A COLLECTION OF INSCRIPTIONS ON EAST DEVON BOBBINS

Brian Lemin July 2020

NB DO NOT run a spell check on this document, the inscriptions contain many decorators spelling mistakes.

Introduction.

The collection of inscriptions will have to be an ongoing activity as the collection that this represents is but a few, especially compared with the large amount of inscribed East Midland bobbins (Many 100s).

It is very possible that the number of East Devon bobbins were very few. I do not have enough in my DB to make this decision.

I have chosen to show you the photographs first, then record the inscriptions.

INSCRIBED BOBBINS WITH PHOTOGRAPHS

![Image of bobbin with inscription]

Take this my dare, and proove true till I return from see. To you Ann Bond February 18. The gift is small but love is all when this u see rember mee A E Saunders

This first bobbin inscription is unique in that it gives the name of the giver and the receiver. With expert use of genealogy skills, Malvary Cole sent me her discovery about this couple. (Thank you Malvary)

Ann Bond born 1793 married Edward Saunders born 1795 on 12 August 1818

They were born in Beer and were living there for each of the censuses On 1841 he is shown as mariner, she has no occupation On 1851 he is shown as fisherman, she is shown as Lacemaker On 1861 he is shown as mariner, she has no occupation, they have a lodger who was a Honiton Lacemaker

Edward died in August 1861
Ann died March 1870

They did have some children
Death only parts united hearts

Green green grow the laurel, AJVL

The grace of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ Amen

Green grow the laurel and so doth the Hue howe

Jesus to thy arms I fly save O save or I die

SM the gift is small buWt love is all John Bools +++++

Wait two hearts in union meet SB sweet o sweet is that sensation

Love and live happy love the giver 1827 “T”
When I am gone far at sea forget not love to think on me 1844 LS

Good 1841 SUCC .... hearts and leaves

EM TM Around a lady who represents one of the virtues

JHG 1844 DAE anchor hearts [this is a “ship bobbin”]

Green grow the laurel and so doth the Hue howe

Jesus to thy arms I fly save O save or I die

SM the gift is small buWr love is all John Boots ++++

Weir two hearts in union meet SB sweet o sweet is that sensation

Love and live happy love the giver 1827 "T"

DEVONSHIRE

SAG. B.J.H. When this you see remembre me
Tho many a mile we distant be.

Prepar To Meet God,

Prearest mer

Forget me not/Remeber Lot wife

Humbl yourself under/The mighty hand of God
That He may exalt you / In due time M.N.
I have deciphered a few of these, if you see the bobbin fully the full motto could be read. Sorry :(
Is this the full “My heart is fixed” motto bobbin?
A nice spiral incised motto. Could it be something about “our love grows”?

A religious motto. Prepare to meet God. The red all over decoration makes this stand out on a pillow. The bobbin is filled with but a small motto.
Spiral inscription... “The Lost”...
Spiral inscription “THE LOST OF TIME...”
Forget me not: remember Lot wife

Prepare to meet God
LIST OF INSCRIPTIONS

1
Take this my dare, and proove true til
I return from see, To you Ann Bond February 18.
The gift is small but love is all when this
u see rember mee A E Saunders.
2
Death only parts united hearts
3
Green grow the laurel AJVL
4
The grace of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ Amen
5
Green grow the laurel and so doth the Hue howe
6
Jesus to the arms I fly save O save or I die
7
SM the gift is small buwt love is all John Bools ++++
8
Wair two hearts in union meet SB sweet o sweet that sensation
9
Love and live happey love the giver 1827 “T”
10
When I am gone far at sea forget not love to think on me 1844 LS
12
Good 1841 SUCC ….hearts and leaves
13
EM TM Around a lady which represents one of the virtues
14
JHG 1844 DAE anchor hearts  (this is a ship bobbin)
15
Anne
16
Green grow the Laurel AJVL
17
Death only parts untied Hearts
18
I love my choice to well to change my heart id fixed I cannot range
Welcome sailor to his dear anchor weigh ships near
The Grace of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Crist Amen
Violet Marrel Vernon Jane Nov 14 1906 MVV
When I am gone and far at sea forget not love to think on me 1844 LS-EN-TM
Jesus to thy arms I fly save o Save or I die SM
The gift is small but love is Oll John Bools 1843/Wair
Two hearts in union meet sb sweet o sweet is that sensation
Love and Live happy love the giver 1827
Green grows the Laurel and so doth the Hue Howe
SAG BJH When this you see remembe me, Tho many a mile we distant be
Prepare to meet God
Forget me not remember Lot wife
Humbel yourself under, The might hand of God,That He may exalt you, In due time M.N.
This entry is just to put on record a small part of Devon lace history. She only appears to have had four inscription bobbins. The original documents are included as an appendix.

The Marks family bobbins. Used by Ivy Marks (b 1898) One of the last lace apprentices in Honiton.

- 1755 sH
- 1764 AS
- 1765 AS
- 1755 AS
- 1805 CTC
- 1806 BM ID  Constant love will not remove
- 1815 B*I*  H*E*

- For get me not  prepare to meet God
- For get me not  rember Lots wife
- My heart his I can not range I lov my choice to wel change (My heart is his I can not range I love my choice too well to change)

- AP
- AP
- AP  PH
- AP EP 18 (too faded to see the rest)
- AS AW
- HP
- MAL  T
- AMW
- AsM
- DM
- SM

The originals are photographed below.
Marks family bobbins
Used by Ivy Marks (b. 1898) – one of the last lace apprentices in Honiton

DATED
1. 1755. Initials sH. (Collar inlaid black) Partial faded red decoration
3. 1765. Initials AS. “ “ No other decoration
4. 1765. Initials AS. Collar inlaid red “ “ “
5. 1805. (red) Initials CTC (black) All over red and black tiny feathers and spots.

INSCRIPTIONS
(All red and black inlay) Spelling as on bobbins – possibly affected by space.
9. Two scrolling lines separated by rows of tiny wedge shaped dots – i) “FOR. GET. ME. NOT” ii) “PREPAR.T0. MET. GOD”
10. Two scrolling lines (as above) – separated by rows of tiny wedge shaped dots – i) “FOR.GET.ME.NOT” ii) “REMTER. LOTS. WIFE”.
11. One inscription across three scrolling lines separated by tiny wedge shaped dots – i) “MY. HEART. HIS. I.CAN. – ii) NOT. RANGE. I. LOV. MY. – iii) CHOICE. TO.WEL. CHANG.” (“My heart is his. I cannot range. I love my choice too well to change.”)

BEST DECORATIONS
(All red and black inlay)
12. Simple, plain brickwork
14. Collar of red V’s. 3 scrolling birds plus one upside down – with leaves.
15. Three vertical black fish and three red branches.
16. Five bands of little red wedges alternating with four bands of little diamonds in black bands.
With the initials AP (Annie Palfrey – a cousin by marriage from Gittisham) - and others without initials but of such similar design, they’re probably made by the same person. She gave her bobbins to Ivy Marks.

17. Initials AP in black on collar. Bands of red wedges, black wave, red wedges. Wide band with vase of flowers. Then more bands of red wedges, black wave and red wedges.
OTHERS

29. Initials A S. in black collar. Rest of bobbin plain. (Maybe the same A S as on the early 1760’s bobbins above? Looks similar carving.)
31. Initials HP in red. Rest of bobbin covered in heart designs.
34. Band of red brick. Medium red band and medium black band — slightly sideways — curious "mountain" shape, plus a fish.

VERY FADED

36. Initials AWM in black on collar - with very faded part design.
37. Initials AsM in black on collar — with very faded design including criss cross lines.
38. Initials D M under band of black wedges. Then part design of diamonds and another band of black wedges.
39. Tiny black wave band. Faded curious creatures including a fish and two long necked giraffe like creatures — but two legs so birds?
42. Initials S ("backwards") and M decipherable and maybe J below. Hearts and little Maltese crosses still visible.
43. Collar and end include black bands of diagonal lines. Brickwork and possibly plants visible at end.
44. Collar space for initials. None visible. (Maybe not decided who to give it to?) Faded part design includes heart and head of peacock?
46. All faded except a tiny band of red wedges at the collar, and some faint triangle/zig zags further down.