

# SWINNERTON

## FAMILY HISTORY

HERALDIC AND GENEALOGICAL STUDIES

of the Swinnerton family

edited by

Lt. Col. I. S. SWINNERTON, T.D., F.R.S.

Beech Tree House, Norton Road, Stourbridge, Worcs.

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In this issue we start to take a look at some accounts of the village and the family which have appeared in printed books other than those already mentioned in previous issues. We also have some more miscellaneous records from Salop, some more entries concerning the London family and the second chapter in the story of the Betley family.

Thank you for all your letters, it is nice to know the newsletter is so appreciated. A special thank you to those who have sent stamps or money for postage - this is a tremendous help - and to those who have sent in references to the family they have come across, we always welcome these.

### A SURVEY OF STAFFORDSHIRE

by Sampson Erdeswicke 1717

"In the twentieth year of the Conqueror ..... COMES ALARUS (Count Alan) held Swynnerton of Robert de Stafford and this Alain was the Ancestor of the Swynnertons".

"SWINNERTON is a goodly, large manor, possessed by a Race of Gentlemen, of the name of which, divers were Knights, and some think, were owners thereof from the time of the Conquest. That Aslam, who I take to be the first Ancestor of the Swinertons, held the same of Robert de Stafford, until this our present age. That the last, Humph, left his lands to his two daughters; whereof Margaret the Elder, was married to Henry Vernon of Sudbury, to whom she brought the Manor of Hilton, Sugential, etc. and the younger was first married to William Fitzherbert, by whom she had issue Thomas; and since the Death of her Husband Fitzherbert she is married to Francis Gattare; and hath for her property as our Lawyers say, Swinerton, Carleton and Swines-Head adjoining".

"In Eccleshall is the seat of the Swinnertons, the one house of which hath been a good living but Edmund Swinerton lately deceased (a man well known by the name of Wild Swinnerton) hath almost sold all, and reserved little more than Isewall, his house in Eccleshall and some few tenements in the said town".

(Note Edmund (actually Edward) buried at Eccleshall 1598. Monument in Church)

"Eccleshall-water being past, Bishop's Otley entereth Peshall, leaving Horsley and little Mile Southward, being now the Chief Seat of the Pershalls, whom I take to now derive themselves as original, Paternally from the SWINNERTONS, for they bear their Armory as moving from them; Swinertons bearing Argent and a Cross Forney and Flower Sables; and now the Pershalls bearing the same with Canton Gules charged with Richard Earls of Chester Wolf's Head. But the first Sir Richard that I read of, whom I take to be the son of Sir John Swinerton and his Heirs, bear it without the Canton and one charged Swinerton's Coat with an Escutcheon, which Ra. 2 Earl of Chester, VIZ Gules a Lyon Salient Argent. To fortify which Opinion I have seen a deed made in the time of Hy. 3 whereby Robertus filius Stephani de Pershall dedil domo Yohan de Swinerton totam terram suam cum Grindoribus Ecum reditibus servitus hamagiis releniis E escatis ac totam terran quam emit de Thoma filio Thomas de Peshall".



CAMDEN'S BRITANNIA translated by Richard Gough. 1789 edition.  
(originally written 1587)

Vol ii. p.507

"N. W. of Stone is Swinnerton, the estate of a family of its name from the Conquest to the reign of Henry VIII, when it passed to the Fitzherberts of Norbury in Derbyshire, by marriage with the heiress of Swinnerton, to whom it now belongs. It was anciently a Royal Seat and a market now disused."

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THE KING'S ENGLAND - STAFFORDSHIRE

Arthur Mee 1937

"Swynnerton has a great park of 800 acres and high up in the wooded countryside a fine share of the treasures of our ancient past.

Standing by a fine chestnut tree is the tower the Normans began, crowned with a mediaeval belfry and entered through a doorway carved with the beaks of birds. The Nave arches have been there 700 years, the South Chapel 600 and the South Aisle 500. The beautiful oak screen is by a Tudor Craftsman. Under a canopy in the chancel lies a battered knight, thought to have been a Swynnerton who was a constable of the tower in the 14th century. A great sitting figure about 8 ft. high is so finely carved that it is believed it was brought to this church from Lichfield Cathedral to escape destruction in the Commonwealth period. It has lost one arm."

(Information given to Arthur Mee c.1930 by the Rev. J. B. Frith, Rector of Swynnerton.)

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MISCELLANEOUS SALOP RECORDS. (2)

PRICE'S HISTORY OF OSWESTRY, p.132

Thomas Swinnerton of Oswestry had a son John, who was a Merchant Taylor of London and Lord Mayor in 1612. He left money for the preaching of a monthly sermon in Oswestry Church, and in the churches of Shrewsbury, Ellesmere and Whitchurch, with an annual bequest for the poor of each place. (JS/84)

(Here we have the same mistake noted in Issue 2, Sir JOHN was the son of John (JS/83) not Thomas.)

NOTES ON ALBRIGHTON near SHIFNAL.

H. F. J. VAUGHAN

On the morrow of the Ascension 22 Edw. IV between Thomas Knyghtley, Chaplain; John Dudston, Chaplain; John Hoorde, William Humfreyston and complainants William Clerk and Humphery Swinnerton and Robert Gifford and his wife Cassandra deforcians, of the Manor of Whyston in the Parish of Penkerych.

Robert & Cassandra remitted all rights to the complainants and heirs of Thomas for which complainants gave them 400 marks of silver. (Shrops. Trans. 1909 3rd Series. Vol. IX pt. 1 p. 65)

PIGOT'S DIRECTORY OF SHROPSHIRE. 1834

Market Drayton.

SAMUEL SWINNERTON. Surgeon. Shropshire Street. (SS/31)

STOW'S SURVEY OF LONDON 1618

p. 204 Sir John SWYNNERTON, Merchant Taylor, Alderman & Lord Mayor of London 1612  
p. 955 John SWINNERTON, Sheriff 1602. (also mentioned on pages 32 and 206, both these are in the Society of Genealogists' Great Card Index)

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CORRECTION

In our last three issues we referred to William Swinnerton of Betley as WS/14, this should have been WS/15.



## THE BETLEY SWINNERTONS

A few small errors crept into our tree last month. These small slips are almost inevitable when dealing with so many branches but at least getting them into print brings them to light! In Table 2a ASHTED (a registration district of Birmingham) was wrongly spelt as Ashtead; Gertrude Blackner was born 27. 8. 1880 not c. 1859 Canada (this was her mother); Emma Tebbits should be Emma TEBBITTS and the daughter of Edwin Charles Swinnerton (ES. 53) is DEBRA LYNNE not Deborah.

Our London researcher, J. W. Swinnerton (JS. 110) has also sent us these additional dates :-  
WALTER (WS. 33) d. 25. 10. 1882                      CHARLES HENRY (CS. 22) b. 19. 9. 1884  
MERIEL ANNE (MS. 65) m. 12. 6. 1965              THOMAS (TS. 20) d. 21. 9. 1869

He has also added the following :-

CHARLES HENRY (CS. 31) had two further children who both died in infancy - KATE (KS. 9) b. 1902, d. 1903 and THOMAS WALTER (TS. 72) b. 9. 12. 1897, d. 1899. EDWIN CHARLES (ES. 53) has another son CRAIG EDWIN (CS. 36) b. 29. 8. 1965 and his eldest son - whose full name RUSSELL EDWYN SWINNERTON (RS. 34) married Evelyn Seery on 20. 1. 1973

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Continuing our story of the Betley Swinnertons, we now come to the second son WILLIAM the younger (WS. 14). Unfortunately, we know less about him than any of the others. According to the Rev. Charles Swynnerton, he "was born on the 7th May 1772 and died on the 12th October 1839, leaving by his wife Margaret, seven sons and four daughters of whom one son, William, still survives at Betley". (Staffs. Hist. Colls. Vol. VII pt. II 1886).

So far we have only definitely traced 4 sons and 3 daughters.

Assuming the Rev. Charles to be correct and that his information came from the surviving son, William, a lot more research has obviously yet to be done.

Shown on the tree with dotted lines is one other who we are reasonably sure is one of the missing sons, the dates and places agree but we have not yet traced his baptism.

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We have not, in fact, traced the baptisms of SAMUEL (SS. 31) or HANNAH (HS. 44) either but the following prove that they were William's children :-

"On Monday the 30th ult. at Stoke on Trent, Mr. John Johnson of Weston, Cheshire to HANNAH youngest daughter of Mr. Wm. Swinnerton of Betley".

(Staffordshire Advertiser, 4 Aug. 1832).

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"The late Mr. Samuel Johnson - a notable personality".

"The funeral took place on Wed. of last week at St. Margaret's Church, Betley of Mr. Samuel Johnson of Wrinchill, near Crewe who was wellknown in Cheshire and North Staffordshire as a 'specialist in blood troubles' and whose death occurred on the previous Sat.

Mr. Johnson, who had reached the advanced age of 83 years, was the 3rd son of John & Hannah Johnson, grocers of Weston, near Crewe. At the age of 11 years he was apprenticed to a grocer at Manchester. Having served his apprenticeship and on the suggestion of his Uncle, Dr. SAMUEL SWINNERTON of Market Drayton, he went to London preparatory to taking up study for the medical profession. In London he was employed by another uncle, HENRY SWINNERTON, corn factor, and when Dr. Swinnerton died he gave up his medical studies and returned to Manchester where he was employed by Messrs. Bullen Bros., provision merchants.

After remaining about 5 years as manager, he left Manchester to assist his uncle, WILLIAM SWINNERTON of Betley in his business as seedsman and general dealer ....."  
(Staffordshire Advertiser, 4 Feb. 1921)



WILLIAM SWINNERTON  
of Betley, Staffs.  
(WS. 14)  
(2nd son of Wm. Swinnerton  
of Betley)  
Gardener & Farmer  
bp. 17.5.1772 )  
b. 7 May ) all  
d. 12.10.1839 ) at  
(bur. 19 Nov.) ) Betley

= Margaret (Mary) Cooper  
Of Madeley, Staffs.  
b. c. 1761  
m. 13.10.1793  
at Madeley  
d.

1. BETTY (BS. 3)  
bp. Betley  
31.12.1795  
(b. 28 Dec. '94)
2. MARY (MS. 35)  
bp. Betley  
11.10.1797  
b. 1 Aug.)
3. HANNAH (HS.44)

=  
John Johnson  
Grocer,  
of Weston  
30.7.1832 at  
Stoke on Trent

JOSEPH  
SWINNERTON  
(JS. 48)  
bp. Betley  
13.4.1800  
(b. 1 Mar)

WILLIAM  
SWINNERTON  
(WS. 24)  
b. c. 1805  
d. 26.9.1887  
both at Betley

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- (1) Frances Ryles  
Feb. 1832  
Betley  
d. 18.3.1838
  - (2) Elizabeth  
Bloomfield  
of  
Hunterston  
at Wybunbury  
Feb. 1839  
b. c. 1810  
Audlem  
d. 12.1.1893

SAMUEL  
SWINNERTON  
(SS. 31)  
b. c. 1807  
d. 24.10.1855  
Little Drayton  
Surgeon

= Susannah  
Harding  
2.4.1835  
Shrewsbury  
b. c. 1793  
d. 26.7.1877  
Little Drayton

HENRY  
SWINNERTON  
(HS. 15)  
Of London  
bp. Betley  
25.12.1815  
Corn Factor

THOMAS  
SWINNERTON  
(TS. 26 )  
b. c. 1796  
Gamekeeper

= Esther  
Lunt  
14.5.1815  
Betley  
b. c. 1796

MARGARET  
(MS. 46)  
bp. 5.4.1816  
Betley

MARY  
(MS. 96)  
b. c. 1821  
d. 26.5.1837  
Betley

ELIZABETH  
(ES. 95 )  
b. c. 1826

ESTHER  
(ES. 96)  
bp. 10.5.1836  
Betley

SAMUEL  
(SS. 41)  
bp. 1830  
Betley

HENRY  
(HS. 43 )  
bp. 19.8.1833  
Betley  
Blacksmith

THOMAS  
(TS. 71)  
b. c. 1837