



Broughton Astley
Heritage Society



Leicestershire
County Council

THE LEICESTERSHIRE GREEN PLAQUE SCHEME 2015 NOMINATIONS SAMUEL SWINFEN BURDETT – BROUGHTON ASTLEY

The 12 nominations for Leicestershire County Council's green plaque scheme for this year have recently been announced.

Amongst these nominations is Samuel Swinfen Burdett whose name was put forward by Broughton Astley Heritage Society (BAHS). A brief outline of his life is given below :

Samuel Swinfen Burdett, 1836 – 1914, was the son of the Minister of Sutton in the Elms Baptist Church. He emigrated to America in 1848, became a Lawyer, helped organise a Cavalry Company that fought on the side of President Lincoln in the Civil War, was elected as a Member of Congress for Missouri for two terms, was Commissioner of the General Land Office and was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic.

He never forgot his roots in rural Leicestershire, sending donations to the Sutton Chapel and visiting the village on two occasions. It was on the last of these visits in 1914, whilst he was staying with the then Sutton Minister the Rev. J W Cannings, in the Manse that still stands in the centre of the village, that he became seriously ill and died – in the very same room in which he was born! His body was cremated at Gilroes and his ashes interred at Arlington National Cemetery in USA.

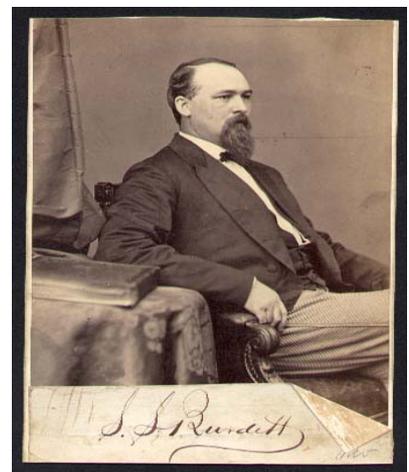
A booklet he had written about life in Broughton Astley in his time entitled “The Betsey Crowson Cottage and other village memories” was published soon after his death and has recently been republished by BAHS.

If you would like to help put Broughton Astley on the map, then please vote for Mr Burdett and have a Green Plaque featuring him placed in the village. You can vote on-line at -

www.leics.gov.uk/greenplaques

Alternatively, you can pick up a voting form at any county library and post your nominations to -

Green Plaques
Communities & Wellbeing
Room 500
Leicestershire County Council
County Hall
Glenfield
LE3 8RA



Voting ends Monday 6th April 2015