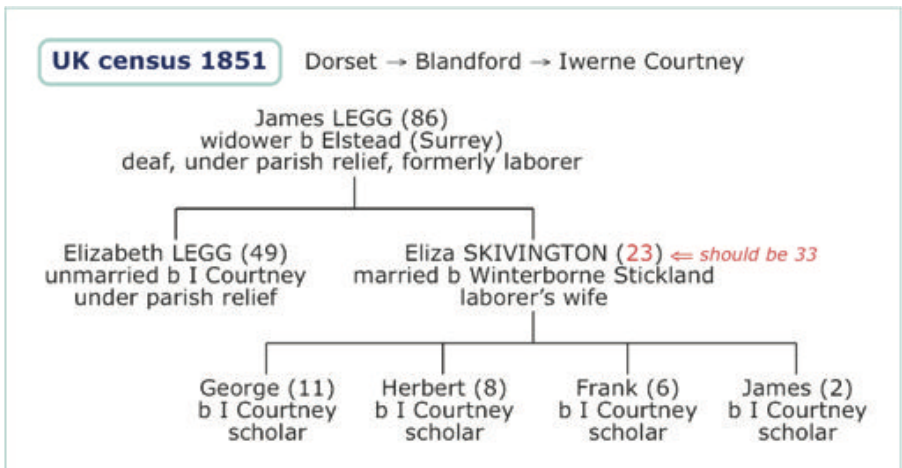
Offspring of Charles Skivington and Eliza Legg

My ancestor Charles Skivington [1818-1881] had married a Iwerne Courtney girl, Eliza Legg. On census day in 1851, Charles was in his parents' house, whereas his sons Frank and James were with their mother in the Legg house, elsewhere in the village:

11 Iwerne Courtney	James Legg	Head	Widow	26	1
	Elizabeth	Daughter		22	49
	Herbert	Grand son		8	2
	George	do		4	1
	Eliza Skivington	Daughter	Mar.	23	
	Frank	Grand son		6	
	James	do		2	

under parish Relief formerly laborer	Surrey Elstead	Deaf
do	Dorset Iwerne Courtney	
Scholar	do do	
do	do do	
Laborer's Wife	do Stickland	
Scholar	do Iwerne Courtney	
do	do do	

Item 3-55: Census of 1851, Iwerne Courtney, household of James Legg [1765-1853].

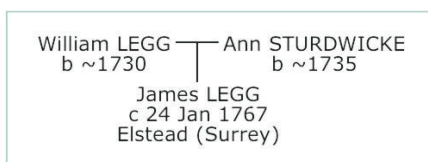


Item 3-56: Transcription of the above data.

Chapter 3

In the transcription, I have altered slightly the spelling of the given name Herbert and the surname Legg. Above all, I have pointed out that Eliza's age is surely erroneous. But the above census data has always puzzled me, for several reasons. First, it is strange that James Legg would have had two daughters with practically the same given names: Elizabeth and Eliza. It is unusual, too, that there should be such a big difference in age between the two sisters. Third, it is strange that, on census day, Charles Skivington was located in his parents' house, while his wife and children were located in his father-in-law's house.

James Legg [1765-1853] came from the village of Elstead in Surrey, over a hundred kilometers to the east of Iwerne Courtney. A Mormon IGI record evokes his birth:



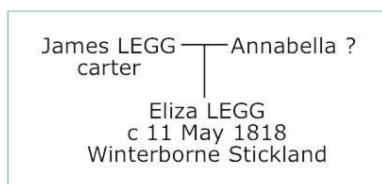
Item 3-57: Birth of Eliza Legg's father.

A parish register of Iwerne Courtney mentions the baptism of Elizabeth Legg.



Item 3-58: Baptism of Elizabeth Legg.

Then an entry in a parish register of Winterborne Stickland mentions the baptism of the younger daughter, Eliza. The father is said to be a carter, but the entry carries a warning (from whom?) concerning the possibility of a clerical error.



Item 3-59: Baptism of Eliza Legg.

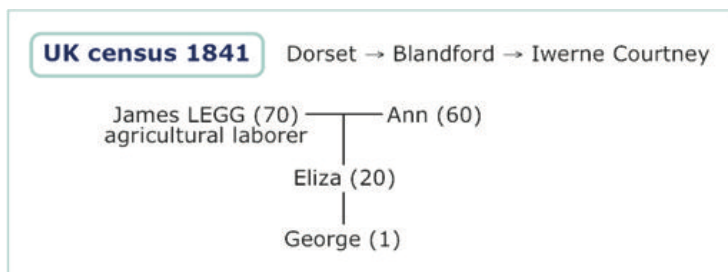
Maybe Ann [item 3-58] and Annabella [item 3-59] are the same woman.

Let us move back to the 1841 census data:

1	James	Legg	70	Ag Lab	N
	Ann	do	60		Y
	Eliza	do	20		Y
	George	do	1		Y

Item 3-60: Census of 1841 in Iwerne Courtney.

The N in the right-hand column indicates that James Legg was not born in Dorset. I have interpreted this data as follows:



Item 3-61: Household of James Legg.

At the time of Eliza's birth, her parents were surprisingly aged. On census day, the elder sister Elizabeth was absent.

Out-of-wedlock sons of Eliza Legg

Parish records of the Iwerne Courtney website contain the following data:

Iwerne Courtney parish records	
William George Knight son of Eliza LEGGE spinster b 26 JUL 1840 Iwerne Courtney	Herbert son of Eliza LEGGE spinster b 12 MAR 1843 Iwerne Courtney

Item 3-62: Out-of-wedlock sons of Eliza Legg.

This William George Knight is surely the George of item 3-61. For the moment, I do not know whether there were descendants of these half-brothers of Frank Skivington. When seeking information on such questions, I was hampered by the large number of people named Legg in the census records. It was a very common surname in 19th-century Dorset.

Brother of Frank: Edward Skivington [1852-1909]

“Charles the Younger” and Eliza Legg had five male offspring [item 3-12], of whom my ancestor Frank Skivington was the eldest. James died as a boy. Then Edward was born on 6 April 1852.

REGISTRATION DISTRICT				BLANDFO	
1852		BIRTH in the Sub-district of Blandford		in the	
to .	When and where born	Name, if any	Sex	Name and surname of father	Name, surname and maiden surname of mother
325	6th April 1852 Iwerne Courtney	Edward	Boy	Charles Skivington	Eliza Skivington formerly Legg

RD UNION				
County of Dorset				
Occupation of father	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	Not after
Labourer	+ The maid of Twynhill Eliza Skivington Mother Iwerne Courtney	April 1852	Henry Lane Registrar	

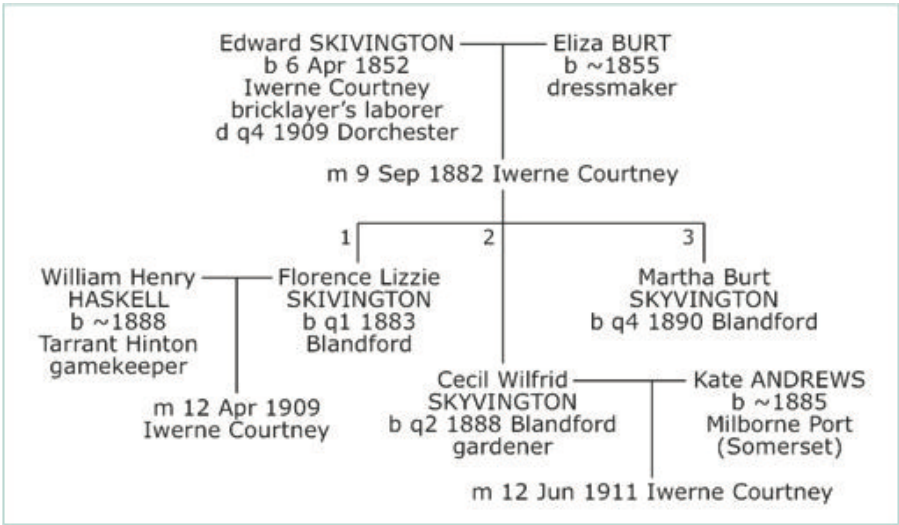
Item 3-63: Birth of Edward Skivington in Iwerne Courtney.

In September 1882, Edward married Eliza Burt.

Marriages Sep 1882		(>99%)
Burt	Eliza	Blandford 5a 434
Skyvington	Edward	Blandford 5a 434

Item 3-64: Marriage of Edward Skyvington and Eliza Burt.

The 1891 census states that Edward Skivington and Eliza were residing in Iwerne Courtney with three children at *The Corner*.



Item 3-65: Family of Edward Skivington and Eliza Burt.

A terse record in the Dorset archives at Dorchester reveals that Edward, in 1899, was admitted to the Dorset mental institution of Herrison.

Edward Skivington age: 46 Occupation: Farm Labourer
Date of admission to Herrison Hospital: June 22nd 1899
Parish of **Iwerne Courtney** (NG/HH/CMR/4/32/4635)
File 1876

Item 3-66: Edward Skyvington enters the Herrison psychiatric institution.

The 1901 census indicates that Edward, described as an estate laborer, was back home.

Youngest brother: Robert Skivington [1860-1902]

“Charles the Younger” and Eliza Legg lost a 2-year-old son named Robert in 1858 [item 3-12]. Two years later, they had another son who was named Robert Tillage.

REGISTRATION DISTRICT						BLANDFORD
1860 BIRTH in the Sub-district of Blandford						in the
Age	When and where born	Name, if any	Sex	Name and surname of father	Name, surname and maiden surname of mother	
187	First February 1860 Iwerne Courtney	Robert Tillage	Boy	Charles Skivington	Eliza Ann Skivington formerly Legg	

BLANDFORD					
County of Dorset					
Occupation of father	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	Affirmation	
Agricultural Labourer	Charles Skivington Father Iwerne Courtney	Twenty eighth February 1860	Walter Lancel Registrar		

Item 3-67: Birth of Robert Tillage Skivington.

That second given name, Tillage, is interesting. In 19th-century English, this term designated the agricultural operations prior to sowing. I would imagine that the agricultural laborer Charles Skivington and his wife Eliza, after the death of a first son christened Robert, were happy that he might be replaced, as it were, by a baby born at the date of tillage in Iwerne Courtney.

On 3 February 1883 in Iwerne Courtney, Robert, employed as a groom, married Susannah Samways of Child Okeford. He died in 1902, and I am unaware of the existence of offspring.

Offspring of Susannah Skivington [1820-]

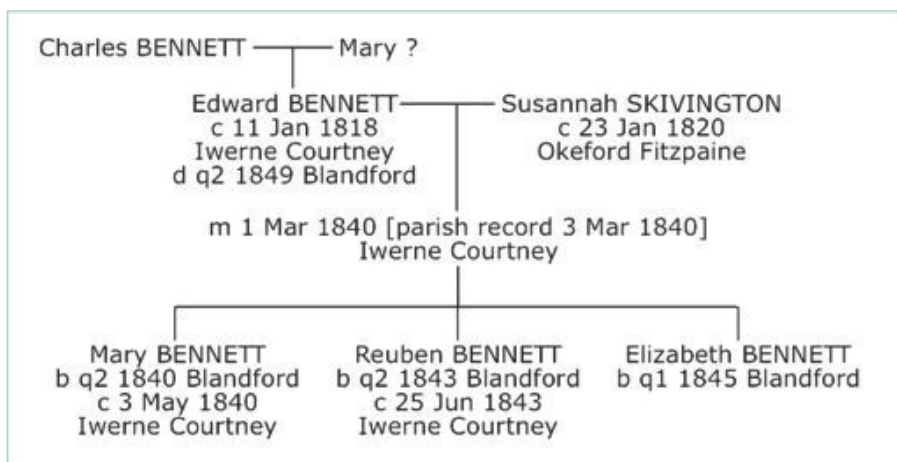
The 1841 census reveals that the eldest daughter, Susannah [item 3-10], had left home. On 1 March 1840, she had married Edward Bennett, a local laborer.

1840. Marriage solemnized <i>in the church</i> in the				
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.
	<i>10. March</i>	<i>Edward Bennett</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>Bachelor</i>
	<i>1st</i>	<i>Susannah</i>		
	<i>1840.</i>	<i>Skivington</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>Spinster</i>
Married in the <i>Parish Church</i> according to the Rites and Ce				
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<i>The Mark of Edward Bennett</i> <i>The Mark of Susannah Skivington</i>		

<i>Parish</i> of <i>St. Andrew</i> in the County of <i>Dorset</i>			
Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
<i>Labourer</i>	<i>Durverne</i>	<i>Charles Bennett</i>	<i>Labourer</i>
	<i>Courtney</i>		
	<i>Wick</i>	<i>John Skivington</i>	<i>Labourer</i>
	<i>Christon</i>		
Remonies of the <i>Church of England</i> by me,			
		<i>George Augustus, Seignior, Rector.</i>	
in the Presence of us,		<i>John Bennett</i> <i>Isaac Short</i>	

Item 3-68: Marriage of Edward Bennett and Susannah Skivington.

Parish and BMD records mention Edward Bennett and Susannah.



Item 3-69: Family of Edward Bennett and Susannah Skivington.

The family was mentioned in the 1841 census at Iwerne Courtney:

Edward Bennett	20	Shepherd	Y
Susannah do	20		Y
Mary do	1		Y

Item 3-70: Household of Edward Bennett at Iwerne Courtney in 1841.

Edward Bennett died at the age of 31 [item 3-69]. According to the 1851 census [item 3-54], the widow and her three children had moved back into the Skivington house in Iwerne Courtney.

Offspring of George Skivington [1821-1892]

John Skivington and Grace Pethen had a son named George [item 3-10]. He married in 1855, at the age of 33.

1855. Marriage solemnized at Sty Bann

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.
	<u>15 March</u>	<u>George Skivington</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>Bachelor</u>
	<u>15th</u>	<u>Harriet, Ellen</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>Spinster</u>
	<u>1855</u>	<u>Mullens</u>	<u>Age</u>	

Married in the Church according to the Rites and Cere

This Marriage was solemnized between us, { George Skivington
Harriet, Ellen, Mullens }

in the Church of Iwerne Courtney in the County of Dorset

Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
<u>Labourer</u>	<u>Iwerne Courtney</u>	<u>John Skivington</u>	<u>Labourer</u>
	<u>Dorset</u>	<u>David Mullens</u>	<u>Groom</u>

Ministers of the Established Church, us of England or after- by me,

Frederick Bliff, Curate

in the presence of us, { John Bennett
The Master of Elizabeth Newell }

Item 3-71: Marriage of George Skivington and Harriet Ellen Mullens.

At the time of the 1861 census, George and Harriet had two sons, and they were living at *The Corner* in Iwerne Courtney.

66	The Corner	1	George Skivington	Head	Mar
			Harriet, Co.	Wife	Mar
			John M. Do	Son	
			William, Co. Do	Son	
39	Ag. Lab.		Do. Married fifty years		
22			Do. Iwerne Courtney		
4	Scholar		Do. Do.		
1			Do. Do.		

Item 3-72: 1861 census in Iwerne Courtney.

After two more children, 29-year-old Harriet died in 1867. Two years later, George married Elizabeth Ames, who had a daughter named Levina.

1869. Marriage solemnized at the parish Church

No.	When Married	Name and Surname	Age	Condition
138	February 23 rd	George Skivington	45	Widower
		Elizabeth Ames	40	Spinster

Married in the parish Church according to the Rites and Cer

This Marriage was solemnized between us, { George Skivington }
{ Elizabeth Ames }

in the parish of Iwerne Courtney in the County of Dorset

Rank or Profession	Residence at the time of Marriage	Father's Name and Surname	Rank or Profession of Father
Labourer	Iwerne Courtney	John Skivington	Labourer
—	Blandford	William Ames	Labourer

emonies of the Established Church, by Harry or after Edw. H. Mann by me,

in the Presence of us, { Charles Skivington }
{ Jane Sigg }

Item 3-73: Marriage of George Skivington and Elizabeth Ames.

Chapter 3

The 1871 census indicates the presence of the family in Iwerne Courtney.

57	52	George Skivington	Head	Married
		Elizabeth Skivington	Wife	Married
		John Skivington	Son	
		William Skivington	Son	
		Sarah Ann	Daughter	
		Edwin Skivington	Son	
		Erinor	Daughter	
48		Labourer	Agricultural	7. M. Fitzpaine
42		Landlady		5. Charlton Marshall
16		Labourer	Agricultural	5. Skivington
14		52		5. 5.
9		Scholar		5. 5.
5		52		5. 5.
12		Scholar		5. Charlton Marshall

Item 3-74: 1871 census in Iwerne Courtney.

By 1891, the children of George and Elizabeth had left Iwerne Courtney, and the couple had moved out to the Farrington neighborhood, to the north of the village.

Address: Cottage, Farrington, Iwerne Courtney, Farrington, Blandford					County: Dorsetshire		
Name	Relation	Condition	Sex	Age	Birth Year	Occupation Disability	Where Born
SKYVINGTON, George S	Head	Married	M	69	1822	Agricultural Labourer	Okeford Fitzpaine Dorsetshire
SKYVINGTON, Elizabeth	Wife	Married	F	64	1827		Charlton-Marshall Dorsetshire
TUFFIN, John	Boarder	Widower	M	70	1821	Agricultural Labourer	Iwerne Courtney Dorsetshire

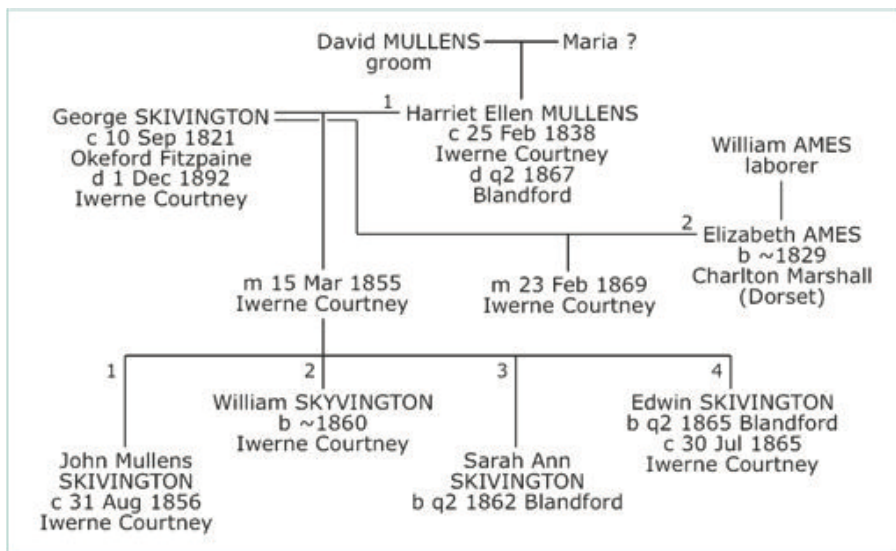
Item 3-75: 1891 census in Iwerne Courtney.

George Skivington died on 1 December 1892.

REGISTRATION DISTRICT					
1892 DEATH in the Sub-district of Blandford					
No.	When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation
385	First December 1892 Barrington Iwerne Courtney R. S. D.	George Skivington	Male	41 Years	Farm Laborer
BLANDFORD					
in the County of Dorset					
Cause of death		Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	
Mital disease of Heart. Dropsy certified by Deimusbourne M. R. S. D.		X The mark of Susan Bunt-Sister In attendance Iwerne Courtney	Sixth December 1892	Walter Lance Registrar	

Item 3-76: Death of George Skivington.

The following chart describes George Skivington's two families:

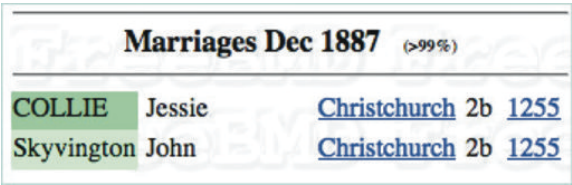


Item 3-77: Two families of George Skivington.

Marriage of John Skivington [1856-1901]

John Mullens Skivington, the eldest son of George Skivington and his first wife Harriet Mullens, was born in Iwerne Courtney in 1856 [item 3-77]. His mother died in 1867, when John was 11. Two years later, the widower George Skivington remarried with Elizabeth Ames. The 1871 census data indicated that 14-year-old John was residing in his father's house in Iwerne Courtney, and working as an agricultural laborer.

John went on to become a stonemason, but his principal vocation was the army, in the ranks of a distinguished corps: the Royal Horse Artillery. It was no doubt in his role as a dashing mounted trooper that John met up with a young Scottish lady, Jessie Collie, who became his wife in 1887.



The image is a screenshot of a digital record titled "Marriages Dec 1887 (>99%)". It contains two entries. The first entry shows "COLLIE Jessie" and "Christchurch 2b 1255". The second entry shows "Skyvington John" and "Christchurch 2b 1255". The names "COLLIE" and "Skyvington" are highlighted in green boxes.

Marriages Dec 1887 (>99%)	
COLLIE Jessie	Christchurch 2b 1255
Skyvington John	Christchurch 2b 1255

Item 3.78: Marriage of John Skyvington and Jessie Collie.

Jessie Collie's mother, Christina Guthrie, belonged to the noble Scottish family who owned Guthrie Castle near Dundee. Jessie, whose father was John Collie, was born out-of-wedlock up in the coastal village of Kingston on Spey, in the county of Moray. (Her place of birth is indicated, in one document, as Urquhart: a nearby village, not to be confused with the famous castle of that name, elsewhere in the Highlands.) Not long after Jessie's birth, her mother Christina married a man named William Hood. Family legends say that, as a young maiden, Jessie had been one of the ladies-in-waiting of Alexandra of Denmark, the wife of Edward, Prince of Wales. Destined to be wedded to an Indian prince, against her will, Jessie eloped with the English cavalryman John Skivington, and they settled down in Somerset. Now, that is the kind of legend that we should maybe leave intact, without attempting to ascertain its degree of veracity...

John apparently fought in the Boer War (the first one, no doubt, in 1880-1881, often referred to as the Transvaal War), but I have no details about his actions.

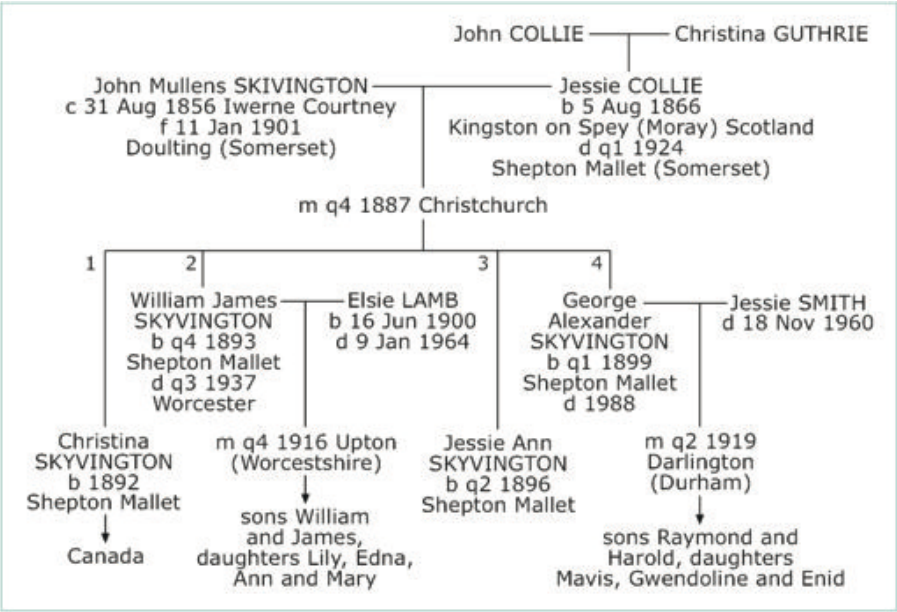


Item 3-79: *Floreat Etona* (1882) by Elizabeth Thompson, Lady Butler [1846-1933].

That painting by the wife of a general named William Butler expresses vividly the kind of warfare in which England was engaged at that time in South Africa. However the title, *Floreat Etona* (*Let Eton flourish*), glosses over the memory of cavalymen such as our John, who had no connections whatsoever to the elite college at Windsor.

Descendants of John Skivington

The following chart indicates the descendants of John and Jessie:



Item 3-80: Descendants of John Skyvington and Jessie Collie.

Here is the birth certificate of William, the first son of John and Jessie:

REGISTRATION DISTRICT					
1893		BIRTH in the Sub-district of Shepton Mallet			
No.	When and where born	Name, if any	Sex	Name and surname of father	
336	Twenty Third August 1893 Prestleigh Dorset R. S. & S.	William James Edward	Boy	John Skyvington	

SHEPTON MALLET					
in the County of Somerset					
Name, surname and maiden surname of mother	Occupation of father	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	N after
Jessie Skyvington formerly Collie	General Laborer	J Skyvington Father Prestleigh Dorset	Seventh October 1893	W. H. Read Registrar	

Item 3-81: Birth of William James Skyvington in 1893.

At that date, John Skyvington had become a laborer, working apparently on the railway line at Prestleigh (Somerset). We can suppose, therefore, that his military career had ended. I stress this point because I once heard, from a descendant, that John Skyvington had died in the Boer War. This was clearly not the case.

Around 1900, John Skyvington was kicked in the head by a horse. After an agony of 8 months of general paralysis, in the lunatic asylum in Wells, he died on 6 January 1901.

REGISTRATION DISTRICT					
1901 DEATH in the Sub-district of Wells					
No.	When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation
345	Sixth January 1901 Lunatic Asylum Wells	John Skyvington	Male	44 years	Labourer on Railway Doulting
WELLS					
in the County of Somerset					
Cause of death		Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	
General Paralysis over 8 months Certified by A. Law Wade M.D.		A. Law Wade Superintendent Lunatic Asylum Wells	Eleventh January 1901	J. E. Thatcher Registrar	

Item 3-82: Death of John Skyvington.

John Skyvington was buried on 11 January 1901 in Doulting (Somerset).



Item 3-83: St Aldhelm's churchyard in Doulting.

After the death of John Skivington, the 1901 census reveals that the young widow was living in Prestleigh (Somerset) with her four children, and working as a charwoman.

Address: Prestleigh Hill, Doulling, Prestleigh				County: Somersetshire			
Name	Relation	Condition	Sex	Age	Birth Year	Occupation Disability	Where Born
SKYVINGTON, Jessie	Head	Widow	F	34	1867	Charwoman	Scotland Kingston on Spey
SKYVINGTON, Christina	Daughter	Single	F	9	1892		Shepton Mallett Somersetshire
SKYVINGTON, James	Son	Single	M	7	1894		Doulling Somersetshire
SKYVINGTON, Jessie	Daughter	Single	F	4	1897		Doulling Somersetshire
SKYVINGTON, Alexander	Son	Single	M	2	1899		Doulling Somersetshire

Item 3-84: 1901 census in Prestleigh.

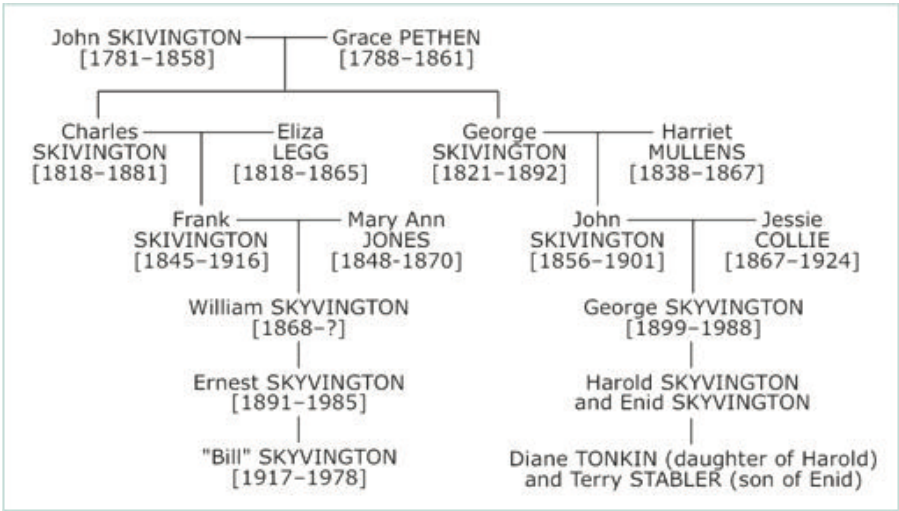
Jessie then remarried with William Drew, and the 1911 census revealed that the family was living at Croscombe (Somerset).

Address: Rocks Croscombe N Wells		County: Somersetshire		
Name		Relation	Condition/ Yrs married	
DREW, William		Head	Married	
DREW, Jessie		Wife	Married	
DREW, William		Son	Single	
DREW, Percy		Son	Single	
DREW, Walter		Son	Single	
SKYVINGTON, Christina		Stepdaughter	Single	
SKYVINGTON, Alexander		Stepson	Single	
Birth				
Sex	Age	Year	Occupation	Where Born
M	40	1871	Quarry Man Labourer	Croscombe Somerset
F	43	1868		Kingston on Spay Sestland
M	7	1904	School Child	Shepton Mallet Somerset
M	5	1906	School Child	Shepton Mallet Somerset
M	1	1910		Croscombe Somerset
F	19	1892		Shepton Mallet Somerset
M	12	1899	School Child	Prestliegh Somerset

Item 3-85: 1911 census in Croscombe.

Story of “Storm”

Today, descendants of John Skivington and Jessie Collie [item 3-80] can be found both in County Durham and Worcestershire. I believe that some of the latter are Skyvington males, which normally means that they have the same Y-DNA as mine. I have corresponded, over the years, with some of these relatives, and I hope that they will have an opportunity of reading this book. Meanwhile, I shall briefly describe my recent contacts with one of these descendants, named Terry Stabler. The following chart shows that Terry’s mother Enid would be a 3rd cousin of my late grandfather:



Item 3-86: Skyvington cousins, descendants of John and Grace.

The chart mentions another relative who helped me when I was starting my research: Terry’s cousin Diane, daughter of Harold Skyvington.

Terry Stabler took the initiative of contacting me in January 2014 to tell me that his grandfather George Skyvington, who had served as a gunner in World War I, was the author of an unpublished manuscript that described wartime events in places such as Ypres and other notorious sites on the Western Front. Terry sent me a transcription of this document, whose single-word title was *Why*. I was immediately intrigued to find that the text, written in the first person in a seemingly autobiographical style, was signed by means of a pen name: *Alex Storm*. Several trivial alterations—such as Dincombe rather than Croscombe for the author’s Somerset village—suggest that “Alex Storm” intended to take refuge behind a flimsy veil of fiction.

At the outset, I had imagined that Storm’s yet-unpublished document

might merit a place in my recently-created self-publishing context, Gamone Press (which has brought out the present book). I liked the idea of being joined here by a second author named Skyvington, and I realized too that the time was ideal for a centenary World War I book. However I was soon forced to admit that this project was not feasible, for several reasons. First, it would not be ethical to take a manuscript signed under a pseudonym and publish it as if it were a factual wartime account written by the late George Skyvington. Besides, the document would need to undergo massive editing operations, to make it presentable... and this might not be acceptable. Finally, I learned that the *Why* typescript had been produced some two decades after the described events. So, its alleged eye-witness accounts of what happened on the Western Front were subject to caution. And the typescript proposed a mere handful of vague dates. Reluctantly, therefore, I shied away from Storm's document.

In the context of my friendly encounter with Terry Stabler, I obtained a relatively trivial item of information that nevertheless made an impact upon me. He told me that, up in County Durham, the first syllable of our surname is pronounced as in the expression "*the sky is blue*". Now, that news amazed me, since I had known for ages that "Skyvington" was simply a misspelt form of our original Dorset name, "Skivington". The question that intrigued me immediately might be framed as follows: How could it come about that a name that has recently been *spelt* incorrectly could end up rapidly (probably within the space of a single generation) being *pronounced* incorrectly, too?

To obtain a plausible answer to that question, one has only to look back over the events between John Skyvington's tragic death [item 3-82] and the childhood of his son George [items 3-84 and 3-85]. It is likely that the child had moved away completely and definitively from the cultural context of the Dorset Skivingtons in which "elders" would have told him how his surname should be pronounced. So, left to his own resources, he had no other choice than to pronounce the name as it was written.

Marriage of Edwin Skivington [1865-]

The third son of George and Harriet was Edwin Skivington [item 3-77]. In 1893, Edwin married Mary Wareham in Christchurch (Hampshire). Their son Edwin was born in 1896.

Marriages Jun 1893 (>99%)			
Skivington	Edwin	Christchurch	2b 1293
Wareham	Mary Eliza B	Christchurch	2b 1293
Births Sep 1896 (>99%)			
Skivington	Edwin George	Christchurch	2b 635

Item 3-87: Marriage of Edwin Skivington, and birth of a son, Edwin George.

Edwin junior is pictured here as a soldier at the time of World War I:



Item 3-88: Private Edwin Skivington, 7th Hampshire Regiment, in India.

Marriage of Anne Skyvington [1824-]

The 1851 census [item 3-54] revealed that Ann Skivington, the second daughter of John Skivington and Grace Pethen [item 3-10], had left home. On 25 September 1850, in a double wedding with her sister Amelia, she married James Roberts. The certificate refers to her as Anne Skyvington.

1850. Marriage solemnized at <u>St. Mary's Church</u> in the <u>County of Dorset</u>				
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.
53	September 25 th 1850	James Roberts	Of Age	Bachelor
		Anne Skyvington	Of Age	Spinster
Married in the <u>Church</u> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the				
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<u>James Roberts</u> <u>Anne Skyvington</u>		in the Presence of us
Church of <u>St. Mary's</u> in the County of <u>Dorset</u>				
Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.	
Labourer	<u>Sturminster Newton</u>	<u>Thomas Roberts</u>	Labourer	
	<u>Sturminster Newton</u>	<u>John Skyvington</u>	Labourer	
Minister of the Established Church, of <u>England</u> by me.				
<u>William Hayward</u>		<u>Frederick Ellis, Curate</u>		
<u>Thos. Mark</u>		<u>of Jane Maudslayi</u>		

Item 3-89: Marriage of Anne Skyvington.

Marriage of Amelia Skyvington [1827-1863]

The 1851 census [item 3-54] revealed that Amelia, the third daughter of John Skivington and Grace, was married to an agricultural laborer, Frederick Butt, and that they were living in the same house as Amelia's parents, with two young boys, Oliver and John.

1850. Marriage solemnized at <u>By Borne</u> in the <u>4</u>				
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.
51	September 25 th 1850.	Frederick Butt	Of Age	Bachelor
		Amelia Skivington	Of Age	Spinster
Married in the <u>Church</u> according to the Rites and Ceremonies				
This Marriage was solemnized between us,		<u>The Marriages of Frederick Butt</u> <u>The Marriages of Amelia Skivington</u>		in the Presence of us,
<u>Church of Sworne Courtney</u> in the County of <u>Dorset</u>				
Rank or Profession.	Residence at the Time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.	
Labourer	Sworne Courtney	George Butt	Labourer	
	Do	John Skivington	Labourer	
of the Established Church, <u>of England</u> by me,				
<u>Frederick Bliss, Curate.</u>				
<u>George Skivington</u>				
<u>Amelia</u>				

Item 3-90: Marriage of Amelia Skyvington.

This wedding took place at the same time and place as that of her sister Anne.

Amelia Skyvington's sons Oliver and John

Amelia's sons Oliver and John were born respectively in 1847 and 1849, before her marriage to Frederick Butt. Although the boys' father was most probably Frederick Butt, Amelia registered both boys with the Skyvington surname.

REGISTRATION DISTRICT				THE BLAND	
1847 BIRTH in the Sub-district of Blandford in the					
When and where born	Name, if any	Sex	Name and surname of father	Name, surname and maiden surname of mother	
17th June 1847 Bournemouth	Oliver	Boy		Amelia Skyvington	

FORD UNION					
County of Dorset					
Occupation of father	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	Name after	
	The mark of Amelia Skyvington Mother Bournemouth	Fifteenth June 1847	Henry James Registrar		

Item 3-91: Birth of Oliver Skyvington in 1847.

In a moment, we shall examine the prolific marriages of Oliver, who worked as a milkman in Bournemouth.

REGISTRATION DISTRICT					THE BLAN
1849 BIRTH in the Sub-district of Blandford					in t
No.	When and where born	Name, if any	Sex	Name and surname of father	Name, surname and maiden surname of mother
163	Twenty-sixth September 1849 Iwerne Courtney	John	Boy		Amelia Skyvington

Blandford UNION				
the County of Dorset				
Occupation of father	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	Signature of informant
	+ The mother of Amelia Skyvington Mother Iwerne Courtney	Ninth October 1849	Henry Lamer Registrar	

Item 3-92: Birth of John Skyvington in 1849.

After their marriage, Amelia Skyvington and Frederick Butt continued to live in Iwerne Courtney. The 1861 census reveals the existence of a daughter, Ethelinda Butt.

20		1	Frederick Butt	Head	Mar.
			Amelia Do	Wife	Mar.
			John Do	Son	
			Ethelinda Do	Daughter	

34		Ag. Lab.	Do	Married	
34			Do	Iwerne Courtney	
11		Ag. Lab.	Do	Do	
5		Scholar	Do	Do	

Item 3-93: Census of 1861 in Iwerne Courtney.

Their son seems to have been known henceforth as John Butt, rather than Skyvington.

Amelia died in 1863 at the age of 36.

Deaths Dec 1863 <small>(>99%)</small>				
Butt	Amelia	Blandford	5a	181

Item 3-94: Death of Amelia Skivington.

A year later, the widower Frederick Butt married Mariah Newell, and Amelia's two children were soon joined by siblings.

Elizabeth Skivington's son Atwell

Ann and Amelia had a younger sister, Elizabeth, who gave birth to an out-of-wedlock child named William on 4 December 1850.

REGISTRATION DISTRICT				THE BLAND		
1850	BIRTH in the Sub-district of Blandford				in the	
When and where born	Name, if any	Sex	Name and surname of father	Name, surname and maiden surname of mother		
472 Fourth December 1850 Inverc Courtney	William	Boy		Elizabeth Skivington		

FORD UNION				
County of Dorset				
Occupation of father	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	N aft
	+ The mark of Elizabeth Skivington Mother Inverc Courtney	Seventeenth December 1850	Henry Lance Registrar	

Item 3-95: Birth of a "William" who would later be known as Atwell Skivington.

Chapter 3

The IGI website indicates that a son of Elizabeth Skyvington, referred to as Atwil (sic) Isaac, was christened at Iwerne Courtney on 23 February 1851.

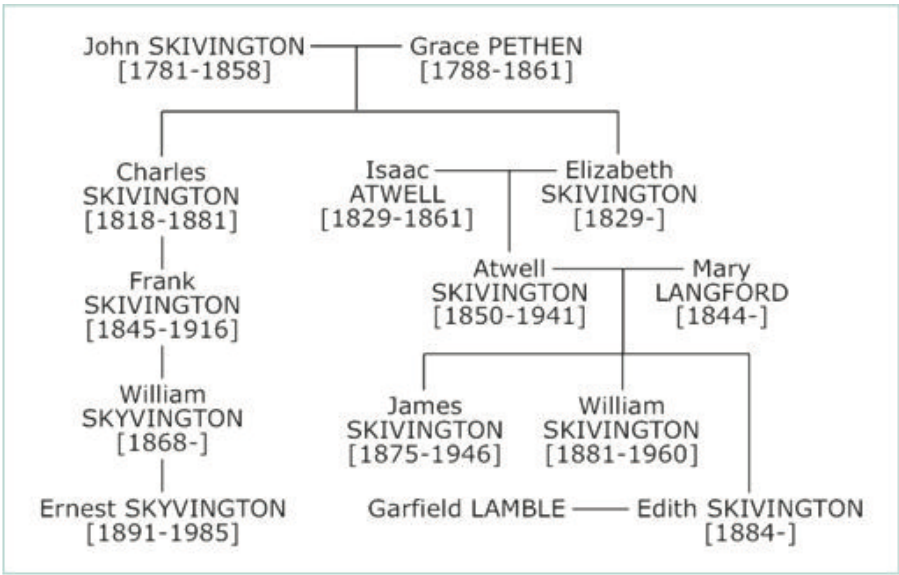
Atwil Isaac Skyvington	
England Births and Christenings, 1538-1975	
christening:	23 Feb 1851 Iwerne-Courtney, Dorset, England
residence:	Dorset, England
parents:	Elizabeth Skyvington

Item 3-96: Mormon IGI mention of the christening of Atwell Skivington.

This "Atwil" (misspelling of Atwell) would appear to be the same baby who was registered on 17 December 1850 as "William". The official birth record indicates "Skivington" whereas the church record says "Skyvington".

The 1851 census [item 3-54] confirmed the presence of this child in the Iwerne Courtney home of Elizabeth's parents, but he was designated, not as William, but as Atwell Isaac Skivington.

On 15 September 2012, I received an e-mail from a great-great-grandson of Atwell Isaac Skivington named Chris Lamble, whose grandmother was Enid Skivington, whose name appears in the following chart:



Item 3-97: Descendants of Elizabeth Skivington.

Chris had discovered the existence of an Isaac Atwell, christened in

Blandford Forum on 6 November 1829 and living there at the time of the 1841 and 1851 censuses. This man was probably the father of Elizabeth's son.

As for Atwell himself, he would later declare (at his marriage) that he was born in Iwerne Courtney around 1854, and that his father was a bricklayer named Isaac Atwell.

Atwell's father, was not in fact the man whom Elizabeth finally married. A parish record in Iwerne Courtney indicates that, on 9 September 1857, 28-year-old Elizabeth married a laborer from Gillingham (Kent) named Harry Moore. As for Atwell's father, he married an Eliza Maidment in the spring of 1853, and they had several children before Isaac's death at the age of 32.

Here is a portrait of Atwell Skivington sent to me by Chris Lamble:



Item 3-98: Atwell Isaac Skivington [1850-1941].

The elder son of Atwell and his wife Mary Langford was a photographer, James Skivington [1875-1946], buried in Iwerne Courtney churchyard.

First marriage of Oliver Skyvington

On 16 June 1870, Oliver Skyvington married Anna Payne in Christchurch (Dorset).

1870. Marriage solemnized at the Registrar Office in

No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.
123	Twickenham June 18/70	Oliver Skyvington	27 years	Bachelor
		Anna Grace Payne (29)	21 years	Spinster

Married in the Registrar Office according to the Rites and Customs of the Church of England

This Marriage was solemnized between us,
{ Oliver Skyvington (30)
Anna Grace Payne

the district of Christchurch in the County of Southampton

Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.
Groom	Holdenhurst	George Skyvington	Seafaring man (Merchant Service)
	Commercial Road Bournemouth	William Payne (30)	Dairyman

Solemnized by me before me,

in the presence of us,
{ Mary Ann Payne
Charles Payne

Ridson D. Nash Registrar
W. J. Fair Superintendent Registrar

Item 3-99: First marriage of Oliver Skyvington, to Anna Payne.

Oliver, residing in the nearby village of Holdenhurst (now in Dorset, but formerly in Hampshire), was employed as a groom. Curiously, he indicated that his father was a George Skyvington, described as a “seafaring man” in the “merchant service”. This information, clearly fictitious, may have been invented by Oliver himself, or it might reflect stories told to him by his mother and family circle in Iwerne Courtney.

As for Anna Payne, from Bournemouth, she indicated that her father, William Payne, was a dairyman. Since Oliver would soon be employed as a milkman, it is not unlikely that Anna was the daughter of his employer. Two

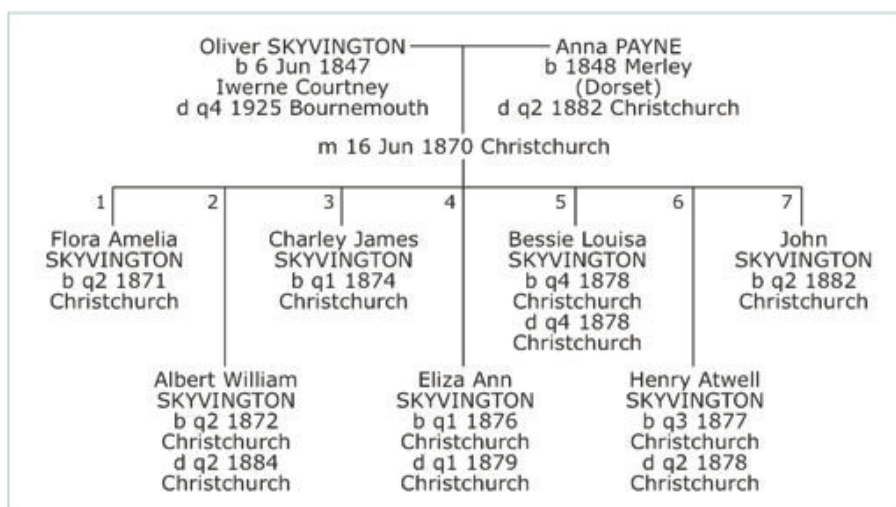
Payne individuals were witnesses of the marriage.

A birth record exists for an Anna Maria Payne:

Births Mar 1849 (>99%)				
PAYNE	Anna Maria	Christchurch	8	189

Item 3-100: Birth record for Anna Payne.

This is possibly Oliver's wife, although she gave her second name, at the time of her marriage, as Grace. In later records, she is often named Hannah. The following chart describes the family of Oliver and Anna Payne:



Item 3-101: Family of Oliver Skyvington and Anna Payne.

Chapter 3

Here is the 1881 census data for Oliver Skyvington's household when they were living at Holdenhurst:

Name	Relation	Marital Status	Gender	Age
Oliver SKIVINGTON	Head	M	Male	32
Anna SKIVINGTON	Wife	M	Female	30
Albert SKIVINGTON	Son		Male	8
Flora Amelia SKIVINGTON	Daur		Female	9
Charles James SKIVINGTON	Son		Male	7
Amy SKIVINGTON	Daur		Female	5
Bessie SKIVINGTON	Daur		Female	3

Birthplace	Occupation
Shroton, Dorset, England	Driver Of Milk Van
Kinson, Dorset, England	
Kinson, Dorset, England	Scholar
Holdenhurst, Hampshire, England	Scholar
Holdenhurst, Hampshire, England	Scholar
Holdenhurst, Hampshire, England	Scholar
Holdenhurst, Hampshire, England	Scholar

Item 3-102: 1881 census in Holdenhurst (Hampshire).

There was a high degree of mortality in Oliver's family. Anna herself died in 1882.

That same 1881 census reveals elsewhere that Oliver's 18-year-old cousin Sarah, the daughter of George Skivington and Harriet Mullens [item 3-77], was residing in that same village and working as a domestic servant.

Second marriage of Oliver Skyvington

On Christmas Day of the same year in which his first wife had just died, Oliver remarried with his cousin Sarah.

1882. Marriage solemnized at the Church				
No.	When Married	Name and Surname	Age.	Condition.
172	Emas Leay	Oliver Skyvington	33	Widower
		Sarah Ann Skyvington	22	Spinster
Married in the <u>Parish Church</u> according to the Rites and Cer				
This Marriage was solemnized between us, { <u>Oliver Skyvington</u> <u>Sarah Ann Skyvington</u> }				
in the <u>parish of Hordenhurst</u> in the County of <u>Southampton</u>				
Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.	Rank or Profession of Father.	
Labourer	Throop	Moneypenny	Labourer	
	Throop	George Skyvington	Labourer	
Monies of the Established Church, by <u>Fr</u> after <u>hanns</u> by me,				
In the Presence of us, { <u>William John Butt</u> <u>Louisa Amelia Newell</u> }				

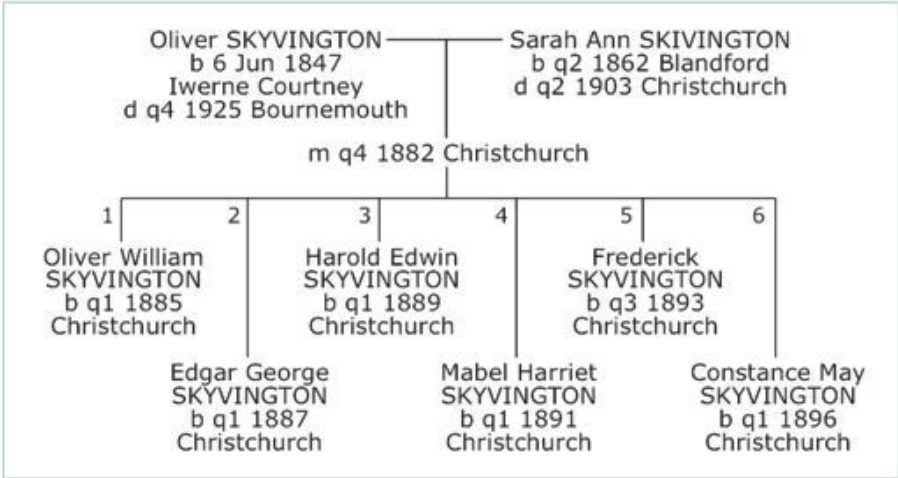
Item 3-103: Second marriage of Oliver Skyvington, to his cousin Sarah Skivington.

The groom and bride were residing in Throop, between Dorchester and Poole. Curiously, on this marriage certificate, their ages are wrong. Oliver was 35, not 33. Sarah was 20, not 22. Besides, Oliver seems to have invented a laborer named Moneypenny as his alleged father.

The witnesses bear familiar surnames: Butt (the husband of Oliver's mother Amelia) and Newell (the wife of Frederick Butt after Amelia's death). One would imagine that this was an ideal occasion for Olivier to indicate the true identity of his father... if indeed he knew it.

Chapter 3

The following chart describes the family of Oliver and Sarah:



Item 3-104: Family of Oliver Skyvington and his cousin Sarah.

After bearing 6 offspring, Sarah died of tuberculosis in 1903.

REGISTRATION DISTRICT					
1903 DEATH in the Sub-district of Bournemouth					
No.	When and where died	Name and surname	Sex	Age	Occupation
436	Eleventh April 1903 57 Withersmoor Road Winton W.D.	Sarah Ann Skyvington	Female	42 years	Wife of Oliver Skyvington a milkman
CHRISTCHURCH					
in the County Borough of Bournemouth					
Cause of death		Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	
Phthisis Heart failure certified by H. Douglas Wilson M.D.		William John Butt Brother-in-law In attendance 17 Southcote Road Bournemouth	Eleventh April 1903	Ernest L. Lane Registrar	

Item 3-105: Death of Sarah Ann Skyvington.

Third marriage of Oliver Skyvington

Oliver's last offspring was Victor, born in 1904, when the milkman was 57 years old. The mother, Elizabeth Adams, appears to be named Skyvington, but I have found no traces of an actual marriage.

REGISTRATION DISTRICT			CHRISTCHURCH		
1904 BIRTH in the Sub-district of Bournemouth			in		
No.	When and where born	Name, if any	Sex	Name and surname of father	Name, surname and maiden surname of mother
2, 32	Eighteenth November 1904 51 Withersmoor Road Bournemouth	Victor	Boy	Oliver Skyvington	Elizabeth Skyvington formerly Adams

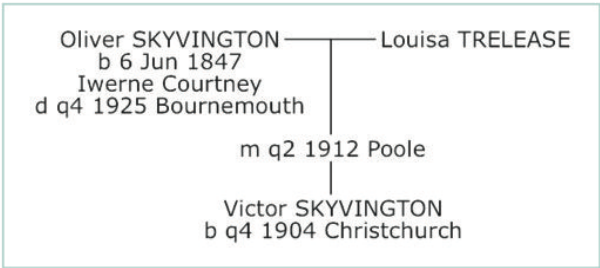
the County Borough of Bournemouth				
Occupation of father	Signature, description and residence of informant	When registered	Signature of registrar	Name after
Milk Cartman	E. Skyvington Mother 51 Withersmoor Road Bournemouth	Twenty third December 1904	Ernest Adam Registrar	

Item 3-106: Birth of Victor, Oliver Skyvington's last offspring.

Victor was the ancestor of Skyvingtons living these days in Bournemouth. Ann Skyvington of Bournemouth told me, in speaking of Victor, that "his mother died when he was a baby and he was brought up by relatives". She added: "Oliver Skyvington's sister married a Mr Skivington. There is a branch of this family in Bournemouth." I believe that Ann was a little mixed up. She was probably thinking of the fact that Oliver had married a sister of John Mullens Skivington. In that case, the Skivingtons living in Bournemouth, mentioned by Ann, would be the descendants of Edwin (the young brother of John Mullens and Sarah Ann) and his family [item 3-77].

Fourth marriage of Oliver Skyvington

In 1912, Oliver wedded a fourth wife, Louisa Trelease.



Item 3-107: Fourth family of Oliver Skyvington.

Oliver's youngest offspring, Victor, was born on 8 November 1904. And less than a decade later, Oliver renewed his status as a widower.

Marriages Jun 1912 (>99%)					
Skyvington	Oliver	Trelease	Poole	5a	619
Trelease	Louisa	Skyrington	Poole	5a	619
Deaths Jun 1921 (>99%)					
Skyvington	Louisa	58	Christchurch	2b	752

Item 3-108: Fourth marriage of Oliver Skyvington, with Louisa Trelease.

Descendants of Oliver Skyvington in Bournemouth

In 1930, Oliver's son Victor married Doris Andrews.

Marriages Jun 1930 <small>(>99%)</small>			
Andrews	Doris A	Skyvington	Bournemouth 2b 1793
Skyvington	Victor	Andrews	Bournemouth 2b 1793

Item 3-109: Marriage of Victor Skyvington and Doris Andrews.

They had a single child, Brian, born on 14 March 1936.

Births Jun 1936 <small>(>99%)</small>			
SKYVINGTON	Brian D	Andrews	Bournemouth 2b 990

Item 3-110: Birth of Brian Skyvington.

And Brian married Ann Wilds in 1959.

Marriages Dec 1959 <small>(>99%)</small>			
SKYVINGTON	Brian D	WILDS	Bournemouth 6b 274
WILDS	Ann C	SKYVINGTON	Bournemouth 6b 274

Item 3-111: Marriage of Brian Skyvington and Ann Wilds.

It was Ann who once provided me, on behalf of her husband, with some of the essential data for my presentation of her relatives.

Cornwall Skyvingtons

The UK census of 1911 mentions a Skyvington family in Cornwall.

Address: Crane Camborne		County: Cornwall	
Name	Relation	Condition/ Yrs married	Sex
SKYVINGTON, William	Head	Married	M
SKYVINGTON, Charity	Wife	Married 6 years	F
TREGIDGA, Archibald	Stepson	Single	M
TREGIDGA, Ivey	Stepdaughter		F
TREGIDGA, Annie J	Visitor	Single	F

Birth		Occupation	Where Born
Age	Year		
48	1863	Tin Dresser	Dorset Dorchester
34	1877		Cornwall Camborne
20	1891	Tin Dresser	Cornwall Camborne
10	1901	School	Cornwall Camborne
19	1892	Non	Cornwall Camborne

Item 3-112: 1911 census in Camborne (Cornwall).

Mining for tin and copper were ancient activities in Devon and Cornwall. Indeed, the local mining landscape was inscribed in 2006 as a UNESCO World Heritage site. Tin dressing is the complicated series of operations that starts with lumps of tin-bearing rock and ends with the extraction of all the crystals of tin.



Item 3-113: View from Dolcoath mine towards Redruth (1890).

I do not know the identity of this tin dresser named William Christopher Skyvington who married the widow Charity Tregidga, and died in 1920 at the age of 56. His second name suggests a possible link back to the seventh offspring of John Skivington and Grace Pethen [item 3-10].

Man condemned at the Old Bailey in 1898

In the previous chapter, I mentioned a London court record revealing that a certain William Skyvington, 26 years old (at the time of his trial, I would imagine), was condemned at the Old Bailey on 24 October 1898 for fraud, and sentenced to six months' prison [item 2-8].

Let us examine the possible identity of this individual. The offender's surname was spelt with a "y", and only a single given name, William, was indicated. His age suggests that he was born between the final quarter of 1872 and that of 1873. Here is a list of the 5 male Skyvingtons born between 1865 and 1880:

Births Mar 1869 <small>(>99%)</small>			
SKYVINGTON	William Jones	Plympton	5b 243
Births Sep 1870 <small>(>99%)</small>			
SKYVINGTON	Frank Herbert F	Plympton	5b 225
Births Jun 1872 <small>(>99%)</small>			
Skyvington	Albert William	Christchurch	2b 610
Births Mar 1874 <small>(>99%)</small>			
Skyvington	Charley James	Christchurch	2b 622
Births Sep 1877 <small>(>99%)</small>			
SKYVINGTON	Henry Attwel	Christchurch	2b 600

Item 3-114: Possible identities of an offender named Skyvington.

Concerning the first person in the list, my great-grandfather, there is an age discrepancy. As for the others, Albert William Skyvington died as a child, and there is no other plausible candidate.

Maybe the offender's name was Skivington, with an "i", and the staff at the Old Bailey introduced a spelling error when they wrote Skyvington with a "y". In that case, here are some plausible identities of the offender:

Births Mar 1867 (>99%)				
SKIVINGTON	William Edwin	Windsor	2c	411
Births Jun 1867 (>99%)				
Skivington	William Edward	Manchester	8d	256
Births Dec 1868 (>99%)				
SKIVINGTON	Arthur William	St. Luke	1b	714
Births Dec 1870 (>99%)				
SKIVINGTON	William James	Lambeth	1d	363
Births Sep 1872 (>99%)				
Skivington	Charles William	Barnsley	9c	145
Births Jun 1878 (>99%)				
SKIVINGTON	John William	Birmingham	6d	221

Item 3-115: Possible identities of an offender named Skivington.

The age of the fellow born in Barnsley would be correct, but we would have to suppose that he called himself by his second name.

Maybe I must conclude that the offender was indeed, most probably, my great-grandfather...