

Litton Cheney Newspaper Articles 1880-1899

6.2.1880

On Friday afternoon about four o'clock fire broke out at two cottages at the entrance to the village, belonging to Mr Thomas Bradford of Look farm and occupied by Frederick Collins and George Moore, labourers, the roofs being partly thatched and partly tiled. William Pitcher saw flames and smoke issuing from the chimney of one of the cottages and at once gave the alarm, it being found that the cottage was on fire. A number of people assembled and attempts were made to arrest the progress of the flames, but it was found that they were of but little avail as the fire had got too firm hold. The furniture was removed and thus saved, but still it was considerably damaged in the confusion and haste of removal. Both cottages, which were insured, were completely destroyed. Mr. Fry's dairy-house, the property of Mr. B. Legge, is only a few yards from the cottages and, finding that it was impossible to save the dwelling-houses, the efforts of those engaged were directed to preventing the fire from spreading to that. Mr. Fry's men rendered valuable assistance, ladders were procured and water was poured, by means of buckets, on the dairy house building from the abundant stream which flows by the side of the road here. The flames were all subdued by about 8 o'clock. The conflagration is supposed to have arisen in consequence of a fire being lighted in the fireplace of one of the cottages which had been in disuse for some time and it is thought to be probable that the chimney may have been foul.

12.3.1880

JOURNEYMAN BAKER Wanted, 17 or 18, to assist in bakehouse and make himself useful. Must read and write and have good character.—John Bligdon, Baker, Litton Cheney, Dorchester.

14.5.1880

George Cousins, of Litton Cheney, was summoned for working a horse in an unfit state and John Bridge, his master, was charged with causing the animal to be so worked. Mr. R. N. Howard appeared for the defence.—Evidence was given by P.S. Hill to the effect that he saw three horses belonging to Bridge at work at Litton on the 27th ult. and one of them was suffering from some very bad wounds under the collar, another of the animals was similarly injured, though not so much. Defendants' attention was called to the horses, when Cousins admitted that one of them ought not to have been at work and Bridge said it would not have been only he was busy. For the defence, Mr. Howard called evidence to prove that the horses were not in such bad condition as had been described. Bridge, who had been previously convicted, was ordered to pay £3. Including costs, the charge against Cousins being dismissed.

21.5.1880

On Wednesday a cricket match between the Litton Cheney Club and Compton Valence Club was played in a meadow, kindly lent for the occasion by T. Fry, Esq. The batting of Messrs. Daw (53) and Gale (37), for Compton in their first innings, was a rare treat, the former gentleman being in good form. The batting of the Litton team was also good, but especial mention should be made of Mr. John Vine, Longbredy, who scored 17 in the first and 41 in the second innings. The other chief scores were for Compton, F. Palmer 9 and H. Palmer 12; for Litton T. Fry 11 (not out) and T. Gale 11 (not out). The bowling of Mr. Daw for Compton was very good, as was also that of Messrs. H. Fry, R. Fry and Dewes-Gibson, the latter's bowling proving very destructive in the second innings. The score for Compton in the first innings was 117, second innings 49, total 166. For Litton first innings 78, second 91, with nine wickets down. Litton thus won the match with a wicket to spare. The club afterwards dined in the field under the presidency of the Litton Captain, Mr. Dewes-Gibson.

17.9.1880

A cricket match was played on Saturday last between the Litton and Bradpole clubs. Full score Litton 48 and Bradpole 24 runs. The bowling of Henry Fry for Litton was very effective. T. Gale and R. Fry, batted well for the same club their scores being respectively 12 and 10. Litton, so far, has had a very successful season. The harvest thanksgiving is announced for Sunday next.

7.4.1882

Indecent Assault

William Harris, 30, labourer, pleaded guilty to a charge of indecently assaulting Louisa Atkins, at Litton Cheney, on the 13th of February. Mr. Udall appeared for the prosecution, Prisoner was sentenced to six months hard labour.

9.2.1883

Serious Accident.

On Thursday sennight, Mr. J. F. Roper, of Combe Farm, Litton Cheney, was driving from Bridport towards his house, when he was passed, near Viney Cross, by the mail cart. It is evident that shortly

after the mail-cart man lost sight of Mr. Roper, he (Mr. Roper) must have met with an accident, for returning early the following morning, it being very dark, the driver of the mail cart came into collision with the wreck of Mr. Roper's carriage, which was lying in the middle of the road at Coombe Bottom. One shaft was gone, whilst the cushions, mats, &c, a box of candles and other things were strewn about the road. The horse and Mr. Roper were nowhere to be found. It subsequently transpired that, late on Thursday night, Mr. Hay was fetched to attend Mr. Roper at Coombe Farm and the fact that he walked home points to the conclusion that he was not so seriously injured as was at first feared. The horse was found on Friday morning at Askerswell.

16.2.1883

BAKER LAD wanted, strong and active, to assist in the bakehouse and deliver with horse and van. Must be good writer, have a good character and be a total abstainer. Louis Pitcher, Baker, &c, Litton Cheney, Dorchester.

25.5.1883

THE DIVIDED PARISHES AND POOR LAW AMENDMENT ACT.

The Hon. T. H. W. Pelham, barrister-at-law, one of the Local Government Board inspectors, attended the boardroom of the Bridport Union Workhouse, on Tuesday, for the purpose of holding an enquiry in reference to the effect of the above Act and other Acts of Parliament with regard to the amalgamation of detached or nearly detached portions of various parishes in the Bridport Union with other parishes, for greater convenience of local government in administering the poor law, &c. The official notice of the enquiry states that Litton Cheney, by reason of certain parts being detached from the remainder, the said parts should be separated from the parish to which they now belong and be amalgamated with some adjoining parish, or otherwise dealt with under the said Act.

A large piece of Litton Cheney called Gorwell and Ashley, comprising 1,100 acres, with two farm-houses and seven or eight cottages, jutted out towards Abbotsbury and it was decided to adjourn the question as to which of the contiguous parishes it should be joined to until the Inspector holds an inquiry in the Weymouth Union. Another part of Litton Cheney, called Lodgers Land, about 100 acres, was allotted to Askerswell.

6.7.1883

Designation of Roads

Mr. R. Williams asked why the lower road to Bridport (from Longbredy Hut through Litton Cheney to the end of the district) was not allowed to be made a main road. He supposed that there was more traffic over it in a day than over the upper road to Bridport in a week. There was constantly-increasing traffic over the road and, if there was any road in the county which ought to be made a main road on the score of traffic, he thought that was one. Colonel Hambro said it had been dismained because it was parallel to another road. The Chairman explained that the other road, being a turnpike before a certain date, could not be dismained.

30.11.1883

NURSERY' GOVERNESS Wanted to instruct three little girls in English, Music and French.—Mrs. Roper, Coombe, Litton Cheney, Dorchester,

10.4.1885

Mr. Nantes, Bridport, applied for the transfer of the licence of the White Horse Inn, Litton Cheney, from George Chappell to Samuel Conway. It appeared, however, that, through a misunderstanding, Mr. Nantes had not brought any evidence of the character of the applicant beyond that of the Superintendent of Police. The Bench did not consider this sufficient, but granted temporary authority to sell till the next transfer day.

12.6.1885

I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE, that I shall not be ANSWERABLE for ANY DEBTS CONTRACTED by wife, Charlotte Pitcher, after this date, June 10th, 1885. WILLIAM PITCHER. Litton Cheney, Dorset.

11.6.1886

Attempted Suicide.

At the Shirehall, Dorchester, on Friday, a shoemaker named James Gush, belonging to Litton Cheney, was brought up before Captain Mansel, charged with attempted suicide on the previous day. On the morning in question the accused was found by a cripple, named Brown, in an outhouse of Mr. Mabey's, with a scarf round his neck, which he was in the act tying round a beam. The would-be-suicide, the better to enable him to accomplish his purpose, had procured a bucket, on which he was standing when discovered by Brown. Finding that he was frustrated in his intentions, he undid the scarf and proceeded to a cow shed some little distance away but, being again disturbed by some women employed there, proceeded to Litton, where he was followed by Brown, who, being unable to go any

further, informed a man named Henry Greening, the landlord of the White Horse, into whose house prisoner had gone, of his suspicions and asking him to keep an eye on prisoner's movements. Greening questioned Gush as to "what was up with him", to which prisoner replied not very much. A little while after he intimated his intention of proceeding to Longbredy, where he was mostly employed but, after he had gone a little distance, he was observed by Greening, who had been following him, to turn into a water meadow, partially divest himself of his clothing, which he placed by the side of the stream and then look round. Just then Greening called out, asking him what he intended doing, when he admitted he was going to drown himself. Greening asked him his reason for so doing, when he said it was only for fun as he didn't intend going to Longbredy any more. He then dressed himself again and Greening escorted him back to Litton, where he detained him until the arrival of P.C. Strode. The scarf alluded to was found in prisoner's pocket. On being interrogated by the magistrate, prisoner asserted that "the old fellow" must have been after him at the time, otherwise he should never have thought of such a thing but, with the help of God, he would never again attempt such a thing. He was committed for trial at the Quarter Sessions.

11.3.1887

Primitive Methodist Chapel

The anniversary services at this chapel have been celebrated. Sermons were preached by the Rev. P. Hirst, of Dorchester, to good congregations. On the following day an excellent tea was provided, of which about 100 partook, afterwards a platform meeting was held under the presidency of Mr. A. Daniclls, of Dorchester and addressed by Messrs. Bellinger, W. B. Davis and Rev. P. Hirst, of Dorchester, Messrs. Cuff, Taylor, Neal, of Longbredy and Mr. H. Saunders, Litton Cheney. The choir and harmoniumist. Miss M. Godding, rendered several excellent pieces. Votes of thanks to the chairman and others brought to a close a very interesting meeting. The proceeds, which were for the chapel funds, were very satisfactory.

27.7.1888

Property Sale.

An important sale of property was held on Monday at the Mart, Tokenhouse-yard, London, Mr B. J'Anson Breach (firm of Egerton and Breach), by order of the mortgagee of the valuable freehold estate Coombe Farm, situated in the parish of Litton Cheney. The property is described as occupying a beautiful position, approached by good roads and comprising a substantial farmhouse, containing three sitting-rooms, ten bedrooms. &c.; commodious farm buildings, detached dairyhouse and six cottages, together with about 530 acres of excellent arable, dairy and sheep land, in the occupation of a highly responsible tenant on lease and producing a rental of £607 per annum. It was disposed of for the sum of £11,650 which, in the present depressed value of land, must be considered a very satisfactory price.

24.8.1888

LITTON MILLS to Let

Parish of Litton Cheney. Dorset. Good dwelling-house. The Mills fitted with all newest machinery. Stores, stables and meadow land attached. Within easy distance of railway communication. Apply Major Groves, Bowood, Beaminster.

11.1.1889

GORWELL FARM, LITTON CHENEY, DORSET.

MESSRS. HENRY DUKE & SON are favoured with instructions from A. B. Sheridan, Esq. (the farm being let from Lady-day next), to give notice of SALE by AUCTION, on the premises, Thursday, 7th February, of the CHOICE HERD of 60 well-bred young DAIRY COWS and HEIFERS, CART HORSES and a portion of the FARM IMPLEMENTS.

15.6.1889

The severe thunderstorm that passed over Litton Cheney and neighbourhood on Friday did some damage. Mr. Cable, at Gorwell Farm, had a very valuable cow killed and on the same farm some sheep were struck by lightning. At Long House, Bexington, several fishermen had taken shelter in a cottage, when the lightning struck the place and some of the fishermen. The latter were at one time thought to be in a dangerous state but, under medical aid, they are progressing favourably.

31.1.1890

Obstructing the Highway.

William Thorne, of Litton Cheney, was summoned for causing an obstruction on the highway by leaving his horse and cart thereon for an unreasonable time on the 10th. P.C. Smithers said the cart stood outside the White Horse Inn, Litton Cheney, untended for 45 minutes. Fined 10s, including costs.

6.6.1890

Gored by a Bull.

On Saturday a lad named John Crabb, in the employ of Mr. J. Bowditch, was leading a bull into the barton when the animal gored him in the leg and he sustained such injuries that he had medically treated. He is now progressing satisfactorily.

31.10.1890

MESSRS. HENRY DUKE & SON will SELL by PUBLIC AUCTION, at the White Horse Inn, Litton Cheney, a. MILL and DWELLINGHOUSE, FARM-HOUSE and PREMISES, Seven COTTAGES and upwards of 95 Acres of First-class MEADOW, PASTURE and ARABLE LAND, the sale to take place on Monday, the 3rd day of November, 1890, at two o'clock in the Afternoon precisely. The Conditions will provide for the payment of the purchase money in instalments if desired.

7.11.1890

The "Salisbury Van".

This van, which is doing such useful work in the county, visited Litton Cheney on Monday but, owing the wet weather, the open air meeting had to be abandoned and the kind offer of the Rev. Dr. Colby and the other governors of schoolroom to allow the gathering be held there was readily accepted. Mr T. Fry, of Baglake, presided in the absence of the Rev. Dr. Colby, who wrote regretting his inability to attend and wishing the meeting every success. There was a good attendance, despite the unfavourable weather. A capital address on the topics of the day was given by Mr. Donati, who was followed by Mr. W. Carter. Some good slides were exhibited by means of a magic lantern and were described in an interesting manner. A vote of thanks was accorded to the speakers on the motion of the Chairman and the proceedings terminated with cheers for Mr. Farquharson and the singing of the National Anthem.

7.11.1890

A Large Water Snake.

On Sunday a large water snake was caught in the stream in front of Mr. Guppy's residence, which measured three feet six inches long. When found the water was somewhat shallow. It has a pretty yellow speckled coat and was captured by Mr. Guppy and Mr. Hallett. The latter dealt the snake a blow on the head and it was then drawn on the main road. On Monday it was buried. When opened there were found in him 34 blackbirds' eggs.

26.12.1890

Entertainment.

On Tuesday evening an excellent temperance entertainment, with the object of benefiting the funds of the Band of Hope, was given in the schoolroom, when some capital vocal and instrumental music was provided, varied by recitations of an attractive character. Several well-wishers of the cause gave valuable help on the occasion.

19.6.1891

Foresters' Fete.

On Thursday, June 11, the members of Court "Hearts of Oak," No. 6,430, A.O.F., held their annual fete, which was of a most successful character. On the previous Sunday the members attended service at the Parish Church, when the Rev. Dr. Colby preached a very appropriate sermon. On Thursday they met at Berwick, the residence of Mr. B. Bryant and a procession was formed, headed by the Broadway Brass Band and a perambulation of the village took place, various calls being made. Dinner was served in a marquee erected in a field lent by Messrs. Pitcher and Bligdon and the catering of Mr. Greening, of the White Horse, gave every satisfaction. The loyal toasts having been drunk, the Chairman proposed "The Visitors", coupling with it the name of Mr. H R Farquharson M P, who was obliged to leave early to catch a train to London and who briefly responded. The clerical and patriotic toasts having been acknowledged, Mr. Fry proposed "Success to the Society" which was heartily drunk. Mr. Godding (treasurer) replied, giving a statement as to the finances, which showed that the total worth of the Court was £247 13s 5d. £20 13s had been paid for sickness and £6 6s funeral levies. Other toasts followed and afterwards a number of sports were engaged in, together with various other amusements.

4.9.1891

LITTON DOWN BARN, LITTON CHENEY, Close to the Dorchester Road

WM. MOREY & SONS beg to announce the favour of instructions from Mr. T. I. Denman, (the trustee appointed under the bankruptcy of Major Groves), to SELL by AUCTION, on Monday, September the 14th, 1891, the following 52 Acres of Luxuriant Grass and Clover KEEP, 5 Ricks of Meadow and Clover HAY, 9 Acres of OATS, 7 Acres of MANGOLD and TURNIPS, 1 Rick of STRAW (all may be carried off), the keep fed until the 6th day of January, 1892.

IMPLEMENTS, New REED, SPARS, &c., comprising:

Lot 1 Three acres of grass feed, in Mill Plots, together with a rick of meadow hay, about 6 tons.

Lot 2. Thirteen acres of grass feed, in Litton Field.

Lot 3. Three acres, two roods of turnips, together with the run of Fond Close, eight acres.

Lot 4. Rick of meadow hay, about 6 tons, standing in Pond Close.

Lots 5 to 8 .Part ricks of straw.

Lot 9. Part rick of hay.

Lot 10. Three and a half acres of mangolds, to be sold in Lots of a quarter acre.

Lot 11. Eighteen acres of clover feed

Lot 12. One rick of good clover hay, about 18 tons.

Lot 13. Ditto, about 9 tons.

Lot 14. Ten acres of grass feed, in Charity, together with a rick meadow hay, about 6 tons.

Lot 15. Nine acres of oats.

IMPLEMENTS. Three-horse waggon with ladders, 2 sets of string harness, 3 sets breeching harness, 3 pairs plough harness, plough tackling, roller, plough, 2 sets harrows, drags, 2 corn barrels, 3 nearly new turnip cutters, 3 feeding baskets, large two-knife chaff cutter, 24 sheep cribs, 2 new sheep crates on wheels, 20 sheep troughs, salt box, piles, rakes, seed lip, hurdles, seed machine, 300 bandies of new reed, 1,000 of new spars, &c., &c, May be Viewed the morning of Sale.

The Sale will take place at the Barn, at TWO o'clock and as the Order for the Sale has been given by the Trustees, there will be no postponement.

25.9.1891

An Obliging Vocalist

Wm. Clarke, of Puncknowle, appeared to two summons—one charging him with disorderly conduct on the licensed premises of the White Horse, Litton Cheney, on 2nd Sept. and the second for assaulting the landlord Henry Watts Greening. Mr Symes, who represented the complainant, stated that he asked for an exemplary punishment for the reason that so much stress was now laid upon the manner in which a public-house was conducted that the landlord ought to be protected in such cases as the present. The complainant was then called and, from his statement, it appeared that on the day named the defendant went to his house and behaved in a very disorderly manner using very bad language. He demanded of a man that he would sing a song, but the person appeared to profess his utter inability to comply with such a request. Another customer, however, volunteered to experiment with music upon the defendant's disorderly nature and sang a song with the object of pacifying him, but the soothing influence of this effort was lost upon the defendant, for he still continued his riotous ways. Thereupon the landlord, who had repeatedly asked him before to leave the house, forcibly ejected the defendant and stated in evidence that, in a struggle outside, was kicked on the leg. The defendant said he was drunk at the time, denied that he had only two pints of beer in the house and said that he had had twenty. The Chairman told the defendant that his attempt to make out that he was very drunk only aggravated the offence. The Bench thought that the assault was a trivial one, as the complainant might have been struck in the struggle when the defendant was ejected. The summons for assault would therefore be dismissed but, for refusing to quit, the defendant would be fined 30s and costs. The defendant asked for time to pay the fine, but this was refused.

9.10.1891

Abraham Burt, on admitting being drunk at Litton Cheney, on the 12th ult., was fined 5s and 3s costs.

6.11.1891

Situate in near LITTON CHENEY

Four Valuable Enclosures of first-class WATER MEADOW, ORCHARD and PASTURE LAND, forming the SMALL DAIRY FARM OF 22a. 1r. 32p., occupied Mr. George Peach, yearly tenant. A CLOSE OF ACCOMMODATION LAND, containing 12 Acres, called "The Allotments"; A CLOSE OF PASTURE LAND, called "Wallbridge's Cowleaze" containing 3a. 1r. 10p. occupied by Mr. A. G. S. Hounsell. FARM RESIDENCE, SEVEN COTTAGES and PREMISES. The DESIRABLE SMALL HOLDING (with immediate possession), known as "Turner's Barn Farm", with an area 34a. 2r. 3p. of Pasture and Arable Land, Barn and Outbuildings, abutting on the road leading from Litton Cheney to Askerswell Down and now in the occupation of Major Groves; and also, with immediate possession, all those well-known FLOUR AND GRIST MILLS, called "Litton Mills", fitted with the most approved machinery, driven by ample water power and capable of working extensive trade such is at present carried on. COMMODIOUS DWELLING - HOUSE, GARDEN and ORCHARD and Two Plots of MEADOW LAND, containing 3a. 0r. 7p., occupied therewith. Also a Valuable POLICY OF INSURANCE of the life of Major John Groves, aged 57, in the North British and Mercantile Company, with Bonuses, amounting to over £4,000.

27.11.1891

A concert was held in a barn at the Court House, kindly lent by Mr. Fry, on Thursday the 19th inst., attendance being large. The interior had been most artistically decorated by the Misses Legge, the walls being draped with curtains, whilst chrysanthemums and other plants were judiciously arranged about the platform and various parts of the building, the whole being lit up with fairy lamps, producing a most charming effect. The concert was given in aid of the Litton Reading Room. The amount taken at the door was £5 7s 6d and, after paying all expenses, there was a sum of £4 to hand over to the institution.

The following programme was gone through: Trio, "Sleigh Race", the Misses Legge; Song "Spinning Song", Miss J. Good; Song "Will You Come Back?", Mr Swaries; Recitation "The Alarm", Mr Francis; Song "Tit for Tat", (encored) Miss Samson; Song "Off to Philadelphia", (encored), Mr. H Legge; Banjo Solo, "Daisy Schottische (encore), Mr. Simmons; Mr Swaries sang "Poor Old Jones", with banjo accompaniment; Song, "I Seek for Thee", Miss K Samson; Galanty show, the Misses Legge; Violin Solo, "Gavotte", Misa J. Good; Song "An Autumn Story", Miss K. Samson; Song. "Golden Days", Mr Swaries; Sermon on "Where are You Going to, My Pretty Maid?", Mr. Simmons; Song, "Only Once More", (encored), Miss J Good; Song, "Admiral's Broom" (encored), Mr H Legge; Recitation "How Bill Adams Won the Battle of Waterloo", Mr. A. Whetham; Song "Number Two" (encored), Miss A. Samson; Violin Solo, "Old English Melodies", Miss J. Good; "God Save the Queen".

27.5.1892

About a fortnight ago a cow, belonging to Mr. G. Peach, gave birth to a calf, which had three front legs and is doing well.

24.6.1892

At the Borough Police Court on Monday, before R. Tucker junr. Walter Guppy, a labourer of Litton Cheney, pleaded guilty to sleeping amongst the straw in the stables at no.15, Downes Street, on the 19th inst. having no visible means of subsistence. P C. Smythers gave evidence and said there had been numerous complaints in respect to persons sleeping in these stables. As the prisoner had plenty of work, he was dismissed, Mr. Tucker giving him a little sound advice.

21.10.1892

To Let, with immediate possession, the LITTON CORN and GRIST MILL, working four pairs of stones, with unfailing water-power direct from spring head, with the Dwelling-house, Stables, Garden and about three acres of excellent Meadow adjoining. The Mill, House and Premises are in perfect repair. The Mill is now being worked by the Owners and commands a trade the satisfactory results of which can be shown and which care and attention will much increase.

5.5.1893

Resignation of the Rector.

The Rev. F. T. Colby, F.S.A., who has held this living since 1875, has resigned through failing health. He will most probably be replaced by a rev. gentleman from the Eastern Counties.

5.5.1893

Death of old Inhabitant.

Mr. James Gladwyn, an old inhabitant, passed away rather suddenly on Saturday. He was taken ill in the morning and died during the evening. He had been a churchwarden for many years. He was 77 years of age.

9.6.1893

The Waterloo subscription. In 1815 this parish subscribed £2 15s, towards the Waterloo subscription for the relief of widows and children of officers and soldiers killed and for officers and soldiers disabled in the battle of Waterloo, the amount being forwarded by the then rector, the Rev. George Frome.

23.6.1893

LITTON CHENEY. The Rev. F. W. Crick, M.A., was instituted to the living of this parish on Friday. The Rev. gentleman read the 39 articles of religion on Sunday morning. He was ordained priest by the Bishop of St. Alban's in 1875.

30.6.1893

Walter Guppy, labourer, of Litton Cheney, was charged with stealing one bundle of thatching spans, value 2s, the property of Messrs. John Bligdon and Louis Pitcher, on the 15th of June. .P.U. Freak stated that, on the 15th inst., about 8 p.m., he was on duty at Litton Cheney when he met the defendant leaving a farmyard in the occupation of Messrs. Pitcher and Bligdon. He was carrying a bag with a rick spar sticking out of it. Witness noticed that bag was bulky and his suspicions were aroused. He communicated with Messrs. Pitcher and Bligdon and assisted them in making a search in the lower part of the village. Witness found the bag that he had previously seen Guppy carrying in an out-house in the

lower part of the village, which contained a bundle of spars which the prosecutors identified as their property. Witness communicated with the prosecutors and defendant was charged with the theft. The magistrates' clerk (to defendant): "One thing you allege is that you got the spars for Mr. Greening. Do you wish to call him a witness? Mr. Huxtable said he should be glad if Mr. Greening was called. Defendant then called Henry Watts Greening, who said was the landlord of the White Horse Inn, Litton Cheney. He denied that he asked the defendant whether Mr. Bligdon had a bundle of short spars to spare. Defendant did not bring him any spars and he had no conversation with him about any spars. The chairman said the Bench would convict the defendant of the crime and he would be sent to prison for a fortnight with hard labour. Defendant: "Thank you, sir".

3.11.1893

FUNERAL OF MR. JOB LEGG. J.P.

On Saturday the remains of the late Mr. Job Legg, J.P. were interred in the Litton Cheney churchyard, where other members of his family lie at rest. The body was enclosed in a lead coffin, made by Mr. F. Bridle and this was placed in an elm shell, with an outer coffin of oak, made by Mr. Lawrence, of West Street. We may state that the oak was purchased by the deceased many years ago, to be cut up for his coffin whenever he might die and had been kept on the brewery premises. The coffin had handsome brass mounts and on the lid was the following inscription "In memory of Job Legg, born January 7th, 1838, died October 26th, 1893. Spes mea in Deo". The coffin was one of the largest that has been made in the town and is said to have weighed from eight to nine hundredweight. There were eighteen bearers, employees of the deceased. The cortege left the residence of the deceased, Allington Villa, at twelve o'clock and many shutters were closed and blinds drawn as a last mark of respect. Flags were flying at half-mast at the Conservative Club and at different places in West Bay. Heading the procession was His Worship the Mayor (Alderman G. Nantes). Then followed representatives of the Loyal Great Western Lodge of Oddfellows (of which deceased was a member) wearing sashes. Next came inhabitants of the town and neighbourhood and friends. These were followed by a number of employees at the brewery.

The open funeral car with the coffin bore a large number of very beautiful wreaths. Following the hearse were eleven carriages. In this order the procession slowly wended its way along West and South Streets to the Crown Inn, where those on foot formed on each side to allow the carriages to pass along the Burton road in the direction of Litton Cheney, the tradespeople and others who had walked in the procession returning to the town.

The body was met at the churchyard by the Rev. F. W. Crick, rector of the parish, who commenced reading the burial service. Owing to the coffin being so large, it was found impossible to carry it into the church and it was, therefore, left at the church entrance while the service in church was being conducted. The coffin was then carried to the grave, where a large number of people had gathered. The grave had been very tastefully lined with flowers and greenery by Mr. H.B. Legg.

When the grave was covered in, the floral tribute, "Peace, perfect peace", a beautiful cross, was placed at the head, the floral anchor sent by Miss Legge at the breast and "Ken's" tribute, in the form of a heart, was fixed at the foot.

We are requested to state that the wreath from the Conservative Club was supplied by Mr. F. A. Turner, of South Street. The whole of the funeral arrangements were in the hands of Mr. J. W. Hartgill, who was assisted by his son, Mr. C. Hartgill and everything was carried out most satisfactorily; not a hitch occurred throughout the proceedings.

In our brief notice of the late Mr. Legg last week we mentioned several matters connected with his public life. In addition to those we may now state that he was formerly a lieutenant in the old Artillery Company and at the time an active officer. He was also a Harbour Commissioner, a director of the West Bay, Bridport, Land and Building Company Limited as well as a former director of the Bridport Railway Company.

8.12.1893

PARKS DAIRY, LITTON CHENEY

MESSRS. HENRY DUKE & SON are favoured with instructions from Mrs. Bowditch, (declining business), to SELL by AUCTION, on Tuesday, January 9th, 1894, the whole of the excellent DAIRY PLANT (suitable for 70 cows); well-bred BREEDING SOWS, some with young; ROAN MARE; SPRING WAGGON: SPRING CART, &c.

2.2.1894

Dog Killed

A short time ago Mr. H. Gladwyn, of Litton Cheney, lost a dog which he much prized. The animal was chasing a rabbit and fell into the chalk pit, depth about 30 or 40 feet, being killed almost instantly.

9.3.1894

The balance sheet has just been issued for 1893 of the Court "Hearts of Oak" Ancient Order of Foresters. At a meeting held in the school-room Litton Cheney, the Court was stated to be in a flourishing condition, having a capital of £318. Sickness had been rather great during the year, the sum of £37 5s 4d having been paid out. The honorary members are the Rev. F. W. Crick (Rector), Mr. H. B. Legge (Court House), Mr J Bradford (Look) and the secretary is Mr. W. Webber, Litton Cheney.

1.6.1894

PROPOSED RE ARRANGEMENT OF PARISHES

Members of the County Council Areas and Boundaries Committee attended a meeting at Bridport Town Hall on Tuesday to hear opinions relative to the proposals for the re-adjustment of the boundaries of Abbotsbury and Litton Cheney, so that they might report to the County Council before anything definite is done in altering the boundaries of these parishes under the Local Government Acts of 1888 and 1594.r. Mr. E. Archdall Ffooks, clerk to the County Council, was present and read the notices convening the meeting. Mr. Ffooks explained that some three years ago the County Council recommended that that part of Litton Cheney now in the Union of Bridport should be transferred to the Dorchester Union and that Ashley should be merged into Longbredy, while that part of the Weymouth Union in Abbotsbury called Look should go to the Bridport Union and this had since been confirmed. The inquiry that day was to hear whether there were any reasons against these recommendations. Mr. J. J. Roper said the proposed transfer of Ashley in Litton Cheney to Longbredy met with the approval the Bridport Board of Guardians, especially as, in cases of emergency, paupers had to be attended under special circumstances from Abbotsbury. The Guardians also approved of that part of Look in Abbotsbury being joined to Litton Cheney. Mr. Fry said the people in his neighbourhood scarcely knew what the proposals were. Ashley certainly would not work with Longbredy. Until now they had not the slightest knowledge of what the proposals were to be. Mr. Ffooks said this had been before the County Council for some time and there were many little bits of parishes that would have to merge into other parishes. Litton Cheney being quite a detached part, they proposed that it be merged into the Dorchester union. Mr. Dammers remarked that this question was discussed and published in the proceedings of the County Council last May. Mr Vine said that he was the occupier of Look .and would like to suggest that a committee be formed to consider the proposal and report to the County Council: Lord Digby: "Have you any Objection to the proposal?" Mr Vine; "I have an objection to anything being added to Longbredy". I should say Ashley should be put to Abbotsbury. Let one side of the water be Litton Cheney and the other Puncknowle. My farm is now in three parishes". Mr Ffooks "You have no objection to Look being added to Puncknowle?" Mr. Vine: "Part of Look farm should go to Puncknowle and part to Abbotsbury". Mr. J. J. Roper presented a document showing that the Bridport Board of Guardians held a sum of £227 19s 6d for Litton Cheney, the proceeds of the sale of the parish poor house. The Clerk made a note of the suggestion made by Mr Vine that a local meeting should be held to acquaint the people of what it was proposed should done and if any counter proposal was made, it should be forwarded to the Clerk before the 5th of June.

6.7.1894

PRESENTATION

Mrs. Richard Gale, who has been a Sunday School teacher for many years, having resigned her post, was presented on Sunday afternoon with a handsome prayer book and Inkstand, subscribed for by the teachers and scholars, as a slight memento of her labours. The Rev. F. W. Crick made the presentation during the afternoon meeting. Mrs. Gale afterwards thanked the children in few well-chosen words.

2.11.1894

SPLENDID CIDER PRESS and TABLES FOR SALE. Mr. Fry, Baglake, Litton Cheney, Dorchester.

21.12.1894

A New Mail Cart to the Village.

On January 1st an important alteration in the posts from Dorchester to Litton Cheney will take place by the running of a mall cart from the former to the latter place instead of a walking postman, thus enabling the residents of Littlebredy, Longbredy and Litton Cheney to get their mails an hour earlier in the morning and to post an hour later at night and giving a day malt delivery to callers at Littlebredy. This alteration will not only be a great benefit to the inhabitants of the villages mentioned, but will also enable the residents of Lyme, Charmouth, Bridport and Beaminster to post their letters at night half hour later in each place in the Western Division of the county and Martinstown two boars later, which has long been agitated for. These Improvements have been carefully worked out by the painstaking Postmaster of Dorchester (Mr. O. Parsons).

18.1.1895

An Alteration.

The detached portion of Litton, namely Ashley and Gorwell, has been united with the parish of Longbredy, for registration and other purposes.

Agriculture.

A lecture on bees and bee-keeping was recently given in the School-room by the Rev. W. Crick. The lecture was illustrated by a first-class set of magic-lantern slides.

The Parish Council.

At the first meeting of this Council Mr. T. Fry was elected chairman (from without the Council), the Rev. F. W. Crick vice-chairman and clerk and Mr. W. H. Marshallsay treasurer. As a demand exists for allotments the Council will endeavour to obtain land for the purpose.

25.1.1895

"Primrose Garth"

This cantata was performed by the Young People's Association in the Wesleyan Chapel before a numerous audience.

22.2.1895

Primrose League Entertainment.

On Monday and Tuesday last week the Bridehead Habitation of the Primrose League held a tea and entertainment in Mr. Chilcott's barn at Winterborne Steepleton and on Tuesday night in Mr. Fry's barn at Litton Cheney. An excellent tea was provided and this was followed by a magic-lantern entertainment, entitled "Our Colonies" Mr. K Stillwell kindly lent the lantern and it was manipulated by Mr. Cox Stilwell, the slides having been sent down by the Primrose League from London. Colonel Williams on the aims and objects of the Primrose League. At both places, despite the cold weather, a goodly number attended.

8.3.1895

Mr. Richard Tucker jun., of Bridport, has been appointed solicitor to the Parish Council.

7.6.1895

The Rite of Confirmation.

On Friday the Bishop held a confirmation service when there were 12 candidates from Litton, 11 from Winterborne, 16 from Littlebredy and 14 from Longbredy. The clergy present were:—The Revs. F. W. Crick (Litton), P. W. Cornish (Winterborne), Manby (Littlebredy) and H. C. Pigon (Longbredy).

28.6.1895

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

The Rev. P. Crick, vicar of Litton Cheney and clerk to the Council for that parish, wrote that the Parish Council had passed a resolution in which, while thanking the District Council for their offer to pay 3d per cubic foot for gravel taken by them from the Poor's Plot, they were strongly of the opinion that, considering that the Council paid 6d per foot for gravel taken from other properties in the district, the same price should be paid for the Poor's Plot gravel.- After some discussion Mr. H B Legge gave notice that he should move at the next meeting "That as the Litton Cheney Parish Council had not accepted their offer 3d per cubic foot for gravel taken from the Poor's Plot, 6d per foot should be offered.- It was pointed out by the Surveyor that 6d per foot was the usual price given by the Council.

2.8.1895

ILLEGITIMANCY

At the Shire Hall, Dorchester Friday, before Capt. Mansel (chairman) and Sir Robert Edgcombe. Abraham Kurt, labourer, of Litton Cheney, was charged on a warrant, issued at the instance of Sarah Wakeley, a single woman, of Longbredy, for arrears in respect of a bastardy order. Sarah Wakeley said that on the 13th of October, 1894, she obtained an order against the prisoner for the payment of 2s per week towards the support of a female child of which prisoner was the father. Prisoner had paid her £3 12s and still owed her £1 6s. Prisoner questioned complainant about the amount of arrears and she read a list of payments which she had entered in a memorandum book Prisoner said he only earned 10s per week and had to pay 2s per week for lodgings. The Bench made order for the prisoner to pay £1 6s or in default to go to prison for one month. The costs were remitted. Prisoner said he could not pay but, after he had entered the prison, a friend paid the money and he was released.

2.8.1895

Rural District Council

Mr. H. B. Legge moved, in accordance with notice given at the last meeting, "That as the Litton Cheney Parish Council had not accepted the offer of this Council of 3d per yard for gravel taken from the Litton Cheney Poor's Plot, the sum of 6d per yard be paid." This was seconded Mr. G. R. Pittfield and carried

unanimously, although Mr. Bryant thought that, as hitherto the gravel had always been taken without payment from this plot as a right, it was not just that the Parish Council should refuse the Council's offer of 3d a yard and want 6d.

1.11.1895

Rural District Council:

A report was read from Mr. W. A. E. Hay (medical officer of health), in which it was stated that a nuisance was caused on premises occupied by Mr. Thomas Fry, Litton Cheney, caused by the choked state of the drains; there was no proper drainage and the piggeries were very offensive. With the Sanitary Inspector, he had met Mr. Fry, who promised to remedy the nuisance without delay. The stream of water running through Litton Cheney having been complained of as to pollution, the water in the stream being need for drinking purposes, he had taken a sample of water for analysis from the lower end the stream and the remit was that it was declared first class water. The Clerk said that, in connection with the complaint as to the pollution of the Litton Cheney stream, communication had been received from the Parish Council, who had received a petition praying that something should be done to prevent the pollution of the stream. As they were not the authority to deal with this question, the Parish Council had sent it on to the Rural District Council. The Clerk now read the petition which pointed out that, although the water was pure at its source, it was polluted and contaminated lower down by cattle, ducks, farmyards, privies and water closets to such an extent that it was rendered unfit for drinking purposes and was dangerous to health. Under the circumstances the petitioners prayed that such steps should be taken to prevent this pollution and, if necessary, that the matter should be brought before the County Council at the earliest date, so that a pure supply might be obtained. Mr. H. B. Legge remarked that, in the face of the Medical Officer's report there did not appear be any cause for complaint. Mr. F. Samways asked if the whole village was supplied from this stream. -Mr. Legge replied that some of the homes had wells but, as a matter of fact, there must be some pollution going on in an open stream where hoses and cattle drink. Mr. Samways also observed that, the water being open, anything entering the water must naturally make it dirty, but his analysis declared the water to be first-class. He moved and Mr. Stone seconded, that a copy of the analysis be sent to the Chairman of the Litton Cheney Parish Council and to Mr. Louis Pitcher, whose signature was the first attached to the memorial.

6.12.1895

Dramatic Entertainment.

A dramatic entertainment was given in the Manor Barn on Monday evening, to provide funds for the provision of a heating apparatus for the Parish Church. Three pieces were played. "Withered Leaves," "Just My. Luck" and "The Burglar and the Judge". The characters were taken by Dr. Reid, Mr. and Miss Marshallsay, Miss Maud and Miss Ethel Legg, Mr. A. Whetham, Mr. H. B. Legge, Mr. L. Whetham, Mr. Symes and Mr. Laws. The pieces went off capitally, each individual part being well sustained.

3.1.1896

Rural District Council

Mr. H. B. Legge called attention to the stream on the west of the village of Little Cheney and enquired whether it was a common sewer or not. The question was referred to the Medical Officer (Mr. W. A. E. Hay), the Surveyor to report.

13.3.1896

PARISH MEETINGS. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS.

The Parish Councils, called into existence twelve months since, having completed their term of office, it became necessary, under the Act conferring this extension of Local Government, for parish meetings to be held throughout the country on Monday night to arrange for the election of those, who, during the year ensuing, will in some measure be responsible for the conduct of the affairs which are inseparably connected with the good government and the general well-being of our village communities.

LITTON CHENEY: The following were elected: Messrs. T. Fry, A J Bowditch, H.B. Legge, F.W. Crick (Rev.), J. Saunders, F Hounsell and W. S. Miller. Mr. J. M. Moores was chairman of the meeting.

15.5.1896

Destructive Farm Fire.

The farm buildings in the occupation of Mr. Stephen Vine, of Look, were totally destroyed by fire on Sunday evening. The outbreak occurred about half-past seven in the evening while Mr. Vine was attending service at chapel. Some boys who were at play hard by gave the alarm and a messenger was despatched to fetch Mr. Vine. As soon as Mr. Vine arrived he sent a man to Bridport on horseback to summon the Fire Brigade, who reached the scene of the fire at about half-past ten. P. Sgt and P.C. Churchill accompanied the brigade, who, on their arrival, found the engine from Bridehead House (under Mr. Birkenshaw) had done useful work in saving some of the property adjoining the burning

buildings. The dwelling-houses were saved. The Bridport Fire Brigade principally directed their efforts to preventing the fire spreading, it was useless to think of attempting to save anything of, or in, the buildings where the fire was raging. The whole of the outhouses being thatched, within an hour the barn, cowsheds and stables were a total wreck. Miss Miller, the dairyman's daughter, was the means of saving several of the livestock which were in jeopardy. Pluckily rushing into one of the burning buildings, she succeeded in loosing a horse, some fat calves and a bull. Nothing definite is known as to the origin of the fire, but it is surmised that someone must have gone into one of the outhouses, lighted a pipe and not extinguished the match. The farm buildings, which belong to Mr. Sheridan, are insured. Two thousand bundles of thatch are reported to have been destroyed. The contents of the building were insured and the amount of damage has been assessed at £250.

30.10.1896

WHEELWRIGHT (good) Wanted. Married man preferred. George Fry, Wheelwright, &c, Litton Cheney, Dorchester.

13.11.1896

Wedding Supper.

In commemoration of his recent marriage, Mr. H. B. Legge invited the whole of the inhabitants to supper on Tuesday evening, about 150 persons attending. Mr. Greening, of the White Horse, had an excellent supper placed on the tables in Court House Barn. The Rector (Rev. F. W. Crick) presided and he was supported by Mr. and Mrs. Legge, Mr. T. Fry, Mr. F. Hounsell (Coombs), Mr. Gale (Burton Bradstock), Miss Frances Gale, Miss Crick, Mrs. Richard Gale, Miss Groves and Misses Saunders. The Chairman proposed the toast of the evening. "Health and Happiness to Mr. and Mrs. Legge". The toast was drunk with three times three and musical honours. Mr. Legge, in reply, said he would take an interest in everything for the good of the place. The rest of the evening was pleasantly spent with songs.

19.3.1897

A Victim of the Gale.

During the recent rough weather William Foot, 63, carpenter, of Litton Cheney, was throwing timber on the Chilcombe Estate in company with his son, Benjamin Foot and Joseph Russell, labourer, when a tree fell him without warning. Deceased received severe injuries and he died on Friday from concussion of the brain. The facts were reported to the Coroner who did not consider an inquest necessary. Deceased was a much-respected villager. The funeral took place at the parish churchyard on Tuesday afternoon, the Rev. F. W. Crick officiating.

11.2.1898

Reynard Busy.

One night last week a fox visited Mr. John Allen's poultry house and killed nearly 30 fowls. About a month since Mr. Lewis Pitcher had nine killed.

7.10.1898

Primitive Methodist Chapel.

Harvest sermons were preached by Mr. H. Wheeler, of Chickerell, on Sunday. The interior was tastefully decorated and there were large congregations present at both services. On Wednesday a large number sat down to tea, after which a meeting was held, presided over by Mr. Wheeler. Addresses were given by the Rev. J. T. Evans, Messrs. L. Frudd, Rogers, G. Major and C. Riglar. A sale of fruit and vegetables took place, by which £5 was received for the circuit funds.

16.12.1898

MAN Wanted. Married or single. Well up to Dorset blue cheese-making.-Apply G. Peach, Litton Cheney, Dorchester.

6.1.1899

A Labourer Goes Hunting

Frank Viney, a labourer, was offered a mount by a groom at the meet of the Cattistock Hounds on Wednesday last week. Scarcely was he in the saddle, however, than his mount began to plunge and Viney found himself on the ground with injured arm. He was picked up and Mr. W. Kitcher conveyed him home.

1.9.1899

Litton Cheney v. Steepleton - At Litton on Friday, ended in victory for the home team, the scores being: Steepleton 56, Litton 102 (M. Scott 36, C. Scott 20 and H Legge 15). Mrs Scott provided tea for the players at the Rectory.

17.11.1899

FAREWELL PRESENTATIONS.

There was large attendance on Friday evening in the School-room for the purpose of wishing the Rev. W. Scott, who has had charge of the parish this year, farewell and a safe and pleasant voyage back to India. Mr. Legge, who presided, said it was the universal wish of the inhabitants that their regard for Mr. and Mrs. Scott should take a practical form and Dissenters had been very pleased to join with Church people in subscribing towards a present. He asked Mr. Scott's acceptance of a travelling clock with repeater and a travelling rug for Mrs. Scott. The Rev. W. Scott, in accepting the presents, said they were very much touched by the kindness shown and, from his heart, he thanked them most heartily. The clock bears the inscription: "Presented to Rev. W. Scott by the inhabitants of Litton Cheney, as a small token of appreciation and respect. November, 1899".

8.12.1899

Death of the Rev. Dr. Colby.

Considerable local regret will be felt at the death of the late Rector, the Rev. Frederic Thomas Colby, which occurred suddenly at his residence in Ilfracombe. He graduated at Oxford in 1849 with a second class in Lit. Hum., proceeding B.D, 1868 and D.D. 1875 and was for some years Fellow and Bursar of Exeter College. He was ordained 1850 by Bishop Samuel Wilbertorce who, in 1869 appointed him to the vicarage of Newington, which he held only for a few months. In 1875 he accepted from his College the rectory in Litton Cheney from which he retired in 1893. Dr. Colby, who was F S A, published, for the Harleian Society, "The Visitation of Devon in 1620" and that of "Somerset in 1623" and was also the compiler of "The Visitation of Devon in 1564".

Dr Colby married first Theofilia, the eldest daughter of the late Rev G Hadow, Rector of Tidcombe Portion, Tiverton, who died in 1867; secondly Louise Margaret Anne, eldest daughter of the late Rev. Geo. De Carteret Guille, of St George, Guernsey, Rector of Little Torrington, North Devon, who survives him. The funeral was at Great Torrington on Saturday. The wreaths were numerous and beautiful, including one from the Rector and Fellows of Exeter College. Oxford and one from the Chichester Habitation of the Primrose League at Ilfracombe, of which he was hon. treasurer. Deceased was 72 years of age.