

fresh disintegration of the ownership of this parish began. To John Cleeve, Rector of High Laver, was bequeathed New House Farm, to Jane Velley and Ann Cleeve, Hardings and Repentance, to Mary Hatt the Lodge Farm; Richard and Elizabeth succeeded to the Otten and Walter Belchamp Estate, derived from their mother. Alexander and Bouchier inherited houses in Cornhill, Broad Street, the Strand, and other parts of London; while Simon and Benjamin having had no real property left them, received larger proportionate sums in money.

At this point I will trace the history of the ten surviving children of Alexander Cleeve, so far as I have been able to collect any information.

1. Alexander, born 1690, died 1759. I have been unable to discover the surname of his wife, but he must have married early, as the parish Register of Greensted contains these two entries—"Ann, the daughter of Mr. Alexander and Mrs. Elizabeth Cleeve, an infant was buried Jan. 19, 1707," and "Margaret, daughter of the same was buried Sep. 21, 1709." I can find no mention of any further children, nor of the death or place of interment of his wife, nor have I been able to discover his will. At the time of his Mother-in-law's death, he appears to have resided with his brother John, since in the deed of sale of Greensted he is described as of High Laver.

2. John, born 1701, died 1777. He was for 43 years rector of High Laver, and died unmarried, bequeathing nearly the whole of his estates in Essex, Gloucestershire, and Berkshire to his nephew Thomas Velley, the brother of my great-grandmother.

3. Benjamin, born 1706, died 1761. Of Broad Street, London, Merchant. He married Maria Elderton, who survived him only 3 years. He appears to have had no children, and in his will bequeathed all his property to his wife, but a very singular codicil is added and proved.