

Names of Old Shrawley Families and Old House Names

Extracts from Shrawley Parish Magazine 1929 and 1930

August 1929

Severn

One of the oldest families established in the parish is that of Severn, or, as the name was usually spelt in the sixteenth century, Seün.

The White House (now Primrose Cottage)

In the earliest years of the registers there are many references to members of it, and these continue throughout the first and second books. The fact that there appear to have been several distinct households suggests that at least one earlier generation had lived here. Among the earliest references are – Robert Seün als, Senkyn, 1538; Thomas the elder, 1540; Thomas of Whitehouse, 1541; Robert of farls, 1541; Rychard als Senkyn, 1546; John, 1551; and John als Jenkharris, 1560. A John Severn of the White House (father of Thomas) was born in 1513, but this is before our registers begin.

Thrupp

Another old Shrawley family is first mentioned in 1567 when Wyllyam Throppe was married to Margery Rondell als Holts, and an interesting link between the two families is found in the next century in the marriage of John Seouorne of this parish and Margaret Thrup of the same in 1633.

September 1929

Bartlam

Among other families mentioned in the first register there are some which we should notice. In 1554 Alis Bartlā, daughter of Thomas Bartlam, was baptized. This name is still familiar to us in Bartlands, which at one time belonged to this family.

Yarinton

In 1560 John Yarinton, son of Richard Yarinton, was baptized. This name is of interest to us on account of their probable connection with Andrew Yarranton (1653-77) who introduced the growing of clover into Worcestershire, and is perhaps better known for his proposal to construct a system of canals in the Midlands. Leonard Thruppe and Jone Yarinton were married in 1598.

October 1929

Spragg

There is one other old Shrawley family which we must not omit from our record as members of it are still living in the parish after three centuries. The earliest mention of the name Spragg is found in 1630, when Frances, daughter of John Sprague, was baptized.

Next month I hope to give a list of the place names mentioned in the first register. There are a good many of these, and it will be sufficient if we print the date on which reference is first made to them, the names of those who lived there, and the names of the places. These last will usually be recognised without difficulty, but there are a few which it is not easy to identify.

November 1929

Place Names

1540 Annes Marten of Polpitt
1541 Thomas Seün of Whitehouse
1541 Robert Seün of farls
1542 John Stone of fareleys end
1545 Rychard Marten of Kingshill
1545 Robert Stone of ye grene
1558 Thomas Marten of Carters
1565 Margery Seün of pursgrene

January 1930

1617 Thomas Seuerne of Wast House
1650 Richard Wicken of Cockbayles
1627 John Brewer of *Pips*
1630 John Stone of Hurtle house

Foundlings, Wanderers and Strangers

The early entries in the burial registers suggest that the social conditions of the XVI and XVII centuries were not particularly happy for those who were unable to provide for themselves. Three times between 1587 and 1597 there is recorded the burial of a strange woman.

Other entries are: Thomas, a foñdling, 1607. "Edward Symons, a stranger, that died by the way of travailing through the pishe", and also "Alice Tedsill, a straunger" in the same year. Two deaths occurred from the plague. "Urie s.Thomas Paytwin d. of the plague 11 Oct. 1609" and "Joan Tovie d. of the plague 16 Nov. 1609".

March 1930

Some further entries in the burial register of the seventeenth century continue to throw a tragic light upon the social conditions of the time. In 1613 Francis, son of "a poore stranger" was born in "Robert Bruar's barne", baptized on March 4th and buried two days later. In 1616 "Christopher Davies, that was borne at Bruars of the Hill, the sonne of a wandering body, was baptised the 18 day of November and was buried the 25th of November."

Similar entries are: 1621 "Anne Davyes, a poore travelour". (Was she the mother of Christopher?). 1632 "A strange poore woman." 1643 "Mary, daughter of (no name) a stranger."

Soldiers

There is no direct reference to the Civil War in the registers, but we find two burials which remind us that the parish was not altogether free from its effects. They are: 1645 – "William Keddall, a souldier",. and 1646 – "Timothie a Soldier."