



## Wilts Mansion Struck

### Damage done at Great Chalfield

Chalfield Manor, Great Chalfield near Melksham, the residence of Major and Mrs. Robert Fuller, was struck by lightning during Thursday's thunderstorm, and considerable damage was done to the coping along the roof above the drawing room.

Major and Mrs. Fuller were in the library, which adjoins, and were unaware that anything was amiss until they heard someone shouting in the gardens.

Interviewed by our Trowbridge representative Major Fuller said; "The lightning seemed to strike the coping from behind a stone figure of a man. The remains of the coping were strewn about the lawn and plaster came down inside the drawing room."

Major Fuller said, that on hearing someone shouting outside, he went out and saw considerable smoke coming out of the chimneys and the drawing room was filled with such dense smoke and dust that one could not see across it. He added that those present, for a minute or two, thought the place was on fire. The electric wires leading to a lamp in the room were fused and plaster fell from inside the hall gable.

"We found a piece of wood too" Major Fuller said, "and we are trying to find out where it came from."

"It was fortunate it wasn't any worse. I expect the damage is between £5 and £10."

Major Fuller has a farm at Chalfield of 450 acres and there breeds pedigree dairy shorthorn cattle, Suffolk Punch horses, Gloucester Old Spot pigs and large white pigs. He is an alderman on the Wilts County Council, serving on the Agricultural Committee. Incidentally Mrs Fuller is greatly interested in her husband's work and is a co-opted member of the Wilts Agricultural Committee.

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