



Emily Wood (nee Kitchin) the last of the Kitchin family to have lived at Bramley Farm and who died in 1957. Some of the stories she told about Bramley Farm:

1) Extract from the Derbyshire Times of Jan 11<sup>th</sup> 1957;-

### **The Kitchins of Bubnell**

#### Ancient history recalled

The death this week of Mrs. E. Wood late of Baslow, (reported elsewhere in this issue) has prompted Mr. G.E. Kitchin of Dore to recall some interesting facets of Mrs. Wood's family history. She was a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Kitchin of Bramley Farm, Baslow-an interesting family with long associations with the hamlet of Bramley and Bubnell near Baslow.

An unusual tale of the Kitchin family during the days of the Civil War has been handed down. The family at that time comprised three brothers, two sisters, and the mother. At harvest time the three brothers were loading corn onto a large wain and had just completed a load when a detachment of Royal troops rode by en route from Hassop to Chesterfield. By threats or persuasion they "enlisted" the Kitchin brothers together with a horse from the loaded wagon. After a few miles however the Kitchens had an argument about the horse and the one who was riding it galloped off saying that he was "for Cromwell". He joined Cromwell's army at York and was hoisted over the city walls in a large basket.

The three brothers next met on the field of battle at Marston Moor, two fighting for the king, the rebel third for Parliament. One brother on each side was killed. The third returned to Bubnell after the battle with the sad news of the fall of his two brothers. There in the field where they had left it stood the old farm cart-stripped of corn by the birds. The disconsolate brother now the only male member of the ancient family resumed his farming business and married. And his descendants of the same time honoured name *arc* still residing at the hamlet of Bubnell.

2.) Bonnie Prince Charlie (mope probably some of his men) on their retreat from Derby stayed at Bramley Farm possibly because of its elevated position looking right down the Derwent valley and the ability to keep a watch for the approaching English army. They had no money and in payment left a silver spoon, which Emily gave to her doctor on her deathbed. Dr. Evans still has this spoon and showed it to me quite recently.

3.) King Edward on a pheasant shoot had a picnic lunch in the kitchen at Bramley. Emily said he was a father stout gentleman and rode a small pony.

4.) Confirmed records show that John Kitchin was in Bubnell in 1625 and Emily said the family had already been there for 200 years.