

**THE LIFE AND TIMES OF SIR GEORGE HOWLAND
BEAUMONT, 9TH BARONET OF STOUGHTON (1828 -
1882) AT COLEORTON HALL (INCLUDING
BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON HIS FATHER, SIR
GEORGE HOWLAND WILLOUGHBY BEAUMONT, 8TH
BARONET OF STOUGHTON)**



BY SAMUEL T STEWART - UPDATED SEPTEMBER 2022

FRONT COVER PORTRAIT

Portrait of Sir George Howland Beaumont 9th Baronet, by Eden Upton Eddis, possibly painted at the attainment of his majority in 1849

CONTENTS

(FORESHORTENED TITLES)

- PAGE 3 - THE COLEORTON BEAUMONT'S LINEAGE**
PAGE 4 - AN OVERVIEW OF COLEORTON HALL AND GROUNDS AS IT GENERALLY WAS WHEN THE 9TH BARONET RESIDED THERE BETWEEN 1849 & 1882
- PAGE 13 - BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE 8TH BARONET**
PAGE 18 - THE 9TH BARONETS SUCCESSION TO THE FAMILY HONOURS AND ESTATE
- PAGE 20 - FESTIVITIES AT COLEORTON TO CELEBRATE THE ATTAINMENT OF THE MAJORITY OF THE 9TH BARONET**
- PAGE 23 - WILLIAM SHERWIN APPOINTED LAND AGENT, STEWARD & SOLICITOR TO THE 9TH BARONET**
- PAGE 24 - THE 9TH BARONETS FIRST MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN**
PAGE 25 - FESTIVITIES AT COLEORTON HALL ON THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARRIAGE OF THE 9TH BARONET & THE BAPTISM OF HIS SON AND HEIR
- PAGE 28 - THE MARRIAGE OF CONSTANT MARY BEAUMONT, SISTER TO THE 9TH BARONET**
- PAGE 30 - AN OVERVIEW OF NEW BUILDING PROJECTS COMMISSIONED BY THE 9TH BARONET**
- PAGE 37 - THE DEATH OF LADY BEAUMONT**
PAGE 39 - THE SECOND MARRIAGE OF THE 9TH BARONET
PAGE 40 - PRESENTATIONS AT COLEORTON HALL TO THE 9TH BARONET'S SON AND HEIR
- PAGE 46 - DEATH OF THE 9TH BARONET**
PAGE 47 - A TRIBUTE TO MONTGOMERY HENDERSON - HEAD GARDENER
- **THE FLOWER GARDEN AT COLEORTON HALL**
 - **THE ROSE GARDEN**
 - **COLEORTON HALL KITCHEN GARDEN**
- PAGE 54 - SOME REPORTED NOTEABLE EVENTS WHICH TOOK PLACE DURING THE PERIOD THE 9TH BARONET WAS RESIDING AT COLEORTON HALL**

SUGGESTED COMPLIMENTARY READING

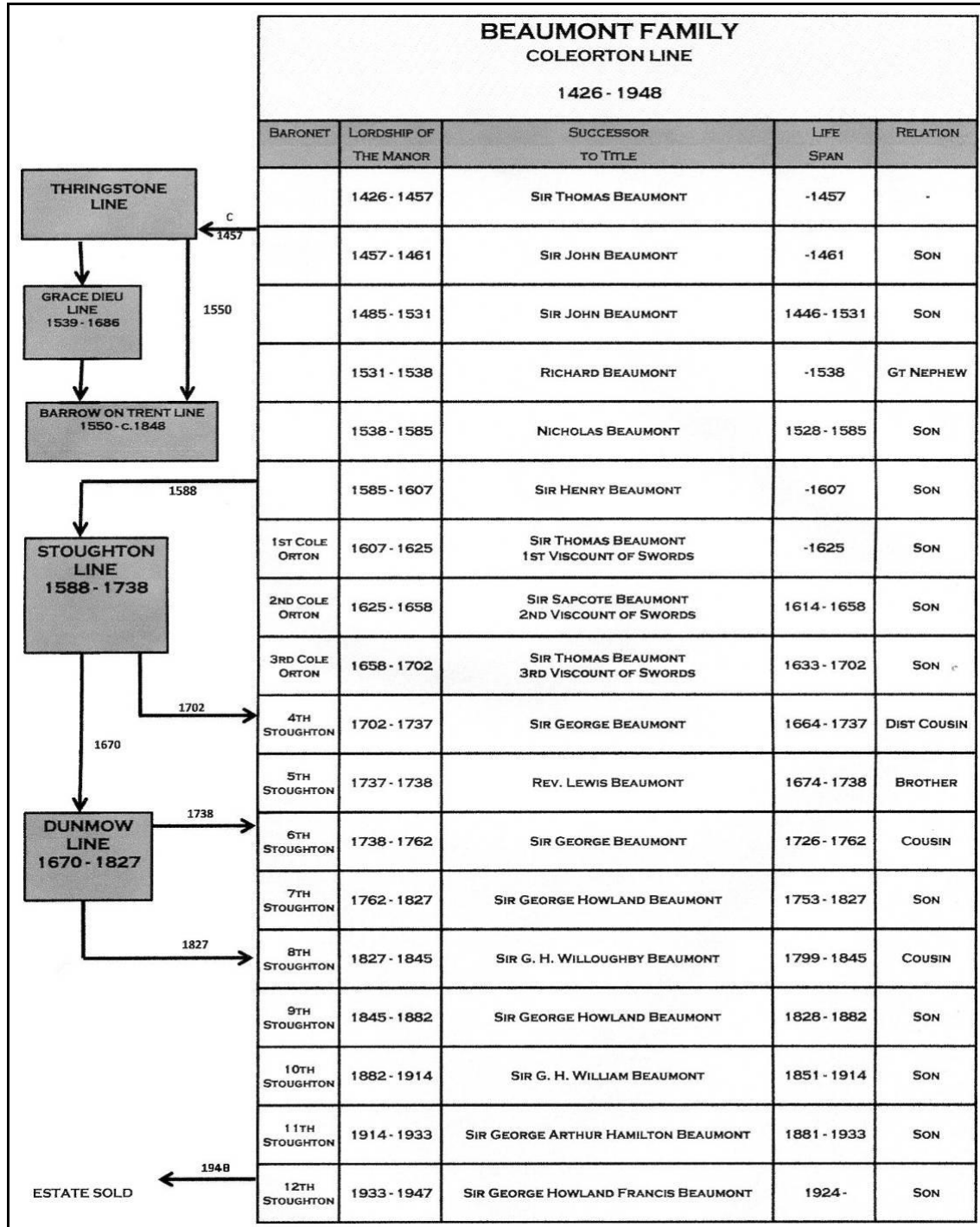
Free to download and read on the author's website

- **SIR GEORGE BEAUMONT'S RETURN TO COLEORTON & THE RE-BUILDING OF THE MANOR HOUSE**
- **WILLIAM WORDSWORTH'S WINTER GARDEN AT COLEORTON HALL**
- **ROBERT CHAPLIN'S ARCHITECTURAL CONTRIBUTIONS AT COLEORTON HALL**
- **SIR G. H. W. BEAUMONT 10TH BARONET, 1851-1914**
- **THE SPORTING 11 TH BARONET**
- **COLEORTON FISHPOND AND BRIDGE & PADDOCK COLLIERY**
- **COLEORTON VILLAGE HISTORY AS SEEN THROUGH THE EYES OF THE NEWSPAPERS**
- **THE COLEORTON SHERWINS' 1739-1887**

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THE COLEORTON BEAUMONTS' LINEAGE



THE 12TH BARONET DIED IN 2011

SIZE OF THE ESTATE OWNED BY THE 9TH BARONET IN THE PARISH IN 1876

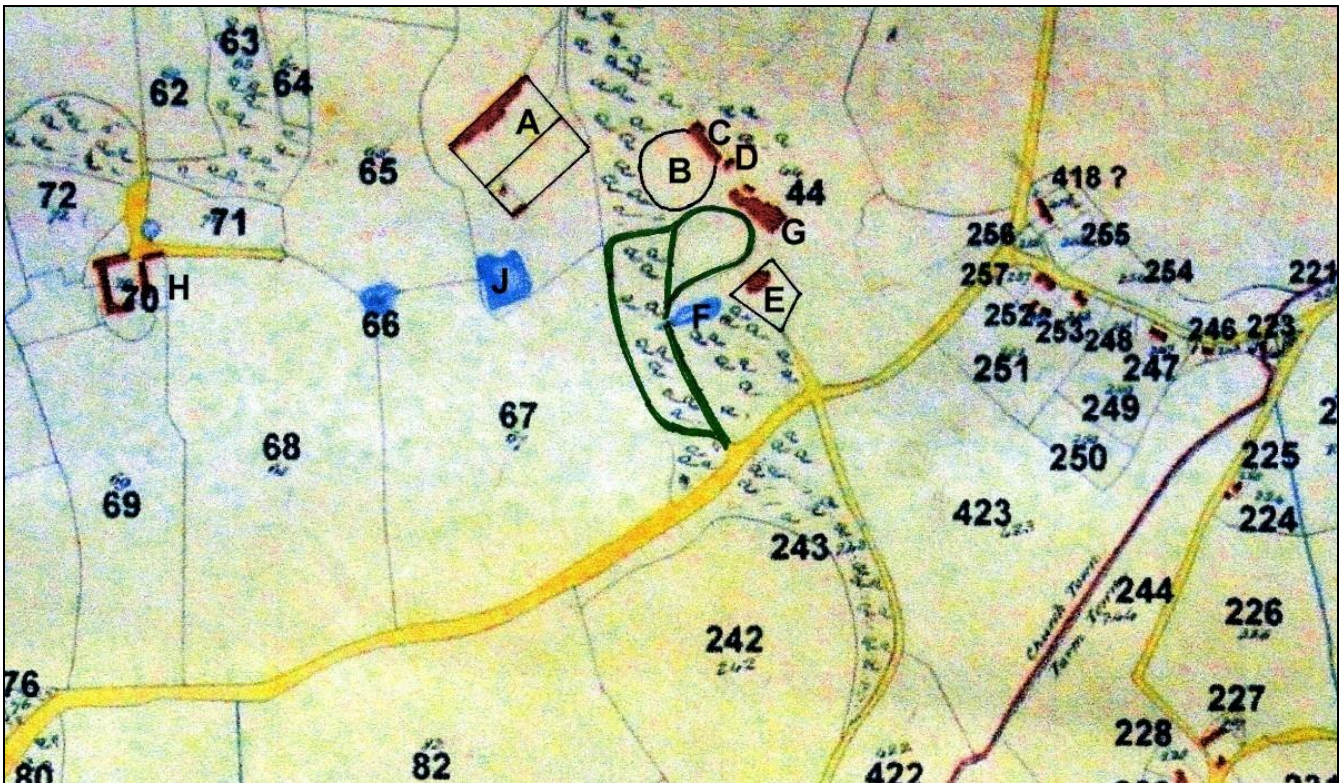
It was recorded in the Leicester Chronicle & Mercury - Saturday, March 11th 1876 that the baronet owned 2,477 acres 1rood 29 poles of land in the parish of Coleorton with a rateable value of £3,685 14s.

AN OVERVIEW OF COLEORTON HALL AND GROUNDS AS IT GENERALLY WAS WHEN THE 9TH BARONET RESIDED THERE BETWEEN 1849 AND 1882

The author recommends that the readers acquaint themselves with the publication entitled "William Wordsworth's Winter Garden at Coleorton Hall" before reading the following, which is free to download and read on the author's website website.

The following extract from the 1842 "Coleorton Tithe Map" has been included in order to show the area around Coleorton Hall only three years prior to the death of the 8th baronet in 1845 and when the 9th baronet succeeded to the family honours and estate. It has been annotated by the author in order to provide the reader with a clearer understanding of the surroundings and buildings there at that time.

There are some inaccuracies in the map in respect to the geographical orientation of the various features described and scale. However, the 1881 O/S map shown later, provides a relatively accurate scale and perspective.



The Tithe map shows the area of Robert Chaplin's new kitchen garden marked **A** described later in the book in relation to the 9th baronets head gardener Montgomery Henderson. Coleorton Hall is marked **G**, and Hall Farm is marked **H**. The latter was accessed by a track from the main Ashby Road between the fields numbered **68** and **69** (shown on the following 1881 O/S map). St. Mary's Church is marked **E**, Chaplin's Stable Block is marked **C**. The Brewhouse/Coachman's Cottage is marked **D**. The area **B** was the site of the kitchen garden prior to Chaplin's new kitchen garden

marked **A** being built (a modern housing estate has been built on this area). **B** later became the pinetum and then in the 1900's, tennis courts were built on the site. **J** marks the location of the garden pool shown later. Importantly, it records the stone bridge and drive coloured green spanning church pool marked **F** described below.



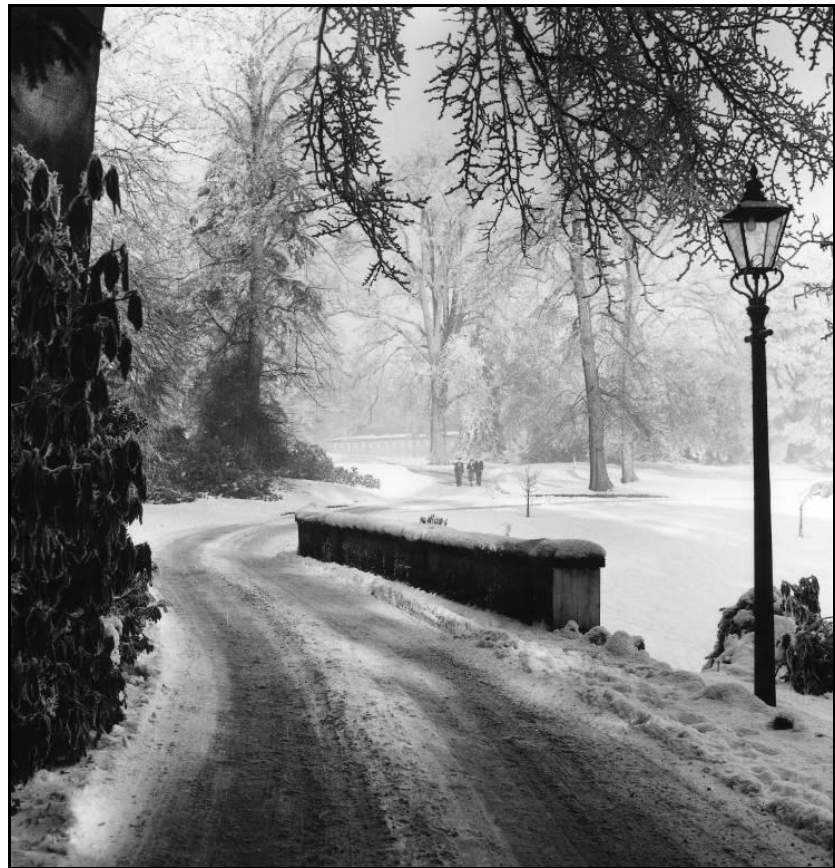
**The Bridge at Coleorton Hall spanning church pool
Drawn by Sir George Howland Beaumont, 7th Baronet - 1825**



This photograph of the grade II listed single-span ashlar stone bridge, taken in 2015 by the author, traversed the pool known as “Church Pool” (marked **F** on the preceding tithe map), and carried the sweeping gravelled entrance drive to the hall. This can be compared to the painting by Sir George Beaumont shown on the previous page. The grassy hollow in front of the bridge shows where the pool was, but it was much deeper than this of course, however, it still holds water as was the case when this photograph was taken. The pool stretched either side of the bridge.



Photograph taken spring 2015 by the author



Winter of 1957 when the NCB were at the hall



Photo Credit L.C.C.

Copyright owned by the originator

No provenance is available for this picture (oil on canvas) and it could have been painted by the 7th baronet or other artists visiting the hall after 1810

A certain amount of draughtsman's license has been used in this painting but it does indicate church pool to the front of the hall although the perspective is incorrect, and importantly, it shows the wall around the church which separated it from the hall grounds, although an entrance was made in the wall to allow the family to enter the church privately.

The artist has clearly shown a pool adjacent to the church although there never was a pool in that area.

THE GARDEN POOL

The following photographs show what we will refer to as the garden pool. It is adjacent to and south west of what was the former Robert Chaplin kitchen garden, and is marked **J** on the 1842 Tithe Map. The flat area was thought to have been created to provide the Beaumonts' with what at that time would have been a secluded bathing and picnic spot, as the surrounding area would have been heavily wooded at that time.

The original stone steps leading down to the pool remain, but appear to have been capped with modern slabs at some time. They can be seen clearly in the centre of the bottom photograph rising up from the flat area.

The second photograph also shows in the foreground, a good example of the stone edged gravelled footpaths which formed part of the woodland walks around the hall grounds.



The garden pool in spring 2015

THE BREW HOUSE / HEAD COACHMAN'S COTTAGE MARKED D ON THE 1842 TITHE MAP AND THE GAME HOUSE

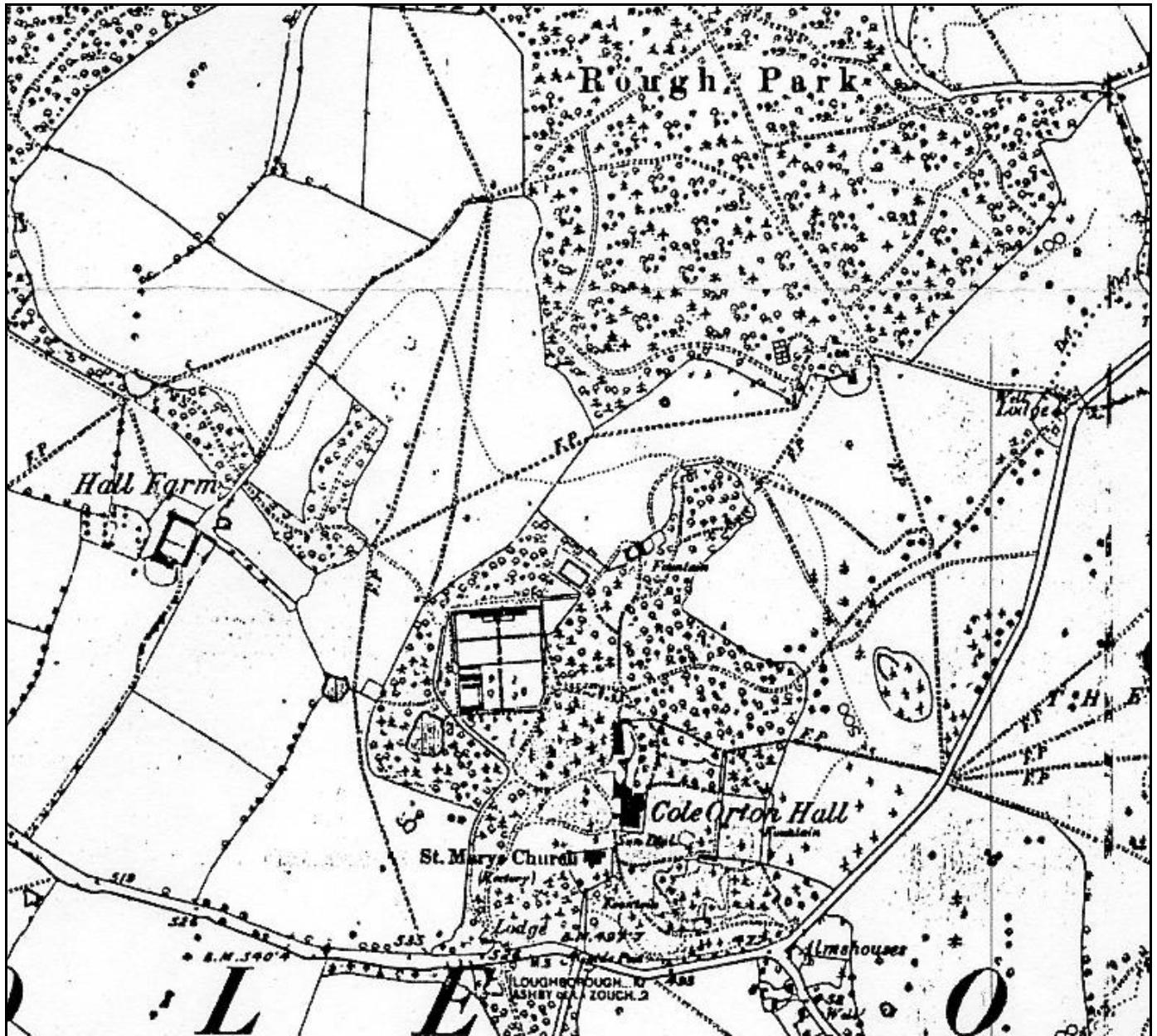
The brewing of ale was an ancient tradition carried out on estates and farms for private domestic consumption by the owners family and worker's. This applied at Coleorton Hall which had its own "Brewhouse". The LH photograph below taken in 2015, shows the head coachman's cottage (formerly the brewhouse) to the right. A brewhouse is mentioned in an inquisition on Sir Henry Beaumont's death in 1607. Research material found on the estate "Ice-House" at Coleorton Hall gives an example of ale being supplied to it from the Beaumont Arms in 1836, which suggests that by this time ale was not being brewed in the Brewhouse anymore. In fact, it would have ceased earlier than this, as the brewhouse was converted into a cottage for the coachman c.1806, and when the hall was advertised for letting in 1890 in the London Morning Post, it was advertised with a coachman's cottage.



The 1979 photograph on the left, is a close up of the head coachman's cottage (former brew house) adjacent to the stables. The photograph on the right is cropped from the lower 2015 photograph, and the small building in the centre with the pitched roof was a former game house, presumably used to hang the game in following a shoot. This was converted into an electricity sub-station by the NCB at some point during their time at the hall.



The 1881 6 inch O/S map below shows features in the correct orientation compared to the 1842 Tithe map. One striking difference on this map is the significantly increased wooded areas created around the hall over a period of 40 years. **The 9th baronet died in 1882** only one year after the map was issued, so it provides a true reflection of the area when he was residing at the hall.



SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

The area to the east of the Rempstone Road, traditionally known as “The Paddock” in the 19th and 20th centuries, and used for grazing stock in those times, was part of what was once the ancient “Coleorton Common” which in the 18th century would have been an industrial landscape of coal mines and its associated machinery with the remains of a medieval fishpond to the NE of the current Coleorton Fishpond which was established at the beginning of the 19th century probably as part of the re-landscaping of the grounds for the newly built Coleorton Hall in 1808. The industrial

landscape in this area would have been cleaned up to improve the views from the new hall no doubt. Apparently, the old Coleorton Common was recognised as an important horse trading centre in the 17th century, which from later newspaper reports seems to have been a tradition maintained to some degree in later years. This area has sometimes been referred to as "Parkland", which is not strictly true. The only Parkland referred to in 19th century records was Rough Park and smaller areas such as Canterbury Park (see the later article on "Canterbury Lodge").

The area of "Rough Park", shown on the preceding map, was the site of one of the two ancient medieval deer parks in Coleorton and is historically important. The Rough Park area is the more historically interesting and contained 15th century coal mines which were excavated and destroyed by the nearby open cast mining operations between 1985 and 1993. Rough Park also included the road built by Sir George Beaumont in the 1830's to avoid the crippling turnpike tolls after he unsuccessfully tried to get them reduced.

THE GROVE

"The Grove" was originally a densely wooded area which was referred to in 18th century Parish Records. It circled the old Coleorton Hall from its boundary with "Canterbury Park" (see later information on Canterbury Lodge) in the NE in an anticlockwise arc to the SW, up to the west side of the churchyard where there is an ancient rookery.

It extended for approximately 350m north of the hall, and is clearly defined on the preceding 1881 O/S map. The author has recently walked the area which now benefits from thinning out of trees and re-planted areas, which lets in the light and affords magnificent views northwards and eastwards from the northern lobe shaped area. There is still evidence of stone edged pathways which were created throughout the area in the preceding photographs of the garden pool.

The Grove develops into a lobe shaped projection at the northern end, and it can still be observed that this was retained by stone terraced walls. Coleorton Hall's own "Home Farm" was built in this area to the north east of the kitchen garden in the mid 1800's, and the buildings can be seen on the 1881 map. The farm house was demolished in 1953 by the N.C.B. due to subsidence.

There is a suggestion that this area was developed as a quarry at some earlier time and subsequently became a quarry garden, features remain which suggests that to be the case. Towards the northern end of the grove, a fountain is depicted on the map, and it is possible this was associated with the garden pool shown in the following drawing, but this is only conjecture. The pencil and grey wash drawing, entitled "The Grove", was drawn by Sir George Howland Beaumont, 7th Baronet in 1804.

There currently exists a large hollow in the ground in the area of the projecting lobe, and it is likely that this was once the pool shown in the 7th baronet's drawing. It clearly shows men at work together with extensive views (to the north?), and the perspective suggests the ground falls away to the right. As construction of the new hall started in 1804, then landscaping of the gardens would have also been underway, by the time Sir George did his drawing.



**"The Grove" 1804 - pencil and grey wash drawing
by Sir George Howland Beaumont, 7th Baronet**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE 8TH BARONET

SIR GEORGE HOWLAND WILLOUGHBY BEAUMONT, 8TH BARONET OF STOUGHTON (1799-1845) AND FATHER OF THE 9TH BARONET

He was the eldest son of Sir Thomas Beaumont of Buckland Court, Surrey, and his wife Bridget Davie (d.1842), the youngest daughter of the Rev. William Davie of Creedy Park (Devon), vicar of Exminster (Devon) and prebendary of Exeter, born 16 December 1799. Educated at Eton (admitted 1814) and Christ Church, Oxford (matriculated 1819), he was a patron of the arts and a friend of the artist, David Wilkie, who had also been part of his father, the 7th baronet's artistic circle.

Sir George Howland Willoughby Beaumont, 8th baronet, succeeded to the Baronetcy on the death of his first cousin Sir George Howland Beaumont, 7th baronet, on 7th Feb 1827. The 8th baronet was challenged as to being the rightful heir in the courts, and the saga went on for some time but he was eventually accepted as the rightful heir. *He inherited the Dunmow and Buckland estates from his father in 1818 and the Coleorton estate from his first cousin once removed in 1827, at which point his Buckland estate passed, under his father's will, to his younger brother.*

He married, 16 June 1825 at St George, Hanover Sq., Westminster (Middx), Mary Anne (1806-15th February 1834), the eldest daughter of the most Rev. & Rt. Hon. Dr. William Howley (1766-1848), Archbishop of Canterbury 1828-48. They had issue:

- Susan Mary Beaumont, born at Fulham Palace on 31st August 1827 and died September 25th 1827. She was buried at Buckland, Surrey on 29th Sept 1827.
- George Howland Beaumont, b. 1828, who succeeded to the family honours as the 9th baronet of Stoughton.
- Raymond Curzon Beaumont, born and died in April 1830. Baptised at Coleorton on 14th April 1830. Buried at Coleorton, 10th May 1830.
- William Beresford Beaumont, b 13th March 1831, at Addington Park, d. 18th February 1901, aged 69. Was rector of Coleorton for 36 years.
- Willoughby Hastings Beaumont, b. 15th April 1832 and baptised at Addington on 6th Jan 1833. Died young on 20th February 1835 aged two and a half years.
- Constance Mary Beaumont born at Addington Park on 25th July 1834 and baptised at Addington, 22 August 1834. Married 6th July at Coleorton to William Unwin Heygate (1825-1902), barrister-at-law and MP for Leicester, 1861-65, Stamford, 1868, and South Leicestershire, 1870-80. The son of Sir William Heygate (1782-1844), 1st baronet. of Rocliffe Hall (Leics). He died 7 June 1845 and was buried at Coleorton. his will was proved 29 July 1845 (effects under £25,000). She had issue of three sons and one daughter. Constance Mary died 7th October 1929. Her will was proved 12 November 1929 (estate valued at £910).

The highly respected 8th baronet died on Saturday evening, June 7th 1845, at Coleorton Hall, his seat in Leicestershire, in his 46th year and was buried at Coleorton. His will was proved on 29th July 1845 (effects under £25,000). His wife

died at Hyères (France), 15 February 1835 and administration of her goods was granted on 3rd of November 1860 (effects under £20).

Supplementary information :-

During his later life, the 8th baronet, must have been a very sick man. Invoices from his doctors Thomas Kirkland & Dalby covering year's 1838 to 1843 show that they were visiting on a daily basis and even more frequently over some periods, and high levels of medication were being administered. According to his death certificate, the 8th baronet died of Bilious Diarrhoea at 32 minutes past 4am at Coleorton. The informant was his butler Samuel Love.

An extract from Kirkland and Dalby's invoice from 1841 is shown on the next page.

Thomas Smith Kirkland leased a building from the Grammar School which was situated where the HSBC bank is now in Market Street, Ashby de la Zouch, and it remained as a doctors or surgeons house till 1880.

Thomas Smith Kirkland was a descendant of Thomas Kirkland (1721-1798) who became a surgeon at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire. In January 1760 he became involved in the murder case surrounding Laurence Shirley, 4th Earl Ferrers: he was called in to attend the steward of Lord Ferrers after he had been shot by his master.

Sir Geo Beaumont Bart		
To Kirkland & Dalby		
1844		
Jan 14	A Powder & Draught - M B	19
	A Mixture	3
	A Journey	36
25	A Journey	36
Feb 1	A Journey - Sir Geo	36
	A Powder	6
	A Powder & Draught	19
	A Mixture - M B	3
2	A Journey - Sir Geo	36
	Four powders	2
	Four Draughts	5
3	A Journey	36
	A Powder	6
	A Powder & Draught	19
	A Mixture - M B	3
	A Mixture - Sir Geo	3
4	A Journey - Sir Geo	36
	Four Draughts	5
	A Powder	6
	A Powder & Draught	19
5	A Journey - Sir Geo	36
	A Powder & Draught	19
	A Powder & Draught	19
6	A Journey	36
	A Mixture	3
	A Powder & Draught	19
	A Draught	13
7	A Journey	36

THE 8th BARONETS PARLOUS FINANCIAL SITUATION

The 8th baronet experienced financial problems in his later life. A case was heard c.1840, in the high court of justice (chancery division) brought by the 8th baronet, Sir George Howland Willoughby Beaumont, under the settled land act, where he sort to obtain sanction from the court to sell off various chattels from Coleorton Hall.

The income from the estate was given as £8,000, but there was a charge of £10,000 on the estate. It was proposed that a sale of chattels including pictures and various other items should be made to set against the debt. At this time, the 8th Baronet's only surviving son and heir, George Howland, was an infant aged about 12.

Based on the fact that the chattels proposed were left in trust by the 7th baronet, the guardian of the infant (ad litem) strongly opposed the sale of the pictures, which would become the property of the child if he attained 21.

In the exercise of his discretion, Mr. Justice Chitty declined to sanction the sale proposed to be made. The application therefore failed, and the summons was dismissed.

It must be remembered that prior to the court case, the 8th baronet had invested heavily in the Coleorton Railway to join up with the Leicester to Swannington railway at the Swannington incline in order to bring coal from his mines in the Smoile near Lount to Leicester and lime from Cloud Hill quarry via the Cloud Hill tramway which joined up with the Coleorton railway at Worthington Rough. He invested £5,500 (36% of the money raised and it was also built on land he owned). The Coleorton railway only used horse drawn waggons and never utilised steam power. It survived for some 40 years and had a somewhat roller coaster life with some high points of profitable traffic, and many lows when traffic was inadequate. Overall, the line was a financial failure, in part, as a result of the very competitive pricing being achieved in the Leicester coal markets, due to a price cutting war between the Derbyshire collieries and the new collieries at Coalville.

The **Sherwins' of Coleorton** were clearly good and loyal friends of the Beaumont's, and when the 8th baronet and the estate were experiencing serious financial problems, **William Sherwin junior & senior**, plus the Rev. Charles Pratt made total loans of £23,000 between Oct 30th 1844 and March 10th 1845 to the 8th baronet shortly before his death. £18,500 of this was split between William Sherwin junior and the Rev. Charles Pratt, vicar of Packington but it is not known what the percentage spit of this was. A copy of the invoice is shown on the next page. Rev. Platt became the future father-in-law of William Sherwin junior.

There is more on the Sherwins of Coleorton in the publication by the author entitled "The Coleorton Sherwins' 1739-1887".

Mr. Sherwin in account

1844.			£	s	d	
Oct. 30.	Cash received from Messrs Sherwin and Pratt	18500				Dr
	Cash from Mr. Sherwin Lend	2500				Dr
Nov. 6.	Cash received from Walker on your account	263	19	2		Cr
To amount due to Mr. Sherwin to balance		91	4	0		Dr
		£21,355		3	2	
1845.			£	s	d	
March 1.	By Cash from Mr. Sherwin to enable us to pay Mr. Learnhead	410				Dr
10	By Cash from Mr. Sherwin being a further loan to you and being with the £2,500 above mentioned £4,200. secured by mortgage this day	1290				Dr
		£1700		0	0	

**GEORGE HOWLAND WILLIAM BEAUMONT,
9TH BARONET OF STOUGHTON (1828-1892)
SUCCESSION TO THE FAMILY HONOURS AND ESTATE**

On the death of his father, the 9th baronet was only 17 years of age, when he succeeded to the house of Beaumont on the death of his father in 1845. Edward Butt Knight, the 8th baronet's land agent of long standing had recently pre-deceased him and in consequence of this, young George was brought up by his maternal grandmother in London at Lambeth Palace and Addington Palace, Nr. Croydon, which was the summer residence of the Archbishop between 1828 -1848, although for a time he would have been at Winchester College, Hampshire where he was educated and Christ Church, Oxford where he matriculated. His grandmother was the former Mary Francis Belli the wife of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the most reverend William Howley. They were mother and father of Mary Anne Howley, who became the wife of Sir George Howland Willoughby Beaumont, 8th Baronet of Stoughton. She also brought up the 9th baronet's younger sister by eight years, Constance Mary, from a baby at Lambeth Palace and Addington Palace.

The 9th baronet did not move permanently to his seat at Coleorton Hall until he achieved his majority in 1849.

It appears that Coleorton Hall's Canterbury Lodge was built in commemoration of the Archbishop, probably by his wife who was also administering the Coleorton Estate at this time on behalf of the then orphaned 9th baronet, who was under 21 years of age. It is possible that she may even have paid for it, as on the death of the 8th baronet, as the estate was undergoing fiscal problems (not resolved until the early 50's) and it hardly seemed likely that the trustees or guardian would commit the family to the expense of non-essential building work at that time.



Canterbury Lodge (Bottom Lodge) – 2015

Coleorton Hall's second lodge, officially named Canterbury Lodge, but known locally as Bottom Lodge is still situated on the Rempstone Road about 700m north east of the hall. It was originally approached from the hall by a tree lined drive through an

area known as Canterbury Park which was roughly the area west of the Rempstone Road and between The Lodge, the Grove, and Rough Park. When the hall was advertised for letting in 1890, this drive to the hall appeared to be still in use.

We know the lodge was first occupied in April 1849 as a surviving hand written agreement reads as follows:-

“The undersigned Frederick Bowler acknowledge myself the occupier of the new lodge erected by Sir George Howland Beaumont on his Coleorton Estate and of the garden thereto on the terms that I shall quit the same at any time on receiving a months notice from the said Sir George Howland Beaumont or his agent so to do and during my occupation of the said premises I engage to consume thereon exclusively of the Smoile Coal.

*Dated the seventh day of April 1849 – Frederick Bowler
Signed by Frederick Bowler
Witness by Peter Heward*

**FESTIVITIES AT COLEORTON TO CELEBRATE
THE ATTAINMENT OF THE MAJORITY OF
SIR GEORGE HOWLAND BEAUMONT, 9TH BARONET
AND THE MOVE TO HIS SEAT AT COLEORTON HALL**

Leicester Mercury - September 15th 1849

On Wednesday, the attainment by Sir George Beaumont of his majority, and his succeeding to the full enjoyment of the honours as well as possessions of the House of Beaumont, was celebrated with great rejoicing by all his tenantry and the inhabitants generally. The bells rang – guns were fired – “The Melbourne Brass-Band” blew its blithest strains - the cottagers were supplied from the Hall with beef, bread and ale, and some of the workmen with blankets and other clothing – ponies ran races that had never run a race before – and after sundry loyal and neighbourly demonstrations had been made by the assembled multitude, “one cheer more” was given with right lusty lungs as the young baronet expressed his hope that the holiday might become an annual one.

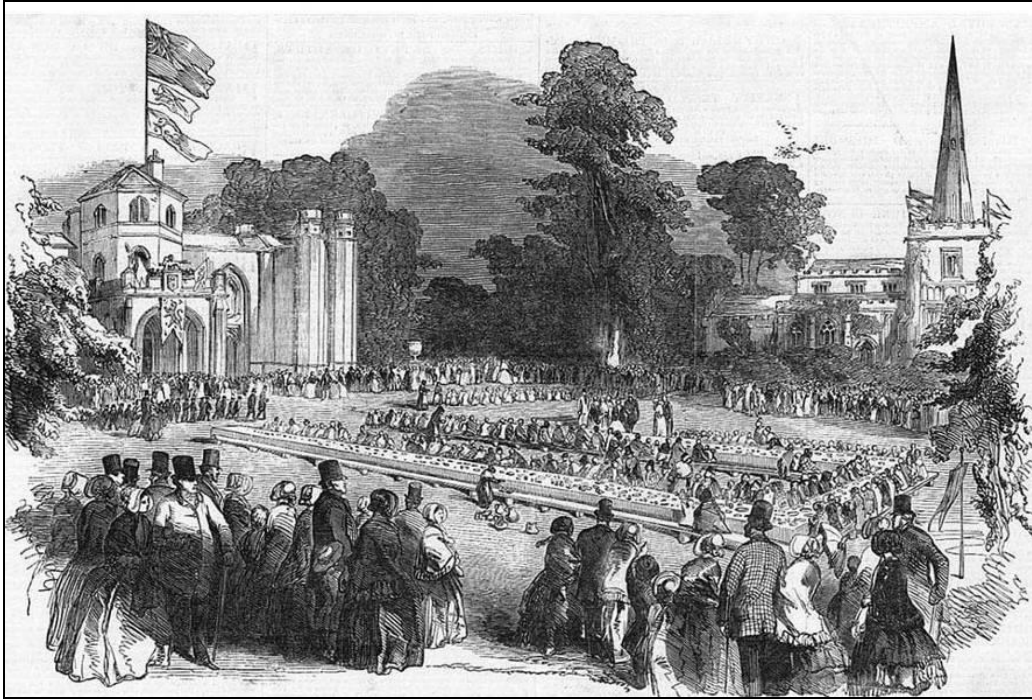
Sir George and his friends then adjourned to the Hall, where we cannot doubt but an elegant entertainment was provided.

In the after-part of the day, upwards of seventy of the tenantry and tradesmen sat down to an excellent dinner at the Beaumont Arms, the repast (we learn from the brother-pen of the Journal) being not only ample, but sumptuous.

William Sherwin, Esq., was in the chair, and was supported by Messrs. Walker and Knight as vice-chairman. The venerable Chairman (**upwards of eighty years of age**) discharged his duties with great ability and animation; and several appropriate addresses were delivered by him and others including Sir George Beaumont, Mr. Hodgson (**who was associated with Mrs. Howley in the management of the Beaumont property during Sir George’s Minority**), Mr. W. Beaumont, the Vice-Chairman, Mr. J. Bonnett, Mr. Onslaw (who avowed, with great heartiness, that he was fond of fox hunting) &c.

On Thursday, about 800 women and children were invited to a tea-party in honour of the happy event; and many made their wishes, over their “innocent cups”, that Sir George Beaumont, might long live to enjoy the wealth and honours to which he had just succeeded.

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The above print is described in an "Illustrated London Newspaper" dated Oct 1849 as follows – "Fete at Coleorton Hall to celebrate the *majority* of Sir George H Beaumont, 9th baronet."

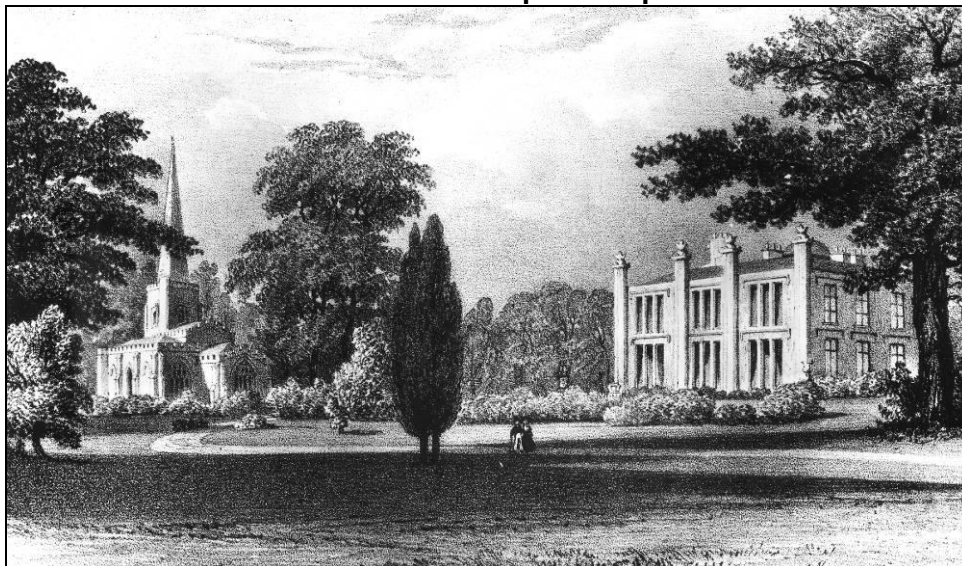


An oil painting of the festivities – artist unknown

ENGRAVINGS OF THE HALL AS DESIGNED BY GEORGE DANCE IN 1807 AND AS IT WOULD HAVE STILL LOOKED WHEN THE 9TH BARONET FIRST TOOK UP RESIDENCE



South West Elevation
Coleorton Hall drawn by J.P. Neale c.1809 and engraved by J.Scott.
Note the coal mine spoil heap in the distance.



South East Elevation
An old engraving of Coleorton Hall and St. Mary's Church with the hall still as George Dance had designed it for the 7th baronet, from this south easterly aspect (date c.1855).

Perhaps the most striking external features of the rebuilt Coleorton Hall in 1808 are the tall, slender octagonal "turrets" rising above the roof to decorate the skyline. The turret caps are described by Stroud as "flattened cones, ringed with anthemion cresting, and topped with finials similarly decorated" that give an oriental touch reminiscent of Dance's Guildhall façade of sixteen years earlier.

WILLIAM SHERWIN APPOINTED - LAND AGENT, STEWARD & SOLICITOR TO THE 9TH BARONET

Continuing their close relationship with the Beaumont's, **William Sherwin junior** (b.1809) of Coleorton (solicitor / attorney) became land agent, steward and solicitor to the 9th baronet in 1849 when he attained his majority. The following agreement dated 1849 is confirmation of that.

An Agreement made the *sixth*, day of *April*, One Thousand Eight Hundred and *forty nine*, Between *William Sherwin* as Agent for, and on behalf of SIR GEORGE HOWLAND BEAUMONT, BARONET, of the one part, and *James Knight* of *Worthington* Farmer, of the other part; Witnesseth that in consideration of the Rents and Agreements hereinafter respectively reserved and contained by the said *James Knight*, his Executors, Administrators, and Assigns; to be respectively paid, observed, and performed. The said *William Sherwin*, hereby agrees to set to the said *James Knight*, who hereby agree to take all that Messuage, and all those Lands, with the Out-buildings, Rights, and Appurtenances thereto belonging, situate at *Worthington*, in the Parish of *Breton on the Hill* in the County of Leicester; and more particularly described in the Schedule hereunder written, excepting and reserving unto the said SIR GEORGE HOWLAND BEAUMONT, the Hares, Rabbits, Pheasants, Partridges, Snipes and other Game from time to time upon the said premises with full power by himself, his Servants and Friends, and others by his permission, to follow, pursue, and preserve the same, and to sport over the same premises. To Hold the said premises from the sixth day of April now *instant*, for the term of one year, and so on from year to year so long as both parties shall agree, and until six calendar months notice in Writing shall be given previous to the end of any one year, by either party, to quit or leave the said premises at the end of the year for which such notice shall be so given. Paying unto the said SIR GEORGE HOWLAND BEAUMONT, during the said term, the yearly Rent of *One hundred and fifty Pounds*, of lawful British money in even portions quarterly, on the sixth day of July, the eleventh day of October, the sixth day of January, and the sixth day of April in every year. Also paying during the said term unto the said SIR GEORGE HOWLAND BEAUMONT, on the days aforesaid, (in addition to the yearly Rent hereinbefore reserved,) for every Acre of meadow or pasture ground, which the said *James Knight*, his Executors, Administrators, or Assigns shall plough, break up, or convert into tillage contrary to the Agreement hereinafter contained, the yearly Rent of Twenty pounds of like lawful money, on the days, and in manner aforesaid; the first payment of the said additional Rent to be made on such of the said days as shall happen next after such ploughing, breaking up, or conversion into tillage as aforesaid. And the said *James Knight*, for himself, his Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, hereby agrees with the said SIR GEORGE HOWLAND BEAUMONT in manner following; namely during the continuance of this Agreement to pay unto the said SIR GEORGE HOWLAND BEAUMONT, at the times and in manner aforesaid, the said Rents hereby reserved, or such of them as shall be payable; and also to pay all taxes, rates, and assessments, (except Property and Land tax,) which during the said term shall become payable in respect of the said premises; also during the continuance of this agreement to maintain and keep the said Farm and premises, with the gates, roads, stiles, fences, drains, bridges, ditches, and water-courses in tenantable repair, being allowed materials in the rough for that purpose: Also to keep in good repair and condition the fixtures and windows of the said Messuage and buildings, and the pumps and wells, if any, about the same. Also to spend and consume all the hay, straw, and fodder to be produced from the said lands and the manure and compost arising therefrom upon the premises to the best advantage, and not sell or dispose thereof, or any part thereof. Also not to break up any meadow or pasture land which has been laid down

THE 9TH BARONET'S FIRST MARRIAGE AND CHILDREN

The 9th baronet married twice. His first marriage at the age of 22 was to Paulina Menzies Belli on 4th June 1850 at St. Peter's, Eaton Square, London. She was born on 19th September 1828 at Hooghly, Calcutta to William Hallows Belli and Sarah Sherman. She died on 9th December 1870 at Coleorton Hall. According to the death certificate, she died of Scarlatina Exhaustion after 4 days. They had six children including his son and heir the 10th baronet:-

• Lina Mary Howley Beaumont	b. 1857, d. 6 Jun 1934. Married Major Gavin R Hamilton, of Lillyheagh Castle, County Down at St. Mary's Church, Coleorton
• Eleanor Grace Beaumont	b. Coleorton March 27th 1859 d. Coleorton 16 Dec 1870 from Scarlatation (12 days) and Diptheria (4 days)
• Sir George Howland William Beaumont , (became the 10th baronet)	b. 10 Mar 1851, d. 21 Jun 1914
• Francis Howley Beaumont	b. Naples 11 Feb 1854, d. Hampton Wick 3 Jan 1875
• Frederick Louis Maureward Beaumont	b. 17 Jun 1862, d. 26 Nov 1948
• Henry Cecil Charles Beaumont	b. 24 Apr 1864, d. 13 Feb 1944

FESTIVITIES AT COLEORTON HALL ON THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARRIAGE OF THE 9TH BARONET AND THE BAPTISM OF HIS SON AND HEIR

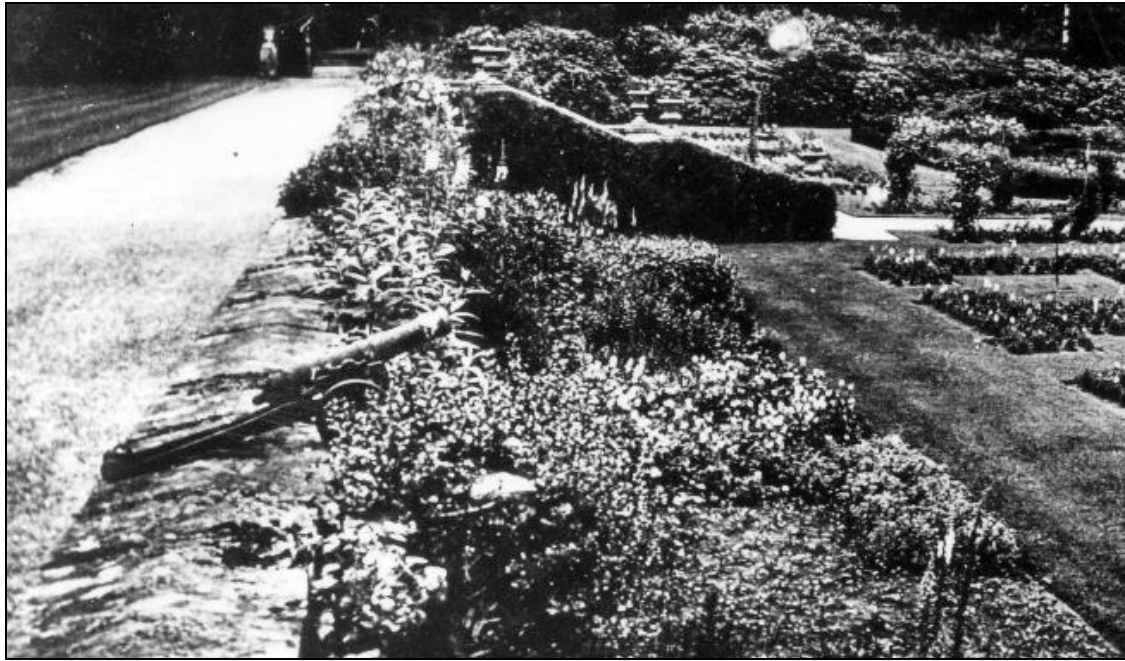
Leicester Mercury - June 7th 1851

Coleorton Hall, the residence of Sir G. H. Beaumont, 9th Bart., was on Wednesday last the scene of great festivity, it being the first anniversary of the honourable Baronet's wedding day, and also the day fixed for the baptism of his son and heir. A programme of the amusements of the day had been in circulation for some days previously, but a note at the bottom said, "Should there be any appearance of rain; the amusements will be postponed till the next day". The state of the weather was consequently a subject of much anxiety on the part of the villagers and the residents in the neighbourhood, especially when some smart showers fell on Monday night. On Tuesday morning, however, the sun shone brightly – too brightly to shine long, in the opinion of the weather-wise; and their predictions were fully verified in the course of the day; but the whole of the morning continued fine, the preparations went on, and a large number of persons gathered.

Before describing the particulars day's proceedings, we must state that great improvements have been made on the Coleorton estate during the last five or six years. Several cottages of a superior kind, in the Elizabethan style of architecture, with plots of gardens and shrubberies around them, present a very picturesque appearance. Various other improvements have been, and are still, being made. During the past year several new walks have been formed on the wooded parts of the ground on the north-east side of the hall, while on the southern side about two acres of ground has been cleared of wood, a portion of it covered with turf, and the remainder sown with grass, the whole tastefully planted with shrubs and ornamental trees. Two new windows were put in the west side of the church for the day of the baptism, and it is intended to replace all the other windows by similar ones. The new windows are in the decorated style, stone mullions being substituted for the wooden ones which were used previously. The work has been executed in a very creditable manner by Mr. Elliot of Ashby de la Zouch. The expedience by which the work was completed is also worthy of remark, as it was commenced on Ascension-day and completed on Saturday.

In addition to the improvements on the grounds and at the church, a picture-gallery has been added to the hall. This is built of Derbyshire stone, and the floor, which is now being laid, will be of polished oak, the boards for which were formerly used as the floor of the Exchange recently pulled down at Leicester. Coleorton Hall and grounds are at all times well deserving a visit, particularly at this season of the year, and the improvements above referred to render them still more so.

To return to the subject of the day: the baptism of the heir to the Coleorton estates took place in the church at half-past twelve o'clock, the Rev. C. A. Belli, uncle of Lady Beaumont officiating. The names given were George Howland William. There were present at the ceremony a large party of visitors to the honourable Baronet, and a considerable number of the villagers. After the ceremony, Sir George and Lady Beaumont (nee. Pauline Menzies Belli) and their visitors returned to the hall, and a salute of twenty guns was fired from a number of small cannons placed on the terrace.



On the left is thought to be one of the small canons referred to on the terrace overlooking what was then the rose garden which had replaced the flower garden by this time.

Luncheon was then served in the dining-room, and partaken of by the following ladies and gentlemen:- Sir G. H. Beaumont, Bart., Lady Beaumont, Mrs. Howley, Rev. C. A. Belli, Esq., W. Kingsmill, Esq., Mrs. Kingsmill, Miss Beaumont, Mrs. Lewis, Miss Lewis, J. R. Benson, Esq., Early Ferrers, Lady Ferrers, Colonel Wollaston, Miss Wollaston, W. W. Abney, Esq., Mrs. Abney, T. Mowbray Esq., Miss Mowbray, H. Clement, Esq., Mrs. Clement, Mrs. Moore, Miss Moore, Master Moore, Rev. M. Vavasour, Mrs. Vavasour, the Misses Vavasour, Rev. F. Merewether, Mr. Way, and Mrs. A. L. Philipps and family.

The dining-room, as well as other apartments, presented a beautiful appearance, in consequence of a profuse display of choice flowers selected from the gardens. The artistic skill of Mr. Henderson, the head gardener, had also been called into requisition in the way of providing ornaments for one or other of the rooms at the hall. Amongst the ornaments thus prepared was a tablet, on which was "Health and Happiness to G. H. W. Beaumont". The letters of the tablet were formed of the flowers of the forget-me-not, the ground work of white lilacs, interspersed with the flowers of the geranium, cineraria, &c., &c., and the border of green heath. Both Mr. and Mrs. Henderson must have bestowed much time and patience upon the execution of this tablet, the smallness of the forget-me-nots and the lilac requiring an extraordinary number of these flowers to be picked in to form the ground-work and letters.

The winner in the first race was Mr. Kidger Ayre's Peter Simple, beating Mr. Earle's Black Bess, Mr. R. Ayre's Black Jack, Mr. Allan Smith's Creeping Jane, and another (not named) belong to Mr. Bailey, of Diseworth. Black Bess and Creeping Jane ran well, but were beaten easily by the winner.

Five started for the second race; but Mr. Walker's Kate Kearney came in first in both the first and second heats, leaving the others a considerable distance behind, but the jockey (a youth) being unacquainted with the rules of the turf, jumped off as soon as he had won, instead of riding up to the scale, and consequently had to run another heat, which he did with the same success as before.

The third race excited as much interest as any – perhaps more. Six animals came to the scratch, but only five started, the other being "a donkey wot wouldn't go".

Jack Onion's Rat-Tail, jockeyed by Jack's son Roger, dressed in a red coat and black velvet cap, came in first, and a donkey belonging to Mr. Hutchinson, of Whitwick, was a good second in the first heat; in the second, though Rat-Tail was again in first, his competitor from Whitwick was pretty close at his heels. This was the best contested race of the three. The remaining races excited considerable merriment, as did also, many unsuccessful attempts to reach the leg of mutton; and when, rather late in the evening, a stout young fellow who, after reaching the top, found it difficult to "hold on" while he un-spiked the prize, came down with it hugged to his breast, he was greeted with loud and hearty cheering.

The Melbourne Junior Brass Band was in attendance, and throughout the afternoon played a variety of lively airs, marches, &c., to the great delight of all who heard them.

Tea and other refreshments were provided in the large booth to which we have before alluded as the scene of a slight accident, and were supplied to the tenant's of Sir George, and many respectable visitors, under the superintendence of Mr. and Mrs. Howard (*Heward* ?), who were very assiduous in their attention to the comfort of the guests.

The sports were kept up till it was nearly dark, and the day's amusements were brought to a close by a display of fireworks, which was a treat of no ordinary kind to the inhabitants of the neighbourhood. Many persons were present from Ashby, and from all the villages around Coleorton. There could not have been fewer than from 3,000 to 4,000 persons on the ground, and but for the unfavourable state of the weather at the time the sports were to have commenced, coming after the announcement in the programme, there would doubtless have been a greater number. Notwithstanding the *damp* which a couple of hours of heavy rain, succeeded by smart showers at intervals for another hour or more, was sure to put upon the proceedings, the day passed off well, and many a one cherished a hearty wish that he or she might live to see the infant, who was the unconscious cause of this day's festivities, grow up to manhood, that they might share the pleasure of celebrating the attainment of his majority.

THE MARRIAGE OF CONSTANCE MARY BEAUMONT
SISTER TO THE 9TH BARONET
b. July 25th 1834
m. July 6th 1852, d. Oct 7th 1929 – Aged 95
SUPPLEMENTED BY MEMORIES OF THE DOWAGER LADY
BEAUMONT FOLLOWING HER DEATH

Leicester Journal – July 9th 1852

Marriage of Miss Beaumont – The marriage of Constance Mary, daughter of the late 8th baronet and sister of the present Sir George Howland Beaumont, 9th baronet and High Sheriff of the County, - to William Unwin Heygate Esq., of the Midland Circuit, son of the late Sir W. Heygate, Bart., and brother of Sir F. W. Heygate, was solemnized in the Parish Church at Coleorton, in the presence of a large circle of relatives and friends. The auspicious event excited much interest in that part of the county, and the inhabitants of Coleorton and other places in the neighbourhood, dressed in their best, flocked to the church in large numbers.

The wedding party left the hall about half-past eleven o'clock, and were greeted with "Hail Smiling Morn", which was well performed by the Melbourne Junior Brass Band, under the leadership of Mr. Leonard Warren.

The bride was attired in a white glace silk dress, covered with Honiton Lace, and wore a bouquet and wreath of orange flowers, myrtle, and lilies, and a Honiton Lace veil. The bridesmaids were Miss Alice Kingsmill, Miss Crewe, Miss Mary Crewe, Miss Henrietta Cockerell, Miss Jane Packe, Miss Beacham, and Miss Mary Belli, all of whom wore white tarlatan muslin dresses, trimmed with pink, white jackets to match, and white fancy straw bonnets with wreaths of wild roses.

The ceremony was performed by the Rev. C. A. Belli, and the bride was given away by her brother, Sir George.

The path from the hall to the church was carpeted, and on either side were ranged the children of the village day school, nearly 120 in number, each of whom was supplied with a white satin rosette, and on the bride and bridegroom leaving the church a profusion of flowers were strewed before them. The javelin men in uniform, and carrying white wands, were in attendance, and they as well as all connected with the estate were all supplied with flowers. As the bride and bridegroom left the church, the band struck up "The Wedding Polka", the bells sent forth a merry peal, and a salute of twenty cannons were fired. The dinner party then partook of an elegant dejeuner at the hall, and at half-past one o'clock the happy couple left for Loughborough, in a new travelling carriage drawn by four grey horses, amidst the endless cheering of the assembled multitude, which was kept up continuously until the carriage had quitted the grounds. From Loughborough they would proceed per railway to town, on their way to Switzerland, to spend the honeymoon.

The remainder of the party, amongst whom were Sir George and Lady Beaumont, Mrs. Howley, Sir F. W. and Lady Heygate, Miss Mary Ann Beaumont, Mr. F. Beaumont, Mr. and Mrs. Kingsmill, Miss Cockerell, Mr. J. Belli, Mr. W. Belli, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Beacham, Earl and Countess Howe, Hon. W. Curzon, Mr. C. W. Packe, and Mrs. Packe-Reading, Mr. Herrick of Beaumanor, and Miss Herrick, Archdeacon Harrison, Mr. C. Hodson (formerly secretary to the Archbishop of Canterbury), Rev. F. Merewether, Mrs., Miss, and Mr. C. Merewether, Rev. J. B. Sweet, Rev. W. C. Stapleton, Rev. E. Paget, and about twenty others whose names are not known to us, then proceeded to Ashby, where a general meeting of the society of Ivanhoe Archers was held on the Bath Grounds.

About two o'clock, the javelin men, tenants, and others sat down to dinner on the lawn, under the presidency of Mr. P. Heward, under steward to Sir George, and with Mr. Faux in the vice chair. Health and happiness to the bride and bridegroom,

the health of Sir George and Lady Beaumont, the health of Mrs. Howley, and other toasts were drunk, and in the afternoon and evening a selection of country dances were engaged in, to the strains of the band before named, and all seemed highly delighted with the entertainment provided for them.

Contribution by the Dowager Lady Beaumont to the Cole Orton Parish Magazine, November, 1929.

On October 7th 1929, there passed away one who had lived amongst us for eight years, and had reached the great age of ninety-five. I have been asked to write some record of her life, as I have known and loved her for nearly fifty years.

Constance Mary Beaumont was born on July 25th 1834, and her mother, Lady Beaumont, died in February 1835, leaving behind her a sorrowing husband, and three motherless children.

The baby girl was taken into the loving care of her grandparents Archbishop and Mrs. Howley, and brought up at Lambeth Palace and at Addington, only coming from time to time to Cole Orton to see her father and her two brothers.

She had a most nice and loving upbringing, though she must have been lonely sometimes, as she herself used to say "My youngest playfellow was an Archdeacon". But she was the light and joy of her grandparents, and perhaps her first great sorrow was the death of Archbishop Howley in 1848.

During her childhood at Lambeth she had met many celebrated people, and she had many recollections of those early days, and of her visits to Queen Adelaide, the widow of William IV.

She used to relate how the Archbishop had confirmed, crowned and married Queen Victoria, and baptized the Princess Royal and the Prince of Wales.

Constance Beaumont was married in Cole Orton Church on July 6th 1852, to Mr. William Heygate. She was very young, not quite eighteen, and a very fair young bride she must have been. There are very few people still living who can remember her wedding. It was the beginning of a long and happy life lasting for fifty years, till her husband was taken from her in March 1902.

Her life was full of interests and of work for others. She travelled much, and went on many long voyages, for she loved the sea, and the rougher the weather the more she enjoyed it.

Her home for many years was Roeciffe Manor, and she often came to Cole Orton to visit her two brothers, Sir George Beaumont and Canon Beaumont, to both of whom she was deeply attached.

When I came to Cole Orton for the first time in November 1880 Mrs. Heygate gave me a warm welcome, and from that time she was to me a most kind aunt and a true and loyal friend. In many times of trouble I could always count upon her loving sympathy and help, and I loved her dearly.

All through her life religion was her guiding principle, and she loved to worship every Sunday in church, and would never miss a service if she could help it. In this she set us all a wonderful example.

During the last year of her life it was her great sorrow that she could not come to church, and she grieved to that she could not visit her friends in the parish, who loved to see and talk to her, and who missed her sadly.

The last year of her life brought to her much suffering and great sorrow in the loss of her loving and devoted daughter, Mrs. Philpott, whose passing brought grief to the whole parish.

I saw Mrs Heygate on the morning of October 7th and she just knew me. She passed away peacefully that evening and was laid to rest beside her husband in the Churchyard of St. Mary, Woodhouse Eaves, on Thursday October 10th 1929. She will be held in loving remembrance by many, especially in Coleorton, and in Woodhouse Eaves, where so much of her long life was spent.

AN OVERVIEW OF NEW BUILDING PROJECTS COMMISSIONED BY THE 9TH BARONET WHILST IN RESIDENCE AT COLEORTON HALL

Following the re-building of Coleorton Hall by Sir George Howland Beaumont, 7th baronet, in 1804 to 1808, many changes were made to the hall over the following 50 years, but it was Sir George Howland Beaumont, 9th baronet, who made the most significant improvements, and was responsible for the building as we saw it prior to being purchased by the National Coal Board, in 1948. The 9th baronet commissioned the young architect Frederick Cockerell (1833-1878) to enlarge the hall. An additional storey was added to the main hall, with additional storeys being added to the domestic living quarters. The preceding print and oil painting of the hall accompanying the article on the celebrations of the attainment of the 9th baronet's majority provides a good illustration of the front of the hall prior to these changes. This was eleven years prior to Cockerell's commission to enlarge the hall.

It appears that the 9th baronet's first indulgences after inheriting the hall and resolving his finances was to construct the Picture Gallery marked **A** on the following plan in 1851/2 to house the many paintings that had accumulated before and since the death of the 7th Baronet, which had now come into his possession.

Apparently, the 9th Baronet was a keen artist, following in the distant footsteps of his illustrious distant "ancestor", the 7th Baronet.

On the following 1938 plan of Coleorton Hall, the red shaded area was that encompassed by the original hall as built in 1808. It is not clear how much of the building to the NW in the areas marked **E** was completed in 1808. The "Dairyhouse" marked **D**, was designed by Robert Chaplin c.1832, at the same time he designed the new kitchen garden. It is quite likely that all of the buildings in the area marked **E**, including the flowers section, glazed area and yard didn't exist at that time. The picture gallery **A** was added to the house in 1851/2. The dining room **B**, and the conservatory **C** were all later additions, the dining room being added in the early 1870's. The conservatory was thought to have been added in the late 1800s. Another storey was added to the hall and domestic quarters, designed by Frederick Cockerell in 1862, following his commission in 1860 to extend the hall. This changed the hall's proportion and scale but was not entirely unsympathetic. The octagonal turrets were heightened – their finials removed and re-used. The entrance front had two Jacobean gables and a bellcote added and that part of the service wing nearest to the house had two storeys added and was made more important with a gable and two turrets flanking a four-centred, three storey arched recess. The author is of the view that Cockerell was not responsible for the picture gallery or dining room.

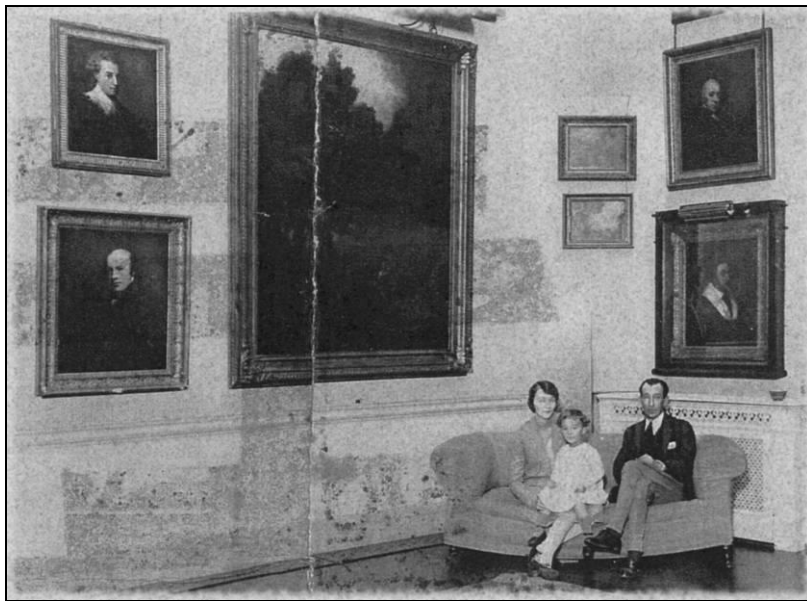
In the Leicester Mercury dated June 1851 it stated....."*In addition to the improvements to the grounds and church, a picture gallery has been added, built in Derbyshire stone, and the floor which was in polished oak came from the floor formerly used in the Exchange Building at Leicester which had been pulled down.*"

It is therefore not unreasonable to assume that the 9th baronet was responsible for carrying out the additions of the Picture Gallery, the dining room, Conservatory, Gallery and addition of the second storey as these were all carried out during the time he was residing at Coleorton Hall. The only doubt is the conservatory, but it is hard to believe this was added by the 10th baronet!

Leicester Mercury – July 3rd 1852

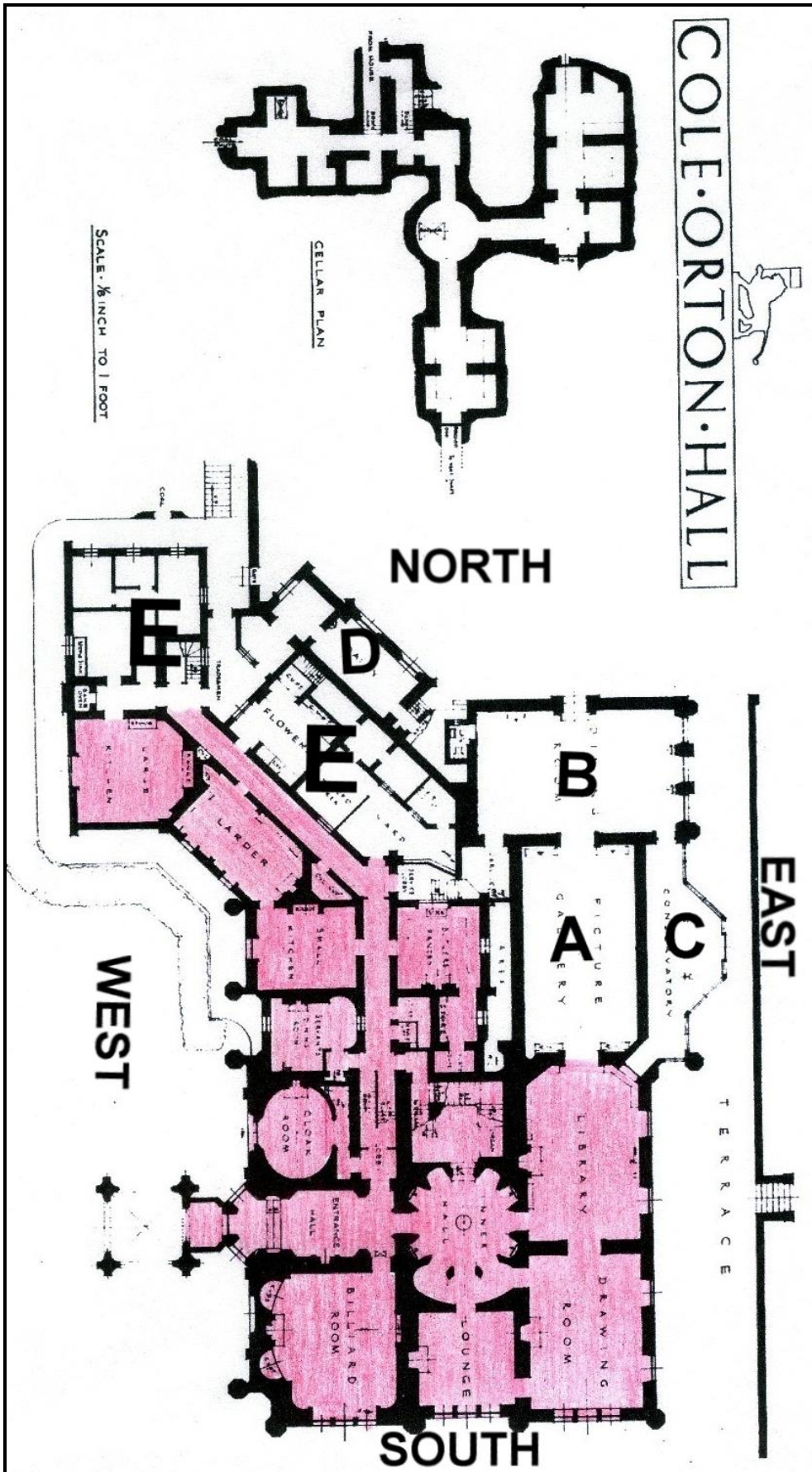
Sudden death – Mr. George Gregory, artist, of Ashby de la Zouch, died suddenly at Coleorton, on Tuesday evening. He had been employed by Sir George Beaumont, 9th baronet, for several weeks past in hanging pictures in the new picture gallery at the Hall, and he completed his task on Tuesday afternoon. In the evening, he went to the house of Mr. Peter Heward, under steward to Sir George Beaumont, and whilst looking at a picture there, had a fit of epilepsy. Mr. Willey, surgeon, was sent for, but Mr. Gregory died in a few minutes. An inquest was held on Wednesday, and the jury returned a verdict of “died by natural causes”.

Supplementary information -This and the previous article are important in that they define the exact time when the new picture gallery was added to Coleorton Hall, a fact previously not known. The 9th baronet would have been 24 years of age at this time.



Photograph c. 1930 of Sir G. A. H. Beaumont, 11th Baronet, with his wife Lady Renee Muriel and daughter Eleanor Brienne in the Picture Gallery

1938 PLAN OF COLEORTON HALL SHOWN ON NEXT PAGE



1938 ground floor plan of Coleorton Hall and Cellar

THE DINING ROOM (BEAUMONT ROOM) CEILING

The more recently named Beaumont Room was depicted as the Dining Room on the 1938 plan shown earlier. An external photograph is shown later. The Dining Room (Beaumont Room) was completed in 1873 (inscribed on outside wall) and the ceiling finished **and signed by the 9th Baronet in 1879**.



The re-painted ceiling in the Dining Room (Beaumont Room)



Various close ups of panels

PHOTOGRAPHS OF COLEORTON HALL SHOWING THE CHANGES INTRODUCED BY THE 9TH BARONET



Photograph c.1900.

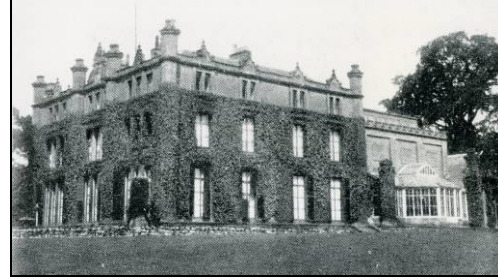
The 1852 picture gallery is behind the conservatory which had access to the 1873 dining room on the far right (see 1938 plan). Note the false window features in the Derbyshire stone work of the picture gallery above the conservatory. It is evident in later photographs that these were replaced with modern windows during the period when the National Coal Board owned the hall. The conservatory was a late 19th century addition which helped to disguise the plain eastern façade of the picture gallery.



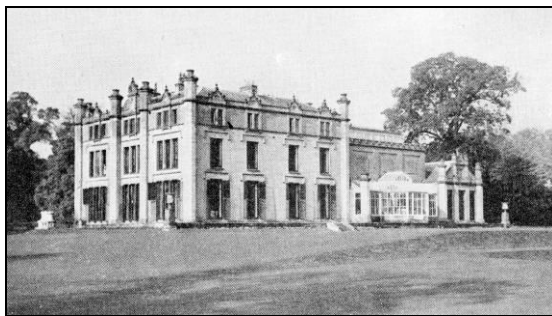
South eastern Elevation of Coleorton Hall – c.1900

This shows the additional storey, picture gallery, dining room and conservatory, all subsequently added to the original George Dance design by the 9th baronet

PHOTOGRAPHS OF COLEORTON HALL FROM THE EARLY 1900s



c.1900.



The following is a description of the hall when it was advertised for letting in 1890 during the period when the 10th baronet was in his 8th year as lord of the manor :-

A handsome stone built family mansion known as Coleorton Hall, standing high, and commanding extensive views. The residence is surrounded by extensive pleasure grounds and park lands, and is approached by a carriage drive with two lodges at the entrances. It contains about 30 bed and dressing rooms, principle and secondary staircases, drawing and dining rooms, library and picture gallery (these four latter rooms are each over 30feet long and open into one another by folding doors, forming a magnificent suite of entertaining rooms), plus a billiard room with full sized billiard table. There is a handsome Doric Portico entrance leading to an entrance and an inner hall, a butler's pantry, and other domestic conveniences. There is stabling for about 17 horses (5 or 6 loose boxes), harness room, coach houses and a cottage for the coachman. The grounds are inexpensive to keep up and the kitchen garden with vineries &c., has been separately let. There is shooting over nearly 4,000 acres, about 500 acres of which are woods, with conveniently interspersed spinnies affording every facility for the rearing of a large stock of pheasants. The Mernell hounds also hunt the locality, which is likewise the forest side of the Quorn Hunt. The Church is in the grounds about 100 yards from the hall.

THE DEATH OF LADY BEAUMONT (PAULINA MENZIES BELLI) THE 9TH BARONET'S FIRST WIFE

Leicester Chronicle – December 17th 1870

On Friday morning week (*December 9th*) died, aged 41, after two days illness, Paulina Menzies, the wife of Sir George Howland Beaumont, 9th Bart., who was absent from home at the time of the sad event. Much sympathy has been called forth in the district for the family, by the melancholy and unexpected occurrence. Lady Beaumont was the daughter of W. H. Belli, Esq., of the East India Companies Civil Service, and was married to Sir George in 1850. She leaves issue four sons – George Howland William, b.1851; Frances Howley, b.1854; Frederick Louis Maureward, b.1862; and Henry Cecil Charles, b 1864; and two daughters Lina Mary Howley, and Eleanor Grace Caroline.

The remains of the deceased Lady were interred (*in the church vault*) on Wednesday last, at Coleorton. The mournful procession left the hall about 12 o'clock, Sir George Beaumont and his eldest son followed as chief mourners, and after them several members of the family. The tenantry of Sir George requested permission also to follow to the grave the remains of one they had held in high esteem, and when the funeral *cortege* had left the hall they joined in the procession. The Church was crowded. The service was conducted by the Rev. Alderson, of Ravenstone, the former part of it being chanted by the choir. Much sympathy is felt for Sir George and the family in the sad and sudden bereavement. Lady Beaumont was within a few days of attaining her 42nd year.

From an untitled newspaper cutting :-

Last Saturday the feeling of the public was much startled by the announcement of the somewhat sudden death of the wife of Sir G. H. Beaumont, 9th Baronet., of Coleorton Hall, in this county, her Ladyship having died from scarlet fever, on Friday, the 9th, after not more than two days' illness..

Lady Beaumont who was the third daughter of W. H. Belli, Esq., H.E.I.C., civil service, and niece of Dr. Howley, late Archbishop of Canterbury, and was married to Sir G. H. Beaumont on the 4th June, 1850. Her Ladyship, who died in her 41st year of her age, leaves issue four sons and two daughters.

The funeral of Lady Beaumont took place on Wednesday last, in the parish churchyard, at Coleorton. The arrangements were conducted by Mr. Orchard, of Ashby de la Zouch, and the attendances of mourners were confined to the relatives of the deceased's family and the tenants on the estate. The former consisted of:-

Sir G. H. Beaumont, Bart.	G. H. W. Beaumont, Esq.
Re. W. B. Beaumont.	F. H. Beaumont, Esq.
C. Belli, Esq.	J. Belli, Esq.
W. U. Heygate, Esq., M.P.	F. Pipe Wolferstan, Esq.
R. O'Shaughnessy, Esq.	

The funeral service was most solemnly conducted, the beautiful choir of the village taking part in it, whilst the Rev. J. Alderson, rector of Ravenstone, and the Rev. J. Gardiner, curate of Coleorton, officiated. A large crowd of villagers from the neighbourhood were present in the church, manifesting a lively sympathy for the loss of one who during her life evinced the liveliest sympathy with them. The sad and unexpected event has thrown a gloom over the neighbourhood. One writer says: - "I never knew Coleorton to exhibit such grief as it now does for the loss of this much esteemed Lady; her genial smile and ever welcome presence will long be remembered by all who knew her, and the great loss we have all sustained will be felt for many years".

A meeting of the parishioners and the tenants of Sir George was convened by Mr. Lewis in the boy's school room, Coleorton, on Saturday evening, for considering how they might show their great regard for the late Lady Beaumont, their deep regret at her loss, and also the best means of showing their sympathy with Sir George in his affliction. Mr. Faux was elected chairman. It was decided by a majority that they could not better show their respect for her Ladyship than by forming themselves into a procession on the day of the funeral, and attending her remains to the grave: and it was also resolved that a deputation, consisting of Messrs Beckwith, Faux and Lewis, be requested to wait on the rector, the Rev. W. B. Beaumont, to ascertain whether such a proceeding would be in accordance with the wishes of Sir George, and that the meeting be adjourned until Monday evening. – Sir George, in acceding to their wishes, suggested that the procession should be confined to the tenants only, as he was anxious that the funeral should be conducted as quietly as possible. – At the meeting on Monday, it was resolved, in accordance with this desire that the tenants only should be present; though some were disappointed with this arrangement, as her Ladyship was so universally beloved that all in the neighbourhood were desirous of taking part in the proceedings. It was further resolved that a letter of condolence should be presented to Sir George as soon as convenient after the funeral had taken place.

THE SECOND MARRIAGE OF THE 9TH BARONET TO OCTAVIA WILLOUGHBY

The 9th baronet's second marriage which was childless was to Octavia Willoughby. She was born illegitimately and was the daughter of Digby Willoughby, 7th baron Middleton of Middleton.

It was also her second marriage which took place on 4th April 1872 at St. Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, London.

She died on 19th June 1901 at 66, Cromwell Road, London and was brought back to Coleorton to be buried.

Supplementary Information:-

It was recorded in the Leicester chronicle - May 17th 1879 that Lady Beaumont had arrived back from the south of France at Coleorton Hall. Sir George and her ladyship are expected to arrive at their residence, 99 Eaton Place, London, early in June for the season.

**PRESENTATIONS AT COLEORTON HALL TO THE 9TH
BARONET'S SON AND HEIR ON THE ATTAINMENT OF HIS
MAJORITY AND TO THE 9TH BARONET AND HIS SECOND
WIFE IN CELEBRATION OF THEIR MARRIAGE**

Leicester Journal - Friday 19th July 1872

One of these gratifying circumstances which occur ever and anon to remind us what a deep rooted and deserved attachment subsists between the occupiers of the soil and the gentry under whom they hold, took place at Coleorton Hall, on Thursday, the 11th inst., when the tenantry of the Beaumont estates, and the tradesmen of the family at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, took the opportunity of the eldest son of Sir. George Howland Beaumont, 9th Baronet., coming of age, to present him with a handsome candelabrum and an address indicative of their good feeling towards him; and to offer their congratulations to Sir George and Lady Beaumont (second wife; nee. Octavia Willoughby) on the event and also on their marriage. On the suggestion of a presentation being first made, it was taken up very warmly, and a committee was formed consisting of - Messrs J. W. Faux. G. Lewis, T Radford, R. Wardle, J. Sharpe, F. Walker, W. Walker, F. Knight, T. Brooks, J. Hough, M. Henderson, T. Wilson, and Dr. Hatchett, for the tenantry, Messrs. S. Love, C. Matthews, Emery, W Barker, B. Orchard, G. Orchard, C. Orchard, Campion, Thornley, T. Davenport, Ison Bros., Blood, Dunicliff, Snelson, Lilley, Grundy, Brown, Ragg, and Bott for the tradesmen at Ashby-de-la-Zouch. Mr. Lewis and Mr. W. Walker acted as secretaries for Coleorton, and Mr. Love and Mr. Matthews for Ashby. A subscription was commenced, and readily responded to, and resulted in the realising sufficient sum to enable the committee to procure two handsome pieces of plate for presentation, along with the addresses which were beautifully illuminated by Mr. Barker, of Ashby.

That presented to Mr. George Howland William Beaumont esq., (son and heir of the 9th baronet) is a handsome solid silver, three-branch and three-light epergne or candelabrum, for the centre of a table, of elegant design, manufactured Mr. W. Pearsall, High-street, Birmingham. The stand, a triangular one, representing rock and ferns, admirably arranged, from which rises the entwined stem of an oak, with foliage, forming at the extreme top a basket for supporting an engraved glass dish, suitable for containing fruits or flowers, and at the foot of the oak recline three stags in different graceful and natural positions. In one of the panels of the base is the following inscription:—"This candelabrum was presented to George Howland William Beaumont, Esq., on the attainment of his majority, March 10, 1872, by 'the tenantry of the Coleorton estate, and the tradesmen of the family at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, July, 1872."

The other piece of plate was a silver salver, from Messrs. Elkington's, Birmingham, with this inscription:- "This salver was Presented to Sir George Howland Beaumont, 9th baronet, and Dame Octavia Willoughby Beaumont, on their marriage, April 4th, 1872, by the tenantry of the Coleorton estate, and the tradesmen of the family at Ashby-de la-Zouch, July, 1872." The plate was procured by Mr. E. Whyman, of Ashby-de-la-Zouch. The presentation took place at half past two on Thursday afternoon. The joint committee representing the subscribers met at Mr. M. Henderson's, and walked from thence in procession, headed by the band of the 8th Hastings Rifle Corps playing "Auld Lang Syne" to the hall, at the entrance of which they were received by Sir George. Beaumont. They were then ushered into the library where the family were assembled, and Mr. J. W. Faux read the following address to G. H. W. Beaumont esq:—

To George Howland William. Beaumont, Esq.

"Sir, —We, the tenantry of the Beaumont estate and the tradesmen of the family residing at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, beg to welcome your coming of age with our warmest wishes. It is our prayer that an all-wise Providence may watch over and guard your future life, and give you length of days, and whenever the time at last arrives—far distant may it be—when the seat of your ancestors, with its rare associations, shall become your own residence, you may follow the high example of your father, and win, like him, the good-will and heart-felt regard of all classes around you. To hand down to future time memorial of the bond of friendship existing between your family and ourselves, beg your acceptance of the accompanying candelabrum, and have the honour to remain, Sir, your faithful servants."—Signed the tradesmen of Ashby and the tenantry of Coleorton.

George Howland William Beaumont esq., replied,—"Gentlemen and my very good friends, the tenantry of the Beaumont estate, and the tradesmen of the family residing at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, words fail me trying to thank you for the kind way in which you have all come forward so readily and so unanimously, both shewing your regard for my father and the name we both bear, by presenting me with such a handsome piece of plate. Believe me value it not merely as a magnificent ornament, but also most especially as a memorial of your good feeling and kindness towards the family to which I belong, and the name which I have the honour to bear, which also I trust I have not disgraced, and with God's help never shall.

Mr. Love then read the following address:—

To Sir George Howland Beaumont, 9th baronet:-

"Sir, —We, the tenantry of the Beaumont estate, and, the tradesman of the family residing at Ashby de-la-Zoueh, beg to offer our warmest congratulations on the coming of age of your eldest son. May he live long to become more and more a source to you of comfort and pride by life altogether worthy parental counsel and example. We also avail ourselves of this occasion to present to you and Lady Beaumont our best congratulations on your marriage. May the full happiness of wedded life, and the manifold enjoyments and endearments of home gather about you as years advance, and may no time impair that wide-spread surrounding of good-will friendly feeling, in token of which we now approach you, and beg your acceptance of the accompanying salver."

Sir G. H. Beaumont, 9th baronet said, Gentlemen, in reply to the very kind and feeling manner in which you have addressed me, I must ask you to bear gently with any shortcomings on my part in my answer. It is with a full heart, and with mingled feelings of pleasure, gratitude, and, I may add, regret, that I meet you here on the present occasion. I am happy in being able to think that after a life spent amongst you there exists much good feeling towards me and my family, and I must express myself as deeply grateful that such is the case. At the same time I cannot help feeling with regret that there are some well-known faces which in the course of years have passed away from amongst us whom we all doubly miss on an occasion like the present. You have congratulated me on the coming of age of my eldest son, and I receive your congratulations with gratitude and with pride,—for I think that, so far, I have reason to be proud of him, and I can only hope that in the years to come he may never be induced to anything to sully his old and honourable name, —a name which has been well known in this neighbourhood for more than 400 years, and of which, so far as I know, but few have ever had to speak ill of. Regards the second, part of your address, I can only offer you on behalf of my wife and myself, my most sincere and heartfelt thanks for your good wishes towards us, and also for the very kind and handsome present which you have been good enough to give us. I hope

and trust that it may be handed down from father to son in my family in the years to come, and that it may always be looked upon as a substantial evidence of the goodwill which exists amongst those who : are in many various ways connected with me, towards I myself, and Lady Beaumont. To my tenantry I would say that I trust they have forgiven any errors on my part as a landlord which I may have committed, and that my future conduct may always be regulated by the time| honoured though often forgotten maxim of "Live and let I live." In several instances on this property the farms are now occupied by the sons of those who once held them under my father, and I can only hope that this be continued for future generations, as it is a sure proof of the good feeling which has existed between landlord and tenant. To you gentlemen, with most of whom I have been acquainted for many years, as well as connected in matters of trade, I can only say that I hope you have been satisfied with my conduct as a debtor, and that my good friends whom have just been addressing may always enable me to continue my payments as punctually as has hitherto been the case. In conclusion, I will only add, how much gratification it affords me to find that all classes seem have combined in this act of friendship and goodwill towards me and my family, and I beg, gentlemen, to tender you, as the representatives of the subscribers, my most cordial and grateful thanks.

The deputation were then invited to repair to the dining-room, where an elegant luncheon was set out. Sir George Beaumont, 9th baronet presided, supported by his son, Mr. G. H. W. Beaumont esq., his brother, Rev. W. B. Beaumont, and the ladies of the family, and Mr. E. Fisher occupied the vice-chair. Mr. V. G. Merewether, Recorder of Leicester, and Rev. Alderson were also present.

The Chairman proposed "The Queen, and the rest of the Royal Family," and observed that when men talked of republicanism in England, it was time for all honest men to rally round the throne, and when people wanted to know how much her Majesty paid for having her chimneys swept, to show that they did not care about such thing, so long as she ruled over the country in the way she had done (applause).

The toast having been duly honoured, -

The Chairman said he had another toast to propose, which would give them an opportunity of drinking the health of his brother, the rector of the parish; it was "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese." He was sure they would have no hesitation drinking that toast. The decision of the country had proved that though there were some who differed from them in matters of detail, still the Church of England was dear to the hearts of Englishmen (applause); and the vote in the House of Commons had shown that it was not the time at present that she should go. He begged to propose the toast, coupled with the health of the Rev. W. B. Beaumont (applause). Rev. W. B. Beaumont said he returned thanks for the toast with great pleasure. He could only say, as rector of that parish, that ever since he had been there he had tried to do his best (hear, hear), and he hoped the present occasion would not be forgotten, and that his nephew would try to walk in his father's footsteps, and do what he could for the parish and for all friends who had anything to do with the family (applause). The Chairman proposed "The Army, Navy, Militia, Yeomanry and Volunteers," and remarked that he believed they might consider them all now, except the navy, as one force. His family had served both in the army and navy, he had served himself in the Yeomanry, and was an honorary member of the Volunteers, and, therefore, personally was interested, more or less in the whole of the service. He might also say that his son he hoped next October would be in a position to serve his country as an officer of the Royal Artillery (applause). It had been suggested by some ladies that the peace of Europe should be settled by a committee of six, and that all international disputes should be decided as arbitration, but there had been

doubts whether arbitration would not lead to tremendous war. In the event of war the forces of the nation would be called out, and he felt perfectly confident that they would as ever do their duty. He begged to couple the toast with the health of Lieutenant Love (applause).

Mr. Love returned thanks, and observed that the necessity for war had long been a question with all nations, and great efforts had been made to carry on the government of mankind without war, but hitherto they had not succeeded, and England's sons had no right to sleep these days when desolation and misery had been scattered through the fairest provinces of Europe. It had been said that the Volunteer movement had not achieved any great victory, or done any deeds worthy of notice, yet through it 170,000 men had come forward to serve their country with the most patriotic intentions. He had been a Volunteer for twelve years, and had met them on many occasions in various places, at home and abroad, and had no doubt if the occasion arose they would emulate the noble deeds of the army and navy (applause.)

Mr. Lewis said he had great pleasure proposing the next toast, and he had only to mention the name of Mr. G. H. W. Beaumont to insure for it a warm reception. The address that had been read that day, and the present accompanying it, spoke the feelings of the whole of those present, and many more who had been subscribers thereto. He was sure it had been brought forth and subscribed for with the greatest pleasure, and he had not heard a single dissentient voice to that testimonial (applause). They hoped it might be long before he took possession of these noble estates (hear, hear), but at the same time they felt that there was a good field open to him in the noble profession to which he had allied himself. They hoped that he would earn laurels for himself, and that when he came to settle down in the home of his ancestors that he would be able to feel that he had done his duty as an Englishman, and that the tenantry and the people around were glad to see him among them. He begged to propose health, long life, and happiness to Mr. G. H. W. Beaumont (applause). The toast was received with musical honours.

Mr. Beaumont rose amid much applause, and said he could scarcely express his sincere gratitude for the way in which they had received his health, and for the kindness they had shown in the very handsome present they had made to him that day. He had always believed the old adage—"There is no place like home"(applause), and he was sure when he looked round him now, and saw so many kind faces met to welcome his father and himself on his coming of age, the truth of these words came more home to him than ever (applause). He was proud of his father, and he believed rightly so, and hoped he might live long and be prosperous (applause), and see him bear his name and wear the Queen's uniform without disgrace. Their gift he should not take with him, but leave it behind, and when he returned here after years they might feel assured that he would not have forgotten the kind friends who had presented it, or the spirit which it was given (applause). He begged to thank them most heartily for the kindness they had manifested towards him (applause).

Mr. Love said he rose with the greatest pleasure to propose the next toast, having been called upon to do so by the worthy committee with whom he acted. Had he simply to please himself it might be done in very few words, but as he was made somewhat the mouthpiece of the tenantry and tradesmen on the occasion it would not be wrong on his part to express to the Chairman and the company present the excellent feeling they found to exist between the landlord and the tenantry of the Beaumont estates. Throughout the labour and duties of the committee they had only found one feeling, and that had been of the most perfectly unanimous kind with

reference to the name of Beaumont. And he might be allowed to say that although the legislature might do much, and the law laid down had been of very great service between landlord and tenant, yet, from his own experience, and the experience of many he knew, there was no agreement so good as a mutual good understanding between the landlord and the tenant (hear, hear). If that failed there could not be that reciprocity of feeling, and mutual benefit, and convenience to each as where it existed. Again, as it was remarked in the reply of their noble host to the address, as to the relation of customer and tradesman, there could be no better test of an honesty of purpose could exist between the customer and the tradesman. They might enact laws from day to day and year to year as to the adulteration of pepper, or flour, or making beer of noxious substances; all these matters simply went for what they were; but there was nothing could so much enhance the benefit to be derived from one class in this country to another, as a mutual and honest understanding (hear, hear). That he ventured to say had caused their presence there that day. It might be inquired how did this originate? and what was the cause of it? He might say, from his own knowledge, that there were persons in that room who for some years had looked forward to the happy event of the attainment of his majority by Mr. Beaumont to pay some respect and compliment to the family (applause). It was well known that the various classes of this country so occupied their position that was only on rare occasions that they had the opportunity of meeting together, and this was opportunity to take advantage of, if he might be allowed the expression, but an advantage only emanating from the greatest good will of the tenantry and tradesmen, who had known the family of Beaumont upwards of a century, and many now living half or a quarter of a century, the kindly feeling to the family had not knitted them together into one common brotherhood before now it would seem that they were wanting in that respect, but which that day found itself proved. There was no doubt this was the time looked forward to. It had been somewhat delayed, because events occurred which would cause delay, but yet the happy time arrived, and he had now the honour to propose the health of the head of the Beaumont family (applause). Sir George had been many years in the neighbourhood, and was highly respected by his neighbours and friends (applause). It was no small pleasure to those who remembered Sir George when he was a child, now to see him honoured with a son who had attained twenty-one years of age, and was going into a noble profession—the army. The name of Beaumont was associated with all that was good in the neighbourhood. It was a household word in every cottage, and he trusted that Sir George would long live to enjoy the position he had obtained in the hearts of his friends and neighbours. He had much pleasure in proposing the toast (cheers).

The Chairman, on rising, was received with enthusiasm. He thanked them heartily for the kind manner in which they had drunk his health, and hoped they would not expect a long speech from him. To him it was a very trying moment to come before his friends in this sort of way, but he hoped he had always tried to do his duty. He knew he had shortcomings, but he had always endeavoured to carry out the policy of his father before him, which was to all he could do for the benefit of his neighbours and friends; and he could lay his hand on his heart and say, as far as he knew, that he had not an enemy in the world (cheers). The tenants who had responded to this expression of kindly feeling, had shown at all events, that a good landlord was better than a long lease (hear, hear). The way in which the tradesmen had also come forward, showed him that he had many friends in Ashby and the neighbourhood, many of whom he had known ever since he was a little boy. It was of great gratification to him to see the readiness with which all classes had come forward, in giving what they had done that day. It showed him that there must be a good feeling existing between himself and his neighbours, and it was far pleasanter to receive something which came with a hearty good will. He could assure them that he felt the present occasion most deeply, and hoped they would pardon any shortcomings in

his reply. In conclusion, he begged to thank them for the exceedingly handsome present they had given to him, and for the warm and cordial manner in which they had drunk his health (cheers).

Dr. Hatchett, in a few appropriate remarks, proposed "The health of Lady Beaumont, coupled with the rest of the Family."

The Chairman responded.

Mr. Davenport next proposed "The tenantry of the Coleorton Estate," and passed high compliment to them on their excellent farming capabilities.

Mr. Faux responded, and in referring the subscription to the testimonial, said there was not dissent on the whole estate.

Mr. F. Walker proposed "The health of Mr. Fisher, Sir George Beaumont's agent. Mr. Fisher, in responding, said the position he held connection with these estates was a most honourable one, and had lasted now for years. During that period he had endeavoured conscientiously to fulfil the duties of his office with advantage to his employer, and to the benefit of the tenantry (cheers).

"The town and trade of Ashby" was next proposed, and responded to by Mr. Matthews, who regretted that the waters of Ashby were not more appreciated, as they were equal if not superior to any in Germany.

Mr. Fisher then proposed the "Committee of management," which was ably responded to by Mr. Love, Mr. Matthews, and Mr. Walker.

"The Press," and "The Ladies," were next given and responded to, after which the company separated, highly pleased with the day's proceedings.

DEATH OF THE 9TH BARONET

Leicester Chronicle – June 17th 1882

We regret to have to announce the death of Sir George Howland Beaumont, 9th Bart, which took place at his residence Coleorton Hall, Nr Ashby, on Thursday night, from an attack of "Gout".

The deceased had been dangerously ill for some time, and when Sir William Janner was consulted a few days ago, he had but little hope, although Sir George was only 54 years of age, and till very recently able to attend to his duties as magistrate for Leicestershire and in other respects.

The melancholy event will cast great gloom over the district of Ashby, and, indeed, in a wider circle in which Sir George was known and highly respected. He is succeeded by his eldest son. *He actually died on June 8th and was succeeded by his son Sir George Howland William Beaumont, 10th Baronet.*

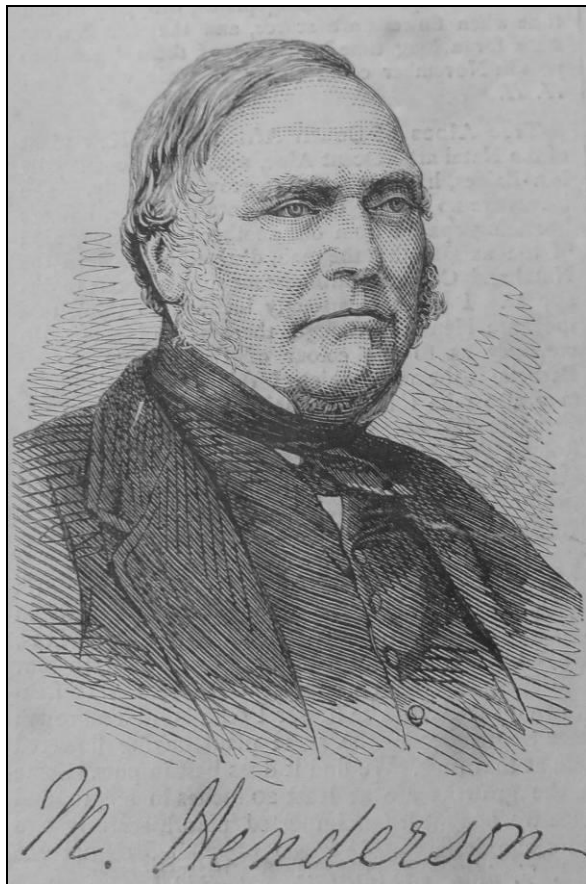
Supplementary information – Although the newspaper reported that Sir George had died from an attack of gout, his death certificate stated that the cause of death was "Tumour of brain" (1 month), "Pneumonia" (48 hours)". He was actually 53 years old at the time of his death.

The informant was his son Sir G. H. W. Beaumont, who was resident at the rectory at the time.

**A TRIBUTE TO MONTGOMERY HENDERSON HEAD
GARDENER AT COLEORTON HALL 1838-1882 INCLUDING
THE PERIOD WHEN THE 9TH BARONET WAS AT THE HALL**

Coventry Herald – July 14th 1854

At the exhibition of plants, fruits and flowers, held in “The Royal Botanic Gardens”, Regents Park, London, last week, a silver gilt medal was awarded to Mr. Henderson, gardener to **Sir George Howland Beaumont, 9th Baronet**, of Coleorton Hall, Leicestershire, for three dishes of grapes, a silver medal for a dish of nectarines, a small silver medal for a box of nectarines, and a certificate for 12lbs of grapes.



Montgomery Henderson



**Montgomery and his wife Sarah's
Grave in St. Mary's Churchyard**

The above grave memorial was completely hidden before the area was cleared by the author and John MacDonald (Coleorton Heritage Warden) as part of an ongoing project to recover hidden or sunken graves in the churchyard.

Supplementary information, taken mainly from “British Gardeners – Volume VII in the Gardeners’ Chronicle December 1874” –

Mr. Montgomery Henderson was born on 20th March, 1808, in the village of Swanston, at the foot of the Pentland Hills, near Edinburgh. At the age of fourteen he was placed for three years in one of the market gardens of that city. He spent time in various positions learning his trade as a horticulturist and in December 1834 went to be foreman under Mr. Neil Wilson, at Gopsall Hall, Leicestershire, the seat of Earl

Howe. This situation he left in March, 1838, and obtained employment in the nursery of Mr. Knight of Chelsea. In June of the same year, Mr. Knight sent him to work as gardener for Sir George Beaumont at Coleorton Hall.

Montgomery made the following statement "My success as a grape grower is pretty well known, thanks to the Gardeners' Chronicle". When I came here, however, I found the grapes very poor and the vines in sad condition. I at once removed the top soil of the borders, and gave them a good dressing of turfy loam, on which I placed some strong manure, and then made a gentle hotbed over all. This drew the roots up to the surface. I endeavour to keep them there by using the same means, and to this I ascribe the fact that my grapes are so well colouredI succeeded so well, that within two years, they were carrying heavy crops, with bunches of from 4lb to 6lb weight". He also said that "I have been very successful in the cultivation of the Pine-apple, having often thirty years ago, when large Pines were not so plentiful as they are now, had Queens of between 6lb and 7lb in weight".

He is recorded in the chronicle as saying that "since I have been at Coleorton, I have been offered better places in point of position both in England and Scotland, but I have been made so comfortable both by the late and the present Baronet, who have always treated me more like a friend than a servant, that I have never thought of leaving them so long as I had strength to carry on my duties".

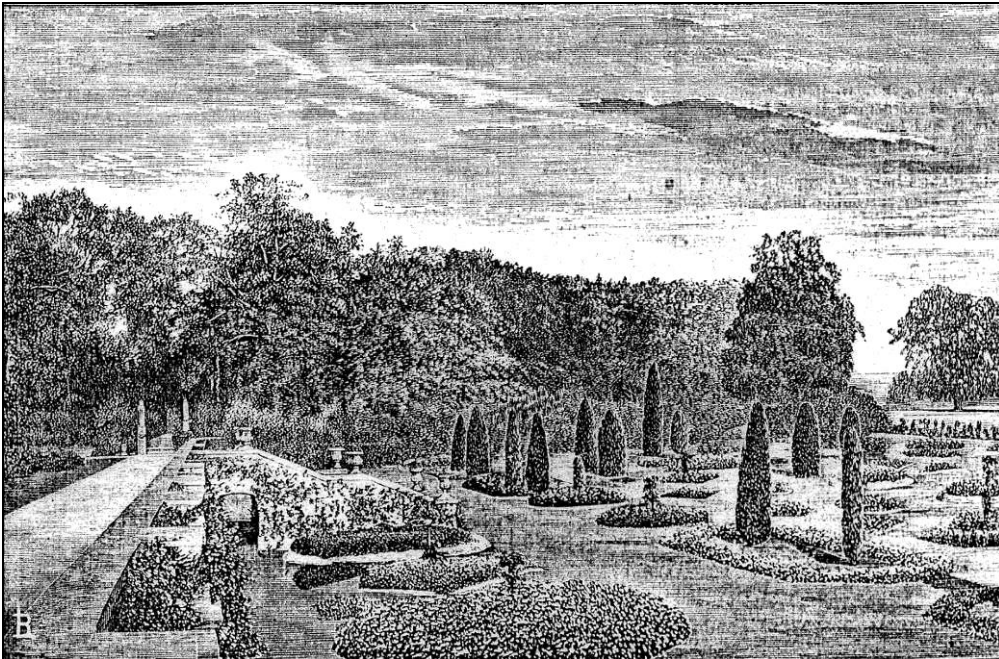
Montgomery Henderson died on 14th February 1892 at the age of 84, and had lived in Ashby since retiring from Coleorton Hall in 1882. He is buried in St. Mary's Chuchyard, Coleorton, along with his wife Sarah who died on 26th January 1882, aged 75 in the same year her husband retired. He retired several months before the death of Sir George Howland Beaumont, 9th Baronet, who died in June 1882.

Supplementary notes:-

Prior to Montgomery Henderson coming to Coleorton Hall in 1838, James Cruikshank was the gardener and his annual salary was £100. It is a possibility that he was sacked to make way for Henderson who started on £63 – 0s – 0d per annum, which in the following year and thereafter was raised to £84 – 0s – 0d.

Although pineapples were one of Montgomery Henderson's specialities, it was noted in the accounts that James Cruikshank was growing them prior to Henderson arriving.

THE FLOWER GARDEN AT COLEORTON HALL DURING THE PERIOD THE 9TH BARONET WAS IN RESIDENCE



Above is a copy of an old engraving of the “Flower Garden” taken from the “Journal of Horticulture and Cottage Gardener” 1875.

The terrace walk leads to the steps with a coade stone bust of Shakespeare on the left and a but of Milton on the right. The steps lead up to a memorial tablet in memory of the dramatist and poet Francis Beaumont.

The above engraving shows a pre 1875 view over the “Flower Garden” which was originally established c.1825, prior to it later becoming a “Rose Garden”. The flower garden was designed by Lady Margaret Beaumont. According to “Wordsworth & The Gardens of Coleorton Hall” by Anne Anderson in Garden History, a plan of the garden was included in an auction sale held by Taylor Scott of Ashby in 1991, when it realized £1700. The drawing bore the signiature of Lady Margaret Beaumont and James Cruikshank. The vendor had apparently purchased the work in the 1950s, from a sale of Beaumont family possessions.

The following is a synopsis of an article which was featured in “Gossip of the Garden” Volume 111. June 1858, and amongst other things gives a good description of the Flower Garden:-

The grounds and gardens – famous alike for their classical associations, their excellent keeping, their natural beauties, and the art with which these have been enhanced, are highly interesting, and will repay a visit at any time, but more particularly in the months of July, August and September, when the flower garden is in its glory. Visitors, through the kind liberality of the noble proprietor, are permitted to view the place on Mondays and Thursdays. We are indebted to a highly esteemed correspondent for the following brief notice.

.....Leaving the kitchen garden, and passing through a small shrubbery walk, we pause to gaze on the view before us – a picture of rural beauty seldom surpassed. The village church with its partially ivy-clad walls, embosomed in trees and located within the grounds, is well worthy of our admiration, more especially

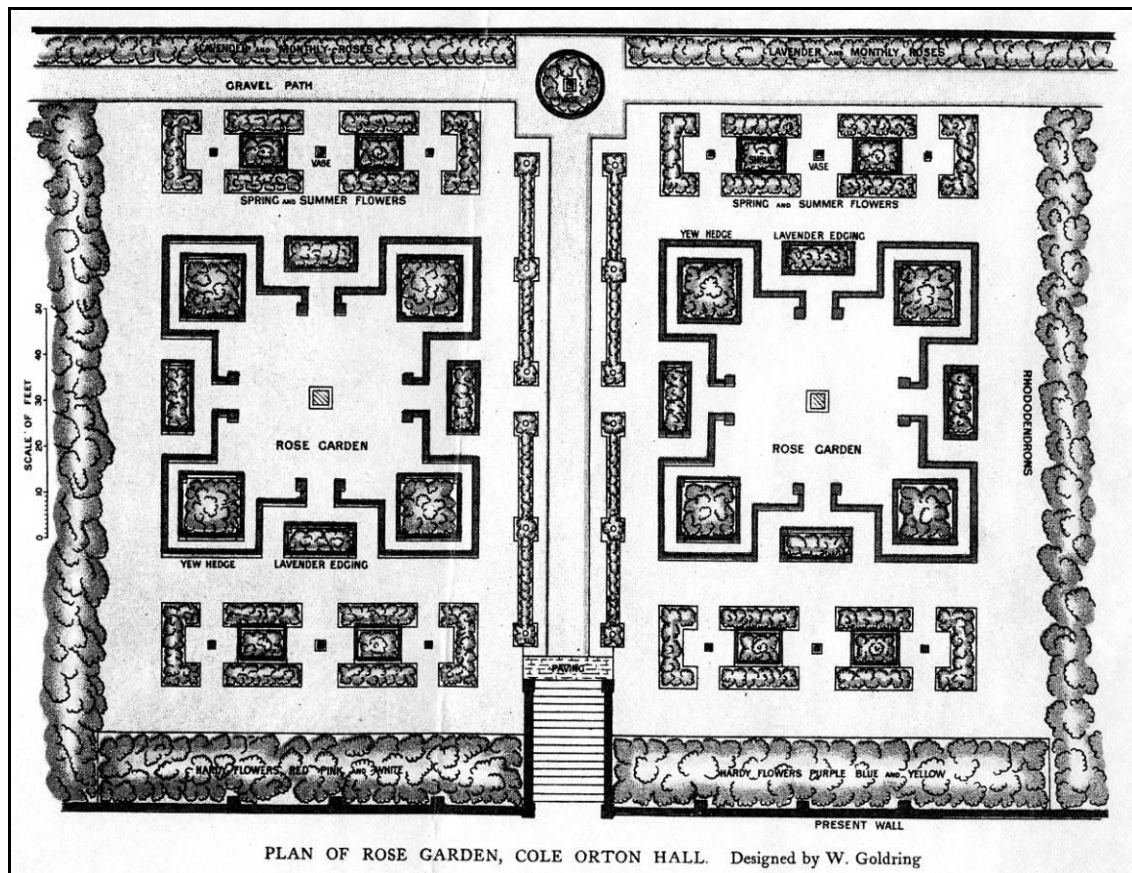
when, as in the present instance, it has for accessories, a noble hall and some stately ancient trees, while a lawn, beautifully studded with conifers lies stretched at our feet, producing a scene which none could pass un-heeded.

Amongst the conifers.....the Abies Deadora near the church was planted by the late Archbishop Howely, in 1846, and the fine Cedar of Lebanon near the hall by the poet Wordsworth (*with Sir George Howland Beaumont, 7th Baronet*).

Proceeding onwards we come upon a lawn where are a large irregular mass of Rhododendrons, some of which might perhaps be spared with advantage. As we approach the terrace which overlooks the fine geometrical flower garden, the eye is arrested by a magnificent panoramic view. In the distance may be seen Belvoir Castle, Bardon Hill, High Cademan and all the north-western part of the Charnwood range, and in the foreground a beautifully undulating park.....

.....Moving forward we came upon the terrace, and look down upon the flower garden. – Never before did we behold such a gorgeous display! **One hundred and twenty-two beds filled with dense masses of flowers lie growing beneath, while the vivid green of the grass which surrounds them shows their varied colours to great advantage; - words are inadequate to convey an idea of their beauty and gorgeous effect. Passing down broad, stone steps we enter to take a nearer view of what seems to be a living mosaic.** (see the engraving on the previous page).

THE ROSE GARDEN



The above plan of the rose garden by William Goldring appeared in Volume IV of "The Gardener's Assistant" 1902, edited by William Watson. It can be related directly to the photograph below, and the earlier engraving of the flower garden which it replaced.



Photograph of "The Rose Garden", probably taken c.1900.

The author has not been able to verify when the Rose Garden was fully established, however, we know from the following extract which appeared in the "Journal of Horticulture and Cottage Gardeners" dated 1875 that the flower garden was still in existence then. However, a grand display of roses had been introduced on a bank along the eastern boundary, where it meets open park land:-

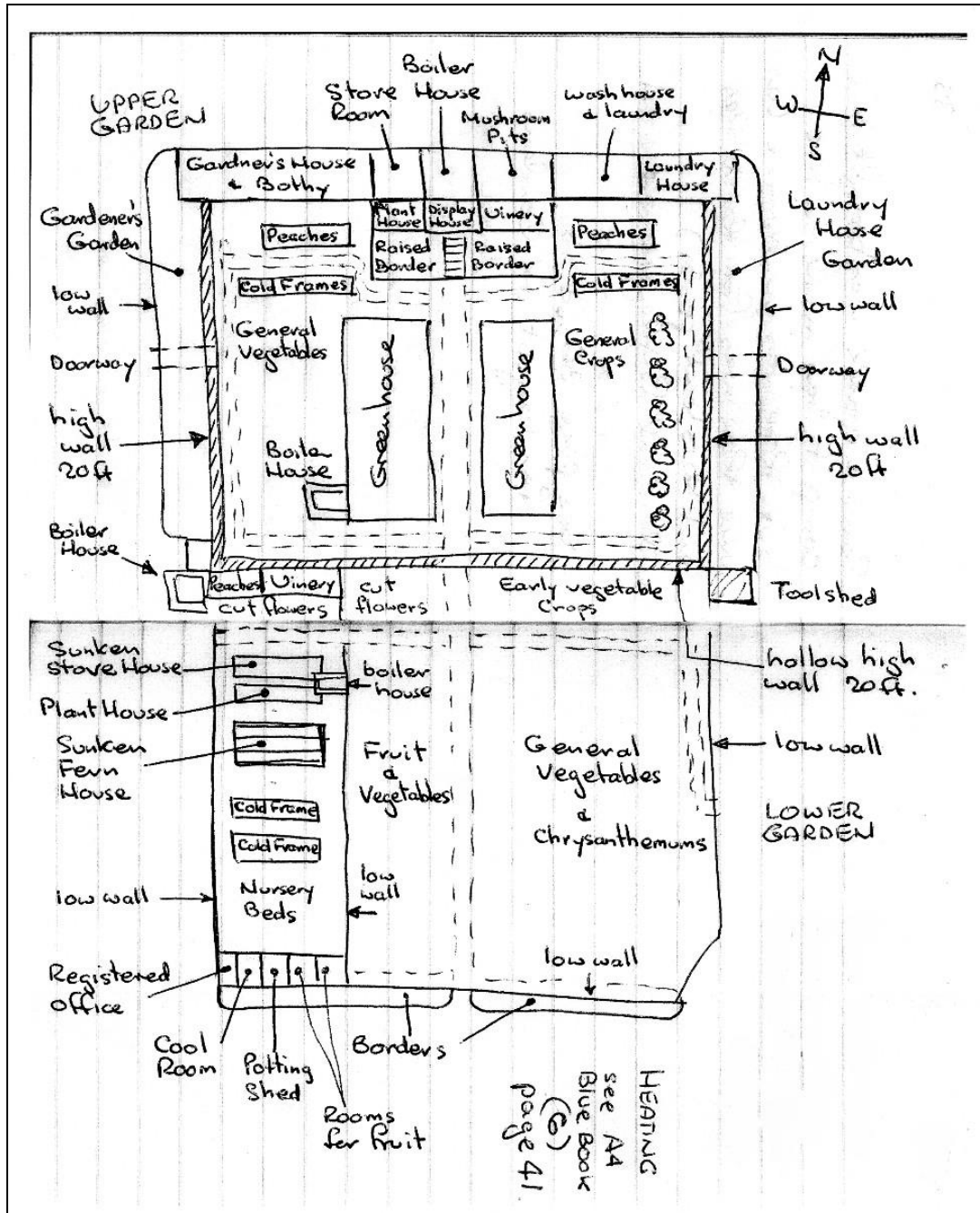
"We now cross the lawn for a glance at the flower garden. Our descent is by a flight of steps. The garden as seen from the terrace is exceedingly fine. The beds are thinly placed and with their masses of flowers, compact conifers, and fine sweep of lawn – with the massive boundary of Rhododendrons on one side and shrubbery on the other, with the rosery as the most distant boundary and the grand views beyond, a combination of fine features is provided such as can seldom be seen at a glance. This garden is just an acre in extent, and is truly beautiful. The boundary of Roses demands a note of explanation. The boundary is a sunk fence, and on the slope, which is considerable, the Roses are planted. They are on standards, and are planted in about ten rows of nearly one hundred yards each. They are of height's sufficient to show distinctly above the terrace wall, forming one glorious bank of blooms which must be seen to be appreciated. But how easy the idea is of being carried out by others! How many are the sunk-fence boundaries to gardens which are destitute of beauty, and what grand banks of Roses there might be! Roses at Cole Orton are grown by thousands, being special favourites of Sir George Howland Beaumont, 9th Baronet, and he devotes to them much personal attention. They give undoubted evidence of skill in culture, and generally afford blooms until Christmas: in October they were showing almost as freely as in May.

I must postpone my further remarks on this fine garden, noticing, perhaps, a few more trees, a little more memorial poetry, and something about Grape and Pine Apple growing of a nature not commonly to be met with. It is gratifying to find that a place so fine as Cole Orton is in the care of an owner who not only sustains but increases its natural beauty, whose care it everywhere shadows, as it does the admitted skill of the gardener Mr. Henderson". – J.W.

The preceding plan of the rose garden by William Golding was published in the "Gardeners Assistant" in 1902, so presumably the rose garden was established prior to this date. William Goldring (b. May 1854 d. Feb 26th 1919) went to the Royal Gardens Kew in 1875 and became a successful gardening journalist. He left this profession in 1886 to donate the whole of his time to landscape gardening for which he became internationally famous.

COLEORTON HALL KITCHEN GARDENS

The sketch below was drawn by J. Crocker in 2000 and is based on memories of Mr. George Haynes of Ibstock. Knowing something of the history of the kitchen garden, the author feels that the sketch would undoubtedly have been almost as it was when the 9th baronet was in residence. The garden walls were 20 feet high and demolished by the NCB due to subsidence Mr. Haynes related that when the walls were demolished, he was most surprised to see that they were hollow, and contained heating pipes to provide warmth for the trained fruit trees. **A housing estate was built some years ago on the site of the walled gardens.**



SOME EVENTS WHICH TOOK PLACE DURING THE PERIOD THE 9TH BARONET WAS RESIDING AT COLEORTON HALL

THE MARRIED V SINGLES OF THE COLEORTON CRICKET CLUB

The Era, London – October 24th 1852

There is generally a stiff contest for supremacy somewhere in the course of the season between the Benedictine community and that which prefers to live in a state of single blessedness. The most remarkable of late was that with the members of the above club on Wednesday. At starting, the single men seemed favoured with a cheering prospect, for their first two wickets were not lost until three dozen runs were scored. Whether the young men were less "plucky" than usual or not we don't pretend to say, but certain it is that their timbers rapidly bowed to the levelling influence of Sir George Beaumont and his brave companion, Mr. Deane. The latter gentleman performed prodigies with the bat, and with the aid of two or three others enlisted on his side, brought up a score of one above a hundred. So far the Benedicts had the laugh: the small second score of the singles also gave them further confidence, seeing that they had but twenty-five to get to win. The match, which appeared to be very one sided, now began to grow exceedingly interesting, for the wickets fell with unexpectedly low numbers appended to what would be the defender's name. Mr. W. Beaumont was in good bowling condition and Bennett in better. Nine wickets were lost until the necessary runs were obtained. Gough's last stroke was sufficient to affect a conquest for the father's of families just as the sun was hiding his face behind the mountain. It is hardly possible to speak of the hilarity which followed at the social board upon recounting the various incidents connected with this narrow squeak. The score affixed will supply particulars not as yet alluded to:-

THE SINGLE.	
First Innings.	Second Innings.
W. B. Beaumont, Esq., b Deane	18—b Sir G. Beaumont.....
H. Bennett, c Marlow, b Beaumont	16—c Deane, b Beaumont ..
T. Denston, run out	1—run out.....
W. Beakin, b Deane.....	4—b Beaumont.....
C. Merewether	4—b Deane
Nours, b Beaumont	5—b Beaumont.....
R. Bennett, not out	0—run out.....
Butler, b Beaumont	3—not out.....
Hackett, b ditto	0—b Deane
Marlow, c Heygate, b Deane..	0—c and b Beaumont.....
Higgins, b Deane	0—b Deane.....
Byes 1, 1 b 1, w 6	8 Leg byes 1, w 3
Total.....	Total.....
67	38
THE MARRIED.	
First Innings.	Second Innings.
Sir G. Beaumont, b W. Beaumont	8—c T. Denston, b H. Bennett
Percival, c and b H. Bennett..	0—1 b w, b Beaumont.....
G. O. Deane, Esq., b Beaumont	35—b H. Bennett
W. Heygate, b ditto	14—1 b w, b Bennett
Walker, c Hackett, b Beaumont	6—b Bennett.....
Gough, b Bennett.....	0—not out
W. Marlow, c Merewether, b Beaumont.....	12—c Merewether, b Bennett
Waterfield, b Bennett	0—b Bennett.....
Hutton, b Beaumont.....	3—b ditto
Onion, b Bennett	3—c Denston, b Bennett ..
A. Denston, not out.....	0—not out
	Byes 2, 1 b 3, w 1
Total.....	Total.....
101	36

**THE ANNIVERSARY MEETING OF THE COLEORTON
ASSOCIATION OF CHURCH CHOIRS, AND THE RE-OPENING
OF ST.MARY'S CHURCH, COLEORTON
ON TUESDAY JULY 4TH 1854**

Leicester Journal – July 7th 1854

The following is a synopsis only of the article in the Leicester Journal –

The Coleorton Association of Church Choirs originated two years ago and had its source in the laudable desire to improve and elevate the church music which has, during the last few years, arisen in the Church of England. Its principle founder, we believe, was the Reverend H. Bennett, of Whitwick. It has since been taken under the patronage of the neighbouring clergy and gentry, who have rightly judged that one way at least of improving the influence they possess to the good of those around them was to diffuse and cultivate a taste for genuine church music, especially among the poorer classes of the population. Such effects are beneficial alike to the cause of religion and amelioration. For that the choral services of our churches, generally speaking, up to a very recent date were anything but excellent, and calculated to excite no feeling less than devotion, we presume no argument is required to prove; and that the cultivation of good music, both sacred and secular, is among the most efficient means to civilise and humanise the masses of our population, is now universally admitted. We regard it therefore as highly fitting, that the clergy, whose office obliges them to seek both the honour of religion and the welfare of their fellow men, should take the lead in movements of this kind. The success which has attended the efforts made in the vicinity of Coleorton is most remarkable. At present, we believe the association includes seven choirs – namely those of Coleorton, Whitwick, Normanton, Swepstone, Ibstock, Long Whatton and St. George's, Swannington. The choirs are composed almost exclusively of working classes in the strictest sense of the term, and whether we consider the materials of which they have been formed, or the difficulties in a district like that under consideration exist in the way of practice and improvement, we must regard the progress made as wonderful, and that it must be highly satisfactory to the benevolent individuals who have done so much to promote it, we can have no doubt.

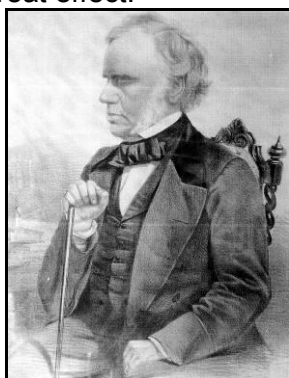
The first anniversary meeting was held last year in Whitwick. This year the anniversary was most appropriately conjoined with the re-opening of Coleorton Church, which has lately been restored, partly in the decorated and partly in the perpendicular style, under the directions of Mr. H. Stevens of Derby, principally we understand, at the expense of Sir Geo Beaumont. We have not been able to learn the precise cost, but it will probably very considerably exceed £1,000. The edifice is now one of which the Parish may well be proud. It is fitted with open seats instead of pews, and every arrangement which could secure the becoming conduct of divine worship and the comfort of the worshippers, appears to have been made. A very neat organ (a Double C), built by Mr. H. Bryceson, of Tottenham-Court-Road, London has been placed in the chancel, also, we understand, at Sir George Beaumont's expense.

The morning service commenced at half-past eleven. The church was crowded with a numerous and highly respected assemblage. We were pleased to observe, however, that the poor were not excluded, either by their own indifference to the service, or by the want of room for their accommodation, but attended in considerable numbers, and manifested great interest. The associated choirs numbered seventy persons, chiefly of course, young men and boys. The organ was not opened during divine service, as we understood, from the apprehension that singers not being accustomed to it would be more hindered than helped by its

accompaniment. With due deference, however, to the gentlemen by whom the arrangements were made, we cannot avoid expressing a belief that its use would have been very advantageous, inasmuch as it would have prevented a want of confidence which was very perceptible, in some portions of the service especially. If we might adventure a remark or two, by way of criticism, it would be on the character of some one or two of the selections, which appeared to us rather too difficult, especially in the absence of an instrument. However, the whole went off exceedingly well, we were particularly struck with the correct and distinct enunciation of the words, which, were not of easy attainment, particularly in a rural district.

During the morning service the prayers were read by the Rev. F. Merewether; the first lesson by the Rev. T. Helmore; the second lesson by the Rev. H. Bennett; the communion service by the Rev. Dr. Wordsworth, Canon of Westminster, assisted by the Rev. – Jordan; Mr. Merewether read the offertory; the sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon Wordsworth (a close relative of William Wordsworth the Poet).

At the conclusion of the service, Mr. Edward Mammatt of Ashby de la Zouch, played some voluntaries with great effect.



Supplementary information - *Edward Mammatt was the son of Edward and Eliza Mammatt of Ashby and he was blind from childhood. He played the organ at St.Helen's Church, Ashby from the age of 13 and wrote organ and choral music which is still available today. He lived in Rawdon Terrace, Ashby.*

After the service a large proportion of the congregation now retired to a spacious and commodious marquee erected in the grounds attached to the Hall, where an excellent luncheon was awaiting them. Through the kindness of Sir George Beaumont, the whole of the choristers sat down with the company, and appeared to enjoy themselves very highly, the juveniles especially. The number present at the table, including the choirs, was about two hundred.

At the conclusion of the luncheon, Sir G. H. Beaumont rose to give the first toast of the day. A number of toasts and speeches followed (*far too numerous to list*). The President gave "the preacher of the day – Dr. Wordsworth", which was received with much applause.

The Rev. G. R. Portal, of London, gave "the ladies" which was coupled with the name of Lady Beaumont. The Rev speaker pointed out in the course of an eloquent speech, the important services which females can render to the ministers of religion. The company left the tent to spend an hour wandering over the beautiful grounds of the mansion. At half-past five the bells were chiming for evening service and at six o'clock the church was again filled with a very numerous congregation.

The collection at the offertory in the morning and in the evening at the door amounted to £46 19s 10d. The services were concluded by a quarter before eight o'clock.

Amongst the numerous clergy, ladies and gentlemen present and recorded at the services and dining were E. Fisher Esq., E. Fisher Junior Esq., and Mr and Mrs. Sherwin of Coleorton. (*This would have been William Sherwin junior and his wife. He formed a solicitor's partnership with the aforementioned Edward Fisher senior*

THE CONSECRATION OF THE NEW CEMETERY AT COLEORTON



St. John's Chapel

On June 24th 1856, the commissioners authorised Coleorton Parish to procure a new burial ground and to make a rate for the amount of purchase money. At a vestry meeting on May 9th 1856, it was announced that Sir George Beaumont was willing to sell for the sum of £17 7s., a piece of close of land called Coal Pit Close containing 13 acres 1rood and 31 perches which was given as equivalent to 1,200 square yards (see later map). It was agreed that the said purchase money be defrayed by a church rate or church rates to be levied in the parish. Also, the estimated cost of enclosure of the new ground was estimated at £120 7s., plus a sum of £45 estimated for concecration fees and land expenses. This also to be defrayed by a further increase in church rates. It was agreed that the church wardens be empowered to apply to Her Majesties Commisioners for building new churches, for their assistance in carrying the above mentioned objects into affect. It was further resolved that the sum of £600 be borrowed for the new burial ground and the expenses incidental thereunto, on the security of the bond to be executed by the following censure. And occupiers, and such others as may be disposed to join in it as follows – Benjamin Walker, Robert Bonnet, William Wardle, Joseph Right Faux, John Ayre, William Walker and Peter Heward. A highway rate of 5d in the pound was granted to the surveyors. Also a church rate of 3d in the pound for the current expenses of the year.

At a meeting on July 24th 1856. - Present at that meeting were the Rev, F, Merewether (in the chair), Mr. Richard Wardle (overseer), John Ayre (surveyor), Peter Heward, Benjamin Walker (guardian) and William Walker (churchwarden). It was decided to put out for tender in the Leicester Journal, Leicester Advertiser,

Nottingham Review, and Derby Mercury for the building of a chapel and cemetery wall. At the same meeting it was decided that a 10d church rate be applied for the expenses expressed in the aforementioned resolutions. Please note the following advertisement in the Leicester Journal.

Leicester Journal – August 8th 1856 (Advertisement)

COLEORTON CEMETERY - TO CONTRACTORS

Persons desirous of contracting for the erection of a cemetery chapel and wall at Coleorton are desired to forward estimates to Mr. Peter Heward of Coleorton, on or before Wednesday, 13th August next, where plans and specifications may be seen.

The stone, sand and wood for roof, will be found gratis, but no part of the labour or carriage of any of the materials.

The cemetery committee do not pledge themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

A meeting was convened on August 15th 1856. In addition to the previous meeting Mr. J. Hatchett and Mr. E Fisher (solicitor), and Mr R. Bonnet (surveyor) attended. It was agreed that Mr. John Elliot's tender for the cemetery wall, Bell and Row work for doors amounting to £282-5s.- 0d should be accepted. Also Mr. Rowland Walker's tender for the woodwork amounting to £28-10s.-0d., be also accepted. Also that the sum of £300 be borrowed upon a bond of the principal tatepayers, to be repaid by annual instalments of £50 per autumn per annum, and that Mr. Edward Fisher (Solicitor), be requested to procure the same upon the above terms

Supplementary information –

The following was recorded by the Rev. F. Merewether, Rector of the Parish of Coleorton:-

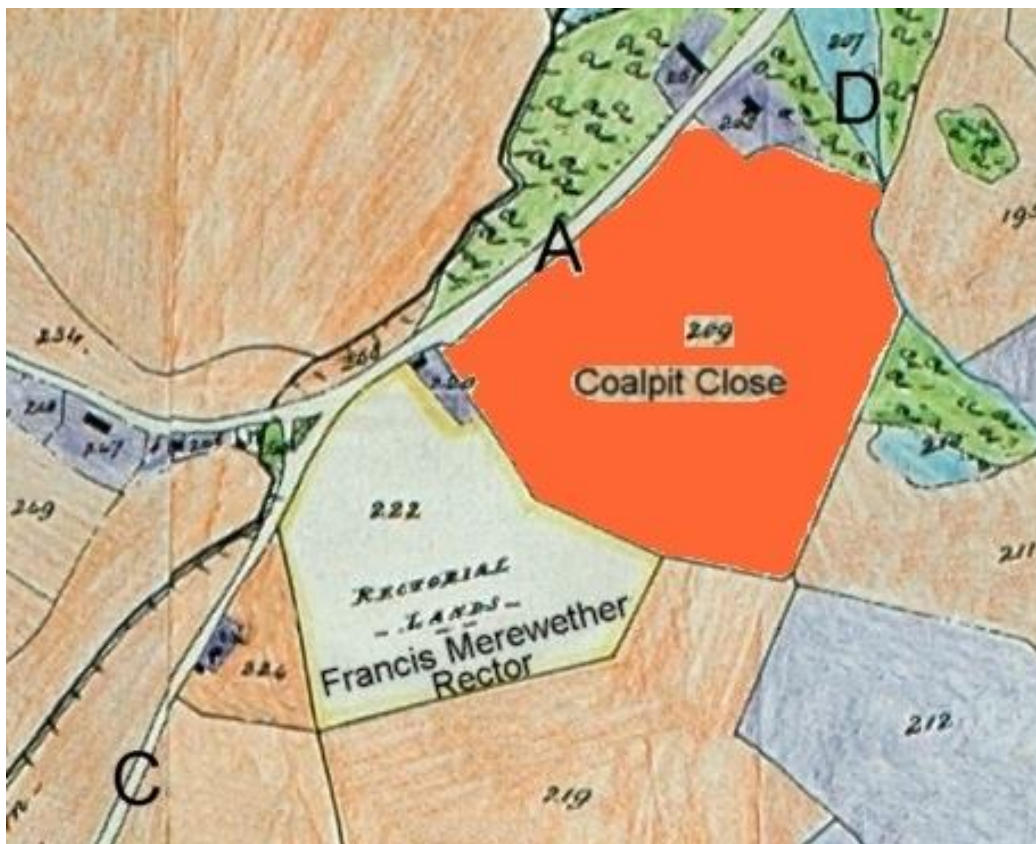
The corner stone of the chapel was laid with attendant ceremonies by Sir George Beaumont, Bart, owner of the Parish and patron of the church on Tuesday October 21st 1856 in the twentieth year of our gracious Queen Victoria. The inscription "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord" was deposited with two silver florins dated 1856 in a glass bottle under the corner stone.

Leicester Journal – September 4th 1857

CONSECRATION OF NEW CEMETERY AT COLEORTON

On Thursday last, the 27th (Aug) ult., this cemetery was consecrated by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese. At three o'clock the churchwarden and others met the bishop and clergy at the Parish Church, where the evening service was read by the Rev. F. Merewether, the rector, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Alderson, and others. After the petition for consecration being presented to the bishop, and a suitable hymn had been sung, the clergy and parishioners proceeded to the cemetery, which lies on the south side, adjoining to the turnpike-road leading from Ashby de la Zouch to Loughborough, and within a field adjoining the rectory (bear in mind that Coleorton Viscount Beaumont's Church of England School had not been built at that time), where they met the bishop and immediately proceeded round the ground, the appointed Psalms being recited. At the chapel, the consecration service was read by the bishop in a most impressive manner. The sentence of consecration was then read by the chancellor, and by him ordered to be enrolled and preserved among the manuscripts of the registry. The communion service and epistles were then read, after which the 90th Psalm was sung by the Coleorton Church Choir, and the bishop

pronounced the Benediction, which ended the ceremony. The chapel is of the "Decorated" period, and is very neatly and substantially built; all the windows and dressings are of freestone, as are also the faces of the internal walls, and the other parts are of granite. The ground is enclosed with a very strong stone wall. The ground, stone, and timber were the gift of Sir G. H. Beaumont, Bart. The builders, to whom much credit is due, are Mr. Elliot, of Ashby, and Mr. Walker, formerly of Coleorton; the former doing the masonry, and the latter the woodwork. The drawings were furnished by Sir G. H. Beaumont and Mr. Heward. The day was all that could be wished, and the arrangements were admirably managed by the churchwardens, Messrs. W. Walker and J. Beckworth. Among the company present were, the Revs. F. Merewether, O. Davys, - Alderson, M. Vavasour, J. Denton, H. Wood, - Gardner; Sir G. H. and Lady Beaumont, Joseph Benson, Esq., Miss Merewether, Mrs. Merewether, the Misses Way, Mrs. Wood (Whitwick), Mr. Ayre, Mr. Faux, Mrs. and Mr. Bonnet, Mrs. and Mr. Heward, Mr. Elliot, Mr. Davenport, &c.



1842 Tithe Map

A = Ashby Rd, C = To Farm Town, D = Fishpond

PRINCE ALBERT'S OWN

Leicester Journal - October 9th 1857

Captain Sir George Howland Beaumont's troop of the Leicestershire Yeomanry Cavalry, assembled at Coleorton Hall on Monday, and after drill, sat down, to the number of nearly seventy, to a most sumptuous dinner, after which a very pleasant evening was spent.

A GLANCE AT COLEORTON IN WINTER

Leicester Journal - January 17th 1862.



St. Mary's Church, Coleorton

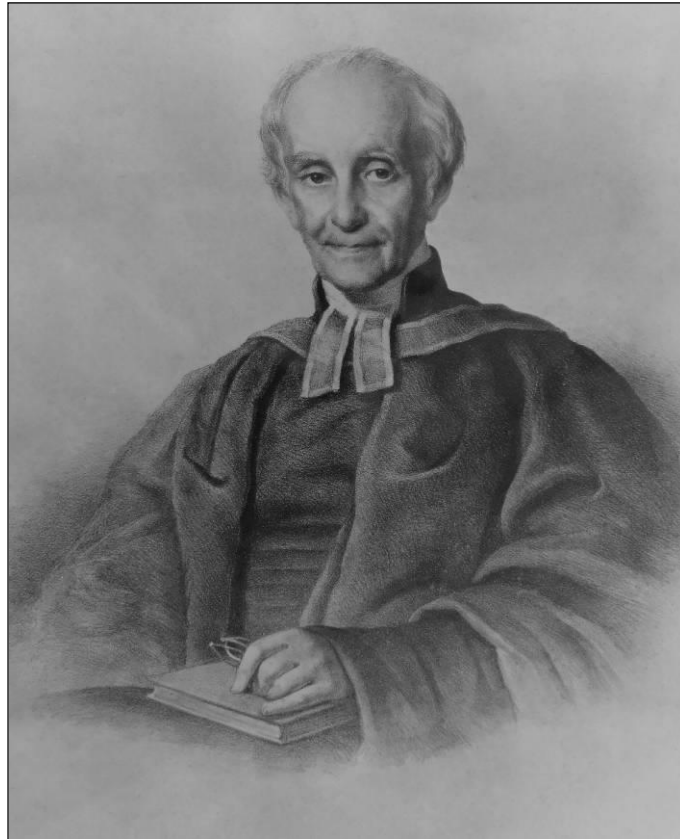
The rural villages of England generally look cheerless at this season of the year, but Coleorton is generally an exception. In addition to the taste readable here of the painter and the poet of yore, the passer by is pleased with the thought that the present baronet is not regardless of the improvement of his estate, and that the ladies connected with the hall and church show a taste not inferior it is presumed, in a decorative point of view, to those illustrious persons whose praised ears have of course been so long since deaf. The church here is at all times pretty, but at Christmas time it has of late been particularly so owing to the admirable taste shown in the distribution of the evergreens and holly berries usually seen more or less in English churches at this time of year, the taste now shown is certainly first class, and especially the letters "glory be to God in the highest", which are composed of variegated holly leaves and fixed on a white ground. The reading desk to looks particularly pretty, and reflects credit on Mr. Henderson (*see the later article on Montgomery Henderson – highly esteemed gardener at Coleorton hall*).

CELEBRATIONS FOR THE MARRIAGE OF THE PRINCE OF WALES - MARCH 10TH 1863

Leicester Journal – March 20th 1863

The parishioners here were provident enough to make such arrangements as would ensure them against failure, and the result was, that the day was a perfect success in every respect. At a vestry meeting called about ten days before, it was resolved that the 10th of March should be kept appropriately, and a sum of £40 was collected in the parish and neighbourhood for that purpose. The following gentlemen were appointed as a committee to carry out the festivities:- Sir G. H. Beaumont, Bart, and Mr. Beckworth (Church wardens), Messrs. J. Bonnet, Heward, Lewis, W. Walker, and R. Wardle and we may state that to the unceasing labours of these gentlemen the success of the day's proceedings is mainly attributable. The day was ushered in by 8 degrees of frost, a dense fog, and a N.E. wind – a sufficient combination to have damped the ardour of most people, but not that of the loyal inhabitants of Coleorton. The warm hearts of those assembled, united to the power of old Sol, soon made an impression on the fog, and after one o'clock the day was fine and bright. At 7. a.m., the church bells rang out a merry peel, and at half-past ten the office of morning prayer was said in the Church, the choir singing the Canticles and Keble's beautiful Wedding Hymn. At noon the hall battery of eight guns fired a royal salute at intervals of one minute between each gun. About the same hour the main parishioners, with the men working on the Coleorton estate, walked in procession from the Beaumont Arms Inn, preceded by the school-children, the parish band and the members of the committee, past the rectory and school (*this would have been the old hospital and school*), and so by the paddock to the dinner tent, which was erected near the cricket-ground. Here Messrs. Waterford, Birkin and Shaw were ready for them, and upwards of 200 men sat down to a substantial dinner of roast beef and plum pudding, with a quart of ale to each man. At the conclusion of the repast, Sir G. Beaumont proposed "The Queen", and "Long Life and Happiness to the Prince and Princess of Wales", both of which toasts were responded to with three times three. Mr. R. Bonnet then gave "Sir George and Lady Beaumont", and Mr. Faux, "Mr. Beaumont", adding that, curiously enough, today happened to be his birthday. These toasts were enthusiastically received, and were replied to by Sir G. Beaumont. The men then left the table and were succeeded by about 400 women and children, who sat down to tea, bread and butter, and plum cake, the ladies of the parish most kindly undertaking the management of this division. Meanwhile the band was not idle, but enlivened the proceedings with lively music. The company then amused themselves with various games &c., till the setting sun warned them to depart. After this, at 6. p.m., the members of the committee, with the principal farmers and their friends, sat down to an excellent dinner at the Beaumont Arms Inn, provided by host Waterfield. Sir George Beaumont presided, and amongst the company present we noticed the Re, F. Merewether, Messrs. J. Ayre, Faux, Bennett, J. Radford, J. Knight, J. Walker, F. Walker, Sharpe, Heward, J. Bonnett, Lewis, R. Wardle, Beckwith, W. Walker, &c., &c. Mr. R. Bonnett occupied the vice-chair. The company then separated, and proceeded to the Harborough Hill, one of the most commanding elevations in the county, where a large bonfire was lighted at about 9 p.m., and a display of fireworks was provided. The bonfire was surmounted by nine tar barrels, and on the ascent of the first rocket, the battery again fired a royal salute from the opposite hill. This terminated the days proceedings, and all separated after cheers for the Queen, the Prince and the committee. It was a day which no inhabitant of Coleorton will forget, and we may add that the arrangements were perfect, and everything passed off without the slightest contretemps.

THE REV. FRANCIS MEREWETHER



THE REV. FRANCIS MEREWETHER
RECTOR OF COLEORTON & VICAR OF WHITWICK
b. 1784 – d. July 21st 1864

The Leicester Journal – Friday July 29th 1864

Obituary -

It is our painful duty to record the death of one of the oldest and most respected incumbents in this county, The Rev. Francis Merewether, rector of Coleorton and vicar of Whitwick. Mr. Merewether was educated, first at Reading under Dr. Valpy, then under Dr. Heath at Eton. He graduated at Christ Church, Oxford, but residing near Cambridge, he became an M.A. of St. John's College in that University. He enjoyed the intimacy of many celebrated men, amongst whom was William Wordsworth, and the poet's distinguished friend Sir George Beaumont, 7th Bart, of Coleorton Hall, by whom he was presented to the rectory of that parish in the year 1816. In 1818 the Crown appointed him vicar of the adjoining parish of Whitwick. Mr. Merewether was in his 81st year, and had held his preferments for nearly fifty years. The period in which he entered upon his incumbencies was marked by a revival of interest in all that concerned the church of this nation. The building of churches, the foundation of schools for the poor, and the erection of parsonages, were beginning to be taken in hand. The parish of Whitwick, too, was one in which the discovery and workings of coal mines began about this time to bring about a large increase of population. It was fortunate that at such a time, in such a neighbourhood, a person like Mr. Merewether should have been called upon to minister. He had only a few years before establishing the first National school in Suffolk, in a parish of which he was then vicar, and it was not long before he set himself vigorously to similar works

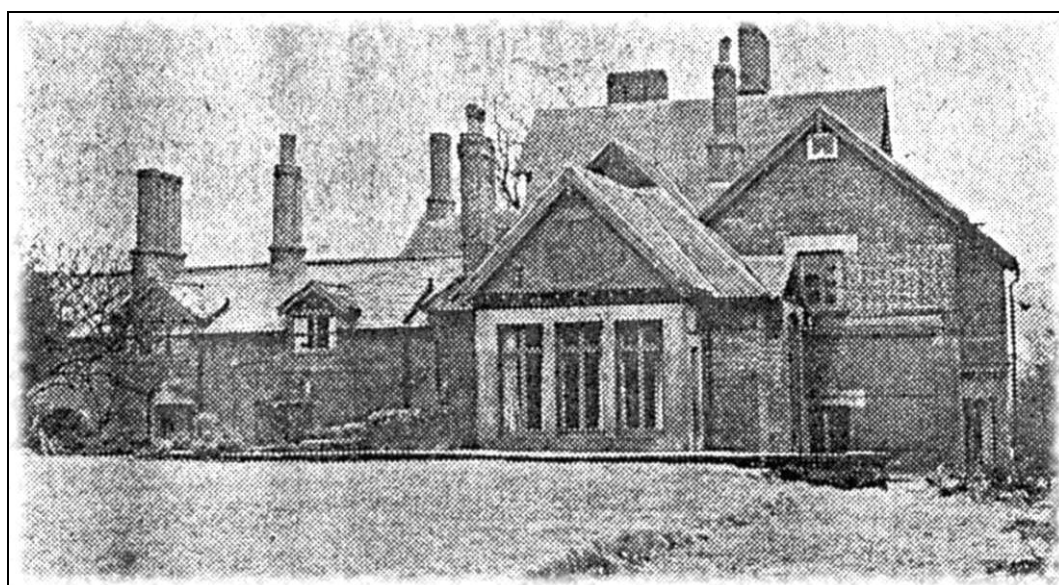
in his new sphere of labour. With the assistance of the then Sir George and Lady Beaumont, always his kind friends and hearty supporters, he first provided schools and then a church and parsonage at St. George's, Thringstone, separated, as a district, from Whitwick, and subsequently in another district of the same parish – Coalville – he erected a school, church, and parsonage. At Whitwick itself, National and Infant Schools were established, and of late these having been found inadequate to the wants of the parish, new schools have been built a second time, this second building having been in great measure due to the zealous exertions of The Rev. H. Wood, Mr. Merewether's curate. The parish church of Whitwick which, when Mr. Merewether became incumbent, was in a state then too common throughout our land and has been in the course of his time completely restored, and the enlargement of the Parish Church worthy of its beautiful site. St. Andrew's day, 1862 witnessed the completion of another work under the auspices of the aged vicar. Our readers may remember the account of the consecration of St. Andrew's, Thringstone, in an outlying part of Whitwick, where for some time service had been regularly carried on by one of Mr. Merewether's curates in a school room licensed for that purpose. The simple and ecclesiastical building known as St. Andrew's Church, Thringstone, remains as a fitting memorial of the venerable vicar of Whitwick, and he was to be the last engaged in putting the finishing stroke to his work there, by raising a fund for a parsonage to be erected upon a most beautiful site already secured for that purpose. The present admirable arrangement of the interior of Cole Orton Church is another good work in which he zealously co-operated with his valued and attached friend, the present Sir George Beaumont, and they who have attended any of the interesting church meetings held in that church, are sensible how well our church ritual is there represented in its genuine beauty and simplicity. These works more especially concerned his own parish, where he faithfully and zealously discharged the sacred duties of a clergyman in a manner appreciated by all among whom he ministered. During the whole period of his incumbency, there has been no interruption to his labours, and on the Sunday previous to his death he preached in aid of the Leicester Infirmary with his usual vigorous warmth and affectionate earnestness, on the text, "Heal the Sick", a sermon which will long remain in the memory of all who heard it. In the diocese and neighbourhood his activity in all that concerned religion was conspicuous. He is well known as the author of letters and pamphlets on various church questions of the day. Our church societies ever found him a hearty and effective supporter. The Leicester anniversary meeting of the Christian Knowledge and the Gospel Propagation Societies was originated by him. If a district committee were to be established or maintained, he was ever foremost to lend his aid. It may here be mentioned in proof of his active interest in the welfare of the county, and of the readiness with which he threw himself into any measures for its good, that he was one of the founders of the first Leicestershire Agricultural Society, which was followed by a number of similar institutions throughout the land. And he was especially earnest in furthering that intercourse among Churchmen, lay and clerical, which tends so much to strengthen our church by promoting good will and good understanding among its members. For such a task, he was indeed, eminently fitted. Firm in purpose, decided in opinion, resolute in acting up to his view of duty, he was of so genial and kindly a disposition, that to know him was to love and revere him. His genuine simplicity, his cheerful piety, his thorough unselfishness, and his unaffected humility, exhibited the Christian character in its most beautiful aspect; and he retained to the very last a freshness of thought and buoyancy of spirit seldom seen in persons of his advanced age. His illness was but for a few days. On Sunday, July 17th, he went through his ordinary duties, on Monday he was somewhat unwell, on Wednesday night he died, retaining perfect consciousness to the last, closing without pain a life of uninterrupted usefulness, and leaving to his relatives and friends no cause of regret save that of separation from one so loved and revered,

and of the loss of those services which, by God's grace, he so faithfully rendered to his church and country.

His elder brother, Mr. Serjeant Merewether, did not survive him more than a few hours, having expired at Castlefield, Wilts on Thursday, July the 21st, in the 83rd year of his age. He was an extremely well qualified man and was a Q.C., and was for 15 years the Townclerk of the Corporation of London. The Rev. Francis Merewether also had another brother Mr. Charles George who was also a Q.C., and was appointed Recorder of Leicester in 1868.



The tombs of the Rev. Francis Merewether and Louis Merewether his nephew (died July 1st 1837 aged 13) In St. Mary's Churchyard, Coleorton.



Coleorton Rectory mainly financed by the Rev, Francis Merewether and constructed by John Gadsby of Coleorton in 1816.

THE SAD DETAILS OF HOW LOUIS MEREWETHER LOST HIS LIFE

Leicester Chronicle – July 7th 1837

Another death by drowning – On Saturday, the 1st inst., three sons of the Rev. James Merewether (*brother of the Rev. Francis Merewether presumably*), accompanied by a cousin who had come from Essex on a visit to the family, went to fish in a pond, commonly called the reservoir (*presumably Coleorton Fish Pond*), in the lordship of Coleorton. In the evening, Charles George Merewether went into the water to bathe, and his brother Lewis (*should be spelt Louis*) expressed a wish to follow him. The third brother, Henry Robert, objected to it, unless he would have a rope round his body; but the youth, without taking this precaution, shortly afterwards jumped into the pond, having undressed without the knowledge of Henry, who was only aware of the fact when he heard him splash into the water. Perceiving that his brother struggled, and then sank, Henry, although he could swim but little, sprang in to his assistance. His efforts unfortunately were to no avail; his brother never rose, and he could not reach him under water. Meanwhile an alarm had been given by the cousin; and Joseph Doughty, a Blacksmith, hastened to the pond, and, after undressing, jumped in, and succeeded in finding the body. At the spot where it was found, there were many weeds, in which the Blacksmith got entangled, but he could not say whether the body was entangled in like manner. Three quarters of an hour having elapsed from the time the youth sank until he was taken out, life was quite extinct. – An inquest was held on Monday at Coleorton : **Verdict - “Accidental Death”**.

COLEORTON MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Leicester Journal - 1867

On the evening of Feb 5th 1867, the first entertainment in connection with this society was given in the "Office Room", Coleorton Moor (*this was thought to be the school room attached to the Baptist Chapel on the Rowlands*), and we can but congratulate the promoters of it on the attendant success, for, on threading a dense crowd assembled at the doors, we found entering the room (with a previously procured ticket), that it was crammed, and many were left standing for want of sitting room, and who enjoyed that privilege throughout the evening. The want of a good room is surely felt in the Parish on these occasions. However, new schools are in the course of erection, and before another winter, such accommodation will be there provided as to meet any contingent requirement. We are afraid to say that many went from the doors for want of room. *The reporter will have been referring to the new "Viscount Beaumont Church of England School", which was opened in 1867.*

The association has for its President Sir George Howland Beaumont, 9th baronet. The worthy Rector of Coleorton is Chairman with Mr. Geo Brown the Schoolmaster, as Hon Sec. *This is the first time the author has come across Mr. George Brown who would have been a teacher at the original "Coleorton Hospital and School" built in 1794.* With such zealous and indefatigable advocates, it must flourish, and we heartily wish it the success it deserves. An able committee is also formed, which will give it the necessary *vis a tergo*. The evening commenced with the choral "Ring out the Bells", given by the Coleorton Church Choir.

Next in order (*apropos of the recent disastrous loss in our mines*) was a paper by Sir G. H. Beaumont 9 baronet., on "Explosions in Collieries", which was well written, the matter admirably condensed, very well read, and had the peculiar excellence of not being too long.

The Rev W. B. Beaumont gave "The Oiled Feather", which took immensely with the audience, this tale, rather too long, requires a little pruning. It contains a moral from which everyone may take a lesson, and is very suitable to such occasions.

Lady Beaumont and Mis Chittenden then played the overture to "Gulielmi (William) Tell" in a very effective manner. It was well received, as was evident by the long continued applause as they rose from the piano.

Mr. P. Heward now read an instructive paper on "The Druids" which received its due merit.

Mr. Woodruffe of Ashby, next sang "Beautiful Isle of the Sea" with his accustomed good taste, which always brings an encore, and which he substituted "My Pretty Jane".

Mr. Brown then followed with a paper on the manners and customs of "John Chinaman" which caused much amusement, and, *apropos* of his vocation, gave an idea how "The Pigtail Pedagogue" instructs "The Young Idea".

Mr. H. Radford then recited from memory "Lochinvar". "Free and Easy" by Mr. Brown, obtained an encore in the shape of "Paddle my own Canoe".

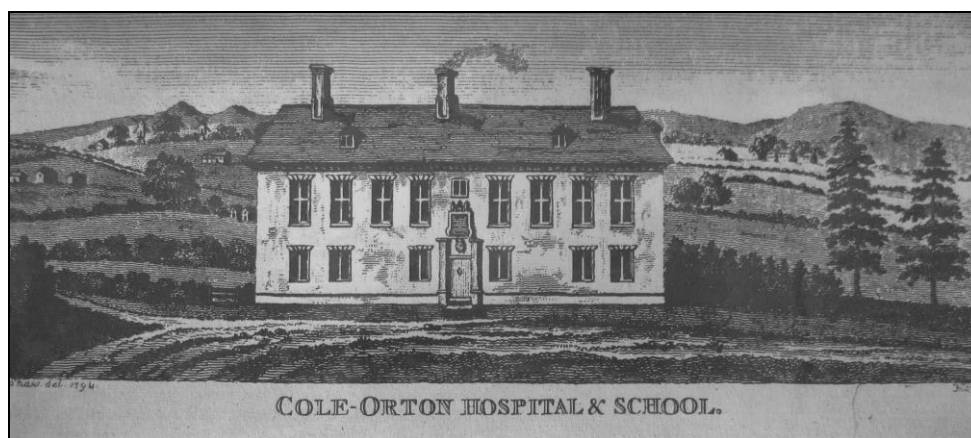
Now for the long paper by C. G. Merewether Esq., on "The House of Parliament", it was very amusing and hinted how very particular those drawings of petitions for the house should be in phraseology, and the amount of matter they attach their signatures to, considering the great attention that is paid to them on presentation. They might be sent up in "Woodin's Carpet-Bag" well secured, with instructions "not to be opened".

A carol followed, and for a wind up The National Anthem was sung, which was heartily joined in by the audience, and thus ended this most successful evening. Lady Beaumont kindly undertook to play the accompaniments on this occasion, which she executed in her usual effective manner, than which to say more would be superfluous. A vote of thanks to her Ladyship was moved by G. W. Lewis Esq., and seconded by the audience *en masse*, in the form of a well – merited round of applause.

CHARITY CONCERT

The Leicester Chronicle and Leicestershire Mercury United - June 13th 1868

On Tuesday evening a concert was given in Lord Beaumont's endowed School at this place (*this was the old "Hospital and School"*), in aid of the "Leicester Infirmary", at which a numerous audience was present, including many persons from Ashby and the surrounding neighbourhood. The programme was a very attractive one. Lady Beaumont presided at the piano-forte. The violinists were Messrs. H. Dennis, George Orchard, W. Rowlett, - Poole, and W. S. Bithrey. Mrs. Hall presided at the harpsichord and guitar, and Mr. George Brown (master at the school) officiated as the conductor. The vocalists were Miss Snelson, Miss Tugby, Mr. George Barker and Messrs. Woodroffe, Timms, Briggs, Gibson, J.Cock, G. Orchard and W. S. Bithrey. The pupils of the Ashby and Coleorton schools, assisted by the Coleorton Church Choir, also sang several part songs very creditably. The entertainment altogether gave the greatest satisfaction as was evident by the repeated encores which were elicited in the course of the evening. We have not heard the amount realized towards the funds of the institution in and of which the concert was given, but we have no doubt the sum will be creditable to the public spirit of the place and commensurate with the object it sort to attain.



The original Hospital & School built in 1707 (engraving dated 1796)

LODGE ANNIVERSARY

Leicester Chronicle – June 2nd 1877

An impressive and successful lodge demonstration came off on Whit Tuesday. The brothers of "The Royal Beaumont Lodge, No. 1920, M.U.", celebrated their anniversary at host Charville's Beaumont Arms, and had in use the beautiful regalia of the order. Assembling at the Lodge House, the brethren proceeded to the parish church, where a suitable sermon was given by the Rev. W. B. Beaumont, and the advice there cannot readily be forgotten. After service, the brothers visited Sir George H. Beaumont at Coleorton Hall, the rectory, Mr. Faux of Fram Town, the The Kings Arms and The Queen's Head Inn, and on arriving at their spacious room at the Beaumont Arms, a sumptuous dinner was awaiting them, which was doubly enjoyed. The rector presided, faced by Bro. Thomas Lord. The board of "Directors of the Order" was given and responded to by G. P. M. Mills. Sir George and Lady Beaumont were received with musical honours, also, "The Rector" and "Mrs. Beaumont", with many friendly expressions from the brotherhood. The "Officers of the Lodge" was then given, and responded to by P. P. G. M. Peters – songs and speeches and resitations followed.

LODGE ANNIVERSARY

Leicester Chronicle – September 15th 1877

The "Templar of Friendship" Lodge (ancient order of Druids) held their annual meeting on wake Tuesday, at the "Queens Head Inn". After an appropriate sermon by the Rev. W. Beaumont, a procession was formed, which wound its way to the hall, the residence of Sir G. H. Beaumont, 9th Bart. On returning to the Queens Head, the members sat down to an excellent repast provided by the worthy host. Dr. Hatchett was called to the chair, and had for his vis-à-vis Mr. Horne, M.N.A. Druid. The usual Royal and patriotic toasts were given from the chair. The health of Sir George Beaumont, 9th baronet and also that of the Rector and Mrs. Beaumont were enthusiastically drunk. Votes of thanks were given to the chairman, surgeons and others.

COLEORTON WAKES

Leicester Daily Mercury – Sept 8th 1879

The weather during the past week having been beautifully fine, the wake has been kept with much spirit. The various clubs met at their club houses (*presumably tents*) and dined together (*presumably in a Marquee*). "The Ancient Druids", headed by "The Sheepshed (*former name for Shepshed*) Brass Band", proceeded through the village to the Parish church, where an excellent sermon was preached by the Rev. W. Beaumont, Rural Dean. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, there were cricket matches between the Coleorton Club, The Forest Rock Cricket Club (Whitwick), Melbourne and the Ashby de la Zouch second eleven. The first match was won by the Forest Rock Team; the other two by Coleorton. At Mr. Fewkes of "The Angel Inn", the village matrons and pretty maids partook of their annual tea, and enjoyed themselves right heartily. The best of order has been kept throughout the week by P. C. Hancock.

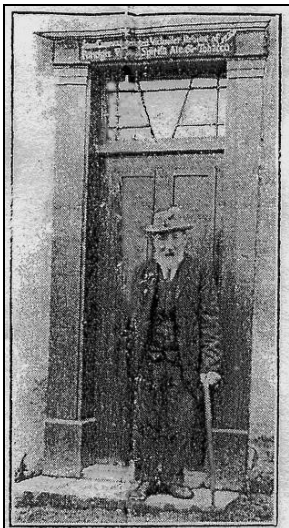


The Coleorton Beaumont Cricket Team 1879

HARE COURSING EVENT

Leicester Chronicle – February 21st 1880

On Wednesday, the annual coursing, kindly given by Sir George Beaumont, Bart, of Coleorton Hall, to his tenants, came off at Coleorton. There were large parties from Ashby, Burton, Derby, Melbourne, Coleorton, Griffydam and Whitwick. The hares were abundant, and some splendid coursing was the result. Many of the greyhounds were fine specimens of their class. In the evening, a supper took place at Mr. Charville's - "The Beaumont Arms". The health of Sir George and Lady Beaumont was drunk with musical honours and three times three, to which Mr. Phuler, the head gamekeeper responded in a neat speech.



Mr John Charville outside the Beaumont Arms

THE COLEORTON WAKE

Leicester Chronicle – September 4th 1880

The wake this year was ushered in by one of the heaviest thunderstorms remembered by the oldest inhabitants. Happily we have not yet heard of any damage with the one exception of a valuable game fowl, the property of Mr. Thomas Peters, which was killed in the pen by lightning. On Monday, at Mr. James Peters, the "Queens Head Inn", there was a well conducted party. The attraction was a fine selection of music. Miss Peters presided at the pianoforte, and her efforts to please were greatly appreciated. On Tuesday, Mr. Porter, distributed soup, &c., to those whose means precluded them from participating in the good things of the festive season, at Mr. Charvill's "Beaumont Arms Inn". There was a display of shows &c., on The Green. There was also a shooting gallery and photographic establishment. The "George Inn" – a hostelry famed from the grand old coaching days – fully maintained its ancient character. This old road side Inn is one of the prettiest in Leicestershire. The garden adjoining is aglow with sweet and beautiful roses, and the stately and venerable elm tree in front, is the admiration of all who gaze upon its fine and lofty proportions.

A FOOTBALL MATCH

Leicester Chronicle – December 4th 1880

A match was played on the Coleorton ground on Saturday, between Coleorton F.B.C. and Whitwick (Charnwood) F.B.C., ending in an easy victory for the home team, they winning by four goals to none. On the part of Coleorton, S. Robinson played exceedingly well, obtaining two goals. J. Fowke also made a grand kick; getting a goal from a kick right from the centre of play. M. Ball also kicked well and obtained a goal. Whitwick appeared to have no chance whatsoever with their opponents. After the play, both sides adjourned to the Beaumont Arms Inn, and passed a very enjoyable evening.