

SOME EXTRACTS FROM THE DIARY OF SAMUEL WILLIAMS

with particular reference to Henry & Ann Maria Kimbell

1875

- Sep 28 Rowland J Barber married to Martha Hampton. J S W went as best man. The horses ran away with the carriage in which the Bridegroom & his men were in going from Mr Barber's & upset them. They fortunately escaped with bruises. I sent him some glass for which I paid S & W 60/- .
- Sep 29 Mr Bradley came down. Paid him 52/- for tea & cigars. He left us ill Oct 1st with lumbago.
- Oct 1 Received £150 for ½ year's rent of glasshouse etc from S & W.
- Oct 2 Paid housemaid's quarters wages 50/- (Jane Harris)
- Oct 4 My nephew Richard Williams died 11.15am at the Mount House, Wordsley of Mication of the Peritonium. Liz & I were with him at the time. He was buried at Brierley Hill Church, October 7th by Mr Stone, a plain funeral consisting of Henry Williams & J Moumers, Messrs Billingham & James Executors, & 8 underbearers. Hearse & one Mourning Coach. Mr Perry came to the Mount to dinner & read the Will.
- Oct 6 Remitted Braund cheque £6 14s for port wine. Received Post Dividend Warrant CA016733 for £6 18 9 (for ½ year's interest on £466 3s 8d viz £6 19s 10d less 1/1 tax) & sent it by post to Mrs W H Cresswell. Remitted cheque for 42/- subscription to Guest Hospital.
- Oct 8 Gave Henry Williams 20/- to carry him home as he had nothing to receive from his brother's estate. Paid 21/- into S & K Bank for Stourbridge Rifle Corps.
- Oct 9 Mrs Kimbell came over from Knowle & came to my house with Mrs James to see if she could have the charge of Jane & Ellen Williams. She wished to have them if Mr K was willing. It was arranged for her & her husband to come over. They came accordingly on the 12th. I met them at the station with the carriage & drove home. Had sherry & biscuits & then drove to the Mount. Saw the girls & came back to my house with Mr Billingham to dinner. We agreed for the girls to go there if we liked the place & arranged for Mr B & I to go over on the 14th. We went over on that day (a very wet one) & arranged for my nieces to be placed under their care on the following Wednesday the 20th instant at £100 per annum each, payable quarterly & 3 months notice of removal to be given on leaving, Mr & Mrs K to find food, lodging, clothing, medicine, in fact everything & to treat them as their own children. We left Knowle by the 3.5pm train.
- Oct 11 Called on James & received bank book for myself & H Billingham as guardians to Jane & Ellen Williams with £106 to our credit.
- Oct 17 Remitted Jim five pounds to buy law books.
- Oct 19 Lent Loui Stevens eight pounds.
- Oct 20 I went with Mr Billingham, Jane & Ellen Williams & the servant by the 10.48am train to Knowle. Mr Phillips, the Station Master, provided us with a separate compartment & the same at Birmingham. Had two cabs at Knowle & arrived safe at Mr Kimbell's about 12 o'clock. The girls bore the journey well. We dined there & left by the 3.5 train. Rained all day long & the railway was flooded & the land to a great extent & put out the engine fire at Cradley. We had to have another engine at the Lye. Mr Billingham paid all the expences out of the estate of R W. We left the girls in very good spirits, Jane to write me every week or fortnight.
- Oct 21 Had a cab from Stourbridge station & went to the Corn Exchange to record my vote in favour of purchasing the land for the new cemetery 107 to 35. Sent Phillips, Station Master, a brace of partridges.
- Oct 25 Gave Liz five pounds.
- Nov 8 Remitted Sam Hughes cheque for £27 15s 0d. Annual premium to Standard Life Assurance. Received my Grandfather's Family Bible from the Mount, also my Grandmother Mitchell's & my brother's likenesses & a small painting of Chas the first & Mr Foster's likeness for which I paid King £3 10s 0d. Mr Billingham bought the piano at the Mount sale for Jane Williams for £11 10s 0d.
- Nov 12 Remitted Henry King cheque for the above £11 10s on S & K Bank at Stourbridge. Signed Sam C Williams for Jane Mitchell Williams.

1876

- Jan 15 Paid Thos Lowe 59/8 for carrying gas pipes to cowhouse & fixing with fittings, etc see S & W.
- Jan 19 Received twenty pounds from Wm Scriven which I lent him September 28/74.
- Jan 20 Remitted cheque for fifty pounds to Mr Kimbell, Knowle, on a/c of Rc Williams' Executors for maintenance, clothing, etc of Jane & Ellen Williams for 3 months.

- Jan 14 Received quarter cask sherry from Braund, paid carriage 6/7.
- Jun 19 Attended poll at Stourbridge Corn Exchange & voted for two chapels. This polling was demanded at a meeting at the Corn Exchange on the 13th & resulted in 590 for the two chapels & 1124 for the one chapel & as they had not 3/4 of the ratepayers the 2 chapels carried the day. 20/- Exps. Gave T Penn 20/- towards Superintendent Freeman's testimonial.
- Jun 20 Liz & I went to Knowle to see Jane & Ellen Williams by the 10.52am train. Dined at Mr Kimbell's & returned home at six o'clock called in Birm.
- Jun 28 Went by 10.52 train to Sutton Coldfield to attend meeting of the Midland Association of Flint Glass Manufacturers. Present: Jas Walker, Chairman, S C W, J B Stone, Dr Lloyd, Woodall & Son, Robinson, Sarsons, Jas Stevens Jun, Messrs Richardson & Green (Tutbury), Walter Webb, Hammond, Fitz Webb, Boulton, F Stuart, Pargetter, G Duby, Hodgetts, & H Richardson. A Deal of talk but no business transacted. 19 sat down to a first rate dinner. Left Sutton by the 8.10 train & arrived home a little before ten o'clock. We had a carriage & drove through the park. Fare 5/5, paid for carriage 10/- & gave waiters 5/- .
- Jul 3 Paid Jane Harris (Housemaid) 50/- for quarter year's wages.
- Dec 4 Sent off 3 large bowls & stands to Soane & Smith for the Emperor of Morocco. Stands £20 ea & bowls 18 guineas.
- Dec 7 Bought a waggonette or Stanhope Phaeton of W B Moore for Jane & Ellen Williams and
- Dec 8 sent it to Mr Kimbell's, Knowle for their use. Gave Moore £33 for carriage & 12/- for delivery.
- Dec 12 Paid Thos Perks, carpenter, £5 18s 0d for balance of work & timber to forcing pit, making in all £10 18s.

1879

- Sep 11 Liz & I went to Birmingham. We drove to Halesowen where the horse refused to go any farther, so took the train & arrived at Birmingham 11.10am. Called on F C B Cave & Clarke his assistant extracted two teeth. To go again three weeks. Dined at Lisseters, went to the Society of Artists & afterwards to the Arcade. Bought 4 pairs of gloves & doll & ball for children.
- Sep 16 Pollie & Ellen Hall went by rail to Wolverhampton. Gave Pollie 10/- to pay expences.
- Sep 17 Liz & Ellen Hall went to Knowle to see Jane & Nellie Williams. Gave Liz 20/- to pay exs.
- Sep 20 J S W, his wife & Pollie went for a day or two to Malvern. Gave Pollie 40/- & J S W 120/- for Poll's expences. They returned 24th.
- Sep 22 Mary Cresswell came to us & left us for J S W's on the 27th.

1880

- Mar 24 Ellen Lunn Williams died at Mr Kimbell's, Knowle. She had a fit on Sunday night from which she never rallied, in her 32nd year.
- Mar 27 She was brought fr Knowle to Dudley in hearse by rail where the mourners with hearse & mourning coach met it & brought her to Brierley Hill Church where she was interred in the family vault by Rev Stone.
Mourners: Harry & J S Williams, Mr Billingham & Mr Kimbell
Bearers: Wm Irish & Dick Scriven, Nutt, Gardner & Davis
The bearers had 7/6 each, gloves, scarf & band for hat, viz scarves, hatband or plumes.

- Mar 31 Paid Mr Billingham cheque for £17 2s 8d for expences connected with the above, viz

Scott mason opening vault etc	1 13 6
S & W Cooper Drapers	7 16 10
H Williams exps & hat	5 10 0
H Billingham rail fare, porters	
telegrams & expences	2 2 4
Morris & Son hearse & coach	2 10 0

- Apr 13 Paid H D Kimbell cheque £13 3 0 as under:

Tait & Foster Surgeons	1 1 0
Wm Rice hearse to Dudley	1 10 0
H Thompson coffin etc	8 5 0
Carriage by rail & porters	12 0
Servants at Mr Kimbell's	1 15 0
	32 15 8

There is no record of money sent to Mr Kimbell after 20 October 1881