Editorial
Towards A Climatic History of Lincolnshire
Lincolnshire Bookplates
Bell Letters
Memorials to Servants (1) and (2)
A Visit to Laceby
Winceby: A Possible Tennyson Connection
Obituaries
Notes and Queries
Mystery Pictures
Authorial Alternatives: An Occasional Series
Faces and Places
Book Notes
The Battle of Winceby
Grantham Bellringers - More Mystery

Lance Tufnell
John R. Ketteringham
Terence Leach  Hilary Healey
Geoffrey Syer
Christopher Sturman
Simon Pawley
Christopher Sturman
David N. Robinson
Ron Jepson

Page 2
Page 3
Page 7
Page 8
Page 10
Page 12
Page 14
Page 15
Page 16
Page 18/19
Page 20
Page 22
Page 24
Page 27
Page 28

The deadline for contributions to the next Bulletin and the Summer issue of Lincolnshire Past & Present is Saturday 14 May 1994.
Material should be sent to the Joint Editors at Jews' Court, Lincoln LN2 1LS (0502 521337). It will help the Editors greatly if articles are sent typed, double spaced and with a good margin. A note of the number of words is of great value.
More detailed 'notes for contributors' are available from Jews' Court (please enclose s.a.e.).

Cover: The car involved in what is believed to be Lincolnshire's first fatal road traffic accident. See page 18.
EDITORIAL

As usual we have a variety of articles in the magazine. In the past we have enjoyed features on wind and storms, and Lance Tufnell takes us a stage further in encouraging us all to search out climatic information from a wide range of sources. We have featured one or two flood postcards in the past, but there may be others locally produced which have not yet come to our notice. I have always been curious to know why a photographer from Newcastle on Tyne took such an interest in the Louth flood; did he specialise in disasters or had he local connections? If you find references to weather in newspapers, diaries, parish registers etc. why not send them in? We receive relatively few contributions from original documents at present.

Once again we have no contribution on archaeology, and it may sometimes seem as if half the Society's interest is not being catered for. However, taking the word in its widest sense we do publish many items on industrial archaeology and occasionally on buildings. The changes in government policy relating to archaeological excavation has been considerable in the last few years, and we hope to include an item on this in the near future. The flow of contributions is steady; please keep it up - and don't forget the illustrations. We had a useful response to an enquiry about wells and this will feature in our summer issue.

Hilary Healey, Joint Editor.

SOCIETY FOR LINCOLNSHIRE HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY

OFFICERS 1993-94

All communications should be addressed to the Office at Jews' Court
(address and telephone number on back cover)

Chairman: Miss Pearl Wheatley
Vice-Chairmen: Dr Alan Vince, Miss Hilary Healey
Clerk: Mrs S. Smith
Hon. Treasurer: Rev R. Loxley

Chairmen of Committees:
Industrial Archaeology - Mr N. Wright
Local History - Mr J. English
Archaeology - Dr A. Vince

Hon. Journal Editor: Mr C. Sturman
Hon. Editors, Lincolnshire Past & Present: Mr C. Sturman, Miss H. Healey
Hon. Bulletin Editor: Miss H. Healey
Hon. Marketing Managers: Mrs A. Astling and Mr D. Dowson
Publicity Liaison: Mr J. Ketteringham

If you are writing with queries that do not seem to be covered by the three existing committees please address your enquiry direct to the Chairman.
TOWARDS A CLIMATIC HISTORY OF LINCOLNSHIRE

Lance Tufnell

The climatic history of recent centuries is a subject which has never been very popular with British scientists. Yet, the public is renowned for its willingness to talk about the day’s weather and for its enjoyment in reading about its past vagaries. Scientists ought therefore to regard historical climatology as a subject full of interest and potential. Moreover, it is one which has an important bearing on the recent development of mankind and the environment.

Christopher Sturman was therefore pointing to a microcosm of the national situation when he described the climatic history of Lincolnshire as ‘a relatively unexplored area’ of local knowledge. If this knowledge is to be improved, it will first be necessary to establish the types of data source which are available for study. In attempting to do this, the present article introduces a number of sources which are familiar to all historians and thereby demonstrates that a wide range of material can be used to reconstruct the story of past climate in Lincolnshire. Researching this subject will demand much time and patience, for progress will often be slow. There is, however, no reason to believe that sources are any less abundant and fruitful in Lincolnshire than in other parts of the country.

Religious chronicles
Some of the earliest records of British weather are found in ecclesiastical chronicles. This source is of most value when investigating medieval climate, but it can also tell us a little about Dark Age events. It does, however, have two major limitations: 1) chronicles tend to mention only extreme or unusual weather, and 2) their comments are frequently vague and generalised. Thus, the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle mentions that 1098 was a very wet year, so ‘nearly all the cultivated land in low-lying districts was ruined’, a typically vague remark which can nevertheless probably be taken as indicating that Lincolnshire was badly affected. Fortunately, some chronicles are more specific, as is shown by the observation of Matthew Paris that during coastal flooding in October 1250 ‘Holland in England and Holland overseas suffered irreparable damage’.

Parish registers
More recently, since about 1540, British weather has occasionally been noted in another religious source, the parish register. Unfortunately, many of the early entries have not survived. For the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, however, registers can provide a useful, if limited amount of weather data and are especially valuable when other possible sources of information turn out to be disappointing. They can note a major event, such as a harsh winter or severe flood, or they may record the burial of someone who has died because of bad weather. Thus, the parish registers of Bourne mention a dreadful gale on 4 November 1637, while those for Gainsborough note the burial of a man who was lost in the heavy snow of the 1634-5 winter. Unfortunately, very few Lincolnshire registers have been published (cf. the series for Yorkshire which has over 150 volumes). Searching them for weather information can therefore prove difficult.

Diaries
The earliest European weather diary is thought to be that of William Merle. This was compiled between 1337 and 1344, principally when Merle was vicar at Driby in Lincolnshire. It is, however, a very early and isolated example of its kind, as it was not until the seventeenth century that diaries containing weather information were first produced in sufficient numbers to make them a worthwhile source for the climatic historian. Such diaries have the advantage that they were often kept methodically (many on a daily basis) in the one area (hence, records tend to be internally consistent) by someone who understood the nuances of their local weather. The more pertinacious individuals did, in fact, observe the weather regularly for over fifty years (e.g. Thomas Barker in Rutland during much of the eighteenth century). One of Barker’s contacts was William Stukeley of Holbeach, who himself kept a diary in which there are weather observations. From a somewhat later period there is the diary of Matthew Flinders, father of the well-known explorer. This was kept at Donington, near Boston, and it too contains weather data.

Letters
Letters (for private or business purposes) may refer to the weather, though they were usually not composed as regularly as diary entries and are therefore of less use to the climatic historian. Nevertheless, there are points of meteorological interest in the letters of, for example, William
Stukeley. Thus, on 6 December 1726 he wrote from Grantham to Sir Hans Sloane in London ‘I am preparing my instruments for observation of the weather, and quantity of rain, &c.’

Travel accounts
Since the weather often has an important effect on journeys, many travel accounts have at least some reference to it. Maritime voyagers were recording weather in detail as early as the sixteenth century, though travel on land, especially in the remotest parts of Britain, did not really become popular until the eighteenth century. Generally, the records of travellers are less useful to climatic historians than are diaries compiled in the one place. This is because 1) their authors usually have no more than a passing acquaintance with the environment they describe, 2) observations relate to many different places, thus lacking comparability and 3) such records often cover far briefer periods than diaries. An example of a travel account which includes weather data is the fishing log of Edwin Green Smith. This frequently records the weather experienced by a crew from Grimsby during the years 1884 to 1888. It is particularly good for information about wind conditions.

Quarter Sessions Rolls
Legal documents are a relatively unexplored source of weather data. It is, however, known that for some English counties Quarter Sessions Rolls give information about flooding. They can do so when people have requested financial assistance for the repair of bridges which have been damaged or swept away. At times, individuals affected by other types of bad weather (e.g. a harsh winter) also petitioned for financial help. Similarly, legal documents may refer to those convicted partly on the evidence of weather conditions (e.g. when they have wrongfully taken a bare after tracing its footprints in snow).

Newspapers
In Britain, newspapers began appearing in the eighteenth century, though it is only during the last 150 years that they have been published in large numbers. Usually, a newspaper with a long run will contain a mine of weather information. Some of this may have arisen through individuals making a regular contribution to the paper (e.g. a monthly weather report). Such reports are likely to contain instrumentally-recorded data, though standards of accuracy could well have been lower than those of today. Newspapers also include accounts of severe or unusual weather and its effects on people and the environment. David Neave’s article about the great winds of Lincolnshire in the winter 1990/91 issue of this magazine shows how newspapers can be of value to the climatic historian.

Meteorological and other compilations
During recent centuries a few individuals have made lengthy compilations of past weather events. Although these lack first-hand observations, they are useful for pinpointing severe weather of the past, thus enabling researchers to target dates when there may be relevant information in other sources. A meteorological compilation from the nineteenth century is E.J. Lowe’s Natural Phenomena and Chronology of the Seasons (1870). Like most compilations it mixes the general with the more specific. Thus, for 1547 it vaguely notes ‘Frost intense in England’, but is more precise in recording that on 5 October 1571 ‘a tremendous gale and flood’ in the Grimsby area ‘left 20,000 cattle and sheep dead, ruined houses and bridges, and wrecked many ships’. Even when a compilation is not specifically meteorological, it may contain useful weather information. An example is The Date Book for Lincoln and Neighbourhood from the earliest time to the present (c.1867). [See Lincs. P. & P. I, Autumn 1990]

Scientific publications
Most of the scientifically-derived information about the past climate of Lincolnshire dates from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. On the whole, it is in one of two forms: 1) Raw data (i.e. observations which have not been processed and analysed). Examples can be found in Symons’s British Rainfall which first appeared in 1860 and which survives today under the briefer title Rainfall. Such data can be used, for instance, to study the storms of June and July 1883. Above all, it shows that these affected an area far greater than Lincolnshire. 2) Scientific books and articles, which present and analyse weather data from Lincolnshire. These are disappointingly rare, so there is only a handful of good examples. Certainly, few researchers have attempted to take the longer perspective necessary for studying the climate of Lincolnshire throughout recent centuries.
Postcards

Many groups, including climatic historians, have yet to recognise the full value of collecting postcards. Not only can these be used to illustrate accounts of weather during the last 100 years, but they will often add to the information available from other sources. Literally millions of cards have been issued worldwide, the number being particularly large during the so-called 'Golden Age' from 1900 to 1914. Unfortunately, no-one has even an approximate idea of how many relate to Lincolnshire and what proportion of these depict weather scenes. It is, however, likely that floods will be the most common type, with those of the disaster at Louth in 1920 being among the most frequently encountered. Because of its importance, cards depicting this flood are fairly expensive, being valued from £10 to £25 each in The Postcard Catalogue 1993 by J. Venman et al. They provide a graphic illustration of the serious damage which occurred (Figs. 1 and 2 below).

Figs. 1 and 2. Two of the many postcards which were issued to show the effects of the Louth flood of 29 May 1920. The upper card is No. 5 in the series, the lower one No. 18 (D.N. Robinson Collection).
The future for a climatic history of Lincolnshire
In the past, the weather had a greater impact on British society than it does today. People were, after all, less well fed and clothed, their houses were more poorly heated and insulated, and they spent more time outdoors. It therefore seems likely that the weather has played a significant role in human history. Yet, we are a long way from being able to evaluate accurately the nature and importance of that role. A major reason for this is that scientists and historians have rarely combined their expertise. Therefore, historians have never been given the scientific data necessary for them to evaluate properly the influence of climate on mankind during recent centuries. As a result, it is hardly surprising that there has been no detailed examination of how climate has affected the history of Lincolnshire. Even so, a lot of material relevant to this subject probably awaits discovery. Finding and assessing such material will benefit climatologists and historians alike. Moreover, it is a task which the readers of this magazine may find rewarding and one which they may wish to discuss in forthcoming issues.

NOTES
9. S.A. Peyton in Minutes of Proceedings in Quarter Sessions held for the Parts of Kesteven in the County of Lincoln 1674-1695, Vol.1, Lincoln Record Society, 25, (1931), p.lxxxix mentions that in the seventeenth century bridges were 'particularly liable to damage from violent floods'.
11. Lincolnshire readers will recognise Lowe's source as Holinhed's Chronicle. See also Owen's 'Coastal erosion in east Lincolnshire'.
12. See also Christopher Sturman, 'The summer storms of 1883 in Lincolnshire'. (Above, note 1)
14. Data on this flood can be obtained from David Robinson's The Book of Louth (1979), pp.122-23 ('The 1920 flash flood'). The Louth Naturalists' Antiquarian and Literary Society is planning to publish a new account, by David Robinson, of the flood. A contemporary description, which puts this flood into a national context, may be found in British Rainfall for 1920 (see pp.64-68, where there are details of the rainfall on 29 May).
Buying secondhand books is a favourite occupation of some readers. If one is lucky one may have the added bonus of an interesting bookplate. Here are a few with particular Lincolnshire connections.

John Oates and Company. An early nineteenth century advertisement used as a bookplate.

William Bailey, a former secretary of Spalding Gentlemen’s Society, who was also an active and competent artist. The illustration shows medieval knights in a castle.

Harold Brace
Gainsborough local historian.

This plate is probably a Lincolnshire one: it is in a copy of Pitsley Thompson’s History of Boston and the Gothic initials appear to be IT. The reader who contributed this says that a former owner was Dudley Pelham, Boston, 1849. Any ideas?
The monumental work *The Church Bells of the City and County of Lincoln* running to some 780 pages and published in 1882, was compiled by Thomas North. He was born at Melton Mowbray in 1830 and worked first in a solicitor’s office and later in a bank before he had to retire at the age of 42 because of ill-health. He moved to Ventnor, Isle of Wight, but spent the last three years of his life at Llanfairfechan in North Wales.

He relied largely on the assistance of others in gathering information and when he was compiling his work on Lincolnshire bells Henry Winn of Fulletby (Fig.1) assisted with information concerning church bells in the Horncastle area.

Henry Winn was born at Fulletby in 1816 and left school at the age of 10. He became unofficial Parish Clerk at the age of 14 because the holder of that office could neither read nor write! Henry took over the job officially in 1845 and remained in office for 70 years. He recorded a great deal of the life of the village, much of it in verse. Fortunately he also transcribed most of his correspondence into notebooks, the last entry being 11 August 1913. Even at the age of 98 his handwriting was still very legible.

Winn’s first recorded letter to North was dated 13 June 1879, but it would seem that they had some contact before that date. Winn had been dining with the Rector of Tetford who had received a request from North for information about the bells which had been ignored, so Winn gave the sexton ‘6d to accompany me into the belfrey and found three handsome bells hung in an immense wooden frame’.

North acknowledged Winn’s letter on 7 June 1879 from Ventnor, and asked if he could visit a number of churches in the Horncastle area. He went on to say: ‘These bell books are very costly to publish and the readers are not numerous, so, although I shall be very pleased to repay anything you are good enough to expend on my account......I am afraid I cannot offer to pay you much for the time occupied.’

On 14 June, Winn again wrote to North and after commenting on the cost of publishing he commented on the pleasure which his own researches had given him, quoting Cowper: ‘There is a pleasure in poetic pains, which none but poets know.’ After writing at length on various subjects he said that he was finding the study of bells interesting - ‘so I should scorn to take any pecuniary remuneration for my own time and trouble, but I find the Parish Clerks as a rule fond of ‘Backsheash’ as the generality of people and if I give trouble I always offer something.’

He mentioned that he had met with an accident six years earlier and could not resume his earlier practice of taking long walks, but that he had ‘however a faithful old pony, a servant of twenty years standing. We are growing old together and take frequent drives into the neighbourhood’. He went on to say that he had visited Ashby Puerorum but could not obtain the key. However, at Belchford he had obtained details of the bell, which he sent to North.

In reply he asked Winn to note the uses to which bells are put in each parish and in particular the ‘Passing Bell’ and finished: ‘Notwithstanding the badness of the roads I think your journey will carry you ‘over the hills’ to Oxcombe and Worlaby, but pray neither distress yourself or your old friend’.

On 18 June, Henry Winn visited West Ashby having been invited to tea by Mr. Henry Lunn. He took the opportunity to record the three bells in the tower and reported his findings to North on 26 June. It seems that he called at Greetham the same day where the Rector told him that he had received a letter from North ‘but having no particulars to communicate he had not answered his letter’. Winn said it would not be much trouble to measure the bell to which the Rector replied, ‘Well, get the blacksmith to bring a ladder and tell him I will give him a pint of stout’.

In the same letter Winn sent details of the bells of Ashby Puerorum, and in his reply North commented: ‘It is exactly because the bells in a church are of little interest that I have often difficulty in obtaining information, the clergyman not thinking that no work like the one I
contemplate can be complete unless it comprises all - the blanks as well as the prizes.' Reading through Winn's notes it becomes obvious that several incumbents had ignored North's requests for information about the bells in their churches.

On 14 July 1879, Winn sent details of the bells at Low Toynton, Bag Enderby, Somersby and Salmonby. With reference to Somersby he commented:

This church was restored about seventeen years ago but no attention paid to the bells or bell-chamber which is in a most dangerous state...I felt myself in great danger all the time I was at the bells, in fact my foot slipped through once so you must excuse the badness of the rubbing. There is not stairs or ladder to reach the bells and I had to hire two men to fetch a long ladder from a farmyard. The fall door was off the hinges and we had great difficulty in preventing it from falling upon us.

Even after this incident Winn's increasing interest in bells was not abated, and on 12 August he visited Winceby, where he found yet another blank bell. He then went on to Hammeringham where he had quite an experience:

I procured the keys from the clerk's house but he was at work in the fields, and no one was about to render assistance.

I succeeded in getting a ladder conveyed from a farmyard into the church to find it was only just long enough to reach a balk passing under a wooden turret or cage, in which hang the bells.

I ventured up the ladder, and with some difficulty forced open the door of the Bell-cage (for I can find no more appropriate word to describe it). The exertion required to open the door displaced the ladder on which I stood and I had only just time to grasp hold of a beam before I felt it glide from under my feet. I managed, however, to swing myself into the belfrey, had I fallen you would, most probably, had to put a note in your book saying that a man was killed in attempting to see these bells....

I measured the bells, and then began to consider my position. It was evident I could not get down without assistance. I looked through the wooden bars of my prison and saw a woman standing in the street and succeeded in drawing her attention. I requested her to procure help and she presently returned with a man and a boy, by whose assistance the ladder was replaced and I got down safely.

Not surprisingly, North was somewhat alarmed by this incident, and in his reply of 15 August wrote: 'I am heartily thankful you escaped so well at Hammeringham. Pray do not run any serious risks in your endeavours to meet my wishes.'

The incident at Hammeringham seems to have affected Winn more than he admitted. On 26 August he visited High Toynton and climbed the first ladder but could not manage the next which 'looked so long and steep that my courage failed me'. He recommended North to write to a local joiner 'who is always employed to do what repairs are needed in the belfreys'.

Winn examined no more church bells, but on a visit to the British Museum he found the inscription on the old bells at West Ashby, and he also sent North a copy of the Stow Ringers' Rules dated 1770.

North acknowledged Winn's letter on 30 August but nothing more is recorded until he wrote again on 1 December, from which it appears that Winn must have been examining various documents and books at North's request and had been able to supply some information about the bells of St. Mary's in Louth which had fallen into decay.
The last letter is from Winn to North (undated) in which he congratulates him on having completed the book and goes on 'The trouble and expense entailed in processing and editing such a mass of scattered materials must have been enormous...I am sorry I do not know many in the limited circle of my acquaintance likely to spend two guineas in an antiquarian taste...You will see I have put down my own name as a subscriber although I must own the price is rather more than I can afford to pay these hard times but I should be sorry not to possess a copy'.

NOTE
The manuscript note book from which this article was compiled is in the possession of the widow of Mr. Charles Marshall who loaned it to me several years ago. Although a number of Henry Winn's papers are in the Lincolnshire Archives Office many of his papers have been dispersed.

MEMORIALS TO SERVANTS (I)

Terence Leach

I read with great interest Jean Howard's account of the gravestone of John Maxey in Tathwell churchyard (LP&P 13). She pointed this stone out to me some time ago; it would be interesting to know more of the gardening career of Maxey. Like Jean Howard, I would like to know of more examples of similar gravestones and memorials. I noticed two (and there may be more) to servants of Lord Tyrconnell in Belton churchyard recently, and if my memory serves me correctly there is a similar one (a chest tomb) at Hough on the Hill. It is some time since I saw this, and I have no note of the servant or the master. It is possible that the master was the owner of Belton.

At Scrivelsby there is the well known gravestone of a gamekeeper who was shot by poachers; this was erected by his Dymoke employer. In Blankney church there is a memorial to the Chaplin family's nurse - and one donated by her in memory of one of the family. I believe that there is a brass tablet to a servant in Tealby church, erected by the Tennyson d'Eyncourts. There is an impressive memorial to the Girsby Manor butler in Burgh on Bain churchyard, erected by the Fox family.

An early and interesting example of a servant's memorial is to be seen in the north aisle of Fulbeck church.

In memory of Mr Thomas Ball who dyed ye 10 day of Febru. 1673 in ye 74th year of his age. His wife was Elizabeth daughter of Mr. Thomas West of Doncaster, by whom she had six sons and left onely one daughter Elizabeth survivinge. She was 50 years a faithful servant to Sr. Francis Fane, Kt. of ye Bath, second son of Francis earle of Westmoreland, and travelled with him into Holland, Denmark, Germany, Loraine, Switzerland, Italy, Naples, France and Flinders, where hee considered ye courts and camps of most of ye European Princes, their splendor & mutabilitie, concluding with ye preacher, there was nothing new under the sun and yet all was vanity and onely one thing necessary, to fear God and keep his commandments. Soe doth F.F. who fixed this stone 1674.

Not many feet away is another monument, very similar in style, to William Fane, second son of Sir Francis Fane, who died in 1679.

Monson, in his Church Notes (Lincoln Record Society, Vol.31, 1936) noticed in Spalding church a black marble tablet (now removed) which read

In a vault outside of the church lie the remains of Elizabeth Amell who lived in the family of the late Robert Cheney, Esqr. and Bridget his wife 60 years, And died at Somerby December 6th 1826, aged 80. In affectionate remembrance of her long tried service And grateful attachment this stone is placed by Maria Myers and Jemima Cheney. 'Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth Yea saith the Spirit that they may rest from their labours and their works do follow them.'

This memorial was beneath the Cheney memorials, and it seems likely that Elizabeth Amell was buried in the family vault.
Monson also copied the inscription on a memorial at Swindestead which has since disappeared. This read

In memory of Mr. Thomas Richardson late steward to the Right Honourable Lord Brownlow Bertie who died on the 8th day of May 1773 in the 63 year of his age. He was greatly beloved by his said master for his long and faithful services and highly esteemed by all his acquaintance for his many good and useful qualities his most sorrowful and affectionate widow (who wanted no monument to remember him by) erected this that others might not forget him. For they rest from their labours and their works do follow him.

This does not, of course, fall into the same category as those monuments which were erected by employers. Another memorial which commemorates an agent was noted at Threckingham by Monson:

This tablet is erected to the memory of John Cragg, gentleman, late of this parish, who as land agent for many years possessed the confidence of several noble and distinguished families. He departed this life on Tuesday the 27 November 1832, aged 71 years.

He worked for the Brownlow estate.

One final example is not to be found in Lincolnshire, but is to a Lincolnshire servant. In the reign of George III one Jenny Gaskoin kept a Dames School at Great Limber. Her son obtained a post in the royal stables and for some offence was whipped by the Prince of Wales, who then promoted him, having regretted his conduct. The youth introduced his sister Mary into the service of the princesses, with whom she became popular. When she said that her mother's rye bread in Lincolnshire was superior to that at court, bread was ordered to be sent from her mother to the court. Later the mother went to London and was introduced to the princesses, and it is said that her simple mob cap was copied and became fashionable at court as the Gaskoin Mob Cap. The young woman looked after the Princess Amelia in her last illness. In the cloisters of St. George's Chapel, Windsor is, I believe, her memorial:

King George 3rd caused to be interred near this place the body of MARY GASKOIN Servant to the late Pss Amelia and this tablet to be erected In testimony of His grateful sense of the faithful services And attachment of An amiable young woman to his beloved Daughter Whom she survived Only three Months. She died the 19th of February 1811 Aged 31 years.

I hope that readers will send further examples of such monuments to servants, since they are such interesting survivals of a vanished social hierarchy, throwing an unusual light on the servant-master relationship.

MORE MEMORIALS TO SERVANTS (2)
Hilary Healey

Here are some epitaphs from the south of the county:

BOURNE In/ Memory of/ James Drew/ who departed this life/ June 4th 1816/ in the 64th year of his age/ 33 years of which/ he passed as Butler/ to George Pochin Esq/ of this Town/ and Eleanor Frances/ His Widow/ who caused this Stone/ to be placed here

BOURNE In Memory of/ SUSANNA SHARMAN/ who died/ February 17 1844/ AGED 80 YEARS/ She lived upwards of forty Years, a true and faithful Servant, in the family of the late/ Revd. Humphrey Hyde of this Place
[Engraved by] J. Fish

EDENHAM Here are two very similar Swindestead slate stones to Robert Scoles and Thomas Scoles, presumably father and son, who had both been keepers on the Ancaster estate at Grimsthorpe. Robert 'late Park Keeper to his Grace the Duke of Ancaster' died 7 June 1799, aged 37 and Thomas 'late Park Keeper to the Rt Hnble Lord Gwydir' died on 10 March 1813. In both examples there is almost certainly a verse or text now settled below ground level.
A VISIT TO LACEBY
Geoffrey Syer

In his lively Music and Friends (1838, 1852) William Gardiner, (1769-1853), Leicester hosiery manufacturer and musician, best known for his early advocacy of Beethoven and for his hymn tunes, gives an interesting account of a visit in winter to Laceby. At the time he was engaged in long journeys throughout the country collecting debts and taking orders for his father's hosiery business.

The pleasure of travelling in fine weather, over good roads, mounted on a sprightly horse, cannot be sufficiently extolled. In my youth, I frequently went journeys of business on horseback: I never moved so fast, or was so pressed for time, that I did not contrive to visit everything in the course of my route worth seeing, and always much enjoyed the changing scenes of nature. On one occasion, after leaving Hull, I crossed the Humber on my way to the gay little town of Louth - the principal town in the northern part of Lincolnshire. The roads, if they deserved the name, were up to the knees in mud, and, in winter time, only passable on a nimble horse like mine, that could skip from one sound place to another. Having ridden for some hours, buffeted by wind and rain, I took shelter in a snug little inn, at the village of Laceby, where I put up for the night. I crept into the chimney corner, by the side of a blazing fire, and inhaled comfort at every pore. My hostess prepared me some bones of mutton and nicely mashed potatoes, which, with a glass of grog, made me completely happy. At breakfast, next morning, I met with Dr. Johnson's prospectus for publishing his Dictionary, which I read with much pleasure: a singular pamphlet to find in such an out-of-the-way place. I was about to pursue my journey, when I discovered that I had unfortunately left behind me my ledger of accounts, which was of such importance that I must return to recover it, before I could resume my trading concerns. My heart sickened at the thought of retracing the miserable roads I had passed, and while I was considering what to do, in came the parson of the parish to read the newspaper. Pleasure sat upon his rosy face, but in mine distress was too apparent. After a few words of salutation, I revealed to him the dilemma I was in. 'Oh! sir,' said he, smiling, 'I can get you out of this difficulty in a trice. We have a little active fellow here who knows all the bye-roads and will fetch your book in half the time it cost you in coming here.' The words of my clerical friend revived me. He instantly saluted forth, and presently returned with the herald booted and spurred, who darted off upon his mission. After his reverence had lighted his pipe, I ventured to express the great obligation I felt, and said, 'Had I not met with you, sir, I should have been the most miserable fellow alive.' 'Well, sir,' he replied, 'I dare say you would have done as much for me in your country.' When the rector had rapped out the ashes of his second pipe, he got up saying, 'Come, sir, the parsonage is hard by, and I beg you will accompany me to it. It being Christmas time, my daughter has a few young friends with her, and I hope we can agreeably fill up this unexpected pause in your journey.' I acknowledged the compliment with deep submission. On seeing me somewhat embarrassed, he sharply said, 'Come, come, no hesitation,' and I walked with him to the rectory. On entering, four young ladies were busy with their netting, when my friend, in a strong voice, said, 'Here girls, I have brought this young squire from the ale-house who is doomed to stop for the day; and sooner than he should be moping there by himself, I thought you would take compassion and entertain him as your guest.' His reverence slammed the door, and left me to my fate. What a situation! How could I bear up against the searching looks of four pairs of black and blue eyes? - doubtless I must have appeared a simple fool. I was, however, soon relieved by the young lady of the house asking me when I had arrived in Laceby. This broke the awful pause, and, in my best manner, I recounted the miseries of the previous day; but, with an assurance that I had forgotten all my troubles in falling into such delightful company. Smiles and blushes ensued. On seeing a pianoforte, I ventured to observe, 'You are fond of music, ladies?' 'O yes,' says my hostess, 'Jane plays divinely, and Rebecca sings charmingly;' 'What a delightful recourse is music,' said I, 'to fill up the dull hours of winter.' 'Indeed it is,' said my kind hostess, 'especially in a place like this - the very corner of the world.' I was pressed to give them a song, and thinking it might lessen the distance between us, as I seemed to have dropped from the clouds, I sat down at the pianoforte, and sang Haydn's canonet My mother bids me bind my hair, which seemed to touch their little hearts. At this moment, the rector returned, and I was requested to sing it again. Detecting some of the northern brogue in my friend, like Timotheus, I changed my hand to the Scotch air The lass of Paty's mill. This
moved the divine to a degree of merriment that drew peals of laughter from the fair ones. In the height of my bliss, news came that the messenger had returned. I tore myself from the blooming girls, not having the least intimation of their names, farther than Julia, Jane and Rebecca, and darted off on my journey, never to meet the sweet creatures again.

The rector whom Gardiner so opportunely met was Thomas Dixon, a member of the family of that name whose extensive papers are now in Lincoln Archives office. He lived from 1759 to 1833 and was rector of Laceby from 1783 until his death. He had four daughters and a son. Gardiner’s hostess, whose name he did not catch, was probably the eldest daughter Martha. She was born in 1788 so the enforced visit could hardly have been much before 1804/5. Gardiner was therefore not so young as he appears to be. But since Gardiner was writing some fifty years after the event it would not be so surprising if his recollections were somewhat inaccurate.

It so happens that we have some information about the rectory in those years in an inventory drawn up in 1793 in connection with some debts Dixon had contracted (Lincs Archives, Dixon 21/3/3/3-4). It gives an interesting picture of the home of a not too well-off parson at the time when Jane Austen was young. In the list of books appears Johnson’s Dictionary, hence perhaps the copy of the prospectus in the village inn (then the Stag, now the Nag’s Head). The only music noted was a volume of Purcell’s songs. A ‘spinett or pianoforte’, in the words of the inventory, was kept, rather strangely, in the maid’s chamber, but doubtless it was brought down soon after to the drawing-room so that Martha and her sisters could learn to play it.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
I am grateful for the assistance of Mr. J. Horne and Mr. D. Read, both of Laceby.

PROBLEMS WITH CEREALS
(Extracts from the Lincoln, Rutland and Stamford Mercury, 1837. Seen in the copies on microfilm at the Local Studies Library).

The system of grinding corn for flour and bones for manure at the same mill, has for some time past been carried on in despite of the prejudices which exist against it; but at Louth it has of late received a blow which, in that town, can never survive. A tradesman purchased five stones of flour which had been made at one of these mills, and after using a part, a bone black with decay whether human or not we are not informed was found in the midst of it. His prejudice against the system was thereby confirmed, and his determination fixed with respect to the future. The fact has operated on the minds of hundreds, and those who before had only slight objections, are now decided as to which is the sure way to avoid swallowing bone dust along with their bread.

[no date]

To MILLERS, CORN-MERCHANTS, &c.

SPROUTED, Mouldy, and Perished Grains, Smut Balls or Bladders without breaking, Oats, Shells, Brans, Weavils, Rat and Mice Dirt, Garlic, Dust, &c. Are separated from the good Grain, which is also effectually scoured, by “TUXFORD’s Patent CREEING MACHINES,” the most economical effectual cleansers of Wheat, Barley, &c. ever introduced. The power requisite for working them is also very trifling. The extensive use of these Machines, and the strong testimonials of approbation received from gentlemen who have adopted them, are more recommendatory than any statements which the Patentee and Proprietors themselves can offer. - Copies of testimonials, and particulars of the Machines, forwarded to any gentleman making enquiry, by the Patentee and Proprietors, Tuxford and Sons Engineers and Iron Founders, Boston. All letters to be post paid.

[Sept. 1837]

Sent in by B. Sullivan.
WINCEBY; A POSSIBLE TENNYSON CONNECTION
Christopher Sturman

The boulder stone near Slash Hollow

Those who have followed the increasingly labyrinthine discussion in recent issues of LP&P concerning the battle of Winceby are perhaps unaware of an interesting association I first discussed in 'Tennyson studies: the local historian's role', Lincolnshire History and Archaeology, 22 (1987), pp.9-18.

When Henry Winn of Fulletby (1816-1914) published his Winceby Fight: and Sketches of the Civil War in Lincolnshire in 1885, he sent a copy to John Lewis Fytche (1916-1902), formerly of Thorpe Hall, Louth but then resident at Freshwater, with the request that he give the book to his cousin, Alfred Tennyson. Fytche's recent bankruptcy had forced him to flee Lincolnshire for the protection of his cousin's Isle of Wight estate - for further details see my article 'John Lewis Fytche and the 1866 Lincoln High Sheriff's Ball', LP&P, 2 (Winter 1990-91, pp.6-8). In his letter acknowledging that he had indeed presented Winceby Fight to the Poet Laureate (the copy is now in the Tennyson Research Centre, Lincoln), Fytche reminisced about Winceby:

As a boy I have often walked over the historic field with Alfred Tennyson and my other cousins. It was our favourite walk from Somersby, and the tradition of Slash Lane running down with blood used to startle us.

Among the poems included in Poems by Two Brothers which was printed for the London publishers Simpkin and Marshall by J. & J. Jackson of Louth in April 1827, is Alfred's 'The Vale of Bones'. Tennyson scholars identify the main literary influence on this early work as Sir Walter Scott; I have argued however, that its inspiration in part might be local and topographical: Slash Lane and Snipe Dales, the small group of valleys to the east of the Winceby battlefield site.

Tennyson's 'The Vale of Bones' has a highland setting, but, as I suggested it is not inconceivable that any influence the battle of Winceby held - and surely a young boy's impression of battle fields would be moulded by familiar local sites - was transferred in Alfred's imagination to a romantic mountain region (a transference achieved in his contemporary, though unpublished "Ode: O Bosky Brook"). Certainly the following lines from the poem, given Fytche's vivid reminiscence of Slash Lane, could well be inspired as much by local tradition as by Alfred's extensive reading in his father's library in the Rectory at Somersby:

How with the red dew o'er thee rained
Thine emerald turf was darkly stained!
How did each innocent flower, that sprung
Thy greenly-tangled glades among,
Blush with the big and purple drops
That dribbled from the leafy cope:

[Finally see David Robinson's contribution page 27]
W.N. Farnsworth
Noel Farnsworth, a long-standing member, has died after a long period of ill health, in his home town of Alford. It was due to Noel’s membership that Alford and District Civic Trust came into being and as Chairman, Noel played a vital part in the Trust’s development, based on Alford Manor House - gift of another member the late Miss Higgins - which was thereby saved to continue as a County treasure. The Manor House also provided the home, until its recent move to Horncastle, of the Lincolnshire Trust for Nature Conservation. This link was valued by Noel, who had a lifelong interest in the countryside, evinced by his Presidency of the County Fieldpaths Association; through his service to the Council for the Protection of Rural England as a member of its Committee and as a Judge of its Best Kept Village and Small Town Competitions; in envisaging and bringing to fruition the Mill Rundle Walk, where his amiable relations with the farming community, the Local Authorities and the Water Board were of the greatest value and as an active officer and member of his local Angling Club. It is not possible here to do justice to all Noel’s interests - his service to the Church as an organist and lay reader; to photography and films whereby he recorded local life and history; to the Manor House Museum and its varied work and as a well-respected Alford businessman, to mention only some. Noel was ‘honoured in his own country’ by his Local Authority and by Lincolnshire County Council with separate awards for public service, both of which gave pleasure not only to Noel and his family, but to his host of admirers and friends.

Owing to severe weather the Society could not be represented at the service at Bilsby, but we have expressed our sympathy to Noel’s wife and family. — Flora Murray.

Miss Mary Dudding
Mary Dudding was another long-standing member whose death we record with regret. Like her late brother, Sir John Dudding, Mary took a keen and knowledgeable interest in Lincolnshire and its history, as their father Colonel Dudding and uncle Admiral Dudding came of Isle of Axholme stock, with a family home at Winteringham. Mary was a generous supporter of many good causes. Work for Lincoln Cathedral, especially as a talented flower provider and arranger and for the Red Cross, especially its Lincoln Club for the Elderly, occupied much time for many years and during the last war she worked at St. George’s Hospital as a V.A.D. In her youth Mary trained as an artist and though care for her parents precluded a career in this field, she was an active member of the Lincolnshire Artists’ Society and exhibited regularly at the Usher Gallery and elsewhere. In her younger days Mary was a County Tennis Player and throughout her life her love of her garden and home and her botanical knowledge gave her lasting pleasure.

The Service arranged at Winteringham by Lady Dudding and her son and daughter was attended by representatives of the Society and a wide cross section of Lincolnshire people, who gathered to pay tribute to a remarkable lady. — Flora Murray.

Peter Rollin: A Personal Tribute - Win Stokes
What can I say about Peter Rollin who died on 27 December? My knowledge of Peter went back to the sight of a lone figure working on the excavation of the Roman mansion in the grounds of Bishop Grosseteste College one Saturday morning in November 1976 as I was wandering around Lincoln. It ended for me by the side of a hospice bed on 24 December 1993. It has been a moving experience to have known someone with so much loyalty and friendship over these years. I remember I started my archaeological experience in Lincoln that winter of 1976 with a group led by Ken Wood and Peter in the Tithe Barn, sorting and marking finds from past excavations and then digging with Peter and Ken in the grounds of Bishop Grosseteste College. We continued over the years to excavate the Roman aqueduct in various gardens, the defences on East Bight, a tile kiln near the Car Dyke with Maggi Darling, to help at the Castle West Gate and at a clay firing pit at North Hykeham, eventually moving on to excavations at the Lawn. Peter led us all the way. It was stimulating and exciting never knowing what we would find with a story only to be imagined of other lives. Peter’s ghost will be watching the excavations in the library this year. Nor is that all - when the Society took over Jews’ Court in 1988 Douglas Ballard, Harry Scott and Peter were always around doing things in house and garden, encouraged by Richard Thornton, until we could meet in rooms decorated and furnished as we enjoy them today.

Peter continued to work for the Society and C.L.A.U., he was on call for any job and for any job and manned bookstalls at the shop, at Christmas fairs and at the Showground. He enjoyed being able to encourage youngsters into future interests and especially his work at the Lawn Heritage Centre. He enjoyed lectures. He enjoyed holidays exploring the world. He enjoyed living. He died leaving ambitions unfulfilled and with dignity unimpaired. A friend indeed.
Contributions for this feature should be sent direct to the Joint Editors, c/o Jews' Court, Lincoln LN2 1LS.

15.1 WORLD WAR I LINCOLNSHIRE SERVICE MEDALS Martyn Coombs writes to ask if anyone can help him regarding medals awarded to returning servicemen by grateful communities at home. He wonders if anyone knows of relevant information in 1918-1919 local newspapers about how these sort of medals came to be awarded, how many were issued, how were recipients chosen, are there any lists of recipients? This is an enormous amount of information but perhaps we have some enthusiasts amongst readers who can help? Mr. Coombs would particularly like to know more about two medals which he believes were awarded to 1) E.E. Gibson and 2) 55113 Private JJ Griffiths of the Lincolnshire Regiment [he also has some football medallions with this latter name]. He wonders if the names appear on any local war memorials.

15.2 LINCOLNSHIRE FRAGMENTS Features on aspects of the county appear in all sorts of special interest magazines, and therefore are often not picked up by our readers. The Farmers Weekly, for instance, frequently includes such items, as might be expected. Issue 53 of The Oldie for the week 18 Feb 1994 included a portrait of Louth by Candida Lycett Green in her series on 'unwrecked England'. Let us know of anything you encounter.

15.3 BRYAN BROWNING, Architect of Bourne Town Hall and the remaining fragment of the House of Correction, Folkingham, was the subject of a recent lecture by architect Mr. F. Saunders at Spalding Gentlemen's Society. The lecturer had been unable to find out much about Browning's life, and it occurred to the editors that readers might be able to supply details.

15.4 SIR WILLIAM VAVASOUR (died 1659) I am writing a monograph on the Vavasours of Hazlewood and Copmanthorpe, Yorkshire and of Skellingthorpe, Lincolnshire, a Catholic gentry family, in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Sir William was the second son of Sir Thomas Vavasour, Knight Marshal, who built Ham House in Petersham, and inherited the manor of Skellingthorpe. Sir William is not mentioned in the Dictionary of National Biography but rose to the rank of Field Marshal on the Royalist side in the English Civil War (1642-7). After the defeat at Marston Moor, near York, he left England for Flanders in October 1644 to raise troops and seems not to have returned. He died at the siege of Copenhagen on 18 February 1659, possibly in the Dutch relieving force, for he was first married to 'a Dutch lady' and seems to have had experience in the Dutch army. The Lincolnshire Archives Office has nothing on him apart from a letter addressed to him from his old commander, the Earl of Lindsey in the 1640s. This contains nothing of note. Can anyone tell me whether there is anything available on Skellingthorpe, e.g. in the form of notes on the parish church and its patrons by a local vicar or notes on the history of the manor in parish newsletters? (Michael Foster).

15.5 PROBLEMS WITH MAPS I have been looking lately at the original Ordnance Survey maps and their reproduction by the firm of Harry Margary, (Lymnce, 1987); that led me to feel the need to point out the general untrustworthiness of the David & Charles reprints of the O.S. maps. The latter are frequently advertised as the original first editions; this they cannot be since they do include railways. The first lines opened in Lincolnshire post-date the first edition O.S. maps by 21 years. Mr. Turland, writing in LP&P, 6 (Winter 1992) p.24 says one cannot be sure if the O.S. says Old Palace or not on the David & Charles version, as the railway line sliced through the lettering. In the original there is no doubt (nor in Margary's edition); Old Place is there south of Cogglesford Mill. It is also spelt thus on the Greenwood 8-sheet map of 1830, in so many ways a more accurate and detailed map than its contemporary. (Ray Carroll).

15.6 In Notes & Queries 5.11 LP&P No. 5 (Autumn 1991) mention was made of the Beales family of Spalding. During research for the WEA booklets on Holbeach I came across the name of Arthur Beale, very often in the Spalding Free Press around the early years of the century. There is a note on the family in Aspects of Spalding, 1790-1930 by Mr. Norman Leveritt and Mr. M.J. Elsdon and a photograph of the first car workshop in the town, with many interesting old models on display. Arthur Beales was 'always to the fore' in supplying cycles (Free Press, 4 Jan., 1904), but on 1 March, 1904 was advertising motor cycles, chain and belt driven, from £40-£55 with a
choice of four models. On 15 March, 1904 Beales announced a ‘Great Cycle & Motor Cycles Exhibition’ where eight different makes of cycle would be displayed from 10 guineas upwards, three other models from 8 guineas and his own make at seven guineas, as well as four motor cycle models. Later in the same year it was a matter of editorial report that Mr. Arthur Beales had sold his ‘baby’ Peugeot (a 2-seater, 2.25 h.p. model) to Cunn. Arthur Green. Beales expanded his cycle business to Holbeach and he had premises in Church St. from 1903-4 (taken over by Geoff Parker in the 1920s and illustrated in Holbeach Past Book 2). Beales remained in business after the First World War; he advertised in the Free Press (7 Jan., 1919) Triumph, Ariel and Enfield motor-cycles and the Clymo combination set and Clymo 10 h.p. cars, 2 or 4-seater models, capable of 35 m.p.h. and 35 m.p.g. In the Free Press for 9 June, 1931 Arthur Beales was still advertising; this time he had premises in Swan Street as well as the original place in New Road, Spalding; the cycles still bore once familiar names:- Raleigh, Sunbeam, Humber, New Hudson and B.S.A. How long after he remained in business I do not know and I am not sure whether the Arthur in 1931 is the same Arthur of 1903-1919. (Both WEA booklets still available from Jews’ Court bookshop at £2.95 and £4.50 each respectively.)

15.7 Reference has been made to the Holbeach books prepared by members of the local WEA; we were gratified by the reference to our latest effort in J.P&P 10/11, p.36 but would point out that Book 2 is not smaller than Book 1! It has 12 pages more, and the format remained unchanged. On p.32 of the same issue reference is made to the fire at the ‘Manion House’; this should, of course, be read as the Mansion House, the birthplace of Sir Norman Angell, who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1933. It is illustrated in the first of the Holbeach books referred to above, as Stukeley House, now demolished to make way for a new primary school. (Ray Carroll).

15.8 Lincolnshire Coast Shipwreck Association. The title of the booklet referred to by G. Farr (NO 12.1) is slightly misleading; the dates suggest a life from 1827 to 1864 only but, as the booklet itself makes clear, the Association carried on, in fact, until 1911. Then it ceded its powers to the Royal National Lifeboat Institute, when its funds failed to run to the purchase of 4 new boats at the same time. (Ray Carroll).

15.9 CASTLE BYTHAM For industrial archaeologists: the bridge on the former Midland & Great Northern Joint Railway at Castle Bytham has been taken down (SK 995171). It was not in any way a notable construction to my unuttored eye; however, the bridge (the most easterly of the Midland Railway section) was one of the few over-bridges on the county section of the line. (Ray Carroll).

---

Beales' advertisement from the Spalding Free Press Year Book 1937.

'Radio House' evidently complemented 'Cycle Cottage' as part of the building was named.

[I got my first and only adult bicycle there in c.1950 Ed.]
MYSTERY PICTURES (see cover also)

It is some time since a mystery picture was sent in. These have been sent in by C.L. Anderson of Horncastle, to whom they have kindly been loaned. It is (obviously) an accident, allegedly the first fatal motor accident in Lincolnshire, between a car and a motor cycle with sidecar. The view is taken from just after a sharp right hand bend which one of the vehicles had just come round, probably the car. Mr. Anderson suggests a date in the early 1920s, since this Austin was not made until 1920 or 1923 (he says the experts differ on this!). It has been suggested that the road is somewhere near Bourne; the Victorian house may be identifiable. [When this Ed. was young she understood that only 'roads to London' had these double telegraph poles, and I do remember them surviving along the present A15 south of Folkingham. But maybe you know better? HH.]
Motor cycle involved in the same accident
AUTHORIAL ALTERNATIVES: AN OCCASIONAL SERIES
1. The Author of Creasey’s ‘History of Sleaford’ (1825)
Simon Pawley

Historians of the Sleaford area quickly become acquainted with James Creasey’s Sketches Illustrative of the Topography and History of New and Old Sleaford (Sleaford, 1823, 3 Fig.1). Along with Edward Trollope’s Sleaford and the Wapentakes of Flaxwell and Aswardhurn (London and Sleaford, 1872), it is still the starting point for almost all historical studies of the town. The only other antiquarian publication about Sleaford in the nineteenth century was George Oliver’s History of the Holy Trinity Guild at Sleaford (Lincoln, 1835). Both Oliver and Trollope relied heavily on the Creasey volume for their material. However, the real author of the volume now generally known as ‘Creasey’s History of Sleaford’ was not James Creasey at all but Dr. Richard Yerburgh, vicar of Sleaford between 1809 and 1851.

James Creasey was a Sleaford printer and local publisher. His print works and shop were situated in Sleaford Market Place, on a site later taken over by Thomas Fawcett (who founded the local newspaper, the Sleaford Gazette) and eventually by Morton and Co. From the Vicarage to the shop was a moment’s walk. It was therefore natural that, when he wanted a publisher for his anonymous history of Sleaford, Yerburgh would use Creasey. Creasey, in turn, never pretended to be anything other than the publisher, as his introduction to the volume made clear.

Although it would have afforded the Publisher the highest gratification had he been permitted to record, in this place, the names of those to whom he feels especially indebted, yet, as some Gentlemen who have exerted themselves in furtherance of the work have strictly enjoyed that their names should not be made public, he has deemed it proper to make the above general acknowledgement in preference to particularizing any of his Friends and humbly trusts the whole of them will see the propriety of his plan in doing so.

How can we therefore be certain that Yerburgh was indeed the chief author? Certainly, the two closing sections on ‘Agriculture’ and ‘Geology’ are initialed ‘A.W.’ and are obviously not Yerburgh’s work. However, that he was the author of most (if not all) of the rest was clearly well known within a short time of the book being published. George Oliver, vicar of Scopwick and author of History of the Holy Trinity Guild at Sleaford refers in 1835 to the loan he was given of Yerburgh’s manuscripts (of which more below).
He continues: 'Several engravings from Dr Yerburgh's History of Sleaford have been introduced by way of illustration; for the loan of which my acknowledgements are due to Mr Creasey, whose property they are.' He also quotes verbatim from the Heydour section of Creasey's book, calling it 'Dr Yerburgh's account' (p.21).

In 1818, Yerburgh put a note in the Sleaford parish registers describing how, on his arrival, he had found them all 'detached and scattered about' in an unlocked chest and had subsequently had them re-bound at his own expense. It seems probable that he retrieved from the same chest the manuscript accounts of the Holy Trinity Guild of Sleaford, from which we have evidence of at least one cycle of Mystery Plays being performed in the town in the late fifteenth century. These accounts are now at the British Library (Add. Ms. 28533), their title page still inscribed 'Dr Yerburgh'. Whilst in Yerburgh's possession, they formed the ostensible subject of George Oliver's book, mentioned above. This is a rambling and occasionally risible hotchpotch of anecdotes on the Sleaford neighbourhood, which ends in a section devoted to the way he believed the Mystery Plays must have been performed in the town. Much of his evidence for this is pure imagination, interspersed with citations from Tennyson, Sir Walter Scott and Shakespeare.

What must Dr. Yerburgh have made of such flights of fancy from his friend? He himself was probably the best of the three nineteenth century historians of Sleaford, just as Oliver was undoubtedly the worst. Trollope was a better antiquarian, his book using Creasey as a starting point but delving far more extensively into additional sources. On matters of interpretation, however, Yerburgh is often far nearer the mark.

The custom of referring to Creasey's 'History' by its true author has caused considerable confusion ever since. One comparatively recent example is Audrey Meany's *Gazetteer of Anglo-Saxon Burial Sites in Britain* (London, 1964) where she cites it as 'Yerburgh, 1825'. Anybody studying Sleaford's history or archaeology for the first time is likely to waste some time looking for this mysterious book before realising what has happened!

[Editor's Note: further articles in this series are planned on Illingworth's Scampton and Oldfield's Wainfleet. Additional contributions would be welcome.]

---

**DEATH OF LAWRENCE BOND**

The death occurred at the end of 1993 of Grantham architect Lawrence H. Bond. Mr. Bond (known to many as 'Tommy') took over his father's architectural practice and came to specialise in the upkeep and preservation of ecclesiastical and other historic buildings. After World War II he was joined by Douglas Read and the firm, which later became Bond and Read, is still in existence. At the height of his career, when chiefly engaged as Diocesan Architect, Mr. Bond was responsible for no fewer than 600 historic churches in Lincolnshire and surrounding counties. He was a Fellow of both the Royal Institute of British Architects and of the Society of Antiquaries. He designed and supervised the construction of a number of buildings including the Church of the Ascension, Harrowby, Almshouses in Bluegate and Church Street, Grantham, and many parsonage houses in the county.

He specialised also in church interior design and furnishings. Assignments in this field included the Officers' Chapel at the Royal Air Force College, Cranwell and Port Stanley Cathedral in the Falkland Islands. Many Lincolnshire churches include examples of his work including light fittings, altar rails, font covers etc. in which he always encouraged the highest standards of craftsmanship. Pevsner's 'Buildings of Lincolnshire' includes many references to his work. He was for many years a churchwarden at St. Wulfram's Church, Grantham where he was particularly involved with the maintenance and repair of the building. He was a founder member of Grantham Civic Trust and was for a time its Chairman.

[The above item is drawn largely from the account in the Grantham Journal 3 Dec. 1993].
S. WILFRID'S CHURCH, HONINGTON. Extensive restoration work on this church has recently been completed. It includes considerable work on the tower and much repointing. New clerestory glass and repairs to some of the stained glass windows.

CHAD VARAH, founder of The Samaritans, last autumn unveiled a plaque in his honour on the wall of Lincoln Theological College (best known to oldies as the Bishop's Hostel). The plaque, one of a series in the City, commemorates his birth in Lincolnshire and his period of study at the College.

BUILDINGS AT RISK. Some time ago local authorities carried out their part of a nationwide survey of ‘Listed Buildings’ entitled ‘Buildings at Risk’, co-ordinated by English Heritage. Although most such buildings are well maintained, the survey identified a number which for various reasons, are likely to deteriorate through decay and redundancy. Since the best way to secure its future is to find a new use this publication highlights a selection of the buildings in question, draws attention to availability of grants and gives contacts for about eight buildings in each Lincolnshire district. These range in size from the main buildings of Bracebridge Heath St. John's Hospital to a mud and stud barn. Your local authority planning department has copies of the handsomely produced folder or you can send to Heritage Lincolnshire, The Old School, Cameron Street, Heckington NG34 9RW. Postage and packing if you send for it costs £1.50. [Please note address of Heritage Lincolnshire, which has now moved from Sleaford].

MIDDLEMARCH. Many readers will have enjoyed identifying the locations used in BBC TV’s production of Middlemarch. In addition to the Stamford based scenes, different approaches to Culverthorpe Hall were used and exteriors at Grimsthorpe Castle. Stragglethorpe Hall was the splendid half-timbered exterior, but no-one to date has named the rural church location.

LINCOLNSHIRE WOLDS. It is twenty years since the Wolds was declared an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Last year the Countryside Commission published an Assessment with a view to promoting further action. This is available price £7.00 from the Countryside Commission, Box 124, Walgrave, Northampton NN6 9TL.

BEST BRAWN. Crowland butchers Parkinsons are to be congratulated on recently winning a nationwide competition for the best brawn. It is a reflection of the times that they make it from all the ‘very best meats’ and present it in a ‘continental style’. Whether this means the best parts of the meat or best quality pigs is not clear; we take the latter for granted! Older readers will recollect that in one sense brawn is traditionally made from the ‘worst’ parts, pieces that were no good for much else, such as trotters, ears, bones and rind! Some of us lament the modern trend for pork pie meat to have a pinkish appearance, when traditionally it is a grey colour. Is this another influence of continental (or Euro)-meats? Read Eileen Elder's book Lincolnshire Country Food if you want to know more about brawn.
Following the item on restoration of the chapel in L.P&P 13, Miss F. Murray has kindly lent us a couple of photographs of the site taken on a visit by the Society in 1965. The photographer is not known.

Lincolnshire from the Air was one of two eye-catching volumes which appeared in Lincolnshire's glossy bookshops in time for Christmas - the other, An Historical Atlas of Lincolnshire, will be reviewed in the next issue of LP&P. Both books are evidently inspired by similar county publications, notably from East Anglia, and inevitably invite comparison with their precursors.

Lincolnshire from the Air, according to the dust-wraper blurb 'is the first book to be published that shows the remarkable variety and beauty of Lincolnshire's landscape from the air... Whatever your interest, be it geography, geology, history, landscape, archaeology, or just a love of Lincolnshire, you will find this book fascinating and informative.' Judged at the general level of the last named interest group, Lincolnshire from the Air, with its 120 plates, each accompanied by brief descriptions (those in Norfolk From the Air are more substantial), must be considered a success. Alas, those specialists also named in the blurb (and many of them members of the Society) may find it somewhat disappointing book - though to be fair, it was never conceived as anything more than 'a book that covered the heritage of the county in its widest aspects'.

A major problem is associated with the plates (over ninety in total) which were commissioned for the book and taken in colour. As illustrations for a 'coffee-table' book, they are fine, but the archaeological/historical specialist requires something slightly better. Some of these, such as the view of Louth Park Abbey (p.63) are excellent, but many others are relatively unsuccessful - the view of Thornton printed opposite that of Louth Park was taken at the wrong time of day to reveal the earthworks. (It is perhaps here that the contrast with Norfolk From the Air, which used 'in house' photography, is most telling.) It also seems eccentric to me to take what were evidently colour photographs and then to reproduce them in black and white. If the design of the book required black and white photographs, there are many other oblique views (and of significantly better quality) which could have been used: the important collection of the University of Cambridge Committee for Aerial Archaeology bears deeper quarrying. There are many wide angle views of settlements which perhaps hint at little more than the suburbanization of town and countryside and the ruination of the 'heritage' the book is supposed to celebrate. Finally, it is a pity the reader isn't given any indication of where to pursue studies further: even though Lincolnshire from the Air is a popular book, it ought to have had a brief bibliography, possibly even a list of useful addresses.

What is still needed (perhaps what I had anticipated?) is a survey of the Lincolnshire landscape in a mould similar to the classic aerial surveys produced by M.W. Beresford, J.K. St. Joseph and others. Perhaps, after all, Lincolnshire from the Air is only an 'appetiser', and that David Start and his colleagues at Heritage Lincolnshire are working on such a volume.

C.L. ANDERSON, Lincolnshire Convicts to Australia, Bermuda and Gibraltar. A Study of Two Thousand Convicts. Lacey Books, 1993. £9.00 + £1.00 p&p from 3 Merleswen, Dunholme, Lincoln LN2 3SN.

Adrian Gray has already published a number of popular books on the history and traditions of Lincolnshire. Lincolnshire Headlines explores in twenty-two brief chapters, events which caught the 'limelight' in the (national) newspapers of the day - the period covered ranges from the 1830s (the Swing Riots) to the 1960s and 1970s ('Mods and Rockers' at Skegness and the Bardney festival). Royal celebrations and visits (Victoria's Diamond Jubilee and the opening of the Immingham Docks in 1912 rub shoulders with wartime events; disasters (Skegness, 1893; Somerby hill, 1907; the floods of 1953) vie for attention with criminal events; there is even account of the mauling by a lion at Skegness in 1937 of the 'unfrocked' former vicar of Stiffkey, the Rev. Harold
Davidson. *Lincolnshire Headlines* certainly contains much fascinating material, but those who wish to pursue the topics further are not well served by the perfunctory half-page list of sources supplied at the end. In *Crime and Criminals in Victorian Lincolnshire* examines the nineteenth century in more depth. Although there is some overlap with the style and content of *Lincolnshire Headlines*, this is a more balanced account, though it is a pity that the author provides only the briefest of accounts of the system of justice in the county (courts, gaols, and the police). Once more his list of sources is unsatisfactory: a study of Lincolnshire crime in the period cannot be written without some reference to B.J. Davey’s study of policing Horncastle under the Lighting and Watching Act of 1833, *Lawless and Immoral. Policing a County Town 1838–1857* (1983) but I can find no reference to it. Alas, one is left with the impression that the author’s aim is primarily to entertain, rather than to inform, his public.

In contrast, C.L. Anderson’s *Lincolnshire Convicts* is the result of much painstaking research in libraries and archives offices. It falls into two main sections: biographical details of over two hundred individuals and full appendices of all those transported to Australia (between 1787 and 1867), Bermuda (1822–1838/62) and Gibraltar (1841–67). It is an impressive piece of scholarship and excellent value (it is well illustrated) at only £9.00.

*A Gazetteer of Historic Lincolnshire for Family and Local Historians* Lincolnshire Family History Society, 1993. ISBN 1 909399 05 8. £3.50 + £0.50 p&p from Sam Branson, 8 Hurst Crescent, Barrowby, Grantham NG32 1TE.
*Settlement Examinations from the Kesteven Quarter Sessions 1700–1847* (5 microfiches). Lincolnshire Family History Society. £4.00 & £0.30 p&p from Mrs. J.M. Denison, Darceys Yard, High Street, Wellingore, Lincoln LN5 OHW.

C.L. Anderson’s *Lincolnshire Convicts* would equally well grace this section of the book notes, as it could be taken as an exemplar of the increasingly rigorous work being undertaken by some of the county’s family historians.

Ruth Tinley’s *Treadgold Tracery* concentrates on the Northamptonshire origins, the family and the descendants of Thomas Treadgold (1804), who settled in Great Gonerby towards the end of the eighteenth century (the author is at her most informative when writing of this eighteenth and early nineteenth century background). *Treadgold Tracery* nevertheless is a fascinating story and a most attractively produced book (like *Lincolnshire Convicts*, it has been printed by Beltons of Gainsborough); it is a pity, however, that we learn relatively little of the life of the celebrated tenor Alfred Pickard (1884–1958) who appears on p.42 of the story. The Lincolnshire Family History Society’s *Gazetteer* lists all places (whether town, village or hamlet) by wapentake, deanery, Methodist circuit, registration district &c. This is all useful information and the booklet will no doubt also be consulted regularly by many of the county’s local historians. The same can be said of the Society’s microfiche of the Kesteven Quarter Session settlement examinations: although the material has been produced primarily for family historians, many others will be indebted to the compilers for making this listing (itself fully indexed) available in so inexpensive a format.

*East Midlands Historian*, 3 (1993). £5.95 from Publications Unit, Department of Adult Education, University of Nottingham NG7 2RD.

This annual publication ought to be on the subscription list of all local historians in the county. This latest issue contains Peter Fleet’s ‘Markets in medieval Lincolnshire’ and John Ketteringham’s list of Theses and dissertations based on Lincolnshire research subjects, along with (regular) sections devoted to news and comment, bibliography and reviews. (It is pleasing to note favourable reviews of SLHA’s two recent Occasional Papers *Gainsborough Old Hall and Some Historians of Lincolnshire*).
William White, History, Gazetteer, and Directory, of Burgh-in-the-Marsh... For the Years 1826 1842 1856 1872 1882 & 1892... Old Chapel Lane Books, Burgh-le-Marsh, 1993. £2.00 (including postage).

Bob Pacey has had the enterprising idea of reprinting all the entries in White's nineteenth-century directories for a particular place. Let us hope that he feels encouraged to produce similar scissors and paste work for other Lincolnshire towns and villages.


For a number of years now, Peter Chapman has worked on the staff of the Grimsby Evening Telegraph and through his column 'Odd Man Out' has established a reputation as a champion of the history, people and traditions of the north-east of the county. Images of North Lincolnshire is an attractively printed collection of several hundred (mainly photographic) views of Grimsby, Louth, the surrounding villages and countryside, the Humber and the sea coast. The (generally informative) captions reflect the lost world captured by the images. Given the relatively high price of many similar compilations, Images of North Lincolnshire is also good value for money.

In LP&P 13 (Autumn 1993) I drew attention to S.H. Rigby’s monograph Medieval Grimsby: Growth and Decline (University of Hull Press, 1993. ISBN 0 85958 610 3. £8.95), an important survey of one of the smaller towns in the urban hierarchy. Its main focus is on the economic fortunes, the social structure and the administrative development of the medieval borough, 'in an attempt', as Dr. Rigby admits in his preface, 'to avoid, as much as possible, duplicating the ground covered by E. Gillett’s excellent A History of Grimsby. Edward Gillett’s book was first published as a hardback by Oxford University Press for the University of Hull in 1970. The University of Hull Press have now reprinted A History of Grimsby as a paperback (ISBN 0 85958 453 4). For this edition the author has added some twenty-five pages of addenda. It, too, is excellent value at £8.95.

Other publications noted:


Labour in Scunthorpe and District. 1 - The Parliamentary Experience 1929-1979. Labour History Group of the Scunthorpe & District Workers' Educational Association [1993]. £2.00 + £1.75 p&p from 26 Brumby Wood Lane, Scunthorpe, South Humberside DN17 1AB.


Copies of most of these titles can be obtained through the Lincolnshire Heritage Bookshop at Jews’ Court (postage extra).
The Parliamentary commanders had a good eye for the country. By assembling their troops just east of Winceby they were able to control the ground for a cavalry confrontation (all their infantry still scaring Bolingbroke Castle). The morning of Wednesday 11 October 1643 was misty as the Royalist cavalry, followed by infantry proceeded east from Horncastle through Scaftfield parish (along the line of what is now a fieldpath) through the gate in the parish hedge (by the bend in the modern road in Slash Hollow) and ascended the ridge. Not until they crested the ridge did they see the opposing forces. Thus the battle lines were drawn up by the junction of the road to Spilsby and the later enclosure road to Asgarby and (Old) Bolingbroke.

When the Royalist right gave way and fell back on their own infantry behind they were forced to retreat down the ridge along the route they had come. This led to the gate in the parish hedge which opened towards them and could not be used because of the press and the main escape route was cut off. Hence the slaughter in Slash Hollow.

The accounts quoted from Warner and Kinross are inaccurate and misleading. The stone on the roadside has been there less than 25 years, although in its previous setting a few yards to the east it was the subject of the poem ‘The Druid Stone’ by Henry Winn in the last century (The Poems of Henry Winn, 1965, pp.38-39). The map in The Traveller’s Guide to the Battlefields of the English Civil War by Martyn Bennett (Webb & Bower, 1990) page 67 is wrong, as also regrettably is that in the booklet The Battle of Winceby 1643 - the 350th Anniversary by David Frampton and Peter Garham (Partizan Press, 1993) on pages 24-25. And most recently one is dismayed to see the date of the battle incorrectly stated as 12 October by Ian Beckwith in An Historical Atlas of Lincolnshire (Hull University Press, 1993) pp.64-65.

The editors were kind enough to mention my account and (more realistic) plan of the action The Book of Horncastle & Woodhall Spa (Barracluda, 1983) which I believe does more accurate justice to the event. I would also recommend the paper ‘The Battle of Winceby’ by F.C. Massingberd in Memoirs Illustrative of the History and Antiquities of the County and City of Lincoln (1850), pp.176-89, which is based on the contemporary account by John Vicars in the third part of his Parliamentary Chronicle.

The battle also features in the novel Tattershall Castle by Bernard Gilbert (Morton, Horncastle, 1913) and revised as John of the Fens (OUP, 1924) which was reprinted by Christine Stockwell in 1990. Look out also for the forthcoming publication of Winceby and the Battle by Betty Brammer (Richard Kay Publications) about the people involved.

It had been hoped to stage a re-enactment of the battle by The Sealed Knot on the occasion of the 350th anniversary but unfortunately the landowner was unwilling. However I was able to raise the funds for a commemorative stone (executed by Leakes of Louth) with the simple inscription ‘THE BATTLE OF WINCEBY in the ENGLISH CIVIL WAR was fought here and won by Parliament 11th OCTOBER 1643.’ It is sited by the roadside and just in the grounds of Winceby House (by kind agreement of Dr. Michael Ashton of Badley Ashton Associates). The erection of the stone was funded by the Cromwell Association, Lincolnshire County Council, East Lindsey District Council, Lincolnshire & South Humberside Tourism and private individuals, and was unveiled on 10 October 1993 by Cllr. David Romney, Chairman of the Leisure & Recreation Committee of
Lincolnshire County Council. Some 300 people, including members of The Sealed Knot, were there and I led a guided walkabout on the site of the cavalry battle and the slaughter.

Later this year it is intended to produce with Heritage Lincolnshire a leaflet guide to the battle site which will be available at the Snipe Dales Country Park.

P.S. Brian Williams brought to my attention two entries in the Scamblesby parish registers:
7 October 1643 Thomas Arbou a souldyer of the Kings pte buried.
17 September 1644 A souldyer of the Parliament pte buried.

[The Editors feel that discussion of the battle itself is now exhausted.]

[* The folk-tales relating to the stone before its recent move are given in E.H. Rudkin's Lincolnshire Folklore, pp.66-68.]

---

GRANTHAM BELLRINGERS - MORE MYSTERY

This is really another mystery picture, one that is sure to delight John Ketteringham. It was sent in by Ron Jepson of 3 South Park, Lincoln, and shows a group of Grantham church bellringers, three at least of them claspig 'new bellropes and sallies. Was this taken to commemorate a re-hanging, new ropes, a national event or a record peal? One of the gentlemen is Mr. Jepson's great great grandfather Haydon Lounds, but he does not know which, and he does not know the names of any of the others pictured. His grandfather was born at Dowsby and apprenticed coachmaker to Samuel Carrington of Bourne and Lincoln. The photograph had been preserved by Father Stanley Samuel Alfred Lounds (1906-1980) of Mirfield Priory. Mr. Jepson has more family name details which the editors will pass on to any interested enquirer.

---

LINCOLNSHIRE PLACES - SOURCE MATERIAL

As explained in the last issue, the move of the Local Studies Library to Lincoln Castle has interfered with production of this list, but we hope to revive it again as soon as possible.