



Lobley Link 2011



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

With little opportunity to visit archives this year – (but only 18 months to go to retirement!), I have again conducted a lot of my research using online resources. Although I have warned against trusting such resources in the past, I do acknowledge the tremendous effort that has been put in to the scanning and indexing of these valuable sources of family history information. I've recently come up with some fascinating information on my own Lobley line that serves to put meat on the bones of simple birth, marriages and deaths and gives an insight into the lives of our ancestors. Happy hunting!

A Merry Christmas to everyone.

Phil and Julia

More online records

Ancestry: www.ancestry.co.uk are continuing to expand their UK parish register collection, with significant numbers now online from London, West Yorkshire and Lancashire (good Lobley hunting counties).

Essex Archives:

seax.essexcc.gov.uk/EssexAncestors have extended the online access to their parish records, but now charge for access to the images.

FindMyPast: www.findmypast.co.uk are more British based, but provide a useful alternative to Ancestry, especially for Census records. Not all transcriptions agree! Until recently, they had the monopoly on the 1911 Census records. Now Ancestry are catching up.

FamilySearch: www.familysearch.org/

The original home of the old IGI, this Mormon site has been considerably updated and expanded and is well worth a tour. Beware of the family trees and odd references submitted by individuals!

The British Newspaper Archive:

www.britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk

The British Newspaper Archive is a partnership between the British Library and brightsolid online publishing to digitise up to 40 million newspaper pages from the British Library's vast collection over the next 10 years.

The British Library's newspaper collections are among the finest in the world, containing most of the runs of newspapers published in the UK since 1800. This newsletter contains the first extracts I have made from that archive.

Sarah Lobley in court

Mentioned above, the British Newspaper Archive has only been made available to the public within the last month, and I only signed up to it this week, I have already made some significant discoveries that mention individuals within my own family tree – and some direct ancestors. I'll share some below.

Essex Standard: 8th May 1846

One of the Chelmsford Petty Session reports from the 1st May that year:

BASTARDY.—Sarah Lobley, of Stock, applied for orders of affiliation upon Samuel Fuulkner, lately residing at Waltham Abbey. The defendant did not appear, but from the statement of the applicant it appeared that whilst she was in service at the Eagle public house, at Margaretting, Faulkner paid his addresses to her; it was however represented to her mistress that he was her uncle, and a letter from him to the applicant was produced, in which after expressing wishes for her happiness he signed himself "Your loving uncle and aunt, Samuel Faulkner." (Loud Laughter.) In the absence of corroborative testimony the bench declined to make any order.

Now, I already knew about Sarah Lobley. She came from a line of Lobleys closely linked to my own. It is possible that her grandfather, Joshua, and my ancestor William, were brothers. Baptised in West Hanningfield, Essex in 1824, she was the daughter of Martha Lobley (also unmarried). In 1846, Sarah gave birth to William Lobley at the Chelmsford Union Workhouse. What I now know is that – probably – the father was a Samuel Faulkner. What I still don't know is what happened to Sarah. In the 1851 Census, her son William is 'a visitor' in the house of a farrier, in Chelmsford, but there is no sign of Sarah. Did she marry? To whom?

Jacob Lobley, farm bailiff

My great, great grandfather Jacob was born in Pitsea in 1825. An agricultural labourer (AgLab), he moved to the Epping area in the 1860s. The 1881 Census shows him in Epping, still as an AgLab, but not showing his employment details. This little story shows who he worked for and in what capacity. Other newspaper records of the time note his success at local Agricultural shows.

*Chelmsford Chronicle - Friday 11 March 1881
Reports from the Petty Sessions*

Reuben Church, farmer, of Notteswell, was charged with using a lurcher dog for the purpose of searching for and killing a hare, on the 24th ult.—Mr. Phelps retired from the bench while this case was being heard.—Defendant admitted that his dog killed the hare on land in the occupation of Mr. John Ricketts, but said that the dog was only a puppy—not a lurcher—and it met the hare in the road; after the hare was killed he took it to Mr. Ricketts, who refused to have it.—The allegation on the part of the prosecution was that the affair was planned, that defendant and his dog kept the road while defendant's son and others started the hare. It was suggested that defendant would not have taken the hare to Mr. Rickett's had not Jacob Lobley, a bailiff in Mr. Rickett's employment, seen the dog chasing the hare through the farmyard.—The summons was dismissed.

David Lobley – a tragedy on the railway

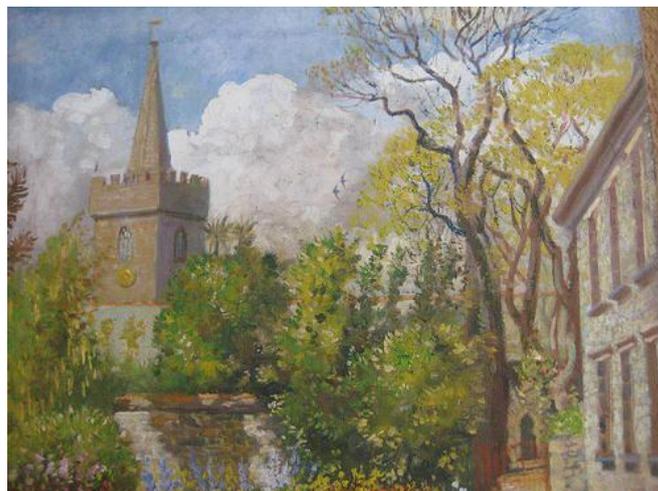
Essex Newsman - Saturday 17 July 1875

FATAL ACCIDENT AT PITSEA STATION. — An inquest was held at the Railway Tavern, Pitsea, on Monday, the 5th inst., before Mr. C. C. Lewis, jun., deputy coroner, and a jury of whom Mr. Wm. Moors was foreman, on the body of David Lobley, aged 24, a porter at the Pitsea station, who was unfortunately killed at the station on the previous Friday.—It appears that a goods train, after having arrived from Southend, had to be shunted on to the down line to allow a passenger train to pass; it was then pulled back to the up line to take on some trucks. Deceased, before he went in between the trucks, put his lamp down in the six-foot way, and then gave a stop signal. He walked in sideways, and was seen no more until he was found in a dying state a minute or two afterwards.—The Coroner, having briefly summed up the evidence adduced, the jury returned as their verdict, "That David Lobley died from injuries received on the 2nd inst., at Pitsea station, he being jammed between the buffers of two trucks." The deceased was buried in Pitsea churchyard on the 7th, the service being impressively read by the Rev. H. Basted. The deceased a member of the Leigh Court Fishermen's Pride, 5,243 A.O.F., had the usual Forestry honours paid to his remains by officers and members from Leigh. A considerable number of the Pitsea people assembled in the churchyard.

David Lobley was a nephew of Jacob (above). He was the son of George and Susannah Hubbard. Born in 1850 in Nevendon, he and his family moved to Pitsea, where David became a railway porter. In 1875, David was killed at work. The article above uses information gathered from the inquest, and provides comprehensive detail on the accident, gives an idea of David's character, and poses the question of why he joined the Ancient Order of Foresters (a 'friendly society' formed in 1834) at such a relatively young age. He would have hoped to use the benefits provided by the society, but sadly did not live to take advantage of them. I hope that they provided for his family.

If anyone would like me to search for any of their ancestors using this fascinating archive, please let me know.

Another painting by John Hodgson Lobley



St Keverne with Coverack
JOHN HODGSON LOBLEY

Found at: www.stkevernechurch.org.uk/stkeverne/artdraw/artdraw03.html. According to the website St. Keverne was painted in the early 1940s when Lobley was staying in St. Keverne vicarage as a guest of the incumbent, the Rev Pulford.

Until next Year!

Phil Lobley