

chs04748 Savours family notes.doc

Savours family - notes from WAH Fisher (bk 18) in Cardiff library

Robert Savours lived with two maiden sisters in Cowbridge 1820 -1850

William Howe's mother was a Savours. He was born in Llandough Castle, a weak child. He walked at aged three. His father wrote to his brother in law, Mr Gibbon at Newton, to say 'Thank God! Robert can walk'.

Shortly after writing this came his father's death at the bridge across the Alun below Ewenny and St Brides, falling from his horse.

Savours adopted a daughter of Mr Samuel who died in Cowbridge leaving a large family. She went to lady school – the one kept by Miss Hollyard. Robert Savours was smitten by Miss Hollyard, and a marriage was arranged. Her family lived in Bristol. Relatives tried to break the wedding off and Robert Savours was taken to Tintern till after the wedding date. He was later despatched to live in Bristol – the wedding off.

22<sup>nd</sup> Sept. '09

Dear Mrs. Alden,

Thank you very much  
for your letter.

It would be lovely to visit  
your Local History Room. Thank you  
for giving me the dates when you  
would be there.

At the moment though  
I'm not sure whether I can make  
it — problems with getting someone  
to look after the dog — don't like  
putting him in kennels.

There are two items I  
wish to find out:

- ① Where is The Cowt, Fontygary?  
This is mentioned in  
Grandpa Savours ledger.

- He says he was born there.

I don't think it is  
the Fontygary Inn where my  
father was born.

(2) page 51 of Llanblethain Buildings  
and People says that  
DW Savows (my grandfather)  
bought Llanblethain House

- There is nothing in the Ledger  
about this and my father  
never mentioned it so it  
would be nice to find out  
a bit more!

Sorry all this is a bit muddled!  
It would be so much better  
to come and see you.

Yours sincerely,

Elaine Savows.



15 October 2009

Dear Miss Savours,

Mrs Alden showed me your letter and I agreed to attempt an answer.

The Court Farm at Fontygary is (or was) the other side of the Fonmon Road from the Fontygary Inn. It is the farmhouse seen on the left-hand edge of the postcard. The whole area has since been redeveloped for housing. Your great-grandfather, David Savours (1814-62), farmed at Fontygary before moving to Rhoose c.1854. D.W.Savours probably took over the other Fontygary Farm when he married in 1892; in 1891 he was living with his widowed mother at Rhoose.

Although the Savours family were at Rhoose and Fontygary for several generations, the Llanblethian connection was also important. It came about through the marriage of D.W.Savours to Mary Edith, daughter of William Thomas of Hill House, Llanblethian. (Hill House is marked with a cross on the postcard sent by your grandmother in 1904.) William Thomas was a prosperous man with various local business interests, including the large malthouse which is vaguely shown to the left of the photograph. One of his daughters, Jane Margaret, married Whitlock George Nicholl of Llanblethian House. We know no more about D.W.Savours's purchase of Llanblethian House, other than the mention in Jeff Alden's Llanblethian Buildings and People. There is no evidence that he ever lived there - possibly he intended to retire there, but he does not seem to have done so.

May I ask you to return the two postcards to me - at your leisure?

Yours sincerely,

*Brian James*

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