

NOTES & QUERIES

FOR

SOMERSET AND DORSET

EDITED BY

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"Attempt the end, and never stand to doubt;
Nothing's so hard, but search will find it out".

HERRICK.

CONTENTS

No.		Page No.
322	SDNQ — The Formative Years	641
323	William Barnes and his Wood-Engravings for Phelps, History and Antiquities of Somersetshire	644
324	Visual Telegraphs	656
325	Shelley's First Harriet	661
326	Russell of Weymouth and Beaminster	665
327	A Mooring Stone from Rackley	672
328	St. Margaret's Chapel. Two Inventories.	673
329	Monumental Inscription from the Countess of Huntingdon's Chapel, Bath	675
330	Lyme Regis in 1797	677
331	An Orchardleigh Inscription	678
332	The Wool-Bovington Railway	679
	Notes	683
	Queries	686
	Reviews	686

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CONTRIBUTIONS are invited on the history, architecture, archaeology, genealogy and folklore of Somerset and Dorset, including industrial history and archaeology. The Editors welcome copies of or extracts from MSS. or other records, as well as queries on matters of like interest. All communications, preferably typewritten, should be sent to one or other of the Editors. Contributors wishing to have spare copies of the parts containing their communications must inform the Editors when sending them in. The charge will be 60p each.

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CORRECTION

The Dorset Editor apologises to readers and would like to point out that in J. H. P. Pafford's article, 'John Clavell (1601-43), Burglar, Highwayman, Poet, Dramatist, Doctor, Lawyer', (*SDNQ*, XXXII, Part 324, Sept. 1986), a Printer's error has led to some textual confusion. The whole text of the article is present, and while there is no serious inconvenience to the reader, some slight difficulty may be caused when, for example, the author refers to something as 'above', this may be 'below', and vice versa.

322. SDNQ — THE FORMATIVE YEARS. The preface to the first volume of *Notes and Queries for Somerset and Dorset* informed its readers that 'in the Autumn of 1887 it occurred to some Antiquaries in the Counties of Somerset and Dorset that the time was come for the establishment of a local *Notes and Queries* for circulation in the district. After the discussion of a few preliminaries, a Committee was formed, two Editors were appointed, and the experiment was set in action.' It all sounds very simple. The magazine was issued quarterly, and eight numbers made up a volume, which was provided with an index. Volume I for the years 1888 and 1889, therefore, appeared in 1890 and was printed by Sawtell of Sherborne, which firm continued to print the magazine until 1960. The editors were Hugh Norris of South Petherton for Somerset and the Rev. Charles H. Mayo, vicar of Long Burton, for Dorset. There was a list of members divided, somewhat oddly, into 'those ladies and gentlemen who have kindly promised their support and co-operation' and 'other subscribers'.

It is not until we come to vol. VII, p.171, and read his obituary that we discover that the founder was John Batten, F.S.A., of Aldon, Yeovil (1815-1900), member of a long established legal family and author of that still invaluable book on the neighbourhood, known as Batten's *Notes on South Somerset*. It was he who had found the editors, retained his interest in *Notes and Queries* to the end of his long life and arranged to hold the annual meeting of the Committee at Aldon. 'Of these meetings', the editors recorded in 1900, 'They will always retain a pleasing recollection, when they partook of Mr. Batten's hospitality.'

Mr. Norris resigned after the first volume, though remaining on the Committee, and was succeeded by the Rev. Frederick W. Weaver, curate and then vicar of Milton Clevedon from 1879 to 1917. There is no formal list of early Committee

members, but their names can be found at intervals in the lists of subscribers marked with an asterisk. The first members were: John Batten (presumably chairman), his brother E. Chisholm Batten of Thorn Falcon, the Rev. A. J. Bennett, South Cadbury, Preb. Coleman, Cheddar, F. T. Elworthy, Wellington, the Rev. T. S. Holmes, Wookey, the Rev. J. B. Medley, Lullington, and the Rev. Dr. Coleby, Litton Cheyney, Montague Guest (brother of the 1st Lord Wimborne and M.P. for Poole, 1880-85), and M. J. Moule, Dorchester.

No minutes or account books have survived prior to 1919. They may have been lost when Weaver destroyed his letters and papers before leaving Milton Clevedon, or they may still be found among Canon Mayo's. Minutes, indeed, may not have been thought necessary, but accounts ought to have been kept, or so the editors' cry from the heart (which still strikes a familiar chord today) heralding the new century would suggest. 'The life of a local magazine is a precarious one, depending as it does upon a restricted circle of readers, and the Editors rejoice that they have been able to steer their barque so long upon a successful voyage. They must repeat, however, what they have said on a former occasion, that they require a constant accession of fresh subscribers to take the place of those whom the inroads of time have removed.'

Committee members are not marked again until the list of members in vol. IV, dated March 1895. Canon Bennett, who had moved to Shrewton in Wilts., Dr. Coleby, who had retired to Ilfracombe, and Mr. Guest had left the committee, being replaced by the Rev. Canon Sir Talbot Baker, bt. of Ranston, W. Colfox, Bridport, the Rev. W. E. Daniel, East Pennard (later Horsington), Hugh Norris and the two editors. Mr. Chisholm Batten died in 1897, and Canon Ravenhill, Buckland Newton, who appears only briefly, was replaced in 1899 by W. B. Wildman, Sherborne. Parity of membership, however, does not seem to have been considered: besides the editor there were still only three members for Dorset and meanwhile another two were added for Somerset in 1898, the Rev. R. G. Bartelot (a later Dorset Editor) and the Rev. E. H. Bates, then curate at Stoke Trister, but shortly to be rector of Puckington, a personal friend of the Somerset Editor. The latter wrote to him on 5 May 1898 'the N. and Q. meeting will be at Aldon on May 17. Meeting 1. Lunch 1.30.' Weaver does not seem to have expected the Dorset members to attend, for he gives only the names of seven Somerset members (including Bates) and adds 'I call them the Septem contra Batten in allusion to the inroads they will make on his claret and salmon mayonnaise. Henry

usually sits at one end of the table.' John Batten was by this time a widower and his son Henry, who was unmarried, lived with him. It is possible that Batten, then 83, was not well enough to preside. He died at Weymouth in Dec. 1900. The committee continued to meet at Aldon, although Henry was not a member, and there is at present no record of a chairman. Sir Talbot Baker also died in 1900.

There is no list of members in vol. VIII; that in vol. IX for 1905 omits Bartelot, Colfox and Medley and records the death of Moule in 1904. Three new members had joined the committee, the Rev. W. M. Barnes, Monkton Rectory, Dorchester, C. Troyte-Chafyn-Grove, North Coker House, Yeovil, and D. E. Norton, King's School, Bruton. Except for Barnes, the 1909 list is identical, but thereafter no lists of subscribers are published for many years so that it is not possible to keep track of the committee until minutes begin in 1919.

Obituaries record the deaths of Hugh Norris on 31 Oct. 1910, aged 89, Preb. Coleman on 2 Feb. 1913, aged 81, and Troyte-Chafyn-Grove on 27 Sept. 1913, aged 83. This would have reduced the committee to four plus the editors. Henry Batten died 1 Feb. 1912 and, thus, the meetings at Aldon came to an end. The Rev. E. H. Bates Harbin, as he now was, invited the committee to meet at Newton Surmaville, which he had inherited in 1909, but they refused. Hilda Bates Harbin wrote to her husband that she was sorry N. and Q. was not coming but that perhaps it was better that they should not always meet in the same place. This suggests a possible previous meeting at Newton Surmaville, but the first definitely known meeting there was in 1913 and there was certainly another in 1917, but what happened in the intervening war years is not known. But the custom of lunches, started by the Battens, thus continued. Edward Bates Harbin had also reinforced the committee with some of his friends, the Rev. George Saunders, vicar of Martock, who succeeded Weaver as Somerset Editor in 1917, Dr. Price of Tintinhull and perhaps most importantly the erudite Dr. Armitage Robinson, formerly Dean of Westminster, who had come to Somerset as Dean of Wells in 1911 and became Chairman in 1919. So were foundations laid and traditions established by these first generation members which have enabled our magazine to continue to its century.

SOPHIA RAWLINS

[The Editors can add what Mrs. Rawlins' modesty leaves unsaid, that she too has continued the hospitable custom

inherited by her father. With the exception of the enforced break occasioned by World War II the Editorial Committee has met continuously by invitation at Newton Surmaville. Mrs. Rawlins will also complete 55 years as a member of the Editorial Committee this year and has been its Chairman for the last 20 years.]

323. WILLIAM BARNES AND HIS WOOD-ENGRAVINGS FOR PHELPS, HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES OF SOMERSETSHIRE. The writer has assembled over the last two years a file on the wood-engravings of William Barnes (1801-1886) and a card index with examples of all of Barnes' engravings so far identified. It was hoped originally that these would form the basis of a book on Barnes and his engravings, with illustrations of all known examples, but unfortunately this proved too costly an undertaking. However, a small volume on Barnes as a wood-engraver and his Dorset engravings has been published¹, and it is hoped that it may be possible to produce a companion volume on the Somerset engravings.

Barnes had been commissioned to cut wood-engravings for Rutter's work on Somerset², for the seventh edition of Clark's guide to Glastonbury³ and between 1833 and 1835 he produced a number of engravings for Phelps' *History*. A small number of the blocks are common to each of these three works. However, the total of some 70 engravings of Somerset subjects compares with the 27 which Barnes produced for Dorset monuments and antiquities. 29 engravings by Barnes were printed in Phelps' *History*.

The Dorset County Museum, in its Barnes collection, has a number of scrapbooks and a large collection of letters written to Barnes. Although the scrapbooks were evidently assembled late in Barnes' life they include brief references to the engravings he produced for various publications as well as many pulls from blocks before they were sent away to clients. Unfortunately these compilations can be shown to be far from complete, but they, with the letters, enable a more precise picture to be built up of Barnes' output of engravings. This would not be possible from an examination of the published works alone since, although many of the engravings contain the initials *WB*, very many are not so initialled and the publications more often than not lack the names of the artists who produced the illustrations.

For Phelps' *History* the Barnes collection provides not only information for an accurate identification of Barnes'

contributions to that work, but also nine letters from Phelps which are interesting as a commentary on the production of the *History*. They show at first hand the way in which the illustrations were conceived and the relationship between publisher and artist.⁴

The Rev. William Phelps (1776-1856) was vicar of Meare and Bicknoller from 1824 to 1851, when he moved to a living in Lincolnshire. In 1810 he had published *Calendarium Botanicum, or a botanical calendar ...* By 1833 he was working on his *History and Antiquities of Somersetshire* (Letter 1), conceived originally as a work in four volumes, which he calculated would take four years to complete 'if my life is so long spared' (Letter 2). The *Dictionary of National Biography* states that the *History* was produced in seven parts between 1835 and 1839, when it appeared in two volumes, but the work was not completed as only a third of the county is covered. There is internal evidence, however, that eight parts were published.

Bibliographically the *History* is a difficult work to unravel since the copies previously examined consist of two volumes called *Volume I* with the publication date of 1836 and all have been rebound. Fortunately a recent purchase by the author of a volume still in its original paper covers provides clues to the original intentions of the author and publisher. This volume, which was published in 1836, has a title-page identical to (a) below. The front cover, however, is headed 'PARTS I. AND II.] [Antiquities.] [Price £1.5s.' and has the title -

Dedicated by Permission TO HIS MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY WILLIAM IV. AND UNDER THE SANCTION OF THE LORD BISHOP OF BATH AND WELLS, THE HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES OF SOMERSETSHIRE; BEING A GENERAL AND PAROCHIAL SURVEY OF THAT INTERESTING COUNTY.
VOL. I PARTS I. AND II. ...

The back cover has a three-column list of subscribers, and underneath the list

The work is publishing in Parts, Four forming a Volume. Price, in Royal Quarto, 18s.; Demy Quarto, 12s.6d. each Part. The whole Work will be comprised in Sixteen Parts (to be paid for on delivery of each part), making Four Volumes.

The second Volume I published in 1836 has a separate pagination, although according to the original plan this would have contained Parts III and IV, confusingly called Parts I and II in the 1839 printing (see (b) (ii) below). *Volume II* was published in 1839. In the same year the work, as it then was, appears to have been re-published, with the very first volume on the ancient history appearing after the first re-published

volume which covered the general history of the county and the parochial history of the hundreds of Norton Ferrers, Bruton, Horethorne, Catsash and Glastonbury. The whole work may have been reprinted at an even later date (although the 1839 title pages were not changed) since on p.274 of *Volume II* there is the statement *The preceding pages contain the whole of the PAROCHIAL HISTORY as far as was printed by Mr. Phelps. The author vacated Meare and Bicknoller in 1851, when he was appointed Rector of Oxcombe, Lincolnshire. He died on the 17th August, 1856.* Allowing for these difficulties the arrangement of the published work is as follows:

- (a) *The History and Antiquities of Somersetshire; being a general and parochial survey of that interesting county.* To which is prefixed An Historical Introduction, with a brief view of ecclesiastical history; and an account of the Druidical, Belgic-British, Roman, Saxon, Danish, and Norman antiquities, now extant. Illustrated with maps, plans, engravings, and vignettes, from original drawings, by J. and J. C. Buckler, P. Crocker, Esqrs. and others + In Four Volumes. Vol. I. By the Rev. W. Phelps, A.B. F.S.A. ... London: Printed for the author, by J. B. Nichols and Son, 25, Parliament Street. 1836.*

The dedication page is to King William the Fourth, dated December 21st, 1835. Total of 192pp.

- (b) (i) same title page exactly with publication date of 1836.

The dedication page is to Sir Richard Colt Hoare, Bart. F.S.A., dated July 29th, 1836. Total of 600pp.

(ii) Title page same to * in (a) then, *containing an Historical Introduction*, title continues as in (a) to +, followed by *Vol. I. containing, Part I. — A General History of the County. Part II. — The Parochial History, viz. the Hundreds of Norton Ferrers, Bruton, Horethorne, Catsash, and Glastonbury.* The author's, printer's and dedication details are the same as in (i) but the publication date is 1839.

- (c) (i) same title page as for (a) and (b) (i) except for the *Vol. I* of these two being changed to *Vol. II*. The dedication is to the Right Reverend George Henry Law, D.D. F.S.A. Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells, dated Sept. 30th, 1839. The publication date is 1839. Total of 274pp.

(ii) same arrangement of title page as in (b) (ii), except, *Vol. II containing, Part I. — Parochial History continued, viz. The City and Cathedral of Wells; the Hundreds of Wells Forum and Whitstone. Part II. — The General and Ancient History of the County.* The publication date and dedication is the same as (i). Part I of the volume contains the same number of pages as (i), although it appears that *Part II* was identical to (a) above.

For convenience (a) will be called Vol. I part i, (b) Vol. I part ii, and (c) Vol. II.

As noted above, *DNB* states that these volumes were published in seven parts. It will be shown, however, that eight parts were produced. One may presume that the parts were published in sequence, but the length of each part is now difficult to establish and it is by no means certain whether two parts were issued at one time. Only for Vol. I part i do the parts

as issued correspond with the parts referred to on the title-page. Phelps' letters in Barnes' scrapbooks show that the first *portion* had been sent to the printer Nichols by 27 March 1835 (Letter 3), Part III was nearing completion in June 1836 (Letter 7) and was published by September 1836 (Letter 9), when Phelps noted that Part IV would be out by Christmas. Parts I and II were reviewed in the *Gentleman's Magazine* in 1836 (Vol. V, part i, New Series, 174-80): the length of these two parts was recorded as being 106 pages with 21 plates. However, there is no break on page 106 which is a whole page of text carrying on to the next page. Since it has been shown that Parts I and II made up Vol. I part i, which lists 21 plates, the number of pages recorded in this review must surely be a mistake. References to Barnes' engravings in the letters do not enable the division between Parts I and II to be established. The review and the author's copy suggest that both parts were issued together.

The publication details printed on the paper-bound copy referred to above show that it was intended to have four parts to each volume, and, as noted above, Vol. I part ii contained Parts III and IV. For Part III, Letter 7 shows that it included a section on the parochial history and that Phelps had 'Pen porch & font already'; Letter 8 asks Barnes for the block of 'Pen Font that might be sent to Messrs. Nichols'. The Norman door to Pen church occurs on p.182 of Vol. I part i. It occurs also on p.192 of Vol. I part ii, with the font on p.197. A reference on p.2 of Vol. II refers to 'The Map of Camalodunum, and the Plate of the Pitney Pavement, both delivered in Part III belong to the Ancient History of Somersetshire (published as Parts I. and II.) which will form part of a separate volume'. This is confusing since the illustrations occur as Plates X and XIX in Vol. I part i. The reference to a separate volume for the 'Ancient History' presumably applies to the reprint of 1839 when a third volume may have been contemplated. In all the copies of the 1839 edition examined, however, the 'Ancient History' is bound in Vol. II as Part II.

In his Scrapbook VII Barnes refers to Part IV, where his engraving of the font at Pen is printed on p.197. In Letter 9 Phelps writes that Milborne Port would be included in Part IV. Milborne Port is described on p.287-98 of Vol. I part ii. The *errata* to Vol. II refers to Parts VII and VIII, so it would appear, therefore, that Vol. I part ii contained Parts III, IV, V and VI. This is clearly a change in the publication plan, as Parts V and VI ought to have gone into Volume II if the scheme to have four parts to a volume had been adhered to. The start of

the description of the Hundred of Catsash on p.373 perhaps marks the beginning of the original Parts V and VI.

The *errata* to Vol. II, referring to Parts VII and VIII, gives the first erratum for p.10, the last for p.267. As the whole of this volume contains 274 pp. it is clear that Parts VII and VIII made up the whole of this volume.

The surviving letters from Phelps to Barnes show that Barnes was concerned with illustrations for the *History* from 1833 to 1836. This is confirmed by a note by Barnes in his Scrapbook I, which notes that

In 1833 and 1835 I engraved some woodcuts for Mr. Phelps's History of Somerset/British Huts, British Charioteers/ Breastplates, 2 Tiaras. British axe. Old House at Glastonbury/Font in Penn Zelwood church. Arch in same/Font in Yarlinton church/Plan of Merehead Camp/Section of Wansdike/British altar or Cromlech/Druid stone/A Maze/Roman stone, and three others/Urns/Early British church/Tomb in Chelvey church &c.

In Scrapbook VII Barnes records the date 1835 for the woodcuts: 'They are marked WB', and adds that 'Mr. Phelps borrowed some of my blocks [to the *Gent. Mag.*] from Mr. Gough Nicholls and some of Mr. Rutter's', a statement also confirmed by comment in Scrapbook I. He lists the engravings again but this time gives several of the page numbers of the published work.

The letters show that Phelps provided Barnes with drawings to form the basis of the engravings. Letter 5 even contains Phelps' own drawing of the supposed church at Glastonbury. Other drawings were provided by P. Crocker. Barnes' engravings were not always to Phelps' liking. In Letter 6 he objects to the treatment of 'the sepulchre at Littleton' and notes that 'Pen Selwood font does not give the richness of the original'. Phelps provided Barnes with an engraving of Alfred's Tower as a basis for a block (Letter 7) but the engraving published (Vol. I part ii, 189) is so different in technique from Barnes' usual work that it cannot be his. The letters also show that Phelps was expecting Barnes to engrave the hillforts at Tedbury and Wadbury (Letter 6), the Shepton Mallet cross (Letter 9) and apparently Friary's Toot too (Letter 5). However, none of the published illustrations of these are by Barnes.

Barnes notes several times that he failed to receive any payment for his work, observing that 'Poor Mr. Phelps never finished his too great undertaking and I never received for my wood-cuts even a copy of the History' (Scrapbook I), and also 'I gave Mr. Phelps some woodcuts for his 'History of Somerset'

which, however, he never finished, and I never had my honorarium a copy of the History'.⁵

Letter 9, dated 13 Sept. 1836, shows not only that Barnes was sent a copy of Part III but that Phelps asked for Barnes' account. Barnes must have received his copy of this part since a letter dated 19 Sept. from a friend of Barnes, Edward Boswell, thanks him 'for the sight of Mr. Phelps's Hist. of Somerset Part III'.⁶ Furthermore, as mentioned above, Barnes notes in Scrapbook VII the pages on which his engravings are printed. Almost all of the engravings mentioned in Scrapbooks I and VII can be identified, but there are engravings he did not mention. There are some difficulties. 'Breastplates' are presumably *lunulae*, the 'Druidical ornament' of engraving 12. The '2 Tiaras' defy interpretation and there is no engraving of 'A maze'.

Barnes' Engravings

Vol. I part i

1. p.7 **British Huts, according to Strabo.** Initialled WB. See Letter 3.
2. p.12 **A British battle-axe and ring.** No initials, but Scrapbook I has a pull signed 'W. B. Sculpsit'.
3. p.22 **British war chariot.** Initialled WB. See Letter 3.
4. p.40 Exterior of early church at Glastonbury. Not signed, but Scrapbook VII has a pull. See Letters 3, 5 and 6.
5. p.83 **The cove at Stanton Drew.** Initialled WB. A pull in Scrapbook I is signed 'W. Barnes Sculpsit'. The same scrapbook has another signed pull of a monolith, probably part of the Stanton Drew complex, perhaps 'Hauterville's Quoit', which was not used.
6. p.83 **Entrance to Littleton sepulchre.** Initialled WB. Pull in Scrapbook VII. See Letter 6.
7. p.90 **Cistvaen on Dundry Hill.** Initialled WB. Scrapbook I has a pull signed 'W. Barnes Sculpsit'.
8. p.100 **Section of Wansdyke, showing it to have been the work of two distinct people.** No initials. Scrapbook I has a pull. See Letter 4.
9. p.110 **Merehead camp.** No initials. See Letter 4.
10. p.117 **Funeral urn found at Smaldon.** Initialled WB. Scrapbook I has two pulls, one signed 'W. Barnes Sculpsit'.
11. p.126 **Urn found at the Beacon on Mendip.** Initialled WB. Scrapbook I has a pull signed 'W. Barnes Sculpsit'.
12. p.133 **Druidical ornament.** No initials. Scrapbook I has a pull signed 'W. B. Sculpsit'. Scrapbook I has an engraving of a similar object which was not used. See Letter 3.
13. p.137 **Orchardley Cromlech.** Initialled WB. Pull in Scrapbook VII.
14. p.163 **Ancient Coins.** No initials or other information, but technique could be Barnes'.
15. p.163 **Roman Altar.** No initials, but Barnes lists 'Roman stone and three others' in Scrapbook I, and 'Roman Altar' in Scrapbook VII. The style of the engraving is not quite like Barnes'.

16. p.173 **Roman Instruments.** No initials. Scrapbook VII has a pull.
17. p.179 **Roman stone of memorial in a wood near Orchard Wyndham.** Initialled WB. Scrapbook I has a pull signed 'W. Barnes Sculpsit'. See Letter 4.
18. p.182 **Norman arch, entrance to Pen church.** Initialled WB. Pull in Scrapbook VIII is inscribed 'Engraved WB'. The block is larger than that published. See Letters 3 and 7.
19. p.189 **Gothic or pointed window.** Initialled WB. Scrapbook I has a pull. This engraving was published in 1829 (Rutter 1829, 240) as 'Window in Tickenham Court House'.
20. p.189 **Canopied tomb in Chelvey church.** Initialled WB. Pull in Scrapbook I is signed 'W. B. Sculp'. Scrapbook VIII has another pull signed 'engraved by WB'. The engraving was published in 1833.⁷
21. p.189 **Tudor arch.** Initialled WB. Published in 1829 (Rutter 1829, xv) as 'Window in Tickenham Court House'.
22. p.192 **Porch at Chelvy Court House.** Initialled WB. Pull in Scrapbook I is signed 'W.B.Sc.' The engraving was published in 1829 (Rutter 1829, 74) with the same title, and in 1833 (Barnes 1833, f.209).

Vol. I part ii

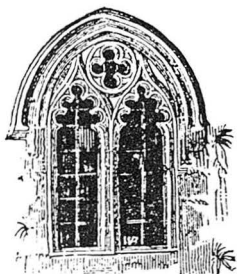
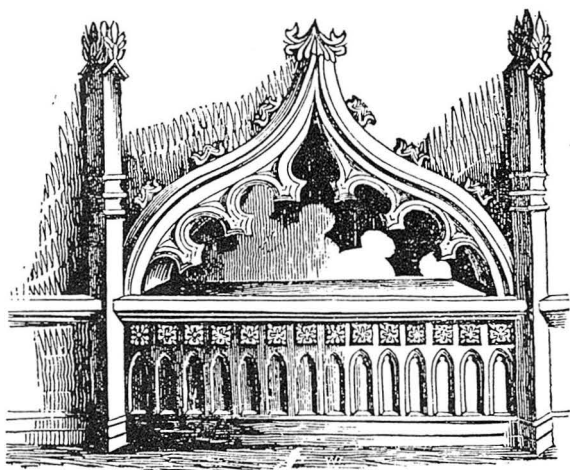
23. p.20 Hutton Cavern. Initialled WB. Published originally in 1829 (Rutter 1829, 100).
24. p.21 Banwell Caverns. Initialled WB. Published in 1829 (Rutter 1829, 146).
25. p.24 Uphill Cavern. Initialled WB. Published in 1829 (Rutter 1829, 78).
- p.192 Door at Pen Selwood church. Same as engraving 18.
26. p.197 **Font at Pen.** Initialled WB. Scrapbook I has pull signed 'W.B.Sc.' See Letters 6, 7 and 8.
- p.223 Druidical ornament. Same as engraving 12.
27. p.282 **Font in Yarlington Church.** Initialled WB. Pull in Scrapbook I is signed 'W. B. Sculpsit'. See Letter 1.
- p.349 Engraving 12.
- p.372 Engraving 19.
- p.476 Engraving 19.
28. p.500 **Old entrance to St. John's Church Yard.** Initialled WB. Pull in Scrapbook I is signed 'W. Barnes. Sculpsit'.
29. p.505 **Seal of the Churchwardens of Glastonbury.** Not initialled. Scrapbooks I and VIII both have signed pulls. This engraving was first published in 1835 (Clark 1835, 36) and continued being used for guides to Glastonbury right up to at least 1938.
- p.518 **The Chapel of wickerwork covered with clay, erected by Joseph of Arimathea and his companions at Glastonbury. — From Spelman's Concilia.** Same engraving as 4.
- p.594 Engraving 12.

Vol. II

- p.178 Engraving 10.
- p.247 Engraving 3.



Engraving 18

*Engraving 19**Engraving 21**Engraving 20*

With these engravings Barnes made a significant contribution to the illustrations of Phelps' work. It is unfortunate that only a few of Barnes' original blocks survive and not one of these is for any of the engravings listed above. Should readers know of the whereabouts of any others the writer would be greatly interested to hear of them.⁸

1. L. Keen & C. Lindgren, *William Barnes The Dorset Engravings* (1986).
2. J. Rutter, *Delineations of the North Western Division of the County of Somerset and of its Antediluvian Bone Caverns, with a geological sketch of the District* (1829); hereafter Rutter 1829.
3. J. Clark, *The Avalonian Guide to the town of Glastonbury and its Environs* (1835); hereafter Clark 1835.
4. Printed in full as an *Appendix* to this note.
5. Dorset County Museum, 'Notes on the Life of William Barnes', Sermons Box 1.
6. Do., Letters.
7. W. Barnes, 'Chelvey co. Somerset', *Gentleman's Magazine*, 103 (1833), part ii, 209, f.209; hereafter Barnes 1833.
8. This note could not have been achieved without the help and encouragement of Mr. R. N. R. Peers of the Dorset County Museum who kindly allowed access to the Barnes collection in his care, gave permission for the publication of the Phelps letters and has supported the writer's research in many other practical ways. Mr. David Bromwich, Somerset Local History Librarian, kindly helped with bibliographical matters.

APPENDIX

Letters from the Rev. William Phelps to William Barnes

(Letter 1 is from the series of Letters, Letter 2 from Scrapbook VII and Letters 3-9 from Scrapbook I, all Dorset County Museum)

1

Wincanton July 3d 1833

Dear Sir

I have never received the impressions of the blocks you cut for me. I am staying at this place till friday morning. If you can send me a packet to the Greyhound here, I shall receive them by the coach on friday morning. I am proceeding rapidly with my researches. and shall soon be ready for the printer to commence. Have you visited Milborne port? or Yarlinton where there is a beautiful font¹. worth a block. Have you attempted a church. There are several which will make vignettes. When I can get a good drawing I will send it to you to try your hand with. My time will not allow me to extend my journey this time even to Stourhead.² Let me hear from you on friday

And I am Yours faithfully

W Phelps³

1. Engraving 27.
2. Home of Sir Richard Colt Hoare, to whom Vol. I part ii is dedicated and who provided much basic material for Phelps. Hoare had published *Ancient History of North and South Wiltshire* (1812-19).
3. Omitted from remaining letters.

2

Meare March 10th.1835

Dear Sir

I wish you wait before you commence the Norman arch¹ I left with you as I have some alteration to make to it: and Mr Crocker² is arranging some vignettes for me. I am fully occupied in revising my Mss of the Ancient History. for the press. and I hope to proceed regularly with my publication.

1. No doubt the doorway of Pen church, engraving 18.
2. P. Crocker is mentioned on the title page of the *History* as providing illustrations. He is credited with many of the archaeological plans. (Probably Philip, son of Abraham Crocker, and a member of the Frome family of surveyors, *Som. Ed.*)

3

Bath March 27th.1835

Dear Sir

I have sent the first portion of my History to Mr Nichols¹ for printing, and will thank you to forward to him, the blocks of vignettes vizt. Boadicea in her chariot²: the two Druidical crescents³: British huts⁴: and any other you have. The Door at Pen⁵, and Old building at Glastonbury⁶ will not be wanted yet. I send you some rough drawing of vignettes, which will be soon wanted, No 1.2.3. and 5. I am afraid you will not be able to make out my humble sketches so as to give a proper effect to the blocks. No 1. may be in two pieces: the background in No 2. and 5. may be omitted. They must be rather smaller if any thing that the copies. How large a block of outline plan can you cut? for a kind of map? As I proceed I shall want your assistance regularly. I calculate on four years to complete my work. if my life is so long spared. Let me hear from you directed to Meare Glastonbury, in about a week.

1. J. R. Nichols and Son were Phelps' printers.
2. Engraving 3.
3. Engraving 12 is a single *lunula* with a thin object across it. Barnes' Scrapbook I has a similar *lunula* without the additional object. This block was not used.
4. Engraving 1. 5. Engraving 18. 6. Engraving 4.

4

Meare April 7th.35.

Dear Sir

I send you another vignette of a Roman stone of memorial¹: which may be reduced half and inch in height and a sketch of Wansdyke², which should be little more than an outline, except to show where the bank has been raised, which should [be] lighter shaded than the original bank: and also a sketch of a camp, you will be able to give a proper effect to the shading. Mr. Nichols will soon want the Wansdyke² and Merehead camp.³ If you could send me proofs of what you have in hand with these now sent as soon as possible, directed to me at Geo. Guy Esq. Gay Street Bath. I shall be obliged, as I want to get my work out as soon as I can.

1. Engraving 15 is entitled *Roman Altar*. Engraving 17 is *Roman stone of memorial*.
2. Engraving 8. 3. Engraving 9.

5

Bath July 25th 1835

Dear Sir

I have been unwell with a sharp attack of Rheumatism, & came up to this place for the benefit of warm bathing. I have received the fifth sheet from Messrs Nicholls, but we are at a stand still for a block, the one below [drawing of 'First Christian Church in Britain']¹. You will know how to give it the proper shading. This I copied from the original in Spelmans *Concilia*² and is different from the one you did for Mr Clark³. Have you received the drawing of Fairy's Toot from Mr Crocker⁴. This will be wanted immediately. If you have not I am going to Stourhead on tuesday, and will send it to you. Let me have a list of the blocks you have cut. and a proof of each also your opinion on the plans I sent last to you. Send up by the Weymouth coach to Glastonbury. I hope to hear you have opened your seminary at Dorchester with success.

1. Engraving 4.
2. H. Spelman, *Concilia, Decreta, Leges, Constitutiones, in re Ecclesiarum Orbis Britannici* ... [Vol. 2 ed. C. Spelman], 2 Vols (1639-64).
3. 'The original chapel of St Joseph of Arimathea' appeared first in the 1848 ed. of Clark. It did not appear in the seventh ed. of 1835 which was the first occasion that Barnes' engravings were used.
4. Barnes did not engrave this drawing.

6

Bicknoller nr Taunton
Augt.8th.1835

Dear Sir

Mr Nicholls has sent me proofs of the vignettes, they all will do, except the one showing the entrance to the sepulchre at Littleton¹. This has not the character of the opening, and I must get Mr Crocker to send you a reduced drawing from the *Archaeologia*². I trust you have had an opportunity of cutting the ancient chapel at Glastonbury³. Before you send it to Mr Nicholls let me have a proof, together with Tedbury and Wadbury⁴. Pen Selwood font⁵ does not give the richness of the original. We shall soon come to the parochial history, when your skill in church architecture, and ornament will be called into action. I commence with the hundreds of Norton Ferrers, & Bruton, then Horethorne. Is there any thing you know in those districts of interest? I hope to hear a good account of your opening school at Dorchester.

1. Engraving 6.
2. Barnes' engraving is a considerably reduced version of J Basire's illustration which is Plate II of three plates illustrating R C Hoare, 'An Account of a Stone Barrow, in the Parish of Wellow, at Stoney Littleton in the County of Somerset, which was opened and investigated in the Month of May 1816', *Archaeologia*, XIX (1821), 43-48.
3. Engraving 4.
4. Barnes did not produce the illustrations of the hillforts at Tedbury and Wadbury.
5. Engraving 26.

7

Meare June 11th 1836

Dear Sir

I have Part III of my History nearly ready. It consists of matter not requiring embellishment. I just touch upon the parochial History, and have Pen porch¹ & font² already Alfreds tower is a curious object and will come in after Kilmington. I send an engraving of it for you to cut a block, it must be reduced to not more than three inches in height.³ Give it your best for to please Sir R C Hoare. Can you do it in a week or ten days at farthest. Let me have a proof before you send it to Messrs Nichols.

1. Engraving 18.
2. Engraving 26.
3. The published engraving is not by Barnes.

8

Meare July 1st.1836

Dear Sir

I am waiting for the block of Alfreds tower. Send me a proof in a letter before tuesday next. Have you the block of Pen Font¹. That might be sent to Messrs Nichols with the tower when finished. I am much delayed by my printer, not being able to superintend the press in London. My next part will be the touchstone of my work, and I trust the public will receive it favourably and patronize it liberally.

1. Engraving 26.

9

Meare Sepr 13th. 1836

Dear Sir

After a considerable delay with my printer I have got out Pt III of my History, and send your copy. I shall [need] your services again. Have you got on with Shepton Mallett cross¹? Is there any thing at Milborne port worth notice? I am going through that district to finish my observations shortly, which will be incorporated in Pt.IV. to be out by Christmas. Let me have your account of the blocks already executed by you. I hope your anticipations of success at Dorchester are fully realized.

1. Barnes did not engrave this subject.

324. VISUAL TELEGRAPHS. Visual Telegraphs were divided into three systems:-

1. Signalling by ball and flag, as used on the coastal Signal Stations.
2. Signalling by the use of shutters in a frame. This was used from 1796 to 1816. (Shutters were never used on coastal Signal Stations in Britain.)
3. Signalling by the use of semaphore. This system, first adopted in coastal Signal Stations in 1812, continued in use into the twentieth century, and was used on stations between London and Chatham, 1816-22, and London and Portsmouth, 1822-48.

'*Telegraph*' began to appear on maps c.1800, and indicated the site of telegraph stations. In the south of England, this can be seen on places named as *Telegraph Street*, *Telegraph Road*, and *Telegraph Cottage*.

In the late eighteenth century England was at war with France and in danger of invasion. Couriers carried despatches to and from London and the coast. This was, of course, far too slow. Beacons had proved to be quick and effective but the system was limited to only one, pre-determined, meaning; they were of no use for transmitting messages or orders. In France in 1794 a telegraphic system, invented by Claude Chappe was actually in use. Earlier in the century others had been tackling the problem of communicating over a distance. One or two of them actually approached the Admiralty with a view to the adoption of their inventions but they were unable to arouse any interest.¹ However, in the early nineties there was danger of invasion and the Admiralty was anxious to adopt a workable system. The Reverend John Gamble had invented a system of signalling using four large shutters in a frame; the shutters opening and closing in different sequences to give 31 separate signals.² The frame of these shutters stood 50 feet high, with shutters, two vertical and two horizontal, measuring 7ft. by 16ft. Owing to the enormous size of the shutters they were made to open and close in the fashion of Venetian blinds consisting of 1ft. by 16ft. slats. A trial of this machine was made between Portsdown Hill and Portsmouth in August 1795 and the message could even be read on the Isle of Wight.

The Reverend Lord George Murray who produced a very much smaller frame with six shutters, three on the left and three on the right, gave over double the number of sequences. The frame stood 20 feet high, straddling a two-roomed wooden hut, with shutters measuring 3ft. square. A trial of this machine was made on Wimbledon Common in September, 1795, and in view

of its performance, the smaller machine (which, because of its size, was cheaper to produce) was adopted by the Admiralty. Murray was immediately commissioned to build a line of relay stations between the Admiralty in London and Deal, with a branch line to Sheerness. In order to do this, Murray employed a surveyor, George Roebuck, to select the sites, contract with the landowners, and arrange for the huts and frames to be built.³ These wooden huts were to consist of two rooms, one for living quarters where the men would eat and sling their hammocks, and the other was where the ropes that worked the shutters came through the roof. Telescopes were provided in order to see the next station about eight or ten miles distant. Sixpence per day was allowed by the Admiralty for coal and candles.⁴

No sooner had Roebuck completed the line to Deal and Sheerness in February, 1796 than he was commissioned to erect a line of stations to Portsmouth and this was operating before the end of that year.⁵ Considering that his only means of transport was horseback and that all his sites had to be on high ground (in most cases on hilltops) where the shutters had a background of sky both from the front and the rear, this was no mean feat.

In 1806 Roebuck was commissioned to survey a line to Plymouth, using the Portsmouth line to the station on Beacon Hill (near South Harting in Hampshire), then branching off to Chalton and Wickham, through Dorset and Devon to Plymouth. He established seven stations in Dorset—*Telegraph Plantation* on Pistledown, *Chalbury*, Blandford Race Course (now Blandford Camp and known as *Telegraph Clump*), *Bell Hill* (near Belchalwell and Bulbarrow), *Nettlecombe Tout*, *Telegraph Hill* on High Stoy, and *Telegraph Field* on Toller Down. A drawing of the station on High Stoy appeared in *The Proceedings of the Dorset Natural History and Antiquarian Field Club*.⁶ All the stations on the Plymouth line were built to this pattern, and now, as the shutters were half as large again, it was found advisable to make them to open and close in the manner, first devised by John Gamble, of Venetian blinds.

The speed at which the shutters worked was illustrated in a report dated 22nd February 1796, which said:

Such is the wonderful rapidity with which intelligence is conveyed by the Telegraph that between the last word of a message lately sent to Deal and the first word of the answer received at the Admiralty, an interval of only three minutes elapsed.⁷

Sir Richard Phillips, in *A Morning's Walk from London to Kew* (1817) wrote of a conversation he had with a member of

the crew of the station on Putney Heath — that, on a trial, a single cypher had been sent to Plymouth and back again, a distance of 500 miles by telegraphic route, in three minutes.

Although all the shutter stations were commissioned by the Admiralty, naval personnel were conspicuous by their absence. The crews, with the exception of a few who had been invalidated out of the Navy, were made up of civilians who were evidently engaged locally. In a survey carried out by George Roebuck in 1810 these men came from many walks of life, their only qualification being that they knew their alphabet. There were three men to each station, one of their number being selected to act as foreman.⁸ There were among them servants, labourers, butchers, a publican, a clock repairer, a carpenter, a wheelwright, shoemaker, bricklayer, staymaker, baker, painter, brass-turner, and a hairdresser.

With the signing of the Peace of Paris in 1814 all the Telegraph Stations were closed down, including the coastal Signal Stations. Those on the Portsmouth and Plymouth lines were kept on 'standby'. In an Admiralty Minute of a meeting in March, 1815 Lord Melville recorded the following:-

There can be no question that, in time of Peace, the Telegraphs will be of little use; but it does not from thence follow that they ought not to be kept up for the same reason that batteries and other works of defence are maintained during Peace There is no period of a war at which the communication by telegraph is more useful than at its commencement.⁹

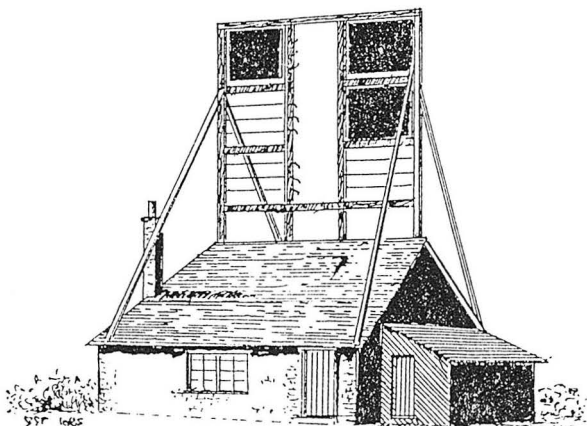
In consequence of this, the stations on 'standby' were once more put into service and a Lieutenant was appointed to each station. In April 1816 they were all closed down again and, as far as the Plymouth line was concerned, that was the end of the visual Telegraph. However, in 1794 a series of Signal Stations were set up around the coast of East Anglia and the south of England as far as Land's End. In the beginning, signalling was accomplished by the use of four black balls made of canvas, a red flag, and a blue pendant slung from a 50 foot mast with a 30 foot yardarm. At all times the coastal Stations were referred to as *Signal Stations* and never as *Telegraph Stations*. A beacon and faggots were held in readiness in case of invasion by night. The following order was issued to all coastal Signal Stations:

If you shall, at any time, discover a body of the Enemy's forces landing at night, or too dark for signals to be distinguished, you are to kindle a large fire at your Post, fire guns and make such Intelligence known by every method you devise.¹⁰

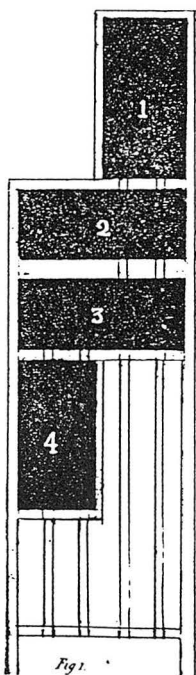
There were only six coastal Stations in Dorset at the outset.

Christ Church Yard
Ballard Hill
Round Down

St. Albans
Portland
Punch Knoll (Puncknowle)

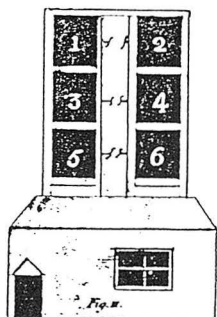


High Stoy



Left:
Shutter Telegraph invented by
The Reverend John Gamble
and tried out on Portsdown Hill
in 1795

Below:
Shutter Telegraph invented by
Lord George Murray and adopted
by the Admiralty in 1795



The system of signalling by ball and flag was used up to the end of 1811 when the following order was issued to the stations in Essex and Kent by the Secretary of the Admiralty, John Wilson Croker —

I am commanded by my Lords of the Admiralty to transmit to you a Book containing a new Code of Signals to be made by Semaphore or Pole Telegraph.¹¹

In 1801 the French had adopted a new system of signalling with three moveable arms on a pole which they had called a *Semaphore*. It was a copy of this device that the Admiralty installed, first in Essex and Kent and eventually on all the existing stations from 1812, and these were in use until 1815.¹²

By 1813 a report showed that there had been an increase in the number of coastal stations and there were now ten in Dorset. With the exclusion of Puncknowle, there were, in addition —

Whitelands
Golden Gap
Castle Hill

Verne
White Nose (White Nothe)

When the Peace of Paris was signed in 1814 and the coastal stations were closed down, there was a sudden cessation of shipping intelligence from the Channel. Realising how useful this information had been the Admiralty reopened some of the stations and at the same time despatched Thomas Goddard (Purser of the Royal Yacht *Royal George*) to re-site all the stations from Land's End to North Foreland: this time to construct a line of stations to form a continuous line of communication around the coast. Each station had to have a solidly constructed brick station house. A report made in 1814 regarding the cost of building the houses at these stations showed that the old wooden houses cost £130.5s.3d. and the houses made of brick cost £370.14s.0½d.¹³

One other feature of this new line along the coast was that the system of signalling was by the use of a two-armed semaphore invented by Admiral Sir Home Riggs Popham. Goddard completed a line of 113 Signal Stations and, of these, there were nineteen on the Dorset coast.

Dorset stations, starting from Lyme Regis, were: Coley Down — Golden Gap — Burton Bradstock — Swyer — East Bexington — Herberry Island — Wyke Regis — Verne of Portland — Bill of Portland — Warren Hill — Rings Hill — St. Albans Head — Round Down — Ballard Hill — South Haven — Bruce's Cliff — Bournemouth — Christchurch Head — and Hurdle Cliff. This line of coastal stations was approved by the Admiralty in December, 1815.

Reporting the movement of, and communicating with, passing ships by semaphore continued long after the overland visual telegraphic stations closed down in 1848 and the electric telegraph took over. The control of the Signal Stations passed from the Admiralty to the Coastguard Service and back again well into the 20th century. Whenever you see a Coastguard Station this is in all probability the original site of an Admiralty coastal Signal Station.

1. Richard Lovell Edgeworth, *Memoirs*; John Wilkins, *Secret and Swift Messenger*.
2. Gamble, *Essay of the Different Modes of Communication by Signals*.
3. P.R.O., Adm 106/2088.
4. Adm 106/3133.
5. Adm 106/2220.
6. Vol XI, 1890.
7. *Salisbury and Winchester Journal*.
8. Adm 1/3458.
9. Adm 106/3459.
10. Adm 3/191.
11. Adm 106/3125.
12. Adm 106/3125.
13. Adm 106/3133.

J. and B. SKELLY

325. SHELLEY'S FIRST HARRIET. In December 1867 at Brighton the death occurred of Harriet, the widow of William Helyar of Coker Court in Somerset. The executors named in her will¹ included her late husband's brother, Charles John Helyar, and her own brother, the Reverend Charles Henry Grove of Sedgemoor.² Among the personal effects, of which the executors had to dispose, were some teenage diaries written by Harriet before her marriage. These diaries were apparently given to Mr. Grove, or taken by him, and preserved at Sedgemoor.

In 1930 Harriet's diaries for 1809 and 1810 were sold for one of her great-nieces by Sotheby's and are now in the Carl H. Pforzheimer Library in New York.³ In 1932 twelve copies of the diaries were printed on a hand press in London, but were not for sale. They were edited by Roger Ingpen, an authority on the writings of the poet Shelley, with a substantial introduction in which Ingpen described Harriet as 'Shelley's early love' and outlined what was already known of her relationship with her cousin, Percy Bysshe Shelley.

At the beginning of 1809 Shelley was sixteen, Harriet seventeen. Their mothers were sisters⁴, each at this date with a numerous brood of children, who maintained the family connection by correspondence and occasional exchanges of visits. The Shelley's home, Field Place near Horsham in

Sussex, was certainly visited by Harriet, her sister Charlotte, and her brothers, John, Charles Henry and William. The home of the Groves, Ferne House near Shaftesbury, was similarly familiar to the Shelley children. In 1804 Bysshe spent his Easter holiday from boarding-school with his cousins at Ferne; in 1812 his sister Elizabeth spent a month at Ferne; and in 1815 the three eldest Shelley daughters came with their mother to stay at Ferne for three weeks.⁵

Of the four years, 1805-1808, no documentation has survived in the form of diaries, letters, first-hand reminiscences etc. which could throw any light on cousinly contacts between Field Place and Ferne but there is no reason to doubt that such contacts were maintained. Harriet's first entries in the 1809 diary make it clear that she and Bysshe already enjoy writing letters to each other and that she would like to have attended the ball Aunt Shelley gave on December 30, 1808. For Harriet the Shelley home is 'that delightful place' and her desire to revisit it is a continuing theme in her diaries. Not only does she write many times to Bysshe, but also to his mother and his eldest sister, Elizabeth. Despite the many deletions and attempted deletions made later to obliterate references to Shelley the diaries are a moving testimony to Harriet's sincere, if sometimes bewildered, love for her disturbingly brilliant cousin, Bysshe.

That they were for a time united by what amounted to an informal betrothal approved by their parents was not made publicly known until the middle of the century, when the first biographical studies of Shelley began to appear, together with some of Shelley's letters to his friend Thomas Jefferson Hogg. In 1857 one of Shelley's sisters, Hellen, wrote to two of Harriet's brothers, John and Charles Henry, asking for their reminiscences of events nearly fifty years previously. It was Charles Henry's understandably vague reply which nevertheless came to be accepted as definitive. During 1809 he had been serving in the Royal Navy, but in December of that year he left the service and in the following April he went with Harriet, his parents and another brother and sister on a short visit to Field Place. His cousin Bysshe was there, having just left Eton and — in Charles Henry's words — 'was more attached to my sister Harriet than I can express'. Later, during the summer, the resumed correspondence when Harriet returned to Ferne caused some misgivings. She became uneasy at the tone of Bysshe's letters on the subject of religion, according to Charles Henry, 'at first consulting my mother, and subsequently my father also on the subject. This led at last, though I cannot

exactly tell how, to the dissolution of an engagement between Bysse and my sister H, which had previously been permitted, both by his father and mine'.⁶

The other available testimony came from Shelley's letters to Hogg, in which he dramatised himself hysterically as one whose betrothed had forsaken him and preferred to marry a 'clod'. Thomas Love Peacock was levelheaded enough to recognise that 'most boys of any feeling and imagination have some such passion, and it usually comes to nothing', but he accepted Shelley's account at face-value — always a dangerous thing to do — and asserted that Harriet 'abhorred Shelley as a sceptic and married a clod', dismissing her finally as 'as unimpassioned a damsel as may be met in a summer's day'.⁷

In such ways literary legends are formed and take root. Ironically the one person still alive and well in 1857, who knew what had happened in 1810 — Harriet herself — was not invited to comment or conceivably chose not to do so. She simply preserved her diaries and remained a mysterious and enigmatic episode in the proliferating biographies of the poet. Even her physical appearance remained unknown. Her mother and her aunt Shelley were noted beauties whom Romney had painted, but Harriet was not to be immortalised in that way although she was reputedly a most attractive young woman. 'How fresh and pretty she was!' Hellen Shelley wrote, and Tom Medwin⁸ stated categorically 'when I call to mind all the women I have ever seen and admired I know of none that surpassed, few that could compare with her in beauty'.

It was left to Ingpen to trace the existence of a pencil sketch of Harriet and reproduce it in the twelve copies of his privately printed edition of her diaries in 1932. The owner⁹ of that sketch — a descendant of Harriet's — has kindly permitted its reproduction here. By degrees, if belatedly, she begins to emerge from the obscurity and facile misrepresentation which surrounded her memory. The 'clod' she eventually married was in fact a man of much the same family background as the Shelleys and the Groves: William Helyar, like his father, was an Oxford graduate and later a High Sheriff of Somerset. The marriage that speedily followed the rupture between Harriet and Shelley was not Harriet's but Shelley's. On Aug 28, 1811, Shelley married his second Harriet — Harriet Westbrook — in Edinburgh, while Harriet Grove and her sister Charlotte were visiting the Tregonwell family at Cranborne in the course of a round of visits, recorded in Charlotte's unpublished diary, to aunt Philippa Grove at Netherhampton and aunt Chafin Grove at Zeals. It was not until October 2 that William Helyar



Pencil sketch of Harriet Grove

proposed to Harriet and was accepted. They married on November 14, 1811. There is an entry in Harriet's diary for February 7, 1810 which is worth recalling here —

'Charlotte heard from William who says he thinks I shall never be married, that I do not care whether I ever do or not. He says he thinks I never liked any one so much as [deleted]. That is a thing no one will ever know but myself'.

1. Probate copy in Som. RO (ref., DD/WHh 61).
2. Rector there, 1826-1873. He died in 1878, his 84th year.
3. This library, which specialises in Shelleyana, published Harriet's diaries — edited and annotated by Frederick L. Jones — in *Shelley & His Circle*, vol. II (Harvard & O.U.P., 1961). I am indebted to the present (1986) editor, Donald H. Reiman, for continuing assistance and advice.
4. Their father was Admiral Pilfold.
5. These various visits, spanning 11 years, are recorded in the recollections that Charles Henry Grove communicated to Hellen Shelley and in the diaries of Harriet and her sister Charlotte. The latter, in my possession, have not yet been published.
6. T. J. Hogg, *The Life of Percy Bysshe Shelley* (1858).
7. T. L. Peacock, *Memoirs of Percy Bysshe Shelley* (Fraser's Magazine, 1858-60).
8. Thomas Medwin (1788-1869), author of *The Life of Percy Bysshe Shelley* (1847), was a cousin of the Shelleys and the Groves, his mother being a Pilfold.
9. Mr. Timothy Heneage, to whom I express my thanks.

Blandford

DESMOND HAWKINS

326. RUSSELL OF WEYMOUTH AND BEAMINSTER. Bearing what is in fact one of the commonest names in south Dorset, the Russells of Beaminster pretend their descendance from the same stem as the dukes of Bedford. As yet, this is no more proven than the latter's claim (in pursuit of which Francis, 2nd Earl of Bedford, purchased Kingston Russell from Queen Elizabeth) of kinship with the knightly Russells from Normandy who were established from the 13th century in the Bride Valley (a line which died out). Yet it is more than likely that the Beaminster Russells are related to the illustrious dukes, whose documented pedigree (the earlier falsehood having been exposed by Horace Round) now begins with Stephen Russell alias Gascoigne, merchant and M.P. for Weymouth in 1394: Stephen Russell's wife, Alice de la Tour, brought him Berwick by Swyre, from whose manor house (still standing) their descendant John Russell set out in 1506 on his fortunate career to become first Earl of Bedford. The son of Stephen (their surname identifies them as traders with, and perhaps originally natives of, English Gascony) was Henry Gascoigne Russell of Weymouth (*d.* 1464), who was engaged in trade like his father, and a barge owner — a barge being then something considerable.¹ Apart from a similarity of names, it is particularly interesting to find that the earliest known forbears of the Beaminster Russells should, centuries later, be engaged in identical occupations at the same place.

The pedigree which follows is largely based on the MSS of A.St.J. Story-Maskelyne in the possession of Mr. Harold Russell; but much of his information has been corroborated or added to by the writer from other sources. I am indebted to Mr. Russell and to Miss Kathleen Pim, both of Beaminster, for their considerable help and information.

I. HENRY RUSSELL of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis, Merchant and Alderman: married Elizabeth, by whom he had issue, *viz*:

1. HENRY RUSSELL, who follows.
2. Christian Russell.
3. Stephen Russell.
4. Joseph Russell.

II. The eldest son, HENRY RUSSELL of Weymouth, living 1659, was father of:

III. HENRY RUSSELL, whose son:

IV. JOHN RUSSELL, a shipowner and Merchant of Weymouth, the town's Mayor in 1689, resided at Wyke; he had three sons and two daughters, *viz*:

1. John Russell, married Anne, daughter of Giles Hounsell, Mayor of Weymouth in 1681, and had 5 sons (of whom 2 d.inf.) and 3 daughters (of whom one married a Mr. Gibbs and attained a very great age).
- 2 & 3. Two daughters, one of whom married a Captain of a Merchantman, the other a Mr. Roberts, 'a gent of fortune'.
4. SAMUEL RUSSELL, who follows.
5. Giles Russell of Weymouth: married Elizabeth (who died 12 Feb 1733/4), and had a daughter Elizabeth, who died 5 May 1724, aged 15, and is buried at Weymouth.²

V. The younger son, SAMUEL RUSSELL, shipowner and Merchant of Weymouth, Captain of an East Indiaman, owner of much property in and about Weymouth: espoused 1st, at North Poorton, 23 Dec 1718, Ellen (born 1693, *d.* 7 Sept 1727), youngest daughter and at length sole heiress of Thomas Banger of Burcombe, Esq: the Bangers were yeomen of Swyne Toller who acquired Burcombe, in North Poorton, *c.* 1600;³ Story-Maskelyne attributes them with the arms gules a chevron gold and three owls proper. Samuel Russell is said to have married 2ndly 'the mother of Sir Samuel Mico, Knt. of London', and died in America, leaving issue by his first wife, *viz*:

1. Mary Russell, bapt. North Poorton 2 July 1722, married James Burt of Hatchland, Netherbury, Surgeon (who died 17 May 1774 aged 57), while she died 22 June 1784, leaving a daughter Elizabeth Ellen (*d.* 6 April 1806) who married Harvey Ekins of Prillnotts, Sheriff of Dorset.
2. Thomas Russell, born 1722 (? twin).
3. JOHN RUSSELL, who follows.
4. Richard Russell, *d.s.p.*

VI. The younger son, JOHN RUSSELL of Beaminster, Attorney-at-Law, born 8 Oct 1724: first practised at Dorchester with a Mr. Willis, then set up by himself at

Beaminster in 1756, where he resided at Champions in Hogshill Street: he married Virtue (d. 10 Feb 1768 aged 36), daughter of Richard Brickle of Shaston and of Dorchester, Solicitor, by Ann his wife, daughter of -- Sherrington by his wife Amy, daughter of -- Clavell of Winfrith; and by her he had issue, viz:

1. JOHN BANGER RUSSELL, Gent., of Champions, Beaminster, Attorney-at-Law, born at Beaminster 5 May 1760, and educated at Milton Abbas for 7 years: in 1776 article to his father and six years later admitted an attorney in the Court of the King's Bench;⁴ the 'Curious Person' whose MS writings (now in Mr. Fiennes Trotman's keeping) on the history of Beaminster were an invaluable source to Richard Hine; was one of the editors of the second edition of Hutchins' *History of Dorset*. He married 31 Dec 1782. Mary (d. 11 Nov 1825), daughter of Daniel Cox of the Manor House, Beaminster,⁵ and died 25 May 1827 (buried at Powerstock),⁶ having had issue, viz:

1) (The Rev.) JOHN COX RUSSELL of Beaminster, B.A., Hertford College, Oxford 1806,⁷ Rector of North Poorton, where he was presented by his kinsman, Mr. Thomas Banger of Burcombe; d. 20 August 1819, aged 35, unm., and is buried at North Poorton.

2) Virtue Russell (the eldest coheirress), wedded, in 1816, her next cousin, Samuel Cox, D.L., J.P., of the Manor House, Beaminster (1791-1860), and had issue.⁸

3) Ann Russell; married 1st, Harvey Ekins Way, Esq. (her cousin ?), s.p.; and 2ndly, Captain Henry Perin Steele, by whom she had a daughter Margaret, married to -- Watson of Ireland. She died 9 Oct 1874 aged 53.

4) Mary Russell: married 1st, the Rev. Charles Forward, M.A. Wadham College, Oxford, Rector of North Poorton, then of Bettiscombe (1795-1857);⁹ and 2ndly, -- Lewis, Esq.

2. Ann Russell, bur. at Powerstock 8 June 1758.

3. Thomas Banger Russell, bur. at Powerstock 12 April 1759.

4. Martha Russell, bur. 21 Dec 1773.

5. Richard Russell, Lt. R.N., at Battle of --, 12 April 1782; d.s.p.

6. (The Rev.) Thomas Russell, bapt. at Beaminster 2 March 1762; a brilliant scholar at Winchester and at New College, Oxford: B.A. 1784, ordained and became a Fellow 1786. A considerable poet, admired by Wordsworth, Southey and Landor, but died aged 26 on 31 July 1788, unm. (and is buried at Powerstock).¹⁰

7. James Russell, buried 6 May 1768.

8. GILES RUSSELL, who follows.

VII. The youngest son, GILES RUSSELL of Beaminster, Attorney, born 1768: took a lease of the property called Beridth, on Prout Bridge in Beaminster, in 1792, and purchased it in 1801 for £525.¹¹ He married his distant cousin Martha (who died 5 June 1843, aged 78), daughter of John Light Banger, Esq., of Waterston, Puddletown, and of Burcombe,¹² and died 14 Nov 1839,¹³ leaving issue, viz:

1. Giles Russell of the Inner Temple, born 1794; educated at Blundell's School, Tiverton (Jan.-June 1806); d. 2 Aug 1818, aged 25, unm.¹⁴

2. Frederick Russell, born 1797; educated at Blundell's School, Tiverton (1807-09), where he was a contemporary of Samuel Cox's son John Cox;¹⁵ d. 28 Feb 1884, aged 87, unm.

3. Ellen Russell, d. inf.
4. THOMAS RUSSELL, who follows.

VIII. The youngest son, THOMAS RUSSELL, Gent., of Beridth, Beaminster, Solicitor, born 16 March 1799; educated at Blundell's School, Tiverton (1808-11);¹⁶ married at Stoke Abbott, 28 July 1828, Mary (d. 21 May 1871, aged 63), daughter of the Rev. George Speke Payne, B.A. Wadham College, Oxford, Curate-in-Charge of Stoke Abbott (1779-1862), by Eliza his wife, daughter of the Rev. Edward Fawconer, Rector of Upwey.¹⁷ d. 20 May 1872,¹⁸ having had issue, *viz*:

1. Mary Speke Russell, buried 26 Oct 1838.
2. Giles Banger Russell, born 1832; educated at Eton and Trinity College, Oxford (matric 5 July 1850); d. 6 Aug 1851, aged 19, unm.¹⁹
3. John Russell, born 1838; educated at Winchester; Cornet 9th (Queen's Royal) Lancers 1858, resigned 1859; d. 28 June 1868, aged 30, unm., and is buried at Powerstock.²⁰
4. Martha Banger Russell: married in 1860, Edmund Mervin Booth Story-Maskelyne, M.A. Wadham College, Oxford, Barrister-at-Law, Lincoln's Inn, of Halt House, Box, Wiltshire, Lydiard Manor, Swindon, and Belfont, co. Brecon (born 1829),²¹ d. in 1920, leaving issue, *viz*:
 - 1) Anthony St John Story-Maskelyne, of H.M. Public Record Office.
 - 2) Agnes Mary Story-Maskelyne.
5. Mary Speke Russell.
6. Elizabeth Banger Russell.
7. THOMAS RUSSELL, who follows.

IX. The youngest son, THOMAS RUSSELL, J.P., Captain Bedfordshire Regiment, of Beridth, Beaminster, was born in 1834, and educated at Harrow (1847-52) and at Trinity Coll., Oxford (matriculated 1 June 1853), but left the University without taking a degree: commissioned 2nd Battalion 16th (Bedfordshire) Regiment of Foot ('the Peacemakers'), 1855: served in Ireland and the West Indies; retired as Captain; J.P. Dorset.²² Capt. Russell wedded at Beaminster Susan Fanny (born 1832, d. 1888, buried at Holy Trinity, Beaminster), eldest daughter of Thomas Palmer Daniel the elder, Surgeon of Beaminster (1800-53), by Fanny his wife (1803-58), daughter of Richard Symes, Gent., of Horsehill, Stoke Abbott.²³ He died 31 Dec 1903 (and is buried at Holy Trinity), having had issue,²⁴ *viz*:

1. Giles Russell, d.inf.
2. (The Rev.) Thomas Russell, born 1862: educated at Wellington College (1876-80) and at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, where he was Exhibitioner (Michaelmas 1882); B.A. (2nd Class Classics Tripos) 1885, M.A. 1891; ordained Deacon (Exeter) 1887, priest 1888; Curate of Holsworthy, Devonshire, 1887-90, Curate of Deal, Kent, 1891-2, Curate of Ombersley, Worcs., 1893-4; Licensed priest, diocese of Dunedin, New Zealand, 1903-40; married in Otago, New Zealand, but d.s.p. 1940.²⁵
3. JOHN SPEKE RUSSELL, who follows.

4. Henry de Winton Russell, born 1868: educated at Wellington College 1883-85;²⁶ married — and died in America, leaving issue, one daughter, *viz*: Gertrude Russell.
5. Hilda Fanny Banger Russell, born 3 Jan 1870: married at Beaminster in June 1901, her fourth cousin (through the Symes), Fiennes Trotman, Esq., of Beaminster, Solicitor (born 4 Feb 1862, d. 21 Dec 1935), who bore for arms quarterly 1. and 4. silver a cross and four roses gules, barbed vert and seeded gold (Trotman); 2. silver three bars azure on a chief sable three roses gules (Filmer); 3. azure three lions gold (Fiennes); and for crest a garb bound up with a band gules and silver between two ostrich feathers silver, quilled gold: eldest son of the Rev. Canon Edward Fiennes Trotman, B.C.L., sometime Fellow of New College, Oxford, Vicar of Marshfield, Glous. (1828-1910), by his wife Ann Symes (1836-1924), elder daughter and coheirress of Peter Cox, Esq., of Farris, Beaminster. This family descends from Richard Trotman, living about 1307, and was granted arms by letters patent of 27 Nov 1572. It was long seated at Bucknell Manor and Shelswell Park, Oxon., and at Syston Court, Glous. Samuel Trotman of those places married a niece of the famous Speaker Lenthall; and their grandson Edward Trotman of Shelswell Park (1688-1743) wedded Mary, eldest daughter and co-heir of Thomas Filmer of Amwelbury, Herts., by Susannah his wife, daughter of the Hon. John Fiennes and sister and co-heir of Lawrence, 5th Viscount Saye and Sele. This marriage brought great landed estates into the family, but the properties passed through an heiress to the Dickensons in 1843.²⁷ Canon Trotman, the son, grandson and great-grandson of clergymen, was of a junior branch. At Winchester and New College, Oxford, he was elected to the Foundations as Founder's Kin, being descended, through the Fiennes, from the heiress of William of Wykeham. Fiennes Trotman was the elder brother of General Sir Charles Newsham Trotman, K.C.B., A.D.C., R.M.L.I. He was educated at the King's School, Bruton, was admitted a solicitor in 1886 and became a partner in the family firm of Cox and Kitson (later Kitson and Trotman), Beaminster, in 1890. He was Chairman of Beaminster Parish Council from 1900 to 1915 and left a reputation as a 'friend of all' who was 'always ready to give his services in any way possible for the benefit of the town'.²⁸ Hilda Fanny Banger Trotman died 16 Oct 1950, leaving issue, two children, *viz*: 1) Hilda Mary Trotman, born 8 March 1902: married at Beaminster, 7 April 1926, Thomas Burg Douglas, of Coldstream, Berwickshire, by whom she has issue, a daughter, *viz*:

Rosamund Anne Douglas, born 27 April 1927.

- 2) Fiennes Trotman, Solicitor, of Farris, Beaminster, born 15 Sept 1903; educated at Bradfield College; partner in Kitson and Trotman from 1928; served in World War II as Army Officer; married 29 Aug 1936, Susan Gartside, daughter of Abraham Brierley, and died 27 May 1967, leaving issue, two children, *viz*:

1 - Fiennes Trotman, of Farris, Beaminster, the present representative of the House of Trotman, born 11 Sept 1939, and educated at Bradfield: married at Beaminster, 10 Jan 1976, Bridget Mary Hanley, and has issue, *viz*:

i. Fiennes Trotman, born 28 Feb 1979.

ii. Katherine Rose Trotman, born 11 Aug 1980.

2 - Elizabeth Symes Trotman, of Church View, Shipton Gorge, Bridport, born 6 Feb 1941.

6. William Kelson Russell, C.M.G., D.S.O., Colonel late R.E., of Beridth, Beaminster, born 22 Aug 1873: educated privately and at R.M.A. Woolwich: Second Lt., R.E., 1893; served in India 1895-1914: seconded to the Railways; in France 1914-19, organising railway traffic (mentioned in despatches, D.S.O. 1917, C.M.G. 1919); retired 1924; married in India in 1897, Emily Rose Cummins (who died in 1938), and died 14 Feb 1949²⁹ (after which Beridth was sold by his executors, and, being riddled with dry rot, subsequently demolished, c. 1960), leaving issue, one son, viz:

Arthur William Kelson Russell, born 13 July 1898, d. June 1973, unm.

X. The eldest surviving son, JOHN SPEKE RUSSELL, J.P., of Dale View, Summersdale, Chichester, and Barton End, Beaminster, Solicitor (admitted 1888), was born 16 Aug 1863, and educated at Sherborne School (1877-81);³⁰ married in 1900 Mary Emily Meggy, d. 13 Oct 1943, leaving issue, a son, viz:

XI. HAROLD GEORGE RUSSELL, C.I.E., O.B.E., K.P.M., late Senior-Superintendent Indian Police, of 5 Monmouth Gardens, Beaminster, born 24 Feb 1901, was educated at Lancing (1915-19); served in Indian Police 1922-47 (K.P.M. 1928): Senior-Superintendent, Lahore; subsequently in reorganisation of road transport in the Punjab (O.B.E. Civil 1936); seconded to Government of India Ministry of Transport, in Delhi, as Road Transport Adviser, 1939-45 War (C.I.E. 1945); retired 1947;³¹ married in India, 21 January 1936, Ruth Elizabeth, J.P. Dorset (1955), daughter of the Hon. Mr. Justice James Harvey Monroe, K.C., of Belfast, Judge of the High Court of Judicature at Lahore (who was nominated a Knight Bachelor, but died before receipt of the accolade in 1944), by his wife Margaret Adeline, only daughter of Andrew McClelland of Banbridge, co. Down.³² They have had issue, three children, viz:

1. Georgina Elizabeth Russell, born Aug 1941, d. March 1942.
2. John Michael Banger Russell, born 9 June 1944: educated at Sherborne; d. 23 Dec 1966, unm.
3. Patricia Ann Elizabeth Russell, born 25 March 1946: married 27 March 1974, Myles Thimbleby, and has issue, three children, viz:
 - 1) Jonathan Thimbleby, born 8 Jan 1975.
 - 2) Elizabeth Ellen Thimbleby, born 10 Dec 1977.
 - 3) Tom Thimbleby, born 2 May 1980.

SDNQ *Somerset and Dorset Notes and Queries.*

Hutchins J. Hutchins, *History and Antiquities of the County of Dorset*. 3rd Edn. (1861-74)

Hine Richard Hine, *History of Beaminster* (Taunton, 1914)

1. See Georgina Blakiston, *Woburn and the Russells*; Gladys Scott Thompson, *Two Centuries of Family History* (1930), and *Family Background* (1939); J. H. Round, *Studies in Peerage and Family History* (1901); *Burke's Peerage* (1970).
2. Monument and gravestone at Wyke Regis; Hutchins, II, 853. An earlier Giles Russell was a benefactor by will of 1664 of the town of Sherborne: his wife was Milcah; *ibid.*, IV, 259.
3. See Hutchins, II, *passim*; Edmund Nevill, 'Dorsetshire Freeholders: Banger-Russell'

SDNQ, IX, 222-226: this article, compiled with the assistance of Mr. Story-Maskelyne, mainly concerns the Bangers.

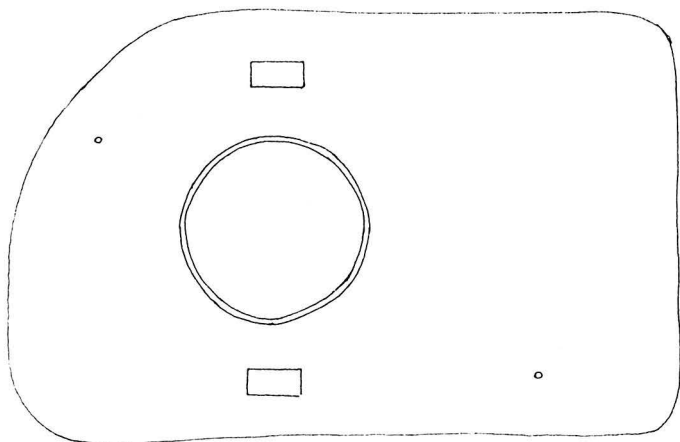
4. Hine, 221.
5. See Edmund Nevill, 'Dorset Freeholders: Cox of Beaminster', *SDNQ*, X, 76-79; Hine, 351 and *passim*.
6. Latin memorial in Beaminster Church; Hutchins, II, 137; Hine, 221.
7. *Alumni Oxon.*; Hutchins, II, 171.
8. See Edmund Nevill, 'Dorset Freeholders: Cox of Beaminster', *loc.cit.*
9. *Alumni Oxon.*; Hutchins, II, 171.
10. See Edmund Blunden, 'Thomas Russell 1762-1788', *Dorset Worthies No.2* (Dorset Archaeological and Natural History Society, 1962); *D.N.B.* (article by Thomas Seccombe); Hine, 221. Russell published his *Sonnets*.
11. Deeds in the possession of Mr. Harold Russell; Marie de G. Eedle, *A History of Beaminster* (1984), 81.
12. See Nevill, 'Dorsetshire Freeholders: Banger-Russell', *loc.cit.*; *SDNQ*, XXVI, 151.
13. Giles Russell was chiefly responsible for that major improvement to Beaminster's communications, the Horn Hill Tunnel (built 1831-2), as is recorded on an inscription at each end of the tunnel. For additional references see Hine and Eedle, *op.cit.*, *passim*.
14. *The Register of Blundell's School 1770-1882* (1904), 65.
15. *Ibid.*, 69.
16. *Ibid.*, 72.
17. Memorial in Stoke Abbott Church; Hutchins, II, 149; *Alumni Oxon.* Many of the Paynes were distinguished officers in the Royal Navy or Marines and their biographies are to be found in W. O'Byrne, *Naval Biographies*.
18. See also Hutchins, II, 125, 133, 328, and Hine and Eedle, *op.cit.*, *passim*.
19. *Eton School Lists*; *Alumni Oxon.*
20. *Winchester Commoners 1836-1900* (1891).
21. See *Burke's Landed Gentry* (1937), article Arnold-Foster (formerly Story-Maskelyne of Basset Down; *The Register of the King's School, Bruton* (1911), 58. *Kelly's Directory* for 1903 gives E. Story-Maskelyne as one of the four principal landowners in Stoke Abbott: see Godfrey French, *Stoke Abbott* (1974), 21.
22. *Harrow School Register 1800-1911* (New York 1911); *Alumni Oxon.*; information from Harold Russell.
23. On the Daniels see Hutchins, II, 127-8, 328; Hine, *passim*; Eedle, *op.cit.*, *passim*.
24. Much of the genealogical and other information which follows I owe to Miss Kathleen Pim, and to Miss Elizabeth Trotman.
25. *Wellington College Register 1859-1933*, 75; *Alumni Cantab.*
26. *Wellington College Register 1859-1933*, 116.
27. For the history and pedigree of the Trotmans see A. C. Fox-Davies, *Armorial Families*, II (1-Z) (1929), 1964; *Burke's Landed Gentry* (1937), article Trotman-Dickenson formerly of Bishop's Court; Frederick Henry Trotman, *The Trotman Family 1086 to 1963* (Nottingham 1965); W. P. W. Phillimore ed., *Collections Relating to the Family of Trotman* (1892); Edward Earle Trotman, *Family Collections* (unpublished, no date); Nevill, 'Dorset Freeholders: Cox of Beaminster', *op.cit.*
28. Eedle, *op.cit.*, Plate 31.
29. *Who Was Who*; information from Mr. Harold Russell.
30. *The Sherborne Register 1823-1900*: his contemporaries there were the Kitson brothers, John Gerard and Francis Parsons (his cousins through the Symes).
31. *The Lancing Register*, 343; *Debrett's Peerage*; *Kelly's Handbook*; information from Mr. Harold Russell.
32. *Who Was Who*. These Monroes were a long-established Ulster branch of the Munros of Foulis in Ross-shire.

R. WILLOUGHBY

327. A MOORING STONE FROM RACKLEY. Approximately 25 years ago development work at the ancient port of Rackley in Compton Bishop necessitated the disturbance of an ancient mooring stone, which was then set into the bank of the old course of the R. Axe. Under the direction of Nigel Warren this stone was removed for safe keeping to the garden of a cottage known as Under Compton, which lies across the road from Manor Farm House, Compton Bishop (NGR ST396552).

Knight records that Rackley's history as a port possibly goes back to the Roman period, when Mendip lead was transported from there to Wales and possibly to the continent.¹ Its use as a minor port until relatively recently is unquestionable; coal was imported here from Wales, as is attested by its welcome discovery in a secondary context just below the surface following development work.

The mooring stone is formed from the local Draycott conglomerate to the following dimensions: 5' 6" (1680mm.) x 3' 6" (1070mm.) x 4½" (115mm.) thick. It has a circular perforation with an edge chamfer, having a 17" (430mm.) internal and 18½" (470mm.) external diameter. The centre of this perforation is on the longitudinal axis of the stone, 39¾" (1000mm.) from its base. On either side of the circular perforation and centred between it and the stone's edges are two oblong perforations, 5" (128mm.) x 2" (50mm.). Two metal bolts or studs, now cropped to surface level, of approx. ½" (13mm.) diameter are sited as indicated on the accompanying bird's-eye drawing. The stone is now recumbent and has sunk so that its face is now level with the surrounding ground surface.²



That the stone was not designed for mooring purposes is very likely, but it was set upright, socketed approx. 1' deep into the river bank, and was braced on either side by beams of timber. Through the large circular perforation there ran a short loop of chain with an iron ring. It has been suggested that this stone may have been intended originally as a well-head, the bucket travelling through the circular hole, with uprights supporting the winding gear being fitted into the two oblong perforations. A similar stone well-head has been seen in use in Cheddar. But whatever its primary function, its last use was undoubtedly as a mooring stone at the now extinct port of Rackley.

1. F. A. Knight, *The Heart of Mendip* (1915), 350-52.

2. Thanks are due to Ian & Diana Crawford of Compton Bishop Estates for recognising its significance and for allowing access and to 'Jim' Gilling for background information.

BRIAN HACK

328. ST. MARGARET'S CHAPEL: TWO INVENTORIES. The archives of St. Margaret's and Stones Charity in Wimborne include two inventories of the possessions of St. Margaret's Chapel in the fifteenth century. They are written on a small parchment membrane (115mm. x 203mm.) which is in fairly good condition. On one side is an inventory of the Chapel in 1459/1460. It is clearly and neatly written in English. The reverse has a less tidily written inventory of 1484; again it is in English although the scribe uses a few latin words.

The document provides information about the internal furnishing of the chapel and the objects it had in its possession at two different dates; the second inventory is much shorter than the first. The items listed in both include the altar goods and cloths, a box of muniments and various pots and pans; by 1484 they owned a cart, two scythes and two long ladders. It is interesting as an early example of the vernacular being used in a formal written document.

In the transcription of the document all the spelling has been retained as in the original. Capitals are used freely and randomly but have only been transcribed where this would be modern usage apart from retaining the 'And'. Punctuation is minimal and has been left as such. Abbreviations have been extended without comment; not many are employed and they are mainly 'es' and 'er' endings. The scribe in the first inventory

is particularly fond of flourishes above words which do not appear to indicate omissions. Numbers which are in roman numerals in the original have been transcribed in arabic numerals. In place of the Anglo-Saxon letters used by the first scribe, the modern equivalents 'th' and 'g' have been substituted. Square brackets have been used where a word has been supplied by the editor or there is some doubt of the correct reading.

St. Margaret's Chapel: Inventory of 1459/1460

Be [?it] in mynde that in the yere of King Henry the [si]xte after [the] conqueste 38

In the Chaple of Seynt Margaryte remayne and was lefte a chales of seluer and over gylde with inne drayng the wight of 7 uncys and 3 quarters. And 2 d And a masse boke And 2 creuetys And 1 payre of vestymentes grene with the apparell there to And these thynges forseyde gaff Sir Roger Hylle to the Chaple of Seynt Margarite forseyde. And also another payre of vestymentys blewe the grounde with the apparell. And 1 olde cheseple a corperas of clothe of golde the which John Austyn¹ gaff to the Chaple. And 1 olde masse booke And 4 auter clothes upon the auter¹ 4 clothes on above another benethe with 2 curtens of white of damaske worke And 3 auterclothes of selke 1 above another by nethe with 2 curtens of the same 3 touellys of paxbrede A sacryng belle 2 torchys 2 candelstycks of latyn 4 boxys with menementes of the place And 1 new boxe in the which is the bulle of an 100 dayes of pardon late 1 purchased at Courte of Rome. And the lityll boxe to kepe the sygyng brede on 2 super altares 1 y made faste upon the auter. And another beyng in the cofer in the Chaple. And a pelew 1 helyd wyth selke lying upon the cofer in the Chaple In the brestys champbre upon the bedde² a rede helyng And a grene helyng And whyte helyng And a brasyn potte of a potell And brasyn panne of 2 gaulans And 2 platers 2 dysshes And a saucer of pewtre 2 candelstykes and 1 cofer

1. 'and' deleted

2. 'Bedde' inserted at the end of the line

[Reverse of the membrane]

Inventory of 1484

In capell Sancte Margaret 'anno domini 1484 rem' staur³ 'furst 2 massebokes 1 pere festmentes complete Item 2 chesebels with stolis 1 auter cloth of above the auter another by neth with 2 curtens 1 challis of seluer with 2 corporis 2 crewettis 1 paxte 1 canape over the auter 1 crucifyx over the auter 4 boxeys with deedis and pardon rem⁴ And⁵ 2 condill stikks over the auter for prekettes Item 2 pottis of bras of 6 galons, 2 pannys of bras 10 galons, 1 panne of bras 2 galons, 1 lytill [?poset] 2 latyn candelstikes 2 platers pewter 1 yre bounde cart 2 sythy 1 pekes 2 wegis of [?irs] 2 longladders rem⁴

3. latin 'remains in the store'

4. latin 'remain'

5. 'Et' written

SARAH BRIDGES

329. A MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTION FROM THE COUNTESS OF HUNTINGDON'S CHAPEL, BATH. During research on the membership of the first Bath Philosophical Society (founded 1779),¹ it became necessary to identify a member recorded only as John Lloyd. The most likely candidate seemed to be one who belonged to the select religious circle which grew around Lady Selina Hastings (1707-91), Countess of Huntingdon, in the last half of the 18th cent.² He and one Richard Wilson were described as men of influence and fortune and steady friends of the Countess.³ The likelihood of Lloyd also being the member of the Philosophical Society seemed increased with the discovery that his daughter, Ann, married a known member of the Society called John Walcott (1754-1831)⁴ at Bath St. Michael on 21 Nov. 1777. She died in 1782 and her funeral sermon by the Rev. Thomas Pentycross (1747-1808) was preached in Lady Huntingdon's chapel.⁵

Attempts to find out more about Lloyd himself proved difficult. The privately printed *Index* to the *Life* of the Countess⁶ added that John Lloyd was later of Swansea and provided a reference to a book on the Clayton family.⁷ This in turn stated that Lloyd was one of the devisees named in the Countess's will and that another daughter, Elizabeth (c. 1783-1820), who lived in Pulteney St., Bath, for many years, had married Francis Wilson, son of the Richard mentioned above.⁸ This daughter was a liberal benefactress of the chapel and the institutions connected with it. A memorial tablet to her was recorded to exist beside her grave in the chapel, which it was hoped would also shed light on John Lloyd. Study of the photograph of the chapel interior published in 1948⁹ showed two matching inscriptions then placed on either side of the pulpit and another higher up, centrally above the pulpit. A visit to the chapel in Oct. 1975 showed only the central monument surviving *in situ* and no sign of the other two monuments.¹⁰ A kindly janitor recalled that the missing two had been 'removed' during earlier redecoration; one was still safe (in the toilet in 1975), the other, the one with the Lloyd connection, had fallen to the floor, broken into pieces and been thrown away. Persistent search of the chapel and gardens revealed some fragments of inscribed Carrara marble in the soil of the bank to the east of the main chapel building. Further search, and a crucial fragment found later and saved by the janitor, enabled the reconstruction below to be made. It is thought to be worth putting on record in view of the dearth of separate death or burial data for members of the Bath Huntingdon circle.¹¹ Letters inside square brackets are conjectural due to loss of the inscription.

This Table[t
 was in] scribed by the [feelings
 of Friendshi[p
 and reco]rds the Death of
 E]LIZABETH
 Relict of FRANCIS WILSO [N
 of Clapham Common
 in the County of Surry Esqr
 and Daughter of
 JOHN LOYD formerly of Swansea
 i[n the] County of Glamorgan Esqr
 o[ne of th]e Devisees named in the Will of
 t]he late Right Honorable
 COU]NTESS DOWAGER OF HUNTINGD[ON
 who for ma]ny years took an active [part
 in the manage]ment of the aff[airs
 of] this Chapel:
 to whic]h his Daughter w[as a most
 l]iberal Benefactres[s
 She died Ju]ly 14 1820 aged 57 [years
 and her remains are deposi]ted
 in a Walled Grave near this [Tab]let

The fragments have been presented (1986) to the Bath Preservation Trust who hope to restore the monument to its rightful place on the wall of the Huntingdon Centre. Ironically the John Lloyd of the Bath Philosophical Society proved, after all this, to be a namesake. The Countess of Huntingdon's John Lloyd, here memorialised, must have died in Swansea between 1790-1820.

1. H. S. Torrens 'Bath Philosophical Society' in *Science and Music in Eighteenth Century Bath* by A. J. Turner (1977).
2. A. W. Knight 'Lady Huntingdon's Circle in Bath', *Somerset Year Book* (1928), 49-51.
3. A. C. H. Seymour, *The Life and Times of Selina Countess of Huntingdon* (1844), vol. 2, 162.
4. L. J. Jordanova & R. S. Porter (eds.), *Images of the Earth*, British Soc. for the Hist. of Science Monograph 1 (1979), 219-222.
5. The published copy in the Green collection, Bristol Ref. Library, belonged to Richard Wilson (or, more correctly, Wilsonn) of Fromefield, Frome.
6. The *Index to The Life* (n.3) was compiled by Francis M. Jackson and issued with the *Proc. of the Wesley Hist. Soc.*, vol. 5 (1906).
7. T. W. B. Aveling, *Memorials of the Clayton Family* (1867), 162-4.
8. Richard Wilsonn died at Fromefield House on 30 Aug. 1785 (*Bath Chronicle* 1 Sept.). He established a Sunday School there in 1784 (*Ibid.* 14 Oct.). From the reference in *Gentleman's Magazine* (1785), 55 (2), 667, that he was 'late of Lombard St., London' we can identify him as the one bound apprentice to the stationer Richard Brooke in 1746, turned over to his father, Robert, in the same year and freed of his apprenticeship in 1753. He was a stationer in Lombard St. from 1759 and a bookbinder from 1766 (D. F. McKenzie (ed.), *Stationers' Company Apprentices 1701-1800*, Oxf. Bibliog. Soc. Publ. N.S. 19 (1978). The entry for his father in *A Dict. of the Printers and Booksellers 1726-1775*, Bibliog. Soc. (1932), confuses father and son, but shows the latter was at 22 Lombard St. until 1777; he must have moved to Frome soon afterwards.
9. W. Ison, *The Georgian Buildings of Bath from 1700-1830* (1948), pl. 24b.
10. As in the photograph of the interior publ. in the 1984 *Anniversary Appeal* for the

chapel restoration.

11. The chapel registers (PRO ref. RG 4/1416) only record births and bapts., 1788-1837.

H. S. TORRENS

330. LYME REGIS IN 1797. The following spirited letter from Thomas Strangways Horner, sea bathing at Lyme, to his father the Squire of Mells needs little explanation. It illustrates some of the hazards of finding accommodation, not least to the natives, as witness the old lady deprived of her room and the house owner banished to the further reaches of the Inn parlour. For 'Culliton' we must presumably read 'Colyton'. The 'Hum Gumption' (usually rendered *humgrumptious*) were pretentious, self-important people. This is an early use of the expression derived from 'humbug' and 'gumption'. James is evidently a servant. The letter is in the Horner archives at Mells Manor and is reproduced by kind permission of the Earl of Oxford and Asquith.

Lyme Tuesday Evening

My Dear Sir

We all arrived safe Sunday to Dinner about three o'clock, & found James in great tribulation, not having procured a House, there being but one that he thought would suit us, & that a high rent so to work we went ourselves, & found the case exactly so. We Tried to persuade the owner of this very good House to lower his rent, which he did do, but not to our terms, & was besides so impertinent that I was forced to show him the door and insist upon our dividing the Parlour at the Inn with him, that is, him taking the outside and we the Inside which he very indignantly was forced to do. We then sent to Charmouth one House only there unoccupied & that close to the Road and not looking to the sea thus it remained all that evening & Monday Morning till about three o'clock when by the power of our united Rhetoric we persuaded an Old Lady to give up a Room she then inhabited in a very nice House quite at the top of Lyme totally free of the Town & commanding the whole Bay with a very nice walk down to the Cob, Bathing Machines &c without going one inch into the Town so that at last by a little exertion and perseverance we are very comfortably settled. The House is upon the Culliton Road.

Lyme tho we could not get a House to suit us is far from being full & the Company that are here are of no Hum Gumption. Very few vessels in the Harbour & a great scarcity of Fish I hope the Gout has taken its Leave and that you are again descended to the lower Regions; We was very lucky in our Weather except the first Evening when it rained almost all the way from Ansford Inn to Yeovil where we slept at the Mermaid, a most horrid Inn, the Angell is shut up & the next day we found to our mutual astonishment that the Inn at Crewkerne was as good as that was bad so had we pursued our original play we should have fared much better. We did not go by Ford Abbey as we found there was a much nearer way leaving both Axminster & that place to the right touching at no place till you come to Lyme which is only a short sixteen miles from Crewkerne.

I fear I shall be too late for the Post this day as I hear it goes out at two o'clock &

it is now just striking two which will account to you for the length of time of its being upon the road with best love to my Mother

I remain your dutyfull & Affect son

T. S. Horner

All unite in Love
Lyme Dorset.

Addressed to Thos. Horner, Esqr, Mells Park, Frome, Somerset and annotated by him: 'Aug st 14, 1797 Answer'.

MICHAEL McGARVIE

331. AN ORCHARDLEIGH INSCRIPTION. In the graveyard on the northside of Orchardleigh Church is a stone slab which looks like a ledger stone thrown out of the church during the restoration of 1879-80. On it in a roundel carved in bas-relief are the arms of Champneys, *party, per pale, or and sable, a border engrailed and countercharged, a lion rampant gules*, complete with crest and supporters, a spirited piece of heraldic carving. Beneath are nine lines of worn latin inscription which appear to read as follows:

*Tumulis sepulchralis
piam iure perenne memoriam
Iohannis Champneys armigeri
qui coeleste suscepturus
mortalis indumentum corporis
sanctisse deposuit
die Aprilis secundo
annoque salutis humanae
MDCCV*

Dr. John Harvey kindly sent this transcription to John Sparrow (former Warden of All Souls) who returned it with some emendations (*Tumuli sepulchram piam iure perenni*) and a translation:

This sepulchral mound preserves for ever, as it is right that it should, the sacred memory of John Champneys Esq. who, when he was about to put on a heavenly body, laid down most devoutly the clothing that was his mortal body, on the second day of April in the year of man's salvation 1705.

A photograph at Orchardleigh Park, taken before the restoration of 1879, shows that this slab formed the top of a chest tomb which stood in the churchyard not far from where the remnants lie today.

Frome

MICHAEL McGARVIE

332. THE WOOL-BOVINGTON RAILWAY. This line is seldom mentioned in books about Dorset's railways because it was never owned by a railway company. British Rail archives contain no documents relating to the line. It is true that staff and rolling stock were provided by the London and South Western Railway, but ownership of the line remained with the War Office. In fact, the Wool-Bovington railway was not so much a branch line as an extended siding used solely for military purposes.

The railway opened in July, 1919.¹ Its purpose was to facilitate the transport of tanks and other heavy military equipment to Bovington camp. Prior to its construction the tanks were taken by rail to Wool station and then driven the two miles to the camp. This posed two problems for the authorities. First there was a matter of security. At the end of 1916 when tanks were first sent to Bovington they were secret weapons and civilians were not supposed to see them, but, because they travelled on public roads they could hardly be prevented from doing so, despite melodramatic precautions taken by the military police.² Secondly, there was the question of safety. The only road which existed between Wool and Bovington passed over the narrow 16th century bridge which still spans the river Frome, and an even narrower bridge over the Lytchet stream.³ Not surprisingly, many tanks struck these bridges causing considerable damage.⁴ Obviously, a railway extension into the camp itself would help to overcome both these problems.

The matter became urgent in 1918. In that year the War Office decided upon an enormous expansion of the Tank Corps. 6,000 new tanks were to be produced and many of these would be destined for Bovington. German prisoners of war from Lulworth camp, supervised by Royal Engineers, were set to work building the railway. The line, a single track standard gauge, commenced at the northern end of the camp where several terminal sidings were constructed. The line continued around the eastern end of the camp — passing close to the revolver range, where firing had to cease on the approach of a train — and crossed Bovington Lane beside the Lytchet bridge, and the Wool-Wareham road to the north of Woolbridge Manor, before joining the up-line of the main railway just to the east of Wool station.

Evidence of the line is still visible. A few yards to the east of the bridge outside Woolbridge Manor stand two large concrete plinths. These were the supports of the bridge which carried the track across the river Frome. To the south of these, on the other side of the modern road from Wool to Wareham, the remains

of the embankment, now overgrown with bushes, which carried the track across the low lying pastures, curves away towards the main railway line. The sidings and the most northerly 150 yds. of track ran across land which the War Office had bought from the Moreton estate on 16 Feb, 1899. The remainder of the line ran across land which initially the War Office requisitioned from the Weld and Drax estates. Later, on 31 March, 1924, the War Office bought this land, agreeing in the conveyances to keep in good order the concrete posts and three-stranded wire fences on either side of the line, and to maintain a number of culverts and gateways.⁵ The most important of the latter were the level crossing gates at the junction of the railway and the Wool to Wareham road. As these gates were unmanned, a railwayman had to be sent from Wool station to operate them whenever a train used the line.

By the time the line was ready for use the war had ended. Nevertheless, the railway initially carried a considerable amount of traffic. Hundreds of derelict tanks were brought back from the battlefields to Bovington. These were inspected and then broken down and sold as scrap, or repaired and despatched by rail to one of the newly formed post war Tank Battalions.

Despatching a tank by rail provided the soldiers at Bovington with a difficult problem. First World War tanks were so wide that when in transit by rail they could easily damage tunnels and bridges. Consequently, they had to be positioned accurately to within half an inch either side of the large, flat, open wagons known as *rectanks*, on which they were carried.⁶ To do this required considerable skill. To promote this skill the military authorities constructed on Bovington heath a number of concrete blocks the exact size of *rectanks* so that drivers could practise their entertaining procedures. One of these blocks is still in evidence just to the west of the road crossing the heath, approximately midway between the camp and Clouds Hill.⁷

The number of derelict tanks to be brought back from Flanders was limited. Once that particular source of traffic had dried up, fewer and fewer trains used the line. By 1924 the running of a train was so unusual that it caused quite a stir in the camp. What married soldiers living nearby could not understand was why passenger trains could not use the line and thus make their journeys to and from work easier.⁸ Passenger traffic, however, was never permitted. By 1928 there was no goods traffic either. On Nov. 4, 1928, the line was closed. In 1936 the track was lifted and sold as scrap.



Map of Bovington-Wool railway

1. Tank Museum Archives, *The Record of the Tank Workshop Training Battalion, 1919-22*, p.10. This date differs from that given by J. H. Lucking, *Railways of Dorset* (The Railway Correspondence and Travel Soc., 1968), p.45. Using the 'Railway Observer' of Aug. 1937, as his source he gives the opening date as 9 August, 1919.
2. All civilian traffic was stopped between Wool station and Bovington and the inhabitants of Woolbridge Manor and the neighbouring farms and cottages were made to pull their blinds and keep to their back rooms. Military policemen on motor cycles preceded the tank on its journey to the camp, and any civilian pedestrian encountered was made to stand in a field with his back to the road until the tank had passed. A shepherd, refusing to leave his flock, was surrounded by hurdles and guarded by soldiers until the tanks had passed. The *Daily Telegraph* reported that a tank which had broken down was towed into a farmyard and remained there until the farmer rang the authorities and asked them to remove their secret machine.
3. Demolished in 1969.
4. Dorset County Council Minute Bks, 1917 & 1918, contain numerous accounts of damage done.
5. Southern Command files 8/8867 & 8/8894.
6. When tanks were being entrained, railway inspectors were present to ensure that they were loaded accurately. This led at times to some bitterness between railwaymen and soldiers. Tank Battalion diaries of the time contain scathing entries such as 'In spite of brassbound obstructionists of the NUR, complete with 6 inch steel rulers and a mania for half inch clearance' See *Tank Corps Journal*, II, No. 10, Dec. 1920, p.181.
7. OS Map 194, ref. 826901.
8. Typical of the complaints was one from a soldier's wife. She concluded a letter to the Editor of the *Tank Corps Journal* (July, 1920); 'It is considered safe to move heavy tanks about on, but not passenger trains!'

The author is indebted to the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office for permission to reproduce the relevant part of the War Office edn, second edn, 1953, OS 1:25,000 map.

G. LANNING

NOTES

YEOVIL HOUSEHOLD GOODS, 1520 (*SDNQ*, XXXII, 614). Readers interested in the reference to the Robin Hood ceremony on p.618 may care to note the publication of a lengthier article entitled, 'Robin Hood and the Churchwardens in Yeovil', by Dr. James D. Stokes in *Medieval & Renaissance Drama in England*, vol. III (New York, 1986). An off-print is available for reference in Somerset Record Office.

Som. Ed.

DEODANDS (*SDNQ*, XXXII, 598, 630). *The Gentleman's Magazine* of Aug. 1800 carried a report of an inquest taken before a Lincolnshire Coroner on 17 July upon two men crushed to death when the Newcastle coach overturned and fell on them. The jury found that the coach was overloaded with the knowledge of the proprietors and declared it to be forfeited as a deodand.

ELIZABETH BICKNELL

PLAQUES REPRESENTING ANNE BOLEYN (*SDNQ*, XXXII, Part 326). Circumstances in south Dorset during the early Tudor period could account for the commemoration of Anne Boleyn at Poxwell and West Lulworth, even if the precise origin of the plaques there remains obscure.

Sir Thomas Boleyn, Lord Rochford, later Earl of Wiltshire and Ormonde, married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Howard second Duke of Norfolk. Anne Boleyn was born of this marriage in 1507. The second Duke died in 1524 and was succeeded by his eldest son, also Thomas. The third Duke had two sons, Henry Earl of Surrey, and the younger, Lord Thomas Howard. Thus Anne Boleyn was niece of Thomas Howard, third Duke of Norfolk, and first cousin to Henry Earl of Surrey and to Lord Thomas Howard.

Lord Thomas Howard married Elizabeth, daughter of Lord Marney, whose wife Christian was daughter of Sir Roger Newburgh. Through failure of male heirs, Elizabeth inherited the extensive Newburgh estates in Dorset. These estates came to Lord Thomas Howard by his marriage, and as part of this inheritance he held, or had the jurisdiction of, the Hundred of Winfrith in which lay Poxwell and West Lulworth. When in 1559 Lord Thomas Howard was elevated in the peerage he adopted the title Viscount Bindon from the place of that name

that had been a seat of his father-in-law, Lord Marney. The manor of West Lulworth was in the Liberty of Bindon.

The Howards were among the most active in the intrigues for King Henry's divorce from Katherine of Aragon and for the success of Anne Boleyn. In the light of these associations it appears likely that, despite the turn of events, a tradition of support for the ill-fated mother of Queen Elizabeth I survived in such places as Poxwell and West Lulworth and that, when it became safe, loyalty to her memory was displayed.

The lady portrayed in the plaques is identified as Anne Boleyn because she is flanked by plaques depicting the falcon that became her badge when, in 1532, Henry VIII created her Marchioness of Pembroke (not *Marquess*. The masculine form is not used because a lady holds a title in her own right.)

A dating of the plaques would be interesting, and might be the first step towards discovering a lost episode in Dorset history.

C. L. SINCLAIR WILLIAMS

STOCKWOOD, DORSET. P. N. Dawe's note about St. Edwold's, Stockwood (*SDNQ*, XXXII, Part 326) is incorrect about the date of redundancy. The church was not in use for some years but it was not finally declared redundant until 1972 when it passed into the hands of the Redundant Churches Fund.

They have restored it and it is now used for occasional services. Ecclesiastically it is part of the parish of Melbury Osmond, Melbury Sampford and Stockwood, which is now part of the Melbury Team. It has claims to be the smallest church in England and anyone interested should read *In Search of England's Smallest Church* by Raymond F. Bowers which can be obtained from him at Brown House, Blackbeck, Egremont. CA22 2NY, price £1.00 plus 25p postage.

DAVID COURAGE

FOUNDLING NAMES. Books on English Surnames, of which there are more than a few, fail to give examples of names given to foundlings. Here are a few examples from Dorset registers:

1772 Aug — Peter Fryary a Foundling Holy Trinity, Dorchester
[This child was obviously found in Friary Lane and christened Peter after nearby St. Peter's Church].

1798 Jan 28 John Sherborne a child found at the door of Mrs. Willmot and sent to the Workhouse Sherborne

1851 Aug 15 Providence Found Bliss parents not known —
(Abode) Union

Poole

1857 Jul 26 Fanny de Sherborne a foundling (Abode) Union Ho. Sherborne
And Devon:

1800 Aug 31 Mary Plympton. This child was found on
the 24th.

Plympton St. Mary

THOMAS CORAM, A DORSET PHILANTHROPIST. On the subject of foundlings readers may find a note on this native of Dorset acceptable. Born in Lyme Regis 1667/8 he was settled at Taunton, Massachusetts in 1694 and he seems to have been in America until about 1704 as a ship-builder; he had at some time been a merchant navy captain. In 1720 he was a merchant in London and in 1732 he was appointed one of the trustees for the colony of Georgia, then recently founded by James Oglethorpe to act as a buffer to the Spanish settlements to the south. Horace Walpole called him "the honourablest, most disinterested, most knowing person about the plantations" he had ever talked with. Distressed at the sight of unwanted children in the London streets he got ladies of rank to raise money for a Foundling hospital, a charter being obtained in 1739, and soon children were admitted to temporary accommodation in Hatton Garden. A plot of land was later bought from Lord Salisbury who insisted that the whole of his ground as far as Grays Inn Lane should be taken; he subscribing £500 himself. Coram's portrait was painted by William Hogarth and there was certainly not an artist more in sympathy with his ideals.

P. N. DAWE

COCK FIGHTING. This appears to have been a popular sport in 19th century Dorset:

A Grand Main of Cocks to be fought at Cosmore Common, adjoining Revell's Inn, between the Gentlemen of Dorsetshire and the Gentlemen of Somersetshire, on the 26th and 27th of June instant 1816, for the prize of 100 Guineas, the Main on each side, and 5 Guineas each battle.

A Dinner at Revell's Inn at 3 p.m. Entrance to the Pits 5s. each.

Wright and Grant feeders.

Sherborne Journal, June 14, 1816.

To be fought at the Red Lyon Inn in Somerton, between the Gentlemen of Somerset, and the Gentlemen of Dorset; to show Thirty-One Main Cocks each Side, for Four Guineas a Battle, and Forty Guineas the Odd Battle; to weigh on Tuesday the 12th May, and to fight the two following days. Each Gentleman to feed his own Cocks.

The Western Flying Post, Jan. 1761.

[A note concerning cock fighting in Somersetshire was printed on p.630 of this volume]

L. W. COFFIN

QUERIES

ELIZABETH HAM'S AUTOBIOGRAPHY. Elizabeth Ham was born at North Perrott on 30 Nov. 1783. After nearly seventy years of life in what may fairly be described as genteel poverty she wrote an entertaining account of her first forty years in Somerset and Dorset, with an interval in Ireland. An abbreviated version of this, entitled *Elizabeth Ham by herself, 1783-1820*¹, was published in 1945. The original manuscript was then still in existence, for the editor refers to the cuts in it which he had made. A typescript of what appears to be the complete text of the latter part of the manuscript, containing much material (some of it slightly scandalous!) omitted from the printed edition, is now in the library of the Dorset County Museum. It appears from *Annals of West Coker* by Sir Matthew Nathan, who died in 1939, that he had seen another typescript of this part (the pagination which he cites is different) and that this typescript comprised an earlier part of the autobiography as well. Does any reader know of the present whereabouts of Elizabeth Ham's manuscript, or, failing that, the typescript used by Sir Matthew Nathan?

1. The concluding date in the title is somewhat inaccurate in that the author mentioned an event which occurred in the autumn of 1823.

G. D. SQUIBB

[An earlier enquiry concerning Elizabeth Ham, by Dr. Bernard Jones, The Red House, East Stour, Gillingham, SP8 5JY, in *SDNQ*, Vol. XXXII, March 1987, has not produced any information. — Dorset Ed.]

REVIEWS

David T. Hawkings, *Bound for Australia* (Phillimore, 1987. Pp. xvi + 269, 14 plates, 18 text illus. £12.95). Some years ago the author discovered that the brother of an ancestor had been convicted of sheep stealing at the 1804 Assizes in Taunton and sentenced to transportation. Subsequent painstaking research, both in local, but especially in national, record sources not previously used in this context, enabled him to trace the sequence of events from trial to conditional pardon in 1816. He has used this case as an introduction to what is essentially a source book of material relating not only to convict, but also to early non-convict, settlers. To these two sections he has added various facsimile returns of settlers and appendices of all relevant PRO classes.

Fittingly the work has appeared during the celebration of the Bi-centennial of the sailing of the first fleet of convict ships. It

contains examples from both Dorset and Somerset Quarter Sessions records in addition to his kinsman's case, but the book's value will be as a necessary guide to ease the path for anyone wishing to investigate a transportee's life and crime.

D.M.M.S.

L. C. Hayward, *From Portreeve to Mayor: the growth of Yeovil 1750-1854* (Castle Cary Press, 1987. Pp. 144, illus. £5.00). Mr. Hayward brings a lifetime's affectionate research into Yeovil's history to successful fruition with this detailed study of the town's political and economic development in the first half of the 19th century. As its central core he leads the reader with a sure touch through a complex period of some 25 years which saw the transformation from a manorial borough, lacking any municipal authority, in 1830 by way of two sets of Commissioners, the failure to be included in the municipal reforms of 1835 and a protracted dispute over the election of Portreeve, to full incorporation in 1854.

He supports this with surrounding chapters depicting in considerable detail the state of the town in 1800, the expansion of its industry over the next 50 years and specific aspects of its social life. Local newspapers, in particular, have been used to good effect to secure such gems as the correspondent of 1849 who claimed, with perhaps little exaggeration, that a good crop of turnips could be grown on the pavement of High Street.

The work is pleasingly produced, has over 60 illustrations of buildings and notable persons and a copy of the town map of 1806, and has been carefully proof read. The occasional repetition, notably on the lack of action in matters of public health, can be forgiven in view of the wealth of information otherwise provided.

D.M.M.S.

Desmond Hawkins, *Hardy: Novelist and Poet* (first published 1976, revised ed. Papermac, 1987, Pp. 247, illus. £7.95). It is very pleasing to report that this popular volume is now in print, in paperback form, with the text revised and updated. Desmond Hawkins sets himself the task 'to determine the point where reality ends and fantasy begins' in Hardy's works, and sets out to trace the life of Thomas Hardy, the influences acting upon him, and the relationship between his life and his literary works. This well researched volume is presented in a smooth, effortless style which makes for easy reading. Mr. Hawkins understands the Wessex that Hardy loved, and which provided so much inspiration for his work, and has a scholarly appreciation of Hardy's prose and poetry.

An appendix of synopses of all Hardy's major prose works, and an appendix of all dramatisations up to 1988, together with a select bibliography, are provided.

G.J.D.

D. A. Crowley (ed): *A History of Wiltshire. Volume XIII. South-West Wiltshire: Chalke and Dunworth Hundreds*. (Victoria Histories of the Counties of England. University of London Institute of Historical Research and O.U.P., 1987, 4^o, pp. xx, 280 + illustrations and maps. £60).

The *V.C.H.* has an international reputation and is a remarkable and continuing achievement in topographical historiography of which this country may indeed be proud. Nearly 200 of these magnificent volumes, few of which are ever likely to be superseded, have been published since the inception of the work in 1900, and the great enterprise is now probably at a half way stage. There may ultimately be some 20 volumes for Wiltshire, and the present, the 14th, since volume 1 is in two parts, is of particular interest for Dorset since it covers an area on the north Dorset border roughly including the Wiltshire part of Cranborne Chase; and so is homogeneous not only in physical features of the landscape and flora and fauna, but in the people, their *mores*, habits, customs, speech and history, with a large and beautiful area of Dorset, from Shaftesbury to Woodyates, immediately to the south. The county boundary is no division in these matters: the two areas "belong", as they say: they, with a part of Hampshire, are a fascinating unit; as is so well brought out by Desmond Hawkins in his *Cranborne Chase*, 1980.

Since readers will all know the *V.C.H.* one need only say that this volume maintains the high standard of scholarship and attractive presentation for which the series is renowned. But they will ask what the position is with the *V.C.H.* and our two counties. Well, for Somerset it is good to know that 5 volumes have been published and others are in preparation. An editor has been appointed, a local committee set up, and there is activity which promises well. For Dorset the picture is, sadly, quite different. Only two volumes have appeared, volume 2 (1908) and 3 (1968) and there is apparently no activity for further production. All will hope that the *V.C.H.* will now turn its attention to Dorset. Local authorities in the county will surely not be behindhand in supporting a cause of such deep and permanent value, but will be every bit as forthcoming as their counterparts have been, and are, in Somerset and Wiltshire.

J.P.

N.B.—*All replies to advertisements to be sent to
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