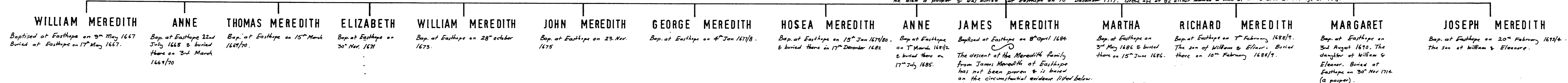


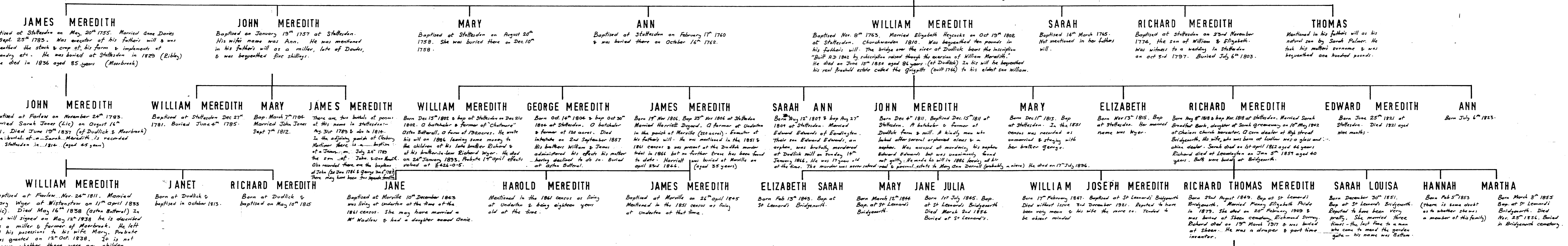
WILLIAM MEREDITH

The date & place of his birth are not known but the event probably took place around 1640 during the civil war when parish records were badly kept. He married Elizabeth Braune (or Brown) of Long Stanton, about six miles south of Much Wenlock, Shropshire, on the 26th of January 1665. He held in the nearby parish of Easthope & was churchwarden there in 1674, 1679, 1680 & 1685. Elizabeth was buried at Easthope on 3rd May 1686 on the same day as her infant daughter. He secondly married Elbow Thoms (the parish of Acton Boreyal) on 30th April 1688. He died a pauper & was buried at Easthope on 10th December 1717. His wife died at the age of 90 years.



WILLIAM MEREDITH

Baptized at Cressage, Shropshire, on March 28th 1791. Later was the miller of Dudlitch mill in the parish of Stottesden. Married Ann Carfield of Stottesden on 29th May 1794. The consent of both parents. In 1796 he was granted administration of his father's estate. Ann was buried at Stottesden on March 19th 1795. Secondly he married Elizabeth Yipp, a widow of Stottesden, by license on November 15th 1799. Elizabeth died in 1782 & was buried on 16th August Churchwarden at Farlow in 1787 & at Stottesden in 1788. William died on 26th November 1805 & was buried at Stottesden on 29th November. A cast iron farmhouse marks his grave.



ROLAND STYANT MEREDITH

Born Aug 11th 1880 at Nonsuch Common, London. Married firstly Rowena Florence Perratt on 28th June 1906 who died on 16th January 1908 & was buried in Wimbledon cemetery. Secondly married Constance Miriam Cuthbert on 16th May 1916. He was managing director of Odeon & Lane & Moore Ltd, the last until 1949 in London. Served in the Army Ordnance Corps in the 1914-18 war with the rank of Major. He died on 2nd June 1947 & was cremated at the South London Crematorium. Constance died on 18th February 1965. Her ashes lie beside those of her husband.

LEONARD PRIDE MEREDITH

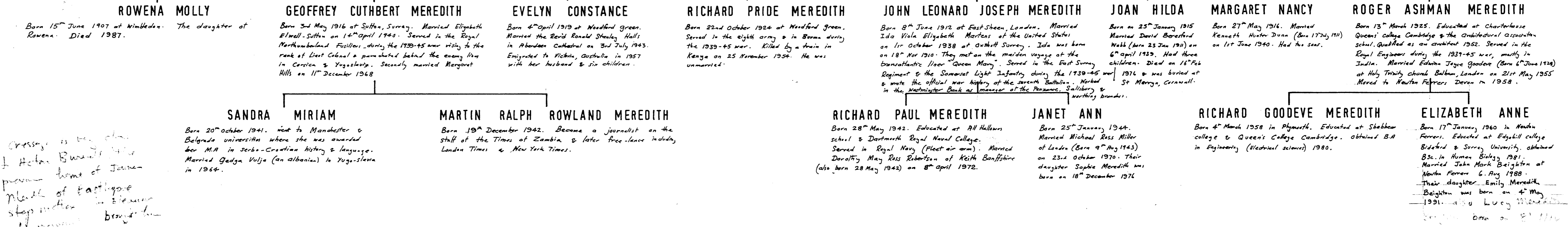
Born 22nd November 1882 at Nonsuch Common, London. Married Winifred Gladys Old of Corners Farm St Marys Common on 5th July 1910 when he met whilst on a walking holiday. Lived in East Sheen, London & joined the staff of Parry's Bank. Later moved to West London & joined the staff of Parry's Bank. He was a member of the Parry's Bank Staff. He died on 23rd Feb 1949 at Darling, Surrey & was cremated at Leatherhead.

The circumstantial evidence relating James Meredith of Stottesden buried on 17th October 1754 & James Meredith of Easthope baptised on 8th April 1684 is as follows: 1) Every printed Parish Register together with most of the manuscript registers in Shropshire has been searched. The Computer file index has also been checked. Only five baptisms relate to James Meredith have come to light in the correct period (1675-1740). These are as follows: (a) James Meredith bap. Easthope 8th April 1684. (Movement thereafter otherwise unknown) (b) James Meredith bap. Hope Bowdler 12th Feb 1688 (Buried there on Sept 6th 1700) (c) James Meredith bap. Hope Bowdler 7th Aug 1687 (Buried at Diddsbury Jan 10th 1704) (d) James Meredith bap. Burford 1677. (rather too early - would have been 54 years old at the birth of William) (e) Jacobus Meredith bap Chirbury 1694 (buried there in 1712) (Of these points James Meredith of Easthope is the most likely ancestor of the Merediths of Stottesden) 2) Geographically Easthope is only some ten miles from Stottesden & 6 miles from Cressage where William was baptised in 1731. 3) The children & grandchildren of William mostly have similar Christian names to the brothers & sisters of James Meredith of Easthope. There appears to be a strong tradition of the name James & William in particular. 4) William Meredith of Easthope (James' father) was a churchwarden from time to time as were William of Stottesden & his descendants.

The evidence against the relationship of James at Easthope & James of Stottesden is that at all registers were properly kept & certain records have been lost. There are, in addition, two records of a marriage between a James Meredith & a Mary. In 1724 James Meredith married Mary Jenny at Napsley. In 1727 James Meredith married Mary Evans at St Leonard's, Bridgnorth. Another James Meredith married Elizabeth Thoms at Clowley in 1727. There must therefore be other persons named James Meredith whose baptisms have not been traced.

In the Parish of Clebury, Merthyr which adjoins Stottesden to the south there is the following record: Dec 26th 1681. Richard son of James & Mary Meredith of Dilton Mill, Dy. This is a further mention of this family in the Clebury Merthyr register kept in the New Surge register which adjoins with the other parishes there is the record "Oct 12th 1679. Mary daughter of James & Mary Meredith bap." There is just the possibility that this couple may have had a son called James after his father & the event is unrecorded. The fact that he was a miller is worth noting. Also there is an entry in the Stottesden Register that a Mary Meredith (widow) was buried there on March 8th 1728/27. Could this be the family from whom William is descended? Between 1538 & 1845 (307 years) only 33 baptisms of a James Meredith are recorded in the computer file index for the whole of Shropshire.

No suitable James Meredith record on bapt. records of the 17th century found.



Cressage is the place where I have been told the Merediths of Easthope were buried. I have been told that the Merediths of Easthope were buried in the churchyard of Stottesden.