

## **NEWS STORIES RE: CURRELLS AT HITCHIN 1840 – 1890**

George Darton was charged with being the father of an illegitimate child born of Martha Currell. The evidence pro and con was of a very disgusting nature, totally unfit for publication and exhibiting the grossest profligacy and permissiveness. (Aug 1845 – child Rosina Currell born Sept Qtr 1845)

ASSAULT. Elizabeth Thrussell was charged with committing an assault on Emma Currell. The case was adjourned until Tuesday next. (May 1861)

REASON FOR NOT TAKING THE OATH. Elizabeth Thrussell was charged with assaulting Emma Currell (wife of Abraham b.1833), both parties reside at the Folly near Hitchin, and appeared not to be on very good terms with each other. The complainant called as a witness an old woman who refused to be sworn on the ground that she was nearly eighty years old There being no other witnesses, the case was dismissed. (May 1861)

Thomas Currell of Hitchin a bricklayer's labourer (b 1841c - son of Samuel and Sarah, m Lydia Clark) was charged with assaulting George Stevens, a lad in the employ of Mr F. Warren. The case was adjourned from last week for the production of witnesses and today after hearing these, the Chairman said there was no doubt complainant struck the boy and defendant struck the complainant, but there were faults on both sides. The defendant would have to pay 5s including costs. (December 1876)

Thomas Currell, a lad (bapt 1867 son of Abraham and Emma), was charged with stealing plums - the property of William Anderson, inn keeper of Hitchin.

William Taylor, a lad, said that on August 27 he was with Currell about eight o'clock in the morning. They both went into Mr Anderson's garden. He got up a plum tree and fell down and broke his arm. Currell got up a tree as well.

Mr Anderson said that he had lost a large quantity of fruit from his garden during the season and he wished the Bench to put a stop to it.

David Minnis said that he had seen the defendant with apples, pears and plums when at his work on different occasions.

The defendant who admitted the offence was fined 15s including costs with the alternative Of 14 days imprisonment. (Aug 1882)

George Currell, an inmate of Hitchin Workhouse, was charged with misconduct. Mr Wakenell attended and explained to the Bench that the defendant had assaulted Thomas Ancient and a man named Briers and on Monday he (Mr Wakenell) sent to defendant to come to his office to explain his conduct, when he sent word that he should not come and that if the master wanted him, he would have to fetch him. After hearing the evidence, the Bench sent defendant to gaol for a week with hard labour.

George Currell was charged with absconding from the Hitchin Workhouse with wearing apparel the property of the guardians and was sent to gaol for six weeks hard labour. (September 1876)

### **Details of Currell children who attended the British School, Hitchin**

This information has been taken from transcribed registers of the British School at Hitchin.

Albert Currell b 15 9 1878, son of William a bricklayer of Bridge Street, Hitchin. Attended St Marys Infants School. Started at British School 21 1 1889 until 15 3 1889. Recommenced 25 6 1890 (an inmate at Hitchin Union Workhouse) until 8 8 1890.

George Currell b 5 11 1894 son of John living at 32 Hitchin Hill, a railway porter. Attended British Infants. Started at British School 1 5 1901. Left 6 11 1908 to become an errand boy.

Harold Charles Currell b 31 8 1894 son of widow Mary Ann Currell a grocer at 1 Tilehouse Street, Hitchin. Previous school at Alkirk N near Boston. Started at British School 8 1 1906, left 23 11 1908.

Jesse Currell b 12 8 1891 son of John (see above). Attended British Infants. Started British School 29 5 1899, left 28 7 1905 to become an outfitters errand boy.

William Currell b 27 12 1883, son of William of Hitchin Hill an engine cleaner. Attended St Saviours Infants School. Started at British School 13 7 1891, left 2 5 1896

William Currell b 19 10 1891 son of Thomas of 19 Bethel Lane, Hitchin. Attended British Infants School. Started British School 29 5 1899, left 30 7 1902 as family went to London.

William b 20 4 1904 son of William, a bricklayer's labourer of 61 Lancaster Road, Hitchin. Attended British Infants School. Started British School 11 9 1911, left 20 2 1914 when family went to Letchworth.

Information about the British School can be Google-searched. There is a museum at the school which is worth a visit and publications about the School and its place in the history of education are available.