

“ELIZABETH ANN TIVEY”

A POIGNANT STORY OF VILLAGE LIFE



The above postcard photograph was taken in front of “Meadow View” porch and depicts Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Tivey, who was born in France, together with her children Gertrude, Thomas, William and May.

BY SAMUEL T STEWART - JANUARY 2024

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Elizabeth Ann was born 04 July 1868 in Boulogne Sur Mer, France to Thomas Allen, a commercial clerk and possibly Mary Jane Horsfall (mother of Elizabeth's siblings Florence, Gertrude and Percy). She became a British subject through her parents. By 1871 Elizabeth was living with her parents at 9 Grimsby Street, North Leeds, Yorks. In 1881 the family were living at Iron Furnace Cottages, Little Harrowden, Northants. In 1891 at the age of 22, she was a domestic servant to James Richardson, Hosier and Sub Post Office Master, at 94 Bishopthorpe Rd, St. Mary Bishophill Senior, Yorks.

Her future first husband, William Wardle Tivey, was born in Worthington to Thomas Tivey (a farmer) and Elizabeth nee, Wardle on 15th July 1853.

William Wardle Tivey and Elizabeth Ann Allen, shown in the above photograph, were married at St. Mary's Church, Osgathorpe on January 23rd 1895. She was 15 years younger than William. They lived at Field Farm, Osgathorpe just along from the Gate Inn towards Belton which her husband owned and farmed.



FIELD FARM c.2000

In addition to their children Gertrude (b. 1898, Belton), Thomas (b. 1899, Belton), William (b.1900, Osgathorpe) and May (b.1904, Osgathorpe), William and Elizabeth had another daughter in 1903 named Maud Hannah (see newspaper article below) who died in tragic circumstances.

William Tivey died on the 4th of June 1906 at which time they were at Greaveley Farm which her husband had purchased. In his will dated May 29th 1906, he left everything to his wife Elizabeth. The will was proved for probate on July 27th 1906 with the gross value of the estate given as £1403 : 19 : 10. and a value of his personal estate of £68 : 16 : 9.

It was barely eight months following his death whilst Elizabeth was obviously still running the farm that a tragedy occurred as reported in the following newspaper articles:-

Melton Mowbray Mercury & Oakham & Uppingham News – January 31st 1907
BURNING FATALITY AT OSGATHORPE – DANGERS OF UNGUARDED FIRES

A sad burning fatality at Osgathorpe on Friday morning. It appears that Elizabeth Tivey, a widow, took her children's breakfast to them in bed on the morning in question and then went to feed the cattle. When she came back at about 7 o'clock, she saw her daughter, Maud Hannah, aged 4 years, standing before the fire with her night dress in flames. The mother at once wrapped her daughter in a hearth rug, and with assistance of a neighbour, put linseed oil on the burns. Dr. Atkinson was sent for and applied a further dressing to the wounds, but about 12.15am, the child died from shock after suffering great agony

Nottingham Evening Post - Jan 26th 1907
BURNING FATALITY AT OSGATHORPE.

A sad burning fatality occurred at Osgathorpe yesterday morning. Having taken her children's breakfasts to bed, Elizabeth Tivey, a widow, removed the fireguard and went off to feed the cattle. On returning, she found her four year old daughter Maud Hannah in flames near the fireplace. The child, who was in her nightdress, was wrapped in a hearthrug, and the flames were extinguished. The burns were dressed with linseed oil by the mother and neighbour. Dr. Atkinson was summoned, but death ensued about midday.

Elizabeth got re-married to William Henry Allard, an underground colliery labourer on October 15th 1907 at St. Mary's Church, Osgathorpe. Their postal address in the 1911 census is given as Ivy Cottage (3 rooms). This in the three story tenement building at the side of Osgathorpe brook shown below in an extract from the photograph on the front page.



Elizabeth and William Allard are recorded as having a child together but this had died prior to the 1939 register records.

The 1939 register shows William Allard and his wife Elizabeth now living with William and Elizabeth Tivey's son Thomas (now aged 41) by her first marriage at Greavely Farm. Thomas is recorded as being a mixed farmer whilst William Allard's occupation

is a quarry loader. Thomas Tivey was married at some point but by 1939 is recorded as being a widower.

Following Elizabeth's death on January 10th 1945, aged 76, probate was granted to William and Thomas Tivey (farmers) to the value of £1,454 11s. 4d. This suggests that Elizabeth had retained ownership of Greaveley Farm and it was being rented / managed by her son Thomas, following her marriage to William Allard.



Elizabeth's grave in Osgathorpe Breedon Road Cemetery