

## Our Ham

Why do people come long distances for a few slices of our Cooked Ham?

Because of a particular knack of 'curing' which makes you want more.

Try some on our recommendation.

SHOP AT  
**DERRICK'S**

## SANDERSON'S

for good footwear

JOHN WHITE - NORVIC  
JAMES STEVENSON  
KILTIE - CINDERELLA  
and other good makes in stock

Repairs a Speciality

Personal Supervision

Proprietress:

(Miss) V. SANDERSON  
141-143 High Street, Berkhamsted  
Phone 861

## H. LEE & SONS

Manufacturers of First Class

MINERAL WATERS

SQUASHES • CORDIALS

NON-ALCOHOLIC WINES

HIGH STREET, BERKHAMSTED

Telephone 106

THE TITHE PAYERS OF BERKHAMSTED — Continued

## When Ashlyns was sold for £4,620

How happy local historians would be if every rector had been as fond of writing as the Rev. John Jeffries! His manuscript books (from which extracts have been given in earlier articles) are full of facts and figures which cannot be obtained from any other known source.

For instance, some notes on the fly-leaf of the first of two tithe books kept by Dr. Jeffries ("Berkhamsted Terriers" from 1757 to 1781\*) provide a valuable supplement to our scanty knowledge of the history of Ashlyns.

### SOLD IN CHANCERY

The notes relate to the time when the estate passed to the Dorrien family, following the death of Mrs. Mary Essington. Ashlyns, states Dr. Jeffries, was sold in Chancery on November 21, 1764.

Lot No. 1 comprised the house and garden, two orchards (eight acres), woodland (nine acres), the farm (202 acres of arable and eight of meadow land, rent £75 per annum), and two meadows near the town (eight acres, rent £8). The sale price was £4,620.

Lot No. 2 consisted of two houses in the town with an orchard and two meadows of upwards of three acres, the rent being £18 17s. 6d. per annum. The purchaser, Mr. Walker, paid £440.

### BROAD OAK FARM

On the same page, we find a reference to Broad Oak Farm.

No, this is not a mistake for Cross Oak Farm. The two farms are listed in the 1757 and later Terriers. Broad Oak, near Ashlyns, was much the larger of the two; it was farmed by Robert Taylor, who paid £9 tithe for the 90 acres. Richard Wood paid £2 6s. for the

\* Terrier.— A book in which landed property is registered and described.

23-acre Cross Oak Farm. For the large Kingshill Farm of 159 acres, William Chappell paid £15 8s. tithe.

On the opposite side of the parish, Coldharbour was farmed by Edmund Blacknall and Samuel Waters, whose tithe dues were £10 and £4 for 182 and 90 acres, respectively. While the usual rate was 2s. an acre for arable land, Coldharbour farmers paid 1s. an acre, as the soil was then of poor quality. A 17th century survey said that "the land is much Impayred and worne out of harte, being very stony ground and cold and squesy land." Stony Bottom is still a familiar name, though no one now speaks of the rather forbidding name of another part of Coldharbour — Mouldy Green Plain!

### THE WINDMILL

Here is a particularly interesting extract from the 1757 Terrier:

	s. d.
Wm. Sutton in Doctors	
Common, 5 roods	2 6
do. a Garden and piece of Meadow	2 6
do. Benings Dell and Windmill	1 0

The windmill, shown in a rare print of 1724, stood on Whitehill, and bore the name of the last miller, Bening (or Benning), who went blind and was described in a contemporary document as one of the most pitiable of local paupers. The windmill was presumably still standing in 1757, for it is mentioned in the Terrier for that year; but in 1772 there is a reference to "Benings Dell" only. On the other hand, the 1782 Terrier refers to the land as Windmill Piece.

### THE HOP-GARDEN

In the heart of Berkhamsted, tithe dues of 9s. a year were paid by Robert Bates for The Wilderness. Mr. Jowler paid 1s. for a piece of meadow land, unspecified, and 5s. for a hop-garden. Presumably this was the hop-garden on the west side of King's-road, between Hope Hall and Charles-street; but there was another hop-garden on the hillside below Berkhamsted Place.

For gardens, orchards, and "a small piece of sanfoin," payments ranging from £1 to sixpence were made. Edmund Boheme paid £1 for his garden and orchard, and a similar amount was paid by James Tomlyn for the "Frogmores"—4½ acres of marshy land between Mill-street and Lower King's-road. The little Moor is all that remains of the ancient Frogmoors.

Two innkeepers each paid 2s. 6d. for their orchards: John Butler, of the King's Arms, and Charles Humphrey, of the Prince's Arms. Cobb's "History

of Berkhamsted" states that the Prince's Arms (the George in Henry VIII's days and the Sarson's Head in earlier times) "is now represented by the houses occupied by Mr. Norris and Mr. Richard Wood." That, however, was written in 1855, and I have never been able to identify the site.

### SIXPENCE A YEAR

The smallest tithe payers in 1757 were George Rose, H. Tarbox, —, Budd, and Widow Green, who each paid sixpence for their orchards.

Small tracts of the common were apparently subject to tithe. One entry states: "Daniel Wheeler upon the Common 3 pieces of Grass, 5 acres, 10s." A marginal note states: "Worth 15s."! Similarly, among the last entries, headed "Freesden Hamlet," we find the following: "John Terry upon the Common 22 acres, £2 4s. 0d." "Freesden," of course, was Frithsden, and "Potters End" was written for Potten End.

### KITS END FARM

Later Terriers are largely repetitive, though occasionally we find fresh items of interest. For instance, the 1782 Terrier refers to T. Winter's Kits End Farm of 56 acres, with tithe dues of £7. Kits End is now Kitsbury. Mr. Winter's half-timbered farmhouse survived until about 30 years ago.

The Terrier for 1795 is interesting in that the word "Poor" is written after the names of H. Nightingal, Richard Pocock, Caesar Rock, T. Pope, and E. Palmer, whose dues ranged from 1s. to sixpence. In 1806, a William Shakespeare was among the sixpenny tithe-payers!

At the turn of the century, the Canal Company began to figure in the Terriers. Payment in 1800 was 4s. 6d.; by 1802 work on the canal was far advanced, and the company had to pay £1 16s. 7d. tithe.

### OLD FAMILY NAMES

The Rev. Charles de Guiffardiere, rector of Berkhamsted from 1798 to 1809, did not keep such detailed records as his predecessor, Dr. Jeffries. The last of his Terriers (1809) shows that Lord Bridgewater was the largest tithe-payer (£31 3s. 3d.); next came James Smith, of Ashlyns (father of Augustus Smith), with £20 11s., and Mr. John Page, of the King's Arms, with £16 14s. 10d. Among other landowners and farmers were Thomas Dorrien, Ashby, Bedford, Gates, Archer, Pechell, Geary, Eggleton, Rance, Meager, Grant, Moore, Bailey and Parsons.

### "GONE FOR A SOLDIER"

The "Great Tythes" of 1809 amounted to £208, and £5 7s. 7d. was "bad money." Small tithes totalled £8 11s. 2d., and only 7s. was "bad." Among the small debtors was William Wells, who should have remitted sixpence. A marginal note states "not paid," and after his name the following words are pencilled: "Gone for a Soldier."

Not to escape paying sixpence, surely!

'BEORCHAM'

## EMERGENCY MEDICINE

### Local Arrangements

Arrangements for the emergency supply of medicine now operating in Berkhamsted is as follows:—

### CHEMISTS' ROTA

The week-day evening (6.7 p.m.) and Sunday morning (11.30 a.m.—12.30 p.m.) service rota adopted by Berkhamsted chemists for the dispensing of medical prescriptions, is as follows for the current month:—

January 2—8: Figg.  
January 9—15: Dickman.  
January 16—22: Taylors.  
January 23—29: Boots.  
Jan. 30.—Feb. 5: Figg.

### LIBRARY OPENING TIMES

The Berkhamsted Branch of the County Library is open in Prince Edward Street on the following days and times:—

Mon., Tues. and Fri.—10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.; 5.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.  
Wednesday—CLOSED ALL DAY.  
Thursday—10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Saturday—10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; 2.30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

## De Wool Shoppe

We specialize in  
HAND-KNITTED Made to  
GARMENTS measure

Many makes of wool always in stock,  
including "P & B" (Beehive)

MUNROSFUN  
COPLEYS VIYELLA  
SIRDAR  
LAINES de PINGOUIN  
LADYSHIP & HOLIDAY

Everything for the Needlewoman

EXCLUSIVE TAPESTRIES

162 High St., Berkhamsted  
TEL 992

Telegrams: MATTHEWS, Berkhamsted Telephone 15

Builders, Contractors and Decorators

**H. & J. Matthews Ltd.**

Funeral Directors, Cremations, Embalming

CASTLE STREET, BERKHAMSTED

## A. HART

(A. C. HART FELLJ.R.E.)

for TELEVISION

RADIO, TELEVISION & ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS

256 HIGH ST., BERKHAMSTED

Phone 465