

Links: **William Cobbett and 'Rural Rides'**; roads, poverty, poaching – death penalty; Farnham birth place, childhood 'education', Farnham's hops

Source: Rural Rides (Penguin Edition)

Page 7: 1822 "Farnham hops may fetch double that price"

Page 360: 1826 "how it came to pass that the Farnham hops always sold at about *double the price* of the Worcester" "the hops are bitter"

Pages 11-12: 1822 "we came on to the land belonging to Waverley Abbey, and then, instead of going on to the town of Farnham, veered away to the left towards *Wrecklesham*went to ... a place called the *Bourne*... there is a little hop-garden in which I used to work from eight to ten years old.....I, with two brothers, used occasionally to *desport* ourselves...at this sand-hill.....rolling down like a barrel or a log..... this was the spot where I was receiving my *education*....it is impossible to say how much I owe to that sand-hill"

Page 13: 1822 "From the Bourne we proceeded to *Wrecklesham*we found a parcel of labourers at parish-work..... their situation was very dismal...they are employed.....to break stones into very small pieces to make nice smooth roads.....lest the jolting should create bile in the stomachs of the overfed tax-eaters.....for here are farmers unable to pay men for working for them, and yet are compelled to pay them for doing that which is no use to any human being. There lie hop-poles unstrippedI do not wish to live under it (*the Six-Acts*) and, with God's help, I will change it if I can." "We left these poor fellows.....something to get them some bread and cheese and beer....I told them the farmers and hop planters were as much objects of compassion as themselves...."

Page 203: 1825 "We came hither by way of Waverley Abbey and MOORE PARK.....I showed Richard some of my old hunting-scenes....when I was of his age or younger...was obliged to hunt on foot" ""From Waverley we went to Moore Park, once the seat of SIR WILLIAM TEMPLE... here I showed Richard MOTHER LUDLUM'S HOLE....I showed Richard the hill, upon which DEAN SWIFT tells us he used to run for exerciseand I would have showed him the garden-seat, under which Sir William Temple's heart was buried"

Page 204: 1824 "In coming up from Moore Park to Farnham town, I stopped opposite the door of a little old house 'There, Dick.' said I, 'when I was just a little creature....I lived in this very house with my grandmother Cobbett'."

Pages 394 – 401: 1826 These pages refer to the hanging of 2 poachers at Winchester in 1822 and the arguments Cobbett formed to change the Game Laws.