

THE BERRYMAN FAMILY OF BARTON STACEY, HAMPSHIRE 1800-1830s

by Linda Moffatt © 2018
for the Barton Stacey History Group

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The Berrymans are familiar to anyone with an interest in Barton Stacey's history because of their involvement in the Swing Riots of 1830-31. The Barton Stacey family originated in the village of Sutton Scotney in the adjacent parish of Wonston.

In written records the surname is found as Berriman, Berryman or Buryman.

THOMAS BERRYMAN married Sarah and had the following children baptised at Holy Trinity, Wonston.

Children of Thomas and Sarah Berryman,

- i. Mary, baptised 4 February 1776.
- ii. **THOMAS**, baptised 22 March 1778. He perhaps married firstly Ann Alexander at Wherwell, Hampshire on 24 May 1790. He married Martha Harris on 29 December 1800 at St Peter and Holy Cross, Chilbolton, Hampshire and they had children baptised at All Saints', Barton Stacey. Martha died aged 49 in 1829 and was buried at Barton Stacey on 28 April.

Thomas and his son of the same name were involved in the unrest amongst the farm workers of the Dever valley of 1830-31. Together with Joseph Berryman, they signed the famous Petition to the King, pleading their case for more secure employment and better pay. They were amongst the 13 Barton Stacey men who were charged for their part in the Swing Riots of 1830. Thomas Berriman senior was placed on the prison hulk *York* awaiting transportation to Australia but was granted a free pardon on 14 March 1833. Fuller detail can be found in the booklet on the Swing Riots produced by Barton Stacey History Group¹.

We know that Thomas Berriman was living in Barton Stacey village in 1834 because on 12 August 1834 farmer and landowner William Courtney (1775-1836) made his will in which, among his bequests to his son William, were two cottages in the parish, occupied at the time he made his will by Thomas Berryman and William Newman, and another in the occupation of John Bennett. Between 1834 and the time of the 1841 census this family had disappeared from Barton Stacey.

Children of Thomas and Martha (Harris) Berryman, baptised at Barton Stacey,

- i. Mary, baptised 7 June 1801. She married James Smith at Barton Stacey on 11 June 1821. Nothing further presently known.
- ii. Thomas, baptised 10 April 1803. Thomas Berriman junior was one of five men from Barton Stacey brought to trial at Winchester in December 1831 for arson at Cocum Farm, Barton Stacey. He was acquitted for want of

¹ See *Barton Stacey and the Swing Riots*, Barton Stacey History Group 2017, available from www.bartonstaceyhistory.co.uk.

evidence but was put straight back into the dock along with John Dore and charged with the arson at Pierce's farm more than a year before on 19 November 1830. For this he was found guilty and sentenced to hang, along with Henry Hunt. They were both executed at Winchester gaol on 17 March 1832. Their bodies were returned to their families and buried in Barton Stacey the following day. They appear in the Barton Stacey burial records but their graves are not marked.

- iii. Ann, baptised 13 July 1806. She died at the age of 22 and was buried at Barton Stacey on 16 October 1828.
- iv. George, baptised 25 December 1810. He died in childhood and was buried at Barton Stacey on 6 February 1812.
- v. William, born about 1813. On 5 July 1875 at St Peter's, Ash, Surrey, William, a bachelor and son of Thomas Berriman (a labourer, deceased), married Elizabeth Bridgman. She was born about 1833 in Wargrave, Berkshire, a daughter of James Bridgman (a steward, deceased). William Berryman was a railway porter and had been living with Elizabeth Bridgman since at least 1861, when at census time that year they were in Shute End, Wokingham, Berkshire, together with her son James Bridgeman (born 1851 in Wargrave). James became a gunner with the Royal Horse Artillery - with the surname Berriman - and was living in 1891.
- vi. Charlotte, baptised 7 May 1815. She married William Champs on 13 September 1834 at Barton Stacey.
- vii. **GEORGE**, baptised 28 December 1817. He married firstly Ann __?__ (born about 1819 in Dewsbury, Yorkshire) and they were living at the time of the 1851 census in Hedley Street, Liverpool, where he was a labourer in the gasworks. I have yet to find them in 1861.

At the time of the 1871 census George gave his age as 51 and was living at 16 Beverley Road, Barnes, Surrey with his wife Charlotte (born in Bradford, Wiltshire). She died aged 34 and was buried at St May's, Putney, Surrey on 17 February 1873.

On 15 October 1873 at St Paul's, Hammersmith, London, George Berryman, a widower and son of labourer Thomas Berryman, married Elizabeth Lavers who was 23 years his junior (born in Bristol, daughter of William Henry Lavers). They lived in Mortlake, Surrey, where George Berriman died aged 66 and was buried at St Mary's, Mortlake on 19 March 1890

Children of George and Elizabeth (Lavers) Berriman, born and baptised at St Mary's, Mortlake,

- i. Lotty Sarah Elizabeth, born 28 August 1875. She died unmarried on 20 April 1963, of Barnsbury, Islington.
- ii. George Henry William, born 1877.
- iii. **THOMAS FREDERICK**, born 3 April 1878. He married Elizabeth Hannah Talbot (1879-1951).
Children - Thomas Charles Frederick (1901-1940); May Elizabeth Bessie (1902); Irene Lottie Mary (1903-1991); Doris Violet (1906-1929); Ruth Elizabeth Ann (1909); Olive Hannah Ivy (1912).
- iv. Ernest, born 12 August 1882.
- v. Lilla Mary, born 11 April 1886.
- vi. John Arthur, born 23 November 1887. He died at 5 years old and was buried at Mortlake on 24 December 1892.

- iii. George, born in Sutton Scotney and baptised 25 December 1780. Like his brother Thomas, he moved into Barton Stacey parish and became a soldier.
The militia was the oldest reserve force in Britain. Organised in county regiments, it was recruited by ballot from able-bodied men on lists drawn up by parish constables, and its officers were local gentlemen. It trained part-time, but might be embodied for full-time service when there was a risk of invasion, and in the Napoleonic wars it provided many recruits for the Regular army. George Berryman was such a balloted man, with the 66th Regiment of Foot. He was called up in 1803 into the Army of Reserve² but joined them as a Regular on 10 May 1805 at Tuam, Co. Galway 'having volunteered from the R. Army of Reserve into which he enlisted at Bartonstacy, Co. Hants'. He was on St Helena from 25 December 1806 to 20 August 1821. Corporal George Berriman was discharged on 29 October 1823 'in consequence of being worn out from length of service in tropical climates (India and St Helena)'. He was described as 42½ years of age, a labourer by trade, 5 feet 6¾ inches tall with brown hair, grey eyes and a swarthy complexion³. His pension was granted a month later in November 1823⁴.
He is perhaps the George Berriman buried at Wonston on 20 October 1836, said to be aged 50.
- iv. **JOHN**, baptised 30 November 1783. He married Mary Tanner at Wonston on 18 October 1806 and they had children in Wonston - George 1807, Sarah 1810, John 1812, Hannah 1814, Mary 1817. He died aged 53 and was buried at Wonston on 13 April 1836. Mary Berriman continued to live in London Road near the Coach and Horses inn. She died in 1857 aged 83.
- v. Sarah, baptised 27 February 1786. She *perhaps* died an infant and was buried at Wonston on 28 January 1787 (no age is given in the online burial transcript).
- vi. William, baptised 25 January 1789.

² The National Archives Reference E182/921(pt2), Vol. 1, Army of Reserve, Napoleonic War Records 1775 - 1817.

³ Royal Hospital Chelsea Pensioner Soldier Service Records, 1760-1920.

⁴ Royal Hospital Kilmainham Pensioner Discharge Documents, 1724-1924.