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Miles Costello
Petworth
Collection

The Petworth Society



CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

A main preoccupation of any Chairman of this Society must be the Bulletin which accounts for a very large proportion of available funds. You will see that we have a new cover for 1980 and there will be a different colour for each quarterly issue. We have put up the price to 30p for non-members, but I would point out that at the current rate of £1 per annum membership of this Society is still very much of a bargain. We have discussed charging separate subscriptions for membership and for the Bulletin but felt that this would tend to discriminate against those whose only real link with the Society is the Bulletin. Probably membership fees, like everything else, will have to go up but not, we hope, this year. Obviously indirect help in supporting our functions, raffles, tombolas etc. does help us to finance the Bulletin and still hold down the subscription. I am very pleased with the new cover and we are (not by any means for the first time) indebted to Mr. Jonathan Newdick for his drawing. I am hopeful of having an article on Barry, the designer of the obelisk, in a later issue.

The experimental monthly meetings are clearly a success. Mr. Hilton Oakes returns on March 26th with slides of Hungary and Czechoslovakia. The date of the A.G.M. and details of the April meeting appear on the back page of this issue. The visit of Richmond Herald to speak at Petworth House in March is eagerly awaited and I hope all members who wanted tickets were in fact able to obtain them. As space was so limited we had to make tickets available to non-members only in the unlikely event that any had been left unsold by the members. At the time of writing this does seem rather unlikely given such an attractive speaker.

Our next public exhibition will be of contemporary photographs by Mr. John Mason and will open in the Public Library at the beginning of April. An example of Mr. Mason's work appears in this issue but of course in this format it is very difficult to reproduce the crisp black and white of the original. A show of contemporary photographs is something of a new departure as far as we are concerned but it is important that with Petworth now having no resident photographer as it once had Mr. Kevis and Mr. Garland the great tradition should be seen to be kept up.

Some material in this quarter's Bulletin is reproduced from the Women's Institute Petworth book and I am very pleased to have the

opportunity to make this available for a wider audience and grateful for permission to reprint.

P.A.J.

A PETWORTH CHILDHOOD

1) Cow Minding.

I suppose that we were the last small-holders in the stretch of road between Petworth and Northchapel to graze cattle on the common.

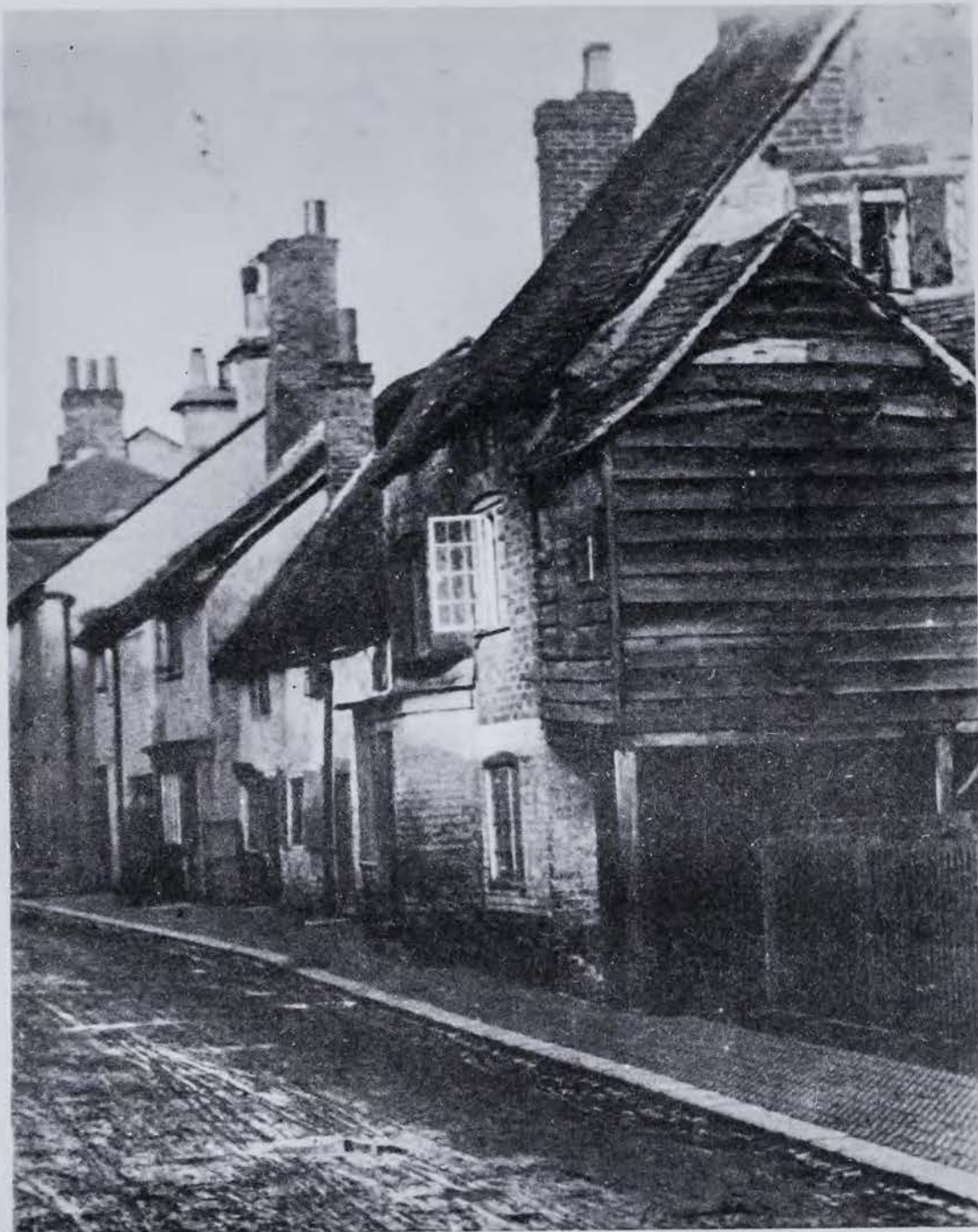
We moved to Grinsteads in 1922 and, having only five acres, we had not enough grazing for five cows and a horse and to put meadows up for hay, so the cows had to be "minded". I well remember the day, soon after we had moved in - the first day that I should have been at school - it was too wet to go to school in the morning but about 11 a.m. it cleared and I was sent out to mind the cows. We were between Grinsteads and Limbo Farm when the school-attendance officer came along on his motor-cycle and wanted to know why I was not at school. On my stating that it had been too wet, he made the obvious reply that it was evidently not too wet to mind the cows and that I was to go to school that afternoon. I was only ten and rather frightened by this, so took the cows straight away home! We went to school that afternoon! (It was two miles to walk.)

While we were at school mother "minded", and, while doing so, knitted all our socks and stockings. There were we four younger children at home, besides father, so that she was kept busy. I remember that she was most indignant once - she was minding the cows, somewhere near "mile house" when a car came along, a fairly rare occurrence in those days, and one of the cows chose that moment to cross the road and the car had to stop. They actually complained to the Police and mother was fined 2/6 for allowing the cattle to stray!! As she said, they were not being allowed to stray, she was looking after them, and you cannot tell a cow that it must not cross the road!!

We grazed the cows from Scrases Hill to Hampers Green, a gentle progress, leaving the cow-minder time to look about and find all sorts of things - like a wild medlar tree near "mile house".



MR. "JIG" HILL. - SEE "A PETWORTH CHILDHOOD".
PHOTOGRAPH BY G.G.GARLAND.



THE OLD "WOODEN-LEGGED" HOUSE IN NORTH STREET ABOUT 1890.

I wonder if it is still there? And in that area there were the small butterflies, both blue and brown on the gorse, and all sorts of spiders. There were many wild flowers growing on the verges, ladies slippers, small pink convolvulus, harebells and lovely grasses. Near the Kennells were blue periwinkles. In the early spring, and only found under the wall between Card's lodge and Hunt's lodge, were white violets, sometimes lots of them. I always had a thrill when I found the first ones. It's a good many years since I picked wild white violets under that wall! Grazing as they did, all along the verges of the road, the cows kept the grass and weeds down and they must have helped the road-man, Mr. Hill, considerably.

During one period, on Saturday mornings, we took Mr. Peacock's cattle (he lived at the foot of Scrases Hill) and "minded" them with ours and for that I earned fourpence a week - this went towards buying my shoes.

Our cows were so domesticated that we could go and sit on them when they were lying down and it always amused us when people coming by would say "Would you mind walking with me past the cows, I am rather nervous". (Horrid children!) I think that it was about 1927 when the first buses ran from Haslemere to Petworth. Mother was out with the cows one day when the bus passed her going towards Haslemere; sometime afterwards there was a poor woman hurrying along the road and as she passed mother asked her if the bus had gone. Mother said that it had; "About half-an-hour ago". "Do you think that I shall catch it?" was the next question!

All sorts of people passed along the road. Once I was reading some old comics when a string of gypsy caravans passed. This was not unusual of course, what was different this time was that a small boy came out of a caravan and asked if he could buy the comics. I explained that they were only old ones, (they had been given to us). "That don't matter, we ain't read them" he said, and gave me twopence. Seeing that I had threepence a year on my birthday, this was riches! Once, when I was about fourteen and rather tall for my age, minding the cows by Wastewaters, a young man came by on a bike, I think that he was probably on a cycling tour. From his subsequent behaviour I conclude that he thought, "Simple village maiden" and so I was, but not as simple as he. Cows make excellent guard dogs they can moo at a goose!!

Only two things made me nervous when cow-minding. If the cows got the "Neddy" as we called it (Horsefly) then they would up with their tails and just run! Usually towards home, when the poor things would get right under the Park wall into the deepest shade and it was sometimes difficult to find them. The other thing was; If another herd of cows should be driven along the road, would our cows go off with them? (They never did).

We stayed out only in the mornings, taking a piece of home-made cake for lunch. If it poured with rain we sheltered as best we might and I have often got wet and dried again and never hurt.

Darkie, Crumple, Bluebell, Snowdrop and Gypsy were the names of our first cows and they were always referred to by name. They were hand milked twice a day, and the milk carried into the "middle room" and poured into shallow milk pans. The cream had to "rise" and then mother skimmed the milk to remove the cream, made the butter and took it to Petworth on her cycle. How often have I had to help with the churning, an end over end churn, when the butter refused to "come" and it seemed hours standing churning. Then the butter had to be made into half-pound blocks with the butter pats, wrapped in grease-proof paper - everything spotless and put carefully into the basket for mother to take. Another world - another life.

(to be continued)

W.M. Wadsworth nee Simpson.
11 Ansell Way,
Hardingstone,
Northampton, NN4 ODP.

Foreign News: 12th May 1687

There is advice from Moscovia that ye czars require every 4th man to take arms and in case of refusall to be banished or severely fined.

Some letters say the Tartars have made an incursion from their frontiers and carried away many thousand Polish slaves, some of the foreign prints will have it 90,000.

(This and subsequent items of news from the 17th Century printed in this Bulletin are taken from Petworth House Archives 682 correspondence of George Thornton, and reproduced by kind permission of Lord Egremont) - 6 -

VISITORS TO PETWORTH AND INHABITANTS

In 1703 the King of Spain, in trying to visit Petworth House got completely bogged in the Sussex mud and took 14 hours to get from Guildford, villagers having to dig out his coach.

Then, in 1814, The Allied Sovereigns i.e. the Prince Regent, the Czar of Russia and the King of Prussia visited here, accompanied by Prince of Wurtemberg and Grand Duchess of Oldenburg and their respective suites, and there is a picture of them, by Phillips, being received by Lord Egremont in the Marble Hall, which was then the front entrance.

The Russian attendants in the train of the Czar were still remembered by the townsmen in 1864 "who recollected their grotesque appearance and the circumstances of their evincing a partiality for oil by drinking it from any lamps, which they were fortunate to meet with, as well as devouring the soap placed in their bedrooms".

Many of us remember seeing our beloved Queen Mary visiting Petworth House, when King George was recuperating from his severe illness at Bognor Regis, March 1929. She came to see the treasures of Petworth House on a Wednesday in Lent, and was to arrive at 3 p.m., exactly the same time as the special Lenten Service. Loyalty and conscience pulled different ways, but some of us tried to fit in both. Queen Mary was punctually at the gates one minute to three o'clock. We waved and curtsied to her and then took to our heels and ran to church, arriving at the West Door in a panting condition, and tried to creep into a pew very quietly. Archdeacon Hoskyns smiled at us kindly from the pulpit and said, "I know why some of you are late, and I will start my address again." How we loved the kindly old man.

If I remember rightly her Majesty, after seeing Petworth House visited the curio shops of Mr. Streeter and Mr. Denman.

Of course many kings passed through Petworth on their way to Goodwood races and their loyal subjects were always out to greet them.

One likes to think of other well-known people in Petworth. Turner, the artist, made his home in Petworth House for many years,

under the patronage of Lord Egremont, and his paintings of Petworth Park are very beautiful, and some are to be seen in the House. It was Lord Egremont who sent him abroad and made him realize what colour meant. His pictures before and after he visited Italy are very different. Vandyke also has done some of his finest work at Petworth. Constable too stayed and painted at Petworth House, and also Leslie who was a fine artist and wrote a biography of Constable. Another artist patronised by the King and Queen still is living with us, Claud Muncaster, who also has an eye to lovely colour.

Major A.E. Mason lived in Petworth for some time, and the country is mentioned in some of his novels. One of our curates became Bishop Tugwell, Bishop of Western Equatorial Africa, and one of our rectors was Bishop Jones of Lewes, still remembered and loved by older inhabitants. His memorial in the Church is the aumbrey, the door of which is exquisite Italian work.

One of the Rectors of Petworth was Rev. J. Penrose. He was an exceptionally good-looking man with a very beautiful voice, both for speaking and singing. His only daughter died as a young girl, and his only son was missing in the Great War, and his wife became blind. He was also a keen horseman, but was very absent-minded. Once, on his way home from hunting, he stopped to see a parishioner, and coming out of the house forgot his horse and walked home, and only during tea, when he noticed he was wearing gaiters, did he remember it! He generally bicycled about the countryside with his dog, who guarded the bicycle whilst his master visited his parishioners. Once at Byworth he was late and it was dusk when he had finished his visit. Seeing a bicycle he got on it and bicycled home without noticing that it was labelled "Domestic Stores". When the errand boy wanted to use the Rector's bicycle in exchange the dog would not allow him to touch it!

Another time he was going to London, and carelessly left his bicycle against the ticket office barrier with the dog beside it. He went off by train but later in the morning a frantic messenger arrived at the Rectory demanding that someone should come and remove the dog as all traffic was held up - no one being able to buy a ticket!

These tales are true, but we don't vouch for the one that describes how he went to post letters, smoking his pipe. He posted the pipe and came home with the letters.

Petworth is a place where people live to a good old age, as the church registers show. Miss Colbrook died at the age of 103, Miss Daintry at 99 $\frac{3}{4}$. Old Andrew Smith died at the age of 100 and his mother lived till 102. For 80 years he visited the Petworth Fair with his cocoa-nut shies. Many named could be given of those who lived till after 90. Dr. Eardley Wilmot, 90, Henry Hill, 93, Alfred Blunden, 91, W. Palmer, 90, Emma Austin, 93, Thomas Reece, 91, Fanny Summersell, 92, Laura Death, 93 and Charles Older, 90. One old lady had remarked that, thanks to Dr. Kerr and God, she had got through the winter so well.

Most beloved of all, the Dowager Lady Leconfield, died aged 94, a most gracious and beautiful lady, who will never be forgotten in Petworth for her good deeds and very fine character. When she was a young married woman, it was the practice for all Petworth folk to spend Sunday afternoon in the Park. Father went first with perhaps a child or two holding his hand - then followed the other children, and last came mother, pushing the perambulator, and having the hardest work. The Dowager herself always pushed her perambulator every Sunday afternoon. Her daughter, Lady Maxse (wife of General Sir Ivor Maxse) was a most outstanding figure, not only for her clever brain but for her goodness, churchmanship and power of friendship.

(An unsigned article from the Women's Institute book)

PETWORTH IN THE 1920's

In the 1920's it was easy to shop on horseback in Petworth. A good way to exercise the horse and to get provisions at the same time. Dear Mr. Older would come out to the pavement and take the short list and my rucksac, and presently the boy would bring it back all neatly packed.

No one objected to a waiting horse and rider; no one in those days was in such a desperate hurry as some drivers are today. We could happily clatter up Lombard Street to the cobbler or to the butcher for some chops, and stop again outside Streeters to see Peggy about a hockey match, for she was our Captain.

We lived near the Byworth-Shopham crossroads. The owner of the house, an Australian, lived at Gore Hill. He sometimes used to walk his dogs (of which he owned many) past our place, and if he saw us

would say, "Would you like a song?" And then sit the dogs in a row on the wide wall, stand before them and begin to sing. Did I say Sing? It was a horrible noise! However, the dogs took their cue from him, threw up their heads and started the most bloodcurdling howls one could imagine. The more their master sang, the more noise they made.

Twice a day I fetched the milk from Strood Farm, carrying it in a quart can up the lane. Harry Skinner was the farmer then, he had a beautiful black labrador called Sheila, I'm sure I made more fuss of her than did her owner.

There was no electricity in our house, we used oil lamps and candles. A Valor stove was allowed if anyone was ill. The sitting room was warmed by an ingle-nook fire and the cooking done on a kitchen range. We had quite a large piece of ground with room for the chicken and a pony.

Here it was that I learned to drive an old Ford model T. We kept her in a barn and on frosty mornings the rear wheels had to be jacked up and the engine swung with the starting handle until she fired! But she never let us down.

How many folk remember Petworth Engineering Company and Frank Calnan who ran it? (The site now occupied by an Antique Market). At that time there was a petrol pump outside and no trouble to pull up for petrol. There was little traffic and no one-way streets. Imagine now attempting to drive South from North Street round the wall!

Pym Purser and her taxis did a great service for Petworth and her hire cars were always shining and spotlessly clean.

The single railway line from Pulborough to Midhurst was in use and the Station Bus went regularly from the Square down Station Road serving as well, the houses on it's route. School children for Chichester Highschool and Midhurst Grammar School were regular passengers on the bus and the trains, for these were the days before School Buses.

Wheat for Coultershaw Mill came by Goods Wagons and only had to be carried over the river to the Mill a short distance away.

Horses and traps were a familiar sight, and on hunting mornings the mounted Whips led their hounds through the town with no trouble.

Petworth Church spire was a landmark for miles. We had a cinema too, small but popular, in Station Road.

Petworth seemed full of Butchers shops, in Lombard Street, the Square, Golden Square, High Street and New Street. There were the bakers too, advertising their bread by the delicious smell as one passed; Cockshutts at The Tavern, Knights in Lombard Street and Hazelmans in Middle Street all baked their own bread on the premises.

I believe that 'leisurely' was the right word with which to describe the life of Petworth in the 'twenties, although we did enjoy Farmer's Dances at The Swan and the occasional Saturday night 'hop' at the Angel Hotel. Taken over all there was not the 'rush and tear' attitude of today, yet we enjoyed life to the full.

P.C.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Seeing the drawing of 'Pickle Hammond' in the December Bulletin reminded me of a story my mother used to tell us when we were children.

Apparently Pickle used to live near us and one day his mother said to her, "I don't know what I'm going to do with young Pickle Mrs. Simpson, I can't make no sense of him at all."

She had sent him to Otways the grocers where the International Stores is now to fetch a packet of candles.

Some time after he returned, she asked him where they were and he told her he'd put them in the oven to dry, because he'd dropped them in a puddle and got them wet.

Imagine the oven of her kitchen range smothered in melted candle grease.

Yours sincerely,

Phill Sadler.

Petworth Clockmakers

Notes on John Tribe, From the Article by Frederick Challen

John Tribe Blacksmith/Clockmaker of Thakenham, Sussex.

According to the author Britten, John Tribe of Petworth died in 1728. The Author Baillie does not list this maker in (Watch/Clockmakers of the World). In connection with much research on "Sussex Watch and Clockmakers from the Earliest Times," there is little evidence that John Tribe died in 1728, John Tribe (a Blacksmith/Clockmaker) married Ann. . . ca. 1702 and resided at Thakeham, Sussex, where they had nine children; five were sons, but only three survived. These three were baptised at Thakeham, John 1706, George 1714, and Daniel 1717, all becoming blacksmith/clockmakers.

It appears that John (1706) left Thakeham and established himself at Petworth. He married Susan Franklin of Petworth on April 15th, 1731. Of this marriage there were Ann 1732, Mary 1733, and John 1735. It may be that his wife Susan died in 1735, for we have in the Petworth Register references to Henry 1736, and William 1739, children of John and Sarah. Sarah could be his second wife or the name "Sarah" could be an incorrect entry in the Register. All these children were baptised at Petworth.

George Tribe (1714) remained at Thakeham with his father. He married twice and had four children, one of which, George 1746, became a blacksmith/clockmaker. The second George (1746) produced four children and his son George 1774, also became a blacksmith, this third George (1774), had ten children, producing a further George 1797, James 1800, and Thomas 1813. All these were baptised at Thakenham (not Thackenham as stated by the author Baillie*).

Daniel Tribe (1717), followed his father's calling, and was apprenticed in 1730 to his brother John (1706) at Petworth. After apprenticeship he set himself up as a Clockmaker in Petersfield Hampshire and in 1741 had an apprentice, Thomas Jaques, son of Elizabeth Jaques of Midhurst, Sussex.

From my observations on the original John of Thakeham it should be noted that his sons John (1706) and Daniel (1717) left Thakeham ca. 1730 for Petworth. This left the father with George (1714) only. It is therefore not surprising to find in 1731 John Tribe of Thakeham taking as apprentice Emanuell Maxfield of Houghton,

Sussex, for five years, the Master being given as a Blacksmith. This further indicates that the author Britten's date of 1728 for John Tribe's death is inaccurate as does the entry in the Sussex Election Poll Book 1734 which gives "John Tribe, Thakeham," as a Voter, Ann and John were both buried at Thakeham, Ann in 1741 and John in 1747. John Tribe (1706) of the Petworth family was buried at Petworth in 1777.

I would deeply appreciate any information that readers could give me to further my research into the antecedents and history, dates and places of Petworth Watch/Clockmakers. I would also be most pleased to hear from anyone in possible possession of Petworth Clocks. If the information that I have already compiled from my research on Petworth and Midhurst Clockmakers and of village craftsman would assist collectors or people in possession of Petworth/Midhurst Clocks/Watches, I would be most pleased to help them.

The information that I have compiled from my research will be published in a book on the subject of Petworth/Midhurst Clockmakers.

Mr. James Alleston (Clockmaker)
340, High Street, Petworth.
Petworth 43317.

London in 1686:

Some young lords and other gentlemen coming home late last night quarrelled with the watchmen and were so humorsome to continue that frolick two or three hours. About 7 in the morning they came amongst the market people in Covent Garden wounding several men and women, beating the watchmen and etc. Some of them were at length secured in the Roundhouse, and in the forenoon carryed before a Justice.

News from London: 6th November 1687

Yesterday being ye anniversary in remembrance of the deliverance from the Gunpowder plott the Bishop of Eely preached upon that occasion before the Princesse of Denmarke at the royall chappell at Whitehall.

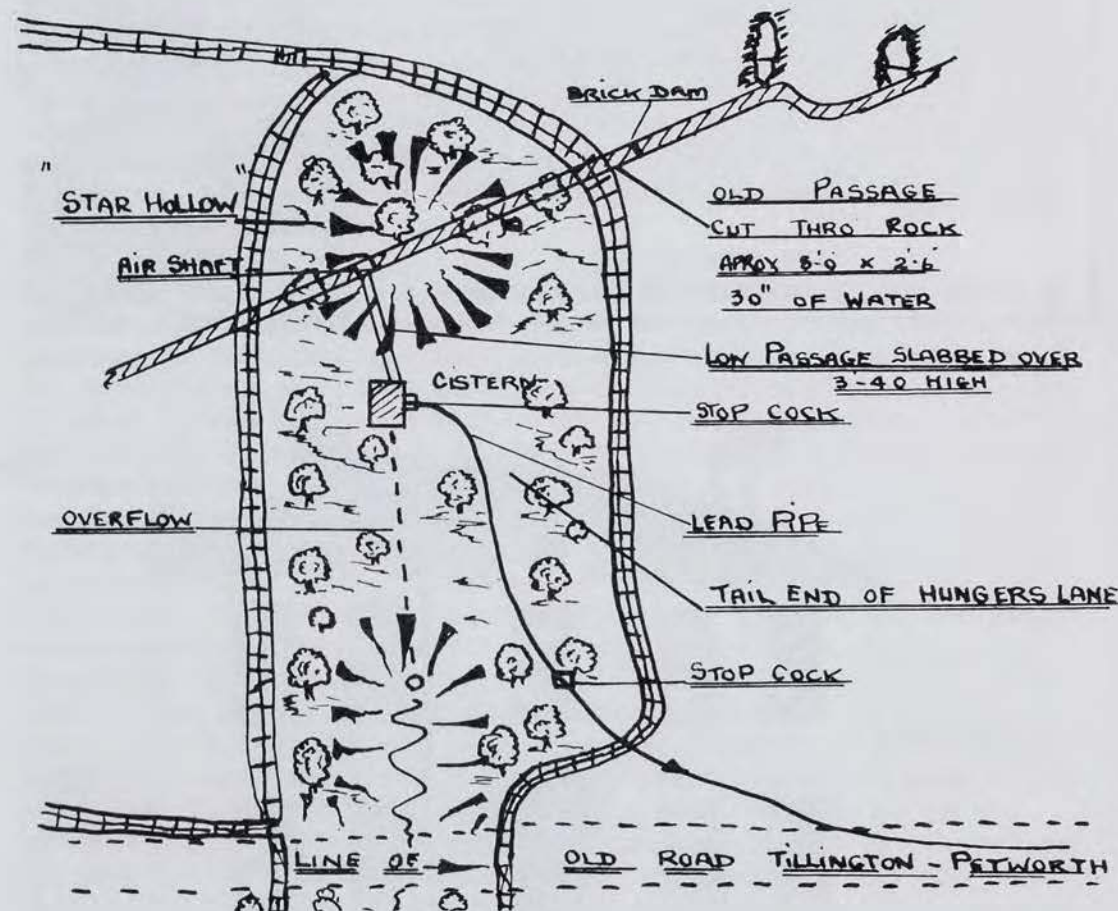
PETWORTH'S WATER SUPPLY (i) The Earliest Times

According to Leland's Itinerary Petworth had a water supply already installed during the reign of Henry VII. This amenity had been due to the initiative of Parson Edmonds, rector of the parish for some thirty-five years from 1496. Edmonds, perceiving the great lack of water at Petworth, had caused a great spring whose head lay about a mile from the town to be brought in lead to Petworth. Part of the water was brought to the Manor House and part to two or three places in the streets of the town.

This spring (or series of springs) lies some 20 to 30 feet below ground in Boxgrove Paddock in Petworth Park, access being along a tunnel cut and built through the rock. Water seeps out of the hard green stone and is turned down a short low passage roofed with slabs. This passage branches off south through a deep pit to an underground chamber built of stone and small flat bricks. The level stands at about 3 feet of water and the chamber measures some 10 feet by 6 feet. A gravel layer some 2 feet wide allows filtration into a 3 inch lead pipe leading away eastwards towards Petworth House and the town itself. The main pipe leads to an old stone reservoir in the woodyard on the north side of Petworth churchyard, but other branches extend across the Park and lawns to supply the old Kennels and parts of the town itself.

The new supply is mentioned in the will of Anthony Jonson of Petworth dated 11th May 1526 in which he sets aside from his estate the sum of 6/8d. "to the mayntaynace of the channell of the cundyte" and it is probable that similar references exist in other wills of the time. According to Lord Leconfield "Petworth Manor in the Seventeenth Century" pp 37, by the time of the survey commissioned in 1575 by the 8th Earl of Northumberland, both water house and pipes were greatly decayed, as indeed was old Petworth House itself.

Henry the 8th Earl in fact agreed to share the cost of repairs with the town and supervisors of the two conduits outside the church and in the Market Square were appointed. The town was endowed also with a 7 acre freehold known as the Conduit Field which lay east of the present Hungers Lane off the road that now leads from Petworth to Tillington. The Conduit Field is clearly marked on Treswell's great map of 1610.



CAST IRON STANDARD

Water rises out of what was once the floor of "Hungers Lane". "Star Hollow" CISTERN was probably built over the main spring. Water then rises to level of natural water table giving storage. Low passage may convey water to main passage or vice versa. Levels have never been low enough to determine. Age of main passage unknown. Cistern appears to have been built in Lane backed with clay, and over the years, the whole back-filled. The pipe follows along line of Old Tillington road to reservoir north of Church and watering places in the town as shown on centre page (left).

LIFT KNOB ON TOP
WATER OUT OF STANDARD OR PIPE IN WALL.



THE OLD BANK HOUSE c1885 - SEE "AN EIGHTEENTH CENTURY LEATHERWORKER".
DRAWN BY MR. J. M. NEWDICK.

Despite this apparent harmony between Earl and townsmen, relations between the 9th Earl and his tenants were far from smooth at this time. The tenants sued the Earl in Chancery over breaches of manorial custom and the appropriation of extensive areas of common for his new Park. Indeed in the summer of 1592 certain of the tenants, taking matters into their own hands, had torn down the new park palings and cut off the water supply to the Manor House. An incensed Earl complained bitterly to Sir John Puckering, the Lord Chancellor, that the rebels had "in violent maner broken and entred those Conduit Houses and hedds apperteyning and by mere charge belonging to my House, stopped and restrayned the water for my necessary use, supposing the same theire lewde Behaviour not to come to light..." The letter is quoted in E. de Fonblanque's Annals of the House of Percy vol. II page 196. How long the Earl's supply was cut off is not clear although the case in Chancery dragged on for the best part of a decade and the Earl presented a cross-suit in Star Chamber against the rebels.

Relations between the 9th Earl and the townsmen were less tense by the time of an indenture made between the Earl and the Rector and townsmen of Petworth, the Earl indeed having spent a great part of the intervening period in the Tower on suspicion of having been implicated in the Gunpowder Plot of 1605. The indenture is dated 1st April 1625. It mentions a fountain of springing water and one conduit head standing over it in Hungers Lane and other conduits at the Church stile, the Market Place and at the north end of South Street against a common inn called "ye George". The document recalls that "time beyond ye memory of man" there had been the one lead pipe. Some 42 years previously, in the time of the 8th Earl, an agreement had been entered into between Earl and townsmen for the repair of the decayed fountain head conduits and pipes. Both parties were to defray half of the charges. It was to facilitate this that the townsmen had been given the freehold of the Conduit Field. Hitherto the revenue from the freehold land had been sufficient "untill now of late that ye said pipes begin to be in soe greate decay that it is thought fittinge they should be of new done and made". The Earl would, in return for receiving back the conduit lands, be willing to undertake the necessary repairs and to be responsible for the continued upkeep of the supply. He would also be allowed to instal a further tap at Petworth House. Two conduit wardens were to be chosen, one by the Earl and one by the townsmen and these officials would supervise the upkeep of the supply. The wardens were to give the Earl sixteen days notice of necessary repairs and these he had to put in hand within six months.

The townspeople for their part however had to keep their taps in order and to defray such expenses as this involved. In fact it proved so difficult to levy the necessary money from the town that in 1640 the town's water committee were arraigned before a Chancery Commission of Enquiry to answer charges that they had misappropriated certain funds intended for charitable purposes and used them for the upkeep of the water supply. The Commissioners declared that the funds had indeed been wrongly used and directed that henceforth the townspeople were to be assessed according to their means with a view to raising the money necessary for the upkeep of the supply. What success attended these fresh measures is not known.

J. TAYLOR (to be continued)

(Parts of this article have appeared in a somewhat different form in the journal of the Sussex Industrial Archaeology Society)

GEESE

Winter brings large numbers of Geese to this country although many do not venture this far south unless the weather is severe.

The exception is the Brent Goose several thousand of which are in Pagham and Chichester Harbours each winter. These birds, which breed in Arctic Russia, have multiplied considerably over the past few years. Consequently they soon exhaust their natural foods in the harbours and take to the fields in search of grass and winter cereals.

The farmers obviously object and are having to take steps to scare them away. A few weeks ago I saw an estimated two thousand Brent Geese in one field and although put up by gunshot they were back within the hour. Blue plastic fertilizer bags hung on poles seem to be the best answer but various field studies are being carried out by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and other organisations.

The Canada Geese in Petworth Park and other freshwaters have increased until they are also a problem. Brought here mainly earlier this century from North America by the whims of country gentlemen these are becoming a pest. The numbers roosting on the main lake have reached 600 this winter and the vast amount of rich droppings deposited in the water must have an effect on the other life that depends on it.

Unless nature takes a hand in controlling their numbers some limiting will be necessary on a national scale.

Some of these birds in Petworth Park carry rings which were put on them in the Beaulieu Firth near Inverness in Scotland and some ringed at Chichester Gravel Pits were later seen on the Beaulieu Firth. It is only through this ringing that we are beginning to understand their movements.

Whilst doing the monthly count of the two Park lakes over the past three years I have recorded a few other geese there:- up to a dozen Greylags, 2 Barnacles and a single Whitefront and Snowgoose.

David Sneller.

AN EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY LEATHER-WORKER (A local history group note)

Most records found during repair work fall into the category of business papers, and those found by Mr. Pottington during extensive renovation at the old Bank House in Market Square and kindly loaned for examination are no exception. They comprise some fifteen miscellaneous dockets concerning one Robert Willard, that some history-conscious eighteen-century rodent dragged from a cupboard and under the floor in order to line his nest. The papers are often damaged at the edge but otherwise in a good state of preservation, the ink particularly often retaining an almost startling clarity. They give a glimpse of the old Bank House over the period from 1769-1782.

Far the longest is an account of William Upton for £4.16.11. This reflects extensive repairs and alterations in 1781 to the Market Square premises and mentions the lower window, the shop window, and the cutting-room window. There are two receipts from 1777 and 1779 each for £2.10.0. for a tenement in North Street rented from the Earl of Egremont. Robert Willard is mentioned in the 1762 Window Tax Assessment as being responsible for premises in North Street and it may well be that he lived in North Street and used the Bank House or some part of it as a lock-up shop. A receipt for 1/8d. dated 21st October 1781 is for duty on hops, while another obscure and damaged document concerns gallons of some undisclosed commodity and is receipted by James Pecoek in June 1775. An acknowledgement of the receipt of £4 "for the use of Mr. Wm. Heather his master" is signed by one Bowden Loyd, but this document is again rather obscure.

The remaining accounts are connected with Mr. Willard's business and the working of leather. All are suppliers' bills. The most numerous are five from Wm. Lewis of Midhurst but there are two from Joseph Upperton and one each from Henry Eade and Peter(?) Maddan. The last three do not mention their place of residence and they may be local. Two of the Lewis accounts come from 1769 and three from 1777, so these are probably lone survivors of a whole series of documents. In the largest invoice Lewis notes 'I did not reckon the skins right when you was hear' and charges 17/2d for two grain skins at 20d a pound with dressing. One wex skin of 7 lbs. at 10d a pound came with dressing to 11/6d. and one hide on the 23rd of February was £1.13.4. Two skins on March 16th had come to £1.0.5d. and Lewis acknowledges receipt in full on April 12th 1769. From Lewis' comment it seems clear that Willard would at least sometimes inspect or collect the skins himself. A grain skin is a rough skin with a pimpled surface for use in leather work. A "wex skin" is a frequently occurring technical term whose meaning I have not been able to establish. "Mr. Willard his bill" a second Lewis account from 1769 is for £5.13.0d. for the same commodities, grain skins, wex skins and a hide. Lewis' three other surviving accounts are all from the year 1777. In July Lewis had supplied 1 hide, 3 skins and 1 wex skin, and 1/2 dozen hemp. It is not quite clear what is meant by the final item. In August he had supplied 1 orap(?) hide (another unknown term) and in September of that year comes another account for 2 skins, 1 being a wex.

P. Maddan's bill is undated and for men's and women's lasts, while Henry Eade's (1782) is for a 42 lb. hide at 1/1d. a pound and a grain skin. The last and fullest accounts are from Joseph Upperton. In March 1776 Willard bought from him a 48 lb. butt at 11d. a pound, 2 kip skins at 1/0 1/2d. a pound, a hide and two more butts. In May 1777 he bought a 30 lb. hide, a 26 lb. hide, 6 skins, 12 pates and 2 butts. A kip was the skin or hide of a young or undersized beast such as a calf or a lamb and would be used for leather-making. A pate was the skin of a calf's head and a butt the thicker or hinder part of a hide or skin. It is clear from all this that Robert Willard worked leather for shoes and probably gloves. How long he continued in business is not known.

In 1812 the premises were the scene of the famous Christmas Dinner Party celebrated by John Osborn Greenfield at the beginning of the Tales of Old Petworth. Mr. Garland the host was then "the head

tailor in the town". According to Mr. Greenfield it was Mr. William Upton who "built the present front of the old bank house". Whether he is referring to the alterations of 1781 or to later alterations by William Upton is not clear. In later times of course the premises were to accommodate the old London and County Bank.

SHEEP-STEALING AT BYWORTH 1796

By good fortune some of the papers of William Tyler, legal adviser to the 3rd Earl of Egremont, survive at Petworth House. Some are not directly related to estate business but more to Tyler's own private practice as a solicitor, while others deal with matters of direct concern to the Earl. We have already dealt with two of Tyler's cases - that of the hooligans in North Street (PHA 6314) and more recently with the Hampers Common horse-thieves (PHA 6316). In the former case it was the Earl of Egremont who formally began proceedings but in the latter the injured party was William Baxall. PHA 6310 is a similar bundle of papers concerned with a case of sheepstealing at Byworth in 1796. There survive two copies of the solicitor's brief setting out the prosecution case against Rowland Harpur of Byworth, along with some statements by witnesses, (now taken up into the prosecution brief), various expenses connected with this and an apparently unrelated case, and the descriptions of two men still wanted for questioning.

The circumstances of the case were these: many sheep had been stolen in the Petworth area during the winter of 1795-6 and on Saturday the 13th or Sunday the 14th February 1796 Meredith Luff had lost a wet-her sheep. The loss was confirmed when parts of the carcass were later found in the field where the sheep had been depasturing. Various scraps of evidence pointed to Rowland Harpur of Byworth and one William Lucas as being responsible, and Mr. Mitford, a local justice of the peace, issued a warrant for their arrest. Harpur was apprehended and on appearing before Mr. Mitford confessed. Mr. Mitford, concerned at the serious consequences of such a confession, had tried to restrain Harpur but on the latter's insistence took a confession which also incriminated William Lucas. Technically as Harpur had confessed there was little point, as the brief notes, in presenting the evidence of witnesses but in order that there should be no reflection on Mr. Mitford the evidence was to be brought before the court.

Meredith Luff would testify that on the 13th of February he had counted his sheep depasturing in a field at Byworth, known as old Tom's field. He had found them all there but on counting the next morning he had missed one and found its head and skin in the same field. On the 2nd April Joseph Legg had told him that William Lucas and Harpur had been responsible for the theft.

Joseph Legg had in February lived in the same house as Harpur at Byworth. On the Saturday in question Harpur and Lucas had asked him to go out with them for they would have some mutton that night. Legg had refused. On the Sunday evening, on going down into the cellar, he saw half a sheep hanging there "hacked about in dressing in a very slovenly manner", and later that morning Harpur told him that he and Lucas had taken a sheep.

Lydia Lee was a resident of Byworth Street and had frequently bought hog wash of the prisoner and his wife. When she had gone to collect wash on the Monday morning following the theft she found in the wash the tail gut of a sheep, small pieces of suet as large as walnuts such as never come with meat from a butcher's, and fresh dung in the tail gut. About that time she had frequently seen mutton dressing and dressed at the prisoner's house and his children eating it.

Jane Salter had lodged some two months at Harpur's house in Byworth and had left at the beginning of March. For the first six weeks of her residence there Harpur and his family had lived very poorly on turnip green and other vegetables with hardly any meat, but afterwards, particularly after the theft, mutton was very plentiful, sometimes boiled, oftener fried or put into puddings and there was mutton to eat twice a day.

William Mitford rehearses Harpur's confession and states that he used no threat or entreaty to obtain such confession but rather told the prisoner "the dangerous consequences of his persisting to make it". Thus the prosecution brief ends.

As Harpur was pleading guilty the result of the case was not in doubt but what then happened to Harpur does not appear. Of the two other men sought in connection with the theft, William Lucas is described as aged about 30 years, 5 feet 7 inches in height, thin and strait made, burly faced with a dark brown complexion and long straight dark hair. He had a habit of chewing tobacco.

When last seen he was wearing a short coarse wrapper round frock, a striped jacket, flannel waistcoat, coarse linen breeches and long black military spadderdashers. He had lately worked on the Rother navigation where he had had the nickname "Bean-Liquor".

Benjamin Baigent, known as Big Ben, was about 36 years of age and stood six foot. He was raw-boned but not stout, with a dark brown complexion and a stiff "sawing" gait and curly brown hair. He too chewed tobacco. When last seen he was wearing a short Russian round frock, a white flannel jacket and long Russian trousers. Some 3 or 4 years previously he had worked on the tunnel at the Basingstoke navigation, but lately on the Rother navigation. He was thought to have moved on to the Newbury navigation.

What is meant by Russian frock and trousers, a "sawing" gait or black military spadderdashers we are not sure, nor has old Tom's field at Byworth yet been located. Nor is there any information on Rowland Harpur's fate or the apprehension of the two travelling labourers. The prevalence of sheep-stealing, despite the harsh penalties for conviction, is attested in a poster from 1798 (PHA 6319) advising of the formation of the Petworth Prosecuting Society, a body which would take the initiative in prosecuting offenders in just such cases as this.

P.A.J.

Another RIDDLE-ME-REE composed by
members of the Young Petworth Society of the
Herbert Shiner School

My first is in steeple but never in tower,
My second's in blossom and also in flower.
My third is in meadow but never in field,
My fourth is in helmet and also in shield.
My fifth is in Petworth but not in the Town,
My sixth is in Sadler but never in Brown.
My seventh's in Egremont and in the Earl,
My last is in Streeters' but not in a pearl.
My whole is in Petworth, a lodge for the frail
And far to the west on your holiday trail.

Answer: Somerset

THE BELLS OF ST. MARY'S

In 1921 it was found unsafe to ring the bells and a fund was started for repairs.

In 1924 Mr. John T. Penrose wrote the following postcard to Mr. Powell:-

"I spent over 2 hours yesterday (Maundy Thursday) at Gillett and Johnsons and saw the metal of our old bells poured into five moulds for new ones. The whole process was very interesting. If the new peal is like several other fine bells I saw and heard tested, it will be very beautiful".

---oOo---

When the bells were taken down in April 1924 the following lettering was found on the tenor bell:-

"T. Mears of London, fecit 1827."

George O'Brien, Earl of Egremont, built the tower and the spire, and gave the clock. The six old bells were exchanged for these eight new ones by voluntary subscription of the inhabitants.

Weight of new Tenor Bell 10 cwts.

INSCRIPTION. "Ad majoram Dei Gloriam et in Honorem Mariæ Beatæ. MCMXXIX."

Bells were re-dedicated October 12th 1924 the same day as Harvest Thanksgiving.

Women's Institute provided tea for the Bell ringers.

CURFEW was rung at 8 p.m. until 1914 when war stopped it. It was rung in the form of the Angelus, starting three times with three strokes.

DISHING BELL was rung directly the sermon was finished on Sunday mornings so that the baker and housewives might know that it was time to dish up the dinner. Some old people still remember it.

SHOEMAKERS BELL was rung every morning at 6 o'clock but this roused too many from their slumbers and was given up many years ago.

When war started in 1939 no bells were allowed to be rung and when Peace came there were not enough bell-ringers to carry on, so the ladies of Petworth stepped into the breach and learnt the fascinating job of ringing Church bells. They were taught by Mr. Stillwell of Pulborough and with a few men, rang the full peal every Sunday. Later they were affiliated to the Sussex Association of Change Ringers - the first Petworth ringers to be members for 50 years.

In 1945 they rang 3 peals for V.J. Day.

From the Women's Institute book.

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING

Except for those, perhaps, who live rather too near them, there is a peculiar charm in the melody of Church bells. In many minds they awaken a variety of feelings, sometimes partly sad, and sometimes the reverse. So that besides their special uses to call us to worship, to toll for the dead, and to cheer a bridal party they have a special charm for our ears and a special claim on our affections. Life in a parish would be dull without them. Cowper, the Poet, thus sings of them -

How sweet the music of those village bells,
Falling at intervals upon the ear,
In cadence sweet, now dying all away,
Now pealing loud again, and louder still
Clear and sonorous as the gale comes on.

When they ring in a new year they may more especially be said to stir in us a variety of feelings, awaken many memories for the past, and in a measure solemnise our inmost souls. We have heard them ever since we were small children, and they may recall happy days when we were guileless infants in a happy home. Or they remind some of how they rung out the happy wedding morning in years gone by. Or as we listen we seem to hear them bidding farewell to the year gone for ever, with all its opportunities, its pleasures and its pains, and we begin the next day to walk in a new untried path of our pilgrimage, not knowing what shall befall us.

Thus does association enhance their pleasure and the use of their sweet notes, and we should value our Parish Bells. Not all parishes have them.

It is said that when many years ago our Church Tower was rebuilt and the spire raised, Lord Egremont was asked "What about the bells?" He replied, "Oh! hang the bells!" And they were hung on good solid beams of oak, and there they have hung ever since.

Bells have a lesson for us all. They have long tongues and open mouths by which they give forth their music. But unlike some "Belles" they are not always on the clatter. They utter no sound until they are appealed to.

They remind us of our privileges when they tell us that a place in the Church is ready for us. They remind us of duties done or undone to a neighbour that is gone from our midst and being laid under the turf. "The Curfew tolls the knell of parting day," at eight o'clock in the evening. This custom, they say, dates from the days of Alfred, who made rules for conduct at the University he was restoring; a bell was to be rung at eight o'clock in the evening, when all should cover their fires (i.e., with ashes to put them out) and go to bed.

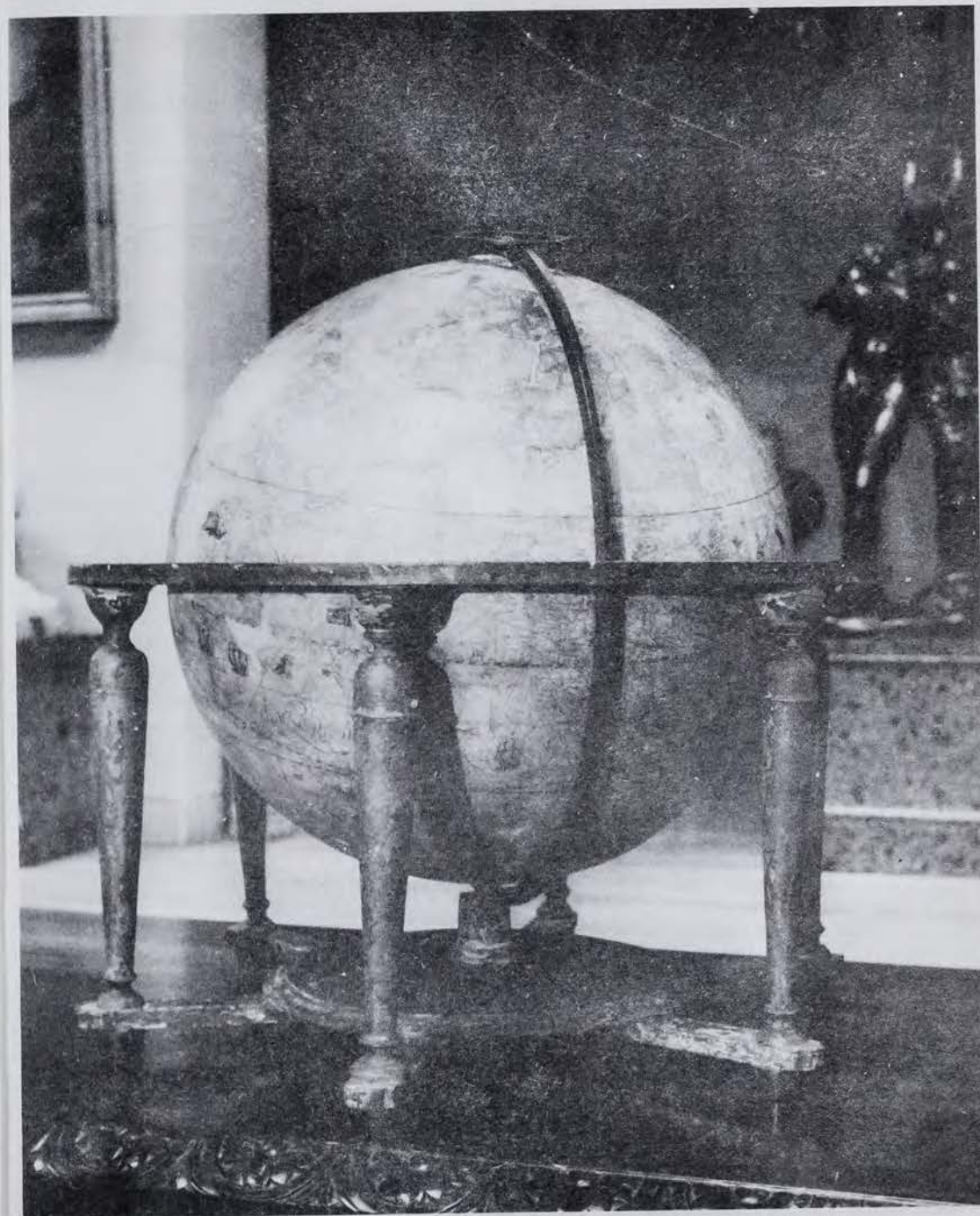
Let us value our bells, and subscribe for their ringing. An inscription on a bell at Buxted runs thus:-

At proper times my voice I'll raise,
And sound to my subscribers' praise.

From Petworth Parish Magazine - February 1888.

QUESTIONS

1. What is the origin of the name Arbour Hill? Some think the name Arbour which occurs elsewhere is derived from the old English "earthburgh" - an earthwork.
2. It is generally assumed that the variety of apple called "Egremont Russett" originated in the gardens of Petworth House. Is this true and can anyone throw any light on this?



THE SIXTEENTH-CENTURY GLOBE AT PETWORTH HOUSE.
PHOTOGRAPH BY G.G.GARLAND.

SOME SEVENTEENTH CENTURY SHIPS

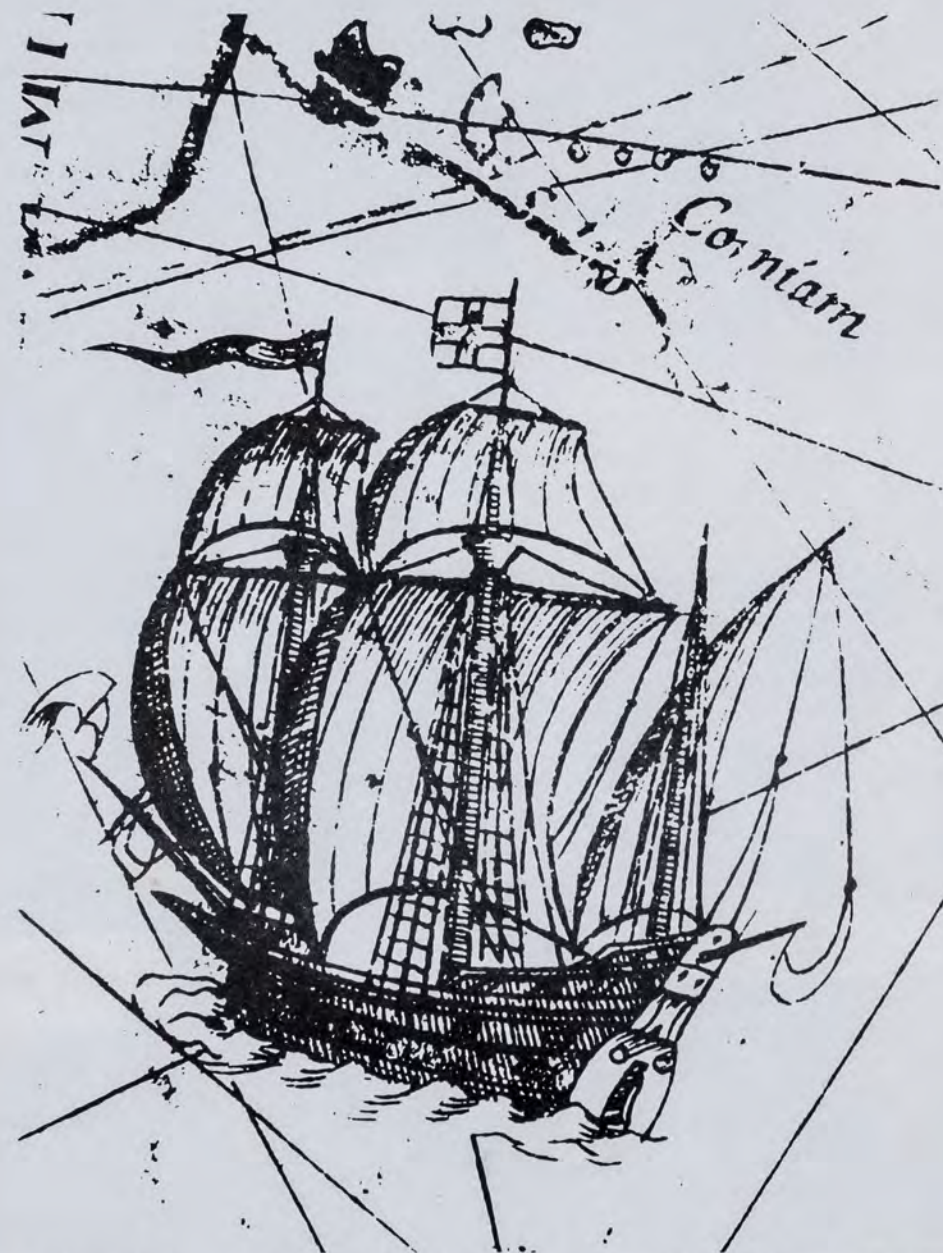
Further delving into the 1630 Handwritten Encyclopedia from Petworth House, PHA HMC 116 reveals some colourful terminology relating to the strength and variances of different countries shipping fleets.

Shipping, of course, played a massive part in the warfare, trade and travel of these earlier times, and it would appear from the encyclopedia's extracts that each country had a great many vessels peculiar to its own use and environment, and others - notably 'Frigotts, Frigoteens, Pinices, Barkes and Carracks' used more widely for trade and warfare.

The High Seas must have been busy places even in those days --- what with the navies of Portugal, Spain, France, England and Holland, not to mention Pirates! all rampaging over the oceans ----. Imagine the horror of the sailors aboard a Frigoteen or sloop of war - a moderate sized vessel of any rig with guns on the upper deck only - when they found themselves facing a Frigott, a powerful three masted ship with raised quarter-deck and forecastle, carrying 30 to 60 guns---; much better, one would suppose, to be engaged on the trading routes, manning a Barque or Barke - a three or more masted vessel with square rigging on the front three masts and fore-and-aft rigging on the mizzen-mast, bound for the glistening shores of the rich new colonies.

A mariner in the West Indies could have been employed on a 'Garvell' (also known as a Caravel -- originally a fishing boat of Portuguese source, and very fast because of its shallow draught) a Periago ?, a Pearl Boat, a Galley, a Canoe "and other smale boats which they use and call by the name of Barcos. And soe in all the coast of Florida, Canada and as farr of the North of America as is discovered they use none of the foresaid but only Canoes." However "in Barberie they have neyther Shippe or Barke" and make do with Gallies, Frigottes and Nozaners (?). The meaning of the last has not been found.

The Turks had Camesalls, Gallies -- which were low flat-hulled boats propelled by either oars or sail, Gundells - an ancient sort of gondola, and the usual fighting Frigetts, Frigoteens and Pinices or Pinnacle; this was a smaller type of full-rigged ship, flat sterned and used both for warfare and trading: from the Pinnacle develop-



A SIXTEENTH - CENTURY SAILING SHIP - DETAIL FROM THE PETWORTH HOUSE GLOBE. REPRODUCED BY PERMISSION OF THE NATIONAL TRUST FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY MR. JOHN MASON.

(SEE ARTICLE BY MRS. RIX.)

ed the Frigett, which in turn gave rise to the graceful Clipper Ships of the nineteenth century.

The Italians boasted Argoses - a Venetian merchant vessel of large proportions, Galligroses ?, Gundellos - surely from Venice, as well as their accouterment of the larger battle and trading ships already mentioned.

France had "shippes of sundry burthen as" Sattees ?, Hoyes which were small vessels rigged as sloops (one mast with the fore-sail and jib combined in one headsail) used for carrying passengers and goods short distances around the coast, and Shallopps - described only as large heavy boats!

Spain and Portugal's fleet consisted of Carracks - a ship whose origin can be traced to the Mediterranean of some centuries before, possibly developed in Italy, but found in other parts of Western Europe. Apparently Genoa used Carracks for trading with England in the 15th Century; then they had only one mast, but by the middle of the same century they had increased to three. On Columbo's 2nd journey to America in 1493 there were three carracks and several caravels (see paragraph 4). These two countries also used Gallions and Carvell - a Swedish-type galleon - Frigettes and Frigoteens. Amongst their smaller craft were Galliases, a larger, heavier version of the Galley, and Galliotics - a schooner or Briganteen (two masted vessel) used for coastal work.

England's list of vessels is impressive; at the head of the 'line' are "Shipps Royall" followed by "Marchant Shipps of great force and burthens" - then a huge array of 'local' craft - Costers, Crarers ?, Caiches i.e. ketch, Hibberboats ?, Peeterboats - a Thames based fishing boat, decked, smaller than a smack or yawl -, Scullers, Longe Boates, Trinker-boates ?, Western Barges ?, Ferryboates and Lighters which were harbour-based barges.

Holland, with whom England was periodically at war at this time, has no fighting ships listed at all - perhaps a patriotic Englishman was responsible for these pages of the encyclopedia, and regarded the Dutch fleet as inconsequential or sunk even! However, in the Dutch town of Hoorn in the 16th Century, an important and new type of ship known as the Fluyt or Fly-boat was being built. It was very narrow in relation to its length, with straight sides and very rounded (apple-cheeked) ends; because of its narrow hull

the rigging had to be light - thus she could be sailed by a smaller crew, and so was more economical to run than the conventional ships of the same era; they were used extensively by traders on the channels of the Zuyder Zee. The Pink was a development from the Fluyt - used as a man-of-war -, but the meaning of Pinckings is seemingly lost forever, completing the fleet were Smackes, Hoyes, Sloops, Shallops and Boates.

Our readers will no doubt be comforted to know that in the distant days of 1650 the Russians "have noe Shippes but 'Lodies' of divers sorts which are mad in a strange manner without the use of nails, wherewith they doe transport their goods about the Coast but dare not navigate farr. They have other sortes of bigg boates as Dingos and such like". How times change. Sonia Rix.

We are printing a letter from the Rector about the appeal for a memorial to Colonel Maude our late President. As you will see this memorial has the approval of Mr. Angus Maude and the family. Whilst the Petworth Society is in itself a memorial to Colonel Maude, we feel that many of our members will wish to be associated with this appeal. At the same time it may well be that other organisations are arranging independent memorials and we are prepared to give equal prominence to them if and when we are notified of them.

Dear Member of the Petworth Society,

Memorial to Colonel Maude

I have been asked to co-ordinate the arrangements to provide a memorial given by Petworth people to Colonel Maude, and I am writing to ask you if you would care to subscribe to it.

I was happy to accept the invitation to do so particularly in view of Colonel Maude's long association with St. Mary's. You will know of his many activities that were directed to the well-being of the Town and all who live in it.

It is proposed to place a seat outside the South Wall of St. Mary's, facing down Lombard Street. The seat will be placed on a prepared base, and suitably inscribed - and will therefore provide a useful and, we hope, welcome amenity. Any who use it, with the Church at the back and the Town ahead, will be reminded of these two great interests of Colonel Maude, and it is felt that this is a suitable way of showing our gratitude for all that he gave to us in the course of a long and dedicated life. Copies of a drawing showing its proposed siting can be seen in the Church and in Petworth Public Library.

The cost of the seat and its base is expected to be about £300. If subscriptions exceed this figure the balance will be devoted to furthering another of Colonel Maude's great interests- the careful keeping of Petworth's ancient records.

Mr. R.M. Wood, The Coach House, Barton's Lane, Petworth, who is assistant Hon. Treasurer of St. Mary's, has kindly agreed to act as Treasurer, and an account has been opened at the National Westminster Bank, Petworth. Cheques should be made payable to the Colonel Maude Memorial Fund, and may be sent to me, to Mr. Wood or direct to the Bank.

The proposal has the warm approval of Mr. Angus Maude and the family and I hope very much that through your generous response we may be able to make a fitting memorial to someone who gave so much to us in his lifetime.

Yours very sincerely,

John Greene. Rector.

PROGRAMME

Wednesday, February 27th Mrs. Dodd's excursion to the Royal Academy in conjunction with the W.I.

Tuesday, March 4th 8 p.m. "Heralds and Heraldry"
An illustrated talk by Richmond Herald, Petworth House.
Admission by ticket only.

Tuesday, March 25th 8 p.m. Leconfield Hall
Mr. Hilton Oakes: a show of slides: "A journey through Hungary and Czechoslovakia".
Admission 35p to include refreshments. Raffle.

Friday, April 11th 8 p.m. Leconfield Hall.
"Petworth in colour". Local colour slides by Mr. John Mason. Admission 35p to include refreshments. Raffle.

Tuesday, May 6th 7.30 p.m. Leconfield Hall.
Annual General Meeting.
Details to be circulated.

In the Public Library from the beginning of April.
"Petworth - a contemporary view"
Photographs by Mr. John Mason.

