

*FREDERICK SMART (1840-  
1906)  
BY RICHARD HORN*

The birth record for Frederick shows that he was born in Down Hatherley, a village 3.5 miles from the centre of Gloucester between October and December 1840. However, all subsequent census records give a birth year of 1841. His father George was born in 1815 and both the 1851 and 1861 census show that he was working there as a railway porter. Today Down Hatherley consists of around 165 houses and a population of around 450.

The 1851 census shows that George was married to Prudence (born 1811) in Corse, a village six miles north of Gloucester. This census shows that she was working as an agricultural labourer. Census records also reveal that they had six children, that first born being Anne in 1839 followed by Frederick in 1840. The 1861 census shows that Frederick was employed as a rural post messenger then when he was aged twenty. He is the only pensioner I have found whose earliest recorded employment was with the Post Office.

Frederick married a Clara Selina Price between October and December 1869 in the district of Gloucester. Census records show that she was born in either 1838 or 1839 in Gloucester. They subsequently had two children: Rowland F. Smart (born 1870) and a Gertrude A. Smart (born 1873). They also adopted a child, Lionel Hodges (born 1877). The couple lived at 19 Sebert Street Gloucester for at least thirty years from 1881 until Frederick died. It survives today as a two-storey terraced house. Frederick has been promoted to the position of Post Office clerk by this time.

They had a lodger living with them, a William E Ford, who at twenty-five years old employed as a rural letter carrier. In the Gloucester Journal of Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November 1881 there is a report of son Rowland winning a scholarship to the St Thomas Rich Hospital School which remains a grammar school located in Gloucester today. Such an achievement would have been highly regarded in the local community hence the newspaper report.

By the time of the 1891 census Rowland -- now aged twenty-one -- was employed as a telegraphist's clerk at the Post Office. Young Lionel Hodges now aged fourteen was working as a printer's clerk. This census also shows that Frederick's brother-in-law Alfred Price aged forty-one employed as a ship builder, was lodging with them. Their other lodger William Ford now aged thirty-five is still living there too, but he has now been promoted to rural postmaster.

The 1901 census shows that Frederick had retired from his position as a post office clerk at the age of sixty. His daughter Gertrude was working as a milliner and Lionel

Hodges was now a wine merchant's clerk. William Ford is now also shown as a retired rural postman aged forty-five. The *Gloucester Citizen* of Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> April 1902 carries a report of Gertrude's marriage. Frederick's son Rowland's career continued to progress and by the 1911 census he was overseer of Post Office telegraphs and was married with a son and daughter.

In the Gloucester Journal of Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February 1906 there is a report of court case of a Post Office official charged with theft of a letter where Frederick Smart gave evidence for the prosecution. This is somewhat surprising as he retired in 1901, possibly this was a historic case or Frederick continued working on some sort of casual basis.

Fredrick's death certificate shows that he died aged sixty-five at 19 Sebert Street on the sixteenth of February 1906 and that his death was registered by his daughter Gertrude A. Long who was present at his death. The cause of death is recorded as cerebral haemorrhage and heart failure. His occupation is given as postal clerk (retired). The Gloucester Journal records that his funeral took place on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February and was attended by the postmaster of Gloucester and other staff. A probate record shows that his estate was valued at £349 7s. Pension records show that he had forty years service at the point of his retirement in 1901 and his annual salary at this time was £139.

Savill's textbook states that the victim of a cerebral haemorrhage might experience a headache or vertigo prior to the haemorrhage which could result in a coma or paralysis, usually on one side of the body. He states that treatment is not hopeful but he recommends a swift purge followed by an enema if necessary. If the pulse is full and bounding he states that it is good practice to bleed to the extent of 3, 5 or even 10oz and adds that such patients nearly always do well. Haemostatics such as ergot, gallic acid and acetate of lead may be given. He states that blisters applied to the neck or soles of the feet were useless. It seems likely that Fredrick died of heart failure.

#### SOURCES

- Books and other printed material
  - Thomas Savill, *A system of clinical medicine, dealing with the diagnosis, prognosis, and treatment of disease* (London: [Royal College of Physicians of London](#), 1909).

## Frederick Smart Fact Sheet

Pensioner Details
<i>Pensioner name:</i> Frederick Smart
<i>Person ID:</i> GC1006
<i>Your name:</i> Richard Horn
<i>U3A group:</i> Islington
Part One: Birth and Family
1: When and where was your pensioner born?
There is a birth record for a Frederick Smart born October-December 1840 in the district of Gloucester. However, all subsequent census records show him as being born in 1841 in Down Hatherley which is a village 3.5 miles from the centre of Gloucester. There is no record of him in the 1841 census.
2: Who were your pensioners' parents? Record any details you can find out about them here (e.g. occupation, religious affiliation, whether they could read or write)
His father was George Smart born 1815 in Down Hatherley, a railway porter. His mother was Prudence Smart born 1811 of Cossey, Gloucestershire. The 1851 census shows her occupation as an agricultural worker, subsequent census records give no occupation for her.
3: Did your pensioner have any siblings? What were their names, and how old were they in relation to your pensioner? Use this space to record anything else you have found out about them (e.g. occupation)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ann Smart born 1839.</li> <li>• William Smart born 1843. The 1861 census records him as being an agricultural worker and newspaper messenger.</li> <li>• Jane Smart born 1845.</li> <li>• Samuel Smart born 1848.</li> <li>• Lucy Smart born 1851.</li> <li>• George Smart born 1854.</li> </ul>
Part Two: Marriage and children
1: Did your pensioner marry? What was their spouse's name, and when and where did they marry them? Use this space to record any extra details you can find out about their spouse (e.g. when/where they were born, their occupation)
Clara Selina Price in January-March 1869 in Gloucester. Her birth was recorded as being in 1839 in the 1881 and 1891 census records but as 1838 in the 1901 census. Her birth place is shown as Gloucester. I cannot find a birth record. The census records do not show any occupation for her.
2: Did your pensioner have any children? What were their names, and when they were born? Use this space to record any extra details you can find out about them (e.g. occupation, where they lived later in life)
Rowland F Smart born 1870. In the Gloucester Journal - Saturday 12 November 1881 there is a report of him winning a scholarship to the Sir Thomas Rich Hospital School. In the 1891 and 1901 census records he is shown as being a telegraphist

clerk. In the 1911 census he is recorded as being an overseer Post Office Telegraphs. He was still living in Gloucester.

Gertrude A Smart born 1873. She is recorded as being a milliner in the 1901 census, living with her father in Gloucester. In the Gloucester Citizen - Thursday 24 April 1902 there is a report of the wedding of Gertrude Alice Smart.

Lionel Hodges adopted. Born 1877. He is shown as a printer's clerk in the 1891 census and a wine merchant's clerk in the 1901 census, living in Gloucester.

### Part Three: Work

1: What occupation was your pensioner recorded as doing in census years? Please make sure to state clearly which year you are referring to

In the 1861 census he is shown as as being a rural post messenger. There is no record of him in the 1871 census but he is shown as a Clerk P O Hoster(?) C S O, in the 1881 census.

In the 1891 census he is recorded as a clerk post officer and as a retired post office clerk in the 1901 census..

2: What occupations were people living with your pensioner (e.g. spouse, children, boarders) doing in the census years? Please make sure to state clearly which year you are referring to

Alfred Price brother in law is recorded as living with Frederick Smart and his occupation is given as shipbuilder in both the 1891 and 1901 census.

William E Ford is shown as being a lodger; in the 1881 census his occupation is given as a rural postal messenger and in the 1891 census as a rural postmaster. In the 1901 census he is recorded as being a retired rural postman.

### Part Four: Anything Else

Please use this space to record anything else you have found out about your pensioner

In the Gloucester Journal - Saturday 24 February 1906 there is a report of court case of a post office official charged with theft of a letter where Frederick Smart gave evidence for the prosecution.

There is a report of the funeral of Frederick Smart in the Gloucester Journal - Saturday 24 February 1906.

The Probate Death Record shows that his estate was valued at £349 7s.

### Part Five: Your Sources

Please use this space to record the sources you have used

Rowland F Smart Census Record 1911:  
RG14 - PN15283 RD325 SD2 ED3 SN439 (Genealogist)

Frederick Smart Census Record 1901  
RG13/2425/F? (Genealogist)

Frederick Smart Census Record 1891:  
RG12/2013/F? (Genealogist)

Frederick Smart Census Record 1881:  
RG11/2532/F? (Genealogist)

Frederick Smart Census Record 1861:  
RG9/1763/F? (Genealogist)

Frederick Smart Census Record 1851:  
HO107/1961/F? [Pages 186-187] (Genealogist)

Frederick Smart Marriage Record in the District of Gloucester  
Page 0402 Vol 6A (Genealogist)

Frederick Smart Birth Record in the District of Gloucester  
Page 315 Vol 11 (Genealogist)

England & Wales Government Probate Death Index 1858-2019  
Gloucester 26 March 1906

Gloucester Journal - Saturday 24 February 1906 Report of Funeral of Frederick Smart Veteran Postal Official.

Gloucester Journal - Saturday 24 February 1906 –Report of court case of a post office official charged with theft of a letter where Frederick Smart gave evidence for the prosecution.

Gloucester Citizen - Thursday 24 April 1902 Report of the wedding of daughter Gertrude Alice Smart.

Gloucester Journal - Saturday 12 November 1881 Rowland Frederick Smart Report of election to St Thomas Rich's Hospital School for three year scholarship.