

30/8/66

A few notes on Payne's Lane.

Mr Morgan Hinwood's House. This used to be a doctor's house. Dr Lutch (or? Gudge) practised there more than 90 years ago, and after him Dr Clapperton. Dr Clapperton had a garden and paddocks where the Methodist chapel is; in the paddocks behind the chapel he planted a horsechestnut tree over the grave of his children's donkey; it grew into a splendid tree; it was blown down in a gale three years ago.

In 1928 Willis, a retired farm bailiff, lived there. Morgan Hinwood bought it some time before ~~1945~~ ¹⁹³⁵. It has an excellent well of the best drinking water, and in times of drought many people went to the house and were given water.

The house opposite Hinwood's garden door used to be a pair of cottages. Two sisters, Minnie and Patsy Harman, lived side by side. Miss Minnie had been in good service for most of her life; Miss Patsy, who was blind, had never left Broughton, and spoke the local dialect with delicate precision. In spite of her blindness she was skilled in many domestic arts — plaiting chitterlings, for instance.

On the ~~same~~ ^{other} side of the Lane, where the Leach family now are, once lived Mr Cornwell, music master at Queenwood College and church organist. Next door lived Woodford a bootmaker (about 1873). Ellen Macklin (also called Lush because Alfred Lush's father was her mother's second husband) was Mr Cornwell's housekeeper; afterwards she moved into Quorn Cottage.

Quorn Cottage was given that name by an owner who had been a hunt-servant with the Quorn. When Christopher R., Henry Robinson's grandfather, was a boy, a Mrs Payne kept a little sweet-shop there, which gave its name to the lane. Other occupants of the house were Emma Judd, who was crazed by being crossed in love and (it was said) 'kept a wooden man' in the house; the Daniels couple, parents of Bill Daniels the builder in Rookery Lane; Shepherd Beauchamp; Fripp, an ex-publican; and Miss Gladys Bompad bought it in 1939.

Near the bottom of the lane lived the Beauchamp family; they were witchers, that is, builders of chalk walls and houses, and also maltsters and cider-makers. They had a cider-press on a wheeled carriage which was taken to various farms and houses to make cider. Survivors of the family in our time were Beauchamp a retired ploughman (stepfather of Walter Prewett the Carpenter); Mr Cummins; and a farm labourer at Darfield who was something of an astronomer and weather-prophet; he is still alive and has moved into Broughton. I believe the Beauchamps were employed to build the Cottage, Mr Selater's present house, which I take to be of early XIX c. age — "a cottage of gentility", the sort of "cottage" Jane Austen has a quiet laugh at.

At one time it was divided into three 'up and downs', each with its stairs.