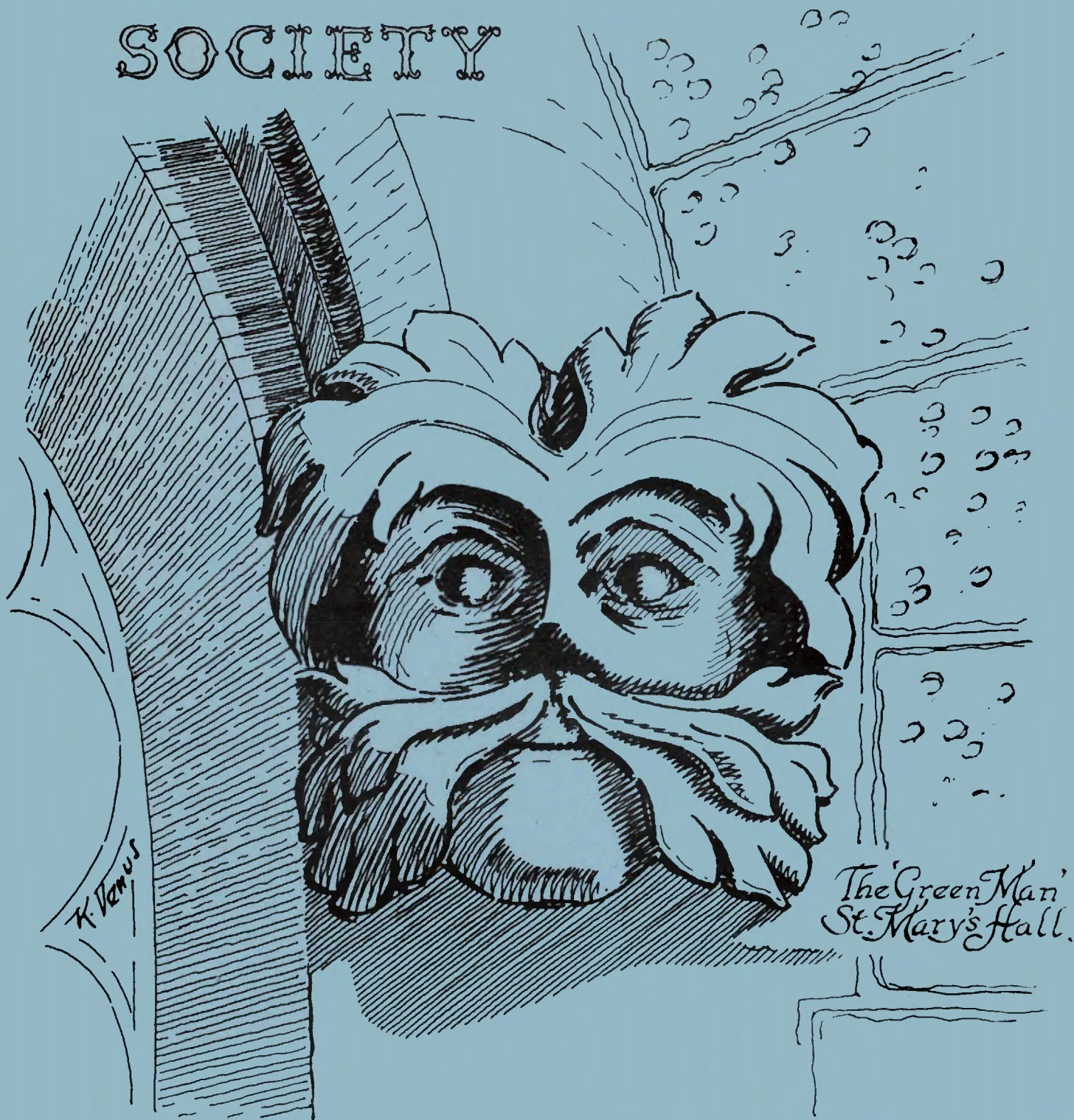


CHARLTON KINGS
LOCAL HISTORY
SOCIETY



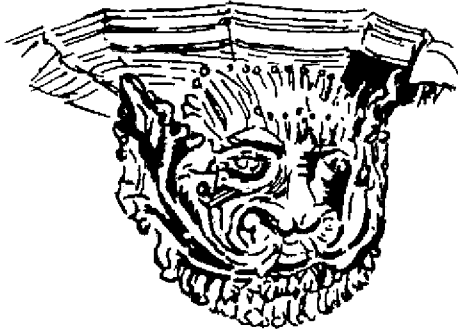
BULLETIN 7

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I. THE GREEN MAN ON ST. MARY'S HALL

The drawing on the cover of this issue of the Bulletin shows the Green Man which forms one of the corbels on St. Mary's Hall (built as the Vestry Hall in 1856 when New Street was made). This Green Man is a late example of a decorative motif which is very old and very wide-spread.



There are many forms of the Green Man or Foliated Head (1). Some are merely human heads peering out from among leaves - some have leaves instead of hair and beard. A few are formed entirely of leaves. Occasionally they take the shape of animal heads, rather of a feline type. Commonly, only the head is carved, but there are complete figures. There is a female of the species, but she (known as Sheila-na-Gig) is not at all a respectable lady, to judge

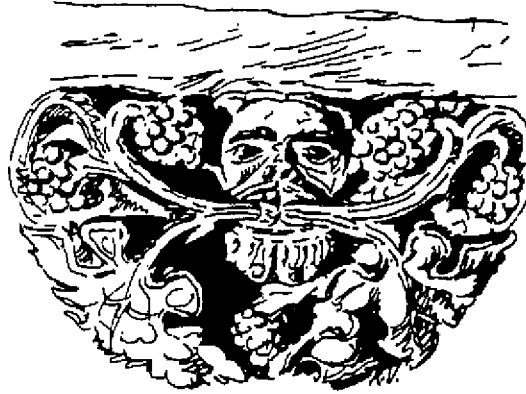
by the carving of her on the apse of Kilpeck church; and this figure is comparatively rare.

The foliated head appears to be pre-Christian in origin and may be derived from classical archetypes. It has some affinities with the male Medusa head, in which hair is replaced with twining snakes, as in the example recovered from the temple of Sulis Minerva at Bath; but male masks with acanthus leaves sprouting from their faces appear in friezes on triumphal arches of Septimus Severus and the Aurelian Temple of the Sun, both in Rome. Another such head can be seen in the British Museum, where it forms the central medallion



of the great Mildenhall silver dish - this is the head of Neptune (Okeanos). He has seaweed or acanthus for his beard and hair, and dolphins swim in and out among the fronds. Specimens of this type of head can be found throughout the old Roman Empire, from Baalbec to Bordeaux; and it is by no means certain that all have the same significance or represent the same deity. I have mentioned Neptune - others may have a Bacchic connotation. In the worship of the god of wine, his followers wore vine leaves in their hair, for so the god is often represented. In time, these

leaves took the place of the hair itself or grew from the mouth. In any case, vine leaves lend themselves to decorative treatment. Certainly foliated heads have been found carved in association with other emblems of Bacchic ritual.



When Europe became Christian, the Green Man or Foliated Head was often employed to ornament churches, and the question arises how this pagan symbol came to be put to such a use. Of course, the earliest Christian churches were built by masons who had learned their craft in the pagan Roman world, and who may themselves have been pagan. Such men may have continued to carve the type of thing they always had carved on holy buildings. On the other hand, it seems odd that their employers permitted pagan symbols unless they had taken on a new meaning. As far as I know, there is no firm evidence on this point. In her book, The Green Man, Kathleen Basford suggests it may have come about in some instances by the re-use of material carved in pagan times, and cites the case of Roman columns with foliated heads on the capitals in Trier Cathedral (these are now covered and are known only from casts). Trier is the Roman Trevium and is remarkably rich in Roman material. The great Lutheran church there is itself a Roman aula.

However it was, the Christian church quickly adopted this motif and carved it on capitals, corbels, roof beams, bench ends, misericords, fonts, tympana, or anything else they wished to enrich with carving. In England, the great period of church building was between Domesday (1086) and the Valorum of 1290, because in this period the great Anglo-Saxon parishes were being divided up, and many castle chapels were developing into parish churches. So it is natural that many such artifacts were carved in the 12th-13th centuries. Examples can be found in many nearby parishes and it is interesting to observe the various forms the creatures take. But although the bulk of the Green Men which survive belong to the high Middle Ages, examples appear earlier and they continued to be carved for centuries afterwards.

It is not at all clear why this symbol was so popular or what meaning it had for those who caused it to be carved. All need not have the same significance. They do not all look alike; some are benign, almost noble; some look evil and devilish. At the simplest they are highly decorative and must have been enjoyable to carve. The Middle Ages had a liking for queer creatures; Mermaids, Dragons, Griffins, and such, all appear in our churches, particularly on misericords where humorous subjects were very common. But if the primary use is as decoration, it does not follow that these subjects had no further purpose. For example, the Mermaid with her looking-glass can be seen as a type of Vanity. Now the Green Man is often considered to be a fertility symbol, part of the whole pattern of sympathetic magic which lingers on in the practice of decorating our houses with evergreens at Christmas, or the rite of making corn dollies

to provide winter homes for the corn spirit and so ensure a good crop the following year. In this guise, the foliated head is seen to be akin to the 'green man' of a morris troupe. This 'green man' wears a frame thatched in with leaves and flowers, so that all that is visible is his face peering through a hole in the leaves, just as in one form of the carved Green Man mentioned above. It is a fact that the gods who probably provided the prototypes for Green Men were gods of fertility.

Another hypothesis is that the carved Green Men are demons. Some of them look like it and undoubtedly they were so interpreted by some churchmen. Rabanus Maurus (c. 784-856) abbot of Fulda and archbishop of Mainz, speaks of them and says the leaves represent the sins of the flesh - these creatures are wicked men doomed to damnation.



But he may have been putting his own meaning on a pre-existing carving. However, in Exeter Cathedral a statue of the Virgin and Child stands on a Green Man and may well refer to Genesis 'He shall bruise thy head'. To come nearer home, in the tympanum of Elkstone church which shows Christ in Majesty, a Green Man is put on the left hand of the central figure, that is, on the side of the damned. On the right he is balanced by an angel. Something of the same arrangement appears in the arch of the church door at Kilpeck, where again the Green Man is on the left. A pointer in the same direction is the fact that many Green Men have their tongues out, as many undoubted demons do. This is said to be because the tongue is an 'unruly member' and difficult to keep from evil. Presumably the leaves which come out of the mouth represent folly, and leaves from eyes, ears, and nose represent the temptations of the senses. At least, any good parish priest instructing his flock, as he was bidden to do, might be forgiven for putting that construction upon such a head.

It may be that Green Men are both fertility symbols and demons, for to a strict cleric a fertility symbol would be a demon. All the gods of the pagans were demons out to delude mortals, as many legends of the early Christian period show.

What we cannot know is what the men who actually did the carving thought they were doing. Even if they carved simply at the bidding of the Master of the Masons, they must have had some idea about it. For that matter, we know no more about the thoughts of whoever carved our own Green Man in 1856.

- (1) Illustrations drawn by K. Venus from photographs taken at Adderbury co Oxon, Kilpeck co Hereford, and Sherborne Abbey co Dorset.

J. Paget

THIS IS THE YEAR OF THE SCOUT, SO WE WELCOME THESE RECOLLECTIONS OF SCOUTING IN CHARLTON KINGS, AND INVITE OTHERS TO RECALL THEIR HIGHLIGHTS FOR ANOTHER ISSUE.

2. CHARLTON KINGS BOY SCOUTS (7 CHELTENHAM TROOP)

If anyone put the Boy Scout Movement fairly and squarely on the map of Charlton Kings, it was Mr. F.J. FRY, at that time headmaster of the Council School. He never took rank in the movement, he was seldom seen on parade with the troop, but his presence was always felt. He was the Secretary, the impetus, the drive and power that started things and kept them going. As soon as the movement was founded, in 1910, he saw immediately the value its influence could be to the insular, growing, English boy, and he spared no energy to get it started here in the village. That in my opinion was the true conception of the 7th CHELTENHAM TROOP, BOY SCOUTS.

And if the Boss placed the movement on the map of the village, surely it was Mr. E.J. FEAR who nailed it home; nailed it so soundly that even now, some seventy years afterwards it is still going as strong as ever it did.

Of course their work was not always simultaneous, indeed, Mr. Fear did not join the troop till 1914. In the early days when the Secretary was getting the basis of the troop in order, Mr FEAR was not even a member of the troop!



His years of preparation had yet to come but eventually the complementary gifts of the two men produced the stuff of which the 7th Cheltenham Troop is made and many who have passed through the troop have made it a youth movement, the value and durability of which the village can be justly proud.

The Secretary had done his preparation work well. To begin with, he had got together an enthusiastic and generous Committee. Fitting out a brand-new troop of Scouts demands a capital outlay quite outside the normal budgeting of a boy of the village. On more than one occasion I knew the committee members to advance the cash until the boys could refund it. Capt McBEAN became the Chairman and Mr SHARPE the Hon. Treasurer. There was also Major RUSSELL, Major DUDGEON, and later the Revd BOOTH. The one lady on the committee at the time was Mrs GRIFFITHS, whose loyalty and generosity to the troop earned her the name of the Troop's Fairy Godmother.

At the beginning Mr H. ADDIS was invited to act as Scoutmaster. He was an assistant master at the school and just about then as Assistant S.M. they appointed Mr. H. FRY. So when these officers had received their warrants, the 7th Cheltenham was in business, so to speak.

The Troop started early in 1910. It nearly missed being somebody's valentine, if that doesn't sound too frivolous. What I mean was, the inaugural meeting was on Feb. 15th. This gave the troop plenty of preparatory time before August if a camp was to be contemplated in the first year. But at that time the camp, I felt, was more a wish than a reality. There was little experience in the troop and I could see less among the officers. In fact in our group of officers, at the moment, I felt that the thought of camp was considered with some apprehension.

The whole country, having been pre-occupied with a war, felt it was now time to do something about the country's youth and its leisure hours. What I think B.P. really invented was a new supplementary system of education. Peace was in the air and for the first time strong political bodies were supporting it. So scouting was stressed by the Chief as a movement of education and peace, never as a preparation for war.

Little of interest happened during the first summer. Troops were forming around us and a troop of CHELTENHAM COLLEGE day boys was formed by Mr. L. BARNARD, who seemed to be forming a CHELTENHAM GROUP and at the time was acting as Secretary. He frequently appeared at the 7th CHELTENHAM meetings; and when in the early summer he said that they considered having a camp at Deerhurst and would the 7th join them? it turned out that at this stage a union would suit both troops well. A small camp was usually a poor one and as both troops could not have been shorter on experience, perhaps this was the best way to collect it. Then, troops tended to acquire camp equipment as they grew older. This of course lessened the initial outlay on each camp, so at this stage both troops could do with any assistance that was available.

The 7th had three bell-tents that they could contribute which had been bought as part-worn government stock, and beyond that, little else. But it shows how much those in charge trusted their own equipment - they had also hired a small marquee. I must admit that its main object was to be a small common mess. They wished the maximum time spent on "training" and I suppose they did not consider the production and presentation of meals ----- training. But that marquee served us a purpose we never could

have envisaged!

I have been on many camps since then and much of all camps must show some similarity to others. But one thing stood out about the DEERHURST camp - the weather. We had ideal weather most of the day but round about tea time, on most days, heavy and beautiful cumulus built up over Wales, sailed majestically east, and then drifted leisurely up the river. We were certain to catch one, I thought - and we did. It hit us after midnight about three days before we struck camp.

For a while it was intense, the rain, hail, and dramatic lighting having a quite awe-inspiring effect and as the thunder rolled through the valley, one had the sense of living in titanic power. The awe-inspiring effect almost developed fear as the whole scene was violently and spasmodically lighted with dazzling lightning. And then we found the old tents could not stand the deluge. Tent after tent began to let in water and both boys and their belongings were getting saturated. A short conference was held, the result of which was that all the Troop was crammed, beds and bodies, into the marquee. There they would be warm, safe, and dry; but I was certain there would be little sleep.

The S.M. and I stood at the door of the marquee and watched the storm. It was spectacular and we were both a bit absorbed when we were struck by some form of action in the distance where the end of our lines were --- near No 3 tent. It was a flickering light in the shadow, as if someone was working in the dark. The S.M. turned to the troop in the marquee and after a quick check said "That's someone of No 3 Tent, its Smith. What's he doing out there now? Get him in with the rest."

On the face of it, it appeared somewhere the 7th Chelt. discipline had broken. If this was a touch of mutiny, it was quite out of keeping with BENJI SMITH. I thought I knew. You have never met BENJI. I introduced you to his father, remember? the Plymouth Brethren friend of mine who had been a shepherd. Benji was one of his younger sons. He had left school and was apprenticed to Mr LEWIS in Cudnall as a shoemaker. While in camp Benji had suggested he should bring his tools and be responsible for 'running repairs'. Somewhere here I felt certain lay the explanation of the dancing light.

I pulled on the mackintosh cape, grabbed a stave, and plunged into a dark, pulsating, night and made through the drenching rain towards the flickering light on the opposite ridge. It was only about 80 yards to go - but what a trip!

However, after what felt like a truly homeric struggle against the elements, I stopped in front of an old army bell-tent, a mass of torn, saturated, dirty canvas. In the centre sat a small boy intently concentrating on an uncongenial piece of tent repairing, while the storm continued to rage as a dramatic background all along the valley.

The weak part of the old tent had let Benji down. The dolly which holds the centre pole into its socket was saturated and worn and torn, and Ben wished to mend it so that it could dry and be in use again as quickly as possible. Until this was accomplished everything was subordinate to the one idea. But his S.M. had other ideas.

So I collected Benji and we collected his tools and we set out along the muddy track to the bright lights of the marquee. As I trudged along by

his side, I wondered at the single-mindedness of so young a craftsman, and felt slightly humiliated. He had given his word to be responsible for minor repairs and he was not being allowed to honour his word. Again I found my impish imagination wondering whether St Paul at such an early age faced his troublesome problems in such a determined and resolute manner --- because he too was a tent-maker, wasn't he?

Postscript

When the writer was approached to produce for us a history of the 7th Chelt. B.P. Scouts, he declined because so many records turned out so similar, merely the names of those running the troop showing a difference. By recounting an accepted selection of troop anecdotes, he hopes, not only to produce most of the troop history, but also much of the troop spirit.

G. Ryland

3. A CHARLTON SCOUT: AND THE REAL STARLIGHT

My parents purchased a house in Cirencester Road in 1903, where we lived until 1924. I attended the Infants School in 1906 and thence to the Boys until 1912. (I have studied the photograph on page 64 in Bulletin No 5 and I am almost certain that the lady on the left of the picture was Mrs. Roberts the headmistress).

I remember Mr. Ryland, my teacher for a time in the Boys School and our Scout master, asking me to don my Scout uniform and bring my drum, as he wished to do a water colour. This was subsequently framed and hung on the wall of the Scout HQ. I wonder if it is still there - a round shouldered little scout complete with his drum!

My scouting activities covered the period 1913 until 1918 and I attended the annual camps as follows:-

Portishead 1913; Winchcombe 1914; Twynning 1915; Bredon 1916;
Chedworth 1917; Coberley 1918

I am not quite certain of the exact sequence but I think the above is fairly accurate. These events were all enjoyed and uneventful. I apologise if I chronicle the minutest trivialities but they still stand out in my mind. The first three camps were combined affairs, in fact, they were quite large camps. Owing to the outbreak of hostilities in 1914, some scout troops were unable to come, their tents having been commandeered by the military. At Twynning Mr Ryland hired a rowing boat for the duration of the camp, thus we had the added pleasure of going into the water and on the water. The sole accident there happened to "Cub" Harris who injured a knee in a jumping competition and was unable to walk. When we struck camp he steered the boat back to Tewkesbury and Mr Ryland carried him to our conveyance. I recall one accident during the camp at Bredon when on a Sunday evening a boy named White cut himself rather badly with an axe. It was decided that the wound should be looked at by the District Nurse. She was in church and someone had to go there and ask her to come to the camp. She bound up the cut and gave him a

sleeping tablet to take later. When he popped this in his mouth, he fell back on his bed, to the consternation of his fellows who had never before seen such quick-acting pills! It was, of course, a pretence, his little joke. Wherever we camped, we were always on the look out for somewhere to swim and at Coberley, Mr Wilson who lived at Coberley Mill allowed us to swim in the mill pond when the water-wheel was not turning to grind the corn. At Chedworth we discovered the River Coln, inside two miles from our camp.

We had a pretty fair Bugle Band at Charlton Kings and although there was not at that time a Noise Abatement Act, practices were carried out in Timbercombe Lane, so I do not remember any complaints. During the early days of the War, the band was roped in for recruiting. The gentleman from Dowdeswell Court lent his car and chauffeur to take the band to Cotswold Villages. Local dignitaries would mount a farm wagon and harangue the crowd, the theme being "Your King and Country Need You". Having made up their minds, the volunteers would form up behind the Bugle Band and march off to the place of enrolment. Later on, the professionals took over; the Band of the 1st Glos Regiment came up from Horfield Barracks, Bristol, and toured the Cotswold towns and villages to assist in the recruiting drives, and the Charlton Scouts' Bugle Band was made redundant!

In 1914 at Winchcombe, we camped close to St James's Troop of which Mr Tom Parker was scoutmaster; and in 1928, on marriage, I purchased a house in Naunton Park Road, and Mr Parker was living two doors away!

During our camp at Coberley, a lady living in the village passed away. The Vicar asked if any of our scouts were choristers. I don't think any sang in Charlton Kings church but about eight of us offered to sing at the funeral, augmenting the choir to ten! This we did and although the purity of tone may have compared unfavourably with professional choirs, the Vicar was most grateful for our efforts, as were the mourners who after the service came to express their thanks. On that sombre note, I will close this section!

"Starlight"

I was interested to read about "Starlight" (Bulletin 5 pp 2-4). Many people in the village knew Mo Davis, and if anyone still has doubts, his christian name was Moses. I remember going to Old Dole Farm with my mother and her mother, for a week, and meeting Mrs. Birchall, she and her husband owned Old Dole - I was about six at the time, it would have been in the summer of 1908. My grandmother and Mrs. Birchall were friends. The farm passed to Mr. E.C. Davis in 1919 and then to his son, Moses. When Mr and Mrs Davis moved to California Farm in the late 1940s, Old Dole was bought by Mr Tuffley who in turn sold it to Mrs Cordeaux. Bob Davis, Mo's son, bought his old home in 1957 and the farm was purchased by Doctor and Mrs Macklow, who you doubtless know have recently passed away.



The Real Starlight and his Master

My wife, I, and my son, knew the Davises well, we had our first country holiday with them at Old Dole Farm in 1939, and again two or three years later, in 1943. Old Dole must have been bursting at the seams because there were in all fifteen people staying there! several doing war work in Cheltenham. When we were staying with Mr and Mrs Davis at Old Dole Farm in the summer of 1939, for the children's amusement Mr Davis borrowed a donkey from Mr Tom Roberts of Castle Barn Farm, which is at the far side of Old Dole Wood. When giving the children a ride towards the wood, the animal would move with gusto, it thought it was going home, and when we turned it round for the return journey, it moved with the utmost reluctance, in fact, it was quite difficult to persuade it to move at all!



"Myself, Mrs. Davis, my son in front and Bob Davis, not forgetting the donkey"

S.C. Welch

4. A ROMAN SETTLEMENT ON WISTLEY HILL

In April 1980 Mr J.A. Norman, when building his new farmhouse at Vineyards Farm, Charlton Kings, found a stone column which he took to Gloucester Museum where it was identified as Roman. Mr Norman was keen to find out more about the site and he invited my wife and me to look at it. The house and garages were already built, but there was plenty of evidence in the form of Roman pottery etc. coming up from service trenches. We were asked to start an excavation, and with assistance throughout from the Norman family we worked on the site in the evenings and most weekends of the summers of 1980 and 81.

The position of the site, at about 750 ft O.D., lies on a ledge below a steep drop of oolitic freestone of about 80 ft and looks west from Wistley Hill towards the northern edge of Leckhampton Hill with an extensive view over the Severn Valley north of Gloucester.

The excavation in the immediate area to the north of the new house and around the garage revealed cobbled surfaces across which a trackway led to the north-west. A trial trench up the steep incline behind the new house led to the discovery of a fallen wall with a scatter of wall plaster with traces of red, ochre and blue paint. Another wall, presumably of a

building, ran below this on the platform ledge; also with much painted plaster near it. These discoveries lead to the assumption of the presence of a Roman house of some quality, which I still hesitate to call a villa because we are uncertain of the purpose to which such a building would be put at this place. There is much evidence of quarrying, and it is, maybe, this that brought the Romans to the site. One of the two prehistoric pits discovered had pottery in it which could be immediately pre-Roman; so the ledge was probably already occupied at the beginning of the Roman period. The other factor leading to the Roman occupation may have been the position of the site as a viewpoint either for peaceful or military purposes. The finding of a V-shaped ditch with material dating from AD 60 to AD 150 in its fill is interesting in that this is too early for the standard type of villa in this area. There is, however, plenty of later pottery which would be of the right date for a villa. Hypocaust flue tiles for a heating system and roof tiles both of fired clay and stone, as well as many shaped building stones have been found; but no mosaic floors as yet.

Apart from signs of buildings, two ovens and a corndrier have been excavated. The circular oven with a stone slab floor had a rough curving wall on its south-west side, either for shelter, or as a support for some container. It is impossible to say for what exactly the oven was used; bread baking is always a possibility. Some doubts on the uses to which a "corndrier" was put have been expressed recently in archaeological journals. However, these structures which were common in Britain and Northern Gaul in the fourth century may have had several purposes when a slow heat was necessary for drying. Our example is T-shaped. The long flue had the furnace at the open end, the heat flowing under a double floor of roof tiles, and out of the narrow cross branches. None of the floor remained in situ, but many broken stone tiles were found in immediate proximity. The double floor is to prevent the grain or whatever was being dried from scorching.

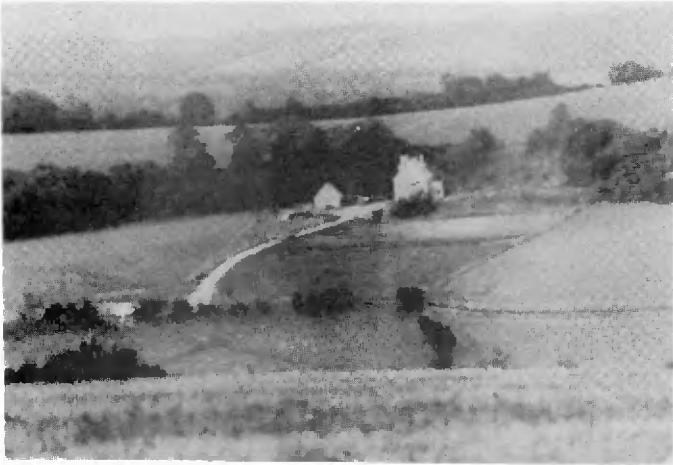
Neighbouring settlement sites are in Dowdeswell, Coberley and Cowley parishes. The small Roman town of Wycomb is only four miles away at Andoversford. Vineyards Farm is about equidistant from the important Roman towns at Cirencester and Gloucester.

It is hoped to continue excavation in 1982. The site is on private land and there is no public access to it.

BERNARD RAWES

Illustrations (The rod used for scale is 1 metre long)

- 1 View of the new farm house from Charlton Common, Leckhampton Hill.
- 2 A Roman wall at the bottom of the steep slope.
- 3 The courses of the fallen wall of a building.
- 4 The corndrier with the furnace in the foreground.
- 5 The broken column.
- 6 The circular oven. Entrance hob to the left.



1



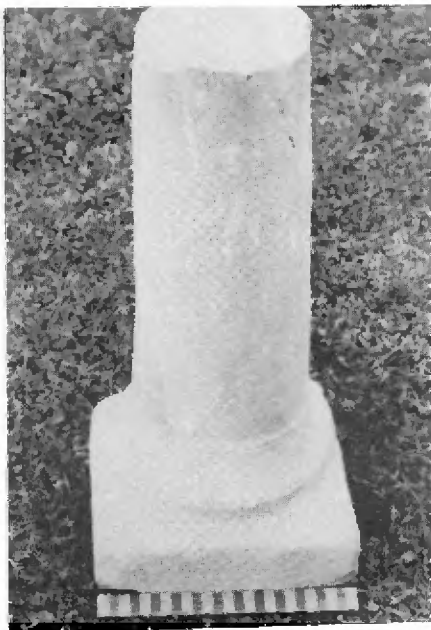
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6

5. THE NAME "VINEYARDS"

The earliest reference so far found to Vineyards is in 1599, when three tenants were appointed by Cheltenham manor court to view a hedge between Milkewell and le Wyniards, which was in dispute between William Ridgedale and John Currier. Ten years later, another dispute arose about boundaries "lying in a certain place called Wynnyad", this time between William Rudgetall and Nicholas Welles. (1) There is no suggestion in this that grapes were then grown at Vineyards; on the contrary. But at sometime in the past they probably had been.

The period of maximum vine-growing in this area was the 12th-13th centuries. Only one vineyard (at Stonehouse) is mentioned in Domesday in 1086. But, to quote H.P.R. Finberg (2) "a generation later William of Malmesbury describes the Vale of Gloucester as the principal wine-growing district in England; according to his enthusiastic report, it produced a liquor hardly inferior to the best growths of France. The same chronicler dilates on the abundance of fruit trees in the Vale. His observations are borne out by several entries on the Pipe Rolls of 1184, recording sales of wine and cider from the Earl of Gloucester's manors and the cost of tending the earl's vineyard at Tewkesbury. Somewhat later we hear of vineyards at Churchdown and Over, at Badgeworth and Henbury and also - improbable as it may sound - at Cold Aston ---"

So the place-name Vineyard found here and in other places nearby may well date back to this prosperous era, before deterioration in climate and increasing imports of wine from France brought wine making to an end. Whether it can possibly go back to Roman times is another question. (3)

(1) GRO D855 M 7 f.130 and M8 f.48

(2) H.P.R. Finberg The Gloucestershire Landscape (1955, reprinted in 1975) pp 66-7

(3) Peter Salway Roman Britain (1981) pp 654-5 remarks "The evidence for British vine-growing is so far exceedingly thin, though there is some reason to think this may partly be due to inadequate recording in past excavations. Only at Gloucester is there anything remotely satisfactory, and that is from report of a nineteenth century find and has little detail".

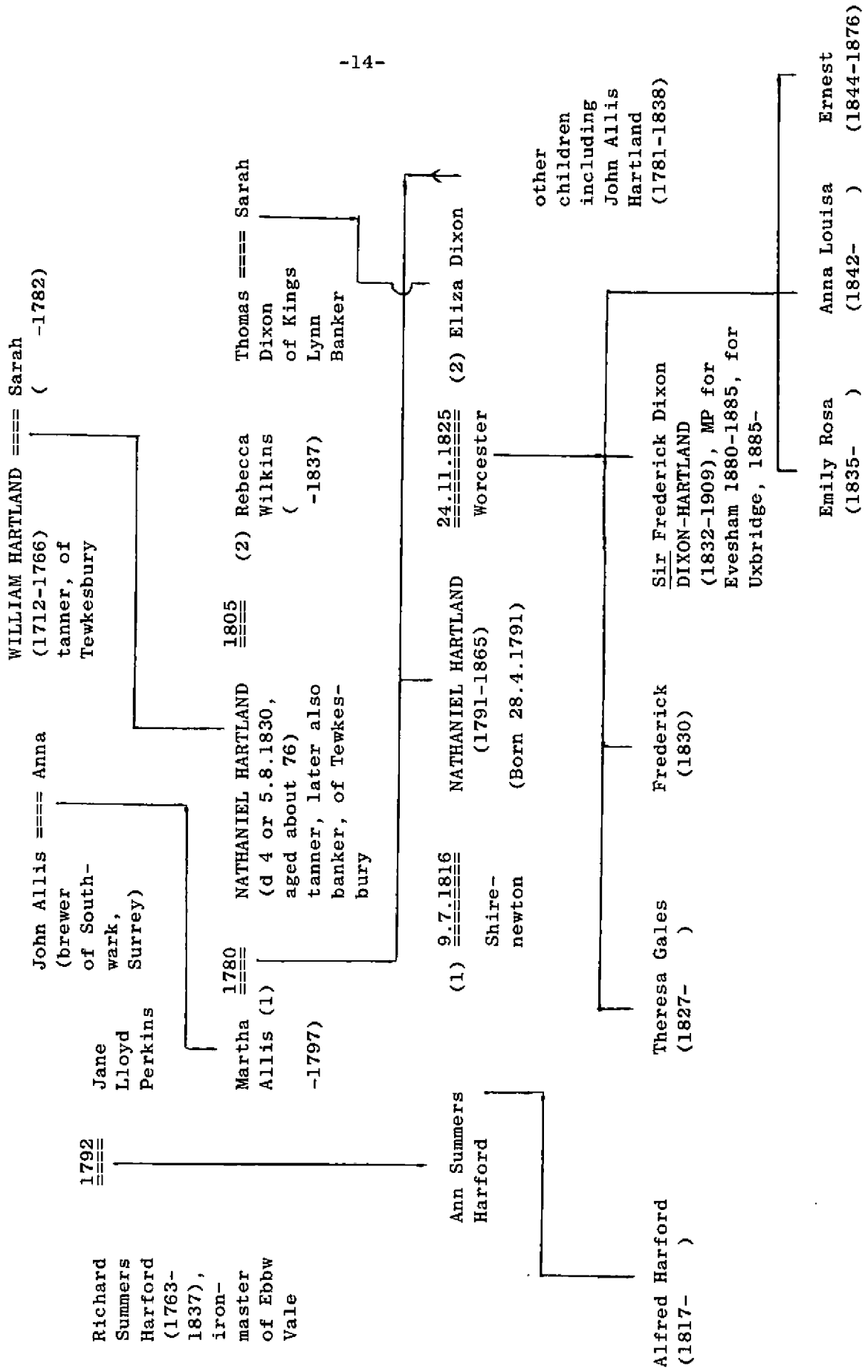
M. Paget

6. THE HARTLAND PEDIGREE

This information about the ancestry of Nathaniel Hartland of The Oaklands, and his links with other important Quaker families has been supplied by Malcolm Thomas, Librarian at Friends House, Euston Road. I am very grateful to him for the trouble he has taken to answer my first question, Was Nathaniel Hartland a member of the Society of Friends?, an idea suggested by the dating in his private ledger. All included on the first family tree were Friends, except the children born after 1835.

M. Paget

I.



II. The Hartland link with the Lloyds of Dolobran

LLOYD OF DOLOBRAN (information from Sandys B. Foster The pedigree of Wilson of High Wray and Kendal, 2nd ed (1890))

Charles Lloyd
1662-1748
m. Sarah d. of
Ambrose Crowley
Sampson Lloyd
of Leominster and
Birmingham, iron
merchant 1664-
↓

Charles of Dolobran
1697-1767

m. Jane d of Rd Wilkins

Charles
1726-1773
unm.
James
(sold Dolobran
1780) unm.

Jane Lloyd
1728-
m. Lewis Owen of
Tyddyn-y-Gareg

Hannah Lloyd
1735-
5 other sisters
m. Robert Perkins of London

3 sons d young

Jane m. John Lewis
of Trewerne
c. 1755-1801

Jane Lloyd Perkins
1772-1841 (died at Cheltenham)
m (1792) Richard Summers Harford
of Ebbw Vale ironmaster

Owen Lewis
1778-1833
m. Mary Ann
Davis

James Hanbury Lewis
1781-1846, unm.

John Lewis of
Cheltenham
1783-1875
m. (1819) SARAH d. of
NATHANIEL HARTLAND
of Tewkesbury banker

Summers
Harford
of Sirhowy
1795-1873
ironmaster
and of Cheltenham
1799-1882
Evesham banker

Charles
Lloyd Harford
of Ebbw Vale
ironmaster
1818 m (1816)
NATHANIEL
HARTLAND of
Evesham banker

ALFRED HARFORD HARTLAND
1817-

m (1848) SARAH HANNAH d. of Colonel

WILLIAM MEALL BNI, of Brixton
House Charlton Kings (later
called The Grange)

ALFRED HARTLAND 1849-

WILLIAM HARFORD HARTLAND

EDWARD LEWIS HARTLAND

1874-

1876-

"The Woodlands" built by Ogilvy.
The wall has been cut away to
accommodate Hartland's window.



Note the capital and the curve
of the windows on the bow



"The Oaklands" built by Hartland



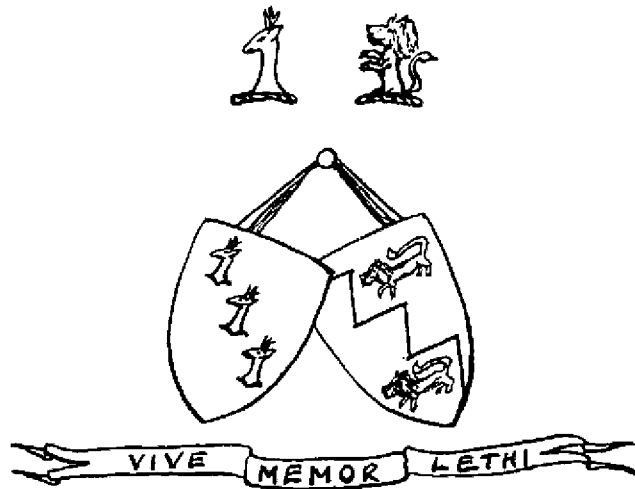
Round the corner - the gothic
window to the dining-room

Tracery and fine plaster work in
the dining room



The gazebo

NATHANIEL HARTLAND
AND
THE OAKLANDS



(1)

PL '81

With the death of Lady Agnes Dixon-Hartland on November 4th, 1955, a month short of her 95th birthday, the association of the Hartland family with what was by then called Ashley Manor came to an end. Although this association had lasted nearly 120 years, it had involved only two generations, as Lady Agnes was the second wife of Sir Frederick Dixon Dixon-Hartland (2), who had been her senior by 28 years and whose widow she had been for 46 years (3).

Following her death, the contents of the house were sold and, after standing nearly empty for two years, the property was bought for use as a school by the English Province of the Order of the Brothers of the Blessed Virgin Mary of Mount Carmel - popularly known as the Carmelites, or Whitefriars (from the colour of their cowls). In the meantime, someone had apparently attempted to tidy up whatever 'rubbish' was left in the house: fortunately, the attempt was half-hearted and from the remains of a bonfire the Friars recovered a charred leather-bound ledger. A roll of prints and plans was also found; these have been restored and framed and comprise:

- a. Two lithographs by George Rowe (who produced a series of Cheltenham views) of a view of the house from the S.E.;
- b. A lithograph by the same artist, showing the carriage drive and house from the S.W.;
- c. A plan of the estate, undated, but pre-1855;
- d. A plan of the estate by W. Croome, dated 1846.

A third copy of the S.E. view and a second copy of the S.W. view were sold - but remain in the parish. The ledger reveals that 'Rowe' was paid £45 on Nov. 25th, 1846, and that 'Croome' had been paid 5 guineas on April 17th of that year.

Though charred on the edge opposite the spine, the ledger is virtually complete; relatively few figures in its columns have been lost and a detailed examination of its contents has added considerably to what was known of the 'Ashley Manor' property. The business aspects of the book

are to be examined in a separate article, but an outline will set Nathaniel Hartland in context. William Hartland (1712-1766), his grandfather, was a tanner in Tewkesbury and a member of the Society of Friends (4); William's son, Nathaniel (who died in August, 1830, aged c.76), followed his father in both respects, but also became a banker. In 1780 he married Martha Allis, daughter of a Southwark brewer, and their children included John Allis Hartland and Nathaniel Hartland junior, born respectively in 1781 and 1791. Martha died in 1797 and in 1805 Nathaniel Hartland, senior, married Rebecca Wilkins.

Apart from Tewkesbury, the banking firm had branches in Evesham, Cheltenham and Upton-on-Severn, with agencies elsewhere. During the financial crisis of 1825 the firm closed for two months, but was able to pay 20/- in the pound and reopened as Hartland, Prior, Proctor & Easthope. The Upton branch was not reopened and Nathaniel Hartland, junior, became responsible for the Evesham branch and lived in that town. In Cheltenham, the Market Place had been removed from the High Street and 'the pile of building in High Street, recently used as the Market House has been remodelled, and converted into a banking establishment, under the firm of Hartland and Sons' (Bettison's History of Cheltenham, 1825, pp. 85-6). (5) By 1834, their father and one or two partners having died, Nathaniel, junior, and his elder brother John (who died late in 1838) merged the firm with the newly-formed Gloucestershire Banking Company, receiving £5050 for 'the goodwill of our entire business'. Nathaniel, however, continued to live in Evesham and to be paid for superintending the branch, which was 22 miles from the Head Office in Gloucester. Indeed, it was only because Hartland was known as 'a good banker and a very prudent man' that the Bank had agreed to take on such a distant branch. In 1836 he was required to become General Superintendent of the Bank; this necessitated his living nearer to Gloucester and led to his purchasing the property in Charlton Kings which we know as Ashley Manor. Nevertheless, he continued to have control of the Evesham branch, and in 1837 he received £500 for its superintendence. By 1840 his salary was derived partly from Evesham and partly from superintending the Head Office, though it appears to have risen to £800 p.a., his duties at Gloucester attracting the further £300. The ledger entries are not wholly clear, but in 1847 and 1848 he evidently received the large sum of £1000 p.a., this then dropping to £900 p.a. until he transferred his accounts to another volume, in 1859.

His stepmother, Rebecca, died about March, 1837, and this may have eased the sale of the Evesham house (which apparently included the bank premises) to the Gloucestershire Bank for £3500, in April of that year. The Cheltenham Bank House was also sold to the parent Bank in 1837, for £1451.5.8, and in December the Tewkesbury Bank premises were likewise sold, for £1429.6.10. Whatever proportion of these sums his brother received, Nathaniel was already laying out his own capital and by April, 1837, had completed negotiations with Alexander Ogilvy of London for the property in Charlton Kings, then known as Woodlands. The sum agreed was £3500 (the £1400 mentioned in Bulletin 5, pp.52-3 evidently referring only to part of the transaction) and the details of the sale were:

1837		£	s	d
April	Alexander Ogilvy of London in part payment of Woodlands for £3500	1000	-	-
Apr 25	Weedon & Addison bill for Conveyance of Woodlands	94	-	-

		£	s	d
Dec 1	A. Ogilvy	1000	-	-
4	D. ^o	50	-	-
15	Berkeley's Mortgage for Ogilvy	1500	-	-
30	Ogilvy for balance of interest (...?) the deposit of Berkeley's Mortgage	13	5	3

For his outlay, Nathaniel Hartland had acquired a fraction over 30 acres of land and a house which still forms part of the North wing of the present building. The general features of this block are in typical 'Regency' style; the cellars beneath it are older than those under the rest of the house and include some window openings which would, presumably, have been half below ground level. Ogilvy's house was seemingly modest in size and does not appear to have been orientated to make the most of the pleasant views its position could have afforded. Extensive additions were planned, and the architect seems to have been C. Baker, then practising in Cheltenham (Lee's Guide to Cheltenham, 1837), for in the autumn of 1838 Hartland paid 'Baker & Son bill re O.' (i.e. Oaklands, see below) £17.10.0. The builder was Robert Williams, to whom a total of £3233.18.6 (including £163.18.6 for 'Extras') was paid between 18th July and 18th December, 1837. The thirteen separate payments were usually made at fortnightly intervals, though the first two, for £150 each, were made within a few days of each other.

These payments were in respect of 'Woodlands', but as soon as the mortgage had been paid off in December the name of the property was altered to 'The Oaklands', a subtle, but suitably impressive, change. Williams was paid £200 on 15th January, 1838, but the weather must have held up his operations for two months. Payments began again on 19th March, ending on 19th November: individual payments seem to have been made in cash (one, for £10, being to 'Robt & Emanuel Williams re O.'), except for £300 settled by 'Note at Bank' and the final payment of £428.2.6 'on Bond'. The total paid to Williams in 1838 was £2488.2.6, making the total cost of the fabric and evident alterations to part of the old house £5722.1.0 - the whole building having been completed in sixteen months, or fourteen, if we allow for the two months when work was evidently suspended. By this time, Hartland was using the ledger (Evesham Private Ledger B, as it is marked) as his private account book; a column of folio references against almost all the entries shows that items were transferred to this volume from others, or from a file of bills, which would have shown the detailed work for which payments were made. Thus, many of the payments to Williams must refer to the work of subcontractors engaged by him (which would account for many of the sums paid in the latter part of 1838 being relatively small): for instance, there are no entries specified for painting and decorating before May, 1840, and there are no items relating to the very fine plasterwork in the house - this being largely 'Greek' in inspiration, in keeping with the general style of the new building.

Fortunately, other items relating to the completion of the building are found:

		£	s	d
1837				
Aug 15	Sundries at the Woodlands	33	1	10
Dec 29	Jn. ^o Cook for Marble Chimney pieces	50	14	0

1838		£	s	d
Jan 1	Jas Snelling for lead pipe from Well syphon	27	16	6
?	J. Alexander Grates for Oaklands	20	0	0
Jun 25	Oaklands sundries	72	3	2
Aug 13	Snelling re Oaklands	15	0	6
1839				
Feb	Window	15	0	0
May 2	Humphries window	18	0	0
?	Stephens for Gothic Chimney piece	4	10	0

Of these items, the marble chimney pieces would seem to be those still in situ, but the 'Gothic' one cannot be identified; the grates appear to be the original ones, those on the ground floor being so designed that the ash from them could be riddled straight down to the cellars - a practical refinement which, one feels, would have appealed to the owner of the new property. Of the windows mentioned, one may well be the gothic east window of the original dining room, on the south-east corner of the house; it has an interesting medley of stained glass in its small upper lights and perhaps the 'Gothic' chimney piece was installed to match it. (Now the reception room, this apartment is still largely furnished as a dining room and is very much what Thomas Sheraton, writing in 1803, thought such a place should be: 'of bold and accommodating proportions. The large sideboard, inclosed or surrounded with Ionic pillars; the handsome and extensive dining table...the large face glass...' - all these are evident, except that the glass is flanked by Corinthian pillars, of painted wood, and Sheraton would note the absence of 'the family portraits'). The well from which the lead pipe was laid was some 150 yards NNE of the house and the undated plan of the estate (see above) notes that water flowed from it to 'the top of the House'.

Much work was also being done in the grounds:

1837				
Aug 16	Danks for roads &c. at Woodlands	249	10	0
Oct ?	Bridge repairing	16	19	6
Dec 11	Danks for excavations drains &c.	41	18	0
1838				
?	R.E. Marshall for iron fence bill	71	2	6
Dec 3	Darby re Greenhouse	220	0	0
1839				
Jan 14	To Cha ^S . Smith Hurdles & Fence	16	12	0
Apr 19	Gardner for Pedestals	11	10	0
29	Shill gravel &c.	21	0	0
Oct 11	Darby	20	6	0

A good deal of iron fencing still remains on the estate and could well date back to this time; the greenhouse mentioned stood to the east of the south front and appears on Rowe's S.E. view (set back by the artist to be included in the composition) as what would today be termed an orangery, with stone-faced or plastered walls and tall windows between the pilasters.

These items (and others which cannot be attributed to specific features) amount to some £700, while the additional items in respect of the house itself bring the cost of the latter to almost £6000. Hartland's modus vivendi had changed considerably, as had the property he owned, so that a payment on 4th March, 1839, to his solicitors, Winterbotham & Co., of £2 're my Will', is not unexpected.

Where the family lived during the building of the new house is not known, but they could have used the house which Hartland owned, 5 Paragon Buildings, in Bath Road, Cheltenham, a property which also features in entries in the ledger. However, it seems likely that they moved into The Oaklands in February, 1838, though perhaps only into the older part of the building, for in that month begin payments for 'Housekeeping' or to 'E.H.' (Hartland's wife). These were not made regularly once a month, but there were twelve payments for a year, each for the then large sum of £50. However, out of this amount must have come the wages of the indoor staff - and probably of the outdoor staff, too - for no separate entries are made for these. (Some names are given in the 1851 census, though there seems to have been no resident cook; 'U' signifies 'Unmarried':

Jane M. Gowdie	U	21	Governess	Scotland
James Day	U	32	Butler	Llandudno
Emma Day	U	30	Ladysmaid	Llandudno
Elizabeth Rodman	U	19	House servant	Alingham, Glos
Elizabeth Margaret	U	22	House servant	Leigh, Glos
Esther Pearce	U	27	House servant	Stroud

The Days would seem to have been brother and sister: in a codicil to his will in April, 1866, Hartland left these 'old and faithful servants' £100 each. In Eliza Hartland's will, 1873, and a codicil, 1876, her 'faithful friend' Emma Day was to receive £500, the clock in the dressing room, Eliza's clothes and the furniture in Emma's rooms, except the large wardrobe and window fittings; her 'faithful servant and friend' James Day was to receive £500, 6 sheep and 1 cow; her 'faithful servants' Mary Harris and Rhoda Newman were to have £50 apiece and the coachman, James Perry, £25, provided they were with her at the time of her death.)

Work about the house and grounds was still not complete and for some time the family must have been inconvenienced by the various improvements. Of the following entries (others which are not identifiable being omitted) those relating to one or other Williams presumably referred to minor building work, maybe outbuildings, or such features as the short wall of arches which Rowe shows projecting eastwards from the SE corner of the northern block. Paynter was a paper-hanger (or 'paper stainer', as he advertised from his premises in the London Road) and his services would have been delayed until the plastering of the new walls had had time to dry out completely:

6. 4.1840	E. Williams O(aklands)	30	0	0
11. 5.1840	Viner in part (see below)	28	0	0
29. 5.1840	Williams	62	0	0
13. 6.1840	R. & J.B. W(illiams)	40	0	0
6.1840	Viner in part for painting	20	0	0
6.1840	Paynter in part re Oaklands	40	0	0
21. 8.1840	Viner	35	0	0
21. 9.1840	E. Williams	11	0	0
30. 9.1840	Viner	10	0	0
11.11.1840	Paynter	10	0	0
30.11.1840	Paynter	36	0	0
3.12.1840	Viner	51	0	0
22. 9.1841	E. Williams	25	0	0
11.10.1841	E. Williams	10	0	0
26.10.1841	E. Williams	25	0	0
6.12.1841	E. Williams	18	10	0

Viewed from outside, there are clear indications from the cornice that the east wall of the original dining room and the bedroom above was extended northwards after the initial building was done and Rowe's SE view shows this extension completed, although the oriel window on the first floor was inserted after 1846, as Rowe does not show it. This work provided, on the ground floor, a butler's pantry next to the dining room and an addition to the kitchen space, and another bedroom above - now lit by the oriel window. The following entries seem to refer to this work:

1. 9.1845	Edward Billings in part of Building	200	0	0
30. 9.1845	E. Billings	150	0	0
9. 2.1846	Billings Oaklands balance	40	0	0
17. 8.1846	Paynter re Oakl.	16	12	9
6. 7.1847	Willett painter (late payment?)	25	8	6

(Edward Billings was a local builder whose family continued the business. As to the internal decorating, no further entries relating to the house have been identified, although the ledger was in use until 1859 and T. Paynter was paid for work on the new lodge (q.v.) in 1858. Evidently such work was meant to last!)

The estate plans and Rowe's SE view show a large and handsome crescent-shaped stable block (unhappily replaced by the existing, undistinguished block dated 1888, which has never had an integral coach house, even if the original building had), and Nathaniel Hartland's need to travel, to Gloucester and Evesham in particular, is well reflected in the ledger entries regarding carriages and horses. That he bought good horses is to be expected and some comparison of prices can be made when it is remembered that in the 1830s good quality horses for the mail coaches, with a road life of four years, cost between £25 and £30:

4.1837	Morris bill for Omnibus & Gig	46	10	0
15. 4.1839	Scotch Mare	20	0	0
5.1839	Horse sold for	20	0	0
1840	Alfred's horse	28	0	0
1841	Williams for exchange of Grey for Chestnut horse	42	10	0
8. 3.1841	Smallman for brown blood Horse	30	0	0
14. 4.1842	Little & Co. carriage	35	0	0
19. 4.1842	James for horse	45	0	0

27. 8.1842	Bowley for 6 years old Brown Horse	35	0	0
15. 5.1843	Little & Co.	32	0	0
24. 5.1844	Windham for brown horse	35	0	0
4.11.1845	Pony carriage	16	0	0
16. 4.1849	Newman horse	50	0	0
16. 7.1849	W.P. Edwards for bay pony	9	0	0
21. 4.1852	Evans for Mare for F(rederick)	30	0	0
1.12.1853	Davis for Grey	30	0	0
27. 7.1859	Waghorne pony	28	0	0

'Carriages' were among the items bequeathed by Hartland to his wife; one of these, 'the Landau Sociable, horses and harness', formed part of her bequest to her son Ernest. Payments regarding the running costs of the stables are presumably hidden behind entries giving only a surname; there are no individual references to shoeing and so forth and only two concern feed:

31. 8.1853	Higgs for Oats	10	7	0
2.10.1858	Burrows hay	10	5	0

Soon after the main building of the house was complete, Hartland turned his attention to the other dwellings on the estate:

1. 7.1840	William Turner's bill for repairing Cottages	25	0	0
21. 9.1840	Turner	58	0	0
31.12.1840	Repair of Prosser's house	10	11	6
11. 1.1841	Repairs to cottages	47	3	0
23. 1.1843	Hill's bill for pump Mrs Herbert &c.	12	0	0
14. 8.1848	Cottages	13	9	10

In the decade which followed his purchase of the estate he also spent a good deal on fencing it, in addition to similar items already noticed:

12.11.1840	R.E. Marshall (fencing? See 1838)	417	10	0
15. 1.1841	C. Smith fencing	34	15	0
21. 7.1842	Smith for fence	15	0	0
20. 1.1843	Smith's bill for fencing	20	0	0
11. 9.1847	Smith, fence &c. round Mount	9	16	0
26. 4.1848	Smith balance for fence	24	11	9
12. 6.1848	J. Peacey for fence	4	4	6

The 'Mount' probably refers to the mound, on which trees now grow, over the ice-house, NNE of the house; the ice-house has now been filled in, in the interests of safety. (6)

Smith also supplied a 'Shed & hurdles' in August, 1843, for £28.5.0, and in June, 1850, Marshall provided hurdles to the value of £24.15.0. The shed seems to have been the one the plans show, standing in a small yard, on the western boundary of the estate, above the gardeners' cottages; by 1887 an L-shaped building occupied the site. The hurdles must have been used on the Home Farm, but the ledger provides no identifiable references to the farm; Hartland, among other provisions, left 'farming stock' to his wife and she, as noted above, left sheep and a cow to James Day.

Other maintenance work and improvements continued on the estate:

6.1840	Sadler (see below)	9	7	6
19. 4.1841	Draining tiles	7	7	6
4. 6.1841	Sadler	11	0	0
6.1842	Sheills Exors (Executors) for gravel	6	17	0
26.10.1842	Well & Tiles	16	14	6
22. 1.1846	Danks o/a Oaklands (See re 1837)	20	0	0
1. 9.1846	Upper Well	44	0	0
25. 8.1847	W. Sadler, widening Bridge	18	18	0
2. 4.1849	Higgs re new road	13	0	0
26. 5.1851	Lloyd Gravel	2	0	0
6. 6.1853	Fitzgerald for gravel	6	11	0
1. 9.1854	Marriott for Stones	5	0	0
5. 5.1855	Sadler re Bridge	16	8	0

(Sheill, properly 'Shill', had a gravel pit next to East Court).

A small group of entries shows further building being done, to which the 'Figures' and 'Columns' may or may not relate:

4. 6.1849	Oaklands Clevely &c.	100	0	0
3. 7.1849	Clevely & ors. re Oaklands	79	16	1
17.10.1849	Sadler balance for House	182	0	0
29. 5.1850	Figures London	9	0	0
19. 7.1850	Alterations	87	9	0
18. 1.1851	Rainger & Son for Columns	7	0	0

It is tempting to conjecture that the Clevely entries relate to the building of the attractive octagonal summer house, which still stands near the top of the carriage drive; originally, a short stretch of roof projected eastwards to join it to a gazebo of the same ground plan, but consisting only of eight pillars supporting its roof. The gazebo and the roof joining it to the summer house were in such a ruinous condition when the Friars took over the property that they had to be dismantled. Rowe does not show the double structure, but it appears on the 1887 OS Map, and it is at least possible that the London-bought 'Figures' stood on Rainger's 'Columns' in the gazebo.

On December 8th, 1846, Hartland recorded the payment of £300 to James Freeman for Islington Cottage (See Bulletin 5, p.53), which took the SW corner of the estate up to the London Road. The following December he paid £21.4.4 for 'Land Improvement' and a month later £38.16.0 for 'Copps Hedge'. The latter entry perhaps refers to the purchase of the freehold of this piece of land (the 3 1/4 acres immediately to the south of the house), for even as late as 1912 parts of the estate were still copyhold. Hartland also owned at least one small property off the estate, Hawthorne Cottage, which used to stand in Spring Bottom (See Bulletin 5, p.59), and in the last year covered by the ledger he made another addition to his property, though its location cannot be determined:

5. 7.1859	Gale for purchase of Orchard	250	0	0
"	Gale bill for Conveyance of D. ^o	29	11	7

Before this, however, work had been put in hand to complete the entrance to the estate from the London Road by building a second lodge and by building (or extending, for two sizes of brick can be seen) the walls flanking the gateway there:

1855

Jun 8	Clevely, Winstone & ors. re New Lodge	50	17	1
Oct 4	E. Burrows re Lodge	37	11	6
Nov 15	E. Burrows re Lodge	14	14	0
Dec 14	Lodge & tower labour &c.	13	5	10
"	J. Wallers for fence (of lodge?)	5	0	6

1856

Feb 2	Wm Sadler	231	14	0
"	D. ^o	6	15	0
Feb 28	Workman	12	5	0
Mar 27	E. Burrows self	5	0	0
Apr 14	Berwick Baker	5	0	0
May 29	Geo. Workman	12	5	0
Sep 9	Paynter	8	0	0
Sep 11	for Lodge Chimney tops	5	12	6

1857

Jan 23	Will. ^m Sadler	32	5	0
Apr 23	Walker re Lodge	2	14	0
May 4	T. Paynter	13	11	6
May 14	Geo. Workman	13	2	9

1858

Oct 5	Price heads	6	0	0
Nov 20	T. Paynter re new Lodge	9	0	3

Regarding these entries: Berwick Baker would seem to have been the architect responsible for the new lodge (see above, re the architect of the house). The 'heads' supplied by Price must have been the Harts' heads which surmounted the pillars of the main gate: one of these was smashed a few years ago; the other was evidently a replacement, being made of wood.

Two purely decorative constructions on the estate may also be covered by the above entries relating, at first sight, to the new lodge. In the Cheltenham Chronicle and Gloucestershire Graphic for 24th May, 1902, the prize photograph entry showed five pictures entitled 'Bits of Old Charlton': The Stocks, The Village Pump, Ellborough Cottage, Ruins at Ashley Manor and The Lake at Ashley Manor, the last two being of concern here. There were three lakes in a chain: the bridge took the carriage drive over the stream between the central and western lakes and a footbridge carried a path from inside the main gates up to the old lodge, the path crossing between the central and eastern lakes. The indistinct photograph of 'The Lakes' seems to have been taken from the footbridge looking west, but the drive bridge is hidden by a large stone wall, the water flowing through a pointed archway in this, then under the main bridge. This wall appears on the 1887 OS Map, but no trace remains of it today.

The 'Ruins', however, are something of a puzzle, as they cannot be discerned on the 1887 Map. Again, the photograph of them is indistinct, and they are partly surrounded by trees, but the sketch below gives some idea of the feature: the base of the tower is pierced by four arches; it is of dressed stone, but the upper storey is of rough stone and its irregular top is thickly

covered by ivy. The formation of the windows on the right is conjectural, but seems to reflect what the original shows. William Sadler's work for Hartland seems normally to have been about the estate, except for the one entry given earlier (17.10.1849). If the 'tower' entry above (14.12.1855) concerned the foundations for this building, the relatively large sum paid to Sadler in February, 1856, would almost certainly have covered the actual construction. The obvious site for a folly of this nature would have been on the rise to the north of the house, but, as with the wall by the bridge, no trace of it remains today, and it does not appear on the earlier estate plans. It seems safe to discount the construction of both these features by Nathaniel Hartland's son, but even in the 1850s their conception, particularly that of the folly tower, was a generation or so out of fashion, revealing an otherwise unsuspected 'Romantick' side to Nathaniel's nature - and, maybe, a youthful admiration for Lord Coventry's tower on Bredon Hill, with which he would have been familiar.

Few glimpses of the personal side of life at The Oaklands are afforded by the ledger entries and, again, mere surnames must conceal much that would be of interest in this respect. The only entries identifying household, or personal, items are:

10.1839	Pictures	10	0	0
9. 8.1841	Ring	5	0	0
23.12.1844	Oaklands Cellar	20	8	0
10.11.1846	Wine	10	0	0
11.10.1847	Wine A.H.H. (Alfred, second son)	21	3	0
14. 3.1854	Wallace for Champagne	10	16	0
3.11.1854	Vases	2	2	0
7.11.1854	Vases	2	10	0
20. 1.1855	Mrs. H. for furnishing in London	28	1	0

Brief insights into the family's activities are afforded by other entries, the two relating to Hartland's business journeys being representative of several others:

5. 4.1853	Self in London re Terrett	40	0	0
18. 5.1853	London journey	15	15	8
17. 8.1854	F.D.H. on travel	20	0	0
20. 2.1855	F.D.H. at Rome	50	0	0
4. 6.1855	Emily Rosa (daughter) on tour	50	0	0
20. 6.1856	Self in Paris for Mrs H.	60	0	0
14. 6.1858	Mrs H. in London	20	0	0
6. 9.1858	Emily's bills&c.	190	10	6
7. 9.1858	D. for Switzerland	50	0	0

(The 'Roman brooch "salva"' in Eliza Hartland's will was presumably brought back by Frederick for his mother from his 'grand tour', and was suitably left to his wife; another bequest was 'To Grand-daughter Theresa Roma - the Cameo Brooch and Gold Brooch bought by her father Frederick Dixon Hartland in Rome.' Were Emily's 'bills' medical, and her visit to Switzerland for health reasons? September would not otherwise seem the time of year to begin a visit to that country.)

From all the foregoing extracts from the ledger - and the very many others, often involving large sums - it will be appreciated that Nathaniel Hartland had become 'A Man of Property'; indeed, it is hard to avoid drawing parallels between the Hartland generations and the Galsworthy Forsytes, especially when

the wills (see Bulletin 5) are considered, with their hints of possible family frictions - the latter not being altogether surprising when we remember that Nathaniel Hartland, his father and his eldest son all married twice. Inevitably, a modern reader requires some factor by which to multiply amounts such as Hartland recorded, and the nearest which can be obtained for c.1840 is 30 or 35. While not perhaps satisfactory in all cases, such a factor at least gives him a salary (see above) of about £30,000 in modern money. It also suggests a total cost for the house and estate, as these stood by the end of 1839, of some £200,000; further, the value of his personal estate, attested on his death in 1866 as under £120,000, would today be something like £3,500,000. Obviously, his salary from the Bank did not alone cover his expenses and the ledger shows that he added considerably to his income by judicious investment and by lending money - his will also showing that he had £30,000 out on mortgage not long before his death.

Some interesting entries show an early connection with railways (though Hartland would not have been enthusiastic about a later proposal to take a line across his estate!); the larger sums would seem to indicate that the bank handled some of the Railway Companies' funds. Credit items below are marked ** :

7.1840	Birm. & Glou. Railway Bond interest	25	0	0**
23. 9.1840	Birming. & Glou. Railway	100	0	0
24.11.1841	Birm. & Glou. Rails	667	10	0**
22. 3.1841	Birm & Glou. Rails	1012	2	0**
2.1843	Forest of Dean Railway	50	0	0
30.11.1844	Forest of Dean Railway	25	0	0
31.10.1845	Dean Forest Railway	25	0	0**
10.1850	Chelt. ⁿ & Oxford Railway C ^o .	1775	0	0**

In Evesham, Cheltenham and Charlton Kings Hartland invested money in a number of worthy schemes, such as the proprietary churches and the (Proprietary) College, which also yielded small, but regular and assured, returns, though the following details do not pretend to show a full statement of accounts for each. (** again shows credits):

4. 3.1837	School infant (Evesham?)	12	10	0**
7. 3.1837	Interest rec ^d . on Infant school	1	?	?**
11. 1.1840	Christ Church	105	0	0
22. 4.1841	Evesham National School	5	0	0
2.1843	Proprietary College	25	0	0
7. 8.1843	Proprietary College	75	0	0
4. 9.1843	College		10	0**
1.1844	Evesham Library		8	6**
19. 3.1844	Lansdown (Christ) Church	9	0	0**
1. 7.1844	College	3	12	0**
6. 1.1845	By (Evesham) Library		8	6**
3. 6.1845	Lansdown Church	7	0	0**
28. 7.1845	College	4	0	0**
3. 1.1846	Evesham Library		8	6**
1848	College	4	0	0**
2.1850	Christ Church Div. ^d	8	0	0**
31. 1.1851	Lansdown Church	6	0	0**
29. 5.1852	Charlton Church Yard	25	0	0
18. 8.1856	Church Yard	5	0	0**

Regarding the above entries, Hartland's son Frederick was educated at

Cheltenham College (and, for reasons which do not appear, at Clapham Grammar School). Hartland later sold his College Nomination to a Colonel T. Leighton for £35.

Naturally, Hartland also contributed to many purely charitable causes: the contemporary practice of publishing lists of subscribers and the amounts contributed by them probably had little effect on one of his robust business sense and the charities he and his wife supported presumably indicate their inclinations. Entries show him contributing to national appeals, both religious and secular, and continuing to play a part in the affairs of Evesham, while not neglecting his responsibilities as a local man of substance. An 1847 entry (q.v.) shows that he still had some links with the Society of Friends, although he had long been subscribing to Church charities. He was manifestly an admirer of the Rev. Francis Close (for Christ Church, St. Peter's, St Luke's, the College and St Paul's College were all, wholly or partly, promoted by the latter) and Close would have approved of the support for teetotalism and a temperance hotel (despite the expenditure on wine already noted!). The testimonial for Close corresponds with his departure from Cheltenham on his being appointed Dean of Carlisle. The 'Parsonage House' entry may refer to the purchase of a house for Close's successor.

Not included in the following are the regular annual subscriptions of 2 guineas made to the Gloucester Infirmary and also to the Gloucester Lunatic Asylum (once specified as at Barnwood):

1.11.1838	Gift to Fra. ^s Close towards his House	25	0	0
19. 1.1842	Cooks a/c Bishop of Jerusalem	3	3	0
21. 1.1842	Chelt. ⁿ Poor subscription	5	0	0
4. 3.1842	Schools	10	0	0
4.10.1842	Church Missionary p(er) F. C(close?).	10	0	0
30. 1.1843	Subscription for Poor of Chelt. ⁿ	5	0	0
31. 1.1845	Church Missionary	2	2	0
5. 3.1845	Close	2	2	0
6. 8.1845	Close for Church in Tew. Road	25	0	0
2. 2.1846	Jessop o/a Teetotalers (sic)	10	0	0
17.11.1846	Charlton Schools	20	0	0
31.12.1846	Mrs H. for Schools	5	0	0
5. 1.1847	Irish Poor in Friends' collection	50	0	0
30. 1.1847	Irish Poor in Cheltenham Col.	25	0	0
24. 4.1848	Chelt. ⁿ Old Charity School	5	0	0
29.10.1849	Training College (founded in 1849)	10	0	0
10.12.1849	Don. ⁿ to Cheltenham Schools	5	0	0
12.12.1849	D. ^o	7	16	6
8. 1.1850	Sub. ⁿ to Charlton drainage	5	0	0
30. 3.1850	Emigrants	2	2	0
21.12.1850	Organ	5	0	0
5. 2.1851	Francis Close (see below)	400	0	0
6. 6.1851	Weslyan Schools	3	3	0
26. 8.1851	Orphan Asylum p. W(illiams). & C. ^o	2	2	0
16.12.1851	Training College	1	1	0
7. 4.1852	Mrs H. for Charities	50	0	0
11.11.1852	Bath Road Church (St Luke's)	25	0	0
18 .5.1853	Sub. to Evesham Bridge	52	10	0
21.10.1853	Bible Jubilee Fund	10	0	0
16. 2.1854	p. Williams & C. ^o to Orphan A.	1	1	0
30. 6.1854	Missionary Ship		10	0
10. 7.1854	Tirley Church	1	1	0
8. 8.1854	Nash for Reformatory School	5	0	0

31. 3.1855	Scripture Reader (a regular entry for some years)	10	0	0
18. 6.1855	F. Close	25	0	0
31. 6.1855	St Mary's Church Yard	2	2	0
8.10.1855	Flood subscription	2	2	0
12.10.1855	S. Bowly d. ^o Fowler's tempe. ^e hotel	5	0	0
25. 1.1856	Geneva Church	5	0	0
25. 6.1856	British Association	10	0	0
22. 8.1856	Cymner Colliery Explosion	2	2	0
8.11.1856	Close's Testimonial	25	0	0
17. 9.1857	Indian Subscription	5	5	0
8. 2.1858	Pew sittings restoration	7	10	0
12. 3.1858	Industrial School, to E.H.	5	0	0
3. 4.1858	County Towns Mission	2	2	0
30. 4.1858	Parsonage House	50	0	0
1. 5.1858	Imperial Club	3	3	0
22.12.1858	Imperial Club	3	3	0
31.12.1858	Servants' Home	5	0	0
7. 4.1859	Mrs H. for Charities	20	0	0

Regarding the gift of £400 to Francis Close, in February, 1851, this must have formed the bulk of the £500 for which Close bought the land on which St Luke's stands in the following month. (See Cheltenham's Churches and Chapels A.D. 773-1883, Steven T. Blake, 1979, pp.31-2). A glimpse of Nathaniel Hartland's social life is afforded by the entries relating to the Imperial Club; that he was a Conservative seems certain, for in 1848 he gave 'Ticehurst o/a Gardiner's (sic) election' £20. (An unseemly year in local politics, 1848 saw two re-elections for Cheltenham's parliamentary seat, James Agg-Gardner being the short-lived victor after the first of these. See A History of Cheltenham, Gwen Hart, 1965, pp.247-8. In 1850 the town's coroner was elected by 'dubious means' and the Liberal victor was later replaced by a Conservative. ibid, p.247. On 19th December, 1850, Hartland entered 'Coroner' £5 in his ledger).

Nor were the contributions which Nathaniel and his wife made to local charitable causes solely financial: as early as November, 1841, he portioned off some of his land to be let in small allotments to the poor. In 1851 he was on the committee for the improvement of the Churchyard and in 1865 he was Chairman of the Charlton Kings Local Board. A reference in 1858 to tenders for the letting of the Charlton Kings Charity Estate states that they are to be submitted to Nathaniel Hartland by 5th April. Eliza, too, played her part: in July, 1851, she was reported as having given her 'annual treat' to the Children of Church Schools, 'when they had cause for rejoicing at the bounteous fare and the plenitude of amusement provided'.

Another group of ledger entries relates to the rates which were levied half-yearly; the dates and wording of the entries vary, but the normal amount due from Hartland seems to have been upwards of £30 p.a.:

21.12.1852	Poors rate	12	17	5
24. 3.1854	Poors rate	8	11	7
9. 9.1854	Poor & road rate	24	0	5
9. 3.1855	Poors rate	14	8	3
28. 8.1855	Poors rate	17	6	0
28. 6.1856	Road Rate	9	12	2
27. 9.1856	Poor & Burial G. rate	24	0	5

16. 4.1857	Land & Assessed Taxes	14	19	5
13.11.1857	Poor & Church rates	20	3	6
20. 5.1858	Poors Rate	14	8	3
4. 9.1858	Road Rate	9	12	2

A few entries refer directly to the family's butler and Eliza Hartland's personal maid; two of the items perhaps refer to wages, but there is no indication of this. For the others, Emma would seem to have deposited £100 with Hartland, but only one payment to her appears:

20. 3.1843	Emma Day	100	0	0**
1. 4.1844	E. Day	5	0	0
14. 1.1845	Geo. Day (sic)	10	0	0
3. 1.1846	Day	2	7	8

Finally, one entry which is sui generis and can suitably close this consideration of Nathaniel Hartland's ledger:

15.11.1844	Gilby for Evening Service	5	0	0
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Understandably proud of the estate which he had built up, with its impressive house, parkland, gardens and glasshouses; its farm, lodges and well-kept cottages, Nathaniel Hartland left it as an entity to Frederick (his elder son by the second marriage), but only after the death of the widow. Nathaniel died in 1866, after a long illness, at The Oaklands; Eliza survived him for eleven years and then Frederick succeeded to the property. He, too, was a banker; he was Conservative M.P. for Evesham from 1880 till 1885, then represented Uxbridge. He held numerous chairmanships and the like, was a Lieutenant of the City of London, and a J.P. in the counties of Worcester, Gloucester, London, Middlesex and Sussex, in which latter county he owned Middleton Manor, apart from having a house in London. In 1892 he was made a Baronet, but the title died with him, for his first wife, Grace Amy Wilson, bore him three daughters and there was no issue from his second marriage to Agnes Chichester, daughter of William Langham Christie M.P., of Glyndebourne. That his tastes were more metropolitan than rural would seem to be indicated by his being a Fellow of the Society of Arts and by his publications, listed as: 'Genealogical and Chronological Chart of Royal Families of Europe; Chronological Dictionary of Royal Families of Europe, &c.'

Before his mother's death, Frederick bought three pieces of land to the north of the estate, seemingly in his own name, for in 1874 he added these to the marriage settlement he had made in 1867.

- i. Coversdown, Battledown, or Latners Leasowe: 1 acre, 2 roods, 22 perches. This was also referred to as Lot 59, Battledown Estate, and gave access to Battledown Road from The Oaklands. Frederick Hartland was admitted tenant on 18th July, 1872. A strip of the western edge of this plot was later sold off.
- ii. Coversdown, or Cherry Orchard: 2 acres, 3 roods, 38 perches (bought for £940 in 1873).
- iii. Eastwood Butts, also referred to as part of Cherry Orchard: 1 rood, 21 perches.

These parcels of land are no longer part of the estate, and no doubt made a profit subsequently, but 'Broad Battledowns', 'Tantys or Butts orchard' and 'The Butts' were listed in 1912 as part of the Ashley Manor property (for change of name see below).

It would seem that The Oaklands had been useful to Frederick Hartland while he was 'nursing' and, later, representing the Evesham constituency (where his family's connections would have favoured his success), but by 1888 had become surplus to his needs - except as an extension of his personality. In that year he announced (Cheltenham Looker On, 30th June) that he was altering the name of the property to 'Ashley Manor', ostensibly because postal confusion arose from there being two properties in Cheltenham called 'Oaklands' (but as the other was in Prestbury one suspects he sought a title more suited to his aspirations - and more appealing to a prospective tenant!). In the same publication he advertised the arriviste 'Manor', 'with park like lands fit for immediate occupation of a family of distinction ...to be let furnished or unfurnished at moderate rent', and it is to be hoped that the tenants admired the new stable block!

Apart from the latter addition, little on the estate had changed, other than what has been recorded, but the 1887 25" O.S. map shows some development of the gardens east of the house. A fountain is also marked some 25 yards east of the dining room, where there appears to have been only an ornamental pool in 1846. The old 'Greenhouse' has gone, but a large range of glass-houses stands to the south-east of its site and several other glasshouses are shown in the kitchen garden. The park still sports the oaks and elms, 'of 200 Years growth' according to the 1846 survey (though they have since been felled); sadly, the 'Pet Flower Garden' (where family pets were buried?), marked on the same estate plan, does not feature. Ashley Road had also been built, about the time of Nathaniel Hartland's death, giving another access to the estate; the strip of land between the park and Ashley Road still seems to be orchard and gardens in 1887, but with a line of firs some way in from the road.

In fact, from what can be gleaned from the ledger and from his entry in Who Was Who, 1897-1916, Frederick Hartland spent little time in Charlton Kings after leaving Cheltenham College to continue his education at Clapham Grammar School (perhaps living with relations in London), after which he began his banking career in the capital. However, he obviously retained sufficient feeling for his parents and his boyhood home to wish to be buried in the village churchyard - and it is interesting that his widow settled here rather than in Sussex, where she might have been expected to feel more at home.

Inevitably, a certain amount remains conjectural in this attempt to build up a picture of the involvement of Nathaniel Hartland and his family with The Oaklands, largely from entries in the ledger he kept with considerable care and which, by great good fortune, has survived. However, the book has yielded much valuable information and, in closing this examination of it, the writer would like to thank the Prior of the Whitefriars Community for so readily and generously allowing him to examine the volume, and to thank the Sub-Prior and other members of the Community for their help in furnishing facilities and information. He also wishes to thank Mrs M. Paget, Mr. M. Greet and Mr. E. Armitage for suggestions and information which have materially helped in compiling this article.

NOTES

- (1) These shields appear on the stone, just inside the lych-gate of St Mary's churchyard, Charlton Kings, above the graves of:

Nathaniel Hartland, 1791-1866;
His widow, Eliza (nee Dixon), 1811-1877;
His eldest son, Sir Frederick Dixon Dixon-Hartland, 1832-1909;
The latter's widow, Agnes Chichester (nee Christie), 1860-1955.

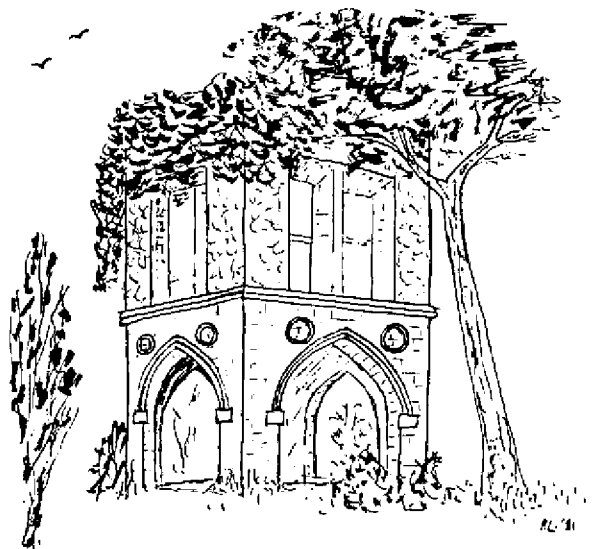
The arms and crests shown are simplified versions of those of Hartland and Dixon as quartered in the arms granted to Sir Frederick in 1892; on the tombstone the lions are not now recognisable as such. The motto (which advises: 'Live Mindful of Death') does not appear as part of the Dixon-Hartland arms in Debrett for 1896.

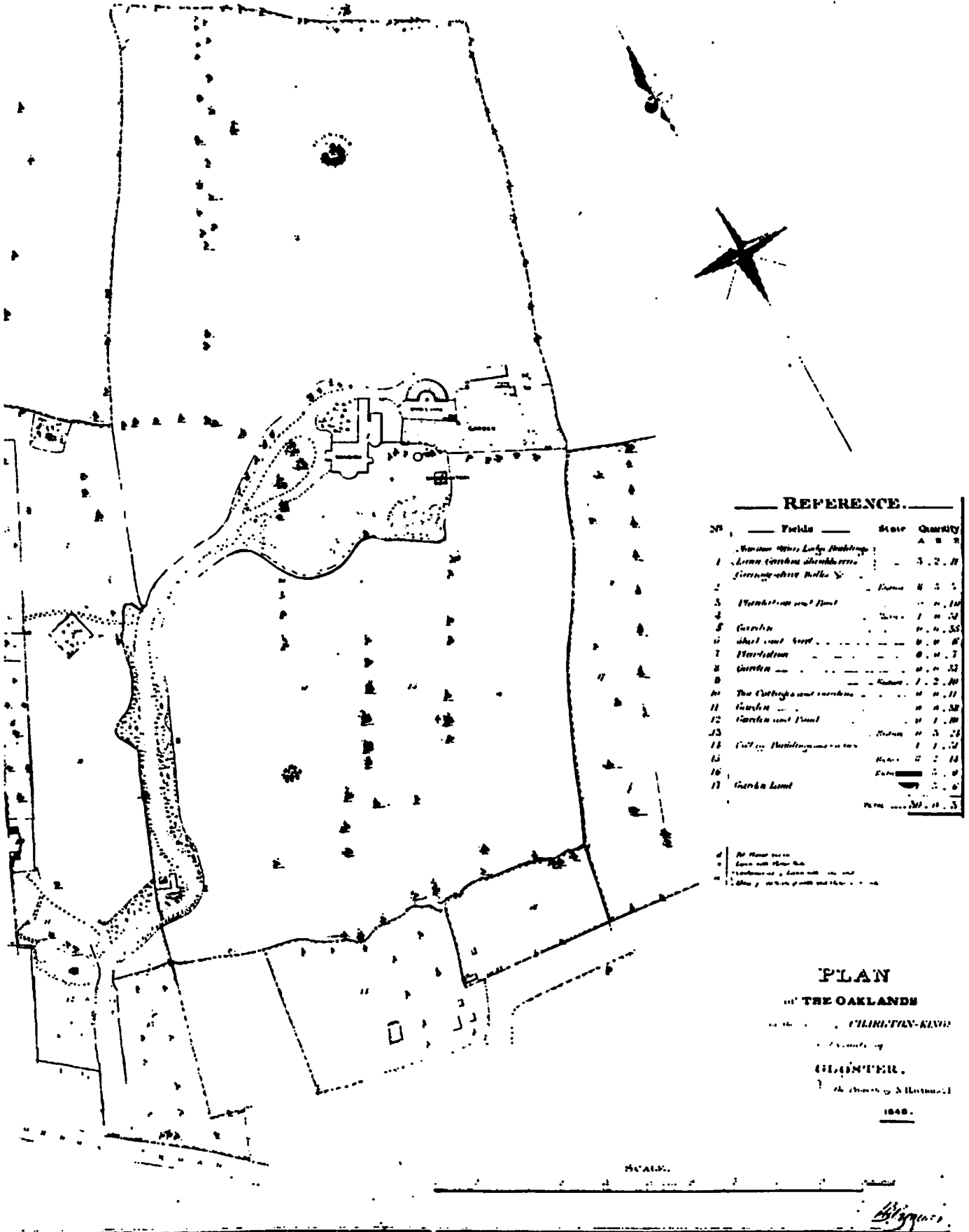
The remains of Nathaniel were originally buried, it seems, at the spot in the main aisle of the church marked by tiles showing a deer's head with the throat pierced by an arrow. The chancel of St Mary's was restored in their memory by the Hartland children in 1878 (see Bulletin 5, p.46) - and Sir Frederick's title appears on the memorial plate, though the baronetcy was not created till 1892. He and his second wife gave the screens at the end of north and south aisles.

- (2) The second 'Dixon', hyphenated with 'Hartland', may have been occasioned by Frederick's inheriting much of his mother's personal estate, for his own entry in Who Was Who, 1897-1916, notes that she was 'co-heiress of Thomas Dixon, King's Lynn' (the latter being shown as 'M.D.' on the tombstone referred to above).
- (3) Lady Dixon-Hartland seems to have taken little part in local affairs, but the restoration of St Mary's Hall in 1926-7 was due to her generosity.
- (4) Much of the information in this and the following paragraph was kindly supplied by the Librarian of the Religious Society of Friends to Mrs M Paget, who recognised the dating of early entries in the ledger (e.g. 1833: 4 Mo 23) as a Quaker practice. (This method of dating ceases in the ledger in 1836, in August on the Debit side, but not till October on the Credit side).
- (5) The approximate site of these premises is now occupied by the branch of Tesco's on the Promenade side of the High Street.
- (6) For the construction of ice houses, see Period House II, 2 pp.9-11 (August 1981)

P. Love

Ruins at Ashley Manor (1902) - see text





REFERENCE.

No	Fields	Acre	Quantity		
			A	R	P
1	Various other Lady Holdings	3.2.11			
2	Plantations and Trees	4.5.5			
3	Garden	1.0.10			
4	Garden	1.0.10			
5	Garden	0.0.55			
6	Garden	0.0.6			
7	Garden	0.0.7			
8	Garden	0.0.53			
9	Garden	1.2.10			
10	The Cottage and garden	0.0.11			
11	Garden	0.0.58			
12	Garden and Pond	1.1.10			
13	Garden	0.5.21			
14	Field	1.1.12			
15	Garden	2.2.10			
16	Garden	2.0			
17	Garden Land	2.0			
			Sum	30	11.5

- 1 No Plant here
- 2 Lawn with Plant here
- 3 Plantations & Trees with ...
- 4 Other ...

PLAN

OF THE OAKLANDS
 IN THE PARISH OF CHARLTON-KING,
 COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER,
 IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX

1840.

SCALE.

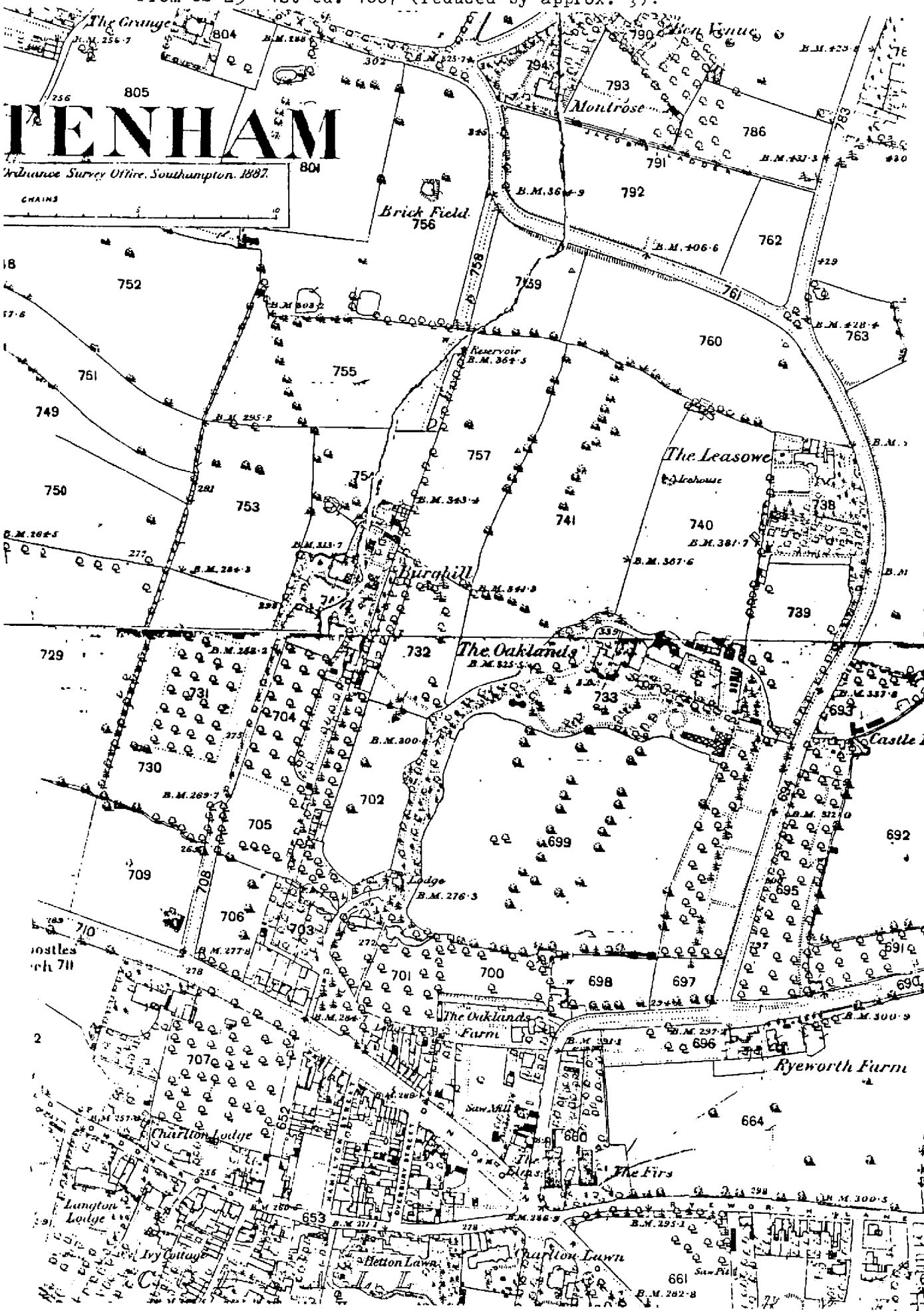
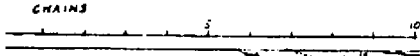
Blignin

From OS 25" 1st ed. 1887 (reduced by approx. $\frac{1}{3}$):

FENHAM

Ordnance Survey Office, Southampton, 1887.

CHAINS



8. CHARLTON KINGS AND THE HUNDRED OF CHELTENHAM IN 1327; a note on the Lay Subsidy Roll for 1 Edward III (1)

The tax assessments for the Cheltenham Hundred in 1327 provide one of the earliest indications of the relative wealth of some inhabitants of the area. In particular, those for Charlton Kings (tabulated in descending order of sums payable in Appendix A) provide an interesting comparison with those for other parts of the Hundred (Appendix B). The total sum assessed for Charlton was 75s 11 1/4d, as compared with that for Cheltenham 81s 4 3/4d.

The tax was 1/10th on moveable property held by town dwellers and 1/15th of moveable property held by country dwellers. Presumably Cheltenham burgesses paid at the higher rates, while the rest of the Hundred paid at the lower; the assessment took no account of the land holdings of either group.

The list of Charlton inhabitants contains names which recur regularly in the later history of the village (eg Alisaundre, atte Welle, Bravel, Whithorne, Hawthorne etc).

Other points of interest which emerge from a study of the lists are

- (a) while the same surname occurs in more than one list, the Christian names differ in all cases bar the following; the two entries here in each instance may refer to the same person (i) John Houwes, Leckhampton (- d) and Charlton (2s 6d) (ii) John Gode, Cheltenham (6d) and Leckhampton (3s).

It is also possible that the John de Aure whose name appears in the Alstone list (18d) may be the same person as John of Alre (12d) whose name appears at the end of the list of those holding ancient demesne land.

- (b) The names of women tax-payers also appear. Indeed women were some of the most wealthy members of the community.
- (i) Alicia Moryn, Swindon, 15s 2½d - the highest assessment by far in the lists (the next highest tax payer was assessed at 6s 9d)
- (ii) Johanne de Northeye, Alstone, 5s 1 1/4d - the highest assessment in Alstone.
- (iii) Johanna de Netfeld, Charlton, 8s 9d - the highest assessment in Charlton.

Lesser women tax payers include traders such as Matilda Herringmongere of Cheltenham, 2s 6d.

The apparent wealth of these women reflects the favourable position of widows under the manorial custom of Cheltenham and Ashley manors - they were entitled to hold their late husband's base or copyhold land for the term of their lives and 12 years after.

Some of these people may be located, tentatively, on Charlton holdings, as they are described in surveys of 1557, 1564, or 1617 (2). Johanna or Joan, Richard, and Thomas of Northfield held Northfield farm with its valuable sheepwalk - this explains Joan's wealth, and the relative wealth of two other members of the family (possibly sons) whose sheep shared that pasture. Edith Goodrich or Godrich lived at Ham, Lucy atte Noverhouse at The Over House in East End (demolished in the 1950s) Isabell and William Hawthorne presumably lived at an earlier Hawthorne's (now called King's House), Matt or Mathew atte Mulle, at Bafford or Ham mill and Juliana Marten at Cudnall alias Charlton mill in Spring Bottom, John Whithorne at Moorend. Walter Bravel may perhaps have occupied the ancient house, part of Pruens Row, demolished in 1939, and his family has left its name in Brevel's Hays and Brevel Terrace. Walter Alexander or Alisaundre's family gave its name to lands in Little Herberts and to Alexander's Breach on the hill - in 1557 Henry Alexander held 65 acres under the manor of Ashley. John le Roke and his descendants are remembered in the field name Rooks or Rocks mead (TM 207), John Rose in Rose Combe (TM 325), and Robert of Goldewell in Goldewell's Green, by Timbercombe Lane.

In the following list, christian names, given in abbreviated latin, have been translated.

APPENDIX A Tax Assessments for Charlton, Ham, and Northfield

8s 9d	<u>Johanna de Netfeld</u>		John Galer
5s 9d	John de Fortheye		John Bele
5s 4 1/4d	John le White		<u>Isabell Hawethorne</u>
4s 3 3/4d	John Haiel		Thomas Coppinger
3s 6d	John le More		John Hethemere
	<u>Edith Godrich</u>	21d	William Hawthorne
3s 2d	John Calebus		Thomas de Northefeld
3s 0 3/4d	Richard de Northfelde	18d	Richard Blockeham
3s 0 1/4d	William Fraunceys		Matt' atte Mulle
3s	Hugh Inthehale		John Rose
2s 8d	Walter Bravel	16d	Thomas Wateman
2s 7d	<u>Lucia atte Noverhouse</u>	12d	Hugh Reynalde
2s 6d	John Houwes		<u>Juliana Marten</u>
	William Colverhous		John le Roke
	Thomas Mussegros		William Bullocke
2s 3d	<u>Margery Thopas</u>		Walter Theodulphe
	John Whithorne	9d	Hugh le More
2s 2d	Hugh Hathewy	6d	Robert de Goldewell
2s	William Bele		John Hathewy
	Thomas Baret		Reginald Kynt
	Walter Alisaundre		Thomas atte Welle
			Thomas le Yonge

APPENDIX B Comparison of tax assessed for different parts of Cheltenham
Hundred

Swindon	Leckhampton	Cheltenham	Westhall	Arle	Alstone	Charlton
15/2½ 1	6/9 1	-	-	-	-	8/9 1
-	5/0 2	5/6 1	5/0 1	-	5/1¼ 1 5/0¼ 1	5/9 1 5/4¼ 1
-	4/0 1	4/1¼ 1	4/3 1	-	-	-
3/3 1	3/6 1	3/5¾ 1	-	-	3/7 1	3/6 2
3/0 1	3/0 1	3/1¼ 1	-	-	3/2 1	3/2 1
-	-	3/0 2	3/0 2	3/0 1	3/0 2	3/0¾ 1 3/0¼ 1 3/0 1
2/7¼ 1	-	2/10 1	2/7¼ 1	-	-	2/8 1
2/6 1	-	2/6¼ 2	-	-	2/6 1	2/7 1
-	-	2/6 2	-	-	-	2/6 3
2/5 1	-	2/0¼ 1	-	-	-	2/3 2
-	-	-	-	-	-	2/2 1
2/0 2	2/0 3	2/0 7	2/0 1	2/0 1	2/0 1	2/0 8
23d 1	20d 1	20¾d 1	-	-	-	21d 2
18d 1	18½d 1	18d 3	18d 1	-	18d 1	18d 3
-	18d 2	-	-	-	-	16d 1
15d 1	15½d 1	15d 2	-	-	-	-
-	-	14¾d 1	-	-	-	-
12d 1	13¼d 1	12¾d 1	12d 2	-	12d 2	12d 5
-	12d 4	12d 6	-	-	-	-
9d 1	-	9d 1	-	9d 1	-	9d 1
8d 1	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	6d 1	6d 6	6d 1	-	6d 2	6d 5
40/0¾	48/7½	81/4¾	43/0¾	24/1¼	33/10¾	75/11¼

Totals cannot be cross-checked because some actual sums assessed were not specified,

Leckhampton 3, Westhall 4

For Arle, only 3 sums were specified.

(1) Source: Gloucestershire Subsidy Roll 1327 Middle Hill Press (No date)

(2) Glos R.O. D 855/M 68, M7

M.J.Greet

9. COPT ELM AND LYEFIELD ROADS - WHAT WAS THERE BEFORE?

We are grateful to one of our members, Mr. C.W.K. Donaldson, who has provided this plan of part of the Lyefield, made after the creation of Copt Elm Road and before Lyefield Road East was made. The plan tells us much about the area in the 1870s - 1880s.

TERRIER.

<i>N^o</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>P</i>
1	<i>close</i>	0	0	37
2	<i>Lyefield East</i>	11	3	37
3	4 Cottages <i>Gardens</i>	0	1	8
4	<i>5 Cottages & Gardens</i>	0	1	32
5	<i>New Road</i>	1	1	15
	<i>Total</i>	11	0	39

(1) Copt Elm Road

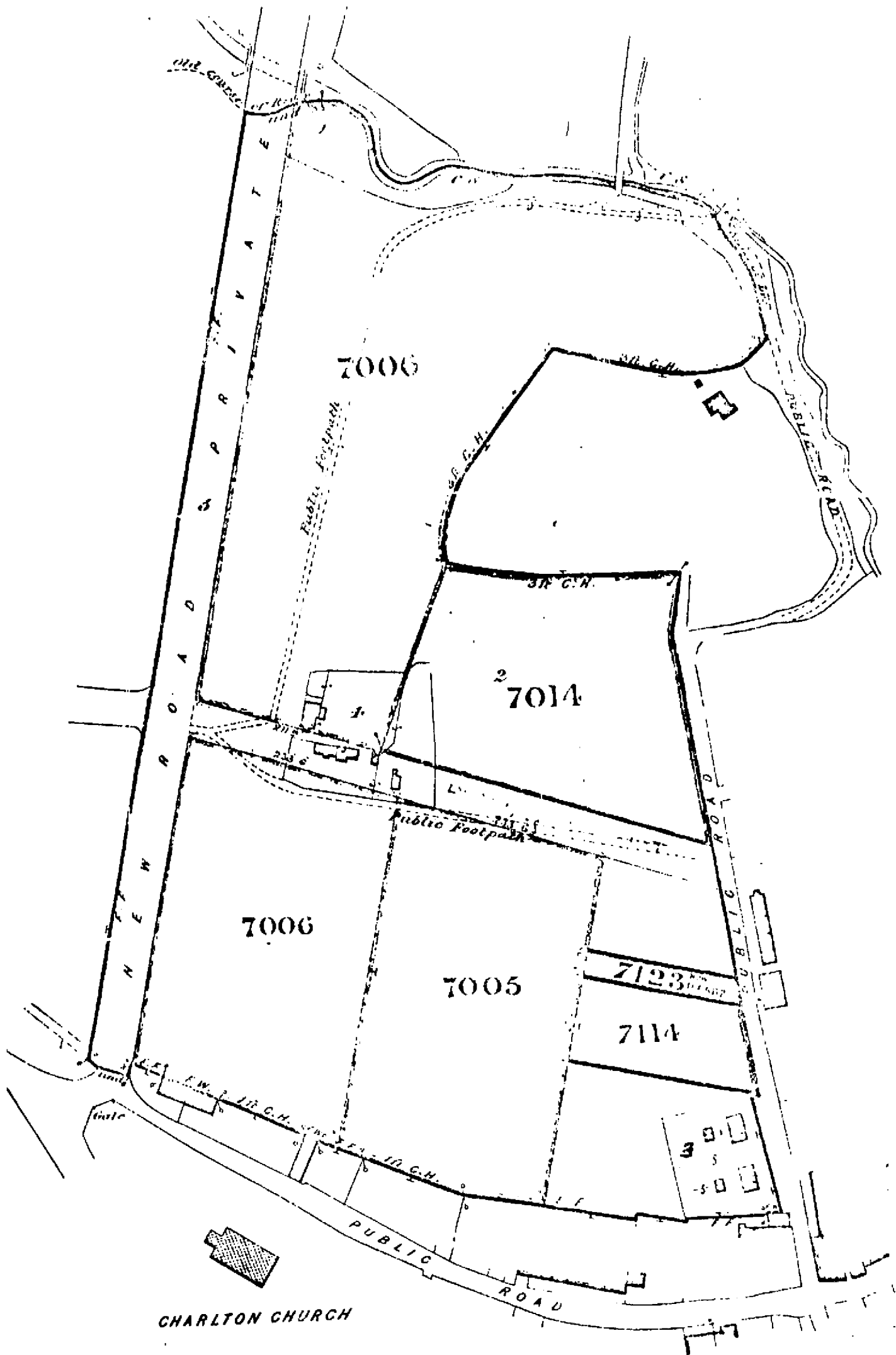
The southern portion of this private road, Church Street to the Chelt, is marked as No 5, just over 1 1/4 acres. The new road had been cut by Sir William Russell in 1864-5: on this side of the stream it crossed land belonging to Charlton Park estate, and north of the Chelt went chiefly through Copt Elm close (land bought in January 1864 from Samuel Higgs Gael, (1) originally part of a freehold farm held by the Gael or Gale family and known as Cops Elm. (2).

When Russell made his private road, he diverted the course of the Chelt, and straightened it where it passed under his new road bridge. (3) The old track of the stream could be seen until the modern Copt Elm Close houses were built over the old river bed.

(2) Woodruff and Church Walk

A farm and buildings are shown to the east of Church Walk on Mitchell's map of 1806; Church Walk then led straight from Charlton mill to the church. Before this plan was drawn, Russell had diverted the southern end of the footpath into his private road. That improved his chances of selling one of the Lyefield inclosures, here numbered 7006.

By 1858 (4) the farm by Church Walk had become 5 cottages collectively known as Woodruff, owned by Sir William Russell. One cottage was occupied by Greening, four by Mary Morgan, and their gross estimated rentals ranged from £5 to £2.10.0. On our plan, these cottages formed lot 4, area 0.1.32. The proposed new road (Lyefield Road East) was to be driven across the site, involving the demolition of all the ancient property. Eventually, Lyefield Terrace was built here.



7006

2 7014

7006

7005

7123

7114

3

CHARLTON CHURCH

(3) Lyefield Road East

A public footpath, more or less on the line of the present road, ran from Mill Lane or Trigmerry Lane (now School Road) into Copt Elm Road and west to the Horsefair. Facing the eastern end of the path thatched cottages stood, (once a small farm belonging to the Ballinger family, known as Yew Tree). By 1834 the farmhouse and its barn had been divided into dwellings (5), and shortly afterwards a small cottage with slate roof was fitted in between them. That cottage, no 7, was occupied by Mr F. Neather's parents from the time of their wedding, and when they first went there, the rutted path across the Lyefield was still in use. Yet the 1868 map of Charlton Park Estate (6) marks a road! This is a warning not to build too many theories on maps made with a bias! No doubt Russell intended to make a road and turn Lye field into building land, but few buyers came forward, and Lyefield Road East remained a dream till c. 1890.

(4) Mill Lane or School Road

This is marked as Public Road. Near Church Street the Merry Fellow on the east of the lane and Thorntonville (now demolished) on the west are lightly indicated. More important to Russell were his 4 new semi-detached brick cottages, lot 3. Those houses (now demolished) had a date 1868 and the initials WR on their gables (7).

- (1) Deeds of Grove House, recital in deed of 29 September 1877. The first house to be built in Copt Elm Road was Teano (Lexham Lodge) marked on a plan on that deed as in occupation of Mrs Newman.
- (2) On 28 May 1751, John Gale did fealty for a messuage and lands called Cops Elm held freely, yearly rent 2s 6d. John his son inherited in 1771 (GRO D 109/1, Ashley manor court book 1742-1811).
- (3) Mrs Bennett says her mother remembered a footpath from Six Ways to the church down the line of Copt Elm Road. It must have crossed the Chelt by a footbridge.
- (4) Rate book for 1858, kindly lent for transcription by Mr Kilby.
- (5) Title deeds to 5-8 Mill Lane (now the site of School Road flats) held by Cheltenham Borough Council; and title deeds to Woodmeade, kindly made available by Mr A Youde. The converted barn, 1 and 2 Fir Tree Cottages, demolished in 1912, was replaced by the 3 red brick houses now standing (Mr F Neather).
- (6) Charlton Park Estate as offered for sale 1868 (GRO 6746 P47).
- (7) Mr F. Neather thought WR stood for Randall, who later owned the cottages, but Mr Arthur Bee (Randall's grandson) says he was Charles, not William. He hauled all the brick to built those houses, but did not buy them till 1892. The 4 houses were lot 354 on the 1868 sale map.

10. THE BUS and "CHARLTON'S GREETINGS TO THE PRINCE OF WALES"

In May 1897 the Prince of Wales, later Edward VII, visited Cheltenham. As the public did not know by which route he would come, loyal Charltonians erected this arch across the London Road, with the inscription CHARLTON'S GREETINGS TO THE PRINCE OF WALES. In this photograph, lent for reproduction by Miss Winter, we see Franklin's butchers shop and the London Inn, with Mr Franklin and his neighbour Mr Walker, baker and corn chandler, outside. The Charlton Bus, remembered by Mr Ryland in Bulletin 6, is approaching from Cheltenham, and so little traffic is there that it is pulling over to the wrong side of the road!

Alas for Charlton's hopes. The Prince did not come down the London Road and so he never saw their splendid arch or read their loyal message!



11. BOYHOOD MEMORIES OF DETMORE PART III

a) Art and Science at Detmore

Detmore was a wonder house to me, a small boy - filled with fascinating things. In fact, looking back on my boyhood memories, Detmore reminds me of what was said about Bolton and Watts' famous factory in Birmingham, "Where Science and the Arts Preside". The science at Detmore was somewhat decayed (1) but all around was evidence of the Arts - pictures by Briton Reviere hanging on the walls, with others by members of the Dobell family, Cyrus, Nora, and Clarence, the latter being extremely gifted and a very fine artist.

My grandfather married Nora Dobell at St Mary's in August 1868. The romance was fostered by Mrs Craik who was a frequent visitor to Detmore, in fact parts of John Halifax, Gentleman were written at Detmore. My grandfather was very depressed at the loss of his first wife. Nora was a beauty and Mrs Craik admired my grandfather - she promoted the association - with the above result!

Nora was quite a competent artist in her own right. I had a water colour (now with my daughter) of "The Back Entrance to Detmore" with a note pencilled on the back "Nora Dobell" and "done before my marriage". So the arrangement of sheds and a large elm tree represents what it looked like in 1867. I have a pencil sketch of "Nora in a tragical mood", very well done but unsigned (Briton Riviere or Clarence Dobell?). I also inherited a most beautiful portrait of Nora done by Clarence Dobell, which far exceeds in artistic quality the portraits, competent as they are, done by Briton Riviere for Nora of her mother Julietta and of my grandfather. This portrait of Nora now belongs to my daughter Judith, who fell in love with it and so it was passed on to her. Some other paintings I inherited that came to me via Nora and my father need to be identified.

A picture associated with Detmore is Briton Riviere's large painting "Circe and the Swine" (Circe, in ancient legend, turned her suitors one after another into pigs). My aunt, Gertrude Williams (by my grandfather's first wife) was very handsome in her youth and had most beautiful long hair. She modelled Circe for Briton Riviere and is shown seated on a small dais, looking scornfully over the herd of pigs who gaze up at her adoringly. Her wand (with which she did the job!) lies by her side and her beautiful hair is hanging down her back, half turned to the viewer (this is I believe, because Briton Riviere was not so good on figures as he was on animals!) My aunt told me that the swine in the picture were called in the family "The Happy Pigs" - Briton Riviere had sketched them in a farmyard at East End, and this is the link with Detmore. It was the Picture of the Year at the Royal Academy. I have a large and small engraving of it and am trying to find out where the original is.

When the British Association for the Advancement of Science decided to hold its Annual Meeting in Cheltenham in 1856, John Dobell was prominent among the local subscribers. This meeting was famous scientifically for Henry Bessemer's paper on a new way of making steel - this gave a tremendous impetus to the utilization of steel, particularly for making railways lines just in time for the railway expansion here and abroad. But the social side of the meeting was not neglected. The Cheltenham Looker-On devoted paragraphs in several issues to the distinguished assembly of learned people - among the events was a Floral Display, which must have been a remarkable collection of flowers and plants, and a Conversazione which was an evening entertainment and social gathering at which all the local subscribers were present. This must have included John Dobell.

I mention this social side because it probably explains a remark that Great Aunt Bella made to my parents, which to them seemed inexplicable and indicated that she was starting to become senile. (She was in bed upstairs in the SE end of Detmore and it was only a year or so before her death, so they may be forgiven for jumping to that conclusion!). She said "I like Science so much because of its social side". But looking at my record of the Dobell family, all is explained. John undoubtedly went to the conversazione and must have taken his wife and Great Aunt Bella, then 25, with him (of the other girls, Ellen had already married Jolly, and Clara had married Mott;

Nora was 15 and Mary 12, they would not have gone). So Bella must have had a good time! And did the Floral Display prompt her to start her collection of pressed flowers?

The scientific side has appeared from time to time in Dobell's descendants (as C.W. Dobell has brought out so well in his article on The Dobell Family in Bulletin 5). I am proud to claim to have some of John Dobell's scientific genes in my blood. My father, Nora's son, was a railway engineer who later became involved with what were then known as Flying Machines and helped to found the Aeronautical Inspection Department. This nowadays is international and controls the safety of all who fly. I am a professional Engineer, now retired, who has spent his career in the Process and Aerospace Industries. Finally, my son Henry is an engineering executive in a firm making gears and gear-boxes.

b) The Motts at Detmore

How did the Motts come to Detmore in the first place? (2) If you recall the Dobell family tree in Bulletin 5, Clara Dobell (born 9 May 1833) married Albert Mott (born 1 October 1822) on 25 June 1852. Albert Mott was scientifically minded and this must have appealed to John Dobell. Mott was what is now called an anthropologist and was a Fellow of the Geographical Society. He read papers on Primitive Life - a paper on "The Origin of Savage Life" to the Literary and Philosophical Society of Liverpool in 1874 (Philosophical here had the 17th and 18th century meaning of scientific) and to the same Society in 1881 "Notes on Easter Island". This paper is particularly noteworthy in that it suggested (what Thor Heyerdahl confirmed recently) that the people who carved the statues on this isolated island could have come from the mainland of South America.

John Dobell must have foreseen that when he died there would have to be a home for his widow Julietta and also for Bella who was unmarried. What better than for Albert Mott and his family to carry on at Detmore, where, I think, they were already in residence? John died in 1878 and I have a small leather-bound New Testament I inherited from my father, inscribed "Edmund Sydney Williams in memory of his grandfather, John Dobell, who died June 29 1878". This must be in Julietta's handwriting. I have a photograph (in my grandfather's collection of photographs) of Julietta sitting on a seat on the lawn outside Detmore - she sits on the right hand side of the picture, in her widow's weeds. (This photograph was the basis of the very fine sketch of Detmore made by Mr Venus for Bulletin 5).

There were 9 Mott children, Lilian Alice (Lily), Norah Barrowcliffe, Harold (died 1890 aged 22), Ernest, Rosalind Dobell (Rosy), Roland, Margaret Thompson, Winifred Hope (Winnie) and Leonard.

Ernest and Margaret both died when I was very small, I can just remember them as people. I don't know what happened to Norah and would welcome any information.

Of the Motts that I remember, Lily was the oldest, born in 1855. She wore black dresses and favoured jet jewelry. She had a collection of butterflies and moths that she captured in the fields around Detmore in which they used to abound. But her chief interest seemed to be in beetles and crawling things - BUGS! She dispatched her victims by putting them in a large glass jam jar with a lid, at the bottom of which were crushed laurel leaves. It

used to finish them off pretty quick! She amazed my mother and father once by producing from about her person an England's Glory match-box, empty except for a bloated grey insect which she had picked up coming across the fields, (by the back way from Detmore) to see us. She didn't know what it was. The insect was a sheep-tick which must have fallen off one of the sheep in the field! The fact that ticks can attack human beings didn't seem to worry her in the least!

Rosy was inclined to be on the stout side and always wore reddish coloured dresses to live up to her name. She sketched and painted in an ineffectual way - my mother said Rosy's paintings were rather lurid - and she was influenced by eastern mysticism. She seemed jolly to me, but my parents said she was always recounting her ailments -- she enjoyed bad health, as the phrase is!

The piano that Rosy used to play on was an early Broadwood (I say "play" but I should say "Rosy used to tinkle away on it", as it seriously needed tuning). It was a grand piano made of a light coloured mahogany-looking wood, called (I believe) rosewood. Both the front and sides were arranged in panels, between pillar-like decoration. In these panels were marquetry representation of musical instruments intertwined with laurel wreaths (3).

My mother, who was a beautiful performer on the piano, was very interested in this instrument, as the maker's name was "John Broadwood, London" which indicated that it was early - she subsequently found out that it was built in 1840. She therefore thought that if she could play Chopin on it, she would be able to hear what the music must have sounded like when Chopin was alive and his piano pieces were played on a piano of this type. When she first broached the question of playing on it, Rosy demurred, saying that the piano "had been bought for the children to practise on" - implying I suppose that such an old piano was hardly worth my mother's attention. (The phrase "had been bought for the children" prompts the question - whose children? John Dobell's or Alfred Mott's? The piano was obviously older than either set of children and had been bought second-hand, as out of date. Nowadays an instrument of that period, so decorated, would be treated with the respect it deserved!)

Eventually my mother prevailed on Rosy to let her play. But when she had raised the lid and started to play Chopin "con espressione", the cloud of dust produced was so prodigious that she had a violent attack of sneezing! I have forgotten whether she was able to continue playing, but I remember her saying that the moths had attacked the felt covering on the hammers so much that there was hardly any left! As far as I remember, this Broadwood was in the ground floor room of the "new" part of Detmore; its bay window can be seen (in Mr Venus's drawing in Bulletin 5) on the left of that front of the house. What happened to the piano I don't know - it certainly had disappeared before the move to the house in Ryeworth Road, there they had an upright.

Winnie was a delightful person and always had something to give me when I visited Detmore - something to eat, that is. Apple turnovers were her speciality, but cakes and sweets she often gave me, or an apple from the orchard. One of those was a Devonshire Nine Squares, an apple that was not round but had facets round the body, nine of them so as to live up to its name! A strange shaped apple completely disappeared nowadays, but good eating.

Winnie ran Detmore - she had an extremely good flair for organization - and believe me, when I look back at the muddle Detmore was in, she needed to be an organiser! She also did a lot of the household chores, helped in the kitchen, saw that things ordered came up from the village, etc. I remember my parents saying they wondered what would happen at Detmore when Winnie died!

Leonard had a bad attack of rickets when he was young - in those days they couldn't prevent or cure it - he was very lame and could not keep up with an active small boy. He spoke in rather a low voice, so there was little understanding between us, just conventional exchanges.

But with Roland it was altogether different. He was active and would always take me with him on walks around the Detmore fields, showing me flowers, animals on farms, fish in the Chelt. I believe he used to bicycle a lot and was very interested in the discoveries at the Roman Villa at Chedworth - and he told me about the marvellous Roman mosaic pavement at Woodchester.

He used to come to our house in Copt Elm Road and sing ballads of a typical Victorian kind like "Come into the Garden, Maud", accompanied on the piano by my mother. His voice was tenor and used to waver, particularly on the high notes. I was a naughty little boy and imitated him in my childish treble - but of course I didn't do it when he was about. I got smacked, once, for doing this! On another occasion, Roland sang a Victorian ballad about some Egyptian scenes, I can't remember the composer - But Rosy accompanied him on the piano with so much expression and twiddley bits that my mother said it was just as if the Nile flowed out through the door.

Roland, Lily, and Winnie had died before the Motts left Detmore. Rosy (who was now a complete invalid), and Leonard went to live in a house in Ryeworth Road. I visited them once (when I was training to be an engineer, and so was not often in Charlton Kings) and Leonard sang me some of Roland's old songs with his quavery voice -- but it wasn't the same and I will draw a veil over the performance.

Leonard in his last years became interested in the education of youth who hadn't had normal scholastic opportunities. In this connection, years afterwards, I met quite casually in Copt Elm Rd a man looking for traces of the Motts. Leonard had helped him when young and now he was a prosperous business man in Birmingham. He had come back to look up his benefactor.

Leonard was the last of the Motts and lived on to a ripe old age, dying somewhere in the '50s I believe (I had lost contact as at that time I was working in the North).

c) Detmore house in trouble

I had become accustomed, as far back as I could remember, having aunts (maiden, of course) suddenly descend on our house in Copt Elm Road with the briefest of notice - usually announced at breakfast the day before arrival, followed by hectic preparation of the spare bedrooms. So it really seemed nothing out of the ordinary when my mother announced that Lily, Rosy, and Winnie were coming to stay with us. I thought this would be a pleasant variation in the usual run of aunts-coming-to-stay. But what startled me was that my mother followed up the announcement about the Motts coming to stay by saying with emphasis "Today!" And the equivalent of

three aunts! Where were we going to sleep them all?

You can imagine the turmoil of preparation that followed and the involvement of a small boy in running errands and fetching and carrying, bringing extra provisions, which meant journeys to and from Attwoods Stores (now the Chinese Take-away).

At last all was ready for our visitors and in the short period before the arrival of the Motts I heard what had happened to cause their sudden descent on us. Apparently Detmore was falling down! In fact, it was the old part of the long house - the 19th century addition where Great Aunt Bella lay in state in her upstairs bedroom, was unaffected.

The condition of the structure of the old part was completely unsuspected until one day just before lunch a large piece of the ceiling plaster of the kitchen fell into a saucepan of soup, scalding the cook! This was the signal for cracks to appear everywhere in ceilings and partitions between rooms, in sufficient quantity to alarm the Motts thoroughly. Builders were called in who said "the foundations had gone!" Drastic action was called for, but, they said, it could be repaired. While the house was being attended to, nobody could use the upstairs rooms - for this reason, Lily, Rosy, and Winny came to stay with us, while Roland and Leonard stayed (and had their meals) at "The Duke of York" so as to be close at hand, to keep in contact with the builders. Great Aunt Bella stayed in her bedroom (what she said when she heard what was happening, I shudder to think!) and had her meals sent in from the Duke of York. The only thing I seem to remember about this was that she complained about the lamb being tough!

It is difficult to remember precisely what the builders did, to support the structure of the house while they repaired the foundations because of the big span of the supporting beam. I seem to remember wooden buttresses on each side of the house tight against the outside walls opposite the downstairs windows (making it difficult to look in). From a buttress on one side of the house to the corresponding buttress on the other side ran a beam or steel girder, and presumably packing was put between the girder and the ceiling joists so that the weight of the house-members came onto the girder and thence to the buttress outside while the foundations were being excavated. If there were no window opposite, a hole was knocked in the wall. The picture I got was of the house being held up while the vertical timbers hung loose and dangling!

Lily, Rosy, and Winny used to get to Detmore every day, presumably to comfort Great Aunt Bella and see that she was being well looked after; so from time to time I went with them to see what the builders were doing. Being small, I could get my head and body past the buttresses at the windows and doors and see what was going on. Looking down, I no longer saw the floor of the room - floor boards and joists had been removed and instead I saw an excavation about a foot or more below that level, where they were proposing to put the foundations to support the timber frame of the house, now exposed. Some of the vertical members were rotten where they had gone deep into the earth, and there were some horizontal timbers so rotten that an adze (an axe with the blade at right angles to the shaft) was able to cut chunks out of the wood like cheese! What function they had I don't know. Vertical and horizontal timbers appeared very old - I was familiar with such timbers in the old house at the junction of School Road and Lye-field Road East, which I used to pass every time I went to play down at

Spring Bottom, and in the old house that used to stand next to the Stores (now the bottle shop) in Horsefair Street.

I may add that it was only the lower extremities of the vertical timbers that were rotten, and not all of them, so repair was not too difficult. Large beams of well seasoned good quality wood, such as oak, were not hard to come by in those days. I don't remember how the repair was carried out, for school term started and I could not spend my days any more at Detmore. Lily, Rosy, and Winny ultimately departed, and the house became habitable again - the chaos must have been awful, furniture piled in the downstairs rooms of the 19th century part. I believe the hole in the side of the model Severn trow dated from this period.

During the excavations of the foundations, a number of interesting things were found (4), mainly coins and bits of iron which in these days would be examined carefully but they were just thrown away! The majority of the coins were copper, thick, and more roughly finished than modern coins, with the king's head on one side and a device and lettering on the other - they were not in mint condition and I didn't pay any attention to them. One silver coin was found, jet black. It was cleaned by rubbing on the carpet so that the raised parts were bright against a black background. The sovereign had a crown on his head and a latin inscription could be made out, part of which was CAROLUS II. My brother became interested because of the latin and was scornful when I didn't know what CAROLUS meant. I now know it as the latin for Charles. At a guess, I would say the coin was a Charles II florin (The sovereign's head was reminiscent of the head of Charles II on the bottle of furniture cleaner, Restoration Cream!)

There was also a metal plate found, about the size of a tea plate - again jet black and probably silver. After much scratching, what appeared to be the hall mark was found - a lion passant and what looked like a leopards head with a crown on it, and some letters. Anyway the plate was thought to be of little value, as it was damaged in one part.

The silver coin and the plate went to Cheltenham Museum, so I was told.

The only other thing found was somebody's store of buttons, lying along one of the horizontal beams behind the wall of one of the rooms - this somebody must have removed a bit of the wall and found a convenient ledge on the beam. One pair were brass, circular and coin-like, with a web on a diameter which had a hole through it for sewing on to the garment - others, exactly the same size, were made of red pottery - and there were two buttons made out of a long leather thong knotted up like a "Turk's Head". What became of the buttons I don't know.

It would be interesting to know if anything else was found in subsequent alterations at Detmore.

- (1) See "Detmore Memories" in Bulletins 5 and 6.
- (2) It is believed that the Motts and Dobells were already connected by marriage, Albert and Clara being second cousins.
- (3) Grove's Dictionary of Music and Musicians (1954) plate 53 opposite p.737 shows a piano by J.Broadwood and Sons, 1848, used by Chopin. I have seen a pinao similar to the Detmore Broadwood at Castle Howard, Yorkshire, and I believe they have one of this date in the Bowes Musuem.
- (4) See "Underfloor Archaeology - the past under your feet" by David Battie Period House, II, 2 pp.4-7 (August 1981)

J.A. Williams

12. AN EARLY DEED FOR LAND IN NAUNTON

Comparatively little is yet known of the history of Charlton in the 13th-15th centuries. It is therefore of interest that 3 small collections in Gloucestershire Record Office include deeds for this period. One of the earliest of these documents, GRO D 1876/1, is reproduced here by permission of the Record Office which holds the copyright. Though it refers to land across Pilley brook, in the next door township of Naunton, Westall, and Sandford, it helps us to visualize medieval Charlton with its open fields divided into furlongs and strips; by the late 13th century, a man like Richard Hill (or de la Hulle) with a total of 4 acres to pass to his son, had begun to consolidate his holding into half acres or double selions.

Documents of the 13th century are often undated, as in this instance, so the date has to be established by contents, format, and style of handwriting. The wording of this deed with its warranty dates it as later than the Quia Emptores statute of 1290; the clause "to hold of the chief lord of the fee" was introduced to prevent sub-infeudation (a tenant sub-letting the land) a process which could make it difficult for the grantor to collect the rent or services due to him - after this date, a purchaser had to hold the land of the same person as the vendor.

The names of witnesses may also provide a clue to date. Three witnesses here, John of Arle or Alre, Walter Stormy, and Thomas de la Forde, were members of a jury which provided evidence for inclusion in the Cheltenham Hundred Roll of 1274; and the first two names (possibly the same men) also appear in a list of tax payers in the Lay Subsidy Roll of 1327. (1) The deed is therefore to be dated c.1300.

Translation

Be it known to all (men) now and to come that I, Richard de la Hulle of Newenton (2) have given, granted and by this my present charter have confirmed to Richard my son, 4 acres of arable land lying in Newenton field; of which $\frac{1}{2}$ acre lies between the land of John of Bradenstoke on the one part and land which was Richard of Newenton's on the other, and extends over (or on to) Eggewey; and two selions lie in Astlingefurlong between the land of the aforesaid John and Richard; and two selions lie in Pilley between land of Walter Crisp (3) on the one part and the land which was Walter atte Hulle's on the other part; and $\frac{1}{2}$ acre lies in the same cultivated land (or furlong) between land of the aforesaid John of Bradenstock and land which was the said Richard of Newenton's; and $\frac{1}{2}$ acre lies near Kingstre between land of the said John and Richard; and $\frac{1}{2}$ acre lies near Tounsende between land of the said John of Bradenstoke and land of Thomas Godman; and $\frac{1}{2}$ acre lies between land of the aforesaid John and Thomas and extends as far as the highway; and one selion lies near Codeleye between land of the said John of Bradenstoke and land which was Richard of Newenton's; and one selion lies in the same furlong next land of John atte Hulle; for his service, to have and to hold all the said land, with appurtenances, to the said Richard and his heirs or his assigns, of the chief lords of that fee, for the services which belong to that tenement, in perpetuity;

D/1876/1.

Sciant presentes & futuri quod ego Ricardus de la Hulle de Afdenton cum
 in Ricardus filio meo quatuor acres terre arabili iacentes in campo de Afdenton quas una dimidia acra iacet inter
 terram Johannis de Bradenstode et una parte a terram que sunt extra de Afdenton et alia a extendit se sup eadem
 et due sectiones iacent in Astlingeswylong meo terram predictam Johannis et alia. Et due sectiones iacent in Aldeve
 meo terram Walteri Crisp et una parte a terram que sunt Walteri acetylulle et alia. Et una dimidia acra iacet
 eadem aliana inter terram predictam Johannis de Bradenstode a terram que sunt predicta de Afdenton. Et una
 dimidia acra iacet apud Dungefere meo terram predictam Johannis et alia. Et una dimidia acra iacet apud Le comeston
 de inter terram predictam Johannis de Bradenstode a terram Thome Godmon. Et una dimidia acra iacet in etia
 predictam Johannis et Thome a extendit se ultra meam. Et una sectione iacet apud Codelve meo terram predictam Johannis
 de Bradenstode a terram que sunt predicta de Afdenton. Et una sectione iacet in eadem cum predicta de Bradenstode
 Johannis acetylulle per servitium eius. Habens a tenens terram predictam cum cum panem predictam et heredes
 suis ut suis assignat de capitalibus omni pascuis illius et servitium que ad tenentiam illam pertinent in pascuis. Et
 ego de predictis terris a heredibus meis terram predictam terram cum panem predictam et heredes suis ut suis
 assignat Durancardum a confines omnes moveables in pascuis defendend. Et unius rei testamur hinc presens
 corce sigilla meum apposui. In testibus. Walter de Bradenstode. Johannis de Aldeve. Thome de la fonde. Ricardus
 de homme. Walter de comeston a multis aliis.

and I, the said Richard and my heirs, will warrant and defend against all mortals, all that said land with appurtenances, to the said Richard and his heirs or his assigns;
in witness of which I have put my seal to this charter, these being witnesses:-
Walter of Bradewell, John of Alre, Thomas de la Forde, R. of Homme (4),
Walter Stormy, and many others.

- (1) See earlier, item 8 of this Bulletin.
- (2) Newnton or Newnton (used of buildings in the sense 'newly built' or of land in this sense 'newly reclaimed from waste') became Naunton - see A.H. Smith Place Name Elements II 50-1 (1970).
- (3) A Walter Crisp is also listed in the 1327 Lay Subsidy.
- (4) OE hamm or homm, a meadow; here referring to Ham.

M.J. Greet

13. A LONG LIFE - MEMORIES OF ALFRED WILLIAM KEEN, 1860-1953
as told by his son Mr William Keen and his daughter the late Miss E.M.Keen.

Grandfather was the village bobby in the 1850s when Charlton Police Station was in Church Street (in the house which later became Dale's grocery shop and after that a butcher's till it was pulled down in 1975 - that was why the little lane behind the police station was known as Bobby's Alley). But grandfather married without permission. His wife was a Mrs Buckle - a sampler worked by her in 1828 when she was 7 is still treasured by the family. After the marriage, grandfather transferred from the Gloucestershire to the Wiltshire police, where the pay was better, and so his son Alfred William was born in Wiltshire. They came back to Charlton when the boy was of school age. He was just a bit older than "Boss" Fry and Mr Folley the headmaster wanted them both to go in for teaching. But father's parents couldn't afford it, so he left school at the age of 12. He was an excellent writer - beautiful copperplate - if boys didn't write well, they had a rap across the knuckles!

His first job was working for Mr Jordan at the Withyholt; and after that, delivering goods for Bartholomew's the wine merchants.

As a boy, father attended a bible class at Lexham Lodge (later the UDC Office) in Copt Elm Road - this was run by a Miss Abercrombie. And he was present at the parish meeting in the Vestry Hall (St Mary's Hall) in 1875, when the Revd. C.L. Dundas first brought up the question of church restoration -- and Colonel Holmes of Whithorne, a very irascible man, jumped up on the table and shook his fist in the Vicar's face!

When Clevely the builder was erecting the Baptist chapel in 1875, father (aged 15) worked there as a labourer, wheeling barrows of bricks and mortar. Then he left and went into Lady Norman's garden at The Hearne. She told him stories of the Indian Mutiny, in which she and her husband General Norman had been involved, and advised him to wear flannel because she found he suffered from lumbago. While father was at Lady Norman's, he learnt to play

the violin from the old coachman; he used to go round to his rooms at night-time, and it seemed to come natural to him, he had a musician's hands with very long fingers and beautiful filbert-shaped nails. He was tall and extremely handsome.

When he was about 17-18, father worked on the railway line when they were building the embankment behind the reservoir - often the work they put in by day fell away during the night and left the metals exposed next morning. The inexperienced fellows had to wheel barrows across planks - those barrows had very narrow iron wheels and you had to work in step with the plank jumping - if you didn't, you ended ever so many feet down, on the ground! All sorts and conditions of men were at work there. Colonel Holmes of Whithorne found one of the navvies on his ground one morning and shouted "Get off my ground, check shirt!" but he got the answer "Who the hell are you calling check shirt?" and thought it wiser to retreat. All the navvies wore those checked shirts. They were a rough lot, they'd drink 12 pints of beer at a sitting -- one very bad frosty morning, father and another man were walking to work when they saw one of their mates lying in the ditch, covered with hoar frost. Father said "Hadn't we better see if he's all right?" His companion said "No! the last time I did that, it was a dead man!" so they walked by. However, the man was all right, only sleeping it off.

From the railway, father went to Wood's Cambrian Nurseries (now Telling and Coates), that was where he learnt all about gardening. Wood was a good gardener, his trouble was the booze. He'd go out first thing to the Endeavour and they never saw him again till 11 at night - the pubs kept open all day then. In the end (but that was many years later) they found him dead in one of the greenhouses.

After that, father worked for Canon Bell for a time. Then he went to Burgesses' Nurseries (later Fuller and Maylams) - they had a big nursery in the London Road, with lovely gravel soil down towards the water, and also a big nursery on the Cirencester Road (where Okus and Bradley roads now are - the nursery was up on a bank, but the developers levelled it and dumped all the soil in an old sandpit on the corner of Cirencester Road and Lyefield Road West - a pity, it was beautiful soil)

While he was working for Burgesses, father supervised the planting of 135,000 trees at Cowley Manor, a job recalled by the Echo at the time of his death.

"The death of Mr Alfred William Keen at 1, Brevel Terrace, Charlton Kings, in his 93rd year, recalls the beginning of a lovely plantation that is the admiration of many hundreds of visitors every year to Gloucestershire.

It was in the winter of 1881-2 that Mr W. Baring Bingham, who then owned Cowley Manor, gave the order for the planting of the trees to Burgess's Nurseries (now Fuller and Maylam).

Mr. Keen, who was then the nursery foreman, was put in charge of the job. The order was for 135,000 trees, made up of spruce firs, Scotch firs, larch, beech, ash, oak, berberis, and small privet, the last two being specially planted to provide berries for the birds.

The working party consisted of 10 men and 10 boys, most of whom were from the Coberley and Cowley district, by express wish of Mr Bingham for local labour. If it was a fine day, each man and boy planted 250 trees a day.

A total of 30,000 holes were dug out before any planting started"

Today, 100 years later, very few of those trees still stand.

Father planted another lot of trees for the firm at Upper Slaughter - he used to stay up there all week, sharing a room with an old Irishman named Mac. Mac was a good chap to work with but you had to tell him what to do and stand over him, but, yes, he'd work all right. One night father woke up in the dark and there was Mac at the window, striking matches to see the church clock across the road!

Then father set up on his own and was gardener to Canon Bell, Rector of Cheltenham, who was very wealthy and lived in a big house in Parabola Road. Father was in charge of stoking the boiler for the greenhouse full of rare plants and for the aviary full of foreign birds. The winter of 1894 was very severe - on one occasion it was such a severe night, he stayed up all night keeping the pressure up. Then in the middle of the cold spell, his mother died - he had to leave the boiler in charge of the footman for the night and he got fooling with the maids - when father went back, all the plants and birds were dead.

In 1895, father married - his wife had been cook to Canon Bell.



A.W. Keen and his wife at the time of their marriage in 1895.

After Canon Bell died, father went back to Fuller and Maylam's. When Buckles Haven was built about 1910, the builders Collins and Godfrey took out a lot of sand from the space in front and filled up the hole with rubbish. Fuller and Maylams had the contract for turving that area and father laid it out - before long the ground collapsed, and the builders had to pay compensation!

W. Keen

14. A DAY AT THE FAIR!

This photograph, taken at Charlton Kings Station in 1912, shows a group of men employed by the Urban District Council on their yearly outing to St Giles' Fair in Oxford. The original belongs to Mrs Carter, whose grandfather is the first on the left. Mr. F. Neather and Mr. W. Keen have identified a number of individuals, but there are still a good many we would like to be able to put a name to.



		3*	5*	7*8*	10*	12*	14		
1	2	4	6	9	11	13*	W.	15	16
Neather	Fred Pearce	Aylin	Hicks	Harris	James (with medal)		Peacey	Searson	Frank Timbrell

(back rows continued)

						17	18		
						James	Sid Smith "Soldier"	19 Isher	20 Horace Matthews
21*	22	23		24*	25	26		29	
	Harris	Joe White			Harris brother of 22	Bob Hamlin		"Billy the dustman" Billy Herbert	

Those starred are unknown. The children have not been counted in.

15. REUBEN PATES

When I kneel at the altar rail in St David's chapel in our Parish church of St Mary, my eyes are drawn to the Pates memorial on the east wall.

I remember Reuben Pates and his wife (Sarah?). They lived in Copt Elm Road, their house was called Newlyn. They were real Victorians and the salt of the earth.

There were many fruit trees in their long garden and the sweet rough-skinned Russet apples were highly prized by us children; we usually received a basket of these at Christmas.

Halfway down the garden was a pig-sty where each year a small porker grew into a large bacon pig. I was sometimes taken to see the pet and allowed to scratch his back with a small cane. When the sty was suddenly no longer occupied, it never occurred to me to connect the pig's disappearance with the sides of bacon hanging in the cellar!

Sometime early in the first World War, Mrs Pates went into hospital for a serious operation, and for several weeks my mother and I went on Sunday, and I think Thursday, afternoons to sit with a very old lady who wore a lace cap, just like the pictures of Queen Victoria; she was nearly always in bed in the front room and we stayed there till Mr Pates returned from visiting his wife in hospital. I learned later that the old lady was Mr Pates' mother. She was over 90 then and lived some years after that - I don't remember when she died.

Mr Pates was gardener for many years to Colonel Matthews at Glenure House, and when the Colonel died, the "young ladies", as Reuben always called them, told him he was not to do any real work but oversee the other gardeners and

"take the Colonel's place". I remember how pleased and touched he was at this.

He used to tell me how, as a boy, he sang in the church "kyre". He also told me that before the present London Road was made, coaches from Oxford came down Ham Hill. When our London Road was completed, Andoversford was the last stop till they reached Conway House (now The Close), this house was a hotel where they changed horses; and the ostlers having stabled the horses would cross the road to the cottage still standing by the side of the bridge over the Ham Brook, (another pub!)

The village cross, or perhaps it was the preaching cross, which stands in the churchyard, was altered around the turn of the century; the top, a round stone ball, is now topping a stone column near the lych gate. The original base with its three stone steps stands near the path to the west door of the church - it was given a new carved four-sided head. According to Reuben Pates, this would not have pleased anyone in the village, in fact there would have been an unholy row except that expenses were met by Miss Gabb, a daughter (I think) of a previously well-loved Vicar. Anything done or said by Miss Gabb must be correct.

I remember that when, after he had been poorly, I asked "How are you, Mr Pates?" he was never allowed to answer for himself. Mrs Pates would quickly answer "He is very middling, my dear, very middling indeed!"

M.E. Wilkins

16. AN OLD CIDER PRESS RESTORED IN 1981

These photographs show the cider press at East End Farm, which has been restored by the staff of Charlton Kings Secondary School under the direction of Mr. Preen, with money given by the Friends of the School Association. Congratulations!



17. THE ALICE RIDDLE SOLVED!

In Bulletin 6, an extract from The Magic of Lewis Carroll ed. John Fisher, questioned the statement in Carroll's diary that on 6 April 1863 he took Alice and her sisters to "see Herr Dobler, a conjurer", on the ground that this famous performer was not advertised as being in Cheltenham that month.

This, however, is a mistake. Döbler was in Cheltenham that April. In the Cheltenham Looker-On dated 4 April 1863, there is a display advertisement for Herr Döbler on the front cover - "the Greatest Wonder of the Age, who has had the honour to appear (by command) before Her Gracious Majesty and a full Court, will open his Enchanted Palace of Illusions!" and so on. What is perhaps important, he performed "without Apparatus, without Covered Tables, without Sleeves, and without Coat Pockets". The same Looker-On refers to previous visits and also to the fact that no other public entertainment was provided that week in Cheltenham. The Cheltenham Looker-On for 11 April reports on the great success of Herr Döbler, the celebrated conjurer and his tricks of legerdemain; and the same paragraph appears in the Cheltenham Journal.

N. Pringle

There have been two other "Alice" features lately. On 12 November 1981 Anne Clark's book was reviewed in the Echo, accompanied by a beautiful photograph of The Looking-Glass; and there was an article by Mrs Batey, "Alice and her Wonderful Gardens" in Country Life for 29 October 1981 - one of Herr Döbler's special tricks was to produce "an Enchanted Garden" from a single rose tree in a pot and supply the audience with fresh roses - how that would have delighted Alice!

18. THE OLD DAYS ----- JUST A FEW MORE RECOLLECTIONS

Little boys had long hair in those days, and I had a head of curls --- when they were cut off, I took a curl to the old woman who lived in the thatched cottage at the bottom of the hill (in Spring Bottom), and she gave me a penny for it to buy sweets!

Boss Fry did me a good turn once --- when I was 12, he let me go with the boys of 13 down to the Devonshire Street school to take the examination to see if we could leave school. I passed, so I left at 12, and was employed by Fuller and Maylan at 4s a week --- I didn't stay there long! Then I went to the builder, Dunham Marshall, and stopped there --- I went back for a time after the War ---

F. Neather

19. GLOUCESTERSHIRE HISTORICAL STUDIES

Readers may like to know that three articles on Charlton's history have appeared in the two latest volumes of Gloucestershire Historical Studies issued by the Extra-Mural Department of the University of Bristol. Copies

of the latest of these, XII, can be obtained from the County Record Office price 75p. The articles are

"Old Houses in Cudnall Street" The Charlton Kings Group, XI (1980)
pp 56-71 (1)

"The Lovesy Family of Charlton Kings" Joan Paget, XII (1981) pp 59-67

"Tenements and Tenants in Charlton Kings, 1557 and 1564" Mary Paget
XII (1981) pp 73-85.

M.J. Greet

- (1) Further information about Hetton Lawn was published in Bulletin 3, pp 34-7 and 6 pp 50-2; and a fuller account of Grove House in Bulletin 3 39-41. We hope to publish a more complete account of the development of the beedle messuage land in a future Bulletin - some additional evidence has now come to light.

20. A GRANT TOWARDS PUBLICATION

The Society is pleased to acknowledge a grant from the Higgs-Cooper Charity to cover the cost of publishing Simon Fletcher's article on "The Memorials in St Mary's Church" in Bulletin 5 - the Trustees were able to make this grant because Simon was only 13 at the time when he did his project.

M.J. Greet