

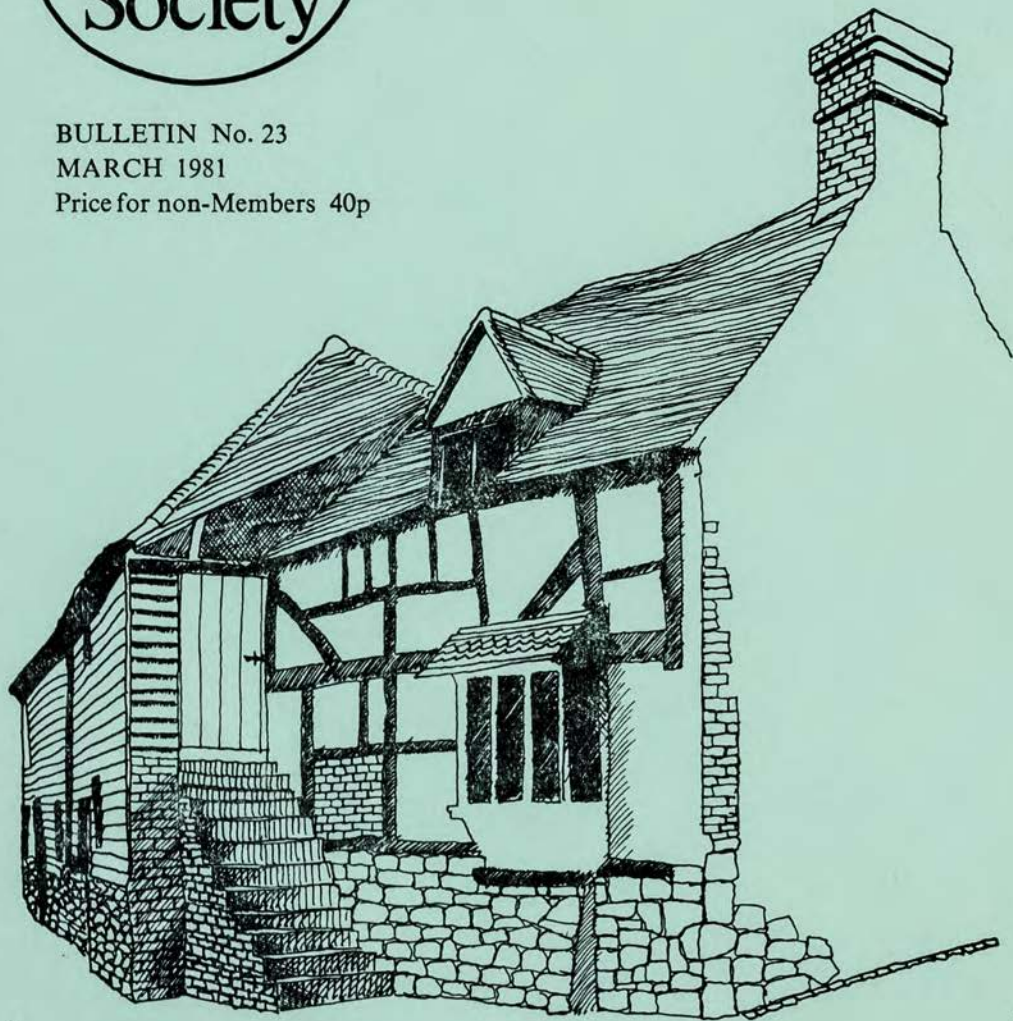
The Petworth Society

Miles Costello
Petworth
Collection

BULLETIN No. 23

MARCH 1981

Price for non-Members 40p



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Cover Design by Mr. J.M. Newdick - drawn from a photograph belonging to Mrs. Smith of Fittleworth. It shows the old house that used to stand in the Angel Shades - demolished in the 1930s.

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This Bulletin was printed by:-
MIDHURST AND PETWORTH PRINTERS

11 Rothermead,
PETWORTH.
Tel. 42456

and at

Duck Lane,
MIDHURST.
Tel. 6321

Published by:- The Petworth Society

The Petworth Society was founded in 1974 "to preserve the character and amenities of the town and parish of Petworth, including Byworth; to encourage interest in the history of the district, and to foster a community spirit". It is non-political, non-sectarian, and non-profit-making.

Membership is open to anyone, irrespective of place or residence, who is interested in furthering the objects of the Society.

The annual subscription is £1 (minimum). Postal £1.50 (minimum). Further information may be obtained from any of the following:-

Chairman - Mr. P.A. Jerrome, Trowels, Pound Street,
Petworth.

Vice-Chairman - Mr. K.C. Thompson, 18 Rothermead, Petworth.

Hon. Secretary - Mrs. B.G. Johnson, Glebe Cottage, Bartons
Lane, Petworth. (Tel. 42226)

Hon. Treasurer - Mr. R.A. Sneller, 16 Littlecote,
Petworth. (Tel. 42507)

Hon. Membership Sec. - Mrs. J. Boss, North Street, Petworth.

Committee - Lord Egremont, Mrs. Audrey Grimwood,
Mr. R. Pottington, Mrs. Margaret Hill,
Mrs. Sonia Rix, Mrs. C.M. Sheridan,
Mrs. Anne Simmons, Mr. D.S. Sneller,
Mr. J. Taylor, Miss Julia Thompson.

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

The monthly meetings are now well past the experimental stage and we are already thinking of items for next autumn and spring. We hope then to take advantage of the many offers of help from members. The next three meetings (March to May) are on the separate activities sheet. You will see that the programme of walks and local excursions is the best we have yet mounted - don't miss them - there's a good deal more to the Petworth Society than this quarterly Bulletin.

For the many who could not come to the evening of Petworth objects of yesteryear (and still more those who did and hadn't time for more than a cursory glance at the ocean of material) it is now almost certain that we will mount a similar exhibition in connection with the Petworth Festival. Everyone then would have time to look. As usual I would have to seek your help with the stewarding.

Members will be sorry to learn that Mrs. Thorpe feels that the time has come for her to leave the Committee and we as a Committee are sorry to lose such a cheerful and helpful member. I am sure however that as Lady Shakerley has done since her "retirement" Mrs. Thorpe will continue to have the closest links with the Society. Her place will be taken by Miss Julia Thompson who will of course be known to many people in Petworth. Not the least of Julia's qualifications will be her ability to speak for an age-group which we would like to see more represented in the Society.

Lastly please have a look at the following item "Regency Fete at Petworth". Clearly this will be one of the biggest events at Petworth for many years and the Petworth Society has every intention of working as closely as it can with the National Trust to make the Fete the success it will almost certainly prove to be. We shall be actively seeking your help in the coming months. The National Trust will clearly put a considerable effort into the Fete and the Trust deserves an appropriate response from the town itself.

P.A.J.

REGENCY FETE AT PETWORTH

Following upon the outstanding success of the Fete Champetre at Claremont Landscape Garden, Esher, Surrey, last year, the Southern Region of the National Trust has decided to hold a similar major event this year in West Sussex. A REGENCY FETE is to be held at PETWORTH on four evenings in July 1981: 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th.

The entertainment will consist of a wide variety of theatrical performances appropriate to the Regency period (1811 - 1820) when the Prince of Wales, later George IV, acted as Regent during the incapacity of his father, George III. The 3rd Earl of Egremont, a great patron of the arts, was owner of Petworth at that time.

The Fete will take place in the deer park between the house and the lake - a spectacular setting landscaped by Capability Brown. Planning is still at an early stage, but the proposed list of events includes music, singing, strolling players, carriage driving, horses, a cricket match, a hot air balloon, fireworks on the lake and many other things to delight the eye and ear.

It is an occasion not to be missed and National Trust members and the public will be invited to bring picnics and come in costume if they wish. Car parking is ample and access will be by the New Lodge entrance on the Midhurst Road.

Further information from:

Norman D. Price,
Regional Information Officer,
National Trust, Southern Region,
Polesden Lacey,
Dorking, Surrey, RH5 6BD. Tel: Bookham 53401

Booking Office opens 1st May.

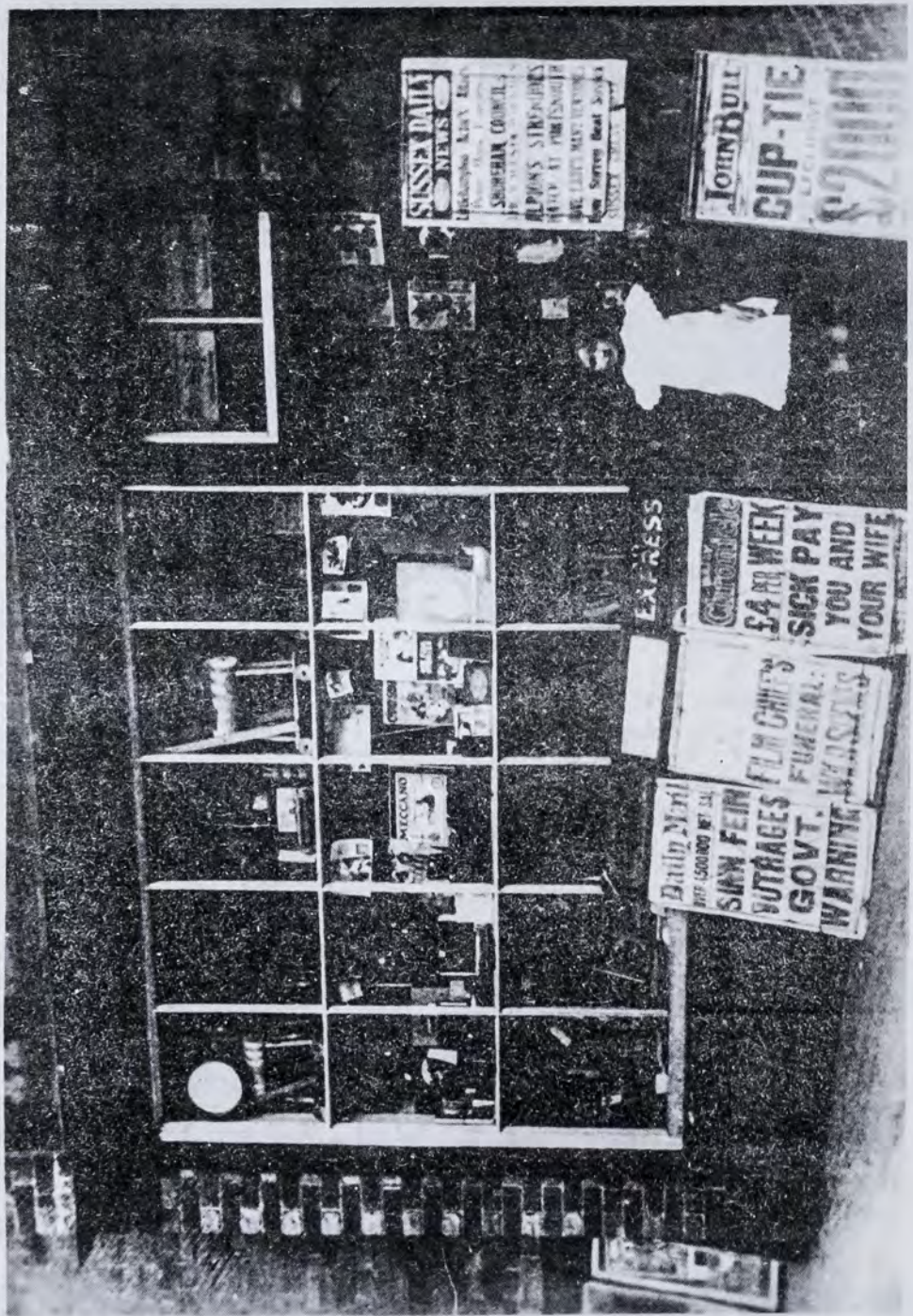
BOXGROVE SCHOOL, PETWORTH, SUSSEX.

Happy days. I wonder how many old pupils are still living and treasure the memory of the three very Victorian ladies who taught us our 3 R's and many other subjects? Miss Jane, Miss Emma and Miss Fanny. I left in 1908 to go to school in London but my two sisters Peggie and Irene Streeter spent all their school days at Boxgrove. My cousin Brenda Knight was the first pupil whose parent was one of their first pupils.

In our break time if the weather was fine we were allowed to go into the garden and play croquet, go on the swing or play "He" in and out the double box hedge. In the class room we had two long tables with forms on each side where we had to sit very correctly with our arms folded.



Pound Street c.1910. Box Grove and the double hedge are on the right of the picture. See "Box Grove School". This comes from an old postcard.



Alex Weaver's Lombard Street shop before the exchange of premises. Small daughter Betty in doorway. See "Petworth in the 1920's". This also comes from an old postcard.

On looking back I can see the three dear ladies regularly walking to Church on a Sunday morning usually in black with a bustle at the back and hats rather like boats.

I cannot remember quite the finishing of the school as the First World War came and I was only home at the Clock House for holidays but there may be some in Petworth who do.

What lovely people they were, their basic education was practical and sound, manners and good behaviour were always expected.

I always visited them when I was home on holiday and have to thank them for much in life.

Ena C. Lee (née Streeter)

A PETWORTH CHILDHOOD (5)

Playtime

I can see myself now, kneeling on a folded sack, cleaning the red brick floor of the middle-room and the scullery. This was my job on Saturday mornings; it seemed for ever sometimes! As mother said "One person can't do everything", but, once we had finished our allotted jobs, usually ending with the washing up after dinner, then we were encouraged - sometimes bidden - to "go out to play". Of course, rising as early as they did and working so hard physically, both my parents needed a rest after dinner, and to have it, they needed quiet, so we went out, anywhere that we liked, so long as we were back in time for tea. In the winter we would play in the hay in the hovel or in the cart shed, unless it was absolutely pouring with rain. In the summer much farther afield.

Living though we were in the midst of the enormous Leconfield estate, just five acres of freehold, we had no sense of restriction, rather a greater sense of freedom. With the common around us, Pheasant Copse in front, leading to Petworth Park in one direction and Stag Park in the other and Raffling Wood a field away behind us, what more could any child ask for? Providing that we kept to the rides we could go where we liked in either wood and in the Park we could wander where we would. You never saw anyone else, just the fallow deer and the birds on the water and an occasional fish jumping. I used to like to get to the lake opposite Petworth House and watch the ducks and water fowl there. There used to be a little bench on

the roof of the boat house and I would sit there watching the water; it was very private and quiet. Pheasant Copse was a very welcoming wood. Strawberries grew at the sides of the rides and we usually found quite a lot of chestnuts in the Autumn. We would save them for Christmas and mother would boil them in an iron saucepan. The pond in the middle of the wood, all the wood, was quiet and sort of secret.

But I shall not name my favourite place of all - absolutely magical - a small square meadow surrounded by common on two sides a small wood on the third and a lane along the fourth side - full in the spring of cowslips, daffodils, oxlips, purple orchids, milk-maids, violets around the edges and a little stream with a tiny board across it to get into the wood. Further up stream water-cress grew and we would take some home for tea when in season. Even as a child I knew that this was somewhere to savour by oneself. "There sleeps Titania" - I should never have been surprised to see a fairy here. Father Christmas I left off believing in quite young, but fairies were another matter. I always felt that I had just missed seeing them, not that they were not there. You never told anyone but hoped and longed secretly. Yes, we were very innocent.

The older I get and the more I see of life today, the more do I realise just how privileged we were to have such a care-free childhood and I never cease to be grateful for it.

W.W.

(Regretfully this is the last of Mrs. Wadsworth's pieces. Nothing we have printed in the Bulletin has created more interest than these. Ed.)

LOCKSMITH'S WORK AT PETWORTH IN 1589-90

These and subsequent short entries are taken from PHA 424 - Accounts of Richard Stokes mainly for work on the Walks and Great Garden at Petworth. Reproduced by kind permission of Lord Egremont.

pd. for a locke and key to the newe house of office the xvith of November 1589 xx d

pd. for a key and mending the locke for the wickett to the backe gate goinge to the newe walks the xviith of November 1589 viii d

"EDWARDS OF PETWORTH" A note

Found in the vicinity of the old Leconfield Creamery at Kirdford.

A large brass hub nut, supposedly from the wheel of a trap, carriage or hand cart, with the words Edwards Petworth stamped on it.

Presumably Mr. Edwards of Petworth was the maker of the vehicle what-ever it was, can anyone enlighten us further?

Tilden Eldridge, 6 Heron's Close, Kirdford.

(Kellys directory for 1891 lists an Edward Edwards of Langhurst Farm (Nr. Balls Cross). This was a Leconfield Farm at the time and the hub nut might have been lost on the way from there to the Leconfield Creamery. Can anyone add anything to this? E.V.)

JAMES ROW IN VAN DIEMENSLAND

Since Mr. Jerrome's article "Letters from Van Diemensland" in Bulletin No: 22, as he so rightly says, I have been extremely interested in the "Oglethorpe & Anderson" collection of family documents pertaining to my ancestors - the Rows of Petworth - and have copies of many to examine at my leisure. The letters of James Row - who was the brother of my grandfather John Row - need a lot of study, but a document, dated 9th March 1847, concerning James, in the form of answers to a number of pertinent questions, put to him by a Mr. C.S. Henty, to establish that the James Row in Van Diemensland and the James Row who left Petworth in the early 1830s are one and the same man, is most interesting. It is also extremely helpful. When his mother died in 1844 he had evidently not been heard of for some years and, before the family sent money out to him as a beneficiary they were anxious to prove his identity! So he was asked for names of his family and relations - where his father had come from before he lived in Petworth and where they lived in the town. From this we know his mother, Susanna Row (nee Petar) had connections with the Upton, Howard and Osborn families, and that James' sister - Anna Maria had married into the Ferguson family - Drapers of Petworth. James and his brother John went to Berry's School, but brother William went to Crosthwaite's. Asked to describe the house in which he was brought up James says "Long, low house opposite the Market Clock, with Uncle Petar on one side and Grandmother on the other."

I think these would be Edward Petar and old Mrs. Petar (nee Tooth). He also described some old pictures in the house - "in the Dining Room near the closet there was fixed a representation of Fruits with a Frog, Insects, etc, besides several Dutch paintings on wood." This "Questionnaire" is dated 9th March 1847. To link up with this I have a copy of a Catalogue of an Auction Sale of Mrs. Row's effects "who is leaving Petworth", dated 26th September 1831. Lot 79 "A Dutch Marine View, framed", which was knocked down to a Mr. Grim (? Gunn) for 8s.6d., and Lot 80 "Two engravings, framed and glazed" which was also purchased by him for 6s.6d. would seem to tie up with James' description of the paintings in "the Dining Room". I cannot help wondering if the Dutch Marine painting is still on a wall in a Petworth home today, or if a "Fine old painting of The Ascension" which was bought by Mr. C. Johnson (? the Undertaker) for £1.10s. is still in the locality! The Catalogue of the Sale with all the buyers is, of course, fascinating and must contain the names of ancestors of quite a number of Petworth residents today.

Until I saw James' "Questionnaire" I had no idea the family had come from Goring, where I found James father had been born in 1768 to William and Nann Row (nee Penfold), and that he had numerous brothers and sisters! I now know that the Rows were at Angmering and have information about William's mother and father - John and Mary Row. There are innumerable clues to follow up, and the strange set of co-incidences which started me on my research are - as Kipling says - "another story"!

from Mrs. Smart, 9 Gander Hill, Haywards Heath.

PETWORTH IN THE 1920's - SOME RECOLLECTIONS

Wilfrid and I have been reading with interest your notes on Petworth Clockmakers, particularly as we have a Dutch friend who has developed into a great skill a hobby of repairing and restoring old clocks. Having spent many holidays with us when we were living in Petworth he was delighted to acquire, a year or two ago, a John Taylor clock which he has now restored.

When he told us about this purchase I had a faint echo of a recollection that I had been told as a small child at the time my parents and I were moving to a new home across the road at the bottom of Lombard Street, that John Taylor's workshop had been in those premises on the top floor where two sizeable rooms had been knocked

into one and were, before we moved in 1923, occupied by a cheerful bearded old carpenter, a Mr. Johnson, or Johnstoh, who sang and whistled all day at his work. The rest of the house was let out in rooms to various people, but the two I remember most clearly were Charlie Mullins and his wife Topsy. Charlie was a Dickensian character who drove the "fly" to and from the station, a small spry rather bandy-legged man, always attired in gaiters and checked jacket, and carrying with him an aroma of horses and the straw which was put on the floor of the "fly". Perched up on the box with his long whip in his hand (which I believe he had for show and rarely, if ever, used) he looked, to a small girl, like a figure from a story book. By contrast, Topsy was as round as a ball, slow and easy-going, with an infectious giggle.

The ground floor of this new home had been occupied by the Estate Agents, Newland Tompkins and Taylor - in fact, we exchanged premises, as they moved across the street where we had been, and where King and Chasemore still are. My father, Alex Weaver, who came from Somerset, settled in Petworth about 1910 and started his newsagency with confectionery and toys and, rather later I think, fancy goods. We had, until some years ago, his early accounts book which was meticulously written up for every newspaper customer whose bill, if he had nothing more than a daily paper, came to 3d. per week!

There must be many older residents of Petworth who remember the periodic visits of the "picture show" just after the first World War. The exhibitors were, I imagine, itinerants who travelled the district with portable equipment, setting up in the open air as soon as it was dark enough. The screen would be put up over the window at the left-hand side of the main entrance to the Solicitors' office in the Market Square and a large crowd would soon gather.

I don't remember how often the film show came, but one of my earliest recollections is of being picked up out of a warm bed, wrapped in a blanket and carried out to the Square to sit on my father's shoulder, half asleep and watching - it seems in retrospect - endless lines of soldiers marching, their legs moving in the feverish jerky manner of early movies; they would, perhaps, be troops returning from the war? And once there was a steam engine advancing inexorably towards the camera, making me scream with fear in case it should mow us down!

The showings generated a great deal of interest and excitement, but I believe that, unlike my parents and their contemporaries, I didn't

regard them as a modern miracle and was sometimes fretful and longing to get back to bed, particularly if the evening was wet or cold. I felt the same mystification over the interest the older generation would feel at the appearance of an aeroplane - I dutifully went out of doors to look, but couldn't understand why I should marvel. A child of to-day would feel the same about the moon landings.

Many memories of earlier inhabitants have been awakened by some of the stories, pictures and drawings in the Society's magazines. To mention just one - Phyllis Sadler's story of Pickle Hammond in the March issue reminds me that he used to trundle a small cart around from which he would sell watercress - presumably gathered from the brook. His cry "All fresh and clean, all fresh and clean" was a familiar sound in the town and became, in my Mother's family, adapted to "All fresh and clean like Pickle's watercress" - a common way of describing anything in excellent condition. I do, in fact, sometimes still use it to-day.

Betty Bevis.
13th December, 1980.

SOME PETWORTH RECOLLECTIONS

My mother married my stepfather, "Pedlar" Palmer about 1928, at that time she was housekeeper at "Brownings" Kirdford and my stepfather was a fishmonger, we then moved into Petworth, living with Mrs. Remnant in Grove Street. I started school at Petworth infants school, my earliest recollections of that time was the annual fair held in the square, the roundabouts, swings and especially the coconut shy run by old "Smithy" who, if my memory serves me right, had a peculiar voice.

We then moved to Dog Kennel Cottages at the top of Duncton Hill, my stepfather was now working at the sandpits at Heath End and had to walk to work every day. Duncton Hill in those days was very open, a few fenced fields along the Chichester road, here as a boy I would roam the hills, when not attending the C of E school at Duncton, the headmistress at that time was Miss Botting and the school catered for the complete range, infants to seniors, and the total number attending was approximately 70. They were very happy days, I can remember going to Petworth to see "Gran and Grandad Palmer" who kept a sweet shop next to the Co-op in Golden Square

and the annual trip for Lord Leconfields "rent day" in the Iron Room with the annual fair in the square.

In the winter, during the shooting season, us boys would go "stopping" at the edge of the drives, I can remember the beaters had red lining in their cloaks and I think they wore "top hats", then there was the mule cart that would arrive to collect the birds, and to bring us bread and cheese and we also managed a drink of beer.

There was also the excitement of following the hounds when the Leconfield hunt met in our area.

As I grew older I would cycle into Petworth on a Saturday to go to the "pictures" in the tin cinema opposite the Midhurst Road, we lads got to know the proprietor, Mr. Collins, very well, and helped him get the new Cinema opened just up the Midhurst Road.

Another memory is August Bank holiday Monday in Petworth park, the town band playing and the fishing competition in the lake.

When I left school I went to work for Mr. Gwillim at Coultershaw mill as an apprentice miller, cycling to and from work everyday, which was made a bit easier by my family moving to Sutton, and the "White Horse" pub became my first "local", the inn keeper was a Mr. Vile, by this time I was also involved in learning to dance, the classes being held in a room above the "White Hart" Petworth, I also joined the Royal Sussex Rgt. T.A. so at the outbreak of war was mobilised and served with the B.E.F. and also after Dunkirk, into the Middle East, Italy, Greece and so on, I was married to a Durham girl during the war and we settled down in Sutton, later moving to Bignor working for Henry Tupper, but the army called, I re-enlisted and served until 1971, having been over 30 years in uniform, I was selected to become a Yeoman Warder at the Tower of London, a small select little body of 37 ex Warrant Officers, whose main function is the security of the Tower and Crown Jewels, a job they have been doing now for 900 years, it is a job that goes on 24 hours a day every day of the year, when we are not needed on police duty then we serve the public, relating history, answering questions etc., about 3½ million tourists pass through the castle every year.

The uniform we wear dates from 1485, a Tudor sur-coat and bonnet, we have two, the blue "working dress" and the scarlet ceremonial. We live in the Tower with our wives and families, about 150 men, women and children, a small village in its own right, having our own "pub",

parson and doctor, a village green and parish church, from time to time we are called upon to attend Royalty.

from Yeoman-Warder Davis,
Beauchamp Tower,
H.M. Tower of London EC3 N 4AB.

THE 'PEACHER' AND THE PRESS GANG:
A TALE OF THE SMUGGLERS OF STORRINGTON Alison McCann

It was 8 o'clock on the evening of 27 February 1804. In his house near the Crown inn on Cootham Common, Storrington, William Souter had just gone upstairs to bed. He had been unwell for several weeks, since being crushed on the side by a wagon wheel, and had been unable to work regularly. His wife and their three young children were still downstairs in the kitchen, and with them, sitting in the chimney corner, was the wife's son by a previous marriage, John Morley. He was a man of 20, who had come home from Brighton where he worked, because he was suffering from the effects of venereal disease.

Into this peaceful household burst ten men, dressed in round frocks. They were all armed with clubs, and one tall red-headed man called Thomas Duke carried a sword. They dragged John Morley from his seat and bound his hands, then two of their number went upstairs to fetch Souter. Mrs. Souter ran after them, but stopped when they threw a candlestick at her, and went to the front door to get help. However the front door was guarded by a man with a pistol and there was no escape.

The two men who had gone upstairs to fetch Souter dragged the unfortunate man to the head of the stairs, then pulled him downstairs by the legs, bruising his side badly as they did so. His wife repeatedly asked the men why they were taking her husband and son, but they thrust her and her young children into a corner, threatening to murder her if she would not keep quiet. After allowing Souter to put on his outer clothes, they bound his hands and disappeared into the night with their two captives. They left someone behind to hold the door, so that Mrs. Souter could not summon help for half an hour.

As soon as she was able to leave the house, Mrs. Souter hurried to Sullington to get help from her husband's employer, Mr. Fuller.

It may seem strange that she did not go for help to her immediate neighbours, but the reason for this will become clear. Since Mr. Fuller was away from home, it was to his wife that Mrs. Souter poured out her story, begging that Mr. Fuller should help to find her husband and son. On the afternoon of the next day, however, a man brought Mrs. Souter a letter from her husband, telling her that they had been seized by a Press Gang, and taken to Littlehampton.

In those days, Press-Gangs had the right to seize men for service in the navy. However, they were only supposed to take men who had previously had some connection with the sea in their work. Neither Souter nor his stepson came into this category. Nor had the Littlehampton Press Gang any right to take men from as far afield as Storrington. Two years previously the churchwardens of Storrington had asked the gang's officer, Lieutenant Spry, to impress one William Moore of their parish, a highwayman and smuggler, and a fellow of the worst character. To have such a man pressed into the navy was a good way of ridding the neighbourhood of his undesirable presence. Spry, however, refused their request, saying that he could not press the man because Storrington was out of his district. Why then did Spry and his gang come to Storrington and take away Souter and his stepson? Spry said that he was acting on information received, that the two men were suitable subjects for the gang's attentions. It turned out that the source of his information was one of the smuggling fraternity, probably Robert Applegate of Littlehampton, a most notorious character. It seems that the whole reason for the seizure of Souter and his stepson was that he had incurred the wrath of the local smugglers by laying information against them.

Storrington may seem too far inland to be a centre of smuggling activity. The Storrington smugglers would not have made the runs across the Channel themselves, but would have collected orders for goods, which they passed on to their contacts on the coast. When the required goods had been brought over, the inland men would collect them from the quiet beaches and inlets where they were landed, and carry them away from the coast and distribute them to the surrounding countryside. The leading smuggler in the Storrington area at this time seems to have been James Searle, known as Old Gingerbread. He was the landlord of the Crown inn on Cootham Common, less than 100 yards from Souter's house. This was presumably why Mrs. Souter did not summon help from her immediate neighbours. She had assumed, when the men first burst in, that they had come from a smuggling cutter. Souter himself had at one time been a 'rider' for the

smugglers, that is, one of the men who helped to bring the contraband goods up from the coast. For several years before this eventful evening he had given up all connection with the smugglers and led a respectable and hardworking life. Recently, however, Searle had missed some tubs of smuggled spirit, and thought Souter had stolen them. Searle had sent some of his men to dig up Souter's cabbage patch where he thought the tubs were hidden. In retaliation for this, Souter had decided to lay information against his former colleagues. On 22 February he had gone to see Thomas Broad, Comptroller of the Customs for the Port of Arundel, and had given evidence against James Searle, William Meeton of West Chiltington, and other smugglers in the area. Not only that, but he had boasted to Searle of what he intended to do as he walked past Searle's house one night.

To 'peach' on the smugglers was the worst offence a man could commit, frequently punishable by death. To silence Souter, Searle had persuaded the Littlehampton Press Gang, with promises of £20 and gifts of brandy, to press Souter into the navy. Presumably they took John Morley as well in order to leave Mrs. Souter and her three young children unprotected, in case she should have courage enough to complain to the law. To reinforce the Press Gang Searle sent some of his own men with them when they went to take Souter. William Meeton was there, and Thomas Trevett, employed by Searle as a 'rider', and some other unidentified smugglers. When the gang arrived to take Souter, Searle treated them to bread and cheese and beer at the Crown before they went over to Souter's house. After Souter and Morley had been seized, the smugglers and the Press Gang set off with them towards Littlehampton, but at the top of Cootham Hill the smugglers melted away, and the gang and their prisoners went on alone.

They reached Littlehampton in the early hours of the morning, and Souter and Morley were locked up in an outhouse at Lieutenant Spry's house. There they stayed all that day, except for a brief interview with Sory. They complained to him of the rough treatment they had suffered, to which Spry's only reply was that it was Souter's fault for offending Searle. At some time during the day, Souter managed to send a letter to his wife, explaining to her where he was, and by 11.15 that night she had arrived in Littlehampton. A quarter of an hour before she arrived, John Morley had escaped. He had managed to slip his hands from the handcuffs, and ran off into the winter night, barefoot and very cold.

Souter was complaining of considerable pain, caused by the aggravation of his old injury by the rough treatment he had received. During the next day repeated attempts were made to persuade Spry to release him. John Lee, one of the Overseers of the Poor for Storrington parish, came to Littlehampton to request Souter's release on the grounds of ill-health. Hugh Fuller, the son of Souter's employer, came to claim him back as his father's labourer. To both Spry replied that he could not release his prisoner, who was in good health, and had been reported to him as a very troublesome man, who it would be a kindness to his neighbours to press into the navy.

Despite all appeals Souter was sent on under guard to Portsmouth. Attempts to secure his release continued. Hugh Fuller wrote a letter to the Port Admiral at Portsmouth, which Mrs. Souter took. But it was not until Thomas Broad, the Comptroller of Customs with whom Souter had originally laid the information against the smugglers petitioned the Board of Customs, that Souter was released, on 15 March. By 9 o'clock on the morning of that day he was in Havant, from where he walked to Arundel, a distance of 19 miles. When he arrived at Thomas Broad's house at 4 o'clock that afternoon, Souter was in a state of collapse. The bruises on his side made when the smugglers dragged him downstairs were causing him considerable pain. Mrs. Broad had him put to bed in her house, but did not expect him to live through the night. When she found that he was still alive next morning she had him sent home to Storrington in a cart. His right side was black and blue with bruises, and his right thigh very swollen, and he could get no sleep because of the pain from his injuries. Six days after arriving home, on Thursday 22 March, Souter died.

His widow was left destitute, and had to apply to the parish for help to maintain her family. Her son John Morley did not dare come home, for fear that the smugglers would have him pressed again. But the affair had evidently caused a considerable stir in the neighbourhood, and Mrs. Souter was advised to seek some legal redress for the actions which she was sure had hastened her husband's death. In June she took her story to a Justice of the Peace. Even then, she did not go to a local Justice, but to the Earl of Egremont at Petworth. Perhaps she was still frightened of the influence of the smugglers in her area. The Earl of Egremont took up Mrs. Souter's case and his lawyer, William Tyler, took charge of the proceedings which resulted in Spry, Duke, Meeton and Trevett being tried at the Sussex Lent Assizes in 1805.

Spry's defence was that he had impressed Souter and Morley lawfully as part of his duties, and that they had gone willingly with the gang, and there had been no violence. Duke explained that he was simply following the orders of his superior, Lieutenant Spry. Meeton claimed that he was not at Souter's house at all, but had been mistaken for the captain of a smuggling cutter who looked very like him. Trevett absconded, and was never brought to court. They were all found guilty. Spry was deprived of his position, and Meeton was sent to prison, still protesting his innocence.

Nothing definite is known of the eventual fate of any of the people involved in the drama. James Searle may have died the next year, as a James Searle of Cootham did die in 1806, aged 72. William Meeton may have served his prison term, then become a reformed character, for a William Meeton died in 1833, a highly respectable schoolmaster. Robert Applegate of Littlehampton, who had originally given Souter's name to Spry as a suitable man to press, lived to a ripe old age, dying in 1853. By then he was a very rich man, having not surprisingly made his fortune as a wine and spirit merchant.

Note

The documents relating to the case are in the Petworth House Archives, and I am grateful to Lord Egremont for his permission to use them. Information about the later history of the people mentioned is taken from parish registers and wills in the County Record Office.

This article is reprinted from "West Sussex History" - the journal of the West Sussex Archives Society. The Society, which exists to further the work of the County Record Office, is always pleased to welcome new members and the relevant details can be obtained from Dr. T. Hudson, West Sussex Record Office, County Hall, Chichester, Sussex.

LOCKSMITH'S WORK AT PETWORTH IN 1589-90

pd. for a keye to the wett landes dore and mendinge the locke the
xiiith of Januarie 1589 vii d

(Where and what were the wett landes? Ed.)



Mr. "Peddler" Palmer in 1928. See "Some Petworth recollections".
Photograph by George Garland.



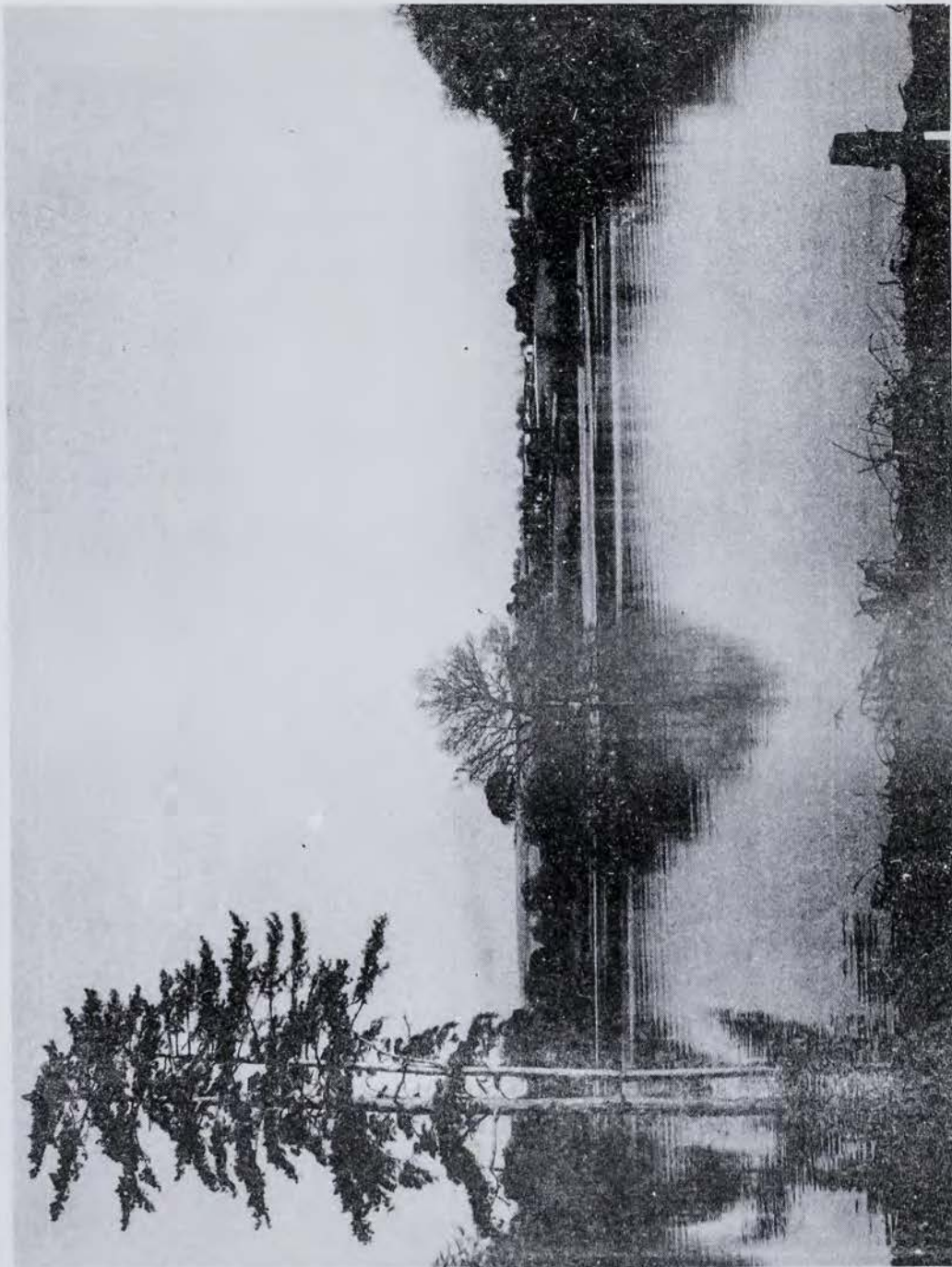
Middle Street. Date not known but certainly before "Percy Hazelman moved to the grocery shop in Middle Street with his young family". See "An old Petworth tradesman". Left to right: Lady unknown, Mr. Todman (owner), Mrs. Todman, Hilda Todman, (?) Mr. Herrington. Boy unknown. The photographer is also unknown. If Walter Kevis it must be before 1911. The notice about Standard Bread may indicate the Great War.



Mr. Pulling
 To J. Woodcock
 To the education of your
 Son William
 1839 Apr. 6th 12th 20th and
 27th at wh^o — £ 9
 J. Woodcock

1836.
 Mrs Pulling to Elizabeth Joyes
 Feb. 22 to 21 Mar.
 4 Weeks instructing Mary in Reading, Spelling,
 Writing, Arithmetic & needle work at 6^{cts} per wk. } 2-0
 4 Weeks W^m Reading & Spelling at 3 — 1-0
 Paid 4 April 1836. E. Joyes — 3-0

Top Left: Mr. P. E. Hazelman - a recent snap. Top Right: Account from James Woodcock, schoolmaster, 1839. See "Documents from Pound Place". Bottom: Account from Elizabeth Joyes, schoolmistress, 1836. See "Documents from Pound Place".



Flooding at Stopham. A recent photograph by John Mason.

AN OLD PETWORTH TRADESMAN

"Before 1910 Petworth was just a name on the map to me." So said Percy Hazelman aged 93. However, on his first visit made with a view to buying a small grocery business, he was very 'taken' with the place.

Having previously lived and worked in a village half the size of Petworth, he was fascinated with its narrow, short streets, Town Hall, Courtroom and the lovely old church with its tall spire.

He bought the High Street shop (now a private dwelling) and soon discovered that it was taking quite a time to become accepted by the locals! Once that was achieved he became one of them and grew used to the fact that Petworth House and Estate was the centre of everything. Most of the workers in the little town were employed by Lord Leconfield with his Park and gardens, the two packs of hounds, coach horses and hunters, and the numerous farms.

His Lordship was very fond of coaching, Percy recollects, and drove around the narrow streets of Petworth with great skill.

On one occasion, he told me, when he was delivering with his hand-cart at the Swan Hotel, the coach came by with a clatter of hooves, the hub of a wheel catching his barrow, turning it up on end, but luckily not right over.

"Get that bloody thing out of my way," shouted His Lordship, glowering. This was typical of him, but at heart he was a very kind man. Percy could remember an employee being sacked for some offence and turned out of his house. Later, His Lordship gave instructions for the man to be found a cottage on the Estate, regardless of where he was working.

In 1915 Percy Hazelman moved to the grocery shop in Middle Street with his young family. Here there was a bakehouse which he enlarged. Flour was delivered from Coultershaw Mill by horse and cart. The only help he had was from his wife and a boy who took the bread round in a hand-cart. Percy was in the bakehouse by 5 am every morning getting the dough mixed by hand and the wood and coal-fired oven heated up.

Christmas time was the busiest. Percy remembered once baking over

five thousand loaves with only a little help from a man who came up from Station Road at 1 am to 'scale off' (measure) the dough. Moreover, the running of a shop in those days involved a great deal of hard labour. No goods arrived in packets. Tea, coffee, rice, sugar etc. was delivered in bulk and must be measured out for each customer. Salt blocks had to be sawn, butter, lard and margarine arrived in tubs and biscuits in large tins. There were no refrigerators, and during the warm weather the butter had to be kept down in the cellar along with the cheese and sides of bacon.

Percy's wife, and the children as they grew old enough, all helped. He finally bought the Middle Street premises in 1934. By that time there was a small motor van to deliver the bread and groceries to the surrounding district, and Bill, the eldest son was able to drive it. Petrol was then 11½ pence per gallon, that is just under today's 5p!

Before the motor van there were three ponies stabled in Middle Street just beyond the bakehouse, these drew the bakers carts and the two boys remember turning the ponies out to graze on Sheepdown.

Over the years Percy became an active member of the community, he was on the Rural District Council and was also Chairman of the Parish Council for a period. Being very fond of Bowls he was a founder member of Petworth Bowling Club and at one time played for Sussex County.

In 1955 he retired and left his two sons to manage the business.

I well remember, during the twenties, Mrs. Hazelman and her daughter, always with smiling faces, serving behind the counter and ever ready to find just what one required, no matter how much trouble. How different from today's soulless stacks of shelves in the big stores where it is often difficult to find an assistant to advise one.

Exactly one week after interviewing Percy at his grand-daughter's home, he died peacefully in his sleep and was buried at Petworth on January 22nd.

P.C.

LOCKSMITH'S WORK AT PETWORTH IN 1589-90

pd. the same man for a locke for the pygion house
(Nich. Hichcocke)

vi d

A FOURTEENTH CENTURY DISPUTE BETWEEN PETWORTH AND TILLINGTON

Among the few surviving relics of the old Rectory manor in Petworth House Archives is a gathering of 15th century documents, some Latin, some English, some a mixture of both, dealing with the administration of the manor. While most of Petworth fell within Petworth manor itself and belonged to the house of Percy, the Rectory manor too at various times held important parts of Petworth. The date of the present document, bound into the gathering, and some four handwritten sides, is 1351, but to judge from the handwriting it appears to have been rewritten about 1450, the date of many of the other papers in the book. The text is all in English although the original may perhaps have been Latin. The dating at the end is perfectly clear "yeven at Petteworth the xxth day of Juyn the yere of the reyne of kyng Edward the thirde after the conquest the xxvth". (i.e. 1351.) Lord Leconfield had already drawn attention to this important document in the Parish magazine for August 1956 but without dealing with it in any detail.

It appears that in 1350, with the ravages of the Black Death perhaps beginning to abate, John Stokton, Rector of Petworth and Hugh of Merton, Rector of Tillington, were in "debate", i.e. dispute, over the tithes of certain "plats" or plots of land which both rectors claimed as their own. The two rectors were sworn before the Earl of Arundel to "stand to th'award of xii gud men of there too parishes for the determynacon of the right of the tethis aforseid". In other words, the case was to go to arbitration and be settled by the agreement of six men from each parish. For Petworth the six men were:-

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Robert Loxlee | John of Haselyngborne |
| Robert of Ratford | John Cheseman |
| John Dudlesfolde | Robert att Sole |

All or most of these men are known to some extent from the Petworth minister's accounts for Petworth Manor (1347-1353) translated from the Latin by L.F. Salzman in 1955. Robert Loxlee is mentioned as paying 12/6 for the farm of Derfold in 1349-50. He appears to have taken over from one Robert Ismonger. Present-day Durfold is near Plaistow but the name Loxlee is also anciently connected with the lower reaches of North Street. The reeve notes that only 28/6d. was received for Derfold in the year in question because of the mortality of the people (i.e. the Black Death). Loxlee is mentioned again in 1352-3 as making payment in respect of Derfold. Robert of Ratford

(opposite Keyfox on the Balls Cross road, on the old track to Moor Farm) is often mentioned in the reeve's accounts and usually described as the "Receiver" i.e. treasurer. In 1352-3 in connection with Duncton manor he is described as the receiver of Arundel.

John Dudlesfolde is mentioned once in the minister's accounts in connection with the parker and the bailiff and he may well himself be the parker although this is not certain. A heriot had been given the lord of the manor on the death of one John Chesman in 1349 but the John Chesman of the committee must have been alive in 1350. Geoffrey Chesman had also provided a heriot in 1348-9. Robert att Sole is very well known from the minister's accounts having taken over as reeve in 1349 after the death (probably from the plague) of John le Boghiar, the previous reeve (for the office of the reeve see Salzman pp xxvi). John of Haselyngborne is not mentioned by name in the accounts but the mill at Haslingbourne is often mentioned and it is very likely indeed that he was connected with it.

The Tillington men are named as:

| | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| John Fysole | Raulf Sweyn |
| Thomas Nytimber | Robert att Stone |
| John the Sopere | Richard Sweyn |

Information on the Tillington members of the commission is lacking, there being no contemporary reference such as the minister's accounts. The twelve men were sworn at Petworth "to trye and determyn the debate aforesaid for a finyall accorde to be made bytwene the said two parsons for evermore" and the document's purpose is to set out their decisions on the various plots in question; not surprisingly at this distance in time it is far from easy to pick out the places discussed with any confidence.

Regarding a croft at Nytimber held by John the Soaper, and the tithe of the corn growing in the land there, they decide that the tithe should be "partabill", i.e. divisible, between the two parties just as it had always been. A croft is a piece of enclosed ground (usually arable), almost always with a house attached. Nytimber - probably meaning "New timber" is a common enough name but there is a field called "New Timber field" running east from the old lane to South Farm that led down to the river. The field is indicated on a plan of part of the Manor of Dean dated 1764.

The coincidence of name may well in this case be simply fortuitous. If John the Soaper was, as his name implies, a maker of soap then he might need to be near a supply of waste fat, a butcher's shop or slaughter-house, and this would suggest he lived nearer to Tillington and Upperton where there would certainly be butchers' premises of some kind.

As for the rood of land held by William Parkhurst by Parkhurst and a croft called Goldenygh against "Enearste" (the name is not certain and may be corrupt) and two crofts held by Thomas Aleyne, the tithes shall henceforward go to the church of Petworth in accordance with previous custom. A rood or rood of land was a variable measure usually containing some 40 square poles or perches. Parkhurst is a common enough name "the Park hillock" or "the Park copse". It may well be the modern Parkhurst on the road from Upperton to Lurgashall and some 1 mile north of Upperton on the left hand side. The farm lands lie to the south, west and north outside the present Park wall. Goldenygh may well be related to a tenement and croft remembered in oral tradition as Goldneys and west of the road from River to Salmon-bridge some 400 yards down from what is now River House. The name does not seem to occur in maps but is known to Mr. R. Wadey. On an enlarged scale map extracted from James Crow's survey of 1779 this property is marked as a house and orchard in the occupation of John Tribe but is not given a name. "Enearste" and the two crofts of Thomas Aleyne are unknown.

The next disputed tithe is in fact divided. Regarding the gardens called Sebyrelefeldes (Severalfields?) the fruit of the trees there go to the church of Tillington, while the tithes of the corn that grows there remain with the church of Petworth. "Severalfields", if that is the right interpretation, is again unknown. "Wydesland", (?Westland) going to the church of Tillington, the next tithe apportioned, is likewise uncertain but may possibly be connected with Widemead, the pasture north of the river.

The tithe of the corn of the lands held by Godfrey Shepherd is to the church of Petworth as before "above the strete". Obviously the "street" formed a boundary between Tillington and Petworth parishes for tithing purposes, but whether the main street of Upperton is meant, or even some part of ancient Tillington that lay in the present Park in the area of Snow Hill, (also known as Snore Hill, or Nore Hill) is not clear from this, nor can Godfrey Shepherd or his "lands" be identified.

The tithes of Kanhan lands go to Tillington but those of Staneslaster are reserved to the two churches and are partible between them, again the old arrangement. Kanhan lands are unknown as probably is Staneslaster. The nearest modern name to the latter would seem to be Standlands on the high road from River which leads through to Upperton looking out on the valley to the Downs. There is a track running east to west with Pitshill boundary to the north.

The tithes of Goldenygh, the tithes of the land of John Parkhurst, the tithes of the lands of Thomas Peryng at River, the tithes of the land of Cotyare at "Dene" and the tithes of two roods of the abbot of Upperton with the tithes of Baggesland and Grettenham are wholly to the church of Petworth as it has been before. Some of the names here have already been mentioned but Thomas Peryng is not known nor is the mysterious "land of Cotyare". The abbot of Upperton too is hitherto unknown, although his residence may well have been through Upperton street, up the hill, and left toward Westbrook House: the tithes of course are not necessarily for the land he lived on. Baggesland may have some connection with Baggsfield mentioned on Crow's survey of 1779 as a nine-acre field some half-a-mile along the road from the old Little Common crossroads and opposite South Dean Farm lane. Grettenham at any rate must be present-day Grittenham Farm just across the track from there.

The tithes of Denburghfelde are partible only by the two churches as before (this would seem to exclude River from any claim), while the tithes of the Slade and Baggescroft are to Petworth entirely, as also the lands of "Bodham" on the west part of the "Rwe" between Upperton and "Upbuomede". On the other hand the gardens within the manor belong to the church of Tillington. The tithes of all the lands of Budham under the east of the same Rwe in the Privyfeld and Lythenfeld are, as before, to the church of Petworth. Denburghfeld is not known: the Slade, while not precisely identified, has a clear connection with this area and will lie in the area of Dean. Baggescroft seems connected with Baggesland preceding near White House corner. A rwe (i.e. rew), a term still used today, is usually of hazel and other underwood not employed for timber. It can be anything from six to a hundred feet wide so long as one side can be used as a boundary fence. The land of Budham is of course, as it is today, on the river upstream from Rotherbridge and the rew in question may be some continuation of the present Budham wood along the line of the river. The rew between Upperton and Upbuomede is very difficult and the latter name may be in a corrupt form in our

text. Possibly Upperton is not here Upperton itself so much as the land lying south from Netherlands Farm. This is described as Upperton Common on Crow's map of 1779. The Privyfeld and Lythenfeld remain obscure.

The tithes of Walter att Stone under the northside of the rew that goes by the gate of the manor of Dean go to the church of Tillington, but the tithes of all the land of the said Walter under the south side of the same rew are Petworth's as before. The tithes of a croft at Budham Mesgate and two roods of Thomas Bysshop are to the church of Tillington. Walter att Stone is not known although the rough location of his land seems fairly clear. Obviously this is another rew further up toward Tillington. The gate of the Manor of Dean is impossible to specify as is also Budham Mesgate or Middlegate, presumably a gate somewhere on the track to Budham. Thomas Bysshop is not known although Bishops is an old name for certain lands now in Petworth Park and just inside the present wall from Tillington.

The tithes of two roods of Thomas att Well are to the church of Petworth, while the tithes of Langlearste of Anneys at Broke and the twelve acres of land of Thomas att Stone "the whiche were of Ryvers clement" are only partible between Petworth and Tillington. The document closes with a witnessing and date formula. Thomas att Well is unknown and Langlearste or (probably) Longhurst is such a common name as to be very difficult to pin down. Agnes at Broke seems in fact to have died in 1348-9 for a heriot was paid for her in that year (Salzman pp 28). One William Brokero held land at Upperton in 1443 but the names may not be connected.

This is not by any means at all an easy document at this distance in time and some of the names may well have been already corrupt in the 1450 version that survives; nor is it likely that we have done more than draw attention to a few of the difficulties. Like so many of the older documents, it raises as many difficulties as it solves. Has the true tradition of the location of Goldenygh really survived so long orally? Where did John the Soaper really ply his craft? What did Tillington inside the present Park wall look like? A close look in the Park paddocks reveals many traces of previous habitation. Or what do we know of the abbot of Upperton, introduced in the document as if known to all, yet to the 20th century reader a completely unknown and surprising figure?

We are very grateful to Mrs. Alison McCann of the West Sussex Record

Office for help with some particularly difficult words, but Mrs. McCann is not to be held responsible for any errors in the foregoing discussion. We are also grateful to Lord Egremont for his permission to reproduce passages from this important document.

JT/PAJ

J's BULLETIN WALK

This walk takes about 2½ hours and is over fairly easy going ground though a bit muddy in places, there are good views all around for much of the way.

Leave Petworth by High Street and Grove Street, pass by the Fairfield Medical Centre on your right and after about 50 yards take the footpath to your left between the allotment gardens, follow this path and it will take you through the kissing gate and onto the top of the Sheepdowns. Now down the hill and move to your right over the large stile and into the Virgin Mary Spring woods, carry on past the spring with its ever even flow of water which legend has it is very good for healing eye ailments, on now keeping the brook on your left and over the next stile. Shortly after this the brook swings away to your left but you keep straight on and join it again at the small hunting bridge, cross this rather rickety bridge and carry straight on with the brook now on your right, this will bring you out to Haslingbourne Lane. Turn right now along this rather busy road and half way up the hill turn left down the lane, on reaching the cottages keep to the right and through into the field beyond. The footpath here is rather overgrown but as soon as you can, cross into the field on your right which will bring you back on your proper path, now keep straight on towards the South Downs keeping the hedge on your left until you reach a footpath T sign, turn left. Walk on and when you reach the cottages pass between them and the farm buildings, and through the gate, soon after this you cross a stile to your right and walk across the field at an angle as directed by the footpath sign, you will now join the brook on your left and follow it round where you will find a stile out of the field by a gate. This brings you once more on to the hard road which you must follow to your right between high banks for about 200 yards and at the top of the hill turn left into the lane to High Hoes, there are some nice views along this lane and once you are out of the trees you can see away to your left to Lowheath and the Gog. When you reach the white coloured High Hoes house, drop away to your left and

keep on going until you reach a barn that has been converted into a house keep this to your left and skirt the pond with the sentinel geese usually on duty. On now up Woodruff Lane with its lovely primrose banks and out once more onto the hard road, straight across and follow the signs to St. Bartholomew's Church.

Just before you reach the Church the path turns off to the right, but the few steps along to the Church are well worth the effort especially if the wild daffodils are out as they carpet the Churchyard. Retrace your steps to the footpath sign now to your left and follow the path keeping to the left edge of the wood for about ½ mile and on reaching the cottage move away slightly to the right, this will bring you out on the main road close by the Welldiggers' pub. Cross the road by the Welldiggers and with Petworth now in your sight carry on down the long straight pavement until you reach Byworth, cross onto the Byworth road and straight away turn right into the field following the footpath sign. Keep straight on and you will come to a small bridge over the brook, cross this and you are back at the Virgin Mary Spring, turn right over the big stile and away up the hill back to Petworth. It took me 2½ hours to complete this walk and I expect if I had hurried I could have done it in 2, equally, if I had stopped to look at all the points of interest I could easily have taken 4.

DOCUMENTS FROM POUND PLACE CONCERNING THE PULLEN FAMILY

Documents found during building operations are often dockets and vouchers and those from Pound Place, like those from the old Bank House (see Bulletin 19), fall solidly into this category. They were found during extensive alteration and renovation and have been kindly loaned for inspection by Mr. E. Marchant-Lane. Clearly their very survival, as is so often the case, owes more to fortune than to any deliberate policy and, as at the old Bank House, the surviving documents form a mere remnant of what was certainly a greater number. The great bulk come from the 1830s, some from the 1820s, and almost none from later than 1842 except for a small concentration from the early 1870s. There are over a hundred in all, and they relate to one William Pullen or Pulling (the name is spelled either way apparently at random), bricklayer and general builder, and (the later ones) to his son George Pullen or Pulling. The property, like other property in Pound Street, is extremely old and these papers shed no light on its previous history except in occasionally referring to Pound Place by its old eighteenth-century name of "Gosden's Yard". Probably the Pullen family lived in the Petworth premises, but they seem also to

have had strong connections with Tillington. The receipts tend to be repetitive but they do give a valuable sidelight on the Petworth of the "Tales". The obvious companion for a study of the receipted bills is Pigot's directory for 1826 but, disappointingly, very few of the people mentioned can be found in the directory.

One firm who are mentioned in Pigot are Thomas Chrippes and Son and an invoice from 1838 for 400 builds (sic) bricks from the wharf (i.e. Coultershaw) is receipted by Thomas Chrippes Junior. An earlier (damaged) Chrippes account survives from 1823 made out not to William Pullen but to G.(?) Smart, and this has an elaborate printed heading with the legend "T.Chrippes, Upholder, Cabinet Maker, Paper Hanger, Auctioneer and Appraiser". Mr. Chrippes Senior was, as tradesmen often were in those days, a man of many parts. An upholder is either a dealer in small furniture or an upholsterer, and Mr. Chrippes may well have been both. The invoice which is difficult to decipher seems concerned with the sale of some chairs. Another Petworth firm with a printed invoice, although in this case rather more functional, is that of Messrs. Juden and Johnson, coal merchants. An invoice from 1824 is signed by D. Easton and Easton later appears as a supplier in his own right. It may be that by the late 1820s he had taken over the firm of Juden and Johnson.

The invoices cover both trade and personal expenditure and do not appear to run in any order. An invoice from the Earl of Egremont in 1836 mentions 50 bavins from Flexham Park and similar invoices are to be found in other years. A bavin was a bundle of brushwood bound only with a single withe. Several invoices are from Mary Howick for cheese e.g. March 13th 1836 for a 31½ lb. cheese at 7d. a pound, while John Howick has a single invoice for sharpening work in 1830. W. Vinson the tailor has several dockets, e.g. "a suit of blue cloth for little boy 16/6d." This on May 24th 1834. Another tailor is G. Smart with a suit of clothes for Mr. Pulling at £3.15.0. and a pair of drawers for 2/6d. in 1831.

Blacksmiths' invoices are fairly numerous and all from the Foard family e.g. in 1826 "2 new cleets to the sharf (shaft?) 23rd March. Two days later another cleet was put on. An entry for October 31st of that year mentions "fitting and nailing a pair of shoes". Foard also headed chisels for Mr. Pullen. The earlier Foard accounts, while receipted by Michael Foard are made out in the name of Mary Foard and suggest that Mary Foard may have been a widow. A number of invoices predictably cover carting work so in 1840 James Hooker carried seven loads of drift sand for 17/6d., a ton of coal for

2/6d. and bricks to "Gourhill" for 2/-. Another Hooker invoice from that year mentions carting bricks and sand from the wharf and a journey by horse and cart to Sutton. T. Simmons was another carrier employed in carting to Gorehill. W. Boxall has an invoice for 20 bundles of sap lath at 1/2d. a bundle in 1841, while a docket from 1831 from S. Boxall reads simply "2 Appell trees at 9 per tree 1/6." Plaster came in gallons from J. Burgess and cement from J. Broadbridge. These may or may not be local traders. Edmund Stoner (1842) supplier of sand and stone is another who may or may not be local. Certainly not local are Messrs. Williams and Filmer of the Guildford Iron Foundry who have two invoices both from the mid-1830s.

A selection of the usual formal tax and rate dockets survive as e.g. 14/- for window tax in 1841, for church rate collected by Thos. Chrippes and Wm. Elliott the churchwardens in 1838, or poor rate of 16/3d. collected by Mr. Spershott the overseer in 1835. The property is listed in the 1839 map as belonging to Henry Upton and described as house, yard and garden. The quarter's rent to Lady Day 1834 was £2.5.0d. Rates for "lighting the town of Petworth" were 4/0¼d. in 1836.

Perhaps the most interesting documents are those connected with the Pullen children, Mary, Alice, William, George and John. James Woodcock ran a hitherto unknown school for boys in the 1830s and 1840s and many receipted invoices made out to Mr. Pullen survive e.g.

| | |
|---|----------------|
| "1838 to the Education of your sons George and William: | |
| Wm. Nov. 24th, Dec. 1st, 8th, 15th, 21th 5 weeks | 3/4d. |
| Geo. 1 wk | 8d. |
| Firing from Michaelmas | <u>2/0d.</u> |
| | <u>6/-d. "</u> |

William and John Pullen were still at Woodcock's school in 1842 and William at different times had been both at Woodcock's and at the establishment of Elizabeth Joyes where the girls were educated. An invoice from Elizabeth Joyes dated 31st March 1834 and made out to Mrs. Pullen is typical:

| | |
|---|-------------|
| "4 weeks instructing Alice in Reading, Spelling, Writing, | |
| Arithmetic and Needlework at 6d. per week | 2. Od. |
| Copy book and pen | 0. 6 |
| Cyphering book | <u>0. 4</u> |
| | 2/10 " |

A cyphering book is an unusual item but copy books are often mentioned and, like Woodcock, Elizabeth Joyes often adds "fireing" to the winter accounts. These are usually made out to Mrs. Pullen. Alice Pullen was obviously ill in 1840 for Mr. Roods (?) the chemist has a long account including a clyster, various mixtures, boxes of pills and bleeding. The last entry is for the 27th July. Two invoices are from Richard Pescod for footwear for the children, one for shoes for George and William in 1840, another for Alice and William in the same year.

An estimate book, surviving from about 1850, does not always make clear where the building work is to be undertaken and is often very technical. In its present form it runs to some six sides but it may now be incomplete. The cover, now separated, bears the title "Book of Prices and Estimates" and this legend is pasted on a piece of white paper across what appears to be a printed book of adventures in tropical Africa. Apart from the estimate book perhaps the longest single document in the collection is a detailed survey of dilapidations in the farm buildings at Coxlands vacated by the late Rev. Ayling at Tillington in 1853. So ruinous were the farm buildings that the surveyor, James Taylor of Northchapel, suggests they be demolished and rebuilt rather than repaired. A brochure for the Norwich Union Fire Insurance Society for 1860 solicits the premium for the coming year. Benjamin Challen was the Norwich agent at that time.

The material from the 1870s is far less extensive and less interesting. Pencilled wages sheets seem to come from this time, certain railway loading sheets, as also some indications of borrowing by the Pullen family - by this time George Pullen appears to have been in charge. Some invoices from the firm of B. Steddy Austen survive and a number from Messrs. Evershed of Littlehampton. It seems that the property was auctioned in December 1873 and sold to William Stoper Wright as agent for George Pullen. Possibly the title to the property simply changed hands while the tenancy remained in the Pullen family. The later fate of the family and of the property in the late nineteenth century is not at present known.

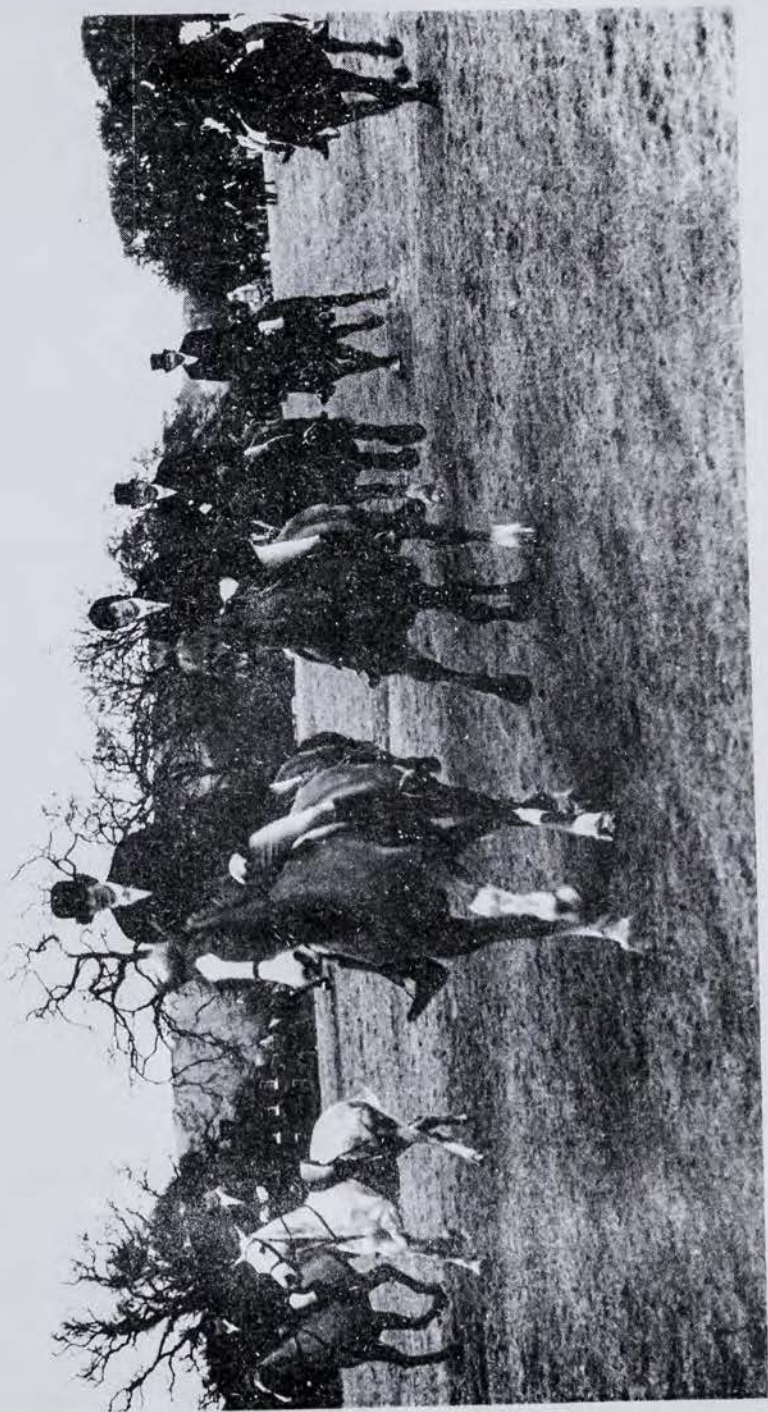
P.A.J.

GEORGE VENNS OF BYWORTH

Following the enquiry in the December Bulletin regarding George Venns, I am most pleased to report in this issue that, due to the helpful knowledge of two kind gentlemen, I have recently written to Mr. Chapman in London with the information that George Venns lived at 373B Byworth (owned by the Leconfield Estate) and was



The Leconfield opening meet November 1938. (cf. "Some Petworth recollections".
Photograph by George Garland.



Boxing Day meet in Petworth Park 1979. Photograph by John Mason.

probably employed at the local stonepit. During the summer months Mr. Chapman intends to bring his mother, aged 86 years, to Byworth to see the house where her father, George lived so fulfilling a desire she has had for many years: he asks me to express his sincere thanks to those who have assisted me in this enquiry.

Sonia Rix.

From - Mr. & Mrs. H.C. Oakes, 7 Walford House, 20 Silverdale Road, Eastbourne BN20 7AZ, East Sussex.

31.12.1980.

Dear Peter,

Bulletin No.22 Page 16 et seq.

By a happy coincidence a neighbour in our block of flats served with the Royal Canadian Engineers in Petworth in 1942 and was delighted to read the article.

I am enclosing his letter to me, from which you might like to take extracts, as it seems to be of quite topical interest. He was one of those to whom the article refers, who married an English girl, but finally came back to live in Eastbourne. As a serving Officer with the Canadian forces he was shocked one day to see his then fiancée dashing through the gates of Petworth Park on the back of a motor cycle driven by a SERGEANT!

I hope that his letter and these few notes will enable you to put together a worthwhile story.

Congratulations on the latest issue of the Bulletin it really does go from strength to strength and I am sure that the greatly increased membership of the Society proves how right it was to make the 'Bulletin' the spearhead of the Society's attack. A happy and successful New Year to you all, and Catherine joins me in sending our kind regards to you and the Committee.

Yours sincerely,

Hilton.

CANADIANS IN THE PHEASANT COPSE - A LETTER

6 Walford House, Silverdale Road, Eastbourne, Sussex. BN20 7AZ.

29 December 1980.

Dear Hilton:-

Very many thanks for lending me the latest issue of the Petworth

Society magazine. I was particularly interested in the article dealing with the troops being in the Park during the last war.

I remember clearly my stay there with the 7th Field Company of the Royal Canadian Engineers in 1942. We were pulling ourselves together after Dieppe and were happy to be in comfortable Nissen huts. Our masons had built a very impressive fireplace in the officers' mess with the company name and corps cut across the heavy mantel. I was back there a couple of years ago but could find no trace of our old lines.

The late Lord Leconfield used to stroll through occasionally and take a tolerant and genial look at what we were doing. We used to have a meal at the Swan now and then, served with style but not much content. It was handy being not too far down the road.

I would say generally that our stay in Petworth was happy, perhaps a bit muddy at times. Where have all the young men gone? The place used to be full of them, in 1942!

Kindest regards,

Eric (Bright)

THE THIRD EARL'S THOUGHTS ON THE NOBLE ART

(PHA 78 contains an exchange of letters between the 3rd Earl of Egremont and the Rev. John Peachey of Ebernoe about a boxing match at Northchapel to be held in the autumn of 1828. Peachey wrote to the Earl to enlist his support in getting the match cancelled but the Earl did not entirely agree. We give here a large part of the Earl's reply, preserved in PHA 78 in the form of a copy letter and reproduced by kind permission of Lord Egremont.)

Sir,

No apology is necessary for a letter of which the good intention is so manifest that it could not be misunderstood, and I am much obliged to you for it, but you are mistaken if you suppose, that, at my age, I am so thoughtless as not to be aware of the near approach of death. On the contrary my expectation is that I shall have another severe illness in the winter which will probably carry me off.

Your observations probably arise from the prospect of an entertainment to be given by Mr. Stoveld and of some dangers and improprieties to be expected from it, and I am not sure that you are not under another mistake in thinking that I have any taste for boxing. On the contrary, there is no person who has less relish for that

amusement. I have never seen more than one or two boxing matches in my life, and that forty years ago, and I shall never see another, and I have not thought of those advantages to the neighbourhood, which you allude to and which probably operate upon the minds of the Publicans and the Gatekeepers. But I do not believe that there's anything unchristian in boxing, no more than in wrestling or cricket, or any other contention of strength and dexterity, and I believe that this prejudice against boxing arises from a confusion of terms, for although boys and blackguards in anger fight with their fists and are therefore guilty of an unchristian feeling, yet those men who by their strength in good humour, box, but do not fight, because they have no hostile or unchristian feeling towards each other, and I believe that there is no better school for good temper and good feeling than the boxing school, for a man can not be a good boxer and must be beaten by an equal opponent, if he loses his temper, and to be able to preserve good temper under one of the greatest provocations to anger, by heavy blows, which human nature can endure, is certainly not an unchristian temper of mind, and I am not sure that a good thrashing may not sometimes improve a bad temper as much as a good sermon.....

(A short discussion follows on the relative powers of the Earl as Custos Rotulorum and the justices to stop such an entertainment even assuming that they wished to.) The Earl continues:

..... There certainly may be danger from thieves or pickpockets and I or any other justice may appoint special constables for the day at Northchapel, if application is made to us by some of the neighbours upon oath that they are apprehensive of danger, but we can not do it without such application, but as to a breach of the peace, I do not think that two men chosen, to exchange black eyes and bloody noses in good humour, can be considered as such or anything like it. No application for special constables has been made, and I therefore suppose that it is not thought necessary to have them.

We must apologise to the following people for not including their names in the last bulletin; one whole page was omitted in error at the printing stage. We now add them to the new members who have joined since our last issue and whom we welcome to the Society.

Mrs. D. Goodyear, Flat 1, St. Anne's House, Sheep Lane, Midhurst.
Mr. & Mrs. A. Grimwood, 18 Wyndham Road, Petworth.
Mrs. J. Higgins, 16 Grove Lane, Petworth.
Mrs. L. Higgins, 1 Grove Lane, Petworth.
Mrs. M. Hull, Trealow, Portsmouth Road, Milford, Surrey.

Mr. D. Hiron, 28 Littlecote, Petworth.
Miss J. Hounsham, 16 Rothermead, Petworth.
Mrs. B.A. Howell, c/o Halcrow International Partnership, P.O.
Box 360, Dubai.
Mr. & Mrs. Kingsley, The Studio, Hallelujah Corner, Fittleworth.
Mr. M. Lowman, 21 Station Road, Petworth.
Mrs. M. Manning, 1 Willow Walk, Petworth.
Mrs. F.M. McColl, 8, Oakwood Court, Petworth.
Mrs. S. McIlroy, 3 Westways, Petworth.
Miss J. Matthews, 2 Willow Flats, Crooked Lane, Birdham, Nr.
Chichester.
Mr. & Mrs. F.C. Matthews, 3 Willett Close, Duncton, Petworth.
Mr. T.T. Bartlett, 7 Churchwood, Fittleworth, Pulborough.
Miss L.M. Bennett, 2 Sullington Lane, Storrington, Pulborough.
Mr. & Mrs. W. Bevis, 35 Cowdrey Place, Canterbury, Kent.
Mr. & Mrs. O. Bridger, 2 Hampers Green, Petworth.
Mr. & Mrs. H. Carson, 3 Churchwood, Fittleworth, Pulborough.
Mr. H. Cobby, 301 North Street, Petworth.
Mr. Drummond, Sheepdown Cottages, Angel Street, Petworth.
Mrs. J. Gilhooly, "Nobies", Wisborough Green, Billingshurst.
Mrs. Heather, 27 Martlet Road, Petworth.
Dr. L.E. Haughton, Culvercroft, Pound Street, Petworth.
Mr. R. Jones, 37 Normandy Lane, Angmering-on-Sea, East Preston.
Miss G.R. Jones, Flat 8, 157 The Anchorage, Mundeford, Christchurch,
Dorset.
Mrs. D. Kitchener, 400 Station Road, Petworth.
Mr. A. Madgwick, 8 Linden Court, Petworth.
Mr. G. Meachen, Swallow Cottage, 4 Blenheim Court, Robertsbridge,
East Sussex.
Mr. & Mrs. E. Murray, Willow Tree Cottage, Coultershaw, Petworth.
Mr. & Mrs. C. Parvin, 46 Hampers Green, Petworth.
Mrs. N. Puttick, 30 Station Road, Petworth.
Mrs. N. Smith, 15 Mant Road, Petworth.
Mr. & Mrs. W. Stansmore, 67 Hampers Green, Petworth.
Mrs. P. Terry, 47 Sheepdown Drive, Petworth.
Mr. P. Wallace, Old Place, Henley, Haslemere, Surrey.
Mrs. V. Woolford, Boles House, East Street, Petworth.

LOCKSMITH'S WORK AT PETWORTH IN 1589-90

pd. Nich. Hichcocke the xiith of Aprill 1590 for ii keies for the
herborhill xii d

(As we know from other sources the Arbour Hill was at this time
fenced off. Ed.)

