

Hillman & Bond Copy Lettr Book 15th January to 30th August 1940

Summarised by Diane Shaw, Feb 2014

Introduction

This book has the same problems as others with legibility, particularly on hand-written pages.

Mr Ramsbotham has done several probates during this time, both as an executor or on behalf of executors including Mrs Cecil Ursula Duncan decd. Mrs Duncan was the sister of Francis Miles Temple Palgrave who was one of her executors, the other was Raymond Inglis Palgrave Barker. Other probates dealt with were Mr T Ridgewell, Mr Cornish, Mr F Clarke, Mrs F B Harris, Mrs Ada Wallis, Miss A E Wicks, Miss Caroline Dommett and Mrs E M Hinton. Letters of Administration were obtained for the estate of Mr E C P Bragg (owner of 2, Bridge Street, died 18th Feb) and of Frederick Grattan (late of 25 Marine Parade and a partner of J and F Grattan, Butchers of 1, Coombe Street, died 16th Jan). Mr Grattan died intestate which made extra work for Mr Ramsbotham and Mr Grattan's brother Mr J S Grattan, the Administrator, who took over his brother's interests in the business. Also involved in the will were three nephews, A J Grattan, T A Grattan and H Grattan, and Miss Reeves who was their cousin and received a share of the estate. In June Rev A C Hair died and Mr Ramsbotham acted for the executrix of his estate.

Mr Ramsbotham is acting as agent for several property owners and sends many letters trying to encourage people to settle outstanding accounts.

Addresses

Mrs Aldridge, 71 Colway Mead
 Mrs Allsep, Furze Cottage, Green Lane, Rousdon
 Mr Baker, The Cosy Café
 Mrs Baker, 9 Church Street
 Mr A A Baker, Angel Inn, 2 Millgreen, later at 10 Windsor Terrace
 Mr F W Bellamy, Madeira Cottage
 Mr J T Berry, Colway Mead
 E C F Bird, Esq Packway, Ware Lane
 Mr F J Bissett, 41 Sherborne Lane
 Mr Bealch, Wyncote, Uplyme
 Mrs Boalch, High Banks (Highbanks), Millgreen
 Mr A E (or H E) Boalch, Town Mill
 Mr G Boccock, Woodmead Road
 Mr Norman Bosence, Broad Street
 Mr F Boswell, Sherborne Lane
 Mrs Bragg, 2 Bridge Street
 Mrs G Brewer, Uplyme
 Mr C H Brown, Slopes Farm
 Mrs Burge, Keble Cottage
 Mr F R Burge, 39 Broad Street
 Mrs Burlinson, 27 Coombe Street
 Mr J Burlinson, 129 Clarence Road, Bristol
 Mrs Byrne, Rest Harrow, Uplyme
 Mrs Cameron, 7 Cobb Road
 Mrs Candler, 49 Church Street
 Mrs Carr-Gregg, The Orchard, Rousdon, moved to "Woodlands, Rousdon"
 Mr & Mrs A G Case, 50 & 51 Broad Street
 Mr E Case, Church Street
 Mrs F Case, Somerset House
 Mrs N A Case, 63 Silver Street

Miss Castle Smith, The Corner Cottage
Mrs Chaffey (Jun.) 1 Lym Villas, The Lynch
Mrs Chaffey (Sen.) George's Court
Mr H G Chapple, 8 Silver Street
Mrs Chick, 43 Church Street
Mrs A N Clarke, 3 Lymbrook, Jericho, L R
Mrs Wood & Miss Edith Clark, Coram Court
Mrs Collbran (Colbran), Coombe, Hill Road
Dr Cook, Marven, Uplyme
Mr Coomber, Imber, Cobb Road
Mrs Cooper, Belmont
Mr Copp who works for Eastmans, butchers of 55 Broad Street
Mrs Copp, Council Houses, Uplyme
Miss E M Copp, Draper, Old Lyme Road, Charmouth
Mr J F Copp, Old Mill, Uplyme
Mrs Cornish, The New Inn
Mrs E H Cozens, 26 Corporation Terrace
Mrs Cripps, Devon Hotel, Uplyme
Mr S C Cross, Wadley House, Church Street, Uplyme
Mrs Dale, Lima Millgreen
Mr Felix Davis, 1 Millgreen (died April 1940)
Mrs Dring, 6a Coombe Street
Miss Caroline Dommett, late of High Banks, Millgreen
Mr & Mrs V Dunn, 24 Council Houses, Uplyme
Mr R C Dunne, Volunteer Inn
Mr Eglon, 21 Church Street
Miss Ellis, Ilex Cottage, View Road
Mr E R Emmett, 1 Millgreen
Mrs Enticott, Corporation Terrace
Mr Eyre, West Hill
Mr A G Farrant, Charmouth Road
Mrs Flatt, Aquaview, Woodmead Road
Major and Mrs G F Fletcher, Long View, View Road
Mr A H N Franklin, 60 Silver Street
The Misses Fry, Doon Beg, Uplyme
Mrs F Froom, Middle Mill
Mr W H Frost, 73 Colway Mead
Mrs Fursey, Axe View, Boss Hill, Axmouth
Mr J A Gage, 9 Sherborne Lane
Mr E C Gale, 29 Broad Street
Mrs Gollop, 18 Sherborne Lane
Mr J S Grattan, Royal Standard Inn
Mr T A Grattan, 16 Silver Street
Mrs Gay, 43 Church Street
Miss Hair, Highlands, Greenway, Sidmouth Road
Mr Hale, 3 Ozone Terrace
Mr C M Hallett, Rhode Barton Farm
Mr & Mrs E Hallett, Drop Anchor, East Cliff
Nurse F B Hallett, St John's Hospital, Wandsworth, London
Mr G E Halliday, Cloverdale Garage
Mrs Harding, Churnside
Mr P C Harrad, 20 Church Street
Mr A H Harris moved from 24 Church Street (back part) to Millgreen in April
Mrs Hartley-Turner, 12 Silver Street
Mrs Harvey, 15 Coombe Street

Mr H B Helbert, Holmbury, Uplyme
Mr Hiscock, 21 Corporation Terrace
Mr G Hoare, Golf Club
Mrs Hodder, Millgreen Court
Mrs Hodder, Portland View
Mrs Ruth Hodder, (deceased), late of Braidwood, Yawl, Uplyme
Mr J D Hodder, 23 Sherborne Lane
Mrs A R Hodges, Temple House
Mrs Holman, 5 Silver Street
Mrs Holmes, 12 Millgreen Court
Mrs Homyer, owner of 3, Ozone Terrace
Mrs Hood Smith, Orchard Cottage, Cobb Road
Mrs Horton, Penryth, Uplyme
Mrs Horton, 25 Sherborne Lane
Mr W Humphrey, 32 Coombe Street
Mrs Hunter, 25 Sherborne Lane
Mr Fred Irish, Butcher, Uplyme
Mrs James, 40 Silver Street
Mr E C Jefferd, Millgreen Court
Mrs Jefferies, Lilac Cottage, Uplyme
Mrs Jones, East Lodge, Rousdon
Mrs Justice, Montreux, Coram Avenue
Mrs Larcombe, Rupert House, Charmouth
Mrs Longland, Electric House, 5a Coombe Street
Mr A Love, St Andrews Hotel
Mr & Mrs J Loveridge, 102 Colway Mead
Mr William Loveridge, 82 Colway Mead
Mr Mantle, 2 Park Bungalows, Uplyme (owned by Mrs Shepphard)
Mrs Marchant, 14 Whalley Lane, Uplyme
Mrs Marker, Chywyn, Sidmouth Road
Mr N Marder, Burley Villa
Mrs Merritt, Dunbar House
Mrs Miles, The Hut, Woodmead Road
Mr Tom Mitchell, 57 Church Street
Mr Moon, Hillside, Woodhouse Hill, Uplyme
Mr E J Moore, 11 Church Street
Mr P Moore, 6 Church
Miss Munro, Fairfield
Mrs Nicholl, Sherborne Lane
Mrs Niles, The Hut, Woodmead Road
Mrs Ormerod, 41 Silver Street
Rev F Palgrave London S W 3
Mr Parham, 64 Broad Street
Mrs Pettit, Silverleigh, Silver Street
Mrs Pitcher, 49 Silver Street
Mr Powell, The Cottage, Rocombe, Uplyme
Miss Preston, Denton, Pound Road
Mrs Purse, 22 Colway Mead
Mrs Purse, Halcyon
Mr F Quick, Valley View, Penn, Charmouth
Mr Radford, 19 Broad Street
Mr Ralls, Colway Manor Cottage
Miss Reeves, Pine Cottage, Charmouth Road (niece of Mr Jack Grattan & Mr Fred Grattan)
Mrs Rice, 10 Colway Mead
Mr F Rice, 48 Colway Mead

Mr A Richards, Silver Street
Mr H Ridgewell, Ship Inn
Miss Roach, Kincora
Mr A Roberts, 22 Sherborne Lane
Miss J Roland (Rowland), 58 Silver Street
Mrs Rootham, 33 Silver Street
Mrs Roper, 15 Church Street
Mr A E Rowe, 28 Marine Parade
Mrs Sainsbury, Georges Court
Mrs Sansom, 24 Church Street (front)
Mr & Mrs T J Searle, 24 Church Street (back)
Mrs J G (or I G) Smith, Treales House, Church Street
Mrs Sole, Bay Garth, East Cliff
Mr J Solway, Woodhouse, Uplyme
Miss Stanger-Leathes, Fairfield (this letter was sent while Miss Munro was living or staying in Fairfield)
Miss H M Stapleforth, West End, Uplyme
Mrs Stephens, 60 Silver Street
Mr F Stone, Iona, East Cliff
Mrs Stone, Quarry Drift, Uplyme
Mr A Stracey, Broad Street
Mr R J Stratton, 15 Broad Street
Mr W Street, Oakley House
Mr E C V Summerfield, York House, Church Street
Mr Synge, Rotherfield
Mrs Tabberer, 23 Colway Mead
Mrs Tahourdin, 3 Cobb Road
Mrs Tappin, St Georges Court
Mr & Mrs W W Taylor, Lym Villas
Mr A C V Telling, Temple House
Mr E C Tett, Nags Head Inn
Mrs Thomas, Glion, Woodmead Road
Mr Thring, The Haye
Mrs Timson, 33a Coombe Street
Mr N A Timson, 37 (Co-operative Flats) Coombe Street
Mr S Toms, 32 Corporation Terrace
Mr W H Tomas, Venlake Lane, Uplyme
Mrs Tuck, 8 Colway Mead
Mrs Turner, 33a Coombe Street
Mr G R Upjohn, Lym Villa, Coombe Street
Mr H Walker, White Lodge, Silver Street
Mrs Warburton, Fidac, Woodmead Road
Mr & Mrs Watson, Thornhill Cottage, Uplyme
Capt. A C White, Pitt House
Mademoiselle Wibault, 34 Coombe Street
Mrs Wicks, 7 Cobb Road
Mr P H Wiscombe, Hill Farm Dairy, Uplyme
Mr Williams, Quarry House, Uplyme
Mrs G Williams, Langmoor Hotel
Workers Travel Assoc. Ltd, Transport House, London (re money owing to Emmet & Co re St Albans)
Mr A Wright, Whitmore Close

January (p 1)

To: The Town Clerk, "Mr H W Caddy is purchasing his yard & the land lying between his home, Lewesdon, and Kent Cottage. We understand that the corporation have an underground tank partly in this land & our client is purchasing subject to their rights in connection with this." Can you tell us accurately and concisely what are your Corporation's rights?"

Staples to Caddy, Land, Little Park. The purchasers will be William Caddy, Herbert William Caddy and Arthur Thomas Caddy, the members of the firm of William Caddy & Sons.

February (p 75)

To: Midland Bank Executors & Trustees re F E Radford, (Mr Coomber is having a bungalow built off Cobb Road the residents of Sunnysdene and the Chalet are complaining of encroachment as he is taking his electric wire and drains across the private road. Also his builders have connected his water supply pipes direct with that feeding to Sunnysdene and the Chalet, "which he has no right to do, as this pipe is the private property of us as F E Radford's trustees. I think he must be told that this is not allowed and that the pipe must be disconnected forthwith."

To: Nurse Hallett, Tooting S W 1, "...your tenant Mr A Harris will very shortly be leaving his part of No 24, Church Street. I have been asked by a Mrs Ridgewell a widow if she may have the cottage at the same rent. I feel sure she would make a good tenant..."

Much of Mr Ramsbotham's time this month was spent dealing with the above mentioned wills and probates.

March (p 196)

To: Mr Bocock, re Mr F Grattan decd., letter querying the figures for the year for the butcher's shop as he is concerned that the Estate Duty authorities are likely to query why an established business appears to have been running at a loss.

To: Sun Insurance re Uplyme informing them that as the Hall was requisitioned by the Military in Sept, 1939, the Village Hall Committee will not be renewing the insurance policy.

To: Loyal Order of Ancient Shepherds, enquiring about benefits due to Henry Young deceased, of Charmouth.

To: Lady Clarina of Pinhay, a covering letter following a telephone call when she had requested the return of her will and an accompanying letter.

April (p 309)

A neighbour of Mrs Lulham and her sister Miss Rigby on Cobb Road has contacted a solicitor in Yeovil about a sycamore tree in her garden which has damaged by a friend of the above ladies when he was cutting back the hedge between the two properties. Mr Ramsbotham has been to inspect the alleged damage and "was very surprised to find that the garden is in a neglected state, and the part where the tree in question is situated is practically a bit of copse from the adjoining hill". Mr Ramsbotham suggests that the solicitor should come to see for himself. The ladies realise they are responsible and are prepared to pay a sum of £5 in full settlement of the client's claims ("as we consider it far in excess of any damage that he has suffered). (Mrs Lulham & Miss Rigby lived at 6, Cobb Road, and the neighbour was Mr Belben of Theo's Cottage.) Mr Belben refused to accept this solution and Mr Ramsbotham felt that his solicitors were being very unhelpful, several letters were exchanged before an agreement was reached that Mr Belben would accept a cheque for £7-2-0.

To: Mr Emmett, "I am the executor of the late Felix Davis & have been directed to sell the property of which you are a tenant. You may care to make an offer for the property, before I take any steps to obtain a purchaser."

To: Lt. Lawrie, Dorset House re Mrs Dale of Lima. No 19 Millgreen. I am asked to draw your attention to the damage done to her house by one of the lorries carrying stores to the laundry premises. She has already reported the first damage to Capt. White who visited the house and promised repair. As this was delayed further damage has occurred owing to the breaking of a shutter. A soldier told Mrs Dale she should write to you." A second letter was sent to Capt. White, then a third to "The Officer Commanding, Brigade H Q , St Albans, L R" escalating the matter and requesting that as Mrs Dale is an elderly lady living by herself and very much upset & agitated by the matter, we should be greatly obliged if the necessary repair could be expedited.

To: Mrs Chaffey (Jun.) Mrs Chaffey's mother-in-law lent her piano to Mr Chaffey (Jun.) when he and his wife set up home. "Now that you have found it necessary to break up your home, it must be returned to his mother....it should be returned to our client's house without delay...or our client will take the necessary proceedings to enforce her rights."

To: Southern National Omnibus Co Ltd, Mademoiselle S Wibault of Coombe Street was travelling on one of your buses leaving Charmouth at 11 a.m. carrying a small attaché case containing foreign postage stamps some of considerable value. Our client is a French lady & not very used to English ways and has only quite recently missed the case and contents. Have you any trace of such a case in your possession.

Coram Court & Coram Towers were together used as an evacuation centre during the WW2.

May (p 475)

Mrs Fletcher is selling Long View, View Road to Miss Glisbey. Major Fletcher is away serving in the military so Mrs Fletcher is working under "Power of Attorney". (DS Major Fletcher was a retired major in the Canadian Mounted Police and rejoined the Service).

To: Ministry of Health, Blackpool re Mrs Tappin, formerly of 29 Sherborne Lane, now of 7 Georges Court, whose husband Francis David Tappin died in February is practically without means, so is very much in need of a pension.

Mrs Joan Collbran, widow of E A W Collbran of Coombe, Hill Road is unable to pay Messrs. A & F Wiscombe the amount of £32-6-3 owed for her husband's gravestone. She has approached Mr Ramsbotham asking if she could apply for a widows' pension, but he has to inform her that these are only granted to people who have been insured or whose husbands have been insured under the National Health Insurance Acts. Mr Wiscombe comes up with the idea of asking her sister-in-law, who lives in Wimbledon, to help. Mr Ramsbotham asks Mrs Collbran for her permission to write to Mrs Collbran in Wimbledon "as she would not like to feel that her brother's grave stone was not paid for". He explains that Mr Wiscombe does not want to keep pushing her, "but a lot of what he charged you was from out of pocket expenses – not profit". She gives her agreement and he writes the letter.

June (p 619)

Mrs Carr-Gregg of The Orchard, Rousdon is served with a writ in respect of a claim by Mrs I B A Chapple, for alleged breach of a covenant to repair.

Mademoiselle S Wibault (refer April) has started paying her rent to Mr Ramsbotham as Mrs Warburton's agent. He informs Mrs Warburton that she is extremely sorry but she is unable to pay her rent arrears as she has no hope of getting any money from the Continent, her part being in enemy hands.

To: Ministry of Health Insurance Dept., re Mrs Tappin, she is now able to draw a weekly pension but has not been paid the arrears due to her, Mr Ramsbotham is requesting these are paid without further delay.

To: Mr Wanklyn, Overton "I have heard nothing today from either Mr or Mrs Horton re the proposed tenancy. I notice in your letter you do not know when their tenancy is supposed to start." In July there was a tenancy agreement between Mr Wanklyn and Mr & Mrs Horton for the rental of 7 Sherborne Lane, the first rent being due on 22nd July.

To T Ravley, G E "J" Area, The Avenue Sherborne, re Emmett & Co, Builders, 3 Monmouth Street "We have been instructed to wind up the above mentioned firm, which closed down on Saturday last on account of members of their staff being called up for enlistment." "We shall be obliged if you could expedite payment of £69-9-9 due for work carried out on behalf of the East Surrey Regiment." There followed 15 similar letters to people owing money to the firm, the later letters say "have closed down for the duration of the war."

July (p 764)

To: Capt. Slater, Royal Lion Hotel, Mr Wiscombe has consulted Mr Ramsbotham to try to get an outstanding account of £217/6/8. This has been outstanding for nearly two years and Mr Ramsbotham states that "in spite of the difficulty of these times" Capt. Slater should make an effort to pay a reasonable amount.

To: Mrs Collbran, "Mr W Cooper has seen me in relevance to unpaid Quarter's rent of £16-5-0. Mr Cooper will give Mrs Collbran until Tuesday next to pay or Mr Ramsbotham is to start proceedings against her. Alternatively Mr Cooper is prepared to allow Mrs Collbran to vacate the premises without notice or payment of rent. Mr Ramsbotham suggests that Mrs Collbran reports this at once to Capt Glasier who "may see his way to let you have an advance".

August (p 899)

To: Mr P C Harrad, Kilmere, Church Street "I read your letter to the Bench this morning on the hearing of the summons against you for showing a light from a back window. It was decided to impose a fine of £1.

Mrs E M Pitcher is selling land at Uplyme to Mr R Church of London, a portion of No 504 on the Tithe Map.

Mr F W Bealch: re Mr A Hodder who Mr Bealch has recently dismissed without notice. Mr Bealch is given 2 days to pay Mr Hodder, or proceedings will be taken.

To: Mr Burlinson, who pays regular maintenance of 8/- per week to his (ex?) wife for the support of two children. He lives in Bristol with a second family. Replying to a letter sent with one of these postal orders, Mr Ramsbotham replies on 8th August 1940 "In reply to your query, we had our first air raid warning last night, but no bombs were dropped anywhere in the neighbourhood. I think it most unlikely that the children will be evacuated and have heard nothing to suggest it is in any way likely".

To: Mr Hodder of Sherborne Lane, re your wife leaving you without due cause. Mr Ramsbotham explains that Mr Hodder is not liable to maintain his wife, if (as believed) she has since committed adultery, Mr Hodder's liability had altogether ceased. If not, he may become liable e.g. if she is now not of sound mind. "I should advise you to do nothing as present and wait until some claim is made on you."

Mr W J Carr, Golf Links, L R received a fine of £1 for riding a bicycle on the Marine Parade.

To: The Children's Overseas Reception Board, London W 1, re G H Worth Esq J P "I have every reason to think that Mr Worth would be the right sort of man for the work of an 'Escourt' for children going abroad."

To: Mrs Cooper "I would have returned the papers earlier but the boy is having a few days holiday."