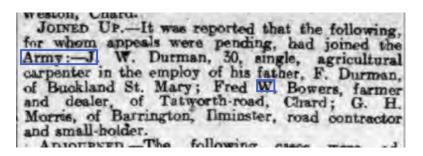
JOSHUA WILLIAM DURMAN - Airman 108305 RFC/RAF

William (as it appears he was known) was born on October 8 1886, the second of the five children of Frederick and Harriet Durman. All were Buckland St Mary born, except father Frederick, born in Cardiff. William started at Brown Down School on November 2 1891, leaving in November 1899.

The Durmans seem to have had a problem with Christian names – brother Frederick Edwin was known as Edwin, while William features as William John on the Absent Voters list, Joshua being squeezed in last minute on the School Register, and misspelt but then corrected on the 1891 Census.

In 1911 William was living at home in Birchwood, at Reddie Hill Farm, working as a painter. His father and brother George were masons. When his service in the Forces began on May 15 1917 he was working as a Carpenter and Steam Engine Sawyer. He was 5ft 4^{3/4}in, his chest 32", his religion Baptist. He entered the RFC (Royal Flying Corps) on December 12 1917, moving into the RAF on April 1 1918, when it replaced the RFC. He transferred to the RAF Reserve on February 28 1919, and was discharged on April 30 1920.

William died early in 1922 aged 35. He was unmarried.



Report from *The Courier* 4.7.17 of proceedings of the Chard Tribunal

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Joined Up.—It was reported that the following, for whom appeals were pending, had joined the Army:—J. W. Durman, 30, single, agricultural carpenter in the employ of his father, F. Durman, of Buckland St. Mary; Fred W. Bowers, farmer and dealer, of Tatworth-road, Chard; G. H. Morris, of Barrington, Ilminster, road contractor and small-holder.

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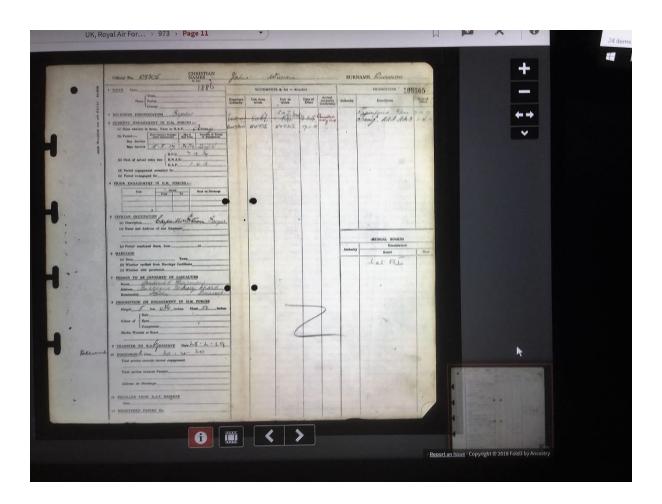
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and the appeal would be dismissed. George Durman (28), Bi., small-holder, of Buck-land St. Mary, appealed on his own behalf, stating that he farmed 40 acres of grass land. He was rejected when he offered to attest under the Derby scheme, but on re-examination was classified Bi. He took on 20 acres of the land at Lady-day last, and had given up masoning. His wife could not manage the holding, and their nearest neighbour lived half-a-mile away. He was rejected when he arranged to take the extra 20 acres. He had not applied to the War Agricultural Committee for a certificate.-Mr. Bishop said he had applied to the Committee for a number of men, and they now sent back a circular saying the men should apply to the tribunal, and if there was any difficulty he could come to the Committee again. The community were rather at sea as to what course they should adopt.-The Chairman said that if a man was genuinely occupied full time on the land he should apply to the tribunal, and the matter would be dealt with.-Mr. Vernon said they were exceedingly short of labour on the hill. A considerable amount of new ground was to be ploughed up there, and he suggested that the man should assist his neighbour.-Exemption conditional upon assisting neighbouring farmers 16 hours per week and keeping a record of same.

Mesars. Hutchings, Shepherd, & Co., of Ilmin-



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