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Petworth
Collection

The Petworth Society



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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, Mrs. D. Thorpe.

NEW MEMBERS (CONTINUED FROM BACK PAGE)

Miss C.Wallisfurth, M.A., 291 Alexandra Park Road, London, N.22.

Mr. & Mrs. S.A. Wheeler, 307A North Street, Petworth.

Mr. & Mrs. N. Youens, The Old Forge, High Street, Petworth.

Mr. & Mrs. Wardrop, New Cottage, Bartons Lane, Petworth.

(Please note: Mrs. B. Johnson, Glebe Cottage, Bartons Lane, Petworth, organizes all Bulletin deliveries. Please address any queries direct to her at the above address.)

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

There should be something to suit most tastes in the present Bulletin. I think the same might be said of the summer programme with its two trips to Stag Park, the evening walk to the Rother-bridge area and the Sunday afternoon visit to Miss Courtauld's at West Burton. Mrs. Sheridan's now famous summer round of Petworth gardens was its usual great success. The autumn programme looks very full too but is still to be finalised as I write this. It will appear as a separate sheet. In addition to the usual monthly meetings from October there will be autumn visits to Ebernoe and Stag Park and probably a walk over the second Petworth walk (see this Bulletin). There will also be a visit to the Royal Tennis Court at Petworth by kind permission of the Petworth House Tennis Club.

The Exhibition of Petworth photographs put on by the Society during the weekend of the Petworth Festival is important and we do need the help of members in stewarding. The duties are not strenuous and the times of opening are Friday 2-5, Saturday 10-5 and Sunday 10-5. The Exhibition does not open on the Monday. Would anyone who would like to help let myself or Mrs. Johnson know by Monday 8th September at the latest. Tours of duty would probably be of 1½ hours on the Friday and 2 hours on the two remaining days.

We have written to the press and to the councils concerned in support of the Parish Council's stand against the decision not to allow light industrial development at the old Colhook brickyard. One reason for turning down the application seems to have been that it would be prejudicial to the proposed light industrial development scheduled for Petworth. As this never seems to materialise, and the employment situation for young people is so bleak, Petworth people may be forgiven a feeling of impatience. If Petworth's young people are to be forced to move away because of the need to "preserve" Petworth, then that Petworth that does survive will become fossilized and ultimately completely alien to that historical but living Petworth that the planners seem so anxious to preserve.

Members will be sorry to learn that Lady Shakerley, a pillar of the Committee since the beginning of the Society, feels that the time has come for her to take a slightly less active role. I think we can all understand and sympathise with her feelings. Perhaps not everyone realises just how much Lady Shakerley does do in a quiet and unassuming way for Petworth, to say that we shall miss her on the Committee

is an understatement. Replacing her is next to impossible but we are very pleased that Mrs. Margaret Hill has agreed to take her place. Mrs. Hill will be known to most members and like Lady Shakerley is someone with the character to make a contribution all her own.

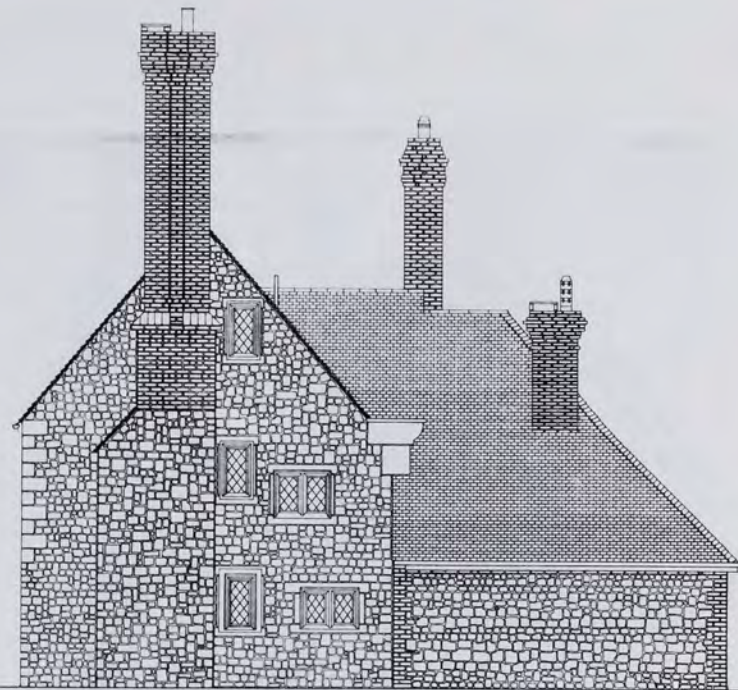
P.A.J.

SOME VERY FAINT PETWORTH ECHOES

The thought that most of Walter Kevis' negatives and almost all of George Garland's repose at Petworth House in the custody of the West Sussex Record Office is reassuring but can lead to a certain complacency. While these two resident photographers are the inevitable backbone of any photographic history of Petworth, they are not the only photographers Petworth has had. The work of Francis Gaudrion Morgan, Petworth's first photographer, is not represented at Petworth House and no known negative of his survives, only a few positives. Morgan was, as were most of the old photographers, a chemist by trade and had a shop in one of the old houses that used to stand in the churchyard where the War Memorial now is. He operated from c.1860 to 1876 and very probably had a studio in Barton's Lane. Two shots of the demolition of the old Church lodge and Bryant's shop in Church Street in 1871 are certainly by him and some half-dozen very old photographs of Petworth street scenes, including one of Petworth Gaol, may be by him. These were copied from originals owned by the late Mr. Rogers of Lodsworth and will be on show in September. Only one certain Morgan portrait is known to survive.

Older Petworth residents will remember Mr. J.H. Keen who died in 1955. He was an enthusiastic and competent photographer and also a dedicated fireman. The very few known examples of Keen photographs are all scenes at fires. Has anyone any surviving examples of his work?

We reproduce a photograph of Mr. Thomas Seward who died in 1892. Mr. Seward worked for Deaths the auctioneers in Lombard Street, Victorian precursors of Newland, Tompkins and Taylor and now Messrs. King and Chasemore. A point of especial interest is the newspaper lying at the foot of the table, "The Petworth Echo". I have found only one person who has ever heard of it, although someone else had heard the phrase but thought it meant an old wives' tale. Certainly no one has yet produced a copy. What sort of



Soanes Farm. One of a series of measured drawings produced by students of Pennsylvania State University while studying at Petworth under Mr. John Davidson. (See Autumn Activities).



The old Swan c1880. It fronted on to Market Square.



"Rick-fire" - A photograph by J. H. Keen.

paper was it? How long did it go on? Where was it produced? Why and when did it stop? Has anyone a copy? Has anyone ever seen a copy? Mr. Seward, who was also librarian at the Petworth Institute when it was still at the Town Hall, died in February 1892 and the photograph was probably taken c.1890. The Parish Magazine for March 1892 observes "Petworth Institute has suffered a great loss in the very sudden death of Mr. Thomas Seward. As Librarian he was indefatigable in his labours and has been the means of adding to the Library many hundreds of volumes, as well as many interesting objects for a museum in that same Institute". One might also wonder, pointlessly at this distance in time, what objects Thomas Seward had collected for his museum and what eventually happened to them.

Has anyone who may read this any light to throw on the Petworth Echo or Petworth's two lost photographers? Or has someone another "echo" they feel is growing ever fainter?

P.A.J.

HERE and THERE

Miss Mitford has found at Dean a very well preserved button of the Petworth Volunteers (see photograph) a kind of local militia or territorial unit that flourished some hundred years ago. The button bears a crown and the legend "Petworth Volunteers" in block capitals while the reverse has William Williams the manufacturer's name. Mr. Youens of the Old Forge, High Street, has found in his garden a lead disc some 36 mm in diameter and weighing just over an ounce. Chichester District Museum say that as it has no lettering and is rather heavy it is probably a tally issued to a worker when he had performed a set task (e.g. providing a certain number of bricks, or a set quantity of trimmed stone). A given amount of money would be exchanged per tally. This was an eighteenth or nineteenth century practice.

The Strood and Egdean United footballers in Bulletin No.20 have been identified as follows:

Back Row: E. Powell/Clem Goodyer/B. Sheppard/T. Madgewick/Mr. Burse/
——/Mr. Powell/F. Pottington/

Middle Row: Mr. Burse/Mr. Andrews/——/Jack Herbert/A. Lassiter/

Front Row: H. Parker/Jim Madgewick/W. Parker/Mr. Howick/R. Carver/
E. Andrews/.

Many thanks to Mr. Baxter and the ladies who helped him!

A PETWORTH CHILDHOOD (3)

School

When I went from Lodsworth village school to Petworth Girls' School, the only thing that I liked about the school for about the first two years was going home at the end of the day. "Least said, soonest mended". Suddenly it all changed. In the middle of term we went to school on a Monday morning to find a new Head - Miss Wootton, and after she came school was for me a happy place.

What a remarkable family the Woottons were, and what an influence they must have had on Petworth. Father, Head of the Boys' School, twin daughters, one Head of the Infants' School and one Head of the Girls' (after a spell of teaching at the Boys School) and all at the same time. This must be an unique event for one family - and how we respected them.

Because of the distance that we had to walk we took our lunches with us, and were at school until 4 p.m. During the lunch break in summer we used to take our lunch "round the hills" and play and paddle in the stream. In the winter we would sit in the classroom, near the tortoise stove, and cocoa would be made on very cold days - we took our own mugs.

We had to pass the work-house on our way to school, and would occasionally see the inmates in brown corduroy, sweeping the garden paths. Once, for a very short time, a girl came to school from there, in a pale brown corduroy dress, with close cropped hair, and I used to wonder about her. (What a pity that the nice old work-house building has been spoilt).

A hazard we had was passing the Boys' school (which was so tragically bombed during the war). The boys would try to snatch our hats off. They did not always succeed. We also passed both lots of Almshouses, and often saw the old people living in the lower ones, they would be looking out of their doors or sweeping the steps.

We began school with a hymn and a prayer, and ended it in the same way. I can remember the Rector coming in occasionally for religious

instruction. Reading, writing and arithmetic - how I hated the latter and loved the first. Once or twice I was allowed to read to the class while the girls sewed. Sewing we did, and I remember having to make a white petticoat of fine cotton for one of the teachers, and sewing on the lace was such a trial, it was rather black by the time that it was finished. I enjoyed enormously the poetry readings and recitations. They introduced me to a pleasure that has lasted and enhanced all my life.

I remember also a fete or some festive occasion at the Rectory, when a maypole was set up, and we plaited the ribbons and did country dancing, after some tuition of course.

Because of having the walk to school every day, mother allowed us to choose whether we would go to Sunday School and I chose to go (little prig). I went until I was confirmed. "Haven't you a white dress my dear?" Oh, the humiliation; I had not. It was pale pink with little pink and black roses on the skirt, ever so pretty, but not white. We could not afford a new white dress for just one occasion, and this had been passed on to me by a cousin for the ceremony, and I was really being accused of wearing the dress because it was pretty. I couldn't explain, and I couldn't tell mother afterwards or she would have been hurt.

I still remember some of the games that we played during playtime, and wonder where they came from, and why all team games:-

1. "Here comes a man across the common to get a job of work"
Answer "What work?"
"Any work"
Answer "Show us your trade" -
and then the man would mime the work that he did, and the rest would have to guess it.
2. Sally, Sally Wallflower, growing up so high,)
We shall all marry, we shall all die,)
Excepting she's the only one,) Sung
She shall dance and she shall skip,)
And she shall turn the candlestick -)

and so and so when named, had to go into the circle while the chorus was repeated and someone else chosen. Was this to do with witchcraft?

3. Here come three Jews from Salisbury Plain,)
 To take away your daughter Jane,)
 Answer "Our daughter Jane is far too young,) Sung
 And cannot bear your chattering tongue.)
 Go away corkscrews" (curls?))

And this went on and on about the most beautiful girl and what she would be given if she would go away with the Jews.
 Where did this come from?

4. Have you any bread and wine? Yes, we have some bread and wine,
 We are the Romans, We are the English,
 Have you any bread and wine? Yes we have some bread and wine,
 We are Roman soldiers. We are the English soldiers.

Will you give us bread and wine, We will not give you bread and wine,
 We are the Romans, We are the English,
 Will you give us bread and wine, We will not give you bread and wine,
 We are the Roman soldiers. We are the English soldiers.

Are you ready for a fight? Yes, we're ready for a fight,
 We are the Romans, We are the English,
 Are you ready for a fight? Yes, we're ready for a fight,
 We are the Roman soldiers. We are the English soldiers.

Shoot - Bang - Fire!

and the two armies linked hands and tried to pull each other over a line. Again this was sung, and I remember all the tunes - but why does one remember this sort of thing? And do they still sing them at any local schools?

W.W.

From a list of workhouse recipes in Petworth House Archives.
Early Nineteenth Century.

A very easy and cheap Receipt to Make POTATOE YEAST.

PARE Two Quarts of Potatoes very clean, boil them quite to Pieces, and mash them with a Spoon; let them stand 'till they are become Milk warm, then put a Tea-cup full of Yeast to them, and stir it altogether; keep it warm for Two or Three Hours, and then put it to the Flour, it will raise Six Gallons. It is particularly good when used in Barley Bread.

THE MILTON CONNECTION

Though I have never actually been resident at Petworth, the town holds a fascination for me; for the grandmother by whom I was raised, never stopped telling me stories of her childhood there, in the mid-nineteenth century.

As with so many things in life, that we leave too late to attend to; by the time I realised that I was in fact interested, and wanted to ask her; she had already died and I was only just turned twenty. It was then that the particular family legend that we were in fact directly descended from John Milton the poet, began to fascinate me. I spent many years trying to trace the missing link from my known great-great grandparent who died in the town in 1872, and through to his father James Milton born in 1777 and back.....

Interesting it certainly was, and rewarding in many ways, not least in the many kindly and friendly people that I met, and the kinsmen that I 'found' all over the world - the Miltons of Petworth of the nineteenth century certainly spread around the globe - for Manning Milton, son of the aforementioned James, who operated the Stag Brewery in High Street had eight children, two of whom went into the Diplomatic service, the eldest Frank ended his life in New Zealand, after many years as British Consul in Oruro, Bolivia; Charles was a school-teacher in Canada, Ralph died in South Africa, (with one son in the Rhodesian government, during the U.D.I. period under Ian Smith) while Bob and Archie went to farm in New Zealand, and have descendants there still. Lance, an actor in a repertory company, also finished his life in the new world. Manning junior, commonly known as Bubbles, somehow found his way to Finland, where as far as is known, his son Russell may still be; little pebbles from the pond that was Petworth, rippling all through the oceans of the globe. The only daughter lived in Bedford, and did not travel, but her daughter also went off to New Zealand a few years ago, and I found her a willing correspondent also.

My greatest source of information for my Milton quest, amongst my newly found kinsfolk, and one who became a dear penfriend was Ralph, (we found to our delight that his grandfather was my great-great grandfather, James and we had much in common, though much divided in age of course, and sadly he died not many years after I 'found' him. He enlightened me on many things appertaining to the Miltons of Petworth, where he had in fact been raised. The most thrilling thing to me was the details that he had copied from a bible of 1629 in the

possession of a cousin who later emigrated to America! It started "James Milton his book, the son of Robert Milton, his grammar Elizabeth gave him in the year 1682" (Research had already told me that Elizabeth Minshull the poet's third wife had lived to this time) there were several signatures including John Milton.....

Ralph also told me an interesting sideline in that whilst serving in India many years ago, an Air Vice Marshal was making a tour of the then British Empire, (alas he would say - the Empire is all gone now!) and Ralph's wife remarked that the air marshal seemed to resemble him, whereupon Air Vice Marshal Cave-Brown-Cave said that his mother had been a Milton before marriage!

My own line from Henry the brother of Manning is much more common place, and not much travelled like these illustrious people, for Grandma 'married into trade my dear' and she and my Grandfather opened a grocery store in Southsea, at the turn of this century, and her sisters and brother all drifted from the town, though they all loved it so much.....

Many were the pilgrimages we made on the top of a Southdown bus in my childhood, she hated cars, for one could not see above the hedge! I would love to know which was the Home Farm at Lickfold where she was born, though I remember vaguely she once had the temerity to knock the door, wherever it was, and ask the then occupant if she could have a look round. I remember she said the water closet was at the top of a probably-three-storied house, and the primitive plumbing arrangement in 1870 odd, meant that the water had to be pumped up from the ground!

The link that is missing in my search is from great grandfather James Milton, who came to the town in the early nineteenth century and married Katherine Knight (relations of the bakers in Lombard St?)..... and who became father to Manning the brewer, Henry the farmer, and James George (I know not what trade) plus two who died in childhood - and who then was interred in Petworth cemetery at the age of 66; but from whence he came is the mystery I cannot solve.

As far as the town is concerned, it should be gratifying to know that it had a connection with the great poet, by virtue of being home to his descendants for a hundred years or so!

For my search, I hope that someday, somewhere, someone, may furnish a clue to connect James of Petworth back to the 'James, son of Robert,' and grandson of the poet, in the 1682 bible.

Mrs. Clarke,
23 Ernest Road,
BEDHAMPTON,
Hants.

A SECOND PETWORTH WALK

This walk takes about 1½ hours and is over fairly easy going, perhaps a little muddy in places, depending on recent weather.

Leave the Town by Pound Street and turn right onto the Midhurst road, pass by the cricket lodge on your right and before going down the hill cross to the marked footpath on your left. The path crosses straight through the field to Washington Copse. Stand for a moment and look back, away to your left Tillington Church with its surrounding trees and cottages makes a lovely picture. Turn right by the copse and carry on 100 yds. to a footpath sign, turn left and follow this track right across to the keeper's cottage, this section gives fine views of the South Downs with Bishop's Clump in plain view by the white chalk face and Lavington Park house nestling at the foot of the hill.

On reaching the lane by the cottage turn right and carry on until you come to a small lane on your right, this is Hungers Lane and legend has it that it was much used by smugglers in times gone by, it was also a way to Petworth railway station from Tillington in more recent history. We shall travel up the lane but first move left down to the river by Rotherbridge farm house, here we see a fairly modern bridge which replaces the old swing bridge that was hanging on wire cables which in turn replaced the old floating bridge still remembered by older Petworth residents.

Now we retrace our steps and move up the "smugglers" lane until we reach once again the Midhurst road, cross and turn right to the double lodges. Enter the Park having checked the gate closing times and follow the line of the rough track until it moves away to the left, at this point carry it right on to the lake and move right along the shore, within a few yards you will come to a stone seat and if you look from here straight towards the South Downs you will

see a quite rare cork tree a short way off. Move on now towards Petworth House but keeping to the left of the building and you will come to an iron gate set in a splendid example of a ha-ha wall, pass through and under the tunnel, move right and back into the town by North Street. This is an enjoyable walk for all the family, but dogs must be kept under control especially by the keeper's cottage where there could be young birds and in the Park where there are deer and sheep.

"J"

SOME RAILWAY REMINISCENCES (CONTINUED)

Coaching stock was very old and as I said earlier, often consisted of an old open saloon with swing back seats. At one time a very old coach rumoured to be from the Hayling Island Branch appeared. This was divided in two by a centre gangway across the coach with concertina iron gates at each side. One half was first class, the other third, and I wouldn't like to say how old it was 1880? - am not even sure it had electric lights, have a feeling it was gas lit.

Just at this time it became the habit for German planes to shoot up trains and all of the push and pull sets were plated at the guards end with narrow slits for the drivers to see out of when driving from that end. I do not think that any trains on this branch were attacked but believe that one on the Horsham/Guildford line was shot up.

As regards the station building - the shell can of course still be examined and it is surprising how well a wooden building has lasted without any care. The booking office had the usual mahogany counter, two ticket windows (one wonders why two) with a large doorless ticket cabinet in between and a very limited selection of tickets. Passenger traffic was not heavy except when troops were encamped near the station. The station was lit by oil lamps, beautiful brass lamps probably worth a fortune now. Some were Tilley type pressure lamps, others ordinary wick lamps, round bowled and held in brackets attached to the walls. The platform, if it had been lit, was by two Tilley lamps wound up to the top of concrete poles, one at each end - thirty to forty foot high. When I did see them alight after the war they resembled glow worms.

One of my first actions caused damage to the building. It was a hot sunny day in late summer and I felt like some fresh air. The senior didn't - anyway when he was out I got up and hauled at the sash windows - opened one but also broke the sash cord - so there was one big bang as it dropped. They are big windows. Repairs were eventually made, not easy in 1941, and the windows returned to working condition.

Apart from a brief spell on relief work at Christs Hospital when the school went on holiday - another magnificent station building now gone - and a few weeks at Horsham, I stayed at Petworth until the latter part of 1942 when I was suddenly transferred back to Midhurst. The clerk who had taken over the Passenger station had gone sick and I was the nearest spare. There I spent the next six months in charge of a station where only a year before, I had been the learner, travelling the same old journey, twice a day, until I went into the Army, but being paid 18/- a week, tax free travelling - not to be sneezed at in those days.

After a break of four and a half years I returned again to Petworth but now married and with the optimistic hope of obtaining a house there. To no avail, those pensioners were tough and I think it was well over seven years before a house was vacant. This time my contact with the branch was travelling only as I worked at Horsham - what remains in memory - the cold and wet winter mornings cycling to the station and waiting on Pulborough station where it always seemed to blow. The pig that strayed on the line and was hit by the guards van end of the pull and push set. Surprising the damage done to the brake pipe fittings. The pig, of course, was killed but meat rationing was still in force. The farmer was a friend and it was months before he lived down the cracks about open gates. I travelled this line for two years then forsook it for ever, at least let's say it was pulled up before I could travel it again.

What else - memories of a very friendly branch line with an imaginary journey. From Pulborough down the embankment to Hardham Junction, collect the staff from the signalman and curve round into the branch. A level run then to Fittleworth with a friendly word to the Porter who kept alsatians, then on to Petworth. Still on fairly level tracks with the river on one side, with every now and again the remains of an old lock to be seen, signs of an earlier form of transport. Round the curve into Petworth, change staffs, then on again up a short curving slope through a deep cutting and out to a long

straight stretch. Up the rise to Selham station, then on again up the bank, to the left sandy common land, to the right a landing field used by Walrus amphibian planes from an airsea rescue squadron (now polo fields). This was probably the steepest climb on the line and at the top the train would seem to run away again between the firs and heather, which in summer always seemed to scent the track at this point, finally through the tunnel to Midhurst. In winter the prevalent scent was of steam heating, vividly brought back to me years later by a ride on the Bluebell line.

What else arose during the war. The railway maintained its own units of the Home Guard, and for some reason we were equipped with Canadian made Ross rifles .303 calibre, longer than the normal army rifle and withdrawn from Canadian troops in the First World War. They had two advantages, their extra length made them very accurate for range firing and there was no real shortage of ammunition. Their disadvantage a barrel which was not completely covered. Other local units of the Home Guard had American P40 rifles firing .300 ammunition which was in short supply.

There was a hit and run raid where the bombs fell either side of the station. The three cottages referred to earlier just fell down or so I was told when returning on leave. The then Station Master dived under the office table, and this must have been quite a sight as he was rather a portly gentleman.

Victoriana - the original clerk still compiled his weekly "Yellow" forms for traffic in Indian ink and copied them in a tissue book with the aid of a press. How many people nowadays have used this means of copying.

Since these days I have travelled many thousands of miles by train, including several long journeys between Limbe in Malawi and Cape Town in South Africa, but the memories of the Petworth branch still remain.

(concluded)

P.K.H.
Limbe,
MALAWI.



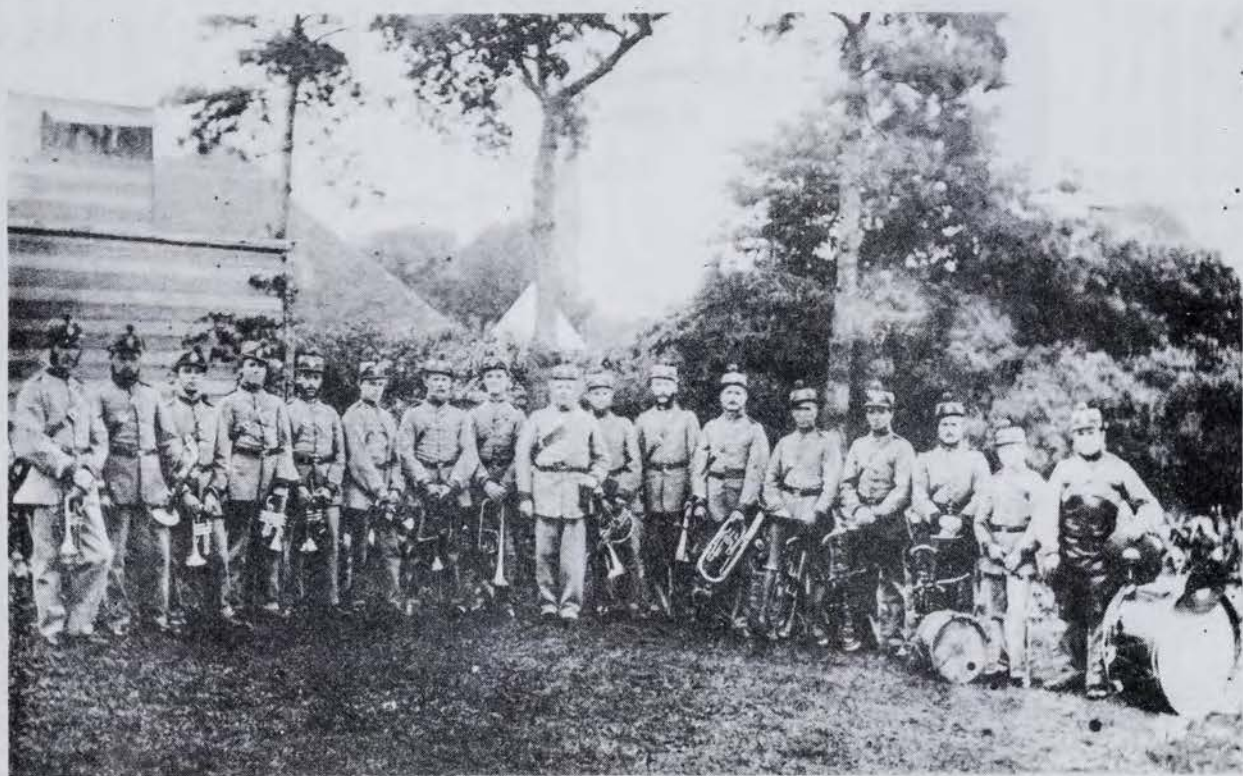
Mr. Henry Milton c1885.
Photograph by Walter Kevis.



Mr. Thomas Seward c1890.
Note the "Petworth Echo" at the foot of the desk.
Photograph by Walter Kevis.



Coultershaw Mill: September 1899 - A photograph by Walter Kevis.



The Volunteers c1870 - A photograph by F.G. Morgan.



Henry Hooker of Upperton.

Drawn by Mr. Charles Orr-Ewing from an original Garland photograph taken in the 1930's.

FRITILLARIES

Though not the brightest colours in flowers, Fritillaries have a peculiar fascination for many gardeners and lovers of wild flowers and have their own devotees. In England they still grow abundantly and are much treasured in the damp meadows of Christ Church, Oxford beside the Thames as well as in some other damp fields, although I have never seen them in the equally moist meadows beside the Rother or the Arun. It is however worth a visit to visit them for any wild flower lover. The white snowflake *Leucojum aestivum* also grows in Oxfordshire and Berkshire in similar sites. The Fritillary.....

Name Fritillary is thought to have been derived from our own native *F. meleagris*, whose chequered pendulous bells bear a resemblance to the squares of a chessboard, called a 'fritillus' in the sixteenth century. Fritillaries have also long been known as 'Ginny-hen Flowers' from their apparent resemblance to the dumpy guinea hen. 'Snakeshead' is yet another name for them. They belong to the giant Lily family and as far as can be determined there are almost a hundred species.

The European species are the most commonly seen in gardens and, apart from the Crown Imperial from Afghanistan and Northern India, are probably the easiest of cultivation. They include *F. pyrenaica*, a rather variable plant, in its largest forms growing up to two feet in height and bearing two or three mahogany coloured pendulous bells which are a curious glossy yellow inside with large pitted nectaries like dewdrops at the base of the bell. Against an old grey stone wall in a dry border a colony will form a distinctive sight and will be likely to persist. *F. involucrata* is another fairly easily grown species from the Alpes Maritimes and Italy with larger pale greenish-yellow flowers, slightly chequered and with black nectaries.

Among the Asiatic species the best known is the Crown Imperial, *F. imperialis*, the largest of all Fritillaries and one which brings a splash of early colour to the border, where it is best planted. It has long been cultivated both in this country and Holland and is often seen in Dutch flower paintings. There is an old legend that it grew along the road to Calvary but refused to bow its head when Our Lord passed; ever since, the pendant bells have been bowed in shame and the unshed tears are found in the nectary. It is not now considered native to Palestine but may well have been carried there in the time of Alexander the Great and brought into Europe by the Crusaders.

The yellow variety comes from the Chitral Valley and there is also a large brick-red form. Like those of most *Fritillaries* the bulbs are best left undisturbed until they are so thick that they need dividing and certainly these discourage any molestation by giving off a rather offensive foxy odour when damaged. The tall *F. pallidiflora* from Siberia is also one of the easiest to grow and has a number of yellowish green flowers on the stem. *F. citrina* is a real gem for the warm rock garden or better still the Alpine house, since it only grows three or four inches high and has clear citron yellow flowers. Many *Fritillaries* seem to grow best in pots or pans in the Alpine house or cold framewhere they can be given some protection in winter and dried off completely in summer when the leaves die away after flowering - the exception being, of course, moisture-loving *F. meleagris*, although even this will stand some drought.

The North American species mostly come from California and Oregon and appear to be rare even in their natural habitat. They are certainly rare in cultivation, especially in the case of such beautiful species as the little deep yellow *F. pudica* or the scarlet *F. recurva*. One of the great needs of horticulture today is more authoritative and carefully considered books about particular genera of plants and in this age of specialization it is to be hoped that more such books may be forthcoming.

There is a hope that one on *Fritillaries* may be published before too long to take the place of the one by Miss Beck long now out of print.

Patrick M. Synge.

News from London 4th May 1686. (reproduced from P.H.A.682
Correspondence of George Thornton by kind permission of Lord
Egremont)

The masters of famylyes throughout the City of London were last weeke warned to keep in their sonnes and servants on May Day also on Sunday for prevention of tumults and some paper being found in the streets inviting all apprentices etc. to meet in Lyme Streete on Saturday last in the morning four companyes of the traine bands were that day upon duty to keep ye peace.

EBERNOE COMMON

As you may already have seen in the press, the long story of Ebernoe Common and the felling-threat to its splendid trees has at last come to a happy ending. In June over 170 acres of the best woodland was bought by the Sussex Trust for Nature Conservation - in the nick of time, as only a few weeks earlier Chichester District Council had granted permission for a large number of trees to be felled. They had imposed a blanket Tree Preservation Order on the area last September, but new felling applications were put forward in January and the Council would have been open to claims for substantial compensation had they then withheld consent. Thankfully, the Trust now owns almost all the registered Common Land, from the car park beside the church southwards to Palfrey Farm, and including Furnace Pond. The view over the pond has improved considerably since the seventeenth century, when the stream 'here frightened with their noises...fearfully goes to certain ironworks' ('The High Stream of Arundel' 1636) and the Ebernoe furnace was notorious for having 'devoured many famous woods' (John Norden, 1607) - we are not the first to fret about tree-felling at Ebernoe.

Broadly, the Trust will aim to maintain the area in its present condition, but will carry out a thorough survey of the wildlife before formulating a more detailed management policy, designed to preserve its richness in birdlife, plants and insects. The Common is classified by the Nature Conservancy Council as a Site of Special Scientific Interest and is reckoned by them to be the best woodland of its kind in the Sussex Weald. Despite the ravages of the all-devouring furnace and some later woodland management, it probably approximates pretty closely to the original 'wildwood', and the diversity of soil types (Wealden clay, sandstone, and 'Paludina' limestone) gives rise to an interestingly varied flora. Birds include woodcock, nightingales, and the three species of woodpecker, with herons and kingfishers on Furnace Pond. Fungi and beetles have been little studied but, in view of the large quantities of dead wood, these may well prove to be of particular interest. As before, there will be free access to the woods along public footpaths.

The Common changed hands for £90,000, of which £40,000 has already been raised by grants from the Nature Conservancy Council and the World Wildlife Fund, and by donations from local residents. I said that the story has had a happy ending, but a hefty epilogue looms in the form of the remaining £50,000, for which the Trust is

launching an appeal. Incidentally, Robin Crane, Deputy Chairman of the Trust and Chairman of the Ebernoe Appeal Committee, will be giving a talk on Butterflies of the World in aid of Ebernoe in the Leconfield Hall, Petworth, on Tuesday October 14th at 7.30 p.m. (admission 50p). This will include a showing of his much-praised television film on the same subject in the BBC World About Us series.

The Petworth Society walk through Ebernoe woods last autumn seemed to go down well and is being repeated this year - plenty of fungi, autumn colours, and birds' alarm calls. (Sunday, September 28th).

Frances Abraham.

TAYLOR FAMILY OF CLOCKMAKERS OF PETWORTH

John Taylor was born around 1721 and was married at Petworth to Jane Roberts on 3 February 1745. He is referred to several times as a surety, in the index to Sussex Marriage Licences published by the Sussex Record Society (S.R.S. vols. 32 and 35), in which he is described as a watchmaker (1759-1781) and then as a Clockmaker (1782). He worked for Petworth House between 1760-1764 according to a series of accounts in the Petworth House Archives (P.H.A.625). He died, aged 61, in 1782 and was buried at Petworth on 5 October 1782. There is a note of a Longcase clock made by John Taylor in the possession of a gentleman in Liphook (1963).

William Taylor, son of John Taylor and Jane Taylor, was born at Petworth on 2 October 1750, and married Ann Steer of Littleworth on 23 June 1788. He is mentioned in the Universal British Directory 1791/8, and there is also a reference in the Sussex Weekly Advertiser of 8 March 1790. There are notes on both John and William Taylor in the reference works by Baillie and Britten. William Taylor is mentioned as a surety in the index to Sussex Marriage Licences (S.R.S. vol. 35, first as a silversmith (1783) and later as a watchmaker (1787). His name disappears from the land Tax returns for Petworth, first as an occupier in 1786 and then as an owner in 1789. No record of his burial can be found in the parish registers for Petworth though there is an entry for the burial of Ann Taylor (aged 72) at Petworth on 6 January 1827.

This could be the wife of William Taylor which would suggest that the family were still living in Petworth, but no further reference can be found to William Taylor himself.

J.A.

A CASE OF BROTHERLY LOVE

On the 1st April, 1606, Henry Cooke of Petworth - a builder - laid a charge against one John Coals of Chiltington for the stealing of his purse (containing £6 or £7) "in the market at Petworth" some three years before. Cooke had information from Robert Cawton, a yeoman of Chiltington, that John Coals and his brother Robert had fallen out over money and that Robert Coals had accused John of stealing a purse at Petworth with £6 or £7 in it. Cawton had told Henry Cooke that several others from Chiltington would affirm the same and that he, Cawton, suspected that the purse was that of Henry Cooke.

Robert Cawton's testimony states that he - many, many times heard Robert Coals, also known as Pilgram, of Chiltington say that his brother John had had a purse at Petworth with £6 in it and that he had given his brother William money to keep quiet, and also promised Robert money for his silence. Robert, however, received none of the promised money and furthermore watched his brother John "flourish and buy wool and many things he was not able to deal in before". Cawton went to Petworth, where he saw one Lucas, a shoemaker, and asked him if he knew of anyone who had lost a purse in the market at Petworth; Lucas replied - he did - whereupon Cawton told him to send the man to him at Chiltington - where he would 'lay open to him the information he had.' Henry Cooke came to Robert Cawton, heard the information and subsequently laid his charge against John Coals, alias Pilgram.

The blacksmith at Chiltington, a William Swan, testified that he had heard Robert Coals speak of the stolen purse with reference to his brother John in the presence of Thomas Wayse, of Sullington yeoman, Henry Swan, Richard Swan, John Parson the carpenter, Richard Searle, Robert Stark, and "divers others of the parish". William Swan further stated that he had heard Robert Coals say that his brother John and his father Robert Coals alias Pilgram had taken lead from Chiltington Church (these, presumably, were sheets of lead for repairing the roof) and made weight of it - 1 cwt in all! The blacksmith had himself made 'rings' for some of the weights.

Henry Swan's testimony is the last one available. He is described as a yeoman of Chiltonington, and states in his evidence that he heard Robert Coals say his brother John had a purse at Petworth with money in it, and that John Coals had only given him 10/6 whereas he should have had £2.

No other information or documentation on this case has yet been found. The penalty for theft:- those bygone days was very severe and one is left but to imagine the fate of John Coals alias Pilgram if he was indeed found guilty.

Sonia Rix.

P.H.A. 5836 THE TENTH EARL'S HOUSEHOLD ACCOUNT FOR 1651

Of the eleven Earls of Northumberland it is probably Henry the 9th or "Wizard" Earl who will be most familiar to the reader of these pages. He it was whom the tenants under William James fought for so long in Chancery over emparking and he too whom James I kept so long in the Tower under threat of execution. Algernon the 10th Earl, his son, is perhaps less well-known but a significant figure nevertheless. Appointed Lord High Admiral of England, he sided with Parliament during the civil war and was given charge of the children of Charles I. He did not approve of the trial and execution of the king and after 1649 lived mainly at Petworth, no longer relishing the cares of public office. He died in 1668 with the monarchy already restored under Charles II and was buried at Petworth. There survives in Petworth House Archives a complete series of personal, household, legal and estate accounts of the 10th Earl running from 1650 to 1667. This is a vast body of material, an uncharted ocean of extraordinary and miscellaneous information, almost 200 rolls in all. Not all of the rolls relate directly to Petworth; one set deals with rents and revenues from the northern estates, another with works at Syon and Northumberland House, while one set is a general summary of accounts.

A large proportion however does relate to Petworth, one set deals with building works done within the honour of Petworth, another with legal expenses, another with equestrian expenses and one with his Lordship's apparel and personal expenses. An important category is the Earl's household expenses and it is one of these rolls, P.H.A. 5836 dated 1651 and dealing with disbursements from the "seventeenth day of January 1650 to the seventeenth day of January 1651", that will be considered here. The declaration is of

"Peter Dodsworth esq. servante to the Right Hono.^{ble} Algernonne Earle of Northumberland steward in household to his Lo^{pp} and payer and disburser of sondry fforeyne payments". The roll stored is about a foot wide with a circumference of a few inches, but unrolled it presents a somewhat daunting appearance being a full eight feet long! I have seen shorter rolls in the series but some are certainly even longer. The household account roll for the following year is 11 feet in length! The handwriting is not difficult but the ink more faded on this roll than on some others I have seen. The main headings are ornate and heavily inked, and the acidity in the ink has in some cases eaten through the material of the roll. The money dealt with is quite considerable, some £2,656, and the entries presuppose a corroborative set of receipts, probably no longer extant. The money to be disbursed comes by "imprest", i.e. by advance from his Lordship's coffers and the accountant must balance imprest and disbursement. Given such an extensive roll, all that can be done here is to give some examples from each entry, selecting perhaps those that may be of the greatest interest. Figures are sometimes Arabic numerals, sometimes Latin numerals, sometimes written in words. The various methods interchange without apparent reason. I have transcribed basically as in the roll. Explanatory notes are in square brackets.

The first expenses are for "Plate vizt. to Mr. Bishopp for a cann weighing 38 ounces 11 penny weight at 5^s 7^d the ounce with 4^s for graving &x-xii-ii^d 6 sawcers weighing 37 ounces 4 penny weight at 5^s 6^d the ounce with 4^s for graving &x-vii-vi^d..." Various items follow and the total comes to £33.10.10d.

Linen comes next "Lynnen vizt. to Mr. Wilmer for 54 ells of holland at 4^s the ell and 18 ells at 4^s 5^d the ell for 4 paire of sheets &xiv-xi^s. Mr. Dawson for 7 yards of diaper tabling at 7^s 6^d the yard and 42 yards at 6^s 6^d the yard to make 7 table cloths and 14 cupboard cloths &xvi-v-vi^d..." Other items follow and the total comes to £65.13.6d. "Holland" is a linen fabric originally coming from the province of Holland in the Netherlands; an ell is a measure of length of some 45 inches and diaper a patterned linen fabric. Mr. Wilmer and Mr. Dawson, like Mr. Bishopp mentioned in the last entry, are not at present known.

Upholstery expenses follow "vizt. to William Ridger for 3 pieces of landshipp hangings [tapestry] contayning 59 ells and a halfe at 5^s 6^d the ell &xvi-vii-iii^d to Mr. Downham for 2 large close stooles

and 6 pannes cxix^s [£5.19.0.] 2 greene folding stooles xxviii^s". Other items include "a redd cloth feild bed, a wainscott table with drawers, 2 french chaires, 4 folding stooles and a french carpet of scarlett cloth" together "with a course blankett and canvas to packe up these things". The entry also allots John Lambe £10.16.10d. for sweeping chimneys and for several necessities for the wardrobe at Petworth. The whole comes to £72.15.5.

Utensils and necessities provided for his Lordship's house at Petworth come to £75.11.1. and include such items as knives, bottles, corks, tinware and glasses for pantry and preserving house, together with "ffier shovells tongs creepers snuffers and other ironworke" and "basketts hampers whisks pailles mopps broomes rubbers brushes and suchlike..." A creeper is a small iron fire-dog placed between the andirons.

Wages and liveries of his Lordship's servants are short but sharp £777.4.10d. There follow "sondry other payments". The first is to a "Mr. Ffourant for Phisicke". £20.17.0. for his Lordship, £23.17.0. for the Countess and £13.7.6. for the Lady Dyana with smaller payments for the coachman and 2 footmen. There are much smaller payments to "Mr. Snagg for phisicke" for the Earl's family and retainers "and for severall sortes of hearbes and other things delivered to Mr. Ramsey". Tending the dairy maid, the pantry boy, and the scullery boy "when they were sicke" cost 13/-. John Snagg or Snagge is known from Lord Leconfield's Petworth Manor (1954) pp 115 as "a purely local practitioner with no other distinctions or attractions". He lived in a house in the Market Place, more or less on the site of the present Messrs. Wakeford, and died in 1672. Leconfield transcribes an account of Snagg's from 1655 but does not mention Ffourant, probably a far greater medical luminary of the time but not local. Other miscellaneous items include help in the dairy when the maid was sick, carrying wood and coals when Mose was lame, and the burial of one Braby. Somewhat unexpectedly there follow a few items of greengrocery - 4 cittrons 15/4d and 162 melons at 6d each for his Lordship's table together with damsons, currants, and gooseberries for the preserving house. Carrots and tares for the hogs account for £2.10.6d and "drenching" them (i.e. administering medicinal draughts) 6/3d. Seeds for birds come to 15/1d and a prayer bell 7/- while "a wyer basket to hang in the parlour chimney to carry up the smoake" costs 17/-. There follow various expenses for hooping and mending beer and wine vessels in larder, poultry and dairy. "Poultry" is an old usage meaning a

place where fowls are kept. 16/- paid to Mr. Jackes "for 2 rund-letts, a canary pipe and rackeing a pipe of canarie" is rather obscure. A roundlet or runlet is a small cask, a canary pipe is probably connected with canary wine. The whole comes to £146.8.10.

"Sondry fforeyne payments" follow and the first category amounting to some £73.13.11. is carriages by land and water from Syon, London and Southwark. Robert Febben, Thomas Powell and others had made several journeys between Syon and Petworth "with fruite and Epsom water and other occasions". Epsom water was already celebrated and Epsom salts originally the salt obtained from it. "Richard Barnes the carrier of Petworth" receives £55.16.6. for "carriage of sondry provisions letters and severall things to and from Petworth as by his bills appeares..." Richard Barnes was some three years later to die at Chichester in strange circumstances (see article by Mrs. Rix in Bulletin No. 17), and we can see why, as a carrier, he had been so anxious to return to work that he ignored the surgeon's advice and insisted on going about his business.

"Guifts and rewards" total an appreciable sum - some £65.6.0. Colonel Popham's man receives ten shillings for a message from Portsmouth. Other recipients include Theodore Mayerne, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Hay, Robert Febben when he was lame, Goodie Pennard and Mr. Hilliard. The entry closes with 16/- "to the Bakers Chaundlers Carriers and Butchers men to their boxes".

A last but very substantial entry again comes under "sondry other payments" some £1,329 in all. £500 (v^c) goes towards her Ladyship's allowance for apparel with a further £50 for his Lordship and £100 for the Lady Diane Sidney. "Teaching my Lord Percy and the Ladies to daunce" was expensive at £40, lessons in writing a good deal less so at £10. Expenses for the Countess and the Lady Elizabeth in London from September 15th to October 28th include £20 to Dr. Meyerne and £10 to Dr. Colladon with a further 40 shillings to the apothecary. "A picture of the Countesse of Carlisle" cost £11 while houserent and other necessities for his Lordship's barges and 19½ yards of blue cloth at 12/- the yard to make 13 watermen's coats reflect travel along the river from Syon (Brentford). "Mending the senators Perriwiggs" is a little obscure and another curious item is "to the Crowner [Coroner] that satt upon the child that was found dead xx^s to the bayliffe for summoning the Jury vii^s to the Jury v^s". Nothing is known of this incident. The roll closes with audit charges, a statement of balance in hand, and as a kind of

afterthought, moneys received from the sale of two horses.

P.H.A. 5836 is a long document, a detailed document, but never a dull one. From it we learn more of John Snagg, of Richard Barnes the carrier, and much about the minutiae of a great nobleman's household and the retainers dependent on it. If a single roll yields so much, how much more might the whole series!

P.A.J.

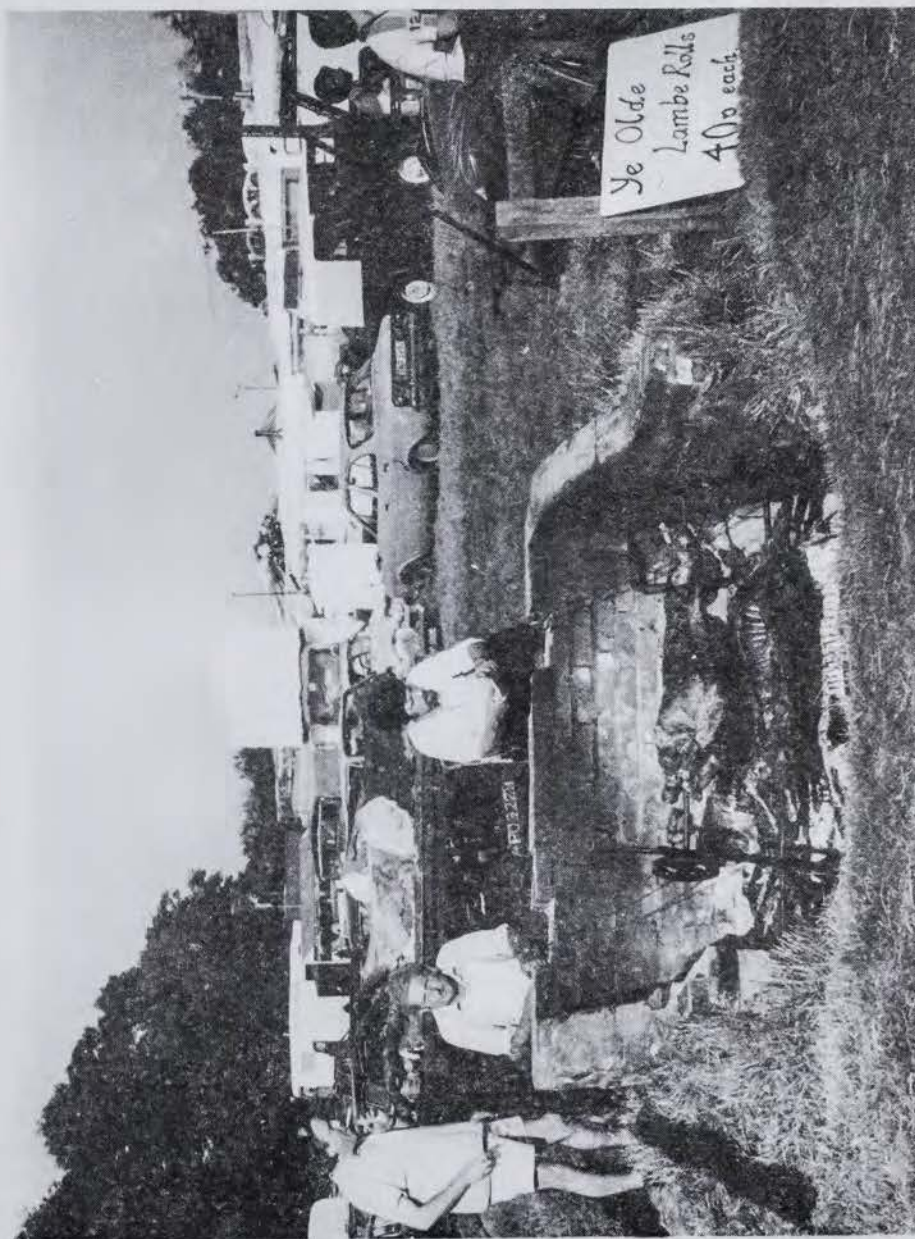
A CASE OF "PECULATION" IN 1802

(A local history group note)

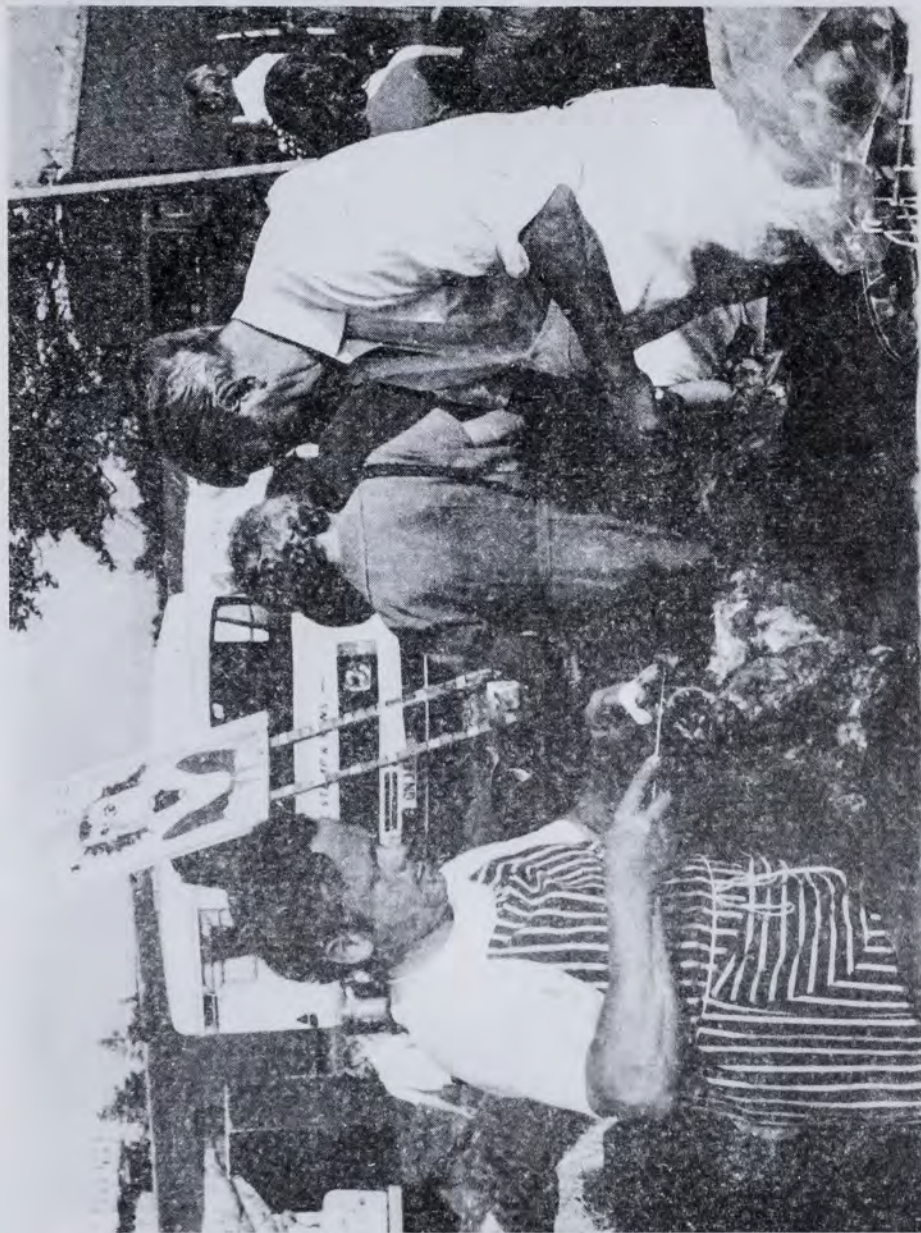
PHA 6313 is another of William Tyler's case briefs of which a number have been described in earlier Bulletins. 6313 from 1802 contains the prosecution case against Thomas Luff, a prisoner, but lately for many years a labourer in the Earl of Egremont's employment. He is charged with stealing a hempen sack and four bushels of barley to the value of ten shillings, the property of the Earl of Egremont.

It appears that in 1802 there had been a rash of petty theft or "peculation" as the brief calls it, from the Earl by those employed by him; while the parties involved were so disposed to keep one another's secrets that the detection of offenders was almost impossible. As a preventive measure instructions had been given to his Lordship's lodgekeepers to allow no one to bring out anything without notice and to make relevant enquiry if they felt it necessary.

On the evening of 7th May 1802 Luff had been observed by Thomas Bird (Principal Groom to the Earl of Egremont) and William Betts (a helping groom), with a four bushel sack, seemingly full, in his Lordship's coach stable where he worked "within his Lordship's walls". Luff told both Bird and Betts separately that the sack contained oats and that he was going to send it the next morning to the mill to be ground for the use of Lanaway, the dairyman. Bird rebuked him and told him that this was none of his business. On Saturday the 8th Bird and Betts again saw the sack with the same contents, and after Bird had ridden out Luff carried the sack out and through Thomas Sanders' lodge into the street. When he saw Sanders coming after him to ask him what he was carrying, Luff pitched the sack by a stable belonging to Thomas Bird, the Principal



Ebernoe Horn Fair 1980 (1) Roasting the sheep. Photograph by Mr. John Mason.



Ebernoe Horn Fair 1980 (2) Carving. Photograph by Mr. John Mason.

Groom, and going up to Sanders told him that it was a sack to be sent up to the Hill (i.e. to the racing stables of Lord Egremont at Waltham Hill). As no cart was to go that day with grass, he intended to send it by a chance chalk team, i.e. a farmer going that way for chalk to use as manure. Sanders suspected this story (quite different from that given to Bird and Betts who, working in the stables would have known it to be false) and kept on the watch. Not long after he saw one Barkshire, who had been wheeling dung in the street, wheel the sack to the door of Luff's house in Pound Street "some distance but in the same line of street and in the road towards the hills". Luff then came and told Sanders that he had been just in time and had sent the sack by a chalk waggon that happened to be passing. Sanders, however, who had watched to see if any waggon had passed by either of the two avenues into Pound Street (i.e. Park Road and Saddler's Row) knew this to be false and informed senior servants of his Lordship. Thomas Bird then went to Luff's house, searched it and found the sack with the same contents in the kitchen. Luff was taken into custody and committed to prison while the sack with its contents was left with Sanders.

The main prosecution difficulty was to prove that the sack found in Luff's house was that same sack which had come from the stables, and that the barley in it had once belonged to the Earl of Egremont. The main evidence for the prosecution was the different stories Luff had told to explain the disappearance of the sack. Luff's defence would obviously be that no one who intended a theft of this kind would go about it in so open a way, and he had given this kind of story to the justices. After all, he had placed the sack in the stables and carried it out in full view of anyone who happened to be passing.

On being examined Lanaway, the dairyman, had attempted to back Luff's first story but when it came out that Lanaway had himself on that very day carried three sacks of oats and one of barley to the mill to be ground (nearly a week's supply), it was obviously impossible that any would have been sent to be milled on the Saturday. Lanaway had then said that Luff had asked him to take a sack to the mill to be ground and leave it instead at Luff's house. He said he had refused - but all the same was discharged forthwith for having failed to inform his Lordship's officers of Luff's proposal. Lanaway now however denied knowing anything of Luff's proposal - in fact he could not even remember taking the four sacks of grain down to the mill on the Friday! At best Lanaway and Carpenter, his mate, could corroborate that this was the usual supply for Nevatt (the feeder

of the fowls) and Herrington (the feeder of the hogs).

The brief then gives a list of the witnesses and the evidence they would give. Thomas Bird and William Betts would recite Luff's account of where the sack of barley was supposed to go. Thomas Sanders would describe Luff's removing of the sack and the watch he kept, looking down the whole length of Pound Street and what is now Park Road. No wagon had appeared as Luff claimed - instead the sack had been wheeled down to Luff's house. Lanaway and Carpenter would testify along the lines already indicated.

So much for the case - probably William Tyler did not have too much trouble establishing that Luff had in fact removed a sack of barley and that it was that sack of barley and no other that had been found in Luff's kitchen. One may wonder where in Pound Street Luff lived or what happened to Luff afterwards. Clearly the Earl and his advisers were concerned above all to make an example of someone with a view to deterring others. But this apparently trivial case has about it a curious vividness. Sanders' lodge was probably inside the present Gog/Magog gates in Park Road but was clearly so situated that the lodgekeeper could see down the whole length of Pound Street. What the case evokes most perhaps in this traffic-ridden age is a feeling of empty streets when nothing moved at any pace and even a passing wagon or cart was something to notice and comment on. And what a different age to this is called up by the casual phrase "within his Lordship's walls"!

A THOUSAND YEARS OF MILLING AT PETWORTH

Until a few years ago there had always been a water mill at Petworth. One and a half miles from the town the river Rother winds its way, and although several buildings must have succeeded one another over the years, they all stood on the original site of the Saxon water mill called Coultershaw mentioned in Domesday Book which also refers to its amazing rental of 20 shillings and 169 buckets of eels per annum.

The name Coultershaw means 'Cuthere's spur of land' and has no connection with the modern 'Coulter', part of a plough.

In those early days the mill would have held a very important position, serving the inhabitants of the nearby Saxon settlement, a self contained community existing on their local resources. It would grind all their grist and produce a coarse flour from local grown wheat and barley.

Machinery would have been very primitive, a pair of heavy mill-stones, wooden cogs and bearings driven by a water wheel, and crude sifting machines known in the industry as bolters, to sift the meal after it had passed through the stones.

Contrary to general belief the mill did not stand on the natural course of the river Rother. With the equipment then available it would not have been possible to keep the water out of the excavations if foundations were dug too close to the river.

A site was therefore chosen where a good water supply could be guaranteed, as close to the river as possible, the main building erected, mill race, sluices and the wheel put into position and a new channel then dug from the mill in both directions to link up with the main stream. To obtain a good head of water, which at Coultershaw was about eight feet, the old channel was dammed and a tumble bay constructed to pass any surplus water. This arrangement saved any unnecessary operation of the sluices, which had to be open only at the time of flood.

This diversion of the river meant of course, that the waterway was obstructed to shipping, and subsequently a lock was built in the new channel adjacent to the mill to enable boats to be raised to the higher level on their way up river to Selham and Midhurst.

Here too at Coultershaw stood the last of Petworth's tollgates. The gatehouse stood on the north side of the Chichester road beside the bridge spanning the lock, and it is assumed that the toll-keeper fulfilled two tasks, collecting tolls from the road users and from the bargees using the lock. The gates were removed over a century ago but the cottage remained for several more years. (See illustration in Bulletin No. 17 facing page 3).

Coultershaw Mill, along with many other similar mills in Sussex, continued to grind the grist for local farmers, right through the centuries, using much the same primitive machinery. The miller worked, often single-handed, anything from twelve to eighteen hours a day, and the fact that he was sometimes known as the 'jolly miller' is a tribute to his tireless energy and cheerfulness, often in the face of adversity.

The machinery was maintained by a visting mill-wright who called at regular intervals to overhaul the bearings and the wheel. The stones which in the course of time would naturally wear away, were taken care of by the miller, who would have a spare set to substitute while he

cut and refaced them. During this century the old Sussex mills have gradually been closed down. Increased use of coal and petrol and the birth of machinery rapidly outdated many of these. Farmers purchased their own machinery to do their own grinding and chaff-cutting.

Another reason for the closure of small mills was the importing of cheap wheat which flooded the market, large mills grew up at the ports to cut the costs still further, these expanded and soon put most of the small rural mills out of business. Coultershaw Mill fought this challenge until the 1970's but now, alas, all that remains are its foundations and the old water pump which used to supply Petworth town, this pump has now been restored by the Sussex Archaeological Society.

P.C. (with acknowledgement to the article by J.D. DYMOND in Sussex County Magazine Vol. 27).

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following New Members who have joined the Society since our June Bulletin.

Mrs. S. Austin, Heriots, Sutton, Pulborough.

Mrs. R.N. Bickerdike, Corner Cottage, Bignor.

Mrs. S. Boxall, 20 Wyndham Road, Petworth.

Mrs. S. Boxall, 4 Cherry Tree Walk, Petworth.

Mrs. J. Bradshaw, 22 Rothermead, Petworth.

Mr. R. Cross, New West Lodges, Tillington Road, Petworth.

Mr. R. Cross, 289 Horsham Road, Petworth.

Mr. S.R.M. Diplock, 20 Downland Drive, Hove, Sussex.

Mr. R. Dixon, 5 Sorrel Road, Horsham, Sussex.

Mrs. D. Doo, 33 Newmoor Crescent, Southminster, Essex.

Mrs. F.L. Ellis, Embassy Square 2000 N Street North West, Apartment 308 Washington DC 200036.

Miss J. Grimwood, Top Flat 518 Victoria Road, Queen's Park, Glasgow.

Mrs. P. Hartley, Kitchen Court, High Street, Petworth.

Miss K. Harvey, 14 Somerset Hospital, North Street, Petworth.

Mr. & Mrs. P.K. Hounsham, P.O. Box 5311, Limbe, Malawi, Central Africa.

Mrs. Jarvis, 3 Pound Street, Petworth.

Mr. & Mrs. M. Duncan-Jones, 1 Chestnut Cottages, Byworth.

Mrs. K.L. Katon, 335 Grove Street, Petworth.

Mrs. B. Lester, Avenings, Golden Square, Petworth.

Mr. & Mrs. D. Cook-Martin, Avenings, Golden Square, Petworth.

Mr. & Mrs. F. Pennicott, Willow Cottage, Duncton.

Mr. & Mrs. J. Rabone, Stringers Hall, East Street, Petworth.

Mr. E.W. Sadler, 55 Sheepdown Drive, Petworth.

Mr. N. Scorse, Martlet House, Lombard Street, Petworth.

Mrs. J. Standing, 31 Greatpin Croft, Fittleworth. (Cont. on Page 2)

