From a Drawing by Herbert Hallton.
THE SOCIETY FOR LINCOLNSHIRE HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY
EXCHEQUERGATE ARCH, LINCOLN, LN2 1PZ. Tel: (0522) 21337

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CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

EXCHEQUERGATE ARCH

The move of headquarters has now been completed. Carpets have been laid, shelves erected, and basic furniture installed. The new offices are open every Monday and Thursday between the hours of 9.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. When the Administrator, Mrs. Linda Rippin, will be pleased to deal with queries or requests. The telephone number is (0522) 21337, and an answering machine has been installed. If you are able to help out by manning the office at these or other times, and assisting with administrative jobs when required, please contact Linda. There is a great deal to do just to keep up with the needs of our 900 or so members.

Some of you have been surprised to receive correspondence on new-look letterheads from the Society. The familiar logo of the Witham Shield has gone, to be replaced by a drawing of our headquarters. This was supplied by Mr. Allan Smith who works for the Archaeological Trust and to whom we give our thanks. Although the Witham Shield has been with us a long time, and is without doubt one of the county's best known archaeological finds, it was felt that it had little to do with many of the activities of the Society. Exchequergate Arch, however, as mentioned in the last Newsletter, is a symbol we can all readily identify with.

OPEN DAY: 2ND NOVEMBER, 1985

The Committee is very aware that most of our members have little occasion to visit the office personally or to see 'behind-the-scenes' how the office functions. We also know that many members would like the opportunity to see inside Exchequergate. With this in mind a 'house-warming' open-day is planned for Saturday 2nd November between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. when you are invited to join us for a cup of coffee and biscuits, and a chat about the Society. There will be new and secondhand books for sale, and if you have any old books you would like to donate please bring them along. For those of you living out of the city, why not plan a visit for this day and perhaps get some early Christmas shopping done? You may also fit in a conducted tour of the Cathedral?

LOOKING FORWARD TO 1986

The year 1986 will be a double anniversary when real events in the county's history will be recalled, and what they meant reconsidered. It is 800 years since the consecration of St. Hugh of Lincoln in 1186 as our Bishop, and 450 years since the Lincolnshire Rising of 1536 when 10,000 Lincolnshire men rose to defend their Church against agents of King Henry VIII. Both of these important events will be marked by activities organised by the Society and other local organisations. If you are particularly interested in any aspect of these events, or have any suggestions concerning a lecture evening or some other form of commemorative function, please contact me through the office.

John Wilford
LOCAL HISTORY ESSAY COMPETITION

As part of the County Council's contribution to Heritage '84 the Archives Office and the Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology jointly sponsored a schools' Local History Essay Competition. The two winning entries, by Julie Hewson and Andrea Middleton of King Edward VI School, Louth, attracted prizes of £10 and £6 book tokens. Julie's work on the Skegness Pioneers is to be published in a future edition of the Journal. As part of Andrea's prize we are printing her essay on the Lincolnshire Rising in the Newsletter in two instalments beginning with this issue. The timing could not be better since the Quarter-centenary of the Rising falls next year.

THE LINCOLNSHIRE RISING 1536
WHY AND WITH WHAT RESULTS DID SOME LINCOLNSHIRE GENTLEMEN BECOME INVOLVED IN THE RISING OF 1536?

One of the major issues concerning the Lincolnshire rising of 1536 is the extent of the involvement of the Lincolnshire gentry. It has been widely debated by eminent historians and various conclusions have been produced. Unfortunately rarely do two conclusions coincide. The controversial question is whether the gentry participated in the events voluntarily, that is they sympathised with the rebels or perhaps more likely hoped to achieve personal gain, or whether they were forced into the proceedings for fear of losing their lives.

The issue concerned is complex and it is necessary to take a brief look at the events of the rising in order to ascertain at what point the gentry become involved and their motives for doing so.

There were, during this period, three Commissions working in the proximity of Louth. The first was in the process of dissolving the smaller monasteries with an annual income of less than £200. A second group was assessing Henry's subsidy and the third, under Dr. Richard Raynes, was assessing the capability of the clergy. It was probably this latter one that prompted the inflammatory speech by Thomas Kendall, Vicar of Louth, and began the initial revolt in the aforesaid town. The speech expressed Kendall's fears for the next day when Raynes would arrive in Louth to begin his investigation into the Louth clergy. Gerald Hodgett has a different view. He believes that perhaps a rebellion had been brewing, if not planned, for some time due to the feeling that central government was pressing too hard upon the commons. It is more likely, however, that at this stage there was a prevalent fear that the recently completed parish church was to be suppressed. The pride fostered in this new building and the immense wealth it contained was enough to cause considerable discontent among the commons even though Louth was naturally conservative. It must be noted that at this point the instigators were members of the labouring classes; the gentry were as yet not involved. In fact in all the towns which rose in support of Louth the gentry were never the instigators - even in Horncastle where evidence shows the gentlemen were particularly active. Thomas Kendall's speech evoked a great deal of reaction among the commons in Louth.
Nicholas Melton, alias Captain Cobbler, became the first accepted leader after seizing the keys to the church treasure house, as there was a prevalent fear that Henry was to seize all the church wealth for himself. The tension increased with the burning of the registrar's book and one incident in particular kept the momentum high. It was learned that one of the Commissions was working in Legbourne evicting the nuns. A party of Louth men set out to deal with it but found Cromwell's hated servant John Bellous whom they took back as a prisoner. It is here that there is the first mention of the gentry. It seems that Sir William Skipworth, who had come in by chance from Ormsby, was only allowed to return there after taking an oath pledging loyalty to the King and the Commonwealth. This oath was later issued to most of the other gentry and whether it was taken voluntarily is one of the major issues concerning this rising. Due to the activities of the last few days the men of Louth agreed that on the following day, Tuesday, 3rd October, they would meet at High Cross and commence their march towards Caistor where they hoped to gain support before continuing to Lincoln.

It was at Caistor that the gentry became more significant. The Commissioners in Caistor assessing the subsidy were obviously afraid of the rebels of Louth and consequently they invited some of the gentry to meet them on Caistor Hill before entering the town, not realising that Caistor had already risen. As a result the gentry became trapped between the two rebel forces. Consequently Sir William Askew, Sir Edward Maddison, Sir Richard Tyrwhitt and Sir Thomas Partington, all local men, were captured. All took the oath. That night they wrote a letter to the King, later insisting that they were compelled to comply to the rebels' wishes.

A.R. Maddison agrees that the gentry were under considerable pressure and that was their reason for taking the oath. However, there is much evidence to suggest the opposite and Hodgett is a firm believer in the theory that the gentry used the oath as an escape route but were really willing to co-operate with the rebels. Indeed, although most of the gentry were captured on the 3rd October and pleading that "they feared the commons quite as much as the troops who opposed them" by October 4th the gentry had drawn up the first manifesto combining the commons grievances with their own. They added to the original grievances three extra items - the abolition of the subsidy, the upkeep of the Abbeys, as members of local families were obviously interested in Abbey estates, and the abolition of the statute of uses. It is probable that the commons had never heard of the latter and as Davies rightly says, this could only have been instigated at the will of the gentry. The very fact that these amendments were accepted shows that the commons were willing that the gentry should join their ranks and even lead them. Henry was undoubtably suspicious of the gentry and this attitude is stressed by his vigilant examination of them after the revolt had collapsed. However, despite Henry's attempts to find the Lincolnshire gentry guilty only one gentleman was convicted; Sir Thomas Moigne, although Lord Hussey was later executed. It is probable that Henry also realised that he needed the gentry in the county after the rising to help restore tranquility. Henry's suspicions, however, are understandable and he astutely asks why, if the gentry "were all taken against
their wills, not one of them received so much as a scratch?" (2)

Henry seems to have had little patience with the gentlemen and in replying to their letter written on their capture he says "we cannot but marvel that you, being our sworn subjects and warned of their assembly should put yourselves in their hands, instead of assembling for the surety of your own persons and for their suppression." (3)

Bernard Fletcher, a servant to the Dymoke family, one of the local gentlemen, gave evidence that in Horncastle the gentry could easily have stayed the people for they were not more than a hundred at the beginning of the rising. In addition when the Horncastle men reached Lincoln they were carrying a banner bearing the Lyon Dymoke arms. All this points to the view that the gentry did participate voluntarily.

"All the gentlemen seem to have shrunk from the rising but in a half-hearted way which implied a secret sympathy with its object." (4)

After all the gentry had been upset with events before the rebellion for various reasons. Due to a drastic decline in the baronial families the Lincolnshire gentry had no one family dominating them and consequently they had acquired the stewardships of the lands of the defunct peers for themselves. Unfortunately in 1525 Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, came into the county and through wardship and marriage he acquired thirty Lincolnshire manors. As a result Brandon became the dominant magnate. The Lincolnshire gentry must undoubtedly have resented this especially as a great landowner would tend to aggregate offices to himself and his nominees, and Brandon was a court favourite. Brandon's presence was to cause further friction. Relations between Sir Christopher Willoughby and Brandon worsened considerably when the power of the courts, which Brandon could rely upon, put him in possession of two manors which the court of Chancery had awarded to Sir Willoughby. It has been speculated that this was achieved by an act of Parliament passed in 1536, the same year as the revolt occurred. It is difficult to obtain precise evidence that men such as Tyrwhitt, Skipworth, Ayscough and Dymoke resented this intrusion but it is possible that the wealthier gentry sympathised with Sir Christopher. Even if this resentment was not sufficient to involve other gentry in the revolt there is evidence available that shows support for the rebellion came from Willoughby's estates, especially Belchford and Fulletby.

(to be continued...)

(2) Letters and papers of the reign of Henry VIII.
(3) ibid.
I would like to present "The Society's Journal - Some Facts", P. 12 of the Newsletter No. 45, in context. In the light of the withdrawal of the Community Council of Lincolnshire as administrators of the S.L.H.A., the Executive Committee was presented with the finances of the Society, the projected costs of a move to new premises and a budget for 1985/6. Each major head of expense and income was placed under the spotlight, and as the Chairman intimated at the Annual Meeting, savings achieved on several heads. It obviously remains to be seen whether these efforts will be as cost effective as intended. I had presented some ideas/proposals to the Chairman in advance of an Executive meeting earlier this year after discussion with the Family History Sub Committee and I spoke at that meeting on most of these, the Journal included. This head of expense was treated no differently than any other in discussion but so far no decision has been made to change anything.

The opening sentence of Naomi's statement could be misconstrued. There has been some comment relating to the Journal for several years. There is NO criticism of the excellence of this publication. It is NOT suggested that its publication should cease. What is said, is that members should be allowed to choose to have the Journal or not and that there should be a two tier subscription. Whilst I continue to enjoy the Journal at its subsidised price this is cold comfort to those who do not want it. Many of our members who are primarily Family Historians look at the cost of the Journal as being most of the difference between the S.L.H.A. subscription and the average £5 p.a. charged by the other 130 Family History Societies in the U.K.

I would query the costs of the Journal to members on P. 13. The costs in 1983 and 1984 are not costs per member but costs per copy of an 1100 copy run; thus on membership of 981 the costs of the Journal becomes 1983 £2.39 and 1984 £2.91. Neither the stocks of Journals nor the number of complimentary copies (if any) issued per annum are published. Any sales per annum would, in excess of the 981 reduce the cost per member. The indication is that there are few sales to non-members thus any reduction would be negligible. I would point out that the mailing cost of the Journal is significant and should be included in making comparisons with the subscription viz. 2nd Class Mail 66p + envelope 4p = total 70p. 1983 cost then becomes £3.09 34% 1984 £3.61 40%. The membership was lower in 1983 and 1984 so these costs would be higher.

The incentive to purchase the Journal by non-members is removed by the ease with which they can purchase off-prints very cheaply, this is very labour intensive for the Hon. Sales Manager.

We await comparative printers' costs for the lower print runs promised by the then Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Executive earlier this year.

We should also consider that there may well be members who prefer not to have the Family Historian.
It could be argued that the "every members" publication is the "Newsletter"; one might say that it is the only multi-interest "non sectarian" one!

Ernest Cole
Executive Committee

DOMESDAY BOOK 1086 - 1986

The Waltham Branch of the Workers' Educational Association will celebrate the 900th anniversary of this most famous document by publishing a new booklet on the entries for their village and holding a Day School - 'Waltham in the Domesday Book'.

First the booklet - this has been written by the local W.E.A. tutor organiser, Geoff Bryant, and will hopefully provide students, village historians and interested residents who live and work in the Danelaw counties with a simple guide to the meaning of their local, often very complicated, entries. The method used is a minute analysis of the one Domesday Book entry for Waltham, Lincolnshire. Readers are shown how to read the script, how to determine what each part of the entry really means, and how to relate that entry to those of the surrounding settlements which were part of the Soke of Waltham. There are in fact two booklets in the publication - a main text of 111 pages with chapters on the making of the Domesday Book, reading and understaning an entry, the organisation of the Danelaw counties - soke, wapentakes, etc., place-name studies, and a glossary. The other booklet contains the more important tables, illustrations and Domesday facsimiles which being separate are available for constant reference whilst the main text is being read. Hopefully, anyone reading this analysis of the Waltham entry will be able to then move to a more complete understanding of the entry or entries relating to his or her own village.

The booklet will be launched at the Day School which will be held in Waltham on November 2nd 1985, - if you would like details of this school please contact the branch secretary, Martin Cartwright, 24 Faulding Way, Grimsby (Tel. Grimsby 884531). If you are not able to get to the School but would like a copy of the booklet they will be available after November 2nd for £3.30 (+ 70p by post) from the author or from W.E.A., 15 Ludgate Close, Waltham, Grimsby.

BOSTON BELLS

In the S.L.H.A. Newsletter No. 45 (July 1985) Ron Drury published an article on "The Brides of Enderby." Unfortunately, in line 5 of the verse at the head of the article a typing error suggests that there were six bells at "The Stump" in 1571! The line should read:-

"Play uppe, play uppe, O Boston bells!"

The full text of Jean Ingelow's poem was published in Lincolnshire Life of August 1966.
I am surprised that Sotheby's did not contact the Secretary of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers who would, I am sure, have referred them to North's "Church Bells of Lincolnshire". Although this was published in 1882 and is out-of-date in some ways, it is still the standard work of reference and a good starting point for any campanological research.

In 1552 there were five bells and a Sanctus bell so perhaps Miss Ingelow was not too far out. The carillon for which the tune was composed (please, not "a peal of bells") consisted of 36 small bells with the largest weighing 2 hundredweights 3 quarters 1/2 pounds in E and were cast by Van Aerschot of Louvaine, Belgium. The bells were hung in 1857 but were never very satisfactory and in 1896 they were recast into four clock bells.

Before the restoration of 1932 there was a ringing peal of eight bells with a tenor of 28 hundredweights. These bells were very difficult to ring because of the limited space between bells and ringers. The noise was very great and the dome reached within 2 feet 7 inches of the ceiling. This was in fact the vaulted roof of the ceiling. Despite the difficulties it was here that the first full peal in Lincolnshire was rung on 7th December 1738 (Stamford Mercury 14.12.1738). To the uninitiated a "peal" to a bellringer consists of at least 5,000 changes and lasts about three hours.

In 1932 all the bells were recast and hung some 12 feet higher in the tower and at the same time augmented to ten. Conditions are much better but it is still a very long climb! Considerable assistance with the cost of restoration was given by the people of Boston, Massachusetts, and this is recognised by the Union Jack and Stars and Stripes cast on the new tenor bell.

John R. Ketteringham

SIR FRANCIS Dashwood (1708 - 1781)

Most people with an interest in local history in Lincolnshire have heard of Dunston Pillar and probably know that it was built by Sir Francis Dashwood. The only other thing you are likely to have heard about him is that he was the leader of the notorious Hell-Fire Club whose members are said to have indulged in orgies and black magic in the caves at Medmenham Abbey in Buckinghamshire. However, this notoriety seems to have been largely the result of evil rumours put about by his political opponents and the evidence from surviving documents suggests that Sir Francis was an upright and honest man who achieved much in both his political and personal life and who was involved in a number of 'good works'.

It was his grandfather who founded the family fortunes as a merchant in the City of London. His father was also a merchant who rose to be a London alderman and was MP for Winchelsea. He was created a baronet in 1705.
It was his father who bought land at West Wycombe in Buckinghamshire which was to be Francis' main estate. However, he had connections with Lincolnshire through both his Uncle Samuel and his mother, Lady Mary Fane. When he married Sarah, daughter of G. Gould of Iver, Buckinghamshire and widow of Sir Richard Ellys, M.P. for Boston from 1719 to 1734, he acquired land in Lincolnshire himself mainly in Dunston and Nocton.

He spent his early manhood doing the 'Grand Tour' and travelling extensively throughout Europe. In 1741 he became M.P. for New Romney and started working his way up the political ladder as an Independent. In 1761 he became a privy councillor. In 1762 he was made Chancellor of the Exchequer and immediately made himself unpopular by putting a tax on imported wine and home brewed cider! In 1766 he became first Post Master General and held this post until his death.

From the 1740s he developed an interest in public works. He was, of course, acquainted with Sir Joseph Banks, and shared with him an interest in fen drainage and agricultural improvements. He was involved in schemes for the improvement of the River Witham which culminated in the Grundy's plans of 1761, and he served on numerous committees for the improvement of roads, street lighting and other services in London. It was a result of this interest that he built Dunston Pillar in 1751 in a genuine attempt to help travellers over the vast heathlands between Sleaford and Lincoln. The fact that he built round it a pleasure gardens for the entertainment of his friends and neighbours as also existed at West Wycombe near the Thames merely shows that he also enjoyed all the normal pursuits of a well-to-do 18th century gentleman, not necessarily that he indulged in nefarious activities.

He was also acquainted with Samuel Wesley with whom he shared an interest in organ music. He was made a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1746 and of the Society of Antiquaries in 1769.

Sir Francis spent quite a lot of time in Lincolnshire in the 1750s but after 1760 affairs of state kept him nearer London. Dunston Manor was let to Dr. Francis Willis who established a mental hospital there and later made a name for himself by trying to treat George III for his mental illness.

After 1788 the lantern on top of Dunston Pillar was no longer required and when it blew down in 1809 it was replaced by a Coade Stone Statue of George III. The subsequent history of George III is well known to older members of the Society. The statue was removed and the pillar greatly reduced in height during the last war. The remains of the statue are now at Lincoln Castle where the bust has been re-erected.

This brief summary can hardly do justice to such an interesting man as Sir Francis Dashwood. Whilst one is sorry to debunk the legend of the Hell Fire Club which of course has a morbid fascination for many people, as is often the case the truth is really more intersting than the fiction.

Catherine M. Wilson
LE TALL'S MILL, LINCOLN

The Mill in Princess Street, Lincoln, is popularly known as Le Tall's Mill, though the whole premises comprise Crown Mill. The old windmill tower is still standing, being part of the larger buildings which were once the flour mill belonging to Henry Le Tall Ltd. The tower is between 75 and 80 feet high, 33 feet wide at ground level, and has seven floors.

Deeds list transactions concerning the land lying east of the River Witham in the parish of St. Peter at Gowts, Lincoln, from 1696 when James Goodknap of the City of London, haberdasher, sold land which included the site on which the mill was eventually built. During the years that follow, many names are mentioned. The large stretch of land was gradually split up as buildings were erected, first along High Street, then forming Salthouse Lane (now Princess Street) and Mill Lane, and lastly Vernon Street which was completed by 1895.

In March 1824, Henry Boot, surgeon, and George William Leach, stagecoachman, conveyed to Ann Seely for £620 a piece of pasture land in the parish of St. Peter at Gowts in the City of Lincoln being 1 acre 14 perches (or thereabouts), 636 feet east to west, 64 feet at the east end and 76 feet at the west end. Provision was made for right of road, and the deeds, listed by date, were to remain with Henry Boot. At some time between 1824 and 1841, Ann Seely built a wind corn mill on the site.

On 13th April 1841 she sold to Dennis Lilly of Newark, miller and baker, and Thomas Hibbert of Lincoln St. Swithin, miller and baker, property for £1,400. This comprised a five sailed wind corn mill together with all going gear, sails, sailcloths, wheels, cogs, spindles, stones, harness, fixtures, utensils, etc., and the land on which it stood. Provision was made for right of road over the lands of H. Boot. Right was granted to moor and fasten boats, barges and other vessels on the River Witham, and to load and unload any goods whatsoever.

Between October 1845 and November 1847 there were negotiations regarding the sale of the mill to Henry Lister for £1,100. The wind corn mill and land were described as in 1841, but with the addition of a dwelling house, granary, shed, stable, outbuildings and garden. By 1849 Henry Lister had fitted the mill with engines and machinery to grind by steam as well as wind. However, on 16th April, 1849, Henry Lister was declared bankrupt. The mill was to be sold and paid for, then the bankers were to be paid. The bankers were the Honourable Alexander Leslie Melville, Abel Smith, Henry Smith and Richard Ellison. £2,349. 2s. Od. was due to them. At the auction by Mr. Thomas Nathaniel Brogden at the Spread Eagle, the highest bidder was John East, at £1,650.

By July 1862 John East was in difficulties and the Lincoln and Lindsey Bank sold the steam and wind corn mill, cottage, counting house and plot of land in Salthouse Lane to William Dawber, merchant, for £900. Mention is also made of granaries and boilers. The first plan appears on this deed.
In May 1870, William Dawber, formerly of Lincoln, now of Ruette Brayes, Guernsey, merchant, sold the steam corn mill to Charles Sampson Dickinson, miller, of Lincoln. The price was £1,000. On May 7th, 1871, C.S. Dickinson sold the property to Henry Le Tall, miller, of Handsworth Woodhouse, County of York, for £1,125. The description of the steam and wind corn mill, and rights, was unchanged.

Henry Le Tall was the son of John Le Tall, schoolmaster, and afterwards grocer and miller, of Woodhouse. Henry learned the trade with his father and then opened shops in Sheffield and Rotherham. Later he built a new steam mill in Chapel Street, Woodhouse. On 4th January, 1871, this mill was completely destroyed by fire. Within a short time he secured the mill at Lincoln. His obituary in the magazine "Milling" (3rd May, 1913) describes it as a six sailed windmill in Princess Street, Lincoln.

The Lincolnshire Chronicle for 4th December, 1863, gives an account of a "fearful hurricane" which did much damage in the city. It reports "The five sailed windmill in Salthouse Lane was dismantled, the upper portion and the massive sails being torn off by a most furious blast shortly after twelve". It is reasonable to assume that the re-fit necessary at this time resulted in the change from five to six sails. Reports that the sails were removed early this century must refer to the removal of the cap and cross, as Mr. S.W. Le Tall was associated with the mill from 1894 and never saw any sails.

In 1892 Henry Le Tall bought from M.W. Hampshire, contractor, for £589, a plot of ground to the south of the mill having a frontage on a new street called Vernon Street. The deed for this transaction mentions a plot of land on the east on which a smock mill stood. This smock mill appears to have been at the end of Mill Lane, now occupied by a garage.

On 7th July, 1893, Henry Le Tall conveyed to Henry Le Tall Ltd., for £3,915. 12s. Od. that steam corn mill situated on the south side of Princess Street, with the office, warehouses, granaries, storerooms, stables, shed, etc. and yard. This is the first time a deed gives Princess Street, instead of Salthouse Lane.

Henry Le Tall increased the capacity of the mill from time to time, and in 1882 the first rollers were installed to supplement the French stones. In 1886 a complete roller system was installed, giving an output of 8 sacks per hour. The main warehouse built by Horton, was added in 1894/1895. The dray shed and new stables were built in 1899 and the Rough Mill in 1904.

In 1920 a complete overhaul took place. A line of diagonal roller mills were installed, along with other modern equipment. At this time foreign grain was transported from Hull in 100 ton keels from which it was brought to the mill by two steam wagons, a "Clayton" and a "Robey". Wheat was shot into a hopper leading to an elevator capable of dealing with about 12½ tons per hour. The wheat received a thorough cleaning before being sent to the grinding bins in the old
tower. Water from a well in the yard was used for washing the grain. This process continued in use with very few modifications until flour milling ceased in 1961 due to competition from very large port mills.

In 1967 the premises were taken over by Frank Wright & Son (Lincoln) Ltd., corn merchants, and used for drying and conditioning grain, cereal seed processing and storage.

Ruth Tinley

ARNOLD & CO. LINCOLN LTD.

Lincoln may never have been as famous as Burton on Trent for brewing beer, but the name of Arnold & Co. is famous among Bottle Collectors all over the country due to the prolific amount of bottles recovered from Victorian and Edwardian refuse dumps. During the company's heyday it is estimated that they had over half a million bottles in circulation.

Frank Arnold was in business as a Grocer at 281 High Street, Lincoln, when around 1867 he became an agent for Bass & Co. of Burton on Trent, bottling their ales, using bottles embossed with his name and address. During this time competition was fierce amongst other brewers and bottlers, but this did not seem to have much effect on Arnold's business and, a decade later, he was also bottling for the Guinness concern. Frank Arnold Snr. died in 1888 and the business passed into the hands of his son, also called Frank, who continued to build up the company. Around this time he started to manufacture mineral waters and it is these products that really began to help him to expand. Around the mid-1890's he acquired the Lincoln Aerated Water Co. and opened offices in Clasketgate (Butchery St.). He was principally instrumental in the establishment of a bottle exchange which resulted in many bottles being recovered which would otherwise have been lost to the several firms carrying on business in the city and district, and he took a leading part in carrying out a scheme of bottle charging. This prevented the great wastage which existed in the wilful or careless destruction of bottles, although unfortunately from the amount of bottles recovered from old rubbish tips this did not seem to work. (It seems that some people would rather be broke than take a bottle back for money).

Just after the turn of the century premises were acquired in St. Rumbold Street (which incidentally are now occupied by Mansbridge-Gilbert) and the firm became one of the best known in the area. Sadly Frank Arnold was one of the first victims of the Typhoid outbreak and died during February 1905 aged 48. Around the outbreak of the First World War, bottling stores were opened in Scunthorpe and Retford, the latter closing around 1927, and about the outbreak of the Second World War they amalgamated with the local firm of Parke & White to become Parke, White & Arnold Ltd. They carried on until around 1961 when sadly this well known Lincoln firm ceased to exist.

R. J. Kemp
THAT OBSCURE LINCOLNSHIRE NOVEL

Nick Lyons asks, at the end of his interesting article on the Lincolnshire novel "A Bishop's unbending", which appeared in the July Newsletter, whether any more can be discovered concerning the Rev. Harold Mart Porter or his book. I can add something.

According to the Ordination Papers in the Guildhall Library (MSS 10326/486), Porter was baptised in 1879 in the Church of the Holy Trinity, Kilburn, the son of Caleb and Elizabeth Porter of Oakland House, West End Lane. These papers also include further information about him, but I have not had an opportunity to examine them. He came to Lincolnshire in 1912 as Curate to the 82 year old Rector of Walesby, the Rev. Percival Laurence, who had held the living since 1879, and died in June 1913. Mr. Laurence was the grandfather of Canon Hugh Peter Laurence, Vicar of Horncastle 1946-59, and of Bourne 1959-70, who now lives in retirement at Thimbleby, and the great-grandfather of Canon Christopher Laurence who was installed as Archdeacon of Lindsey and Canon Residentiary of Lincoln Cathedral last April. As Canon H.P. Laurence would be a 10 year old boy living in the nearby parish of Usselby when Porter was at Walesby, he would almost certainly have met him when he visited his grandfather. It was no doubt on Mr. Laurence's death that Porter moved to Ulceby to be Curate to the Rev. Hector Mawson.

He returned to the diocese as Vicar of Billingborough from 1926 to 1932, when he moved to Langton-by-Wragby, a benefice which he resigned in August 1935 because of ill health. He died suddenly at Ipswich on 14th September that year, at the age of 56, following a seizure. The very brief report of his death which appeared in the "Lincolnshire Chronicle" on 21st September, 1935, merely said that his health had not been good for some time, and that he had been popular in the Wragby neighbourhood, where the news of his death had been received with regret. There was no mention of a widow or children, but the "Suffolk Chronicle's" report in their issue of 20th September 1935 was more helpful. He left a widow and two children, and the funeral service at St. Mary's Church, Whitton, 2½ miles north-west of Ipswich, was conducted by the Rev. H.G. Green (Vicar of St. Nicholas, Ipswich), and the Rev. R.L. Whytehead (Vicar of Eaton, Norwich) with whom Porter had served as Curate at Diss. (It is an interesting coincidence that Mr. Whytehead was the great-nephew of Robert Whytehead who, after serving for a year as Curate of Frampton and Swineshead, near Boston, moved in 1833 to Ipswich, where he was a great friend of Jean Ingelow, the Boston born poetess, whose family had also moved there.)

I have not read the novel, but I suspect that he deliberately made the German spy, Rector of Codby, to reduce the risk of legal action. The naturalised German who became an Anglican priest was, in fact, the Rev. Bernard Steinmetz, who was Vicar of Spilsby from 1910 to 1938, when he retired to Devon, where he died a little more than 10 years later. I can remember that when I was a schoolboy during the second World War I heard the story of the Vicar of Spilsby with a
German name who was said, during the Great War, to have been a German spy. Whether he was also arrogant I do not know, but as he was a graduate of New College Oxford, and had been Vicar of a large, high-church parish near London before coming to Spilsby, Porter may have felt that he rather looked down his nose at a non-graduate product of the low-church London College of Divinity.

Mr. Lyons says that Fowler's book on Bishop Hicks suggests that he may have been thought unconventional with certain radical leanings. "Who was Who" gives one of his interests as temperance agitation, and the late Canon Peter Binnall once told me that his father said that, when the Bishop dined with his clergy, most of them tried to sit as far as possible from him so that they could enjoy a glass of wine away from his critical eye.

Since writing the above I have discovered that Mr. Porter's son still lives in Lincolnshire, and have had a conversation with him.

Ron Drury

(We would like to draw attention to the fact that it is just fifty years since the death of the Rev. Harold Mart Porter. - Editor.)

REDUNDANT CHURCHES IN LINCOLNSHIRE

The Redundant Churches Uses Committee of the Diocese of Lincoln is appointed by the Bishop for a term of five years. This committee advises him on the best future for a church after it has been made redundant. A redundant church is one which ceases to be used for acts of worship. (The Committee does not make churches redundant, it only advises on future use after redundancy procedures are completed.) Provision for dealing with redundant churches was first made under the Pastoral Measure of 1968 which came into operation on April 1st 1969. Since then some 70 churches have been made redundant in the Diocese of Lincoln (which covers the county of Lincolnshire, including S. Humberside.)

In discussing the future of a redundant church the committee usually considers the following options.

1. Alternative use; e.g. private residence, workshop, community centre. Not all churches lend themselves easily to an alternative use and problems of size, access and local feeling have to be taken into account.

2. Some churches are of exceptional historical, archaeological or architectural interest and preservation as a monument is advised. Churches can be taken over by such bodies as the Redundant Churches Fund or the Friends of Friendless Churches, etc.

3. Where no alternative use has been found and the church is of no apparent historical or architectural merit or it is in an advanced state of disrepair, then controlled ruination or demolition may be advised.
In arriving at its recommendations the Committee receives valuable assistance from various national bodies including the Advisory Board for Redundant Churches, the Council for the Care of Churches and the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission (English Heritage). The Council for British Archaeology has taken a keen interest in the fate of redundant churches for many years and there is often an archaeological advisor on the Committee. Where it has not been possible to save a church from demolition a photographic record has been made of the building and in some cases items of special architectural or archaeological interest have gone to the City and County Museum in Lincoln. The disposal of the contents of a redundant church, excluding the plate used for Holy Communion, tombstones, monuments and memorials is normally dealt with in accordance with the directions of the Bishop who will generally act through the Diocesan Furnishings Officer. Some non-liturgical items such as pews may be sold if they are not required by another church.

Ideally, a full record of the church, its monuments and its graveyard should be made when it is made redundant. This has not been possible, so far, in Lincolnshire. Churches recently made redundant include Asgarby, Buslingthorpe, Belton (Kesteven), Toft by Newton and Grimsby. All Saints is a possibility. If anyone would like any further information please contact me, (Naomi Field, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln, Tel: 0522 29931 Ext. 251) or Lt. Cdr. P. Wells-Cole, (Secretary) at the Diocesan Office, The Old Palace, Lincoln.

THE H.E. SMITH SCRAPBOOKS

The late Canon Peter Binnall, writing in "Caistor, Lincolnshire: Historical Notes" (Gloucester, 1960) said: "During the second half of the nineteenth century, Henry Evan Smith of Caistor (1828–1908), housepainter, rating officer, artist and journalist, was local correspondent for the Stamford Mercury, the North Lincolnshire Star and other papers and his articles are of considerable value. Many of these, as well as numerous MS notes by Smith, are in my possession, and I should always be glad to afford access to them. The miniature 'scrap books' compiled by Smith and which Canon Binnall had, are now at the Lincolnshire Archives Office. The volumes for the Holland parishes are, I believe, in the collection of the Spalding Gentlemen's Society. Canon Binnall acquired the Lindsey volumes in 1935. At the same time, or earlier, the late Captain Cragg, a well known Lincolnshire antiquary, acquired the volumes relating to the parishes and towns in Kesteven. This collection was later part of the Lincolnshire collection of Sir Geoffrey Harmsworth. I have recently been able to add it to my own library. There are 117 volumes relating to Kesteven places. Unfortunately, some sixty volumes are 'missing! By comparing the lists of those at LAO and at Spalding it will be possible in due course to determine exactly which volumes have strayed. Anyone wishing to know the contents of the volume for any particular place in Kesteven should write to me at 3, Merleswen, Dunholme, Lincoln, LN2 3SN. I cannot undertake to answer telephone queries about the books.

Terence Leach
THE SPILSBY SHOW

Betty Kirkham of Hogsthorpe would like to thank her sister Janet Barker and Mrs. M. Boulton for helping on the mini bookstall at the Spilsby Show this year. A cheque for £43.81 has been sent to the Society. A letter expressing the gratitude of the Society for allowing a free table in the Craft Tent has been sent to the Spilsby Show Committee.

THE UNKNOWN COUNTY

Following an earlier newsletter item (No. 42 Oct. 1984) here are a few more "media howlers" collected over the years, mostly from national radio items or from regional television.

Dogdyke in South Humberside,
Binbrook south of the Wash,
Balderton in Lincolnshire,
The tiny village of Tattershall near Boston,
The River Witham overflowed its banks at Horncastle,
Pottergate Roman Arch near Lincoln,
Dalterby near Spalding.

Mispronunciation of place-names is understandable and there are many examples, but information that could be checked from maps is not so excusable, especially with bodies claiming local interest. Perhaps one can expect less from national media, on which I heard recently ".........England, as it used to be called." More seriously, I have been collecting some of the very extraordinary statements about the county which one encounters in books about the area. I should be interested to hear of any favourite ones from other members.

Hilary Healey

NOTES AND QUERIES

Boston and the Hanseatic League

Please can you tell me anything about the members of the Hanseatic League who had houses in Boston in Lincolnshire. They did seem to have houses there which they sold at the accession of Edward VI. Can this be confirmed? I am especially interested in anyone by the name of Elsam, a family name which goes back to the sixteenth and even the fifteenth centuries.

Mrs. E.M. Semlyen, 104 Montrose Avenue,
Burnt Oak, Edgware, Middlesex. HA8 OD.

Children's stories by Mary M. Sindell

In the early 1920's - about 1923/4/5 - my mother, then Mary M. Sindell had some children's stories published in the Lincolnshire Chronicle. She has long since lost the originals and we are anxious to trace them for her. She is now 87 and I would be grateful for any help in finding them. Thank you.

Eileen M. Sindell-Wright, 22 Regina, Bath,
BA1 2QE.
From the Lincolnshire chapter of "England Displayed"

Saltfleet...... One Mr. John Watson, who died in 1693, aged an hundred and two, was minister seventy four years, in which time he buried three successive generations in his parish, except three or four persons".


FAMILY HISTORY SUB-COMMITTEE

A Family History Day School will be held on Saturday, 19th October, 1985, at St. Andrews Hall, Top of High Street, Lincoln. The subjects will include:-

Census Returns - speaker, Ken Redmore
Quarter Sessions - speaker, Richard Ratcliffe
Reading old handwriting. - speaker, Chris Johnson
Oral history - speaker, Ian Beckwith

Please bring your own lunch but tea and coffee is included in the Day School fee of £1.50. For map of venue and car parks please send 4" x 9" S.a.e. to:

Mrs. A. Cole, 174 Doddington Road, Lincoln LN6 7HF

LOCAL HISTORY SUB-COMMITTEE

Book Sale: The Book Sale on July 27th organised by the Local History Sub-Committee as its contribution to the cost of the Society's move to Exchequergate raised £200. Attendance by members was, to say the least, extremely disappointing - for less than twenty were present. We are grateful to those who did support the effort and spent so generously, and to all members who gave books for the sale. The sale was organised by Terence Leach and Ron Drury, with a great deal of help from Joyce Leach, John and Anna Turner, Betty Kirkham and David Pink. Linda and Frank Crust brought the Society's own bookstall.

The Brackenbury Memorial Lecture was well attended, and despite competition from the church bells, Betty Kirkham gave a very interesting lecture on George Robinson of Langham Row. In a manner which can only be described as amazing, Brenda Webster provided teas for the audience. Our sincere thanks to all who helped to make possible another pleasant afternoon at Raithby.

Lincolnshire Country Houses - Several interesting country houses in the county have been in the news of late because they have been offered for sale. Raithby Hall, the house built in the late 1770's by Robert Carr Brackenbury, and visited by Wesley, Montgomery, Coke, Clarke, and many other famous Methodist leaders during the time of Brackenbury and his wife, and by Tennyson during the time the Ransleys owned the house has been for sale for some time. It has now
been purchased by Mr. G. Hunter and is to be an old people's home. Nocton Hall, built in 1841 for the 1st Earl of Ripon, and designed by William Sheardown, has been sold by the Ministry of Defence for £200,000 to Mr. T. Richardson, who has an old people's home at Scopwick. Northorpe Hall, near Gainsborough, is the only house in Lincolnshire in a neo-Norman style. It was built in 1875 for the Fox family, and designed by G.H. Goldsmith. It has nearby the ruins of its predecessor, the seat of a branch of the Monson family. It is to be a restaurant.

It now seems possible to hope that the age of demolition of such houses in Lincolnshire is over. Our losses have been very considerable, but at the present time such buildings seem to be increasingly in demand for offices - such as Market Stainton Hall and Wellingore Hall have become - and for various other institutional or domestic purposes. Both Coleby Hall and Gate Burton Hall have passed into multiple ownership without detracting from the appearance of the buildings. Now at least three more of our country houses seem likely to survive.

Lectures - Miss Lesley Colsell (27 Dellfield Close, Lakelands, Lincoln, LN6 OEQ) is now responsible for the organisation of lectures for the Local History Sub Committee. Details of lectures arranged by the sub-committee will be found in the calendar of events. Miss Colsell will welcome suggestions for titles and venues for possible lectures.

A Social Evening for all S.L.H.A. members and friends is to be held on Friday, 6th of December. There will be a quiz that everyone can join in, using objects from the Museum of Lincolnshire Life, as well as Lincolnshire readings and some musical entertainment. Come and look forward to Christmas with the S.L.H.A. Admission by ticket at the door or from the Museum of Lincolnshire Life, price £1.00 including refreshments. St. Matthias Deaf Centre, Burton Road, Lincoln; 7.30 p.m.

PUBLICATIONS

Report from the Hon Book Sales' Manager

We had a successful bookstall at the A.G.M. which was followed by another good stall at the Family History Conference at Kelham Hall. Some new Family History publications were released on the day of the conference and business was very brisk indeed.

The move to Exchequergate Arch has meant hard work from a small band of willing helpers but the benefits are now obvious. It is a great delight to have space for all the books and to have them accessible. The gift of a pair of steps from Mr. Robert Barker means that even stock on the top shelves can be reached without undue trauma. Large
quantities of stock are now revealed and it seems a good time to remind members that we still have available all six of the occasional papers published by the Society, viz:

Excavations at the Bishop's Palace, Lincoln 1968-1972
by Hugh Chapman, Glyn Coppack and Peter Drewett.

Labouring Life on the Lincolnshire Wolds: a study of Binbrook in the mid-nineteenth century
Edited by R.J. Olney.

An Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Baston, Lincolnshire
(with a report on the pottery by J.N.L. Myres)
Edited by R.J. Olney.

Sheep farming in eighteenth and nineteenth century Lincolnshire
By J. A. Perkins

Dunham Bridge - a memorial history by Mr. J.T. Lewis

The Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Fonaby, Lincolnshire
by A. M. Cook.

All the above books are available to callers at Exchequergate during the hours when the administrator is in the office - usually Monday and Thursday morning. If you intend to call, it would be a good idea to ring Mrs. Rippin first.

Bound copies of the article The Engineering Works of John Grundy by A.W. Skempton are now available, price: £1 plus 40p p. & p. N.B. This article appeared in Journal No. 19.

Revised prices for:-

Somerset House Wills: Price 75p; p. & p. 25p (inland)
75p (overseas)

St. Catherine's House Price 75p; p. & p. 25p (inland)
75p (overseas)

Unpublished Personal Name Indexes in Record Offices and Libraries:
Price £1; p. & p. 25p (inland)
75p (overseas)

JUST PUBLISHED:-

Tennyson's Lincolnshire - An illustrated guide - produced for the Tennyson Society by the Lincolnshire Education Aids Project. This is a very attractive, well-illustrated booklet. Price £1.50; p. & p. 25p (inland) 75p (overseas).

A new booklet is now available. Please send a s.a.e. to me at Exchequergate Arch, Lincoln.

Linda Crust, Hon. Book Sales Manager
Other publications -

1. Fenland Research 2 for 1984/85 - This contains reports on Stonea, Haddenham, Flag Fen, Brandon, the survey work of the Fenland Project in Norfolk, Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire as well as a number of other reports. The selling price is £2.25 plus postage. Please order your copy from R.H. Healey, Trust for Lincolnshire Archaeology (South), 28 Boston Road, Sleaford, Lincolnshire, NG34 7EZ.

2. Fenland Research 1 for 1983/84 - A few copies of this smaller, earlier report are still available at £1.50 plus 25p postage from R.H. Healey, Trust for Lincolnshire Archaeology (South), 28 Boston Road, Sleaford, Lincolnshire, NG34 7EZ.


SOUTH HUMBERSIDE AREA RECORD OFFICE

Recent deposits have included the earliest known surviving Grimsby borough rate book (1871) which came to light in the Municipal Offices in April. A large deposit of seventy Valuation Lists for Grimsby and the surrounding area came from the District Valuer; they range in date from 1892 to 1963. In July the Scunthorpe Male Voice Choir deposited their minute books, 1929-67, while a further deposit of printed reports, 1920-38, was received from the Scunthorpe Co-operative Society.

Work has begun on retyping and expanding the index to the Grimsby Borough Engineer's plans. The plans concern drains, roads, houses and estates in the borough from about 1884 to 1974 and number several thousand. Some show the laying out of the Heneage and Yarborough Estates.

Volunteers continue to work on the index to the Doughty Road Cemetery burial registers. There were 15,000 entries between 1855 and 1943. So far all entries after 1881 have been indexed.

John Wilson, Archivist-in-Charge

LINCOLNSHIRE MUSEUMS

The Museum of Lincolnshire Life

The Museum of Lincolnshire Life has had another busy season. On 22nd June we opened a new gallery titled "The Museum of the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment", which brings together the collections that were previously housed at the
Sobraon Barracks and items that were in store here. The collections have been re-displayed to tell the story of the regiment from it being raised in 1685 through to its 300 year anniversary in 1985.

The Museum and Lincolnshire County Council are very pleased to have been awarded a certificate of distinction in the British Tourist Authority's "Come to Britain" award scheme. It has been presented in recognition of the new gatehouse galleries and "Commercial Row" which were opened in 1984.

Church Farm Museum, Skegness

Church Farm Museum at Skegness has also had a busy season. This year has seen the opening of the Havenhouse Barn. This building has been moved brick by brick and rebuilt at Church Farm Museum, providing additional facilities of a cafe to be run by the Friends of the Museum, toilets, a temporary exhibition area, as well as a 2 bay hovel with teaching area/meeting room above. The barn was officially opened at the annual garden party on Sunday 11th August, when a brass plaque was unveiled.

OTHER SOCIETIES

The University of Hull, Department of Adult Education

1. A new afternoon Local History Class: Grimsby's Village Neighbours - The history of Bradley, Great and Little Coates, and Scartho.

   Wednesdays 1.00 - 3.00 p.m. from 2nd October, 1985, at the Doughty Centre, Town Hall Square, Great Grimsby. Tutor; R.W. Ambler.

2. Find out more about The History of Great Limber and District

   Mondays 7.30 - 9.30 p.m. from 30th September at the Vicarage, Great Limber. Tutor: R.W. Ambler.
   Fee: £21 for 20 sessions (concessions available to various categories of student).

The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings - The Wind and Watermill Section Committee

A Philosophy of repair of Windmills and Watermills as set out by the Committee

Windmills and watermills are an irreplaceable part of our national heritage. They form a vital part of the traditional landscape and have an important place in the history of industry, engineering and technology, in the development of motive power and the processing of raw materials. In their structure and machinery they represent a quality and endurance of craftsmanship. Mills have a unique place in the tangible record of the past and their proper protection, repair and continued working is the sincere objective of the Wind and Watermill section.
The majority of mills have already been lost, due to disuse and decay; many have been more recently destroyed either by the removal of machinery or by poorly considered conversion to other uses. Ideally, mills typical of their region or which, through their structure and machinery, illustrate features of historical or technical development must be the prime candidates for protection and repair. Due mainly to limitations of ownership or finance, however, such a choice is not always available, so other considerations must apply. The aim of the Wind and Watermill Section is to fight for the conservation and repair of any mill which still retains its machinery.

In all repair work it is essential that a mill is not regarded merely as a building but as a machine. While the building often forms an integral part of the machine, it is the mill in its entirety, building and machinery, which is of importance. The true repair of any machine must be to working order and the Section will pursue this ideal wherever feasible. Many degrees of repair are possible, however, and all are valid if they are undertaken with the primary aim of conserving mills as machines.

Mills worthy of protection but which, through limitations of ownership or finance, cannot be repaired fully at the present time must not be abandoned. Holding repairs can be undertaken, often at a modest cost, to conserve that which survives by weather-proofing and preventing structural failure. Such repairs are vital if more mills are to survive intact. If carried out well, this work can lay the foundation for fuller repairs to be undertaken in the future, when conditions may change and proper support for the continued existence of a mill may be assured.

The aim of repair should be to retain and maintain as much as possible of the existing structure and machinery in order to preserve the historical and technical integrity of each mill. As a general rule a mill should be repaired to the same appearance as when it last worked, a rule that applies as much to the interior as to the exterior. Ancillary machinery, engines and buildings, such as the miller's dwelling, kilns, granaries, cart sheds and other related outbuildings, even if comparatively modern, are all part of the history and development of milling and, where options allow, should be retained and repaired in a like manner, alongside the mills they served.

Particular care should be taken to document each mill and site before the commencement and during the progress of repair works. Original features that relate to the working of a mill should be kept in their correct context, irrespective of whether the mill is to function or not. Where replacement of any part is deemed necessary, such replacement should be carried out using appropriate and comparable materials and new parts should be faithful copies of the originals. Should no original part survive as a pattern, the design of new parts should be based on all available evidence, to be in keeping with local tradition and practice. Old parts removed and replaced are often worth preserving separately as they may be of historical or technical interest.
Where mills are to work, it is vital to ensure that machinery is set up to run as smoothly, efficiently and safely as possible. Effective maintenance must follow repairs and a working mill will require regular checks and running adjustments, preferably by a miller, millwright or capable custodian.

The removal of any item of machinery from a mill and the moving of a mill to a new site will normally be opposed by the Section, except where all attempts at on-site protection have failed and the building or machinery is threatened with certain destruction.

Windmills and watermills are primarily machines and proposals to convert them to other uses will always be critically examined by the Section. The SPAB was founded in 1877 by William Morris as a direct result of the contemporary spoiling of history, craftsmanship and true function which he witnessed being carried out as 'restoration'. The Wind and Watermill Section bases its philosophy on over fifty years experience in the protection and repair of mills in many parts of the country and aims to encourage the sincere and proper repair of mills to ensure that truly representative examples will survive for future generations to study and enjoy. All such work will raise problems which can only be answered by those with adequate knowledge and experience. Such advice should be sought and carefully considered before any action concerning the future of any mill is taken.

THE FINAL FURLONG

With some hesitation I perceive that next year in Lincolnshire will herald another crop of jubilees and anniversaries. These will occupy the various talents of a small number of people but will hopefully instruct and entertain many others - the Lincolnshire Domesday; the 800th anniversary of the consecration of St. Hugh as Bishop of Lincoln; the quarter-centenary of the Lincolnshire Rising; the 200th anniversary of the birth at Spilsby of the Arctic Explorer, Sir John Franklin..... The list seems endless and, for myself, I am still trying to assimilate the celebrations of this year, not yet ended - Hiroshima; VE Day; the 300 years of the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment; the centenary of the enthronement of Bishop Edward King; the 79th anniversary of a holiday taken by D.H. Lawrence in Mablethorpe......

Leaving the county did not improve the situation. In Belgium it was 170 years since the French were defeated by Wellington at Waterloo. In Scotland the national newspapers were full of comment on the Battle of Nechtansmere, which in 685 assured the dominance of the Picts over the other kingdoms of Alba, I fear that there is bound to be some incident of note being recalled soon in Vienna so we will not escape. The enthusiasm for anniversaries, pegs on which to hang our learning and our memories, cannot be avoided, it seems.

I have been thinking seriously of opting out and proclaiming 1986 "an Anniversary-Free Zone", concentrating rather on the present, on the adventures of today that may
possibly, if the trend persists, become the well-polished nostalgia of future historians.

However, no doubt when January comes along, I will be drawn into the general fervour of the moment and I will forget my qualms. For anyone who faithfully organises the annual meeting of a select band of university cronies, year after year, can only consider her attitude towards anniversaries as ambivalent to say the least.

The Editor

Items for inclusion in the January 1986 Newsletter should reach the SLHA Office, Exchequergate Arch, Lincoln or Elizabeth Anne Melrose, The Reference Library, Free School Lane, Lincoln, by 12.30 p.m. on Saturday, 16th November, 1985, at the very latest.
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Advertisement at the time when the Vernon Street side of Le Tall’s Mill was being built, c. 1900-1904.

(By courtesy of Miss Shirley)