

REV. ARTHUR HENRY COURTHOPE OF PEMBURY

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OVERVIEW

Arthur Henry Courthope(1854-1904) was born in Ticehurst, Sussex, one of six children born to magistrate and land owner George Campion Courthope (1811-1895) and Anna Courtope, nee Deacon (1817-1897). An image of Arthur's father is shown below.



Coming from a wealthy family Arthur and his brothers all attended Oxford University. Arthur obtained his M.A. in 1880 and chose the church as his career. Crockford's Clerical Directory of 1898 provides details of his career and notes that by 1898 he had served in six churches in various parts of the country, but by 1900 he took a position as a clerk in holy orders in Pembury, Kent.

Two morning letters, which are shown in this article, dated March 13, 1901 and April 3,1901 were both addressed to "The Rev. A.H. Courthope, Laurelhurst, Pembury" . Also shown is an envelope addressed to "The Rev. A.H. Courthope, Claremont, Watringbury, Kent" (in Maidstone) postmarked Norwich April 3,1897.

By 1903 Arthur moved to Tunbridge Wells where he took up residence at 17 Calverley Crescent at which place he died on July 17,1904.

Arthur never married and upon his death his brother arranged to have his body buried in the family plot in Ticehurst, Sussex.

GEORGE CAMPION COURTHOPE AND FAMILY

For the purposes of this article the patriarch of the family is George Campion Courthope. He was descended from a wealthy family line with extensive land holdings in Kent and Sussex.

The National Archives holds in their records and extensive collection of papers pertaining to George and his relatives. Details in this regard can be found online from the National Archives website. The records themselves are held at the East Sussex Record Office under the heading " Courthope family of Wyleigh in Ticehurst". The source catalogue was made by William Courthope, Somerset Herald in 1836 from a number of older catalogues as well as the original deeds. At the beginning of the catalogue he wrote "Catalogue of charters in the possession of George Campion Courthope, Esquire, at Wyleigh, Sussex "which being entrusted to me by his father, George Courthope Esq. decd, for the purpose of collecting from them any information relative to the Pedigree of the Family, where by me, all properly arranged, numbered, & tied up in brown paper parcels, marked & specified in

the following Catalogue, a duplicate of which is in my possession". The deeds were deposited with the Sussex Archeological Trust January 1956 and in 1982 the records were transferred to the East Sussex Record Office.

George Campion Courthope was born February 22, 1911 in London. He married Anna Deacon (1817-1897) and with her had 10 children namely (1) Ann Sophia (1842-1881) (2) Emily Mary (1844-1936) (3) Frances Albinia (1846-1916) (4) George John (1848-1910) (5) William Francis (1850-1924) (5) ARTHUR HENRY (1854-1904) (6) Alexander (7) William J. (8) Caroline (9) Frederick G. All of the sons graduated with a M.A from Oxford University and went on to have distinguished careers.

The 1861 census, taken at Ticehurst gave George as a magistrate. With him was his wife Anna and 10 of his children including ARTHUR. Also there were three other relatives, one visitor; two boarders and six domestic servants.

The 1871 census, taken Ticehurst, gave George as a magistrate and land owner. With him was his wife Anna; six of their children, including ARTHUR who was given as a scholar at Eton. Also there were one nephew and ten domestic servants.

In the 1870's Arthur was away at University and apart from several visits back home he did not return to live with his parents. In the next section I continue with the story of Arthur. His father George died September 7, 1895 at Ticehurst and his mother Ann died December 12, 1897 in Ticehurst.

ARTHUR HENRY COURTHOPE

Arthur was born May 25, 1854 in Ticehurst. His parentage and information up to 1871 were given in the previous section. An image of Arthur is shown below from a family album.



The Oxford University Alumni records for Arthur gave "Rev. Arthur Henry Courthope, fourth son of George Campion Courthope of Ticehurst, Sussex, arm. Christ Church, matric 10 Oct., 1873, aged 19; BA 1877, MA 1880". The university records of his brothers can be found online from the same source.

Crockfords Clerical Directory of 1898 gave the following : Arthur Henry Courthope, of Claremont Wateringury, Maidstone. Ch. Ch. Ox BA 1877; MA 1880. Ordained 1878; priest 1879; Pet. Clerical Teston, Dio. Cant, 1896; F.C. of Aston-Flamville, Leicestershire 1878-1888; H. Trin, Margate 1883-1887; Selborne, Hants. 1887-1891; Sprowston, Norfolk 1891-1892; St John, Meads, Eastbourne 1893-1894. No listing for Arthur was found in Crockfords for 1901. While in Selborne he was a subscriber to 'Nature Notes' in the Selborne Societies Magazine. Shown opposite is an envelope sent to Rev. A.H. Courthope while residing in Claremont.



The 1881 census, taken at Back Lane, Burbage, Leicestershire, gave Rev. A.H. Courthope living as a lodger with the family of Arthur Peacey (a carpenter and wheelwright). Arthur was single, and in fact never married. His occupation at that time was "curate of Burbage". An image of the church is shown below.



The 1891 census taken at Sprowston, Norfolk gave Arthur as the curate of Sprowston and living as a lodger with the family of Frederick Andrews (general mechanic). Crockfords 1898 , given above notes that he had not moved to Pembury, Kent until sometime after 1898.

Shown below are two morning envelopes addressed to "The Rev. A.H. Courthope, Laurelhurst, Pembury. Both are franked Tunbridge Wells and dated March 13, 1901 and April 3, 1901. It was not established why these morning envelopes were sent to him as there is no indication from family records that any members of his immediate family had passed away in 1901.



While living in Pembury he attended St Peter's Church, a view of which is shown above. Details about the church can be found on the Pembury History website. Arthur's residence in Pembury was Laurelhurst (sometimes given as Laurel Hurst) which was located on the lower green. Two postcards showing the Pembury Green and some of the houses were found but which one of the homes was Laurelhurst was not established but most appear to be rather large two storey homes.

By 1904 Arthur left Pembury. Probate records for Rev. Arthur Henry Courthope gave him of 17 Calverley Crescent, Tunbridge Wells, a clerk, when he died July 17, 1904. The executor of his 14,851 pound estate was his brother George John Courthope, esq. As no record of Arthur's burial was found in the Tunbridge Wells Borough Cemetery it appears that his body was claimed by his brother George John Courthope and buried in the family plot in Ticehurst, Sussex.