

NOTES & QUERIES

FOR

SOMERSET AND DORSET

EDITED BY

D. M. M. SHORROCKS, M.A., F.S.A.,*222 Staplegrove Road, Taunton, Somerset. TA2 6AL*

AND

G. J. DAVIES, B.A., PH.D., F.S.A.,*16 Melcombe Avenue, Weymouth, Dorset. DT4 7TH**"Attempt the end, and never stand to doubt;
Nothing's so hard, but search will find it out".*

HERRICK

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ISSN 0049 1306

Annual Subscription £5 (U.S.A. 15 dollars),
payable in advance. Two parts annually, post free.

BRIDPORT

C. J. CREED, Printer, Broadoak, Bridport

Entered at the New York Post Office as Second Class Matter

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HUGH JAQUES, M.A.

18 Louise Road, Dorchester. DT1 2LU

(Hon. Secretary and Treasurer)

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Subscribers are reminded that from 1st January, 1991, the annual subscription is £5 (\$15 for subscribers in the U.S.A.)

Subscriptions should be paid in advance in January to Hugh Jaques, 18 Louise Road, Dorchester. DT1 2LU

Notes and Queries for Somerset and Dorset has been published in unbroken sequence since 1888. Two parts are issued annually.

Contributions are invited on the history, archaeology, architecture, genealogy, folklore, and literature of Somerset and Dorset. The Editors welcome queries, copies of manuscripts, and other records.

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Back numbers are available at £2.50 each plus postage, on application to the Hon. Secretary.

JOHN RUSTON

It is with deep regret that we record here the death of John Robert Ruston on March 9, 1990. He served as a member of the Editorial Committee since September, 1965. He will be chiefly remembered for his management of Commins bookshop in Bournemouth, but members of the committee of this journal will also remember with gratitude his faithful service, his constant interest in the welfare of the journal, his keen business sense, and his unfailing generosity.

363. TWO 16th CENTURY SOMERSET RIOTS. The following letters, the one written at the time of the dissolution of the monasteries, the other 60 years later towards the end of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, graphically describe the riotous assemblies which seem to have been commonplace. The first letter comes from the British Library [Cotton MS. Titus B.I., f.97 (old foliation) or 102]. It is addressed 'To the ryght worshipfull sir Henry Longe Knyght yn hast'. This is Sir Henry Long of Wraxall, Wilts., who was to become high sheriff of Somerset in 1538. The letter is endorsed in a contemporary hand 'Harry Capell, Roger Basing with others' on the cover, and inside on the letter '3 Aprill' in another, finer hand.

There is a further endorsement in more modern writing and in pencil '28 H.8'. This would give us the year 1537 and certainly the gentlemen who sign the letter were all flourishing then. Harry Capell, later knighted, belonged to a family later ennobled as Earls of Essex, and broadly based in that county and Hertfordshire. Henry Capell himself, however, had extensive possessions on Mendip and as the nephew of Sir William Paulet, Lord of Nunney and afterwards Marquess of Winchester, the friend and confidant of Henry VIII, was evidently an influential figure. He died in 1557. Roger Basing came into the manor of Cloford in 1530 when it was made over to him by his brother Richard following the death of their father, William Basing, in 1530. Roger is described as 'late of Cloford' in 1540 (Mells manor Muniments 46, 47, 73). Thomas Bampfylde was of Hardington, near Frome, in which manor he had succeeded his father in 1528. Thomas Horner, whose will was proved in 1554, was of Mells, although not yet the owner of the manor which he bought from the Crown in 1543. In both letters I have spelt out the contractions for easier reading.

'After harty Comendacion this is to advertise you that this weke so great Insurecion hath byn made by a greate number of wilfull persons at Tawnton & Brygwater in so much that my lord Fitzwaren & divers other men of worship ther being for the keyping of the Kyngs Sessions were maurgree ther Wylls restraynyd Rewlyd by the said wilfull number and were by them putt in great damige and like to have byn if they had not usid a fayer mean and polycy with them for the dispatchyng of them frome the honds of the said number. So hit is that now ar comen in to this Parties XXX Persons of the same Company thoroughly ffurnyssshed with wepons mynding as we can perceive to stere the peple in lyke manner abrought thes parties. And among ar ii of the cheiff spekers & Captayns. All which we yett continewns here by gentyll meanes. And for as much as we perceive that is no mane of name in this parties, we hereby praye you to resorte with such spede as ye cane to the town of ffrom to thentente that by your polycye the people of ther & abought the Parties may the better be stablISHED & put in a good order for ffere of ffurther in crease of number which is very lyke to be as Knowith our lord who Preserve you. Melles the iide day of Aprill

Harry Capell Roger Basyng Thomas bamfyld Thomas Horner'

The Lord 'Fitzwaren' mentioned was John Bouchier, son and heir of the Earl of Bath, and styled Lord FitzWarin from 1536 to 1539, when he succeeded his father at the age of 40. He died in 1561.

The second letter is from Thomas Horner of Cloford (died 1612) to his neighbour Sir John Thynne of Longleat (died 1604). Horner was the great nephew of Sir Thomas Horner who signed the earlier letter while his grandfather, John Horner, had bought the manor of Cloford from Roger Basing in 1543. Horner's letter is still preserved at Longleat where it was presumably received (Thynne Papers, volume VII, F.67). The Mr. Ley mentioned is probably James Ley, (c. 1552-1629) of Telfont Ewyas, Wilts., magistrate and later M.P. for Westbury. He had already a formidable reputation and rose to become Chief Justice of the King's Bench, and Lord President of the Council. He was created Earl of Marlborough in 1626. The thrust of both letters is the same: the trouble must be nipped in the bud lest it spread.

'Good Brother this present Sondaye many of my honest neyghbours hath beene heere with me, greatly greiveinge with the hard measure that upon Satterdaie Last was offered to themselves and theire neyghbours, who had beene at Warminster to buye barley for theire releife, and cominge homewards were sett uppon by twoe severall companyes of Lewde peopell of the Countie of Wiltis who were in nomber ffower score and a hundred in two companyes. As it seemeth theire rebellious disposition was suche as they coulede not be satisfied with takeinge away theire corne, but with theire knyves hurt theire horses and cut theire sacks. I therefore pray you to sende your warraunts to Chepmanslade and thereaboutes to the officers whereby they may be funde that were the principall leaders of these Lewde and idle companyes for if they be suffered to runne their course, wee all must assure our selves that in shorte time it will growe to a farthr mischeife, in such sorts as it will not be quenched, if therefore it will please you to acquaint other of your associates whereby some of the

principall of the foresaide companyes may be apprehended and committed I doubt not but the Judges at your Assizes beinge made acquainted with theire lewde misdemeaners they will take suche course with them as by Lawe and Justice doth apperteyne, And if uppon examinacon you shall finde that any of this country were confederates with them, if you will acquaint me with what you shall finde I will take suche course, as they shalbe forthcominge to aunsware to theire fact, And so hopeinge you will be all expediticon take some care in examininge this matter, I hastily but hartely bidd you ffarewell Clafforde this xiiith of ffebruary 1596 [1596/7]

Your brother and freinde asured

Thomas Horner

After the writeinge of my letter it was toulde me that some of theise companyes were dwellinge about Westbury if therefore Mr. Ley be made acquainted with it noe doubt but he will take such course in the examinacon of the matter as that they will be founde out.'

MICHAEL McGARVIE

364. CATTISTOCK CHURCH BRIEFS. Most researchers of parish registers will have come across entries of sums of money collected from time to time for charitable purposes, these being known as 'briefs'. These collections authorised by the Sovereign had an early history but as is pointed out by W. E. Tate in *The Parish Chest* they seem to have been particularly prevalent in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Many examples are to be found in the post-Restoration period in the Cattistock register, volume 1, there being records of no less than thirty-seven between the years 1600 and 1673. Perhaps the most common appeals were for compensation for fire damage and for the relief of Protestant suffering in foreign countries; church repairs account for some, and there is one Brief for the Redemption of Slaves for which two shillings was collected but we are not given any additional details. In the period 1660-1709 there were many appeals for various towns (all outside the county) including Southwold, Ilminster, Tiverton, Fakenham, Chalbury, Nether Wallop and Bridgnorth; although no reason is stated it can safely be presumed they were relevant to loss by fire.

The prevalence of thatch in many towns and villages in former times was a main cause of many fires. In addition to the one of 1644, during the Civil War, Beaminster had serious fires in 1684 and again in 1781; Dorchester had five serious fires between 1613 and 1775 and in that of 1613 one hundred and seventy houses were destroyed, the Rev. John White, the public-spirited rector of Holy Trinity, organised relief on a massive scale; later, it will be recalled, he was responsible for establishing a colony of Dorset men in Massachusetts. Most of

Blandford was devastated in 1731 while Wareham lost one hundred houses in 1762 including the rectory of the Rev. John Hutchins, the MS of his great *History* being saved by the heroism of his wife, he being absent at the time in Bridport. Bere Regis suffered three major fires the last of which was in 1788 and Lyme Regis had its conflagration in 1844.

The following entry refers to our greatest fire of all time; it is undated but precedes an entry of 18 Dec. 1666:

Collected in the Parish of Catstocke towards the Releife of the Poore suffering by fire at London — one pound three shillings and sixpence.

It is very unusual to find a list of contributors since according to Tate it was customary for the parish clerk to stand at the church door as the congregation was leaving. However, one such list was made at Cattistock under date of

Jan: 16 1709

Collected of the severall Inhabitants of Catstock/herein after mentioned towards a brief for the relief/of the Palatines the severall sums following viz:

Mr. John Haynes		John Good	6d
Rector of the said Parish	10s	Thomas Frampton	1d
Mr. Francis Bennett	5s	Philip Dawe	3d
Mr. John Channing	1s	John Ludley	2d
Mr. Richard Channing his son	6d	Richard Bishop of Metford	6d
Mrs. Christian Channing		Mrs. Briant	1s
his daughter	6d	Mrs. Stiles	6d
Grace Elby	2d	William Hayter	3d
Henry Townsend	1d	Mr. George Bishop	1s
Jasper Rogers	6d	Mr. Henry Bishop	1s
Mrs. Palmer	6d	Mrs. Jane Bishop	6d
Mrs. Cheek	6d	Robert Forse	6d
Mrs. Stone	6d	William Goar	6d
William Squib	2d		

The severall sums above written amount in the whole to one pound six shillings and two pence

Jo: Haynes Rector
George Bishop
Robert Deannish
Churchwardens

The Protestant Rhenish Palatinate, the capital of which was Heidelberg, suffered greatly at the hands of the French in the last years of the seventeenth century when the country was devastated. It is interesting to note that the first German immigrants to America made their way to the New World as a result of their traumatic experiences at that time.

The following notes on some of those in the above list may be of interest. Cattistock was a large parish and those who

contributed would have been but a small number of the inhabitants. No member of either of the two principal families are here included; these were the Strodes of Chantmarle and the Strodes of South Chalmington; they were not related, the former being of an ancient Dorset family while the latter were comparatively new arrivals from Devon.

John Haynes: he had been instituted as rector in 1699.

Francis Bennett: a prominent local attorney who lived at Merrfield.

John Channing: in his will dated in the year 1716 he is described as gentleman and names his son Richard his executor.

Christian Channing: daughter of the above and referred to in her father's will as 'daughter Cozens', her husband being Arthur Cozens. Although unmarried in 1709 she is given the title *Mistress* in view of her social standing: *Miss*, for an unmarried lady, was not in general use until the early nineteenth century.

Grace Elby: this lady died in 1747 at the age of 104.

Jasper Rogers: a member of probably the oldest family in Cattistock, it having had a continuity in the parish from the early sixteenth century; in his will of 1710 he is described as husbandman.

Mrs. Cheek: Margery Cheek was the widow of the former rector, Michael Cheek, who had died in 1698.

Philip Dawe: described as yeoman in a long drawn-out Chancery Suit (1695-1714), *Mayo v Angel*, in which he was a witness, was the tenant of a 30-acre farm known as Tytherlys.

Richard Bishop of Metford was a member of one of the most prominent Cattistock families being descended from William Bishop who had bought most of the Holway Manor estate early in the last century; their arms were *Argent, on a bend cotised gules, 3 bezants*. In his will, dated 12 Apr. 1772 he desires the rector to have his family headstone removed and set up in the chancel he being the last of his family of Metford; he died the same year. The last of the Bishops to be connected with the parish seems to have been a William Bishop who sold his Holway property to Thomas Pope in 1782; he died in London in 1790.

George Bishop: of North Chalmington which his father had acquired on marriage to Grace, daughter and coheiress of George Dawe of that place.

Henry Bishop: son of Richard Bishop of Holway he is described in the pedigree as of Sydling St. Nicholas but he was buried at Cattistock, 1719.

* The Great Fire of London raged from 2-6 September, 1666.

W. E. Tate, *The Parish Chest*, 1969.

C. N. Cullingford, *A History of Dorset*, Phillimore, 1980.

J. Hutchins, *History & Antiquities of the County of Dorset*, 3rd ed. 1870.

P. N. DAWE

365. VARIETIES OF MEN: CONTRASTS AMONG THE DORSET CLERGY DURING THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY. The clergy constituted a most important element in the society of the rural communities of Dorset during the seventeenth century, but they were far from being a homogeneous group. A few of them possessed substantial wealth and were obviously to be included in the ranks of the gentry. For example, Richard Russell, who was lord of the manor of West Stafford, was also the rector there, and in 1640 rebuilt the parish church which now contains his memorial.¹ Gilbert Ironside possessed considerable estates at Long Bredy where his father had been incumbent, and at Hincknoll and Bexington. He himself became rector of the neighbouring parishes of Winterbourne Steepleton and Winterbourne Abbas. During the Commonwealth his lands were sequestered and he was badly treated, but they were restored at the Restoration. In January 1661 he was created Bishop of Bristol; this was the poorest paid of all bishoprics, and a contemporary noted that '... being wealthy, he was looked upon as the fittest person to enter upon that mean bishopric'.² John Stroud, the rector of Beer Hackett, also had a large fortune, and during the Civil War was plundered of 'five hundred pounds in money besides an incredible quantity of Plate and Jewels'.³ Dr. Gerard Wood, the vicar of Child Okeford, had a substantial estate there, and as well as being Archdeacon of Wells he was also a very active justice of the peace in Dorset. In 1651 he married Grace Strangways of Melbury.⁴ A few of the clergy were scholars of distinction, notably Thomas Fuller, who was the incumbent of Broad Windsor from 1634-1641; and the poet Thomas Bastard, who was vicar of Bere Regis from 1592 until his death in 1618. Bastard had come originally from Blandford; he had been a Fellow of New College, Oxford, until his bitter satires caused so much resentment that he was forced to leave and take the poorly-paid living of Bere Regis. There his book of verse, *Christoleros*, was published in 1598 and dedicated to Lord Mountjoy, who was then engaged on his ultimately unsuccessful search for alum in the manor of Canford. In 1615 Bastard published a volume of sermons dedicated to the Earl of Suffolk, who owned Lulworth Castle and the surrounding area, but he obviously failed to attract much patronage, for throughout his years at Bere Regis, he was plagued by poverty,

and finally, in 1617, was imprisoned for debt at Dorchester, where he died in 1618. His probate inventory records a total wealth of only £16 ls. 5d., which included '133 books in his closet' valued at £7 17s. 7d.⁵

There were several Puritans among the Dorset clergy during the early-seventeenth century. At Bloxworth in 1606 the vicar, Robert Welstead, was reported to the Dean of Salisbury by the churchwardens for his refusal to wear a gown and surplice, as laid down by canon law, and for not making the sign of the cross during the baptism service. Likewise, at Beaminster in 1634 the curate, Mr. Spratt, was reported for refusing to bow at the name of Jesus, and for his long sermons,

'Mr Spratt normally preaches every Sunday for at least an hour and a quarter if not more, as well as catechising the youth of the parish, so that people are often kept at church till 5 o'clock'.

Mr. Spratt also told his congregation that they need not follow the King's instructions about games and recreations on the Sabbath day, but that they should follow their own consciences.

At Lyme Regis in 1616, the minister was reported for not wearing a surplice and for omitting some parts of the services; while in 1613, the vicar of Halstock told his congregation that

'... it were better to eate or drinke before we come to the communion than to think of our breakfast at home. And that it made no matter whether we received it sitting, standing or kneeling, but that in his opinion it might best be done sitting'.⁶

Perhaps the most notable of all the Dorset clergy during the seventeenth century was John White, rector of Holy Trinity, Dorchester, from 1605-1648. His influence extended far beyond the town, and his powerful preaching and great piety led Thomas Fuller to write of him, in a memorable phrase, '... he stains all other men's lives with the clearness of his own'. It was in no small measure due to John White's zealous endeavours that Dorchester became so strongly Puritan and parliamentary during the Civil War, and was later described by Clarendon as 'the magazine from whence the other places were supplied with the principles of Rebellion'. John White was also much concerned with attempts to found a colony in the New World where men might find the religious liberty which was denied them in England.⁷

But men such as John White were far from being typical of the Dorset clergy show that there was little to distinguish them from the working farmers amongst whom they lived. Some clearly felt that it was important to keep up appearances, for a dispute over the will of one clergyman, Thomas Martin vicar of

Broadwey in 1638, led to the interesting admission by his executors that although they had entered his clothing as worth £5, which was much above its true value, 'which apparell was soe highly valewed for the creditt of the said deceased'.⁸ A few of the clergy were notable for the books they possessed, for example, Thomas French of Haydon who died in March 1635, had a total wealth of £52 5s. 0d. including books valued at £10; or John Clark, vicar of Nether Compton, who died in June 1633 worth £118 19s. 2d. and whose wealth was mostly in his farming stock, also had books to the value of £5. More typical, however, was Richard Giles, parson of the small parish of Stockwood with its tiny church, who died in June 1632. His total wealth of £84 4s. 0d. included cows, sheep, pigs and a horse, and he had no books at all, but only 'a box for lettering' worth 4s 0d. The only item in his inventory which would indicate his calling was the sum of 10s. 0d. owing to him 'for tithes'. Many other probate inventories of the clergy show a similar, apparently complete involvement in agriculture. In view of this, it is curious that the churchwardens of Halstock apparently objected to the farm work done by their incumbent, for they complained to the Dean of Salisbury in 1613 that '... our Minister goeth not decently in his apparell (and) that he hath used bodily labour not becoming to his calling'.⁹ For many of the Dorset clergy 'bodily labour' on their glebe land must have been a normal part of their lives.

In view of the isolation of the clergy and the fact that there was no provision for retirement, either for old age or ill-health, it is hardly surprising that some of the clergy were misfits. The vicar of Alton Pancras went off to Cheselbourne on Sundays to play football, and the incumbent of Upwey frequented alehouses and was 'many times so drunk that he had to be carried home and could not read divine service on the sabboth day in the morning as he should'.¹⁰ William Locke, the rector of Askerswell from 1674-1686, dabbled in astrology and copied the horoscopes of his two children into the parish register.¹¹

Several of the clergy were non-resident. At Frome Whitfield in 1606 it was reported that the parson, Henry James, had been absent for six years, that there had been no services during that time, and the church was filled with hay and corn 'and it is so far in decay that it is like to fall down'.¹² Similarly, at Ryme Intrinseca in 1631, the rector had been absent for the previous three years and was employed as household chaplain by the Earl of Peterborough. At Winterborne Anderson in 1608 the minister, John Moore, was not resident because he had been imprisoned for debt. The behaviour of Richard Luce, vicar of

Chardstock during the 1660s, became notorious, and he was, several times, convicted of drunkenness and brawling. It was alleged that

'He is accompted, reputed and taken to be very much given to drunkenness, and a frequent haunter of Alehouses, a very frequent curser and swearer and a blasphemmer of God's name, a stirrer up of discord among his neighbours ... and would commonly quarrel, brawle, and fight with those he had been drinkinge withall'.

Luce was frequently absent from the parish, and had been heard to say that those who exercised jurisdiction for the Dean of Salisbury were a pack of knaves and rogues.¹³

Many of the clergy, however, provided an important leadership in their communities. For example, at Piddlehinton the struggle of the tenants against the consolidation and enclosure of the demesne lands of the manor was led by the vicar, Thomas Browne, who acted as the tenants' spokesman. He died in 1617 and his charming brass memorial in Piddlehinton church shows him with gown and tall hat, carrying a book and a staff.¹⁴ At Gillingham, the two brothers, John and Thomas Jessup, provided a powerful leadership of the community during the early-seventeenth century, the one as parish priest and the other as a physician. Both are buried in the chancel of the parish church, under two recumbent effigies, showing them side by side and hand in hand. Many of the clergy also provided leadership during the difficult time of the Civil War, and it was the clergy who provided the direction for the Dorset Clubmen, notably Thomas Bravell, the incumbent of Compton Abbas; Dr. Henry Gooch, rector of Pulham; Richard Hooke, rector of Chettle; Edward Williams, rector of St. Peter's and Holy Trinity, Shaftesbury, and several others.¹⁵ Some of the clergy also practised as physicians among their flocks, for example, Bartholomew Westley of Allington, an ancestor of the Methodist founder, had a considerable reputation as a doctor and was described in 1658 as 'clerke and Phisicion'. Abraham Forrester, the rector of Folke, was described by his churchwarden in 1635 as 'being a great practiser of Phisicke in the opinion of the world'.¹⁶

But the most eloquent testimony to the conscientious devotion of most of the Dorset clergy is the fact that again and again, the surviving wills and probate inventories are written or witnessed by the parish clergyman, striking proof that they did visit the sick and were a help to the bereaved.

1. J. Hutchins, *History of Dorset*, 3rd. Edn. 1861-70, Vol. II, 515-516.

2. Anthony Wood, *Athenae Oxonienses*, Vol. II, 939-940.

3. *Somerset and Dorset Notes and Queries*, XIX, 208-212.

4. Dorset Record Office, Mus 239 Marriage Settlement 1651; D 124/2/1, 12 April 1650 Letters and Papers of Sir John Strangways; Quarter Sessions Order Book 1625-1637.

5. Wood, *Athenae Oxonienses*, II, 227; Hutchins, I, 229-230.
6. Wiltshire Record Office, Churchwardens' Presentments for the Dean's Peculiars.
7. F. Rose-Troup, *John White, the Patriarch of Dorchester and the Founder of Massachusetts*, 1930; *SDNQ*, XVII, 107-111; XIX, 73-8.
8. Public Record Office, REQ 2/Chas I, Bundle 82/8.
9. WRO, Wills and Inventories for the Dean's Peculiars. Salisbury Diocesan Record Office, Churchwardens' Presentments for the Dean's Peculiars.
10. *Ibid.*
11. DRO, Askerswell RE1/98; 113.
12. WRO, Churchwardens' Presentments and Ecclesiastical Court Depositions for the Dean's Peculiars. In 1609, Frome Whitfield was formally annexed to Holy Trinity, Dorchester, by Act of Parliament.
13. *Ibid.*
14. Eton College Records, 2/360 A; 2/580; DRO, Photocopy 195.
15. *SDNQ*, VIII, 347-49.
16. PRO, C 21/R51/21.

J. H. BETTEY

366. CAMPAIGNING IN DORSET IN 1761. When the general election of 1761 came to be held there had not been a contest for the Dorset county seat since 1727. That election was also uncontested. The Tucker papers in the Bodleian Library in Oxford contain an interesting anonymous account of an electoral meeting held that year. It provides a guide to the content and nature of county politics in this period. The MPs elected were George Pitt, who had sat for the seat since 1747, and Humphry Sturt, who had sat since 1754. The full archival reference is Ms Don b 20 folios 1-2. The document begins 'Tuesday 13th January 1761 at the Crown in Blandford appeared the following Gentlemen.' It is then followed by a long list of names and then by the following,

After Dinner Silence was desired when Mr. Thomas Pitt stood up, and said — It might be deemed Presumption in him who was so little known in the County to stand up with design to open the Occasion of the present Meeting — he lamented his not being acquainted with the Gentlemen of the County, and wished some other Gentlemen of which there were many in Company of more Consequence and ability would have taken the task upon them, but he understood they declined it tho' solicited to it, and therefore as he could not refuse the Gentlemen his good offices he had taken the Presumption upon him of speaking to the Company, and indeed when other Gentlemen had declined he was the readier to engage in it as he considered the great merit and established characters whom he should take the liberty of proposing for future representatives did not acquire any weight from the consequence of the speaker, and as we were all well apprized of the great worth and deserts of our present representatives, he had no doubt but the proposal which he intended to make of putting them in Nomination for Representing the County in the ensuing Parliament would meet with the Unanimous concurrence of this Company and the County in General. His great Diffidence and Modesty in presuming to open the occasion of this Meeting was repeated as every Body Imagined a little too often, no less than 3 times and he fell very short of Peoples

Expectations in the manner of delivering this short speech for a man of his standing in life, who had seen so much of the world, and who was long a Senator, and once esteemed a man of some consequence in Parliament. [f2] The moment he concluded Mr. George Pitt stood up and said he wanted words to express his great gratitude for the honour the County had done him in chusing him their Representative in the present Parliament, that he hoped he had discharged the Trust faithfully and that in case he should be so happy to be re-Elected he would Endeavour to do the same to the best of his Ability — Or something like this — it was not longer and was spoke very quick as if the mind was in want to be deliver'd —

Then Mr. Sturt in seeming Confusion said something of his having had the honour too of representing the County for which he esteemed himself greatly obliged and honoured — that he hoped he had done his duty, and if he should have the Honour of serving 'em again that he intended something which I could not hear or distinguish, but there was the word Independency uttered and by that time he seemed to be at a loss, and so in short made a very humble Bow, as if he would implore the Company's Understanding that he meant something very handsome and obliging and so sate down — some waggas at t'other end of the table said Mr. Banks twitched him by the coat and brought him to his chair.

He was however so much vexed with himself that I believe he took some pains to express it to severall of the Company, for among others he did it to me, on my going to him and giving him Joy on the Success of the Meeting. As soon as the Two Knights had done, the renowned Captain Barber stood up and in a very Laconic Oration tho' not the best English affected to mean about saying something higher in praise of the two worthy Candidates than the Opener of the meeting had done but some how or other he forgot it — however he pleased the Company mighty well by coming to the Conclusion very soon with a proposition of every Gentlemans filling a Bumper who approved the proposal and to drink it off to the Health and peaceable Election of the two present Knights in the Ensuing Parliament which being done and a Huzza also at his Motion he said he would now venture to pronounce the Gentlemen really nominated in the words of the House of Commons *Nem: Com:* using the two monosyllables only.

I dont recollect any Toasts worth noting beside

The Lord Lieutenant

May the Unanimity of the County never be Interrupted

A Speedy Safe and honourable Peace

And the National Pilot proposed by Captain Barber which from the laugh which it occasion from several gentlemen I concluded meant Countrey Matters — but the Captain after a little Pause said he supposed it was to any of this Company quite unnecessary to explain this toast to be Mr. Secretary Pitt.

JEREMY BLACK

367. THE COST OF AN EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY ELECTION. Material in the Tucker papers in the Bodleian Library in Oxford provides information on the cost of the uncontested 1761 election for Weymouth and Melcombe Regis. The constituency was controlled by three interests, the government, through the customs and the Crown quarries at Portland, the Tucker family and George Bubb Dodington. The agreement reached between these interests in 1744 ensured uncontested

elections for over half a century. Nevertheless, electors, in this case the freeholders, a body of about 300, still expected the customary electoral treats and the anonymous note addressed to John Tucker and preserved in Ms Don b 20 f5 reveals the cost of the 1761 election. It is clear that the local arrangements were handled by 'R.T.', John Tucker's brother Richard who was for many years the Mayor. The four members returned in 1761 were Sir Francis Dashwood, Richard Glover, John Olmius, who had sat for the seat in 1737-41, and John Tucker, who had sat for it in 1735-47, and again since 1754. The note is undated but presumably written after 6 April 1761. Though the election was held on 28 March, Dodington was not advanced to the peerage as Lord Melcombe until 6 April. The reference to a French prison is explained by the fact that Britain and France were then at war, the Seven Years' War (1756-63).

To Sundry Charges paid by R T on the Election of Sr J Dashwood and Messrs Tucker Olmius and Glover in March 1761.

To Ten Publick house bills	£295	12
To thirteen other keepers of publick houses where no Entertainments were ordered	18	18
To the Sheriff, his Bailiff, the Town Clerk and his assistant	69	6
To the Chairmen Sergeants Constables and Musicians	37	16
	£421	12
Of this one fourth for Mr. Olmius is to this must be added for Sr T. Dashwood and Mr. Glover —	105	8
Money given to a parcel of English Sailors by their order just landed out of a Cartell from a French Prison	£2	8
and to a number of poor people at the Gentlemen going off beside money left by Ld Melcombe	£1	1
Subscription to the Map of Dorsetshire the first payment for these two Gentlemen 10/6 each	1	1
	4	10
One half whereof to Each is	2	5
	107	13
They have each paid in part	100	
	7	13
remainder due from each and from Mr. Olmius	105	8

In 1762 Dashwood was appointed Chancellor of the Exchequer and, having thus accepted a place, had to seek re-election. This was uncontested and finished on 9 June. The bill for this is included in the volume above mentioned at folio 11. It reveals that Dashwood paid a total of £285 12 shillings, including £201 19 shillings and six pence for entertainments and 14 shillings 14 pence to other alehouse keepers. These costs were considerable and clearly the borough expected to be treated for the privilege of uncontested elections.

JEREMY BLACK

368. PERAMBULATION OF THE MANOR OF RODNEY STOKE, 1780. In his article, 'Somerset Forest Bounds' (*Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, 37, pp. 76-91, hereafter Hobhouse, 1891), Bishop Hobhouse included the bounds on Mendip of the Bishop's Royalty, which he had found entered in a notebook entitled 'Customs of Copyholders of the Manor of Westbury' (SRO. D/D/B misc.). One of the boundary points was described as 'Horlars Bridge' and a footnote added 'Rodney Stoke perambulation comes to the same bridge in Priddy Marsh and they call it Horn Bridge...'. This document is undated, but another copy (SRO. DD/CC 12357) is in the name of Peter Mews, who was Bishop 1673 to 1684. In this the same boundary mark is called 'Horlars Bridge', but it does not have the footnote. Neither Hobhouse, 1891, nor J. W. Gough (*The Mines of Mendip*, hereafter Gough, 1930), who reprinted the same bounds, were able to throw any light on the Rodney Stoke perambulation and no copies from that period appear to have survived.

In his 'Somerset Barrows, Part II; North and East' (*Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, 115, Supplement, pp. 44-137, hereafter Grinsell, 1971), Leslie Grinsell draws attention to the frequent use of barrows as boundary markers and, when seeking further information on this theme ('Perambulations of the Bounds of Mendip Parishes', *SDNQ*, XXIX, 212, hereafter Grinsell, 1972), among several known Mendip perambulations he listed one for Rodney Stoke in 1780. A copy, said to have been in the church chest in 1949, had apparently been made by the rector, T. A. Salmon, in 1810 from another copy written and signed by a John Taylor in 1788. This is not now in the parish records at Rodney Stoke, nor held at SRO, nor can it be traced elsewhere.

Fortunately, Mr. Eric Dudden of Butts Farm, Rodney Stoke, a serving churchwarden, has a notebook in which his late father, Stanley Theodore Dudden (1896-1952), had made a

longhand transcription of the 1810 document not long before his death (the next entry, the last in his book, is a list of inhabitants of Rodney Stoke in 1952).

Mr. Dudden's copy of the perambulation is printed in full below as it stands, with the exception of the possessive apostrophe: in the original this is placed after (or occasionally over) the final 's', but in the transcript this has been adjusted to suit the probability of the surname (thus, Sage's, *not* Sages'). The accompanying map of the manor names the main features and has a series of numbers (1-27) on the perimeter which coincide with the numbers of the comments, which follow the text. In these comments extracts from the Rodney Stoke perambulation are in italics and those from other documents in single quotes and the following abbreviations are used: bnds — bounds or perambulation; bdry — boundary; EM — Enclosure map; ph — parish; TM — Tithe map.

Perambulation of (the Manor of) Rodney Stoke. 1780. The Hill Bounds as follows and the Moor.

From the Stone in Millway¹ up John Weekes' Etcom to the corner of late Sage's Etcom² and so round the East side of Joseph Card's Paddock (now William Lane's) and so across the King's Highway and into John Weekes' Cleaves, after the Rocks into Court's Cleaves now John Taylors, so to a high Rock called Pemble Cross,³ — and from thence round the East sides of Gripes and the head of Gantlets Combe and to the West corner of the late Lady Stowell's Broad Oaks called Hounds Range — and from thence up after the Ditch to late Hole's Sherd in the Middle-way — and from thence up after the Ditch to Briance Wall to the North corner of late Spearing's Balls Grove — and so over into Ball's Grove after the Ditch till you are very near the East Corner of Ball's Grove — then over the Wall into Briance to a Ditch and Meer where formerly was a Hedge etc — and so up after the said Ditch to Briance Wall against the Hill — and over the Wall to a High Stone set up by West of the Beacon called Steeple Church⁴ — then turn North to a stone called Bottom Stone⁵ — then turn East to a Batch of Earth with a Stone on the top called Stony Man⁶ — From thence Eastwards to a Stone by a Pit near the Road (called Kingsway) called Cow-Pit Stone⁷ — and from thence North-East to a Stone by the wayside called Old Lime Kiln⁸ — From thence Eastwards after the Way to the end of Ashen Lane, and up the Middle of the said Lane (the North half of the said lane belongs to the Royalty)⁹ — then to Hockerstone by late Benjamin Weeks' Garden Wall¹⁰ — From thence turn East after the way down to Priddy Marsh and over the Bridge (called the Burge)¹¹ — and so go all up the West side of the Causeway to the upper Bridge with a Hole in it called Horn Bridge¹² — Then turn North West to the corner of the Ground called Sherbourne's where there used to be a Stile called ? stile — and so up North West by the Ground called Long Mead to Robarrow Batch¹³ — and from Robarrow Batch straight North to Stobarrow Batch — on the top there is a Stone which is our Boundary.¹⁴ — Then turn down after the Wall of Tinnings South West all along under the wall to the South Corner of the Tinnings in Priddy Bottom — and near the corner of Tinnings Wall is a Stone called The Houlting Stone, where they used to Bath all the old men — ¹⁵

From thence turn west all along the Way called Harptree Way to the South side of Whitsendean¹⁶ — Then turn South to a Bank where formerly there seemed to be a Ditch all athwart Wichett's Combe Bottom to a Batch with Stones on it on the

South side of the Bottom called Jack Williams' Bush.¹⁷ – From there South West to the Kings Way¹⁸ – then turn West after the Way to the Way that goeth into Back Pit where is a Stone called Cops Cross,¹⁹ then still after the Way called Kings Way to Five Stones called Five Dogs' Heads – (take notice these Stones called Cops Cross and Five Dogs' Heads are on the North and North East sides of Kings Way).²⁰

Then turn South West to a stone called Clotting Stone²¹ – from thence to another large Stone called Elder Cross, where formerly there grew an Elder Bush²² – then turn straight West to the three Several Stones one after another called Houghting Stones²³ – from thence to a Way or Gust in the ground²⁴ to late Simon Tutton's Wall or Skuttle Hole which is our Boundary of Rodney Stoke. – Then from the said Scuttle-hole and Wall down by the side of Batcom Grounds to the lower way that goes to Cheddar²⁵ – thence down to the North Corner of Draycott Moor – so down after the Ditch to Nyland – and so all along by Nyland Grounds to the West corner of Draycott Moor – then turn after the Ditch to the South corner of Draycott Moor – From thence over the Brook – and so after the Lane or Drove by Widsham's to Stoke Moor – and so down by Widsham's to the River Ax at Stoke Moor Clise.²⁶ – Then up after the said River to the West corner of Westbury-Moor. – From thence up after the Lake to the North Corner of Westbury-Moor which is our Manor. – From thence up after a small water-course between Mr. Lane's Rusham and Phillip Collins Ron-Moor²⁷ – then over into John Weeks' Sturts up the East side – and into Barrows-Wood, John Weeks's up after the East side – Then into Yetmeads belonging to the Farm, and so after the East side of that – Then into Mr. Clark's Paddock by the East Furlongs, and up after the Paddock till you come to the Lower end of Langlans – turn after the lower-ends of the Langlans to the West corner of Great Yetmeads (now Mr. Spencer's) – and so up after the Ditch straight to the South corner of a Plot of Ground of John Taylors called Butts – so up after the Ditch by Rowell into a piece of Ground call Newtinnings – so up after the East side to the East corner – then into a piece of Ground called Millway-Field – then turn directly after the lower end of Millway Filds and up after the West side about 14 or 15 feet from the Hedge and so to the Bound-Stone set in Millway where the Hill-Bounds begun –

The above was taken from a Copy in the hand writing of the late Mr. John Taylor of Rodney Stoke (lent me by his son the present Mr. James Taylor, for that purpose) and signed by him in the year 1788. — T A Salmon Jan 1810

(Footnote by S. T. Dudden)

The copy just made above is taken from the copy mentioned by Mr Salmon (who was rector) and was lodged in the Iron Safe in the church I have spelt everything as in the original thus there is one or two errors, one in particular there are 2 spellings of Skuttle Hole, "Skuttle and Scuttle".

Commentary

1. The *Stone in Millway* is also mentioned in an account of Westbury Hill bnds, 23 May 1723. (SRO. D/P/wby 4/1/1). Although the stone has not been found it must have been at ST 48604980, which was on the ph bdry until this was moved a little way to the E. in 1986.
2. *Etcom* is a field called 'Edcom' on the Rodney Stoke TM, which also contains several other field names mentioned in this section of the bnds. *Kingsway* is the former main road through the village which is now only a back lane at this point.
3. The *High Rock* called *Pemble Cross* does not appear in the Westbury bnds and no other local reference to it can be traced, but it is probably a prominent column of rock at the highest point in a cliff at ST 49045010.

4. The *High Stone set up by the West of the Beacon* is extant in the enclosure wall at ST 49995077. It is a pointed, waterworn stone of local limestone standing 1.2m. above ground level and is aptly named *Steeple Church*. This is the 'stone to the West of Westbury Beacon above Stoke Woods' which terminates the Bishop's bnds and it is similarly described in the Westbury bnds, which call it 'a Stoneyman'.
5. *Bottom Stone* is also mentioned in the Westbury bnds and is marked on a sale map of Chandos estates auctioned at Wells in 1858 (SRO. DD/X/WIAM 2). This point is at an enclosure wall junction at ST 50075101. The stone has not been found, but could be buried in the wall.
6. A *Batch of Earth* is here and elsewhere in the bnds a description of a round barrow; this is the one recorded by Grinsell (1971) as Rodney Stoke 11 at ST 50405118. The *Stone on the top called Stony Man* could be one of the several stones that are exposed on the barrow. It was called 'Stoneyman' in the Westbury bnds and is named on the Rodney Stoke, Cheddar and Priddy EM of 1821 (SRO. Q/RDe 33). It was the bdry mark called 'Stoney Hill' in the Bishop's bnds.
7. *Cow-Pit* is marked on an estate map attached to a lease dated 1790 concerning the private inclosure of waste lands (Wilts. R.O. 332/227). This is the present day ph bdry junction of Rodney Stoke, Westbury and Priddy at ST 50845123 which appears to have been established by the Westbury Enclosure of 1788. The pit is a large surface depression, but the stone has not been found. The Rodney Stoke bnds leave the present ph bdry at this point and go straight on via the *Kingsway*, which is now the route followed by the West Mendip Way towards Priddy village.
8. The *Stone by the wayside called Old Lime Kiln* corresponds with 'a stone called Long Man' of the Bishop's bnds. This point was called 'Shellstone' in the Westbury bnds and is marked on the above Wilts. estate map (1790) as being at ST 51405135, which is at a slight bend in the present day Coxton Lane End. There are still the sites of a number of lime kilns in this area and an adjoining field is called 'Shellstones' on the Priddy TM. Close by is a stile formed by a slab of dolomitic conglomerate which could have originally been the bound stone.
9. *Ashen Lane* is shown on the above 1790 map and is known today as 'Ashton Drove'. It is significant that the Westbury bnds clearly came as far as the western end of 'Ashen Lane' indicating that in 1723 this ph was claiming all of the waste lands up to the early inclosures of Priddy.
10. *Hockerstone by late Benjamin Weeks garden wall* has not been found, but it must have been at the eastern end of Ashton Drove where there is a cottage which was occupied by a Thomas Weeks at the time of the EM (1821). The Bishop's bnds mention 'a stone in Ashen Lane' and there were several fields in this area called 'Hockerstones' on the Priddy TM. This place name was perpetuated in Hockerstones Farm at Townsend (recently renamed the Mendip Heights Camping Centre).
11. The Rodney Stoke bnds continue down a narrow overgrown lane to *Priddy Marsh*, now called Priddy Pool, at ST 52855170 and here the *Bridge (called the Burge)* is located. The field opposite is called 'Burgess Paddock' on the Priddy TM.
12. *Horn Bridge* is 'Horlars' otherwise 'Horlars Bridge' of the Bishop's bnds, which leave the Rodney Stoke bnds at this point to follow the Chewton Mendip ph bdry along Nine Barrows Lane. This is the *Causeway* which is called 'Burgess Lane' in the Bishop's bnds. The Chewton Mendip perambulation of 1760, published by W. R. Curtis (*Somerset Year Book for 1930*, 82), joins from the opposite direction as follows: 'to Burgess House to a little Bridge within the gate'. A bdry stone marked 'Chewton Mendip ph' is extant at ST 53025178, which is next to a gate near a farm building (formerly two cottages). There are a number of small streams in this area which flow towards Swildons Hole; the old bridges have been replaced by modern culverting.
13. *Sherbournes* is a field named on the Priddy TM and here the Chewton Mendip ph bdry leaves. The former West Harptree ph bdry, which used to come to this point, was incorporated in the bnds of the Liberty and Royalty of the Manor of East Harptree, 10 June 1768 (SRO. DD/WG 14/3), which records 'to Plummers (Farm) Backside to a meerstone there' (*not found*) and then on to 'Rowburrow', which is called 'Roughbarrow' on the EM (1821). This is *Robarrow* otherwise Rowbarrow recorded by Grinsell (1971) as Priddy 8 at ST 52255234. Presumably, one of the past copyists was unable to read the name of the stile.

14. The next point, *Stobarrow*, is one of the largest round barrows on Mendip and is recorded by Grinsell (1971) as West Harptree 12 at ST 52075353. The East Harptree bnds, which leave at this point, record 'to Stow Burrow where we distributed Cackes and Ale'. There is a partly buried rough stone on top of the barrow which might be that recorded in the Rodney Stoke bnds. This was the focal point of many early bnds, including those of the Witham Carthusians, c.1181, examined by Gough ('The Witham Carthusians on Mendip', *Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, 74, pp. 97-101) and of the Royal Forest, 1215 to 1300, discussed by Hobhouse (1891) and Gough ('Mendip Mining Laws and Forest Bounds', *Som. Rec. Soc.*, 45).
15. *Priddy Bottom* is the Cheddar Head valley and here at ST 50575257 the former Charterhouse ph bdry leaves and the Cheddar ph bnds, 1620 to 1752 (SRO. DD/X/RBN), join at an unnamed stone (*not found*). This could be the *Houling Stone* and also possibly 'petram perforatam', meaning a stone with a hole, of the Carthusian bnds. Gough (1931, pp. 175-6) discusses a point in the Forest bnds which must have in this vicinity. It is variously described, but in 1215 it was said to be 'the great rock which stands in the division between the monks of Charterhouse and the manor of Stok Whitang' (an old name for Rodney Stoke).

It was at this stone *where they used to Bath all the old men*. The ph bdry does cross a modern pool here, so there has probably always been enough surface water for elderly perambulators to bathe, but Brian Hack of Compton Bishop (*pers. comm.*) suggests that the *old men* could have been standing stones. He had located 16 stones of varying sizes in this area (he has found 6 more since) and he thinks that these might be the scattered remains of a stone circle ('Sixteen Stones above Cheddar Head', *Search* (Journ. Banwell Soc. Arch.) 21, 1986). He cites E. K. Tratman ('The Lost Stone Circles of N. Somerset', *Proc. Univ. Bristol Spelaeol. Soc.*, 8(2), 110, 1956) on the tradition of a lost stone circle on Mendip and also A. Burl (*Stone Circles of the British Isles*, 1976) on the association of water with stone circles and the custom of washing ritual stones which is well documented at many sites in Britain. For *Houling* see also note 21 below.

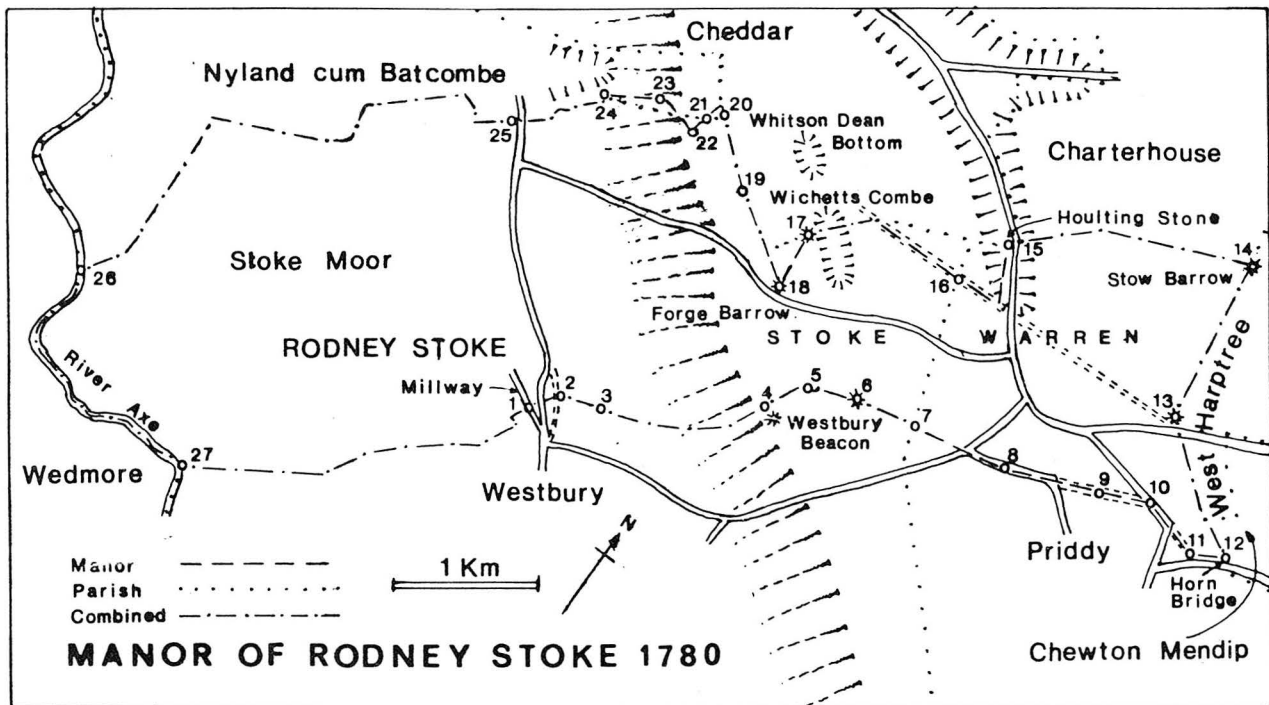
16. The Forest bnds follow the Cheddar ph bdry, which climbs steeply to Suncliff, where it joins the present day Rodney Stoke ph bdry. The Rodney Stoke bnds do not mention this point and seem to take an easier route out of the valley a little way to the south using *Harptree Way*. This could be the track shown on Day and Masters map of Somerset (1782) to cross the valley from the direction of Plummers Lane to head towards the top of Batcombe Hollow. *Whitsendean* is probably high ground near Bristol Plain Farm; a 'Whitson Dean Bottom' being mentioned in the Nyland cum Batcombe bnds, c.1787-9, (SRO. DD/PO 44) and Vince Russett (*pers. comm.*) thinks that this is a closed valley.
17. Rodney Stoke bnds then seem to fall in with the present ph bdry to cross *Wichetts' Combe Bottom*, which is a valley called 'Wickles Coome' in the Cheddar bnds. On the S. side of the valley the bdry comes to a barrow at ST 49515190, which is described in the Cheddar bnds. This is the *Batch* called *Jack Williams' Bush*, which is also mentioned in the Nyland bnds.
18. The Rodney Stoke bnds then turn *South West to the Kingsway*, which is a deviation from the modern boundary, but is also the route taken by the Cheddar bnds to a point called 'Forge'. This old bdry point is confirmed by the Verry map of Cheddar, 1788 (Longleat Library) and is called 'Smiths Forge' in the Nyland bnds. This is in a field called 'Forge Barrow' on the Chandos sale map (1858) and is the round barrow recorded by Grinsell (1971) as Rodney Stoke 1 at ST 49605144. An investigation of this place name by Russett clearly shows that this is the site of the 'the gallows of the Liberty of Cheddar' mentioned in the Forest bnds (in 'Somerset Archaeology, 1986', *Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, 130, 155).
19. After turning west the bnds soon rejoin the modern bdry and follow the *Kings Way*, a route of some antiquity running parallel with the brow of the hill. The Cheddar and Nyland bnds both mention a stone at *Cops Cross* but not *the Way that goeth into Back Pit*. This could be a track which leads to an old quarry in the valley at ST 49365247, and the Nyland bnds mention 'bag pitts' which could be the same place.
20. The Cheddar bnds leave at this point, which they also call *Five Dogs' Heads*. It is marked on the EM (1821) at the wall junction ST 48555219. The Rodney Stoke bnds show that there were 5 separate stones here, but none have been found. This was the

place where the former Nyland cum Batcombe ph bdry joined and was probably the 'Hedestone' of Abbot Bere's bnds of the Glaston Twelve Hides (1503-10) which have been fully examined by S. C. Morland (*Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, 128, 1985).

21. The enclosure wall on the east side of Batcombe Hollow straightened the original bdry which is marked on a Nyland cum Batcombe Manor map, 1813 (SRO. DD/PO 79) and on the EM (1821). The original bdry comes from the wall at the top of Batcombe Hollow at ST 48505225, to join the E. wall at ST 48395209, which is the point named *Clotting Stone* (not found).
22. A shallow ditch or holloway on the E. side of the wall marks the course of the old bdry to a rocky outcrop at ST 48315193. This point is called 'Alder Cross' on the manor map and 'Alder Bush' on the EM, which are similar to the names used in the Rodney Stoke bnds. It is described as 'some large stones called Alder Bush' in the Nyland bnds.
23. The ditch or holloway, which is quite shallow here, recrosses the wall into Batcombe Hollow and comes to three large freestanding rocks extant in the area of ST 48055190. These are the *Houghting Stones* of the Rodney Stoke bnds, which are called 'Leaping Stones' on the Manor map, but only the lower stone, called 'Houting Stone' is marked on the EM. They are called 'Howting Stones' in the Nyland bnds. There is a similarity with *Houlting Stone* (Note 15), and Vince Russett (*pers. comm.*) suggests that these could all be derived from 'outgang' or 'outing', meaning a place where cattle came up from inclosed lands onto the hill commons.
24. In this area *the way or gult in the ground* is very distinct, being 16 feet wide and 4 feet deep, which does suggest a holloway rather than a ditch. It was called a 'furrow' in the Nyland bnds. This could possibly be the 'Voxweye' (1279), otherwise 'le Foxeway' (1300) of the Forest bnds, which could add weight to the suggestion by Gough (1931, p.177) that Batcombe could have been within the Forest and that Nyland was excluded.
25. *Skuttle Hole* otherwise *Scuttle-hole* is also marked on the Manor map and EM and is a small surface quarry at the wall junction ST 47782173. This marks the extent of the early inclosures of Batcombe Farm; the Rodney Stoke bnds then follow the ph bdry to the main Wells to Cheddar road where there is a bdry stone inscribed with a large letter 'A' at ST 47485134.
26. The bnds then appear to follow the modern Rodney Stoke ph bdry across the moor until it joins the R. Axe at *Stoke Moor Clise*, which was called 'Stokewere' in Bishop Bere's bnds and is named 'Stoke Clyse' on OS plans at ST 48804566. The bnds then follow the river and the Wedmore ph bdry.
27. The bnds leave the river at ST 47004803 where they join up with the Westbury ph bdry and follow Lake Rhine for a while. Almost all the place names which appear in the Rodney Stoke bnds hereabouts appear on the TM until the circuit is completed when it rejoins the *Bound-Stone set in Millway*. The footnotes by Rector T. A. Salmon and by Mr. S. T. Dudden are self explanatory and confirm the details given by Grinsell (1972).

The manorial holdings of Rodney Stoke on the Mendip hilltop were firmly established by the time of the Royal Forest perambulations of the 13th cent. and were not dispersed until the Chandos estates were sold in 1858. The sale plan shows that this area, previously wasteland known as Stoke Warren, was within the bounds of the 1780 perambulation and at some time in the past probably formed part of the parish of Rodney Stoke. The present author is grateful to Mr. Eric Dudden for permitting the publication of his father's copy of the bounds, which are important in the study of the complicated development of the local landscape.

R. G. J. WILLIAMS



369. A YOUNG FISHERMAN IN WWI. On the N. coast of Somerset (now Avon) not far below Wains Hill and Clevedon Pill lie the Blackstone Rocks, and about 3mls. SW of that hazard to Clevedon Pill is St. Thomas's Head jutting out from Woodspring Hill. Between the two lies a stretch of mud flats, in places half a mile wide, reaching out to the edge of the Langford Sands which run parallel to, and are about the same length as the mud flats. 1½mls. of that lonely shore, from the mouth of the R. Yeo to the mouth of the Kenn River known as Kingston Pill, is the northern boundary of Kingston Seymour, where the writer was born in 1902.

After a few days of westerly winds one could walk out over the mud flats, leaving footprints about 1" deep, for the clay was quite firm; but after a spell of calm weather with no turbulent water to stir up the sediment one had to wade through slurry often 6" deep left by the ebb tides. The outer edge of the flats, about 150 yards, sloped sharply down to where the flats joined the Langford Sands. From that riverbed, as it were, the sands sloped upwards to only a few feet below the level of the mud flats, thus forming a deep channel at half tide about 3½ cables in width, which we called the 'gut'. Here the flood and ebb tides run swiftly, keeping the seaward slope of the flats swept clean of all slurry. During high spring tides at low water the gut dried right out, enabling one to walk up and over the Langford Sands. But to wander too far was to be cut off by the quickly rising flood, with little hope of rescue in that bleak wilderness of mud and sand. Out there in the gut, unseen from the shore, I found as a boy rows of tall poles. Only the hearts and the knots had survived, still tough as leather and festooned with seaweed. These were fishing poles on which an earlier fisherman used to hang shrimp nets.

In 1917, owing to the submarine warfare and the German blockade, food was becoming scarce. I was then 15 and had been working for two years on the sea walls for my father. I persuaded him to let me try my hand at catching fish as they had done in the past. I knew an old Weston fisherman who had a fish round in Clevedon. He travelled there three days a week by the Weston, Clevedon and Portishead Light Railway, but had difficulty in obtaining fish for his round: the fishermen had been called up and the trawlers were being used for mine-sweeping. The fisherman, named Hayden and aged about 70, was happy to advise me. He would make the nets, if I would let him have everything I caught.

Even in those days nets were not usually completely knitted by hand, but were made up from netting bought from manufacturers and the netting cut to the shape required and

knitted together with the netting stitch (a sheet bend) so that the join could hardly be seen, even when knitting two different size meshes together. Mr. Hayden advised me on the quantities and mesh sizes of net required — white cotton net, mainly 3-ply. The mesh sizes varied from 6" (for the band nearest the mouth, which was of a stronger ply) in stages down to $\frac{1}{4}$ ", the size being reduced with the taper of the net. The last fathom or so of the tail of the net, which we called the 'hawse', was like a tunnel about 15" in diameter. The mouth of the net was 6' square with a $2\frac{1}{2}$ " headrope, which only became square when lashed between the supporting poles. The $\frac{3}{4}$ " mesh was joined to the headrope by much heavier cotton twine, forming a long mesh so neatly done that everything seemed to pull evenly and was attractive to look at. The overall length of each net was about 14' and the tail or hawse was tied back to a small stake driven into the mud and was about 4' high.

When six nets had been made, that being the least number to warrant the journey of about 750 yards from the shore over the mud flats and back twice each day, they had to be 'barked' to tan and preserve them. For this it was possible to purchase oak bark locally, dried and in small pieces like broken biscuits, by the pound. The bark was put into a net bag and boiled for an hour in an old washing 'copper' built into a crude brick fireplace in the open. When the 'brew' was ready the bark was removed and the nets immersed for a long period. They emerged a lovely deep brown and were left on the seawall to dry.

After making the nets, I had to buy 7 poles on which to hang the nets. These had to be about 5" in diameter and 12' long at least to allow them to be driven to a depth of 5' into the blue clay of the 'gut' and to protrude 7' above ground so that each net could be stepped down 1' to conform to the slope of the mud. I purchased 7 larch saplings from Brockley Combe, which the woodman cut, trimmed and pointed for me. I transported them to the shore with a horse and putt (a two-wheel tip cart). But to convey poles and nets over the mud flats required another form of transport. For this I made a simple sleigh, which would also serve to bring in the catch. For anything carried on the shoulder over the flats tended to sink one's feet into the mud. The sleigh consisted of two 6" boards 1" thick, curved up at the front, to form the sides, framed up 2' apart with another 6" piece of timber to form the back of the 'tray'. Over the bottom I nailed a piece of galvanised sheet iron and this, fixed to the cross members helped to make the sleigh rigid. Finally, two uprights to a height of 2'6" with a cross piece

at the back provided a push bar, something to bear my weight when crossing soft ground and a place to hang my lantern for night trips. This was a simple box with a sliding pane of glass in the front, ventilation holes bored top and bottom and 4 nails to form a crude socket for a tallow candle: little enough light, but a source of comfort and encouragement to a 15 year old boy, whose outward foot-prints in times of mist, rain or snow were his only guide back to the shore.

With my sleigh completed, all was set for the transport of the poles to the place in the gut where the nets were to be hung. Mr. Hayden had warned me to make sure that I did not site them *below* the low water mark of the *lowest* (that is, on high water) neap tide, otherwise there would be occasions when the tails of the nets would still be submerged at low water (the levels of low water vary according to the levels of high water). In this, however, I had the stumps of the old stakes as a guide.

On the first journey out I carried only one pole on the sleigh, for with it I had also to take a 56lb. weight — one with a bar with which to lift it — necessary to drive the poles into the mud. The method was a simple one, but the only practical way because of the need to work quickly before the flood tide returned. My fisherman friend let me into the secret with lowered voice and looking over his shoulder, all adding to my mounting excitement. It was easy to get the pointed pole upright and to pull it down by the combined weight of pole and myself for the first 2' into the softest mud so that it could stand temporarily on its own. On the first trip I had also brought about 30' of 2" rope; with the sleigh beside the pole it was a simple matter to tie a clove hitch around the pole as high as I could reach. I then passed the whole of the rope through the handle of the weight, back up the pole as high as possible and down through the handle again until all the rope was used up. The weight stood on the push bar of the sleigh clear of the mud and so I was able to keep both weight and rope quite clean. Then by lifting the weight, at first only about 6", and letting it fall the pole was driven nearly 6" farther into the ground. When the weight dropped close to the mud, I again used the sleigh to support it while I released the knot and tied it higher up the pole, this time making the weight hang on the opposite side. So I continued, moving the ropes around the pole to enable the falling weight to keep it upright. By the last foot, I had to lift the weight above my head and let it fall quite 6' to drive the pole 3". In about an hour the first pole was finished, for it was the time of spring tides which receded farthest from the site of the poles at low water. Down there, out of sight of the shore, I lashed my

weight to the base of the pole clear of the mud and stayed to watch the tide rise to cover it, tired and weary, but proud of my progress.

During the next three daylight tides I managed to drive in two poles at each low water, placing them 6'6" apart to allow for any possible stretching of the headropes of the nets. This made the line of poles over 40' long, which meant that, owing to the slope of the ground, the hawse of the lowest net would be clear of the ebbing tide about 30 minutes after the first. All that remained was to hang the nets and drive in the 6 tail stakes, but one thing more had to be provided on shore: before any shrimps could be caught there had to be means of cooking them. For this I acquired a second 'copper' and built it into a circular brick fireplace in an outhouse. This was built with three flues encircling the copper to ensure the speedy heating of its 30 gallons. Fuel was wood, mainly driftwood, which I collected in my spare time, such as it was, for in daylight between tides I continued to work on the sea walls for 3½d. per hour.

It was now early September, the correct time to hang the nets, as this had to be done at spring tides when the tide receded farthest from the nets at low water, to give me sufficient time to hang the nets to the poles, drive in the tail stakes and tie the tails of the nets to the stakes. It was midday, which meant that the first time I finished the nets would be in darkness. Making my way out over the mud flats that first night, any excitement I may have felt when I set out from home was quickly dispelled as I got farther from the shore. True, my lantern was a source of comfort, but looking back towards the shore everything was black, not one glimmer of light could I see, for our village, behind its bulwark, the sea bank, was out of sight. Immediately I was far enough out for my lantern to be seen from the water of the gut, the silence was shattered by the cries of the mallard and the beating of hundreds of wings, as the flocks of ducks, widgeon and teal rose up from their fishing grounds. But the awesome dark silence was gone, my apprehension replaced by anticipation, for I was nearing the nets. The first net was nearly clear of the water, the outer one still submerged, the speed of the tide running through the nets causing the poles to tremble and whip proving how necessary were 5" poles.

The light of the lantern showed me the hawse sagging grotesquely, partly full of all kinds of small fish, shrimps and seaweed — an exciting moment, never to be forgotten. I quickly slipped off the tail tie and shook the catch into one of my baskets. An eel about 2' long suddenly came to life in the

debris and in a flash wriggled over the basket edge, on to the mud, and into the sea — too quick for the eye to follow. I cast out as much seaweed as I could — this later proved to be troublesome only after westerly winds, obviously from the Black Rock.

In the third net I found a skate (known to us as 'old maids'), too small to be saleable; there were many less shrimps in that net. It took me half an hour to fish the six nets and the yield was $1\frac{1}{2}$ bushel baskets of all sorts. With nets hung on poles they only catch fish on the ebb tide — average about six hours. I had left home that night at 11.30; by the time I arrived back with the catch it was past 1 a.m. I had then to light the copper fire, and while the water was heating I could sort the catch out. There were literally hundreds of small fish such as I had never seen before, but nearly all too tiny to be of value. Whiting over 6" long in those days of shortages were saleable.

I was over an hour sorting the catch. The shrimps were put into $\frac{1}{4}$ " net bags, the bags only half full so that the shrimps would spread out and all get the benefit of the boiling water immediately they were cast into the boiler. It may sound cruel, but it was important that the shrimps were alive when they were dropped into the boiler otherwise they would not close or fold up head to tail as one sees them in the shops. If a shrimp was dead before being submerged, it would remain stretched out or straight. After they had been boiled for 20mts. the bags were taken out and the shrimps spread on a table to dry.

Sorting the catch, boiling the water and cooking the shrimps took me about $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours; this brought the total time for the whole exercise to 3 hours. It was now 2.30 a.m. In 6 hours' time I would have to be on the way to the nearest whistle stop of the Light Railway, about a mile away. This now added up to 4 hours, including the journey to the whistle stop, where my friend the fisherman would be ready in the guard's van; as the train wheezed nearly to a halt, the guard would open his door, I would hand up two baskets — I had to jump on the lower step to do this — and the driver would open his throttle valve: a cloud of steam, the train gathered way, the wheels had not stopped turning — that was the important thing. Nearly every other morning the procedure was the same. My friend would always hand out the payment for the fish he had received the day before and this went on throughout the season. At no time did I ever make any payment to the railway, nor was I ever asked for any. They all knew me, for my father had helped construct the railway.

How much payment did I receive for all the energy

expended? I most vividly remember my friend paid me 8s. per score lb. for the shrimps cooked ready for sale. This sounded pretty good at first, but a score pound of shrimps *after they are cooked* is a huge basketful; cooked and dried there was much loss in weight. My friend the fisherman, I was to hear afterwards, retailed the shrimps by measure — so much a pint — or, better still, in the taverns, so many pence per glass, the size of the glass decreasing as the hilarity increased! It was a lesson in shrewdness I have always remembered. My catches averaged about a score pounds a day of shrimps, which is only about 1½lbs. *per tide per net*. This does not sound much, but it amounted to £3 per week. Furthermore, there was usually some whiting or a codling or two to swell my income, and sometimes a skate weighing about 10 or 12lbs. But these were not so popular; their thorns damaged the nets and I only got a shilling for its two fins. Then, of course, we always had fish for the family in those days of rationing.

Nowadays, the amount of income from my six nets may sound puny, but at that time it was nearly three unskilled men's wages. The initial outlay on nets and the poles was less than £25, which came from the sale of two bacon pigs which I had reared, after they were weaned, on scraps and sundry cattle food earned by churning butter on a farm.

One never-to-be-forgotten night I arrived out in the gut too early. It was a really black November night. From the edge of the tide where I stood waiting I suddenly saw a glow. I thought it must be a boat with a lantern, but I got no answer from a call I made. The glow increased as the tide receded. I was really scared. Before my candle beam could reach the nets the glow showed me the poles, but I could not see the nets; it was like fairyland. Then I could see the headropes. I was dumbfounded, but my trembling ceased: my nets were safe! Nearer still, I could see what it was: every ¾" of the netting around the head of the nets had a sprat in it. In those early days I knew nothing of phosphorus, for that is what it was, and had certainly never seen phosphorescence on the muddy waters of our part of the Bristol Channel.

The hawses of the nets were crammed full of those little fish. My two baskets were full and the remainder I tipped into the body of the sleigh. The flood tide had returned before I could pluck all those tiny fish that had their gills caught in the mesh. There were very few shrimps and most of them were dead owing to the crush of the sprats. It was hard going, pushing the sleigh back over the mud flats, and from the base of the sea walls across the saltings to our house I had to make three

journeys. The weight of sprats was 150lbs. My joy was short-lived. Sprats arrive suddenly and disappear just as quickly. I soon discovered that they had arrived at Weston and Clevedon at the same time; even in wartime I was lucky to get 2d. per lb. for them. My fisherman friend could not take all I caught during that glut, even at 1d. a lb. It gave me a tremendous amount of work, with very little sleep, but I took quite a lot of money. I even hired a pony and trap at 2s. a day. I was relieved when after about ten days the huge catches suddenly ceased. If the water was choppy as the tide ebbed away from the nets the battering they received with the weight of fish in them tended to tear the mesh, so that I had to scabble to repair them before the flood returned. Often I worked in two feet of water rather than leave a hole in the net. It was not an easy life, but I survived and retained these vivid memories of my boyhood enterprise throughout my life.

EDMUND EGLINGTON

NOTES

RECTOR OF PIMPERNE. In his article "Tithe Free Districts in Dorset at the time of Tithe Commutation" (*SDNQ*, XXXII, 826) J. Gambier refers to the Rector 1800-6 as James Haman. In fact he was Sir James Hanham, 6th Baronet, of Wimborne Minster, as recorded in my account of this family (XXXI, 118).

CORRECTION. In my account of Sir James's sons on the page above mentioned I was misled by Mrs. Caillard's account there quoted. Burke's Peerage is correct in naming Anne Ahier as the wife of Charles. I have now a copy of the marriage certificate. I was also in error in naming Anne's sister as Eleanor.

REV. D. C. HANNAM

QUERIES

Subscriber Mr. D. R. Ross of 53 Saddle Lane, Durango, Colorado 81301 is interested in the family of Robert Bennett, tanner, of Wiveliscombe, and his wife, Elizabeth Edney, and in particular any material of Edward Bennett, youngest of their 15 children, who was born in 1577.

HURLINGPOT. Can any reader suggest the original of this interesting local name? It is attached to a farm at Chelynch in the parish of Doultling, near Shepton Mallet.

The name is absent from early surveys of Doultling such as the 13th. century terrier in the British Library (Egerton Ms. 3321) and that of 1516 at Mells Manor. As far as I know the name is first found in a rental of Sir John Horner (also at Mells) dated 1659. It then attached to a considerable hamlet, 12 tenants being listed under Hurlingpot. In 1671, Sir George Horner leased to Richard Powell, a tailor, 'all that cottage and one yardeland lyeinge in hurlingpott in the parish & mannor of Doultling ...'

Hurlingpot might refer to some natural feature, a swallet in the limestone which might become a seething drain in time of flood. Such are not uncommon in the Mendips and there is a plan of such a swallet at Bodden nearby among the Paget papers in Bristol University Library (DM 106/84). Pot can mean a pool or tarn and there is indeed a notable pond in front of Hurlingpot Farmhouse. If early forms of the name could be found, it might derive from the Old English personal name, Herala, hence Herala's pond.

MICHAEL McGARVIE

HENBURY HOUSE, Sturminster Marshall. A Grade II* Listed Georgian Mansion. I am researching as fully as I am able the history of the people and building of Henbury House. Original owners appear to be FITCH, Peter. Is this so? Did he have it built? Any and every piece of information most gratefully received. Please write to: Miss Jane Harrison, c/o Henbury House, Nr. Wimborne, Dorset BH21 3RW.

BOOK REVIEWS

Wyndham Rawlins, *Kay of the Hills* (Merlin Books Ltd., Braunton, Devon, 1987, Pp. 230, £6.95). Anyone of a mystical or philosophical turn of mind could write much on this book. But it will arouse interest and stir the imagination of many others, especially those at all interested in the history, the spirit, lore and legend of Somerset and the West Country. The book refers to itself as fiction; and this again could provoke long discussion. We can only accept the commonplace that good fiction embodies truth: as certainly here. But there is much more than that which is factual, for "most of the places are real, though I have changed the names", and some of the characters are based on real people. More even than this: just as it is often said that Egdon Heath is a character in some of Hardy's novels, so Somerset and the West are the essence of

this book, which is indeed a successful “attempt to create a legend of hereditary tradition” and quality in a West Country setting. There is still more of the factual in that, since the author is a scholar, all the historical events and persons mentioned, are treated with authority. There are six connected stories — and the linking is of vital importance — full of incident and adventure, of Kay, a wandering minstrel who is re-incarnated from Arthurian days to modern times. As with Arthur himself, *quondam rex et rex futururus*, so the widespread legend of recurrence is used here, with deep knowledge of the country, apparently based on the Ham stone area a little west of Yeovil but spreading far west and a little east and south, and with informed love of that country and the lives and *mores* of its people of every degree. This is an inadequate account of a well-written book which is difficult to describe; an unusual and compelling book which could only have been written by someone of deep knowledge and sensitivity who was in and of — who, as they say, truly belonged — to Somerset and the west.

J.P.

Michael McGarvie, *Marston Bigot Church and Parish* (Foster Yeoman Limited for Postlebury P.C.C., 1989. Pp. 68, many illus. + plan. £3.00, from the author, 19 Styles Hill, Frome). Over the last 12 years, Mr. McGarvie has been responsible for a variety of publications on different aspects of Marston Bigot, and the reader may well have questioned that another is needed. One subject, however, has remained unrecorded — the church — which the writer has now amply rectified.

The present church dates only from the 1780s, the old having been demolished at the same time, victim of its proximity of the enlarged House, but the writer managed to piece the architectural detail of the former and has added a full account of the development of the new. The remaining contents follow a familiar pattern (bells, plate, inscriptions and the like) and are, consequently, generally limited to that date, but the whole is comprehensively and straightforwardly organised. The guide to the church, essential ingredient to its users, is notably full of erudition, nowhere more so than in the description of the windows and the church's particular joy, the Rhenish and Flemish glass of the 16th century (4 are illustrated in colour and are sharply defined).

The list of rectors is enhanced by biographical sketches from 1642, but earlier rectors might have been extended with profit

to include dates of death or resignation instead, as here, of the single date presentation. This would have established where individuals were situated within the context of the list, given the various gaps in the Bishop's Registers.

D.M.M.S.

Thomas Gerard, *Coker's Survey of Dorsetshire*. Written by Thomas Gerard in the 1620s. First published under the name of John Coker in 1732. Second edition 1980 with an Afterword by Rodney Legg. Dorset Publishing Company. Pp. 175. £14.50. Limited ed. of 500 copies. Obtainable from Dorset Publishing Company, National School, North St., Wincanton, Somerset.) Although this important reprint was issued ten years ago its existence does not seem to be widely known; which is a pity; since, as Robert Douch noted, the work is a valuable survey of the county. This is not really a second edition but a type-facsimile reprint of the original edition of 1732 with an Afterword of 5 pages in which Rodney Legg summarizes the book's complicated history. It has long been known that, although ascribed to Coker on the title-page in 1732, the work was actually by Thomas Gerard, who, Mr. Legg suggests, apparently started his survey in the latter half of 1623. There is evidence in the book that he began a little earlier. On p.46 the survey speaks of Sir William Clavell's "Glasse House which is come to Perfection, and is likelie to redounde to a good Benefit". But since Sir William was imprisoned in the Marshalsea in the summer of 1623 for infringing the rights of the holders of the glass monopoly, Gerard must have written this passage before the latter half of 1623. But such details are of small account. What is important is that this valuable work in the field of Dorset history is once again available, and we are grateful to Mr. Legg for his enterprise in providing this well produced reprint.

J.H.P.P.

D. Hawkins, *Thomas Hardy: His life and landscape*. (The National Trust, 1990. Pp. 15 + 31 illus. colour, b & w, line drawings, £2.50) This is a delightful little guide which will please all Hardy lovers. It has an easy flowing and well informed text which will serve as an admirable and succinct introduction to the life and work of Dorset's most famous writer, and to the landscape which he knew so well. Great care has been taken in the selection of the illustrations, and time has been neatly spanned by complementing earlier line drawings with contemporary photographs. The result of this

juxtaposition of the past and the present is that it conveys immediately to the reader that the landscape which Hardy knew, and which so influenced his stories and poetry, can still be seen and has not yet changed beyond recognition. Hardy enthusiasts will need no encouragement to travel the landscape paths that Hardy took, but this booklet will certainly give them more than a little assistance.

G.J.D.

G. Newberry, (*compiler*). *Index to the Proceedings of the Dorset Natural History & Archaeological Society 1876-1988, Volumes 1-110*, (1989, Pp. 116, £5.95. Available from Dorset County Museum, High West Street, Dorchester DT1 1XA.)

The volumes of *DNHAS* have long been invaluable sources to researchers, and this index, with more than 12,000 entries in the main index, and more than 4,000 in the author and title index, will prove to be an invaluable reading aid. This inexpensive and very well produced index is an essential reference work for all those engaged in a study of the county of Dorset. Much of the significant work in the county in history, archaeology, geology, and natural history, was first produced in these volumes, and for any serious study an index is essential. The compiler is to be congratulated on producing an uncluttered index which reads easily. It is always a problem for compilers how to present succinct yet explicitly clear entries which will provide an adequate guide to the articles without, at the same time, taking up too much space. G. Newberry has achieved this balance admirably, and it is a pleasure to browse through the pages and single out all those 'lost' articles which one must, one day, read!

G.J.D.

R. Lavender, *The last days of Christchurch Priory* (1988, Pp. 16 + 2 illus. and double page map, price £1 plus 15p. postage.) J. Cross, *Imagery in the Churches of Dorset, Hampshire and Wiltshire* (1988, Pp. 72 + 8 illus., price £2.50 + 28p. postage.) Both are Bournemouth Local Studies Publications available from 40 Lowther Rd., Bournemouth.

R. Lavender is to be congratulated on the production of a small booklet which tackled a very large subject and handled it admirably. The text is concise and the explanations of quite difficult and controversial matters are given simply and clearly. I realise, from the Foreword, that the author is wary of making some explanations too direct and too simple, but she was right to be bold and clear in outlining the background to

the dissolutions because writers of small booklets cannot become involved in scholarly minutiae. So, after a carefully written and concise introduction to monastic life generally, and the Henrician Reformation, she moves effortlessly into the history of Christchurch Priory, and summarised neatly the evidence available. The end result is a very concise and pleasing little booklet which well serves its purpose as being an introduction to the subject.

The object of Joy Cross's booklet on the churches of the three counties is to provide a small pocket size introduction to some of the religious imagery which may be found. The book deals first with the subject matter of the imagery — examples being the Tower of Babel, the Nativity, the Last Supper — and after a brief explanation of the significance of the subject, the churches in which such imagery may be seen are listed. Finally, there is an index of churches listed under counties. Certainly, it is interesting to have the results of Joy Cross's research, and to be able to find precisely the item which you want to see, and to identify the exact church. One can be thoroughly familiar with guides like those by Anderson and Bottomley, but the problem has always been that they encompass all counties, and examples from distant places may be apt, and may be exciting, but they cannot immediately be seen. This booklet at least concentrates one's search.

G.J.D.

R. Legg, *Literary Dorset* (Dorset Publishing Co., 1990. Pp. 223 + 71 illus. and line drawings, £9.95). Although this book purports to be a compilation of writers who have at some time lived in Dorset, or who have some close association with the county, it includes many who cannot be described as writers, among them C. M. Dale, the entomologist, Curgenvin, a classical scholar, Samuel Wesley, a rector, Robert Boyle, chemist, Henry Weekes, sculptor, and many more whose activities were certainly not literary. It would, perhaps, be more accurate to say that this book gathers together all the great names of those who have at some time been associated with the county. As such it provides fascinating reading, and one cannot but be surprised at the breadth and diversity of those whom the author singles out.

All the books published by Rodney Legg — and he has an impressive range of publications — bear a personal touch. He never allows himself to be overawed by the subjects which he tackles, and there is a delightful iconoclasm in his approach. In this volume he imprints his own discoveries on Hardy's

placenames, and points the way for some future research; he tilts cheerfully at place-name scholars; he takes to task all those 'educated' writers who misplace the apostrophe in Hutchins's name; he remonstrates with Olive Knott and her wrong labelling of Hardy's house at Sturminster Newton; and he makes a personal plea for the future of Max Gate.

This book is a browser's delight, though I have no doubt that many will want to add to the detail from their own knowledge, research further and advise the author, and suggest other names which future editions might include.

G.J.D.

*N.B. – All replies to advertisements to be sent to
the named addresses*

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