

## The Congleton Drakefords and the environs

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# 1) Background

The Drakeford family originated in a small village, hamlet or homestead near Wolstanton, or Tunstall in Staffordshire. This no longer exists. It was possibly erased due to the Plague or a famine. In Findon, Sussex, where Georgina, my wife, and I live, the Lord of the Manor thought the sight of 'rough' buildings adjacent to their mansion and the church was too much, and he forced the villagers to move away from him to lower down the valley. The poor had to move where they were told. Perhaps that too was the end for the hamlet called 'Drakeford'.

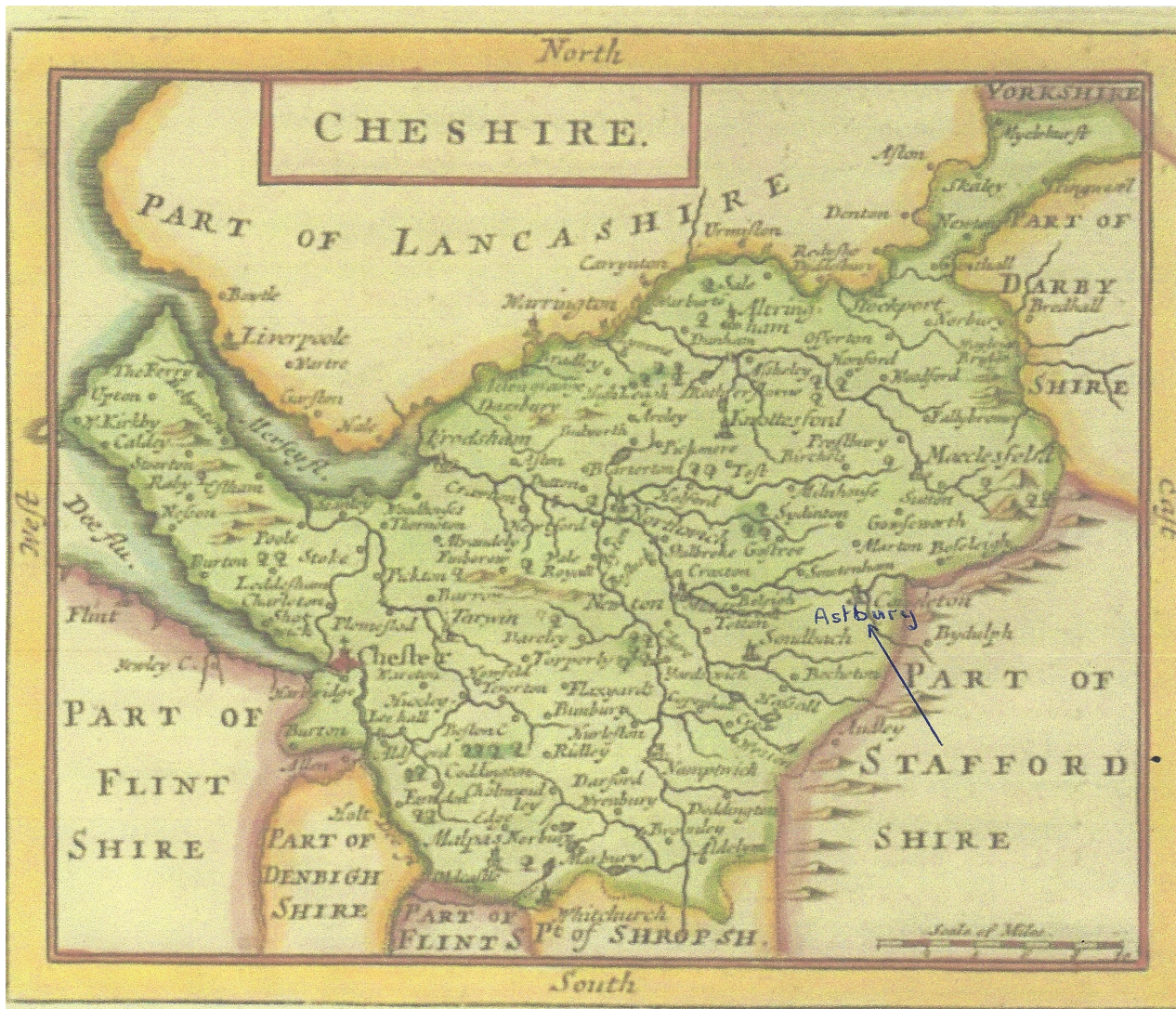
The earliest known use of the Drakeford name was that for a court case when two brothers were 'fined' for non-attendance as jurors in 1206. This was before Magna Carta was signed on 15<sup>th</sup> June 1215. They were William and Roger de Drakeford. Surnames were seldom used as early as this. To identify who they were they used their job, such as Cook, Butcher, Reeve, or the place they came from such as Newton, Moreton, Latham or Drakeford!

The records we can use to trace ancestors are varied. The most certain are court records and town/civic records followed by wills, and then church records. The last are the most dubious. The church records really started when Henry VIII fell out with Rome around 1537. From then forth he insisted that the clergy should keep a proper record of births, marriages and deaths/burials. Not all clergy trusted the reasoning for this and believed that it would be a way of taxing churches. Hence, full records were not always kept.

Making matters worse, church records were not only spasmodic, they were not securely kept and over time they would be susceptible to deterioration through damp, or even eaten by vermin. It would not be until Queen Elizabeth 1<sup>st</sup> (1558-1603) forced church records to be kept in a correct order, written on velum and in secure and watertight chests in the churches that matters improved. Even so, worse was to come. With the desecration of churches by the Cromwellian soldiers during the civil war (1642-1651) much was lost. It did not get better when the recording became a secular duty during the Commonwealth.

As a result of these problems many church records on which we rely for a continuation of information about our family, start from as late as 1624 at Wolstanton, 1559 at St Marys Stafford, 1636 at St Chads, Stafford, 1574 at Norton and 1573, Astbury/Congleton. Conversely, our first known Drakeford will was written in 1525, and where they do exist are in reasonable order.

The Drakefords of Congleton and the surrounding towns and villages are an important part of the history of the Drakeford family. Much of the early history runs in parallel with that of the Potteries' Drakefords, and *ipso facto* that of the Drakefords of Stafford. This conclusion is supported by the modern DNA results for existing members of the family.



**Map of Cheshire printed in 1783, John Seller and Francis Grose, Esq. F.A.S. printed for Hooper & Wigstead, London and discovered courtesy of Sue Drakeford**

## 2) Churches and their Records

After the Reformation within the parish of Astbury are the villages and towns of Congleton, Newbold Astbury, Buglawton, Moreton-cum-Alcumlow, Odd Rode, Smallwood, Somerford-cum-Radnor, Davenport, Eaton, Hulme Walfield and Somerford Booths. Before then it also included Brereton, Lawton and Swettenham. This still made Astbury a very wealthy parish.

Astbury was clearly the religious centre, and over a period the most significant town became Congleton. The book 'History of Congleton' by W.B. Stephens is an excellent source of population material. It shows through Diocesan records the housing population for both Astbury and Congleton. In 1563 it showed 853 houses in Astbury and just 16 in Congleton. Assuming that there were between 3 and 4 people in each house, this would show 2,550 to 3,400 people in Astbury and just 56 in Congleton. In 1660 when Poll Tax was levied in Congleton, there was a population of 506. This was split between 155 married men, 237 wives and widows and 114 others. Thus there were 718 adults. The Hearth Tax of 1668 shows 349 eligible houses.

All this was to change. We know that in 1801 Astbury had a population of 575, and Congleton 3861 houses. One hundred years later in 1901 the population of Astbury was hardly changed at 593, but Congleton had risen to 10,706. For those interested in the detailed population figures for the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The book by Stephens is a good starting point containing much detail. In 1911 the Astbury population had reduced to 527, living in 124 houses, that is an average of 4.25 per household. As for Congleton there was a population at that time of 11,310 living in 2,665 houses showing the average household of 4.24. Hence both populations had what may be an average of less than 2 children if we take into account the fact that in those days parents lived with their grown up children. We all think of large working class families, with lots of children. Clearly for Congleton this was not the case.

As for Congleton, the Church records at St Mary's, Astbury start in 1572 and the Drakeford name was first seen in 1573 when a Richard Drakeford was one of the Jury to assess the boundaries of the town. This is explained below. The first of the Drakefords in the registers were evident by the recording of the wedding on the 25<sup>th</sup> January 1573 of Richard Drakeford and Ellen Drakeford, thus this must have been one of the first events to be registered in the records that survive. This assumes that records were initially kept from 1537 as instigated by Henry VIII and that the records in the interim have been lost through poor storage.

The fact that two Drakeford adults were marrying each other looks odd, but it would not be the last time. This would be seen in Stafford in 1723 when Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Drakeford and Elizabeth née Perrott, married Johannes Drakeford.

### **St Mary's, Astbury**

The church at Astbury is dedicated to St Mary and it is about a mile away from Congleton centre. Dr. Ormerod\* described the church. 'The general design and execution of the church is suited to a rich collegiate establishment; and the finish of the ancient carvings and of the mutilated shrine works and figures on the stained glass is exquisite'.

\*Dr. George Ormerod was born in Manchester in 1785 and died in 1823. He matriculated at Brasenose College, Oxford, and graduated BA in 1806; when he came of age, he inherited extensive estates in Tyldesley and South Lancashire. He became involved with research into the history of Cheshire and to make this task easier he bought Chorlton House and estate, being four miles from Chester. His most famous work was the History of the County Palatine and City of Chester. Ormerod commented:

**'In the church's architecture are observed several characteristic specimens of different styles embodied in the tracery of its windows; the lofty nave; and wide capacious chancel; in the oaken screen and stalls; pillars clustered and supported gracefully pointing arches; and its carved oak roofs'.**

According to the Cheshire Records Office, the only gravestone at the Astbury churchyard is that for William Drakford of Congleton, Yeoman, and dated 1671.

Congleton Churchyard opened in 1686 and was used from then until 1841 when the churchyard was declared full although some records state that this was as late as 1855.



**The Drakefords visited St Mary's, Astbury in 2019 and here is the William Drakford's gravestone (shared with Thomas Pickford) uncovered for us!**



In Astbury Churchyard.

C500 William Drakford/ of Movldy Streed/ was buried here the 5<sup>th</sup> of/ Septbr Ano Dom/ 1671/ Thomas Pickford/ was buried the 20<sup>th</sup> of March Ano Dom/1675/. In Astbury churchyard, the only gravestone for a Drakeford is that of William Drakeford of Mold Street who was buried in 1671. Thomas Pickford was buried in the same grave in 1675. There is no known explanation for this joint burial.

St. Mary's original church building was a much smaller one consisting only of a nave and chancel. The northern wall remains, the nave portion of which coincided with the present northern nave wall, and the chancel with the present northern chancel aisle. There is evidence of Early English, or thirteenth century walls providing firm indications that the present edifice comprised the whole of the original building. This is supported by the items known to have been erected between 1240 and 1260. It would appear that the church was reconstructed in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The spire and tower remain from the earlier period.

Over the centuries much restoration work has been carried out including that of the ornate nave roof restored in Jacobian times.

**Internal photo of St Mary's Church, Astbury** - Photo (c)William Ball & Astbury PCC



## **St Peter's Church, Congleton**

Both St Peter's and Bridge chapels were initially made of wood and plaster construction with a stone tower and chancel. Over the years many left gifts for the churches in their wills. In his book, Robert Head's 'Congleton Past and Present' identifies a will of Thomas Chell dated 1442, stipulating gifts to various churches including 'to the Chapel of St Mary of Astbury 12d., to the

Alter of St. Katherine of Astbury 12d., to the Alter of St Mary of Morton 12d., to the Higher Chapel of Congleton 12d., and to the fabric and building of the Parish Church of Asbury 10/-, etc'. He left a fee to the sustentation and reparation of the Higher Chapel in Congleton and a similar gift for the same purpose to the Lower Chapel.

In 1418 Emma de Sheteswall of Congleton left rent from lands to the mayor of Congleton for the sustentation and reparation of the Higher Chapel. In 1422 Margery Becheton bequeathed certain burgages of land, again for the Higher Chapel.

## Bridge Chapel

Initially there were two small chapels in Congleton. The chapel in Bridge Street, known as Bridge Chapel otherwise known as the lower chapel, no longer exists. It is believed that it was erected in the 14<sup>th</sup> century as a chapel of ease to the mother church of Astbury, or an oratory, that is a small private chapel where travellers may pray when entering or leaving the town. Corporation papers show support for the lower chapel by raising funds by bequests and rents from small tenements or parcels of land. One of these bequests is dated Edward IV 1465, and is a grant from Roger Moreton, mayor of Congleton, of half a burgage, which produced the yearly rent of 3/4d for the 'reparation and sustaining of the Lower Chapel in the said borough'. It is thought that eventually the Lower Chapel was converted to a bell foundry and later a workhouse, leaving the High Chapel as the main place of worship in Congleton.

It was recorded that there was only one chapel in Congleton in 1586. When used as a bell foundry George Lee set up a business there and in 1608 cast the great bells of Nantwich. By 1630 the building was tenanted by Paul Hutton who cast the bells of Brereton, the first three bells of Astbury and a little bell for Congleton Higher Chapel. The next tenants were the Oldfield family. Prior to that the Oldfield family cast bells for the higher chapel in 1594. The agreement was sealed by the mayor William Stubbs and witnessed by five others including **Richard Drakeford**. By the date, which is prior to that of the tenant Paul Hutton, it would indicate the Oldfield family was at the time still working in Nottingham.

## Higher or Over Chapel and St Peter's Church

A chapel was on the site for 500 years before St Peter's was rebuilt in 1740. Prior to that Congleton had a higher chapel and a lower chapel in the sixteenth century, built probably early in the 14<sup>th</sup> century as a chapel of ease for the Astbury Church.

In 1586, William Camden commented on the Higher Chapel. He was the antiquarian, historian, topographer, and herald, best known as author of *Britannia*, the first chorographical survey of the islands of Great Britain and Ireland. He described the building as being 'entirely of wood, unless it be the quire and a little tower'.

In 1568 there was a very detailed allotment of seats in the High Chapel for the Mayor and Aldermen and other inhabitants the congregation. The document ordering this is available and in immense detail. It deals with where the Mayor, 'for the time being', and the Aldermen sit, which is the highest seat on the South side. The mayor's wife and the wives of the most ancient Aldermen, have the highest seat on the north side.



For the other allocations it was left to the mayor, the named aldermen, and four others including **William Drakeford**. William, who managed to find a seat on the favoured south side, is one of the five signatories signing the document!

In 1740 a faculty\* was given to the inhabitants to take down the 'parochial Chapple' described as 'old and decayed'. The new building was erected on the same site on high ground in Chapel Street. Built in the reign of George II, it is a grand edifice of which the inhabitants of Congleton can be proud. Interestingly, there is still a pew identified for the use of the Drakeford family. \*A faculty is a consent given by the Diocese.

### **St Peter's Church Congleton – Built 1740**

Until 1688 the Astbury church yard was the only place for internment. In 1686 the Mayor, Alderman and Burgesses of Congleton petitioned the dean of York to allow burials in Congleton. **Jon(?) Drakeford** was one of the burgesses. (RH P.202) This was granted and the churchyard at St Peter's was used from then until 1841 when the churchyard was declared full. A cemetery of one acre was added to it from the adjoining land of the Cockshutes. See also disputes over **Rev. Malbon** under the section - **Lowndes Connection**.



## Wesleyan Chapel

There were many different churches and chapels in Congleton in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Some of the Drakeford family joined the Wesleyan Chapel as opposed to the Church of England. The Wesley brothers John and Charles first visited Congleton in 1745 and 1747 respectively. The first chapel was erected around 1760 but soon it proved to be far too small for the congregation. A new chapel was erected in 1767, and the present larger one able to take 400 worshipers was erected in 1808. **William Drakeford** was a Trustee of this last chapel. (Ref: Robert Head Page 262.)

This **William Drakeford(1755-1832)** features strongly in this Study Paper; we refer you to Section 7, 'Family Wills', the last will shown(No: 80) and also to Section 15, 'Industrial Congleton and the Drakefords'.

Other chapels included the Baptist Chapel, Primitive Methodism, Quakers, Congregational, Unitarian, and non-conformity.

## Church Registers:

Here are the three earliest mentions of the Drakefords in the Registers at Astbury Church:-

Just before the reader becomes complacent about reading the detailed records, the next page shows examples of the earliest script. Below are the translations given to us by long-serving, Churchwarden, William Ball, who should be very much recognised as having welcomed our Drakeford Group to his Church on many occasions and for giving us fascinating talks on the history of St Mary's Church, Astbury.

### *1573 January*

*On the 25<sup>th</sup> January, Richard Drakeford and Ellen Drakeford joined by agreement were married during the year*

### *1573 November*

*On 22<sup>nd</sup> day of November Jane the daughter of William Drakeford (was) baptized*

### *1574 June*

*On the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of June there was buried John son of Richard Drakeford*

Nota omnia et singula in maximis consuetudinibus  
infra contenta et ymagines de personis quibuslibet  
sequitur.

De sepulchris in maximis  
sepulchris in anno 1572.

1572

Aprilis Dominus Ludovicus Castellus noster sepultus fuit in ecclesia de S. Petri Castellus  
sepulchris fuit factus in iungenti.  
Mensis Junii Dominus Thomas Franciscus et Joannes admodum  
in ecclesia de S. Petri Castellus sepulchris in ecclesia.  
Mensis Julii Dominus Joannes de S. Petri Castellus sepulchris in ecclesia.  
Mensis Augusti Dominus Joannes de S. Petri Castellus sepulchris in ecclesia.  
Mensis Septembris Dominus Joannes de S. Petri Castellus sepulchris in ecclesia.  
Mensis Octobris Dominus Joannes de S. Petri Castellus sepulchris in ecclesia.  
Mensis Novembris Dominus Joannes de S. Petri Castellus sepulchris in ecclesia.  
Mensis Decembris Dominus Joannes de S. Petri Castellus sepulchris in ecclesia.

Nota omnia et singula in maximis consuetudinibus  
infra contenta et ymagines de personis quibuslibet  
sequitur.

1574

Nota sepulchrorum in anno 1574

Aprilis Sepulchrum in S. Petri Castellus sepulchris fuit factum in ecclesia  
Mensis Junii Sepulchrum in S. Petri Castellus sepulchris fuit factum in ecclesia  
Mensis Julii Sepulchrum in S. Petri Castellus sepulchris fuit factum in ecclesia  
Mensis Augusti Sepulchrum in S. Petri Castellus sepulchris fuit factum in ecclesia  
Mensis Septembris Sepulchrum in S. Petri Castellus sepulchris fuit factum in ecclesia  
Mensis Octobris Sepulchrum in S. Petri Castellus sepulchris fuit factum in ecclesia  
Mensis Novembris Sepulchrum in S. Petri Castellus sepulchris fuit factum in ecclesia  
Mensis Decembris Sepulchrum in S. Petri Castellus sepulchris fuit factum in ecclesia

Starting around 1573, the church records were initially mostly baptisms and weddings. Burials for Congleton were recorded as at St Mary's Church, Astbury until the cemetery became full.

From 1686, burials of Congleton folk were allowed at St Peter's church in Congleton. The petition document to effect these burials was proposed by the Mayor, Thomas Malbone, his Aldermen and several councillors, including **Jon Drakeford**.

The earliest records from about 1573 to 1661 are useful for our purposes and show a number of baptisms during this period. It is a pity that the mothers were not included in the church records as we have seen in previous churches. It would have helped the identification of different parentage among the many Rogers, Richards and Williams!

**Note:** By examining the church records we have been able to link these baptisms of children to parents shown below. Also, you might ask why I have listed out all these names rather than selectively showing a lesser number. Just consider the period covered. In respect of the marriages, it is from 1669 to 1833. That is some 164 years that have been made readily available to us showing 77 marriages. That is about one every other year. Ask yourself, do you know any modern family that is so large and so concentrated that there has been a marriage every other year, either fairly well spaced out, or as was the case here, on occasions, 3 or 4 a year. Was it because they came from all over England, there is no evidence for that, or were they local? In which case there must have been several, if not many Drakeford families based in and around Congleton and Astbury. Have **you** any further thoughts?

Another reason for assuming there were many families is that for the period after 1765 in the list of marriages below, we can list the employment for the menfolk, which tells us more about the sort of people there were.

We have to thank our friends at Astbury for supplying all this church information.

### **Drakeford Baptisms from 1573**

Date	Child	Parent/s
1573	Jane William	William (and Jane) Drakeford & following below 1575 Richard
1576	Roger	William
1582	Elenor	Father not given but possibly Richard and Ellena who married 1573, or illegitimate.
1584	John	The records show that Roger Drakeford had the burial of both his wife Margaret and a <b>son John on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 1584</b> . We assume that this was at the birth of John when his mother died.

1585	Anne (Buried at Astbury 20.10.1585)	Roger	
1586	William (buried Astbury 7 Oct. 1624)	William	
1588	Hugh	Roger	
1590	Francis	William Alderman (Bur. 25.10.1607)	
1591	William	Roger	of Eaton (near Astbury)
1592	Francis	William Drakeford Jnr	
1594	Ursulla	Roger	of Eaton
1596	Roger	Roger	of Eaton
1599	Margery	Alias Coughyn	
1602	Margaret	Roger	of Eaton
1604	Richard (Bur. Astbury 29.5.1613)	William (tanner)	of Congleton
1604	Jane	Roger	of Eaton
1604	Edward	Roger	of Congleton
1605	William	William (married Bridget Smyth?)	of Congleton
1606	Cecilia	Roger	of Congleton
1606	William (bur. Astbury 12.3.1633)	Thomas	of Congleton
1607	Elizabeth	Roger	of Congleton
1609	William	Roger	of Congleton
1609	Elizabeth	Thomas	of Congleton
1610	John	William (tanner)	of Congleton
1611	Edward	Thomas	of Congleton
1612	Richard	Roger	of Congleton
1614	Margaret	William Drakeforde	of Congleton
1614	Elizabeth	William	
1614	Alice (Bur. Astbury 27.5.1616)	Roger	of Congleton
1615	Roger	William	of Congleton
1616	Jane (Bur. Astbury 26.6.1636)	Roger Drakeforde	of Congleton
1618	William	William	of Congleton
1618	Thomas (bur. Astbury 13.6.1633)	Roger	of Congleton
1620	Edward	William	of Congleton
1621	Randle	Roger	of Congleton
1623	Margret	William	of Congleton
1626	Mary	William Drakeforth	of Congleton
1629	Richard	William Drakeforde	of Congleton
1640	Margery	Roger	of Congleton
1640	Ellen	Richard	of Congleton
1641	Mary	William	of Rode

These records clearly reflect the fact that Congleton is becoming the dominant centre of population in the parish.

1643	William	William	of Astbury
1643	Margaret	Roger	of Astbury

NB. No entries in register November 1648 to July 1661

1661	Edward	Richard Drakford	of Astbury
1662/3	Roger	Richard(written over Roger) Drakford	of Astbury
1665	Raphe	Richard Drakford	of Congleton
1667/8	John	Richard Drakeford	of Congleton
1669	Mary	William (labourer)	of Congleton
1670	Jane	William (tanner)	of Congleton
1673	John	William (tanner)	of Congleton
1673	Edward	Edward (glover)	of Congleton
1677	Jane	Will (tanner)	of Congleton
1677/8	Mary	Peter (agricultural)	of Congleton
1680/1	Jonathon	Peter (agricultural)	of Congleton
1683	(blank)	Samuel (shoemaker)	of Congleton
1685	Peter	Peter (agricultural)	of Congleton
1687	Jane	Peter (pointer)	of Congleton
1689	Sam	Jo & Jane	of Congleton
1692/3	John	Jo & Cath	of Congleton
1694	John	Peter & Anne	of Congleton
1695	Roger	Jo & Cath	of Congleton
1699	Mary	John & Cath	of Congleton
1701	William	John & Alice	of Congleton
1702	Cath	John & Cath	of Congleton
1703	Cath	Jo & Cath	of Congleton
1706	Sarah	Jo & Cath	of Congleton
1709	Alice	Ed & Poklan	of Congleton
1709/10	Margaret	Jo & Cath?	of Congleton
1713	Rich	John & Cath	of Congleton
<b>1714/15</b>	<b>Joseph</b>	<b>Edward (glover) &amp; Margaret</b>	<b>of Congleton</b>
1717/18	John	Edward (glover) & Mary	of Congleton
1721	Mary	Edward (glover) & Mary	of Congleton
1723	Jacob (illegit)	Roger (shoemaker) & Anne Crawfoot	of Astbury
1722	John	John (shoemaker) & Mary	of Congleton
1728	Mary	Roger (senior) & Amy	of Congleton
1731	Frances	Roger (shoemaker) & Mary	of Congleton
1735	Jonathan (Bastard child)	Elizabeth by George Adshed	of Congleton
1739	Sarah	Joseph (hatter) & Hannah	of Congleton
1741	David	Joseph (hatter) & Hannah	of Congleton
1743	James	Joseph (hatter) & Hannah	of Congleton
1746	James	John	of Congleton
1746	Esther	Joseph (hatter) & Hannah	of Congleton
1748	Ralph	John (shoemaker) & Mary	of Congleton

1749 Joseph	Joseph (hatter) & Hannah	of Congleton
1749 Mary	John (shoemaker) & Clementina	of Congleton
1751 Jane	John (shoemaker) & Mary	of Congleton
1751 Jesse (dy)	Joseph (hatter) & Hannah	of Congleton
1754 Hannah	Joseph (hatter) & Hannah	of Congleton
1755 William	John (shoemaker) & Mary	of Congleton
<b>1756 Jesse</b>	<b>Joseph (hatter) &amp; Hannah</b>	<b>of Congleton</b>
1758 William	Frances – a bastard child	of Congleton
1758 John	John (shoemaker) & Mary	of Congleton
1761 James	Sarah – a bastard child	of Congleton
1766 James	David (silk throwster) & Hannah	of Congleton
1766 Mary	James (shoemaker) & Esther	of Congleton
1767 James	David (silk throwster) & Hannah	of Congleton
1768 Sarah	James (shoemaker) & Esther	of Congleton
1771 Ralph	James (shoemaker) & Esther	of Congleton
1773 Jane	James (shoemaker) & Esther	of Congleton
1774 Charles	David (silk throwster) & Hannah	of Congleton
1775 Ann	James & Bella	of Congleton
<b>1776 Elizabeth</b>	<b>William &amp; Elizabeth</b>	<b>of Congleton</b>
1776 Ann	Joseph & Elizabeth	of Congleton
1776 Ann	David (silk throwster) & Hannah	of Congleton
1778 Elizabeth	Joseph & Elizabeth	of Congleton
1778 William	James & Mary	of Congleton
<b>1779 Edward</b>	<b>David (silk throwster) &amp; Hannah</b>	<b>of Congleton</b>
1780 Mary	Joseph & Elizabeth	of Congleton
<b>1780 John</b>	<b>William &amp; Elizabeth</b>	<b>of Congleton</b>
1781 Elizabeth	James & Ann	of Congleton
1782 Hannah	James & Elizabeth	of Congleton
1783 John	Thomas & Ann	of Congleton
1783 Mary	James & Mary	of Congleton
1783 Mary	Joseph & Elizabeth	of Congleton
1785 Ann	James & Ann	of Congleton
1785 Samuel	James & Elizabeth	of Congleton
1785 John	James & Mary	of Congleton
1785 Hannah	Joseph & Elizabeth	of Congleton
1786 Mary	James & Elizabeth	of Congleton
<b>1786 Jesse</b>	<b>Jesse &amp; Mary</b>	<b>of Congleton</b>
1786 Ann	James & Ann	of Congleton
1787 Ann	James & Mary	of Congleton
1788 William	Jesse & Mary	of Congleton
1788 Fanny	James & Elizabeth	of Congleton
1790 William	James & Ann	of Congleton
1791 Sarah	Jesse & Mary	of Congleton
1791 Hannah	John? & Mary	of Congleton
1792 Ann	James & Mary	of Congleton
1792 Martha	Jesse & Mary	of Congleton
1793 Hannah	William & Ann	of Congleton
1793 Martha	James & Ann	of Congleton

1793 Samuel	Joseph & Elizabeth	of Congleton
1794 William	James & Mary	of Congleton
1794 Sarah	John & Mary	of Congleton
1794 Charles	Ralph & Ann	of Congleton
1794 Martha	William & Ann	of Congleton
1794 Hannah	James & Mary	of Congleton
1794 Ellen	Jesse?? & Mary	of Congleton
1796 Charles	James & Mary	of Congleton
1797 William	Joseph & Ann	of Congleton
1797 Thomas	William & Ann	of Congleton
1797 Joseph	James & Ann	of Congleton
1798 Dorothy	Charles & Margaret	of Congleton
1799 David	Jesse & Mary	of Congleton
1800 Mary	James & Ann	of Congleton
1801 John	James & Mary	of Congleton
1802 George	Edward & Jane	of Congleton
1802 Ellen	James & Ann	of Congleton
1802 Joseph	Ralph & Ann	of Congleton
1803 Mary Ann	Jesse & Mary	of Congleton
1804 John	Ralph & Ann	of Congleton
1805 Ann	Edward & Jane	of Congleton
1806 Ann	Ralph & Ann	of Congleton
1806 Fanny	James & Mary	of Congleton
1806 Harriett Susannah	Jesse & Mary	of Congleton
1807 Weston	James & Mary	of Congleton
1807 Esther	Ralph & Sarah	of Congleton
1808 Elizabeth	James & Mary	of Congleton
1809 Mary	James & Mary	of Congleton
1810 Peter	James & Mary	of Congleton
1810 James	Ralph & Mary	of Congleton
1815? Mary	Mary	of Congleton
1818 Hanna	Thomas(silk throwster) & Mary	Ast/Cong
1818 Ellen	Edward(clockmaker) & Sarah	Ast/Cong
1819 William	Edward(clockmaker) & Sarah	Ast/Cong
1819 John	William(millman) & Sarah	Ast/Cong
1820 Ralph	Peter(cotton spinner) & Elizabeth	Ast/Cong
1821 Martha Sarah	Edward(clockmaker) & Sarah	Ast/Cong
1821 Samuel	William(silk throwster) & Sarah	Ast/Cong
1822 John	William(cordwainer) & Ellen	Ast/Cong
1822 James	William(cordwainer) & Ellen	Ast/Cong
1822 Edward	William(cordwainer) & Ellen	Ast/Cong
1822 Harriett	William(cordwainer) & Ellen	Ast/Cong
1824 Thomas	Ralph(shoemaker) & Suzannah	Ast/Cong

The list of marriages below has some printed **in red**. These are known Drakefords linked to the modern family, and in particular David and Jeremy.

### **Drakeford Marriages from 1573**

1573 **Richard Drakeford and Ellena Drakeford on 25<sup>th</sup> January.**

They produced a son called **John in 1574** and a further son **William**, baptised on 13<sup>th</sup>

**December 1576**

1576 **John Drakeford and Elizabeth Galimore (Gallimoor) on 25<sup>th</sup> November.**

This is probably John, the author of the 1594 letter having moved to London and wishing to return to Congleton (See Section 7 of this Paper). Assuming that John was aged c.25 when he married, he would have been 44 when he wrote the letter, and at the time looking for a job!

1582 Ralph Cleton (Clayton) and **Elizabeth Drakeford 26<sup>th</sup> May 1582 at Astbury**

1584 **Roger Drakeford** and Margery Hardy (Hardey).

This couple is likely to have produced **Anne b. 1585, d, 1585, Hugh 1588, Roger 1596, and Margaret 1602**

1602 Urian Oakes and **Jane Drakeford** **26<sup>th</sup> June 1602**

1602 **William Drakeford** and Margaret Holiday.

Possibly produced **William 1605**

1604 **Roger Drakeford** and Katherine Stubbes (Stubbs).

Possibly produced **Edward 1604, Cecelia 1606, Elizabeth 1607, William 1609 & Richard 1612**

1604 **William Drakeford** and Bridget Smyth (Smith).

Possibly produced **William 1605** if William re-married.

1622 Roger Cash and **Anne Drakeford** **13<sup>th</sup> January 1622**

**1635 William Drakeford** and Bridgit Smyth 7<sup>th</sup> February 1635

**1665 William Drakeford** and Anna Pickford 21<sup>st</sup> August 1665

1667 John Dudley de Congleton purcer and Emma, daughter of Roger Drakeford- 15<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1667

1669 **William Drakeford** and Hannah O.....? 14<sup>th</sup> October 1669

**1671 Edward Drakeford and Margery Lambert 19<sup>th</sup> November 1671**

1673 Thomas Stubbs and **Jane Drakeford** 31<sup>st</sup> March 1673

1676 Richard Buckley and **Mary Drakeford** 21<sup>st</sup> December 1676

1677 **Peter Drakeford** and Ann Hunt, 24<sup>th</sup> February 1677

1682 John Holland and ?? **Drakeford** June 1682

1684 Robert Croxton and **Mary Drakeford** 30<sup>th</sup> May 1684

1685 **Roger Drakeford** and Mary Morris 1<sup>st</sup> January 1685

1685 **Edward Drakeford** and Joanna Heathcott 9<sup>th</sup> December 1685

1687 Edward Swan and **Mary Drakeford** 30<sup>th</sup> June 1687

1692 **John Drakeford** and Catherine Parnell 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1692

1699 Paul Lea and **Hannah Drakeford** 7<sup>th</sup> November 1699

1700 **John Drakeford** and Rebecca Kelsall 1<sup>st</sup> November 1700 Congleton

1700 John Goddard and **Mary Drakeford** 9<sup>th</sup> November 1700 Congleton

1700 **John Drakeford** and Alice Bancroft 12<sup>th</sup> November 1700 Congleton



1719 <b>John Drakeford</b> and Mary Smith	March 1719	
1720 Daniel Sherratt and <b>Mary Drakeford</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> April 1720	
1721 <b>William Drakeford</b> and Mary Bailey	11 <sup>th</sup> April 1721	
1721 William Shrigley and Mary Drakeford	November 1721	
1727 <b>Roger Drakeford</b> and Ann Wooton	28 <sup>th</sup> July 1727	
1728 <b>Roger Drakeford</b> and Mary Jackson	20 <sup>th</sup> August 1728	
1728 Thomas Hunt and <b>Alice Drakeford</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> November 1728	
1730 James Slater and <b>Margaret Drakeford</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> June 1730	
1731 Joseph Lightfoot and <b>Mary Drakeford</b>	24 <sup>th</sup> January 1731	
1731 John Johnson and <b>Margaret Drakeford</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> February 1731	
1731 Charles Harding and <b>Catherine Drakeford</b>	30 <sup>th</sup> September 1731	
1731 Daniel Chell and <b>Sarah Drakeford</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> November 1731	
<b>1738 Joseph Drakeford and Hannah Stubbs</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> February 1738</b>	
1739 John Keen and <b>Sarah Drakeford</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> March 1739	
1732 William Gee and <b>Mary Drakeford</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> September 1742	
1745 <b>John Drakeford</b> and Mary Ellinson	3 <sup>rd</sup> June 1745	
1761 Ralph Johnson and <b>Hannah Drakefoot</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> May 1761	Huntsman
<b>1763 David Drakefoot and Hannah Royley</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> March 1763(possibly 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1763)</b>	
1763 John Drakeford and Elizabeth Royley	3 <sup>rd</sup> April 1763	
1764 William Fitton and <b>Frances Drakefoot</b>	24 <sup>th</sup> November 1764	
1765 <b>James Drakeford</b> and Sarah Ball	22 <sup>nd</sup> December 1765	Shoe Maker
1774 Samuel Royle and <b>Ann Drakeford</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> March 1774	Blacksmith
1775 <b>Joseph Drakeford</b> and Elizabeth Handcock	22 <sup>nd</sup> July 1775	Wire Drawer
<b>1775 William Drakeford and Elizabeth Vaudrey</b>	<b>12 August 1775</b>	<b>Cordwainer</b>
<b>1775 Jesse Drakeford and Mary Rathbone</b>	<b>17<sup>th</sup> August 1775</b>	<b>Silk Manufacturer</b>
1776 <b>John Drakeford</b> and Ann Pyatt	14 <sup>th</sup> May 1776	Cordwainer
1778 <b>James Drakeford</b> and Mary Bowers	4 <sup>th</sup> January 1778	Cordwainer
1780 William Johnson and <b>Jane Drakeford</b>	25 <sup>th</sup> January 1780	Weaver
1781 <b>James Drakeford</b> and Ann Forster	17 <sup>th</sup> June 1781	Taylor
1782 <b>William Drakeford</b> and Ann Stubbs	3 <sup>rd</sup> June 1782	Ribbon Weaver
1791 <b>James Drakeford</b> and Mary Bramley	18 <sup>th</sup> August 1791	Silk Throwster
1794 <b>Ralph Drakeford</b> and Ann Lees	21 <sup>st</sup> April 1794	-
1794 John Frost and <b>Ann Drakeford</b>	October 1794	
1798 Joseph Montford and <b>Elizabeth Drakeford</b>	25 <sup>th</sup> June 1798	
1802 <b>William Drakeford</b> and Martha Skellern	20 <sup>th</sup> May 1802	-
1802 Thomas Booth and <b>Mary Drakeford</b>	23 <sup>rd</sup> November 1802	
1803 William Staton and <b>Hannah Drakeford</b>	9 <sup>th</sup> January 1803	
1803 Charles Barlow and <b>Elizabeth Drakeford</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> July 1803	
1807 Joseph Sherratt and <b>Hannah Drakeford</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> June 1807	<b>Wolstanton Parish</b>
1807 <b>Ralph Drakeford</b> and Sarah Tittle	22 <sup>nd</sup> July 1822	-
1807 <b>Samuel Drakeford</b> and Ann Aitken	10 <sup>th</sup> December 1807	-
1808 John Wood and <b>Mary Drakeford</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> March 1808	

1810 Thomas Lawton and <b>Margaret Drakeford</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> August 1810	<b>Wolstanton parish</b>
1811 William Clare and <b>Sarah Drakeford</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> October 1811	
1812 George Hall and <b>Sarah Drakeford</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> January 1812	<b>Newcastle Staffs</b>
1812 Joseph Smallwood and <b>Ann Drakeford</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> August 1812	
1812 Thomas Clewes and <b>Martha Drakeford</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> October 1812	
1813 Robert Etchells and <b>Ann Drakeford</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> August 1813	Weaver
1814 John Stephenson and <b>Martha Drakeford</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> January 1814	Taylor
<b>1814 Edward Drakeford and Sarah Lownds</b>	<b>30<sup>th</sup> March 1814</b>	<b>Clockmaker</b>
1815 <b>William Drakeford</b> and Abigail Bennett	2 <sup>nd</sup> January 1815	Millman
1817 <b>Thomas Drakeford</b> and Mary R.. Brownsword	12 <sup>th</sup> May 1817	Millman
1818 <b>William Drakeford</b> and Sarah Oakes	3 <sup>rd</sup> August 1818	Millman
1819 John Hulme and <b>Ann Drakeford</b>	16 <sup>th</sup> November 1819	Silk Weaver
<b>1819 John Drakeford and Hannah Hiorns</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> December 1819</b>	<b>Clockmaker</b>
1821 <b>Ralph Drakeford</b> and Susanna Macquire	28 <sup>th</sup> February 1821	Cordwainer
1824 <b>John Drakeford</b> and Mary Preston	31 <sup>st</sup> December 1824	Millman
1825 George Stubbs and <b>Ellen Drakeford</b>	24 <sup>th</sup> January 1825	Silk Millman
1829 John Pickford and <b>Helen Drakesford</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> December 1829	
1832 Matthew Bailey and <b>Elizabeth Drakeford</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> January 1832	Widower & Widow
1832 William Skellhorn and <b>Jane Drakeford</b>	24 <sup>th</sup> April 1832	
1832 James Shepley and <b>Fanny Drakeford</b>	27 <sup>th</sup> November 1832	
1833 Thomas Kelly and <b>Jane Drakeford</b>	22 <sup>nd</sup> April 1833	
<b>Addendum per R.K. Drakeford</b>		
26 January 1839 - William Drakeford of Congleton married Mrs Foster, widow of the late John Foster of the Royal Cheshire Yeomanry.		
25 <sup>th</sup> July 1840 – J Johnstone of Liverpool Married Ellen, 2 <sup>nd</sup> daughter of Edward Drakeford of Congleton		

### **Drakeford Burials from 1574**

1574 John, son of Richard Drakeford and Ellen  
1583 John & Margaret Drakeford, son & widow of Roger Drakeforde  
1584 John, son of Roger Drakeford  
1584 Margaret, widow of Roger Drakeford  
1585 Anne, daughter of Roger Drakeford  
1586 Richard Drakeford  
1591 Francis, son of William Drakeford Jnr  
1597 Richard Drakeford of Congleton  
1600 Margery, daughter of William Drakeford, tanner & Ellen Coughyn, Ccongleton  
1606 Ellen Drakeford, Widow, Congleton  
1607 William Drakeford, Alderman, Congleton  
1608 Ellen, daughter of William Drakeford, tanner, Congleton

1612 Child of William Drakeford, Congleton  
1613 Richard, son of William Drakeford, tanner, Congleton  
1614 Margaret, daughter of William Drakeford, Congleton  
1616 Alice, daughter of Roger Drakeford, Congleton  
1617 John Drakeford of Sythington (*No record of this place*)  
1618 Alice Drakeford, Congleton OM?  
1620 Jane, wife William Drakeford, Alderman, Congleton  
**1624 William Drakeford, Alderman, Congleton: Care see 1607 above, 2 x Aldermen, William?**  
1633 Thomas Drakeford, Gent. of Congleton  
1633 Thomas, son of Roger Drakeford, Congleton  
1635 William Drakeford Junior, of Congleton  
1636 Ralph son of Roger Drakeford, Congleton  
1636 Jane, daughter of Roger Drakeford, Congleton  
1636 Margaret wife of William Drakeford Senior  
1641 William Drakeford of Congleton  
1642 Jane Drakeford widow of Congleton  
1643 William Drakeford of Congleton  
1661 Son of Richard Drakeford  
1661 John Drakeford of Congleton  
1661 Edward son of Richard Drakeford, Congleton  
1663 William Drakeford of Congleton  
1663/4 William Drakeford  
1664 William son of William Drakeford, Congleton  
1671 William Drakeford  
1720 Anne, widow, of Congleton  
1726 Rebecca, wife of John Drakeford(tanner), Congleton  
1726 John Drakeford(tanner) of Congleton  
1728 Jane Drakeford, widow of Congleton  
1729 Elizabeth daughter of Roger Drakeford(shoemaker) & Mary, Congleton  
1750 Mary Drakeford of Congleton  
1752 Jasper, son of Joseph Drakeford(hatter), Congleton  
**1756 Joseph Drakeford(hatter) of Congleton**  
1766 James son of David Drakeford(silk throwster) & Hannah, Congleton  
1767 Ralph Drakeford of Congleton  
1771 Mary, daughter of James Drakeford & Esther, Congleton  
1775 Jane, daughter of James Drakeford & Esther, Congleton  
1775 Esther, wife of James Drakeford, Congleton  
1784 Mary, wife of John Drakeford, Congleton  
1785 Samuel, son of James Drakeford & Elizabeth, Congleton  
**1785 Ellen, daughter of Jesse Drakeford & Mary, Congleton**  
1787 John, son of James Drakeford & Mary, Congleton  
1789 Ann, wife of James Drakeford, Congleton

1790 Sarah, daughter of Jesse Drakeford & Mary, Congleton  
 1791 Mary, wife of Jesse Drakeford, Congleton  
 1791 Jesse Drakeford of Congleton  
 1794 Samuel, son of Joseph Drakeford & Elizabeth, Congleton  
 1800 John, son of James Drakeford & Ann, Congleton  
 1801 Hannah, daughter of James Drakeford, Congleton  
 1801 Mary, daughter of James Drakeford, Congleton  
 1801 Sarah Drakeford, Congleton  
 1802 Jane, daughter of Joseph Drakeford & Elizabeth, Congleton  
 1802 Ellen, daughter of James Drakeford & Ann, Congleton  
 1803 Joseph, son of Ralph Drakeford & Ann, Congleton  
 1804 Margaret, daughter of Charles Drakeford & Margaret, Congleton  
 1805 Martha, daughter of Jesse Drakeford & Mary, Congleton  
 1805 George, son of Edward Drakeford & Jane, Congleton  
 1805 Jane, daughter of Ralph Drakeford & Ann, Congleton  
 1806 Ann, wife of Ralph Drakeford, Congleton  
 1806 Ann, daughter of James Drakeford & Ann, Congleton  
 1806 Jane, wife of Edward Drakeford, Congleton  
 1808 James Drakeford of Congleton  
 1809 Sarah Drakeford, pauper of Congleton  
 1820 Ann, infant daughter of Thomas Drakeford(silk throwster) & Mary, Congleton  
 1820 Sarah, wife(aged 37) of Ralph Drakeford(cordwainer) of Congleton  
 1820 William Drakeford, aged 61, of Congleton  
 1821 James Drakeford(tailor) aged 72, of Congleton  
 1823 Thomas, infant son of Ralph Drakeford(cordwainer) & Sarah, Congleton  
 1823 David Drakeford(silk throwster) aged 83, of Congleton

### St Peter's Church, Congleton

As already mentioned, the later records are split between Astbury and Congleton. Early records for Congleton are intermingled with those of Astbury and are marked above where identified. The Congleton Churchyard opened in 1686 and was used from then until 1841 when the churchyard was declared full although some records state that this was as late as 1855.

**Congleton Graveyard records** Victorian Churchyard closed 1855:

**A29** – In memory of **Martha Sarah**, Daughter of Edward & Sarah Drakeford of Congleton who departed this life 16<sup>th</sup> January 1846 aged 25 years/ Also **William** Drakeford Their son who died February 12<sup>th</sup> 1849 aged 29 years/ also the aforesaid **Sarah Drakeford**, who died 3<sup>rd</sup> June 1855 aged 70 years/ also the above **Edward Drakeford**, who died Decr 15<sup>th</sup> 1859, aged 81.

**A173** – In memory of **Mary**, wife of Jesse Drakeford, who died Sepr 12th 1839, aged 78 years  
**Jesse Drakeford**, 6<sup>th</sup> January 1847, aged 86/ Also in memory of **John Pickford Esquire**, Senior  
magistrate of this Borough, born at Chapel-en-le-Frith, June 6<sup>th</sup> 1801/ died at his residence/ Chapel  
House, Congleton/ 19<sup>th</sup> January 1867/ Also **Helen**, daughter of Jesse and Mary Drakeford/ and wife  
of John Pickford Esq, who died 17<sup>th</sup> February 1848, aged 56 years. (Chapel House is opposite the  
church, at one period owned by the Smith family who endowed the church and National School).

**A292** – In memory of **John**, son of William and Sarah Drakeford, of Congleton died April 27th 1817,  
aged 27 years

**A311 311U** – Here lie the remains of **Mary**, the daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Drakeford,  
departed this life \*\*\* 7<sup>th</sup> 1780, in her infancy. (At St Peter's, Congleton)



HERE

Are the remains of Mary  
The daughter of Joseph  
And Elizabeth Drakeford  
(Who) partied the life  
??? 17 1780 in her  
*Infancy*

Victorian Yard closed 1876:

**B-A45U** – In loving memory of **John Drakeford** of Congleton, who died Decr 11<sup>th</sup> 1874 aged 90  
years/ Also **Hannah** wife of the above who died Novr 24<sup>th</sup> 1881 aged 87 years

**E-L23U** – In loving memory of **Henry Drakeford Barlow**/ Born **May 19<sup>th</sup> 1853**/ Died **Dec 5<sup>th</sup> 1920**/  
Also **Rachel**, his beloved wife/ Born Feb 6<sup>th</sup> 1860 / Died March 24<sup>th</sup> 1943

1909 Yard still open

**E-R56 kerbs** – Top: In loving memory of -**Left: John Drakeford who** died July 24th 1939 aged 76  
years. Bottom: **T Mellor** Right: **Emily Jane** beloved wife of **John Drakeford** who died January 3<sup>rd</sup>  
aged 72 years/ At rest

### **Astbury and Congleton Bishop's Transcripts 1817 – 1825**

The following list is taken from the **Astbury and Congleton Bishop's Transcripts 1817 – 1825**, and  
it gives an example of the various families around at the time, and in particular the clockmakers,  
who will be fully described later on.

Each inclusion has a story to tell.

### **Thomas and Mary Drakeford**

**At Astbury**, 12 May 1817. Thomas Drakeford of this Parish millman and bachelor and Mary Brownsword of this parish, spinster, married by banns.

**At Congleton**, 15 March 1818. Hannah, Daughter of Thomas and Mary Drakeford of Congleton, silk throwster, baptised.

**At Congleton**, 28 March 1820, Ann, daughter of Thomas and Mary Drakeford of Congleton, silk throwster, an infant, buried.

There seems little doubt that this was the same family. Thomas had changed his job from millman to silk throwster. They married, and a year later had a baby girl. Two years after that a little girl, an infant was buried. As there was no baptism, could it be the first child died and the vicar gave the name as Ann rather than Hanna? Conversely, was this a second child that lived no more than a few days, without being baptised?

### **Edward and Sarah Drakeford**

**At Congleton**, 3 April 1818, Ellen, daughter of Edward and Sarah Drakeford of Congleton, clockmaker, baptised.

**At Congleton**, 31<sup>st</sup> October 1819, William, son of Edward and Sarah Drakeford of Congleton, clockmaker, baptised.

**At Congleton**, 13, June 1821, Martha Sarah, daughter of Edward and Sarah Drakeford of Congleton, clockmaker, baptised.

We just have to examine the plaque on the wall at St Peter's Church, a copy of which appears later. We can see that Edward lives longer than his wife Sarah as well as his children William and Martha Sarah. There is much more about Edward in Section 15 of this Paper on the Drakeford Watch and Clockmakers.

### **William and Sarah Drakeford**

**At Astbury**, 3 August 1818, William Drakeford of this parish, millman and bachelor and Sarah Oakes of this parish, spinster, married by banns.

**At Astbury**, 15 August 1819, John, son of William and Sarah Drakeford of Congleton, millman, baptised.

**At Congleton**, 25 November 1821, Samuel, son of William and Sarah Drakeford of Congleton, silk throwster, baptised.

This shows both Astbury and Congleton being used. Whether or not this was just a convenience for the registers, or physically the event took place at different churches is hard to tell. Again, as with Thomas above, William progressed from being a millman to a silk throwster in a short space of time. A silk throwster was a more skilled job.

### **John and Hannah Drakeford**

**At Astbury**, 7 December 1819, John Drakeford of this parish, clockmaker and bachelor and Hannah Hiorns of this parish, spinster, married by banns.

This brother of Edward did well as a watch and clockmaker, and his story is told in the Drakeford Clockmakers Section 16 of this Study Paper.

### **Ralph and Sarah Drakeford**

**At Congleton**, 24 February 1820, Sarah, wife of Ralph Drakeford of Congleton, Cordwainer, aged 37, buried.

### **Ralph and Susanna Drakeford**

**At Astbury**, 28 February 1821, Ralph Drakeford of Congleton, Cordwainer and widower, and Susanna Macquire of this Parish, spinster, married by banns.

**At Congleton**, 7 July 1824, Thomas, son of Ralph and Susannah Drakeford of Congleton, shoemaker, baptised.

This is both a sad and a happy story. Ralph lost his wife Sarah, when she was 37, and almost exactly a year later married again, this time to Susanna. They had a son 3 years later. In the meantime, whilst it would appear that he changed jobs from a Cordwainer to a shoemaker, in fact they are the same. Even today, the shoemakers London Guild is called the Cordwainers' Company.

The question must be, are these five men, Thomas, Edward, William, John and Ralph all brothers or perhaps brothers and cousins. More investigation might well provide an answer. Importantly, we know that the two clockmakers were brothers, and some of us have clocks that they made. I have one by Edward and my twin brother Chris has one by John. Both Jeremy and David Drakeford are direct descendants.



**St Peter's Church; taken during a Drakeford visit, 2019**



**Plaque at St Peter's for Edward Drakeford, Clockmaker (1778-1859) and his family**

Sadly, it would appear that Edward's wife, daughter and son all died before he did at the great age of 81 years.

Please note Page 72 of this paper for further information on Edward, the Clockmaker



### 3) Civic Records

With this background we can start our story, and expand this with other very significant material found in town records.

We know that the Drakeford name was used before Magna Carter. There is a big gap until the 1400s where we find evidence of court records for land deals and disputes. Towards the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> century we are treated to a great deal of information from all sources. We have to accept that this is not just one family, but many families who would have lived in the village, hamlet or homestead named Drakeford. This was located around Wolstanton and Tunstall in Staffordshire. Of course, there would have been inter-marriage, but some of this name could be quite apart and perhaps were itinerant and took the name because that was where they were living at that particular time.

We know that the family name was very much used for a period of time in certain locations. These include Congleton, Norton-in-the-moors, Stafford, Leigh, Burslem, Wolstanton, Tunstall and Stoke. We can judge from church records that the family name waxed and waned around the area.

The two significant towns where the Drakeford name is found as a 'stalwart' family amongst the town are Stafford and Congleton. The Stafford story is recorded in Study Paper No. 4 of this website. That leaves CONGLETON.

It is strange that involvement with civic matter covers roughly the same period in both towns, and the Drakeford family held high positions. Initially, before providing greater detail the holding of the office of Mayor can be cited:

Mayors of Congleton:	<b>1592/3 William Drakeford</b>
	<b>1604/5 Edward Drakeford</b>
	<b>1608/9 Edward Drakeford</b>
	<b>1610/11 William Drakeford</b>
	<b>1611/12 William Drakeford</b>
	<b>1618/19 Edward Drakeford</b>
	<b>1619/20 Edward Drakeford</b>
	<b>1638/39 Edward Drakeford</b>

We can assume that William's tenure of the office ran between 1592 and 1612, a period of 20 years. That for Edward between 1604 and 1640, a period of 36 years is stretching probability a bit far, and it is more likely that these are two different people. Certainly, one Edward Drakeford who wrote a will dated 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1643 would have been the Edward who was mayor from between 1618 and 1640. Assuming he died at the age of 65 he would have been aged 39 when he was first mayor. This is further supported by the fact that, as we shall later examine, an Edward Drakeford was the Deputy High Sheriff to Sir Edward Littleton in 1594. To be of that rank at the age of 15 would not be feasible! Even if we assume Edward died at 75, again to be Deputy High Sheriff at 25 would not be correct and mayor at 35 quite unlikely.

I suggest that there were two of the name Edward Drakeford in Congleton unless proved otherwise.

Turning to nearby Stafford, around the same time a Richard Drakeford was an important man for the town and founded a family dynasty lasting from around 1590 to 1814.

Records for the Mayors of Stafford show: **1621 Richard Drakeford** and **1635 Richard Drakeford**

We know that Richard was one of the main instigators for the submission of the Charter to James I, to allow the town to appoint a Mayor and Aldermen to run the civic affairs of Stafford, instead of the conceivably corrupt Burgesses. The Charter was allowed in 1614, and Richard became mayor seven years later.

In the same way Congleton applied for Letters Patent from James I. This was ten years after Stafford and these were dated 19 January 1624-5 and replaced previous Privileges granted by Queen Elizabeth on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1583-4. The new order allowed for the election of a Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses. The new Mayor was Philip Oldfield, and the eight **Aldermen** included **Edward Drakeford**. They were expected to retain their office for life unless displaced by some default.

In Congleton, sixteen equitable and discreet freemen were to be elected Burgesses of Councillors of the borough. They were to have a common Clerk, or otherwise known as Town Clerk. **Roger Drakeford**, was one, who happened to be the brother of Edward (as shown by his will). He was to hold this position from the year of the new charter, 1624 to 1656, which was to be 32 years. The original appointment statement included 'He was privileged to take the writing and enrolling of Recognizances of Debts (*according to the form of the statutes aforesaid belong to do and execute*). **Edward Drakeford**, along with the Mayor and one other Alderman, John Hobson, were created Justices of the Peace.

**Richard Drakeford** of Stafford (1705-1763) was to become Town Clerk of his town, Stafford, in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century.

In Congleton, the infamous John Bradshaw became Mayor in 1637-8. At that time, Edward Drakeford was the senior Alderman and still a Justice of the Peace. Before becoming Mayor, Bradshaw was a lawyer by profession. He was articled to an attorney in Congleton until, at the age of 20 he moved to London and became a student at Gray's Inn. He was called to the bar in 1627.

Bradshaw returned to Congleton and became legal advisor to the Corporation and was made a Freeman of the town. In 1637 he was chosen as Mayor of Congleton and at the same time he became Attorney General for Cheshire. Clearly, he was a bright and well respected person.

Bradshaw set about imposing his views on the town of Congleton and was supported in so doing by his Justices of the Peace, Aldermen and common councilmen. One of the Councilmen was William Drakeford. Edward Drakeford was both Alderman and senior Justice of the Peace, thus very much behind the changes. Along with Edward his friend, another JP, was Rundull Rode.

As an aside, Rode refused the Order of Knighthood at King Charles I's coronation just as Richard Drakeford of Stafford had done in 1625. It is expected that Raundull Rode was also fined £10 along with all the other gentlemen who doubtlessly feared the costs and responsibilities of a knighthood on an ongoing basis.

The association with John Bradshaw and the influence nationally is set out in separate Section 9 below where Bradshaw and the impact of the Civil War are discussed.

#### 4) Cheshire Poll Tax 1660 and Hearth Tax 1664 - the Northwich Hundred

A book created by G.O. Lawton and published in 1979 titled Northwich hundred(including Congleton) shows the Poll Tax 1660 and Hearth Tax 1664 listings of all those paying these taxes within this Cheshire area numbered 6 in the below diagram. There are 31 entries for those with the name Drakeford, of one derivation or another. On Page 26 there is a diagram giving more detail of the Northwich Hundred.

This will enable us to draw various conclusions about those with our name such as the numbers living in this part of Cheshire, where they lived, what their jobs were and approximately their status and wealth.

We can compare this with areas where the earlier Drakefords lived from the mid-1500s up until the 17<sup>th</sup> century. Looking at the list of places in Cheshire derived from the Wills listed in Study Paper 1, the following are determined:

1597	Richard Drakeford	Congleton	1685	William Drakeford	Frodsham
1617	John Drakeford	Withington	1691	Alice Drakeford	Frodsham
1634	Edward Drakeford	Congleton	1698	Ellen Drakeford	Congleton
1641	William Drakeford	Buglawton	1717	John Drakeford	Congleton
1645	Cicely Drakeford	Congleton	1730	William Drakeford	Congleton
1648	William Drakeford	Church Lawton	1753	Katherine Drakeford	Congleton
1661	Ellen Merrill Drakeford	Congleton	1754	Margaret Drakeford	Sutton
1665	Anne Drakeford	Odd Rode	1767	Richard Drakeford	Congleton
1670	William Drakeford	Congleton	1829	William Drakeford	Congleton


All those in the colour red are in the Northwich Hundred, the majority of which are in Congleton.


A plan of the Northwich Hundred, showing area number 6 which includes Congleton.



#### KEY

- |              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| 1: Broxton   | 4: Macclesfield |
| 2: Bucklow   | 5: Nantwich     |
| 3: Eddisbury | 6: Northwich    |
| 7: Wirral    |                 |

 Domesday Hundreds' land lost to Wales

 City and County of Chester

The 22 persons listed for the 1660 poll tax listed below show in 4 cases the value of their property, for they are all listed the level of Poll tax. Their occupations, as appropriate are listed. No one is listed as a Gentleman, nor are there listed servants. In other cases, up to 20 servants are listed. Clearly the Drakefords were in the middle ranges of society and wealth, with a few at the lower of this description.

The analysis in the book shows that in 1660 for this hundred there were 1613 households, of which they identified 113 gentry, 21 clergymen, 57 yeomen, 593 husbandmen, 284 craftsmen, 193 labourers. After that there were 100 unallocated males, 194 widows (other than gentry), and 58 unallocated females.

## Poll Tax 1660

<b>Congleton</b>	Wealth	Occupation	Poll Tax
William Drakeford	£15	Tanner	6/-
	William Jnr	son	1/-
	Ellin	daughter	1/-
William Drakeford	£5	Husbandman	2/-
William Drakeford		Glover	1/-
	Eniah	wife	1/-
	Margerie	daughter	
John Drakeford	£5	Tanner	2/-
William Drakeford		Hatter	1/-
	Alice	wife	
Richard Drakeford		Feltmaker	1/-
	Martha	wife	
Roger Drakeford		Carrier	1/-
	Ellin	wife	
Richard Drakeford		Shoemaker	1/-
	Dorothy	wife	
Ellin Drakeford		widow	1/-
William Drakeford		Husbandman	1/-
	Unnamed	wife	
<b>Odd(e) Rode</b>			
Ann Drakeford	£12.10/-	?widow	5/-
	An Drakeford	daughter	1/-
<b>Buglawton</b>			
William Drakeford	£5	Husbandman	2/-

## Hearth Tax 1664

The following is much shorter than the list of 11 Drakefords for the Poll Tax. Presumably, this only affected those with their own properties. Those of a certain income paid the tax, but those with insufficient income were not charged.

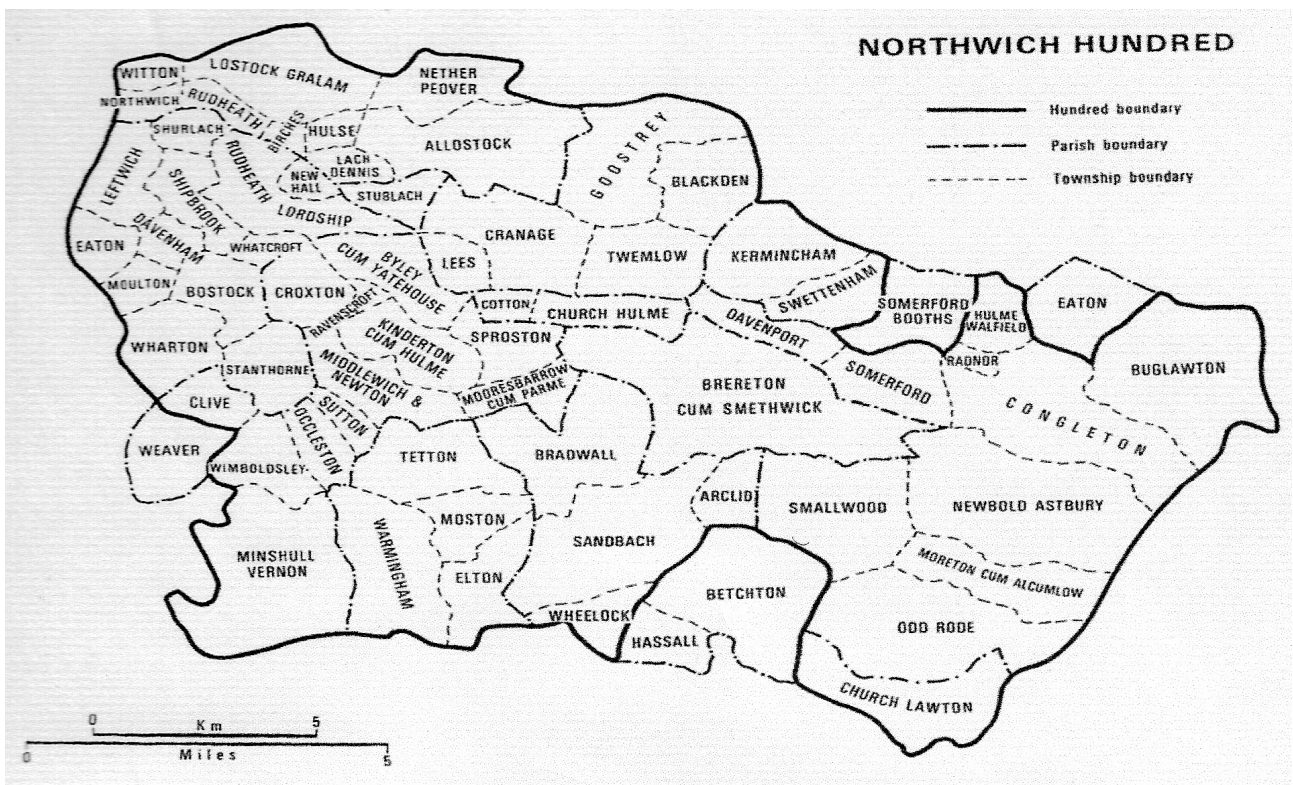
<b>Congleton</b>	<b>Number of Hearths</b>	<b>Charge/No Charge</b>
William Drakeford	1	?
William Drakeford	1	?
<b>Buglawton</b>		
John Drakeford	1	Charge
William Drakeford	1	No Charge
Richard Drakeford	1	No Charge
Rodger Drakeford	1	No Charge
William Drakeford	1	Charge
William Drakeford	1	No Charge
William Drakeford	1	Charge
<b>Odde Rode</b>		
Ann Drakeford	1	Charge
<b>Lawton</b>		
Amey Drakeford	1	?

#### **What does all this information tell us?**

- a) By far, the greatest concentration of family members is in Congleton. There were few outside Congleton and only two outside the Northwich Hundred.
- b) Overall, the men are involved with a trade including tanner, Clover, Hatter, feltmaker, shoemaker. Three are husbandmen, that is to say they farmed the land for themselves, and whilst they may not have owned a property as would a yeoman, they probably rented their house and land and farmed it for their own livelihood.  
We only have to look at the will for Richard Drakeford (No.20) dated 1612/3, husbandman. This shows his animals, crops, tools of his trade worth over £45, and various remains of three leases valued at £16. Looking at the online comparisons this would buy 6 horses, 27 cows. 150 stones of wool, 28 quarters of wheat and the wages of a skilled craftsman for 3 years. The last would be say £150,000 in today's money for the wages alone.
- c) There was nobody of the great wealth we can see within the Stafford family at this time. This is rather surprising given that only a few years before held high positions in Congleton. About 60 years later Jesse Drakeford would become a mill owner and we assume benefitted financially.
- d) The person who would have had wealth around this time was Edward Drakeford who died in 1644. In his will he refers to his brother Roger, and referred to a parcel of land in the tenure of William Drakeford, who was noted as a carrier, rather than a husbandman as listed above. The description above as a husbandman would fit a person who is a tenant of land. Edward's wife Cecily died a year later, also before the 1660 Poll Tax was raised.

- e) One of the William Drakefords of Congleton had a will, No. 44, dated March 1670, by which time he had been elevated to the status of Yeoman. This tells us he had a wife called Ann. There is no Ann named as a wife to a William in the poll Tax list, but one husbandman had a wife who was not named, so that could well be the one. He left £10 to John Drakeford of Sandbach, just 7 miles from Congleton. He could well be John the Tanner, with an estate recorded at £5 income and later with 1 hearth in 1664.

### Northwich Hundred



## 5) Drakefords of Congleton and Stafford - Relationships

There are two crucial documents that provide evidence about the Congleton family and additionally link it with the Stafford family line. As far as we can detect the Stafford family line was based on a single couple, Richard and Mercy Drakeford in the 1590s and does not go back before that. The question is from where do they hail? The first item is a land deed dated 1580 today to be found in the Stafford Records Office with the papers for the Stafford family relating back from Richard Drakeford, The Mariner. The second is the 1594 letter from John Drakeford in London.

As time has progressed, we are thinking that both items are mainly connected with the Congleton side of the family. Let us consider the letter dated 1594. This was from a John Drakeford, living in London, addressed to his brother Edward, then Deputy High Sheriff of Stafford. In the letter he referred to his brothers Roger, Richard and Thomas.

The 1594 letter was an astounding discovery, and we came across it when Jeremy Drakeford spotted it coming up for an auction. We managed to obtain a decent copy of it from the auction house and a further copy is in the Stafford Records Office. We were not successful at auction and hope that the purchaser is better at looking after the document than we might have been. This letter is fully examined in Chapter 8 of this Study Paper, and we believe that the Edward, as deputy High Sheriff to Sir Edward Littleton is the first of the Edward Drakeford's that was mayor 1604/5. William Drakeford was the first mayor (1592/3) and the brother Richard Drakeford of, we assume Congleton, was the father of Richard Drakeford, The Merchant of Stafford. Hence, the Stafford line was an off shoot of the Congleton Drakeford family. This letter is fully described below and is well worth studying, along with the 1580 deed, also following.

Roger Drakeford was to become the Town Clerk of Congleton from 1624-1656. We know from the church records that there was a Roger, son of William baptised on 1576, although he would have done well to make 80 but not impossible. A later baptism for a Roger was the son of Roger Drakeford, dated 1596, too late for the letter. That said, perhaps it was father and son, and the son became the Town Clerk aged 28. A more likely solution, but still in line with the 1594 letter.

An earlier land deed of 1580 refers to a father named William Drakeford, and his sons William, John, Richard, Thomas and Roger. Apart from the two Williams, there can be no doubt that this covers the other four brothers. We can then refer to information gleaned from books about Congleton. As shown above there were mayors and other dignitaries with the name Drakeford. These include for the period of the 1590-1640:

Mayors of Congleton – 1592/3	William Drakeford	1611/12	William Drakeford
1604/5	Edward Drakeford	1618/19	Edward Drakeford
1608/9	Edward Drakeford	1619/29	Edward Drakeford
1610/11	William Drakeford	1638/39	Edward Drakeford



Please accept my apologies for this repetition, but from this we can deduce that William would have been the one who signed the deed in 1580, and that his dead father was another William. There was an Edward Drakeford as mayor at Congleton four times. Only two were sequential. It is likely that the first mayor named Edward Drakeford in 1604 was the father, and following him in 1638, his son also Edward, very much to the fore. He was known as a significant player, who died around 1643. There seems little doubt this could be a father and son. We expect the older to be the deputy High Sherriff mentioned in the 1594 letter.

The church records show that William Drakeford, Alderman was buried on 25<sup>th</sup> October 1607 and that he had been married to Jane who was buried at Astbury on 16<sup>th</sup> July 1620.

**1814.** Edward Drakeford of Stafford and Charnes Hall, died in 1814 and was the last of the direct Stafford line, although antecedents from previous generations continued, they were not recognised by this Edward. One such was a Mr Drakeford of Congleton to whom he left £50 on the basis that he ‘...claimed to be my relative’.

*Because of the number of individuals, and the scant detail on each, there is little chance of producing a sensible family tree for the Drakefords of the early period before 1800. The one that we have for the Stafford Drakefords shown in Study Paper 4 has been produced mainly because we have had available not just church records but wills for most of the family members and a great deal of information on this ‘single’ family. Conversely, the numerous people named Drakeford around and in Congleton would indicate that this is a disparate number of families at this period. A future study of the 19<sup>th</sup> century Drakefords may well produce a suitable tree for the later generations, although by then many family lines had died out or left the area.*

*There is a specific but limited family tree following in [Section 15 of this Study Paper](#) produced by Jeremy Drakeford showing the 19<sup>th</sup> century family involved with the cotton and silk industry in Congleton running all the way up to David and Jeremy Drakeford of the present day.*

## 6) Cheshire Land Dealings from 1580 to 1642

There were land sales that involved Drakefords from both Congleton, Norton-in-the-Moors and Stafford, indicating a definite link between the two parts of the family. Starting in 1580 these included:

**1580** The most important transaction was the earliest. In the Stafford Records Office(SRO) there was found under reference D1798/HM DRAKEFORD71 a document in Latin dated 18<sup>th</sup> July 1580 in which is described the gifting of land by a **William Drakeford** to his kinsmen and others. The translated text is as follows and the Latin version can be found with the wills where they have been fully described for the Drakeford family research.

*To all faithful of Christ to whom this present writing indentate may come, William Drakesforde of the New Inn in the parish of St Clement without the bar of the New Temple, London, son of William Drakesford of Congleton in county Chester yeoman, greeting. Know that I, the aforesaid William Drakesforde the son, divers good causes and considerations me moving, have given, granted and by this my present writing indentate confirmed to Richard Drakesford of Lostocke Gram, Roger Dale of Smalwood and Richard Drakesford of Congleton aforesaid in the said county of Chester yeomen, all and singular those two burgages with the buildings standing thereon and all and singular the lands, tenements, turbary and other my hereditaments whatsoever with appurtenances in Congleton aforesaid now or late in the tenure and occupation of the said William Drakesford my father and of his assigns; all and singular which premises with appurtenances I the aforesaid William Drakesford the son late had and purchased for me and my heirs from one John Walker, Roger Dale and Richard Drakesford of Congleton, their heirs and assigns; for the use of me the aforesaid William Drakesford the son for and during all the natural life of me the said William Drakesford the son, and after my decease to the use of the heirs male of my body lawfully begotten or to be*

begotten; and for lack of such issue to the use of **John Drakesford brother of me** the said William and to the heirs male of the body of the said John lawfully begotten or to be begotten; and for lack of such issue to the use of **Edward Drakesford another brother of me** the said William the son and to the heirs male of the body of the said John lawfully begotten or to be begotten; and for lack of such issue to the use of **Richard Drakesford another brother of me** the said William the son and to the heirs male of the body of the said John lawfully begotten or to be begotten; and for lack of such issue to the use of **Thomas Drakesford another brother of me** the said William the son and to the heirs male of the body of the said John lawfully begotten or to be begotten; and for lack of such issue to the use of **Roger Drakesford another brother of me** the said William the son and to the heirs male of the body of the said John lawfully begotten or to be begotten; and for lack of such issue to the right heirs of the said Roger Drakesford, for ever, to hold from the chief lords of that fee by the services thence due and of right accustomed. And I, the aforesaid William Drakesford the son, and my heirs shall warrant and for ever defend by these presents the aforesaid burgage with the buildings standing thereon and all and singular the aforesaid lands, tenements, turbary and hereditaments whatsoever with appurtenances to the aforesaid **Richard Drakesford of Lostok Gram,** Roger Dale and Richard Drakesford of Congleton, their heirs and assigns, to the uses and intentions aforesaid against all people. And, moreover, know that I, the aforesaid **William Drakesford** the son, have attorned, constituted, ordained, made and put in my place by these presents my beloved in Christ, Thomas Rode and Ralph Maynwaringe, my true and lawfull attorneys jointly and separately to enter and go into for me in my place and in my name the aforesaid two burgages with the buildings

*standing thereon, the lands, tenements, turbary and other premises with appurtenances and into whatever or any parcel thereof, to take possession and seisin thereof for me, in my place and name; and, after such possession and seison so thereof taken and had, to hand over and deliver full lawful and peaceful possession and seisin thereof of and in the premises with appurtenances to the same **Richard Drakesford of Lostock Gram**, Roger Dale and **Richard Drakesford of Congleton** or one of them or their certain attorney in this behalf, according to the tenor, force, form and effect of this my present writing indentate made to them; having and to have by these presents accepted and agreed all and whatever the said my attorneys or either of them shall do in my name in the premises. In witness of which I, the aforesaid **William Drakesford**, have affixed my seal to either part of this my present writing indentate. Given the 18<sup>th</sup> day of July in the 22<sup>nd</sup> year of the reign of our lady Elizabeth by the grace of God queen of England, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith &c. 1580.*

*[endorsed:]*

*18<sup>th</sup> July 22<sup>d</sup>. Elizabeth 1580*

<i>W<sup>m</sup>. Drakeford</i>	<i>}</i>	<i>Grant of Prem'es</i>
<i>to</i>	<i>}</i>	<i>in Congleton</i>
<i>Ri. Drakeford</i>	<i>}</i>	<i>to sev<sup>l</sup>. Uses</i>

**Comment:** This translation is from the Latin, and whilst this was found in the records amassed for the Stafford line of the Drakeford family, there is no obvious link. We do not think that there were Drakefords of note in Stafford at the time, and certainly no church records or wills can be found. The document appears to be made out for a William Drakeford living as a lawyer in London. He has given the house and properties bequeathed to him by his father, also William, to a **Richard Drakeford of Lostocke Gram** near Nantwich and 16 miles from Congleton, **Roger Deale of Smallwood** three miles from both Astbury and Congleton, and **Richard Drakeford of Congleton**. As a fall back he lists his 'brothers' **John, Edward, Richard, Thomas** and **Roger**.

Assuming that then two Richards he is initially leaving the property to are close, that is to say first cousins perhaps from Stafford, to have another brother also called Richard would seem odd. Indeed, why are the towns of these brothers not named?

If we refer to the letter from John Drakeford dated 1594, some 14 years later, we envisage that they are the same people. They too are **John, Edward, Richard and Thomas**. Why Roger is missing, we know not? The Richard connection might explain why it is with the Stafford papers.

### **Court of the Star Chamber 1588-1593**

Our Roger Hall has come across a possible connection with this William Drakeford in the Court of Star Chamber records in the National Archives. It would appear that Drakeford, of New Inn Middlesex, was accused of harbouring rogues in his house.

There is a series of seven entries about this over a five-year period from 1588 to 1593 involving John Smythe, indicated to be the Mayor of Congleton at the time. However, Smythe was mayor 1586-87, Richard Green, also mentioned in the dealings was mayor 1587-88, and a William Drakeford mayor for 1592-93, so it could not have done the family much damage. Others involved include Henry Haworth, James Brucke, John Rode, and William Rowlinson.

Continuing the land dealings:

**1617 Richard Drakeford** of Stafford and **Thomas Drakeford of Congleton** buy 415 acres from 'Colman' at Yarnfield, Burston, Hidulstone, Stone, Sandon and Swinerton.

**1618** Deed between **Richard Drakeford** of Stafford and **Thomas Drakeford** of Congleton involving a deal with Robert Walker of Yardefeilde in the county of Stafford.

The original located in Stafford Record Office ref. D1798/HM Drakeford/70. A copy held by the author with translation from the Latin.

**This really important document is useful for various reasons. Firstly, it shows in detail that Richard Drakeford of Stafford held land with Thomas Drakeford of Congleton. We would estimate that this is firstly Richard Drakeford of Stafford, Gent, and merchant, born 1576 died 1639 and secondly Thomas Drakeford, Gent, who was buried at Astbury Church in 1633.**

It would appear that this deal is part of the 415 acres land purchased the year before from 'Colman'. It is being sold to Robert Walker and describes fully the individual pieces in land in question by way of size and usage as well as the tenants. No record of the value is given, but it is an acceptance of the transfer by way of quitclaim.

The 1594 letter from John Drakeford identifies Richard and Thomas as his brothers along with the recipient, Edward. The quitclaim would appear to support this and is that Thomas is of Congleton and Richard had moved from there to Stafford.

The deed also provides an excellent opportunity to appreciate where the Drakefords were both buying and selling land, and the types of farming between Stafford and Congleton. The terminology used and the measurements of the farms can be seen. Incidentally, an acre was the amount of land that a team of oxen could plough in a day. A cant is a narrow strip of land 20 yards wide, a furlong is 200 yards long or 1/8<sup>th</sup> of a mile, a rod 16 ½ feet and is a quarter of a chain. A pole and a perch are also 16 ½ feet. Now you know. If you need to know what this is in meters, ask your grandchildren!

The 1618 Latin version follows whereby Richard and Thomas Drakeford through the quitclaim release their rights to property is as follows:

**Omnibus xp'i fidelibus** ad quos hec p'sens scriptum pven'it **Ric'us Drakeforde** de villa Stafford in Com' Staff' gen'osus et Thomas Drakeforde de Congleton in Com' Cestr' gen'osus sal'tm in d'no sempiternam **Noveritis** nos p'fat' Ric'um Drakeforde et Thomam Drakeford in accomplementu' et p'formaco'em fidei & confidencie in nobis p Rob'tm Walker de Yarnefeilde al's Ernefeilde in Com' Staff' p'd' yoman reposit' et pro melior' et assuranc' o'ium et sing'lor' tenor' cum p'tin' inferius in hoc p'sent' script' n'ro menc'onat' Remaner' p'fat' Rob'to Walker hered' et assignat' suis ad eor' vsu' imp'p'm contra nos et hered' n'ros et vtriusq' n'rm remittere n'rm ac contra o'es al' p'sonas clamantes in p' vel subter nos siue vtrunq' n'rm **Remisisse** relaxasse assurasse et omni'o pro nobis hered' et assignat' n'ris et vtriusq' n'rm remittere relaxare & p' p'sentes confirmare pro nobis et hered' n'ris et vtriusq' n'rm p'fat' Rob'to Walker in sua plena et pacifica possessione inde existent' et assignatis suis **Totum** n'rm et vtriusq' n'rm Jus titulu' statu' vsu' clam' demaund' et interesse quecunq' de in et ad totum illud mesuagiu' sive ten'tu' et gardinu' eidem adiacen' modo sive nup' in tenur' seu occupac'oe quorundam Thome Clayton et Johanna Wyatt vid' seu eoru' alterius seu eoru' siue alterius eor' assignat' vel tenenciu' Ac etiam de in et ad o'es ill' clausur' prat' pastur' et p'cell' terr' co'iter vocat' Milles croftes modo in duabus p'tibus divis's, Ryley crofte modo etiam in duabus p'tibus divis's, Holywall modo etiam in duabus p'tibus divis's, Further Hill et Boothesstone Ac etiam vnum acr' et dimid' acr' aut eo circiter iacen' in le vndertowne medowe ac dimid' vnus acr' prati aut eo circiter iacen' infra mesuag' p'dict' ac vnam acram et dimidiu' vnus acr' prati aut eo circiter iacen' in sep'alibus doleis et p'cellis in campis de Yarnefeilde Ac etiam de in et ad viginti octo acr' terr' arrabilis aut eo circiter iacen' in co'ibus campis de Yarnefeilde p'dict' Ac etiam de in et ad totu' illud mesuagiu' siue ten'tu' modo seu nuper in tenur' siue occupac'oe d'ci Rob'ti Walker siue assignat' vel tenenciu' suor' ac o'es ill' clausur' pastur' prat' et p'cell' terr' co'iter vocat' le Nether croftes et prat' eisdem adiungen' le Riley le Newhey le Holywall le Hylowe lez sixe Riddinges modo in duabus p'tibus divis's le Fall buttes quinq' dolas prat' aut eo circiter iacen' in vndertowne et Riley medowe vnam acr' siue daie math et dimid' aut eo circiter iacen' in Blackfurlonge octo dolas prati aut eo circiter iacen' in Lidyate feildes vnam doleam prati aut eo circiter iacen' in Pilstone feilde et vnam p'cellam prati iacen' in quodam puteo in Twemlowe feilde viginti quinq' seliones et tres p'vas seliones terr' arrabil' continen' p' estimac'oem undecim acr' aut eo circiter iacen' in Lidyate feild ....<sup>1</sup> seliones et finem vnus selionis terr' arrabil' continen' p' estimaco'em duas acr' aut eo circiter iacen' in Blackfurlonge, viginti sex seliones terr' arrabil' continen' p' estimac'oem ....<sup>2</sup> acras et dimidiu' vnus acr' aut eo circiter iacen' in Pilston feilde, viginti septem seliones et quatuor lez endes terr' arrabilis continen' p' estimac'oem tresdecim acr' et

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<sup>1</sup> lost in a crease

<sup>2</sup> lost in a crease

tres quarter' aut eo circiter iacen' in Twemlowe feilde Que quidem mesuag' siue tenement' ac cetera p'missa p'menc'onat' sunt scituat' iacen' siue existen' vel reputat' fore siue iacere in Ernesfeilde al's yarnefeilde p'd' et in poch' de Swynnerton seu in eor' alter Ac de in et ad o'ia domos edificia structur' horrea stabul' Columbar' pomar' gardin' terr' ten'ta prat' pasc' pastur' vias aquas bosc' subboscos co'ias profic' comoditat' emolument' et hereditament' quecu'q' eisdem sepal' mesuag' siue ten'tis ac ceter' p'rmissis aut eor'

alicui siue alicui pti siue pcell' eor' spectan' siue p'tinen' seu cu' eisdem occupat' vsitat' siue gavis's vel accept' reputat' habit' siue cognit' vt pars pcell' siue membr' eorund' seu eisdem spectan' cu' o'ibus et sing'lis suis p'tin' Ac etiam in et ad reu'co'em et reu'co'es remaner' et remaner' reddit' et servic' p'missor' et cuiuslibet inde ptis et pcell' **Habend' et tenend'** o'ia et sing'la p'd' mesuag' structur' terr' ten'ta Clausur' prat' pasc' pastur' ac cetera o'ia et sing'la p'missa cum p'tin' et quamlibet inde pcellam Ac reu'co'em et reu'co'es remaner' et remaner' eorund' et cuiuslibet inde pcell' **Ac** totu' n'rm et vtriusq' nostru' Jus titulu' statu' vsu' clam' demaund' et interesse quecumq'

de in et ad o'ia et sing'la p'd' mesuag' terr' ten'ta et cetera p'missa cum p'tin' et quamlibet inde pcellam ac de in et ad reu'co'em reu'co'es et remaner' eorund' et cuiuslibet inde pcell' p'fat' Rob'to Walker hered' et assignat' suis ad solu' et propriu' opus et vsum ip'ius Rob'ti Walker hered' et assignat' suor' imp'p'm **Et nos** vero p'fat' Ric'us Drakeforde et Thomas Drakeford et hered' n'ri o'ia et sing'la p'd' mesuag' terr' ten'ta ac cetera o'ia et sing'la p'missa quecu'q' cu' p'tin' et reu'co'em et reu'co'es et remaner' eorund' et cuiuslibet inde pcell' p'fat' Rob'to Walker hered' et assignat' suis ad vsu' p'd' contra nos hered' et assignat' n'ros et vtriusq' n'rm warrantizabim's et imp'p'm defendemus p' p'ntes **In cuius rei testimonium** huic p'sent' script' n'ro nos p'fat' Ric'us Drakeford et Thomas Drakeford sigilla n'ra apposuer' dat' vicesimo die Julij Anno regni d'ni n'ri Jacobi dei gr'a Anglie Francie et Hib'nie Regis fidei defensor &c' sextodecimo et Scotie quinquagesimo primo **1618**

Tho: Drakeford seal

Rich: Drakeford seal

oooOOOooo

*To all faithful of Christ to whom this present writing may come, Richard Drakeforde of the town of Stafford in county Stafford gentleman and Thomas Drakeforde of Congleton in county Chester gentleman, eternal greeting in the Lord. Know that we, the aforesaid Richard Drakeforde and Thomas Drakeford, in fulfilment and performance of the faith and trust reposed in us by Robert Walker of Yarnefeilde alias Ernefeilde in county Stafford aforesaid yeoman, and for the betterment and assurance of all and singular the tenements with appurtenances mentioned below in this our present writing, to remain to the aforesaid Robert Walker, his heirs and assigns to their use for ever, against us and our heirs and of each of us our remise and against all other persons claiming in for or under us or either of us; have remitted, released, assured and completely for us, our heirs and assigns and of either of us, remit, release and by these presents confirm for us and for our heirs and of either of us to the aforesaid Rbert*

*Walker being in his full and peaceful possession thereof and to his assigns, all our and of either of us right, title, estate, use, claim, demand and interest whatsoever of in and to all that messuage or tenement and the garden adjoining the same now or late in the tenure or occupation of a certain Thomas Clayton and Johanna Wyatt widow or of either of them or of either of their assigns or tenants; and also of in and to all those closes of meadow, pasture and parcels of land commonly called Milles Croftes (now in two parts divided), Ryley Crofte (now also in two parts divided), Holywall (now also in two parts divided), Further Hill and Bootherstone; and also 1½ acres or thereabouts lying in the Undertowne Medowe and ½ acre meadow or thereabouts lying below the messuage aforesaid and 1½ acres meadow or thereabouts lying in several doles and parcels in the fields of Yarnefeilde; and also of in and to 28 acres of arable land or thereabouts lying in the common fields of Yarnefeilde aforesaid; and also of in and to all that messuage or tenement now or late in the tenure or occupation of the said Robert Walker or his assigns or tenants and all those closes of pasture, meadow and parcels of land commonly called the Nether Croftes and the meadows thereto adjoining, the Riley, the Newhey, the Holywall, the Hylowe, the Sixe Riddinges (now in two parts divided), the Fall Buttes, 5 doles of meadow or thereabouts lying in Undertowne and Riley Medowe, 1½ acres or day maths or thereabouts lying in Blackfurlonge, 8 doles of meadow or thereabouts lying in Lidiate Feildes, a dole of meadow or thereabouts lying in Pilstone Feilde and a parcel of meadow lying in a pit in Twemlow Feilde, 25 selions and 3 small selions of arable land containing by estimation 11 acres or thereabouts lying in Lidiate Feild, .... selions and the end of a selion of arable land containing by estimation 2 acres or thereabouts lying in Blackfurlonge, 26 selions of arable land containing by estimation .... acres and ½ acre or thereabouts lying in Pilston Feilde, 27 selions and 4 ends of arable land containing by estimation 13¾ or thereabouts lying in Twemlowe Feilde. Which said messuage or tenement and the other premises mentioned above are situate, lying and being or reputed to be or to lie in Ernesfeilde alias Yarnefeilde aforesaid and in the parish of Swynnerton or in either or them. And of and in all houses, edifices, structures, barns, stables, dovecotes, orchards, gardens, lands, tenements, meadows, feedings, pastures, ways, waters, woods, underwood, commons, profits, commodities, emoluments and hereditaments whatsoever to the same several messuages or tenements and*



*other premises or any of them or any part or parcel or member of the same or belonging to the same with all and singular their appurtenances. And, also, in and to the reversion and reversions, remainder and remainders, rents and services of the premises and of whatever part and parcel thereof. To have and to hold all and singular the aforesaid messuages, structures, lands, tenements, closes, meadows, feedings, pastures and all and singular other premises with appurtenances and whatever parcel thereof, and the reversion and reversions, remainder and remainders of the same and of whatever parcel thereof, and all our and of either of us right, title, estate, use, claim, demand and interest whatsoever of in and to all and singular the aforesaid messuage, lands, tenements and other premises with appurtenances and whatever parcel thereof and of in and to the reversion, reversions and remainder of the same and of whatever parcel thereof, to the aforesaid Robert Walker, his heirs and assigns, for ever. And we, the aforesaid Richard Drakeford and Thomas Drakeford and our heirs, shall warrant and for ever defend by these presents all and singular the aforesaid messuage, lands, tenements and all and singular other premises whatsoever with appurtenances and the reversion and reversions and remainders of the same and of whatever parcel thereof to the aforesaid Robert Walker his heirs and assigns to the use aforesaid against us, our heirs and assigns and of either of us. In witness of which we the aforesaid Richard Drakeford and Thomas Drakeford have affixed our seals to this our present writing, given the 20th day of July in the 16th year of the reign of our lord James by the grace of God king of England, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. and of Scotland the 51st, 1618.*

*Thomas Drakeford      Seal      Richard Drakeford      Seal*

Copies of the original Latin document are available for purchase at the Staffordshire Records Office ref: D1798/HM/DRAKEFORD/70

**1621 Thomas Drakeford of Congleton** or Norton-in-the-Moors and William Moyes, who was a great friend of Richard Drakeford, 'The Merchant' of Stafford who asked to be buried next to Moyes within the Stafford church of St Mary.

**1639** At his death Richard Drakeford, the merchant of Stafford had part of his estate in Congleton and Buglawton. This was inherited by his wife Mercy and appeared as part of her estate in **1642**. Their wills are available in [Study Paper 4](#).

## 7) Family Wills

(reproduced courtesy of George Fitch)

Cheshire wills in the family archives include the following list with a note of relevance to the main Congleton families. The number in brackets is a reference created by George for identifying each will among the 70 plus he found.

In order to provide to the reader a better understanding of the family and the connections, as was established for the Stafford family tome, some wills are reproduced below.

Date	Name	Comments
1580 (00)	William Drakeford	See the previous section
1597 (16)	Richard Drakeford, yeoman Congleton, proved 1598,	

### **Will of Richard Drakeforde of Congleton, dated 16<sup>th</sup> April 1597 (proved 27<sup>th</sup> April 1598)**

Will number 16

**Wife** Ellene Drakeforde

**Brothers** Thomas and Stephen Drakeforde

Thomas Drakeford is referred to in the town records in 1591 as having been paid 6s 4d for 'a communion boke' (Head p.176)

**Brothers-in-law** Rondull Poynton, Richarde Foxholes

**Children** William

**Executrix** William and Ellene

**Overseers** Rondull Poynton, Richarde Foxholes

**Witnesses** Rondull Poynton, Richard Foxholes, Thomas Lowndes

**Appraisers** John Hobson, younger, Alderman, (Head – P. 37 + 11) Rondull Poynton (Randle sic) Juryman (P.120-Head), the elder, Richard Foxholes and John Verdon

**Appraisal** dated 17<sup>th</sup> May 1597

This Will is important because it also shows that he had two brothers, Thomas and Stephen, both of whom had Wills and importantly lived in Norton-in-the-Moors. Where the family home was does not really matter, but it is worth finding out any other clues. What it does is show that the direct family was spread between Norton and Congleton, as well as Stafford.

The will reads:

*Denkeford* (Corrected to *Drakeford*) *Richard of Congleton, Yeoman,*

1597

*In the name of God, Amen, the 16<sup>th</sup> daie of Aprill in the yeare of our Lorde God One thousand fyve hundres fourscore and seaventyne and in the 34<sup>th</sup> yeare of the raigne of our soverigne Ladye Elizabeth, by the grace of God of Englande, Fraunce and Irelande, Quene, defender of the faythe etc*

*I, Richarde Drakeforde of Congleton in the countye of Chester yoeman, beyinge sicke in bodye but of perfecte meomorie (All laude and prayse be to Gode therefore) ordeyne and make this my testamente conteyninge therein my Laste Will in manner and forme followynge*

**Fyrste** *I commende my soule into the handes of Christe Jhesus my onely savioure and Redeemer by whose merytes and passion I truste to have free forgevenes of all my synnes*

*My dodie I commytte to the earthe whereof it was made to be buried in such place as by my executors shalbe thoughte convenyente in that behalfe. **Item** geve and bequeathe to Ellen Drakefordfe my Wyfe duryngge all her naturall lyfe the moytie or one halfe of all my messuages Cottages Landes tenementes and hereditamentes in the countyes of Stafford and Chester **And** I geve and bequeathe the other halfe of all my sayde Landes Cottages tenementes and heritamentes to William Drakeforde my sonne **And** heyre **And** my full will and mynde ys and I geve and bequeathe to the sayde William Drakeforde my sonne and his heyres All my messuages, Landes tenementes Cottages and hereditamentes by and after the decease of the sayde Ellen my wyfe for ever **Item** I geve and bequeathe to Thomas Cleyton my Godsonne 6s 8d **Item** I geve to Elizabeth Poynton my Goddoughter 10s **Item** I geve and bequeathe to Richarde Poynton my Godsonne 2s **Item** I geve unto evrye other godchylde I have 12d **Item** I geve unto John Jacson*

*12d **Item** I geve unto Edward Poynton, my cosen 12d **Item** I geve and bequeathe unnto everye chylde of Raphe Cleytons my brother in lawe 2s Thomas my godsonne excepted **Item** I geve to everye chylde of Thomas Drakeforde and Steven Drakeforde my brother 2s **Item** I geve and bequeathe my cosen one payre of Shermans shaaeres I give and bequeathe to the poore people of this towne of Gongleton to be bestowed at the descretion of my excecutors 13s 14d **Item** my full will and my mynde ys and I geve and bequeathe all the Resydewe of all my goodes debtes Chattles andf cattalls movable and unmoveable whatsoever (my debtes and funerall expenses dyscharged) to Ellen my sayde wyfe and William my sayud sonne to be devyded equallye betwene theym **Item** I nomynate executors of this my testamente and Last Will Ellen my sayd wyfe and William my sayde sonne hopinge they will faythfullye dyscharge to that truste I repose in theym **Item** I nomynate overseers Rondull Poynton and Richarde Foxholes my brother in lawe*

*In wytness whereof I have hereunto putt my hande and seale*

*Theis beyinge Wytneses*

*Richarde Drakeforde*

*Rondull Poynton*

*Richarde Foxholes*

*Thomas Lowndes*

*Dettes which I doe owe*

*Will of Richard Drakeford of Congleton deceased, proved on 27<sup>th</sup> of April 1598*

*And Administration of the goods of the deceased was granted to William his son, he having been sworn well etc. [To administer the same]*

1598

*Dettes which I do owe*

	£	s	d
<i>Imprimis to Steven Drakeforde my brother</i>	3	3	4
<i>Item to Mr Boier (Bowyer) of Kinpersley</i>	3		
<i>Item to William Smythe</i>		21	
<i>Item to Laurance Woode</i>		10	
<i>Item to Raufe Males</i>		40	

*Dettes Owyng to me*

<i>Imprimis Olyver Brounsworth, due at Trinitie Mundaye nexte</i>	46	8	
<i>Item Richarde Ratcliffe</i>	40		
<i>Item Mr John Hobson, Alderman</i>	10		
<i>Item William Deane</i>	40		
<i>Item Henrie Rowker</i>	10		
<i>Item Mr Rycharde Grene, gent</i>	40		
<i>Item Mr Mathewe Moreton, Alderman</i>	10		

It would appear that Richard is owed £9. 16s 8d, and he owes £9. 14s 4d. These are not big sums by today's money until you realise that £9 or even less was the annual wage for a farm worker. Perhaps the average wage for such a worker today is say £18,000; the late Richard Drakeford owes £18,000, and is owed roughly the same amount. Of this £6,000 is owed to his brother Stephen and about the same amount to Mr Bowyer of Kinpersley(sic).

**Connections:** The name Bowyer may not be well known to Congleton Drakefords, but the Bowyer family of Knypersley were related by marriage through Richard Drakeford (1576-1639) of Stafford, who married Mercy, daughter of William and Mercie Bowyer. When William Bowyer died in 1593, Mercie married James Littleton. We know from the 1594 letter that Edward Drakeford of Congleton was the deputy High Sherriff to Sir Edward Littleton in around 1594, hence the very close relationship this Drakeford Yeoman had with the higher echelons of Staffordshire society.

The fact that John Hobson, Alderman, Richard Green, Gent and Matthew Moreton, Alderman owed this Richard money confirms this assumption of status. My belief was that the Richard Drakeford of Stafford was the son of a Richard of Congleton, but clearly the will states that his son was William, and his brothers Thomas and Steven, who we later find in Norton-in-the-Moors.

Another point of interest is the relationship to the two brothers, Thomas and Steven. Around this period the Wolstanton family had a very strong connection with a Steven/Stephen Drakeford who was constantly involved with the family and their various wills. Further comment on Richard's 1597 will is shown in [Study Paper No: 4](#) .

Unfortunately, while a Steven Drakeford is mentioned in this will we have not managed to connect the two. An extensive search of various Will archives has not found his will. His brother Thomas, who lived at Norton in his later years did make a will numbered 19 on the George Fitch list, which is featured in the [Study Paper No: 5](#), and shows evidence of the same sort of wealth as his brother Richard described above. Using the National Archives calculator, this wealth being listed at around £160 in Stuart money £21,500 today.

Looking at the inventory of assets below, shown in pounds shillings and pence, there is around £105 in saleable assets. Thus, the assets in 1610 would have a purchasing power equivalent to £14,080 in today's money. This does not include the value of land in Cheshire and Staffordshire that he is bequeathing to his son William and his wife Ellen; as a Yeoman he would have owned that land.

If you study the names being on the will including the creditors and debtors, plus the Assessors against the list of the esteemed jurymen for the Perambulation discussed [in section 12](#), Richards status of friends can be established. He certainly had wealth and contacts, as did his brothers Stephen and Thomas.

Here follows the Inventory and after that the will, which appears to have been written contemporaneously and to be the copy for the proving of the will on 27<sup>th</sup> April 1598. I challenge you to read this English script:

Inventory of Richard Drakeforde, 1597

A true inventorie Indented made of all the goodes and Cattalls, both moveable and unmoveable, late of Richarde Drakeforde of Congleton in the countye of Chester, yoeman, deceased, Praysed by John Hobson younger, Alderman of Congleton aforesayde, Rondull Poynton th'elder, RichardeFoxholes, and John Verdon, the 17th daye of Maye in the yeare of our Lorde God, 1597, And the 39th yeare of the Raigne of our soverigne Ladye Elizabeth, by the grace of God of Englande, Fraunce and Ireland, Quene, defender of the Faythe etc.

	£	s	d
Inprimis three Feather beddes	3		
Item sixe Coverlettes and one Coverynge		46	8
Item foure Blanckettes		10	
Item three Mattrasses		15	
Item foure Boulsters		8	
Item 7 payre of sheetes, wyth other Lynen Clothes	3		
Item foure Pannes and towe Pottes	3	6	8
Item three Candlestyckes and one Chafynge dyshe, and towe skellettes		6	8
Item 12 pewter dyshes and towe pewter quartes, with the Reste of the pewter		20	
Item one payre of Shermons sheares		6	8
Item one harrowe, one Iron grate, towe broches, one payre of goberdes [cobbardes], with all other Iron ware		10	
Item foure Chestes and one Cobborde [cupboard]		26	8
Item borddes, formes, stoundes [stands], Combptes [counters, side tables], furnells [?funnels, ie finials], wyth all the Reste of tryne [treen, wooden] ware		26	8
Item foure payre of Beddstockes		10	
Item all the Corne and maulte		20	
Item all the yorne [yarn] and hempe		5	
Item foure keyne [kine, cows]	10		
Item one Nagge		20	
Item one Swyne		13	4
Item Eleven dyckers [bundles of 10 hides or skins] of Rawe and tanned ledder [leather], and one hydde, and other Smale peeces of ledder	56		
Item All the Barke	3	6	8
Item all hys Apparell		53	4
Item somewhat under towe yeares terme in a Close of land of the Inherytance of Thomas Grene of Congleton		40	
Item aboutes seaven yeares terme in a Close of land of the Inheritaunce of John Laplove [?Laplone] of Congleton	6		
Item aboutes eighte yeares terme in a Lyttle Crofte of land of the Inherytance of John Burges of Yeaton	4		
Summa Totalis [Sum Total]	105	11	4

Original Will of Richard Drakeforde - 1597

In the name of God Amen the vijth daie of April in the year of our Lords God, one thousand five hundred fourscore and  
 seventene, and in the xxvijth year of the daigne of our soueraigne Ladie Elizabeth, by the grace of God of  
 England, Fraunce & Irelande Queene defendit of her highnes, of Richeurde Drakeforde of London in the countie  
 of Middelsex, beinge sicke in bodie, and of perfect memorie (all laude & praise be to God heretofore) doo  
 and make this my lastement & testament here in my last will, in maner & forme followinge, to witte  
 I comende my soule into the handes of Christe Ihus my onlie saviour & redeemer in whose mercy I  
 am assured I trust to have free forgiveness of all my synnes, my bodie I comitte to the earth wherof,  
 it was made to be buried in such place as by my exorutors shalbe thought convenient in that behalf  
 shew I give & bequeathe to Ellen Drakeforde my wyfe duringe all her naturall life the moortie  
 or one third, of all my messuages, Cottages, landes, tenures & hereditaments in the countie of Middlesex  
 and Essex, And I give & bequeathe the other two thirds, of all my sayd messuages & landes Cottages tenures  
 & hereditaments to William Drakeforde my sonne & heire And my full will & mynde ys & I give  
 & bequeathe to the sayd William Drakeforde my sonne & heire & his heires All my messuages & landes but  
 Cottages & hereditaments by & after the decease of the sayd Ellen my wyfe for ever, Item I  
 give & bequeathe to Thomas Aleson my Godsonne, vijth child I have I have to Elizabeth Rowndow my  
 Goddaughter, vjth child of mine & bequeathe to Richard Rowndow my Godsonne, ijth child I have  
 with my wyfe Ellen Drakeforde I have vijth child I have with John Jarron, vijth child I have  
 with Edward Rowndow my sonne, vijth child I have of mine & bequeathe unto everye child of mine  
 Aleson, my brother in lawe, ijth child I have of mine & bequeathe unto everye child of mine  
 Thomas Drakeforde & Steven Drakeforde my brethren, ijth child I have of mine & bequeathe my sonne one  
 penny of the monies I have of mine & bequeathe to the poore people of this towne of London, to  
 be bestowed at the discretiow of my exorutors, vijth child I have my full will & mynde ys  
 I give & bequeathe all the residue of all my goodes, stocks, chattels & chattels movables  
 & immovables, whatsoever (my debts & funeral expenses discharged) to Ellen my sayd wyfe  
 and William my sayd sonne, to be divided equallye betwene them, Item I nominate exorutors  
 of this my lastement & last will, Ellen my sayd wyfe and William my sayd sonne duringe  
 their will full & sufficient discharge the same accordinge to that writte of verose in forme shew I  
 nominate successours Rowndow Rowndow & Richard Rowndow my brethren in lawe, in which  
 wylle I have subscribed putt my hande & seale, This daye the vijth of April, Richard Drakeforde  
 Richard Rowndow, and Thomas Rowndow.

- 1617 (23)**     **John Drakeford Gent.**, of Withington, Cheshire. Inventory only.
- 1641 (30)**     **William Drakeford**, Buglawton, a Webster, proved 1647.
- 1641 (31)**     **Edward Drakeford, Alderman**, Congleton Proved 1647. The will shows that there was a brother **Roger Drakeford**, presumably the Town Clerk, noted in 'Congleton Past and Present' by Robert Head pages 38 & 35.

The executor was his wife Cecily. The Overseers were **John Henshall**, Mayor of Congleton and **Jonathan Walley**, mercer and Town Clerk after **Roger Drakeford**, and staunch Parliamentarian.

Edward had no children, but he did have a nephew **Richard Drakeford** of **STAFFORD**.

## **Will of Edward Drakeford of Congleton, 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1645 (proved 16<sup>th</sup> February 1646).**

Will No. 31

<b>Name</b>	Edward Drakeford, <b>Alderman of Congleton</b> , Cheshire
<b>Place of burial</b>	'..Churchyard at <b>Astbury</b> , in the grave where my notable father was layd.'
<b>Wife</b>	<b>Cicely Drakeford</b>
<b>Brother</b>	<b>Roger Drakeford</b>
<b>Children</b>	Died without issue
<b>Nephew</b>	Richard Drakeford of Stafford (considered to be <b>Richard 1610 - 1679</b> )
<b>Executrix</b>	Cicely Drakeford - wife
<b>Overseers</b>	<b>John Henshall</b> , Mayor of Congleton, and <b>Jonathan Walley</b> , mercer.
<b>Witnesses</b>	William Taylor, John Meate, carpenter and Jonathan Walley
<b>Assets:</b>	Lands tennements and hereditaments in Lordship of <b>Congleton</b> . A parcel of land known as <b>Ridings Close</b> , tenanted by <b>William Drakeford</b> , carrier.

**Edward describes himself as Alderman of the borough of Congleton, and in the will gives to his nephew, Richard of Stafford, his Gowns.**

This will has the rather unusual entitlement whereby he, being childless, gives all his goods, save the above gowns, to his wife Cecily for a term of forty years 'in recompense for her dower'. After that time his brother, Roger who then inherits does so on the condition that he has been paid after Edward's death the sum of £60 for paying his, that is Edward's debts. This would presumably allow Cecily to live free of debt and on the income derived for land **owned by Edward and tenanted by William Drakeford**, who was a carrier and other land incomes. Roger would inherit on Cicely's death or after 40 years, whichever was sooner. William and his forefathers were buried in the churchyard at Astbury.



Edward appointed Cicely as his sole executrix, and she had two 'overseers' to the will, namely **John Henshall**, Mayor of Congleton, and **Jonathan Walley**, mercer, who was town clerk after Edward Drakeford. Both Henshall and Walley were well known as Parliamentarians. We can but speculate that Edward was himself also a supporter of Oliver Cromwell.

This theory can be partly supported because the religious preamble to the will refers to the blood shedding of Jesus Christ and that Edward was fully assured of his salvation.

This reads *'I bequeath my soul unto Almighty God my Creator and maker & to Jesus Christ his only son and my Redeemer and saviour, through whose precious blood shedding I am fully assured of my salvation'*.

This would indicate a standard form, indicative of a Calvinist belief, commonly used by those loyal to the Church of England as well as Puritans at the time. Comparing this with Ellen Drakeford nee Morrill, 1661:

*I commit and commend my soul to God my Creator and to Jesus Christ my Saviour and Redeemer, trusting by his merits to inherit the Kingdom of heaven.*

The twist in the tale of Edward and Cicely is that Cicely did not last long. Her will was dated 20<sup>th</sup> March 1645, and proved that year. The sole executor was Jonathan Walley. The bequests were that Cicely, wife of Jonathan Walley would get all the goods, chattels etc. for the good of herself and her children. The land is not mentioned, so presumably that went to Roger Drakeford. The question must be was Cicely Walley the daughter of Edward and Cicely Drakeford?

This question could possibly be answered in the Astbury church register and SRO material yet to be checked. **MWD to chase. Ongoing.**

Because Cicely died before Edward's will was proved, letters of administration were granted to Jonathan Walley the sole executor for Cicely's will. An Administration Bond was drawn up including **Jonathan Walley of Congleton** and **Allan Walley\* of Middlewich, Gent.**

**Family Connection:** This will is another link to Congleton.

**1645 (32)**      **Cecily Drakeford, wife of Edward Drakeford** died in 1645 before Edward, and the Executor was Jonathan Walley, described as Kinsman.

**1649 (37)**      **William Drakeford** of Church Lawton, Cheshire, proved 20.1.1649. Husband of Joan, and brother of **John Drakeford**. No obvious connections to Congleton

**1661 (40)**      **John Drakeford** of Congleton.

**1662 (39)**      **Ellen Drakeford** of Congleton. No obvious connections to main Congleton family.

**1665 (41) Anne Drakeford** of Scollah Green, Odd Rode, Cheshire, widow. Inventory only. Appraisors include **John Drakeford, Robert Shaw** and **John Stonier**. The last two crop up with the Potteries wills and **Thomas Hulme** in the will of will **1649 William Drakeford** above. He had a brother **John Drakeford**, as perhaps above in this will.

**1670 (44) William Drakeford**, Yeoman of Congleton. Proved 1671.

William Drakeford  
Congleton made 13/2/1670

In the name of god Amen the thirteenth day of May in the year of our lord one thousand six hundred and seventy William Drakeford of Congleton in the County of Chester yeoman sick in bed doth hereby give and give testamentary and praise be given unto Almighty God for it, Make and ordaine that my last will and testament in manner and forme followinge that is to say first I give and bequeath my soule into the handes of Almighty God my only Saviour and redeemer by whose meritt and precious bloodsheddinge I hope to be saved. I do hereby my body to be buried in the Church yard of Cheshire and Thursday to be distributed to ye poor as hereafter followeth first I give and bequeath unto John Drakeford of Sand bay six pounds Item I give to William Rask his wife in London the sum of five pounds Item I give and bequeath unto the children of John Drane of Cheshire in Somersbet one of them son shall have a year Item I give unto William Drane the brother of y<sup>e</sup> said John Drane son shall have Item I give unto Marie Bowler the sister of y<sup>e</sup> said John Drane son shall have Item I give to Roger Rask his children one of y<sup>e</sup> son shall have Item I give to Mary Rask the widow five shillings Item I give to Marie Maddox the wife of John Rask's son shall have Item I give to Marie the wife of John Rask's son shall have Item I give to Stephen Drakeford of Congleton one shilling Item I give and bequeath all my horse my out house my yard gardens and all the lands appoynted belonginge unto my wife and beinge in Dogland in the Barony of Congleton unto my daughter Marie Drakeford and my wife Anne Drakeford to be equally divided betweene them my said wife keepinge her selfe said shillinge Item all the rest and residue of my good things bill bondes Chattells I give and bequeath unto my said wife and my daughter Marie Drakeford to be equally divided betweene them my debts and funeralle expenss first charged out of y<sup>e</sup> whole and I make my said wife Anne Drakeford my true lawfull executrix to execute and performe the same accordinge to the best of her skill and the help of appoynted Hugh Whalley and John Drakeford of Congleton my will and I do hereby give and bequeath unto the said appoynted executors my hand and seale the day and year first above written

Witnessed as y<sup>e</sup> last will and testament  
of William Drakeford in y<sup>e</sup> presence of  
Thomas Rask  
Hugh Whalley  
John Drakeford

William Drakeford his m<sup>o</sup>

**William Drakeford**, Yeoman of Congleton. Proved 1671 (Original Will above – translation follows below.

Wife	<b>Anne</b>
Daughter	<b>Marie</b>
Overseer	<b>John Drakeford</b>
Sister	<b>Joan Smith</b>

William requested to be buried at Astbury church yard.

There is a bequest to **Stephen Drakeford** of Buglawton, who is mentioned in many of the Drakeford wills.

Note that Richard and Mercie Drakeford of Stafford owned land in Buglawton.

There is a webster, William Drakeford of Buglawton above, with few details and might be the father of William.

A copy of the will is held, but of poor quality as shown above. This was bravely re-written by Jeremy and Roger, thus enabling the typed version below.

*William Drakeford of Congleton, Yeoman, dated 13<sup>th</sup> March 1670/1*

*Will No. 44*

*In the name of god Amen the thirteenth daye of March in the yeare of our lord one thousand sixe hundred and seventye I William Drakeford of Congleton in the Countie of Chester yeoman Sicke in bodie Neverthesse of sound and perfect memorie Laud and praise be given unto Almighty God for it, Make and ordayne this my last will and Testament in manner and forme followinge that is to say **F**irst I give and bequeath my soule into the handes of Almighty God my only Saviour and redeemer by whose merretts and precious bloodsheedinge I hope to be saved **S**econdlye my bodie to be buryed in the Church yard of Astbury **A**nd thirdlye my goodes to be distributed to ye world as hereafter followeth **F**irst I give and bequeath unto John Drakeford of Sandbach ten poundes **I**tem I give to Willm Kash liveinge in London the summe of five poundes **I**tem I give and bequeath unto the Children of John Doane of ?Mandsmeare? in Somerford each of them ten shillinges a peece **I**tem I give unto William Doanes child brother of ye said John Doane ten shillinges **I**tem I give unto Marie ?Bowl..? child'sister of ye said John Doane ten shillinges **I**tem I give to Roger Kash his Children each of them ten*

shillings **Item** I give to Mary Taylor widowe five shillings **Item** I give to Marie Maddock five shillings **Item** I give to Marie the wife of John Waringes ten shillings **Item** I give to Stephen Drakeford of Buglawton twentie shillings **Item** give and bequeath all my howse with out howsinge yardes Gardens and all the landes theireunto belongeing situate lyinge and beinge in Dogland in the Burrough of Congleton unto my daughter Marie Drakeford and my wife Anne Drakeford to be equall devided betweene them my said wife keepinge her selfe unmaryed And my will and pleasure is att the time of such Marriage my said wife is to relinquish the said howse and landes without any further reward or consideration **Item** I give to my sister Joan Smith and her Children each of them five shillings **Item** all the rest and residue of my Goodes debtes bill bondes Cattells and Chattells I give and bequeath unto my said wife and my daughter Marie Drakeford to be equall devided betweene them my debts and funerall expences to be first discharged out of ye whole **And** I make my said wife Anne Drakeford my true and lawfull executrix to execute and performe the same accordinge to ye trust I repose in her **And** like wise I appointe Hughe Walleye and John Drakeford overseers of this my will and I do hereby renownce all former wills **And** in Testimonie herof I have hereunto put my hand and seale the day and yeare first above written

Sealed as ye last will and Testament of William Drakeford  
in the presence of

Thomas ?Pickford?  
?Hu? Walleye

X

William Drakeford his marke

[Latin probate act on back] Proved ?15? September 1671 by Anne Drakeford sole executrix

**1685 (46)**      **William Drakeford** of Frodsham, Cheshire. No will, inventory only. No obvious connections.

**1692 (49)**      **Alice Drakeford** of Frodsham. A John Pickering was creditor and appraisor for William, 1685 above. Alice has her administration granted to Ellen Pickering for her daughter Elizabeth, principal creditor. Hence Alice could have been the wife of William.

**1698 (51)**      **Ellen Drakeford** of Congleton, widow. The husband of her daughter, Margery who was Ralph Henshaw. Perhaps related to John Henshaw republican mayor of Congleton 1642 and 1652.

**1717 (56) John Drakeford** of Congleton, cordwainer. Proved 1718. He has sons Roger and Richard, and a wife Catherine (d.1753)

**1730 (64) William Drakeford** of Congleton, shoemaker. Wife Mary, no issue. Was the brother of **John 1717** shown above. John Burgess is an executor and was a witness and appraiser on John's will. He had nephews Roger and Richard, sons of John above as beneficiaries.

**1753 (68) Katherine Drakeford** of Congleton **widow of John Drakeford** died **1717** above.

**1754 (69) Margaret Drakeford** of Sutton, Cheshire, proved 1764. One shilling left to Roger Drakeford, possibly son of John Drakeford d.1717.

**1767 (76) Richard Drakeford** of Congleton, silk-weaver.

See John 1717 and Catherine 1753..... Richard died a bachelor. This usefully updates the previous family information by referring to property in the Mill Street Congleton, John Johnson as 'son-in-law', a sister as Sarah Chell, her son William, a sister as Catherine Harding, all of which are recipients of a bequest among others.

As an aside, it was in 1814 that Edward Drakeford of Stafford left £50 to 'Mr Drakeford of Congleton, a cotton manufacturer who calls himself a relative of mine'. That was certainly **not** this Richard Drakeford who died in 1767, but most likely **Jesse Drakeford born 1756**, who was a son of **Joseph Drakeford**, a Congleton craftsman. See **Cotton industry** below. One can but ponder if Thomas Cooper who did the research detailed below was employed by Edward Drakeford of Stafford.

**1829 (80) William Drakeford** of Congleton, Gent. It is noteworthy that William is styled 'Gent.' This would indicate a status not normally attained by the Drakefords of Congleton. His Daughter Elizabeth gets everything, suggesting that William is a widower and has no other children. Elizabeth married a Charles Barlow.

You will see that this below Will was a precisely prepared document to ensure that all William's possessions were safeguarded as far as possible to be passed on to their daughter(only child), Elizabeth and her husband, Charles Barlow. As you may glance through this detail, bare in mind we have a copy of a letter written to Jeremy's grandfather in 1949 by a Fred Barlow who lived in a house named 'Drakeford' in Warwickshire confirming the long-time connection between our two family names of Drakeford and Barlow!

### **The Will of William Drakeford(1755-1832) dated 10<sup>th</sup> October 1829**

*(Transcribed from the original handwritten document by Roger Hall)*

Page 1.

*This is the last Will and Testament of me William Drakeford of Congleton in the county of Cheshire gentleman who make and publish the same in manner following (that is to say)*

*First I will order and direct that my just debts funeral expenses and the expenses of the probate and execution of this my will shall be paid and discharged by my executor and executrix hereinafter named by and out of my personal estate as soon as may be after my decease.*

*I give and bequeath unto my servant Emma Krinks the sum of ten pounds to be paid unto her by my executor and executrix at the end of twelve calendar months after my decease.*

*Whereas I am possessed of and well and sufficiently entitled unto part of a silk mill or factory which was formerly a fulling mill, afterwards a flint mill and subsequently converted into a paper mill, situate lying and being in Congleton aforesaid and the land on which such part of the said mill stands and to several pieces and parcels land adjoining thereto and to the buildings planks weirs dams mill pools streams of water watercourses brooks drains soughs ways passages liberties privileges advantages and appurtenances whatsoever to the said part of the said mill lands and premises incident belonging or appertaining and to or with the said fulling mill formerly demised or leased to one Richard Hope which said mill lands hereditaments and premises are now in the holding of my son in law Mr Charles Barlow*

*And Whereas I am also possessed of and well and sufficiently entitled unto several messuages cottages and dwellinghouses and buildings which have been erected and built upon some part of the said land by me and my said son in law.*

*And Whereas John Vaudrey late of Buglawton in the said county cotton manufacturer deceased did by indenture of lease bearing date the 25<sup>th</sup> day of December one thousand eight hundred and fifteen demise and lease unto me and my said son in law our executors administrators and assigns a messuage with the yard hereditaments and premises to the same belonging situate lying and being in Congleton aforesaid commonly called the Paper Mill House and also two closes pieces or parcels of land to the same belonging and commonly called or known by the names of the Paper Mill Orchard and the*

Page 2.

*Paper Mill Garden and a small plot of land on the north side of the Daneinshaw River and so much of such river opposite thereto as is described in the plan endorsed on the back of such lease with the rights members and appurtenances for the term of nine hundred and ninety nine years from the date of such lease subject to the payment unto the said John Vaudrey his heirs and assigns of the yearly rent of ten guineas and to the performance of the covenants conditions and agreements contained in such lease on the tenants or lessees part to be paid observed and performed*

*And Whereas the said messuage or dwelling house called the Paper Mill House hath been since taken down and the remaining part of the said silk mill hath been erected on the site thereof and on a portion of the land so demised therewith and the remaining part of such leasehold land hath been laid together with the said freehold land first hereinbefore mentioned*

*And Whereas I am possessed of or well and sufficiently entitled unto several moss rooms or freehold pieces or parcels of land or ground with the several messuages or dwelling houses cottages and buildings thereon erected or on some part or parts thereof situate and being on Mossley Moss and in Lawton Street in Congleton aforesaid and also to a leasehold plot piece or parcel of land and the several dwellinghouses and buildings erected thereon or on some part thereof situated and being in Dog Lane in Congleton aforesaid subject as to the freehold moss rooms on Mossley Moss aforesaid and the several dwellinghouses and buildings erected thereon purchased by my brother M<sup>r</sup> John Drakeford from M<sup>r</sup> Richard Hand to the estates for life therein of my said brother and of Ann his wife and of the survivor of them and subject as to the said leasehold premises in Dog Lane aforesaid to the like estate for life therein of my said brother and of Ann his wife and of the survivor of them and from and after the decease of the survivor of them to the payment of the rent and performance of the covenants conditions and agreements reserved and contained in the indenture of lease granted of the said premises in Dog Lane aforesaid.*

*Now I do hereby give devise and bequeath all and singular my said freehold and leasehold mill messuages*

Page 3.

*or dwellinghouses cottages buildings lands tenements hereditaments and premises and my said part and share of and in the said leasehold mill messuages or dwellinghouses cottages buildings land tenements hereditaments and premises and all other my freehold and leasehold hereditaments and premises of what nature or kind soever and wheresoever the same may be whether in possession reversion remainder or expectancy (subject nevertheless as hereinbefore is mentioned) and also all and every my personal estate and effects of what nature or kind soever the same may be and wherein I have or possess any estate right title interest claim or demand whatsoever either at law or in equity whether in possession reversion remainder or expectancy (subject as aforesaid) unto my dear daughter Elizabeth Barlow the wife of the said Charles Barlow and her assigns for and during the term of her natural life for her own sole and separate use and benefit free from the debts control or intermeddling of her present or any future husband*

*and from and after her decease I give devise and bequeath the same freehold and leasehold hereditaments and premises and parts and shares thereof and the said personal estate and effects as aforesaid (subject as aforesaid) unto the said Charles Barlow and his assigns for and during the term of his natural life*

*and from and after the decease of the survivor of them my said daughter and her said husband I do give devise and bequeath the same freehold and leasehold hereditaments and premises and parts and shares thereof and the said personal estate and effects as aforesaid and subject as aforesaid unto and to the use of the children grandchildren other issue or all and every or any one or more of the children grandchildren or other issue of the said Charles Barlow by my said daughter his wife such grandchild or grandchildren or more remote issue to be born before any such appointment as hereinafter is mentioned shall be made to him her or them respectively and in such manner and form and if more than one in such parts shares and proportions and for such estate or estates interest or interests by way of annuity sum in gross trusts of a term of years to*



Page 4.

*be vested in a trustee or trustees rent charge or otherwise due with such directions for maintenance education and advancement and with such limitations over or substitutions in favour of all or any one or more of the others of the said children grandchildren and issue respectively and to vest at such age or ages day or days and upon such contingencies and under and subject to such conditions restrictions and provisions for the charge and indemnity of trustees as the said Charles Barlow at any time or times and from time to time during his life by any deed or deeds instrument or instruments in writing under his hand and seal to be executed by him in the presence of one two or more credible witness or witnesses and to be attested by the same witness or witnesses or by his last will and testament in writing or any writing purporting to be or in the nature of his last will and testament or any codicil or codicils thereto to be respectively signed and published by the said Charles Barlow in the presence of and to be attested in his presence by three or more credible witnesses shall either absolutely and with or without power of revocation and new appointment (such new appointment to be in favour of some one or more of the object of this prevent power and in the same events as they are to be entitled under these limitations) direct limit or appoint give devise or bequeath the same and in default of such direction limitation or appointment gift devise or bequest by the said Charles Barlow as aforesaid and from time to time subject to such direction limitation or appointment gift devise or bequest as shall have been made by the said Charles Barlow as aforesaid and as to such parts of the said freehold leasehold and personal estate and effects and also of the estate and interest therein to which such direction limitation or appointment gift devise or bequest shall not extend to the use of all and every the children of my said son in law the said Charles Barlow by my said daughter equally to be divided amongst them share and share alike as tenants in common and not as joint tenants and to the several and respective heirs of the body of all and every such children*

Page 5.

*lawfully issuing and in case one or more such children shall happen to die without issue of his her or their body or bodies respectively the share or shares of him her or them so dying to go to and amongst the survivors of them equally share and share alike as tenants in common and not as joint tenants and to the several and respective heirs of their several and respective bodies lawfully issuing.*

*And I do hereby nominate constitute and appoint my said son in law and his said wife executor and executrix of this my will.*

*And I do hereby order and direct that my said executor and executrix or either of them their or either of their heirs executors or administrators shall be charged and chargeable only for and with his and their own respective receipts payments acts and wilful defaults and not otherwise and shall not be charged or chargeable with or for any sum or sums of money other than such as shall actually and respectively come to his her or their hands by virtue of this my will nor with or for any loss or damage that may happen in or about the execution of all or any of the trusts hereby in them reposed without his or their respective wilful default or for any agent or agents who shall be employed to act under him her or them.*

*And further that it shall and may be lawful to and for my said executor and executrix and their respective heirs executors and administrators to deduct and reimburse himself herself and themselves by and out of all or any of the trust monies and premises which by virtue of this my will or any trust herein declared shall come to their or either of their hands all such reasonable costs charges and expenses as they either or any of them shall or may sustain in or about the execution of this my will or in the execution of the trusts hereby in them reposed or any matter or thing in any wise relating thereto*

*And I hereby revoke and make void all and every will and wills testament and testaments codicil and codicils by me at any time heretofore made and do declare this alone to be and contain my last will and testament*

*In Witness whereof I the said*

Page 6.

testator William Drakeford to this my last will and testament contained on six sheets of paper written upon one side of each sheet to the first five sheets thereof have set my hand and to this sixth and last sheet thereof have set my hand and affixed my seal this tenth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty nine.

William Drakeford

Signed sealed and published and declared by the said testator William Drakeford as and for his last will and testament in the presence of us who in his presence in the presence of each other and at his request have subscribed our names as witnesses hereto....

Tho: Vaudrey, Sol<sup>r</sup> Congleton

Samuel Fox staffman to M<sup>r</sup> Cha<sup>s</sup> Barlow

Richard Goodwin farmer Buglawton

In Chancery

Between Elizabeth Garside and others plaintiffs

and

Edward Edwards and others defendants

1845 October 25<sup>th</sup> At the execution of a commission for the examination of witnesses in this cause this paper writing was produced and shown to Samuel Fox and Thomas Vaudrey witnesses sworn and examined and by them severally disposed to at the time of their respective examinations on the plaintiffs behalf, before us.

Geo Reade

John Wilson

This Will was produced at the hearing of these causes on the 13th Jan<sup>y</sup> 1846

?? Wood?

Reg<sup>r</sup>

Page 7.

*The eighteenth day of November 1833*

*Charles Barlow the executor in this will named was sworn in common form (power being reserved to Elizabeth Barlow the executrix therein also named to take upon her the execution of the said will when she shall lawfully request the same) and he further made oath that the personal estate and effects of the testator within the Diocese of Chester were under the value of one hundred pounds before me Ed Wilson Surrogate.*

*The testator died the 29<sup>th</sup> day of September 1832.*

*Probate issued*

*Date 18<sup>th</sup> Nov' 1833*

**Notes offered by Roger Hall relevant to the above Will No: 80.**

Page 1: 'buildings planks weirs dams mill pools streams of water watercourses brooks drains soughs ways passages ...': the planks will be removable dams to regulate the flow of the water; soughs are small gutters for draining water.

Page 2: a moss is a peat bog; a moss room is a narrow plot of land on a peat bog, formerly allocated for turbary (the right to cut peat) to each house in the township in which the moss was situated. (this from Robert Holland's 1886 Glossary of Words Used in the County of Chester).

This ends the wills available at present. However, the Congleton 'clock' Drakefords are around at this time for continuation purposes taking the family into the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and beyond to our cousins Jeremy and David Drakeford.

**Author's Note:**

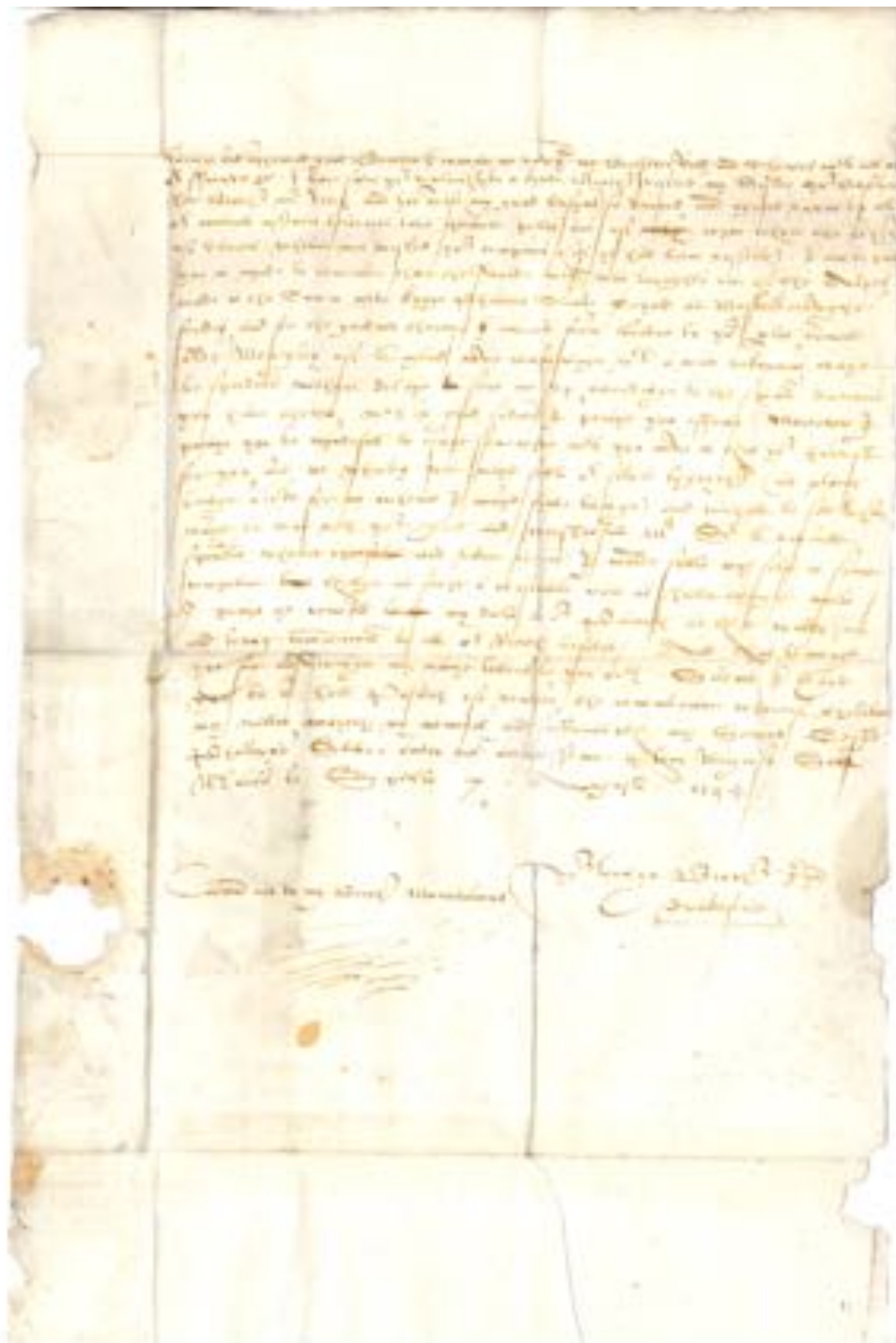
It would be quite an exercise to write out all of these wills, and in some cases translate from the Latin, but it could show us much more about the Cheshire side of the family. With some skill, coupling this with other material, we could create a significant family tree.

It would be an opportunity, using a specific family tree process, to do the same for the Stafford branch, where we have much better defined information.

**8) 1594 Letter from John Drakeford, London to his family in Congleton**

This important letter is also shown in [Study Paper No: 1](#). This starts with the address shown on the outside of the folded and sealed letter.





*To my lovinge and approved good Brother Mr Edwarde Drakeforde  
Undersheriffe of the Countie of Stafforde gent*

??? (not intelligible)

London

[Small figures in red are line numbers in the original letter]

[\* = see the notes at the end]

**1**Lovinge and approved good Brother I comende me unto you my Brethren Richard and Thomas with all of **2**our Frenedes etc. I have since your departure (lyke a kynde Brother) visited my sister your bedfelow **3**her Brother\* Mr RITCH and his wife (my good Cosyns) so decreed, and agreed uppon by all **4**of mutuall assentes betwixte two quarte pottes one of wyne whyte the other **5**of Clarett wheare wee wished your companie, (if yt had beene possible). I am to putt **6**you in mynde to remember that the sworde which was broughte out of the Alpes, **7**made in the Towne neere kynges Pharoes Tombe, Caryed at Muskelborwghe **8**feildes\*, and for the goodnes thereof I caried from London to your partes, to witt **9**olde Morgley of England\* nowe remayninge with a man unknowne, maye **10**be speedelie without delaye sent me up, accordinge to the speciall direcion **11**you have therein, which (in good sadnes) I praye you effecte. Moreover I **12**praye you be myndefull to espye\* somewhat with you selves togeyther (all places **14**beinge alyke for me wheare I maye fynde livinge) and withall to see what **15**maye be done with your good and worshipfull Master Sir Edwarde\* **16**speciallie wheare and under whome I wolde settle my selfe in some **17**comptent things at suche a reasonable rate as shalbe thought meete\*. **18**I praye you remember my dutie to our Parentes at the wakes\* **19**and loving commemoracion to all our Frenedes besides. And thus blaminge **20**you for answeringe my manye letters to you with silence I leave **21**you to a hott Pastith\* of venison, the remembrance whereof inhebiteth **22**my wittes, amazeth my memorie and suffocateth my Sences. ??? **23**Phillippo Stubeo amico meo amantissimo\*. ex loco Religioso Sancta **24**Maria le Spittle\* 7 Augusti 1594.

your lovinge Brother John Drakeforde

Comend me to my Brother ?Momtolmus?\*

\*Notes To facilitate understanding of the Elizabethan letter.

'your bedfelow her Brother' = 'your wife's brother'

'Muskelborwghe feildes' = 'Musselburgh Fields', site of the Battle of Pinkie Clough (10 Sept 1547), the last pitched battle between the Scottish and English armies, at which the English won a decisive victory.

'olde Morgley of England' = Morglay, the name of the sword said to have been owned by the legendary Bevis of Hampton.

'espye' = 'keep a look out'

'your good and worshipfull master Sir Edwarde' = Sir Edward Littleton of Pillaton Hall (c1555 - 1610), High Sheriff of Staffordshire in 1593-4.

'meete' = 'suitable'

'wakes' may mean celebrations (?after the harvest - letter written in August)

'Pastith' = 'pasty'. Pasties were originally pies filled with venison and baked without a dish.

'??? Phillippo Stubeo amico meo amantissimo' = '??? Phillip ?Stubbs? my most loving friend'

'ex loco Religioso Sancta Maria le Spittle' = 'from the religious site St Mary Spital'. This was a Priory and Hospital which had been dissolved in 1539. The area is now known as Spitalfields.

?Momtolmus? is probably a nickname

*Thanks go to **Roger Hall** for helping with the interpretation of this letter*

## 9) The Plague in Cheshire

Congleton suffered badly from the plague in 1603-4, and 1641-42. During the former a Mize was levied through the country 'for the relief of the infected towns of Macclesfield and Congleton'.

***Mize** is an old English term for a type of land-based assessment, similar to a property tax, paid to the local nobility during the Middle-Ages. It was common in areas of western England such as Cheshire.*

A full account of the plague during this period is found in Robert Head's book, '**Congleton Past and Present**' (see '**Book References**' on this website). Clearly it was an awful time when no one was safe. Restrictions were made of people entering the area and inn keepers were stopped from receiving anyone from outside the area. The various villages and towns around distributing food in the form of bread, cheese, milk, pies and so forth was made available to the poor and ill, with each village and town striving, under dated 1<sup>st</sup> October 1603 by Sir William Brereton to relieve the '*poore people in Congleton*', and in turn for Congleton to relieve their own poor on Sunday, and



stipulated villages around on other days of the week. Records were kept of those who did manage to help and a note of what they gave. One such account states 'Received from Smallwoode upon Thursday the vij<sup>th</sup> of October from **Mrs Lowndes** which was sent to George Heathcott, 'a great rye loaf, a cheese and a pye'. See below for the connection!

**OB.\*1603** During the plague outbreak, William Drakeford was paid 4d for the drink he had taken to the sick at Crossledge.

**\*Order Book** from the Town Records

A second and even worse visitation of the decease occurred in 1637 and immediately the same law was enacted by the then mayor, John Bradshaw. The countryside around was first hit and Congleton was really bad starting with a family called Laplove just before Christmas 1641.

This extract sums up the horror of it all:

*Accounts -*

*1641 Dec 18 to m Hollinshed ffor watching Laploves house too dayes & nights 2<sup>nd</sup> the sickness there appearing paid for Inkle to tye the Ded corpses att Laploves 8d, and for cording 4d*

*00.01.00*

*Ffor a ladder to carrie the corpes to ye grave 00.00.10*

*'Quickly it spread from house to house, carrying off whole families, for those infected rarely recovered, and not infrequently were left to die or live as best they might. The town, once busy with thrifty inhabitants, became deserted, and streets and thoroughfares soon overgrown with grass. None ventured abroad but those who, reckless of life, staggered from cabin to cabin laden with the dead, which were "either put naked into a carte or else wrapped round with a winding sheet and then drawn to ye grave dug either in ye church yarde or in another place, and there put in and covered with earth without sayinge anye ceremonye whatever"'*

*Dec 28, to James Ingam for a peare of wheelles and Axle trees to draw ye dead to ye grave*

*01.09.0*

*De 28 To Adam Okes ffor a White nagg to draw the corps to Astbry*

*01.08.0*

*Every possible method was used to stop the spread of the disease. Those exchanging money for goods dropped their coins into water before the other party would handle it. Goods were held at arms-length over a fire with tongues before they could be handled.*

*Of the Laplove family only one little girl survived called Bess. She is said to have spent the rest of her life helping others. She was of humble birth and when her mother died the Corporation gave 2/6d "to buy little Besses mother a wynding sheet".*

We are now in 2020/21 being attacked by the Coronavirus, Covid19. Let us be grateful for the help from our NHS and associated services.

## **10) The Civil War around Congleton and the John Bradshaw Connection**

During the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries Congleton and its environs were not unduly affected by national events. The nearest the population came to trouble was the creation of, and employment of militia men at the time of the Lambert Simnel and Perkin Warbeck pretenders. At that time, it was necessary to have individuals that could be called upon should matters become problematic.

Even Henry VIII splitting from Rome and taking over the monasteries after 1537 did not really impact the area, although there would have been those in favour or retaining their allegiance to Rome.

The difficulties prior to the Civil War were of greater concern. Matters started to develop in the late 1630s. The Plague was about in 1642, which was trouble enough for the town and Charles I was becoming even less popular and fighting between Royalist supporters and those for Parliament had commenced. Chester was holding out as a Royalist stronghold and because of its position Congleton was to be embroiled. Local skirmishes were prevalent, and the town authorities had to pay watchmen 'for their care in quieting the soldiers' and watching the unruly at night when the soldiers might have mutinied'. Congleton was in trouble where a strong section of the Corporation was for Parliament and it consequently rebuffed an early Royalist demand for troops from Cheshire towns. A significant entry in the town accounts reads: 'Given a boy to hold our horses, until we had excused ourselves to the Earl of Derby in sending him no men – 2d.'

The headquarters of the Parliamentary forces was based in Nantwich. In late 1642 the Parliamentary commander Sir William Brereton of Handforth raised money and troops in London and passed through Congleton on his way to defend Nantwich against a threatened attack by the royalist forces of Sir Thomas Aston. .... and so matters continued.

## **John Bradshaw, King Charles, Oliver Cromwell...Congleton and Drakeford**

One of the important individuals on the civil war was one John Bradshaw, Mayor of Congleton from 1637-8. Born at Wybersley Hall in 1602 and son of Henry Bradshaw of Wybersley and Marple, Cheshire, and he became a lawyer articled in Congleton. His elder brother became a famous Parliamentarian soldier. John went from Congleton to study at Gray's Inn around 1622 and he was called to the bar in 1627.

John Bradshaw was not without wealth; this and his ability caused him to proceed quickly in matters about Congleton and he became Attorney General for Cheshire and Mayor of Congleton, both positions commenced in 1637. On the official appointment of Bradshaw as mayor, his name is followed by that of Edward Drakeford J.P. Edward Drakeford followed him as mayor in 1638.

When the struggle between the King and Parliament came to fruition Bradshaw decided to leave Congleton and when the Royal Standard was unfurled at Nottingham, he left Congleton and proceeded to his town house in London at Basinghall Street. His legal knowledge suited him and two years after leaving Congleton he was engaged for the rebellious Parliament as council in the prosecution of the two Irish Lords Macmahon and Macguire. By 1645 he was chosen as junior council for the Parliament. In 1648 he was appointed by Parliament as Sergeant-at-Law. He shortly became Lord Justice of the Court and importantly had a role in the action leading to the beheading of Charles 1.

Back in Congleton there were those that were Royalist, and others supporting 'The Cause'. All was certainly not for Bradshaw and he was asked to resign from his position as High Steward. The Royalist Aldermen were listed as William Knight, John Walker and George Ford, in that order all three succeeded **Edward Drakeford** who held the position as Mayor for the year of 1638/39, taking the role in 1639/40, 1640/41 and 1641/2 respectively. The King's cause was halted in 1642 when John Henshaw was elected mayor for a year until George Ford was again mayor in 1643/4.

We may assume that Edward Drakeford was a Royalist.

The royal cause weakened from 1644 and eventually, in January 1649 Charles I was brought before the High Court of Justice in Westminster Hall, where Bradshaw presided, scarlet robed, wearing his memorable peaked hat; the Bunbury schoolboy, the lawyer's apprentice, the Congleton citizen and Mayor. The Parliamentarians had won, and initially 28 signed, assembled in Bradshaw's London house where the death warrant was signed. The number of signatures rose to 59, with perhaps some friendly persuasion.

..... The first signature was:

*Jo: Bradshawe*

Honours followed for Bradshaw as he was appointed President of the Council of State, Chief Justice of Wales, and much more, including the receipt of a significant stipend. He was never at ease with Oliver Cromwell and a rivalry existed. This is not the place to restate the ramifications, save to say that the relationship ended with a personal dislike of each other. Cromwell's health declined and he died on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1658, and so too did Bradshaw's health become fragile. He died a few weeks later, on 22 November 1658. John Bradshaw died childless. Whilst initially he was buried with great honour in Westminster Abbey, this former Alderman with the Drakefords was, after the Restoration, disinterred and with the remains of Oliver Cromwell hung on the common gallows at Tyburn; their heads were struck off and placed on Westminster Hall.

Bradshaw is still a name to be conjured with in Congleton in conjunction with Bradshaw House. It is a grade II listed merchant's house with a brick façade. The original house, then called Cole Hill House, which was half timbered and lived in by Bradshaw and his family, was sadly pulled down in 1820.

Back in Congleton the Republican cause gained the ascendancy included Jonathan Walley who was certainly a republican, and was to take over from **Roger Drakeford** as Town Clerk but not until 1656. Hence it may not have been a political appointment save that Drakeford might have suited both sides as effectively an employee rather than an influential Alderman.

It is clear that the nearby town of Macclesfield was far more for Parliament than Congleton, and on one occasion this was highlighted by an action affecting **William Drakeford** (WBS P.74)

*'The number of the Corporation who supported the King was mentioned in 1657 during one of the perennial law suits with Macclesfield about tolls. A witness stated accurately that 'the magistrates of Congleton had been for the King', while those of Macclesfield had supported Parliament.*

*At one time, if witnesses can be believed, Macclesfield men who were soldiers quartered in Congleton, had taken the Mayor prisoner, [either Robert Knight(1656-57) or Richard Parnell (1657-58)], and rifled the study of William Drakeford, an eminent professor, clerk, and a gentleman of great employment in Congleton, who had many writings and records about the Borough's privileges for the most part in his custody and keeping, which were all taken away by the men of Macclesfield'.*

After the Commonwealth failed and Charles II was crowned in 1660 the Aldermen Henshaw, Parnell, Buckley, refused to take the oaths of allegiance along with Parnell, and four other Councilmen and Jonathan Wally the Town Clerk all removed from their respective offices save for the Town Clerk who appeared to remain until 1665. Nine persons of 'loyal character' were inducted.

## The Congleton Town Mace



David Drakeford studying The Mace on a recent Drakeford visit to Congleton.

All this toing and froing led to a new mace being produced for the town. This has caused disquiet over the years because it seems to have been altered to reflect the public support of either 'The Cause' or the 'Crown'. There is a long diatribe about this, which seems to have solved the matter and is published in the book, *Congleton Past and Present* (RH 101-109). Basically, the town mace was probably replaced in 1651, or it might be the first. The cost was £50, and approved by the then major Richard Parnell, this is evidenced by the Town Accounts, and in 1661, the accounts for George Ford, the then mayor show payments for alterations to the mace.

The problem was that a number of Royal supporters in 1661 wanted to erase all evidence of the Cromwellian events, and to have a mace that showed support was not on. Hence the mace was altered. Importantly the date was changed from 1651 to 1661 and the inscription became *TO THE FREEDOME OF ENGLAND BY GOD'S BLESSING RESTORED CR 1661*.



Further examination revealed that the crown had been clumsily attached to the bulb and the wording altered and the assayer's marks for London 1651. The inscription was originally *THE FREEDOME OF ENGLAND BY GOD'S BLESSING RESTORED* altered to the above by adding 'To' and 'CR 1661' thus indication that the freedom was restoring the country to its people out of the hands of a wayward King Charles I, who had become far from popular.

The modern description provided by Congleton Town Council today is as follows:

*Silver gilt, made in 1651, the mace has an intriguing historical connection with the execution of King Charles 1. It is reputed to have been used as a model for the House of Commons mace and is still carried in front of the Mayor on ceremonial occasions by the Mace Bearer. An inscription around the head of the mace, originally said: "The Freedome of England by God's Blessing Restored." But, in 1660 King Charles II regained the throne and the inscription was considered subversive. The town accounts of 1661 refer to a sum of £3 being "payd to ye goldsmyth for altering ye Mace" The date was changed, somewhat clumsily, from 1651 to 1661 and the phrase "to C.R" (Charles Rex) added to the inscription. These alterations can be clearly seen today.*

## **11) Court Records**

A great deal has already been obtained from these and other sources. Rather than duplicating, we have included that which we have under 'Cheshire Land Dealings from 1580 to 1642', [in Section 6](#), and 'An Appendage driven dateline list for Drakeford family members (1580 – 1785)', [in Section 18](#), of this Study Paper.

More will doubtlessly come out of the proverbial woodwork!

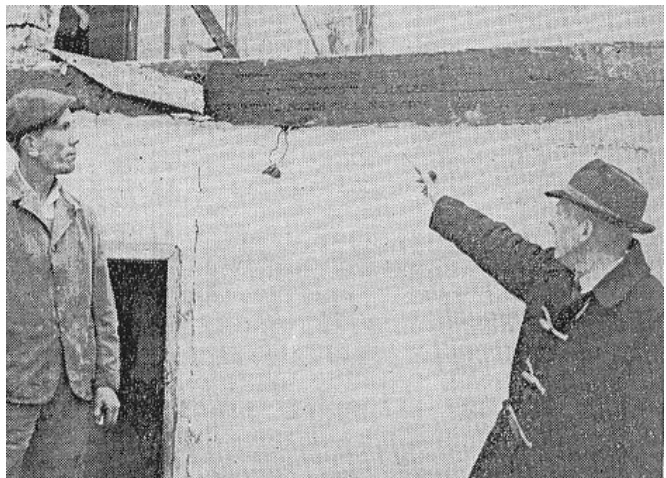
## **12) The 'Drakeford' Beam – Dated 1678**

**A Relic of our past History – Where is it now?**



The pen and ink drawing above was done by Percy Sheldon and was taken from the book 'Congleton Past and Present' page 11. It shows Congleton High Street as it was in 1500s and it is said that the central building in the drawing was the original timber framed Town Hall (or Guildhall).

Moving forward a considerable period of time, November 1961 to be precise, the following photograph appeared in the Congleton Chronicle in connection with the demolition of some property in West Road, Congleton which was Moore's greengrocer's shop adjacent to the Rose & Crown Pub. The photograph shows Mr S. Pass(right) of Pass & Sons responsible for an extension to the pub. The gentleman on the left is Mr Harry Wilson, sub-contractor for the demolition. They are both studying an old beam which was uncovered during the demolition. This was found to be a beam of around 300 years old and thought to have come from the original timber framed Town Hall shown above which was demolished in 1804.





On the beam there is an inscription:

*John Walker Mayor, Peter Lingard, John Smith Justices; John Drakeford, Tho. Malborne, Will Silk, Will Newton Overseers An.Do.78*

Further examination revealed the full date, which was shown to be 1678, determined by the year that John Walker was Mayor of Congleton.



It is also known that Peter Lingard was mayor in 1684/5 and 1693/4, John Smith\* was Mayor in 1678/9. Of the overseers, Thomas Malborne was Mayor 1685/6, 1694/5 and 1707/8.

\*This John Smith could well have been the same gentleman who moved from Stafford to Congleton and became the Head Master of the Old Grammar School in 1659.

The name John Drakeford is noted in the list of wills 6 times between 1649 and 1671 and could be the same one.



Thomas Malborne was an Alderman and Draper and a wealthy Presbyterian. During the contest between William of Orange and James II, he made it clear that he was opposed to the royal party. His son Rev Ralph Malbone became an eminent minister between 1698 and 1721, despite opposition from the Rector of Astbury and others. He also became Master of the Old Grammar School in 1709.

William Newton became Mayor in 1636/7 and 1680/1.

In 1686 John Drakeford, Thomas Malbone, Peter Lingard, Jon. Smith, Jon Walker, and Wm. Newton were all named as either the Mayor, or Justices, Aldermen or Burgesses in the petition to allow townsfolk to bury their dead in the Chapel at Congleton, which was duly granted.



It was thought that a good place was found for the beam when it was built into the bar of the Rose & Crown Pub from 1961 to 2012, when a brass plate was added and three framed descriptions. However, the Rose and Crown was replaced with new housing by developer Edward Dale and the beam is in safe keeping awaiting decisions for a position of suitable display.

*The question remains, why was it that these gentlemen were listed on a beam in 1678?*

**The three framed descriptions that were placed above the beam in the Rose & Crown Pub, although repetitive of that information described earlier, are shown here to ensure the additional**

**detail is not lost from future record.**

## The Mayor

John Walker, Mayor of the Borough of Congleton in 1678, whose name is the first to appear on the beam, was apparently a member of a family who held the office of Mayor on a number of occasions, for the name "John Walker" appears on the Mayoral Roll in the years 1520-1, 1609-10, 1634-5, 1640-1, 1661-2, and 1668-9, as well as 1677-8.

The John Walker who was Mayor in 1640-1 was one of a number of aldermen who were ostensibly on the King's side during the Civil War, and (says Head's "Congleton Past and

Present"), "afterwards compounded as Royalists for disaffection to the Parliament." When the Commonwealth was established, its enemies remained active locally, and it is recorded that John Walker (described as a skinner by trade) "did joyne with the Enemy att their Randevouze on Knottes ford heath, and bore armes for them and was Conductor of a Company of Souldiers there." He also "did att severall other tymes joyne with the Enemy in association and bore Armes in Congleton afforesaid for them, and was on one prime occasion of raysinge a Company in Congleton afforesaid for the Enemy when Namptwich was beseiged."

Two years earlier, he had been an alderman under John Bradshaw, who studied law in Congleton and became the Borough's Mayor and High Steward before his departure for London, where he became Lord President of the Court and signed Charles I's death warrant.

When the King returned to power, however, he apparently regained favour in the town, for it is recorded that "another old silenced Alderman, John Walker, was ordered to come back to the Council and "to bee in statu quo prius as at any tyme heretofore," and later he became a Justice.

## Relic of The Old Guildhall 300-years-old Beam to be preserved?

(Extract from the Congleton Chronicle, 10th November, 1961)

The demolition of some old property in West-road to make way for a public house extension has this week brought to light a piece of old Congleton of almost 300 years ago. A *Chronicle* reporter heard that in a room behind the shop was a beam reputed to have been taken from the old Congleton Town Hall which existed before the present building was erected.

On going to inspect the beam, he found it bore the inscription: "John Walker, Maior. Peter Lingard, John Smith. Justises: John Drakeford, Tho. Malbone, Will Silcock, Will Newton, Overseers. An. Do. 78."

First reaction was that the date was 1878, or possibly even 1778, but a little research at the *Chronicle* Office soon revealed that

and that, without doubt, the beam came not from the last Town Hall it was, in fact, as far back as 1678, but from the one before that!

### GUILDHALL

This original, the Guildhall, as it was known, is shown in drawings of High-street early in the 18th century (one of which is reproduced above), as a picturesque half-timbered building, which was removed in 1804 to make way for a new one (which in turn, was pulled down in 1864 to make way for the present and third Town Hall).

There is no record of when the old Guildhall was built, but it could be that the inscription was made to mark its creation, which would, therefore, have taken place in 1678.

The property now being demo-

lished in West-road has the appearance of being about 150 years old, and the obvious conclusion is that it was being built at the time of the demolition of the 17th-century Guildhall in 1804, and the builder seeing an opportunity of obtaining some cheap oak beams from the Guildhall rubble, incorporated them in the West-road house.

There is no doubt that the "An. Do. 78, refers to 1678, because John Walker — whose name is the first to appear in the inscription—was Mayor in that year.

Now, for the second time, the old beam has been moved from its resting place, and despite its age of several hundred years, it has been used again in the "Rose and Crown."

## The Justices and the Overseers

The two justices mentioned on the beam are Peter Lingard and John Smith, Lingard was Mayor in 1674-5, 1684-5 and 1693-4, and the same name (that of his son?) appears on one of the bells of St. Peter's Church, dated 1720, as an alderman. Smith was Mayor in 1678-9, and no doubt he was the same John Smith who, in 1659, had come from Hay Carr, Staffordshire, to be master at Congleton Town Grammar School at a yearly stipend of £16.

Of the Overseers, John Drakeford, Thomas Malbon, Will Silcock and Will Newton, little is known of Drakeford. Malbon was Mayor in 1685-6, 1694-5, and 1707-8. He is described in Head's "Past and Present" as "Alderman and draper, a wealthy Presbyterian, who during the contest between William of Orange and James II openly avowed

his opposition to the royal party." His son the Rev. Ralph was subsequently to become one of Congleton's "most eminent ministers and schoolmaster," whose appointment as minister 1698-1721 was opposed by the Rector of Astbury and others who not only contested the right of the Mayor and Corporation to make the nomination but also denounced him in a petition to the Bishop as "not only a Roundhead and dissenter, but that he had never been baptised." He was appointed on a majority vote however, and in 1709 became Master of the Grammar School, becoming notable "for his charitable and benevolent disposition," giving large sums of money towards renewing the old and building the present church.

There is no record of any outstanding activity by Silcock, but Newton is mentioned frequently in town records. A William Newton was one of the first aldermen

appointed under Letters Patent of James I, dated 1624-5, which made the town a "free borough." He was Mayor in 1636-7 (being succeeded the following year by President John Bradshaw), and the same name appears on the Mayoral Roll for 1680-1. He was a shoemaker by profession, and his son John was appointed Master of the Grammar School in 1655.

All the names recorded on the beam were also on a petition to the Dean of York in 1686, when Congleton was in the parish of Astbury, pleading that they were "forced to carry our dead corpses to ye parish of Astbury, a mile distance from our said town and so thronged with graves that severall green graves are often forced inconveniently and undecently to be broken up." They asked, therefore, for a licence to bury their dead at St. Peter's churchyard, and this was granted.

### 13) Perambulation of the Congleton Boundaries – 1593

The custom of visiting the extremes of 'The Boundarie of the Lordship of Congleton' is an ancient custom. Town records show that it was a great event in Georgian times and annually thereafter for many years.

Today, this is often practiced by churches to beat the ecclesiastical parish boundaries. In the earlier case in 1593 to be examined it was a secular activity supported by the Local dignitaries and a jury made up of Aldermen, and councilors. These included **Richard Drakeford** as a member of the Jury.

The purpose was to check that the boundaries of the town including the land around were in good order and no changes to ownership or perimeters had been made without consent. This oldest of these documents is a voluminous parchment showing where boundaries were and who owned them over 400 years ago.

The book 'Congleton Past and Present' at pages 120-123 gives great detail but a summary would not go amiss. This reveals local family names that crop up during the reading of the Congleton tome:

*Congleton. The Boundarie of the Lordship of Congleton presented by the jurie whose names are hereafter written as it founde at a court Leet there holden before the deputie Steward of Sir John Savage, Knight, in the month of September one thousand five hundred nynty three, And in the five and thirtieth year of the Raigne of the Late Queene Elizabeth, of famous Memorie.*

*The names of the Jurye*

*Thomas Johnson, Ald.*

*Richard Drakeford*

*John Latham*

*William Sutton*

*John Smyth Ald.*

*Edward Bailie*

*John Hobson th youngr*

*Ald. Hugh Spencer*

*Matthew Moreton Ald.*

*John Newton*

*John Cresswall Gent.*

*Rauff Stubbs*

*John Hobson, th elder*

*Rauff Poynton*

*Randull Poynton*

*To witt beginning at the corner hedge at Rodde Lane one the south syde of the lower heath' and folloeing that south hedge near the north west end of a close in Hulmewalfeild called Cattesoak.*

*And from thence northwards directlie to Knowle or banck from that Knowle or banck straight over a new marpitt latlie made to Whittacar's hedge wch goeth South and North, And soe long from thence down to the corner of the hedge northwards, And from the said north of the same hedge along the hedge that abbuteth East and Northwest to the cottage now in tenure of Robert Whittacar, And from that cottage dirictlie straight over the Queen's highway between Eaton and Congleton leading from Moreton to Congleton to a hollow in a hedge of close in Eaton in tenure of Oliver Burges called Blackfeild, And so from the same hollow following the East ditche there to the groundes Eastwarde belonging to the Mesuage in tenure of Thomas Johnson, Alderman of Congleton.*

Note: after this description of the Perambulation several persons are quizzed. It just happens that they are John Hobson the elder, Thomas Johnson and Raffe Poynton, all three of which are on the 'Jurye'. They are described as being aged 80 plus, 66 or thereabouts and 78 or thereabouts. Hobson claimed that he had 'gotton turfs from the commons for 52 years'. Johnson claimed that he and his family had always from time to time repaired and mended the Queen's highway from Congleton to the Hall at Eaton. Poynton the elder, yeoman, was sworn in and gave a very detailed account about 600 words long of his knowledge of the area including watercourses, roads and hedging covering the area from Congleton to Astbury, Moreton, Middlewich and so on. Fine detail indeed, and with a map of the area and the villages it could be interesting to study were one local to the area.

Some years later a further study took place between Congleton and Buglawton. Again, this is available in the said book should further study be of interest.

## **14) Relative Wealth of the Drakeford family**

The various families of Congleton were described in 'The History of Congleton' – by W. B. Stevens.

From this we can determine from Tudor tax returns and payments to the Crown. This depended on their perceived wealth. In 1595 there were just seven Congleton men paying tax. Few were wealthy enough to pay tax, even though there were 24 Town Council members who were considered the most affluent of citizens.

In Stuart times from 1603 to 1685 the picture is clearer. In 1660 a poll tax showed that the figure paying tax had risen to 506. This was banded into income. The top 12 payers earning over £25 p.a. paid 10s, those earning £10 to £21 paid 4s 10d to 8s 10d. These amounted to 5% of all taxpayers. Source: Northwich hundred Poll Tax 1660 and heath Tax 1664, produced by the Record Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, 1979.

The next two strata were those earning £5-£10 and paying 2s – 4s and those earning £5, paying 2s. Of these they amounted to 17% of all taxpayers being 86 in number.

Finally, there were those earning less than £5 p.a. They paid one shilling in tax and with 392 of them amounted to 78% of those paying tax of which there were 506 taxpayers.

The wealthy of the town included the names of Bateson, Bradshaw, Parnell, Hobson, Henshaw, Greene, Ford. This was the top 2%.

The next 3% included **William Drakeford** described as Tanner and Common Councilman paying 6s, William Moxon, Gent 8s, Ralph Stubbs 6s as citizen and merchant tailor of London, and Roger Pointon, shoemaker 8 shillings. (WBS P.52)

In the next strata making up the next 17% is included another **William Drakeford** paying 2s and described as a farmer. It was noted that he had a house and gardens in Dog Lane and at his death in 1671 had money owing to him amounting to £155, and £10 in ready money, which was wealth at the time. This group was still a well thought of part of society in the town and included Ralph Hammersley, a council member, and mayor, William Knight a tanner and mayor, James Lingard a tanner and mayor, John Rood a tanner and councilman, and William Harding, draper and mayor.

Other Drakefords were outside the town such as at Buglawton where William Drakeford was a farmer where he had more cattle than those around and in the town. He died in 1641. (WBS P.56)

Those being 78% of the population of taxpayers paid 1 shilling and were mostly tradesmen, apprentices and labourers. Below them were an unrecorded group too poor to pay even 6 shillings a year.

The Hearth Tax in 1668 gave another insight into wealth. In Congleton there were 349 houses of which 245 had one hearth, of which 112 were occupied by people too poor to pay tax.

There were only 40 private houses in Congleton with more than two hearths. Not surprisingly, the properties with the greater number of businesses with hearths were inns.

Whilst in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries the Drakefords were a significant family in Congleton, this continued to a lesser extent in the 19<sup>th</sup> century when we note that the clockmakers Edward and John Drakeford helped, along with other businessmen, to fund the Congleton Gas and Light company, which was sold to the town in 1866.

## 15) Industrial Congleton and the Drakefords

**This paper has been prepared jointly by Michael, Jeremy and David Drakeford**

In the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries Congleton was an important manufacturer of leather involving skinners, tanners and glove makers. Felt making, linen and wool weaving were also important.

In the early 1600s the manufacture of lace came to the fore. This was used to make thongs for tying garments before the invention of buckles and buttons.

### **Silk Trade**

A silk factory was set up in Derby in 1717 and another in Macclesfield in 1743-44. Because of unemployment in Congleton, the Corporation set about sponsoring silk manufacture in 1752 and leased a site for the building of a factory later known as the Old Mill, erected by Nathaniel Pattison and John Clayton. The industry thrived.

### **Cotton Trade**

Cotton spinning came later in 1784 and by 1787 there were two cotton firms. A large cotton spinning mill was erected by Richard Martin in 1785. This trade was further developed by George and William Reade, **Jesse Drakeford\*** and John Vaudrey, the latter mentioned two were definitely linked to the ownership of the Daneside Mill in Congleton.

**\*Jesse Drakeford born in 1764, was a son of David Drakeford(1741), a Congleton Silk Throwster.**

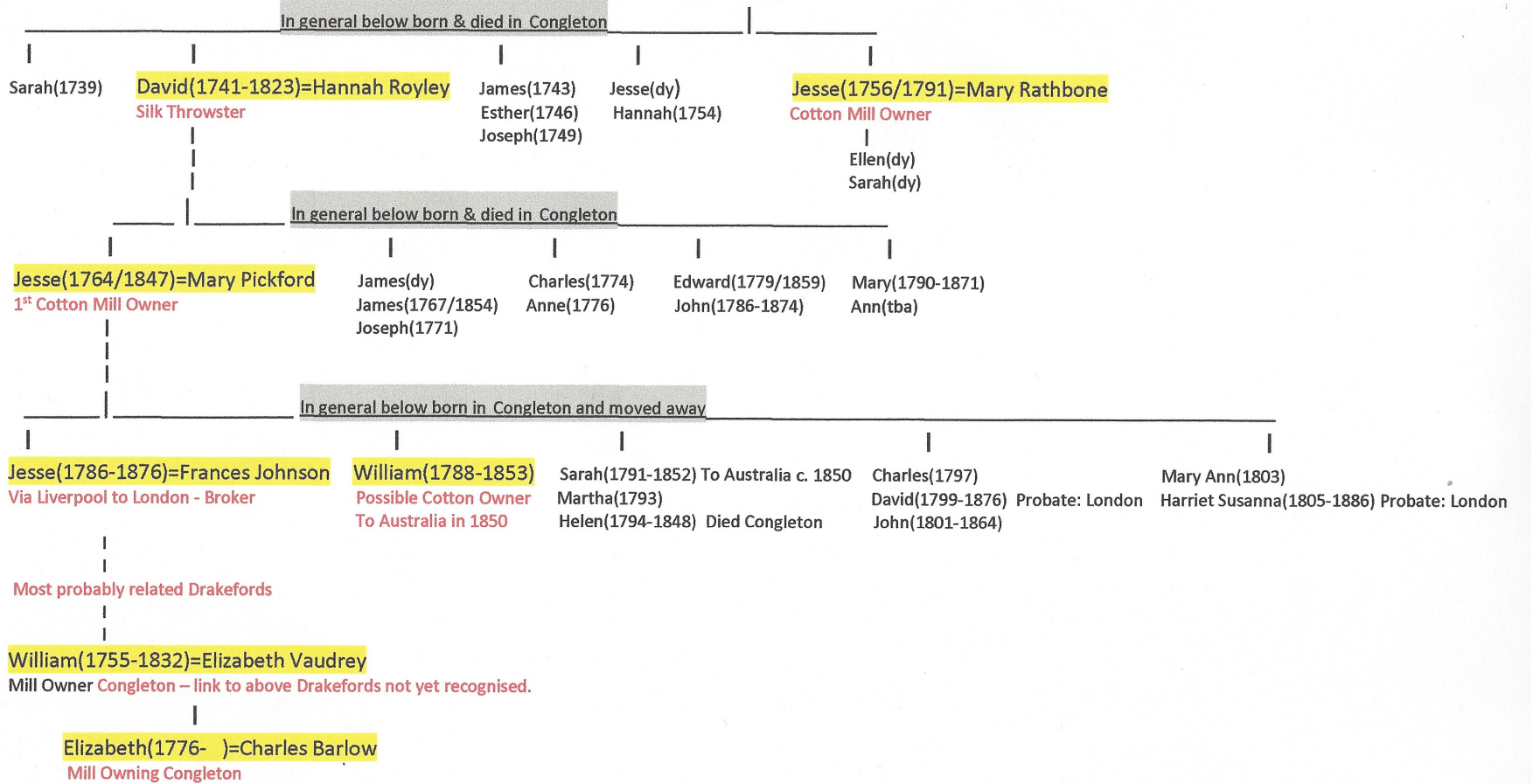
May we draw your attention to the family chart showing on the next page how the Drakefords were involved with these trades.



**CONGLETON DRAKEFORDS INVOLVEMENT IN THE SILK & COTTON TRADES**

Joseph Drakeford(1714-1756) = Hannah Stubbs

Hatter, Congleton



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In 1801 Thomas Slate, son of William Slate installed a 32hp rotary beam crank steam engine from the Birmingham foundry of James Watt and Matthew Boulton. This was followed by Jesse Drakeford when he purchased a 6hp Rotary side-leaver engine for his silk mill. There was a choice between using engine power or water power. They were some of the first to install a Boulton and Watts steam engine. Jesse set up a modest silk-spinning business. He and his son, also called Jesse combined cotton and silk until about 1834. The later Jesse born 1786 moved to London via Liverpool and was described in the 1841 Census in Liverpool as a 'Broker' which may have been a function connected to the business interests in Congleton linked to raw product imports via the port of Liverpool.

Prosperity in Congleton may have come about partly because of the Napoleonic Wars (1803-1815) preventing imports from France of silk goods, and cotton too. A short depression followed in 1815-1816. In 1817 Congleton had 17 silk mills, and 5 cotton mills employing around 2,000 people. Between 1824 and 1829 the government reduced import duties harming the industry even further.

Trade had been good for many years but by the early 1800s whilst the population of Congleton had grown immensely, changes in fashion quickly depressed the industry and thousands became unemployed. This led to discontent and riots not helped by free trade agreements that let in cheaper foreign imports. There was a short revival in the 1830s, but it did not last.

The town underwent another crisis in 1839-40 when mill owners closed 18 factories and dismissed workers. The dismissals were short-sighted and refusing to invest for the future allowed skilled workers to leave Congleton. At the height of the depression in 1840 only 15 mills remained open in the town. In 1842 Congleton workers rioted, trying to destroy machinery, besieging factories, intimidating shopkeepers, and foremen. The armed presence of the yeomanry alone prevented chaos because the ill-organised borough police were terrified and powerless. (WBS P.145)

A list of Silk Mills and Silk Throwsters from 1848 onwards does not show any Drakefords named as participants.

Further references to study are 'History of Congleton' (WBS P.140) and 'Mill Walks' by Lyndon Murgatroyd pages 79 and 80. The latter refers to Daneside Mill and list the occupants to include:

- 1799 Jesse Drakeford (cotton manufacturer and owner)
- 1830 Jesse Drakeford (silk throwster and cotton spinner)
- 1834 William Drakeford (silk throwster and cotton spinner)
- 1841 William Drakeford (silk throwster and spinning)
- 1848 William Drakeford (silk throwster)

The Daneside Mill in Congleton was believed to have been built by Isaac Pyott and John Ball on land they had leased in 1796. In 1797 they were declared bankrupt and the property was sold to Thomas Garside, a sieve maker. He died in 1799 and the property was sold on by Hugh Ford to Jesse Drakeford. Presumably Ford was the executor.

This source states that Jesse had purchased Daneside Mill for £400, an enormous sum in those days. It was used to spin cotton and was not Jesse's first purchase because it is believed he had a mill in Wheelock just outside Sandbach nearby Congleton. In 1815, Jesse sold Daneside Mill to John Vaudrey, a mill owner from whom he had borrowed money to buy the mill so many years previously.

As shown above, Jesse was still listed in the trade directory (Pigot) as the occupier in 1830, so it is assumed that he continued to lease the mill from John Vaudrey. Matters did not go well and it is understood that in May 1832 Daneside Mill was burned down and that Jesse Drakeford was uninsured. The mill must have been rebuilt because by 1834 William Drakeford, presumably a relative, was listed as an occupier and as a silk throwster. The same year Wild & Templeton also occupied the mill as silk spinners (Pigot and Slater). Only William Drakeford was listed as the occupier in 1841 and he was still there until 1850 when his place was taken in the trade directory by Noah Vernon.

If we have identified the correct William Drakeford(1788-1853), he is the younger brother of Jesse(1786-1876) and interestingly we have on record that William and his younger sister, Sarah Hall emigrated to Melbourne, Australia in 1850 with Sarah dying there in 1852 and William in 1853.

### **William Drakeford(1755-1832)**

Now once again we draw your attention to the above family chart where at the base we show this further **William Drakeford** who marries **Elizabeth Vaudrey**, the only child of John Vaudrey. We have mentioned John Vaudrey earlier who came from nearby Buglawton and he was a wealthy landowner and investor in Congleton Mills and more we suppose. So this must have also been a convenient marriage for William and at this time William was recorded as a 'Cordwainer'. It is interesting to note that this marriage on 12<sup>th</sup> August 1775 took place just one week before another Jesse Drakeford(1756-1791), the youngest brother of David and Hannah who was a silk manufacturer, so one is lead to believe that these Drakefords were all close to one another in their daily lives.

Robert Head, page 262, lists the 'Trustees of the present (Wesleyan) Chapel' to include **William Drakeford** and Charles Barlow. The reference to 'present' is likely to be the fact that one chapel was erected in 1767, and replaced by a much larger one in 1808.

More research will continue on this detail but we know that William and Elizabeth were devout attenders at the Wesleyan Chapel in Congleton and here we quote an article that appeared in a digital book entitled 'Weslyan Methodism in the Congleton Circuit' kindly sent to us by Lyndon Murgatroyd, which please be sure to read:-

Will the reader now turn aside, and enter a retired valley, known as Primrose Vale, and gaze upon the last moments of one to whom those words are applicable : " Mark the perfect man, and behold the upright ; for the end of that man is peace." Tread softly as you enter that chamber of sickness ; an aged pilgrim — a sainted spirit — is waiting at the threshold of the failing fleshly tabernacle for the angelic convoy to usher it into the presence of the heavenly king.

Hark ! he speaks. " Fear not for me, my anchor is ' sure and steadfast, cast within the vail ; whither the forerunner is for me entered, even Jesus.' " The hand of the foe was upon him, but thus the believer triumphs over him ; and now the frail tenement gives way, and the enfranchised soul, in its new-born freedom, wings its way to eternal bliss. Thus ended the mortal career of William Drakeford, one of the most true-hearted and consistent Methodists in this town.

His union with the society continued through the protracted period of fifty-seven years. At the age of twenty he gave himself to the Lord, and soon after was united in marriage to Miss Vaudrey, who was like-minded with himself, having cast in her lot with the people of God. In the midst of worldly prosperity he was ever the same meek and humble-minded Christian. As the storm of persecution which assailed him at the commencement of his Christian course, could not drive him from the path of duty, so neither could the sunshine of affluence nor the smiles of the world allure him from it in after-life. His life was eminently holy. It might be said of him, " Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile." He shewed piety at home. Cherishing a high esteem for the ministers of Christ, he would never suffer a member of his family to speak a word against them in his presence. He filled most of the offices in Methodism, with credit to himself and advantage to the church.

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He was highly and deservedly respected by all who were capable of appreciating moral worth. At the local-preachers' meeting, where he regularly assembled with his brethren, he would remain silent, and often somewhat abstracted, except some case of gross neglect occurred, which never failed to arouse his godly jealousy, and to bring down upon the head of the delinquent burning words of indignant censure. His

reproofs were the more weighty because his own conduct in this, as in every other respect, was irreproachable. The following incident illustrates his character. On a certain occasion it was announced for Dr. Clarke to preach at Macclesfield. Mr. Drakeford being exceedingly anxious to hear the Doctor, procured a supply for an appointment which he had on the same day at Withington. Anticipating a rich spiritual feast, he went to Macclesfield, and entered the chapel, but had scarcely taken his seat when his eye fell on the faithless brother who had engaged to fill his place at Withington. It did not require a moment's consideration on the part of Mr. Drakeford, whether he should stay and enjoy the privilege of hearing Dr. Clarke, or discharge the duty of supplying the pulpit thus basely deserted. He instantly rose, took his hat and stick, and walked seven miles to his appointment. Mr. Drakeford and his excellent wife stood aloof from the world ; and each could say, " I dwelt among my own people." They were highly exemplary in their attendance on the means of grace, neither rain nor snow could keep them from the house of God. Mr. Drakeford reached the end of his pilgrimage on the 25th September, 1832, in the seventy-eighth year of his age.

On the removal of Thomas Forster, Mr. Drakeford, of Primrose Vale, took charge of the infant society. After it was given up by him, the cause languished, but,

" The flower that blooms beneath the ray  
Of summer's cloudless sky,  
May see its blossoms torn away,  
And yet not wholly die."

If you have found time to read the above and wish to know more about William and Elizabeth, you may wish to read extracts or all of William's carefully prepared will made in October 1829 three years before his death at 77 in 1832. Roger Hall carefully transcribed the original beautifully handwritten 6 page Will (No: 80) which perhaps suggests how the wealth of John Vaudrey may have been passed on to William and Elizabeth to enjoy during their lifetime. Please visit the latter part of Section 7 entitled 'Family Wills' in this Study Paper to read William's will No; 80.

## 16) The evolving occupations of Drakefords in

### Congleton and the ensuing years from 1714 to Today

Joseph Drakeford (1714-1756)	Hatter	Congleton
David Drakeford (1741-1823)	Silk Throwster	Congleton
Jesse Drakeford (1756-1791)	Cotton Mill Owner	Congleton
Jesse Drakeford (1764-1847)	Cotton Mill Owner	Congleton
Edward Drakeford (1779-1859)	Clock/Watch Maker	Congleton
John Drakeford (1786-1874)	Clock/Watch Maker	Congleton
William Drakeford (1819-1849)	Clockmaker	Congleton
Edward Drakeford (1823-1883)	Corn Merchant	Liverpool
David J Drakeford (1848-1910)	Corn Merchant/Broker	Liverpool/London
William E Drakeford (1850-1935)	Fruit/Provision Broker	Liverpool(Lpl)
Alfred J Drakeford (1866-1929)	Army Sergeant/Cricket Groundsman	Dublin
E Percy G Drakeford (1877-1946)	Corn Merchant	Lpl/London
D Harold Drakeford (1878-1955)	Passenger Agent	Lpl/London
Thomas G Drakeford (1880-1943)	Exchange Broker	Lpl/Shanghai
Herbert Drakeford (1887-1955)	Army Captain - To be clarified	Lpl/?
Albert J Drakeford (1901-1965)	Office Management	Dublin/Lpl
D Alan Drakeford (1910-1991)	Passenger/Travel Agent	London
A V Bill Drakeford (1928-2008)	Musicologist/Theatre Management	Dublin
Cecil E Drakeford (1930-2011)	Artist/Designer	Dublin/Poole
D Jeremy Drakeford (1941- )	Travel/Freight Agent	Lon/Lpl/Manchester
Andrew J Drakeford (1941- )	Chartered Accountant	Lon/Africa/S of UK
Ken Drakeford (1954- )	Graphic Art Designer	Dublin
David Drakeford (1957 - )	Science/Engineering/Management	Dublin/London
Alan Drakeford (1959- )	Communications Engineer	Dublin

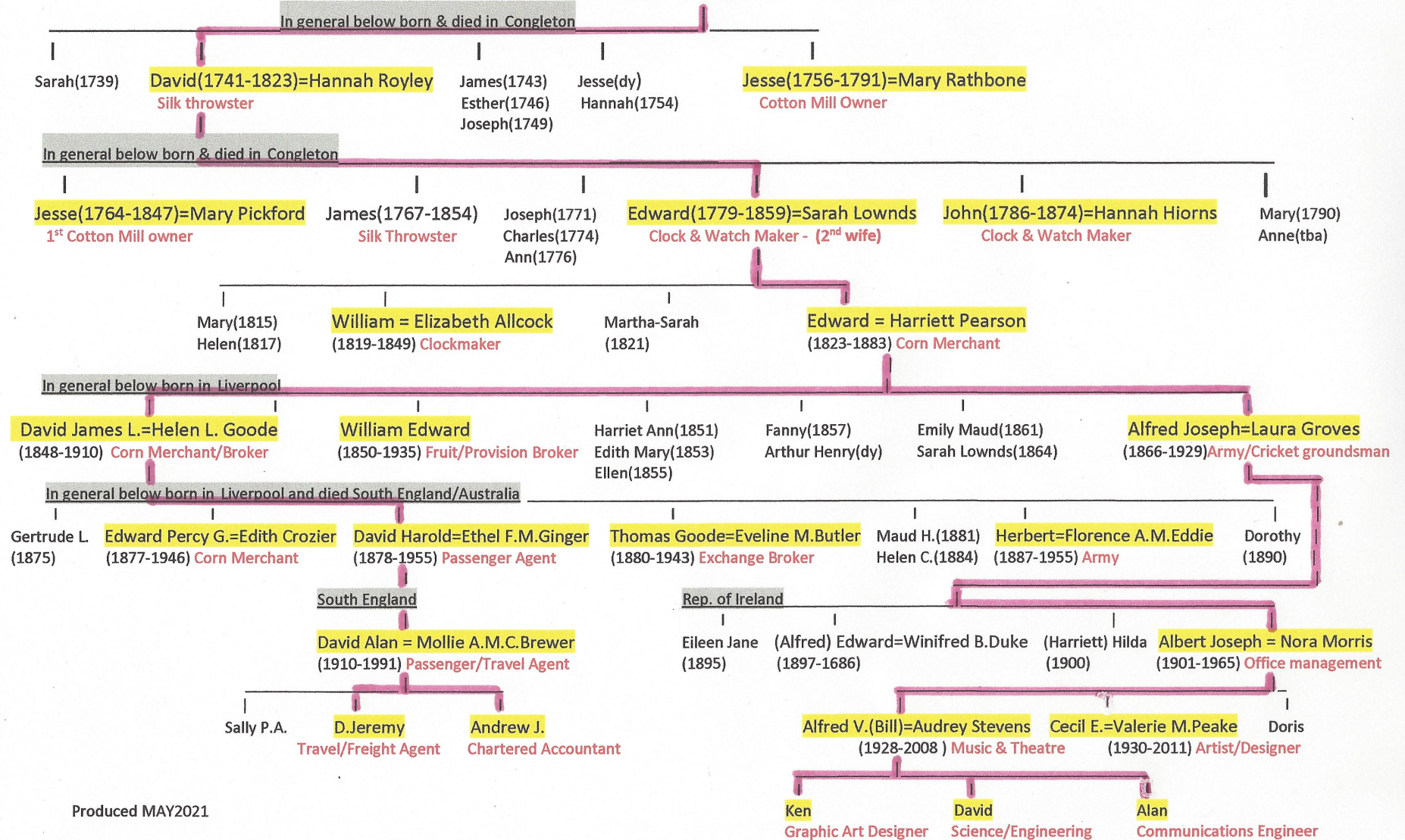
<b>Joseph Drakeford (1714-1756)</b>	<b>Hatter</b>	<b>Congleton</b>
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Joseph and his wife Hannah Stubbs had 8 children having married at Astbury Church on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1736. One wonders what income was achievable in bringing up 3 daughters and 5 sons(one died young) with the income from being a hatter, but true to say the first and last born ones, namely David and Jesse were involved in the Silk and Cotton businesses which could have been the reason for the families improved standard of living. Please visit Chapter 15 of this Study Paper SP. No: 2 to see more detail.

OCCUPATIONS OF DRAKEFORDS THROUGH THE YEARS

Joseph Drakeford(1714-1756) = Hannah Stubbs

Hatter, Congleton



<b>David Drakeford (1741-1823)</b>	<b>Silk Throwster</b>	<b>Congleton</b>
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So we do not know whether this is where the preponderance of the first name of David comes from in our family line, but it does reoccur down the generations.

This David marries Hannah Royly (or Royley) on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1763 at Astbury Church with John Harding as Curate.

David, described as a Silk throwster, may have had a fairly ordinary occupation but yet he and Hannah have 7 sons and 3 daughters between 1764 and circa 1792. These are the years of an exciting vibrant family as one sees it; Jesse the first born is recorded as owning the first Cotton Mill in Congleton in 1784, the first 'James' died young, then the second 'James was a Silk Throwster, a Charles dies in London and then we place on record the 2 clockmakers namely Edward and John. So please take a moment to think of a fully active household with the parents and 10 children born over approximately the next 30 years. More follows on their children here below.

<b>Jesse Drakeford (1756-1791)</b>	<b>Cotton Mill Owner</b>	<b>Congleton</b>
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This Jesse was the last born son of Joseph. There is little clear evidence of what we believe was his involvement in the Cotton industry and we understand that he married Mary Rathbone on 17<sup>th</sup> August 1775. It is somewhat sad that they had 2 daughters only, Sarah and Martha, who died in 1790 and 1805, with their parents both dying in 1791.

<b>Jesse Drakeford (1764-1847)</b>	<b>Cotton Mill Owner</b>	<b>Congleton</b>
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Jesse, the first born of David and Hannah, was christened on 1<sup>st</sup> January 1764 and he marries Mary Pickford in 1784 possibly in Macclesfield yet to be clarified. This Jesse is recorded as having owned the first Cotton Mill in Congleton in 1784(the year of his marriage). (Could this mean that the Pickford family helped with financing the Mill in Congleton?).

Jesse and Mary had 5 sons and 5 daughters.

So this is when the family began to move further afield, where as an example, we know that their offspring Jesse, David and Susanna all eventually die in the London area and William and Sarah both emigrate to Australia in 1850 and die in Melbourne in 1853 and 1852 respectively.



Here, there is described the famous Drakeford clock and watch makers and their stories. Jeremy Drakeford has also produced a [Study Paper No: 3](#), dealing specifically with clocks and watches with many magnificent illustrations, and certainly a 'must read'. I continue with an outline of the people and the business.

In later years, whilst not industrial, **Edward and his brother John Drakeford** were very much involved in producing mainly longcase clocks for the owners of larger houses around the area who were able to afford them. The majority of clocks were obviously 'country' or 'provincial' clocks as opposed to the finer London makes, but ranged from tall ones at over 8'6" in top class mahogany, to shorter oak and pine clad ones. There are the more unusual quality clocks such as the fine 2 day alarum wall clock, which was recently purchased by one of the current Drakeford family. There are records of silver pocket watches having been made by both Edward and John in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. **Again, please see [Study Paper No: 3](#) for more details of the 50 or so timepieces discovered by Jeremy Drakeford that are attributed to the Drakeford family of Congleton.**

When my father, Richard K. Drakeford was looking into the family history, he applied to the Rector of Astbury, Bishop Jackson, by way of letter dated July 1938. A Fred Cartlidge replied, saying that he could find no trace in the church records and could he have a postal order for 2/- as he had to charge 1/- for the first year and 6d per year thereafter. He did mention that he had come across the Drakeford name elsewhere and wrote *'I find in the Church Warden accounts between the years 1813 to 1850 an a/c from Edward Drakeford each year for clock repairs, but of course that does not say he lived in the neighbourhood'*. I am sure that our father would have been delighted to know that his 2 'bob' was well spent and the letter sent in reply, appreciated 82 years later!

**Jeremy Drakeford**, a direct descendant of **Edward Drakeford (and Edward's brother John)**, has personally amassed a collection of these clocks and full details of over 30 are displayed in the paper with the knowledge that around 50 clocks and watches are known to exist throughout the world. Precise details are available from Jeremy on request.

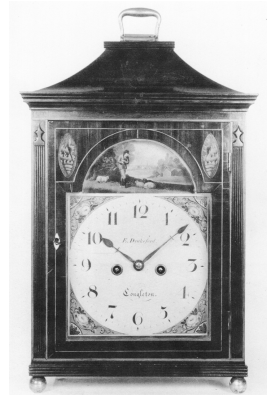
Several specialist clock books provide dates for when the Drakefords were active clock and watch makers:

Britten's Book of Clocks                      Drakeford, Edward, 1818; Congleton, (Bri)

Brian Loomes Book of Clocks                Drakeford, Edward, Congleton, 1818-1857

Keith Appleby's Clockmakers              Edward Drakeford, High Street, Congleton, 1822-1850  
of Cheshire

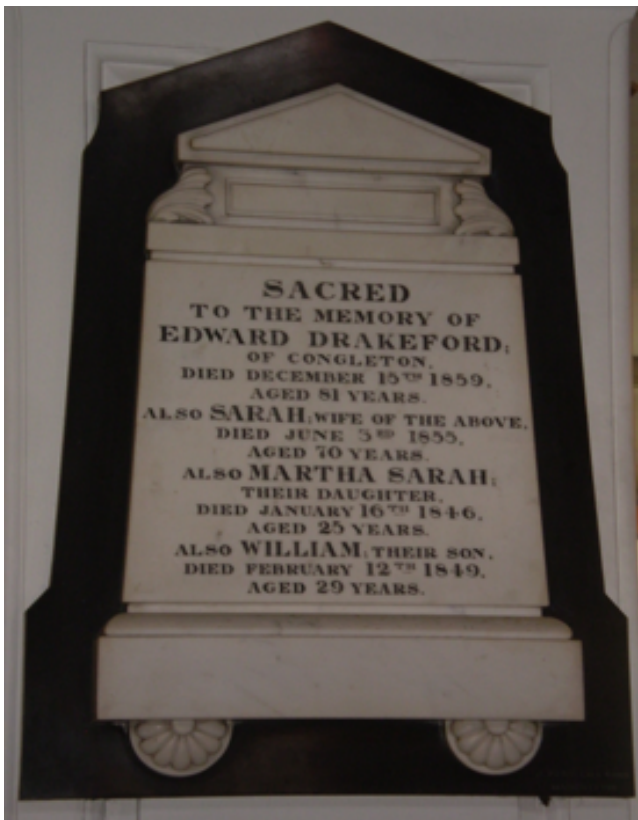
An illustration of a circa 1815 bracket clock by Edward Drakeford appears on page 196 in the authoritative book – The Georgian Bracket Clock, by Richard Barber.



As an addendum, it is noted that the brothers were still influential in 1866. In that year when an Act of Parliament authorised the Congleton Corporation to buy the gas works from the Congleton Gas and Light Company for the not insignificant sum of £12,500. The gas works had hitherto been financed by local industrialists and business men including William and Charles Vaudrey, Thomas Reade, Charles Barlow, **John** and **Edward Drakeford** and Samuel Yates. (WBS P.103).

**Edward Drakeford** had died on 15<sup>th</sup> December 1859 so clearly he did not benefit from the sale but John was alive until December 1874 and would have done so. Edward had 2 children by his first wife, Jane Plant who died in 1806, and then he married his second wife, Sarah Lownds in 1814, and had a further five children.

Robert Head (RH P.200) lists the monuments in St Peter's Church, Congleton which includes the Drakeford family one which reads:



Sacred  
 To the memory of  
**EDWARD DRAKEFORD** of Congleton  
 Died December 15<sup>th</sup> 1859 Aged 81 years  
 Also **Sarah**, Wife of the above  
 Died June 3<sup>rd</sup> 1855 Aged 70 years  
 Also **Martha Sarah** Their daughter  
 Died January 16<sup>th</sup> 1846 Aged 25 years  
 Also **William**, their son  
 Died February 12<sup>th</sup> 1849 Aged 29 years

<b>John Drakeford (1786-1874)</b>	<b>Clock/Watch Maker</b>	<b>Congleton</b>
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Much has already been recorded under the heading of John's elder brother, Edward above, but John must be equally recognised as a very skilled Clock and Watchmaker. Here featured on the right is a fine example of his work seen today.

So the reader is encouraged to visit the [Study Paper No: 3](#), of this website dealing specifically with clocks and watches with many magnificent illustrations.



**John Drakeford** died on 11<sup>th</sup> December 1874

**Will of John Drakeford**, extract from Chester Record Office:

Feb 1875 **Drakeford**, John of Congleton, clock and watch maker.

'The Will of John Drakeford late of Congleton in the county of Chester Clock and Watch Maker who died 11 December 1874 at Congleton was proved at Chester by Harriet Hill (Wife of William Hill Silk Throwster) of Congleton the daughter and sole Executrix'. The effects were under £100.

### **A fascinating incident of the time ....**

#### **John Drakeford was robbed, M' Lord, on the night of 29<sup>th</sup> July 1818**

*The Chester Courier dated 8<sup>th</sup> September 1818 records the follow tale of breaking and entering the house of John Drakeford and the theft of a shirt and a handkerchief...read on:-*

"John Moores, Aged 22, shoe-maker, from Congleton, was arraigned, for breaking into the dwelling house of John Drakeford, of Congleton, clock-maker, and stealing thereout, one shirt, and one handkerchief.

The attorney-general, stated the case to the jury, after which, John Drakeford was called. He deposed that he was a watch-maker in Congleton. He remembered fastening the doors on the night of 29<sup>th</sup> July last. He went to bed that night about eleven o'clock.

Between twelve and one in the morning, he was disturbed by a noise, which he thought proceeded from the adjoining house. He soon afterwards heard a noise in the passage of his house. He then went down the stairs and immediately saw the prisoner standing behind the counter in his shop. There was a light in the shop, which proceeded from a candle, that had been thrown on the floor by the prisoner. Deponent seized the prisoner by the throat, and after taking a hammer that lay in the shop, told him that if he should stir, he would knock his brains out.

Prisoner then moved his hand. Deponent observed him, that if he should stir, or call anyone to his assistance, he should, that moment, be a dead man.

The family were alarmed and the next neighbour was called in. The prisoner had no coat on, and complained of being cold. Deponent found his coat in the yard. In the pocket, there were a flint, a steel, a bunch of matches, and a small tea cup containing some tinder. In one of the pockets to his trousers, a large case-knife was found.

There had been four panes of glass cut out of the latch-kitchen window. Deponent asked the prisoner how he had come in and he said, through the back-kitchen window.

He missed no other property than a shirt and a handkerchief, which were found by my mother in the yard, and which were left in the kitchen, before they went to bed.

**Hannah Drakeford**, mother of the last named witness, was called. The Chief Justice observed, that she was very deaf, and not able to relate anything that would effect the case, either one way or the other. Her evidence considering her affliction, and that circumstance might be dispensed with.

John Drakeford, was re-called. He produced the knife found in the pocket of the prisoner's trousers, and the steel-flint, &c., which were found in the coat pocket.

By the Chief Justice,- as he directed his hand towards his trousers' pocket, in which the case-knife afterwards found.

The CHIEF JUSTICE, with his accustomed perspicacity, recapitulated the evidence; after which, the Jury returned a verdict of GUILTY, against the prisoner."

The accused does not appear to have said a lot, if anything. We do not know what the sentence was, but it could have been severe.

What is interesting was to learn that John lived above his business, and he described himself as a watchmaker rather than a clock smith. We already knew that John was baptised in 1784, and married Hannah Hiorns at Astbury on 7<sup>th</sup> December 1819. This means he was aged 34 at the time of the offence, and both his wife and his mother were called Hannah. Hannah, nee Royley, John's mother, would have been in her late seventies, one suspects.

To grapple with an intruder and threaten someone with a hammer was normal if you were young and fit. Note that there was no policeman to present the evidence and it was left to the victim to do that. Indeed, the first thousand of Peel's police, dressed in blue tail-coats and top hats, began to patrol the streets of London on 29th September 1829. The uniform was carefully selected to make the 'Peelers' look more like ordinary citizens, rather than a red-coated soldier with a helmet.

The 'Peelers' were issued with a wooden truncheon carried in a long pocket in the tail of their coat, a pair of handcuffs and a wooden rattle to raise the alarm. By the 1880s this rattle had been replaced by a whistle.

These men became the model for the creation of all the provincial forces; at first in the London Boroughs, and then into the counties and towns, after the passing of the **County Police Act in 1839**. In London, where there was a desperate need, private people were employed to protect person and property. Elsewhere, there might have been night watchmen, but little else.

Clearly, if you wanted someone locked up, you had to do much yourself. Our ancestry is full of ifs and buts. We all try to be definite about the line through which we are descended and to confirm our DNA link by which we hold dear. David and Jeremy and their families have no trouble and the below family tree starting at David Drakeford, who was a Congleton silk thrower and his wife Hannah Royley lead through his 6<sup>th</sup> son, the clockmaker, Edward Drakeford 1779-1859 (see his plaque in St James Congleton above), who secondly married Sarah Lownds at Astbury in 1814. The tree below shows this Edward's grandchildren, being 10 of them fathered by his son Edward (1823-1883). On this line of 10 children it starts with David James Lownds Drakeford, and ends with Alfred Joseph Drakeford. These two boys are the great grandfathers of our Jeremy and David respectively, both stalwarts of our family grouping!

Several specialist clock books provide dates for when the Drakefords were active clock and watch makers:

Britten's Book of Clocks	Drakeford, John, 1818; Congleton, (Bri)
Brian Loomes Book of Clocks	Drakeford, John, Congleton, 1818-1857
Keith Appleby's Clockmakers of Cheshire	John Drakeford, Mill Street, Congleton, 1816-1817 John Drakeford, High Street, Congleton, 1818-1846

<b>William Drakeford (1819-1849)</b>	<b>Clockmaker</b>	<b>Congleton</b>
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William was the first son born to Edward, the Clockmaker and his second wife, Sarah as shown on the chart. He married Elizabeth Allcock from nearby Leek on 6<sup>th</sup> January 1839. We sadly know little of William's short life as he died on 12<sup>th</sup> February 1849 aged 29 as recorded on the monument in St Peter's Church, Congleton shown under his father's entry above for Edward Drakeford (1779-1859).

William and Elizabeth had firstly a son, Edward born in 1839 who married Mary Hall. He was a Master Mariner, and the had a son, William Frederick, who was a Ship's Purser. William and Elizabeth then had 3 daughters.

We have been unable to discover any clocks showing a dial name of William Drakeford despite the many timepieces showing the names of his father, Edward and his uncle John. Four longcase clocks are known to exist showing only the name of 'Drakeford', so maybe these could be connected to the period when William was participating in the family business.

<b>Edward Drakeford (1823-1883)</b>	<b>Corn Merchant</b>	<b>Liverpool</b>
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Edward Drakeford was the last son born in Congleton to Edward the clockmaker and his second wife, Sarah nee Lownds on 7<sup>th</sup> February 1823.

It is difficult to follow Edward's early life but it would seem that at the time of the 1841 Census, Edward was staying with relatives in Liverpool, also with his mother, Sarah, and Edward at 18 years old is shown as a **Book Keeper**. This indicates a positive attitude to career intentions to move from Congleton at this age.

6 years later in May 1847 Edward, as a Merchant Clerk marries Harriett Pearson from Newcastle-under-Lyme, the daughter of Joseph Pearson, a Grocer in the town.

By the time of the 1851 census, Edward and Harriett living in West Derby, Liverpool, have 2 sons David James Lownds aged 3 years and William Edward, 1 year.

The census's for 1851, 1861, 1871 and 1881 all show the family in the Liverpool area and Edward carrying the title of **Corn Merchant**. He dies in September 1883.

Edward and Harriett had a total of 4 sons and 6 daughters; for the 1861 census, those recorded at 1 Brougham Terrace, West Derby Road, Everton, including other family and house servants were 14 persons.

<b>David J L Drakeford (1848-1910)</b>	<b>Corn Merchant/Broker</b>	<b>Liverpool/London</b>
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The first son of Edward and Harriett Drakeford mentioned above was David James Lownds Drakeford, born at No. 17 Barlow Street, Liverpool on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1848. David was brought up in a busy family home in this West Derby area of Liverpool and went to work as a **Corn Merchant** for Messrs. W. Vernon and Sons, of Liverpool. He married Helen Lownds Goode daughter of Thomas Goode, Chemist in Congleton at St Stephen's Church, Congleton on 20<sup>th</sup> May 1874. Section 17 of this Study Paper recounts the background to the Goode family but this union initiated a new Drakeford family residence at No 7 Beech Street, West Derby, Liverpool nearby where David was brought up. Not long after 1891, it is noted that David was transferred to Mark Lane in the City of London to open up the flour branch for Vernons in the name of Messrs. Wiles and Son. The London business seems to have flourished and David was well respected as recorded in the newspaper article shown below. He visited the United States on business in 1903. The below article also states 'Mr Drakeford is an enthusiast of cricket, and still plays a good game at Willesden, where he resides .....



David and Helen Drakeford had 4 sons and 4 daughters between 1875 and 1890.

Please see the 'Cricket memorabilia' featured below with the family cricket team presumably at a Willesden, Middlesex Cricket Ground.



Back: 7-9 from left. Edward P G. – David J L. – Thomas G  
 Front: from left. 1. Alfred J – 2. Helen L G. – 3. Alfred's wife, Laura. – end of row. David H (all Drakefords)

*The inscription on the tantalus shield reads:-*



Presented to  
 D DRAKEFORD ESQ  
 by the members of the  
 AVENUE C C  
 for his Services as  
 CAPTAIN  
 FROM  
 1897-1901



MR. D. J. DRAKEFORD.

Time was, and not many years ago, when Mr. Drakeford was not known in London; but who does not know him now? He is the genial man of Mark-lane, and has a kindly word for everyone. He represents the important firm of Messrs. W. Vernon and Sons, of Liverpool, one of whose members, Mr. Vernon, jun., occupied the chair of the last charity dinner, and succeeded in raising a sum for that estimable charity beyond anything that has ever before been reached. But the triumph of Mr. Ver-

non must not shut one's eyes to the fact that Mr. Drakeford has shown an equally great interest in the charity, and that he has worked for it, not only in devious ways, but by espousing its cause openly on the occasion of the great charity concert last year, when he presided and succeeded in a manner which won him the gratitude of all its friends. Then again Mr. Drakeford has been a prominent supporter of the trade exhibitions, and has done yeoman service to them; no less than to his firm, with whose name is associated many successes of bakers using their flour for the past thirteen years. There is something about Mr. Drakeford of a patriarchal or, shall we say, a parental, character; not that he is, as his portrait shows, in the sere and yellow leaf, but he is the very essence of the *suaviter in modo* and a few words from him in arbitration or personal matters go far. It is now 13 years ago since he opened the flour branch of the business of Messrs. Wiles and Son, for Messrs. Vernon in London, and finding that, although London was not paved with gold, there was no reason why the "Millennium" should be delayed, he boldly entered into the busy Mark-lane throng, and there he is to-day, a man of gentle, yet strong, influences. The members of the flour trade were not slow to recognise in Mr. Drakeford one "of the right sort," and after being a member of the Flour Trade Association three years they made him their treasurer. He was subsequently appointed on the sub-Committee of the London Port Bill. In 1903 he paid a lengthened visit to the United States, when his inquisitiveness brought him much information, which served him and those with whom he is associated, in good stead. Mr. Drakeford was instrumental in assisting the Borough Bakery School by bringing about a gift of fifty sacks of flour from Messrs. Vernon and Son; and as in this so in other matters he is the right man to get the "blind side" of for a good turn. Mr. Drakeford is an enthusiast of cricket, and still plays a good game at Willesden, where he resides; and there, whilst taking no active part in public matters, he is a pillar of the Conservative Association, among whose members he has as many friends as he has in London—among those, who do not take politics into consideration.

Newspaper Article circa 1905.

<b>William E Drakeford (1850-1935)</b>	<b>Fruit/Provision Broker</b>	<b>Liverpool</b>
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William Edward Drakeford was born on 9<sup>th</sup> March 1850 at No. 1 Upper Baker Street, West Derby Road, Liverpool to Edward and Harriett 2 years after David Drakeford (shown above). The 1871 census shows him aged 21 years as a **Book Keeper** living in the family home in Liverpool.

William married Maria Ann Duke in 1874 in West Derby and they produced three children namely Ellen Maud(b.1875), Frank(b.1879) and Minnie(b.1883).

Not much more is known of this line so far; they lived in two different properties over time in Priory Road, Wavertree, Bootle, Liverpool and had two Domestic Servants.

<b>Alfred J Drakeford (1866-1929)</b>	<b>Army Sergeant/Cricket Groundsman</b>	<b>Dublin</b>
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Alfred Joseph Drakeford was born on 5<sup>th</sup> July 1866 at the family home in West Derby, Liverpool and was the fourth son and the tenth and last child of Edward and Harriett Drakeford. Alfred met a Yorkshire girl from Stamford Bridge, Laura Groves, and they got married in Pocklington in 1894. They moved to Ireland and their first of four children, was born in Greystones, Co Wicklow in 1895. David's grandfather, Albert, was born in Dublin in 1901, the youngest of the for children. Alfred was a sergeant in the 9th

Lancers fighting in the Boer war at the time of Albert's birth. Albert himself

would register as being 18 in 1917 in order to fight in the first world war. He was with the Royal Flying Corp. He decided to stay in Ireland after the formation of the Irish Free State whilst the rest of the Drakeford's returned to the UK. All of the Irish Drakeford's are descended from Albert. He married Norah Morris in 1926 and died in 1965 aged 64.

Alfred J and Laura had this photograph taken in Cork circa 1915. Alfred was a freemason, as can be seen in the photograph. The family lived in various locations throughout Ireland from 1894-1922, including Co Kildare (Ballysax), Co Wicklow (Greystones) and County Dublin (Sandycove, Lucan and Dalkey).

In 1922 Alfred, Laura and three of their four children (except Albert) left Ireland and returned to Liverpool. Alfred, who had a passion for cricket, became ground's man for Lancashire Cricket Club.



<b>E Percy G Drakeford (1877-1946)</b>	<b>Corn Merchant</b>	<b>Liverpool/London</b>
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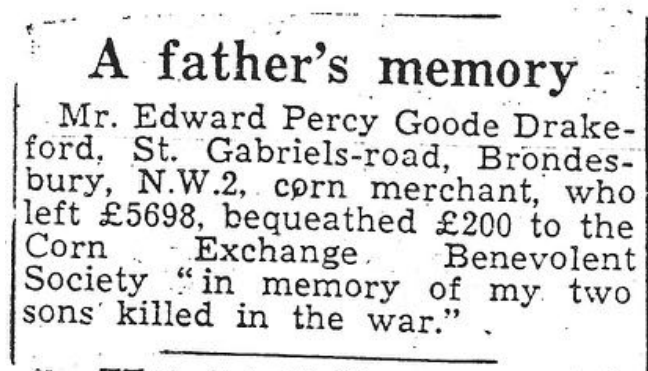


Edward Percy Goode was born in West Derby, Liverpool on 17<sup>th</sup> February 1877 and married Edith Crozier.

Edward died in Willesden, North West London about 5 miles out of Central London, on 28<sup>th</sup> September 1946.

Edward and Edith had a daughter Phillis in 1908 and then three sons, Basil Percy(b.1911), Michael George(b.1913) and David Goode(b.1919)

Both sons, Basil and David died in World War II which led to the following article in a newspaper around September 1946 when their father died in Brondesbury London N.W.2.





David Harold Drakeford was born on 30<sup>th</sup> September 1878, the second son of David James Lownds and Helen Lownds Goode Drakeford when residing at 112 Prescot Road, West Derby, Liverpool.

It would seem that the four sons in this family were encouraged by their parents to get out into the world as soon as possible and we see Harold gaining his first job with CPR, The Canadian Pacific Railway Company from 1894 when he was just 16 years old. One assumes this was a Liverpool office and when Harold

had served 17 years he decided to move on, and worked in a Travel Agency in the West Midlands for a short period, before, and we quote a Newspaper report, 'This soon began to pall. The scope in the country, was too narrow and besides there was not enough money in it'. The obvious place to move was to London. And there in 1914 he started business and stayed there for 40 years.

This was a General Passenger Agency located in prestigious offices at 60, Haymarket, London SW1 for representing mainly Dutch Shipping Companies, and also Travel Agency work.



This is the sign that hung outside the office for many years.

Harold married Ethel Florence Margaret Ginger, the daughter of a butcher, and the wedding took place at Christ Church, Brondesbury, Willesden, Middlesex on 18<sup>th</sup> July 1904. They had one son, David Alan Drakeford born in 1910.

50 years later, in 1954, there were various celebrations arranged to pay recognition to the achievements in Harold's life to date.

On 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1954 there was a dinner held in his honour on board m.s. Oranje, of the Nederland Line Shipping Company in Amsterdam when Harold was presented with the 'Oranje Nassau', for past services to the national interests of The Netherlands.

He was also presented with the below portrait as a gift from the Shipping Lines that he had been representing over the past years.

In this same year of 1954, Harold and Ethel celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary.



Painted by Frank O. Salisbury.

Francis ("Frank") Owen **Salisbury** (18 December 1874 – 31 August 1962) was an English artist who specialised in portraits, large canvases of historical and ceremonial events, stained glass and book illustration. In his heyday he made a fortune on both Sides of the Atlantic and was known as "Britain's Painter Laureate".



If you have time and the inclination, please read the below articles from the trade papers of the time.



## Profile

D. H. DRAKEFORD

by

Harold Champion

TO be interviewed by a journalist is always, I think, a good test of character and temper. The unfortunate interviewee usually knows so much more about the subject under discussion than the interviewer, whose questions must therefore often seem elementary if not completely off the beam, that he may be pardoned for impatience—especially if he's a busy man with no time to spare for footling.

So my first question to D. H. Drakeford—"Drakey" to the shipping fraternity—was personal, non-technical and as dead on the beam as I could make it.

"To what," I asked him, "do you attribute your longevity? What have you been up to so as to direct a prosperous business for a couple of generations or more, and yet remain as fresh as a pippin and to retain that naughty twinkle in your eye?"

"I know the answer to that one," he told me. "It's simple, just hard work and no money."

Now the hard work I could believe. In his day—and, mark you, his day continues—he must have worked confoundedly hard. You simply don't build up a business like Drakeford's in the Haymarket without persistent toil however much luck comes your way.

—But no money? I'm . . . well. One of the questions I hesitate to ask any man is "how much money have you got?" I did not ask Drakeford senior. But the luxurious panelling of his quiet office, that expensive desk with the tasteful gadgets and warm red carpet—these things speak eloquently of prosperity.

Still, I see what he means. Drakeford is, I believe, the kind of man to whom pursuit rather than attainment is of first importance. When a man says to himself "Well, there you are—your job is finished, the bank balance looks all right, your family is settled in life, you're getting a bit long in the tooth—pack it in!" it's often the beginning of the end.

"Drakey" has never said that, I believe. And that's the answer—his answer—to my question.

It was on the second of December 1894 that, starting work with the C.P.R., he showed himself yet another Liverpool lad whose natural career was with ships and the men who keep the ships going. On 1910 he left C.P.R. to set up as a country agent. But this soon began to pall. The scope in the country, it seemed to him, was too narrow. Besides there wasn't enough money in it.

The obvious move was to London. And there in 1914 he started business in the premises he has occupied ever since. That's just forty years ago—forty years during which the world has undergone some of the biggest changes in history.

The air, for example. Forty years ago aeroplanes were hardly emerging from the freak stage. To have said then that shipping companies would ever be disturbed by loss of passengers and freight to aviation would have been to provoke a derisive smile.

On that subject "Drakey" has fairly clear-cut views. He does not regard aviation as a present menace to seaborne

trade—at least on the routes in which he is chiefly interested. On the contrary, he believes that the air has created new business for shipping. Every traveller—and there are more of them every year—is in a hurry. But every traveller, too, likes as much comfort as he can get. So the new globe-trotters, people the exigencies of export business compel to get about the world as never before, will tend, in Drakeford's opinion, to fly one way and go by sea the other.

But during these forty years business habits have undergone changes too. Forty years ago you wore a top hat and frock coat to the office. You jingled sovereigns in your pocket. You could still hail a horse cab. And women in offices were still enough of a novelty to provoke scowls among the old timers. After all, you couldn't very well cuss with the ladies about, and it seems in those days the tough boys in the shipping business sometimes liked to relieve their feelings with a resounding word or two. How the world has changed, indeed. To-day it's often the young ladies who shock the men!

Those were the days of steerage, too. Mr. Drakeford does not want to see that return—his recollections of it are keen and disapproving. Too crowded for any sort of comfort, with little or no lounge amenities such as the lowest fares provide to-day. He is convinced nobody would tolerate it now.

All the same he doesn't entirely approve of the modern tourist system of mixing everybody together, or, on the other hand, of barring parts of the deck off from tourist passengers. If you pay first-class fare you expect extra comfort for your money. On the other hand tourist-class passengers are apt to resent it when a desirable part of the ship is barred to them. The answer seems to be one-class ships.

Harking back to the personal angle briefly, Mr. Drakeford told me another of his business tenets. He has made a point of never losing his temper in business—that is, unless he is diabolically tempted beyond reasonable human endurance. He says that if you lose your temper you put yourself immediately at a disadvantage.

At any rate, it's a principle which has borne rich business results. For example, the *Nederland Line*, first associated with him in 1914, remains so to-day. He has seen a succession of fine ships sailing under this company's house flag, but none, I wager, is he prouder to serve than the 20,000-ton *Oranje* which maintains a regular schedule between Southampton and Amsterdam and the magical East. Another old associate is the *Holland-East Asia Line*.

New friends come along too; and speaking of the m.s. *Oranje* brings me naturally to the *Oranje Line*, an organisation which began as recently as this year to utilise the services of D. H. Drakeford of the Haymarket.

The name of the *Royal Interoccean Lines* has for long been associated with the Haymarket office. Though this company's name is new it has a long and famous history in the sea traffic of the Far East and the southern hemisphere. It was, in fact, founded in 1947 by an amalgamation of the *Java-China-Japan Line* (J.C.J.L.) and the ocean-going services of the *Royal Packet Navigation Company* (K.P.M.), two old established Dutch lines whose vessels plied for many years between ports in the East Indies, China, Japan, Australia and in South Africa and South America. Then there is the *Yeoward Line*, and the *Clipper Line* of Malmo.

But to name companies, however distinguished, in this way is to conceal rather than describe the activities of a busy shipping agent. And if I am asked to describe what goes on at 60 Haymarket, London, W.1, all I can say is—go and have a look inside for yourself. And, if his multifarious activities allow, make a date with the Chief.

Travel Trade Gazette issue dated 14<sup>th</sup> October 1955.

**MR. D. H. DRAKEFORD**

We regret to announce the death of David H. Drakeford, head of the London shipping agency firm, D. H. Drakeford Ltd.

Mr. Drakeford, who had not been well for some months, died in a Weybridge, Surrey, nursing home on Monday night, at the age of 77.

Mr. Drakeford's long association with the travel business started in 1894, when he joined Canadian Pacific Railway. He served that company for the next 17 years, and then spent a short time with a Midlands travel agency before opening his own firm in London as main representative of the Nederland Line.

Leslie Stone writes:

Any conventional expressions of sorrow would seem inadequate at the passing of such a notable figure, whose 60 years in the travel business had earned him widespread personal affection and respect both in this country and abroad.

His death has deprived the trade of an outstanding personality whose shrewdness, geniality and exhaustive knowledge of his field qualified him for the title—which few would question—of “Grand Old Man of Travel” in this country.

It is a sad contrast that 1954 was a year of celebration for the Drakeford family. March of that year marked the 40th anniversary of his own company and—in appreciation of Mr. Drakeford's long association with Dutch shipping interests—he was presented with a portrait of himself by the Nederland, Royal Packet and Royal Interocean Lines. Following that came his appointment as an officer of the Order of Oranje Nassau. In July last year, Mr. and Mrs. Drakeford celebrated their golden wedding.

Mr. Drakeford is survived by his wife and by his son, Alan, who will now head the organisation founded by his father.

The funeral will take place today at 11 a.m. at St. Gabriel's Church, Cricklewood, N.W.2.

An announcement of a memorial service will be made later.

You will note that David Harold Drakeford died on 11<sup>th</sup> October 1955.

<b>Thomas G Drakeford (1880-1943)</b>	<b>Clerk/Exchange Broker</b>	<b>Liverpool/Shanghai</b>
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Thomas Goode Drakeford was born on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 1880, the third son of David James Lownds and Helen Lownds Goode Drakeford when residing at 7 Beech Street, West Derby, Liverpool.

His father was a **corn broker**, and Thomas worked in Liverpool as a **corn merchant's clerk**. Thomas's father travelled from Liverpool to London, and then in 1903 took a lengthy trip to the United States in connection with his work. Thomas's older brother Harold worked in the shipping industry, starting in Liverpool and establishing his career in London. Thomas therefore had good role models for setting his sights beyond Liverpool; no doubt they supported his decision to travel, in his mid-twenties, to a place where he would spend most of his life – Shanghai.

So now rather than rewriting Thomas's story here, we must persuade you to follow the text related to the [Study Paper No: 12](#) of this website which refers to an already published book by Simon Drakeford.

This book records the remarkable life of Thomas as a young man when he leaves his native Liverpool to travel to the other side of the world. His story was typical of many men who sought their fortune overseas on the fringes of the British Empire.

Thomas Goode Drakeford travelled to Shanghai in 1907. He threw himself into the hectic social life of this infamous city, attending balls, joining the Shanghai Volunteer Corps and playing lots of sport, polo, rugby and cricket. He watched the city grow and gain influence as a major world port. He was able to take advantage of his chosen city's global position as an **Exchange Broker**.

Love came calling and he married the daughter of a famous Old China Hand - 'Binks' Butler. A successful career was built, and a family followed. Two daughters, Faith and Beryl, and a son, Dudley, were born in Shanghai. Faith, the eldest daughter met and married Edmund Jupp ex Shanghai, from Hong Kong, they too had two daughters.

War dispersed the family. Grandparents, eldest daughter, son in law, Edmund and grandchildren headed from Shanghai to the safety of Australia. Despite the obvious risks, Edmund returned to his business in Hong Kong. A decision which was to have tragic consequences. Thomas' eldest son, Dudley, joined the Royal Navy in England, he too did not survive the war, leaving a wife and child behind to mourn him. Compounding the family's tragic war, the patriarch, who had already suffered a stroke in Shanghai, endured another and died in Sydney in 1943.

*Much of this above detail is extracted from chapter 5 of the book - 'It's a Rough Game but Good Sport: The Life, Times and Personalities of The Shanghai Rugby Club' with author: Simon Drakeford – published by Earnshaw Books, Hong Kong, 2014.)*

**If you would like to read the full Study Paper No: 12, please click the [Contact Us](#) link and send an email.**



<b>Herbert Drakeford (1887-1955)</b>	<b>Army Captain - To be clarified</b>	<b>Liverpool/?</b>
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Further research is needed here but we know that Herbert held the rank of Captain at the time of this photograph.

<b>Albert J Drakeford (1901-1965)</b>	<b>Office Management</b>	<b>Dublin/Liverpool</b>
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David's grandfather, Albert, was born in Dublin in 1901, the youngest of the four children. His father Alfred was a sergeant in the 9th Lancers fighting in the Boer war at the time of Albert's birth. Albert himself would register as being 18 in 1917 in order to fight in the first world war. He was with the Royal Flying Corp. He decided to stay in Ireland after the formation of the Irish Free State in 1922 whilst the rest of the Drakeford's returned to Liverpool. The primary reason Albert stayed in Ireland was because of his strong bond with his girlfriend Norah Morris. His Irish siblings and both his parents said goodbye. He married Norah Morris in 1926. They had three children, David's father Alfred Vernon (Bill), Cecil (Paddy) and Doris. Unfortunately, Doris dies in 1945 after a failed tonsillectomy.



Albert, like his father, had a passion for cricket and played for Crumlin CC. He can be seen in this picture in the back row second from the right. The photograph was taken circa 1948. Albert died in 1965 at the age of 64.

<b>D Alan Drakeford (1910-1991)</b>	<b>Passenger/Travel Agent</b>	<b>London</b>
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David Alan Drakeford was born at home in Twickeham near London on 19<sup>th</sup> January 1910. He was the only child of Harold and Ethel Drakeford.

The family moved to Northampton in the Midlands for a short time whilst his father worked in a Travel Agency before returning to live in Twickenham again directly overlooking the Rugby Football Union Club ground. In 1916-1917, young Alan remembers seeing soldiers marching past this house in full battle dress off to the First World War. They came from Kneller Hall National, School for Military Music.

The family then moved to Mill Hill where Alan had a clear recollection of seeing the first German zeppelin being shot down in flames over Cuffley, Herts, on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1916. He saw dogfights above the house with Sopwith Pups and the like.

After the war in 1920 he entered Belmont, the junior school for Mill Hill School and enjoyed his cricket, rugger and soccer. When he then finished his education at Mill Hill School, he went straight into the family passenger shipping business at No. 60 Haymarket, London SW1. Aged 17 years, he was office boy and general factotum at £1 per week in 1927. He travelled to the office from Mill Hill with his father in black coat, vest and pinstripes, washed leather gloves, patent leather shoes, canvas spats, bowler hat from

Locks and broly or gold knopped cane. They travelled First Class to St Pancras Station, then by bus or tube but sometimes walked this distance!

Alan's initial office training which included answering queries at the counter took him through to 1931 when at the age of 21 years he was made a partner in the business of D H Drakeford Limited and he did an extensive trip by sea to the Dutch East Indies.

Alan met his wife to be, Alice Mary Clara Brewer, known as 'Mollie' skiing in Wengen, Switzerland and after a formal period of getting to know each other, were married in London on 5<sup>th</sup> October 1935.

They lived in Cobham, Surrey(moving to another home in Cobham in 1943) and during this time had three children, a daughter Sally followed by twins David Jeremy and Andrew Jefferson.

Alan continued to run the family business at 60 Haymarket in a climate where the passenger ships being represented were aging and the owners were not at that time, replacing tonnage with rebuilds due to the growing trend towards air travel with sea travel being considered too slow. The general travel agency and business air travel side of the business increased considerably. In 1963 negotiations were concluded for D H Drakeford Ltd to merge with Escombe, McGrath & Co. Ltd(a fully owned subsidiary of the P & O Shipping Group). Alan Drakeford was made a Director of Escombe, McGrath in 1963 and son Jeremy having joined D H Drakeford Ltd., in 1961 after training with various companies, then transferred with most other staff members to Escombe, McGrath in July 1963.

On 8<sup>th</sup> December 1970, Alan had the honour of being awarded the 'Order of Oranje-Nassau', for past services to the national interests of The Netherlands as featured on the next page. You may have noted above that his father received the same 'Order' in May 1954.

The family home had already moved Cobham to Godalming, Surrey in 1951. Upon Alan's retirement in 1973, he and Mollie then moved to Malawi to be with their other offspring, Sally married to a tobacco farmer and Andrew, as an Accountant working for a large estate in Malawi.

Mollie died in Malawi in 1984 after which Alan returned to England dying in 1991.

The 'Order of Oranje-Nassau' presented on 8<sup>th</sup> December 1970



<b>Alfred Vernon (Bill) Drakeford (1928-2008)</b>	<b>Musicologist/Theatre Management</b>	<b>Dublin</b>
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Alfred Vernon was born in Dun Laoghaire in 1928. He was nick-named Bill, a name that stuck and one he much preferred. Bill had a passion for music. He met Audrey Stephens and they were married in Monkstown in 1952 (see photo left). They had three boys, Ken, David and Alan. Bill had a circle of music friends and they would meet on a weekly basis. Because of his interest in Theatre, he managed the Player-Wills Conference center, which in the 1970s and 1980s was one of the key theatrical venues in Dublin.



In the 1990s, he became a Radio presenter for Anna Livia FM (now called Dublin City FM 103.3), a popular Dublin station and had his own classical music programme every Sunday morning from 10:00 am to 12:00 called “A World of Music”. He would regularly review CDs and was invited to all the major concerts in Dublin at the time for his critique. His final radio broadcast was in January 2008. He passed away in April 2008.

Note: Anna Livia is a euphemism for the River Liffey, the main river in Dublin (Joyce’s: Finnegans Wake).

<b>Cecil E Drakeford (1930-2011)</b>	<b>Artist/Designer</b>	<b>Dublin/Poole</b>
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Cecil was born in Dun Laoghaire in 1930. He had a passion for art and design and was very creative. As a teen, he would design cartoon magazines and draw and paint many forms of artwork. He emigrated to Poole in Dorset and became a designer. He was nicknamed Paddy due to his Irish accent, a name he much preferred to Cecil. He allowed the name to stick. He met and married Valerie Peake and they had two children, Debbie and Alison. He died in 2011.

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## **17) Lownds (Lowndes) Family & Goode Family with Connections to the Congleton Drakefords**

We thank Ian Doughty, Chairman of Trustees of Congleton Museum for his very much valued advice on this subject.

He tells us that there appear to be two Lowndes/Lownds stands in the Congleton district.

" The Lowndes family(with an 'e') was originally from the Overton area of Smallwood. Their place of residence being Overton Hall, which was bequeathed to Caius College Cambridge to found the Lowndean Chair of Astronomy and Geometry.

- This family branched into the Lowndes of Bostock House and Hassall Green from whom descended the William Lowndes who built the present Bradshaw House and was the Congleton Mayor of 1830-31.

- Secondly there was the Lowndes of Ramsdell Hall and Old House Green, Scholar Green to whom the Chaddock Lowndes branch belongs. It was this particular family I was concerned with, however, when doing my research I came across land deeds carrying the name Lownds, these seemed to be located in the area of the present Hulme Walfield and at the time did not appear to have any direct relationship with the family spelling the name as Lowndes. This is not reflected in the tithe maps for the township.
- On the tithe map there is confusion over the spelling but this may be transcription. The Cheshire Archives site gives a William Lownds as being the owner of Weld House Farm Astbury, this is incorrect because the deeds give the name as William Lowndes of Hassall Hall and Bradshaw House. So the spellings seem to be interchanged here".

Ian Doughty also provided a detailed pedigree of the Lowndes of Bostock and Hassall Green. I examined this in order to ascertain a link with the James Lownds of Somerford Booths, nr Congleton and his son Joseph Lownds, born 1754. The latter was the father of Sarah Lownds who married Edward Drakeford, the clockmaker in 1814, from whom our Jeremy and David Drakeford are descended.

For further research, Ian Doughty commented that they have in the museum library a publication 'A Cheshire Family: Lowndes of Overton'; printed in 1972 by William Lowndes, Three Horseshoes, Bures Suffolk.

Ian said that "there did not appear to be a link between Lowndes and Lownds in respect of the family which ultimately built Bradshaw House but my research was a very narrow one".

We have in our possession a copy of the handwritten 'Drakeford & Lownds Pedigree' prepared by **J.P. Rylands** which has been very helpful with our studies This J.P Rylands paper is reproduced on this next page with permission from the Society of Genealogists, stating that it is taken from the Drakeford file within the SoG's document collections.

Ellen Hammett, dau. of <sup>1</sup> John Byrome, widower, of Congleton m. Ellen Royley, widow, at Astbury by licence dated 21 Dec. 1756.

James Lownds of Somersford Booths, nr Congleton, farmer & tanner.

David Drakeford, of Congleton, silk throwster

Hamiah Royley

4 Joseph Lownds born 29 June 1764 Sarah, dau. of ... Beckett, gent. of Daisy Bank, near Congleton.

Jesse Drakeford, Mayor of Congleton, estab<sup>d</sup> the first cotton mill there in 1784.

James Drakeford father of Mrs Stchells

Charles died in London, s.p.

Edo<sup>d</sup> Drakeford born 23 Jan. 1779, died 16 Dec. 1859. Sworn Freeman of Congleton 1824. M. 2, St Peter's ch.

Jane Plant 1 wife

Sarah, dau. of Joseph Lownds of Hulme-walfield, farmer & tanner m. at Astbury 30 March 1814. born 3 Feb. 1785

John father of Mrs Hills.

Mary spin<sup>r</sup>

Anne, m. to Wm. Laurie of Stockport.

- 1 Ann, born 9 Feb 1778 m. ... Fulme of Midgebrook. 4 sons & 2 daus.
- 2 Samuel Lownds b. 12 Apl. 1779, was a draper in Congleton, no children.
- 3 Mary, am. arr. b. 7 Sep. 1780.
- 4 Jane m. James Gee of Hulme-walfield. 4 sons.
- 5 Allen, b. 8 Aug. 1783 a farmer at Peover, had one son who went to Yorkshire.
- 7 Joseph, b. 15 Aug. 1786 had 2 daus. of whom one m. John Davenport

David of Sydenham, of London  
 Jesse, of London  
 John, of Macclesfield.  
 Mrs. Hall wife of the Mayor of Newcastle near Lyme.  
 Harriet D. of London  
 Mrs Joseph Pearson

George Drakeford. died when 5 years old.

Anne born Nov. 1803. unmarried d. in Liverpool 22 Oct. 1867.

m. to Walter Johnston b. 23 Feb. 1807 d. 6 Oct. 1897 bur. at Kershaw, Lancashire.

Mary, born 2 Feb. 1815.

Helen, born 2 July 1817. d. 3 Dec. 1870 bur. Flaybrick m. at Astbury 22 July 1840

William Drakeford born 27 May 1819. died 12 Feb. 1849.

Edward, Helen, Sarah-Anne, Elizabeth

Martha-Sarah born 27 Jan. 1821. died 16 Jan. 1846.

Edward Drakeford born 7 Feb. 1823. died 6 Sept. 1883. of Liverpool

Harriet Pearson

8 Elizabeth b. 4 July 1788. unmarried

9 Ellen b. 5 June 1790 unmarried

10 James b. 11 Jan 1794

Love of Middlewich

11 Maria b. 28 June 1798 m. Jonathan Davenport of Hulme-walfield

Joseph Lownds of Hinderton.

David

William

Annie

Edith-Mary m. 8 Sept. 1880 to Roderick Johnston, her cousin at Walton Brect church Spool.

Helen

Fanny

Arthur-Henry decl young

Emily-Maudie

Sarah Lownds

Alfred.

SOC OF GEN. & P. RYLANDS FAMILIES

1. John Lownds, b. 8 Apl. 1749. m. to ... 1781.  
 2 Charlotte, m. to Titus Chaloner, Mayor of Chester.  
 3 Mary b. 31 Oct. 1752.

5 William b. 10 May 1756  
 6 Elizabeth b. 5 Apl. 1758 d. in infancy.

7 Anne b. 24 Aug. 1759 m. to ... Staley  
 8 Jane b. 9 Dec. 1761 m. to ... Molineux

9 Sarah b. 17 May 1764 m. to ... Smith & was mother of Charles Smith of Chester.

10 James b. 3 Nov. 1765 was grandf<sup>r</sup> of the Goode family.

11 Betty b. 12 Oct. 1768 m. to ... Taylor.

12 Richard b. 15 Oct. 1771. father of James Lownds, Newcastle on Tyne.



In this the Lownds line starts with **James Lownds** of Somerford Booths near Congleton who is described as a farmer and tanner. He married a 'Mary' and over a period of 22 years they had 12 children, and are all listed on the pedigree tree as follows:- 1) John Lownds, born 1749, 2) Martha 1751 married Titus Chalona, Mayor of Chester, 3) Mary 1752, 4) **Joseph Lownds, 1754**, 5) William, 1756, 6) Elizabeth, 1758 d.y., 7) Anne, 1759 married to ....Staley, 8) Jane, 1761 married to .... Molineux, 9) Sarah, 1764, married to ... Smith, **10) James, 3<sup>rd</sup> November 1765, was grandfather of the Goode family**, 11) Betty, 1768 married to .... Taylor, and finally, 12) Richard, 1771, father of James Lownds, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

**Joseph Lownds of Hulmwalfield**, described as a Farmer and Tanner(No. 4 above, married **Sarah**, the daughter of a Gentleman, named Beckett of Daisy Bank Nr. Congleton. They had 11 children being: 1) Ann, born 1778, married .... Hulme, 2) Samuel, 1779, a draper in Congleton, 3) Mary, 1780, 4) Jane 1781, married James Gee, 5) Allen, 1783, farmer at Peover, and **6) Sarah 1785 who married Edward Drakeford(the clockmaker) in March 1814 at Astbury**, 7) Joseph, 1786, 8) Elizabeth, 1788, 9) Ellen, 1790, 10) James 1794, married .... Lowe, and 11) Maria, 1798 married Jonathan Davenport of Hulmwalfield. These 11 children were born over a period of 20 years.

From our point of view the Lownds family were well established around Cheshire and in Congleton in particular as farmers and, presumably because of their cattle, were successful tanners.

Clearly the family Drakeford were proud of the Lownds connection. To our knowledge the Lownds name has been used as a middle name many times down the years, examples being with David James Lownds Drakeford, born 1848, (great grandfather to our Jeremy Drakeford), and his wife from the Goode side, Helen Lownds (Goode) Drakeford born 1851. The latest example on the Drakeford family tree is with a Christopher Lownds Drakeford born in 1955!.

**David James Lownds Drakeford**, and his wife **Helen Lownds nee Goode**, born in 1848 and 1851 respectively were married at St Stephens Church, Congleton in 1874. Our Jeremy has a family bible inscribed with the names of 'David James Lowndes Drakeford and Helen Lowndes Drakeford and dated 23<sup>rd</sup> October 1878(the date of his grandfather, David Harold Drakeford's christening). One can but wonder if the addition of the 'e' was an affectation indicating or assuming association with the Lowndes family formerly of Bostock! There are a number of other important family dates hand-written in this bible all showing the correct spelling of 'Lownds'.

Having summarised the information of the Lownds/Lowndes families, it is best to reflect the interaction with the Drakeford family out of Congleton and also the Goode family.

Please take a moment to look at this next chart showing how the Lownds names come together with the coincidence of the grandson of Sarah(Lownds) Drakeford namely David James Lownds Drakeford ending up marrying Sarah's cousin Elizabeth (Lownds) Goode's last born daughter, namely Helen Lownds Goode.

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### The Distaff side of a Congleton Drakeford Family Line

**James Lownds**  
of Somerford Booths

**Lownds - Goode - Drakeford**

**Joseph Lownds**(b.1754)

**Sarah Lownds**(b.1785) = **Edward Drakeford**

⋮  
⋮  
⋮

1. Mary  
2. Helen

3. William  
4. Martha-Sarah

Harriett Pearson = 5. Edward Drakeford

**Elizabeth Lownds**(b.1809) = Thomas Goode

1. Thomas Lownds  
2. Charles  
3. John  
4. James Lownds

5. Henry  
6. James Lownds  
7. Elizabeth Lownds  
8. Agnes Lownds

9. Frederick Lownds  
10. Annie Lownds  
11. Philip Lownds

12. Helen Lownds Goode(b.1851)

**Helen Lownds Goode**(b.1851) = **1. David James Lownds Drakeford**

**David Harold Drakeford**

**David Alan Drakeford**

**David Jeremy Drakeford**

2. William Edward  
3. Harriett Ann  
4. Edith Mary  
5. Ellen

6. Fanny  
7. Arthur Henry  
8. Emily Maud  
9. Sarah Lownds

**Laura Groves**(b.1868) = **10. Alfred Joseph Drakeford**

**Albert Joseph Drakeford**

**Alfred Vernon Drakeford**

**David Drakeford**

## The influence of the family names of Goode and Lownds on the Drakeford Marriage of David James Lownds Drakeford to Helen Lownds Goode on 20th May 1874 at St Stephens Church, Congleton

It will be seen that both names in the above title include Lownds as a Christian name and we have set out to find out how this occurred!

In the above previous text it shows Sarah Lownds, Edward Drakeford the clockmaker's wife as originating from the Lownds family of Somerford Booths, near Congleton, and we have now found evidence that it is likely that Elizabeth Goode (maiden name Lownds) the Mother of Helen Lownds Goode originated from the same Lownds family line in Somerford Booths. This evidence is not fully proved as yet,

Helen Lownds Goode (1851-1915) was the last born of Thomas Goode and Elizabeth Lownds, where there were 12 children with 6 dying young, leaving only 4 sons and 2 daughters to reach adulthood. All the children were christened with a middle name of 'Lownds'.

Thomas Goode (1799-1862) (pictured right) and Elizabeth Lownds (1809-1887) parents of Helen were married around 1830 and Thomas moved from his birth place of Edvin Ralph in Herefordshire to Congleton where in their early days of marriage they lived at No. 9, High Street, Congleton. Thomas described himself as a Chemist, Druggist and **Dealer in Leeches** – Physicians and Family Prescriptions carefully dispensed under immediate inspection of the Principle with Medicine from Apothecaries Hall. Like all chemists and druggists of the time, Thomas was also a tea dealer.



In the book, 'The Chemists of High Street (1809-1926)' the Author, Ray Rowe quotes from Thomas Goode's prescription book dated 1835; 'An interesting entry is the prescription for his son John – a mixture of ipecacuanha, camphor and digitalis to be taken every 4 hours' – a very potent medicine for a young child. John actually died 21<sup>st</sup> February 1838 aged 4 years.

As far as we know, Thomas and Elizabeth Goode plus children lived above the Chemist shop at 9, High Street until about 1857 when in Lyndon Murgatroyd's book 'Who lived in a house like this?' it records the family at Bromfield House, Park Lane.

Thomas died aged 62 in 1862. His widow, Elizabeth continued to live in Park Lane probably until she died in 1887 when the house was renamed to 'The Brooms' about this time.

Thomas Goode was a Magistrate and he was the Mayor of Congleton in 1852.

Thomas's first surviving son, Charles Goode(1830-1887) worked as Chemist with his Father from about 1861 and onwards till his own death in 1887. Charles took part in local politics and served as a local councillor. He was Mayor of Congleton from 1878 for 2 years.

Some personal papers appeared for sale on Ebay recently which were clearly related to a Thomas Goode of Congleton, Cheshire dated 8<sup>th</sup> January 1840 that could well have involved the above Thomas.

This letter was enclosing a bank bill representing a half-year dividend payment in the sum of £71.3.1d, a very large sum in those days. More impressive was the list of investments:

£400	New32 plc	- Lownds & Goode	£7
£636	-do-	-do-	£11.2.11
£2189.3s	Consols* 3pc	-do-	£31.18.8
£1405.1	..	Lownds & Andrews	<u>£21.1.6</u>
			<u>£71.3.1</u>

For information, a £1 in 1840 is worth £102 in the money of today, thus the Consols alone are worth £590,000 in 2020 terms. Consols are stocks issued at a fixed price and bear a nominal fixed interest rate.

As mentioned by Ian Doughty, Chairman of Trustees of Congleton Museum, the earliest recording of the Lowndes family that I have found occurs in 1592. This was when the Town Accounts for Congleton show that the corporation paid Thomas Lowndes 1 shilling for saying a service on the Sabothe (sic). (RH. P.176). This is interesting, not least because a second Rev. Thomas Lowndes was Minister of the Chapel, Congleton 1690 – 1698, a century later.

The pedigree of the Lownds family shows the relationship to the clockmaker Drakeford brothers of Edward and John together with Jesse Drakeford, the manufacturer of silk and cotton. For the Jesse Drakefords please see the [Section 15\) Industrial Congleton and the Drakefords](#).

An examination has been made of the sources we have, including the books 'History of Congleton - W.B.Stevens', 'Congleton Passed and Present - Robert Head' and 'An History Of The Ancient Town and Borough of Congleton - Samuel Yates. This reveals that the Lownds/Lowndes family were at various times described as farmers, tanners, a shoemaker, grocer, rector and mayor. Note that while the names are given as Lowndes, these people do not appear as Lownds. However, as they are not on the formal Lowndes pedigree, they are possibly of the Lownds family, hence they are worthy of mention.

**1668** Matthew Lowndes, shoemaker and smallholder died having a barn, a stable, pigs and cattle but no shoemaker's stock.

**1698** Rev Thomas Lowndes M.A., died when he was Minister of Congleton chapel. The church was rebuilt 1740-1742 as the Georgian brick and stone St Peter's Church, in Congleton.

The appointment of a successor for Thomas Lowndes was not without controversy. The replacement rector, Ralph Malbon B.A. was elected, but shortly afterwards there was a row when some of the aldermen and capital burgesses complained that the Mayor had tricked them by using votes of non-churchgoers for an undue election of a young man. Instead, they wanted this licence not to be granted by the Bishop. They wanted to propose a Mr Hammond who was supported by the Earl of Macclesfield and Sir Thomas Bellot as well as the rector of Astbury, John Hutchinson. A whispering campaign ensued mounted against Malbon: how he crept into Deacon's orders .... While at Cambridge, or before seems a little odd', wrote one opponent; 'the youth mine eyes have seen, and if I am not mistaken, his temper is ambitious and aspiring, which is unbecoming of him, whose parents are low in the world and live in the same town\*...' And furthermore he has the support of a magistrate who is said to be a Dissenter'. This dispute rumbles on locally and involved those in London and York.

The few records remaining show that there was much expense. The mayor, parson Malbon, Alderman Shorne, and Thomas Brook spent 14s 8d at Chester, and the mayor gave the bishop's secretary a guinea, ten shillings and three bottles of wine. A sweetener perhaps?

Malbon remained in office until 1721, and when he was replaced it was by the curate at Astbury. Hence the senior church eventually had their man elected for Congleton.

**1769** Thomas Lowndes, a grocer which provided a prosperous living in the town for many, died leaving legacies totalling £500. This was considered a substantial sum at the time, but he was considered poor compared with later tradesmen.

**1819** John Sidebotham Lowndes has a marble memorial in the North Aisle of St Peter's church Congleton. On it is inscribed that his parents were William and Susanne Lowndes, and that he died on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 1819, aged 21.

**1830-31** William Lowndes was Mayor of Congleton.

**1887** Thomas Chaddock-Lowndes was a member of a Freemason's 'Eaton Lodge', Congleton, as too was a 'T. Chaddock', perhaps his benefactor!

## 18) An 'Appendage' driven dateline list for Drakeford family members (1580 - 1785)

Congleton Past and Present, History of Congleton, and An History of the Ancient Town and Borough of Congleton and other sources

In support of the aforementioned material the books by Robert Head, W.B. Stephens and Samuel Yates respectively add to the mix with both factual and assumed information. Other information has been included in other parts and a reference is given when considered appropriate. In the same vein information from validated miscellaneous sources has been added below to give the fullest detail of the Drakeford family involvements with Congleton.

For further reference by the reader this material is listed in date order. Each entry has a source page and author reference for all three books. As with the Stafford Drakefords ([see Study Paper SP. No: 4](#)) the frequent use of the same Christian name often causes confusion.

Remember that there will be much information elsewhere which is specific to a subject and not included in this appendage.

OB = Order Book

AB = Account book

Wills = Mostly the George Fitch research

RH = Robert Head, Congleton Past and Present

Before we delve into the details let me refer to a list of Drakeford names that appeared on the Congleton Order Book, which has been kindly supplied by Susan Murgatroyd.

The list gives about 100 Drakeford names with a date and the occupation of each person. Quite clearly this is a list from a computer source and the names have been extracted without more details.

What this shows is a list of occupations, an indication of progress or reduction in status, but most are apparently menial. Just listing out these occupations is of interest:

Scavenger, Inmate *looker*, Common *looker*, Well *looker*, Swine catcher, Aletaster, Tender of Town wood, Sealer of leather, Toll taker, Constable, Overseer, Tanner, Millreeve, Catchpole, Juror of Court Leet, and Councilor.

The references to 'looker' covers, for example, the inmate looker 'as someone who ensures that no outsiders manage to settle in the town without the council's knowledge'. Similarly, one could appreciate that the common looker and the well looker are employed to look after the town's commons and wells.

oooooOOOooooo

We now list below examples of Order Book (OB) records but the list of jobs we examined are generally of later dates between 1655 and 1815.

The main church was that at Astbury, and fine it was too. In Congleton there were two chapels, one of which was attended by the **Drakeford** families. This chapel is the High Chapel, as with the other within the parish of Astbury. It was on the site of the High Chapel that the present church of St Peters was built in 1740-42.

RH P.173 In **1568** the old parochial 'Chappell' of Congleton affixed through and Order the seats whereby the men of the parish would be seated. This would be The Chancel, The North Side, Beneath the Door, The South Side, or Beneath the Door. Presumably there are two doors. **William Drakeford**, along with Jno. Oakes and Jno. Scragg were allotted seats in pew 7 on the South side of the chapel.

Along with the Mayor, Roger Green, **W.A. Drakeford** was among four signatories of six chosen as commissioners attesting to the seating plan. *Note: the additional 'A' did not appear as part of William's name when on the list of commissioners.*

There is no mention of women owning seats. What would happen to widows who wanted to attend or spinsters living in the town alone? There are seats for significant ladies such as the wife of the mayor and those of certain Aldermen.

**Marriage 1575** Richard and Margery Drakeford, Plemstall, Mickle Trafford, near Chester.

Wills. **1579** Alexander Latham's will witnessed by **Richard Drakeford**. **John Drakeford** appraised the inventory.

Order Book (OB) **1580, 1581 Richard Drakeford** member of a jury

OB **1584** The following were listed as freemen: **Richard Drakeford, William Drakeford Jnr., John Drakeford, James Drakeford Jnr., Roger Drakeford, and William Drakeford** who was also '*deputy steward to the quenes majesty*'.

FONS, John Ryland Library 5<sup>th</sup> December **1586, William Drakeford, Steward. Merton with members and appurtenances**

*Court Baron & John Davemporte of Davemporte esquire, of his manor aforesaid, held that there before William Drakeford steward there, 5 December in the 29<sup>th</sup> year of our Lady Elizabeth (by the grace of God) Queen of France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith &c, 1586*

*Sum total without pains - £3 3s*

*By me William Drakeford steward of the court and manor aforesaid*

[*Seal: Duck on Water*, which would indicate this William Drakeford is of the Stafford persuasion, hence further references are in the Study Paper SP. No: 4, for Stafford although William was working in Cheshire for the Davenports. Conversely William might have been of the Congleton family who used the same shield but this has not been seen as adopted by that family]

OB. **1587 William Drakeford** and **Richard Drakeford** both lent 2d towards transporting 2 criminals to Halton and lent a further 2d each to the town.

Wills. **1589** Yeoman John Oakes' will witnessed by **John Drakeford**

OB. **1589** *Item we find that William Drakeford the elder and five others that hath any muck or manure lying in the Queen's street, between the Little Brook running at the end of the house of the said William Drakeford and John Green's house and that the said persons shall not hereafter lay any more in the said street but only at such time as they carry the said manure into their grounds and not to continue any longer to the annoyance of the town before the feast of St John Baptist next, under the pain of every of them 10s 6d.*

**William Drakeford** was evidently a farmer, perhaps in addition to another trade, as was still common for Congleton burgesses.

RH P.176 **1591**. Here is **Thomas Drakeford**, who in 1591 who paid for a communion book 6s 4d. Of interest is that this comes from a list noted as 'A few curious extracts relating to the old chapel and preachers, also taken from the Town accounts, are given:'

RH P.50 **1592-3** Mayor: **William Drakeford**

OB. **1592 Richard Drakeford**, Mr Drakeford and his eldest son agreed to contribute 2s, 6s 8d and 6s 8d respectively towards the minister's wages every quarter. Congleton was allowed to appoint a minister for the town provided that they met the cost; they were willing to do so since this enabled them to appoint someone whose religious opinions they approved of, and independence from the rector of Astbury.

RH P.120 **1593** A **Richard Drakeford** is named as a juror on a case regarding a border dispute et al. This took place in September 1593 and involved such notable persons as Sir John Savage, and Raffe Poynton. It would appear that the jurymen including Hobson, Poynton and Moreton were otherwise involved through fact and witnesses to the proceedings. The event is described above and known as the perambulation.

RH P.169 **1595** - **Richard Drakeford** was witness to a document signed by Henry Oldfield, bellfounder around 1595. This was a bond addressed to William Stubbs, Mayor, whereby for £40 Oldfield agreed for the period of his life to keep two new bells in tune.



OB. **1596 Richard Drakeford** was repaid 4s he had lent to the town.

Tourist leaflet (DJD): In **1599** it was ordered that **'the servant of Clem Drakesford's widow should be fines 4d'** for **'washing clothes at the well at the upper end of Lawton Street'** in Congleton.

**1596 (19 April) William Drakeford Junior of Congleton**, William Chauntrell, armingier, Thomas Done de le Ashe, John Warburton of Crawley and George Paver of Lostocke: to the Queen: recognizance for £100.

**1599/1606 William Drakeford (Drackford)**, gentleman.

This document regulates land mainly in the county of Chester starting with a letter patent in 1462 granted to Tomas lord Stanley whereby the king is entitled to 100s a year as rent.

Commissioners to enforce this on behalf of the crown on 19 January 1599 were William Drakeford gent., Francis Hollinshead, gent, Thomas Stapleton esq., and Ralph Davenport esq. The land included areas at Harropp, Muggeleigh, Todcliff, Sittinglow and Saltersford.

The deed was examined on 7 November 1606 by Edmond Adamson and found to be correct.

**Source:** Lancashire Records Office

OB. **1602 William Drakeford** was reimbursed £4 for going to London in connexion(sic) with a dispute between Congleton and Philip Oldfield of Somerford about his mill.

The mill can still be seen at the bottom of Chelford Road. Is this so today?

OB. **1603** During the plague outbreak, **William Drakeford** was paid 4d for the drink he had taken to the sick at Crossledge.

Wills. **1603** Anne Blackshaw died of the Plague. **Michael Drakeford** a witness to her will.

RH P.50 **1604** Mayor: **Edward Drakeford** 1604-5. The accounts of the late Mayor **Edward Drakeford** of the profits of the mill.

Wills. **1607** Margaret Oates widow of John Oates, a tanner, left half a table and other goods to **Roger Drakeford**. He was to sell his half of the table to her kinsman who was bequeathed the other half. He also witnessed the will.

RH P.50 **1608-9** Mayor: **Edward Drakeford**

RH P.50 **1610-1** Mayor: **William Drakeford**

RH P.50 **1611-2** Mayor: **William Drakeford**

Account Book (AB.): **1617**, Mr Drakeford was paid 20d for wine for the use of visitors the town was entertaining.

RH P.50 **1618-9** Mayor: **Edward Drakeford**

RH P.50 **1619-20** Mayor: **Edward Drakeford**

Misc. **1623**: James Hall of Congleton, woollen draper, purchased of **Edward Drakeford** in ye 20<sup>th</sup> year of King James (1623) a Daywork of Ground Situate in over Westfield.

Wills. **1623**. Ellen Oldfield, widow of Philip Oldfields of Somerford Hall; **Edward Drakeford** a witness to her will & **Edward Drakeford** an appraiser of her property for the inventory of **1624**.

RH P.37 **Edward Drakeford**. In **1624** Edward Drakeford was appointed an Alderman of Congleton under the Letters Patent of James 1, 1624-5. The mayor was Philip Oldfield and Edward along with seven other aldermen were to retain their office for life, unless replaced for some default. On death these aldermen were to be replaced by one of the Capital Burgesses. A high Steward and other appointments were made to run the authorities of the town.

RH P.38 **1624 Roger Drakeford**. Under the same order, there was to be appointed an office the incumbent of which was to be a 'Common Clerk' who would be 'a honest and discreet man' as Town Clerk. Roger held this position for 32 years until 1656. Two aldermen, John Hobson and **Edward Drakeford** were also to be Justices of the Peace.

RH P.55 **Town Clerks**. 1624. The list of town clerks mentions **Roger Drakeford** and that he was appointed under Letter Patent and that 'He was privileged to take the writing and enrolling of Reconizances of Debts'. It is further noted that three Town clerks were in place in 1421, 1428 and 1587. How this worked is not known with a gap of 159 years between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Roger was in post for 32 years covering the reigns of James 1 and Charles 1 until the formation of the 'Commonwealth' in 1649 and for the next five years. During that time, the town and the elders were for both sides of the civil dispute.

AB: 1624 **Edward Drakeford** was among those who went to London to obtain the new Charter, Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November to the following Monday. The town paid for hire of horses for the journey.

OB. 1624 **Edward Drakeford** Alderman among those making an agreement about the running of the town mill.

RH P.182 **Henry Oldfield** added a new fourth 'great' bell in **1624**. Expenses for the mayor and aldermen including **Mr. Drakeford**, amounted to 2s 8d. (Not in the Head index)

**Drakefords of Stafford**. Perhaps an indication of the allegiances for the Drakeford family it is noted that in **1625 Richard Drakeford** of Stafford was fined £10 for the non-appearance at the coronation of Charles 1 to receive the order of Knighthood. On the other hand it could be that he did not wish to be burdened with the additional cost that a knighthood would bear.

Wills. 1624 John Baylie, tanner. Witnesses to his will include **Thomas Drakeford** and **William Drakeford**.

OB. **1628 Edward Drakeford**, Alderman signed a document concerning a suit between Thomas Parnell and the Corporation.

AB. **1632 Mrs Drakeford** was paid 'a pottell' of wine (*a former liquid measure equal to two quarts*) for the gentlemen who came to examine Malbone's wife (*perhaps in connexion with a crime*). Women often worked in the inn owned by their husband's but it does not show whether a Drakeford was an innkeeper or sold wine in a shop.

Wills. **1632** John Parnell's inventory appraised by **William Drakeford Gent.**

RH P.178 A list of payments also includes AB:1632 **paide Justice Drakeford for wyne and shuger** bestowed upon Dr. Dodd when he preached & upon Mr Leigh's Chappleyn .. **5s10d.**

This entry refers to Justice Drakeford. This was Alderman Edward Drakeford, J.P.

Dr Dodd was chaplain to the King, Archdeacon of Richmond, Deacon of Ripon, Prebendary of Chester and Rector of Astbury! He preached before James I when the king made his progress through Cheshire in 1617.

AB. **1634 Roger Drakeford** the Town Clerk paid his usual 6s 8d quarterly salary.

RH P.80 In **1637 William Drakeford** was listed as a common councilman beneath that of the Aldermen. He is described as a 'Tanner'.

Page 51 **1638-9 Edward Drakeford** Mayor

From the above listed mayors for **Edward Drakeford** and **William Drakeford**, we can reasonably assume that these were the same two people with Edward having a span of 35 years, and William 20 years. It would be reasonable to assume that they were related and brothers or cousin.

AB **1641** To Mr **Edward Drakeford** as a Remainder upon his accounts 4d. *Meaning: The balance on the account left over.*

AB **1648** Oct: **William Drakeford** one of the overseers; Richard Drakeford mill reeve.

AB **1653** Last payment of 6s8d for quarterly wage to **Roger Drakerford**, town clerk.

AB **1656** Oct: **William Drakeford** overseer

AB **1659** To **John Drakford** for *Quarteringe of sum (some) soldieres for the Towne*  
00.06.00

This may indicate a large house owned by John or the fact he was an inn keeper!

AB **1660-61** Overseer's Accounts:

Rec'd by <b>William Drakeford</b> of Northwich Money	00.07.00
More by him of ye tole Money	00.02.10

RH P.94-101 **Biddulph Hall** This estate is not directly Drakeford but connected through the Bowyer family and Mercie Drakeford as described in the [Study Paper No: 4](#) about the Stafford family. This is of interest and worthy of consideration and a review of Drakeford land ownership, bearing in mind the sales and purchases of land by Richard Drakeford in the 1600s.

RH P.116-118 **1745 – Scotch? Rebellion** A significant intrusion by an army of some 1,300 men. The Drakefords do not appear to have been affected.

## **19) The Thomas Cooper lineage letter – 1888** (presumably the same Thomas Cooper as listed Mayor of Congleton 1883-4. Stephens page 342)

This letter of six pages is stored at the William Salt and reflects the fact that the reader has read the Robert Head book 'Congleton Past and Present' first published in 1887. Here below is the first page and pages 2 & 5 are shown at the end of this Section.

Mr Cooper is writing to a Drakeford on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 1888. It could be that he was a genealogist, or a lawyer or just someone who knew the history of Congleton. Jeremy correctly points out that a Thomas Cooper was mayor in 1883/4. It seems quite probably that this was one in the same person and could no doubt be confirmed by both 'names' having the same address of 'Mossley House, Congleton'.

This letter is mainly about the Drakeford family at Congleton but there are cross references to other Drakeford connections.

Worsley House  
Congdon  
Dec 22. 1888

My Dear Sir

The name of the 1<sup>st</sup> Witness  
at the back of the deed <sup>seems from</sup> which  
Leovage or Leovage - You will see  
that his father married Wm (of Worsley)  
William's Daughter (Cheshire  
Vic. of 1683.)

Is the other name Webb or Wells.

As to the Stonehewers those at  
Ballynora as well as those at  
Ballynora in <sup>some</sup> Worsley from the  
Biddulph Family of Stonehewers.

Dr. Arlidge referred to Thomas of  
Peplac Hall, market Drayton, upon  
entry to Woods Stoke or Forest Ridge  
of which you will see it is stated that  
Wm Biddulph married Wm. Thomas  
but that is a mistake it was Thos there  
is a Grant in Biddulph Church Yard. This  
marriage on 16th June 1600 Wm. Thomas to Smith  
Child. You will find a good deal of  
information respecting the Drakepots in  
Stearns History of Congdon but I have a

Mr Cooper draws a pedigree for the Drakefords but fails to appreciate that the link between Drakeford the Mariner and Drakeford the Stafford Town Clerk is not a direct line, but they are distant cousins. He does not appear, through this tree, to link the Drakefords of Congleton with the Drakefords of Stafford because the list is simply of the Stafford Drakefords from Richard Drakeford and Mercy Bowyer to Edward Drakeford who died in 1814.

The letter was obviously reviewed and there are additions, which are now shown in italics. The underlining is also as shown in the letter.

**Mossley House, Congleton, Dec. 22, 1888**

**My Dear Sir,**

**The name of the 1<sup>st</sup> Witness at the back of the deed / *sent you* is Richard Leosage or Leversage(1) – You will see that his father married Wm.a. (2)????? William's daughter (Cheshire Visn. 1683)**

**To the other name Webb or Wells.**

**As to the Stonehewers those at Bollington as well as those at Baileyford in Winch come from the Biddulph family of Stonehewer.**

**Dr. Oreledge(8) referred to Stonier of Peploe Hall, Market Drayton. If you refer to Wards Stoke on Strent Pedigree of Child you will see it is stated that Ann Baddaley married a W Stonier but that is a mistake it was "Thos"(3) There is a tomb in Biddulph Church yard. This marriage made him a Bro. in law to Smith? Child. You will find a good deal of information respecting the Drakefords in Head's History of Congleton but I have a lot of deeds witnessed by them for years they were lawyers in the town(4) for several generations – If they will give you any idea I will write down for you the dates of the deeds *I have sent you a list from Congleton History & Wards Hist{or}y***

**I am going to draw out a Stonyer Pedigree from my Doc{ument}s. I will write Mr. Grazehook with it. I wrote him the other day but he never replied *to my letter***

**I remain, Dear sir**

**Yours truly**                      *Thomas Cooper*

**P.S. No doubt the Lords of Biddulph were as you say but the Stonehewers must have been a wealthy family the lease you have shows it. It wasn't and one who could fund so many monks as Stonehewer did & this family of Lewards bought the ???? a Biddulph bought from ????? they had ???? ?????? there was a Richard Lewing Recorder of Chester but the signature cannot be his. I am satisfied it is "Leversage" I have the highwan? lease forms to the contra parts *ps I have sd. {studied} it with the microppe (5) & I am certain I am right***

## Drakeford Family

1563 **Roger Drakeford** (?????? Roll) Tunstall Court afod. XXd for land as owner.

(See Ward Stoke on Trent this land was in Stermoselow Wedgwood *if not at Wolstanton*.)

I have no doubts he was connected with the Congleton Drakefords *see Roger below(6)*

1591 **Thomas Drakeford** – a bookseller at Congleton

1570 **William Drakeford** was one appointed to adjust the sittings in Congleton Church

1592 One of the witnesses to a bond inspecting {in respect of} the Church Bells

1593 **Richard Drakeford** (is Mentd.)

1592, 1610-11 -years} **Wm Drakeford** was Mayor. In 1602 he was a juryman in an inquiry in respect of Leigh See Law ?? East Cheshire Vol.2 241

1604, 1608-9, 1619-0, 1638} **Edward Drakeford** was mayor 4 years. He was appointed one of the Aldermen & justices by James' Charter 19 Jany. 1624

1624 **Roger Drakeford** was appointed Town Clerk remained so till 1656

1638 **John Drakeford** was a Corn Come.t

1637 John Bradshawe the peer was mayor & Edward Drakeford was an Alderman & JP, & **William Drakeford** (Tanner) was a Corn Come.t

1657 **Wm. Drakeford** an Attny. He was called "An eminent Professor ???" he was robbed of certain accounts relating to Congleton"See Head's History of Cong. P.88(7)

1688 **John Drakeford** signed a mem{oran}d{um} (with others) to the Dean of York for a burial ground *to the church (see Head again)*

1821 **Jesse Drakeford**. A Corn Com.t. He was a cotton spinner.

It may seem strange that the Drakefords who maintained a respectable position as tradesmen in Congleton down to a very recent period *never took an active part after 1688*. The last mayor was Edward in 1638 – Jessee in 1821 was a decnt {descendant} of that Edward but the family so far as Congleton is concerned is quite extinct, but there is a clergyman in Sussex and a corn merchant in L{iver}pool still living.

I believe he is one of the witnesses to a Deed of which I make you a slip

On a separate page is the following list. From further research we can determine that it is inaccurate in as much that many offspring are missing, and that while he is mostly correct up to **Richard Drakeford** and his wife **Frances Wood**, he presumes that the following **Edward, Richard and Edward** were their children, they were those of **Richard Drakeford**, Town Clerk, Stafford and his wife, also a Frances.

**Richard Drakeford** - Mercy Bowyer daughter of Wm of Stafford (sic)

ab. 1839 (sic)

**Richard Drakeford** ab.1679 - Anne Babington daughter of Wm ??? ab. 1687 ??

Dgt Mary married Rich. Wilkes of Willenhall ab.

Richard == Anne      Rev. Matthew == Anne Ashley

**Drakeford** Dgt of **Drakeford** Rectr ab. 1704

ab. 1700    ab.1676    of Staff ab. 1703

**Richard Drakeford** == Priscilla Foden ab. 1728                      Dgt of Edward F. of Stafford Esq.

**Richard Drakeford** == Frances Wood of Stafford b. 1757                      b. 1755

**Edward** d.y (presume Died young)

**Richard Drakeford**, Esq., b. 1743, Mayor, 26th Reg Foot Died

30 May 1789 S.R. (sans relative) at Woore, Co Salop.

**Edward Drakeford** of Charnes Esq., ab. 1814. Died S.R. (sans relative or issue)

Jottings at base of page:

1639

  62

1577

  23

1553

1637

85 yrs

**Notes:**

- 1) Leversage.
- 2) Wilhelmina or similar.
- 3) Stonier - A Thomas Stonier is witness to the will and a Thos. Stonier is also mentioned above. I am sure this is the same one but we have no proof that there is a family contact.
- 4) They were lawyers in Congleton. – to be investigated, we know that they were in Stafford.
- 5) Micropper. This could well be a form of microscope for examining papers
- 6) It is not certain why this is referred to as 'below'. The 'below' **Roger Drakeford** was a Town Clerk in 1656 – nearly 100 years later! The **Roger Drakeford** in the letter has the will No.7 has a **Roger Drakeford** of Wolstanton who had land in Tunstall, a wife Elizabeth, son



Frances, and daughters Alice, Margaret, and also Richard, William, John and Roger and another daughter Margerie. His church parish has yet to be identified

- 7) Of interest the witnesses include a Richard Weggewood and a Thomas Stonier.
- 8) Page 88 states:

‘By another note taken from the examination of witnesses at Gawsorth in **1657**, relating to the extraction of Tolls between the town and Macclesfields, it further appears *“the magistrates of Congleton have byn for the king, and those of Macclesfield (for the) captaines and other officers of command ffor the Parlim ptye. And have taken the Maior of Congleton prisoner, and broken open and rifled the study of one Mr. **Willm Drakeford**, an eminent professor, Clarke, and a gent of greate employment in Congleton, who had may wroytings and records Concerninge the priviledges of Congleton for the most part in his Custody and keeping, wch were all taken away by the men of Macclesfield, and many other incivilities by their soldiers when the quartered in this said town”* ‘.

- 9) The reference to a Dr Oreledge, which is hard to read could be the historian Dr. Ormorod mentioned by Head on page 49 of his book as a source of reference for a will of James Spencer in cvx3s the reign of Henry VII.

### **Further general comments by Michael Drakeford on the letter by Thomas Cooper:**

From further research we can determine that this letter is reasonably accurate but that many offspring are missing. He is mostly correct concentrating on Richard and Ann Babington but does not list all their children. He has their eldest son Richard marrying an Ann which, is not correct.

He noted the important Wilkes connection and the marriage of the **Rev. Matthew Drakeford** with Ann Astley. He did not follow the Edward line to the Mariner, Richard. He correctly spots Richard Drakeford the Town Clerk and his wife Frances Wood. He then mixes the Town Clerk with Richard, The Mariner having the former dying in 1756/7 when it was in fact the Mariner. Also he had Frances dying when her daughter Elizabeth died in 1755 rather than 1780. Thereafter he is correct with the Major dying at Woore in 1789 and Edward in 1815.

The subsequent list refers to a notable Drakeford in Congleton from 1591 being a bookseller, senior involvement with the church, William as a Mayor in 1602, and Edward a Mayor for 4 years between 1604 and 1638, and Roger Drakeford a town clerk from 1624 to 1656. Edward Drakeford was an Alderman and JP in 1637. What is very interesting is that he comments that he, that is Cooper, had a lot of deeds witnessed by the Drakefords as his firm were lawyers in the town. By that I assume he means Congleton. This seems to tie in with the 1594 letter, land sales and so forth, indicating wealth rank and education, and the fact that Edward of Congleton was a lawyer and so were several of the Stafford family.

### **Illustration of Page two of the Cooper letter**

two deeds witnessed by them for years  
 they were lawyers in the town for many  
 generations - If they will give you any  
 idea, I will write down to you the  
 dates & of the deeds. *I have sent you a  
 list from Cooper's History which may*  
 I am going to draw out a  
 stronger pedigree from my Doc<sup>o</sup> of  
 I will write Mr. Graylock with it.  
 I wrote him the other day but he  
 never replied to my letter

I remain Dear Sir  
 Yours truly  
 Thomas Cooper

P.S. No doubt the hats of the olden time  
 were as you say but the Stone houses  
 must have been a wealthy family  
 the least you have shown it it would  
 any one who could find so many  
 initials as Stonehouse did & this family  
 of lawyers & great they say in the  
 town from 1700 to 1800 they had many good years  
 & there was a Michael & Cornig

Records of the town but  
 the signature cannot be his  
 I am satisfied it is not his  
 I have the original heard  
 from the town clerk  
*have it put into the microfilm  
 & I am certain I am right*

Illustration of Page five of the letter

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Richard Drakeford = Mary Knight Lt of W<sup>m</sup>  
 of Shrop<sup>sh</sup> ob. 1739

Richard Drakeford = Anne Babington d. of W<sup>m</sup>  
 ob. 1779

Richard Drakeford = Anne  
 ob. 1760

Rev Matthew Drakeford = Anne Ashley  
 ob. 1703

Richard Drakeford = Bridgetta Foster  
 ob. 1728

Richard Drakeford = Frances Wood of Shrop<sup>sh</sup>  
 ob. 1757

Richard Drakeford  
 ob. 1743. Major  
 26<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> Foot  
 30 May 1789 J.R.  
 at Wood Lodge p.

Edward Drakeford  
 of Chomes ob. 1844  
 J.R.

15

1839  
 62  
 1577  
 62  
 1552  
 189  
 1763