John Meaden C1716-1797 And SARAH RASIN (RASON) C1719-1783

It is not known for sure were John Meaden was born, but it is likely that he was born in Galton or Owermoigne Dorset.

Sarah on the other hand, almost certainly was born in Winfrith Newburgh, as her parents David Rason and Mary Slade were married in the Parish Church of St Christopher in Winfrith Newburgh on the 31st of August 1705, and her brothers Thomas, Henry and David were baptised there. Sarah was baptised there on the 29th of October 1719, Henry on the 3rd of November 1706, David on the

11th of December 1711and Thomas on the 24th March 1714. The reason for the ambiguity with regard to Sarah's surname, is because she was baptised Rasen, married as Rasin. Her brother David was baptised as Rasen and brothers Henry and Thomas as Rason. At the wedding of Sarah's parents David and Mary the name stated was Rason. When Mary was Buried 7/2/1749 her name was given as Mary Rayson

Sarah Rasin married John Meaden in the Church of St Christopher in Winfrith Newburgh on the 2nd of May 1745, and they went on to have seven children, six boys and one girl. They were in order of baptism dates: David Meaden 8th April 1746 John Meaden 5th of October 1748 James Meaden 28th of April 1751 Henry Meaden 16th of November 1753 William Meaden 17th of August 1756 Mary Meaden 20th of July 1759 Charles Meaden 1st of January 1765 I am told there was a Sarah Meaden 1749 but I am unable to confirm this.

John's occupation was that of a Carpenter, as initially, were his son's Henry and John. But whilst John and William became Masters of their own ships, Henry evolved from a Carpenter to a Wheelwright, to a Coach builder. His grandson John, son of James carried this on and became an Inventor & Patentee of a new type of wheel for carriages.

To make sense of this you have to know that Henry, brother of William and John the mariners, moved from Winfrith to Millbrook Southampton where he became the owner of a Coaching Inn called "The Lamb Inn". This he left in his Will in1834, to his son James who shortly after, changed its name to "The Royal Mail", and it was here that James's and his son John built coaches and serviced them, so that both passengers and mail could travel back and forth, along the coast road.

Soon after John took out the patent on "Certain improvements on Wheels for Carriages", he set up business in Blackfriars Road London

Sarah Meaden was buried at St Christopher Winfrith Newburgh on the 21st March 1783, and John Meaden was buried there on the 19th of June 1797.

There is also a possibility that John went to Southampton on the death of his wife, and it is he who is mentioned as being a victualler (Innkeeper) in the 1792 British Universal Directory, along with his sons John and William the mariners

NOTE: There is a memorial plaque on the wall of St Christopher, to a Linard Stroud and a Thomas Meaden, dated 1680. Apparently

Thomas repaired the roof of the church, and for this is commemorated on a lead plaque on the south wall. This Thomas Meaden was Probably the son of Charles who married Mary Meech.