many years than his half-brothers and sisters: he was more attached to my uncle Charles than to the rest, and left him an annuity of £40. He willed most of his property to Mr. Collins, a solicitor in Stafford, who honourably left it back to the family. My grandfather's second wife was Elizabeth, daughter of John Webb, of Levedale, and Dorothy his wife, whose maiden name was Bagnall. She inherited a good fortune, which chiefly came to her father through his uncle John Webb of Coppenhall, who left the bulk of his property lying at Coppenhall, Penkridge, Overton, Knowle, Coton near Seighford, and Wedges Mills near Cannock, to this nephew John, son of William Webb, and to his godson John, son of Sampson Webb of Hixon. He left my grandmother and her sister £150 each when they attained the age of twenty-one.

It was a great trouble to my grandmother when her property had to be sold to relieve my grandfather in his difficulties, and, of course, a great trouble also, when he had to sell his own in the neighbourhood.

The second family consisted of seven sons and two daughters. My father and his brothers were accustomed to walk daily to Rugeley (a distance of three miles) to school at a very early age. When only eleven, the former was taken away to go each morning to Sandon (a distance of seven miles) to keep an eye upon the men employed under my grandfather to make alterations at Sandon Hall for Lord Harrowby, and to give a helping hand into the bargain.

This was sharp work, particularly as my father was alive to the advantages of education, and I have heard him say, how his anxious mother used to get his breakfast at a very early hour, and to encourage, and give him a start, would accompany him to the top of "The Hollow," and that he never durst turn to say "good-bye," lest she should see the tears, which he could not always restrain, for he felt it would never do to add to her troubles.