

## Emily Brownfield

1. VII. EMILY BROWNFIELD was born on 12<sup>th</sup> May 1830 at Ballast Quay and christened on June 9, 1830 at St. Alphege's Church.<sup>1</sup> She seems to have been close to her oldest sister Mary Ann (HALL) and was recorded in the 1851 census as visiting her at 6 Darnley Terrace<sup>2</sup>. She was staying with Mary Ann again in 1861 at "Mussenden Farm" in Mussenden Road, Horton Kirby when she is described as a 'fund holder'.<sup>3</sup> In 1771, she was in Meopham and in 1881 still living at Alma Villas in Meopham after the death of her mother,<sup>4</sup> presumably looking after her disabled brother William Henry, until his death in 1885.

Alma Villas consisted of two houses on the opposite side of Meopham Road from the George Inn and Meopham Vicarage. In 1881, William Buck a retired farmer and his wife Mary Ann lived in the other half of the house (this could have been difficult when William Brownfield and his wife Mary Ann lived next door).<sup>5</sup>

The George was run by Jim Rands and his wife Eliza, helped by her sister Susannah Prior (aged 25) and James Reed, a servant/ostler aged 18. Henry Rands the one-year-old infant son of the landlord also lived on the premises.<sup>6</sup>

The Vicar of Meopham was Lewis W. Lewis M.A. Oxon. He had been born in London, but his wife Louisa came from Jamaica in the West Indies. They had two daughters and two sons, the eldest of whom was a medical student, as, in 1881, was Emily's nephew Harry Munyard Brownfield. There were three servants resident at the vicarage.<sup>7</sup>

Emily never married, and in 1891 she was back living with Mary Ann, this time at 6 Reede Road, Sevenoaks, Kent<sup>8</sup> In 1901, Emily now aged 70 was still living with her widowed sister Mary Ann (Hall) now at 'Vinehurst', Dartford Road, Sevenoaks, Kent<sup>9</sup>. Emily died in Sevenoaks during the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of 1905 at the age of 75.<sup>10</sup>

### Sources

1. St Alphege Baptismal register entry for Emily Brownfield 9 June 1830. Transcript in Greenwich Local History Library.
2. HO 107 1608 fol. 109a hse126
3. 1861 census
4. 1881 Census. CD set. PRO RG11 piece 0878, fol. 11, p. 16.
5. *Ibid.*
6. 1881 Census. CD set. PRO RG11 piece 0878, fol. 12, p. 17.
7. *Ibid.*
8. 1891 census
9. 1901 British Census PRO on-line RG11 piece 747 fol. 36 p24.
10. GRO deaths 1905.3 2a. p399