

Charles Tudway (2) 1684-1723)

Charles 2 was born on the 24th August 1684 to Charles and Mary (nee Robinson)Tudway. He was baptised in St Cuthbert's Church, Wells, Somerset. When he was three years old, his father left the family and went to Antigua and seemed not to have returned to Wells, as he died in Canterbury in October 1692 when Charles 2 was just eight years old.

His father is mentioned in V. Oliver's book where a notice recording his death says, '*Commission 26 November 1692 to Richard Tudway, the brother.*'ⁱ There was provision for him and his mother in his father's will where it appeared there was also a house in Parham, Antigua and seven enslaved persons to the value of 46,000+lbs of sugar. It is possible that this was sufficient to purchase land in Wells where he could farm sheep and become a grazier.

In December 1706, Charles 2 married Mary Cook of Wells at St Cuthbert's Church where he is recorded as being a Yeoman. He and Mary had nine children. His second son, Charles 3, inherited Parham from his cousin, Clement 2. His younger son, Robinson, and son in law, Robert Holloway supported Charles 3 in the Antiguan sugar plantation and import business.

There is no record suggesting that Charles 2 had anything to do with overseeing Parham plantation and so was not an owner of enslaved persons, although he did benefit financially from his father's Antiguan interest.

The family lived in New Street in Wells.

ⁱ Oliver, V. (18 History of Antigua p147

NB – it is not clear what this meant – perhaps it was to do with his military service, as Charles 1 Tudway was a 'Captain in the Militia'.