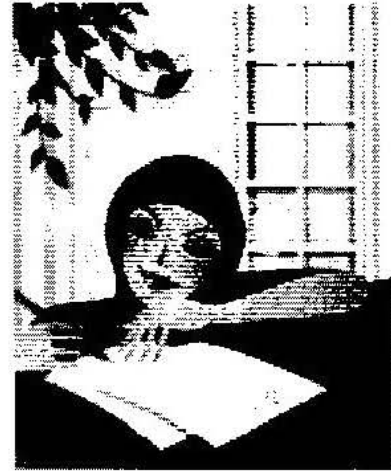


LETTERS

to the Editor

A follow-up to the article by Karen Heath entitled “A Bedfordshire Parrott Family”.



At the end of her article Karen mentions that “there were two Thomas Parrots living at this time at Caddington, both of whom had children. Regrettably though, it is not possible to state with certainty which of them was the son of William and Jane Parrott.” This no doubt was because the Caddington parish register shows that a Thomas Purrat married Sarah Hide in 1602 & in 1603/4 a Thomas Purrat married Ann Cockdale.

With the aid of the Bedfordshire and Luton Archives on-line catalogue it is now possible to distinguish these two marriages. This is because a marriage settlement was made on 20 October, 44 Elizabeth (1602) between William Purrat of Caddington, yeoman and Richard Hide of Luton, yeoman. A conveyance of property (messuages, lands and tenaments) in Studham, Caddington Markyate and Luton was made from William Purrat to his son and heir Thomas Purrat, in consideration of the intended marriage between Thomas Purrat and Sara Hide, the sole daughter of Richard Hide, of Luton. [Bedfordshire & Luton Archives reference: AD3744] The marriage took place on 25 November 1602 in Caddington.

The wills of Richard Hide & his widow Agnes (nee Hayes) were made in 1622 and 1635 respectively and these give us the names of the children of Thomas Purrat and his wife Sarah. Three children are mentioned in both wills – namely Sarah, Thomas and Mary (or Marie) Paratt / Parratt. The parish registers show they all three children were christened in Caddington in 1605 (Sarah Puratt), 1607 (Thomas Purrat) and 1608/9 (Mary Purrate). The registers also show a fourth child, William who was christened in 1611 and buried in 1614.

Thomas Purrette was buried on 3rd December 1613 in Caddington, and this is confirmed by the will of Richard Hide, who mentions ‘his deceased son-in-law Thomas Paratt’ along with his ‘present son-in-law William Pedder’. The Caddington parish register shows the marriage of William Pedder & Sara Purrette on 24th October 1615.

Margaret Lewis (1177)