# FARMING - HOME FARM, EYNSFORD

From 'A FARMING CENTURY - The Darent Valley 1892-1992' by William G.G. Alexander (Quiller Press 1991)

1892 - James Alexander moved from Scotland with his family into Home Farm.

1908 - His son, William, took over the farm from his father.

By 1912 - Leasing 158 acres from the Lullingstone estate.

First World War - With the increased demand for food he grew cabbages and savoys, as well as cereals and potatoes.

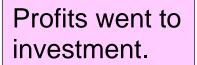
1915 - He leased a further 56 acres, making a farm size of 214 acres.

1917 - He purchased Little Mote with 6 acres, 2 bungalows and a large barn.

The land at Little Mote gave extra summer grazing for his dairy herd, and the barn provided winter accommodation for more cows.

1918 - William Alexander expanded further after the War and started a retail milk round.

He increased the size of dairy herd.



#### HOME FARM - EYNSFORD: STEPHEN FRIEND'S DIARY, CHRISTMAS 1918

Carty Woolworte out between Them Dee 20 th Milhing Plaugher Curting of spheading it, Plowing Trees & Dyin out manure. Digging Yrees Phonoing Thas ste. Jec 21 at Dec 26th Milhing Deggen & flowing trees Thilking Casting atras home & carting out manure between apple putting it in barn for cours, Maring trees Cartin commanure water out Thees, Degging trees, Covering up Seit on gras lands, etc potato clumps. etc. Decay Thilking, Digging & plowing thees Milhing Cleaning out sheds Dre 23th Cattle etc Carting out manure for potatoes, Spreading manure, etc. Milling Cultaviating potato Thilling Cutting out has for Ground & harrowing it for outs Stephen cows & horses, Carting manure from Cutting Calibage for market & butting them on rout, Spreading manure yard out for patatoes, flowing Friend's diary & Digging the ste for Christmas I Dyging trees, etc Dec 295 week, 1918, Dec 24th Milhing Jeeding Cattle 9 Whilking Mowing thees, Digging working on cleaning out shed, eet. trees, betting down stalks, afreading Home Farm, Dec 30th Dee 25th Eynsford. He Milhing Harrowing potatoe was 41 years ground reach for oats, carting Milling, Spreading manure, old.

## HOME FARM - EYNSFORD: STEPHEN FRIEND'S DIARY, CHRISTMAS 1918

Stephen Friend, then aged 41, worked for the Alexanders at Home Farm. The 12 day entries (see photograph on separate sheet) show the range of tasks he undertook:-

#### **For Livestock**

Milked cows daily Carted straw to put in the barn for the cows Fed the cattle Cut out hay for the cows and horses Cleaned out the sheds Carted out manure

#### For the fields

Ploughed Cultivated potato ground Harrowed for oats Cut cabbages for market and took to station Spread manure

### For apple orchard

Dug trees Ploughed between the trees Spread wool waste for the trees Carted water to the trees



Loading dung by the long thatched barns at Home Farm, Eynsford. From 'A Farming Century' by William G.G.

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