



# Lobley Link 2010



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**Julia and I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.**

Whilst 2010 has brought even more resources online for budding family historians, my visits to archives have been limited to infrequent trips to the British Library and to the Society of Genealogists in London, where I can lose myself for a whole day in their huge library. I have even found a little time to branch out, way from the Lobley One-Name Study - to undertake a little research on my mother's side of the family (Halls and Goodwin) and on Julia's family (Cosby and Malin). Sometimes it is worthwhile to distance oneself from the tried and trusted resources you use all of the time, and to branch out in a different research direction. It may just provide you with a clue to revitalise your own research.

A Merry Christmas to everyone.

*Phil and Julia*

## More on online records

**Ancestry**, in conjunction with the LMA, have extended their baptisms, marriages and burials in the London are. **Essex Archives** have extended their online access, with a further update expected to bring all available records online up to 1837. If anyone would like an image of baptism, marriage or burial of any of their London ancestors, please let me know, and I will try my best.

**London Lives** - In this website, the Economic and Social Research Council has made available, in a fully digitised and searchable form, a wide range of primary sources about eighteenth-century London, with a particular focus on "plebeian" Londoners. You may access a little of the lives of over 3 million Londoners from 1690 to 1800 FREE at [www.londonlives.org](http://www.londonlives.org).

Records come from a variety of sources including churchwardens accounts from St. Botolph Aldgate-St. Dionis Backchurch Lane and St. Giles Barbican and many other sources.

There are a few Loblays mentioned in the records. One of these, Margaret Lobley (I believe that she may be the wife of the Daniel Lobley I featured in 2008) appears to have caused a bit of trouble herself in 1763, when she was mentioned in the minutes of the Court of Governors of the Bridewell Hospital, "on the Oath of Mary Wright Matron of the Work house of Norton Falgate for greatly misbehaving herself in the said Work house and Pawning the Wearing Apparel provided for her."

## A Lobley at Agincourt with Henry V ?

Well - at least it is a possibility! Two databases now online at <http://www.icmcentre.ac.uk/soldier/database/> provide list of soldiers who accompanied Henry V to France. Although I have not had the opportunity to access the source documents to confirm their names, the data suggests that two archers, John and Robert Lobley, were present in 1421 and 1417

respectively (Agincourt was fought in 1415). Later, there a several references to one or more John Loblays, said to have be in the garrison at Rouen and at the siege of Creil from 1422-34. In my database, there are few Loblays prior to 1500, as records containing personal names are scarcer. However, I have recorded at least



two Robert Loblays in Lincolnshire in about 1600. One final piece of speculation - the garrison database shows John Lobley, an archer, in Rouen in 1430, under the command of Richard Beauchamp, earl of Warwick. The following year, Richard Beauchamp supervised Joan of Arc's trial for supposed heresy, and her subsequent execution by burning in the market place at Rouen. Was a Lobley present at that grisly execution?

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## Pantaloon and Property Man - more on William Lobley

The following article caught my eye whilst 'googling' the other day. It is taken from the 'Theatrical Times' of 3rd June 1848.

**ROCHESTER THEATRE ROYAL.** - This theatre, after closing a very indifferent season, opened for 'one night more' on Monday. The performance was for the benefit of Mt Lobley, Pantaloon and Property man whose first benefit had proved a failure. Prior to the commencement of the performance at the Theatre, Mr Lobley treated a 'generous public' (?) with the exhibition of himself on the river Medway, riding in a washing tub, dressed as Clown, and drawn by two geese; the unfortunate birds were not the only geese present. This was an exhibition that did no credit to the establishment. The result was a second failure. The pieces were 'The Dream of Fate,' 'The Dead Shot,' and 'Jocko.' The actors, including Messrs. James, Young, Hambleton, and Mrs. Bartlett and Miss Palmer, exerted themselves most effectually. In the last piece, the celebrated Plimmeri plated Jocko with his usual excellence.

This made me start as little research into the life of this theatrical Lobley. In LobleyLink 2008, I mentioned the arrest of William and Margaret Lobley, members of a theatrical corps in London in 1839. I believe this 'property man' in Kent to be the same individual.

Following references to his life in the newspaper section of the British Library, we discover that his career was on the up. By 1853 he was in Birmingham, 1860 in Newcastle (where he married for a second time) - and in 1863 at the Theatre Royal in Edinburgh - a 'Property Maker'. However, having barely survived the disastrous fire that destroyed that theatre in 1865, his career was on the downturn. In 1880, after a brief return to London:

### An Appeal.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—I have been requested to call the attention of the numerous readers of *The Era* to a case of real distress, and one that I feel assured will draw forth the warmest sympathies of the Profession, who are never backward in extending ready aid to any deserving object. Mr William Lobley, property maker, who bears an irreproachable character for integrity, is now, at the age of sixty-five years, utterly prostrated by severe, and, I fear, permanent, illness, being laid up in his lodgings, 27, Clare-street, Liverpool, by rheumatic fever, and he has entirely lost the use of his limbs. Mr Lobley was, during his long career, employed by various Managers, among the rest Mr E. Saker, Alexandra Theatre, Liverpool; the late Mr John Douglass, Standard Theatre, London; Mr Wyndham, of Edinburgh; Mr E. D. Davies, Newcastle, and many others; and also in the employment of Mr Thornton, of the "Kent Circuit," for a number of years. The smallest contributions will be thankfully received, on behalf of Mr Lobley, *by me*, to assist him temporarily; and ultimately his friends hope to raise a few pounds to put his wife in some small business, in order that the aged couple may struggle on the few short years that are left to them. I am, Sir, yours, &c.,

JAMES PEAROE, Property Master.

Grand Theatre, Leeds, April 28th, 1880.

In the 1881 Census, he is enumerated, with Catherine (his 3rd wife?) in Liverpool. William died in 1883:

**DIED;** August 25th, at his residence in Liverpool, after a long and painful illness, William Lobley, sixty-five, known for upwards of forty years in the mechanical and modelling departments of nearly all the principal theatres in the United Kingdom

William's effects were sold off by his widow.

FOR SALE.  
To Managers of Theatres, Circuses, and Property Masters.  
**TO BE SOLD, Cheap, for Cash, the Entire Stock of**  
the late William Lobley, consisting of a great variety of MASSES  
(in Oil), Demos, Comedies, and Animals; also a number of Elaborate  
Moulds, including Nix, the Demon Head.  
Address, Mrs Loutsev, 27, Clare-street, Liverpool.

His complicated family history is beginning to emerge - but that is for another year.

## Another Lobley painting



**CHELSEA REACH**  
JOHN HODGSON LOBLEY

You may find further information on it, and similar paintings, on the gallery website at:

[Arcadja.com](http://Arcadja.com)

***Until next Year!***