

G.J.S. DRURY, M.B.E. T.D. M.I.E.E.

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YOUR REF.

OUR REF.

DATE

GJSD/JM.

27th November, 1963.

P. J. Drury, Esq.,  
15, Woodside,  
Morley,  
Derby.

Dear Mr. Drury,

I have been terribly interested in the article headed "Great days at Friargate", and as you will see by the letter I have written to the Editor, the information you gave is not quite correct.

It appears to me that you are the son of Jack Drury who was the son of George Henry Drury. Jack, of course, I remember well and at one time he was a shunter at Friargate himself, but he moved away and I lost touch.

For your information, John Drury was the son of Humphrey Drury, the latter married twice, having a total of about ten children, of which John Drury was of the second wife. Humphrey Drury was born at Limby (date missing) but he was the son of George Drury who was born on the 2nd August, 1788 also at Limby. ~~Henry~~ Drury was a Haulier and with his team of horses and vehicles, hauled mostly cloth between Nottingham and Manchester.

John Drury who was born on the 3rd July, 1840, tried to enter the Haulage business and bought a horse which proved a jibber and a windsucker, and not having any more capital available, he turned to the Railway, and went on the Midland Railway at Bristol. He married in Gloucester, Maria Hathway (I have the original marriage certificate with my papers in the Bank).

George Henry Drury was born, I believe, in 1867 or 68 in Gloucester. My own father, John Frederick Drury, was born on the 13th March, 1869 (I have the original birth certificate) On the certificate John Drury's occupation was given as Signalman and he told me that he used to wind the signal up

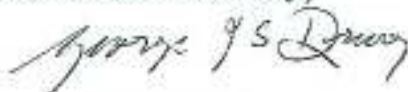
after the passage of a train and allow 10 minutes for a passenger train and 20 minutes for a goods train before it was turned down again to give right of way. From Signaller he became Guard and then moved to Derby Station as Foreman. From Derby Station he became Stationmaster at St. Mary's, near Ramsey, Huntingdonshire, and then moved to Tempsford as Stationmaster, all on the Great Northern system, of course.

Incidentally, Humphrey Drury was also recognised as a horse doctor in Limby area and I have his instruments which were used for blood letting of horses. I also have John Drury's presentation watch which was given to him by the people of St. Mary's in 1894 when he left to go to Tempsford, and it was the first keyless watch in the village of St. Mary's.

As you are obviously interested in the Drury family, otherwise you would not have sent the photograph to the "Telegraph", I feel that we ought to get in touch and perhaps exchange information. Perhaps you will give me a call on the telephone sometime in the evening; I shall be delighted to have a chat with you. I shall be seeing my sister in about another week's time and I know she will be terribly, terribly interested because she knows far more about the family than I do.

Kind regards.

Yours most sincerely,



G. J. S. Drury.