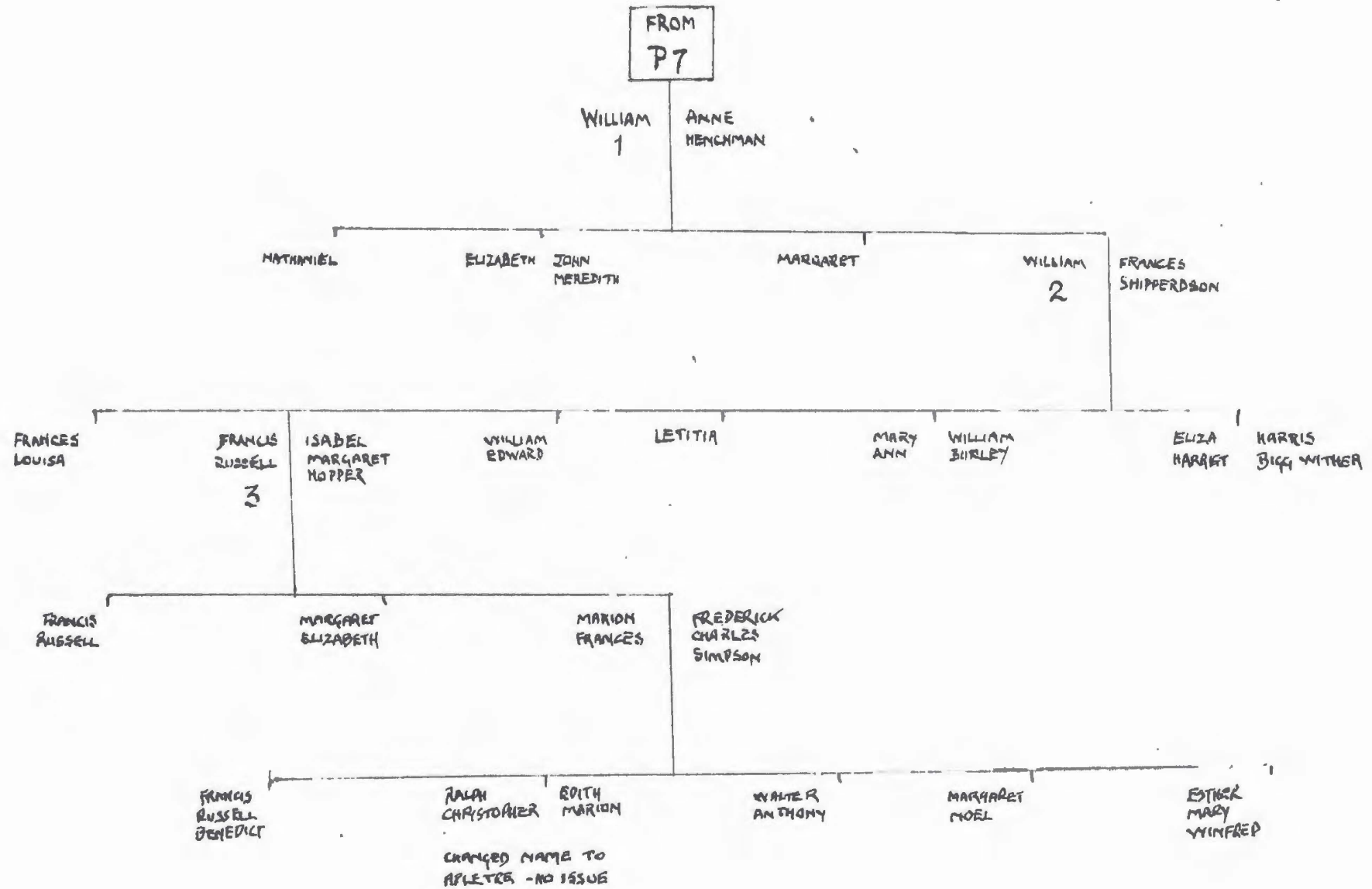




In 1825 he is described as a weaver living at Longford, on the outskirts of Coventry when he sued, in partnership with his brother Samuel (see P.13), for the legacy of £500 due to them on the death of their uncle Thomas (see P.9). In 1826 the Court decreed that the Hook Norton farm should be sold and the proceeds paid into Court out of which the legacy would be paid. The sale took place in 1828 and the legacy satisfied.

About 1826 he married Sarah Brogden and moved to Courthouse Green in Foleshill near Coventry. Their children were Samuel, born in 1827, Mary in 1831 and Sarah in 1838.

The 1851 census describes him as living at 28 Church Lane, Bell Green in Foleshill. He was then aged 63 a hand-loom weaver but a sick man. His wife Mary aged 53 was unable to work. Mary the daughter aged 20 was described as a hand-loom weaver whilst Sara aged 12 was a nurse girl.

Nathaniel and his wife both died of Typhoid in June 1854

P.8

William 1

William the youngest child of Nathaniel and Mary Austin was baptised at **Deddington** on 20 April 1752.

At the age of 16 he was apprenticed to Joshua Burnham of Aylesbury for a consideration of £100.

When he was 22 he took over the management and rents of the 1 yard land in Adderbury, the 2 commons in Great Barford and 2 common fields in **Deddington** left to him by his father. He lived at Blunts Farm with his mother the lease of which became his in 1793, on her death.

On 11 May 1775 he married Ann Henschman the daughter of the vicar of **Deddington** the Reverend J. Henschman, who conducted the ceremony.

Their children were Nathaniel, born in 1776 but who died in infancy, Elizabeth born in 1778, Mary Ann born in 1780 who survived only a few months, and William born in 1782.

In 1787 William extended some copyhold 2 yard land and a house in nearby **Clifton**, for which he paid a rental of £1.1.0d. per annum, to include his son William.

Copyhold land was property owned by the lord of the manor which he let to a tenant for life with a right for the tenant to nominate a second life interest, known as a 'two-life' copyhold. A copy of the entry in the Manor's books of a rental made at a Court Baron was the evidence of title of a tenant to a property. Any alteration to the copy had to be approved at a Court Baron for which a fine was imposed. The objective of the tenant was to maintain within his family for as long as possible the right to land and to avoid a rent revision which arose when a copyhold fell in for renewal after two lives. William must have been enrolled in one of the two Inns of Court for in 1796 he sat on the Bankruptcy Committee investigating the bankruptcy of Richard Drope Gough.

His wife Ann died on the 17th April 1801 aged 47. A tablet in her memory and also of Nathaniel and Mary Ann who died in their infancy was erected in **Deddington** Church.

The Enclosure Award of 1808 gave William 166 acres of common land in exchange for the yard lands he then held.

On 19 February 1820 aged 67 he died leaving the whole of his estate to his son William, except for an annuity of £34 per annum to his housekeeper Alice Lambert.

His daughter Elizabeth married John Meredith of Kingston in 1809, William providing a £5000 trust fund as a marriage settlement.

William 2

William was born on the 29th January 1782 and baptised on the 23rd March. When he was 17 he was articled to his father as a clerk in the Court of Common Pleas. At the age of 21 he inherited a handsome legacy from his grandmother, Anne Russell, wife of John Henchman. Anne Russell was related to Francis, Duke of Bedford, and so William quartered the Russell arms with his own of argent on a fesse gules three lozenges or and adopted the Russell goat for his crest instead of the demi-griffin of Apletree. He now owned a large estate in Hampshire as well as a large house called Goldings in Basingstoke.

The next year he married Frances Shipperdson of Durham at St. Mary in the South Bailey on 2 October 1804. They had six children, Frances Louisa, Francis Russell, William Edward, Letitia, Mary Ann and Eliza Harriet. Their father William outlived them all although he was blind for the last twenty year of his life.

Frances Louisa died a spinster in 1850 at the age of 45.

William Edward died a bachelor in 1844.

Letitia was disowned by her family. They never talked about her so her misdemeanour is a mystery. Mary Ann, said to be a most beautiful girl, married William Burley of Basingstoke on 11 September 1830 but died at the birth of her daughter Ann in 1831.

Ann married a clergyman, Dr. Deane, but had no children. Eliza Harriet married the Reverend Harris Bigg Wither of Worting at Basingstoke on the 7th October 1834 and had a daughter Anne who died unmarried.

Apart from his lease and copyhold properties his legacy brought him in 250 acres of land in Basingstoke and by his marriage to Frances 973 acres in the North Riding of Yorkshire. In 1834 the Dean of York, Dr. Cockburn, sued William, as the occupier of Blandesley Park in Pickering, for the tithes of a buck and a doe annually or £1.10.0d.

In 1821 he renewed his copyhold land of 40 acres at Clifton owned by Christ Church College and in 1850 had his grand-daughter accepted as a 'second life' in place of his son Francis Russell then deceased.

About 1806 William left Deddington and moved to Basingstoke.

In 1832 he sold part of the lease from Christ Church Oxford to George Nelson and when Nelson renewed it in 1865 for 21 years the rent payable to the College was £378 a year plus 5 bushels of wheat and 6 bushels of malt plus £50 an acre if pasture was converted to tillage.

The lease comprised:-

2 Cottages Homestead and garden	
Herbert Hill	3 acres
Little Clay Pits	6 "
Ozier Bed	1 "
Long Meadow	6 "
Clay Pits	6 "
Great Meadow	7 "
Great Clay Pit	14 "
Plank Meadow	13 "
Clay Pits	5 "

It was William who changed the spelling of his name to Apletre. He died in 1867 at the age of 85 leaving his Estate to his grand-daughters Margaret Elizabeth and Marion Frances as his son had pre-deceased him. He also left sums of money to the Meredith and Bigg Wither children.

Francis Russell 3

Francis Russell was born at Basingstoke in 1816. He went to Balliol College Oxford where he matriculated on 30 February 1833, took his B.A. in 1836 and enrolled in Lincoln's Inn in 1837.

In 1838 he married Isabell Margaret Hopper at Durham.

Their children were Margaret Elizabeth born in 1840 who died unmarried in 1873 at Basingstoke, Francis Russell born in 1845 and died 4 years later, and Marion Frances born in 1847. She married Frederick Charles Simpson in 1872.

The death of their father in 1845 meant the mother had control of their inheritance until they were 21, including the farm on lease from Christ Church Oxford. Their muniments show that Isabella was admitted as a 'second life' in 1868. In 1872 Frederick Charles Simpson was admitted on surrender of Isabella and Marion. The marriage settlement was £100,000 to Frederick by his father and £80,000 to Marion by her mother Isabella.

In 1924 the lease (then called Appletrees farm) was sold for £740.

The children of Marion and Frederick were:-

Francis Russell Benedict Simpson

born 1880

Ralph Christopher Simpson	born 1883
Walter Anthony Simpson	born 1886
Margaret Noel Simpson	born 1884
Esther Mary Winifred Simpson	born 1889

It was Ralph Christopher who changed his name from Simpson to Apletre. He had no issue. The "Times" reported the death "on Saturday 30 September 1967 at Oakapple Farm, Ringwood, Major Ralph Christopher Apletre M.C. aged 84 years late Royal Artillery and Royal Tank Corps."

When Miss Edith Apletree was doing family research she had some quite interesting correspondence with Marion Simpson. The impression is of a rather snobbish lady who despite her protestations of affection for the name of Apletree was more than proud of her Henchman and Russell forebears. Her son Ralph too appeared to have the same trait for the story goes that he changed his name in anticipation of being made Edith's main beneficiary in her Will. She found him too much of a snob and he was not even mentioned in it.

From these letters it is evident that that branch of the family possessed a painting, on wood, of Thomas Apletree, the Justice of the Peace and Commonwealth Commissioner for Oxfordshire. It was lent to Edith around 1902 who had a copy made of it which fortunately was passed to me after her death. The original is probably now in the possession of the Slinger family in Warwickshire.

P.9

Thomas 1

The youngest son of Nathaniel Austin and Anne, Thomas was baptised on 14th August 1763.