

## THE STAFFORD BRANCH CANAL / RIVER SOW NAVIGATION

### “LOCKETT & SONS (CANNOCK & STAFFORD)” MINERAL WATER BOTTLE

Researched and written by

**David Jones**

One of the items uncovered during an SRL Work Party in 2016 was a Codd-type glass mineral water bottle manufactured for Lockett & Sons (Cannock & Stafford) – see the photograph below.



(Photograph courtesy of Geoff Hales and Yvonne Plant)

Codd-type bottles had a marble and rubber washer/gasket in the neck, and were patented in 1872 by Hiram Codd of Camberwell (London) for carbonated drinks.

The bottles were filled upside down and the pressure of the gas in the bottle forced the marble against the washer, sealing in the carbon dioxide. The bottle was pinched into a special shape to provide a chamber into which the marble was pushed to open the bottle. This prevented the marble from blocking the neck as the drink was poured. Often after use, children broke the bottle to retrieve the marble.

The bottle was found in the Branch Canal Basin close to the Lock House site. It is in excellent condition, and still has the original marble and rubber washer inside. It probably dates from the early 1900s.

Its dimensions are approximately:

Overall Height: 8¾" (222mm)  
Diameter of the base: 2⅜" (62mm)  
Outside Diameter of top: 1" (22mm)  
Inside Diameter of top: ⅝" (17mm)  
Mass: 1lb 5oz (600g)

It is pale-green, has the moulded inscription “LOCKETT & SONS / CANNOCK / & / STAFFORD” on the body and the number “2391” on the base. The bottle was possibly made by Redfearn Brothers at their Old Mill Glassworks in Barnsley (South Yorkshire).<sup>1</sup>

The Staffordshire County Museum Service has several Lockett & Sons bottles in their collection, all made by Redfearn Brothers, although none of them have any numbers moulded on the base, only “RBB”. The Museum also has a wooden bottle opener, with a projection inside used for forcing-in the marble stoppers of Codd-type mineral water bottles.<sup>2</sup>

Lockett & Sons was a family business established by **Daniel Lockett** probably in 1876. It seems there were two mineral water bottling works, one in Cannock (Stafford Road) and the other in Stafford, first in South Street, Newtown (a house and premises with stabling for two horses)<sup>3</sup>, then in North Bailey Street before transferring to Tithe Barn Road around 1913. In addition to mineral water, the Company produced a range of items over the years including ginger beer, jams and pickles. He was elected to the Committee of the Stafford and District Licensed Victualler’s Association in 1895.<sup>4</sup>

They were also agents for other brands, such as *Flitwick’s Natural Chalybeate Water* which was advertised<sup>5</sup> as “direct from the Springs of Bedfordshire. A grand tonic. Flitwick’s is regularly prescribed for the successful treatment of anæmia, chlorosis, consumption, neuralgia, influenza, rheumatism, dyspepsia, general debility, eczema and skin disorders generally” – it was a truly remarkable preparation!

During the First World War, the Company supplied mineral waters to local Army Camp Canteen Stores, most likely at Lichfield and Rugeley.<sup>6</sup> The business probably operated until the beginning of the Second World War and possibly until the 1960s.

*Staffordshire Past Track* has a picture<sup>7</sup> of mineral water being bottled at the Stafford Factory (North Bailey Street) in 1911, and other photographs of the Baptist Church on the Green which show part of the Factory on the right – see the reference for links to these images.

Competition between mineral water manufacturers seems to have been quite intense. Different manufacturers had their own bottles (with the company name moulded into the glass) and a paper label; they would jealously guard the good name and quality of their products. Manufacturers would return and exchange a competitor’s bottles for their own, or follow recognised procedures of a District Bottle Exchange and Trade Protection Association – in the Stafford and Cannock area this was the *Birmingham and District Mineral Water Trade Protection Association Ltd.*

The *Merchandise Marks Act* of 1887 had been passed to protect honest traders, who had built-up a reputable brand known to the general public by a unique trade mark or description, as well as to ensure the prosecution of dishonest traders who attempted to palm off upon the public an inferior product bearing a trade mark or description which was similar to that of the genuine article, and calculated to defraud the honest trader and cheat the public.

The 1887 Act not only provided that any trader applying any false description to their goods should be guilty of an offence, but also any person who *sold* goods to which a false trade description had been applied. It was an offence for manufacturers to use competitors' bottles or apply their own label to those bottles.

On 30 July 1892 two mineral water manufacturers - John Robert Dawson (of Little Haywood, trading as T.Dawson) and Thomas Hardman (of Stafford, trading as Hardman & Openshaw) – were ordered to publically apologise to Daniel Lockett for “having inadvertently made use of the bottles of Messers D.Lockett of Stafford Road, Cannock”, and paid costs of about £5. Their apologies appeared in the *Staffordshire Advertiser* on 13 August 1892 – see Appendix 1.

However, about 3 weeks later, another offence was reported involving Thomas Hardman. This time it was Daniel Lockett who had been summoned under the *Merchandise Marks Act* charged with unlawfully using Thomas Hardman's bottles. Thomas Hardman found out “that bottles belonging to him were being sent out from Mr Lockett's factory containing Mr Lockett's mineral waters. It now turned out that Mr Lockett was supplying people in Colton, Rugeley and Brereton with his mineral waters in bottles bearing Mr Hardman's name.” Thomas Hardman “assured the bench that there was nothing vindictive in these proceedings.” Daniel Lockett was found guilty, fined £5 with costs of £1 9s 6d. This case was reported in the *Staffordshire Advertiser* on 2 September 1892 and the *Lichfield Mercury* the day after. See Appendix 2 and Appendix 3 for a transcript of these newspaper reports.

Daniel also came before the magistrates in July 1896 when it was reported that “Daniel Lockett, ginger beer manufacturer, Stafford Road and William Seagar, Old Fallow Inn, were each fined 10s, including costs for allowing their dogs to be at large unmuzzled.”<sup>8</sup>

And on 3 October 1898, at the Borough Police Court, Messers Lockett & Son were summoned for having employed a young person beyond legal hours. It seems that Mr May, a factory inspector, visited the works on 19 August and questioned an employee, a boy named Herbert Lawton, who told him that the previous Saturday he had worked from seven in the morning until six in the evening, which was two hours over the legal time. When called to give a statement to the Court, the boy declared that he had left work at four o'clock and not six. Mr May was given the opportunity of obtaining additional evidence but was unable to produce anything to support the prosecution and the case was dismissed. This case was reported in the *Lichfield Mercury* on 7 October 1898 - see Appendix 4.

### **DANIEL LOCKETT (1843-1916)**

The founder of the Company was **Daniel Lockett**. He was born on 5 October 1843 in Wednesbury and his birth was registered on the 31 October by his father who put his mark on the certificate (an “X”), suggesting he was unable to write. Daniel's parents were John Lockett (c1806-1876) a coal miner from Willenhall and Hannah Morgan (c1812-1897) from Sedgley. The couple had three other children: Zilla(h) (1838-1839), Sarah Ann (1840-1875) and Phœbe (1856-1930).

At the time of the **1851 Census**, the Family were at Hobs Hole (Hall End, Wednesbury): John (44) and Hannah (40) with their two children: **Daniel** (7) and Sarah Ann (10).

In the **1861 Census**, the Family were at Hall End: parents John (55) and Hannah (50) and three children: **Daniel** (17) was a blacksmith, older sister Sarah Ann (20) and younger sister Phœbe (4). They were joined by Daniel's maternal grandmother, Elizabeth Morgan (85), and a lodger, Frederick Drewit (21) a coal miner from Birmingham.

When the **1871 Census** was taken, the Family were still at Hall End: **Daniel** (27) was now a "Commission Agent", Sarah Ann (30) and Phœbe (14); his father was 63 and his mother was 60.

Within five years all had changed. Daniel and his sisters had married: Daniel in 1872, Sarah Ann in 1873 and Phœbe in 1876. And Daniel's father (John) died in 1876 aged 68 and was buried on 21 February at St John's Church Wednesbury.

### **Daniel Lockett married Betsy Mincher in 1872**

Daniel married Betsy Mincher (née Kendrick) in 1872; he was 28 and she was a widow, about 16 years older than him, with a family of four: Joseph Mincher (15), Alice Mincher (12), William Mincher (7) and Isabella Mincher (5). The age gap gave rise to some "mathematical creativity" over the years, and at one stage the age gap had been reduced to just 7 years! Even though Daniel and Betsy were married for 36 years, they didn't have children of their own.

I suspect that Betsy was what one would call "a strong woman". She was born on 22 February 1827 to parents Benjamin (a gun locksmith) and Harriet Kendrick, and although baptised at St Phillip's Church Birmingham on 28 September 1827 as "Elizabeth" Kendrick, she seems to have been known as "Betsy / Betsey" once she left home and married. In the 1841 Census her Family were living in Ladbury Lane, (Wednesbury) and she was the eldest of five children. Ten years later, in the 1851 Census, the Family were at High Bullen (Wednesbury) and she was with two other siblings.

### **Betsy's First Husband (William Mincher)**

Betsy (1827-1908) married William Mincher on 1 July 1853 at St Mark's Church (Birmingham) and they had seven children, three of whom died before they were one year old: Henry (1854-1854), William (1856-1857), Joseph (1857-1939), Alice (1859-1933), Agnes (1862-1862), William (1863-1923) and Isabella (1865-1947). It was not uncommon in those days for parents to reuse the names of children who had died, as happened with "William" here.

Her husband, William Mincher, was born in Walsall (c1827) and his parents were Joseph Mincher (a flour dealer / miller from Dunston Heath) and Martha (from Calf Heath). In 1851 the Mincher Family were living in High Street West, Wednesbury; William Mincher (23) was a *shingler* at an iron works; his brothers, Joseph (21) and James (19), were both blacksmiths and his sister Eliza (17) a waiter in the family shop. All his siblings had been born in Bilston.

(The role of a *shingler* was to shape pig iron from a blast furnace into iron bars by repeated heating and hammering).

In the 1861 Census William Mincher (34), a shingler, was living with his Family at High Bullen (Wednesbury): Betsy (32), Joseph (3) and Alice (1). Unfortunately William Mincher died on 22 October 1868; he had had a fever for 16 days and typhoid fever for 7 days; he was 42. It was Betsy's father Benjamin who registered the death two days later.

At the time of the 1871 Census, Betsy Mincher (39) was a "Beer-house Keeper", living at 24 and 25 High Bullen (Wednesbury) with children Joseph (14), Alice (11), William (6) and Isabella (4).

The following year, Betsy Mincher married Daniel Lockett. In all probability Daniel had met Betsy's husband William and his brothers at the iron works.

Within a short period of time, Daniel, his wife Betsy and step-children had moved from Wednesbury to Cannock. In 1876 Daniel established his Mineral Water business, Lockett & Sons. It is likely that Daniel involved his step-sons (Joseph Mincher and William Mincher) in the business from the start and over the years they played an increasingly important role. As time went by, there was a tendency for the step-children to use the surname "Mincher-Lockett".

#### **Daniel Lockett's sisters: Sarah Ann Lockett and Phœbe Lockett**

Daniel's elder sister, Sarah Ann Lockett, married John Thomas Harwood (a grocer born in Harborne) on 19 February 1873 at Christ Church in West Bromwich. It was John Harwood's second marriage ... his first marriage had been to Elizabeth Batkin at Holy Trinity Church (Heath Town, Wednesfield) on 4 June 1871. Sadly Elizabeth died within a year, on 14 April 1872 aged 25 at Holloway Head (West Bromwich) having suffered from "Malignant Scarlet Fever" for four days. Her husband registered the death the following day. Elizabeth had given birth to a daughter, Emily (Elizabeth) Harwood (1872-1953), only a few days before, on 9 April.

Sadly, just over two years later, John Harwood's second wife Sarah (Daniel's sister) died on 14 July 1875 aged 35 at Hall End; the cause of death was "Morbus Cerebri Chronic effusion 12 hours" – an inflammation of the brain due to an accumulation of fluid within the cranial cavity. Her uncle, William Jevons, registered her death the next day.

The following year John Harwood married for a third time, on 10 May 1876 at All Saints Parish Church West Bromwich; his new wife was Phœbe Lockett, his dead wife's younger sister (Daniel's younger sister); they had six children together: John Harwood (1876-1954), Lilly Harwood (1878-1943), Annie Harwood (1880-1947), Joseph Daniel Harwood (1882-1942), William Thomas Harwood (1886-1947) and Albert Edward Harwood (1890-1970). By 1885 the Harwoods had moved to Kent (Dover) and by 1890 they had settled in Hampshire (Southampton) and John Harwood was a "Superintendent of Assurance Agents." By 1911 John Harwood had retired as a "superintendent at the Prudential". John died in 1915 and Phœbe in 1930.

When the **1881 Census** was taken, **Daniel Lockett** and his Family were living at Stafford Road (Cannock). Daniel (37) was described as a “Mineral Water Manufacturer employing 1 man and 1 boy”; there was his wife Betsey (44) and Betsey’s four children from her first marriage whose surname was given as “Lockett” rather than “Mincher”: Joseph (22) and William (17), both described as “Mineral Water Manufacturer”, together with Alice (20) and Isabella (15).

In 1881, Daniel’s widowed mother, Hannah (70), described as a former “shopkeeper”, was living at 37 Union Street (Walsall) with her married daughter (Phœbe Harwood) and her family. By 1891, after the Harwoods had moved to Kent, Hannah was “living on own means” in Junction Street (Walsall) as a “boarder” with James and Mary Baker and their family. Daniel’s mother died in 1897 aged 85 and was buried at St John’s Church in Wednesbury on 14 August 1897.

Over the next few years Daniel’s step-children married: Joseph Mincher in 1885 (to Alice Maud Mary Wootton), Alice Mincher in 1895 (to Edward George Birch) and William Mincher in 1901 (to Minnie Augusta Plant). Isabella Mincher, the youngest, married William Perry in 1914.

The **1891 Census** records the Lockett Family living at Ventnor House, Stafford Road, Cannock. There was **Daniel** (47) an “Auctioneer and Mineral Water Manufacturer”, his wife Betsy (56) and three of her children whose surname was now correctly given as “Mincher”: William Mincher (26) was an “Assistant, Mineral Water Factory”, Alice Mincher (28) and Isabella Mincher (22). They also had a servant, Frederic Gripton (15) from Birmingham who was employed as a Groom.

Shortly after the Census was taken, a tramp, Henry Vincent alias McCarthy, broke into Daniel Lockett’s warehouse in Stafford Road and gained entry through a window; he stole four counterpanes (quilts). When charged, McCarthy said, “It’s no use denying it”, and was committed for trial at the next Quarter Sessions.<sup>9</sup>

In the **1901 Census**, **Daniel Lockett** (57) was listed as an “Auctioneer”, with his wife Betsy (66) and step-daughter Isabella “Lockett” (31), at Stafford Road, Bridgtown, Cannock.

Daniel’s wife Betsy died on 7 May 1908 aged 81. Probate was granted to two of her children, Joseph Mincher (Mineral Water Manufacturer) and Alice Birch. Betsy left £4383 13s.

The **1911 Census** records that **Daniel Lockett** (67) a “Mineral Water Manufacturer” and his step-daughter Isabella Mincher (38) were living at 41 Stafford Road, Cannock, an eight-roomed house.

**Daniel Lockett** died at home from cancer of the liver on 26 August 1916; he was 73. His step-daughter by marriage, Minnie Augusta Mincher, informed the Registrar the same day. Probate was granted to his step-son, William Mincher (Mineral Water Manufacturer), Minnie’s husband. Daniel left £251 2s 6d and the net value of his personal estate was £50-0-0; his Will stated that he was “formerly Auctioneer but now out of business” and left all his “real and personal estate whatsoever and wheresoever” to his step-son William Mincher.

And what became of Daniel Lockett's step-children: Joseph, Alice, William and Isabella?

## DANIEL LOCKETT'S STEP-CHILDREN

### Joseph Mincher / Joseph Mincher-Lockett (1857-1939)

**Joseph Mincher** was a well-known figure in Cannock and Stafford as a mineral water manufacturer. He joined his step-father Daniel's mineral water manufacturing business in Cannock probably in 1876. By 1901 he had moved to Stafford and probably had responsibility for the business there. He retired in about 1931. He married twice and had one son.

He was keenly interested in music to which he devoted much of his spare time. He was an accomplished pianist and for several years was the organist at St Paul's Church (Bridgtown, Cannock) and later at St Thomas's Church (Stafford). He also played the organ at St Michael's Church (Stone) in September 1927 on the occasion of the wedding of Nellie Mellor and Ernest Woolliams.<sup>10</sup>

**Joseph Mincher** was baptised on 27 December 1857 at St Bartholomew's Church, Wednesbury – the Curate who performed the ceremony incorrectly entered the information into the Register, and wrote that the parents were "William & *Esther*" rather than "William & Betsy".

**Joseph** left home and married Alice Maud Mary Wootton (1862-1909) on 29 October 1885 at St Luke's Church (Cannock); on his marriage certificate, Joseph's occupation was a "Soda Water Manufacturer" and his address was "Stafford Road". Although Alice's occupation was left blank, she had been a "Governess" according to the 1881 Census and living in North Street (Cannock). Both Alice's parents had died, her mother (Caroline) in 1876 aged 55 and her father (Abraham Wootton) in 1879 aged 62 – he had been a timber merchant in Bridgtown (Cannock) and previously he had also been a licensed victualler at *The Red, White and Blue* in Featherstone; before that he was a farmer of 65 acres in Short Heath. Abraham had married Alice's mother, Caroline Harrison (née Snape) in 1848; they had both been married previously.

When the **1891 Census** was taken, **Joseph** (33) a "Mineral Water Manufacturer" and his wife Alice (28) a draper were living in Walsall Road, Bridgtown, Cannock. Also with them was Alice's sister, Elizabeth Wootton (39) a draper, and two visitors – Albert Barnett (28) a Colliery Agent, and Clara Reay (22) who was Joseph's niece.

By **1901 Joseph** (43) and Alice (39) had moved from Cannock to Stafford (122 Lichfield Road). Joseph probably had responsibility for the Mineral Water Factory in Stafford. Also in the household on Census Day was a nephew, Abraham Bradley (27) an Engine Driver, and Kate Yates (24) a visitor.

Sadly, Joseph's wife Alice died aged 47 on 25 February 1909. The National Probate Calendar gave her address as "The Green, Stafford" and Administration was granted to Joseph; her effects amounted to £780 11s 3d. The couple hadn't had any children.

The **1911 Census** recorded that **Joseph** (52), a “Mineral Water Manufacturer”, was a widower and that he was living at “122 The Green Road, Stafford” (a ten-roomed house) with his niece, Clara Reay (41), who was his housekeeper. The address was most likely the same as in 1901.

In 1915 **Joseph Mincher** remarried; his second wife was Jane Mellor (1882-1955).

**Joseph Mincher-Lockett** died at home (Barnfield, Tithe Barn Road, Stafford) on 27 March 1939. He was 81 and had been unwell for 18 months. His funeral took place at Stafford Cemetery three days later; the service was conducted by the Rector, the Reverend Lionel Lambert. There were many floral tributes. He left £2363-16-6; the net value of his personal estate was £471-9-4 and £66-17-5 was paid to the Inland Revenue. Probate was granted to his widow, Jane, who was the sole beneficiary. His death was reported in the *Staffordshire Advertiser* on 1 April 1939 – see Appendix 5.

Later that year (29 September), the 1939 Register recorded that Joseph’s widow Jane Mincher-Lockett, son Henry John Mincher-Lockett (an Engineer Draughtsman) and Isabella Perry (Joseph’s sister) were living at 73 Tithe Barn Road (Stafford).

Jane Mincher-Lockett passed away in 1955 aged 73.

#### **Alice Mincher (1859-1933) married Edward Birch in 1895**

**Alice Mincher** was baptised on 31 July 1859 at St Bartholomew’s Church Wednesbury. She married Edward George Birch in 1895. He had been born in Cannock, and was a plumber and decorator. They were living at Ferndale, Hednesford Road, Cannock (a 7-roomed house) in 1901 and 1911, and had two children: Nellie Birch who died in 1897 shortly after birth, and Eleanor Maud Birch (1901-1985) who married Bernard Oswald Samuel Spencer in 1927. Alice died in 1933 aged 74 and her husband, Edward, died in 1938 aged 76.

#### **William Mincher / William Mincher-Lockett (1863-1923)**

**William Mincher** was baptised on 29 October 1865 at St Bartholomew’s Church Wednesbury, the same day as his younger sister Isabella.

In 1901 **William** married Minnie Augusta Plant (1870-1955) at St Michael & All Angels Church in Colwich. Minnie had been born on 31 December 1870 and baptised in that same Church on 1 January 1871. Her father was Howard Plant (1838-1932) – a farmer, blacksmith and Post Master living at Wolseley Bridge, Colwich. Howard had married Minnie’s mother, Harriet Eliza Hibbert (née Limer/Lymer) (1841-1919), in 1868; Harriet’s first husband (Thomas Henry Hibbert), whom she married in 1861, had died in 1865 – they had two children: John Henry Hibbert and Thomas Hibbert.

**William** and Minnie had three children: Anita Isabel (1902-1902), Iris Mabel (1904-1947) and Ruby Nancy Josephine (1906-1987).

**According to the 1911 Census**, the Mincher-Lockett Family were living at 59 Stafford Road, Cannock (a 6-roomed house): **William** (43) a “Mineral Water Manufacturer” and Minnie (35), daughters Iris (7) and Ruby (4); and Lily Smith (16) a general domestic servant from Heath Hayes.

**William Mincher-Lockett** died aged 60 on 11 December 1923 and Probate was granted to his widow Minnie who was the sole beneficiary. William left £1527-2-1 and the net value of his personal estate was £481-8-4.

William’s elder daughter married Alfred Victor Beach in 1928 at St Luke’s Church Cannock. When the 1939 Register was taken, the couple were living in Beaudesert College Road, Hereford; Alfred seems to have been a manager at a coal merchants. Sadly Iris died in 1947 aged 43 and Alfred in 1969 aged 69 in Hereford. The couple had no children.

Minnie did not remarry and at the time of the 1939 Register, she was living at Eardisleigh, 34 Cannock Road, Hightown, Hednesford, with her daughter Ruby. Incorrect years of birth were recorded in the 1939 Register for both ladies.

Minnie died on 11 March 1950 and Probate was granted to her daughter “Ruby Nancy Josephine Mincher-Lockett spinster” in London on 1 February 1951. Minnie left £2264 14s 8d.

However, Ruby did not remain a spinster; in 1964 aged 58 she married Basil Whitehead in Wolverhampton. Basil died in 1973 aged 70 and Ruby in 1987 aged 80; at the time, her address was Lanrick House, 11 Wolseley Road, Rugeley. The couple had no children.

### **Isabella Mincher (1865-1947) married William Perry in 1914**

**Isabella Mincher** was born on 28 September 1865<sup>11</sup> and baptised at St Bartholomew’s Church Wednesbury on 29 October 1865, the same day as her brother William.

According to the **1911 Census**, **Isabella** was living at home with her step-father (Daniel Lockett) in Stafford Road (Cannock). In 1914 Isabella (aged 49) married William Henry Perry in Wolverhampton; it seems they didn’t have any children.

In the **1939 Register**, **Isabella** Perry was living at 73 Tithe Barn Road (Stafford) with her late brother Joseph’s wife (Jane Mincher-Lockett) and Jane’s son (Henry John Mincher-Lockett). The Register incorrectly suggests Isabella was born in 1867.

**Isabella** died on 14 August 1947 aged 81 at the General Hospital in Stafford. Her home address was 39 Gorse Lane, Cannock. Probate was granted to her niece, Eleanor Maud Spencer (née Birch) daughter of her sister Alice Mincher, and who was the wife of Bernard Oswald Samuel Spencer. Isabella left £618 17s 6d.

## NOTES AND REFERENCES

- (1) In 1862 the Redfearn Family began glassmaking in Barnsley. A new factory was built at Monk Bretton (2 miles from Barnsley) in 1947. The Company merged with *National Glassworks* in 1967 to become *Redfearn National Glass*. Dr Stanley Race became Chairman in 1970 and established the world's first bottle bank and promoted recycling. By 1977 the Company had 16% of the UK market for glass bottles, soft drink, beer and cider market, and had factories in Barnsley and York. In 1989 the Company was bought by the Swedish *PLM Industries* and became *PLM Redfearn Glass*. At one time they were the largest glass manufacturer in Europe.
- (2) *Lockett & Sons Stafford & Cannock* mineral water bottles in the Staffordshire County Museum Collection:
  - (2A) Codd-type
    - (i) 71.059.0001: Marble neck and double constriction. Maker: *Redfearn Brothers*. From a house in Rugeley, Staffordshire (early 20th Century).
    - (ii) 74.071.0008: Pale green glass with marble neck and double constriction, washer still in place at neck. Lines down the sides where the bottle was in the mould. Flawed glass, neck and sides have cracks. Concave base. The letters "RBB" are on the base. The maker is Redfearn Bros.
    - (iii) 86.024.0736 (Item 5): Pale green glass which has been donated by Mr P.H.Robinson (1890-1910).
    - (iv) 86.024.1359 (Item 2): Green glass bottle with a broken neck (1890s to 1910s).
  - (2B) Wooden bottle opener

66.149.0001: cap type, hollow, with a projection inside used for forcing-in the marble stoppers of Codd-type mineral water bottles.
  - (2C) Standard cork or crown-type bottles
    - (v) 86.024.0965: A clear glass bottle (1900s).
    - (vi) 86.024.0972: A green glass bottle (1900).
- (3) *Staffordshire Chronicle* 28 March 1896.
- (4) *Staffordshire Chronicle* 23 November 1895.
- (5) *Staffordshire Advertiser* 11 November 1899 for example.
- (6) *Birmingham Daily Post* 18 October 1917 and *Staffordshire Advertiser* 20 October 1917.

(7) Links to *Staffordshire Past Track* Photographs:

(7a) Lockett and Sons Mineral Water Factory, North Bailey Street, Stafford, 1911.

<https://www.search.staffspasttrack.org.uk/Details.aspx?&ResourceID=40545&PageIndex=1&Keyword=lockett&SortOrder=2>

(7b) Baptist Chapel, with Lockett's Mineral Water Factory to the right, 1905-1910.

<https://www.search.staffspasttrack.org.uk/details.aspx?ResourceID=37682&ExhibitionID=37683&PageIndex=1&Keyword=baptist%20church%20stafford&SortOrder=2> .

(7c) Baptist Chapel, with Lockett's Mineral Water Factory to the right 1905-1908.

<https://www.search.staffspasttrack.org.uk/details.aspx?ResourceID=37682&ExhibitionID=37684&PageIndex=1&Keyword=baptist%20church%20stafford&SortOrder=2> .

(7d) Baptist Chapel, with Lockett's Mineral Water Factory to the right, 1915-1917.

<https://www.search.staffspasttrack.org.uk/details.aspx?ResourceID=37682&ExhibitionID=37682&PageIndex=1&Keyword=baptist%20church%20stafford&SortOrder=2> .

(7e) Baptist Church, with Lockett's Mineral Water Factory to the right, 1965.

<https://www.search.staffspasttrack.org.uk/Details.aspx?&ResourceID=1475&PageIndex=1&Keyword=baptist%20church%20stafford&SortOrder=2> .

(8) *Lichfield Mercury*: 24 July 1896.

(9) *Staffordshire Advertiser*: 09 May 1891.

(10) *Staffordshire Advertiser*: 24 September 1927.

(11) GRO Index Number: b 1865 (4) West Bromwich 6b 702.

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### **Acknowledgement**

Chris Copp (Senior Museums Officer, Staffordshire County Museums Service) for providing additional information about Lockett & Sons bottles in the County Collection.

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## **APPENDICES**

**APPENDIX 1**

**IMPORTANT TO MINERAL-WATER MANUFACTURERS. – PUBLIC APOLOGIES**  
**UNDER THE BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT MINERAL-WATER TRADE**  
**PROTECTION ASSOCIATION (LIMITED)**

*(Staffordshire Advertiser. 13 August 1892)*

I, the undersigned, JOHN ROBERT DAWSON (trading as K.Dawson), of Little Haywood, near Stafford, Mineral Water Manufacturer, do hereby APOLOGISE for having Inadvertently made use of the Bottles of Messers, D. LOCKETT, of Stafford road, Cannock, Mineral-Water Manufacturer, and JOHN SIMMS, of Lichfield, Mineral-Water Manufacturer (Members of the said Association), and In consideration of the withdrawal of legal proceedings, I undertake that I will not again make use of other Manufacturers' Trade Marks and Bottles, and will forthwith give up any Bottles in my possession belonging to Members of the Association, and pay the costs, and I authorise you to Publish this Apology.

Dated the Thirtieth Day of July, 1892.

J.R.DAWSON.

Signed in the presence of FRED.W.Thompson, Solicitor, Stafford.

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I, the undersigned, THOMAS HARDMAN (trading as Hardman and Openshaw), of Gaolgate-street, Stafford, Mineral Water Manufacturer, do hereby APOLOGIZE for having inadvertently made use of the Bottle and Trade Mark of Mr. ALFRED SIMMS, of Walsall, Mineral-Water Manufacturer, and of the Bottles of Mr. D. LOCKETT, of Cannock, Mineral-Water Manufacturer, (Members of the said Association), and, In consideration of the withdrawal of legal proceedings, I undertake that I will not again make use of other Manufacturers' Trade Marks and Bottles, and will forthwith give up any Bottles in my possession belonging to Members of the Association, and pay the costs, and I authorise you to Publish this Apology.

Dated the Thirtieth Day of July, 1892.

THOMAS HARDMAN.

Signed in the presence of FRED.W.Thompson, Solicitor, Stafford.

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The Association give notice that they will PROSECUTE in all cases where these wrongful practices are persisted in.

By Order. CHAS. C. SMITH, Secretary, Cobden Chambers, Corporation street, Birmingham.

## APPENDIX 2

### A MINERAL WATER MANUFACTURER FINED

*(Lichfield Mercury: 02 September 1892)*

Daniel Lockett, of Cannock, was summoned under the Merchandise Marks Act with unlawfully selling two bottles of mineral waters to which was attached the names of Hardman and Openshaw, mineral water manufacturers of Stafford. – Mr Thompson appeared for complainant. – Defendant said he did not know whether he was guilty or not, but he wanted to see the bottles. – Mr Thompson, in opening the case, said that this was the first time a charge under the Act had been preferred in this court, and he thought it would be well to explain its provisions. The Act was passed to protect those honest traders who had obtained a reputation for the supply of some particular commodity or article known to the community at large by some particular trade mark or description, as well as to insure the punishment of those dishonest traders who attempted to palm off upon the public an inferior article bearing a trade mark or description which was similar to that of the true article, and calculated to defraud the honest trader and cheat the public. The Act of 1887 provided amongst other things, in Section one, that any trader applying to his goods any false description should be guilty of an offence, and that every person who sold any goods to which any false trade description was applied should be guilty of an offence. The prosecutor in this case was formerly a member of the firm of Hardman and Openshaw, mineral water manufacturers, of Stafford, and in January last they had dissolved the partnership, from which time Mr Hardman had carried on the business (by arrangement with his former partner) under the old name. The bottles used by the old firm, and still used, were moulded with the names of Hardman and Openshaw. Mr Lockett was a rival manufacturer of mineral waters at Cannock, and about twelve months ago it had come to the knowledge of Mr Hardman that bottles belonging to him were being sent out from Mr Lockett's manufactory containing Mr Lockett's mineral waters. Defendant afterwards returned some hundreds of bottles belonging to Mr Hardman. About two months ago some bottles belonging to Mr Lockett got to Mr Hardman's manufactory, and were inadvertently sent out by Mr Hardman. Mr Lockett had therefore taken proceedings, and Mr Hardman acknowledged his wrong and made a public apology, stating that he had inadvertently used these bottles. It now turned out that Mr Lockett was supplying people in Colton, Rugeley and Brereton with his mineral waters in bottles bearing Mr Hardman's name. He assured the bench that there was nothing vindictive in these proceedings. A letter had been written to Mr Lockett on the part of Mr Hardman, asking for an explanation, and in reply the latter had received a letter stating that Mr Lockett had not the slightest knowledge of any bottles being filled excepting his own, and that he had given orders that no other bottles should be used. Every opportunity had been given the defendant for explanation and apology. He further quoted a case bearing upon this subject. – Thomas Hardman then gave evidence, stating that he was a mineral water manufacturer at Stafford. He produced two bottles which he had purchased of Mr Grimley at the Railway Inn, on June 27th. He did not sell Mr Grimley mineral waters, nor anyone in Colton. The bottles were his and had his name moulded on. The defendant's labels were on the bottles. He also produced two bottles with his own label on, bought at Brereton. He never gave the defendant authority to use his bottles or his name. Some months ago a number of defendant's bottles came into his possession and he returned them. Defendant also returned

some hundreds of his bottles. Fair exchanges of this character had been made. – Cross-examined by defendant: He returned bottles to him in March last. – Harry Grimley, landlord of the Railway Inn at Colton, stated that Mr Hardman obtained the bottles from him in June last. He had purchased them from Mr Lockett and paid for them on delivery. He did not sell Mr Hardman's bottles. The sale varied. – Mr Thompson: You would sell a good deal during Mr Kempster's candidature. (Laughter). – The Clerk: He didn't come here (Renewed laughter). – Defendant then took the oath, and stated that he had no knowledge of the bottles, and he doubted whether they had been filled at his place. It was a common occurrence for bottles to become mixed and to be used by various manufacturers. He never allowed any other bottles to be used on his works but his own, and if it were done it was against his knowledge. He added that it was against his interest to send out his mineral waters in Mr Hardman's bottles, as he considered his own manufacture to be better than the complainant's. – The bench considered the case proved, and that defendant had aggravated it by insinuating that the label had been forged and not his own. He was therefore fined £5 and the costs, and was liable to a penalty of £20. – Mr Thompson said that another charge against defendant would be withdrawn.

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### **APPENDIX 3**

#### **THE MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT AND MINERAL WATER BOTTLES**

*(Staffordshire Advertiser. 03 September 1892)*

*Daniel Lockett*, mineral-water manufacturer, Cannock, was charged at the Instance of Thomas Hardman, trading as "Hardman and Openshaw," mineral-water manufacturers of Stafford, under the Merchandise Marks Act, with selling mineral-water under a false description – viz, in Messers. Hardman and Openshaw's bottles, bearing their name, and also with applying and causing to be applied the trade descriptions of the prosecutor to mineral waters that were not the manufacture of the prosecutor. – Mr Thompson, of Stafford, prosecuted, and as it was the first case under the Act heard by that Bench, asked permission to explain some of the provisions of the Act. It was passed with the two fold object of protecting those honest traders who had obtained a reputation for some particular commodity known by some particular trade-mark, name or description, and at the same time with a view of punishing those dishonest traders who attempted to palm off upon the public a spurious or inferior article bearing a trade-mark or description so similar and identical that it was calculated to defraud the honest trader and cheat the public. After reading the provisions of the Act showing that fake descriptions of goods was an offence, he read the definition of what was meant by "description". Mr Hardman was now trading himself as "Hardman and Openshaw," and the bottles were made with that name on. Mr Lockett was a rival manufacturer at Cannock. Twelve months ago Mr Hardman found out that bottles of his were being sent out by Mr Lockett and he had an interview with the latter, and they mutually agreed to send back to each other the bottles that came back to them in the way of trade. Several exchanges had taken place, and two months ago bottles belonging to Mr Lockett did get to Mr Hardman's manufactory, and they were inadvertently filled and sent out. Mr Lockett took proceedings through the Birmingham and District Mineral Water Trade Protection Association, and Mr Hardman made a public apology, which appeared in

the *Staffordshire Advertiser*, and paid the costs, about £5. Since that, however, the prosecutor found that Mr Lockett had gone on supplying mineral waters in Mr Hardman's bottles, and labelling them with his labels. Mr Thompson wrote to Mr Lockett on August 8 on the subject, and asking him to apologize, and Mr Lockett replied that he had no knowledge of any bottles being filled except his own, and that he should want to see them before he could possibly tell them. He (Mr. Thompson) wrote again appointing a time for Mr Lockett to meet Mr. Hardman at his office to see the bottles, but no notice was taken of the letters, and hence the proceedings. He quoted a case on identical lines, "Wood v Burgess," 24, Queen's Bench Reports, p.162, and pointed out that Lord Coleridge had held that intent to defraud the purchaser was not a necessary ingredient. The case was brought to protect the property in the defendant's trade mark or description. The proceedings were not vindictive. They might have brought a civil action, or they might even have indicted the defendant for theft, and they had not proceeded without letting the defendant have fair warning. – Mr. Hardman gave evidence, and produced two of his bottles filled with Mr. Lockett's mineral water, and labelled with the defendant's label, which he had bought from Mr. Grimley, landlord of the Railway Inn, Colton. He also produced four bottles similarly labelled, which had been purchased at Brereton. He supplied no mineral water in either district. In May 1890, Mr. Lockett returned to him about 180 dozen bottles, and he sent back 154 dozen, they having agreed upon this course instead of sending through the Birmingham Association. In March 1892, they exchanged 50 or 60 dozen. – Mr Grimley gave evidence in a reluctant manner, but admitted signing his name on the label attached to the bottles in question when they were bought by Mr. Hardman. – By the Chairman: He got the bottles from Mr. Lockett, but he did not know how long he had had them. – John R. Dawson, mineral-water manufacturer, deposed to buying the four bottles produced at the Red Lion Inn, Brereton. – The defendant was sworn, and maintained that he could not say that the bottles had been filled on his premises, and he was doubtful that they had. He then proceeded to refer to the apology made by Mr. Hardman, and denied that there had been several exchanges. – The Bench held that the charge was proved, and thought that the case was aggravated by the attempt made by the defendant to insinuate that the labels on the bottles had been forged or put on by the prosecutor. He would be fined £5 and costs of £1 9s 6d. for selling mineral-water under wrong description so as to be likely to mislead the public. – Mr. Thompson withdrew the charge of falsely applying a trade description.

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#### **APPENDIX 4**

#### **STAFFORD: FACTORY PROSECUTION**

*(Lichfield Mercury: 07 October 1898)*

At the Borough Police Court on Monday, Messrs. Lockett & Son, mineral water manufacturers, were summoned for having employed a young person beyond legal hours. – Mr May, factory inspector, said he paid a visit to the defendant's manufactory on August 19, and questioned a boy named Herbert Lawton, who admitted to him that on Saturday August 13, he worked from seven in the morning until six in the evening, which was two hours beyond the legal time. – Lawton was called, but he declared that on the day in question he left work at four o'clock. – The case was adjourned to give Mr. May an opportunity of obtaining additional evidence,

but on the Court resuming Mr. May was unable to produce additional evidence in support of the case, and the Chairman said the case would be dismissed.

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## **APPENDIX 5**

### **DEATH OF MR J. MINCHER-LOCKETT**

*(Staffordshire Advertiser. 01 April 1939)*

The death took place at his home, Barnfield, Tithe Barn Rd, Stafford, on Monday, of Mr Joseph Mincher-Lockett, a well-known figure in the County town where for many years he carried on business as a mineral water manufacturer. He had been in ill-health for 18 months.

A native of Wednesbury, Mr Mincher-Lockett joined his father's business of mineral water manufacturer. He moved to Cannock, and from there to Stafford where he first commenced business in Newtown. Later he had premises on the site of the present Public Library and he transferred his business to Tithe Barn Road about 26 years ago. He retired eight years ago.

Mr Mincher-Lockett took no great part in public life, but was keenly interested in music, to which he devoted most of his spare time. He was organist for a number of years at St Paul's Church, Bridgtown, and later at St Thomas's Church, Stafford. He was also an accomplished pianist. He leaves a widow and one son.

The funeral took place at Stafford Cemetery on Thursday, the service being conducted by the Rector (the Rev.Lionel Lambert). The mourners were Mr John Mincher-Lockett (son), Mr B.O.S.Spencer (nephew), Mr John Mellor (nephew), Mr Fred Adams (brother-in-law) and Messers R.Jackson, A.Parker, and J.Beasley. There were many floral tributes.

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### **FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT GLASS AND BOTTLE MAKING**

- *Bottles and Bottle Collecting* by A A C Hedges; Shire Album 6, Shire Publications Ltd., 1988. ISBN 0 85263 209 6.
- *International Bottle Collectors' Guide* by Edward Fletcher; Blandford Press Ltd., 1975. ISBN 0 7137 0758 5.
- The World of Glass: <http://www.worldofglass.com> . Based at St Helens, Lancashire.
- The British Antique Bottle Forum: <http://www.britishbottleforum.co.uk>

Two excellent websites based in the United States are:

- Glass Bottle Marks: <http://www.glassbottlemarks.com> .
  - Historic Glass Bottle Identification & Information Website hosted by the Society for Historical Archaeology (USA): <http://www.sha.org/bottle> .
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