

THE STORY OF ANN TENNANT OF LONG COMPTON, WARWICKSHIRE [1794-1875]

Ann TENNANT was my great, great grandmother.

Born Ann SMITH, she was baptised at Long Compton on 12th April, 1795, daughter of Edward SMITH and his wife Elizabeth.

She married John TENNANT, [baptised at Spelsbury on 3rd January, 1796] on 12th April, 1819 at Long Compton Parish Church.

John and Ann had 7 children all of whom were baptised at Long Compton Parish Church:

1. JOSEPH [baptised January 1825] who married Elizabeth CLIFTON at Brailes on 28th October, 1842. They had 5 daughters between 1844 and 1867.
2. ELIZABETH [baptised February 1827] who married William HUGHES at Long Compton on 25th December 1843. They had 6 sons and 2 daughters between 1844 and 1864.
3. CHARLES [baptised February 1827] who married Elizabeth ROSE at Whichford on 23rd December 1848. They had 5 sons and 4 daughters between 1850 and 1870.
4. WILLIAM [baptised February 1827] who married Leah BISHOP at Long Compton on 26th June 1852. They had 7 sons and 2 daughters between 1852 and 1870.
5. JOHN [baptised December 1828] who married Mary Ann WOOLAM at Whichford on 4th March 1854. They had 4 sons and 8 daughters between 1856 and 1878.
6. SARAH [baptised June 1831] who married Richard COLEMAN at Long Compton Independent Chapel on 12th November 1850. They had 2 sons and 3 daughters between 1850 and 1862 before Sarah died of consumption at the age of 32 in 1862 at Little Compton.
7. JAMES [baptised June 1837] the youngest son is my great grandfather. He married Ann DYER at Barton on the Heath Parish Church on 10th July 1862 as Long Compton Parish Church was under repair. James and Ann had 9 children - 5 sons and 4 daughters who

were born between 1862 and 1883. My grandfather, William George TENNANT was their eighth child.

By 1875 the John and Ann Tennant had 57 grand children, most of whom survived infancy.

In the 1841 Census, all 7 children were living at home with John and Ann.

In the 1851 Census, John, an Agricultural Labourer, and Ann were living in Taylor's Lane, Long Compton, with only 3 sons, William, John and James, still living at home.

In the 1861 Census only James, my great grandfather was still living at home. His father, John Tennant was then described as a butcher.

By the 1871 Census all the children had fled the family nest and John was then described as a shoemaker.

In the 1881 Census John then 84 was described as a Pauper and was living with his wife Elizabeth aged 78 [not Ann] who was born at Salford, Oxon.

It was this Census entry that led me to purchase a copy of Ann's Death Certificate, although I had earlier found her burial entry in the Long Compton Burials Register. She had been buried on 19th September, 1875, aged 79 years.

Death Certificate received from J B Couchman, Coroner for Warwickshire. Inquest held 17th September, 1875:

“At Long Compton on 15th September 1875, Ann TENNANT, aged 79, wife of John TENNANT, Labourer - Wilful Murder - Deliberately stabbed to death by James [Hayward] with a fork under a delusion of witchcraft. Certificate received from J. B. Couchman, Coroner for Warwickshire. Inquest held 17th September, 1875.”

In the local history books the incident is recorded in this way: “In 1875 a weak minded young man killed an old woman named Ann Turner with a hayfork because he believed she had bewitched him.” Hence my shock to learn that Ann Turner was really Ann Tennant - my great, great Grandmother.

Stratford upon Avon Herald, 24th September 1875 recorded the incident:

“BRUTAL MURDER AT LONG COMPTON.”

“On Wednesday 15th inst., the usually quiet village of Long Compton, near Shipston on Stour, was thrown into a state of great excitement by a report that a respectable old woman, ANN TENNANT, had been brutally murdered by a man named JAMES HAYWARD.

The report proved unhappily too true. It appears that, on the night in question, between seven and eight o'clock, the poor old woman left her cottage for the purpose of going to a small shop in the village for a loaf of bread. On her return she met Hayward, who had just left his work in the harvest fields and who, without a word on either side, attacked Mrs Tennant with a fork which he was carrying, inflicting such injuries upon her head and body that she died in the course of three hours. In fact, had it not been for the assistance of Mr John Taylor, a farmer, who resided near where the attack took place, he would have killed her on the spot. The only reason that can be assigned for the murder is that Hayward, for some time past, had been under the impression that he was influenced by witchcraft and that Mrs Tennant and several other women in Long Compton were witches, and he was determined to rid the village of them.”

The same issue of the Stratford upon Avon Herald of Friday 24th September, 1875, also reported the evidence given at the Inquest in to the death of Ann Tennant.

THE INQUEST

“An Inquest was held on Friday 17th inst. at the Red Lion Inn, Long Compton, before T B COUCHMAN, Esq., Coroner and a highly respectable jury, to inquire into the circumstances attending the death of Ann TENNANT, who met her death at the hands of James HAYWARD, Prisoner, who appeared in the custody of Supt. THOMPSON.”

The following evidence was given. From the report it appears that all the witnesses were quite erudite!

John TENNANT

I am a labourer and reside at Long Compton. Ann Tennant, the deceased was my wife and 79 years of age. Between seven and eight o'clock on Wednesday night the 15th inst., she left home to fetch a loaf of bread from Mr Taylor's shop. She was at the time cheerful and in her usual health. I did not see her again till about five minutes after, when I heard she had been killed, and found her near Mr Taylor's. She was insensible and bleeding very much. I have known James Hayward, the prisoner for the last 30 years. He is a native of Long Compton. I have heard that he has delusions about witchcraft and has threatened to kill 15 or 16 witches if he could get at them.

John Henry IVENS

I am 16 years of age, a farm labourer and I live at Long Compton. On Wednesday night, the 15th inst., about eight o'clock, I was on the Turnpike Road, near to Mr Taylor's of Long Compton. I saw Mrs Tennant come down the road on the footpath, carrying some bread. I also saw the prisoner, James Hayward, coming along the road. He had a fork on his shoulder, upon which he carried a bottle and a basket. He then threw the bottle and the basket into the road and walked up to the deceased and stuck the fork into her legs, and knocked her down with the tines of the fork. He was going to hit her again when she was down, but Mr Taylor caught the fork and stopped him. I had been working with the prisoner all day in Mr Wheeler's harvest field. He threatened my grandfather during the day, and some women in the village. He said they were all witches and he would kill them all. He named the deceased, Betsy Ford and Betsy Hughes as those he would kill.

John TAYLOR

I am a farmer residing at Long Compton. On Wednesday evening, the 15th inst., about eight o'clock, I was at my orchard gate near the turnpike road in the village, when I heard the deceased, Mrs Tennant cry out "Oh dear!" three times. I went into the road and ran down to where the prisoner and Mrs Tennant stood. I saw the prisoner knock the deceased down with a fork. He lifted the fork to strike the deceased again but I prevented him and took it from him. He swore that he would kill all the damned witches in Long Compton, sixteen of them. I held him till Police Constable Simpson came and took him into custody. The prisoner has delusions about witches. The deceased never spoke after being struck on the head and bled very much.

Elizabeth HUGHES

I live at Long Compton and am the wife of William Hughes. The deceased was my mother. On Wednesday night, about eight o'clock, I was near my cottage and going up the road to call my boys to supper. I heard my mother scream twice. I made up to where I heard the scream and saw Mr Taylor who said "Pick up your mother." She was lying on the ground bleeding and insensible. Mr Taylor was holding the prisoner who was crying out, "I have done it! I have done it. I meant to do it." My mother was carried into our cottage where she died in about 3 hours from the injuries which she had received. The prisoner has delusions about witches.

John SIMPSON

I am a police constable stationed at Long Compton. On Wednesday, the 15th inst., from the information I received about eight o'clock in the evening, I went up the village where Mr Taylor resides. I found him holding the prisoner and the deceased lying bleeding under the wall. I caught hold of the prisoner and said, "I must lock you up for I think that you have killed that poor old woman." He said, "It is no odds about it. I hope she will die. There are 15 more of them in the village that I will serve the same. I will kill them all." He repeated that several times. He said he was 3 hours in the harvest field and could do no work because she had bewitched him.

James THOMPSON

I am a Superintendent of police and reside at Shipston [on Stour]. On Thursday, 16th inst., the prisoner was brought to the lock up at Shipston and between eleven and twelve o'clock the same morning I went to him in the cells and said, "James, I think it my duty to tell you that Mrs Tennant is dead and that you will be charged with murder." He said, "Dead?" I answered, "Yes." He said, "Well, I didn't kill her outright." I cautioned him that he had better say nothing to me. He said, "Well sir, we won't say anything about the matter." On Friday the following day he wanted to show me some witches that were in the jug of water, only the jug was taken away. He said it was only those that had witches about them that could see them, and no-one could work only when witches would let them. He continued in a very incoherent manner to talk of witches.

George Wright HUTCHINSON

I am a Doctor of Medicine and in practice at Chipping Norton. About eleven o'clock on Wednesday night, the 15th inst., from information received, I came to Long Compton and saw the deceased in Mrs Hughes' cottage. She was lying on the floor in a state of collapse, almost pulseless

and talking incoherently. I examined her and found a punctured wound on the left temple, such as might be caused by the stab of a fork. I found a contused wound behind the right ear such as might be caused by a fall. I then examined her legs and found on the right leg two punctured wounds below the knee. The stocking was saturated with blood. On the left leg I also found three punctured wounds, which were bleeding profusely, all of which I am of the opinion were caused by the stab from a fork. Before I had finished dressing the wounds, I found that the deceased was sinking, and she died about a quarter of an hour later in my presence. I attribute her death to prostration from loss of blood and shock to the nervous system.

The Coroner said the jury would have to consider the circumstances attending the deceased as stated by the witnesses. If they were of the opinion that she died from the effects of the wounds and that the wounds were inflicted by the prisoner, they would return a verdict of wilful murder, leaving his state of mind to be inquired into at the Assizes. The jury after a short consultation returned a verdict of “Wilful Murder” and the prisoner was committed on the Coroner’s warrant to take his trial for that offence at the ensuing Warwick Assizes.

A strong feeling appeared to be felt against the prisoner by many persons who had assembled in the village, and he was frequently hooted at as he passed out of Long Compton in the custody of Superintendent Thompson.

THE TRIAL

THE TRIAL of James Haywood aged 45 of Long Compton at Warwick Crown Court on Tuesday 14th and Wednesday 15th December, 1875 and was reported in the Stratford upon Avon Herald on Friday 17th December, 1875 under the heading:

THE LONG COMPTON MURDER CASE - CROWN COURT, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14th, 1875.

Baron BRAMWELL presided over the Crown Court in the Shire Hall at Warwick and the following Justices of the Peace were sworn on the **Grand Jury**

Colonel the Hon C G SCOTT, foreman,
Sir R N C Hamilton, Bart.,
P H Muntz MP,
D Galton,

E P Shirley
T Lloyd,
M Ferrers,
R D Vaughton,
H Hunt,
J Machen,
H W Allfrey,
K Greenway,
A B Leigh,
J Y Robins,
J C Jones,
J Boulton,
W H Child,
J C Harter,
M Hetherington,
G Unett,
W A Pennington,
C E Flower,
A Hodgson

The **Grand Jury** returned a True Bill against James Haywood [45], labourer for the wilful murder of Ann Tennant at Long Compton.

Mr John Stratford DUGDALE, for the prosecution, asked the Court to fix a time for the trial. As no counsel had been engaged for the defence, it was necessary that the prisoner be arraigned in order to learn if he wished to be defended.

The Governor of the County Gaol [**Mr ANDERSON**] said the prisoner was not below, but he would send to the prison for him. He was subsequently placed in the dock, where his appearance created much sympathy.

The Stratford Herald reporter described Hayward thus:

“He is evidently a very simple-minded and superstitious man. He is about 5 feet 4 inches in height, with a low receding forehead, and an almost “idiotic” expression of countenance, his awkwardness being increased by his great deafness. He stared wildly about the Court and seemed quite unable to give a direct answer to the single question put to him, “Are you guilty or not guilty?” As he could not hear what the Judge or the Clerk of Arraigns said to him, one of the gaol porters shouted in his ear the question put by the Court. The nature of his answer showed that he was still labouring under the hallucination that his victim had bewitched him.

To the first question addressed to him by the Court which was whether he pleaded guilty or not guilty, the prisoner replied, **“I be sorry I hurt the woman, but she tormented me for a long time in witchcraft.”**

His Lordship: “Do you plead guilty or not guilty?”

Prisoner: **“I hurt the woman.”**

His Lordship: “He has to plead now and make his defence afterwards.”

Prisoner: **“I did not kill the woman.”**

His Lordship: “Then you are not guilty.”

Prisoner: **“I did not kill the person.”**

His Lordship: “Do you say Not Guilty?”

Prisoner: **“No, I say Not Guilty.”**

The plea of not guilty was then recorded.

His Lordship then asked the prisoner if he wished to be defended by counsel.

Prisoner: **“Yes, but I can’t pay him.”**

His Lordship asked the prisoner if he should request a barrister to conduct his defence without a fee.

Prisoner: **“Yes.”**

His Lordship requested **Mr BUZZARD** to undertake his defence.

The prisoner was then removed from the Court.

CROWN COURT, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15th 1875.

CHARGE OF MURDER AT LONG COMPTON

James HAYWOOD [45] was arraigned on an indictment charging him on the Coroner’s [Mr T B COUCHMAN] indictment, with the wilful murder of Ann TENNANT.

Mr DUGDALE and Mr CHAMBERLAIN prosecuted and **Mr BUZZARD** defended the prisoner.

Mr DUGDALE opening the case said that Hayward was returning home from work on the 15th September when he met the deceased in the main street of the village and attacked her with a fork which he was carrying over his shoulder. He wounded her in the legs and head so badly that she died shortly afterwards. Upon these facts he could not see that the crime could be reduced to manslaughter. It was extraordinary and incredible that the accused had for some years been under the hallucination that the village in which he lived was inhabited by 15 or 16 witches, all old women who prevented him from doing his work. On the day of the murder he had used threats towards the deceased woman and others and

announced that he would kill them all. Mr DUGDALE then referred to the law on insane delusions and how far persons suffering from them were held to be amenable to the law.

He then called the following evidence:

John TENNANT, husband of the deceased

John Henry IVENS [Evans in the Warwick Advertiser] farmer's boy aged 15

James TAYLOR, Farmer

Elizabeth HUGHES, wife of Thomas HUGHES and daughter of the deceased

P.C.SIMPSON, the village policeman

Supt. THOMPSON from Shipston Police Station

Dr George HUTCHINSON, General Practitioner at Chipping Norton.

They all repeated the evidence which they had given 3 months earlier at the Inquest, but under cross-examination from Mr BUZZARD, gave a fuller picture of HAYWARD and the state of his mind.

John TENNANT said that HAYWARD had lived next door to him for 30 years and believed in witchcraft. His father and mother also harboured the delusion. Hayward was not considered a quiet man in the village. He was always talking about witches. About 12 months previously he said that had his daughter Elizabeth was a witch and that he had them all in a bottle. When he got drunk he ran about like a madman. Hayward and his parents were very suspicious in their habits and would lock the door of their cottage when they went to get coal from a hut nearby.

John Henry IVENS said that the boys of the village looked upon Hayward as a madman.

James TAYLOR said that he had known Hayward from a boy. He was not looked upon as a particularly strange man in the village but when he had partaken beer he became very excitable. On one occasion Hayward had threatened to kill him when he had not paid him 1/6 that was due to him. On the evening of the incident Hayward talked a great deal about witches and was very excited. There was a "Water Doctor" who lived at Croughton [near Aynho] about 12 miles away whom foolish people went to consult and he was aware that Hayward had done so.

Elizabeth HUGHES said that Hayward frequently talked about witches but the villagers never took any notice of him as they thought he was a "wild" man. He told me to keep away from the aged women as they

would make me as bad as themselves. There was no suspicion of my mother before of being a witch but he talked of other women being witches.

P.C.SIMPSON said that Hayward was very much under the influence of drink at the time of his arrest. As far as he was concerned Hayward was a quiet peaceable man whose father and mother both went to chapel.

Supt THOMPSON said that when told he would be charged with murder, Hayward did not appear to realize that he had done wrong and seemed thoroughly indifferent to the position he was placed in.

Dr George HUTCHINSON said that Hayward used to come to him for medicines. He attributed his strange manner to deafness. Their usual conversation was about the weather and crops and he appeared to be sane enough on all subjects which they discussed.

For the Defence, **Mr BUZZARD** called Dr PARSEY, medical Superintendent at Hatton Lunatic Asylum, Mr J R NUNN, surgeon at the County Gaol and Mr J M ANDERSON, Governor of the County Gaol.

Mr ANDERSON said that Hayward's conduct in gaol was that of an eccentric man. He was pretty shrewd upon some matters but generally he came across as an eccentric, weak minded man. He justified his actions by quoting several passages in the Bible on the subject of witches. He seemed to think he had done his duty because she was a witch although on one occasion he did say he would never have done it had it not been for the beer. He was aware that he stood in some peril because the day before the trial he offered me a sovereign to get him off. He had a Bible and had marked passages in Leviticus, Micah and the Acts of the Apostles which he claimed justified his actions.

DR PARSEY said he had examined Hayward on 21st and 24th September and found him to be feeble minded, eagerly childish in manner and had a loud discordant voice. He knew he was in trouble but considered that he had only killed a witch in order to take her power off him and prevent his continued illness. He quoted passages from the Bible to justify his actions. He did not intend to hurt anyone willingly - he only wanted to draw her blood. He was sorry that he had killed her but did not think he had done any great harm. He confirmed his belief in witches after paying a visit to a "cunning man" named Manning at C[r]oughton near Aynho Station who had taught him by water to find out how they worked upon him and since his return from C[r]oughton he knew all about the 13

witches in the village. Dr Parsey thought Hayward was of sufficiently sound mind to understand the proceedings in court. He was essentially a feeble minded man thoroughly imbued with the idea of witchcraft.

Mr J. R. NUNN said Hayward had a strong belief in witches and he considered that Hayward had insufficient brain power under a sudden impulse to control his actions. He would not consider an action wrong in the same light as a sane person.

In his final address to the jury **Mr BUZZARD** contended that HAYWARD was completely under the influence of his delusion and therefore not accountable for his actions.

Baron **BRAMWELL** after complimenting Mr Buzzard on the able manner in which he had defended HAYWARD said that in the 20 years he had sat on the bench he never remembered such a melancholy and terrible case as this. A poor helpless old creature of 80 years had been killed by HAYWARD whilst labouring under the superstition and ignorance discreditable to a set of savages let alone a civilised country like England. He doubted very much whether there was in this case much of the impulse spoken to by the medical gentlemen. From the way in which HAYWARD had spoken of the witches and his intention to kill them, he thought it was much more a case of intention.

After hearing the evidence, the jury consulted together in their box for a few moments only, before returning a verdict of “Not guilty on the ground of insanity.”

Baron **BRAMWELL** said he had clearly laid down the law to the jury and could not help their verdict. He ordered HAYWARD to be detained during Her Majesty’s pleasure. He hoped that something could be done to disabuse the minds of the people of the village of the belief in witchcraft. It was a most mournful and melancholy state of ignorance. He wondered whether the jury might say anything which might have a good effect in the direction indicated.

The jury made no comment, so the Court adjourned for lunch.

In “Through the Lych Gate,” Edward Rainsberry says that Hayward was not executed as he was found to be of subnormal mentality, but remained in prison in Warwick where he died some months later. This account is not true.

In the 1881 Census, James is recorded as an Inmate in Broadmoor Criminal Lunatic Asylum, Near Sandhurst in Berkshire but is not recorded as being an Inmate in the 1891 Census.

A search of the GRO Death Indexes after 1881 eventually located his Death Reference in 1890 June Quarter in Easthampstead Registration District. The Death Certificate shows that James HAYWOOD died on 23rd June 1890 at Broadmoor Asylum, Sandhurst, Berkshire, aged 59, formerly a Labourer of Long Compton, Warwickshire, of Chronic Abscesses and Dropsy. The Death Certificate was issued on 28th June 1890 following an Inquest which had been held on 26th June by William Weedon, Coroner for East Berkshire.

THE PRINCIPAL CHARACTERS IN THIS STORY

JAMES HAYWARD [1830-1890]

JAMES was born in Long Compton, Warwickshire, the illegitimate son of Mary MORRIS, Spinster. He was baptised in Long Compton Parish Church on 19th September 1830 [Long Compton Baptismal Register 1813-1848 entry 351]. 4 years later the Long Compton Marriage Register 1813-1837 Entry 117 records the marriage of Mary MORRIS, Spinster, and Thomas SANDFORD, Bachelor, both of Long Compton after Banns on 4th November 1834.

From Census returns, we learn that Thomas SANDFORD was born in Penzance in Cornwall in 1808 and Mary MORRIS was born in Longborough in Gloucestershire in 1807. She was the daughter of James and Elizabeth MORRIS and was baptised at Longborough on 4th January 1807. At some time before 1830 she moved to Long Compton where she gave birth to an illegitimate son, James in September 1830. After her marriage to Thomas SANDFORD, she had a son William who was born in Long Compton in 1839.

In the **1841 Census** of Long Compton [HO107/1131, Book 9 E.D. 6 Folio 12 page 19] – East side of the Birmingham Turnpike Road is the household of Thomas SANDFORD:

Thomas SANDFORD	30	Ag Lab	Y
Mary SANDFORD	30		N
James SANDFORD	10		Y
William SANDFORD	2		Y

In the **1851 Census** of Long Compton [HO107/1732 Folio 356 schedule 6] the SANDFORD household was recorded as:

Thomas SANDFORD	Head M 43 Ag Lab	CON Penzance
Mary SANDFORD	Wife M 44	GLS Longborough
William SANDFORD	Son 12 Scholar	WAR Long Compton
James HAYWARD	Son in Law U 20 Ag Lab	WAR Long Compton

Note that James is now called HAYWARD - Son in law should have been recorded as Step-son.

In the **1861 Census** the SANDFORD household were living next door to my great/great grand parents John and Ann TENNANT

RG9/911 Folio 107 Schedule 26

John TENNANT	Head M 31 Ag Lab	WAR Long Compton
Mary Ann TENNANT	Wife M 25	WAR Long Marston
James TENNANT	Son 7 Scholar	WAR Long Compton
Joseph TENNANT	Son 5	WAR Long Compton
Mary Ann TENNANT	Daur 2	WAR Long Compton
Alfred TENNANT	Son 8 months	WAR Long Compton

Schedule 27

John TENNANT [Sen'r]	Head M 61 Butcher	OXF Spelsbury
Ann TENNANT	Wife M 64	WAR Long Compton
James TENNANT	Son U 20	WAR Long Compton

Schedule 28

Thos SANDFORD	Head M 53 Ag Lab	CON Penzance
Mary SANDFORD	Wife M 54	GLS Longborough
James MORRIS	Son in Law U 30 Ag Lab	WAR Long Compton

Note in this Census James is now recorded as MORRIS. His half brother William has now got married and living in Lancashire with his wife Eliza who came from Worksop in Nottinghamshire.

In the **1871 Census** the SANDFORD household were still living next door to the TENNANTS.

RG10/1407 Folio XX schedule 112

John TENNANT	Head M 70 Shoemaker	WAR Long Compton
Ann TENNANT	Wife M 76	WAR Long Compton

Schedule 113

Thomas SANDFORD	Head M 63 Ag Lab	CON Penzance
Mary SANDFORD	Wife M 64	GLS Lambourn

Schedule 114

James HAYWARD	Head U 40 Ag Lab	WAR Long Compton
<i>Schedule 115</i>		
Charlotte CLARK	Head M 41 Grocer	OXF Ascott
Henry CLARK	Son 14 Shoemaker	WAR Long Compton
Ellen TIDMARSH	Serv U 19 Servant	WAR Long Compton

As mentioned earlier, on 15th September 1875, James HAYWARD stabbed Great/ great grandmother Ann TENNANT with a pitchfork. Following a Coroner's Inquest held in the Red Lion Inn, Long Compton on 17th September 1875, which found that Ann TENNANT had been wilfully murdered by James Hayward with a pitchfork while under a delusion of witchcraft, he was charged with murder.

Three months later on 15th December 1875, he appeared before Baron Bramwell and a Grand Jury at Warwick Crown Court.

After a short trial the Jury returned a verdict of "Not Guilty" on the grounds of insanity but he was ordered to be confined during Her Majesty's pleasure.

He was taken to Broadmoor Criminal Lunatic Asylum, near Sandhurst in Berkshire where he was recorded as an inmate in the 1881 Census. [RG11/1320 Folio 98 entry 23].

He died there on 23rd June 1890 at the age of 59 of a chronic abscess and dropsy - not in Warwick Gaol as some local accounts indicate.

In 1876, his mother, Mary SANDFORD had died at Long Compton at the age of 69 and was buried in the churchyard on 22nd September 1876. [Long Compton Burials Register 1866-1961 entry 144]. His step father Thomas SANDFORD moved away from Long Compton and in the 1881 Census was living with his son William and Daughter in Law Eliza at Knutsford Road, Latchford, Warrington, Cheshire. William is described as an Ostler and Thomas, aged 73 is a Farm Labourer. From GRO Death Indexes we find that Thomas SANDFORD died in March Qtr 1888 in Warrington RD, Eliza in June Qtr 1900 in Warrington RD and William in December Qtr 1903 also in Warrington RD.

The final piece of the jigsaw is to discover where the name HAYWARD came from. Why was James not known as MORRIS or SANDFORD but became known as HAYWARD?

My research in parishes adjoining Long Compton has located a family of HAYWARDS living in Barton on the Heath.

In the **1841 Census** [HO107/1131/2 ED8 F7 page 9] – Barton on the Heath - I found this reference:

William HAYWARD 65 Ag lab N,
James HAYWARD 40 Ag Lab Y.

In the **1851 Census** [H0107/1732 F334 sch 26] - Barton on the Heath:

James HAYWARD an Unmarried Ag lab aged 52 is the Head of a household and was born at Barton on the Heath. Other residents were his brother Thomas HAYWARD a Sawyer aged 43 also born at Barton, Thomas's wife Sarah, 39, who was born at Longborough, GLS and their children Thomas 14 born at Moreton in Marsh, Mary aged 10, Jane aged 8, Hannah aged 5 and Charles aged 3 all born at Evenlode, Worcestershire. In 1838, Thomas Heyward, aged 32 s/o William had married Sarah BRANDISH aged 28 d/o Joseph at Barton on the Heath on February 25th.

The **1861 Census** [RG9/912 F15 sch 34], shows that the HAYWARD family had moved to Little Compton.

Thomas HAYWARD 50 Ag Lab Born at Barton, Wife Sarah 49 Born at Moreton, GLS, Daughter Hannah 16 born at Evenlode GLS, and 3 other children Charles 14, Eliza 9 and Emma 5 all born at Barton. Thomas's unmarried brother James aged 62 an Ag Lab born at Barton was also residing in the same household – could he be the father of James? I am still working on this possibility particularly as I have found this baptism in the Barton on Heath Baptismal Register 1813- 1975: 14th January 1827 - Jane bastard daughter of William HAYWARD and Hannah RUSSELL of Barton, Labourer.

Was William a brother of James and Thomas? So far I have found the baptism of William s/o William and Hannah HAYWARD at Barton on the Heath on January 10th 1802 but I am still trying to locate the baptisms of James born about 1799 and Thomas born about 1811.

The INQUEST PERSONNEL

The CORONER – T B COUCHMAN

In the 1881 Census, Thomas B COUCHMAN was a 61 year old Solicitor living at Beaudesert, near Henley in Arden. He was born in Temple Balsall, Warwickshire and was married to Sarah aged 49 who originated from Bedfordshire. They had 4 children – Charles 22 a Solicitor, Henry 20 a student, Francis 17 an articled clerk and Harry 9 a scholar, all born in Henley in Arden. Mr Couchman employed 4 servants including a coachman to take him to the frequent inquests which he had to conduct as Coroner for South Warwickshire.

John Henry IVENS - Aged 15 at the time of the murder, John was born in Long Compton in 1860 eldest child of William Ivens/Ivings, Ag Lab and his wife Ann who came from Ettington He does not appear to have been baptised in the Parish Church nor does his younger brother Joseph who was born in Long Compton in 1866 according to the 1891 Census. John Henry does not appear on the 1881 or 1891 Censuses but is probably Sgt John Henry Ivens aged 40 in the 1901 Census at Aldershot serving in the Fourth Royal Northern Reserve Regiment Imperial Yeomanry.

James THOMPSON

In the 1871 Census, James THOMPSON was a 46 year old Superintendent of Police born in Manchester living in Back Road, Shipston on Stour with his wife Elizabeth who came from Dursley in Gloucestershire and 3 children. Robert aged 13 a solicitor's clerk born in Brailes, James 11 and Elizabeth 8, both scholars born in Shipston.

John SIMPSON

John was the Village Police Constable in 1875. In 1851 he was living in Foleshill near Coventry and was a 25 year old Ribbon Weaver living with his wife Ann sister Jane and daughter Hannah aged 9 months. By 1861 he was a Police Constable living at Whichford with wife Ann and 5 children – Hannah aged 11, Mary 9, John 7, Ann 5 and Rachael 1 all of whom were born in Foleshill. 2 further children were born in Stourton, in the Parish of Whichford. John was born in Bulkington while his wife came from Foleshill. In 1881 John had left the Police and was back in Foleshill working as a Night Watchman.

THE TRIAL PERSONNEL

BARON BRAMWELL

Sir George William Wilshire BRAMWELL, First and Last Baron Bramwell of Hever was born in 1808 son of George Bramwell, a Banker

and died in 1892. He was married twice but had no issue. He was educated at Dr Reddy's School Camberwell and Dr May's Academy at Enfield before working as a clerk in his father's bank. He was admitted to Lincoln's Inn in 1838 to practise as a Barrister at Law. He became a Q. C. in 1851 and joined the Home Circuit. He was made a Knight Bachelor in 1856. Between 1856 and 1876 he held the office of Baron of the Exchequer before being elected to the office of Lord Justice of Appeal a post he held until 1882 when he was created Baron Bramwell of Hever. He was made a Privy Counsellor in 1876 and a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1882.

A very outspoken man he may have invented the quotation "Lies, damned lies and Statistics."

John STRATFORD DUGDALE was born at Shustoke in Warwickshire in 1835 second son of William Stratford DUGDALE and his wife Harriet Ella PORTMAN, youngest child of 7 of Edward Berkeley PORTMAN of Bryanston in Dorset. His father William Stratford DUGDALE was the only child of Dugdale Stratford DUGDALE and his wife the Hon. Charlotte CURZON daughter of the first Viscount CURZON of Kedleston Hall, Derbyshire.

The DUGDALE were direct descendents of Sir William DUGDALE [1605-1686], the Antiquarian.

In 1851 John was a scholar at Eton with his younger brother Henry. In 1861 he was living at home Merevale Hall, near Shustoke and was described as a Student at Law. In 1871 he was still living at home but was now a Barrister at Law in Practice. In 1877 he was appointed Recorder of Birmingham. He was still living at home in 1881. In 1886 he was appointed Chancellor of the Diocese of Worcester and was elected to Parliament as Conservative M.P. for Nuneaton and North East Warwickshire a post he held until 1892.

As an M.P. and Chairman of the County Quarter Sessions, he initially opposed the creation of County Councils to replace the Courts of Quarter Sessions on the grounds that Warwickshire had benefited from years of judicious financial management by the magistrates and had one of the lowest county debts in the country as well as an enviable rate of 2 and five-eighths pence in 1887 but after getting a considerable number of amendments through the Bill and was elected the first Chairman of Warwickshire County Council, a post which he held from 1889-1919.

In 1891 he was still living at home but was a Q.C. In 1901 he was living at 29 Eaton Square, Knightsbridge with his wife Alice who was 30 years younger than himself and son John aged 8 with a household of 10 servants. He died in 1920.