

CHARLTON KINGS
LOCAL HISTORY
SOCIETY



Detmore

BULLETIN 5

CHARLTON KINGS LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

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Copies of this Bulletin are available from the officers or from Charlton Kings Library, price £1.40.

- Previous publications - Bulletin 1 now reprinted, price £1.20
Bulletin 2 - out of print (give your name to Mr. Greet if you want a reprint in 1982.
Bulletin 3 - price £1.30
Bulletin 4 - price £1.20

The Society does not hold itself responsible for statements in papers, but invites additions and corrections, which will be printed in Notes and Comments.

Membership of this Society

Membership forms are available from officers. Annual subscriptions 50p, or 75p for couples.

Meetings are held monthly from September to May in the Stanton Room, Charlton Kings Library.

The Bulletin is published twice a year.

CONTENTS

- Cover picture - Detmore c.1880, drawn by K. Venus from a photograph taken by E.S. Williams.
1. Obituary - Peter Kendall The Chairman
 2. "Starlight", told and illustrated by G. Ryland
 3. A Charltonian Born and Bred - appreciation of George Ryland
 4. A Dispute over the Will of Alice Lynet, widow, 1551-3 M.J. Greet
 5. Bishop Hooper's Visitation 1551 M.J. Greet
 6. Detmore and the Dobell family
 - (i) The house described as Longfield M. Paget
 - (ii) The Dobell family C.W. Dobell
 - (iii) Boyhood Memories of Detmore, part 1
illustrated by K. Venus J. Williams
 7. Education in Charlton Kings III - Private Schools and Tutors c.1800-1850 P. Kendall
 8. Charlton Kings Fire Brigade
 - (i) Fireman's helmet worn by Mr Neather senior
now in possession of Mrs Parkes, drawn by K. Venus
 - (ii) Reminiscences of Mr. Frank Neather and others
 9. Policing Charlton in the Twenties - an appreciation of Police Sergeant John Hughes by his son I.V. Hughes
 10. Councillor John Hughes and World War II M. Paget
 11. Cider-making at Ryworth House in 1934
illustration lent by I.V. Hughes, note by C. Robinson
 12. For Cider read Perry J. Paget
 13. Memorials in St. Mary's Church, Charlton Kings
illustrated by K. Venus Simon Fletcher
 14. The House now Whitefriars School M. Paget
The Hartland family of Oaklands E. Armitage
 15. Charlton Chapel and the National School 1836-7 S. Blake
 16. Seventy Years Ago E.W. Broome
 17. Notes and Comments
 18. On Editing Bulletin 5 J. Paget

1. OBITUARY

This issue contains a contribution by Peter Kendall, BA, B Sc (Econ), the Distribution Manager of the Society, who died aged 53 in December 1980. He made a large contribution to the building up of this Society, not least by the great efficiency with which he organised the distribution of publicity material and sales of our Bulletin. He will be much missed by the Society.

M.J. Greet
Chairman

2. STARLIGHT

I wonder how I got writing for a magazine like the Bulletin? I am no historian. Historians are trained people who work systematically and scientifically. They are only interested in facts and not too particularly in them unless they can pin dates to them. Much of their work is like a detective's and their findings often come under similar intense scrutiny. No, I am no historian. If anything, I am a romantic. To me, a good, colourful, well-balanced story is more important than the absolute veracity of its text. However, your editor has given me an assignment and I must do my best to live up to the standards and traditions of the magazine.



High on my list of 'characters' of this village comes MO DAVIS. Why 'Mo' I cannot say - I never knew. There was nothing semitic about Mo - but Mo it was. He was no patriarch. He and I were much of an age, perhaps Mo was a bit older. He would have stood out in any company, if only on account of his size. He was an enormous young farmer, a regular JAN RIDD of the COTSWOLDS. He must have stood well over 6 feet and was big and strong with it. I have seen him nearly halve the cubical contents of a hay-load merely by leaning on the retaining ropes. That is no exaggeration, and if you have done a bit of pitching, you'll know what I mean. But he was always the gentle giant - gentle in action and word.

Another of his differences - dare I call it an eccentricity? he was the last I remember in this village who rode horseback about his normal business. I suppose that only a few years before my time, every inn and hotel catered for fodder, watering, and stabling of horses ridden in by their owners. But by my time these days were gone. Mine was the age of the early bicycle. Mo preferred to stick to his horse.

I have described Mo as the 'gentle giant'. He was also kind. He was very kind to me at a period in my life when I was particularly lonely. It was near the beginning of the last war. I was convinced that the country was about to be invaded and I had sent my family out of the country. Mo knew how I felt. He was never a man of many words, he just said "If you find these long summer evenings get on top of you, bring the gun up and walk down the farm - might shoot something for the pot".

You have no idea what that kind concession meant to me. Those evenings, strolling down the stream from California Farm, under the curving stretch of the Cotswolds, in an evening light and lengthening shadows, were perhaps the most peaceful hours I spent at any time during those four turbulent years.

Often during those peaceful walks I found myself wondering if there wasn't some small thing I could do for Mo to show my gratitude. I talked to Hilda about it - that was his wife - and I talked to Bob. Bob was the only son. We knew each other well. We both attended the same school, though generally we faced different ways in the class room! They both agreed that what he would like was a picture of his present hack. The horse was getting on a bit and spent his life mostly out at grass, but Mo was still very fond of him.

So there was I, one evening after tea, arriving at the farm, not this time with a 12 bore gun but with the boot of the car full of painting material. I pitched my easel in front of one of the cart sheds where the light and background were suitable, and Bob led round the horse. He was a docile brown gelding that must have stood about 16 hands, with no pretensions to breeding. He was getting on in years and did nothing but very light work, if any. He was obviously a family favourite. Bob got the horse and himself comfortable and we started in to work.

I like my models to talk usually; it eases the stiffness and lessens any tension. I'd have been a bit surprised if the horse had opened up a conversation but Bob was eager to tell me about the horse, and I was pleased to listen.

"What's the horse's name, Bob?" I asked. "STARLIGHT" said Bob.

"My" I said, "that's a poetic name for a work-a-day horse!"

"Well, Starlight is a bit special" Bob answered "always has been".

And then I was regaled by the life history of Starlight.

It appears that some long while ago, Mo had ridden a young horse up to Old Dole and presented him to his sister for her approbation. She very much approved and when the horse had been duly admired, Mo asked her what she would suggest as the horse's name. "Well" said MAUD "If he is going to be a horse of yours, he'll see more of the night than the day. I'd call him STARLIGHT" and from then on, Starlight it was.

Starlight took Mo everywhere, they were inseparable. They would be seen mostly in the evenings. When Mo had finished work and had his evening meal, he'd saddle Starlight and ride down into the village to see his friends. On these not infrequent occasions, Starlight might be seen tethered to the railings outside the Beaufort, the London, or the Duke of York, or any of the hostelries that side of the village. There he stood, the sole

occupant of the railings, because, as I said, the age of riding except for sport was past.

Most of these evenings developed a kind of pattern. I suppose it was about a mile and a half down to the London Inn, which was the most central of the houses of call. On the road from Old Dole to what is now the A40 there were 3 five-barred gates to be negotiated. But they were easy enough. They could be opened. Then it was over the bridge and a fair drop down to the main road. On the way back, it was an uphill drag, and the last house of call was the COTSWOLD. This was seldom left until the damp white cloth was stretched across the taps on the counter and two bottles of Guinness had been bought and stowed away, one in each of the deep poacher pockets part of Mo's standard equipment. The bottle were for lunch and supper the following day. Of course these evenings produced various stages of conviviality but generally all was well - and ended well, and what Mo didn't remember of the way home, Starlight did.

But one morning as Mo woke up, he had a feeling that all was not right. His tongue and head told him that the conviviality stakes of the previous evening were a bit high, and he remembered nothing of coming home. But what was the dark patch at the side of his bed, stretching under the chair where he normally hung his coat? No, there was no doubt, it was Guinness. He thrust his hand into the sodden pockets, just to prove what he already knew, and rapidly pulling on some clothes he rushed down to the stables.

This was worrying. What kind of catastrophe could this not foreshadow? The stable was closed! With considerable trepidation he opened the door, and wonder of wonders ----- there stood Starlight! He had been unsaddled, the bridle had been hung up, he'd been rubbed down, watered, fed, and bedded, as he would be any normal night --- and Mo could not remember doing a thing about it. But how about the stretch of road from the bridge to the farm? Three five-barred gates! How did he negotiate them? Granted it was a good clear moonlight night, but don't tell me he opened them! Mo, of course, walked down and inspected them but they were all intact. There was no doubt about it. Starlight had cleared the lot!

Bob told me that story forty years ago. The other day I sent the above up to him to see if there was anything in my narrative to which he objected Yesterday I had his reply. No, he found nothing to which he would object but he had given the matter a good deal of thought and the more he thought, the more he was convinced that Starlight was not the hero of this escapade. Comparing times, comparing dates, he felt certain this could not have been Starlight. It must, without doubt, have been another of his father's horses. Yes, he endorsed the rest of it, but he felt someone was in error over Starlight.

Well, what do you make of that? Do I scrap the lot, tear it up? Or do I start some further research and hope to find something about the other horse? No I'm ----- if I will. I know that this is a historical magazine, I also know that this story is intrinsically exact. The one inaccuracy is the name of the animal to which the escapade is attributed. But I think the story is entertaining and I'm letting it stand. What matters it, after some sixty years, what the horse's name was? I wonder what the Editor will do? After all, at the beginning I did try to make it abundantly clear ---- I'm no historian!

G. Ryland

3. A CHARLTONIAN BORN AND BRED - GEORGE RYLAND

George Francis, born 1892 in a house in Lyefield Road East, was youngest son of A.W. Ryland, an elder and pillar of the Charlton Kings Baptist Church. Today George, father of two sons, is "Granup" to his eight grandchildren.

He attended Charlton Kings School, and at an early age showed unusual artistic talent which led him to attending Cheltenham School of Art before going on as a pupil to Cheltenham Grammar School. He was keen on sports, Rugby, Cricket, and Athletics. Whilst a boy at the Grammar School, he set the School record for the Mile race which remained unbroken for nearly 70 years.

He became a pupil teacher at Charlton Kings School, working under "Boss" Fry; and, apart from active service in the 1914-8 war, taught there until 1925 when he was invited to join the staff at Cheltenham Grammar School as Art and Games Master, where he remained until his retirement in 1957.



The master - from a school group

Thousands of boys passed through his hands, many of them - some Charltonians - were able to obtain jobs in advertising, architecture, design, and so on, through his infectious enthusiasm in the presentation of Art in their

formative years. One pupil must be specially mentioned - John Brunson, a Charltonian - who is in the front rank of international modern artists and must owe his success in some small measure to George's teaching whilst at school.

He was one of the earliest members of the Charlton Kings Scout troop formed in 1910 and still going strong. There was always a feeling among local parents that "if Mr Ryland is going to take the boys to camp, then we need have no fear for their safety and well-being".

In 1914 he joined up and saw service in France, Salonika and Egypt, and eventually gained a Commission in the Machine Gun Corps. In World War II he was a member of "Dad's Army".

After the war, he was persuaded to stand as a Councillor for the Urban District Council, and fought 3 elections as an Independent, coming top of the poll twice, and once in second place. He was a conscientious Councillor who had the welfare of the village and its people very much at heart, and twice successfully fought the Boundary Commission which wished to amalgamate Charlton Kings with Cheltenham Borough - an amalgamation which eventually came to pass and from which Charlton Kings has gained little or nothing.

He is most widely known for his long association with Lilleybrook Golf Club, joining it shortly after its opening in the 1920s. He was a keen and brilliant golfer, playing to a handicap of 4 in his heyday. On his retirement from teaching, he became Club Secretary, a post that he held for 14 years. Generations of players and caddies from the village still hold him in respect.

His greatest talent, as mentioned earlier, is his outstanding artistic ability. He designed the reredos in St. Mary's, erected in memory of the fallen in World War I. As a painter of Cotswold scenes he is in a class of his own, whether it be in water colours, oils, or pen and ink sketches. He "knows" the Cotswolds, having walked them for many years in all seasons. But he is ultra-modest about his work which he hides under a very large bushel, except to close friends or relations. More's the pity - so say all of us - when, oh when, are Charltonians going to be allowed to see your pictures in public? Charlton Kings is a "deprived" community in this respect, until you come out from under your bushel - George!



Secretary of the Golf Club.

4. A DISPUTE OVER THE WILL OF ALICE LYNET, WIDOW, 1551-1553

On 27 March 1551, Alice Lynet of Charlton Kings (widow of Thomas Lynet, gentleman, who had died in 1548) made her will (1) as she was "sicke in bodie". She then died and her will, proved later in the year, became the subject of dispute between her executors, Richard Machyn her "cosyn" from Cheltenham and Thomas Whitorne "thelder of Charleton Kynges"; and Francis Greville. He was the guardian of Richard Stewe, son of Thomas Lynet's daughter Joys, and a main beneficiary of both Thomas Lynet and Alice Lynet's Wills.

The gist of Alice Lynet's will follows.

Beneficiaries

a.	The poor	"to the poore people in Cheltnam and in Charleton	xiijs iiij d"
b.	Relations	John Whitorne (godson) Alice Machyn Agnes (daughter) Elizabeth (daughter) William Pats (Pates) (son in law)	"twoo sheepe" "sixe sheepe" "a flocke bed, (2) a canvas bolster, twoo payre of sheetes, and a payre of blankett -es" "a flocke bedd, a bolster, (a) canvas, a payre of blanchettes, ij payre of sheetes" "a longe wayne iron bond"
c.	Servants	Jane Fynche) Margerie Whiting) Richard Daffye) Richard Strawford shepard) William Corrar) to each a "shepe"))) "fowre shepe and a yerelyng calf to breed hym an ox"
d.	Others	Nicholas Rogers Elisabeth Haye, wife of old John Haye	"a corne wayne (3) iron bond" "a gowne of myne owne weyryng"
e.	Richard Stewe	(household goods)	"a great chayre a foldyng stole a flocke bedd, twoo double canvas, twoo saies (4) twoo bolsters, fowre payre of sheetes, twoo towelles, twoo candell- -stuks, and a chaffyng dishe (5) of laten, twoo silver spones, a caulder- -on, and a posset (6), a feytherbed and ij bolters of feythas, four plators, twoo potyngers (7)

two sawcers (8), a salt-cellar, the best brasse pot save one, two cusshions, a bankr (9), a brasse pan (the best save one), two payre of anndeyres (10), a broche (11) and a dripping panne.

(agricultural goods)

a cowe and a calfe (12), fiftie sheepe (12); a donge wayne iron bond, a plowe with thappurtenances thereto belongyng, a payre of harrowes, a corn wayne yron bond and two oxen, two yokes, and ij strynges (13) and all lands tenements and goodes that Thomas Lynet had left", his will to be performed and kept.

(property)

Extract from Thomas Lynet's will.

"Item I geve to Rychard Stewe son of my doghter Joys after the decess of Alys my wyfe, on myse (14) callyd owt marshe, on other myse called Cyslyes (15), on other myse callyd frogge marshe, on other callyd hollow, on other callyd pyt hayes, with butt hayes & whetstons well and a parcell of medowe lyyng be brymsc -- with the therd part of the hyde lande to the forsayd Rychard Stew & to the yeyres of hys body lawfully begotyn for evermore"

"after the decess of Alys my wyfe, halfe a hundred of shepe, the best cow with a calfe (16)", the "grete table bord in the hall the fether bed in the soler (17) with all thappurtenances therto belongyng, also a grete cheste that is in (the) soler and the cestorme (18) that is next the well in the court"

On 5 February (1552) in the Gloucester Consistory Court, Francis Grevill appeared, exhibited a copy of Alice Lynet's will, and prayed the legacy to Richard Stewe should be paid. The executors claimed that Grevill was not the lawful guardian of Stewe and therefore the legacy remained unpaid.

The executors did not appear at the next hearing on 18 April. On 2 May Grevill and Stewe prayed the defendants be compelled to pay the legacy, but they denied that Stewe was of age.

An extract from the register of Cheltenham Parish Church was produced "The 30th year of the Rayynge of Kyng Henry the eyght was Chrystened Rychard Stewe the sone of Rychard Stewe The 22nd day of Aprell as hyt Doth appere in the Registre boke of Cheltenham". The executors said this was not correct and demanded the original book be produced for scrutiny, which the judge agreed to. When this was produced on 1 June, Stewe was found to be 12 years and 2 months old, to whom the judge assigned Francis Grevill as tutor, giving and conceding to him legal authority to act for Stewe. Grevill asked for the legacy to be paid to him on behalf of Stewe and the executors in court were admonished to pay and deliver the said legacy before St James day sub pena.

From the nature of the bequests in the two wills, it emerges that the Lynet family was one of the most substantial in the area at this date. Thomas Lynet held Sandford Mill and land in Cheltenham Hundred and at Kings Stanley. But most of his land was not in Charlton and so there are few references to the family in St Mary's registers. On 29 May 1547 Elizabeth daughter of Thomas Linnet married William Pate at Charlton, and through this marriage, Sandford Mills came into the tenure of Richard Pate gentleman (19). The burial of Thomas Linnet is recorded under 19 November 1551, and this is probably a slip made when the paper register was copied onto parchment in 1600, for clearly the burial must have been that of Alice widow of Thomas Linnet.

Joyce Linnet's marriage to Richard Stewe the elder did not take place at Charlton. Her son put in no claim to inclose any Charlton land in 1557 or 1564, and this omission is explained by the 1617 survey of Cheltenham manor - what Richard Stewe then held was part of the Cheltenham demesne land. He enjoyed 2 orchards, 2 gardens, land adjoining Charlton mill, an orchard called Alletts or Le More, half the close called Sylllyholds at Ham, a meadow called Cheltenham leasow and a close called Pyllie breach - a total 25 acres beside the orchards. There was no dwelling on this tenement (20), and we have no reason to suppose that Richard (then aged 77) had ever lived in Charlton.

Further research will, it is hoped, provide more details about the people and factors involved in the Stewe case, and explain why Francis Grevill was so deeply concerned in it.

1. "In the fourthe yere of the reyne of Kyng Edward the vjh by the grace of god Kyng of england Fraunce and of Ireland defender of the faythe supreme hedd of the church of england & or Ireland immediatlye next unto allmightie god". The preamble was non-traditional (see reference 3). Overseers were William Keck and Thomas Stubbe, whose fee was 6s 8d by even portions. Witnesses were Walter or Water Corrar and John Rogers.
2. Flock - coarse tufts of wool for stuffing beds
3. Wayne or wain, large open vehicle for carrying heavy loads drawn by horses or oxen, a wagon or cart.
4. Saie (say), fine textured cloth like serge, in the 16th century sometimes partly of silk, later all wool.
5. Chaffing dish, a vessel to hold burning charcoal for heating something placed on it
6. Possenet, a small metal pot for boiling, with a handle and three feet.
7. Potinger, a vessel for holding soup or broth.
8. Sawcer, a receptacle, usually metal, for holding condiments, a dish in which salt or sauces were placed on table
9. Banker, a covering usually of tapestry for a bench or chair.
10. Andiron, a metal stand to support burning wood on the hearth
11. Broche, a spit for roasting meat
12. Apparently the same bequest as in Thomas Lynet's will
13. (Plough) string, the trace of a plough
14. Myse or meese, a messuage, land on which a house has stood, or a house, outbuildings and the land belonging to it.
15. It is not certain where these "myses" were located, but probably in Cheltenham rather than Charlton.
16. See note 12.
17. Soler or Solar, upper chamber in a house
18. Cestorne or cistern, a large vessel for water or liquor, a tank.

19. In October 1599, 4 men were appointed to view le Mill meare leading from le fludgates of Richard Pates gentleman to a certain way leading from Cheltenham to Charlton by the furlong called Mill furlong. (Cheltenham manor, court book. GRO D855 M7 f.151). Richard Pates gentleman still held Sandford mill in 1617.
Extent of the manor of Cheltenham, GRO D855 M7 ff414-5
20. D855 M68 ff 21-23; M7 ff 339-425

References

1. GRO Wills 1548/94 (Thomas Lynet), 1551/7 (Alice Lynet)
2. Hockaday Extracts from Diocesan archives for Charlton Kings, held by Gloucester City Library, Local history collection
3. Bulletin 4 (Autumn 1980) "Early Charlton Kings Wills" pp 5-16

M.J. Greet

5. BISHOP HOOPER'S VISITATION 1551

In the English Historical Review of January 1904 pp 98-100, 104-6, is an abstract by James Gairdner of Bishop Hooper's Visitation of the Gloucester Diocese in 1551. (1) This was taken from an early 18th century transcript in Dr. William's Library, the whereabouts of the original being unknown. The clergy of the diocese were examined as to their knowledge of the Ten Commandments, the Apostles' Creed, and the Lord's Prayer, subjects on which a number were surprisingly ignorant. "The number of clergy examined was 311, 62 incumbents being absent, mostly pluralists who did not reside in the diocese or had been examined elsewhere. Of the examinees, 171 were unable to repeat the Ten Commandments, though all but thirty-three of them could tell the chapter in which they were to be found; ten were unable to repeat the Lord's Prayer --- twenty-seven could not tell who was its author, and thirty could not tell where it was to be found. But in some of these latter cases a man could repeat the prayer though he could not tell who was its author or where it was written". Gairdner makes the point that these priests were being asked to repeat the Commandments, Creed and Lord's Prayer in English, whereas they would all have been brought up to use them in Latin. Now they had to be able to teach their flocks these vital matters in the mother tongue.

The Visitation further enquired into the number of communicants in each parish.

William Hall is stated to be the minister of the parish church of Charlton Kings (a parish church because it had a graveyard like Cheltenham and Leckhampton, not a mere chapel). The rector was, as at Cheltenham Rex (for the king had replaced Cirencester abbey as rector in 1539). Hall knew that there were Ten Commandments and that they were to be found in Exodus XX but could not repeat them from memory. He could repeat the Articles of Faith (the Creed), but could not prove them from Scripture. In this he was as well equipped for his work as most clergy. We know that he had previously been the chantry priest at St. Mary's and had had no other living.

The number of communicants in Charlton in 1551 is given as 315, compared with 526 in Cheltenham, 160 in Prestbury, 102 in Leckhampton, and 55 in Dowdeswell. This gives a rough idea of the number of adults in the parish. (2)

1. GRO/GDR 5
2. There are several qualifying factors, first that confirmation could be administered to children at 7; second, that opportunities for confirmation happened rarely, third, no one is sure whether in the 16th century, confirmation was obligatory before admission to communion or not. See Dictionary of the Christian Church.

M.J. Greet

6. DETMORE AND THE DOBELL FAMILY

1. The House described as Longfield

The "deep moors" below Ham Hill were developed as arable sometime in the late middle ages, in the last phase of ploughing up waste land. A hollow lane, still to be traced for part of its course and still a footpath, led from the Chelt over the moor and up to Colegate (Colepityate) - the way referred to by John Stubbs the 17th century deputy steward as "communis via apud Deepmore" (1); and to the SE of this way and approached from it, a farm house called Deepmore, Deptmore, or Detmore, had been built by or soon after 1500. The first reference to it is in 1545, when Thomas Barne of Charlton Kings in his will left his brothers John and Harry Barne "a cow between them which is with John Kynge of Depmore", the same John Kynge who owed the testator 20d. (2)

John Kynge was probably the occupier rather than the tenant of this farm. John Stubb's list of 1557 does not mention Kynge as entitled to a holding here. Only two Charlton men were allowed to fence any Deepmoor land. One was Nicholas Holder who, with other closes, was to inclose "Cadulls meade at Deepmore". The other was William Dowdeswell senior, who had a 23 acre holding and was permitted to inclose and keep inclosed 2 1/4 acres of his land in Nether Depmoore. He was still there in 1564, when the inclosure rate was 3 acres out of his 23 (3). This, without question, is the house and land we are looking for.

Detmore belonged to the manor of Ashley and was copyhold. Before 1625, manorial custom provided that the youngest, not the eldest, son should inherit. William Dowdeswell had two sons, Edward (baptised 10 May 1552) and John (baptised 26 February 1555), so John was his father's copyhold heir, while Edward succeeded to his freehold. Both were holding land in Charlton c.1610, when John had no arable uninclosed. He had put most of his holding down to grass and fenced the rest.

The Dowdeswells continued to hold Detmore until the early 18th century, though they did not, as a rule, farm it themselves. On 22 May 1714 (4) John Dowdeswell and Anne his wife surrendered "all that messuage or tenement, now in the possession of Richard Parrott as John Dowdeswell's tenant, called Detmore" to use of Sarah Mason of Ham widow. The heriot payable on the surrender was 12s 5 1/4d, which indicates a holding of about 20 acres (4).

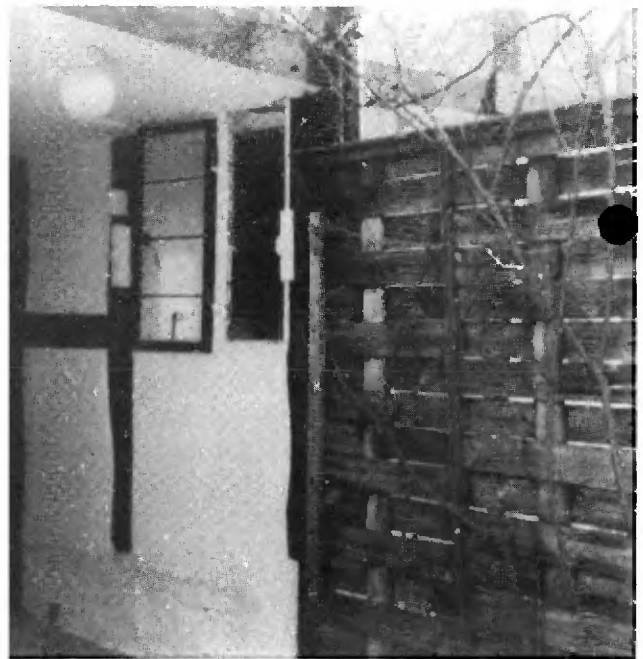
Up to 1714, Detmore had been a small timber-framed house, and part of this can still be seen at the western end of the building.



Passage between kitchen and former dairy



One of the old trees behind the house.



Sarah Mason held Detmore for the whole of her life, and arranged that after her death it should go to her granddaughters Paulina and Anne Winde, daughters of William Winde (or Wine) clerk. There was a third granddaughter Dorothy, but she was apparently born after 1727, when the settlement was made (5). We have moved in the social scale from the ranks of yeomen to clergy and gentry. Paulina and Anne were duly admitted to their inheritance on 19 May 1736. Paulina never married, Anne married John Stead of Monmouth gentleman, and Dorothy married c.1766 Richard Rice of Shireborne clerk. Before marriage she had bought up a mortgage on Detmore, and now this was settled on her husband, herself, and their heirs. So John Rice their son claimed in 1789. But Dorothy had been a second wife and by his first wife her husband had an elder son Richard Rice of Quennington clerk. To him as their father's heir the claimant now transferred the copyhold (5).

During this period, the next (and now very much altered) section of the house was added. The path in the Riviere drawing leads up to the old front door, and inside was the old staircase, now removed.

The south front - Hugh Riviere's drawing of Detmore, as "Longfield" for the 1897 edition of John Halifax Gentleman (first published 1857) From a copy presented by the Dobell family to Mr and Mrs Harry Bruton 6 October 1897.



"LONGFIELD," CHARLTON KINGS, NEAR CHELTENHAM

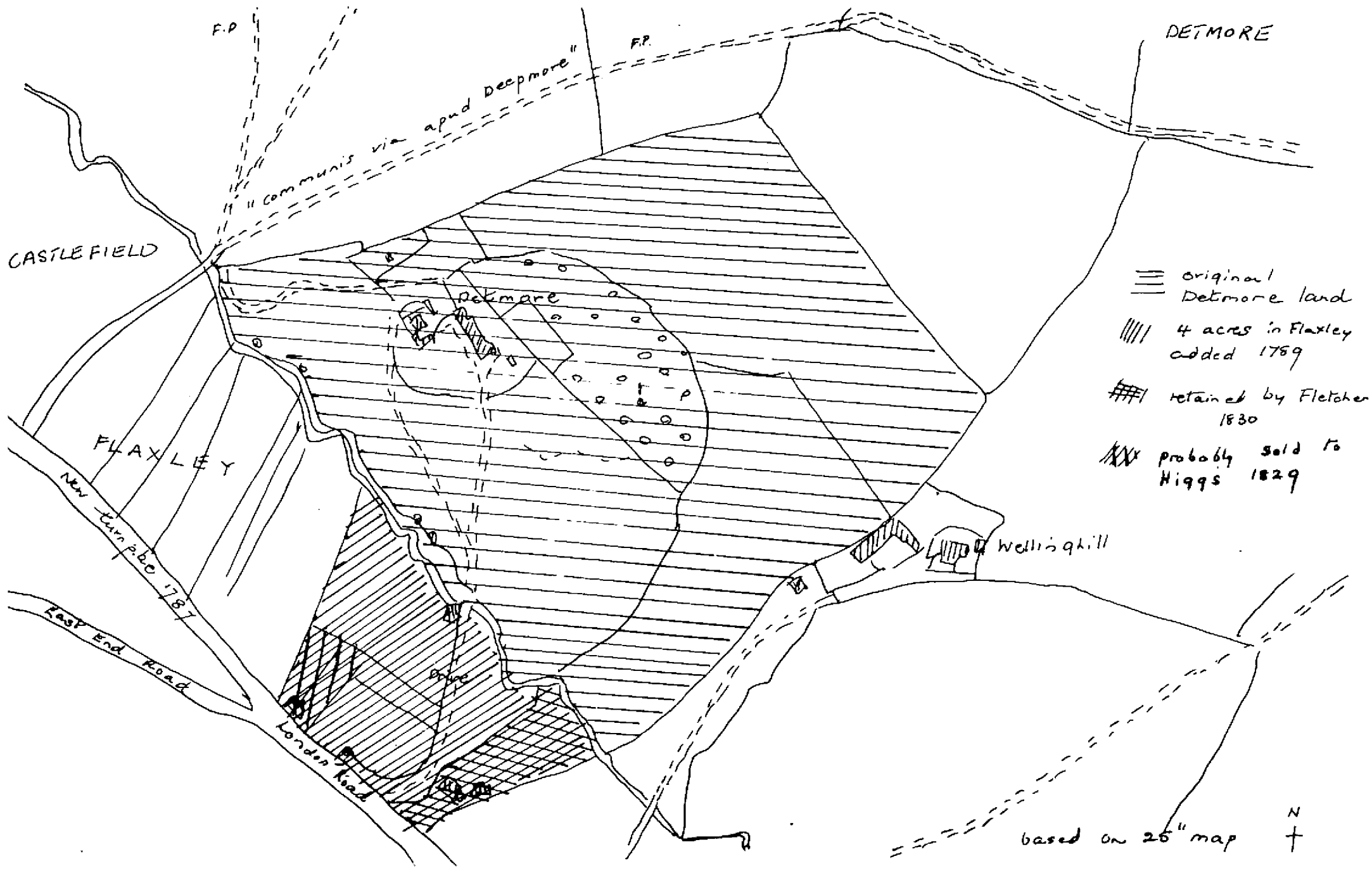
The same view today - without the dormer windows and with the door in a different place.



Until 1787, Detmore could only be approached from the lane. Then the London Road was cut through Flaxley and Castlefields, giving the chance of access from the new turnpike. In 1789 the Rices bought 2 acres in Flaxley from John Price, copyhold of Ashley manor, and shortly afterwards another 2 acres, copyhold of Cheltenham manor. The drive from the main road down to the white gate and across the Chelt, dates from c.1790.



DETMORE DRIVE - a sketch by M. Howard dated 1884, which was bought at the Detmore sale by Mary Willcox' mother.



DETMORE

F.P.

F.P.

"Communis via apud Deepmore"

CASTLEFIELD

- ≡ original Detmore land
- |||| 4 acres in Flaxley added 1759
- #### retained by Fletcher 1830
- XXXX probably sold to Higgs 1829

FLAXLEY

Detmore

Wellinghill

New Turpbo 1787

London Road

East End Road

based on 25" map N

On 29 June 1804, the Revd Richard Rice and Henrietta his wife surrendered the copyhold messuage with meadow and pasture (19 acres) called Deptmore, and the extra 4 acres in Flaxley. The new owner was William Flatcher or Fletcher of Charlton Kings farmer, owner of several properties in Charlton Kings and of Fairview Cottage in Cheltenham. He very soon mortgaged all his Charlton property to pay for his Fairview developments, and in 1829 decided to sell Detmore. He first sold to Charles Cooke Higgs "a small piece of land called Little Meadow, part of an estate called Deptmore Farm", bounded S and SE by land called Fosset Green, on the W by the rest of Little Meadow; together with a small piece of Flaxley; the whole only measuring half an acre.

Then on 2 November 1830, William Flatcher, his wife, and the mortgages, sold Deptmore Home Ground (19 acres), and part of Flaxley divided from the rest of the field either by pales or by a grip or trench. Flatcher was keeping for himself about 3/4 acres of Flaxley, on which several copyhold cottages stood; he intended to convert two of them into a pub, the Fox and Goose.

When the new register of electors was compiled in 1832-3 (the first under the Reform Act of 1832), Henry Skelton of Charlton Kings surgeon claimed a vote in respect of the copyhold estate called Debtmore farm, for which he had paid £1900.

Skelton had bought Detmore as an investment, and about 1839-40 he found the ideal tenant in John Dobell, whose wife Julietta was anxious to move out to "fresh beautiful Charlton" for the sake of her son Sydney who was convalescing after an illness. So "the summer of 1840 was passed by the family at Charlton, at a small house, prettily situated in fields, and commanding fine views of hill and wood, which afterwards enlarged and improved became the family home." (16)

At first the Dobells only rented the house, not the land, and in 1842 James Rogers the farmer was able to claim a vote as occupier of the land, while Skelton as owner claimed for the whole property. But soon John Dobell decided to settle there and took a lease of the land as well. Not long after, he added the southeast front with the large bay window, which can be seen, as it was c.1880, in our cover picture. The exact date of the addition is not known, but a letter of Sydney Dobell's in 1852 tells us that already the family sitting-room had its outlook towards Coxhorne and Red Wood. So it would seem that the two large rooms beyond the old front door and staircase may date from c.1850. That would explain Sydney Dobell's extreme anxiety in 1852 when there was a scheme for a railway up the Chelt valley - he wrote to his father "You say nothing further of the prospects of the railroad or of the projected line of it. It will be terrible indeed if it comes through Detmore field" (6). For if the Dobells had added to the house, they were already committed.

Dinah Mullock (Mrs Craik) stayed at Detmore before she wrote "John Halifax" published in 1857. In that book she speaks of the house in its early days (under the name of "Longfield"). "It was but a small place when we first came there. It led out of the high-road by a field gate - the White Gate; from which a narrow path wound down to a stream, thence up a green slope to the house; a mere farm-house, nothing more. It had one parlour, three decent bedrooms, kitchen, and out-houses; we built extempore chambers out of the barn and cheese-room --- for the first year, the farm-house kitchen was made our dining-room." That reads like an accurate description of Detmore when the Dobells came there in 1840; and implies subsequent change.

Yet in 1850 and for many years after, John Dobell was only a tenant. Henry Skelton died on 28 December 1844 and left his widow Rachel a life interest. So the 1858 Rate book gives Rachel Skelton as owner, John Dobell as occupier, of the house and just under 20 acres of land, gross estimated rental £39.12.0. He also rented 7 1/4 acres adjoining Whithorne from C.W. Lovesay (rate book no 143), and land called Court Ground, 4½ acres near the Hearne, from Sir William Russell (rate book no 205). On Rachel Skelton's death, the property was divided into 6th shares which were bought up by John Dobell's son-in-law Briton Riviere in 1878 and 1884. (8).

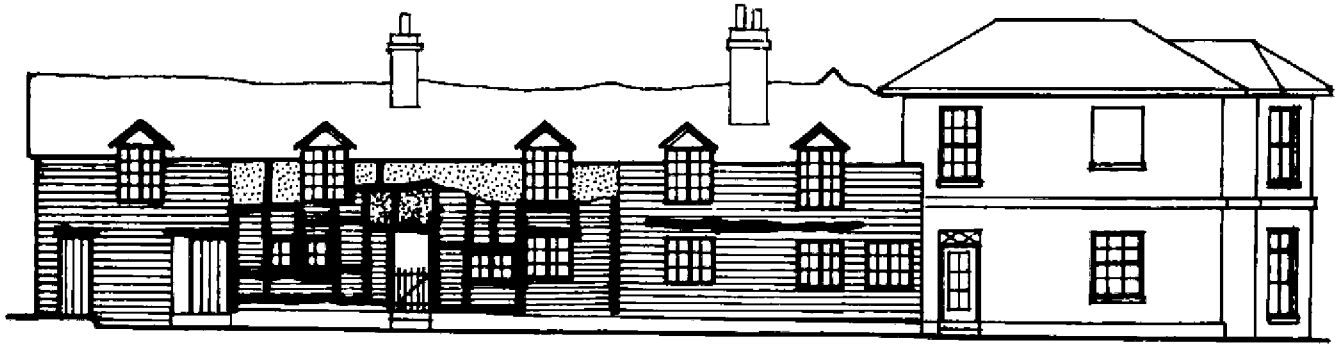
Briton Riviere the artist, educated at Cheltenham, had married Alice Mary Dobell; and there were many of his pictures in the house in 1914, when Daisy went to work there. All the pictures were large and impressive, and all the furniture was very large. The drawing-room floor was covered by a dark maroon drugget, very difficult to keep clean, and all cleaning had to be done with dustpan and brush or the long handled carpet brush which raised so much dust. The staircase led up to a long gallery from which the bedrooms opened. When asked to turn out a bedroom, Daisy moved as much of the furniture as she could shift on to this landing, and then went at the cleaning with tremendous energy - she gathered that Miss Dobell wasn't accustomed to so much zeal!

Another former Detmore helper remembers the dovecot and cart shed in front of the kitchen window; and all descriptions of Detmore mention the white pigeons they kept there.

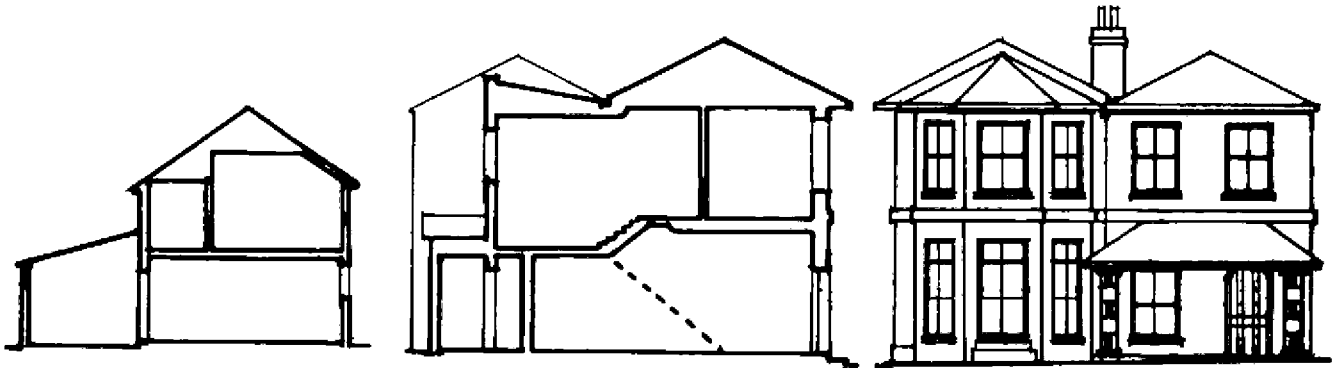
In her poem "Longfield", Eva Dobell wrote:-

Do you know "Longfield"? She who wrote the book,
"John Halifax", has drawn it as his home:
"The long, low, creeper-covered house" she writes.
That's very true! Great purple clematis,
And white montana scramble to the roof,
And those old-fashioned roses, pink as shells,
Spilling their fragrance from wide-petalled hearts,
(You never see them now) - and honeysuckle
Framing the lattice-windows, where the sun
Floods the small white-walled bedrooms, wavy-floored,
And sweet with woodruff and dried lavender,
A gravel terrace runs along the front,
Where the white fan-tail pigeons bow and croon;
And there's a little spring that gushes out
Into a moss-rimmed basin, and flows on
Across the sloping lawn (where children sail
Their pigeon-feather boats in headlong race).
And the old walnut-tree, whose wrinkled trunk
Leans slantwise, while its canopy of leaves
Casts lacey, sun-flecked shadows on the turf.
The lower lawn is set with flowering shrubs,
Clumps of syringa, and of guelder-rose
(Snowballs turned blossoms) that the country folk
Call "Whitsun-bosses". By the wicket-gate
There's a moss-rose, each bud a hidden pearl
In a green casket. Past the garden-fence
The meadow slopes down to the murm'rous stream ---

Her words picture for us a much-beloved home, as it used to be.



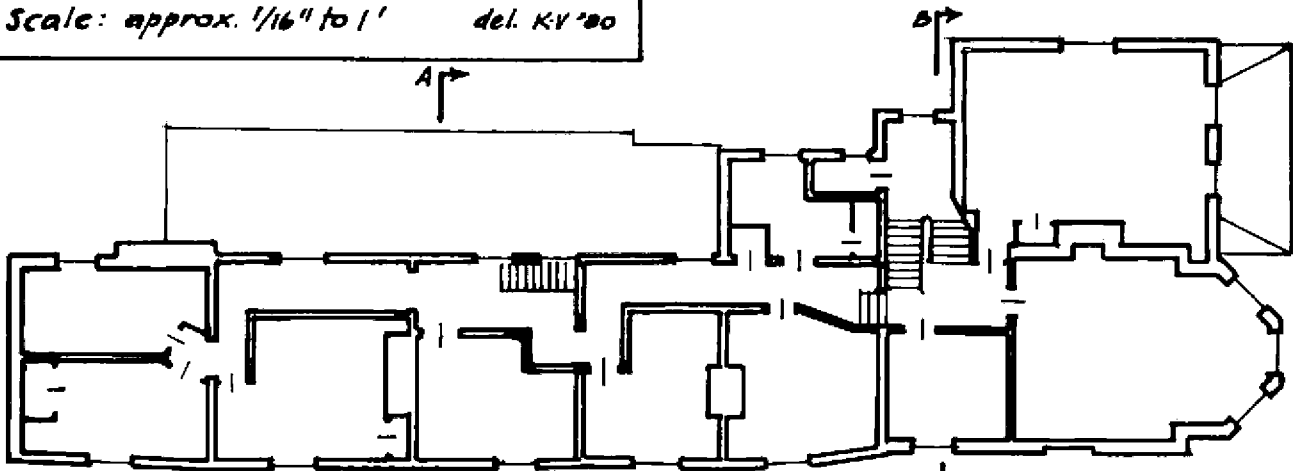
WEST ELEVATION



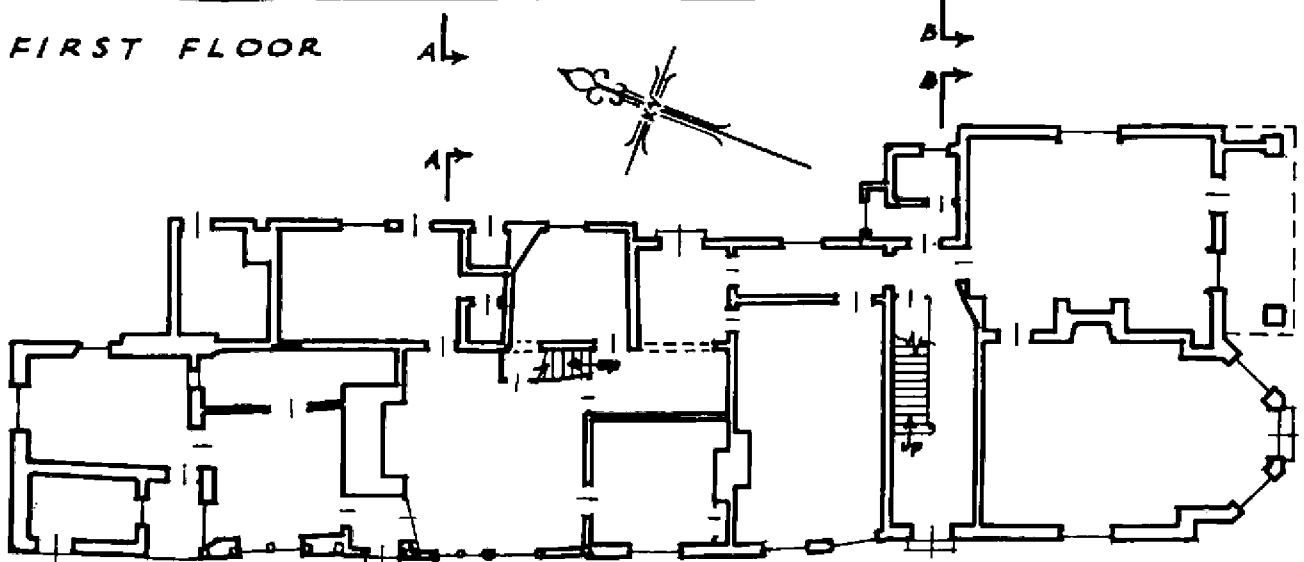
SECTIONS: A-A & B-B

SOUTH ELEVATION

DETMORE in 1959.
 Scale: approx. 1/16" to 1' del. KV '80



FIRST FLOOR



GROUND FLOOR

1. GRO, Cheltenham court books D 855 M 68 f.1
2. Wills proved at Gloucester, GRO 1545/326. See Bulletin 4 pp 12-13
3. D855 M68 ff.21v.22v
4. GRO, Ashley manor original surrenders D109/no 123
5. Ibid. original surrender C 126; court book 1742-1812
6. Life and Letters of Sydney Dobell ed. E.J. (1878)
7. Lent by Mr Kilby for the Society to transcribe, and frequently cited throughout this Bulletin
8. Ashley manor deed book, 3, GRO D 109/nos 46, 64
9. Verses New and Old (1959).

M. Paget

ii. THE DOBELL FAMILY

The family, which had lived at Cranbrook in Kent, after moving from Streat in Sussex, where the name appeared on tombs dating back to 1636, began its connection with Cheltenham and Charlton Kings when John Dobell married Julietta, the daughter of Mr. S. Thompson of London, who helped him to set up business as a wine merchant in Cheltenham. There in 1836 he founded the company of John Dobell and Co, which was granted the Royal Warrant and with additions and expansions was to last for over 120 years. John had already gained experience of the wine trade in London and the business prospered under his enterprising direction as Cheltenham grew in size and eminence, though he appears to have remained somewhat aloof from local affairs, choosing to move out of the town to Detmore, Charlton Kings.

His large family of four sons and five daughters was brought up with a deep interest in religion, literature, and the arts, while his son Dr. Horace Dobell, who specialised in the treatment of tuberculosis, was carrying on the tradition of his great-grandfather's brother Isaac, who in the 1770s had been practising the treatment of smallpox and pioneering the use of inoculation against the disease some twenty years before Jenner developed vaccination.

The most famous son, Sydney, the poet, went to live in 1850 (after his marriage) at Coxhorne, Charlton Kings. He had been regarded in his time as a candidate for the position of Poet Laureate, but he was unfortunate in that respect in having Lord Tennyson as a contemporary. Sydney's poetry includes many gems but he wrote in an age when great length in a poem was not seen as any disadvantage. The epic poem was highly acceptable reading matter in the days before wireless and television provided entertainment in the home and many of his best lines seem by modern standards to be swamped by the volume of his work. Sadly he had no children and after a life marred by his own and his wife's ill health, he died at the age of 50.

John's daughter Alice married the Royal Academician painter Briton Riviere, whose noble and often melancholy paintings of dramatic scenes, frequently featuring animals in the Landseer style, seemed in a way to complement Sydney's poetic mood.

John's son Clarence, born in 1836, lived at The Grove, Charlton Kings, and with his brother Cyrus continued the family wine business. Clarence was a highly cultured man who sketched rapidly in oils as a modern photographer

would use his camera to record scenes of his visits. Much absorbed in history, he wrote a short history of Charlton Kings which may be seen in Cheltenham library.

Clarence's son, Brian, became a doctor and Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, but sadly, had no children, nor did his other son, Walter, who died in his thirties. The poetic strand in the family weave was again evident in his daughter Eva, who wrote much charming poetry in a much more outgoing and cheerful vein than Sydney's, though here and there it was tinged by the sadness of the loss of her brother and the tragedies of the 1914-18 war in which she worked as a nurse for war casualties at Moorend Park, which was used as a war-time hospital. She had an enormous love of nature, children, and a sympathy for exploited animals which is expressed most sensitively in her poems. She wrote and sent parcels to many English soldier P.O.W.S., helped many aspiring young poets, and was characterised by a steely determination and great sweetness of nature, which must be a good combination. After moving to Cooper's Hill, where she lived for many years, she died, a spinster, in her late eighties in 1963.

It was the remaining one of John's sons, Cyrus Faulkner, who, married to Mary Elizabeth Duffield, carried on the family line as well as the family business. After a time at Coxhorne, he moved in c.1880 to Whittington Court, of which he took a long lease from the Lawrence family who still own the property. There, in the country, he brought up a vigorous family of four sons and two daughters who loved their surroundings and country pursuits but retained the many cultural interests which their family background fostered. His delightful pen and ink caricature of his children turned totally bucolic under the influence of country life was a good-natured libel, though the love of Whittington remained with them for life and firm friendships were made in the village and surrounding Cotswolds.

As the family grew up, some left. Maud married Sir John Sykes K.C.B., but died young, leaving no children. Daisy, photographed, strikingly elegant, with a Russian Borzoi hound at her side, married Mr Rene Courtauld and had a son. Guy married and had three daughters and a son who married a Canadian girl and went to live in Canada. Lionel married and emigrated to Rhodesia where he had a son and a daughter and his two grand-daughters and grandson David all live in South Africa.

Cyrus' son Hubert, born in 1882, had an excellent scholastic career and in 1906 began working with Marconi in his early experiments in long-distance wireless telegraphy at Poldhu in Cornwall. He had great inventive skill and was a radar expert in the 1939-45 war. He married his childhood friend, Clive Mary Salter, daughter of a Cheltenham College housemaster, and they had a son David of unusually combined talents; Oxford College exhibition, A.A.A. junior championship athletics medalist, boxer, Oxford trial Eights rower in his first term, actor in the O.U.D.S., then in Liverpool rep. The war interrupted his career and ended his life. He was a Combined Ops. instructor, injured when his parachute failed to open properly, and then, after a miraculous recovery, he was killed in action in Germany on 16 February 1945.

Cyrus' other son, Ralph, stayed with his father at Whittington and helped with the running of the Cheltenham wine business. He loved the Cotswolds and its people, was an excellent shot and horseman, enjoying the reputation of being the best man over stone walls in the Cotswold Hunt. He used to

ride daily from Whittington over the hill towards Cleeve Hill and down to his office in Cheltenham.

Shortly before 1910, Charles Swynnerton, ex Indian army padre and antiquary, was acting as temporary relief for the vicar at Whittington and had staying with him at the Vicarage his daughter Maud. Duty required that both the Vicar's attractive daughter and, independently the squire's son, should attend the village concert in the tiny village hall. Chance had them sitting next to each other and very soon afterwards, thirty years of bachelorhood for Ralph Dobell came to an end. Business demands on time and energies, the need to find somewhere to live now that the family had dispersed, and the fact that the 30 years lease on Whittington Court was coming to an end, caused Ralph with his elderly father and new wife to move into the vale nearer to Cheltenham, to the Brooklands, Gloucester Road, near Arle Court. There, with fruit orchards and fields, a few Jerseys and Guernsey cows, chickens, and a flourishing kitchen garden, all tended by indefatigable Jack Pitts, the Whittington ex-stable boy, groom, coachman, gardener, philosopher, and friend of the family over fifty years, they had three boys. Meanwhile Cyrus, who had insisted on being photographed on horseback on his eightieth birthday, finally died in 1922.

Ralph's eldest son b. 1911, also christened Ralph, died, tragically young, after a most promising start at Uppingham, in 1926 of osteomyelitis - a disease which would now be quickly curable. The other two sons Patrick b 1922, who lived at Cleeve Hill and had three fine daughters (all of whom have married and have children) and Charles (Bill) b.1915 who now continues the Dobell connection with Charlton Kings by living on Battledown, continued the family business after the war, enlarged by amalgamation with Bartholomews, until 1958 when it was taken over by the wine subsidiary of a large brewery firm. Ralph, their father, died in 1951. The old family home, the Brooklands, is no more, having made room for a road and the orchards and fields are lost under bricks and mortar.

The artistic and literary aptitudes of their forefathers survive to some extent, I am happy to think, in my own son and daughter. In my son Stephen's case (after a good scholastic and sports career at Charterhouse and Oxford) as an editor in the literary field of publishing, and in my daughter Angela's case, in her work in architecture, having been engaged in the design of the interiors of Maidenhead Public Library; Keble College, Oxford, new building; Trinity College, Dublin, new library etc; work now interrupted by her other constructive commitments as a wife and the mother of a son and daughter. Both Stephen (also married) and Angela live near Richmond, Surrey.

C.W. Dobell

DOBELL FAMILY TREE

Ralph Double or Dobel (alternative spellings) of Cranbrook
 b. 1667(?) m. Sarah Sleman

David m. Elizabeth Vine

Elizabeth m.Pethurst	Joseph m. Gardner	Samuel	William	Amos	Jacob m Ann Dodson d.1782	Daniel	Benjamin m. M.A. Benge 1732- 1813	Isaac Smallpox doctor at Golford 1771
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Mary	William	Jacob	Anne m.Bourne	Joseph b. 1761 at Headcorn, to Steplehurst 1764; when only 11 went to help his uncle Isaac; m. Elizabeth Benge; d.1839
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Eliza Isaac John
 of Cranbrook, later of Cheltenham and Detmore, wine merchant, m. Julietta Thompson, daughter of Samuel Thompson, leader of political reform in City of London, founder of "the Church of God" or Freethinking Christians.

Sydney 1824-1874 poet, m. Emily Fordham no issue	Horace MD specialising in study of tuberculosis, popularised Bournemouth as health resort; m. Elizabeth Fordham, poet	Clarence b. 1836 artist wrote history of CK, lived at The Grove, m. Emily Duffield	Isabella	Clara m. A. Mott issue	Ellen m.W. Jolly	Mary Alice m. Briton Riviere RA 1867 issue	Nora Selina m. Edmund Sydney Williams 1868
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Mary m. Esdaile	Violet m. Dr Tidy	Horatia m. G Broke Freeman	Brian FRCS. m. Mina Rutherford no issue	Walter d.1903 m.Ethel Mary Lloyd no issue	Eva 1876- 1963 d.sp.	Edmund e.s.	Sydney John A issue
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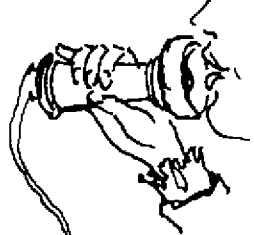
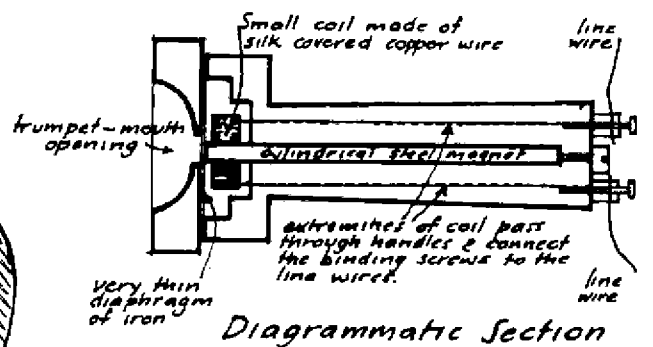
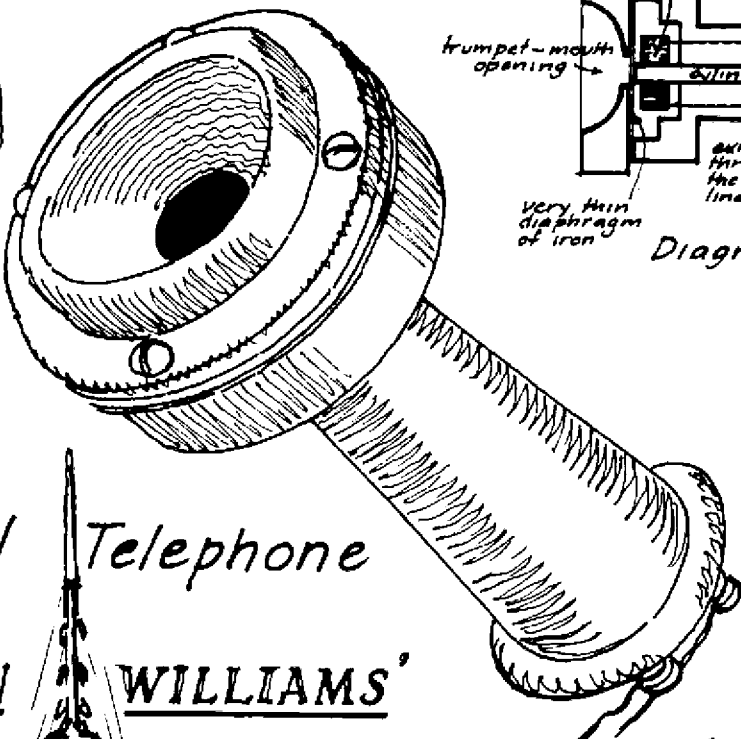
Cyrus Faulkner

of Coxhorne, then of Whittington wine merchant, m. Mary Elizabeth Duffield

Maud m.Sir Jn Sykes KCB no issue	Guy m. Marion Jebb	Ralph 1871-1951 wine merchant	Daisy m. Rene Courtauld	Lionel emigrated to Rhodesia d. 1959 m. Enid Fearon	Hubert 1882-1969 with Marconi at Poldhu 1906 Radar expert 1939- 45, m. Clive Mary Salter.
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Enid m.Eric Smith	Joan m.Frank Green- Price	Jack	Zoe d.sp	Ralph 1911- 1926	Charles b.1915 m.Stella Corbett	Patrick b.1922 m.Jean Hilltout	Barbara m.Leslie Yeoman	Gordon m. Mar- jorie	David b.1920 killed in action
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Angela b.1948 m.Patrick Kidner	Stephen b.1951 m.Anne Champagne	Prudence m.Richard Churchley	Penelope m. Christoper Wiseman	Patricia m. Richard Newborough	Gay Heather David m. R. Hood
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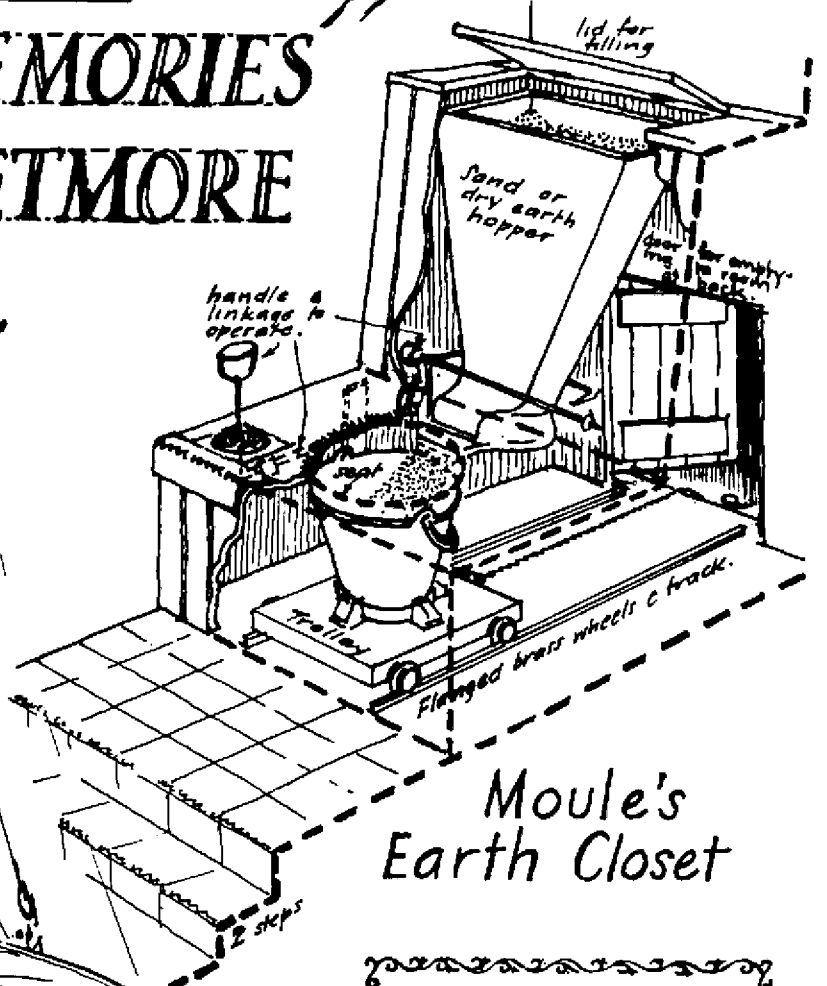
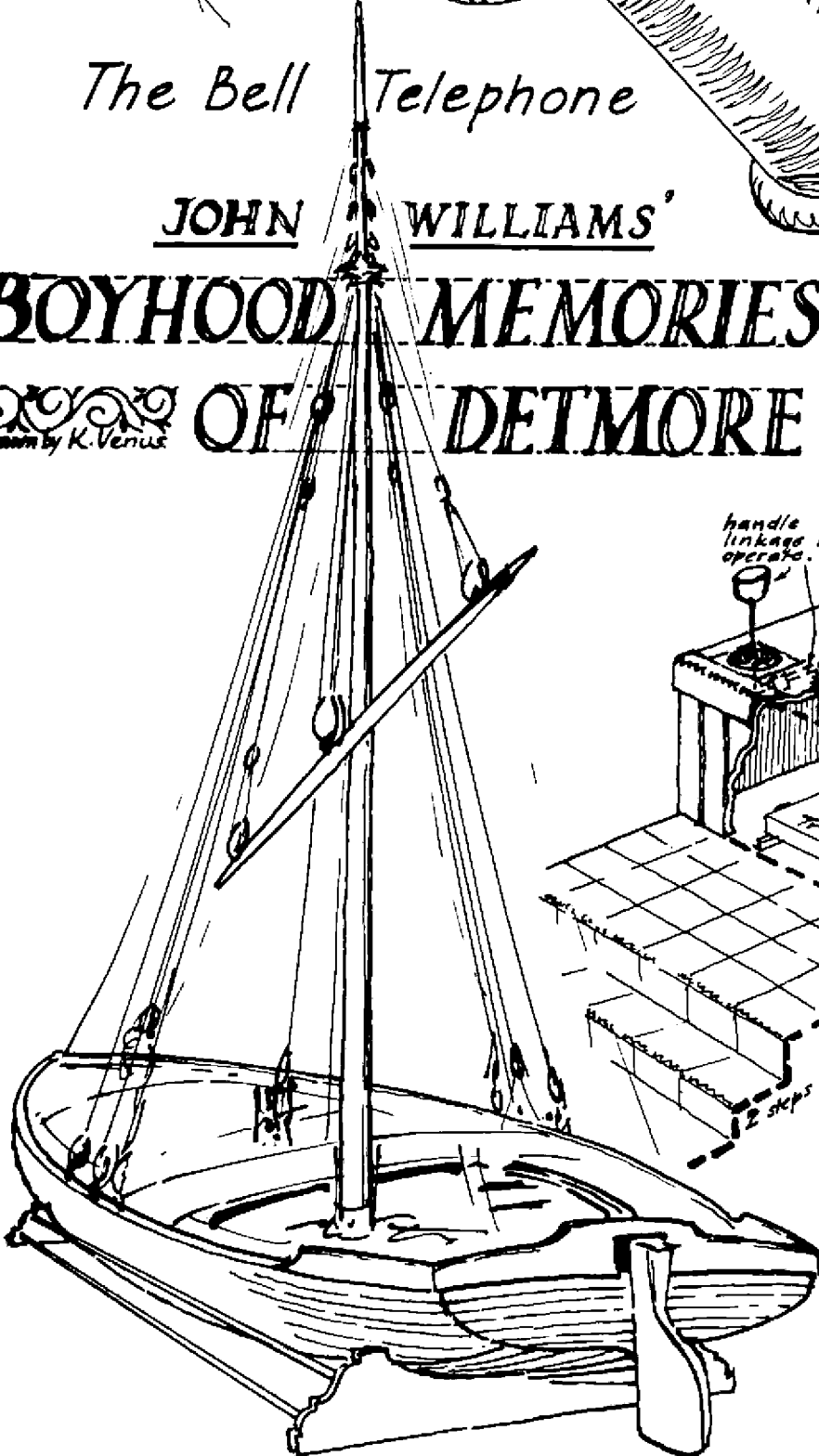
The Bell Telephone

JOHN WILLIAMS'

BOYHOOD MEMORIES

OF DETMORE

drawn by K. Venus



Moule's Earth Closet

John Williams is the grandson of Nora Dobell.

The Model of a Severn Trow

(iii) BOYHOOD MEMORIES OF DETMORE

My memories of Detmore go back before the First World War, when we lived at Chipping Campden and used to visit the Motts at Detmore on a day long trip via Cheltenham St James and the tram to Six Ways. Visits continued during the War when we lived in Cheltenham, and in the early twenties after we had moved to Charlton Kings.

A Model Severn Trow

One of the things I was given to play with was a most beautiful model of a Severn trow. At a guess it was 3 feet long and very broad in beam, say 15-18 inches wide, with a very small keel; the bottom of the boat was almost flat like a barge and about 8 inches deep. So it looked like a flat bottomed sailing barge (see drawing). I seem to remember there was a higher structure at the stern, a wheel-house but this is a bit hazy - I may be confusing it with a Thames Barge which I have seen so many times in later life.

Like everything given to me to play with, it was in a derelict state. It was covered with dust and had been dropped so that one side was smashed open and I could see how beautifully made and curved each model plank was, pinned to the frames, one of which was also smashed. I wanted to sail it in the Chelt and got from my father an idea of making a ball of clay and hay to fill the hole - but this didn't work, the hole was too big.

I set about finding the other missing bits while I considered how to solve this problem. The main mast I found had been given as a stick to throw for a dog, the top of the mast was well chewed, and the little brass fittings that remained were brightened by the dog's teeth where he had gnawed them! It fitted into a slot in the hull, so it was obviously the missing main mast.

Bits of the large single sail were still there but broke up if you handled them, they were so rotten. The rigging was more or less intact, with its beautiful little model blocks. A mystery was that if you tried to pull out the rigging from the tangle, the only shape it would make was a triangle, and I thought the tangle was too bad. But with the work Mr Venus has done to make a proper drawing of a Severn trow, he has produced photographs that show the proper rigging was indeed triangular. I found the remains of a cradle this model once stood on, so it must have been a magnificent model when complete, the sort that would nowadays be regarded as of great value, occupying an honoured place in South Kensington or Greenwich museums. I asked whose it was and was told "it was thought to be Grandfather's". It prompts the query, why John Dobell was interested in trows - did he at one time consider taking the constituents of his business up river? I know John Dobell had an office at Upton-on-Severn - did he think of going up to Worcester and Stourport? Did he think of going down to Bristol to collect his wine and bring it up to Gloucester where he had an office?

Mr George Ryland, when I told him about the model trow, said that masters of trows used to navigate from mud bank to mud bank in the estuary with the high tide and sit on the mud bank at low tide, floating off again at the next high tide!

In spite of its appearance, the remains of this beautiful model inspired

me to make one of my own. My chief difficulty was where to get thin enough wood to reproduce the clinker type planking. I found this eventually in some of the discarded fruit boxes at Attwood's stores (where the Chinese take-away is now). How I did this and eventually built my model trow and sailed it in a small lake, made by damming the Chelt at the bottom of the field of The Grove or Grove House, is another story!

An Early Bell Telephone

Another plaything was the remains of a piece of electrical apparatus. It had a coil of wire covered with brilliant green silk, wound on a beautiful little turned boxwood bobbin, a permanent bar magnet with diaphragm and a pair of brass terminals (binding posts) all in a wooden body. But like other things at Detmore, it had seen better days! The bar magnet, to fit tightly into the hole bored through the body, had been wound round with paper, a method of adjusting the gap between magnet and diaphragm. This had absorbed water and rusted the magnet. The rust occupied more volume than the original bar magnet and so had split the body. The trumpet part where the diaphragm was secured was thus broken loose, starting to rot, and the screws were missing. I believe it had rested for many years on a shelf in one of the sheds. Eventually I was allowed to take it home and my joy knew no bounds.

I asked what it had been and was told that it was a "telephone installed in Father's day". One had been in the dining-room (the room with the semi-octagonal front on the ground floor, as shown on the Detmore plan of 1959), the other, connected to it by a pair of wires, in the kitchen. Apparently the modus operandi was to give a ring on the conventional wire-operated bell "to call attention!" then whatever was to be said was spoken into the instrument in the dining-room and the servant who received the message in the kitchen placed her ear to the other instrument there.

The electrical principle is that the sound waves spoken into the trumpet-shaped opening vibrate the iron diaphragm and alter the flux of the bar magnet, thus generating fluctuating electrical currents or pulses in the coil. These go via the wires to the coil in the other instrument and so vary the pull of the magnet on the diaphragm, so the spoken word in the dining-room was reproduced in the kitchen. But a little consideration shows that the instrument in the kitchen could also become a transmitter of speech and that in the dining-room a receiver, so if some indication was given in the dining-room that they had finished talking, the kitchen could reply, and there could be a two-way conversation.

After I became interested in Industrial Archaeology, I knew that this was an early telephone, but I could not identify it. But Collecting Mechanical Antiques by Ronald Pearsall (1973) shows just such a telephone at the heading of his chapter on "The Telephone", and it is stated to be an "Advertisement for the Bell telephone of 1877" (Mr Venus has skilfully copied it for this section). It was the invention of Dr. Alexander Bell in 1876, but it did not catch on in America or in Germany. The British were sharper. In 1877 W.H. Preece brought the Bell Telephone to the Plymouth meeting of The British Association for the Advancement of Science. It was not received with universal warmth. The "Saturday Review" said it was little better than a toy "It amazes for a moment but it is inferior to the well-established system of air tubes" (speaking tubes). However, the Earl of Caithness was impressed, the telephone was the most extraordinary thing he had seen in his life. So too Queen Victoria, who was confronted

with the telephone in 1878; she was impressed, said so, and had one installed at Osborne. With this seal of approval, it could not fail, and in 1879 the first telephone exchange was opened in London catering for 8 subscribers, although 150 could be accommodated. By 1885 there were 3800 subscribers in London and 10,000 elsewhere, mainly in Birmingham and the North, none as yet in Cheltenham.

Telephone subscribers here were first listed in the London Road sometime between 1900 and 1910. This was the beginning of regular telephones in Charlton Kings. But the telephone at Detmore was well before this, a small isolated system confined to the house. The pieces that remain show it to be of very early electrical construction, for instance the terminals (binding posts) are of the form that can be seen in early treatises on electrical technology (eg Electricity in the Service of Man (1880), a copy of which I have). By 1900-1910 terminals were nickel-plated. The Detmore terminals are plain brass.

In view of their scientific interests, I would hazard a guess that Alfred (and John if he could travel the year before his death) went to Plymouth and saw this wonder, and determined to have it at Detmore.

I still have the coil of silk-insulated wire on its beautifully turned boxwood bobbin, as well as the brass terminals (binding posts). I've lost the rusty bar magnet a long time ago. I impregnated the bobbin with shellac insulating varnish (so it does not look original) so that I could use it with confidence as a loading coil for an early wireless set I made when a boy at College. The only broadcast that gave strong signals in Charlton Kings in the 20s was 5XX Daventry, when the BBC was not transmitting. To check that your somewhat erratic receiving set was OK, you listened to some other source of strong signals - morse, a musical note, from Leaffield on a very long wavelength. For this I needed a loading coil, and found that the coil from the Bell telephone at Detmore was just right! (Leaffield tall masts are still there and can be seen over in the distance to the left after leaving Burford and approaching Witney on the A40).

The Revd. Moule's Patent Closet - and Others

I will try to avoid this section reading like an extract from that estimable work At Your Convenience! but I want to describe the improvement in sanitation that had taken place at Detmore.

One of its most fascinating features was (of all places) the lavatory. I call it this, though the little room that housed the device contained no means of washing one's hands and could hardly be called a toilet.

When one opened the door, one was faced with the closet, completely filling the end of the little room, and to sit down on it, had to ascend two steps, as on to a throne! This device was quite unlike the water-closets I had seen elsewhere. Much later in life, I identified it as being to the design originated by the Revd. H. Moule (of whom more later) called Moule's Earth Closet - see diagram.

The wooden seat with large hole reached from wall to wall. On the left hand side of the seat was a bronze pull with turned wooden handle, and this in its down position lay in a bronze cup, so that it was flush with the surface of the seat.

At the far end of the seat was a polished wooden cabinet with a lid. And of course I raised the lid, being a curious little boy. Inside was a metal hopper containing dry sand, so dry it ran through my fingers. I then raised the seat and saw, beside the linkage from the pull handle to a valve at the base of the sand hopper, a bucket for matter, standing on, wonder of wonders, a little railway. Because of its interest to me, even now I remember vividly that little trolley with its bronze flanged wheels, and the bucket standing on it. The rails disappeared into a tunnel, the intervening wall, at the far end of which was a wooden door. This was undoubtedly for emptying the bucket, by withdrawing trolley plus bucket, lifting the bucket off, emptying it into a suitable pit outside the house, cleaning it, and reversing the operation for further use.

Anything so attractive as this simply invited use! After use, as I had been told by the Motts, one had to close the lid on the seat and pull the handle into its up position (as shown on the diagram). The linkage operated a slide valve at the bottom of the hopper which allowed sand to come out and be distributed over the matter in the bucket. There was a curved spout to give it a certain trajectory. In fact, I found this out for myself, as once I pulled the handle up when I was sitting on the seat, and so got my bottom well and truly sand-blasted!

The New Scientist in August last year did an article "A fertile Imagination" on the Revd Henry Moule (1801-80) who became parish priest of Fordington, Dorchester, in 1829. Fordington was a desolate area of appalling sanitation, poverty, and attendant vice. It was only after the cholera outbreaks of 1848 and 1854, when Moule laboured mightily for his parishioners, that they became in any way devoted to him. Hardy was a friend of Moule and so was William Barnes (poet, vicar, scientist) - the New Scientist speaks of "the formidable intellectual trio in Dorchester (Moule, Hardy, and Barnes) - what is known as an intellectual power-house".

Moule patented his closet (BP No 1316 1860) for use with dry earth, and claimed that his dry earth system was a real alternative to the water system of sewage disposal, certainly for small towns, villages, and public institutions, because the water system involved expensive civil works (unless the water system was carefully done, there was a tremendous risk of leakage and contamination of water supply, then the danger of cholera and typhoid). The additional claim that the resultant manure was good for agriculture was, and still is in developing countries, debated.

There are minor technical improvements in the Detmore version of the Moule closet which render it superior (i) the use of sand instead of earth, dry sand flows better than dry earth (ii) elimination of removal of bucket through the seat, no railway is envisaged in Moule's patent. I date the introduction of Moule's closet to Detmore as between 1870 and 1880.

Now let me describe the sanitation the Moule closet replaced.

On the west side of the house, running the whole length of it and connected to the drive, was a broad path. Beyond it, towards the Chelt, was the garden with borders neatly edged with blue brick, ornamental tiles, and small clipped box hedges. At the back of the garden was the rockery made of fossil-bearing limestone and ammonities fished from the bed of the Chelt. (1)

Opposite the kitchen door was a path with tall thick box trees which met overhead making the path look like a dark tunnel. Making it even darker, the path inside turned away to the right, and anyone walking down this tunnel

would soon be lost to sight. You can imagine the effect of this mysterious tunnel which made its presence felt as I played in the garden; and the fact that I was forbidden to go down it made it doubly attractive. So one day when nobody was about, I quickly entered the tunnel and was soon lost to sight round the corner.

I had noticed from the outside that the tunnel ended in a thicket of box, and now I was actually inside this thicket. In front of me was a very derelict small house. So pushing the door open, amongst cobwebs and wood heavily impregnated with woodworm and rot, I found a closet, and what was, in the words the "The Specialist" a "Family Two-Holer", ie a large hole for adults and a small hole for children. Of course I looked inside the holes to see if there were some more railways - but there were none! What I did see was running water, a stream running underneath. And then, since there was nothing further to discover, I beat a hasty retreat and found my absence had not been detected.

From the base of the box thicket issued a small stream which ran down across the fields and joined the Chelt just up-stream of the bridge that carried the footpath. I was strictly forbidden to play in the stream, or anywhere in that part of the field. Now I dimly realised the reason for the strict injunction to keep clear of the exit (one might say effluent) stream! But how did it enter this "water" closet? Then I remembered there was a stream that ran underneath the floor of the kitchen at Detmore - I remembered once seeing one of the huge slabs of slate moved to expose the stream underneath. It ran in a channel of dressed stone so that the joints were very thin and no mortar was used. It flowed in the direction of the Chelt. I also remembered that in the drive-like path, where the stream should have issued from the kitchen, were slabs of stone crossing the path. They were pointing in the direction of the box thicket. Underneath them the stream must have flowed in a stone-lined gully, and underneath the garden flower beds.

Thinking over this episode, I must have been very young, for the box trees towered over me. They could have been 100-200 years old. I know I had designs on the few stumps remaining in the garden just before the Motts left. Boxwood is a marvellous material for making commutators of electric motors, and those trees were much bigger than the box at 70 Copt Elm Road, planted c.1870.

Detmore's Water Supply

On the other side of the house, this same stream rose somewhere in the hills behind Detmore. Outside the kitchen on the east was a courtyard paved with large slabs of slate. The stream crossed this courtyard in a channel of stone, before disappearing underneath the kitchen. In the middle of its course across the courtyard, there was a stone-lined water hole, large enough to take a bucket, into which the stream ran directly to give a clear bucket of water. Though I believe Detmore by the 20s had got running water from the public supply, a great deal of domestic water was still being drawn from this source, and it was obvious that previously this had been the drinking water supply - and the only one.

I followed the stream back all the way into the foothills of Ham, where it issued. It was fascinating, for where it flowed through thickets and pools with decaying vegetation, the iron salts the water contained were being reduced by the methane from the decaying vegetation which then oxidized it. So there were huge crusts of brown material at the waterside. In my small

boy's mind, I had wonderful ideas of making iron from this oxide! But there was no doubt that the water was chalybeate and health-giving. Perhaps this may have been a reason for siting the house at Detmore in the first place.

J. Williams

1. Ammonites from the Chelt were well known to geologists. Richardson's Handbook to the Geology of Cheltenham (1904) p.45, under the heading "Lower Lias" remarks that "a Liparocerus from Charlton Kings was figured by Murchison as Ammonites Cheltensis"

7. EDUCATION IN CHARLTON KINGS III

PRIVATE SCHOOLS AND TUTORS c. 1800-1850

This article is based on an examination of some secondary sources of information.

Beginning with Moreau's Tour to Cheltenham Spa, first published in 1783, a succession of guides and gazetteers provide a wealth of detail about the town, its people, and the amenities of the neighbourhood. There are occasional references to Charlton Kings, including advertisements for private schools and lists of tutors or "professors" as they were then called. From 1837 onwards, most information is to be found in the Cheltenham Annuaire, but although it continued in publication yearly until 1912, its lists of schools make no reference to Charlton Kings immediately after 1849, so that the mid-point of the nineteenth century makes a convenient terminal date for a review of the sources and what they can tell us. It may be presumed that the advertisements were aimed at the middle and upper classes resident in the locality, and indicate an altogether different type of educational facility from the Charity, Mill Lane, and National Schools which were the subject of an article in Bulletin 3.

The most firmly established and scholastically oriented private school in Charlton Kings would appear to have been the Academy for Young Gentlemen at Ham House, long run by the Reverend John Tucker. This school also received attention in the article on Ham House in Bulletin 3. A fulsome advertisement in William's New Guide to Cheltenham 1824, running to some sixty five lines, informs readers that pupils were admitted at any age; fees were four guineas per term with an extra charge of five guineas for each vacation; "each gentleman to bring six towels and a spoon". It is quite clear from this and subsequent advertisements that the boarding school was intended to provide a general academic education, particularly for the sons of gentlemen in the Indian Service. It might be classed as a minor public school and appears to have lasted from 1819 until 1881.

Another school which seems to have had a well established position is also mentioned in the 1824 New Guide, and at greater length in Griffiths' earlier Cheltenham Guide 1818, and again in his Historical Description of Cheltenham 1826. This is Miss Arabella Cockburn's "Academy for Young Ladies" at Charlton Villa, (1) where "Miss Cockburn receives a limited number of young ladies --- educated by private tuition. Ornamental accomplishments by approved instructors, domestic arrangements those of a genteel family. Board and instruction 70 guineas per year if under 10, 80 guineas if over 10". This is much more expensive than the fees charged at Ham House. It is known from the Sun Fire Insurance policy number 11937/130, 975231, dated 11 January 1821, that the premises in existence in 1821 were built of "brick,

stone, and slate roofing" and the insurance was for the very considerable sum of £850. Separately insured for £150 were "musical instruments and globes" - a confirmation of Griffiths' reference to music and geography as subjects in the school curriculum. The lady's china and glass were also insured for £100. Altogether the policies indicate that Miss Arabella Cockburn must have been a person of some wealth and social standing, as no doubt were her clientele.

It seems likely that the Academy at Charlton Villa had a continuous existence from well before 1818 until at least 1849, though there is a gap in the record from 1826 until 1837. At this latter date the Cheltenham Annuaire shows that Miss King and Miss Mackintyre were the joint proprietors. The 1838 edition of the Annuaire does not appear to have survived, but the two ladies are mentioned again in the volume for 1839, and then Miss King alone until 1849. But whereas the earlier Guides were descriptive, the Cheltenham Annuaire which seems to have replaced them merely contains lists of schools and their proprietors or professors and the subjects of their expertise, in alphabetical order; and it is not clear why schools in Charlton Kings disappear from the record after 1849. Indeed, the lists of schools and tutors in Cheltenham itself become greatly diminished about this time, so it may have to do with editorial policy. Certainly the Academy for Young Gentlemen at Ham House continued in existence for many more years.

The earliest reference to private schools in Charlton Kings in the sources examined are in Griffiths' Cheltenham Guide 1818. In addition to Mrs Cockburn's Academy, we learn that a well-established school was being run by a certain Mrs. Cooper (2). "This admirably conducted Ladies' Seminary is deservedly ranked among the first Establishments of the kind in the Kingdom. The Conductress is eminent for her professional abilities, and the moral tendencies of her internal regulations. She is assisted by several teachers of approved qualifications, and the skill of the first masters, in different ornamental accomplishments. The mansion, elegant and gracious, is surrounded by an extensive pleasure ground, shrubberies, and garden. The interest of this charming spot is considerably enhanced by the beauty of the surrounding scenery".

From the same source we also find that at "Moorend House (3), in the vicinity of Charlton Park --- is a select School for Young Ladies conducted on the plan of Private Education. The number of Pupils is limited to twelve who enjoy the comforts of a genteel private family, with superior advantages of instruction. The respectable patronage which has attended this seminary ever since its establishment is a speaking proof of the excellence of its system". Also, we are told that "At Castleton House (4), Charlton Kings, a limited number of girls are received by Mrs. Wells; 45 guineas for board and education (40 guineas if under 10)."

From 1837 until 1850 (with the exception of the missing volume for 1838) the Cheltenham Annuaire can be consulted for nominal lists of schools and professors. The Reverend J. Walker had an Academy for Young Gentlemen 1837-1841. Of course it may have existed earlier and its omission from the lists after 1841 does not prove its closure. Mrs Hart took in young ladies at New Court House (5) 1837-1842, and Mrs Castle did likewise at Anastasia Cottage, London Road, (6) 1837-46. There was also an Academy for Young Ladies at Charlotteville (7), Charlton, from 1837-1848, where either successive proprietors with similar names were in charge or a curious series of typographical errors has confused the record. Ownership is attributed to Miss Gleig 1837-42, to Miss Gregg 1843-46, and to Miss

Grigg 1847-1848.

Charlton Kings was of course essentially a rural community in the first half of the nineteenth century, detached from and subsidiary to the fashionable and expanding town of Cheltenham. It is not then surprising to find that of well over sixty professors listed in the eighteen forties in the Cheltenham area, very few were based in Charlton Kings. In the spa town they offered their services, teaching a wide variety of skills and accomplishments - mathematics, modern languages, music, dancing, drawing, fencing, and so on. The Cheltenham Annuaire for 1837 shows that for a time at least James Uglow was an exception to the general rule, in that he taught piano-forte at Park Cottage, Charlton. However, by 1839 he had removed to 9 Promenada Villas and a year later to Westmorland House, Cheltenham. No doubt he was better market-oriented in the town.

From 1846 until 1850 Charlton Kings did have its own Drilling and Fencing Master, one J. Cobley. No address is given. Also in the same period, piano-forte was again offered as a subject of instruction in the village, this time by J. Bishop at Oak Cottage.

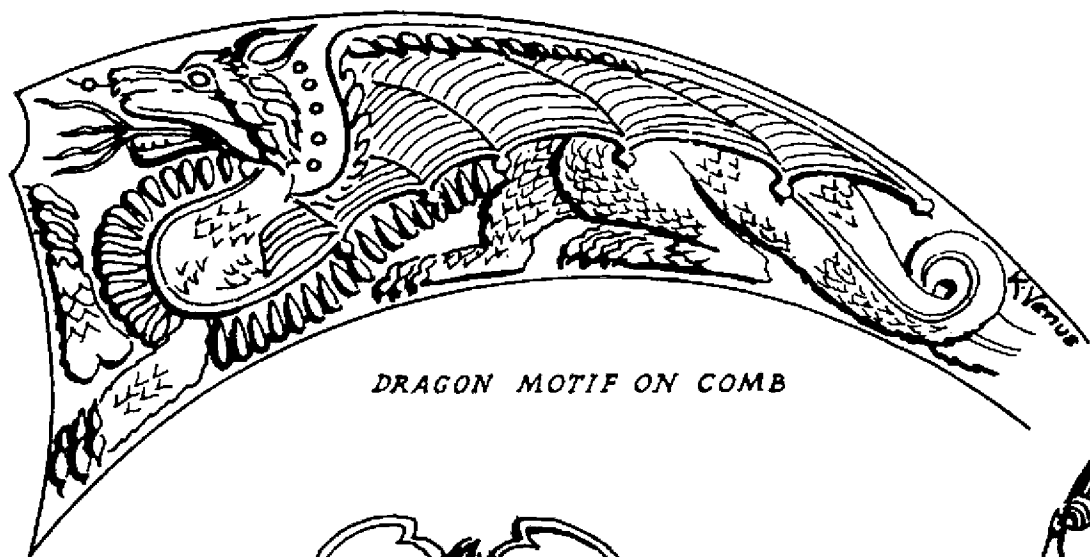
Peter Kendall

1. Now Ashley Firs, Ryeworth Road
2. Perhaps at Charlton House
3. A house, demolished at the end of the century, which stood on the corner of Moorend Road and New Court or Laundry Lane. It was later a private lunatic asylum, hence the inclosing brick wall. Part of the house survived till 1979 as the gardener's cottage for Moorend Park.
4. Now Courtfield
5. Previously the home of a branch of the Whithorne family; in 1858 the property of Sir William Russell of Charlton Park
6. Near the Beaufort Arms
7. No 2 Cudnall Street

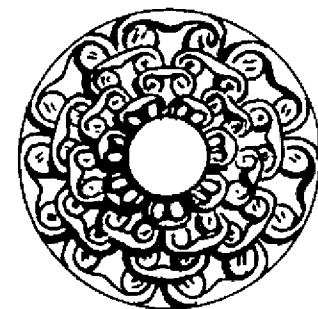
8. CHARLTON KINGS FIRE BRIGADE

Mr. Frank Neather of School Road is perhaps the last surviving member of Charlton Kings Fire Brigade which protected our village from c.1902 to 1925. His father Mr. F. Neather senior was one of the early members and Mr Frank Neather took his father's place in the Brigade during the 20s, so father and son served this community as firemen for more than 20 years.

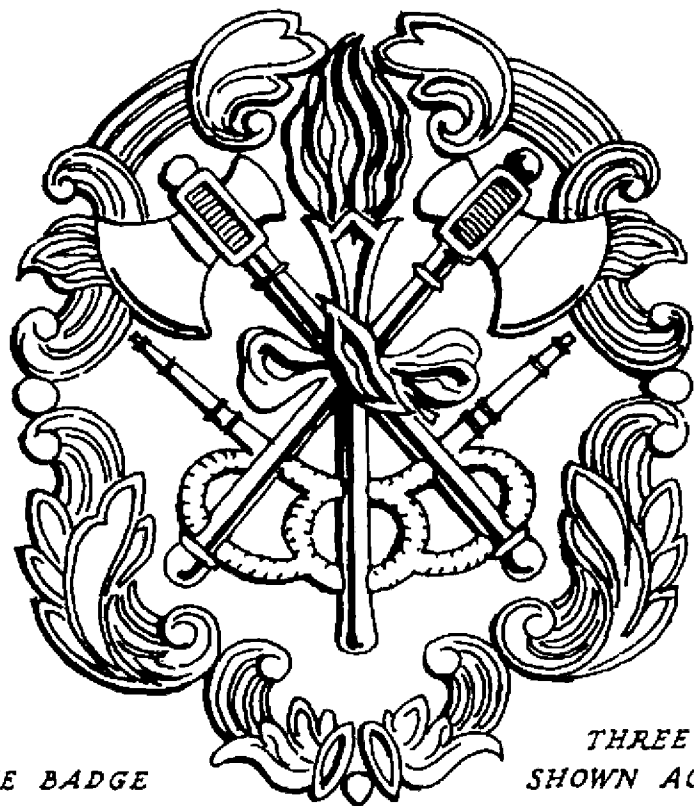
In the early days of the UDC, the Council yard was on London Road near Six Ways, a site (now occupied by the garage) between Handcock's blacksmith's shop and the triangular orchard at the corner with Cudnall Street. The UDC offices were built opposite in 1901 and at the same time a new Council Yard was established in Horsefair Street, with a house for the foreman. Soon after that, to the Council's ash collecting and street watering duties (for which the yard and the horses stabled there were primarily needed) responsibility for fire fighting was added and the Charlton Kings Brigade was started. Mr Harris was the Captain. The yard foreman could be contacted by phone and he rang the fire bell to summon the men.



DRAGON MOTIF ON COMB

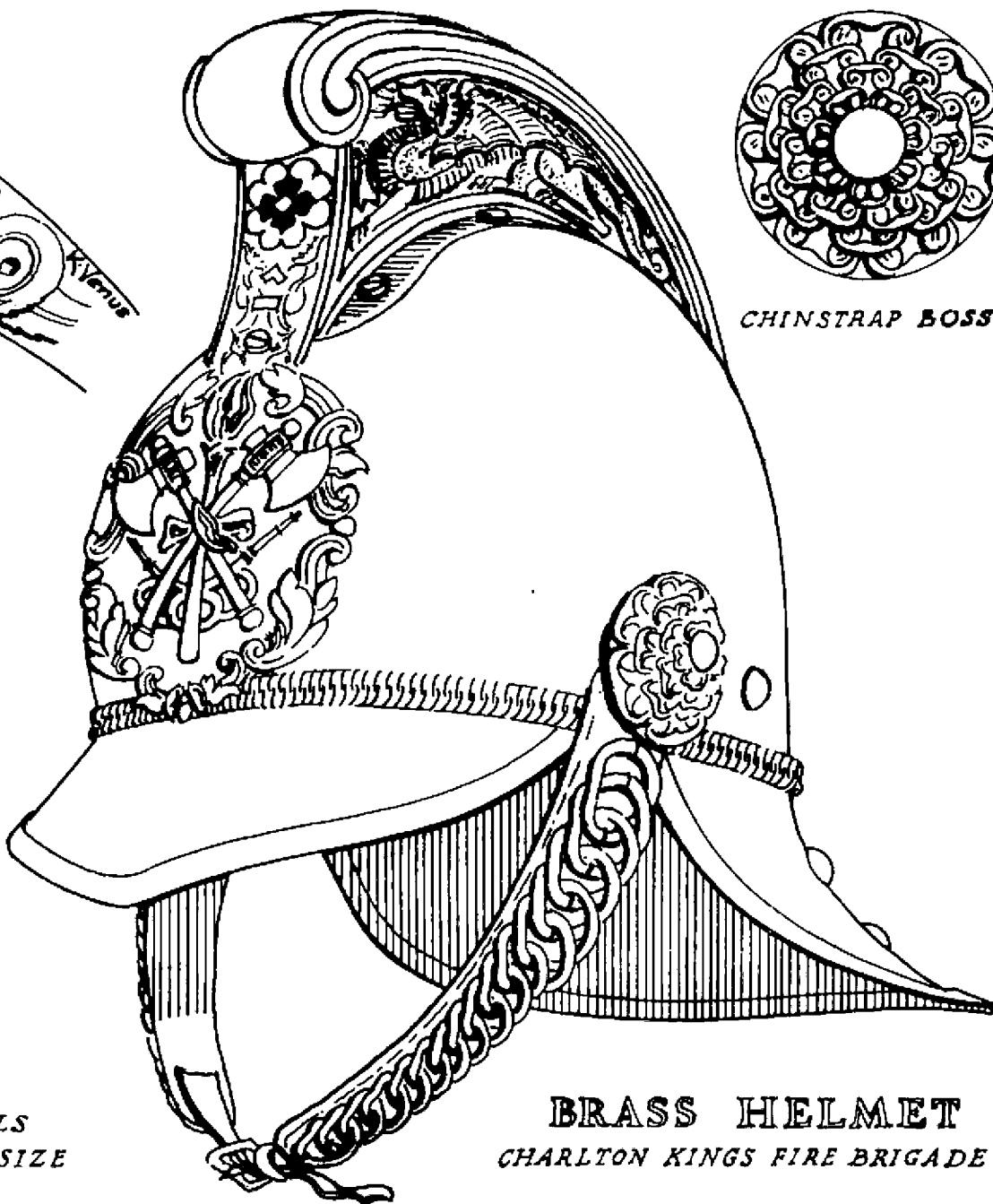


CHINSTRAP BOSS



THE BADGE

THREE DETAILS
SHOWN ACTUAL SIZE



BRASS HELMET
CHARLTON KINGS FIRE BRIGADE

In those days, men volunteered to be firemen and were paid 30s a year retainer and then extra for every fire attended. Their helmets were kept at the yard and they had a hand-truck with a manually-operated pump to which they could fit stand-pipes. They were expected to deal mainly with chimney and rick fires. For a house fire they could call up Cheltenham Brigade with its horse-drawn engine.

Mr Neather's personal recollection of fires goes back to May 1901 when a thatched cottage on the corner of Blind Lane (Croft Road) and Horsefair Street caught fire. Clothes on a line had been blown by the wind on to a bonfire and then against the thatch which was set alight. His grandmother kept a shop in the house next door, now the top house in Emily Place; and fearing that her shop would go too, she hastily began to remove her goods and furniture to the allotment opposite, where she put little Frank to sit under an apple tree and guard the pile. The thatched cottage was lost but the shop was saved, and the Chronicle published a smoke-dimmed photograph of the scene in its issue of 11 May 1901.

Mr. Palmer tells a story about Mr Lord of Lilleybrook who was a great practical joker, and betted he would get the whole fire brigade drunk. So he set some pigsties on his own property alight, called the fire brigade, and then got them all roaring. The whole lot were sacked but Mr Lord owned up, and as Charlton Kings was left without a fire brigade, and there was another fire next day, they had to reinstate them! This story seems to have grown a little in the telling, for the Neathers at any rate were strict teetotallers - Mr Neather boasts that he went through the 1914-8 War, never touched the rum issue, and never got trench feet in consequence!

In the Cirencester Road, in a yard behind the house called Laureltyne, there were sheds and outbuildings where a corn chandler from Andoversford kept straw and grain. During the 1914-18 war they got on fire and were burnt down. Mrs Midwinter, who then lived at Brunswick Villa, remembers how the corrugated roofs blew up with the heat and came down in bangs - she was convinced it was bombs! Charlton Kings Fire Brigade was there but could do little about it.

The biggest fire ever tackled by the Charlton men was in the fine 16-17th century timber/framed barn at East End Farm. A brick cottage had been built (probably about 1700) against the south end of the barn, and to light the cottage a gas pipe had been taken through the length of the barn. The place got alight during the night. Mr Neather heard the fire bell and looking out of his bedroom window in Horsefair Street could see the flames up at East End. By the time the Brigade got there, the stone tile roof had fallen in. They hadn't a chance to save the barn walls, for the gas pipe had fractured with the heat and because the fire happened at night, they couldn't get hold of the gas people to turn off the supply, no one was on duty! So they had to concentrate on saving the cottage, which they did. They tried to save the magnificent oak tree near the north end of the barn, but the great heat had damaged the roots. It died slowly in the course of the next twelve months.

Coming back up Church Street after that fire, about 7 in the morning, the firemen saw smoke coming from the thatch of a cottage behind the Merry Fellow (one of several timber-framed cottages that stood where the car park is). They found the mother in bed with a new baby, the father gone out to work, and the small children left on their own had tried what would happen if you pushed a lighted candle into the thatch! So

Charlton Kings Brigade had the honour and glory of putting out two fires on the same day.

When the Charlton Kings Brigade was disbanded, the fire bell was rehung at the entrance to the cemetery and for many years used to be tolled for funerals. The practice fell into disuse during the last war but the bell is still there and perhaps some day a new use will be found for it.



THE NEATHER FAMILY c.1918

Mr Neather senior and his three sons, Mr Frank Neather on left

M. Paget

9. POLICING CHARLTON IN THE TWENTIES -

An appreciation of Police Sergeant John Hughes by his son

John Hughes was born in 1880 and died in 1963. He came to Charlton Kings in October 1919 as Police Sergeant on the retirement of Sergt. Day. At that time the Police Station was in Copt Elm Road just below the Co-op Stores. Two P.C.s and my father comprised the total man-power to cover an area starting at Haywards Road, Harp Hill, Battledown, Aggs Hill, nearly into Whittington, Dowdeswell, Chatcombe Pitch, the whole of Charlton Hill and Leckhampton Hill, Pilley, Old Bath Road, and so back to Haywards Road. This area was regularly patrolled on foot, much to the delight of my father's cross-bred bull-terrier 'Buller' who accompanied either my father or one of the P.C.s.

In those days vandalism as known today was non-existent. The younger element of the population was kept in check with the aid of a stout ash-stick, or, should they be members of what were known as "Teddy's Angels" - otherwise the choir of St. Mary's - by the Vicar, the Revd Edgar Neale, who was out most days on his cycle.

Crime as known today was also almost unknown, but in the event of an arrest, the criminal (?) had to be taken to Cheltenham Central Police Station on the public tram. The first motor vehicle for police use was not purchased until 1928 - two years after my father's retirement.

Upon retirement, my father moved to Ryeworth House and, until ill-health intervened, devoted his time to the local Council and the well-being of the elderly residents of the area.

My father is buried in the local Cemetery close to the late Sergt. Day and another police officer of former days, ex-Inspector Woolford.

Ian V. Hughes



SERGEANT HUGHES when he came to Charlton Kings



The team 1945

10. COUNCILLOR HUGHES AND WORLD WAR II

Councillor Hughes was an active member of St. John's Ambulance Brigade and in the early years of the 1939-45 War ran a first aid class at Miss Bubb's house, East Court. After Cheltenham's blitz, Councillor Hughes developed this class into a First Aid group for Charlton Kings. No official provision had been made in case bombs dropped here and he feared that if Cheltenham and Charlton were in trouble at the same time, we should stand a poor chance of medical help. In fact, after the group was formed, Pilley bridge just outside the parish boundary was the nearest direct hit. However, the Charlton Kings Up-Graded First Aid Point was set up at Miss Berkeley's house, Charlton Lawn, in the billiard room (where the calendar was still open at August 1914).

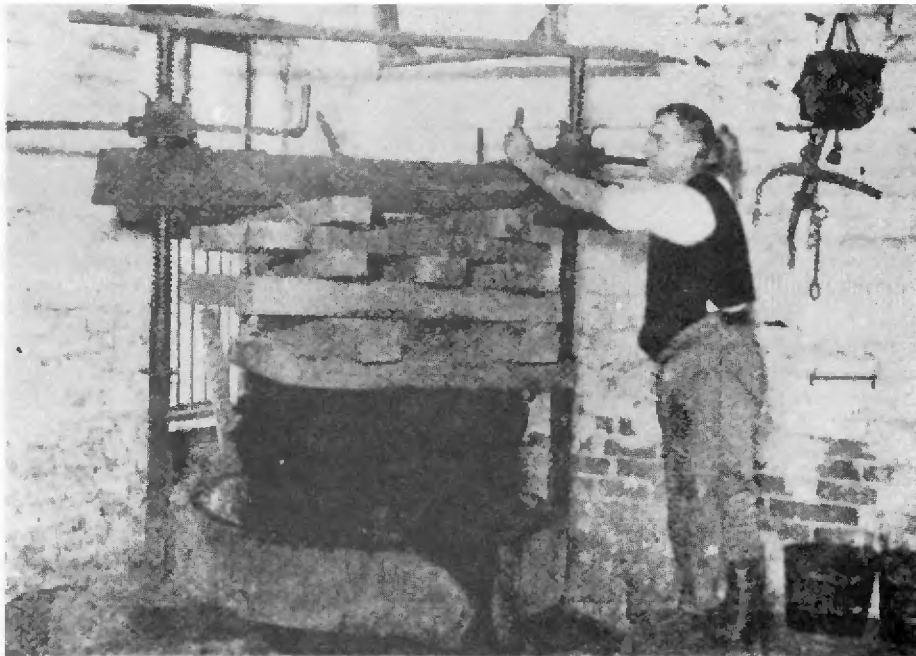
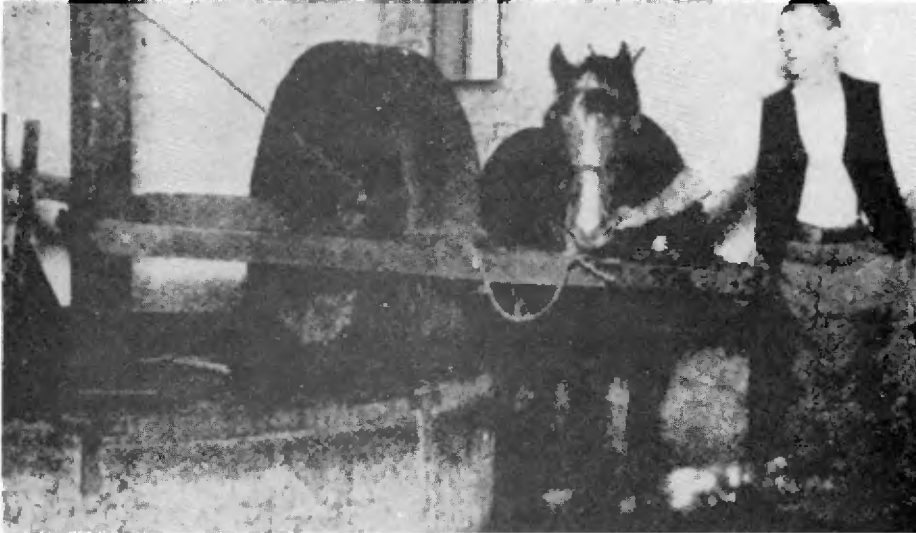
The Civil Defence authorities were prepared to issue us with tin hats (which we had to paint ourselves), special gas masks, water flasks, and official Civil Defence hats, badges, and armbands. But no other uniform. So Councillor Hughes persuaded Mr Fawcett of Orchard House to provide navy blue overalls and from some other private source got us satchels for carrying bandages, tourniquets, and other first aid material.

The members of the group met regularly once a week at Charlton Lawn to practise first aid and to work for St John's examinations. The Point was manned on every alert, day or night. We took an unexciting part in a Saturday morning Cheltenham Civil Defence exercise, (which ended with the Home Guard throwing cabbages at tanks), coped with a simulated emergency at Springfield, and entered a team for a first aid competition at a fete at East Court in the summer of 1945. Councillor Hughes directed and inspired all these activities.

I imagine that, thanks to him, we were as well prepared to meet an emergency, had one occurred, as a team could have been without actual experience of blitz conditions. But I am sure we were all thankful not to be put to the test.

M. Paget

11. Cider Making at Ryeworth House 1934 - photographs lent by Mr I.V. Hughes



Thousands of gallons of perry were made at the mill at the bottom of Ryeworth Road; and there was another mill at Wadleys. One Malvern Hill perry tree is still left on land that used to belong to Ham House.

C. Robinson

12. FOR CIDER READ PERRY

My cousin who lived at Great Witcombe farm used to supply the Royal Hotel in Charlton Kings with cider. Recently I was able to question his son about the process of manufacture used on the farm, and what follows is the result of our conversation.

"You used to supply the Royal in the village?"

"That's right. We used to bring over two sixty gallon casks a week in the horse float - or it may have been every two weeks. We got a shilling a gallon for it till the War (1914), and then there was a tax of three pence or four pence a gallon and that put the price up. The entrance to the cellar was in front, and there were steps down in the middle but a slope at the sides for the casks. They were rolled down on a rope which went through a big iron ring and you let them down as easy as a baby --- Of course, it wasn't actually cider--"

"You always spoke of cider".

"I know, but it was perry. We made very little cider at Witcombe because of the soil. Too heavy. For good cider you need a light sandy soil. Tom Putt is a good apple. But for perry you need heavy clay. Yellow clay like we had is best---"

"What kind of pears did you use?"

"There are early and late perry pears --- We had Malvern Hill and Barland for the early fruit - they are ready in October - and the late were Oldfield and Butt pear -- you grind those close to Christmas".

"They must be a job to pick off those great old trees"

"You don't pick them. You pick them up. When perry pears are ready, they fall. The early ones you grind straight away - but the late ones are heaped up in the field till they are full ripe and yellow. They have to be just right. If they are too fresh they haven't enough juice and if they begin to go rotten they are spoilt. And you have to bring them in if there is frost"

"What about apples?"

"Much the same. Some people mellow them in sheds - but we didn't have much apple".

"Well - when the fruit is mellow, what then?"

"You need a good horse that will work steadily. You remember the mill? A big round stone with a trough round the outside, and the mill stone on a wooden arm which ran round in it to crush the fruit. We used to put in 3 pots at a time (a pot is 56 lbs) and you must grind it till the pips are split and when you rub the pulp between your fingers there is no fruit on the skin. It gives a much better flavour when the pips are crushed. You have to keep scraping the fruit into the middle with a wooden shovel. You have to use wood or stone for everything - no metal must come near the fruit. You have a special shovel which is curved to fit the trough in the stone. When the fruit is fully ground, you shout 'whoa' to the horse -- and you shovel the mash into wooden buckets - they must be wooden remember - and take it to the press".

"What was the press like?"

"Like a cheese press. The bottom was a great slab of wood with a channel round the outside edge to carry off the juice into a stone trough underneath through a spout. Then you put a square frame round inside the trough, it was six to eight inches high. There were two brackets which went through the beam of the press and the frame could be moved up and down on them. The frame was lined with matting. We used coconut matting, but some people used horsehair cloth. Then you filled the frame - it took 4 bucketfuls to each mat - and you folded the ends and sides of the matting over the fruit and moved the frame up, and repeated the process. It took thirteen mats to make one cheese. On top you put a slab of wood bigger than the cheese, and you fixed three sticks called shooters on top --- they went into grooves --- and then six loose sticks, three each way at right angles to each other".

"Sticks?"

"Yes --- not quite so wide as a railway sleeper, but thicker --- Then you screwed down the press. At first you could do it by hand, but later you had to use iron levers. You screw it down from five feet to about eighteen inches to extract all the juice. Then we left it half a day, and then put the juice into barrels. One cheese usually yielded between 100 and 120 gallons. That's a hogshead".

"You took the juice to the casks in wooden pails and poured it into the top bung hole of the cask through a wooden funnel called a "tumpail", and when one cask was full you started on the next. The casks were left open to ferment, and when fermentation stopped it was bunged down and left to mature. If you wanted a sweeter cider or perry, you bunged it down a bit sooner, but if you were in too much of a hurry, the cask blew its top. Sometimes when there was a rush on, when all the fruit matured at once, we worked all through the night".

"You did not use anything in the fruit juice, no sugar?"

"No, except sometimes a bit of sugar candy - the stuff on string - to encourage a 'stuck' vat. Otherwise nothing but pure juice".

"What about the bottled cider I remember?"

"Perry, not cider. You put that into bottles, special very strong ones, when it was ready, and wired on the cork. It was a trouble to open."

(It certainly was. I have a clear recollection of a ten year old bottle which went up like a fountain when the cork was drawn and drenched the lot of us, and the room --- Mother had on a new frock too!)

"Most of our casks held 120 gallons - but we had one which held seven hundred. That was a beautiful thing - oak --- we had to get inside it to clean it and it was as smooth as a polished table --- but if you'd been in there ten minutes, you came out as drunk as a wheel! We used to dry the mats and use them for fuel" (I remember the scent of them, it was as sweet as incense) "You can do that with pear but not with apple, it doesn't go hard enough"

"Don't some people feed the apple pulp to cattle?"

"I think they do. We didn't. The cows didn't like it. Some people add a bucket of water to each cheese of apple, because apples are a bit dry. But that's not right. Cider ought to be pure juice and nothing else. Perry is better"

J. Paget

13. MEMORIALS IN ST MARY'S CHURCH, CHARLTON KINGS

Since Bigland in 1789, and Blacker in 1874, listed monuments in our church, many new ones have been added, some of the old ones have gone, and all of them have been moved to new positions. So we welcome this study of memorials now to be seen there, extracted from Simon Fletcher's school project done Spring 1980.

1. Introduction

Nobody of historical fame is buried in St. Mary's. The names preserved in the memorials on the walls of the church belong to people who, mostly, have been long forgotten. However, a study of the memorials can give a fascinating insight into the local history of Charlton Kings and into changes in Society generally during the last three hundred years.

There are fifty memorials surviving, in addition to three War Memorials which are not included in this study. Most are fixed to the walls in various parts of the church and in positions of varying visibility. The Cooper Memorial (50) which is of importance in the history of the village, is unfortunately sited in the darkness of the south porch, and another (49) is to be found propped up against a gravestone in the churchyard. The memorials cover a period of nearly three hundred years, from 1645 to 1942. The earliest, the Pates memorial (16) in St David's chapel is separated from the next in date by over sixty years (Brereton, 34) and the only other from the first half of the eighteenth century is the Cooper memorial. The second half of the eighteenth century sees a gradual increase to the peak in the first fifty years of the 19th century.

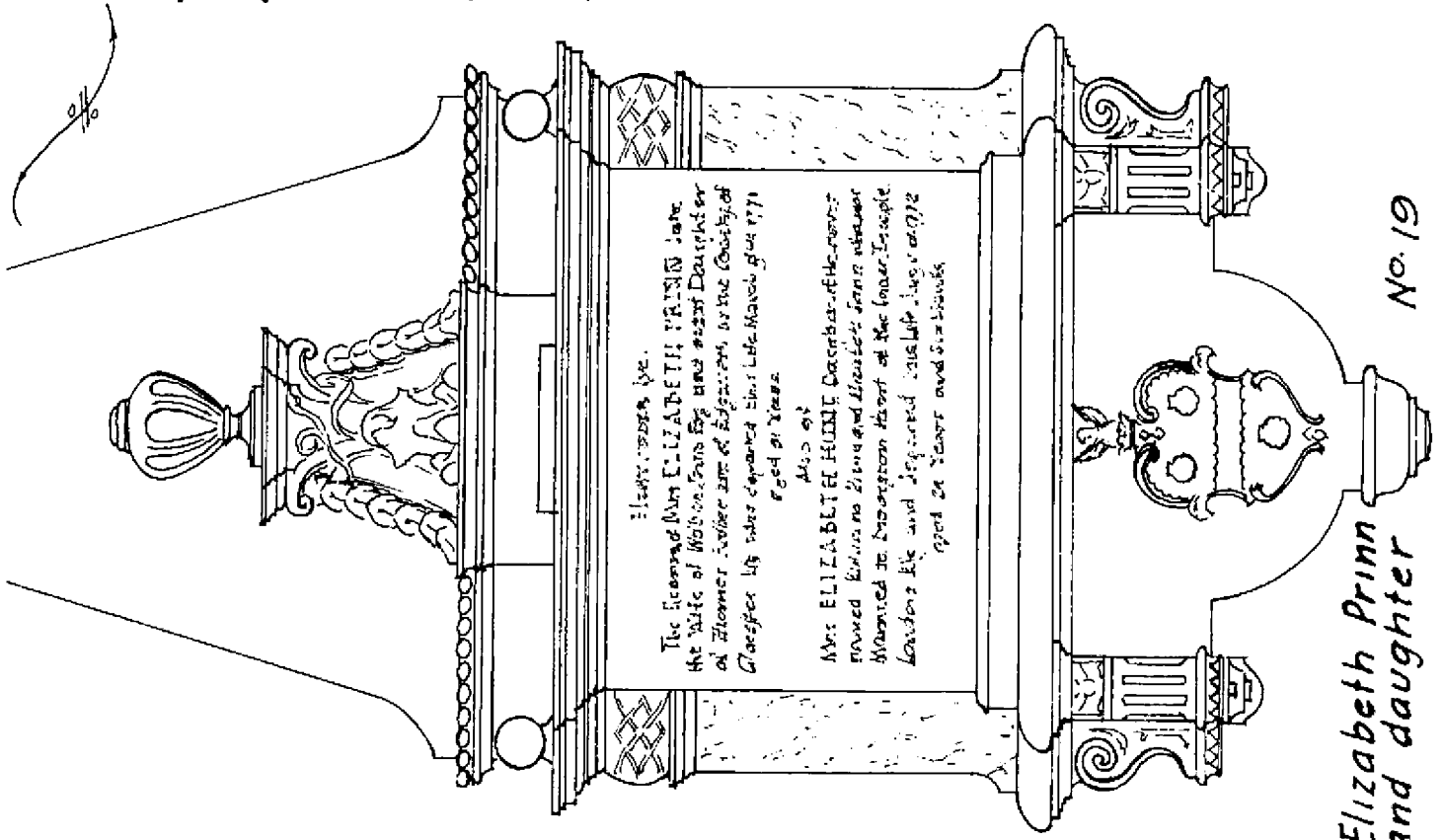
2. Types of Memorial

1. Inscription cut straight into the stone. The only decoration a crude skull and panels. Date 1645/6 (16)
2. A convex oval with elaborate surround, gilding is used. Dates 1709-1743 (34,50)

Type 2a less elaborate but with oval centres, dated 1789-1810 (24,29,30)

3. The memorials are longer, often with long narrowing top. They always have an urn with or without drapery. Dates 1770-1888 (4.5.9.10.15.19, 36,37)
4. Similar but more compact. Urn with or without drapery. Dates 1765-1857 (3.6.21)

Type 4a has rounded top and elaboration in sides. Date 1811 (25)

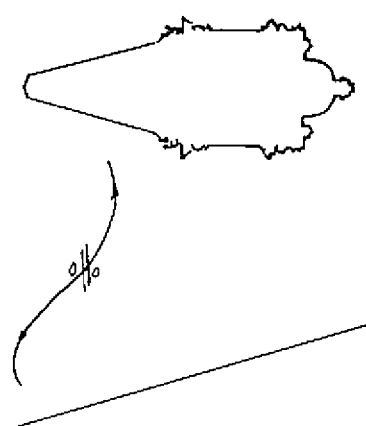


Elizabeth Prinn, etc.
 The remains of Mrs ELIZABETH PRINN late
 the wife of William Prinn Esq. and eldest daughter of
 Thomas Prinn Esq. of Highgate, by the Courtesy of
 Charles Esq. were deposited into the Vault of the
 Chapel of St. George's on the 14th March 1771
 aged 61 Years

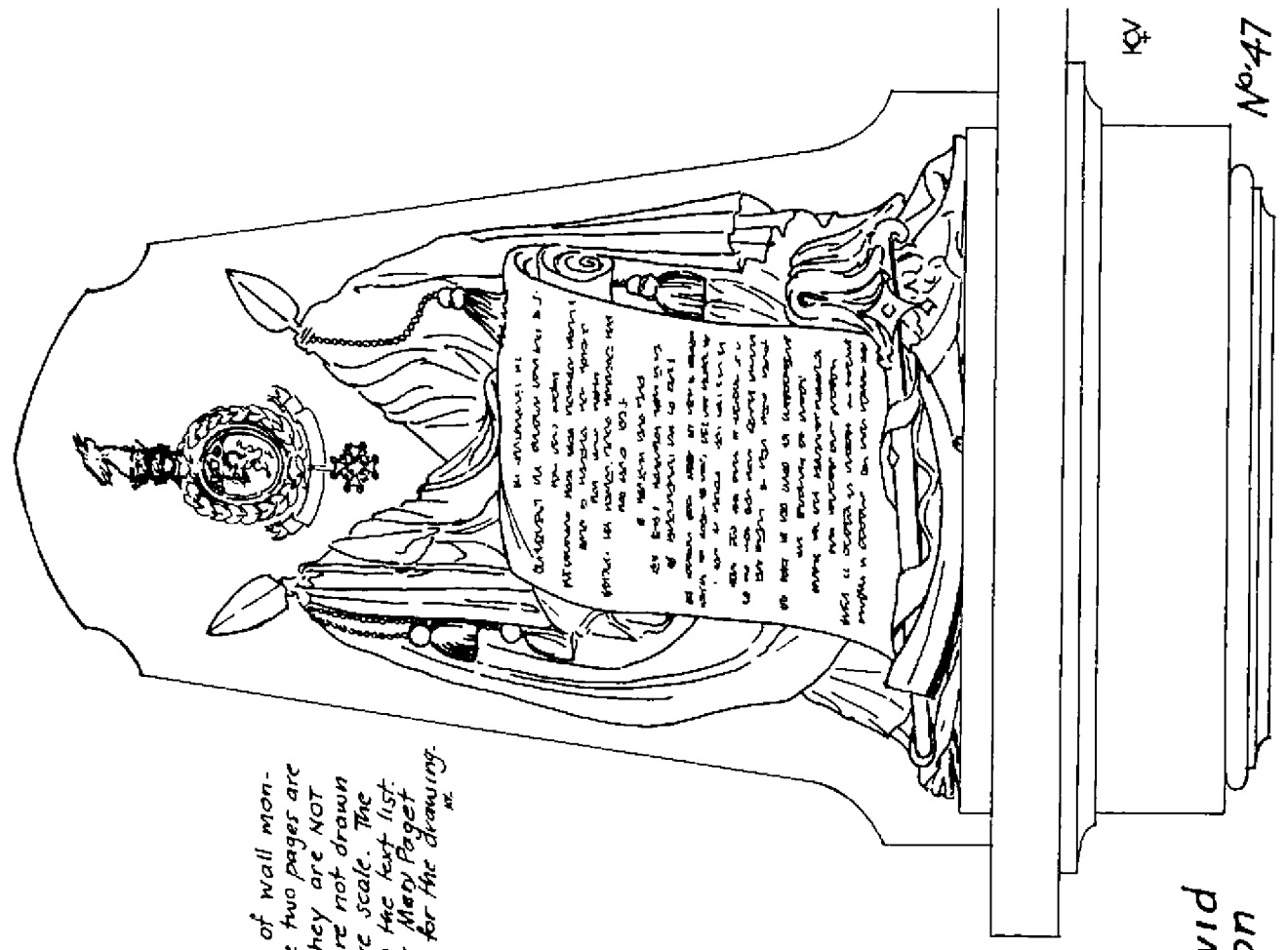
Also of
 Mrs ELIZABETH HUNN, daughter of the Rev. Mr.
 Thomas Hunn of St. Dunstons Church, London
 married to the Hon. Mr. Thomas Prinn Esq. of
 London Esq. and deceased on the 14th Aug. 1772
 aged 24 Years and 5 Months

Elizabeth Prinn
and daughter

No. 19

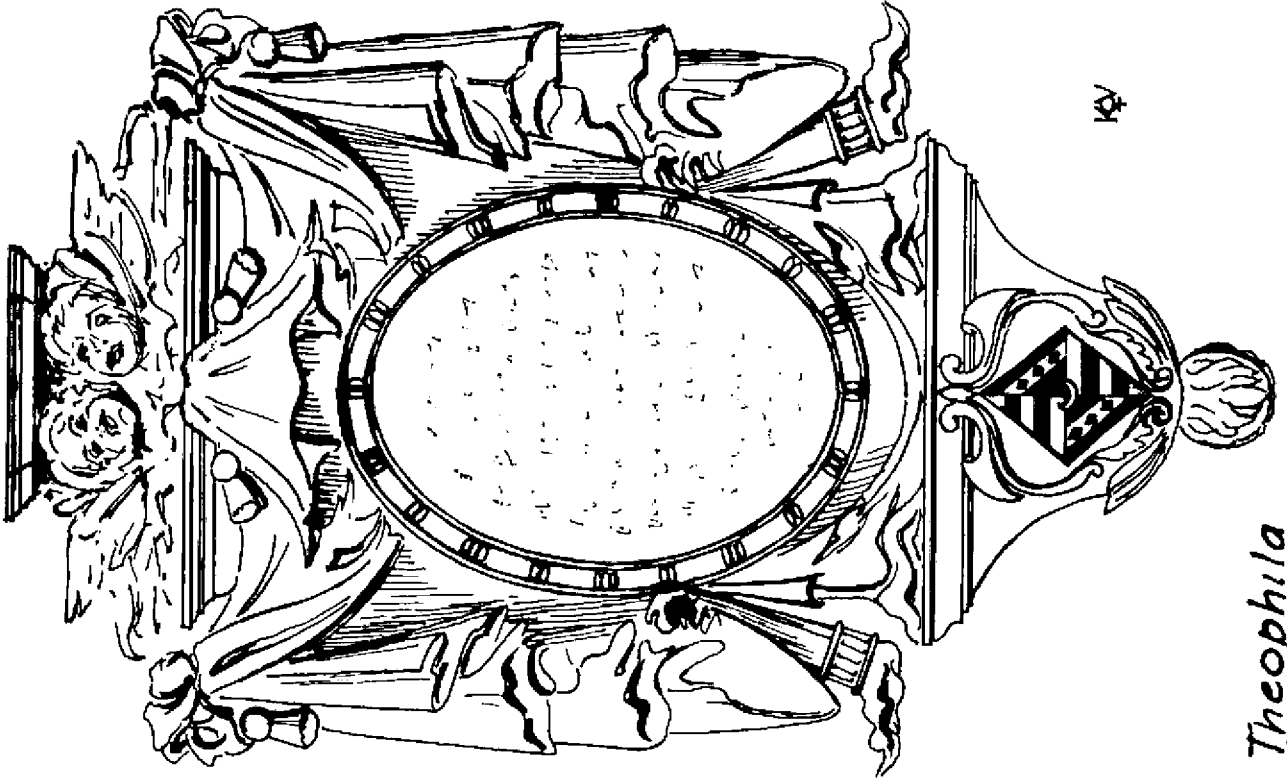


The illustrations of wall monuments on these two pages are sketches only; they are NOT measured, and are not drawn to a comparative scale. The numbers refer to the text list Photographs by Miss Paget formed a basis for the drawing.

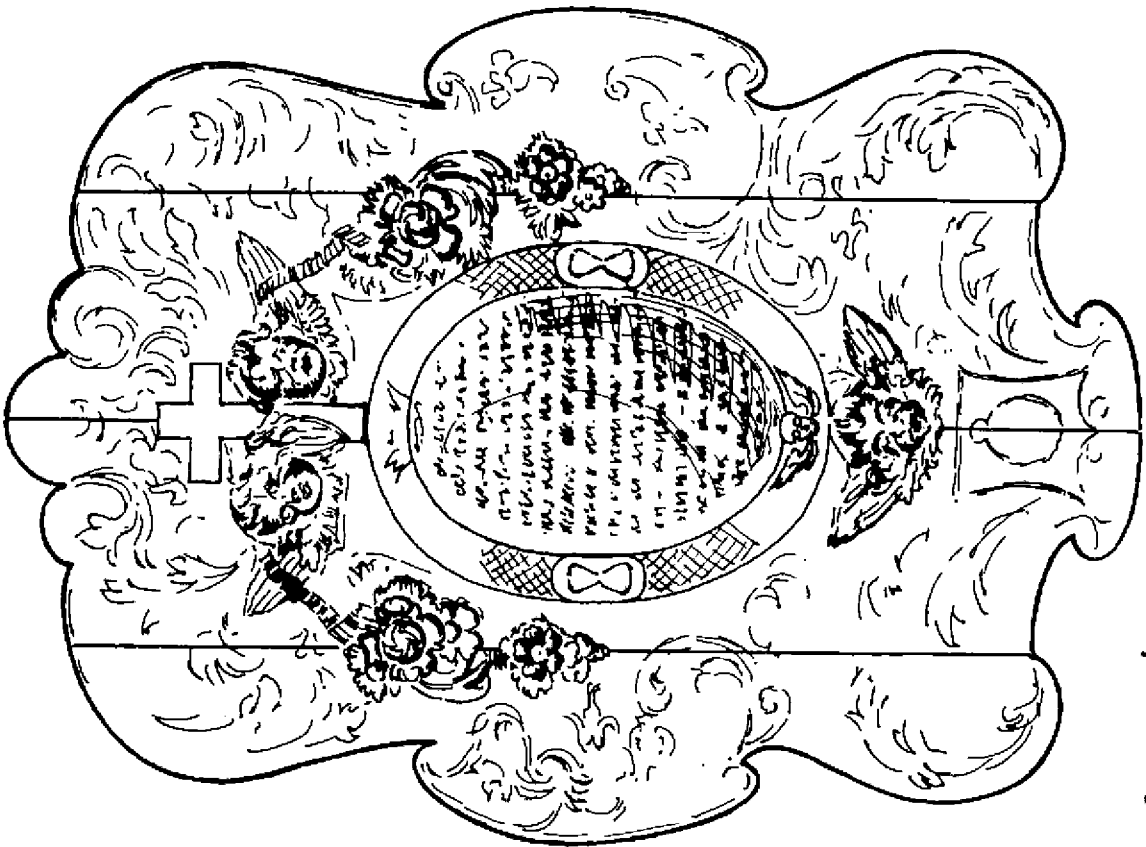


Sir David
Leighton

No. 47



*Theophila
Brereton* No. 34



*Samuel
Cooper* No. 50

5. These are basically rectangular but with pointed top, no urn.
Dates 1758-1770 (7 (by Lewis), 12, 13, 20, 26, 31 (Lewis), 32
(Lewis) 35 (Lewis) 48, scrolled but the basic shape is the same
(Cooke, Gloster).

Type 5a As 5 but upside down. Date 1801 (32a)

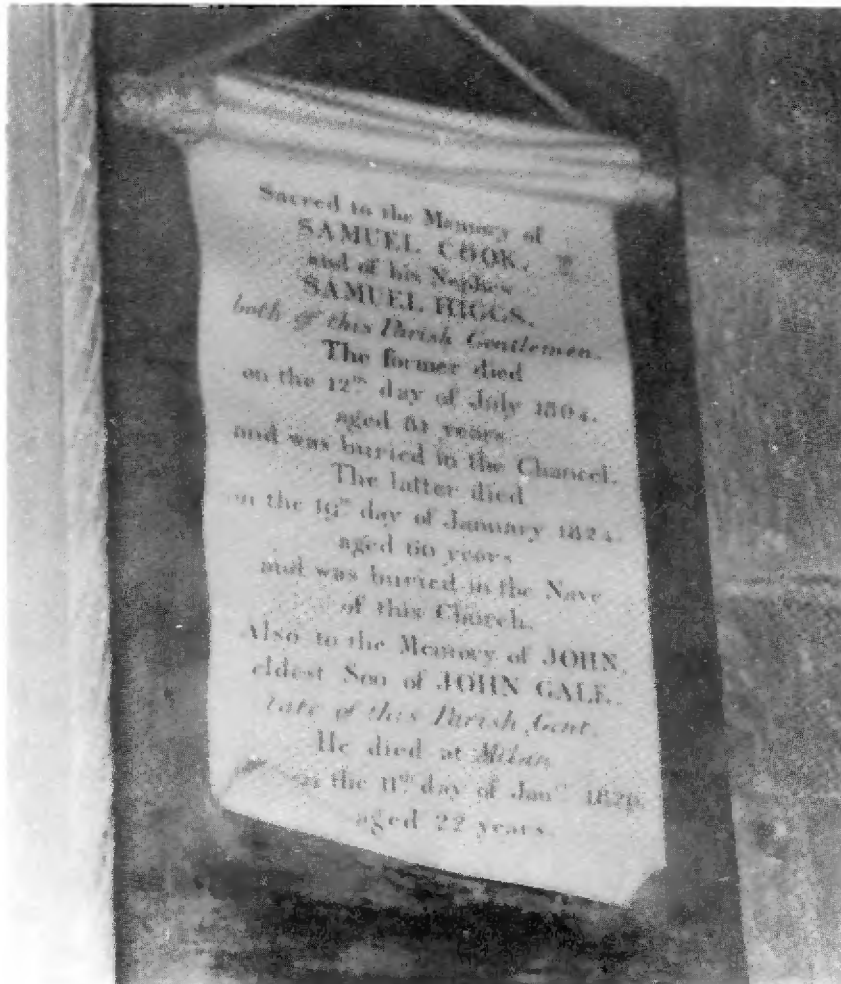
6. Rectangles, usually white marble on black. Dates 1823-1839.
(23 (Lewis) 28.

6a. the same with an oval centre. Dates 1814-1866 (27, 49)

7. Brass plates. Dates 1865-1921 (1,2,11,22,41,45,46)

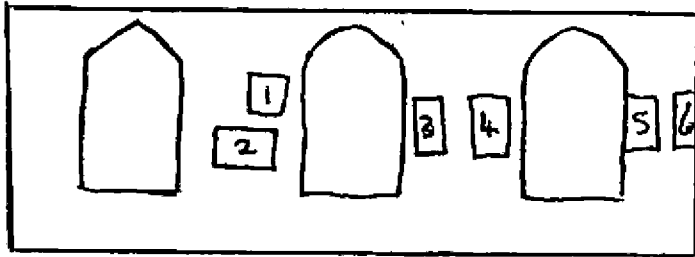
8. Rectangular stone set level with the walls and letters cut straight
in. Dates 1911-1942 (17,18,42,44)

It will be seen that there are more memorials by C. Lewis of Cheltenham
than by any other mason. (9) and (15) are both made by T. King of Bath
for the Prinn family.



POSITION OF ALL THE MEMORIALS

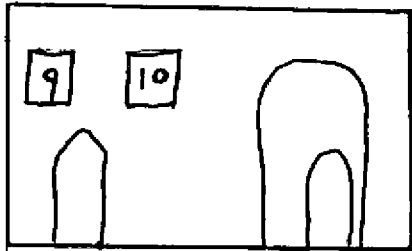
NORTH WALL, NAVE



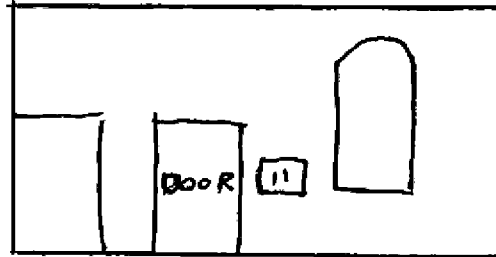
NORTH WALL, N. TRANSEPT



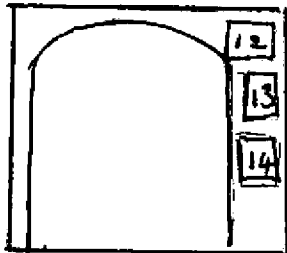
EAST WALL, N. TRANSEPT



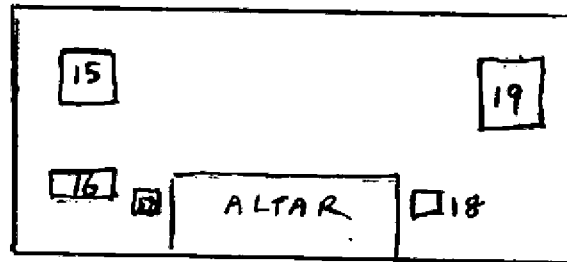
NORTH WALL, CHANCEL



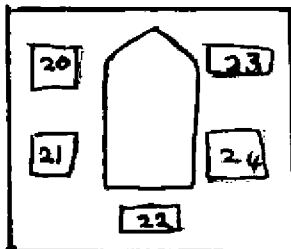
NORTH WALL, ST DAVID'S CHAPEL



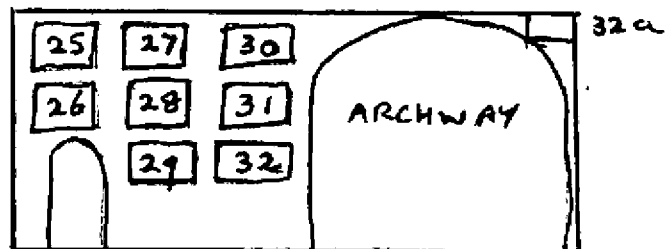
EAST WALL, ST DAVID'S CHAPEL



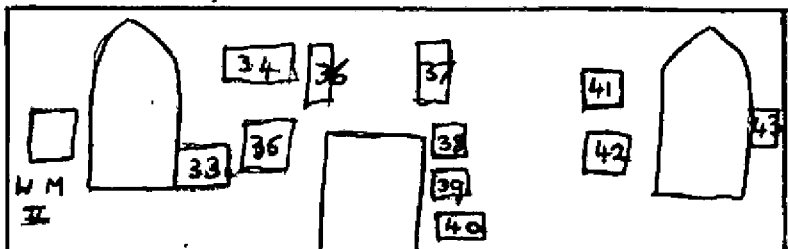
SOUTH AND



WEST WALLS, ST DAVID'S CHAPEL



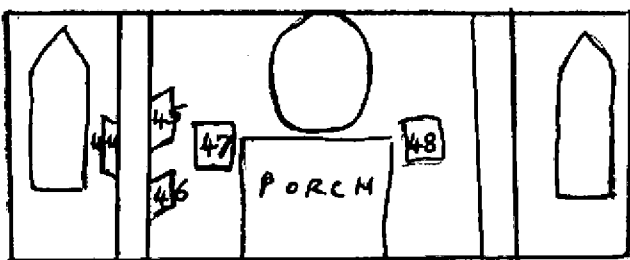
SOUTH WALL, NAVE



SOUTH PORCH

50

WEST WALL, NAVE



IN CHURCHYARD

49

4. The Inscriptions

- (1) Gothic script. Brass plate.
To the memory of /Arthur Poole Shewell/Major 123rd Outram's Rifles/
Born Nov 15th 1867/Died Dec 7th 1908/Son of/General Shewell/of
Cheltenham/Erected by his brother Officers.
- (2) Roman script - Brass plate.
TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN LOVING MEMORY OF/PERCY GARRATT SHEWELL/
KNIGHT OF GRACE OF ST JOHN OF JERUSALEM/MAJOR IN THE INDIAN ARMY &
PRIVATE SECRETARY/TO MILITARY SECRETARY, INDIA OFFICE/SON OF MAJOR
GEN^l SHEWELL, INDIAN STAFF CORPS/DIED OCTOBER 21st 1915. AGED 51
YEARS/ERECTED BY HIS MOTHER.
- (3) Roman script.
UNDERNEATH LIE THE REMAINS/OF/JOHN GALE SEN^r AND OF ANN HIS WIFE/
HE DIED ON THE 3rd OF FEB^ry 1765/SHE DIED ON THE 13th OF SEPT^r 1766/
EACH AGED 46 YEARS/
ALSO OF JOHN SON OF THE ABOVE/JOHN AND ANN GALE/WHO DIED ON THE 19th
OF FEB^ry 1812/AGED 64 YEARS./
ALSO OF SUSANNA HIS WIFE/DAUGHTER OF CHARLES & SUSANNA HIGGS/SHE DIED
8th FEB^ry 1851 AGED 76 YEARS.
- (4) Roman script. Coat of arms.
THIS MONUMENT IS ERECTED TO THE MEMORY OF/HENRY ILES UNDERWOOD/
FORMERLY AN EMINENT MERCHANT/OF THE COLONY OF DEMERARY/AND AFTERWARDS
OF THE CITY OF LONDON, ESQ^{re}/WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE/AT CHELTENHAM, IN
THIS COUNTRY/ON THE 19th DAY OF APRIL 1818/IN THE 50th YEAR OF HIS AGE/
AND IS BURIED IN THE VAULT OF THIS CHURCH/HE WAS A GOOD SON, AN
AFFECTIONATE BROTHER/A KIND RELATIVE, AND POSSESSING A WARM/AND FEELING
HEART TEMPERED WITH A SOUND/JUDGEMENT, HIS LOSS IS DEEPLY LAMENTED BY/
THOSE FRIENDS WHO BEST HAD OPPORTUNITIES/OF APPRECIATING HIS WORTH.
- (5) Roman script
SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF/HENRY RICHARD WHARTON CAMPBELL/SECOND AND
YOUNGEST SON OF/LIEUT COLONEL ROBERT CAMPBELL/FORMERLY, ASSISTANT
QUARTERMASTER GENERAL/FOR THE ISLAND OF GUERNSEY/WHO DIED APRIL THE
16th 1823, AGED 19 YEARS/ALSO/SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF/HARRIET CAMPBELL,
HIS MOTHER/WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE AT PARIS/ON THE 30th DAY OF MARCH,
1843/IN THE 69th YEAR OF HER AGE./ALSO OF ANN MELIORA CAMPBELL, ONLY
DAUGHTER/OF THE SAID LIEU^t COL ROBERT CAMPBELL AND HARRIET HIS/WIFE
WHO DIED AT SCARBOROUGH C^o YORK, 23^d JULY 1858, AGED 55 YEARS/THEIR
REMAINS ARE INTERRED IN THE SAME VAULT/WITHIN THIS CHURCH.
- (6) Roman script
IN MEMORY OF/WILLIAM NETTLESHIP/OF SANDFORD PLACE CHELTENHAM ESQ^e/
WHOSE REMAINS ARE DEPOSITED IN A VAULT/IN THE AISLE OPPOSITE THE
MONUMENT/OBIIT 29 APRIL 1826, AETATIS 54
- (7) Roman script
SACRED/TO THE MEMORY OF/CAPTAIN JOHN ALEXANDER R.N./WHO DIED 23^d
DECEMBER 1857 AND OF/ANNA MARIA, HIS WIDOW/WHO DIED 14th APRIL 1858.

(Italics - They are buried in the same grave/south side of this churchyard).

- (8) Roman script, Coat of arms
SACRED/TO THE MEMORY OF/CAPTAIN FRANCIS PRICE/OF THE 10th REGIMENT/
THIRD SON OF/SIR ROSE PRICE BART/TRENGWAITON/CORNWALL/HE DIED
SEPT 14th 1863.
- (9) Roman script
BENEATH/ARE DEPOSITED THE REMAINS OF/WILLIAM HUNT PRINN ESQ^{re}/OF
CHARLTON PARK:/ONLY SON OF THE LATE/DODINGTON HUNT ESQ^{re}/AND OF
ELIZABETH/SOLE HEIRESS OF THE LATE/WILLIAM PRINN ESQ^{re}/ALSO OF THIS
PLACE./IN THE SERVICE OF/HIS GOD, HIS COUNTRY, AND HIS FELLOW CREATURES/
THE ENERGIES OF/HIS COMPREHENSIVE AND BENEVOLENT MIND/WERE UNIFORMLY
EXERTED TO THE UTMOST/THAT A DELICATE STATE OF HEALTH WOULD PERMIT./
BELOVED AND LAMENTED BY ALL WHO KNEW HIM,/ HE CLOSED HIS MORTAL LIFE/
JANUARY 10th, 1821, AGED 48 YEARS./ALSO/HESTER, RELICT OF THE ABOVE/
WHO DIED DECEMBER 27th, 1822/AGED 46 YEARS.
- (10) Roman script.
SACRED/TO THE MEMORY OF/SIR WILLIAM RUSSELL, BART./M.D., F.R.S.K.S.A.
OF RUSSIA/*- of Charlton Park in this County*/BORN MAY 29th
1773, DIED SEPT^r 26th 1839./"ASLEEP IN JESUS"/AND OF HIS WIFE/DAME JANE
ELIZA RUSSELL/*- Who by royal license assumed the name*/of
Prinn in 1841, and in April 1842 married/WILLIAM HEATHORN, ESQ^{re}/SHE
DIED IN LONDON JULY 14th 1888,/AGED NINETY/*- and is laid to*
rest in Highgate Cemetary/"THEM ALSO THAT SLEEP IN JESUS/WILL GOD BRING
WITH HIM."
- (11) Roman script. Brass plate.
TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN AFFECTIONATE/REMEMBRANCE OF NATHANIEL
HARTLAND OF/THE OAKLANDS, IN THIS PARISH, ESQUIRE/(BORN 28th APRIL,
1791, DIED 8th MAY 1865;)/AND OF ELIZA, HIS WIFE/(BORN 23rd JUNE, 1802,
DIED 10th Dec. 1877,) DAUGHTER AND CO-HEIRESS OF THOMAS DIXON OF
KING'S LYNN, ESQUIRE: THIS CHANCEL WAS/RESTORED IN 1878, BY THEIR
LOVING CHILDREN/THERESA GALES BOLD: SIR FREDERICK DIXON/DIXON HARTLAND:
EMILY ROSA BANKES: AND/ANNA LOUISA COULSON.
- (12) Roman script.
IN MEMORY OF/FRANCES/WIFE OF HUGH SMYTH MERCER/ESQUIRE/OF THE HEARNE
IN THIS PARISH/ALSO LATE OF THE BENGAL MEDICAL SERVICE/SHE DEPARTED
THIS LIFE/ON THE 10th OF DECEMBER 1866/AGED 69 YEARS/AND OF THE ABOVE
HUGH SMYTH MERCER./HE DEPARTED THIS LIFE/ON THE 22nd OF MAY 1870./AGED
75 YEARS.
- (13) IN MEMORY OF/RICHARD LOVESY ESQ^{re}/WHO DIED 19th FEBRUARY 1850/IN THE
67th YEAR OF HIS AGE./*- His remains are interred*/at Newent
in this County./IN A VAULT/OF THE WHITHORNE FAMILY/IN THE PARISH
CHURCH YARD/LIE THE REMAINS OF/ELIZABETH LOVESY/SISTER OF THE ABOVE/
RICHARD LOVESY/SHE DIED MAY 10th 1875.
- (14) Roman script.
SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF MARTHA TAYLOR/WHO DIED AT CHELTENHAM, THE 26th
DAY OF OCTOBER 1817/IN THE 32nd YEAR OF HER AGE, AND WHOSE REMAINS
ARE/DEPOSITED IN A VAULT NEAR THE CHANCEL IN THIS CHURCH,/SHE WAS THE
YOUNGEST DAUGHTER OF THE LATE SIR JOHN TAYLOR/OF LYSSONS, IN THE ISLAND
OF JAMAICA, BARONET,/AND DAME ELIZABETH GOODIN TAYLOR, HIS WIFE/.
LIKE HER BROTHER, THE LATE SIR RICHARD BRISSETT TAYLOR,/BARONET, TO WHOM
SHE WAS MOST AFFECTIONATELY ATTACHED,/SHE, ALAS! WAS UNEXPECTEDLY CUT
OFF IN THE BLOOM OF LIFE/AND ZENITH OF HER ENDEARMENTS: LEAVING,
HOWEVER,/TO HER SURVIVING RELATIVES, WHO SORROW NOT WITHOUT HOPE/OF
AN ENTERAL RE-UNION, THE CONSOLATORY REFLECTION/THAT SHE LIVED BELOVED
AND DIED LAMENTED.

(15)

SACRED TO THE MEMORY/OF WILLIAM PRINN ESQR/WHO DIED FEBRUARY 8th 1784/
AGED 71 YEARS/OF DODINGTON HUNT ESQR/WHO DIED NOVEMBER 2nd 1803/
AGED 60 YEARS/AND OF MRS ANNA HUNT (WIDOW OF THE ABOVE NAMED/DODINGTON
HUNT ESQR)/WHO DIED JUNE 3rd 1813/AGED 63 YEARS.

(16) Much of this inscription is too defaced to decipher.

Left-hand panel

Hic jacet JOHANNES PATES,/Magister artis ingeniique largitor,/nec
minus medicinae quam/theologiae studiosus,/qui annis quadraginta
circiter/ingenue peractis/suum naturae debitum, heu/quam citissime,
persoluit/Jan.11 Anno Dom. 1645

(Translation - Here lies John Pates, Master of Arts and man of many
talents, as learned in medicine as in theology, who after some forty
years nobly spent paid his debt to nature - Alas! So soon. Jan 11
A.D. 1645 (6)).

Right-hand panel

To the memory/of Anne the Wife of/Walter Curryer and/sister to the
said John/Pates who resigned her Soule into his/hands that gave it Apr./
the 27th Anno Dmi 1647.

(17) Roman script

TO THE GLORY OF GOD/AND IN MEMORY OF DEARLY LOVED/PHYLLIS PRICE/OF MARLE
HILL COURT, CHELTENHAM/WHO DIED AUGUST 20, 1942/THIS REREDOS WAS
ERECTED/BY HER HUSBAND ARTHUR N.PRICE.

(18) Roman script

TO THE GLORY OF GOD/AND IN MEMORY OF HIS SERVANT VIDA/(LOUISA S. HARRIS)/
THIS CHAPEL IS DEDICATED TO ST. DAVID/AND HAS BEEN FURNISHED AND SET IN
ORDER/FOR HOLY WORSHIP,/MARCH 28, 1911, BY HER FRIEND E.M.HAY

(19)

HEREUNDER Lye/The Remains of Mrs ELIZABETH PRINN late/the Wife of
William Prinn Esq. and eldest Daughter/of Thomas Ridler late of
Edgworth in the County of/Gloucester Esq, who departed this Life March
5th 1771/Aged 51 years/ALSO of Mrs ELIZABETH HUNT, Daughter of the
above/named William Prinn and Elizabeth Prinn, who was/Married to
Dodington Hunt, of the Inner-Temple,/London, Esq, and departed this
Life August 10th 1772/aged 24 Years and Six Months

(20)

IN MEMORY OF/FRANCES/RELICT OF THE LATE PETER BEGBIE ESQre/(italics -
formerly of Hendon, Middlesex)/SHE DIED IN THIS PARISH OCTr 9th 1849/
AGED 75 YEARS/AS A TOKEN OF FILIAL REVERENCE AND AFFECTION/THIS TABLET
IS ERRECTED BY HER ELDEST SON/ALFRED WILLIAM BEGBIE ESQre/H.C.B. CIVIL
SERVANT/AGRA/"HER CHILDREN SHALL RISE UP AND CALL HER BLESSED".

(21)

NEAR THIS PLACE/ARE INTERRED THE REMAINS/OF JOHN ANTHONY NOGUIER/
BARRISTER AND ONE OF THE SIX CLERKS IN THE/(italics - Court of Chancery)/
WHO DIED THE 13th OF MAY, 1814/AGED 50 YEARS.

(22)

Roman script (except for the name, which is in Gothic script.)
TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND TO THE LOVED MEMORY OF/Dame Alice Clara Norman/
WIDOW OF THE ABOVE WHO FELL ASLEEP JUNE 8th 1914/AGED 89 YEARS.

This brass plate is linked to the memorial window above, to Lieut. Gen.
Sir Henry Radford Norman K.C.B.

- (23) Roman script.
SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF/SARAH, WIFE OF/RICHARD CRITCHETT, ESQr/
(italics - of Charlton Kings)/WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE/ON THE 21st OF
JUNE 1823,/IN THE 75th YEAR OF HER AGE/ALSO OF THE ABOVE NAMED/RICHARD
CRICHETT,WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE/ON THE 21st of Oct^r 1839/IN THE 86th
YEAR OF HIS AGE.
- (24)
To the Memory of/THOMAS EVANS/who died Nov^r 17th 1789,/Aet: 49/
Also of ELIZABETH, his Wife,/who died April 26th 1808.
- (25)
Beneath this Stone/are deposited the Remains of/FRANCIS GOOLD/Fourth
son of GEORGE GOOLD/of Old Court/in the County of Cork Esq^r/who departed
this life at/Cheltenham on the 10th of May 1811/aged 2 Years & 10 Months/
R.I.P.
- (26)
Roman script
SACRED/TO THE MEMORY OF/CHARLES, SON OF CHARLES AND SUSANNA HIGGS/
BORN SEPT^r 30th 1750, DIED NOV^r 17th 1809,/ALSO OF/RUPERTIA, WIFE OF THE
ABOVE/BORN JANU 9th 1768, DIED AUGst 5th 1840/ALSO OF/CHARLES COOKE
HIGGS, SON OF THE ABOVE/BORN JANUARY 25th 1797/AND DIED AUGUST 7th 1884.

(on the base)
SACRED TO THE BELOVED MEMORY OF RUPERTIA SANDES,/(WIDOW OF THE LATE
WILLIAM SANDES ESQ^{re}) OF THIS PARISH,/WHO FELL ASLEEP 5th AUGUST 1887.
- (27)
In Memory of/Mrs HODGES Wife of/WALTER PARRY HODGES/late of Shipton
Moyne in this County Esq^r/and Daughter of DAVID ROBERT MICHEL/of Dulish
in the County of Dorset Esq^r/who departed this life at Cheltenham on/
the 19th of June 1814/Aged 47.
- (28) Roman script.
SACRED TO THE MEMORY/OF/ELIZA MARIA/WIFE OF SIR MAXWELL WALLACE K.H./
WHO DIED IV SEPTEMBER/MDCCCXXXIV/AGED XXXVII YEARS
- (29)
To the Memory of/Mrs SARAH PHIPPS/who died March 2nd 1798,/AE^T: 52/
Also of Mrs. ANN LANE Wid^w/Sister of the above/who died Sep^r 3^d 1810.
- (30)
Sacred/to the Memory of/JOHN SCOTT/of the City of Dublin Esq/who died
at Cheltenham/on the 26th of June/1805.
- (31) Roman script.
SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF/MICHAEL ANTHONY ESQ^{re} M.D./WHO DIED AT HIS
RESIDENCE, CHELT VILLA/IN THIS PARISH/AUGUST THE 8th 1851, AGED 33
YEARS/(italics - universally regretted by all who knew him)/AS A SLIGHT
TOKEN OF AFFECTION TO HIS MANY ENDEARING/AND INESTIMABLE QUALITIES
IN EVERY RELATION OF LIFE/THIS TABLET IS ERECTED/BY HIS MOURNING AND
AFFLICTED RELATIVES./"I KNOW THAT MY REDEEMER LIVETH"

(32) Roman script

IN MEMORY OF/LIEUT.COL. WILLIAM PENDOCK TUCKER/OF THE HON. EAST INDIA COMPANY'S SERVICE/BOMBAY PRESIDENCY/BORN 23rd APRIL 1781,/DIED AT SEA ON HIS PASSAGE TO ENGLAND/ON BOARD THE SHIP MAITLAND 30th APRIL, 1826,/AND OF/CLARISSA ELIZABETH, HIS WIFE/BORN 8th MAY, 1802/DIED AT AHMEDNUGGUR IN THE EAST INDIES,/6th NOVEMBER 1850/ALSO IN MEMORY OF/HONORIA FLORENTIA FRANCES,/THEIR ONLY DAUGHTER AND WIFE OF/ANDREW FLETCHER DAVIDSON, ESQUIRE/OF HADDINGTON, SCOTLAND/BORN 18th JULY 1821/DIED AT AHMEDNUGGUR, 26th MARCH 1850/ALSO OF/CLARA MARY/SECOND DAUGHTER OF A.F. & H.F.F. DAVIDSON/BORN 28th FEBRUARY 1850,/DIED AT CHARLTON KINGS 8th AUGUST 1851.

(32a)

Near this Place lie the Remains/of ANNA MARIA GENT/Wife of Colonel WILLIAM GENT/late of (*italics*) Clapham in the County/of (*Surrey*)/ She departed this Life/the 24th Day of August 1801:/Aged 45.

(33) Boer War Memorial.

(34)

Theophilus and Hester Brereton,/buried near this place, had 5/daughters and 4 sons of whom/6 are deceased, viz.

Theophilus))	in this parish
Susanna))	
Susanna))	who died
Bridget))	att Glouc ^r
Robert))	att Sea

And

Theophila Brereton, who was borne/4th May, 1674, and died 28th Feb. 1709/ and was buried in this chancel./Att whose request this little monum^t/ was erected for the memory of/herself and dec'd friends.

(35) Roman script

SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF/WILLIAM BELCHER/(*italics*) of the hamlet of Allstone in the/parish of Cheltenham/OBIIT JAN: 21st 1770, AE^t 70 YEARS,/ AND OF ELIZABETH, HIS WIFE/OBIIT MARCH 2nd 1762, AE^t 63 YEARS/WILLIAM BELCHER JNRr/OBIIT DECr 30th 1758 AE^t 32 YEARS./ALSO RICHARD BELCHER,/ (*italics* - late of Cheltenham) OBIIT MARCH 25th 1798, AE^t 70 YEARS./ AND ELIZABETH, HIS WIFE./OBIIT OCT^r 2nd 1808, AE^t 90 YEARS./ALSO JOHN BELCHER/(*italics* - late of Cheltenham)/OBIIT MARCH 17th 1781, AE^t 25 YEARS/AND EDITH, HIS WIFE/OBIIT AUGst 8th 1833, AE^t 77 YEARS./JOHN NASH BELCHER/THEIR SON/OBIIT 28th JAN^y 1857. AE^t 75 YEARS/(*italics* - Their remains lie inter'd in a vault near the yew/tree on the north side of this churchyard).

(36) SACRED/To the Memory of JOHN WHITHORNE Esq^r (*italics* - of this/Parish) who departed this life May 6th 1797. Aged 84 Years)/Also of ELIZABETH his Wife/(interred on the West side of the Church)/who died Augst 17th 1771 Aged 62 YEARS/Also of CONWAY WHITHORNE Esq^r (*italics* - of Dursley): Son of the said JOHN & ELIZABETH WHITHORNE,/who departed this life June 19th 1796. Aged 50 Years./Likewise to the Memory/of MARGARET WHITHORNE Spinster,/Daughter of JOHN & ELIZABETH WHITHORNE,/who died June 2nd 1770, Aged 28 Years./(Italics - In expectatione diei supremi. Qualis erit iste dies indicabit)/Also of ELIZABETH LOVESY,/daughter of the above/JOHN & ELIZABETH WHITHORNE/who died 18th of March 1835. Aged 81 Years.

(37)

IN A VAULT OF THE ADJOINING CHURCHYARD LIES THE BODY/OF SARAH WIFE OF RICHARD PRUEN OF CHELTENHAM SOLICITOR/WHO DIED DEC^r 18 1808 AGED/L YEARS/EXEMPLARY IN LIFE FOR HER MANY VIRTUOUS AND ESTIMABLE QUALITIES/ AND DEEPLY LAMENTED IN DEATH FOR THE LOSS OF A CHRISTIAN,/A MOTHER AND A FRIEND HER MEMORY WILL LIVE IN THE GRATEFUL/REMEMBRANCE OF ALL HER SURVIVING RELATIVES AND BE CHERISHED/WITH UNFEIGNED REGARD BY A LARGE CIRCLE OF SORROWING FRIENDS/ SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF JOHN, ELDEST SON OF THE ABOVE/RICHARD AND SARAH PRUEN FORMERLY OF ST JOHN'S COLLEGE OXFORD/AND AT HIS DEATH A STUDENT OF LINCOLNS - INN WHO DIED IN LONDON/AFTER A SHORT BUT SEVERE ILLNESS ON THE 27th OF DEC^r 1823 in the 23rd/YEAR OF HIS AGE AND LIES BURIED IN THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST ANN'S SOHO/WITH A MIND IMPROVED BY CONSIDERABLE LITERARY ACQUIREMENTS/AND HALLOWED BY A DEEP AND CONSCIENTIOUS SENSE OF RELIGION/WHICH ENDEARED HIM TO HEAVEN AS A CHRISTIAN AND TO SOCIETY AS A MAN/HE WAS INSTRUCTIVE AT THE CLOSE OF LIFE FOR THE PASSIVE VIRTUES/OF RESIGNATION AND CONFORMITY TO THE DIVINE WILL/WHICH BEAMED FORTH IN THE HOUR OF HIS DISSOLUTION.

(38)

WITHIN A VAULT/IN FRONT OF THIS MONUMENT LIE THE REMAINS OF/JOHN NETTLESHIPP ESQUIRE/OF BASINGHALLSTREET IN THE CITY OF LONDON/HE DIED AT HIS BROTHER'S HOUSE IN THIS PARISH/ON THE 29th OF DECEMBER 1809, IN THE 63rd YEAR OF HIS AGE/ ALSO OF HIS BROTHER/THOMAS NETTLESHIPP ESQUIRE OF THIS PARISH/WHO DIED 5th of November 1819 IN THE 86th YEAR OF HIS AGE/ ALSO OF HIS BROTHER/WILLIAM NETTLESHIPP ESQUIRE OF GOWER STREET, LONDON/ WHO DIED 3d of JULY 1821 IN THE 81st YEAR OF HIS AGE.

(39) Board with list of incumbents from c.1530.

(40) Extract from the cartulary of Cirencester Abbey recording the consecration of the chapel at Charlton c.1190 by William, Bishop of Hereford.

(41) Roman script. Brass plate

IN AFFECTIONATE REMEMBRANCE OF/EDMUND CARRINGTON/FORMERLY COLONEL/ 1st WORCESTERSHIRE REGIMENT./BORN AT BRUSSELS 11 SEP^T 1842/DIED AT PITMINSTER NEAR/TAUNTON 5 SEPT 1898/ERECTED BY HIS BROTHERS.

(42) Roman script

IN GRATEFUL MEMORY OF/CHARLES LESLIE DUNDAS/VICAR OF CHARLTON KINGS 1875-1883/AFTERWARDS ARCHDEACON OF DORSET/AND CANON OF SALISBURY, THROUGH WHOSE/COURAGE AND DEVOTION THE FABRIC AND/WORSHIP OF THIS CHURCH WERE RESTORED TO/THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS AND WHO PASSED/TO THE HIGHER LIFE MARCH 17th 1932. R.I.P.

(43) Gothic Script. Brass plate

To the Glory of GOD/and to the dear memory of his loving servant/ EMILY RACHEL WILLIS/died 5th July 1909.

(44) A stone let into the wall

THIS BAPTISTRY WAS MADE AND THE /ENDOWMENT OF THE LIVING INCREASED/ IN REMEMBRANCE OF A BELOVED PRIEST/AND FRIEND OF HIS PEOPLE/EDGAR NEALE M.A./VICAR OF THIS PARISH 1906 to 1937/AND HONORARY CANON OF GLOUCESTER.

- (45) Gothic script. Brass plate
The South East Window in the Chancel/of this church was erected by/
Engineer Captain T. Fujii,/and brother Officers/of the Imperial
Japanese Navy/in loving memory of their dear friend/"BOB"/ their
Companion on the Gun trials of/H.I.J.M.S. "Katori" April 1906/
Robert Buckley Podmore/Born June 6th 1893,/Died August 14th 1907/
"Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day"
- (46) Brass plate
To the Glory of God/and in grateful memory of/WILLIAM HENRY BAGNALL/
of Bafford House,/for 45 years a devoted supporter/of this Church/who
died October 26 1921/the Electric Light was installed/in the Church/
by his wife and children,/Christmas 1922.
- (47) Roman script
IN MEMORY OF/GENERAL SIR DAVID LEIGHTON K.C.B./OF THE LATE/HONOURABLE
EAST INDIA COMPANY'S SERVICE/BORN AT BRECHIN IN SCOTLAND/27th July
1774/DIED AT BAFFORD HOUSE, CHARLTON KINGS/1st JUNE 1860/A BRAVE
SOLDIER/AN ABLE AND IMPARTIAL OFFICER/A BENEVOLENT AND JUST MAN/"HE
JURGED THE CAUSE OF THE POOR AND NEEDY/THEN IT WAS WELL WITH HIM. WAS
THIS NOT TO KNOW ME?/SAITH THE LORD" XXII JER. 18th VERSE/HE WAS AT THE
TAKING OF SERINGAPATAM/AND JEMALABAD in 1799,/SERVED IN THE MALABAR,
DECCAN,/AND ARABIAN CAMPAIGNS,/WAS A GENERAL OF DIVISION, AND FOR 9 YEARS/
ADJUTANT GENERAL OF THE BOMBAY ARMY.
- (48)
Sacred to the Memory of/SAMUEL COOK,/and of his nephew/SAMUEL HIGGS,/ (italics - both of this Parish Gentlemen)/The former died/on the 12th day of July 1804,/aged 81 years/and was buried in the chancel./The latter died/on the 19th day of January 1824,/aged 60 years/and was buried in the Nave/of this Church/Also to the memory of John,/eldest son of JOHN GALE,/(italics - late of this Parish Gent.)/He died at Milan/ on the 11th day of Jan^{ry} 1829,/aged 22 years.
- (49) Roman script.
SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF/KATHERINE ELIZABETH PENNY/THE BELOVED WIFE OF/
CAPTAIN CALVERT STANLEY CLARKE,/BENGAL STAFF CORPS:/WHO DIED AT
SHAHJEHAMPOOR, N.W.P.,/ON 31st MARCH 1866./"LORD, REMEMBER ME".
- (50)
SAMUEL COOPER/of this Parish Gent. Died/13th May 1743, Who by Will gave to/y^e Trustees undernamed & to their/Successors his Trustees for ever; y^e Rents/of his Grounds in y^e same Parish called/Cutham Butts & Battle Downs, for Buying/Books & Teaching Six Poor Children of this/Parish to Read two Years, at y^e end of which/time Six others to be chosen by y^e said Trustees/with y^e privity of y^e Churchwardens, &/ye Overplus to provide Fuel, & Cloaths/Six Aged or Infirm Poor Persons not/Receiving Alms of the Parish
- | | | | |
|----------|--|---|---------|
| TRUSTEES | ROB ^T GALE SEN ^R |) | (|
| | EDM ^D WELSH |) | (GENT. |
| | EDW ^D GALE |) | (|

Simon Fletcher.

14. THE HOUSE NOW WHITEFRIARS SCHOOL

Verey, in Gloucestershire: the Vale and the Forest of Dean, described this house as "Early C19, ashlar-faced, two storeys, south front with a central bow to full height with Corinthian columns and three windows, with one further window either side, west front of four bays with a classical porch. Gazebo in grounds --" It is a handsome building, as Mr. Armitage's photograph indicates; and we are now able to piece together the story of its building. It was a new house on a new site, built for Alexander Ogilvy esq between 1832 and 1837. (1)

The Ellis family held a copyhold tenement in Cudnall (probably to be identified with Ryeworth farm or Little Manor) with land in Ryeworth field, the Slad, and Cudnall Bank. In 1759 David Ellis surrendered all his customary property to uses of his will, and in that will made his daughter Mary wife of William Overbury his executor. She was to sell the property within a year and divide the proceeds among all David's children; so she, her husband, and her eldest brother Richard (a Gloucester goldsmith) sold most of the farm to a Gloucester maltster Daniel Quarrington. Quarrington left two daughters Mary and Amelia to share this (with other property) and they each sold their shares to Walter Lawrence of Sevenhampton. His purchase was the land called Long Grounds in Slad Bottom. From Daniel Cooke, a tallow chandler, Lawrence bought adjoining land called Cooks Ground (formerly the Old Orchard) and Long Pool Ground in the Bottom, which had also been part of the Ellis farm.

Walter Lawrence left his estates to his grandson Walter Lawrence Morris (only child of William and Mary Morris), stipulating that he should take the name Lawrence. So when the new turnpike (our London Road) was planned in 1824, W.L. Lawrence esq was the owner of plots 29 (across which the new road would pass) and 30 (the land in the bottom). (2)

Development of frontages to the new road started in 1825, and W.L. Lawrence sold 3 1/4 acres of Long Grounds to developers. They intended to make a private carriage road to it from the new turnpike, with a bridge over the brook at the N. end. But 1825 saw the beginning of a slump and no building took place for the next 7 years.

Then in 1832 Alexander Ogilvy esq appeared on the scene, wanting a site for a mansion. From W.L. Lawrence, his parents, and his mortgagees, he bought Long Pool Grounds (6 acres), Copsich or Copsettedge (3 1/4 acres) and half an acre of Cooks Ground adjoining the new London Road (which involved a proportion of the expense of keeping that road in repair). The price was £800. Ogilvy was probably responsible for building the first lodge, just across the stream; the approach to the house was via the private road. It could not be approached from Battledown, for the new road called Ashley Rise had not yet been made.

A plot on Greenway Lane had belonged to a tenement (on the site of Hetton Lawn) held by the White family. Ann the last of the family married John Wood about 1765, and in 1775 they sold this plot, known as The Butt (1 1/2 acres) to Walter Lawrence of Sevenhampton. It was surrendered to use of William Morris and his wife in 1825, and in 1832 they sold this acre and a half to Ogilvy for his Home Farm.

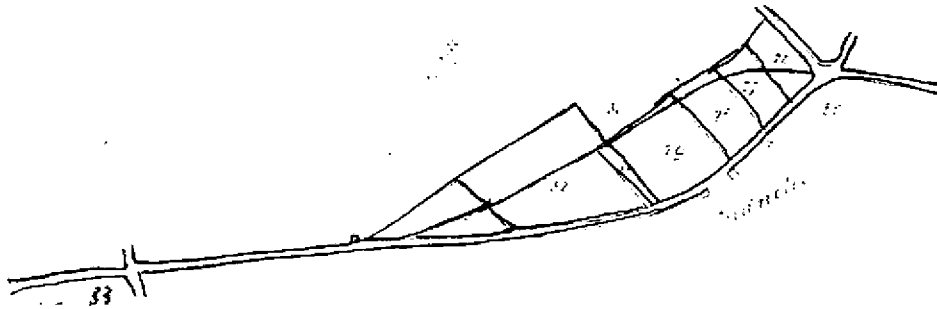
In 1837, Alexander Ogilvy for £1400 sold to Nathaniel Hartland, first all the land he had acquired in 1832 direct from Lawrence, and second the land bought from the Morrises. For the first time, messuages and buildings are

mentioned as standing on both. Yet the total price, £1400, was less than the seller had probably expected, and shows that property had not quite recovered after the depression.

The estate was extended in 1840 with the purchase for £995 of most of the 3 1/4 acres sold to the developers in 1825, for Long Ground lay directly west of Long Pool Grounds. Hartland could now use the private road as his drive. But the drive could not take its present curving line until in 1846 (3) he managed to buy the plot west of the road, on which a house called Islington Cottage had been built. For £300 to the developers and £90.14.8 to James Freeman the builder, Hartland bought 21ft frontage to the London road, the cottage (the house now called Mordiford), and the land behind it down to the brook. He or his son could then erect the massive gateposts with their hart-head crests (recently moved to the new school entrance) and gothic lodge (demolished), which is marked on the 1st ed. of the OS 25" in 1888.

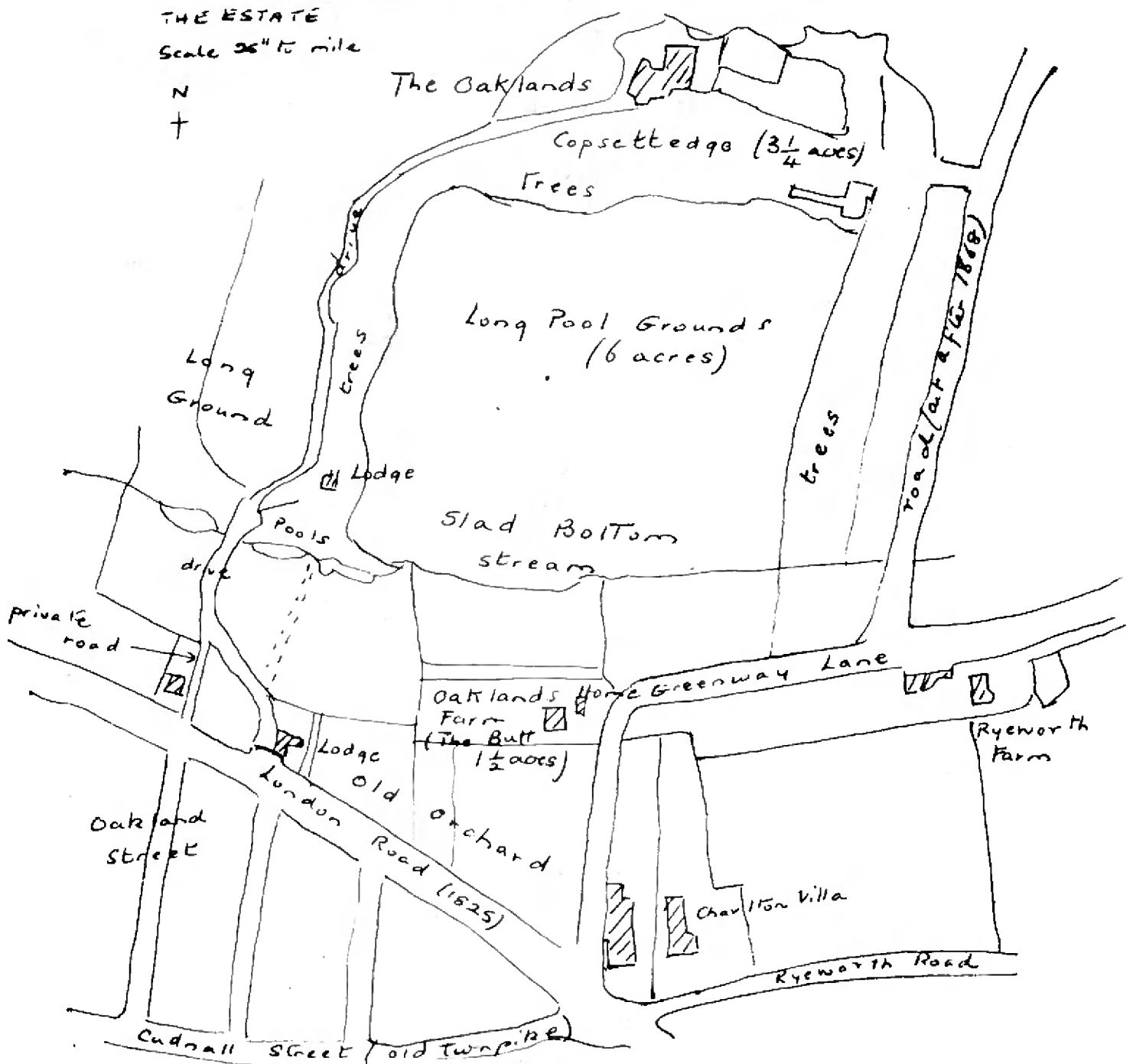
Ogilvy had named his new house The Oaklands, and had given this name also to the unadopted road between Cudnall and the new turnpike, (where he owned some land). Nathaniel Hartland continued to call his home The Oaklands and so did his widow. His son thought "Ashley Manor" sounded grander, although there was no link between his property and the manor of Ashley, beyond the fact that the land was copyhold of that manor; and he was not the lord. The name was changed before 1890 (4).

Plan of the intended turnpike to bypass Cudnall Street



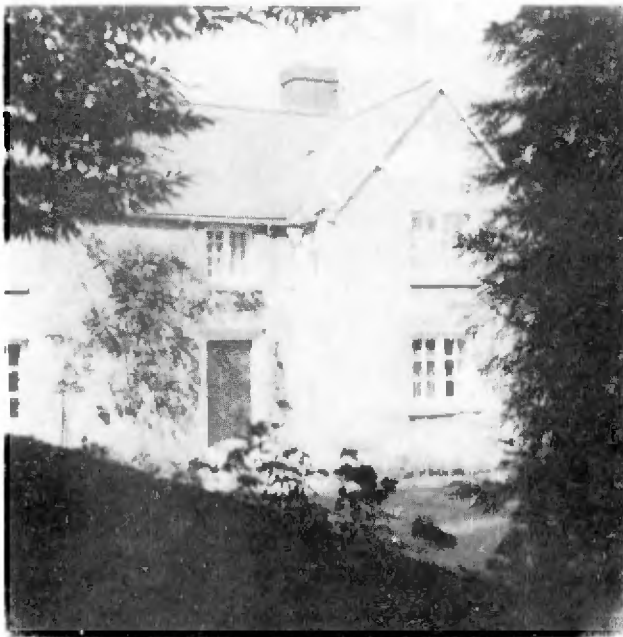
from Hales Road to "Six Ways"
W.L. Lawrence's lands were plots 29 and 30, the latter including
The Butt.

The house, photographed by E. Armitage





The Lodge (demolished) from sketch by the late H.V.C. Holman
Note the hart's head on the gatepost.



The Home Farm

1. Ashley manor court books, GRO D 109/2,3
2. GRO Q/RUM 97
3. Ashley manor deed book 2 pp 132-8, GRO D 109/
4. At that date the house was let to Archibald Young esq (Post Office Directory 1891, lent by Mrs. Davis)

Mary Paget (research by H. Bennett,
J. Paget, and E. Armitage).

THE HARTLAND FAMILY OF OAKLANDS

According to the 1851 census, Nathaniel Hartland was born in Tewkesbury and was 59 at the time of the census. One daughter Emily Rosa shown as 15 in 1851 was born in Evesham and another daughter Anna Louisa shown as 9 in 1851 was born in Charlton Kings, as was the youngest son Ernest --- he was 7 in 1851. Two sons not included in the Census were probably away at school. It would seem therefore that Nathaniel was established in Charlton Kings in the late 1830's or early 1840's. Having created an estate, Nathaniel left it to his eldest son Frederick Dixon absolutely, but only after his mother's death. (She did not die until 1877, 11 years after her husband).

- (1) The will of Nathaniel Hartland dated 6/10/1865 with codicils dated 19/4/1866 and 8/5/1866. Glos. R.O. Ashley Manor Will Book No. 2 pg. 473

1. The main estate:-

The Mansion House and the estate known as The Oaklands and all other estate, now and purchased in the future, adjoining The Oaklands was devised to Nathaniel's wife Eliza for life.

On Eliza's death, Oaklands and other estate in Charlton Kings was left to Nathaniel's elder son Frederick Dixon Hartland, heirs and assigns, for ever.

2. Provision for his widow:-

- a. The main estate at Oaklands for life
- b. Furniture, plate, linen, carriages, farming stock, goods and chattels at the Mansion House and estate for her own absolute use, plus £500 in cash.
- c. The income from £30,000 which Nathaniel had out on mortgage, and which should continue to be invested "in manner in which I have been accustomed to employ my money" goes to Eliza for life. Eliza and her two sons Frederick and Ernest are to select suitable mortgages.

The income is to enable Eliza "to keep up Oaklands and so that her comforts are not diminished" by her husband's death.

£20,000 of this capital sum on mortgage falls into Nathaniel's residuary estate when Eliza dies. The remaining £10,000 can be disposed of by Eliza by will amongst her 5 children in the proportions she decides. If she does not so dispose of this £10,000 that too will fall into Nathaniel's residuary estate.

3. Provision for children:-

- a. The eldest son Frederick gets the Oaklands estate as his own when his mother dies.
- b. His son Ernest to have the small copyhold estate at Leigh, Gloucestershire, which was let to John Weston, absolutely, plus a legacy of £3000. This legacy was increased by a further £1000 by the codicil dated 19/4/1866. Ernest would be 22 in 1866.

- c. His son Alfred Harford to have £3000, and Alfred's only son Alfred £1000 at the age of 21.
- d. Daughter Theresa Gales Bold, her heirs and assigns for ever to have Nathaniel's Cheltenham House 5 Paragon Buildings which is let to Michael Murphy. This property had been conveyed to Nathaniel's elder son Frederick Dixon Hartland in trust for Nathaniel (This seems a curious way of holding property but it could be that Nathaniel wanted to keep his name out of the transaction for some reason. Nathaniel would certainly have provided the money for the purchase, would be entitled to occupy the property or receive the rents and profits from it and could freely dispose of it.)
- e. Daughter Emily Rosa Banks £1000. (She would be 30 at the date of the will).
- f. Daughter Anna Louisa Coulson £1000. (She would be 24 at the date of the will).
- g. After the payment of these legacies and those shown in 4. below the residue of the personal estate is to be shared equally between the 5 children. The daughters' shares were to be retained by the will executors to create a trust
i.e. the daughters get an income. At least half, or more or the whole if the daughters so wish, is for the daughters own separate use independent of husband. A daughter can however leave her share by will. If she dies without bequeathing by will the share goes equally to all her children living at the daughter's death or to issue of children who have died, the issue only taking their parent's share.

(Two points to note here:-

The disabilities of married women at that time in that they were incapable of disposing by themselves of any property which they owned and the concurrence of the husband was necessary for an effective disposition. Pure personalty vested absolutely in the husband and passed under any disposition by him in his life time or by will. There was however a device whereby property conveyed to trustees "for the separate use" of the wife could be dealt with as if she were unmarried, and therefore disposed of freely. The amount of Nathaniel's residuary estate cannot be decided at the earliest until his wife dies ... remember that £20,000 of mortgage money falls into the residuary estate on her death. Wills which create trusts or life interests tend to go on and on).

Other provisions:-

- a. £500 to sister Sarah Lewis
- b. £500 to the British and Foreign Bible Society and £500 among 5 other religious and benevolent societies nominated by Nathaniel's wife.
- c. £100 each, by codicil dated 19/4/1866, to the old and faithful servants James and Emma Day. In the 1851 Census, they are listed as Butler and Lady's Maid at Oaklands.

The widow Eliza Hartland was named as executrix and the two sons Frederick Dixon Hartland and Ernest Hartland were exeutors. Nathaniel died on 8/5/1866 aged 75 and his widow and two sons proved the will at Gloucester on 2/7/1866. The estate was sworn at under £120,000. This was a very considerable sum in those days, bearing in mind that this amount is for the personal estate only.

2. Will of Eliza Hartland, The Oaklands, C.K. widow of Nathaniel Hartland dated 14/4/1873 almost 7 years after her husband's death. She died 10/12/1877, 11½ years after her husband. There is a codicil dated 24/11/1876. (Glos R.O. Ashley Manor Will Book No. 2 Page 192) Of the property devised by her husband Nathaniel, Eliza was only capable of devising that which Nathaniel left to her absolutely i.e. the furniture, plate, linen, carriages, farming stock, goods and chattels at the Mansion House, Oaklands, and the estate.

In addition, Nathaniel's will gave her the power of disposition, by will, of £10,000 capital out on mortgage, amongst her 5 children.

Eliza's will is primarily concerned with these two matters.

1. Of the £10,000 over which she had the power of disposition:-
 - a. £200 is bequeathed to each daughter Theresa Gales Bold, Emily Rose Bankes and Anna Louisa Coulson for their sole and separate use. These sums are small because the daughters are adequately provided for.
 - b. The residue of the £10,000 is to be divided equally between the two sons Frederick Dixon Hartland and Ernest Hartland.
2. a. All the household furniture and effects at Oaklands are devised to the elder son Frederick Dixon Hartland.

Nathaniel Hartland had made sure that the household effects of Oaklands passed to the life tenant of Oaklands his wife Eliza. Now Eliza makes sure that the contents of Oaklands goes to the new owner her son Frederick Dixon. The Mansion House passes complete with contents...fully furnished...as the family house.

- b. The codicil dated 21/4/1876 makes bequests of specific items. These are quoted below as they tell us something of the way of life of people at the social level of the Hartlands.

- Roman brooch "salva" to Mrs Frederick Dixon Hartland
- To Grand-daughter Theresa Roma - the Cameo Brooch and Gold Brooch bought by her father Frederick Dixon Hartland in Rome.

To grand-daughter Fritzweide Hartland...the topaz and pearl brooch and the blue garter brooch with the words "Dieu vous garde."

- To son Ernest the portrait of his mother on the staircase and two pictures each side of the game piece in dining room and the furniture and effects in his bedroom, large

round oak piece on landing, small wardrobe belonging to his father in Eliza's bedroom, writing table in dining room window, oak cabinet with minerals in front hall, Worcester china tea service (given to Eliza by her mother), the china bowl and jars that had belonged to Grove Cottage, furniture in the Bow Room, round gold brooch, the Landau Sociable, horses and harness.

- To daughter Theresa Gales Bold...Walnut wood escritoire in dressing room and its contents and the portraits and pictures in the corner where it usually stands, dressing case containing the key to escritoire and Eliza's wishes concerning contents, the ormolu work box, ornaments on morning room mantelpiece, and jewelry.
- To daughter Emily Rosa Banks, her own stool in dining room, escritoire in which Eliza's accounts are kept, the portraits of Nathaniel and Eliza Hartland in the dining room, the work table with bag in the morning room, bought at Bath on wedding tour and jewelry.
- To William Hartland Banks, son of daughter Emily Rosa Banks... the bible left to Eliza by Miss Yerber.
- To Rosa Banks the daughter of Eliza's daughter Emily Rosa Banks...watch chain and appendages
- To daughter Anna Louisa Coulson...clock and ornaments on Eliza's bedroom mantelpiece, satin wood furniture in dressing room, chiffonier in bedroom, her stool in dining room, and jewelry.
- Old china plates equally between the three daughters.

In the body of the will Eliza devised the silver plate equally to her sons Frederick Dixon Hartland and Ernest Hartland, with Ernest taking the tea and coffee service first unless he has married and bought his own.

3. Other provisions:-

Hawthorne Cottage/Garden/Premises in Charlton Kings, after the death of old servant Thomas Fletcher (who has it rent free for life), is devised to Eliza's granddaughter Theresa Roma Hartland. Theresa Roma's father Frederick Dixon Hartland can sell the property for the benefit of his daughter if he chooses. (Hawthorne Cottage was in Spring Bottom and is now demolished).

In the codicil to the will the faithful friend Emma Day gets £500, the clock in the dressing room, Eliza's clothes and the furniture in Emma's rooms except large wardrobe and window fittings.

Faithful servant and friend James Day gets £500, 6 sheep and 1 cow. (In Nathaniel's will he had been left £100).

To her faithful servants Mary Harris and Rhoda Newman £50 apiece, and to coachman James Perry £25, provided in each case they are with her at the time of her death.

The two sons Frederick Dixon Hartland and Ernest Hartland were executors of the will and both proved the will at Gloucester on 24/5/1878.

The will was sworn under £3,000.

3. Will of Frederick Dixon Hartland dated 14/12/1898, with codicils dated 29/7/1901 and 13/2/1905. Glos R.O. Ashley Manor Deed Book No.2. D109/10 Page 460 et seq.

Before we consider this will we ought to look back at the will of Frederick's father Nathaniel Hartland and to say something about Frederick's Marriage Settlements for his first and second wives.

Nathaniel Hartland left Oaklands and its estate to his widow for life. On her death the estate went to Frederick his heirs and assigns for ever. Nathaniel's wife Eliza did not die until 10/12/1877 and therefore Frederick did not come into possession of Oaklands until then.

Frederick's 1st Marriage Settlement was made on 12/10/1867 in contemplation of his marriage to Grace Amy Wilson and by it he conveyed to the two trustees of the Settlement the Capital Messuage in 33 acres, known as Oaklands, subject to the life interest of Eliza Hartland who was still alive.

Again subject to the life interest of Eliza Hartland, Frederick is to be allowed to use and occupy the estate and take the rents for life. On Frederick's death the estate is to be held for the use of and occupation of Grace Amy if she survives Frederick. On the death of Frederick and his wife the estate goes to the children of the marriage as Frederick appoints by deed or will.

Grace Amy died on 22/11/1892.

The 2nd Marriage Settlement was dated 24/4/1895 in contemplation of his marriage to Agnes Chichester Christie and by it Frederick conveys the property in the 1st Marriage Settlement to Trustees. Agnes Chichester is to hold the settlement property for life and to take the rents. On her death the settled property goes to Frederick for life if he survives her. On the death of the survivor of Frederick and his wife the settled property goes to the children of the marriage as Frederick appoints by deed or will.

From time to time further property was included in the settlement as Frederick acquired it. As a result the bulk of Frederick's property was disposed of by the Settlements rather than by his will. The will is Frederick's final act of disposition of the settlement property because in it he exercises the power, given to him by the Marriage Settlements, to appoint to the settled estate, after the life interest of his wife Agnes Chichester.

In the preliminaries to the will Frederick asks for a plain funeral and to be buried in Charlton Kings and hopes that his wife will be buried beside him. He appoints his wife the guardian of his infant children but if she refuses to act for the daughter Norah Gladys then the guardian is to be Amy Frideswide, the wife of Fitzroy Cowper and a daughter of Frederick's first marriage.

The whole of the Ashley Manor (formerly Oaklands) estate goes to a daughter of Frederick's first marriage Amy Frideswide Cowper on two conditions:-

1. That she survives both Frederick and his wife. (Although Frederick is making the appointment in 1898 it can only become effective when Frederick and his wife are dead. Frederick died in 1909 but his wife was still alive in 1932.)
2. That she and her husband use the arms and surname of Hartland within 12 months of being entitled to the estate and will continue to do so in all deeds. As a concession the Hartland surname may be used with another surname and the arms may be quartered with the family arms.

If the appointment to Amy fails because these conditions are not fulfilled the estate goes to Amy's first son on reaching age 21 providing he adopts the surname and arms of Hartland within 6 months of reaching age 21.

If this appointment fails then the estate goes to the second son subject to the same conditions as for the first son and so on to the other sons in succession.

If no son becomes entitled the estate goes to the first daughter on the same conditions as for the sons, and if this fails to the second daughter and so on.

On the failure of the trust for Amy and her children the Ashley Manor Estate goes to Sir Frederick's daughter Norah Gladys absolutely. Note that there is no condition attached to this succession to the estate.

Of the other property in the Marriage Settlements two thirds goes to Amy Frideswide Cowper absolutely if she survives Frederick and his wife. If she predeceases Frederick and his wife the two thirds goes to whoever succeeds to the Ashley Manor estate subject to the surname and arms condition.

The remaining one third goes to the daughter Norah Gladys Dixon Hartland her heirs executors, administrators and assigns.

Provisions are made should any child of Amy die under 21 within 21 years of Frederick's death or if Amy has no child who becomes entitled or if Norah dies under 21 or unmarried.

The rest of the will deals with the disposition of Frederick's property not in the Marriage Settlements. This property is not detailed in the Ashley Manor Will Book and is left on trust to 3 Trustees including his wife and his brother Ernest Dixon Hartland. The Trustees were also executrix and executors of the will.

Bequests are made to the servants, indoor and outdoor, although these are not listed in the Ashley Manor Will Book.

The Presentation Plate and £8571 are left with the Trustees.

All Frederick's carriages go to his wife absolutely.

Bequests, not listed in the Will Book, are made to Frederick's daughter

Theresa Roma Scott, by his first marriage, if she has not brought action or threatened action. Full details of the contents of the 1st and 2nd codicils to the will are not given in the Ashley Manor Will Book.

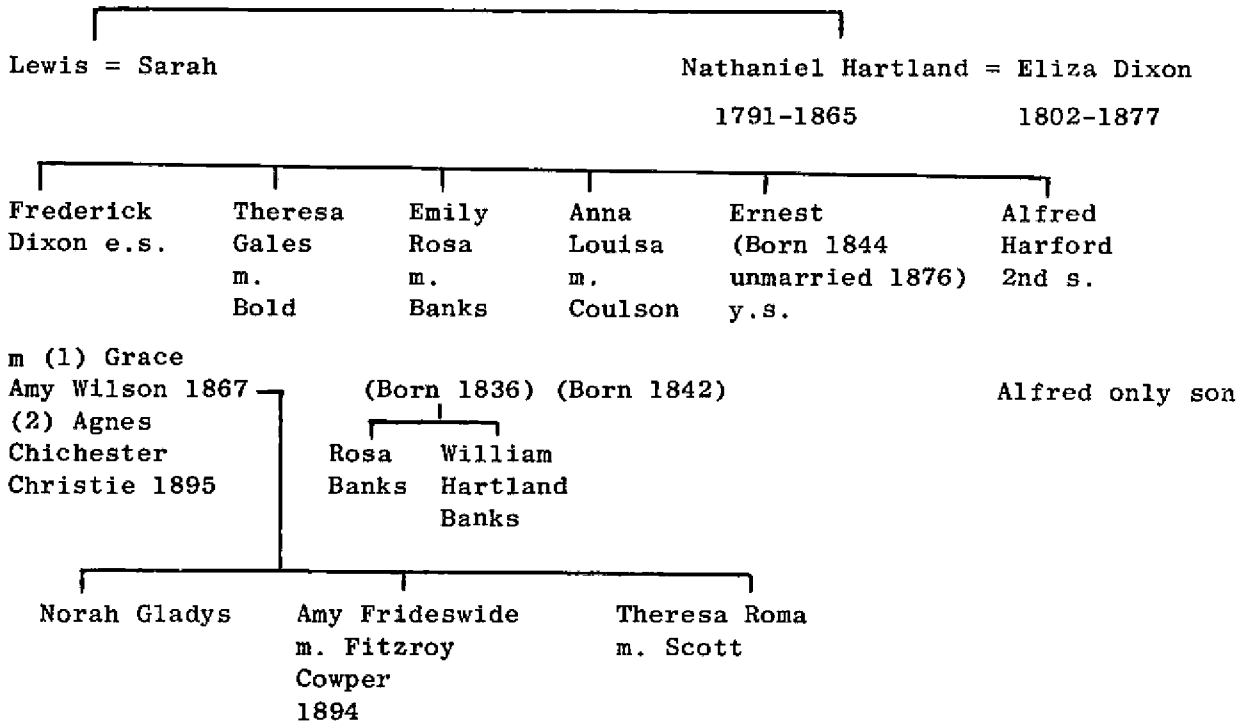
At the time Frederick made his will he was a Baronet and a Member of Parliament. He died at Glyndebourne, Sussex on 15/11/1909 and was buried at Charlton Kings on the 19th November.

The will was proved on 12/3/1910 at the Principal Registry by Lady Hartland and another executor Charles Scott Chad. Sir Frederick's brother Ernest Dixon Hartland renounced Probate on 12/1/1911.

The copy of Sir Frederick's will in the Ashley Manor Will Book is incomplete except as regards the Marriage Settlement property. We shall have to refer to the will itself for full details of the disposition of his own property and the contents of the two codicils.

It is hoped in a future article to give the details of the will not shown in the Ashley Manor Will Book and also to say more about the Marriage Settlements.

The family tree compiled from the wills is as follows:-



E. Armitage

15. CHARLTON CHAPEL AND THE NATIONAL SCHOOL 1836-7

In the account of the National School in Bulletin 3, reference was made to the purchase in September 1837 of a small Nonconformist chapel in Church Piece, to house the pupils from the weekly school previously held at the Poor House. Until now, the denomination of the Chapel, which had been built in 1828, was unknown. However, from the following account in the Cheltenham Chronicle for 22 December 1836, the denomination of the Chapel at the time of its purchase is made clear -

'Charlton Kings National School - The Friends of this Institution having no convenient Room for conducting the education of POOR CHILDREN whose parents wish to avail themselves of the advantages it offers, are desirous of purchasing CHARLTON CHAPEL (now occupied by the Wesleyan Methodists) for its use. They are unable to raise the sum required to complete the purchase and therefore beg leave to introduce the object they have at heart to the notice of the Public and to request their charitable co-operation. Donations will thankfully be received at the Chronicle Office, at Wight's Library, Promenade and by the Reverend J.F.S. Gabb at Charlton Kings.'

Dr S. Blake

16. SEVENTY YEARS AGO

Mr. E.W. Broome of New Milton, Hants, writes:-

On a recent visit to Charlton Kings I was very interested in a historical item in a local publication, which contained photographs of the Infants School and reference to the "Cooper School". I lived in the area about 70 years ago and enclose a photograph taken at the Infants' School about 1909-11. I came to Cheltenham as an orphan in 1909 and lived at a very small general store at the first house on the right in the first turning on the right along Hales Road (now a private house). Where the old people's homes now stand was a small market garden occupied by a childless couple named Winters, who wanted to adopt me. Further along Hales Road in (I believe) a semi-detached house I attended a small school with five or six other small children in the front room of the house. We were taught largely by the use of slates and slate-pencils. At the corner of Hales Road where it joins the main road is a privet hedge which must be over 70 years old. One Sunday morning on the way to church with my aunt, she stopped at the corner to speak to someone, and I, at about 4 years old, picked a leaf of the privet hedge. I straightaway earned myself a public slap for stealing, and was given a lecture!



Does anyone who was at school here in 1909-11 recognise teachers or children?

17. NOTES AND COMMENTS

1. A George III Penny

In May 1980 Mr F. Neather of the Bungalow, School Road, dug up a George III penny dated 1797 in his front garden, which was once part of the Lye field. The coin is in good condition.

2. An Old Charlton Riddle

A 19th century Charlton Riddle is remembered by Mr. W. Keen of Buckle Grange, Brevel Terrace - Why is Charlton Kings the only village where you buy beer by the lb?

The answer is that PoundHouse in Horsefair Street, by the old manor pound for strayed animals, was once a pub.

3. A correction to Bulletin 4 page 28 - Thatched cottage in Horsefair Street

"Mrs Somers" should read "Summers". Mrs Parkes has drawn my attention to an entry in the Parish Magazine for May 1937 - Susanna Summers aged 91 was buried on 7 April 1937.

Mr Kilby says that Mrs Summer's cottage (shown in the photograph in Bulletin 4) had a nest of bees in its thatch which went on for years and years!

4. How Green Was my Charlton! Comments on Charlton Kings by two visitors

- (i) "An American in Gloucestershire--" (BGAS Vol 92 p.177, 1973)

"At the foot of Leckhampton Hill, came by the house and park of Doddington Hunt Esq, and the little village of Charlton which tho within half a mile of Cheltenham is so embowered in trees that neither are to be seen from it. Neat park tho not large, some very fine deer, chiefly the spotted and fallow deer, the largest I have seen in England" - entry for 30 July 1796.

- (ii) The Diary of a Cotswold Parson, the Revd. F.E. Witts 1783-1854
ed. David Verey (1978)

When Witts drove through Charlton Kings on his way to the shop of George Lewis, the monumental sculptor, he commented on "handsome villas in this pretty valley".

He came here again on 22 April 1824. "Walked to the village of Charlton Kings. Since I have been in the interior of this pretty village, several nice villas and genteel cottages have been added to it. The church is undergoing a complete repair; enlarged accommodation and galleries being provided with new pews: the whole will be very neat"

Would any casual visitor call us "embowered in trees" or "pretty" now?

Extracts contributed by M. Greet and S. Fletcher.

18. On Editing Bulletin 5

There is history in the attic
And history on the floor,
And we stumble over history
When we blunder through the door.

There are photos on the table
And maps upon the wall,
And how I'll get the supper laid
I cannot think at all.

There's a man here leaves an 'ayfer'
To his 'darter' fond and dear,
But another's sons annoyed him
And he cut them off, I fear.

They were each to have one shilling
Upon his funeral day.
But what those two young men had done
His will omits to say --

Oh, its really quite exciting
And its well worth all the fuss--
But if the files still multiply
There won't be room for us --

For when the files are ceiling high
And occupy the beds,
We shall have to leave the house to them
And live in tents instead!

J. Paget