

Jubb family One-Name Study

Rev William Walker JUBB had a connection to one of the most notorious killers in US history and rooted in American Folklore.

William Walker JUBB, the son of John & Mary JUBB, was born 15 Apr 1837 at New Road End, Leeds, Yorkshire. He started his working life as a cloth dresser in Leeds.

At 17 he joined his mother's church (Methodist) and at 20 began to preach. Leaving that denomination for "the freer life of Congregationalism" his first pastorate was in Ilkeston, Derbyshire, in 1864.

William moved around the country with his ministry, living in Birmingham, Camberwell, New Barnet and Manchester.

In April 1891 William sailed on the 'Britannic' to the United States, his family following later. Between then and 1896 he was the 5th pastor of the Central Congregational church, Fall River, Massachusetts. A member of his flock was the notorious Lizzie BORDEN.



Lizzie Borden (1860-1927)

The Lizzie Borden case was infamous across the United States.

Lizzie, a daughter of Andrew and Sarah BORDEN, had a religious upbringing attending the Central Congregational church in Fall River. Her mother died in 1863 and there was reported antagonism between Lizzie and her stepmother Abby Durfee GRAY, partially due to gifts of money and property given by Andrew Borden to his second wife's family.



Andrew and Abby BORDEN were both murdered in their home on 4 Aug 1892. They were killed by multiple blows to the head by an axe or hatchet. Abby received 19 direct hits to the back of her head and Andrew 11.

Lizzie Borden was arrested and tried for the murders. On the first Sunday following the murders, Rev W W Jubb's sermon included this reference to Lizzie *"a life which has always commanded respect, whose acts and motives have always been pure and holy."* His pastoral prayer included *"Save us from blasting a life, innocent and blameless, keep us from taking the sweetness from a future by our ill-advised words"*. Throughout the ten month ordeal, he was *"a strong and vocal champion of Lizzie and a firm believer in her innocence."* During the trial he was constantly at her side.¹

Lizzie was held in prison during her trial but eventually found not guilty.

On her release, Lizzie remained in Fall River and around this time began using the name Lizbeth A Borden.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts elected not to charge anyone else with the murders of Andrew and Abby Borden and speculation about the case continues today.

¹ <http://www.lizzieandrewborden.com/CrimeLibrary/CastofCharacters.htm>

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By 1902 Rev William W JUBB and family were back in England, living in London and he was still a Congregational minister. William died in Romford Reg district, Essex in 1904.

For further information see the family's full entry in the database.

There was a popular song of the 1950s based on the Lizzie Borden case:

*Yesterday in old Fall River
Mr. Andrew Borden died
And he got his daughter, Lizzie
On a charge of homicide*

*Some folks say she didn't do it
And others say of course she did
But they all agree, Miss Lizzie B
Was a problem kinda kid*

*'Cause you can't chop your
Papa up in Massachusetts
Not even if it's planned
As a surprise (a surprise)
No, you can't chop your
Papa up in Massachusetts
You know how neighbours love to criticize*

*Well, she got him on the sofa
Where he'd gone to take a snooze
And I hope he went to Heaven
'Cause he wasn't wearing shoes*

*Lizzie kinda rearranged him
With a hatchet so they say
Then she got her mother
In that same old fashioned way*

*But you can't chop your
Mama up in Massachusetts
Not even if you're tired of
Her cuisine (her cuisine)
No can't chop your mama up in Massachusetts
You know it's almost sure to cause a scene*

*They really made her hustle
And when all was said and done
She'd removed her mother's bustle
When she wasn't wearing one*

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*Now can't chop your
Mama up in Massachusetts
And then blame all the damage
On the mice (on the mice)
No, you can't chop your
Mama up in Massachusetts
That sort of thing just isn't very nice*