

GORTON FAMILY

23 Wartle St
COBRAM
3644
VICTORIA,
Australia
25/3/76.

Dear Mr. Roberts,

Thank you so much for your letter & the information you have given us, this now makes one step closer to finding out what happened to these children of William & Martha, where did they go when old enough to work.

I agree that there's a great possibility that when the Records at Reading Records Office are searched, I must agree the archivist - said there were many books of Records of the Barrington Estate.

I think I told you I wrote to Mr Arthur Gorton of Longcot who answered my letter & he said he hoped to get to Reading over the Xmas period & he'd try to look up for us - also we are waiting to hear from Tony Trallis who is going to get onto a searcher at Reading for us. This now is the main "want" & fact we need marriage cert. of William & Martha.

I had a letter from dear old 90 y old Martha Telling (of Strventham) & she told me there are quite a few families of Telling - living at "Mentby" ? Mentby? about 18 miles out of Swindon. She mentions too a family of Gortons (used to live in Strventham) now live in

Fultham (looks like in her writing) a village near
Shrovenham - I wonder if it's there that our
William & Martha married. The Telling family was
a large one - believe this Martha's husband, Telling
had 9 sons & 2 daughters. She mentioned one of these sons
lived to 104!

I was wondering if you knew of someone in this
village that I might contact - it's worth a try - in
case these Tellings are of "our" Telling (Martha) I guess this
is the only way we'll find anything in memory or in
Fultham (Gossons).

Rev George & I thank you for your time & interest to
us in searching the records we needed so badly & should
you find out any further details at any time would
be so grateful. This Gosson family certainly was a good
story & I hope & pray the ~~it~~ children in later life had
a better life than their parents. Who says the good old
day!

Please find enclosed a donation to your Church's
Restoration Fund. I was most interested in your
notes re the St. Andrew's Church.

Every best wish to you & your family

Yours sincerely
Joyce Clarke

Oh, I did write to the newspaper you gave in the address
& here's hoping some descendant of the Gools in the
Epston family or the folk who "boarded" the Gools
might contact me -

Replied
8/3/76

23 WARKIL ST

COBRAM

3644

VICT

Australia

21-8-76

Dear Mr Roberts,

Thank you very much for your help & kindness to my
research "Tony Trallis" when he specially went all the way
from Norwich to Shrewsbury, in order to obtain Church
records of our "Gorton" ancestors. Also many thanks for your
personal notes on records held by St Andrew's ^{Parish} George Gorton
& myself were so thrilled to get this information & the
beautiful photos of your delightful Shrewsbury that Tony
took - in colour - of church & buildings, already put into our
"Big" Gorton family album. I read with great interest the
St Andrew's Guide that Tony purchased - re the history of Shrewsbury
the church, & I hope the church folk realise they have a truly
lovely place of worship & that donations come in to help in
your restoration appeal. Also the Parish News for August
was read from cover to cover, even the ads that go to
help pay for printing.

Now a ? to your notes (to Tony) you listed the following
names - Mrs KNAPP - FRANK KNAPP - KATHLEEN
also - other William Gorton - to whom I'd written & his ^{GORTON} ~~descendant~~
(not our Gorton) Could you tell me their (John) address as
I know that in 1853 - may - Ann Gorton - was a married Elizabeth
Knapp (widow) & would Frank Knapp & Mrs K. be their
descendants?

2 now re this Ann Gordon (widow) any records to show if she was wife of John Gordon who ^{born} ~~was~~ 1801 & married Ann Searly 11-3-1823 - John died 1825 - could Ann have married Elisha Knapp?

also Here's records of Ann Gordon's lady Bapt. 25-11-1835 - "Ellen" this Anne Gordon could not have been Elisha Knapp's wife - was she the wife of Matthew Gordon (Ann Kent 13-10-1845) we think this likely - & these were parents of "Ellen" are there any details re parents in this Bapt. record held by your church?

also These names seem to suggest could be brothers & sisters of our William Gordon - Thomas Gordon ^{wife Sarah Floyd? 1767} & son Matthew who wed H. Kent
Martha Gordon married William Johnston - 14-6-1807 (E. Beers)
Hannah Gordon - " Edmund Ball - March? 1810 " "

There maybe even more in the family - but these I have records of also - could there be parents of our William Gordon?

Hannah Gordon died 1806 - age 56.
Henry " " 1799 - " 46"

Is there any record at all relating to who were children of these 2? & were they man & wife - I haven't they were.

also - Could there be any way I could find out what happened to William & Martha's Springfield children after they died in 1821? I will write to the local paper if you can tell me where to write to.

also - I notice that a note from Tony Tralli states the church was built in ^{Franklin} James & finished Charles I - as initials C.R. one carved on porch. It cost £4,000 - built by ^{Paul} ~~or~~ ? Sir Henry Martineau marten of Becket estate. Sons William & Martha G.

now - George & I are wondering where George & Joseph G. worked ca. 1824 - the time when the first meeting of influential Lords & business men in London to form H. A. Co. took place - we have records to show that George was engaged by the H. A. Co. in 1826 - age 23 - recommended by Robert Dixon - of "Becket" & Joseph was 15 yrs - engaged 1827

what we really want is some clue as to where these 2 boys
 worked up to this time - after death of both Parents - could
 they have been employed by the Becker Estate & known
 to the company there for their knowledge of horse husbandry
 & general farming ability? I know this is asking a
 lot, but we are trying to establish the place of
 work when engaged to A.P. Co, in Aug - & what
 happened to Elizabeth, daughter of William & Martha,
 is a truly sad case I know, Elizabeth would have been
 about 11 yrs old at death of parents & couldn't have looked
 after her brothers & sisters - Sophia & Charlotte & these
 girls must have been looked after by someone.

Are there no records of their marriage in your
 Church records, again I'm really asking a lot,
 but could you look in the records & see please, I
 know you are a very busy man, but if we don't
 clear up this ? now, it will be just left & never
 established. I'd like anything on record after 1824
 Birth - Death or Marriage & maybe I can get a true picture
 & record of this family of Epworths.

I would be happy to send you a donation towards
 your "Appeal" in grateful thanks for your help &
 co-operation in my request for "Records of Epworths"

Hoping to hear from you re all my wants &
 again thank you for your help & interest

Yours sincerely
 Mrs J. K. CLARKE

8/3/76

1. Cannot find address of Frank Knapp
Kathleen Gorton.

2. Extract from Shidenham Church Register
shows

May 29/1852 Elisha Knapp, widower
age 60?

may have understated
his age

married Ann Gorton, widow
age 50

Elisha Knapp died 8 Feby 1863 and
age given as 76.

Ann ^{may} Knapp died 3 March 1870
age 66

3. Ellen Gorton born 25 Oct 1835

was shown in Baptism Register as
being the daughter of Anne Gorton
who was described as a pauper, but
no mention of the father.

4. Matthew Gorton - we have no record in
our Church Register of his birth, ~~or~~
marriage or death.

5. John Gorton, born 1801 married Ann Sealy
on 11 March 1823 and died on 1825

6(a) On May 29, 1852 Ann May Gorton, widow,
married Eliza Knapp, widower aged 60
Her age was given in the Register as 50

She was most likely the Ann Sealy
who m. John Gorton (see 5 above)

6(b) Eliza Knapp died on 8 Feb. 1863 and age
given as 70.

Ann ^{May Knapp} ~~Gorton~~ died 3 March 1870 and age
given as 66

Keep in mind that ages ~~are~~ given on
marriage may have been understated.

8. William and Martha Gorton.

A note in the Parish Overseers account
book for 1821 records that Wm died of
Small pox in April 1821 and that the Overseers
paid the doctor who attended him and also
paid the funeral expenses. A few months
later (Aug. 1821) Martha died & the Overseers
paid her funeral expenses.

time of the deaths of W^m Trantia,
and would have been responsible for
looking after the orphaned children,

~~There is~~ The Beckett estate was
broken up nearly 50 years ago and
in the 1930's the house and grounds were
purchased by the War Department and
is now the Roy. Mil. Coll of Sc.

Dawson would therefore be able to give
first-hand knowledge of ^{both} ~~the~~ boys' abilities
and so recommend them to the Aust. Coy.

The elder boy would be already working
when his parents died ~~so~~ would therefore
not be a charge on parish relief funds.

9. As I mentioned to W^m Trallis there
appear to have been more than one
family named Goston; I found on travelling
from village to village that there were
several families apparently unrelated but
they had no records, such as a family
bible in which it was customary amongst
country people to enter particulars of births,
marriages & deaths etc.

An Ann Goston of Shrewsbury is recorded as
having died on 16 March 1853 aged 86. She

Two of the daughters of Wm. Martha,
Sophia, born 23 March 1816 and
Charlotte born 10 June 1818 were
boarded out to foster parents at Littleworth
- a village about 10 miles distant from Shrewsbury -
by the Overseers whose records show
the cost of taking them to Littleworth^(3/-) and
regular monthly payments for their keep for
some years. I can find no trace

of them at Littleworth and it is likely
that as soon as they reached the age of
12 or 13 were sent on to domestic service
but there is no record in the minutes
or accounts of the Overseers.
The two ~~other~~ ^{other children, Brothers Joseph & Elizabeth}
~~children~~, ~~George & Joseph~~ were
boarded out on a Mr. & Mrs. Gosling of Shrewsbury
and again there is a record of regular
payments until July 1825 when the
payments was reduced to cover just the youngest
child and this ceased.

It is most likely that both boys were
employed on the Beckett Estate; they would
be well-known to Robert Dawson, who
was the Estate Agent to Lord Barington and
who also was one of the Overseers at the

was shown in the Gloucester Account book
as receiving parish relief for many
years. She was described as a widow but
I could find nothing further about her.
She would have been born in 1767
(presuming her ^{given} age at the time of death to
be correct)

10. The Church. The initials CR refer to
Charles II not Charles I. The church
suffered damage and deterioration during
the Cromwellian period, when John Wildman
(whose descendants became ~~the Viscounts~~, Lords
Barrington) who was a noted Anabaptist
and a thorn in the side of Cromwell, was
imprisoned for a number of years during
the years 1659-60. It was considerably
rebuilt at the expense of Sir Henry Marten
in the 1680's; the tower and ^{the portion of} the west wall
~~were~~ were built in the ^{12th} ~~13th~~ century &
incorporated in the rebuilding of 1685.

1/ W^m. Knapp. Frank Knapp - Kathleen Gorton.
? their address.

2/ Shrewsbury Parish Registers - (many in)

May 29 / 1852 Elisha Knapp age 60[?] widower
W. Ann Gorton age 50 widow.

Elisha Knapp died 8/2/1863 age 76.

Anne May Knapp died 3/3/1870 age 66 ?

Anne Gorton - born 1802 could have been the Ann
Sealy who m. John G. in 1823

Ann Knapp d. 19/12/1880 age 85

John Crofton - born 1801 ; m. Anne Sealy 11. 3. 23
d. 1825.

Ellen Crofton b. Oct 25/1835 d. of Anne Crofton
(Baptism Register) no mention of father.
(Anne Crofton described as 'pauper'.

Ann Crofton, Shrewsbury, died 16 March 1853
aged 86.

Churchwardens etc for 1821 (Cf Book for period
1792 to 1825)

Wm Crofton died of small pox April - and
the parish paid his funeral expenses, as
well as the doctor's bill.

Mother Crofton - Funeral expenses. (July/August
1821)

June 5/1821 - Pd. for taking Crofton's children to
Littleworth 3/-

Robert Dawson was Lt. Bannington Estate Agent.
also an overseer 1822/23

May 11/1822 - Parish pay for notice of 2 Crofton Children at R. Gosling
- do - - do - at Littleworth

3. William & Martha Craton

had 4 children.

2 boys.

2 girls

A note in the Overseers Accounts for 1821 showed W^m died of Small pox in April 1821

The Overseers paid the doctors bill for attendance on W^m Cr. and also paid the funeral expenses.

a little later
Dec ~~1821~~ 1821, Martha Craton ~~died~~
a note of Aug. stated the
her funeral expenses paid by the

Overseers.

May 11/1822

The 2 girls Sophia born 23/3/1816

and Charlotte born 10/6/1818

were boarded out at Littleworth, a village near Farningham and the Overseers record regular payments being sent to Littleworth.

The 2 boys were boarded out on a Mr R. Gosling of Shroveton, again regular payments to the Goslings until in July 1825 when 1 boy only ~~was~~ of the 2 girls were paid for.

The elder boy may have been employed on Lord Barmylin's ^{Beckett's} estate until he went to London & thence to Australia. Robt. Dawson was the Estate Agent to L.B. and for a few

years was also one of the Overseers &
so would know the two boys - and so
would be in a position to assess the boys
abilities & recommend them to the A.A. Co.

Baptisms

Children of W^m Shuckler Cotton

Apr. 14 Sophia
(born 23/3/1816)

June 27 Charlotte
(born 15/6/1818)

Jan/Feb 1825. The allowance for looking after 4
children of Coxkins now is reduced
to 3 children - presumably the 1 boy
had gone to the Australian Co.

1. Frank Knapp . Address

2. May 29/1852 Elisha Knapp ^{name registered} aged 60?
widower

married Anne May Gorton aged 50?
widow

Elisha died 8/2/1863 @ 76
His widow died 3/3/1870 @ 66

Ann Gorton who was born in 1802 ~~and~~ ^{may}
have been the Ann Seely who married
John Gorton in 1823.

Ann Gorton of Strivetham died 16/3/1853 ^{born}
shown as receiving Parish aged 86 1767
Relief for many years.