

# Lynsted Times



Saturday 17 September 2016

## SPECIAL ISSUE No 6 "COUNTRYFILE!"

### SHOCKING PLACE TO LIVE!

#### LIGHTENING KILLS MARE

**D**uring the storm on Friday evening, a valuable mare, belonging to Mr. Edward Strouts, of Ludgate Farm, Lynsted, was struck dead, supposed by the lightning, as a tree in the orchard where the animal was grazing, was materially injured by the electric fluid. The mare had a foal about two months old, which escaped unhurt.

*29th August 1826 - Kentish Weekly Post or Canterbury Journal*

#### LIGHTENING KILLS CLAXFIELD LANE MILLER

**GREENSTREET. A MAN KILLED BY LIGHTNING.**- On Monday night, about seven o'clock, a dreadful storm of thunder and lightning burst over this place. Mr George Furrell, of the Union Mill, was leaving the mill, and had but just got outside when he was struck to the ground senseless, in which condition he was found and taken home. He was found to be suffering from extensive burns, his flannel shirt being burned through by the electric fluid. He never recovered

his consciousness, and died about eleven o'clock on Thursday morning.

*5<sup>th</sup> April 1864: Kentish Gazette*

#### LIGHTENING DESTROYS BOGLE WHEAT STACK

**LYNSTED - DESTRUCTIVE FIRES.** Soon after the storm had swept over this place on Monday night a stack of wheat upon Bogle Farm, the property of Mr. C. Murton was discovered to be on



fire, and before help could be procured the whole of the stack was consumed. It is supposed that the stack was fired by the lightning. The estimated loss is about £150, which will fall upon the Kent office.- On Wednesday night an alarming fire broke out

upon the premises adjoining the residence of Mr. Edward Blaxland, at Dadmans. It appears that the groom left the stables all safe about nine o'clock at night, and about eleven o'clock a domestic servant found them in flames, and at once raised an alarm. The stables, barns, and other outbuildings were burnt to the ground, and two valuable hunters, two calves, two couple and a half of hounds, number of pigeons, and a quantity of harness were destroyed. The buildings destroyed were the property of Colonel Tyler, and were insured in the Kent Office; the loss is estimated at about £250. The livestock was insured in the Norwich Union office, and the loss is estimated at upwards of £190.

*5<sup>th</sup> April 1864: Kentish Gazette*

#### LIGHTENING STRIKES LAD IN ERRIOT WOOD

**LYNSTED. THE THUNDERSTORM.** On Friday afternoon a cottage at Erriott Wood was struck by lightning, and a lad rendered insensible for a time.

*25<sup>th</sup> July 1891: Whitstable Times and Herne Bay Herald*

Issues 7 - *Coming Soon*

## NEVER WORK WITH ANIMALS, CHILDREN OR MACHINERY!

### GIANT FOX KILLS SHEEP TO EAT THEIR EARS

An animal, which for some months past, has been in the habit of occasionally visiting the different sheep folds in the neighbourhood of Lynsted, in Kent, and selecting a sheep, which it killed, and of which it uniformly ate the ears and sucked the blood, but left the carcass untouched, proves to have been an over-grown fox, which was found in Elliot Wood (sic), last week, by Messrs. Blaxland and Hilton's hounds, and, after a sharp burst, was killed in view. In a field adjoining the cover a sheep was found, which had been killed the previous night, and left in the usual manner. The stomach of the fox contained a quantity of wool.

*11th November 1817: The Morning Chronicle, also in The Ipswich Journal*

### HUNTSMAN KICKED IN THE HEAD

**F**AVERSHAM.- On Friday a serious accident happened to Mr. John Barling, huntsman of the Tickham Fox Hounds. In taking a leap the horse fell, and both the animal and his rider rolled over together. Mr. Barling's foot was entangled in the stirrup, and his spur was buried in the horse's

flank. On getting up the horse kicked Mr. B. on the forehead inflicting a frightful wound, which bled profusely, much to the gratification of the hounds, which surrounded him and licked up the blood. The poor fellow was at first thought to be killed. He was carried to the half-way house, Challock, and afterwards conveyed in a chaise to his father's at Lynsted, and under able medical care is doing better than was expected.

*17th February 1844: West Kent Guardian*

### HUNTSMAN KICKED IN THE KNEE

**ACCIDENT IN THE HUNTING FIELD.** We regret to learn that Mr. Edward Blaxland, of Dadmans, Lynsted, met with a serious accident whilst following the Tickham hounds on Monday. He was riding behind Colonel Dyke, of Sittingbourne, whose horse, a vicious animal, suddenly kicked, and struck Mr. Blaxland most violently, inflicting a compound fracture of the kneecap. A medical man, who happened to be in the field, was immediately in attendance on Mr. Blaxland, who was conveyed home, and we are happy to hear that, considering the nature of the injury, he is progressing as well as can be expected. Mr. Blaxland is an old and much respected member of the Tickham Hunt,

and we sincerely hope that the accident may not long deter him from resuming his favourite sport.

*15th November 1873: Whitstable Times and Herne Bay Herald*

### CHILDREN DROWN IN SHEEP DIP!

**GREENSTREET.** On Saturday evening, the 4th instant, a fatal accident happened to a child about six years of age, named William Mercer, son of a labouring man, residing at Teynham-street. It appeared the deceased and some other children were at play near a cistern used for washing sheep in a place called Teynham Peat, when the deceased accidentally fell into the cistern, and, although but a short time elapsed before he was got out, life was found to be extinct. An inquest has since been held before J. Hinde, Esq., and a verdict of "Accidentally drowned" returned, the jury expressing their regret at so dangerous a place being left without either fence or covering, two or three previous accidents having proved fatal.

*21st May 1844: Kentish Gazette*



## THRESHER KILLS LYNSTED MAN

### "MAN RUN OVER BY A THRESHER AT LYNSTED.

Mr. C.B. Harris, County Coroner, held an inquest on Saturday afternoon at the Foxhunters Inn Lynsted, touching the death of Thomas Tumber, a man nearly 50 years of age and of no fixed abode, who was run over and crushed near there on Thursday night by a threshing machine. The circumstances of the deceased together with statements he had recently made seemed to point to the fact that the fatality was not an accident, but the evidence was not conclusive on the point, and so the jury returned an open verdict.

The first witness called was Alfred Packham, who resides at Rodmersham Green, and is employed by his brother, Robert Packham, the owner of threshing tackle, engine and thresher. He identified the body of the deceased and said that he had been working for the witness' brother, who employed him off and on when required. On Thursday last they had been working at Mr. Ash's at Elverton, Stone, and left there shortly after four o'clock in the afternoon to proceed to Mr. Farmer's at Kingston {Kingsdown?}. Before they left, the deceased, who had been employed with the engine, was paid off, the amount then due to him being 3s. 4d. On the way to Kingston they stopped at the "Lion" at Lynsted at about 7 o'clock. Witness saw the deceased there and he was then sober. After a brief stop, witness, who was driving the engine, continued the journey to Mr. Farmer's, and as

they were going slowly up the hill his flagman, Edward Fagg, called out to him "Blessed if Tumber ain't run over." They stopped the engine immediately and found deceased lying between the front and hind wheels of the machine. The deceased had no duty whatever with engine or thresher after he was paid off at Elverton, and he had not been riding on the draw bar between the engine and the thresher; at all events he was not on it when witness fired up at **Dadman's**, about half a mile from the scene of the accident. Witness added that they had only had one



day's work in eight at Elverton owing to sacks not arriving and to bad weather.

Edwin Fagg, the flagman, stated that he walked in front of the engine and did not see the deceased after leaving **the Lion**. When they were drawing in near the "**Foxhunters**" witness went to the back of the machine to get his basket, and as he was returning he stumbled against something in the road, and he called to the driver to stop. He did so at once, and on investigating with a light – it was a very dark night – they found that deceased had been run over. He was quite dead. Witness thought he must have seen the deceased if he had been sitting on the draw bar. There was nowhere else where he could have sat. The deceased was a very dissatisfied man. He had had a bad week, but witness understood that he could have had other work.

Occasionally witness had seen him drunk, and he had queer ways sometimes.

Thomas Friday, of Warren Cottages, Bapchild, the steersman of the engine, stated that he had heard deceased say several times that he wished he was dead. Only a fortnight ago he said he wished someone would shot him as he was starved and had no work.

P.C. Watson described how he found the body, and the injuries deceased received.

The jury returned a verdict that the deceased died from injuries sustained through being run over by the thresher, but how he came to be so run over there was not sufficient evidence to show.

*29th February 1908: Whitstable Times and Herne Bay Herald*

## FARMER KILLED FALLING FROM LADDER

**LYNSTED. FATAL FALL FROM A LADDER THROUGH THE HEAT.**- Mr. Coroner Harris held an inquest at the Black Lion on Thursday, touching the death of Henry Edmed, 50 years of age, a painter, who had for many years worked for Mr. Back, of Lynsted. It appeared from the evidence that on the 2nd inst. deceased was standing on a ladder painting the sash of a second floor window, at the back of a house in Station Road, Sittingbourne, when he apparently became giddy through the intense heat of the sun, and fell to the ground, a distance of 24 feet. He was picked up unconscious, and removed to his home at Lynsted, where he was attended by Dr. Selby, who found him suffering from concussion of the brain, with symptoms of fracture at the base of the skull, and injury to the upper part of the spinal cord. He gradually became paralysed, never regained

consciousness, and died on Tuesday last, the cause of death being paralysis from pressure on the base of the skull. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death".

*21st August 1897: Whitstable Times and Herne Bay Herald*

## MORE LADDER FALLS

**GREENSTREET: SERIOUS ACCIDENT:-** On Thursday morning, Mr. John Wildish, of Greenstreet, and three of his men were engaged tiling some cottages belonging to Captain Lake, at Barrow Green, when the ropes of the scaffold snapped, and three of the men, named William Wilson, carpenter, James Kemp, bricklayer, and another, fell a distance of nearly twenty feet to the ground below. It was found that Wilson, a rather old man, had fractured his left wrist, injured his legs, and bruised his face. Kemp had fractured his ribs. They were immediately attended by Dr. Pritchard, who had them removed to their homes, Wilson to Greenstreet, and Kemp to Doddington. The third man was not injured. Mr. Wildish caught one of the rafters and saved himself.

*25th May 1869: Kentish Gazette*

## FARMER FALLS TO DEATH

**LYNSTED.** Accident to Mr. J.R. Goodwin. A very serious accident has befallen Mr. John Robert Goodwin, farmer, of Cellar Hill, Greenstreet. Mr. Goodwin, who is well advanced in years, was in a tree in his orchard at Cellar Hill on Wednesday afternoon, when he overbalanced and fell to the ground injuring his spine and receiving nasty gashes on the back of the head, one of which necessitated several stitches. Messrs. Robert and Arthur

Goodwin (sons of the injured man). Who are both ambulance men, were soon on the spot, together with Mr. Fred Dalton (another ambulance man), who conveyed Mr. Goodwin to his home, where he soon received medical attention from Dr. Selby. Mr Goodwin is going on as well as can be expected.

*15th August 1914: East Kent Gazette*

## Later Reported to Have Died

**LYNSTED FARMER'S DEATH.** Mr John R Goodwin, farmer, of Cellar Hill Farm, Lynsted, died on Sunday from injuries he sustained through a fall from a tree in his orchard on the 12th inst. Deceased, who was 67 years of age, had farmed for some years at, Lynsted. A verdict of "Accidental Death" was returned at the inquest on Monday, and the jury expressed their deep sympathy with the widow and family."

*East Kent Gazette of 22nd August*

## THE HACKING COUGH Lynsted Tobacco Plantation

### CORRESPONDENCE: TOBACCO CULTURE.

To the Editor of the Manchester Courier. Sir,-

**I**t may interest some of your readers, especially the smoking division, to know that tobacco is being grown in this country by the acre, and that the enterprise is a perfect and wonderful success.

Being near to London, I learnt on Sunday that my friend Professor Kains-Jackson was going the next day (September 20) to see some tobacco harvested from a field near to Lynsted, in Kent, and also

Have you  
seen

Special  
Issues

1, 2, 3, 4  
& 5

Out now



to see some tobacco leaves being dried in hop kilns, and in various stages of curing and preparing for market.

I found the filed rather easily, as it was surrounded by hop-poles to break the force of the north-east wind, so prevalent in that part of Kent, and I knew that the plants were tobacco, having seen it growing in the States, otherwise I could never have told that the tall cabbages were tobacco plants, as they were 4ft. high on average; however, I passed on to find my friend and his host, the enterprising grower. They were returning from examining the tobacco leaves being cured in a hop-kiln, and took me there after seeing the growing plants and the mend stripping them of their leaves.

Numbers of these leaves were measured with my walking stick, and found to be inches longer than it was. In fact, to my amazement, I found that a fair average-sized leaf, measured a yard in length and half-a-yard in breadth; so that if we value them, when partly dried, at 6d. per lb., and allow one plant to every square yard, and one pound of leaf to every plant, and as there are 4,840 yards to the acre, this will give us a crop worth £120 per acre, and, as I said to Professor Jackson, will solve the three acres and a cow difficulty in a very unexpected manner, by putting it in the power of a cottager to plant a quarter of an acre of ground with tobacco plants in June, spending the light evenings by hoeing, cleaning, and so on amongst his plants, and employing his wife and children, or somebody else's wife and children, in harvesting the leaves in September and partially curing them later on. But I am taking up to much of your space, and must make the yarn longer another time, should you thing it of interest to your readers.- Yours, &c.,

J.M.FLETCHER. September 21, 1885

*23rd September 1886: Manchester Courier and Lancashire General Advertiser*

## THE ENGLISH TOBACCO CROP

In reference to the British harvest, one has now to include a greater and a lesser novelty - namely, maize and tobacco. In April last, when Lord Harris found the Royal Agricultural Society considered the date too advanced to attempt the experiment of growing tobacco, he said, with some confidence, "But the Royal



Horticultural Society will try a quarter of an acre at Chiswick." Wherein the writer of this article remarked, "But the public will not be satisfied with Royal societies or gardeners' experiments - farmers must grow it themselves, and by the acre." At this juncture the president and

hon. secretary of the Ensilage Society, believing the attempt might yet be made in 1886, applied to and obtained from the Inland Revenue Department very prompt permission for several agriculturists to grow "the Indian weed". As a result, there are now at this date, growing and maturing, several acres of English tobacco. I visited two lots last week, and I have to record the first impression of seeing the crop - this was that the dangers and difficulties said to be lying in wait for the British agriculturist in the cultivation of tobacco are ending, as difficulties often will end when they are met, in smoke. .... The above remarks infer that English tobacco

g r o w i n g  
successfully is  
so far accepted  
as a general  
probability,  
failure not  
b e i n g  
apprehended;  
reckoning of  
course, always,  
that the drying  
and curing  
process of good  
product can be  
accomplished by  
Englishmen in  
the English  
climate. ... On  
Thursday last I  
had expected to  
see the tobacco  
crop at Lynsted,  
in Kent, grown  
by Mr Faunce  
de Laune, but a  
letter from that  
g e n t l e m a n  
defers my visit  
t i l l n e x t  
M o n d a y ,

because on that day "he will be taking out one cured lot of tobacco, and be putting in a fresh lot of tobacco. Of the two kinds cured, one lot has come out in the finest yellow leaf, which has been inspected by one of the chief tobacco manufacturers in the

country, who pronounces it to be of the best quality. Besides, on Monday I shall be filling my silos with buckwheat and hop-bine." This extract carries the experiments a step further - the growing has been successful, and the drying also successful.

.....Correspondent of "The Field".

*24th September 1886: Aberdeen Weekly Journal*

**"THE ENGLISH TOBACCO CROP.** A writer in the Field says - The experimental fields of growing English tobacco have gone through the past week without injury from frost and the plants are ripening slowly, and probably most of them will be cut down during next week. In some cases picking has been done partially, and the main difficulties of the novel experiment have been already attacked - that of drying the leaves. However, here the remark should be made that these novel difficulties only exist through their novelty; they have been overcome and reduced to mere working details by cultivators abroad. Real difficulties are non-existent, when soil, climate, and industry have produced the tobacco plant well grown, of good quality and maturity.

Our English growers, therefore, have this encouragement that English soil and climate have undoubtedly produced tobacco plants of astonishing luxuriance, and that whatever failure ensues - and failure in several respects is not likely to be avoided this first season - will carry with it its own explanation and cure. ....

I saw, on Monday afternoon, the prompt enterprise which Mr de Laune exhibits in all his agricultural undertakings. The tobacco leaves as they were cut were strung together in pairs, and at once suspended from a rod supported by a newly-made wooden horse of the right height.

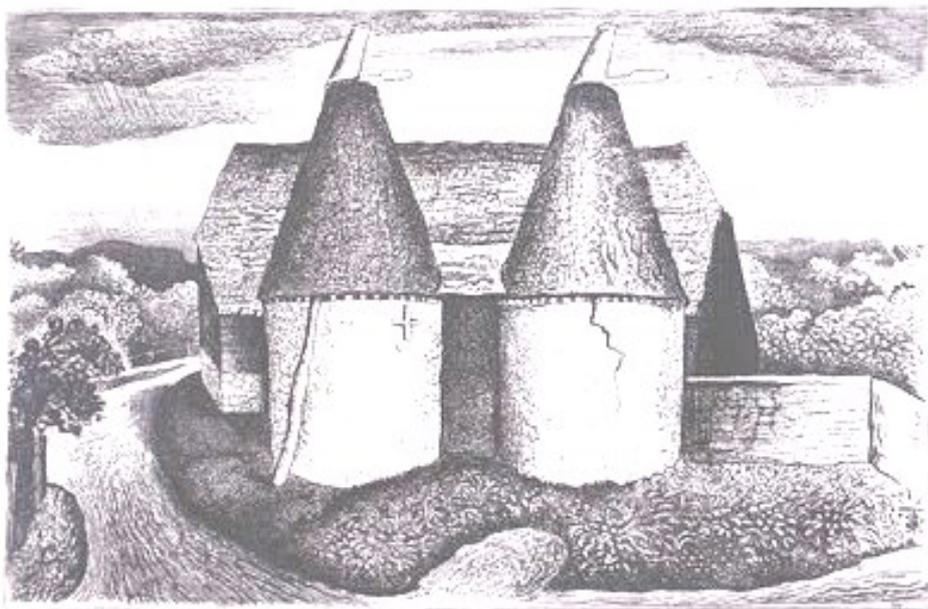
So the leaves, some nearly two feet broad and over a yard in length, cleared the ground, and when the rod was completed it was carried away to a framework of wheels, which latter when loaded was trundled off to the ample oast house. This picking off the leaves for curing, rather than straddle the whole plants in pairs, seemed to me decidedly the best practice, as the stalks require much more time and heat to dry than do the leaves. At the oast house I made my first acquaintance with dried English tobacco in various stages. It was premature to say last week that this yellow leaf tobacco had been pronounced by a manufacturer to be of superior quality. What he did say was "the yellow colour and character of the leaf at present, promised that, when completely cured, the tobacco would be first rate." But between promise and fulfilment there is the wide gulf of English

fawn-colour glove, and the pliability and suppleness were much the same; but next comes the task of fixing this colour, and at present this work has to be accomplished. ...."

*2nd October 1886: Berrow's Worcester Journal*

Mr E. Moss, steward to J. Barling, Esq., of Lynsted, has now in his possession two cub foxes, suckled by a cat; they were put to the cat when they were a fortnight old, and they have been with her ten weeks she is remarkably attentive to them, and appears more fond of them than of her own species, and plays with them, and carries them mice when she catches any.

*26th May 1825: The Morning Chronicle (York Herald & Hereford Journal)*



inexperience, and "perfect cases" are comparatively rare everywhere. At Lynsted, the smokeless coal of the oast house fires gives out plenty of heat (laden with sulphurous fumes), yet I could not see well how the crescendo scale of temperature could be regulated with a delicacy necessary to the process. Some Kentucky leaves had been very successfully treated; the yellow colour was as true as a lady's

