

THE KEW FAMILY OF BARTON STACEY, HAMPSHIRE, 1770s to 1830s

by Linda Moffatt © 2018
for the Barton Stacey History Group

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WILLIAM KEW was born about 1744, apparently not in Barton Stacey parish. He married, apparently as his second wife, Rebecca Gibbs, at All Saints', Barton Stacey on 8 October 1775. Their birthplaces are presently not known. They had at least two children before Rebecca Kew's death in 1788. She died suddenly and the Winchester coroner's jury, as reported on 29 September 1788 in the *Hampshire Chronicle*, found that she had 'died by the visitation of God'. She was buried at Barton Stacey on 16 September 1788.

William Kew then married secondly Ann Farmer (c.1753-1832) on 13 October 1791 at Wonston.

The following year, about two months after the 'Great Fire' at Barton Stacey, he purchased the property which we now call Chalk Dell, Barton Stacey, from Henry Allen. We believe that Henry Allen had added to the house and garden he had purchased five years earlier in 1787, by erecting premises in the garden¹. It is possible that these premises were used by William Kew in his trade as a higgler. One definition found of a higgler is a person who trades in dairy, poultry and small game animals. We can only speculate that he raised poultry and other animals in the village, either in his garden or somewhere nearby, and perhaps sold produce from his premises.

We know that he traded at Winchester Market on a regular basis. In 1796 the Salisbury and Winchester Journal reported that on April 30th William Kew, higgler of Barton Stacey, was under prosecution through the county and city magistrates 'by indictment on an information for attempting to raise the common price on provisions and proposing to other dealers to join him'. He was ordered meantime to 'keep from Winchester Market for a month'.²

William Kew died aged 77 and was buried at All Saints, Barton Stacey on 20 February 1821. Ann followed and was buried on 6 January 1832 aged 79. Her will was proved at Winchester in 1832, though she had written it in April 1821, soon after the death of her husband. Her executors and

¹ A much fuller history of Chalk Dell can be found elsewhere on this website.

² Hampshire Record Office, 72M85/7. Andover Local History Society antiquarian papers. These are a collection of handwritten notes on various researches done on Barton Stacey. The original newspaper article has not been seen.

trustees were her friends John Pain the younger of Barton Stacey, gentleman, and William North of Barton Stacey, maltster. The will was witnessed by James Jolliffe (Curate of the parish), William Edney (a gentleman farmer) and Sarah North (almost certainly the sister of William North). Her trustees were to sell all her real estate and divide the proceeds into three equal parts; one-third went to her son William Kew of Andover; one-third to her daughter Mary Wild of Barton Stacey; one-third was divided between her brother Moses Farmer of Overton, her sister Hannah King of Lasham (married George King) and her niece Mary Castle of Sutton Scotney. In a codicil dated 13 September 1821 Ann Kew left all her household goods and furniture, implements and utensils, plate, linen and china ... 'in my dwellinghouse and premises' ... 'and also my pig or pigs' ... to her brother, sister and niece aforementioned. Her real estate and the residue of her personal estate were to be divided as in the original will.

Children of William Kew by his first wife,

- i. William, who was living in Andover, Hampshire in 1821.
- ii. Mary, born about 1770. Her age in the 1851 census was given as 80 and her birth-place as Barton Stacey. According to her death certificate, she was born in 1768 or 1769. She married James Wild on 10 October 1793 at Barton Stacey. He died in 1838 aged 76. They had six children, including daughters Ann and Sarah. Ann Wild was the first teacher when the National School was built in Barton Stacey village in 1819 and was followed there by her sister Sarah. Mary Wild died in 1854 aged 85.