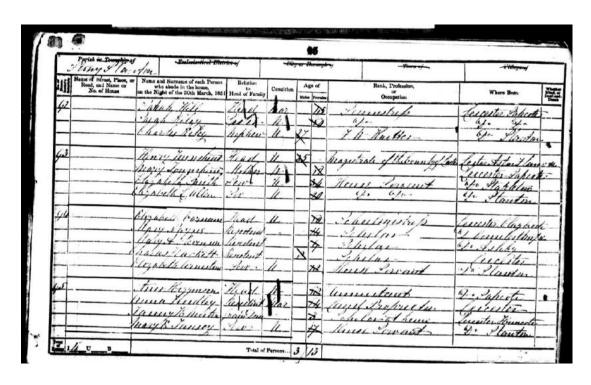
## **Manorfield Detectives.**

If your House at school is Varnam, this is all about why the name was chosen and all about their life.

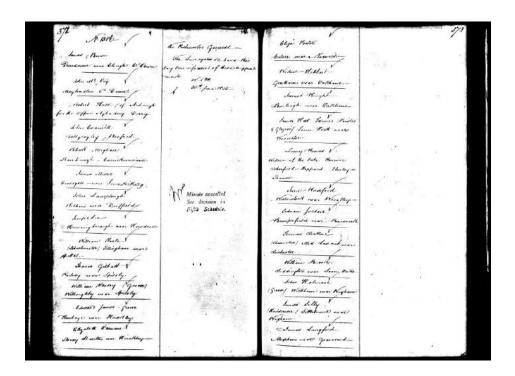
Elizabeth Varnam was born in Claybrooke, Leicestershire, the daughter of William and Susannah Varnam, in around 1791. By 1846, she is living in Stoney Stanton, at Yew Tree House on Long Street. She is described in a trade directory as a school mistress.



In this page of the 1851 census for Stoney Stanton Elizabeth was 60 years old and listed as schoolmistress. The school appears to have 3 pupils Mary Payne 14, Mary A Stevenson 9 and Charles Hackett 8.

Also living there is Elizabeth Armstone aged 18 who is a house maid.

We don't know about her life before then, as records are hard to find. The only census she would have been on before this is the 1841, and no record has been found yet.



Above is a page from the British Postal Service Appointment Book from 1845, it shows Elizabeth's signature at the bottom left. This tells us when she became a Post Mistress.

The Postal Service had only just begun at this time and Elizabeth was a kind of pioneer of this new service.

This link tells you more about the postal service in Britain.

https://kids.kiddle.co/Postage\_stamps\_and\_postal\_history\_of\_Great\_Britain

In the White's Trade Directory entry for Stoney Stanton 1846 below, Elizabeth is listed as schoolmistress.

Allen Chas. carpenter & vict. Star Bryan John, sen. & jun. wheelwgts Coley John, butcher and vict. Bull's Head Dimmock Mrs Sarah Higginson Nicholas, grocer & draper Higginson Mrs Mary Ann, Lodge How Wm. blacksmith Kenney Miss Frances Lane Thomas, carpenter Lane Fras. baker & beerhouse kpr Norton John, joiner & brick maker Pougher Sarah, vict. Rose Sankey Rev John, rector

Stevens John, shopkeeper
Townshend Hy. Esq. Stanton House
Varnam Elizabeth, schoolmistress
Wood Richard, vict. Blue Bell
FARMERS.
Atkins John || May Mary
Chamberlain John || Wood Jph.
Higginson John || Pegg Wm.
Orton John & Chas. (and maltsters)
Orton Geo. || Pegg John
CARRIER, Wm. Hunt, to Hinckley,
Mon. & Leicester, Wed. & Sat.;
and Chas. Allen, to Leicester, Sat.

## In a different trade directory of 1855, (below), Elizabeth is listed as both school mistress and post mistress.

is an old Gothic building, with a nave, chancel, transept, manor. Many of the people are framework knitters. tower, spire, and 6 bells, and was repaired in 1842. Here

in the gift of the Rev. Richard Boyer, M.A.; the Rev. is a Sunday school. The residence of Henry Townshend, John Sankey, M.A., is the incumbent, who resides at the Esq., is a fine mansion. In 1851 the population was 751; Rectory, a handsome mansion. The church of St. Michael the acreage, 1,750; John Orton, Esq., is lord of the

Dimock Mrs. Sarah Sankey Rev. John, M.A. Rectory Townshend Henry, esq TRADERS. TRADERS.

Allen William, carpenter
Atkins John, farmer
Bryan John, jun. carpentr.& wheelwrght
Bryan John, sen. carpentr.& wheelwrght
Coley John, 'Bull's Head,' & butcher
Hackett John, grocer & tailor
Hackett Joseph, grocer

Hackett Joseph, grocer

Higginson Nicholas, grocer Howe William, blacksmith Jacques Thomas, tailor Lane Beaumont, bricklayer Lane Francis, baker & beer retailer Lane Thomas, carpenter May Mary (Mrs.) farmer Norton Charles, brickmaker Norton Michael, parish clerk Norton Richard, farmer Orton Charles, farmer Orton John, farmer

Over Thomas, carpenter Pegg John, farmer Pegg William, farmer Stevens Thomas, grocer & butcher Varnam Amos, grocer Varnam Elizabeth (Mrs.), school & post mistress Wallis John, baker Wildlove Robert, 'Star' Wilson Charles, shoemaker Wood Richard, beer retailer

POST OFFICE.—Mrs. Elizabeth Varnam, postmistress. Letters arrive from Hinckley at 1 past 9 a.m. Box closes at 1 to 4 p.m. The nearest money order office is at Hinckley

In the following census in 1861, Elizabeth is Postmistress in Stoney Stanton, living with two of her sisters Mary and Harriet.

Page	16			The u	adermentione	d Houses are	situate with	in the Boundaries of the				
-	[at Township] of	Municipal Ward of		Parliamentary Dersugh of		- Town of	Hamlet o	Tything do, of	- Reclarication I	Pi-ol		
No. of	House, Street, &c., and No. or Name of House	In Case	Name and	Surname of each Person	Relation to Head of Family		Age of	Rank, Profession, or Occupation		Where Born		Whether Blind, or Des and-Dunch
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_		-	John	dachton	de	1	0.	delater		% g	-	
. **	Total of Houses	61	Total of Males and Fomales 10 . 14									

Elizabeth died just a few months after the census, on November 27th 1861, aged 71 and was buried in St. Michael's churchyard. She had never married.



Elizabeth's epitaph reads as follows:

In
Affectionate Remembrance
of
Elizabeth Varnam
Who died November 27<sup>th</sup>
1861
Aged 71 years.
Shall not the judge of all the earth do right.

Genesis 18:25