


CHALFORD TO WESTMINSTER.



The great-great-uncle of the Editor, Obadiah Cox, was born in Eastcombe but moved to King's Court in Rodborough Parish, where he married the daughter of one James Barter. His father, Escott Cox, was a stone mason. Obadiah, according to family tradition, worked as a mason on the rebuilding of the Houses of Parliament after the great fire of 1835; but he brought his children back from Horseferry Road to be entered on the baptismal roll of Rodborough Tabernacle.

Tradition would appear to be true. Chalford Church Guide notes that the mason-foreman, on the rebuilding of the Palace of Westminster, John Thomas, came from Chalford. It seems clear that he gave opportunities (and employment) to masons from his own area, and probably these came from families known to him.

CC

Sources:

Marriage and baptismal records of Rodborough Tabernacle.
Rodborough Parish Church Banns of Marriage.
Chalford Church Guide and VCH xi p 30.