

Extracts from 'A History of Martin' by Edward Peacock, Vicar,
1863 (with later additions)

The Rev. Edward Peacock lived in Martin during the 19th century and was married to Eleanor Reade, granddaughter of George Reade. His handwritten history, illustrated with photos and sketches, can be seen at Hampshire Records Office ref; 9M66/PZ

'There is a family at Martin, named 'Delicate.

'In 1757 William Dellicot was convicted at the Salisbury Quarter Sessions of stealing one penny, whereby his effects, consisting of Bank Notes to the amount of one hundred and eighty pounds, and 20 guineas in gold were forfeited to the Bishop as Lord of the Manor, but to his Lordship's credit, it is stated that he ordered one hundred pounds to be put out, at interest for the benefit of Dellicot's daughter, 20 pounds to be given to his aged father, the residue to be returned to the delinquent.'

I copied this from 'Scraps' of 22nd April 1893. The Bishop was John Gilbers, and as Martin belonged to the See of Salisbury, probably the man was a Martin man.'

'Sir R.C. Hoare mentions cases of cruelty, oppression and of a man being taken at Martin and most unjustly hung by Gilbert Earl of Gloucester for the infringement of some forest law, and the subject is also spoken of in 'Smart's History of Cranborne Chase'.

'Of ancient buildings, rightly so called, there are now little or no remains, though within the memory of some now living there was an ancient gateway opposite to The White Hart Inn, and was probably the entrance to the House belonging to the Abbey of Glastonbury. The village cross still remains in part, it is now standing in the small triangle of grass between The White Hart Inn, and the house of which mention has just been made, but it appears to have fallen (though still upright) from a higher part of the green.'

'The general aspect of the village is that of a place which is mostly copyhold, the buildings being in such a state of decay as would hardly be

the case were the property freehold, and the owners consequently caring that their property was in good order.'

'It is a wonder that the name of the Village did not add another to that numerous family of Winterbournes as no place presents a better specimen of the winterbourne, for during the winter months this is generally as a stony stream running through the whole length of the village street necessitating stepping stones, and other methods of crossing from one side to another. Lately a bridge has been built at the East end of the village, when at times it was dangerous to wade through the water. The consequences of this stream has been that the street is worn three or four feet lower than the level of the land on each side.'

'The only house in the parish of any architectural pretensions is that now the property of the Street family which they purchased a few years since, with 200 acres, of Lord Shaftesbury; the House presents a very good appearance from the road, having mullioned windows and very handsome chimneys. One of the windows in the front has been altered so as to form the front door: the original front door probably opened into the street: behind the house is a very large walled garden, now used more as a field, and cropped with turnips or vetches (?). Across the road are some very handsome outbuildings such as a large coach house (the doors of which have largely fallen to pieces from decay) and stables, and a good barn. Inside the House is not so good, the rooms being smaller and lower than would be expected.

There are stories connected with the house of a marvellous character that is was formerly haunted by the ghost of a Lord Shaftesbury, of which of them it is not now easy to determine; the story is that the old Lord used to appear and say "Right, Huss", Huss being some person of whom it was supposed he had not acted justly. A murder is also said to have been committed in one of the upper rooms, and the stains of blood can, it is said, still be seen.'

Note: The writers of the research on The Manor House, Colin and O-Lan Style, also quote from this History and make this note - 'Opposite this transcription is a photo entitled 'The Manor House at Martin'. This formerly belonged to Lord Shaftesbury and now to Mr Street.'

'The name of Street occurs as early as 1608. The family has lately

purchased of Lord Shaftesbury his freehold property once that of the church...'

'The Parsonage House was built by subscription: amongst other subscribers Lord Shaftesbury contributed £100 and Matthias T. Hodding, (one of the chief copyholders under the lessee of the Bishop,) the ground for the House, Garden and field: the estimated cost of the House was £800, but the present incumbent has probably spent no small sum in making it complete as it has been built about ten years...'



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*Martin Church after Restoration
in 1897*



Cottage at Martin, usually occupied by us.

Formerly called "Garretts".