



Hannah Ludlow - Legacy to the Poor of Hankerton 1869

Hannah was born in Bristol and in all probability never came to Hankerton because she had no reason to. I will start my story with her Grandparents who did live here.

John Ludlow was a Yeoman in Hankerton and must have owned some lands. He married Hannah Parker in 1754 in Old Sodbury, Gloucestershire. I am not sure where they lived but assuming they owned Little Tanknells and Oaklands they probably lived Murcott side of the village. There are also other fields around the Eastcourt Lane with the name of Ludlow.

The couple had one son called Thomas in 1755. Thomas was christened in Hankerton Church on the 19th October 1755. The Ludlows belonged to the established church of the village, indeed his Uncle Giles was Church warden at one time. John died when Thomas was just 10 years old and his Mother died when he was 15.

By the time Thomas was 17 he was Living in Bristol and serving an apprenticeship as Ironmonger for Nathaniel Ogborn. What happened to his father's lands in the village, I don't know but he must have kept Little Tanknells and Oaklands because he was still getting revenue from them in 1841.

Nathaniel Ogborn and his family were Quakers and at some time Thomas became one as well and in 1778 when Thomas was 23 he married the bosses daughter Alice!

They were married in the Quaker meeting house at The Church of St. Philip and St. Jacob on the 23rd June 1778.

Alice was much older than Thomas (25 years) and at the age of 49 she had a daughter and they called her Hannah, two years later she had a son and they called him Thomas. They were both baptised in the Quaker meeting house.

Alice must have been a very resourceful woman because two years after the birth of her son her husband died, and she continued running the family ironmongers (she is named in a trade magazine of the time) until her son Thomas was old enough to take it on. Neither Thomas nor Hannah ever married. Alice died in 1814 aged 84 and left all her estate (apart from some household goods and small legacies to servants) to Thomas.

Thomas died in 1847 but did not leave a will so his Sister Hannah inherited everything.

This is where Hankerton comes back into the picture when Hannah left the two fields Little Tanknells and Oakland in Trust for the poor of the village. She died in 1869 aged 90, she left a very long will but apart from small legacies to servants she left everything to a charity.

As I said Hannah had no reason to come back to the village there were no records of Ludlows living here after 1796 so she had no family here and the business of the fields could easily have been carried out by her agents.