

David Patch and Ann Bagg

by Richard Monk

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David Patch, the youngest son of Joseph Patch and Mary Ford Patch, was born on 24 May 1823. Virtually nothing is known about his early life. Presumably, he was given the average amount of schooling for the times— up to about age 10 or 12. He was working as a “laborer” by the time he reached the age of 19. David lived his entire life in Norton Sub Hamdon, Somerset, a small village of about 500 people located 10 miles west of Yeovil, Somerset. His occupation throughout his life was variously described as “gardener” and “agricultural laborer.” David was buried on 11 May 1878.

Ann Bagg was born on 26 September 1819 in Norton Sub Hamdon. She was the eldest child of William Bagg and Sarah Harris. Her father, William, was a carpenter. At the time of 1841 census, Ann was working as a glover— a person who makes gloves. Her occupation is also recorded as “glover” in the 1851 and 1861 censuses. In 1881, at age 61, she is described as “housekeeper.” Presumably, she had quit working and was “retired.” Ann died on 3 September 1890, and was buried 3

days later on 6 September 1890 in Norton Sub Hamdon. Her death certificate states that she died of malignant tumors of the abdomen. Ann’s probate states the David (Jr.) was present at her death and that her estate was valued at less than 50 pounds.

David and Ann were married at Norton Sub Hamdon church on 2 November 1843. They had 9 children:

1. William, b. 1 Feb. 1844
2. Martha, b. 13 Jan. 1847
3. Sarah Ann, b. 17 Jan. 1849
4. David, b. 16 Oct. 1850
5. Elizabeth Mary, b. 10 Sep. 1852
6. Joseph, b. about 1856
7. Ethel Mary, b. 26 Feb 1859
8. John Henry (aka Sidney Henri Belmont, Sr.), b. 5 Feb. 1861
9. Susan, b. 6 Apr. 1865

What little we know about the family has been deduced from the few records that are available, including censuses and church records.

William

In 1861, William was living in Bradford Abbas, Dorset, with his uncle, Thomas Patch, and his family. He was age 17. Interestingly, his occupation is listed as “servant.” It is unknown if he was a servant in Thomas’ household or elsewhere. William married Mary Ann Burrige (from Crewkerne) in Bradford Abbas in 1868. They had no children. In 1881,

they were living in Stoke Trister (at Parkhouse Farm). At that time, William was a farmer of 70 acres and employed one man. There were no children, but a niece, Annie Jane Swaffield, was living with them. William’s family was not found in the Stoke Trister census in 1891. A different family was living at Parkhouse Farm. William and Mary Ann both died in 1900.

Martha

At age 14, Martha was working in Norton Sub Hamdon as a glover. In 1871, she was employed as a parlour maid in Acton Turville, Gloucestershire. By 1881, she was married and living in Bottesford, Leicester, with her husband, William Turner, and three children: Frederick William (age 2), Henry Louis (age 1), and Earnest (age 5 months). A fourth son, William, was born later (1882). It is noted that Martha's husband, William, was born in Ashurst, Kent, as was their first son, Frederick William. It is unknown how Martha met her husband. They married in 1875 in Wandsworth (London) and lived in Kent for a short time before moving to Leicester. William's occupation is listed as "gardener."

Sarah Ann

Sarah Ann apparently worked as a servant for some before she married, because the 1871 census lists her as "former servant." She married John De La Mont (or more commonly, Delamont) on 4 Jun 1874. John was listed in the 1871 census, age 18, as a "laborer." John was born in Hardington Mandeville, Somerset. This is a small village located just 3½ miles south of Norton Sub Hamdon. The couple was married in Norton Sub Hamdon. By 1881, they were living in Whitelackington. John was working as a "farm laborer." In 1881, they had five children: Beatrice Bessie (age 6), Sarah Jane (age 5), Mabel Kate (age 3), George H. (age 2), and William (age 1 month). Seven more children were born after the 1881 census: Henry (or Harry), Lucy (or Alice), John Ernest, Beatrice, John, Bessie, and Ethel. In the

notebook kept by Great Grandpa Belmont, Sarah Ann and John's children were listed as Jane (Sarah Jane), Kate (Mabel Kate), Harry (Henry), Alice (Lucy), Bessie, and Ethel. One of the pictures kept by Great Grandpa Belmont has "Bessie Delamont- died" written on the back of it. This photograph has been identified as Beatrice Bessie, born in 1874. She died between 1881 and 1887 when Beatrice was born. The second Beatrice, George Henry, John and John Ernest also died young (before 1891). The 1881 census lists the birthplaces of the children: Beatrice Bessie- Hardington, Sarah Jane and Mabel Kate- Ilminster, and George and William- Whitelackington. Apparently the family moved around a lot- possibly to find work.

David

David Patch (Jr.)'s occupation is listed as "stone cutter apprentice" in 1871, and "stone worker or cutter" in 1881. He married Fanny Harrison at the end of 1891, presumably in Norton Sub Hamdon. They had four sons: Leonard David (b. 1892) who died of pneumonia during World War I (Feb. 1912), John Henry (b. 1894, just a few weeks after Great Grandpa returned to the US), Edward Lionel (b. 1896), and Clarence William (b. 1899). David was the only child of David and Ann who stayed in Norton Sub Hamdon. He was found in the 1891 census living as a boarder at an inn in Norton Sub Hamdon. In 1881, he was living with John Henry and Ann (their mother) on Rectory Street (now Rectory Lane). There is a statement on Ann's death certificate that David was present at the time of her death.

Elizabeth Mary

Elizabeth Mary was working as a servant for the William Trask family in Norton Sub Hamdon (at age 17) in 1871. In 1881, she was working as cook for the Edward C. Garland family in Yeovil. She was married just a few weeks later (24 May, 1881) in Yeovil. Her husband was William Coleman Perrott, blacksmith in North Cadbury, Somerset. Interestingly, the witnesses at her marriage were her younger brother, Joseph, and Hadassah J. Seward— another servant in the family of Edward C. Garland. The couple was found living in Westbury, Wiltshire, in 1891 and 1901. They had no children.

Joseph

Joseph is listed in the 1871 census in Norton Sub Hamdon as a “ham stone laborer.” He was 14 years old. In 1881, he was found living with the Andrew Bogle family in Sherborne, Dorset, where he was working as a footman. Also working in the household were Sarah Childs, Elizabeth Whitmore, and Mary Whitmore. Joseph and Mary Whitmore were married the following year, 1882, in Sherborne. They had five children: William Alexander (b. 1882), Elsie Mary (b. 1884), Lavinia Ethel (b. 1885), Cecil Whitmore (b. 1888), and Winifred Ann (b. 1890). All of these children were listed in Great Grandpa Belmont’s notebook except Lavinia, whose name had been erased. Perhaps whoever was telling him the names of Joseph’s children was not sure of the name. Furthermore, William Alexander’s name was recorded as “Alexandra.” Alexander was born in Westbury, Wiltshire. Note that This is where

Elizabeth Mary and her husband lived after they were married. Apparently, Joseph and Elizabeth Mary were very close. Following Alexander, Joseph and Mary’s other four children were born in Bishopstrow, Wiltshire. On Cecil’s birth certificate, Joseph’s occupation is listed as “butler/domestic servant.”

An interesting point regarding Joseph is that he was not christened at Norton Sub Hamdon like the rest of his brothers and sisters. Furthermore, his birth was not listed in the civil registration index. However, in the census, his birthplace is recorded as Norton Sub Hamdon. Perhaps his mother, Ann, was ill following his birth and they never “got around” to having him christened or reporting his birth.

Ethel Mary

Ethel Mary was found in the 1871 census (age 12) working as a servant for the Charles Trask family. At that time, her name was recorded as “Mary,” but in the 1881 census, she is called “Ethel M.” At that time (1881), she was living in Hampstead London with the George Jackson family. Her occupation was listed as “nurse.” Since they had several small children, it is assumed that she was their nanny. On 9 September 1885 Ethel married Fred Voysey (or Voisey) in London (Willesden). Only one child has been located for Ethel and Fred— Richard. He was born in September of 1892. The family was living in Darrington, Yorkshire at the time. We have not been able to find Ethel’s family in the 1901 census.

It is interesting to note that Sarah Ann, Joseph, and John Henry (SHB) all named a daughter after Ethel. She must have been the

“little princess” of the family.

John Henry
also known as
Sidney Henri Belmont

John Henry was found in the 1871 census (age 10) as a “scholar,” so we know that he, like his brothers and sisters, received an education in England. As was mentioned above, he was living in Norton Sub Hamdon with his brother, David, and mother, Ann. The date of the 1881 census for Norton Sub Hamdon was 7 April 1881, so it’s obvious that he left for the US after that date. So far, apprentice records for Norton Sub Hamdon have not been located, so it is unknown if he apprenticed to a stone cutter there or elsewhere. The oral tradition of the family states that he lived and worked at Land’s End. There is also a photograph of him taken in Truro. It is possible that he apprenticed there. The details of the

remainder of his life have been covered elsewhere and will not be covered here. An interesting aside is that there is an address recorded in Great Grandpa’s notebook for an “A. Swaffield,” living in Yeovil in 1894. It’s possible that this is Annie Jane Swaffield, William’s niece.

Susan

Susan, the youngest child, was born about 1865– her christening occurred on 6 April, 1865. She died as an infant and was buried on 29 November, 1865 in Norton Sub Hamdon. It’s no wonder that Great Grandpa Belmont considered himself the youngest of the family, since Susan was born and died while he was only four years old. He probably would not have remembered her, and may not have even known that he had a younger sister unless someone talked about her.

Names* of David and Ann’s grandchildren from Great Grandpa’s notebook (* Actual names given in parentheses)	Their ages on 4 February 1894	
	age recorded in notebook	actual age
Jane (Sarah Jane) Delamont	17	17
Kate (Mabel Kate) Delamont	16	16
William Delamont	14	14
Harry (Henry) Delamont	12	11
Alice (Lucy) Delamont	12	9
Bessie Delamont	6	3
Ethel Delamont	3	2

Fred (Frederick William) Turner	15	15
Louis (Henry Louis) Turner	14	14
Earnest Turner (note: his name is always spelled "Earnest")	13	13
Whillie (William) Turner	11	11
Alexandra (William Alexander) ____ (Patch)	13	11
Elsie (Elsie Mary) Belmont (Patch)	11	9
(Lavinia Ethel) Patch	10	8
Cecil (Cecil Whitmore) Patch	5	5
Winifred Ann Patch	3	3
Leonard (Leonard David) Patch	1	1
Richard Voysey	1	1

Several things are interesting about the patterns found in the children of David and Ann. Not the least of these is that they all (with the exception of David) moved away from Norton Sub Hamdon. The latter part of the nineteenth century seems to have been a time of change due to the industrial revolution that was taking place. People were moving to the cities to find work and a new life. Surprisingly, David and Ann's children did not move to the city— but they did move. Perhaps it was common for people to move away from home at the time. Another interesting point is the

number of people who worked— at some time in their lives— as servants (this may have been common for the time period), and the number who were farmers or farm laborers. Only two of them, David and John Henry (Sidney Henri Belmont) became stone masons. This is surprising considering that they grew up in Norton Sub Hamdon, where quarrying ham stone was a major activity. Finally, it is worth pointing out that none of them was ever listed in poor house records.