

Appendix 2.

Mary Stephen's Family

Mary Stephens and Jonathon Mullis were the products of farming families whose members had lived and worked for generations in the parishes of Bodmin Moor and its surrounding area. A summary follows of their family backgrounds, which contributed to the people Mary and Jonathon became. References to baptisms, marriages and burials in the various parishes are taken from the relevant parish documents held in Cornwall County Record Office unless otherwise stated, and references to post-1837 births, marriages and deaths are taken from the relevant records held by the Superintendent Registrar at Launceston unless otherwise stated. References to the census returns are taken from the Mormon microfilms of the census records.

In addition, the almost unique geographical area in which Mary and Jonathon lived in Cornwall contributed to the lives they led, at least until the time of their emigration to Australia.

Mary's Ancestors.

Mary's ancestors came from Trewen, Lewannick and the surrounding parishes. Her father, Richard Stephens, was most likely descended from a family of farm labourers from Trewen, while her mother Charity Coombe's descent seems to be through many generations of yeoman farmers in the parish of Lewannick.

Stephens

Richard Stephens' parents were Joseph Stephens and Elizabeth Frayn, who were married on 5 June 1799, at Trewen. The witnesses were John and Richard Frayn, probably Elizabeth's father and brother. Joseph, who made his mark with an X was a labourer and sojourner of Trewen, indicating that although he had not been born in the parish he was resident there at the time of his marriage.

The children of this marriage were: Richard baptised 1799 at Trewen; John baptised 1803 at Trewen; Charity, who was baptised 1806 at Trewen married John Dawe, and they appear in the 1861 census living at Trevadlock Cross, and at Trenhome, Lewannick in 1871; Mary baptised 1809 at Lancaut; Joseph baptised 1811 at St

Clether; and William baptised 1814 Laneast, who was living with Charity and John Dawe in 1861 and 1871. He died at Hicks Mill on 4 March 1886, aged 71, and is buried in Trevadlock Methodist chapelyard beside his brother Richard. His will mentions two of the daughters of his brother Richard and the executor was his nephew William Stephens, farmer, of Bowithick, Altarnun. A Stephens family is listed in the census returns for Bowithick from 1841 onwards, but so far it is not certain that they are related to Joseph's family. A Richard Stephens aged 80 in 1841 and of independent means is among several households of Stephens who are all farmers or agricultural labourers at Bowithick. It is possible that he was related to our Joseph.

Joseph Stephens, who married Elizabeth Frayn is probably the Joseph Stephens aged 45, of Knowle, who did not leave a will, but who was buried at Trewen on 20 December 1819, since his father-in-law Richard Frayn, also of Knowle, had been buried there in 1815. If this is so, then Joseph was born about 1775. He was probably a farm labourer, and probably descended from a family living in Trewen. Parish accounts for Lewannick and Trewen show payments for labouring work during the 1770s, 1780s and 1790s to a Joseph Stephens/Stevens who could possibly be the father of this Joseph, and could also be the Joseph Stephens baptised on 5 April 1741 at Trewen, the son of William and Charity who were buried there in 1768 and 1742 respectively.

It is likely that Richard Stephens' grandfather was the Joseph Stephens of Trewen who married Mary Daw in Lewannick on 15 May 1766, and may be the Joseph Stephens buried at Trewen in 1810. Joseph and Mary had five children born in South Petherwin, Trewen and Lewannick between 1767 and 1788. A Mary and Joseph Stephens had a son Joseph baptised in Altarnun 19 September 1775; it is likely that this Joseph was Richard Stephens' father, as this Mary and Joseph Stephens are most likely the same couple moving from one parish to another.

Richard Stephens' mother, Elizabeth Frayn, was baptised at Trewen on 11 February 1776 and died at Pipers Pool on 27 March 1845 aged 69 and was buried at Trewen.

Frayn

The earliest record of this family is the marriage at North Tamerton in Devon on 22 September 1702 of John Frayn and Miriam Trenance. Their fourth child John, a

labourer, married Ann Bunny at Tremaine, Cornwall, in 1732. Their eighth child was Richard.¹

Richard Frayn was baptised on 21 May 1751 in Egloskerry, a parish bordering Trewen. On 16 November 1775 he married Joan Cundy at Trewen, where she had been baptised on 25 September 1757. Richard was a blacksmith of Egloskerry. Their first child Elizabeth Frayn married Joseph Stephens and became the mother of Richard Stephens.

Following their marriage, Richard and Joan Frayn lived in Trewen parish where he carried on a business as a blacksmith, which was continued by his son Robert and Robert's descendants.

Richard Frayn was mentioned regularly in the Trewen churchwarden's accounts between 1797 and 1815, both as the blacksmith repairing the church and as the leader of the church singers.

He was buried at Trewen on 11 May 1815 aged 63 and his wife Joan was buried there on 17 August 1832 aged 75. Information given by Kerrin Cook, (Sydney) states that they had ten children between 1776 and 1798: Elizabeth, John, Richard, Robert, Joan, James, George, Phillipa, Henry and Peter.

Coombe

Coombes are recorded in the parish of Lewannick from the commencement of surviving parish registers, but the ancestry of Charity Coombe can only be taken back with any certainty to William Coombe, baptised 5 May 1715 in Lewannick, and his wife Margery. Their son Christopher baptised on 15 February 1742 at Lewannick, married Charity Rogers, the daughter of John and Charity Rogers, who had also been baptised at Lewannick on 23 January 1742. They were married at Lewannick on 13 October 1765 and their son John Coombe (baptised 1766 in Lewannick) married Grace Sleep in that parish in 1795. Their daughter Charity became Mary Stephens' mother.

Charity seems to be descended from a long line of yeoman farmers in Polyphant, Lewannick, but it is difficult to find proof of this, because the Lewannick baptisms

¹ This information was kindly given by Kerrin Cook in Sydney but has not yet been verified.

which begin in 1660 only give the name of the child and the date of baptism until after 1740. There are twenty Coombe baptisms between an Abraham in 1665 and a Jacob in 1740. The only William was baptised in 1715. The Cornwall Poll Tax returns for Lewannick in 1660 list Abraham Coumbe and Wm Coumbe together; John Coumbe; Will Coumbe, Henry Coumbe.²

Charity's occupation of Coombe Farm in Polyphant has resulted in the theory that since her husband, sons and grandson in turn owned Coombe Farm, then the Coombes who had lived there previously, were probably relatives, and the property probably passed through John Coombe (described as a yeoman when his will was proved) to Charity and hence to her husband. In 1724 the will of William Coombe the younger, a yeoman of Polyphant, bequeathed his messuages and lands to his brother John on condition that on John's death the property would pass to John's son William. The Lewannick Church Rate and Account Book 1728-1819 has a listing for Polyphant in 1728 showing John Coombe, Mr Coombe, John Coomb's tenement, and Coombeshead.

John's son William could have been the William who married Margery; the parents of Christopher baptised in 1742. It may have been William and Margery who built the present Coombe Farm house which was constructed in 1742.³

Charity Coombe, who became Mary Stephens' mother, was baptised at Lewannick on 12 September 1802, the daughter of John Coombe and Grace Sleep of Lewannick, who were married there on 6 January 1795. Their other children were Janeford baptised 1795, John baptised 1797, and William baptised 1799, all at Lewannick. Janeford married a carpenter, Richard Jenkin of Lewannick, in 1813; they had two sons, John and Samuel and two daughters Susanna and Sarah. William Coombe predeceased his father, whose will in 1848 mentions William's wife Ann and daughter Eliza Ann. Nothing is known of John junior; it is possible that he died before reaching adulthood, but this is difficult to prove as a note written by the incumbent in the Lewannick burial register 1738-1812 states that many entries are missing.

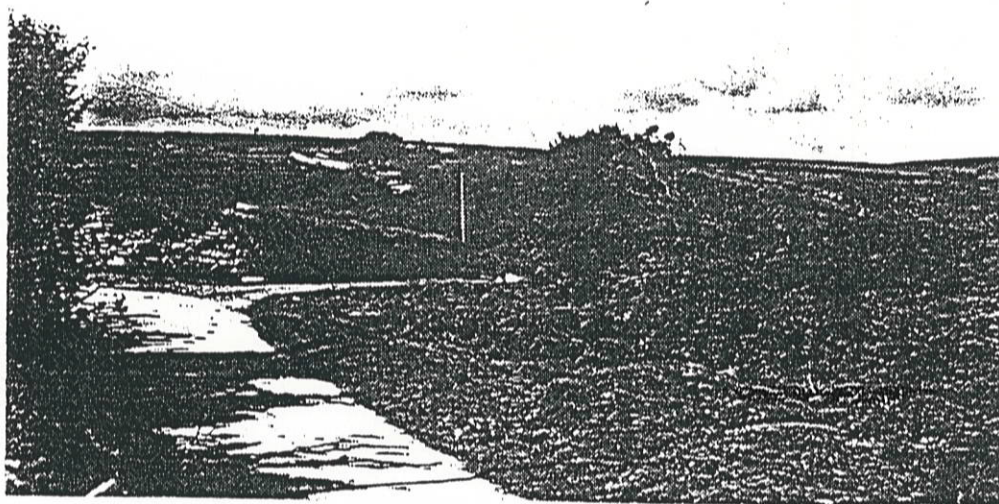
2 Copy of Cornwall Poll Tax returns 1660, in the possession of Mrs Joyce Brown, Altarnun.

3 Ron Edwards, the present occupier of Coombe Farm.

Mary Stephens' Family.

Mary Stephens was the third child of twelve born to Richard and Charity Stephens. At the time of her baptism at Lewannick on 23 December 1828, Richard was a labourer in the adjoining parish of Altarnun. The family had moved there from Lewannick after 29 January 1826, when the baptismal entry for Mary's older sister Elizabeth recorded the family's abode as being Lewannick. Possibly the move occurred between the time of Mary's birth, stated in the family bible as having happened on 5 March 1828 at Lewannick, and her baptism nine months later.

It is most likely that their move was directly to the isolated hill farm of Trederras, (or Derras as it is usually called by the people of Altarnun) on the edge of Bodmin Moor and a mile beyond the hamlet of Trewint, and that it was intended to be a permanent one. The baptisms of the next two children were at Altarnun; Joseph on 26 September 1830, and John on 30 December 1832. The 1841 census shows that Richard Stephens and his family were occupying Trederras, and that their only neighbours were farming families on other lonely hill farms at Hodgsland and West Carne. There were no roads or lanes joining these farms, the only access from one to the other was by walking or riding across the moor.



34. The lane leads from the main road, across the moor to Trederras, which is hidden in the hollow amongst the clump of trees. (Photographed by the author, 1984.)

The family moved from Trederras between the birth of the tenth child Eliza on 6 May 1844 at Derras and the birth of the eleventh child William on 19 April 1846 at Cargelly, still in the parish of Altarnun.

Richard had improved his status from agricultural labourer to farmer (presumably a tenant farmer, since there is no evidence that he owned land at this time) with his move to Cargelly. It is unlikely that Mary and her two older sisters enjoyed the benefits of their father's improved status because they had already had to leave home to seek employment as domestic servants.

Mary's childhood was spent at Derras, but by the time of the family's move several miles to Cargelly at the other end of the parish she was working in service elsewhere. At the age of 13, i.e. at the time of the 1841 census, she was employed at Trevell. Although Trevell is in the parish of Lewannick it is the farm closest to Cargelly, being about a mile distant.

The fact that Mary and possibly her two older sisters were employed as servants by 1841 suggests that economic conditions in the Stephens family at that time were poor. Her childhood would have been a very Spartan one, since the life of an agricultural labourer's large family living on a poor hill farm would have allowed of few luxuries.⁴

The ever-changing beauty of the moor which surrounded the old stone farmhouse would have provided some compensation for the poverty and discomfort of Mary's early life. The house nestles in a sheltered hollow between the fields leading up onto the unfenced moor and those skirting its edge. The top fields at Derras open out to the open moorland through high Cornish hedges, which are actually thick drystone walls of great granite blocks often covered with earth and foliage.

Beyond these top fields, up amidst the grandeur of the open moor, are relics left behind by many generations of moorland dwellers; behind Derras are the remains of

4 In 1987 Derras remained an isolated hill farm. Although only a little over a mile from the main highway which cuts through the centre of Cornwall, the farm has no mains electricity and relies on a petrol-powered generator which must be used sparingly and so television is not freely available to the young children of the family. Sewerage mains are not available, neither is there a septic tank. Cooking is done on a wood stove which also heats the house. There is no bathroom. The farmhouse has not been altered much in modern times and it is not difficult to imagine how it looked during the time Mary Stephens was growing up there.

the hut circles which formed a prehistoric settlement whose inhabitants would have gazed out across north Cornwall giving them excellent warning of the approach of invaders. Close by are burial mounds, barrows and cairns used by these prehistoric hill farmers.

Mediaeval field systems abound in this area and can be seen clearly in winter when the bracken dies down. Also easily seen are the remains left by the tanners, Cornwall's 'old men' who streamed for tin centuries ago. There are peat drying platforms all across the moor, left by many generations of farming families who relied on peat for fuel. The moorland ponies, small and unafraid of the occasional human, roam the moor freely. They are descendants of pit ponies turned loose from the tin mines last century when they were no longer needed.

Mary must have known this environment intimately. She would have walked up to the top fields each day to bring in the cows for milking. When she left Derras to go in any direction she would have walked across the miles of open moors, treacherous with bogs or shrouded without warning in heavy mist, and dangerous for persons unfamiliar with them. Had she chosen to walk instead down the blackberry-lined lane to Trewint and thence to Altarnun village, the distance would have been even greater than the walk across the moor to Altarnun.

She would have known the moor in all its moods; beautiful in summer covered in pink heather and green bracken; at other times yellow with gorse flowers or red with dying bracken; beautiful in a more subtle way in winter, bleak and windswept or covered in sudden mist or drifts of snow.

Mary's childhood was most likely even stricter than that of many of her contemporaries because her parents became converts to Methodism, probably in the early 1830s. Although her brother John was baptised by the Church of England clergyman in Altarnun parish church on 30 December 1832, the baptism of her sister, Jane, was recorded on 1 February 1835 in the Launceston Methodist Circuit registers held at Coads Green parsonage in Northill. Subsequent children were baptised as Methodists. Richard Stephens continued his close involvement with Methodism throughout his life; his decision for conversion has had a continuing influence on his descendants to the present day.



35. Trewint Tor and West Moor, Cornwall. The trees surrounding Trederras can be seen at the top left of the picture, below its top fields which border on the open moorland. In the foreground is the A30, Cornwall's main highway. Above this, at the bottom left of the picture, the patterns of mediaeval field systems can be seen, and also the holes resembling bomb craters, which are the remains of ancient tin workings. (National Monuments Record, OS 1/50000 sheet 201, grid reference SX211802, at Cornwall County Archeological Unit, Truro.)

Life revolved around Bible classes, chapel services, prayer meetings and Sunday School. There is no evidence that Mary or her family attended the chapel closest to Derras at Altarnun; it seems they preferred the much longer journey either across the moor or skirting its edge to Trevadlock Cross Chapel, Lewannick. It is possible that the person responsible for the Stephens' conversion was a member of that congregation, perhaps even a member of Charity Stephens' family living in Lewannick parish.

The Stephens' involvement with Trevadlock Cross chapel had an influence on Mary's working life. She probably gained her first employment through the family's

contacts at the chapel. Her employer at Trevell in 1841, John Wevill, was a committed Wesleyan and a member of the Trevadlock congregation.⁵ He had moved with his family from Trekernell, a hill farm of the Trebartha estate on the edge of the moor in neighbouring Northill parish, leaving a brother, William at Trekernell. Mary later went from Trevell to Trekernell, her home at the time of her marriage in 1850. The Wevill family were all staunch Methodists.

The Wevills set aside a section of the Trekernell farmhouse as a chapel; evidence of the separate chapel entrance to the house can still be seen. The huge piece of granite moorstone outside this entrance was used by the congregation as a step for mounting and dismounting from horses and carts, and hatpegs used last century by the congregation still survive in the porch at Trekernell. A Sunday school was conducted in one of the outbuildings, and the present (1987) occupier, Mrs Venning, remembers seeing the names of long ago students scratched high up on the walls. Trekernell would have been even more isolated than Derras; Mary had several miles of lonely moorland to cross when she walked to Trevadlock Cross Chapel or to see the family at Derras and later at Cargelly.

Mary's Parents

Before Mary sailed for Australia in 1850, her parents had moved from Derras to Cargelly and Richard's occupation had improved to the status of tenant farmer. Her grandfather John Coombe was living with the family at Derras at the time of the 1841 census, and moved with them to Cargelly where he died in 1848. A retired yeoman farmer whose son had predeceased him, he left his property to his daughter, Charity Stephens. Since the Married Women's Property Act was not yet law in Britain, this property automatically passed to her husband Richard.

John Coombe's bequest may have been the reason for the family's move to Coombe Farm in Polyphant, between the birth of the twelfth child James at Cargelly on 11 April 1849 and the 1851 census when they were resident at Coombe Farm. At this time, Richard Stephens was well on the way to becoming a prosperous farmer; the census revealed that he was a farmer of 76 acres, employing one labourer.

⁵ Rev H. Bolitho, *Truly rural: lights and shadows on the history of North Hill circuit of the Methodist Church 1743-1946*, published by the author, Coads Green, Launceston, 1947. p.72.

Charity did not live to enjoy the family's improving standard of living. She died at Polyphant on 10 February 1852, from inflammation of the lung probably contracted during a bitter Cornish winter. She is buried at the chapelyard at Trevadlock alongside her second child Elizabeth, who died of tuberculosis at Polyphant a few weeks after her mother on 5 March 1852. The youngest child James was not yet three years old and his older brother William was almost six. The responsibility of the children may have been one of the reasons why Richard married Mary Stoneman on 23 May 1854. She had known the family since at least 1851, being housekeeper to the medical practitioner in Polyphant, who lived across the road from Coombe Farm. Mary was a spinster aged 40 at the time; she came originally from Broadwoodwidge, a few miles away across the border in Devon. Her father was a malster, which suggests that she was rather an unlikely candidate for the wife of a strict teetotal Wesleyan. There were no children of this marriage.

The marriage did not meet with the approval of the seventh and ninth children Ann and Susanna, who, when the opportunity arose, emigrated to join Mary and her husband Jonathon Mullis.

The chapel at Trevadlock would have been a central part of the lives of the Stephens family. It had been built in 1810 at a time when Methodists in Lewannick parish were recovering from a period of persecution by the Church of England; the movement had then moved from strength to strength. In 1836 a caretaker's cottage was built beside the chapel and a Sunday school began in the following year. The burial ground was opened in 1844 and a schoolroom built in 1846 for religious teaching on Sundays and for secular lessons at other times. It was nicknamed 'the college' because the local people thought it was better than the local Dame's school.⁶

The Stephens family attended Trevadlock regularly until the chapel at Polyphant opened in 1888; they were also involved in class meetings and Sunday school at Polyphant. In 1863 Richard Stephens was the first Superintendent of Polyphant Sunday school, and although the Polyphant Methodist Society was small it was 'healthy and persistent'⁷ and the large barn at Coombe Farm was used regularly for

6 Bolitho, *op. cit.*, p.20.

7 *Ibid.* p.21.

Sunday school teas and other functions.⁸

Throughout the remainder of his life, spent at Coombe Farm, Polyphant, Richard Stephens continued as a successful farmer acquiring more land to add to the original Coombe Farm. In 1861 he was a farmer of 90 acres employing two men and two boys as well as his own sons. By the 1871 census his farm was 96 acres and he employed two men and two boys and a female domestic servant. Economic need would not have forced the younger girls of the family to go into service, as Mary and her two older sisters had had to do.

He died at Polyphant on 1 April 1881 aged 81. An inquest held the following day in Launceston gave the reason for death as natural causes.⁹ If his death followed the family pattern, it is most likely to have been the result of a heart attack or a stroke.¹⁰

Richard had completed his will on 26 March 1875, six years prior to his death. He left ten pounds to each of his eleven surviving children except the two youngest, William and James. In addition to the bequest of ten pounds, Richard Junior was to receive his father's large box and all his wearing apparel.

Richard's second wife Mary received fifty pounds and also

the bed we lie on, three chairs, little deal table, washstand, jug and basin, two boxes, three large blue dishes, six blue plates, three jugs, five china cups and saucers and three glasses, also my watch.

She was also given the family bible which was to be returned to the youngest son, James, after her death. She was to have as well

the parlour and chamber over part of the present dwelling house we now reside in at Polyphant . . . that is if she chooses to reside therein.¹¹

8 Ron Edwards.

9 Death certificate of Richard Stephens.

10 This supposition is supported by Mr Ron Edwards, the present occupier of Coombe Farm, who was born there 49 years ago. He is not a descendant of Richard Stephens. When he was a child, an elderly neighbour who was well into her eighties often told him stories of Polyphant at the time of her youth. She remembered that when she was young, the elderly farmer at Coombe Farm had dropped dead in the yard by the stables while he was harnessing his horse into the cart to go to market in Launceston.

11 Richard Stephens' will.

James and William Stephens were to share all his remaining property.¹²

Richard Stephens is buried in the chapelyard at Trevadlock Cross. After his death Coombe Farm remained in the Stephens family for another fifty years until James' son Ernest was forced by ill health to sell it in the 1930s.¹³

Mary's Sisters and Brothers

Grace was baptised in Lewannick on 24 August 1823 six months after her parents' marriage. She is not listed with the family at Derras in 1841 and would have been forced into service by economic necessity long before.

She married William Harris at the Methodist chapel Launceston on 23 March 1844,¹⁴ and they had two children. Catherine was born on 19 December 1845 at Derras where her father was an agricultural labourer, possibly having moved there at the time Richard Stephens moved with his family to Cargelly; she died at Trevell on 3 April 1853 from inflammation of the brain, probably encephalitis, and is buried at Trevadlock.

Grace's son William Harris was born on 1 May 1854 at Trevell, where his father was an agricultural labourer. He died, aged 36, on 13 February 1891 of phthisis or tuberculosis.

Grace died aged 68 on 12 July 1892 at Hicks Mill, Lewannick, of syncope or unconsciousness caused by pain in the stomach from indigestion and wind. Her husband William died there also, at the age of 86 on 19 April 1902 from influenza and pleurisy. They are buried together at Polyphant chapel. William's will, (written in 1896 and proved on 30 May 1902 in Bodmin) left his freehold house at Hicks Mill to Grace's sister Jane Warring, and his remaining property to a nephew and to Grace's brothers William, James, Richard and John Stephens.

12 Ron Edwards pointed out to me in 1984 where these two upper rooms at Coombe Farm had been, above the kitchen and present bathroom. His father had demolished them some years before. His elderly neighbour had told Ron that in her youth there had been two separate households there, which could have been Mary living in the upper rooms or perhaps later it was William and James in separate parts of the house.

13 Dorothy Stacey, daughter of Ernest Stephens.

14 Marriages were not conducted at Trevadlock then, because only certain chapels were licensed for marriages, and Launceston was the closest of these.

Elizabeth was baptised at Lewannick on 29 January 1826. She was not listed with the family at Derras in 1841 and was probably employed in another household. She was a witness at the marriage of Mary Stephens and Jonathon Mullis in 1850 and the 1851 census shows she was back with the family in Polyphant, the daughter of Richard Stephens, with no occupation listed. This suggests she was already ill with the tuberculosis which was to claim her life less than a year later. She died on 5 March 1852 and is buried beside her mother in Trevadlock chapelyard.

Joseph was baptised in Altarnun in 1830. He was with the family at Derras in 1841 but cannot be located anywhere in the surrounding area in the 1851 census. It is possible that he came to Australia in 1846¹⁵ but no evidence of his arrival has yet been found. He married Elizabeth Colless at Emu Plains Church of England church on 29 January 1857 and his occupation was given as storekeeper. They continued to live at Emu Plains until 1867 then moved slowly westwards,¹⁶ eventually settling in Warren where he selected land which he called Trevell. He died on 31 January 1900 and is buried in Warren Church of England cemetery.



36. Joseph Stephens and his wife Elizabeth Colless. (Courtesy of Joe Ney.)

15 His death certificate.

16 Birth certificates of their children.

John was baptised at Altarnun in 1832. He appears with the family in 1841 at Derras and 1851 at Polyphant. He married Grace Wadge at Lewannick on 19 January 1858 and four children were born in Lewannick: Mary in 1859, William in 1861, John in 1863 and Ellen in 1865. He is listed in the 1861 census as a butcher and postmaster in Lewannick village. No evidence has been found to show either that he stayed in Lewannick or moved elsewhere, but presumably he was still alive in 1896 when he was included as a beneficiary in William Harris' will.

Jane was baptised by the Methodist minister from Launceston in 1835; the register gives her date of birth as 9 January 1835.¹⁷ In 1841 she was with the family at Derras but she was not with them in 1851 at Polyphant so had probably been forced to go into service as her older sisters had done. She married Richard Warring, an agricultural labourer of Hicks Mill on 3 October 1854 at Launceston Registry Office. They had seven children,¹⁸ one of whom was Miss Elizabeth Warring who maintained contact with her Australian cousins until her death on 17 November 1933. She is buried at Polyphant Methodist chapel.

Jane died on 26 August 1914 aged 79, from a cerebral haemorrhage. Her husband Richard died at Hicks Mill on 27 July 1918, aged 86. Both are buried at Polyphant chapel.

Ann was born in 1837¹⁹ and appears with the family in the 1841 and 1851 censuses. She came to Australia about 1860 with her sister Susanna, and was known affectionately as Little Aunt Ann, by younger members of the family.²⁰

On 18 November 1876 at the age of 39, Ann married William Trezise, a Cornishman who was then a storekeeper in Bathurst. The marriage took place at the home of Mr William Tremain of Bathurst.²¹ William Trezise was a widower with an infant

17 Baptismal registers held at Coads Green Parsonage, Northill, copies of the original registers which were sent to London in 1838.

18 Elizabeth Warring's obituary, *Cornish and Devon Post*, November 1933.

19 Her death certificate.

20 Phyllis Hohnen, granddaughter of Susanna.

21 I have not yet been able to find proof of a family relationship between Ann Stephens and Elizabeth Tremain, but I suspect they were cousins. Elizabeth Tremain (nee Westlake) was born in 1832 near Launceston, Cornwall; her mother was Grace Stephens. I suspect that this Grace Stephens and Richard Stephens were brother and sister but further searching in parish and non-parochial registers to locate Grace Stephens' baptism is necessary to prove this.

daughter, Elizabeth, who eventually married Mr J.T.W. Tremain of Bathurst. Ann and William Tremain had two daughters; Mary was born in 1877 and died, unmarried, in 1910, of tuberculosis. Annie married Harold Hambly, of Botany, in Bathurst in March 1908, but died unexpectedly a few weeks later. She is buried in Botany.

William Trezise died in Bathurst in October 1911 and Ann died there in December 1920. They are buried in the Methodist cemetery, Bathurst.

Richard was born in Altarnun, c.1840. He appears with the family in the 1841, 1851 and 1861 censuses but no further evidence of his whereabouts after that has been found. He was a beneficiary of his father's will in 1881 and presumably was still alive in 1896 when William Harris made his will.²²

Susanna was born at Derras on 5 April 1842 and is recorded with the family at Polyphant in the 1851 census. She came to Australia about 1860 with Ann. On 30 September 1863 she married a Cornishman, Edwin Cock, of Emu Plains. The marriage took place at the home of Jonathon Mullis; the witnesses were Jonathon Mullis and Ann Stephens.

Susanna and Edwin had 13 children: Edwin born 1864 at Emu Plains, Frederick 1865, James 1867, John 1868, Elizabeth 1870, Joseph 1872, Eva 1874, Richard 1876, Robert (Frank) 1878, Amy 1880, Ethel 1883, Leslie 1885 and Sidney 1887.

The Cock family moved to Wellington where they were farmers. Susanna died there on 27 July 1912.²⁴

²² I thought I had located information about both Richard and his brother John in 1987. Searches in the St. Catherine's House indexes, and in the Somerset House probate indexes, and follow-up searches in the census records showed that a Richard Stephens of Altarnun, the son of Richard Stephens, farmer, had married Selina Lean of Altarnun, that they had moved to Trecarne in St Cleer parish and remained there, childless, but that Richard's nephew John, (aged 16 in 1881 and described as a farmer's son) had come to live with them. He carried on farming there after Richard's death in 1919 and my enquiries in St Cleer revealed that there were grandchildren of this John living in northern England. Information on this Richard Stephens' gravestone in Altarnun Methodist burial ground said that he was born in Altarnun in 1840 and was of Trecarne, St Cleer and formerly of Rosemaine, Altarnun. When double-checking the 1861 census for Altarnun, I found a whole Stephens family at Rosemaine, including this Richard and his father Richard, but also his grandfather – also Richard Stephens. Since our Richard Stephens' grandfather was called Joseph Stephens, I came to the conclusion that there were two Richard Stephens born in Altarnun in 1840, both were Methodists and farmers, and both had a father called Richard Stephens who was a farmer, and that the one I had located was not ours.

²⁴ Information on the Cock family was given by Phyllis Hohnen, who noted that Susanna's name was spelt this way on some documents but Susannah on others.



37. Ann Trezise and her family.
(Courtesy of Miss Nell and Miss
Grace Tremain.)



38. Susanna and Edwin Cock.
(Courtesy of Phyllis Hohnen.)

Eliza was born on 6 May 1844 at Derras. She remained in Cornwall, but did not marry. She came to New South Wales in the 1880s and lived with each of her sisters in turn. She died at Montefiores, near Wellington, aged 73 on 7 February 1918, from heart disease and bronchial asthma. She was called Aunty Pip by younger members of the family, because she was no bigger than an apple pip.²⁵

William was born on 19 April 1846 at Cargelly. He is described as a farmer's son in the 1851 and 1861 census returns for Polyphant. He was a farm labourer, living with his wife Ellen at Lewannick in the 1871 census, but on his father's death in 1881 he inherited half of Coombe Farm. In 1894 he moved just across the border to Lobhill Farm in Lewdown but retained his associations with Polyphant chapel, where he is buried. William and Ellen apparently had no children. He died aged 71 on 19 January 1918 at Kelly Bray near Callington, Cornwall, and his wife Ellen died in Launceston on 8 August 1925, aged 77.

²⁵ Phyllis Hohnen.



39. Eliza Stephens, (standing) and Ann Trezise, c.1916. (Courtesy of Miss Neil and Miss Grace Tremain.)



40. James Stephens. (Courtesy of Dorothea Stacey.)

William Stephens, yeoman. School Secretary 1876. Remembered as an able local preacher at Polyphant from 1882 and a good violinist. Led the singing using a tuning fork. A tower of strength. Was at Bowthick class leader 1884–93; School Secretary 1885, Trustee from 1878.²⁵

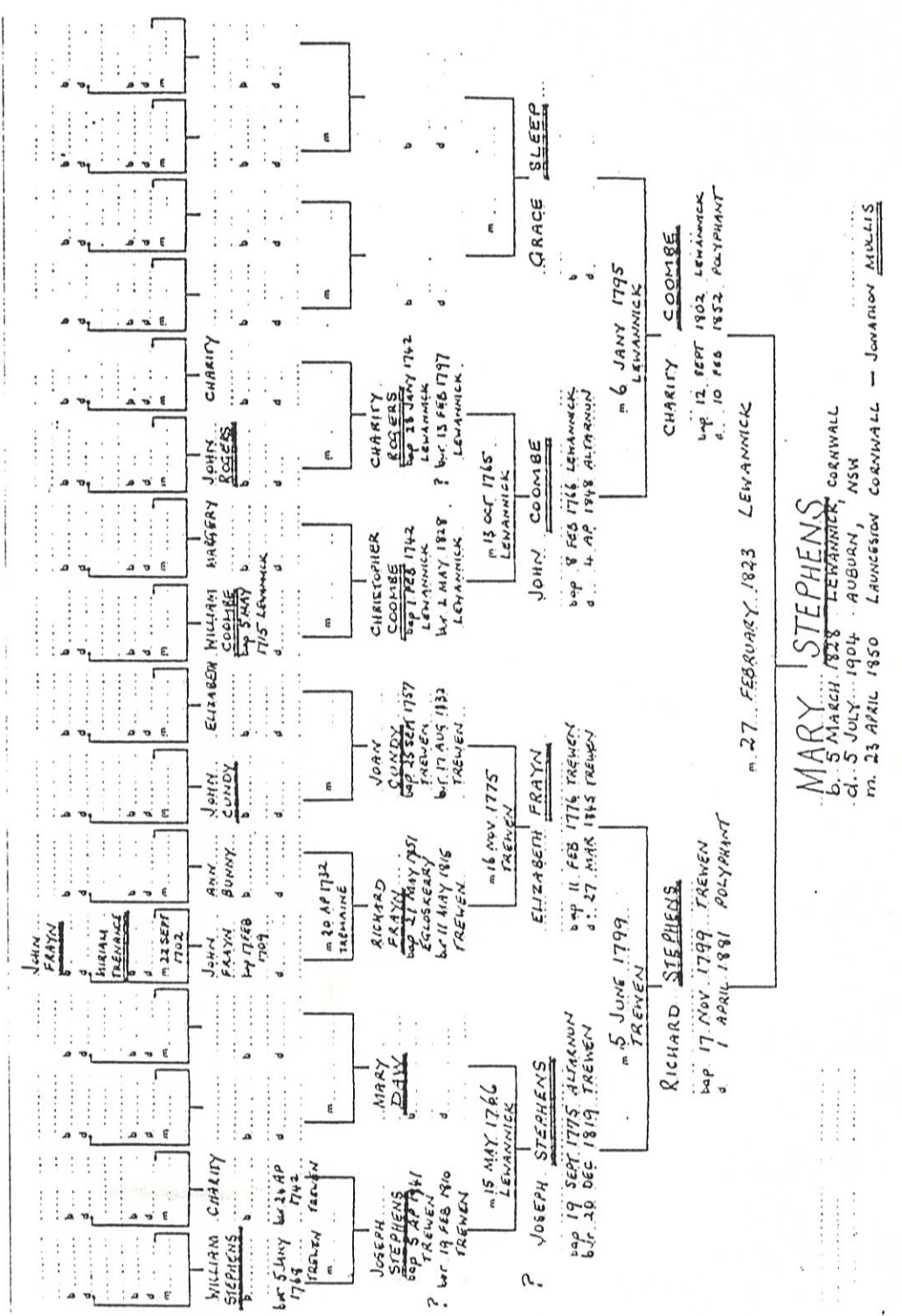
James was born on 11 April 1849 at Cargelly. Like William he stayed on the farm at Polyphant, and was left a half share in it by his father. He married Mary Thorn and they had four children, all born at Polyphant: Ernest born 1878; Elizabeth 1880; Annie Mary 1885, who died in 1898 of tuberculosis; and Richard 1890, who survived for only six days. Elizabeth did not marry and remained in Polyphant, where she died on 15 December 1938 aged 57. Ernest married Emma Symons and they had three daughters, who all married and now live on the north coast of Cornwall.

²⁵ Bolitho, op cit., p.82.

When Ernest married he stayed on as the farmer at Coombe Farm and his parents moved to a small farm at Badharlick in the neighbouring parish of Egloskerry. Following his wife's death in 1916, James Stephens returned to Polyphant where he bought Warren Cottage just along the road from Coombe Farm. He stayed there until his death on 13 January 1927. He is buried at Polyphant chapel.

James Stephens, farmer, William's brother. School Secretary at Polyphant 1883-85, 1888-89, 1894. Chief Steward 1883. Trustee from 1887. A brother beloved.²⁶

26 Ibid, p.82.



HUSBAND RICHARD STEPHENS

Born _____ Place _____
 Chr. 17 NOV 1799 Place IRENEEN CORNWALL
 Mar. 27 FEB 1783 Place LEWANNICK
 D-d 1 AP 1881 Place POLYPHANT
 HUSBAND'S FATHER JOSEPH STEPHENS Place IREVARDLOCK CROSS METHODIST CHAPEL LEWANNICK
 HUSBAND'S MOTHER ELIZABETH FRAYN
 OTHER WIVES MARY STONEMAN 23 MAY 1854 WESLEYAN CHAPEL LAUNCESTON

WIFE CHARITY COOMBE

Born _____ Place _____
 Chr. 17 SEPT 1802 Place LEWANNICK
 D-d 10 FEB 1852 Place POLYPHANT
 HUSBAND'S FATHER JOHN COOMBE Place IREVARDLOCK CROSS METHODIST CHAPEL
 WIFE'S OTHER HUSBANDS WIFE'S MOTHER GRACE SLEEP

NAME OF CHILDREN

NAME OF CHILDREN	WHEN BORN		WHERE BORN		DIED	MARRIED					
	DAY	MON	PLACE	TOWN		DAY	MON	TOWN			
GRACE	24	AUG	LEWANNICK		HICKS MILL	12	JULY	1872	23	MAR	1844
ELIZABETH	"	JAN	LEWANNICK		POLYPHANT	5	MAR	1858	23	AP	1850
MARY	6	MAR	LEWANNICK		AUBURN NSW	5	JULY	1904			
JOSEPH	26	SEPT	ALFARMUN		WARREN NSW	31	JAN	1900			
JOHN	30	DEC	ALFARMUN		HICKS MILL	26	AUG	1914			
JANE	"	FEB	LAUNCESTON HEMPST		BATHURST NSW	28	DEC	1920			
BENN	6		ALFARMUN		WELLINGTON NSW	27	JULY	1912			
RICHARD	"	5	ALFARMUN		WELLINGTON NSW	7	FEB	1918			
SUSANNA	"	6	ALFARMUN		KELLY BAY (CML)	19	JAN	1918			
ELIZA	"	19	ALFARMUN		POLYPHANT	18	JAN	1927			
WILLIAM	"	11	ALFARMUN								
VALIES	"										

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

HUSBAND JOSEPH STEPHENS

Born _____ Place _____
 Chr. 19 SEPT 1775 Place ALBANUN
 Mar. 5 JUNE 1799 Place TREWEN
 D+ed _____ Place _____
 Bur 30 DEC 1819 Place TREWEN (OF KNOWLE)
 HUSBAND'S FATHER JOSEPH STEPHENS HUSBAND'S MOTHER MARY DAW
 OTHER WIVES _____

WIFE ELIZABETH FRAYN

Born _____ Place _____
 Chr. 11 FEB 1776 Place TREWEN
 D+ed 27 MAR 1845 Place PIPER'S POOL
 Bur 30 MAR 1845 Place TREWEN
 WIFE'S FATHER RICHARD FRAYN WIFE'S MOTHER JOAN CUNDY
 WIFE'S OTHER HUSBANDS _____

NAME OF CHILDREN	WHEN BORN		WHERE BORN		DIED		MARRIED		
	Day	Year	Place	State	Place	Year	Day	Year	
RICHARD	17	NOV 1799	TREWEN		POLYPANT	1	AP 1881	27	FEB 1823
GRACE		9 1803						23	MAY 1854
JOHN	17	AP 1803	TREWEN						
CHARITY	3	FEB 1806	TREWEN (1811 CENSUS RATE)		BOBY LANEAST			24	AP 1834
MARY	15	JUN 1809	LANEAST						
JOSEPH	23	JUN 1811	ST CLEATHER						
WILLIAM	6	FEB 1814	LANEAST		HIGGS MILL	4	MAR 1886		

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

HUSBAND JOSEPH STEPHENS

Born _____ Place _____
 Chr. 5 AP 1741 Place TREWEN
 Mar. 15 MAY 1766 Place LEWANNICK
 Died _____ Place _____
 Bur. 19 FEB 1810 Place TREWEN
 HUSBAND'S FATHER WILLIAM STEPHENS
 HUSBAND'S MOTHER CHARITY
 OTHER WIVES _____

WIFE MARY DAW

Born _____ Place _____
 Chr. _____ Place _____
 Died _____ Place _____
 Bur. _____ Place _____
 WIFE'S FATHER _____
 WIFE'S MOTHER _____
 HUSBANDS _____

NAME OF CHILDREN	WHEN BORN		WHERE BORN		DIED		MARRIED	
	Day	Mon. Year	Place	Place	Day	Mon. Year	Day	Mon. Year
MARY	17	FEB 1767	SOUTH PETERWIN					
WILLIAM	"	JAN 1770	LEWANNICK					
CHARITY	"	14 OCT 1771	LEWANNICK					
JOSEPH	"	19 SEP 1775	ALTARNUN	TREWEN	20 DEC 1819		5 JUN 1799	
ELIZABETH	"	23 AP 1780	TREWEN					
JANE	"	8 AP 1788	LEWANNICK					

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

HUSBAND WILLIAM STEPHENS

Born _____ Place _____
 Chr. _____ Place _____
 Mar. _____ Place _____
 D+D _____ Place _____
 BUI 5 JANU 1768 _____
 HUSBAND'S FATHER _____ HUSBAND'S MOTHER _____
 HUSBAND'S OTHER _____
 WIVES _____
 OTHER WIVES _____

WIFE CHARITY

Born _____ Place _____
 Chr. _____ Place _____
 D+D _____ Place _____
 BUI 24 APRIL 1742 _____
 WIFE'S FATHER _____ WIFE'S MOTHER _____
 WIFE'S OTHER _____
 HUSBANDS _____

NAME OF CHILDREN	WHEN BORN		WHERE BORN		DIED	MARRIED	
	Day	Year	Place	Place		Day	Year
ELIZABETH	9	MAR 1734	TREWEN	TREWEN	12	OCT 1738	
JOHN	29	DEC 1736	TREWEN	TREWEN			
WILLIAM	16	DEC 1739	TREWEN	TREWEN			
GRACE	17	MAR 1732	TREWEN	TREWEN			
AMBROSE	28	SEPT 1731	TREWEN	TREWEN	19	FEB 1810	MARY DAW
JOSEPH	5	APR 1741	TREWEN	TREWEN	15	MAY 1766	

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

HUSBAND RICHARD FRAYN

Born _____ Place _____
 Ch. 21 MAY 1751 Place EGGOSKERRY
 Mar. 16 NOV 1775 Place TREWEN
 D+D _____ Place _____
 Bur 11 MAY 1815 Place TREWEN (OF KNOWLE) HUSBAND'S MOTHER ANN BUNNY
 HUSBAND'S FATHER JOHN FRAYN
 HUSBAND'S OTHER WIVES _____

WIFE JOAN CUNDY

Born _____ Place _____
 Ch. 25 SEPT 1757 Place TREWEN
 D+D _____ Place _____
 Bur 17 AUG 1832 Place TREWEN
 WIFE'S FATHER JOHN CUNDY WIFE'S MOTHER ELIZABETH
 WIFE'S OTHER HUSBANDS _____

NAME OF CHILDREN	WHEN BORN		WHERE BORN		DIED		MARRIED		
	Day	Year	Place	State	Where	Day	Year	Day	Year
ELIZABETH bap	11	FEB 1710	TREWEN		TREWEN	27	MAR 1785	5	JUN 1799
JOHN	5	AP 1777							
RICHARD	5	NOV 1780							
ROBERT	15	JUN 1783						1	OCT 1811
JOAN	26	FEB 1786	TREWEN					6	NOV 1812
JAMES	10	AUG 1788	TREWEN						
GEORGE	17	JUN 1791	TREWEN						
PHILLIPA	20	OCT 1793	TREWEN						
HENRY	17	AP 1796	TREWEN					15	AP 1823
PETER	23	SEPT 1798	TREWEN						

SOURCES OF INFORMATION INFORMATION ON JOHN/RICHARD/ROBERT/JOHN/HENRY BY COURTESY OF KERRIN COOK, SYDNEY.

HUSBAND JOHN FRAYN
 Born _____ Place _____
 Chr. _____ Place _____
 Marr. 20 APRIL 1732 Place TREMARNE
 D-nd _____ Place _____
 Bur. _____ Place _____
 HUSBAND'S FATHER JOHN FRAYN
 HUSBAND'S MOTHER MIRIAM TREMANCE
 CHILDREN'S OTHER WIVES _____

WIFE ANN BUNNY
 Born _____ Place _____
 Chr. _____ Place _____
 D-nd _____ Place _____
 Bur. _____ Place _____
 WIFE'S FATHER _____ WIFE'S MOTHER _____
 WIFE'S OTHER HUSBANDS _____

NAME OF CHILDREN	WHEN BORN		WHERE BORN		DIED		MARRIED	
	Day	Year	Place	Where	Day	Year	Day	Year
<u>ANN</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>JAN 1732</u>						
<u>JOHN</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>NOV 1735</u>						<u>1753</u>
<u>ELIZABETH</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>JAN 1737</u>					<u>ELIZABETH PROST</u>	<u>1757</u>
<u>JOAN</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>OCT 1739</u>					<u>RICHARD WORTH</u>	<u>1757</u>
<u>RICHARD</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>MAY 1744</u>			<u>bur</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>JAMES CULLIS</u>	<u>6 FEB 1758</u>
<u>ROBERT</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>JUN 1746</u>						
<u>MIRIAM</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>MAR 1747</u>					<u>JOHN MOYSE</u>	<u>14 DEC 1767</u>
<u>RICHARD</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>MAY 1751</u>	<u>ESLOSKERRY</u>	<u>TREWEN</u>	<u>bur</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>JOAN CUNDY</u>	<u>16 NOV 1775</u>

SOURCES OF INFORMATION BY COURTESY OF KERRIN COOK, SYDNEY.

HUSBAND JOHN FRAYN
 Born _____ Place _____
 Ch. _____ Place _____
 Mar. 22 SEPT 1703 Place NORTH CAROLINA, DEVAL.
 D-d _____ Place _____
 Bur _____ Place _____
 HUSBAND'S FATHER _____
 HUSBAND'S MOTHER _____
 OTHER WIVES _____

WIFE MIRIAM TRENANCE
 Born _____ Place _____
 Ch. _____ Place _____
 D-d _____ Place _____
 Bur _____ Place _____
 WIFE'S FATHER _____
 WIFE'S MOTHER _____
 HUSBANDS _____

NAME OF CHILDREN	WHEN BORN		WHERE BORN		DIED		MARRIED	
	Day	Year	Place	State	Day	Year	Day	Year
<u>HENRY</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>DEC 1702</u>					<u>JANE DAVEY</u>	<u>26 DEC 1725</u>
<u>JOHN</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>MAR 1704</u>					<u>HANNA LAKE</u>	<u>1727</u>
<u>ROBERT</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>NOV 1705</u>					<u>ANN BUNNY</u>	<u>20 AP 1752</u>
<u>JOHN</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>FEB 1709</u>						
<u>ANN</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>JUN 1712</u>						
<u>GRACE</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>NOV 1714</u>						
<u>MARY</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>DEC 1716</u>						
<u>ABLE</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>DEC 1720</u>						

SOURCES OF INFORMATION BY COURTESY OF KERRIN COOK, SYDNEY.

HUSBAND JOHN COOMBE

Born 8 FEB 1766 Place LEWANNICK
 Chr. 6 JAN 1795 Place LEWANNICK
 Died 4 APR 1848 Place CARSELLY ALARMON WILL PROVED 5 AUG 1848 ALARMON
 Bur 7 APR 1848 Place LEWANNICK
 HUSBAND'S FATHER CHRISTOPHER COOMBE HUSBAND'S MOTHER CHARITY ROGERS
 HUSBAND'S OTHER WIVES

WIFE GRACE SLEEP

Born _____ Place _____
 Chr. _____ Place _____
 Died _____ Place _____
 Bur _____ Place _____
 WIFE'S FATHER _____ WIFE'S MOTHER _____
 WIFE'S OTHER HUSBANDS _____

NAME OF CHILDREN	WHEN BORN		WHERE BORN		DIED		MARRIED		C-1
	D-1	Y-1	Place	Place	D-2	Y-2	D-3	Y-3	
<u>JANEFORD</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>MAR 1798</u>	<u>LEWANNICK</u>				<u>RICHARD JENKIN</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>MAR 1813</u>
<u>JOHN</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>FEB 1797</u>	<u>LEWANNICK</u>						
<u>WILLIAM</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>MAY 1799</u>	<u>LEWANNICK</u>						
<u>CHARITY</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>SEP 1802</u>	<u>LEWANNICK</u>		<u>POLYBAPT</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>RICHARD STEPHENS</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>FEB 1823</u>

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

HUSBAND CHRISTOPHER COOMBE

Born _____ Place _____
 Chr. 1 FEB 1742 Place LEWANNICK
 Mar. 13 OCT 1765 Place LEWANNICK
 D+ed _____ Place _____
 Bur. 2 MAY 1828 Place LEWANNICK (of DAVIDSON AS ED 86)
 HUSBAND'S FATHER WILLIAM COOMBE HUSBAND'S MOTHER MARGERY
 OTHER WIVES _____

WIFE CHARITY ROGERS

Born _____ Place _____
 Chr. 23 MAY 1742 Place LEWANNICK
 D+ed _____ Place _____
 Bur. 13 FEB 1797 Place LEWANNICK
 WIFE'S FATHER JOHN ROGERS WIFE'S MOTHER CHARITY
 WIFE'S OTHER HUSBANDS _____

NAME OF CHILDREN	WHEN BORN			WHERE BORN			MARRIED	DIED				
	Day	Mon	Year	Place	State	Where		Day	Mon	Year		
JOHN	8	FEB	1766	LEWANNICK		CAROLLY	4	AP	1788	6	JAN	1795
JOAN	2	FEB	1768	LEWANNICK								
ELIZABETH	25	MAY	1769	LEWANNICK								
WILLIAM	30	MAY	1770	LEWANNICK								
CHARITY	23	MAY	1772	LEWANNICK								
ELIZABETH	17	AP	1774	LEWANNICK								
MARGERY	30	DEC	1775	LEWANNICK								
CHRISTOPHER	11	OCT	1778	LEWANNICK								

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

HUSBAND WILLIAM CORNBE

Born _____ Place _____
 Chr. _____ Place LEWANNICK
 Mar. _____
 Died _____ Place _____
 Bur. 6 OCT 1762 Place LEWANNICK
 HUSBAND'S FATHER _____
 HUSBAND'S MOTHER HUSBAND'S MOTHER
 OTHER WIVES _____

WIFE MARGERY

Born _____ Place _____
 Chr. _____ Place _____
 Died _____ Place _____
 Bur. 28 APRIL 1759 Place LEWANNICK
 WIFE'S FATHER _____
 WIFE'S MOTHER WIFE'S MOTHER
 WIFE'S OTHER HUSBANDS _____

NAME OF CHILDREN	WHEN BORN		WHERE BORN		DIED		MARRIED	
	Day	Year	Place	Where	Day	Year	Day	Year
<u>CHRISTOPHER b-p</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>FEB 1742</u>	<u>LEWANNICK</u>	<u>LEWANNICK</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>MAY 1829</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>OCT 1765</u>

SOURCES OF INFORMATION