

LOOKBACK

No.4



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Andover Local History Society



Editorial Committee: H.W. Earney, G.E. Brickell, D.J. Tempero,
T.H. Hiscock, A.C. Raper and Mrs. P. Simmonds

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LOOKBACK No. 4.

EDITORIAL

Since our last publication the Andover Local History Society has sustained a sad blow, by the death of Clive Burton, one of the town's most ardent historical researchers.

Clive had been a most useful member of the committee and was a regular attendant at the monthly meetings of the Society, until failing eyesight made it difficult for him to come to evening functions.

Perhaps his best work, historically, was his deep and thorough research into the life and family of the Rev. Henry White, vicar of Fyfield in the 18th Century. His book on Henry proved quite popular and its sequel 'Parsons Three' - the biographies of his clergymen sons - is awaited with interest from the publishers.

Apart from that he was a most friendly and amiable person to know and a pleasure to work with at all times. His presence, and the contribution he made to our society, will be sadly missed.

Although this edition is somewhat belated - it should have been in the shops before Christmas - the fault is not due to any laxity by your publications committee.

The main trouble has been finance. Lookback 3 did not sell too well, and there was so little in our 'kitty' to finance this edition.

It is said that recommendation is the best form of advertisement. If this be so, can we beg your help in widening our list of regular subscribers?

If every one of our subscribers 'recruited' one new member apiece, it does not take advance mathematics to work out that we should double our circulation overnight!

So, dear reader, will you help us towards this aim? If you enjoy this issue, lend it to a friend afterwards, or better still, persuade that friend to buy one.

Even better still, recruit that friend on to our regular subscriber list.

SOLDIERS RUN RIOT AROUND ANDOVER: 1645-6

By the autumn of 1645, Andover had grown accustomed to the passage of troops and their disruptive influence; although more recently the disciplined progress of the New Model Army had been in pleasant contrast to earlier experiences. The end of the war was now in sight, thanks mainly to that army, but separate local forces still existed. New units, for the reduction of the west and of Ireland, continued to be raised in 1645, which were greatly to increase the military burden on the nation in the post war period, and provoke ugly scenes in many places, including the Andover area.

In the case of Andover the trouble came from Col. Jephson's regiment of horse. There is not space here to expand upon Jephson's extraordinary career. Suffice it to say that for him the English civil war in which he had played a notable part on the Parliament's side was really a side-show. As a Munster planter, as well as a Hampshire landowner and M.P. for Stockbridge, Jephson had been fighting the rebels in Ireland when the civil war broke out, and he returned in 1643, with a view to recruiting soldiers for service in Ireland. Not surprisingly, for the next two years, there were few spare soldiers available for that purpose, so Jephson did his part in defeating the Royalists in England. At last, in August 1645, he was commissioned to fulfil his original mission - to raise a regiment for the Irish service.

However, the men he raised could not be shipped to Ireland at once, and therefore the question arose about what to do with them in the meantime. This matter was referred by the Commons to the Committee of both Kingdoms on 19th September, and its response was to employ them in the reduction of Basing House the following month, and in conveying infantry recruits to Reading in November. But as the weeks slipped past, pay fell into arrears, despite the Commons' order of 11th November that the regiment be satisfied by the Committee of the Army, and by the beginning of December the soldiers were in an ugly mood. Their enthusiasm for service in Ireland, if it had ever existed, evaporated: according to the testimony of William King and his wife of Upper Clatford, on 1st December 'they intended no such matter'. Rather, they hoped for a resurgence of Royalism in the area to keep them busy.

But more serious still, from the point of view of the people of the Andover district, and Hampshire's parliamentary governors, was the fact that want of pay was making the men mutinous and even criminal. In their frustration, the soldiers blamed the County Committee of Hampshire for failing to pay them, and in Mr. and Mrs. King's hearing threatened: 'if they would meet any of the committee anywhere out of Winchester that they would take from them their clothes, horses, and monies'. The committee men judiciously stayed out of the way, but their hapless underlings, the sequestration officials collecting the money from Royalists' estates, were not so fortunate. Gabriel Floyd, the servant of John Marks, collector of sequestrations for the Andover division, was seized and plundered by a troop of Jephson's horse under the command of Major Gifford, whilst on his way to meet his master at Longparish. When Marks himself went to investigate, according to his own testimony, he was called 'a rogue' by the Major, and robbed of his linen, money 'and diverse other things' and was kept prisoner for half an hour, despite his protests.

But it was not only officials who were liable to be plundered of their possessions by the desperate soldiery. According to Mr. and Mrs. King they robbed people coming from Collingbourne fair: 'one poor man of his horse and others of their monies'. And according to John Marks their demands for corn, provisions and money, which exceeded those of the former Royalist garrisons, were obliging people to leave their homes. The County Committee writing to Speaker Lenthall on 5th December, enclosing these reports and expressing both their own and the county's resentment, complained of the 'outrages, pressures and plunders' of the soldiery. They drew particular attention to the complicity of officers like Major Gifford in the oppressions and begged for some relief.

It took Parliament nearly six weeks to respond during which time, presumably, the sufferings of the people of Andover continued unabated. Finally, on 15th January, the Commons gave orders to rectify the situation: they made provision for £1,746.15s.8d. to be supplied for 'the speedy sending away' of Jephson's regiment to Ireland, and ordered the county committee of Hampshire to pay a further £504.6.0. to the regiment: the arrears for its service against Basing House the previous autumn. Also, the committee were to compensate those who had suffered from the troops' demands for money and free quarters during their disorderly stay in the county and deduct what they paid out from the men's pay. Finally, Col. Jephson was authorised to execute martial law to keep his men in order until they could be shipped to Ireland. But this did not take place as rapidly as they might have hoped and the Committee of both Kingdoms was still urging Jephson 'to expedite the shipping away of your horse into Ireland' on February 10th 1646.

Author's Note:

I am grateful to Lady Anne Bentinck for permission to use some of the Nalson papers in this article.

TONGUE OF LAND ...

Extracts from 'The History of Tangley Parish Council 1932-82' by Brig. Charles Nicholls (by kind permission of the author).

The Hundreds

Part of the present parish used to lie in the Pastrow Hundred and part in the Andover Hundred. At the time of the Domesday survey, Pastrow was the hundred of Esseborne (i.e. Hurstbourne). Faccombe, which at that time included Tangley, was in the hundred of Titchfield. Tangley was removed to the Andover Hundred some time before 1841, and in exchange, Pastrow gained Thrupton and Upper Clatford.

Manors

Hatherden is recorded as being part of the manor of Foxcotte (Thomas de Foxcotte) in 1316.

Tangley was in the manor of Faccombe but in the 13th Century was detached as a separate manor. The manorship passed through a number of different families, passing to the Merceron family in the 19th Century.

In 1911, F. H. Merceron was Lord of the Manor and prior to building Tangley House in 1911 (at a reputed cost of £8,000) lived in what is now The Old House, Tangley.

An interesting feature of Tangley House is that the bricks were made on the site from clay dug locally. When the estate was sold in 1950 the Merceron family retained Fairground Cottage and the manorship is still in the Merceron family.

Place Names

Tangley means 'tongue of land'. It is of very ancient origin and was Tangeligh in the 12th Century and has since varied between Tangela, Tankley, Tangelegh and Tangle. According to 'The Andover District 1922' it only became Tangley in the 19th Century, but this seems improbable since it is shown on the 1759 map as Tangley.

Hatherden means 'Hawthorne Valley'. In the 13th Century it was King's Hatherden and has varied from Hatherdene and Hatherdean to its present spelling.

Wildhern, sometimes written as two words, is a combination of wild and hern. Hern is an abbreviation of heron and wild is a modern spelling of wyld, meaning a croft. Wild does not, as some believe, mean wild as opposed to tame: after all

there would be little point in specifying wild unless there were a number of tame herons around, and this seems highly improbable.

Changes in Place Names

Changes in the spelling of place names occur frequently in the early maps. Whether these were actual changes or were errors by the cartographer is not clear. The fact that we have, on the same map (1759) 'Ickineld Way' and 'Icknield Way' would suggest the latter. It does seem, however, that Roundaway used to be Round Ash, since it appears as such on three successive maps.

Some names, alas, have virtually disappeared. Waters Well Cross (in Tangley Bottom) which was recorded as being a hamlet in 1911 has gone, although the name lingers on, though only on the large scale maps. Hazledon (just north of what is now Penton Swamills, and slightly outside the parish boundary) recorded as being a hamlet in 1911, although shown only as Hazledown Farm on a map dated 1873, appears to have gone.

Although outside the parish boundary it is interesting to note that the Bourne Rivulet is shown on the 1759 map as 'The River Anton or Test' and in 1817 as 'The Test'. There was, one can only assume, a disagreement as to the true headwaters of the Test, but having accepted Hurstbourne Tarrant and St. Mary Bourne on the 1759 map, one might have thought that the inference was obvious.

Age of Hamlets

As stated earlier, Tangley goes back to the Domesday survey.

One of the early references to Hatherden is that in 1293 Nicholas Durdent died seized of land in Hatherden or Kings Hatherden. Since it is recorded that in the time of Edward the Confessor (1042-1066) Foxcotte was held in two manors, it seems probable that Hatherden may have gone back to that date.

Records of the early days of Wildhern seem difficult to come by. Although both Hatherden and Tangley are shown on John Speed's well known map of 1615, Wildhern is not. Whether or not this is significant is open to question. There is a record that Wildhern was at one time in the parish of Hurstbourne Tarrant and that Luke Pearse held land in Wildhern some time prior to 1753; the 7s.6d. annual rental which he received was given to the poor of Ibthorpe. Wildhern is certainly shown on the 1759 map. Its extent on this map seems to have been far greater than at present, but this may well be cartographers' licence.

William Cobbett

William Cobbett in his 'Rural Rides' came to Tangley in 1826. Below is an extract of his account:-

'I got a little out of my road in or near Tangley. I rode up to the garden wicket of a cottage and asked the woman, who had two children, and who seemed to be about 30 years old, which was the way to Ludgarshall, which was, I was sure, only about four miles off! She did not know! 'Well, my dear good woman' said I, 'But you have been to Ludgarshall?' 'No.' 'Nor at Andover?' (six miles another way). 'No.' 'Nor at Marlborough?' (nine miles another way). 'No.' 'Pray, were you born in this house?' 'Yes.' 'And how far have you ever been from this house?' 'Oh! I have been up in the parish and over to Chute.'

That is to say the utmost extent of her voyages had been about 2½ miles. Let no one laugh at her...it is a great error to suppose that people are rendered stupid by remaining always in the same place. This was a very acute woman, and as well behaved as need to be.'

James Hopgood

James Hopgood was, though common by many standards, a remarkable man. In the paragraph below is an extract from a parish magazine in Leicestershire, dated 1910, and written when he was already 75 years old.

'James Hopgood was born in a cottage in the parish of Tangley in the year 1835 and has lived in the neighbourhood all his life. At the age of ten months it is supposed that he had a fall, for from that time he has lost the entire use of his legs.

When a child, he attended a school in Tangley (being carried there by his mother) but had but a poor education, for which his parents had to pay 3d a week. After he left school, he went upon errands for people, driving about in a cart drawn by a dog.

At 15 years of age, however, he had to buy a donkey in place of the dog who was not strong enough to draw him up hills now that he had become heavier.

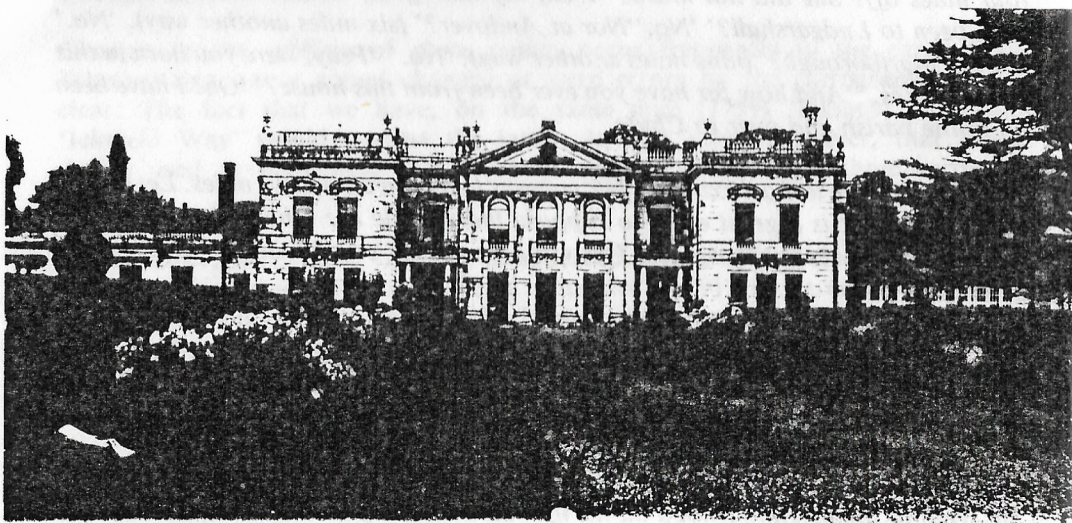
At 20 years of age, he became a keeper and used to shoot game while sitting upon his donkey's back, and his sagacious dog would retrieve for him, stand upon his hind legs, with the game in his hand, and his master would then take it from him and put it upon his donkey's back. Though he had not the use of his legs, he was considered one of the best shots in the neighbourhood.

He has lived for the last 30 years all by himself in his two roomed cottage but now only occupies a ground floor room. He used to manage, however, to get upstairs to his bedroom, pulling himself up step by step by means of a rope, one end of which he had fastened securely at the top of the staircase; but he has of late years been obliged to occupy only the ground floor room, as the strain became too great upon his arms.

He manages to do nearly everything for himself such as cooking and mending, and he has very good neighbours who are always willing to help him with those things that he himself is unable to do.

He gets up every morning about six o'clock, has his breakfast about seven, and then goes for a drive in his donkey cart (the body of which he has made himself) if the weather is fine, and returns about noon.'

TIDWORTH'S LINK WITH THE ASSHETON FAMILY



Tidworth House - now the Officers' Mess for the Salisbury Plain district

by J. L. Moloney

The Tidworth parish records give many details of the growth of the Smith family after their arrival at Tedworth House in 1650. The birth of John Smith was recorded in 1655 and after his marriage to Anne Strickland the births of four sons and four daughters between 1685 and 1694. Other children were to be born later.

John Smith represented Andover during eight Parliaments from 1695-1713, was twice Chancellor of the Exchequer (1699-1701 and 1708-1710) and became the last Speaker of the English Parliament and Speaker of the first British Parliament after the Union with Scotland.

When the Rt. Hon. John Smith died in 1723 he was buried near his father in the old South Tidworth church and a marble tablet, still to be seen in the Burial Chapel, was erected by his fourth son, Henry, to the memory of his father, grandfather and eldest brother. As Thomas Smith, a younger brother of Henry, who had inherited the Tidworth estates, died in 1728 it would appear that three of Speaker John Smith's sons died, or left the country, between 1723 and 1728.

Mary, the elder sister of William, had married Robert Sawyer Herbert, the second son of the 8th Earl of Pembroke, in 1705 and lived at Highclere Castle, 15 miles N. E. of Tidworth. Robert Herbert was elected M.P. for Wilton in 1722 and held the seat for 47 years, spending much of his time in London or Bath. Mary had no children and spent much of her time at Tedworth House; she became one of the

ladies of Queen Caroline's Bedchamber and was one of the ladies in waiting at the Coronation of George II in 1727; the records say 'She wore a dress of blue and silver with a rich embossed trimming'. Mary became a court favourite and was specially chosen to be in-waiting on the Queen during her last illness.

It was William's sister Harriet who was to form the link between Tidworth and the ancient Cheshire family of Assheton. On 6th May, 1724, Harriet married Thomas Assheton of Ashley Hall at South Tidworth Church; Thomas Assheton, Governor of Chester Castle, was a descendant of Sir Ralph Assheton, 'The Black Knight of Ashton', knighted on the field of battle in 1482 and Vice-Constable of England in 1483.

In 1715 the army of the Old Pretender entered England and reached Lancaster. At the height of the crisis a club of the leading gentlemen of Cheshire met at Ashley Hall to consider giving their support to the Stuarts or offering allegiance to the House of Hanover; Thomas Assheton is said to have given his casting vote in favour of George I and Tidworth thus became a link with establishing the present Royal Family, members of which return to Tidworth right up to the present day. Thomas Assheton and Harriet had one son, Thomas, who inherited the Ashley estates in 1759 and also the Tidworth and Vaynol estates in 1773 from his uncle William Smith who died childless.

Thomas took the additional name of Smith, becoming Thomas Assheton Smith but before he could move to Tedworth House he died in 1774. Owing to the terms of the will of William Smith the Tidworth and Vaynol estates passed to the elder son, Thomas Assheton Smith II and his six sisters probably moved with him to Tedworth House. The Ashley estates were left to his younger son William Henry who later moved to Oxfordshire and died at Hailey in 1839; being childless the Ashley estates reverted to his elder brother Thomas.

Thomas Assheton Smith II became M.P. for Andover and Lord Lt. of County Carnarvon. He also possessed the Sutton Scotney estates and a number of properties in London, Cheshire and North Wales. About this time the extraction commenced of slate from the Lanberris mines of the Vaynol estate and was to prove the foundation of a large income of some £50,000 a year (equivalent to one million pounds today, although little tax was then paid). This income was to play a part in the development of the Tidworth estates and slate from these quarries was incorporated into Tedworth House.

The route from the House to London, for Parliament and also for the London season, started from the present north carriage front, through the magnificent drive of lime trees, along what is now Ashdown Terrace, through Perham Down to Andover and onwards.

Thomas Assheton Smith II married Elizabeth, the daughter of Watkins Wynne of Voelas, Co. Denbigh, and had three sons and five daughters. During his life time he played a considerable part in the local life of the villages he owned and this is shown by the continual movement of large sums of money by the raising of mortgages and

loans during the difficult years of inflation and agricultural depression during the overseas war years from the end of the 18th Century until 1820. At the time of the arrival of the Assheton Smiths at Tidworth the agricultural revolution was underway and this was seen in the local countryside. Although exact details have not been researched the old medieval open field system of farming was being replaced by enclosure of the land into fields; many turnip fields were to be seen which gave winter feed and allowed more meat and dairy produce to become available. The population of the villages was increasing - by the end of the 18th Century the population of N. Tidworth was about 300 and that of S. Tidworth about 200, mostly labourers on the large farms. The farm wages were amongst the lowest paid in England as there was little alternative employment. The improved methods of farming under the enclosure system created hardship for the farm labourers even when their wives and children over five years of age were all working. The typical income was £35 a year and his budget nearer £40, the deficit made up from poor relief - there were a number of paupers in the villages. At Glyndebourne in Sussex John Ellmen founded the famous breed of Southdown sheep which were later to play a part at Tidworth.

In 1776 Thomas Assheton Smith III was born and baptised in the Old South Tidworth Church which stood near the site of the present St. Mary's Church. The church was to see a number of festivities during these early years; in October, 1776, Thomas's second sister, Penelope, who had come to Tedworth House after her father's death, was married to Sir Thomas Tancred of Yorkshire whilst his sister-in-law Jane Wynne married the Hon. Charles Finch on Boxing Day in 1778. This church was demolished in 1784 by permission of the Bishop of Winchester, and material from the church used to build the new church now called the Burial Chapel. During the period of rebuilding the church, Thomas II took pews for himself, family and servants in N. Tidworth Church.

An interesting legal document was drawn up in 1809 when Thomas II made a settlement on his son Thomas III for an allowance of £1,000 a year (equivalent of £20,000 today). In 1808 he had sold the Manor of Sutton Scotney, perhaps to cover the capital for this allowance as in 1806 Thomas III became Master of the famous Leicestershire Quorn Hunt and had taken up residence at Quorndon Hall where he established his reputation of the premier fox-hunter in England.

This then was the scene at the turn of the 19th Century. The next century in the history of Tidworth was to be one of great change - the countryside, the owners of the estates, the agricultural development of the farms and the agricultural labourers' unrest. England itself was to undergo great economic and political change and this was to have its effect on the villages of Tidworth.

(Reproduced from The Tidworth News, by kind permission of the Editor.)

FROM PITTS TO PARAVACINIS ...

by T. P. de Paravicini

Most villages used to be parts of large estates until the Great War of 1914-18 which drastically changed the system through heavy taxation and death duties. Until this change estates tended to get larger, not smaller. The eldest son usually inherited the whole estate and if there was no son but a daughter the estate passed with her to her husband on marriage. A good example of this is Amport, which in the 10th Century belonged to Anne de Port and through marriage passed into the ownership of the Paulet family, Marquises of Winchester, who at one time owned most of the northern half of Hampshire and chunks of adjacent counties. Younger sons of the great landowners usually went into the army, navy or church and the family might own the advowsons or patronages of a number of parishes to provide livings for their clergy relatives.

Thomas Pitt, commonly called 'Governor' Pitt or 'Diamond' Pitt was the son of John Pitt, rector of Blandford St. Mary. Thomas went to India, became Governor of Madras, and while there bought a very large diamond, which he sold at a good profit. About 1710 he bought the manor of Abbots Ann and shortly afterwards that of Little Ann. In 1715-16 he rebuilt the church in stages, part of it being used for services while the rest was rebuilt. One of his grandsons was the first William Pitt, prime minister, later Earl of Chatham, and the younger son of the Earl of Chatham was William Pitt the Younger.

The Pitts were a large family, related to the Pitt-Rivers of Dorset. Evidently, after 'Diamond' Pitt bought Abbots Ann, the advowsons of this parish, and that of Blandford St. Mary, belonged to him or his family for a long time because for about 200 years all the rectors of Blandford St. Mary and Abbots Ann were either descendents of, or married to, descendants of 'Diamond's' father, the Rev. John Pitt.

Diamond's sister, Sarah, married the Rev. H. Willis, who became rector of Blandford St. Mary after her father. H. Willis had a son, Robert, who in turn became rector of Blandford St. Mary and Robert's daughter, Sarah, married the Rev. John Burrough, who became rector of Abbots Ann. This John Burrough had three sons. John became rector of Blandford St. Mary, Thomas became rector of Abbots Ann and James became a judge and was knighted, retiring to an estate at Laverstock, near Salisbury, within reasonable distance of both Abbots Ann and Blandford.

When Diamond owned the manor of Abbots Ann, one of his sons, Robert, lived in what is now the Old Manor, but which was then a house comparable in size with the Rectory. Both houses shared a drive called the Coach Road linking up to the Andover-Salisbury turnpike.

Diamond's steward, Thomas Crissick, seems to have been responsible for the management of the estates here and in Dorset and organising the rebuilding of the church, but Robert did the correspondence with his father. The total cost of



The church at Abbots Ann, built by 'Diamond Pitt'

rebuilding the church including Crissick's salary was £1,197.0s.6½d. Many of the timbers from the old church were re-used and the old roof lead was remelted and credited towards the new lead. Also it appears that the new church was built on the foundations of the old but new bricks and stone were used for the walls. As an indication of the inflation since those days the insured value of the church now approaches £300,000.

About 1750 the Pitts left Abbots Ann and the manor house was largely demolished, a small part being left as a bailiff's house and later a small farm house, but the Burroughs and the Pitts were always very close. William Pitt the younger went to Cambridge at the age of 15 and after graduating became a barrister, practising in Hampshire for a year or so before entering parliament. He used the rectory as his Hampshire home while attending the assizes at Winchester. His father had an estate at Hayes, in Kent, for his parliamentary work, and had bought another estate at Burton Pynsent in Somerset. After the death of her husband, Lady Chatham retired to Burton Pynsent and young William, who became prime minister at 23 but never married, used to visit his mother at Burton Pynsent whenever possible, stopping half-way at the rectory with Thomas Burrough.

The Bests are a very old legal family. In the days of Elizabeth I a large number of estates, mainly in Hampshire and the South of England, passed through the hands of a Best although some of them were only in his possession for a day. He was probably acting as a solicitor for the disposal of monastic lands seized by the crown. The Reverend Sam Best had a double claim for the living of Abbots Ann. He was himself descended from the Rev. John Pitt and so was his first wife, Charlotte Burrough.

The Fenwicks were a very old military family originally from the north of England but the old maps of Abbots Ann show land belonging to Fenwicks in the 1730's. They may have bought it from the Pitts and later sold it to the Red Rice estate. In the 1820's, Col. Fenwick from Norman Court, West Tytherley, was staying at the rectory with Thomas Burrough. Also there was Sir James Burrough, the judge. An angry mob arrived and wanted the judge but Col. Fenwick drew his sword and kept them at bay talking while the judge escaped from the back. This Col. Fenwick later married the judge's other daughter, Marianne, and was the father of the Rev. James Burrough Fenwick, rector of Abbots Ann from 1873-1903.

Sam Best's wife, Charlotte, died in childbirth together with her infant and this led to a bitter legal battle. Charlotte inherited in trust a considerable amount from her father, Judge Burrough. The conditions of his will were that if she died without issue the property was to go to her sister, Marianne, but if she had issue it was to pass to that issue. The Bests claimed that the child was born alive and lived a few minutes after the mother. The property therefore passed to the infant and from the infant to his next of kin, the father. The Bests won the case but for the rest of that generation there was enmity between the Fenwicks and the Bests.

Although Sam Best died in 1873 the Best family continued to live at Red Rice into the early part of this century, when it was sold to Lord Grantley. Johnny Best lived in the cottage at the corner of the Anna Valley Road, later occupied by Miss Rue and now by Mr. Holloway. He was an active man and regularly came shooting on my father's land or took myself and another boy ridding with ferrets and a couple of terriers. Polly Best lived at Broadwater, Amport, and was a great friend of my aunt, Annie Fenwick. The present Lord Wynford lives at Wynford Eagle, Dorset.

It was a granddaughter of Col. Thomas Fenwick and Marianne Burrough , (Henrietta Ella Fenwick), who in 1902 married the Rev. Frederick de Paravacini, whose family and ancestors form the subject of a further article in our next issue.

BOYHOOD MEMORIES OF WHITCHURCH

by R. F. Weeks

It has been suggested to me that as my recollections of living in Whitchurch extend back to the turn of the century, I should jot down some of them if only to illustrate the difference in village life between then and now. In those days especially before the 1914-1918 War, we had to make our own amusements and any entertainment coming from outside the village was an event of major importance to us.

I recall the occasional coming of swings and roundabouts (Stokes' or Jennings') and the rare visit of a circus in all its glory. Waters' Meadow at the foot of Lower Evingar Road was the venue of these events, but though thrilling to us, the circus never quite lived up to the lurid posters stuck on the side of the cart-shed there.

I also remember a talented concert party called 'The Walker Family' who entertained us with items on musical instruments, including a set of glass tumblers filled with water to varying depths on which they played tunes. The price of admission was one penny.

Admission to the meetings of the Salvation Army in the Market Place was free, and I well recall seeing them, on many Sunday evenings, marching away to martial music as they made their way to their Barracks, then in the Lynch, just past the old Police Station.

Talking of the Market Place (alias the Square), it is possible that these names are not known to some of the newer inhabitants. I mention this as, in these days of 'conservation', it is important to prevent these landmarks from becoming lost in the limbo of the past. For postal purposes, the International Stores is now in Bell Street, and Howards' is part of Winchester Street, but they face each other across the Market Square. Whitchurch should be proud to retain that name, even though no market is held there.

The streets of Whitchurch in my boyhood were a haven of silence, broken usually by the creak of horse-drawn carts proceeding at walking pace. Although the Market Place is at the junction of five streets, we had no difficulty in playing marbles in its centre. The game we played appears to have almost died out, and is, I think, only maintained by an annual contest somewhere in Sussex. To play it, a circle of about five feet in diameter was drawn on the ground, and each participant placed an equal number of marbles at spaced intervals in the middle. Then from outside the circle each player in turn did his best to knock the marbles outside the ring by shooting at them with his 'taw' from between the knuckle of the thumb and a bent forefinger.

It was curious how each game seemed to have its own 'season', and without any pre-arranged signals such games as marbles, conkers, spinning tops, and so on, used to make their appearance on the streets.

It is many years since I have seen a spinning top. This was a circular wedge-shaped piece of wood, shod at the small end with a metal stud. String was wound round the top and spin would be imparted to the top by a quick release from a hand held high. To make it give out a humming noise was the height of accomplishment.

Trolling (or rolling) hoops was another pastime which holds no interest for youngsters today. Girls had wooden hoops which they propelled by hitting them with sticks, while the boys had metal hoops which were pushed along with metal hooks set in wooden handles. I do not recall any competitive games with hoops. We simply ran with them. In retrospect this seems very boring, but in those days it was just another game. With the advent of scooters and bicycles, I cannot imagine any child nowadays chasing a hoop.

There were certain occupations which were of continual interest to us, and, if we behaved ourselves, we were allowed to watch. I remember watching a man in Bell Street making hurdles for sheep pens, and cutting spars for thatching. Also, I can just remember the Town Crier shouting his announcements and ringing his bell as he proceeded from street to street. Someone else who advertised his presence by ringing a bell was the muffin-man, who carried his wares on a tray balanced on his head.

The Town Mill, (known then as Lloyd's Mill), was in full working order in my boyhood, and I have spent many hours there watching the milling and being allowed to manipulate the ropes that pulled the sacks of grain from floor to floor through little trap doors that opened for the upward journey only. All the power came from the water below and there were many other ingenious ways in which the miller saved his own energy.

On the left of what is now called Laundry Yard was a factory - now demolished - for mineral waters and ginger beer, and I have often watched Mr. Lambden operating a 'one-at-a-time' machine that filled the bottle and sealed it with a glass marble inside its neck. Some of these bottles are now collectors' items.

The Headquarters of the local volunteer Fire Brigade was also in this yard. The fire engine was of the manual type and had a long arm on each side. The pumping operation consisted of alternately raising and lowering these arms. Two horses were needed to pull the engine to the site of the fire, and these were supplied by the White Hart stables.

Provided that the fire was not an isolated farm in the dead of night, volunteers were always available to man the pumps: about a dozen each side was the optimum. These volunteers were rewarded by being given a numbered circular brass disc which was later presented at Headquarters for payment. Personally, I was gratified to receive on one occasion as much as fifteen old pence for several hours pumping!

The firemen were alerted by the ringing of a large bell located on a pole high above the fire station and it can be readily realised that when the fire was well

outside the village, some considerable time could elapse before the arrival of the appliance at the scene of the fire. Even then a supply of water was problematical as there were no hydrants and water was pumped from the nearest stream or from any pond that was available. The hose and the buckets were made of leather, very closely riveted with copper, and were therefore very heavy. The hose connections were of the cap-and-lining screw type as distinct from the modern instantaneous connections. Fortunately, the old historic firebell has been rescued and is now in the Town Hall. I have a document showing that in 1899, firemen were paid nine pence for a practice turn-out, and the annual rental of the shed housing the fire-engine was £2.10s.0d.

The building in Newbury Street that stood next to the Town Hall and has now been demolished was occupied by a Mr. Hobbs who carried on the business of a saddler, and combined it with veterinary work. It was most interesting to watch the saddler at work repairing harness or making or re-stuffing horse-collars or pads.

Blacksmiths, with their great variety of work, (much more than just shoeing horses), were always a source of interest, and the two I personally favoured were Sampson in Bell Yard, and Harry Page whose forge was at the first bridge in Winchester Street. Gone, however, is the large round plate let into the ground in the yard at the rear. This had a metal spigot in the centre and was used in the very skilful job of shrinking hot metal tyres onto wooden cart wheels. The pub next to the strict Baptist Chapel (now a hairdresser's shop), no doubt took its name 'The Three Horseshoes' from the proximity of the forge.

No local activity escaped our interest, including what in those days was a distinctly barbarous business. I refer to the slaughtering of animals for butchers' meat before the advent of the humane killer and its compulsory use. There was never any deliberate cruelty that I remember, but there was no anaesthetic before the poleaxe or knife was used.

The slaughterhouse was in Bell Street near the old gas-works, and there was another in Winchester Street, on the right-hand side just past the first bridge.

When I compare the sanitation of today with that of my boyhood, I wonder how we survived. Indoor sanitation was extremely rare and only a few houses had septic tanks. The great majority of houses had outside privies furnished with what were euphemistically described as 'sanitary pails'. These were emptied periodically by a contractor, Charlie Stagg, into a horse-drawn iron tumbrel made for the job. The contents of tumbrel were in turn emptied and spread out in a field bordering Knole Lane, (Micheldever Road). It was then left to the elements to complete the job of dispersal.

I remember seeing similar privies built out over the River Test, thus obviating the need for further attention. At that time the river was to a great extent used as a sewer, and for many years there was an open drain running alongside Winchester Street opposite the Methodist Chapel which contained an almost continuous stream of steaming black fluid running through it to the river.

The 'night-cart', as it was then called, was usually in full operation by 10.30 p.m. and its presence was evident to anyone unlucky enough to be in its vicinity! These conditions continued for many years until piped water became available.

In my boyhood, the domestic water supply was from pumps or wells, whilst the river was used for water for cattle and sheep in the fields away from the river. At the second bridge, one could see these horse-drawn water-carts standing in a couple of feet of water whilst being filled, bucket by bucket, by the carter. Before the road surfaces were tarmacadamised, the village water cart was busy in the summer spraying the roads with water, to lay the dust.

I also recall seeing baptism in the river by the second bridge. The white-clad participants, looking somewhat apprehensive, were gently lowered into the water by the presiding minister until totally immersed. The hatch by the Scouts Hut supplied the water for the sheep-dip there, and this was in frequent use.

There were some occasions which we as youngsters used to look forward to particularly, namely Ascension Bay and the Sunday Schools' Annual Summer Treat. For the former, we proceeded in crocodile formation from our respective schools to All Hallows Church. We each carried a bunch of flowers which we had painstakingly picked the previous evening from our gardens or from the meadows, and these were left at the Church. We enjoyed singing the usual appropriate hymns, like 'All things bright and beautiful', and looked forward to the customary half-holiday in the afternoon.

The Sunday School Summer Treat was eagerly awaited and I can remember how we assembled at 'The Laurels' in Oakland Road, and, headed by a brass band, usually 'The Bisley Boys', proceeded via Church Street to Hurstbourne Park. From the park gates (now demolished) we marched up the road to a flat part on the left which has now been ploughed up. There we played many games and were entertained by the band, before we were called back to the park gates where tea had been prepared. On one occasion at least, we went by train to the now obsolete Burghclere Station whence we walked to Beacon Hill for the usual programme.

In the summer, the Whitchurch Cricket Club used to play on the pitch in Hurstbourne Park, by kind permission of the Earl of Portsmouth. The wickets were prepared by Dick Perry, who was a gardener at the Mansion. He was assisted by a pony clad in leather overshoes to avoid damage to the turf when pulling the mower. Dick was a keen cricketer and the only bowler that I remember who bowled under-arm. The park deer kept the grass in the outfield to exactly the right length.

Bob Field, who kept a small shop in Church Street, used to provide teas and refreshments at the cricket matches. He had no transport, and used to carry all the eatables, tablecloths, cutlery, and everything else in two large baker's baskets to the cricket pavilion in the park. After all this arduous preparation he only charged eight pence for a well served tea. The pavilion has been demolished, but there is an excellent photograph of it in Colonel May's 'Cricket in North Hampshire'.

Through the influence of Mr. C. H. Geer, the umpire, I used sometimes to keep the score and I looked forward eagerly to the games in the Park and also to the away games, when our transport was either a brake with two horses, or a wagonette with one horse, hired from the White Hart stables.

There was a practice pitch in Barnet's Meadow, which is the present Recreation Ground. The Football Club played their matches in the Parsonage Meadow.

ANDOVER TOWN TRAIL

By the summer of 1983, local shops should have on sale copies of the new Andover Town Trail which has been produced by the Society's publications committee.

A debt of gratitude and thanks must go to Peter Blakesley, who researched and devised the walk and contributed so much useful information which is contained in the pamphlet, especially on the architectural side, on which subject he is most expert.

Most towns of any size and importance are now producing these town trails, and it is felt Andover's will be of interest, not only to local people who hereby have a ready-made historical 'guide' to the town but also to the many visitors who come to see and browse around Andover.

This aspect, indeed, may well open up a new field of activity for the Society. It is almost certain that other local history societies and similar bodies will want to come here, on organised tours - especially during the summer months. It is here that the Society can fill an important role, by acting as their hosts and guides.

We have already had the pleasure of hosting a group from King's Somborne, in return for a visit the Society paid to them in 1982. We have also visited Alresford on a town trail, and we hope to have the pleasure of returning their hospitality as well, in the near future.

Tourism is looked upon by the Test Valley Borough Council as a field of activity that can and should be developed. In this, the Town Trail and our Society could, and should, play a vital role.

WHY HE WENT?

It is general belief that the man who named Andover, Massachusetts, from his nearest home town in England, was John Osgood, a Wherwell man who was one of many who emigrated to America from this area in the early 17th Century.

Most of those early settlers sought a new life in a new world because of some discontent at home, or from dissatisfaction with the English way of life at that time.

Why Osgood went is not known, but the following extract from a letter (written on House of Commons notepaper and undated except for the reference to 'After May 4, 1605') may give a clue.

It reads:

'John Osgood to the Earl of Salisbury.

(After May 4 1605). He is resident at Andover, Hampshire. By an order issued by the Privy Council the victuallers and publicans of all towns are obliged to buy their drink from the common brewer. Petitioner has established a common brewhouse in Andover with the approval of the local magistrates, but the victuallers and publicans there refuse to purchase their drink from him, contrary to the above order. He asks that Salisbury order the bailiff and magistrates of Andover to implement the order and compel the offenders to buy their drink from him or show good cause for their refusal.'

½p P.957

From 'Home Words', Abbots Ann and Clatford Parochial Magazine, October, 1872.

'The public attention during the past month has been occupied by the Autumn Manoeuvres. A very large number of our people and of all the surrounding villages were present at the 'March Past', which was indeed a grand sight, and not easily to be forgotten. The situation for such a display under the scarped, amphitheatrical side of Beacon Hill, with its green turf flooring and its view extending boundlessly over the Plain, is unequalled by any spot we might try to select in the three kingdoms. The sun shone on it, and there was but one universal expression from everyone as they returned, that they had never seen such a sight. Thousands were present on foot, on horse, and in carriages of every kind, from the country wagon and the London cab, up to the smartest equipages and fours-in-hand. The Prince of Wales and Prince Arthur, the Duke of Cambridge and the Princess Mary, who were guests of the Lord Lieutenant of our county, the Marquis of Winchester, were present, and received that enthusiastic welcome which Hampshire and Wiltshire loyalty has ever shown towards the royal house and our Queen.'

Copy of a Printed Set of Rules for Upper Clatford School issued by the then Rector, Rev. Edward Frowd, who held the Benefice of Upper Clatford between A.D. 1830-1863.

RULES

To be observed by the Children who attend the

UPPER CLATFORD SCHOOL

1. Every single Child of a family of the age of 5 years, coming to the school, to pay one penny every Monday morning, in case two of the same family attend, a half-penny each.

N.B. This is done with the view of securing a better attendance than heretofore.

2. Every child attending the Day School to come to the Sunday School at nine o'clock in the mornings, and to go to Church, or it cannot be received on the week days.

3. Every child to come to school with a clean head, face and hands, and a clean pinafore.

4. Any act of impertinence or insult to the Mistress, (on complaint being made to the Rev. Edward Frowd), will be followed by the dismissal of the guilty child from the school.

5. No Parent to keep their child at home without asking leave, which on good grounds will be given; and the regular hours of the school, nine in the morning and half-past one in the afternoon, to be observed with regularity.

To My Parishioners,

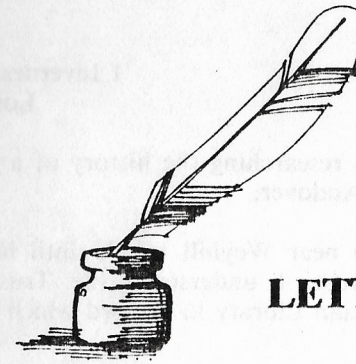
Anxious for the welfare of your children as the Lambs of my Flock, I have procured a new Mistress for my School, to which I now invite you to send your children. The small payment required, will go to make up the increased salary to be paid to the mistress, and will lead you who are Parents, I hope, to value the School more for your Children.

From your Pastor and Minister,

EDWARD FROWD

'A Savage Apprenticeship'

'A case heard at Winchester Quarter Sessions in October, 1670, was one of harsh apprenticeship from Andover. There came to the court a widow, Rachell Poore, 'of Chapmansford in the parish of husband priors', who told the justices that she had bound and placed her son apprenticed to Martin Honniwell, an Andover sergeweaver, for a period of seven years. Instead of looking after the boy, Honniwell had neglected his duties so 'that by his Mastery hard and ill usage and wanting necessary p(ro)vision ye s(aid) Apprentice was almost eaten up with vermin'. For fear of threats that the boys condition would be made still worse, Rachell Poore had tried to purchase her son's freedom. Honniwell's demands were far in excess of her means, and in desperate straits to avoid total ruin befalling her son she appealed to the clemency and wisdom of the county's justices. As a result of her pleas the justices were moved to make an order releasing the boy from his tyrannical master.'



LETTERS AND QUERIES

62 Bath Road
Southsea
Hampshire PO4 OHT
Tel. Portsmouth 733465

Dear Sir,

I wonder if you could kindly help with some information concerning a 19th Century Andover family. I have a photograph of a very fine miniature by R. Cosway, of a soldier called Ralph Elwell of Andover. He is depicted in a military uniform, scarlet coat with silver wings. I find in the Yeomanry and Volunteer List of 1804 - he appears as Captain on 29th June, 1798, and Major on the 28th January, 1804, in the 2nd Bn. Andover (presumably Infantry Volunteers). I don't think at that date the Independent Troop of Andover Yeomanry had been formed.

May I ask if you have anything in your records concerning the family Elwell or the early military units of Andover.

With very many thanks.

Yours sincerely,

R. G. Harris

Member: Society for Army Historical Research. Military Historical Society. etc.

Writer refers to Ralph ETWALL, former M.P. for Andover. Some information has already been sent him from Andover Library. - Ed.

1 Inverness Gardens
London W.8

I am writing to you to enlist your help in researching the history of a house my husband and I have recently bought near Andover.

It is Ramridge Cottage (Ramridge Park) near Weyhill which until last month belonged to the Ewelme Almshouse Trust. I understand the Trust have a number of documents lodged at the Bodleian Library in Oxford which I hope to be able to see in due course.

In the meantime, would your Committee have any records, or anything published which might be relevant? We shall not be moving to Ramridge for some time but I would be grateful for any help or advice you may be able to give me.

Yours sincerely,

Diana Gibson

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20 Farleight Crescent
Swindon
Wilts.
Phone S'don 35248

Can you help me at all please? I am trying to trace my husband's great grandparents:-

William and Rebecca POVEY
High Street, Andover (1855)

William was in 1855 (when his son Frederick Robert Povey was born) a 'Blacksmith Master' - High St., Andover.

According to the book 'Old Andover' by C. J. J. Berry, there was a forge in the west side of Winchester Street, Marlborough Street (see page 45) until 1930's.

Yours sincerely,

Sheila Povey (Mrs.)

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