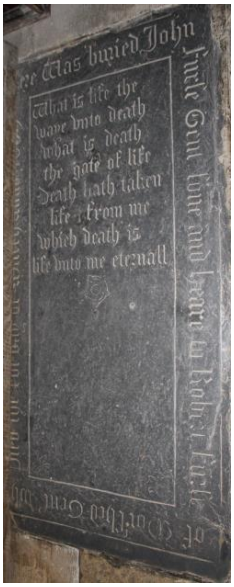
**The Furzes of Clawton**

The history of the Furse/Furze family of Devon was first set down by Robert Furse of Moreshead of Dean Prior in a memoir of 1593. In it, he relates that one Rolonde de Cumba was granted the property known as Furse (presumably named after the bushes upon it) at Cheriton Fitzpaine in the early part of the fourteenth century. He and his son were known as (de la) Furse as a consequence, and as by that time surnames were becoming fixed, Furse became a surname

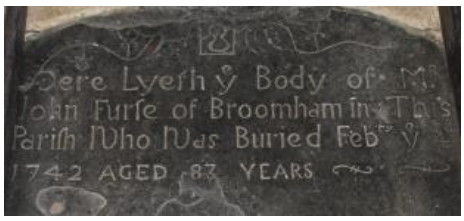
Whilst it is possible that other places were called Furse and others took their name from them, either in the West Country or elsewhere, it is probably more likely that all the Furses/Furzes today are descended from this Rolonde. Studies of the origin of quite widespread but uncommon surnames tend to support this 'single-origin' hypothesis.

The family was certainly represented prominently in a number of mid-Devon parishes by the time parish records began formally to be kept (mid to late 16th century in most cases). Of particular note are the Furses of Dean Prior, who accumulated through a series of marriages and astute purchases much valuable land across Devon. Graves and a memorial in the church at Dean Prior are a testament to this.



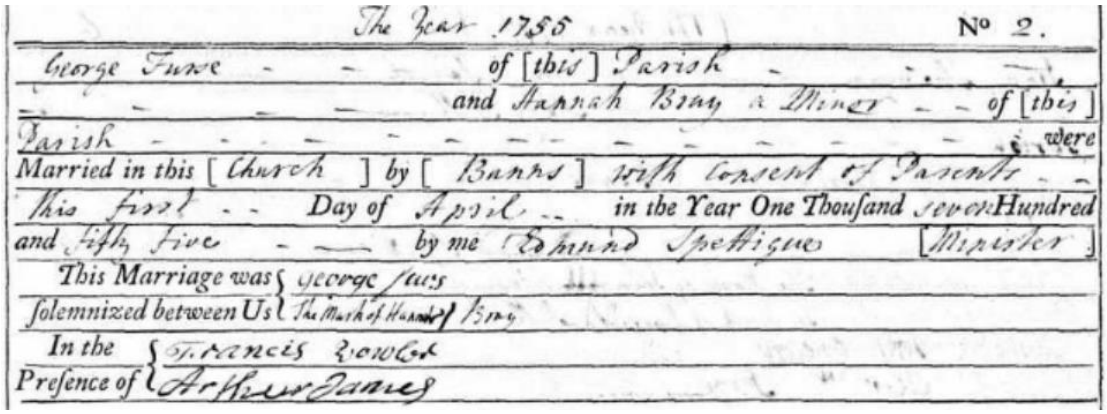

"*ROBERT FURSE of Moreshead in this parish Gent Who Died ye 5th Decemr 1593 & JOHN FURSE his Son Gent Died ye 16th March 1609 Alsoe ROBERT FURSE Son of JOHN FURSE Gent who Died ye 26th August 1650 Alsoe JOHN FURSE Son of ROBERT FURSE of Moreshead Gent who Died ye 4th Sepr 1700 And MARY His Wife Daughter of WILLIAM Wotton of Englebourn in this County Esq Who Died ye 1st Febuary 1721 & alsoe MARY FURSE their Daughter who Died ye 13th of Novemr 1698 Aged 12 yrs This Monument was Erected octor ye 12th 1727 by JOHN WORTH of Worth in this Counry Esq Who Married ye Sole Daughter & Heire of ye ABove JOHN FURSE*"

On the other side of Dartmoor, the Furses also earned slabs and a memorial in the church at Kings Nympton, where eight successive generations of John Furses lived and died at Broomham farm.

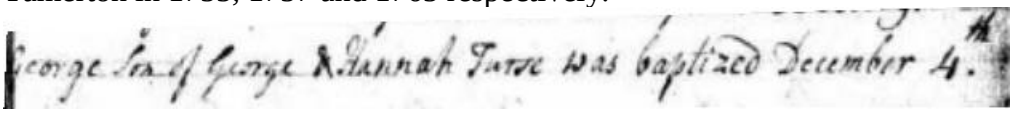


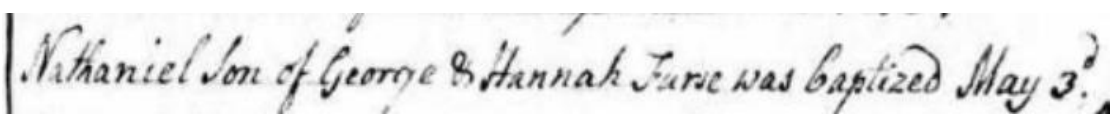

Our ancestry can be traced definitely to a George[2] Furse, who married Hannah BRAY of Davies at North Tamerton, Cornwall, in 1755. The earliest Furse record at North Tamerton is the marriage of a Margaret Furse in 1752, followed by one of Thomas Furse to Elizabeth Bray, Hannah's sister, in 1753. A William Furse there died in 1755.

It is possible that George Furse was baptised in 1728 at Germansweek in Devon, son of George and Margaret Furse, as he had a sister Margaret (1732) and possibly a brother William born at Ashwater in 1734. Two John Furses were also born around this time at Germansweek, possibly cousins, but no sign of a Thomas.

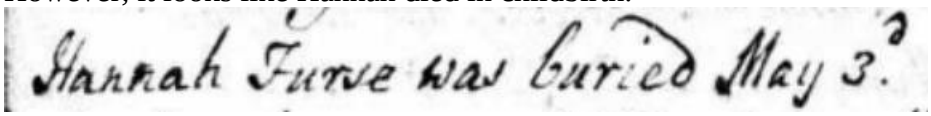

The Year 1755 No 2.
George Furse - - of [this] Parish - - -
and Hannah Bray a Minor - - of [this]
Parish - - - - - - - - - - - - were
Married in this [Church] by [Banns] with Consent of Parents - -
this first - - Day of April - - in the Year One Thousand seven Hundred
and fifty five - - by me Edmund Spettigue [Minister]
This Marriage was } George Furs
Solemnized between Us } The Mark of Hannah Bray
In the } Francis Rowe
Presence of } Arthur James

George[2] and Hannah had sons Robert Bray, George[3] and Nathanael baptised at N. Tamerton in 1755, 1757 and 1765 respectively.

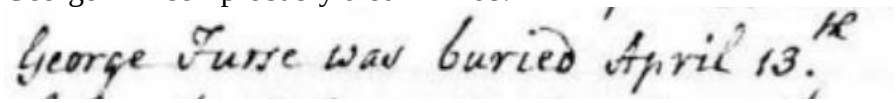

George Son of George & Hannah Furse was baptized December 4.


Nathaniel Son of George & Hannah Furse was baptized May 3d

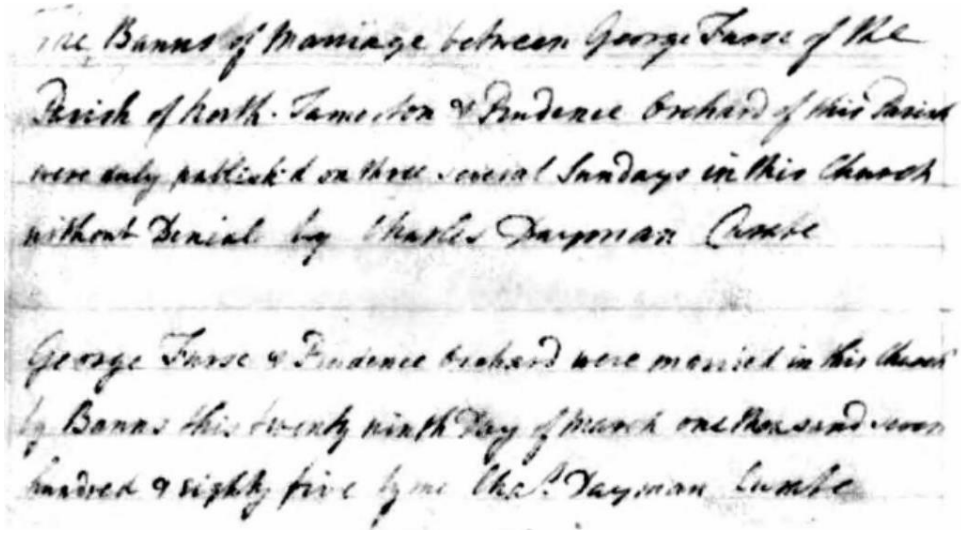
However, it looks like Hannah died in childbirth.


Hannah Furse was buried May 3.d

George[2] himself probably died in 1768.


George Furse was buried April 13.th

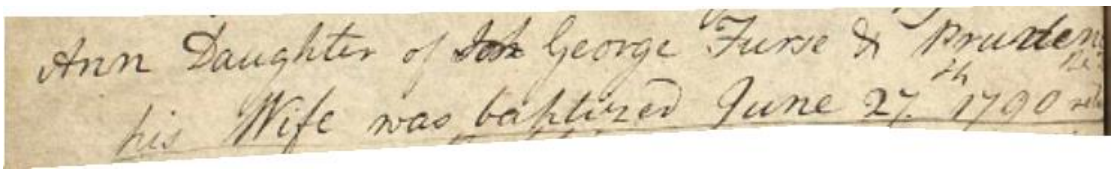
George[3] Furse married Prudence ORCHARD in Jacobstow in 1785.


The Banns of Marriage between George Furse of the Parish of North Tamerton & Prudence Orchard of this Parish were duly publish'd on three several Sundays in this Church without Denial by Charles Daymon Curate

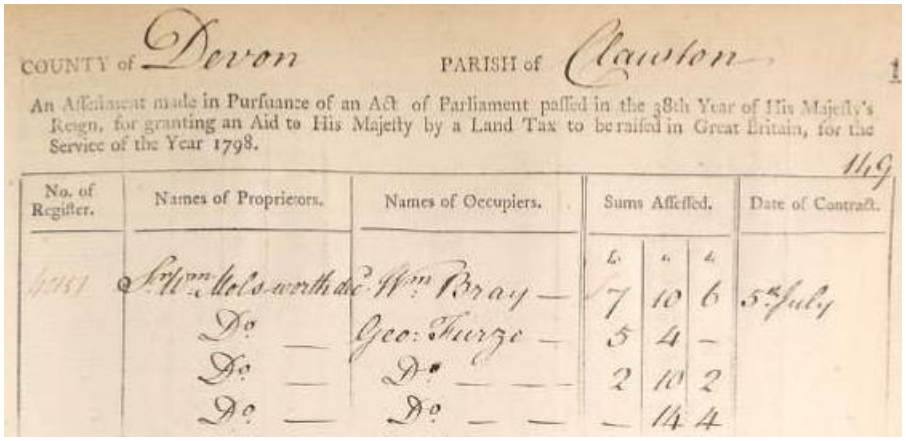
George Furse & Prudence Orchard were married in this Church by Banns this twenty ninth Day of March one thousand seven hundred & eighty five by me Chs. Daymon Curate

*Jacobstow parish register*

A son, William, was born in 1786 at N. Tamerton, as was a daughter, Hannah, in 1788. However, George and Prudence then moved to Clawton, just across the Tamar in Devon from North Tamerton, to farm at Fernhill. Daughter Ann was baptised at Clawton in 1790.


Ann Daughter of ~~John~~ George Furse & Prudence his Wife was baptized June 27th 1790

Another daughter, Prudence, was baptised there in 1792. The 1797 land tax records show George Furze (note spelling change) occupying property owned by the late Sir William Molesworth.



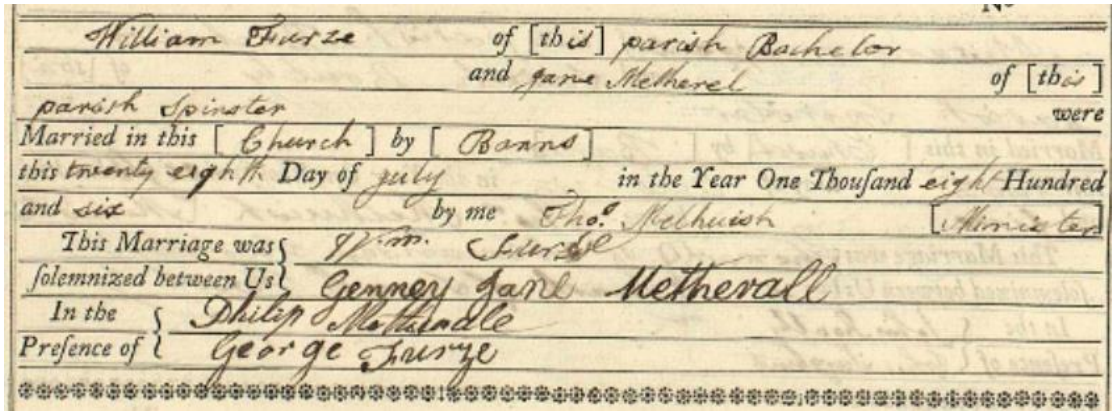
COUNTY of Devon PARISH of Clawton

An Assessment made in Pursuance of an Act of Parliament passed in the 38th Year of His Majesty's Reign, for granting an Aid to His Majesty by a Land Tax to be raised in Great Britain, for the Service of the Year 1798.

| No. of Register. | Names of Proprietors. | Names of Occupiers. | Sums Assessed. | | | Date of Contract. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | £ | s | d | |
| [illegible] | Sr Wm Molesworth Bart | Wm Bray | 7 | 10 | 6 | 5th July |
| | Do | Geo: Furze | 5 | 4 | – | |
| | Do | Do | 2 | 10 | 2 | |
| | Do | Do | – | 14 | 4 | |

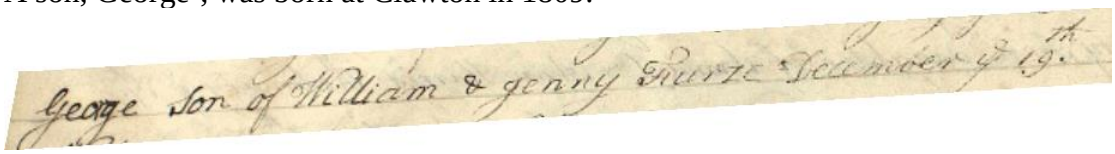
George[3] is first recorded in the Clawton churchwarden's accounts in 1801. Later he was a warden himself from 1807-1814, in which role he signed the Bishops Transcripts (e.g. 1808 below).

Son William married Jenny Metherell, daughter of Philip, at Clawton in 1806.



William Furze of [this] parish Bachelor
and Jane Metherel of [this]
parish Spinster were
Married in this [Church] by [Banns]
this twenty eighth Day of July in the Year One Thousand eight Hundred
and six by me Tho.s Melhuish [Minister]
This Marriage was } Wm. Furze
solemnized between Us } Genney Jane Metherall
In the } Philip Metherall
Presence of } George Furze

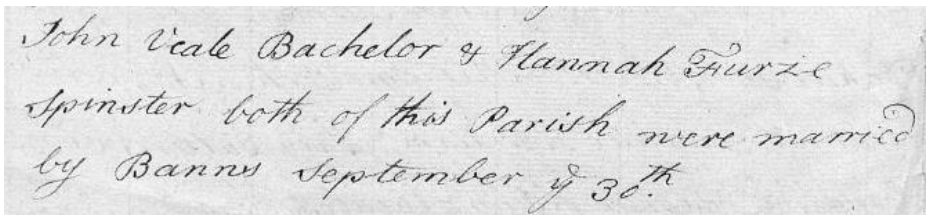
A son, George[4], was born at Clawton in 1809.



George Son of William & jenny Furze December y 19.th

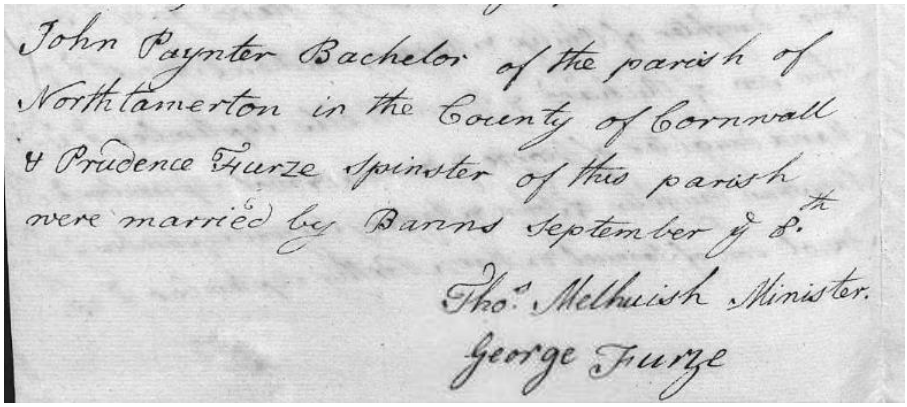
*Clawton parish register 1809*

George[3]'s daughters Hannah, Prudence and Ann married in 1807, 1808 and 1809 respectively.



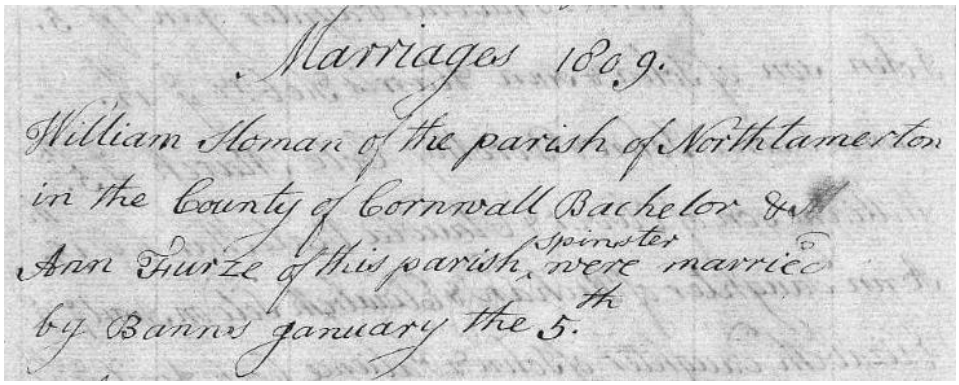
John Veale Bachelor & Hannah Furze
Spinster both of this Parish were married
by Banns September y 30.th

*Clawton, 1807. Bishops Transcripts*



John Paynter Bachelor of the parish of
Northtamerton in the County of Cornwall
& Prudence Furze spinster of this parish
were married by Banns September y^e 8^th
Tho^s Melhuish Minister.
George Furze

*Clawton, 180.8 Bishops Transcripts*



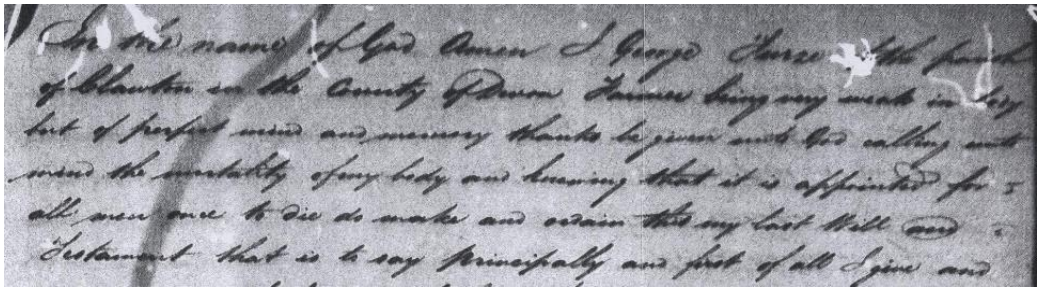
Marriages 1809.
William Noman of the parish of Northtamerton
in the County of Cornwall Bachelor &
Ann Furze of this parish, spinster were married
by Banns January the 5th.

*Clawton.. Bishops Transcripts*

George is also recorded as paying tax at Horslett and Lower Horslett Farm in Clawton in 1817, along with a Philip METHERELL.

*Ordnance Survey 1907, Clawton*

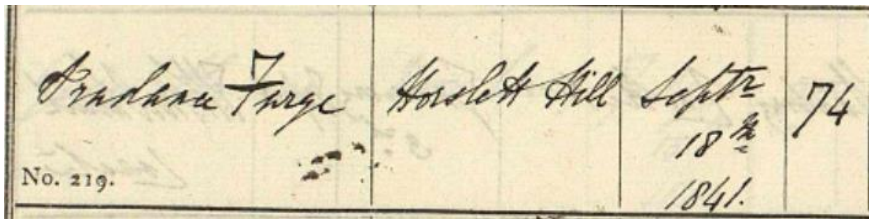
George[3] died in 1825 and his will was proven at the Archdeacon's Court of Totnes in March 1826.



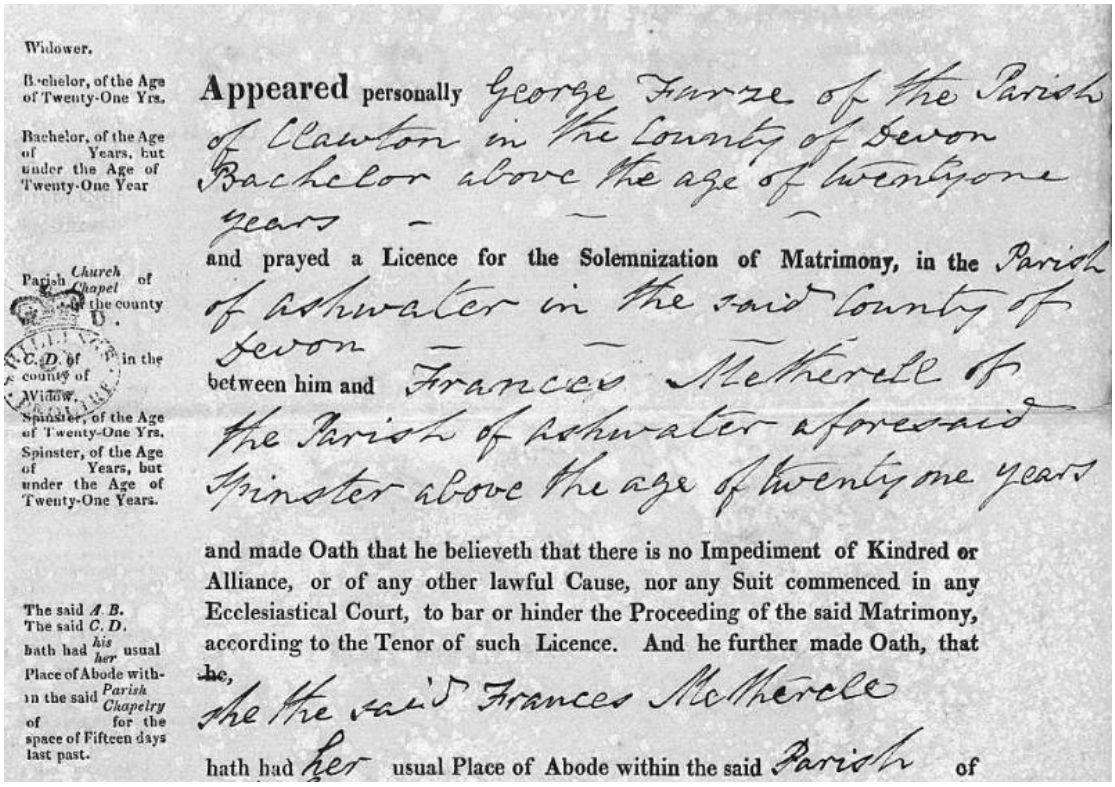
In the will, George left specific bequests for his widow and daughters (Ann Sloman, Hannah Veale and Prudence Paynter), including "one cow and one pig" (amongst other things) for his widow and various properties and buildings as well as monies totalling over £500, a substantial sum in those days. He leaves the residue to William.

George's grave can still be seen in Clawton churchyard today (below left). Jenny's grave is also in Clawton churchyard (above right).

George[3]'s widow died in 1841.



George[4] married Frances Metherell (not a close relative of Jenny as far as I can tell) at Ashwater in 1830.



Widower.

Bachelor, of the Age of Twenty-One Yrs.

Bachelor, of the Age of Years, but under the Age of Twenty-One Year

Parish *Church* of *Chapel* of the county of

C. D. of in the county of

Widow.

Spinster, of the Age of Twenty-One Yrs.

Spinster, of the Age of Years, but under the Age of Twenty-One Years.

The said *A. B.* The said *C. D.* hath had *his* *her* usual Place of Abode within the said *Parish* *Chapelry* of for the space of Fifteen days last past.

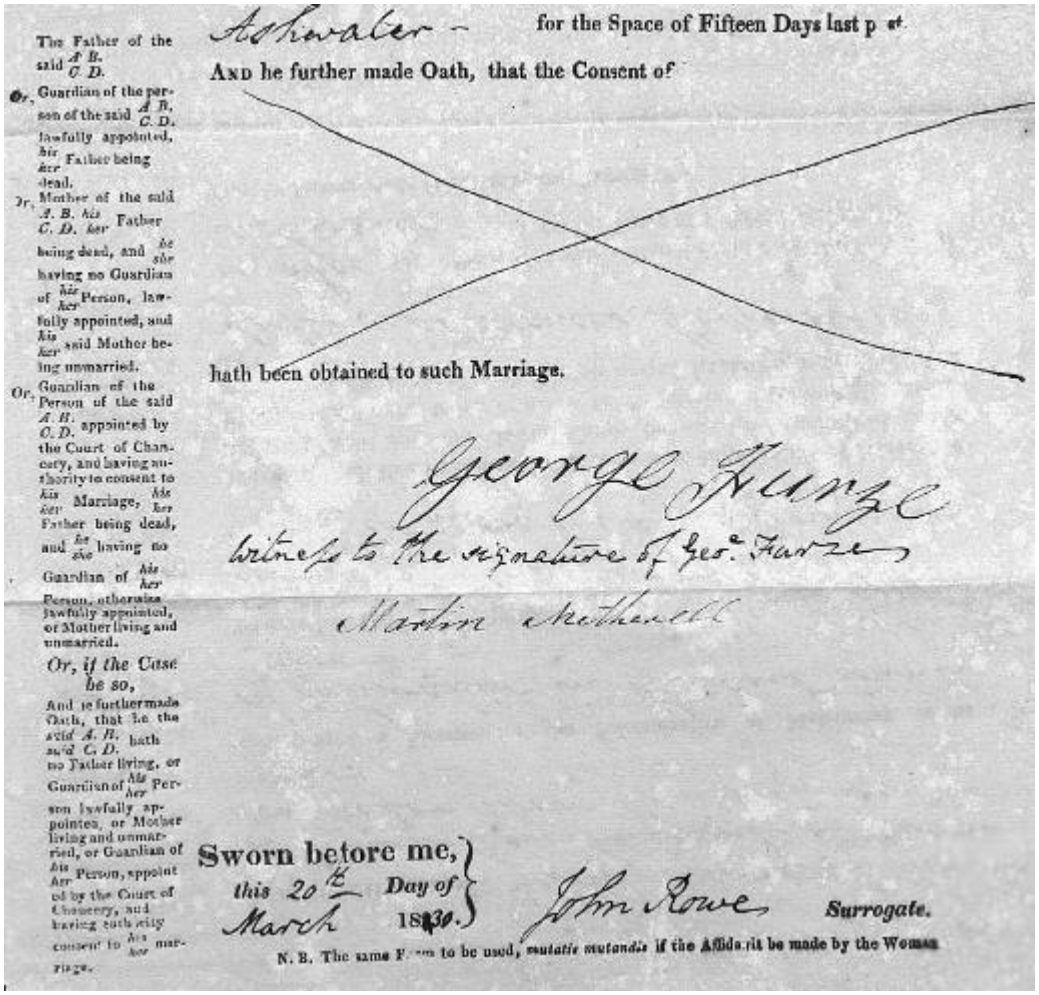
**Appeared** personally George Fearze of the Parish of Clawton in the County of Devon Bachelor above the age of twentyone years — — —

and prayed a Licence for the Solemnization of Matrimony, in the Parish of Ashwater in the said County of Devon — — —

between him and Frances Metherell of the Parish of Ashwater aforesaid Spinster above the age of twenty one years

and made Oath that he believeth that there is no Impediment of Kindred or Alliance, or of any other lawful Cause, nor any Suit commenced in any Ecclesiastical Court, to bar or hinder the Proceeding of the said Matrimony, according to the Tenor of such Licence. And he further made Oath, that ~~he~~, she the said Frances Metherell

hath had her usual Place of Abode within the said Parish of



The Father of the said *A. B. C. D.*

Or, Guardian of the person of the said *A. B. C. D.* lawfully appointed, *his her* Father being dead.

Or, Mother of the said *A. B. his C. D. her* Father being dead, and *he she* having no Guardian of *his her* Person, lawfully appointed, and *his her* said Mother being unmarried.

Or, Guardian of the Person of the said *A. B. C. D.* appointed by the Court of Chancery, and having authority to consent to *his her* Marriage, *his her* Father being dead, and *he she* having no Guardian of *his her* Person, otherwise lawfully appointed, or Mother living and unmarried.

*Or, if the Case be so,*

And he further made Oath, that he the said *A. B.* hath said *C. D.* no Father living, or Guardian of *his her* Person lawfully appointed, or Mother living and unmarried, or Guardian of *his her* Person, appointed by the Court of Chancery, and having such authority consent to *his her* marriage.

Ashwater — for the Space of Fifteen Days last p[ast].

And he further made Oath, that the Consent of

hath been obtained to such Marriage.

George Furze

Witness to the signature of Geo[rge] Furze

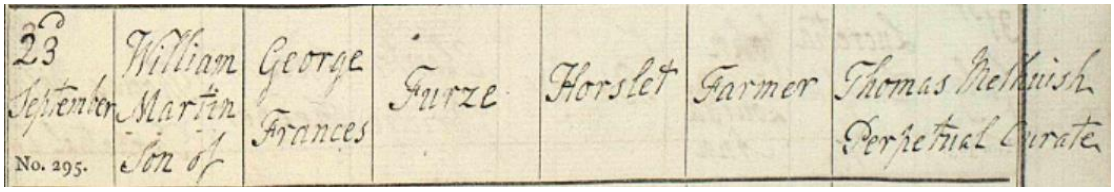
Martin Mothersell

Sworn before me, this 20th Day of March 1830.

John Rowe Surrogate.

N. B. The same Form to be used, *mutatis mutandis* if the Affidavit be made by the Woman.

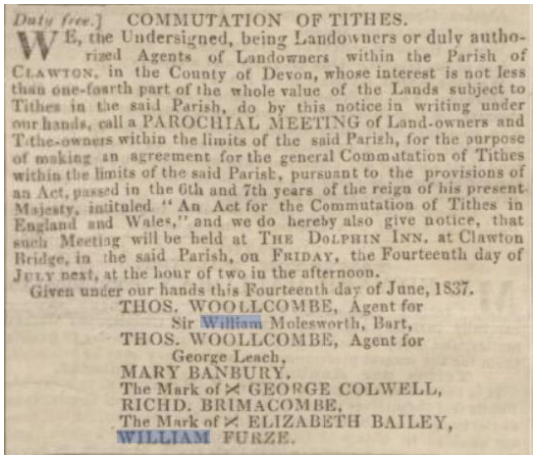
Eldest son William Martin was christened at Clawton in Sept the same year.



| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 23 September No. 295. | William Martin Son of | George Frances | Furze | Horsley | Farmer | Thomas Nethwish Perpetual Curate | |

Second son George Thomas was christened at Holsworthy in 1832, when it seems that George and Elizabeth were living at Chasty in that parish. Anne and Edward followed in 1834 and 1836, also Chasty.

In 1837, William is noted as landowner at Clawton in connection with tithe commutation.



*Duty free.]* COMMUTATION OF TITHES.

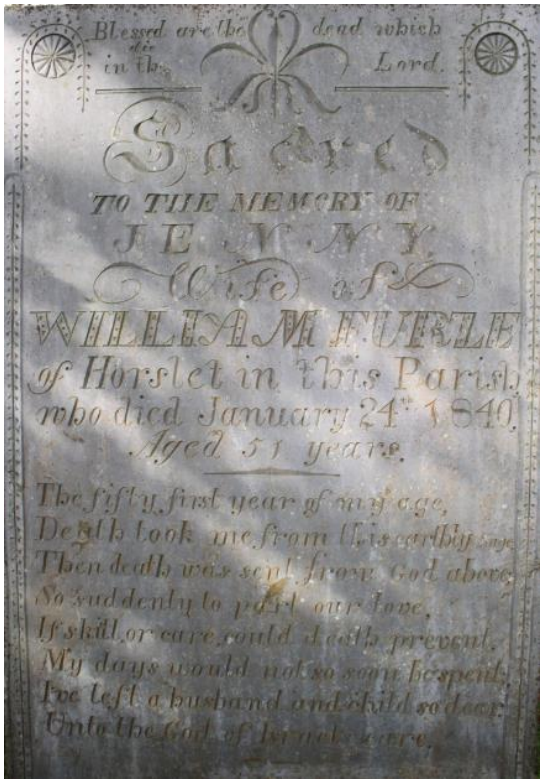
WE, the Undersigned, being Landowners or duly authorized Agents of Landowners within the Parish of CLAWTON, in the County of Devon, whose interest is not less than one-fourth part of the whole value of the Lands subject to Tithes in the said Parish, do by this notice in writing under our hands, call a PAROCHIAL MEETING of Land-owners and Tithe-owners within the limits of the said Parish, for the purpose of making an agreement for the general Commutation of Tithes within the limits of the said Parish, pursuant to the provisions of an Act, passed in the 6th and 7th years of the reign of his present Majesty, intituled "An Act for the Commutation of Tithes in England and Wales," and we do hereby also give notice, that such Meeting will be held at THE DOLPHIN INN, at Clawton Bridge, in the said Parish, on FRIDAY, the Fourteenth day of JULY next, at the hour of two in the afternoon.

Given under our hands this Fourteenth day of June, 1837.

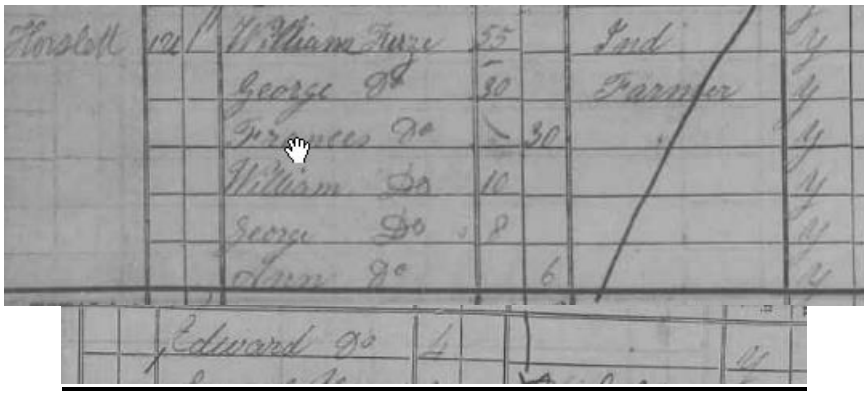
THOS. WOOLLCOMBE, Agent for
Sir William Molesworth, Bart,
THOS. WOOLLCOMBE, Agent for
George Leach,
MARY BANBURY.
The Mark of ✕ GEORGE COLWELL,
RICHD. BRIMACOMBE,
The Mark of ✕ ELIZABETH BAILEY,
WILLIAM FURZE.

Western Times - Saturday 01 July 1837

William's wife Jenny died in 1840 and is buried at Clawton



William and George[4] are found at Horsletts in the 1841 census:




George[4] is noted as being churchwarden at Clawton for 3 years in 1843 and the cutting below shows that this period in office was not without controversy.

The QUEEN v. SLEEMAN.—Mr. CORNISH stated the case. This was an indictment against John Sleeman, overseer of the parish of Clawton, Mr. Greenwood and Mr. Merivale were for the defendant, for falsifying the rating of the parish.

*Mr. George Braund*, the other overseer, was the first witness. He said the defendant was his colleague; and the two churchwardens were Messrs. Furse and Brimacombe. There was a parish meeting in July, at which the defendant presented a valuation of the parish, with the survey which had been made out. There was no rating of Sellick and Hole; and it was agreed that it should be £41 and £39; the defendant never objecting. Afterwards defendant brought witness the rate to sign. It contained a blank opposite the names of these estates, which witness filled up with £41 and £39. at which the defendant laughed. He refused, however, to sign the rate till the defendant should have signed it; but subsequently when Furse had signed it, he also did so. The next time he saw the rating was at the magistrates meeting at Holsworthy. It had then been altered to £5[illegible]. The rate was 9d in the pound, which was £2 4s 3d taking the estate at £59 and 15s more taken as valued at the parish meeting.

*Mr. George Furze* was the next witness. He confirmed the last witness, as to the vestry meetings, and the circumstances under which he had signed the rate. He did not know the rating had been altered till he met Samuel, the defendant's brother, coming from the magistrates, to whom he had been to have it signed. He asked to look at it, and having observed the erasure of the figures, he said, "Well, I shan't pay any poor rate upon this rating; if a parish officer is to alter the accounts how he pleases, I don't see how the business can be done." He refused to pay the rate, and was summoned before the magistrates at Holsworthy, when Mr. Brown appeared as his solicitor, and requested that the rate might be impounded.

*Ann Brimacombe*, wife of the other churchwarden, prevented from attending by the infirmities of 82 years, proved that the defendant Sleeman came to get his signature to the rate, which he refused to give, because Mr. Furse and Mr. Braund had not signed it. Saml. Sleeman came again, and asked for Brimacombe. She told him her husband was in the field; and he said, "Oh, you can do it," and offered her the book. She saw the names of Mr. Braund and Mr. Furse, and signed it "Richard Brimacombe." Her husband came in afterwards, and said if she hadn't done it, he would.

A long discussion ensued on these points, which resulted in the Judge saying, that on that ground he did not see any reason to stop the case. But although he had only heard one side, yet he thought the matter had perhaps gone far enough. It was very possible that Mr. Sleeman might have acted in ignorance, he might have thought it a rough way of doing himself justice, and that he had a right to do so.

After some conversation between the learned counsel, Mr. ROWE said that he had recommended his client for the sake of restoring the peace of the parish, to put an end to the proceedings, and now, as representing the parish officers, he acquiesced in the propriety of the course recommended by the learned judge.

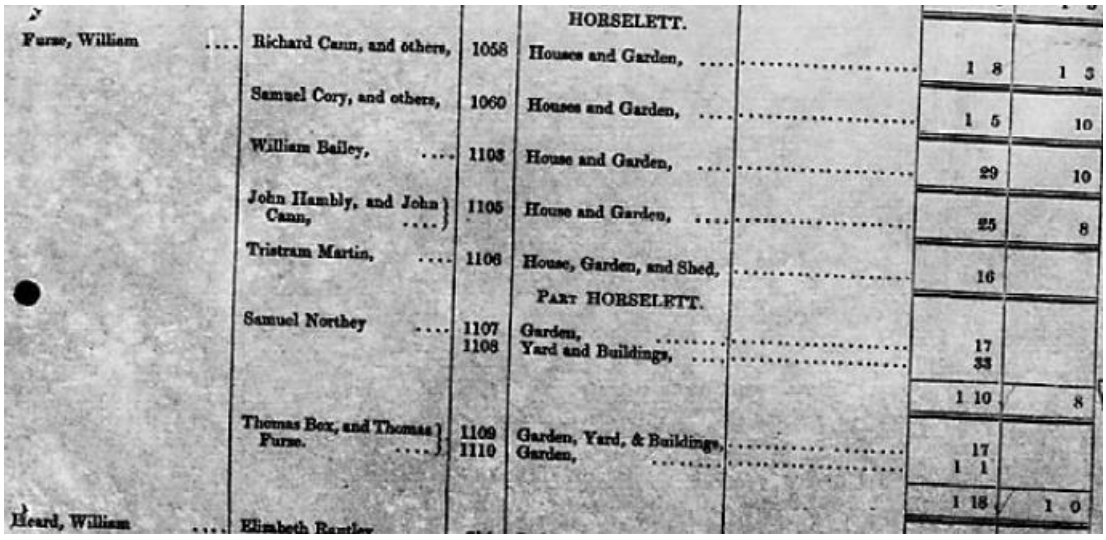
Mr. GREENWOOD said he was prepared to agree to the suggestion which had fallen from his lordship.

The JUDGE informed the Jury that they would have no verdict to give in this case, it being thought advisable to settle the matter.

The court then adjourned.

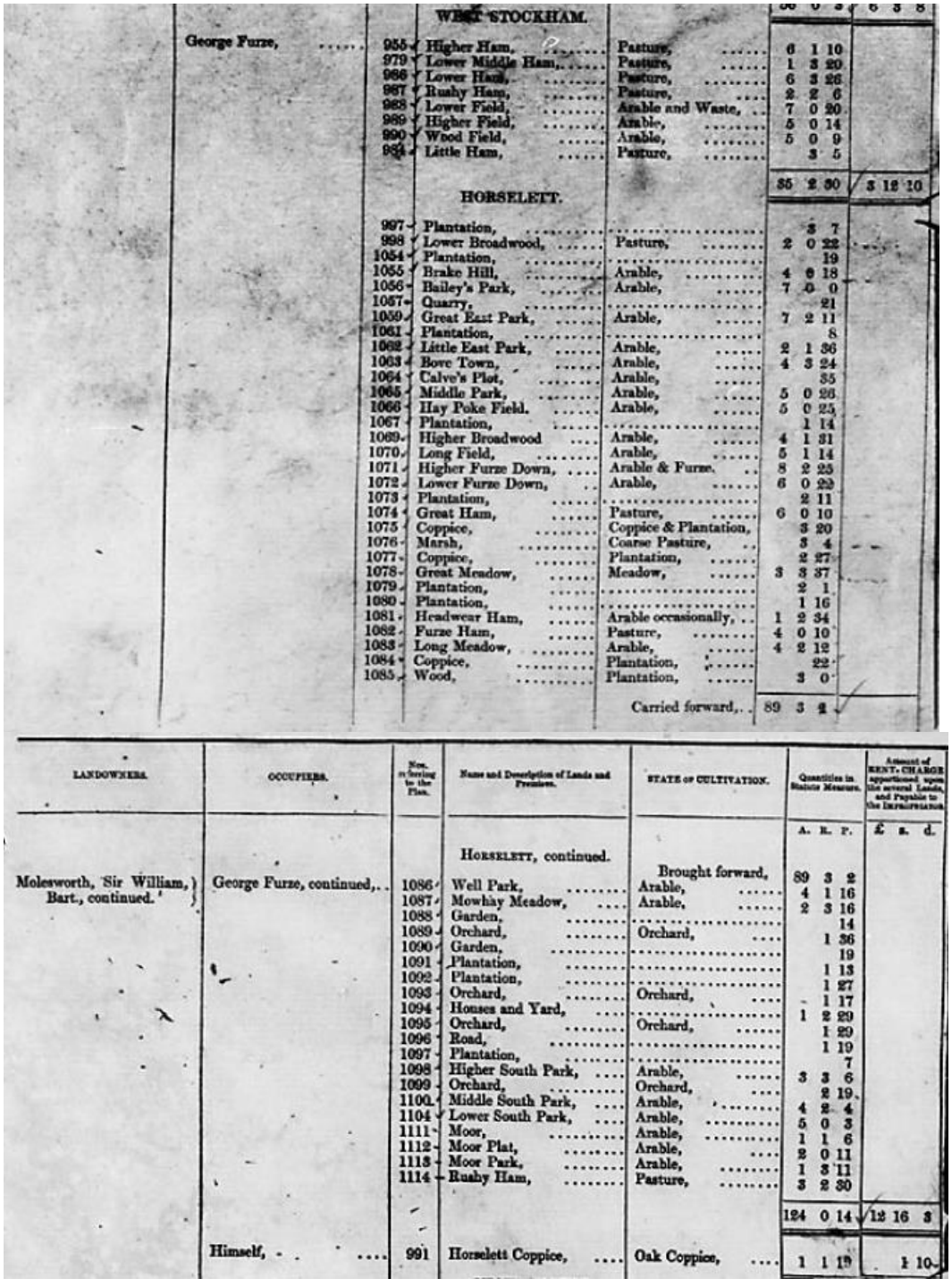
Western Times - Saturday 22 March 1845

From a tithe apportionment for Clawton parish of 1844, we can see that William Furze owned and let out a number of small properties at Horsletts, with an annual rental value of 5s 3d.



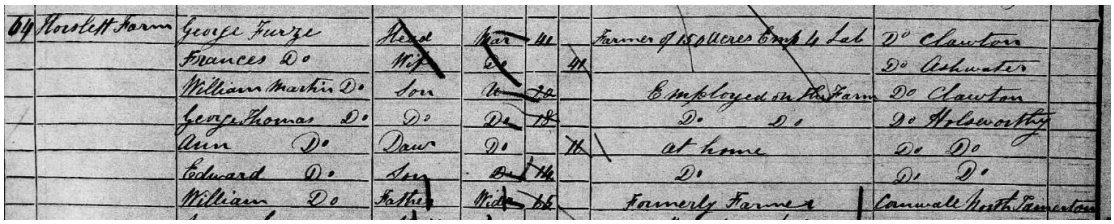
| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Furse, William .... | Richard Cann, and others, | 1058 | HORSELETT. Houses and Garden, .... | | 1 8 | 1 3 |
| | Samuel Cory, and others, | 1060 | Houses and Garden, .... | | 1 5 | 10 |
| | William Bailey, .... | 1103 | House and Garden, .... | | 29 | 10 |
| | John Hambly, and John Cann, .... | 1105 | House and Garden, .... | | 25 | 8 |
| | Tristram Martin, .... | 1106 | House, Garden, and Shed, | | 16 | |
| | Samuel Northey .... | 1107 | PART HORSELETT. Garden, | | 17 | |
| | | 1108 | Yard and Buildings, .... | | 33 | |
| | | | | | 1 10 | 8 |
| | Thomas Box, and Thomas Furse. .... | 1109 | Garden, Yard, & Buildings, | | 17 | |
| | | 1110 | Garden, .... | | 1 1 | |
| Heard, William .... | Elizabeth Bartley | | | | 1 18 | 1 0 |

Son George[4] meanwhile rented from the main landowner, Sir William Molesworth, Bart., fields and the Horsletts farm at an annual rent of over £16.

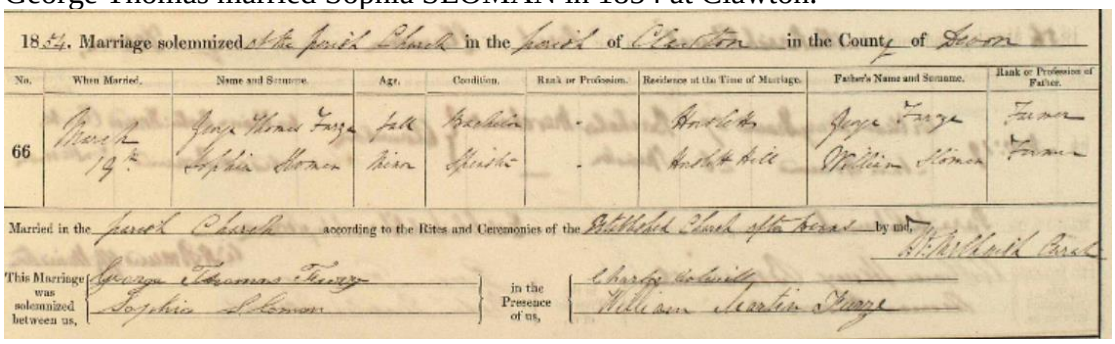


| LANDOWNERS. | OCCUPIERS. | Nos. referring to the Plan. | Name and Description of Lands and Premises. | STATE OF CULTIVATION. | Quantities in Statute Measure. A. R. P. | Amount of RENT-CHARGE apportioned upon the several Lands, and Payable to the Impropriator. £ s. d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | WEST STOCKHAM. | | | |
| | George Furze, ..... | 955 | Higher Ham, ..... | Pasture, ..... | 6 1 10 | |
| | | 979 | Lower Middle Ham, ..... | Pasture, ..... | 1 3 20 | |
| | | 986 | Lower Ham, ..... | Pasture, ..... | 6 3 26 | |
| | | 987 | Rushy Ham, ..... | Pasture, ..... | 2 2 6 | |
| | | 988 | Lower Field, ..... | Arable and Waste, .. | 7 0 20 | |
| | | 989 | Higher Field, ..... | Arable, ..... | 5 0 14 | |
| | | 990 | Wood Field, ..... | Arable, ..... | 5 0 9 | |
| | | 984 | Little Ham, ..... | Pasture, ..... | 3 5 | |
| | | | | | 35 2 30 | 3 12 10 |
| | | | HORSELETT. | | | |
| | | 997 | Plantation, ..... | ..... | 3 7 | |
| | | 998 | Lower Broadwood, ..... | Pasture, ..... | 2 0 22 | |
| | | 1054 | Plantation, ..... | ..... | 19 | |
| | | 1055 | Brake Hill, ..... | Arable, ..... | 4 0 18 | |
| | | 1056 | Bailey's Park, ..... | Arable, ..... | 7 0 0 | |
| | | 1057 | Quarry, ..... | ..... | 21 | |
| | | 1059 | Great East Park, ..... | Arable, ..... | 7 2 11 | |
| | | 1061 | Plantation, ..... | ..... | 8 | |
| | | 1062 | Little East Park, ..... | Arable, ..... | 2 1 36 | |
| | | 1063 | Bove Town, ..... | Arable, ..... | 4 3 24 | |
| | | 1064 | Calve's Plot, ..... | Arable, ..... | 35 | |
| | | 1065 | Middle Park, ..... | Arable, ..... | 5 0 26 | |
| | | 1066 | Hay Poke Field. ..... | Arable, ..... | 5 0 25 | |
| | | 1067 | Plantation, ..... | ..... | 1 14 | |
| | | 1069 | Higher Broadwood .... | Arable, ..... | 4 1 31 | |
| | | 1070 | Long Field, ..... | Arable, ..... | 5 1 14 | |
| | | 1071 | Higher Furze Down, .... | Arable & Furze. .. | 8 2 25 | |
| | | 1072 | Lower Furze Down, .. | Arable, ..... | 6 0 22 | |
| | | 1073 | Plantation, ..... | ..... | 2 11 | |
| | | 1074 | Great Ham, ..... | Pasture, ..... | 6 0 10 | |
| | | 1075 | Coppice, ..... | Coppice & Plantation, | 3 20 | |
| | | 1076 | Marsh, ..... | Coarse Pasture, .. | 3 4 | |
| | | 1077 | Coppice, ..... | Plantation, ..... | 2 27 | |
| | | 1078 | Great Meadow, ..... | Meadow, ..... | 3 3 37 | |
| | | 1079 | Plantation, ..... | ..... | 2 1 | |
| | | 1080 | Plantation, ..... | ..... | 1 16 | |
| | | 1081 | Headwear Ham, ..... | Arable occasionally, .. | 1 2 34 | |
| | | 1082 | Furze Ham, ..... | Pasture, ..... | 4 0 10 | |
| | | 1083 | Long Meadow, ..... | Arable, ..... | 4 2 12 | |
| | | 1084 | Coppice, ..... | Plantation, ..... | 22 | |
| | | 1085 | Wood, ..... | Plantation, ..... | 3 0 | |
| | | | | Carried forward, .. | 89 3 2 | |
| | | | HORSELETT, continued. | | | |
| Molesworth, Sir William, Bart., continued. | George Furze, continued, .. | | | Brought forward, | 89 3 2 | |
| | | 1086 | Well Park, ..... | Arable, ..... | 4 1 16 | |
| | | 1087 | Mowhay Meadow, .... | Arable, ..... | 2 3 16 | |
| | | 1088 | Garden, ..... | ..... | 14 | |
| | | 1089 | Orchard, ..... | Orchard, .... | 1 36 | |
| | | 1090 | Garden, ..... | ..... | 19 | |
| | | 1091 | Plantation, ..... | ..... | 1 13 | |
| | | 1092 | Plantation, ..... | ..... | 1 27 | |
| | | 1093 | Orchard, ..... | Orchard, .... | 1 17 | |
| | | 1094 | Houses and Yard, .... | ..... | 1 2 29 | |
| | | 1095 | Orchard, ..... | Orchard, ..... | 1 29 | |
| | | 1096 | Road, ..... | ..... | 1 19 | |
| | | 1097 | Plantation, ..... | ..... | 7 | |
| | | 1098 | Higher South Park, .... | Arable, ..... | 3 3 6 | |
| | | 1099 | Orchard, ..... | Orchard, .... | 2 19 | |
| | | 1100 | Middle South Park, .... | Arable, ..... | 4 2 4 | |
| | | 1104 | Lower South Park, .... | Arable, ..... | 5 0 3 | |
| | | 1111 | Moor, ..... | Arable, ..... | 1 1 6 | |
| | | 1112 | Moor Plat, ..... | Arable, .... | 2 0 11 | |
| | | 1113 | Moor Park, ..... | Arable, ..... | 1 3 11 | |
| | | 1114 | Rushy Ham, ..... | Pasture, ..... | 3 2 30 | |
| | | | | | 124 0 14 | 12 16 3 |
| | Himself, - - .... | 991 | Horselett Coppice, .... | Oak Coppice, .... | 1 1 19 | 1 10 |

The 1851 census finds the family still at Horsletts:



George Thomas married Sophia SLOMAN in 1854 at Clawton.



1854. Marriage solemnized at the parish Church in the parish of Clawton in the County of Devon

| No. | When Married. | Name and Surname. | Age. | Condition. | Rank or Profession. | Residence at the Time of Marriage. | Father's Name and Surname. | Rank or Profession of Father. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 66 | March 19th | George Thomas Furze<br>Sophia Sloman | full<br>minor | Bachelor<br>Spinster | - | Horsletts<br>Horsletts | Joseph Furze<br>William Sloman | Farmer<br>Farmer |

Married in the parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church by me, [illegible]

This Marriage was solemnized between us, George Thomas Furze, Sophia Sloman. In the Presence of us, Christ Coleridge, William Martin Furze.

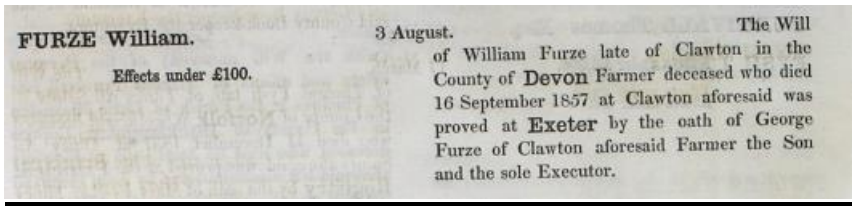
Later, children Frances, Emily Cann and Edward were born. Sophia Furze died in 1860 or 1861, leaving George Thomas a widower.

William Furze died at Clawton in 1857 and his will was proven the following year.

William Furze — Horsletts — Sept: 19 73 — Christ Clarkson Curate

No. 375.

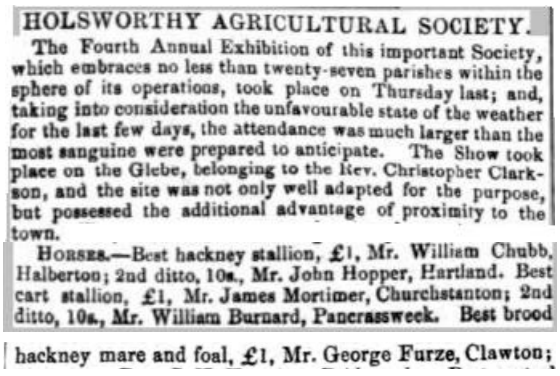
*Clawton parish register 1857*



**FURZE William.**

Effects under £100.

3 August. The Will of William Furze late of Clawton in the County of **Devon** Farmer deceased who died 16 September 1857 at Clawton aforesaid was proved at **Exeter** by the oath of George Furze of Clawton aforesaid Farmer the Son and the sole Executor.



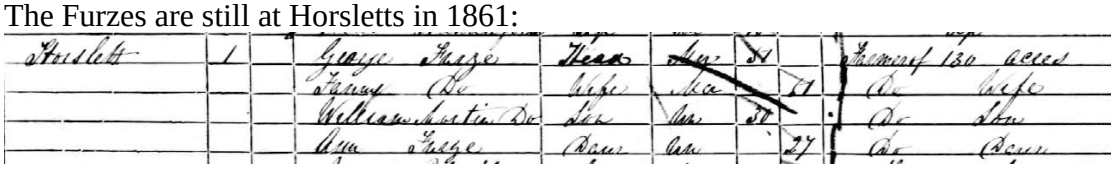
**HOLSWORTHY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.**

The Fourth Annual Exhibition of this important Society, which embraces no less than twenty-seven parishes within the sphere of its operations, took place on Thursday last; and, taking into consideration the unfavourable state of the weather for the last few days, the attendance was much larger than the most sanguine were prepared to anticipate. The Show took place on the Glebe, belonging to the Rev. Christopher Clarkson, and the site was not only well adapted for the purpose, but possessed the additional advantage of proximity to the town.

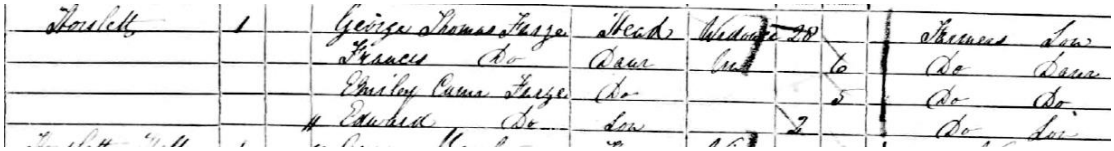
HORSES.—Best hackney stallion, £1, Mr. William Chubb, Halberton; 2nd ditto, 10s., Mr. John Hopper, Hartland. Best cart stallion, £1, Mr. James Mortimer, Churchstanton; 2nd ditto, 10s., Mr. William Burnard, Pancrassweek. Best brood hackney mare and foal, £1, Mr. George Furze, Clawton;

North Devon Journal - Thursday 24 June 1858

The Furzes are still at Horsletts in 1861:



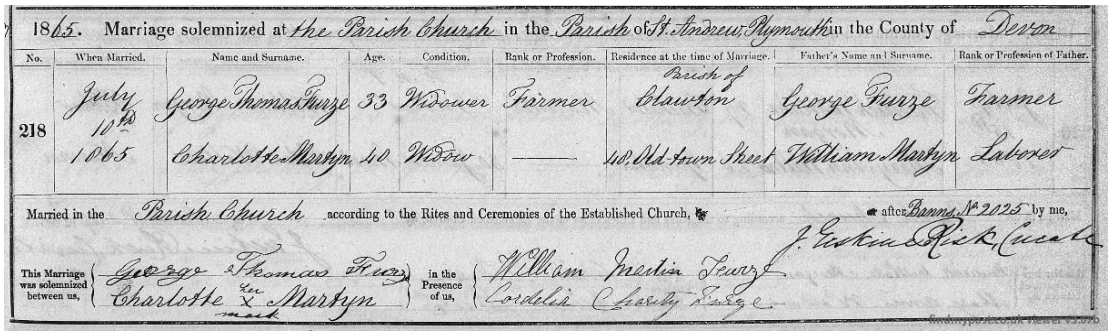
| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Horsletts | 1 | | George Furze | Head | Mar | 51 | Farmer of 130 acres | |
| | | | Fanny Do | Wife | Mar | 51 | Do | Wife |
| | | | William Martin Do | Son | Unm | 30 | Do | Son |
| | | | Ann Furze | Boarder | Unm | 27 | Do | Boarder |



That year, a new farmhouse was built at (Higher) Horslett, which still stands today:

William Martin Furze had a child, Matilda Ann, with Cordelia Charity MARTYN, daughter of Samuel Martyn of N Tamerton, in 1860. Matilda Ann was born in London, where Cordelia was working in 1861 as a house servant. William M and Cordelia married in 1862 at N. Tamerton.

George T Furze married again in 1865, to Charlotte MARTYN, daughter of William Martyn, at St Andrews in Plymouth (it is not known if his second wife is related to his brother's wife).



1865. Marriage solemnized at the Parish Church in the Parish of St. Andrew, Plymouth in the County of Devon

| No. | When Married. | Name and Surname. | Age. | Condition. | Rank or Profession. | Residence at the time of Marriage. | Father's Name and Surname. | Rank or Profession of Father. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 218 | July 10th 1865 | George Thomas Furze | 33 | Widower | Farmer | Parish of Blawston | George Furze | Farmer |
| | | Charlotte Martyn | 40 | Widow | ——— | 40 Old Town Street | William Martyn | Laborer |

Married in the Parish Church according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Established Church, after Banns by me, 1st 2025

J. Erskine Rick Curate

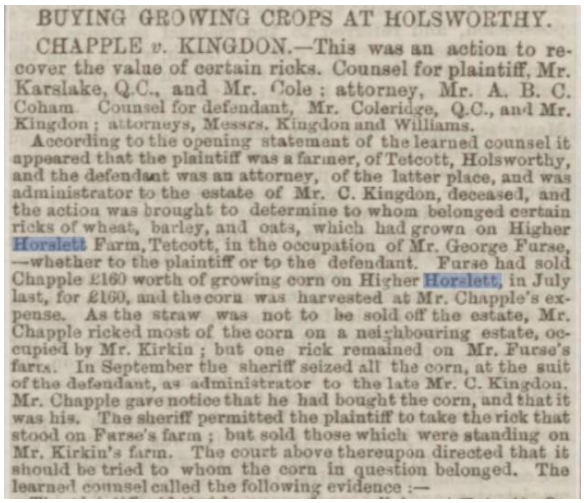
This Marriage was solemnized between us, George Thomas Furze, Charlotte her X mark Martyn

in the Presence of us, William Martin Furze, Cordelia Charity Furze

William M (who witnessed the above marriage) was at that time a police constable, living at 89 Cambridge Street, Plymouth[1], although his second child had been born at Cardinham, Cornwall (1863).

[1] From birth certificate of George Thomas Furze (b 1865), son of William Martin Furze (given the same name as his uncle)

Times, however, were hard and George[4] Furze got into legal and financial difficulties.

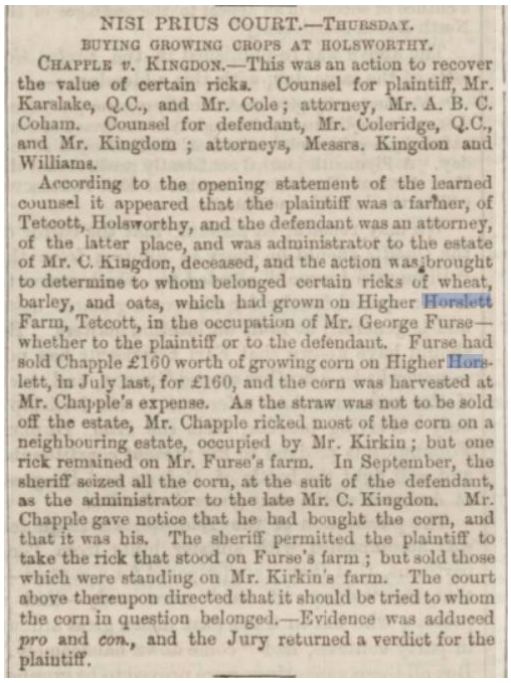


BUYING GROWING CROPS AT HOLSWORTHY.

CHAPPLE *v.* KINGDON.—This was an action to recover the value of certain ricks. Counsel for plaintiff, Mr. Karslake, Q.C., and Mr. Cole; attorney, Mr. A. B. C. Coham. Counsel for defendant, Mr. Coleridge, Q.C., and Mr. Kingdon; attorneys, Messrs. Kingdon and Williams.

According to the opening statement of the learned counsel it appeared that the plaintiff was a farmer, of Tetcott, Holsworthy, and the defendant was an attorney, of the latter place, and was administrator to the estate of Mr. C. Kingdon, deceased, and the action was brought to determine to whom belonged certain ricks of wheat, barley, and oats, which had grown on Higher Horslett Farm, Tetcott, in the occupation of Mr. George Furse, —whether to the plaintiff or to the defendant. Furse had sold Chapple £160 worth of growing corn on Higher Horslett, in July last, for £160, and the corn was harvested at Mr. Chapple's expense. As the straw was not to be sold off the estate, Mr. Chapple ricked most of the corn on a neighbouring estate, occupied by Mr. Kirkin; but one rick remained on Mr. Furse's farm. In September the sheriff seized all the corn, at the suit of the defendant, as administrator to the late Mr. C. Kingdon. Mr. Chapple gave notice that he had bought the corn, and that it was his. The sheriff permitted the plaintiff to take the rick that stood on Farse's farm; but sold those which were standing on Mr. Kirkin's farm. The court above thereupon directed that it should be tried to whom the corn in question belonged. The learned counsel called the following evidence :—

Western Times - Friday 17 March 1865
(The full transcript is in Appendix 2)



NISI PRIUS COURT.—THURSDAY.

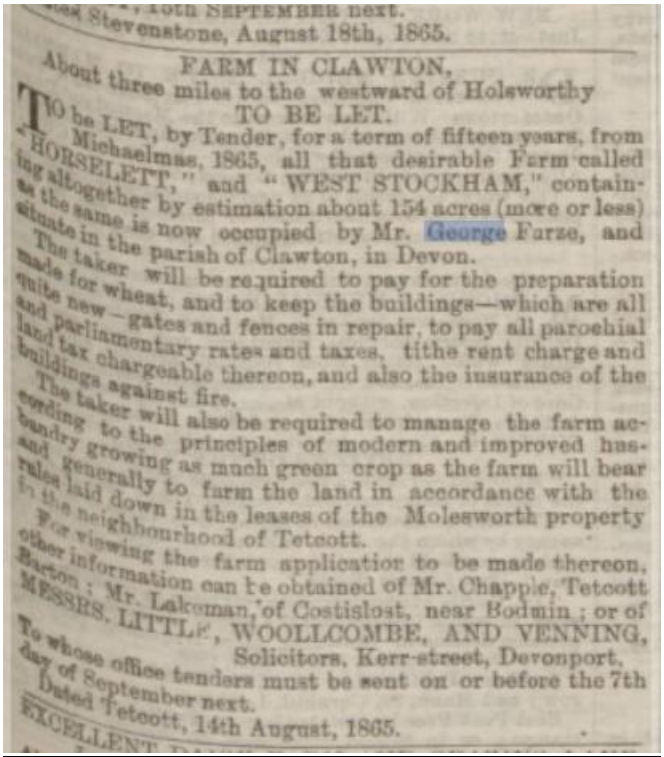
BUYING GROWING CROPS AT HOLSWORTHY.

CHAPPLE *v.* KINGDON.—This was an action to recover the value of certain ricks. Counsel for plaintiff, Mr. Karslake, Q.C., and Mr. Cole; attorney, Mr. A. B. C. Coham. Counsel for defendant, Mr. Coleridge, Q.C., and Mr. Kingdom; attorneys, Messrs. Kingdon and Williams.

According to the opening statement of the learned counsel it appeared that the plaintiff was a farmer, of Tetcott, Holsworthy, and the defendant was an attorney, of the latter place, and was administrator to the estate of Mr. C. Kingdon, deceased, and the action was brought to determine to whom belonged certain ricks of wheat, barley, and oats, which had grown on Higher Horslett Farm, Tetcott, in the occupation of Mr. George Furse—whether to the plaintiff or to the defendant. Furse had sold Chapple £160 worth of growing corn on Higher Horslett, in July last, for £160, and the corn was harvested at Mr. Chapple's expense. As the straw was not to be sold off the estate, Mr. Chapple ricked most of the corn on a neighbouring estate, occupied by Mr. Kirkin; but one rick remained on Mr. Furse's farm. In September, the sheriff seized all the corn, at the suit of the defendant, as the administrator to the late Mr. C. Kingdon. Mr. Chapple gave notice that he had bought the corn, and that it was his. The sheriff permitted the plaintiff to take the rick that stood on Furse's farm; but sold those which were standing on Mr. Kirkin's farm. The court above thereupon directed that it should be tried to whom the corn in question belonged.—Evidence was adduced *pro* and *con.*, and the Jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff.

The Furzes had then to leave Horsletts, having lived there since at least since 1817.

It also appears that George[4], living temporarily in Plymouth, was formally bankrupted the following year.



...10th SEPTEMBER next.

Stevenstone, August 18th, 1865.

FARM IN CLAWTON,

About three miles to the westward of Holsworthy

TO BE LET.

TO be LET, by Tender, for a term of fifteen years, from Michaelmas, 1865, all that desirable Farm called "HORSELETT," and "WEST STOCKHAM," containing altogether by estimation about 154 acres (more or less) as the same is now occupied by Mr. George Furze, and situate in the parish of Clawton, in Devon.

The taker will be required to pay for the preparation made for wheat, and to keep the buildings—which are all quite new—gates and fences in repair, to pay all parochial and parliamentary rates and taxes, tithe rent charge and land tax chargeable thereon, and also the insurance of the buildings against fire.

The taker will also be required to manage the farm according to the principles of modern and improved husbandry growing as much green crop as the farm will bear and generally to farm the land in accordance with the rules laid down in the leases of the Molesworth property in the neighbourhood of Tetcott.

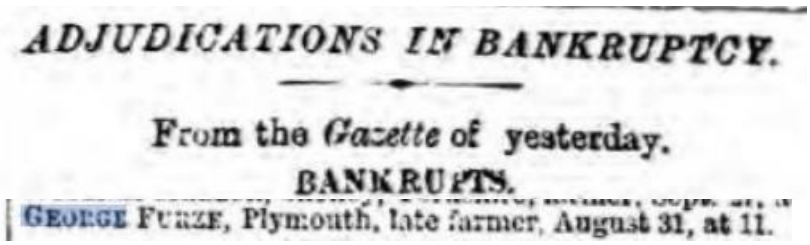
For viewing the farm application to be made thereon. other information can be obtained of Mr. Chapple, Tetcott Barton; Mr. Lakeman, of Costislost, near Bodmin; or of MESSRS. LITTLE, WOOLLCOMBE, AND VENNING, Solicitors, Kerr-street, Devonport.

To whose office tenders must be sent on or before the 7th day of September next.

Dated Tetcott, 14th August, 1865.

EXCELLENT

Western Times - Friday 01 September 1865



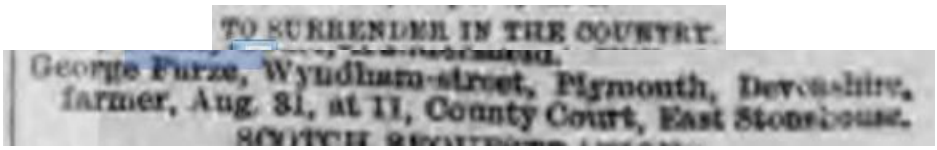
ADJUDICATIONS IN BANKRUPTCY.

From the *Gazette* of yesterday.

BANKRUPTS.

GEORGE FURZE, Plymouth, late farmer, August 31, at 11.

Morning Post - Wednesday 22 August 1866

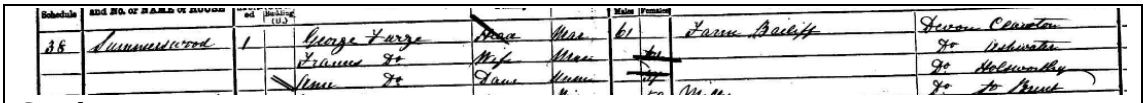


TO SURRENDER IN THE COUNTRY.

George Furze, Wyndham-street, Plymouth, Devonshire, farmer, Aug. 31, at 11, County Court, East Stonehouse.

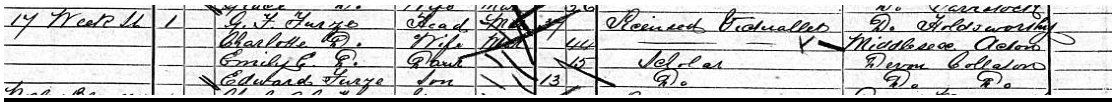
Liverpool Mercury - Friday 24 August 1866

The 1871 census finds George[4] working as a farm bailiff at South Brent, William Martin working as a prison warder at Dartmoor and George Thomas working as a publican in Plymouth.



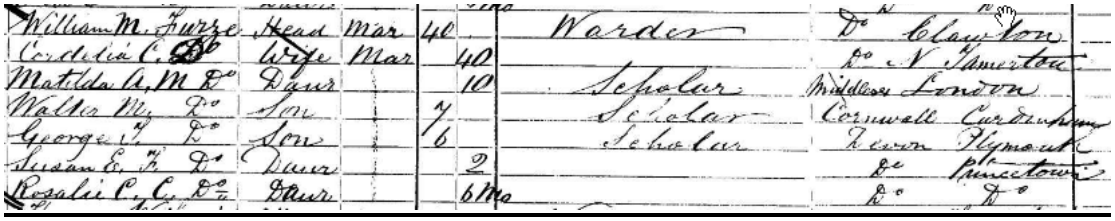
| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 38 | Summerswood | 1 | George Furze | Head | Mar | 61 | Farm Bailiff | Devon Clawton |
| | | | Frances Do | Wife | Mar | | | Do Ashwater |
| | | | Jane Do | Dau | Unm | | | Do Holsworthy |
| | | | | | | | | Do So Brent |

South Brent



| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 14 Westerly | 1 | G. F. Furze | Head | Mar | | Retired Victualler | | Do Holsworthy |
| | | Charlotte Do | Wife | Mar | 40 | | | Middlesex Ostend |
| | | Emily L. Do | Dau | | 15 | Scholar | | Devon Odiham |
| | | Edward Furze | Son | | 13 | Do | | Do Do |

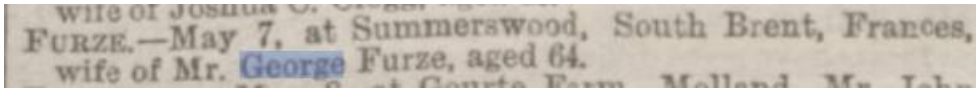
Plymouth



| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| William M. Furze | Head | Mar | 40 | Warder | | Do Clawton |
| Cordelia C. Do | Wife | Mar | 40 | | | Do N Tamerton |
| Matilda A. M Do | Daur | | 10 | Scholar | | Middlesex London |
| Walter M. Do | Son | | 7 | Scholar | | Cornwall Curdworthy |
| George F. Do | Son | | 6 | Scholar | | Devon Plymouth |
| Susan E. F. Do | Daur | | 2 | | | Do Princetown |
| Rosalie C. C. Do | Daur | | 6 Mo | | | Do Do |

Princetown

Frances Furze died in 1874:



wife of Joshua C. Furze, at Summerswood, South Brent, Frances, wife of Mr. George Furze, aged 64.

Exeter and Plymouth Gazette - Friday 15 May 1874

and George[4] Furze in 1875. A memorial stone, alas now broken, for Frances and George, can be found in Clawton churchyard.

The 1881 census finds William Martin still at Princetown, now a Principle Warder, and his brother George Thomas still pulling pints in Plymouth. The subsequent fate of George's son Edward is not known.

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| William M Furze | Head | Mar | 50 | | Principle Warder | | Clawton Devon |
| Cordelia C Furze | Wife | Mar | | 50 | Wife | | Jamerton Cornwall |
| Walter M Furze | Son | | 17 | | Pupil Teacher | | Cardynham Cornwall |
| Susan E F Furze | Daur | | | 12 | Scholar | | Princes Town Devon |
| Rosabel C E Furze | Daur | | | 10 | Do | | Do |
| Edward A M Furze | Son | | 6 | | Do | | Do |
| Susannah Pike | Spinster | Mum | | 77 | Independent Lady | | Clawton Devon |

Princetown

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 166 Kingsley | 1 | George T. Furze | Head | Mar | 45 | | Publican | | Ashworthy |
| | | Charlotte Do | Wife | Do | | 50 | | | London |

Plymouth
1881

George T died in 1882:

**FURZE George Thomas.**

**Personal Estate £103 14s. 6d.**

**27 March.** **The Will of George Thomas Furze late of Plymouth in the County of Devon Innkeeper who died 26 January 1882 at Plymouth was proved at Exeter by William Dennis Thomas of Queen-street Plymouth Accountant the surviving Executor.**

William Martin Furze subsequently retired from the prison service and moved with his family to Bristol (see 'The Furzes of Bristol').

**APPENDIX 1**

The earliest record of Furses in North Tamerton is in 1752, when Margaret Furse married Philip Batten. Thomas Furse married Elizabeth Bray in 1753 and as we have seen George[2] Furse married Hannah Bray in 1755. Hannah was Elizabeth's sister. Finally, John Furse married an Elizabeth Blight there in 1764.

Thomas and Elizabeth had many children: Sarah (1755), Elizabeth (1757), Margaret (1759), Thomas (1761), Hannah (1763), Alice (1765 m John Wall 1792), George (1769), John (1772), William (1774) and Mary (1779).

Intriguingly, there are burials of William Furse (1755) and Margaret Furse (1759 and again 1764).

There is a memorial preserved inside the church to Elizabeth, John's wife:

*"In hopes of a Joyful Resurrection the body of ELIZABETH the Wife of JOHN FURSE of Venton in the Parish; who departed this Life the 11th day of December 1789 in the 68th Year of Her Age"*

It can be seen that Elizabeth was born in 1721. It has not been possible definitely to identify her origins.[2]

[2] An Elizabeth Blight was baptised at nearby North Petherwin in 1721.

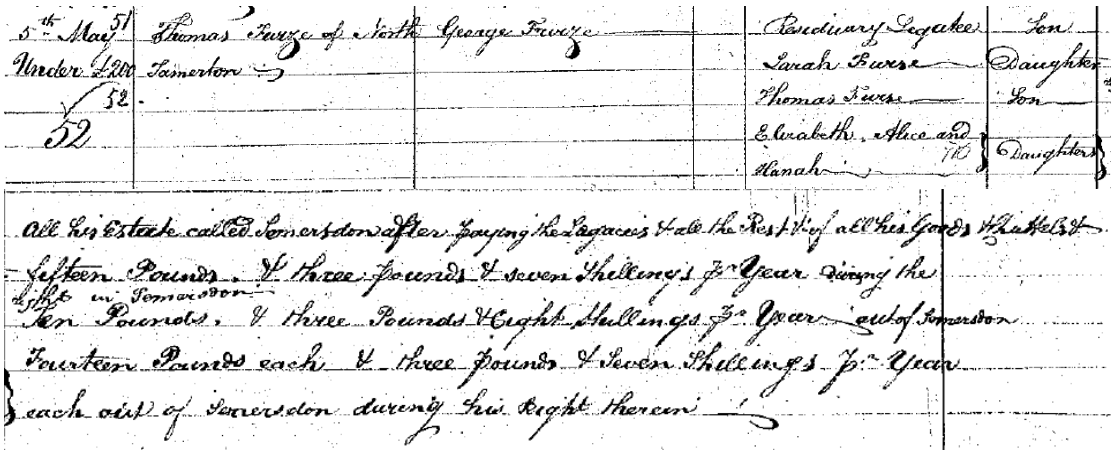
John Furse died in 1792, leaving a will which was one of the many destroyed by enemy bombing of Exeter in WW2.

**Collection:** Devon and Cornwall: - Wills and Administrations proved in the Bishop of Exeter, 1559-1799

**Text:** Furse, John, North Tamerton W. 1792

One possible hypothesis is that Thomas, George and John were brothers who moved to North Tamerton either together or successively after one had settled there.

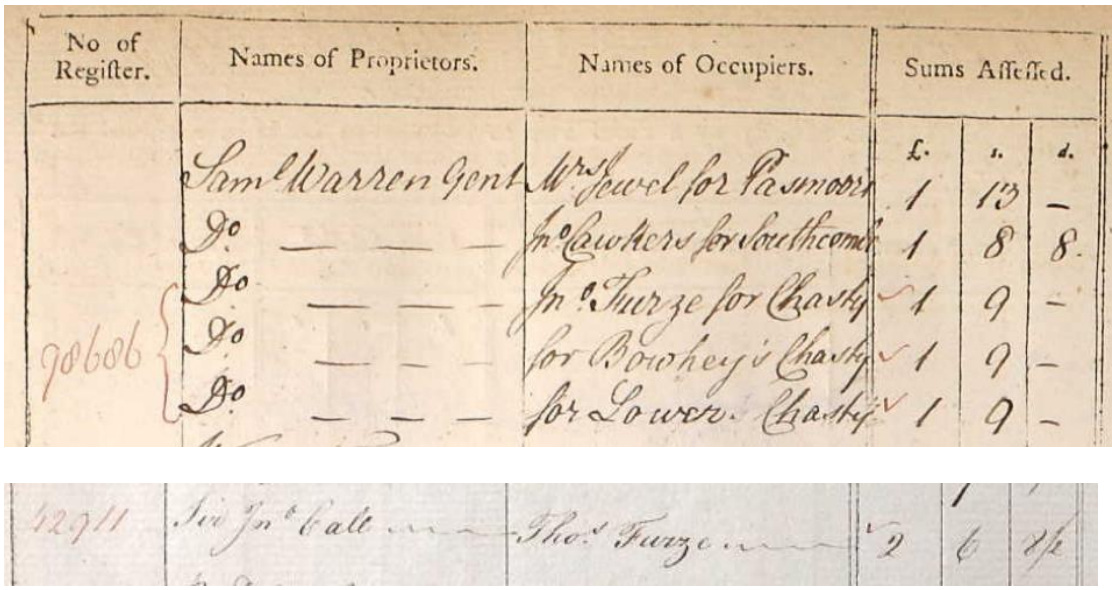
Thomas died in 1807.



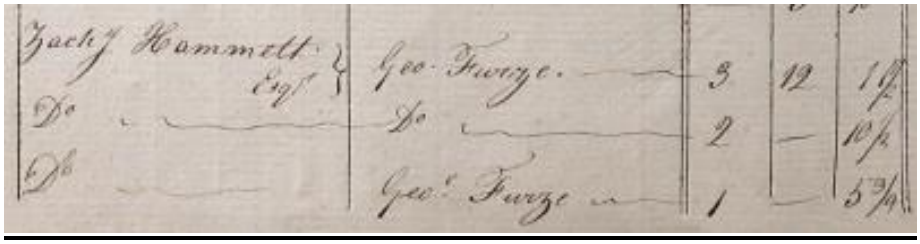
*Abstract of Will of Thomas Furze of North Tamerton, Cornwall. Proved in the Court of Exeter. 1807 (TNA).*

He left his farm, Semersdon, to his son George, with legacies to son Thomas, unmarried daughter Sarah and married daughters Elizabeth, Alice and Hannah. It's not clear why his son John was left nothing.

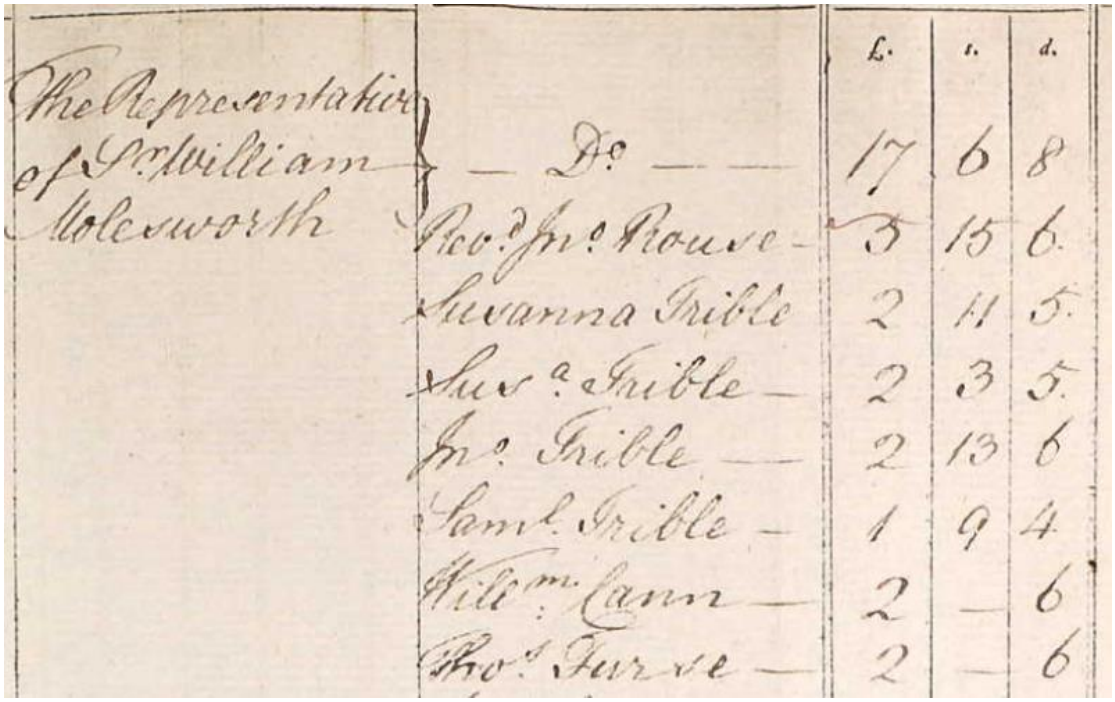
In the 1798 Land Tax assessment, Thomas and son George are recorded at North Tamerton, Thomas's son Thomas at Tetcott and possibly Thomas's other son John Furze at Chastry in Holsworthy parish.



| No of Register. | Names of Proprietors. | Names of Occupiers. | Sums Assessed. £. | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Sam[l] Warren Gent | Mrs Jewel for Pasmore | 1 | 13 | — |
| | Do — — — | Jn[o] Cowlers for Southcomb | 1 | 8 | 8 |
| | Do — — — | Jn[o] Furze for Chastly | 1 | 9 | — |
| 90606 | Do — — — | for Borchey's Chastly | 1 | 9 | — |
| | Do — — — | for Lower Chastly | 1 | 9 | — |
| 12911 | Sir Jn[o] Cale | Tho[s] Furze | 2 | 6 | 8½ |



| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Zach.ʳ Hammett Esq.ʳ | Geo. Furze. | 3 | 12 | 1/ |
| Do | Do | 2 | — | 10/ |
| Do | Geo.ᵉ Furze | 1 | — | 5/ |



| | | £. | s. | d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| The Representatives of Sr. William Molesworth | — Do — — | 17 | 6 | 8 |
| | Rec.ᵈ Jn.º Rouse | 3 | 15 | 6. |
| | Susanna Trible | 2 | 11 | 5. |
| | Sus.ª Trible | 2 | 3 | 5. |
| | Jn.º Trible | 2 | 13 | 6 |
| | Sam.ˡ Trible | 1 | 9 | 4 |
| | Wil.ᵐ Lann | 2 | — | 6 |
| | Rob.ᵗ Furze | 2 | — | 6 |

John had married Mary Bray at NT in 1793 and they had a daughter Sarah baptised at Holsworthy in 1795.

Another John ('batchelor') married Sarah Piper at NT in 1796 and was recorded at living at Venton in 1841.

APPENDIX 2

# NISI PRIUS COURT.

## THURSDAY.

### BUYING GROWING CROPS AT HOLSWORTHY.

CHAPPLE *v.* KINGDON.—This was an action to recover the value of certain ricks. Counsel for plaintiff, Mr. Karslake, Q.C., and Mr. Cole; attorney, Mr. A. B. C. Coham. Counsel for defendant, Mr. Coleridge, Q.C., and Mr. Kingdon; attorneys, Messrs. Kingdon and Williams.

According to the opening statement of the learned counsel it appeared that the plaintiff was a farmer, of Tetcott, Holsworthy, and the defendant was an attorney, of the latter place, and was administrator to the estate of Mr. C. Kingdon, deceased, and the action was brought to determine to whom belonged certain ricks of wheat, barley, and oats, which had grown on Higher Horslett Farm, Tetcott, in the occupation of Mr. George Furse, —whether to the plaintiff or to the defendant. Furse had sold Chapple £160 worth of growing corn on Higher Horslett, in July last, for £160, and the corn was harvested at Mr. Chapple's expense. As the straw was not to be sold off the estate, Mr. Chapple ricked most of the corn on a neighbouring estate, occupied by Mr. Kirkin; but one rick remained on Mr. Furse's farm. In September the sheriff seized all the corn, at the suit of the defendant, as administrator to the late Mr. C. Kingdon. Mr. Chapple gave notice that he had bought the corn, and that it was his. The sheriff permitted the plaintiff to take the rick that stood on Furse's farm; but sold those which were standing on Mr. Kirkin's farm. The court above thereupon directed that it should be tried to whom the corn in question belonged. The learned counsel called the following evidence:—

The *Plaintiff* said that he was a farmer, living at Tetcott. On July 12th last he was at Holsworthy fair; met Mr. John Furse there. Mr. Furse asked witness to come and look over his corn, as he wanted to sell it; he should not be able to harvest it, as he had no money to buy provisions for the harvesters. Witness promised to go and see the farm. Went accordingly on July 15. He saw about forty acres of wheat, barley, and oats. Did not put a value on it then, because it was time enough for that purpose. Went again on July 25th, and valued the corn. Offered Mr. Furse £4 an acre for it; he wanted more, but witness at length agreed to pay £160 for the corn. Mr. Furse was to cut and bind the corn, and witness was to harvest it.

By Mr. COLERIDGE—There was no writing about the cutting, but there was afterwards.

*Examination in chief continued.*—The straw was to be returned to the farm. Witness told Furse to get somebody to note the fields, and he would pay him. After this, on the same day, Mr. Furse, and Mr. Wm. Heard, farmer, of North Tamerton, came to witness's house. They brought a paper describing the fields in which witness had bought the corn. [The paper was read.] Witness paid Mr. Furse £160 for the corn, in the presence of Mr. Heard. Began to cut the oats on August 1st, and it was carried on the 16th; the barley was carried some days later. One mow of wheat, which he intended to thrash for seed, was put up on the farm, in the rick-yard. He employed and paid Furse's son for doing it. The rest of the corn was put in Mr. Kirkin's field. Two of the witness's waggons were employed in this, and Mr. Furse's son was also employed in this. Paid also for provision to the harvest men. Mr. Kirkin was a friend and neighbour. It remained there till Sept. 8th, when he received a letter from Mr. Burch, sheriff's officer, asking him to meet him at Holsworthy. Mr. Burch told witness that all the corn he had bought had been seized under an execution. Witness told him that he had bought the corn but not the straw. Mr. Burch wrote out a notice of claim on the corn. A more formal claim was afterwards sent in. The claim on the corn ricked on Furse's farm was afterwards abandoned, but the sheriff sold the corn which had been ricked on Mr. Kirkin's farm. Had bought sheep and bullocks of Mr. Furse before this. He did not harvest that rick on his own farm in order to have it convenient for restoring the straw to Furse's corn.

*Cross-examined* by Mr. COLERIDGE.—At the time of meeting Furse at Holsworthy, witness did not know that there was a county court judgment against Furse. Had known there was a judgment against him nine months before. Did not know if that had been settled in July. Did not ask Mr. Furse about it. Did not know the amount of the judgment. Had heard it was £36. Knew Samuel Fry. Had occasionally taken money for the Molesworth Trustees. Mr. Furse also rented under the Molesworth estate. Had never received rents from Furse. About two years ago Samuel Fry called on witness, and told him that Furse was in Kingdon's (the defendant's) debt, and asked witness whether it was likely he should get anything. Fry was Mr. Kingdon's clerk. Did not hear from Fry that there was a written claim against Furse in another court. Did not hear of any claims against him on account of Mr. Kingdon, who was dead. Told Mr. Fry that he thought if an execution was about to be put in, it would not be of use, for the landlord would distrain immediately. Witness thought there was no more there than would pay the rent. Witness did not tell Fry that he (witness) held a warrant. Would swear it. Never heard afterwards of the execution. On July 12, Furse did not tell witness that there was an execution or claim against him. Did not ask him. Did not think of asking him; for he generally said what he thought. Bought the corn, but did not want it. Farmed about 400 acres. Money ran short sometimes with farmers about July. Witness generally kept as much as £160 in his house—sometimes more. Received it for bullocks which he sold. Had sold bullocks to Rundell, a butcher, of Launceston, in May, to the amount of £108. Rent days with witness were in August. Thought it necessary to note what fields he had bought, so had the list in writing. Did not tell Furse to get it done in a stamped agreement. Read the document before he signed it. Heard wrote his name on it before the document was brought to witness. Furse signed it in his presence. Did not know how much Furse owed; knew that Furse's rent day was coming. Was not aware whether the crops might have been taken next day for rent. Took the crops off the farm for the convenient thrashing of the corn by machine. There was not room to thrash it all in Furse's mowhay. Paid Furse in Bank of England and Launceston notes. A claim was put in for rent on Furse's farm. Witness lodged money in a bank sometimes, but did not draw cheques.

*Re-examined.*—The claim for rent was put in after Mr. Kingdon's execution was put in. There was enough on the farm to pay the rent. Witness was one of the principal tenants, and the steward of the estate lodged at his house when he came there. The steward had sent witness warrants to deliver to the bailiff for execution. Paid £300 a year for his estate. Sold largely all kinds of agricultural produce, and was buying stock every day. Made a practice of keeping money in his house. He and his father had rented the same farm for 30 years.

*Mr. George Furse* said that he rented Higher Horslett Farm under the Molesworth trustees. He described his interview with the plaintiff at Holsworthy Fair, and their deal, as given above. Witness requested Mr. Heard to write out the statement of the crops he had sold to Mr. Chapple. He gave an account of two executions which were put in in his farm.

*Cross-examined* by Mr. COLERIDGE.—The two claims made were one for rent and one for the debt to Mr. Kingdon. Could not say when the claim for rent was made. There was a judgment recovered against witness in the County Court—the amount was £42 19s. 6d., including costs and interest. The judgment went against him in December, 1863. Knew also there was an action brought against him in one of the superior courts for £45. Got notice of trial in that cause on July 19th, 1864. There were several persons pressing witness at the time. He wrote a letter to Mr. Kingdon. [This letter was dated 21st July, 1864.] In this letter he stated that he had received notice that Mr. Kingdon meant to press him for his debt due to Mr. C. Kingdon. It was impossible for him to pay. He would undertake, however, to pay £10 a year. If Mr. Kingdon persisted in taking all on the farm, after rent was paid, there would not be £30 left. Witness wrote that he owed a number of creditors money, but Mr. Kingdon was the only one that pressed him, and if he were pressed he should become a bankrupt. He had stated the case to Mr. A. Kingdon, who had said that he would take the amount in instalments, if it were his case.] At that time there was the corn on the farm; but it was not enough. Q.—Did you sell it to make more? A.—His things were taken by the landlord in Dec, 1863, and he had nothing left.

He and his son remained on, and they borrowed money to buy spring corn, hay for horses, and to live on. That was in 1883. Did not know about the auction before he spoke to Mr. Chapple about selling the corn. Had notice of action on July 19th. Did not say a word to Mr. Chapple about Mr. Kingdon's action. Mr. Rd. Kingdon had promised witness in April that he would take the money in instalments. On 28th July, the payment was made to Mr. Chapple. Did not know that verdict went against witness at Exeter in the action on July 26th. Did not come "a neist" the place. Could not afford to come, and lawyers would not do work for nothing—(laughter.) Mr. Melhuish owned the tithes of Clawton. He told him Mr. Kingdon had had an action against him, but did not tell him that Chapple had taken enough for rent to Lady Molesworth. Did not say "I was thinking, sir, that if you had a warrant for tithes, they would think the goods was tooked before, and would think there was nothing more to take." Told Mr. Melhuish that there was a year's rent charge due, and did ask him to put in a warrant. Mr. Melhuish said he would put in the warrant if he (witness) wished it. Did not ask Kirkin if he owed any rent. Did not say to him that he would like for his landlord to distrain on his (witness's) corn, and then Kingdon would get nothing. Closed the gate at Kirkin's to keep out the pigs. Never said that he owed Chapple a debt, and that Chapple took three ricks for the debt. Blatchford never asked witness how Chapple had paid him. Never said that Chapple had paid him little by little. He paid the £160 to people he owed it to, and to keep himself from starving. Did not pay Mr. Hawkes, Mr. Hopper, Mr. Frost, the Canal Company nor Brown. Did not pay Brown because he (Brown) had easehold property—(laughter)—paid wages with the £160. Had no single bill or receipt for money he had paid. Had paid Badcock, shoemaker; had the bill at home.

Mr. KARSLAKE—You might have subpœnaed him.

Mr. COLERIDGE—My friend says we might have subpœnaed him; when we impute this to be a fraud.

*Re-examined.*—Had to pay for his family support, his taxes, tithes and wages. Up to that time he had sold nothing, and had nothing to sell. All 1884 he had been living on credit. Had paid £22 tithes since last May. The action at the assize was brought on a Bill of Exchange, part for money borrowed, and part for a bill which he had backed. He had only actually received £25 out of £45 he was sued for.

*Mr. Wm. Heard*, farmer, North Tamerton, said that on July 25th Mr. Furse came to him and said that he had sold Mr. Chapple some of his corn at £4 an acre, and asked what he (witness) thought. He replied that he thought it was a fair price. Drew up the agreement on Furse's instructions. In the evening they went to Mr. Chapple's house. Mr. Chapple produced £150 in notes, and £10 in gold. Witness counted the cash. The receipt was signed in witness's presence.

*Cross-examined by* Mr. COLERIDGE.—Furse and witness left Chapple's together, and parted at Commons Gate, about a mile and a quarter from Chapple's house. From Commons Gate Furse went in the direction of his house. Witness saw Furse take away the money in his pocket. When he drew up the receipt he did not know that he was to go to Chapple's in the evening. He had written on it the words "Attested by William Heard," before he knew that he was to see the money paid. Did not know that there were many stamped documents to be found amongst the farmers of North Devon. He got a stamp some years ago to draw up an agreement between Farmer Metherell and Farmer Spry, but one of them died before the agreement was made, so he had it by him when Mr. Furse called on him. Q. Is it all your handwriting? A. You have heard me say it is, and I am on my oath.

Mr. COLERIDGE—A very proper rebuke.

*Witness* continued—He charged Mr. Furse 9d for a stamp. Did not charge anything for filling up the agreement. Amongst neighbours they did not make any charge for that.

Mr. COLERIDGE—That's a reproach—(laughter.)

*Witness* continued:—Did not hear from Mr. Furse what he wanted the money for. Witness was a farmer. Could not tell if it was a common thing for farmers to sell 40 acres of corn in this way. It was a hardish time now for farmers, it was a "okard" time for money now. Did not know if he (Mr. Coleridge) found it so—(much laughter.)

*Thos. Grenham* said that he was a labourer, of Clawton. He was employed by Mr. Chapple to harvest the corn on Mr. Furse's barn.

This was the case for the plaintiff.

His LORDSHIP said that there was no point could be urged against the case, except it was represented that the property really did not pass at the alleged sale of it by Furse to Chapple.

Mr. COLERIDGE said that of course he knew that that was the point.

As the evening had so far advanced, the case for the defence was postponed till Friday (this) morning.

The Court rose at half-past 5 o'clock.