EDITORIAL

As members will imagine recent developments in the Society and the establishment of a new society devoted solely to Family History in Lincolnshire may well necessitate changes being made in our publications. Such changes have yet to be decided by your officers and committees.

The Society’s Newsletter has been produced in its present format since No.45 was issued in July 1985. In No.51 (January 1987) I wrote in my first Editorial "I have agreed to take responsibility for the Newsletter until such time as the Executive Committee can consider offers from other members". I have now been responsible for 14 Newsletters and have always regarded myself as a 'care-taker'. It seems sensible for the Society to appoint a new Editor at this time and I look forward to 'handing over' to him or her before the July issue is prepared.

I am grateful to all the contributors who have responded to appeals for material over the last two years, I hope that material will continue to appear so that the new Editor will have some articles to begin with; Linda Crust has responded to my appeal in No.63 for material on villages. I hope other parish/village historians will follow her example.

Terence Leach

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Material for the next issue of the Newsletter to be published on 1 July 1990 should be sent to the Editor at Jews' Court by Saturday 12 May 1990 (the day of the AGM). Material received after that date cannot be included

SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER

Many thanks to all those who have already renewed their subscriptions to the Society.

May we remind those that have not yet renewed, that subscriptions were due on 1 April 1990. New rates are:

- Individual £12.00
- Family £13.00
- Youth (Under 23) £8.00
- Overseas Individual £16.00

Please use the renewal form included with the January mailing and complete the Banker’s Order Form and Covenant Form as necessary. Please send to Jews’ Court for the attention of the Treasurer. No further reminders will be sent.

HOW DO YOU TURN £12 INTO £16 AT THE STROKE OF A PEN?

In these days of high costs, it is vital that full value is obtained from every penny. With this in mind, the value to the Society of your subscription can be increased by as much as 33.3%
if you are a tax payer.

How ????

Simply by completing the Deed of Covenant with your renewal which was included in the January mailing. In 1989 approximately 350 covenants produced extra funds of just over £1,000 in tax re- claimed from the Inland Revenue. At present only a small percentage of our members have taken part in the scheme, and to these people the Society offers most grateful thanks. To the rest of you good folk out there, please help us to keep pace with costs by TURNING £12 into £16 AT THE STROKE OF YOUR PEN.

Thank you. Joy Pearce (Covenant Secretary)

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

One of the points raised by several people in their responses to the Publications Questionnaire last year was a request for information about the officers of the Society. In response we are publishing an account of the Chairman. Information on other officers will appear in subsequent Newsletters.

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CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

No sooner is Christmas over than the Annual Meeting seems to be coming on us again. This is particularly so as this letter has to be written in mid-February. Papers for the AGM are enclosed with this mailing and I hope you will all try to attend this principal annual gathering of the Society. Several important issues are currently being reviewed and though we have consulted you during the past year about publications and family history I hope you will come and give us your views at the AGM.

I feel that the Executive and other Committees should as far as possible reflect the wishes of the membership, so if you hold views on any aspect of the Society's activities and can regularly attend meetings in Lincoln please find some other member to nominate you - the necessary forms are enclosed.

If you don't want to become involved in the Committee systems but would still like to help the Society, don't worry - there are many other ways you can contribute. One way is to serve in the bookshop and if you can give half-a-day each month, or more or less time, then please ring Pauline Phillips on Lincoln 752206 who will explain how easy it is. Or perhaps you could help to distribute the Newsletter in your area - please let us know at Jews' Court.

The distribution of the Newsletter always seems to be accompanied by difficulties and I hope you will bear with us. The packing and circulation of nearly 1,500 envelopes is very time consuming, and as we use both the post office and hand delivery it is not possible for them all to arrive on the same day. In January this year our hand delivery in some parts was so efficient that some members received their copies before those which arrived by post! So please have a little sympathy for those members who gave up part of their Christmas and New Year holidays to serve the Society.
In this quarter's letter I have not passed on much news, because a lot of what is happening is more appropriate for the Annual Report. So please read the Annual Report and come along to the gathering at Bishop Grossteste College on 12th May. Your Committees have ideas about the future but we want to hear from you and have your help in carrying out our future activities.

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NEIL RICHARD WRIGHT - CHAIRMAN

Neil Wright is the new Chairman of our Society and for the benefit of those members who do not know him, the following is a short pen portrait. Neil, 43, was born in Boston, Lincs. the eldest son of Margaret (Peggy) and Cyril Wright. He has two sisters, Janet and Elizabeth and one brother, Peter. He was educated at Kitwood Boys' Secondary Modern School, Boston and it was there that his interest in local history manifested itself. Neil says that he was not the sporty type and he came to an arrangement that whilst his fellow pupils were on the football field, he was in Boston Stump, recording details of church furniture. He was encouraged in his pursuits by one of the teachers at the school, Mr Arthur Thompson, and has dedicated one of his books to him. Instead of taking up the more usual teenage pursuits, Neil became interested in photographing the fine buildings in Boston, and has a very interesting collection of old photographs; many of the buildings now having been demolished. These photographs have helped other historians and archaeologists in their research and will no doubt form the basis of further work on Boston in the future. Neil first joined the Society in the early sixties and was also a member of the Boston Archaeology Group. As he began to explore the industrial buildings and Port of Boston, however, he began to realise that he was interested in Industrial Archaeology. This was at a time when the study of Industrial Archaeology as a discipline in its own right was only just beginning and Neil was one of the founder members of the Association for Industrial Archaeology, attending the first ever national Conference in the Isle of Man, which took place in 1973. Soon after this he was elected Treasurer to the Association and handled its financial affairs for six years.

When Neil left school, he went to work for Holland County Council and has remained in this work as a Committee Clerk with Lincolnshire County Council since 1974. All his writing and research has been done in his own time and the first of his writings to be published was 'The Buildings of the Old Port of Boston'. Following this, Neil together with Dr Michael Lewis of Hull University organised an East Midlands Industrial Archaeology Conference in Boston, when participants were given the opportunity to see for themselves the industrial buildings remaining around the port. Following on from this Neil researched and wrote about an industry which had disappeared from the Boston area - that of tobacco manufacture. He found workers, mainly women who had been engaged in this work, interviewed them and wrote up his findings in an early piece of work of oral history. Soon after this came a book entitled 'The Railways of Boston' and his 'Atlas of Boston' was written together with Frank Molyneux, in the History of Boston series. Neil, active in the Industrial Archaeology Section of the Society since December 1966 spent quite a lot of time taking groups of people around the Boston and Spalding area. As a result
of this he recorded his findings in an 'Industrial History of Spalding' which has always been much in demand.

In 1974 Neil attended an Industrial Archaeology Workshop in Matlock, Derbyshire where he met his wife, Ann. Ann had also become interested in local history and industrial archaeology, whilst at Bishop Lonsdale Teacher Training College, Derby and they have been able to pursue their interest together. Ann had been married previously, so at this time Neil acquired a ready made family of two. He had also moved to the Lincoln area when the County Council had reorganised. In spite of all these changes Neil kept working on his major piece of work 'Lincolnshire Towns and Industries 1700-1914'. He reckons that this took him approximately ten years from start to finish. It was finally published in 1982.

In 1987 Neil became an actor, appearing in Lincoln's Community Play 'A Bucket Full of Daisies'. This was the story of Lincoln's Typhoid Epidemic in 1905. Although Neil was initially nervous he thoroughly enjoyed the experience of appearing in the castle grounds, and Alderman Footman came back to life for a period of ten days. Ann had been part of the research team for the play and had subsequently become joint author of 'The Enemy in our Midst' which was a written account of the epidemic and the coming of Lincoln's new water supply.

In 1989 this Society published a volume on 'Twentieth Century Lincolnshire' for which Neil had written a chapter on Industry. He was also very pleased to be asked to write an introduction to Industrial Archaeology in Lincolnshire to go into a new edition of Pevsner's 'Buildings of England' and was delighted when this was released.

So, what is planned for the future? Ann and Neil have been enjoying travelling extensively over the last few years, having been to Boston, Massachusetts to trace connections between the two Bostons. They have also visited Russia, staying in Moscow, Leningrad, Riga and Tbilisi, Georgia. They found the atmosphere very relaxed and were able to photograph quite a lot of industrial archaeology. Ann has some relatives by marriage who live in Nevis, a tiny island in the Leeward Islands of the West Indies. So far they have had two visits and have carried out a survey of an abandoned sugar mill. The results of the survey should be published shortly. They plan to visit again this summer so some further work can be done.

Neil has been busy so far in the time he has been Chairman. He is especially pleased with Jews' Court and the establishment of the bookshop there, which is being used by locals and visitors from all over the country and further afield. Members might be interested to know that so far the bookshop has handled about £25,000. He would like to thank everyone who has worked so hard to make it a success, especially Mrs Mary Hall who got it going and Mrs Pauline Phillips who has organised the volunteers who man the bookshop. If there are any members who would like to help on the rota please contact her. Neil has several ideas which should expand the Society's area of work. Above all he would like to see the Society grow and continue to be active all over the county. 'Our Society has many members with a wide range of interests' said Neil 'and we need to know their wishes to help us plan the lectures, surveys and other activities, and also the way the Society is organised'. How about writing to the Newsletter to let him know your thoughts?
THE LIBRARY AT JEWS' COURT

As members know the Society intends to establish its own library at Jews' Court. It seems appropriate to report on the progress which has been made towards doing this.

Harry Scott has done a great deal of work in cleaning the shelving for the room, and by the time this Newsletter reaches members the shelves will be in position. In January the first working party - Miss K Johnson, Miss H Healey, Mr G Watmough and myself - spent the afternoon sorting books and other material in the room. A private loan has enabled us to buy boxes for housing pamphlets and magazines. It is hoped that by the time of the A.G.M. much work will have been done. Books which have been donated by the family of the late Anne Ward have already been put into the library, and there is already a complete run of Lincolnshire Life and all the Society's own publications from the time of its foundation.

Members have already asked how they can help. Obviously the Society hopes that all members who have books published will donate copies to the library! Members who are not authors can help by donating money or specific books on Lincolnshire subjects. There are many books currently in print which could be donated in this way. It should obviously be our aim to obtain from this time forward a copy of every book relating to Lincolnshire when it is published.

Donations and accessions will, it is hoped, be recorded in the Society's Newsletter.

The use of the library will be restricted to members of the Society and the working party appointed by your Executive Committee will be discussing ways of organising opening times and rules for the library.

I shall be pleased to answer any queries members may have, and to discuss the donation of books. If you wish to telephone (Welton 60637) please do so after 6.30 pm.

Terence Leach

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GIFTS TO THE SOCIETY

Framed Photograph of The Strait, Lincoln showing Jews' House and Jews' Court (Dr D Owen)
Books & Pamphlets from the collection of the late Anne Ward (Mrs Ward & Miss J Ward)
£100 legacy from the late F R Wagstaffe
Lincolnshire Domesday Facsimile (Alecto) (Mrs E Ballard)
Complete run of 'Lincolnshire Life' Magazines (Miss K W Johnson)
Four original plates for steel engravings of Lincoln, made for Akrill (Mr J G Ruddock)

The Society records its thanks for these gifts.

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LOCAL HISTORY COMMITTEE

BOOK SALE AT JEWS' COURT, SATURDAY APRIL 28

The programme for the day is as follows:
10.30 am to 12 noon. - Sale of books of all kinds. Books to be auctioned in the afternoon will be available for inspection.
1.30 to 2.30 - Brief talks on aspects of Lincolnshire book collecting by Nick Lyons, Christopher Sturman and Terence Leach.
2.45 pm. - Auction of Books by Mr Neil Boulton.

The success of this day depends entirely upon our members - not only as purchasers but as providers of books to sell. Donations of books on any subject will be welcomed for the morning sale, and books may be put into the auction on condition that 20% of the money raised is given to the Society. Reserves may be placed upon books by vendors.

Books should be sent to Jews' Court at any time, clearly marked with the owners name and address, etc. Please contact Terence Leach (Welton 60637) if you have any queries.

HENRY WINN DAY AT FOLLESTBY, SUNDAY JUNE 13th

Mrs Jean Burton of Fulletby has arranged a very special programme for this day at Fulletby. At 2.30 pm there will be a talk on Henry Winn. After a break for examination of a display in the church, there will be a second session from 4.15 to 5.15 pm. on Winn's poetry and essays, with readings from his work. There will then be a break for tea and a tour of the village. The day will end with a Service at 6.00 pm. when a local school choir will sing some of Winn's hymns, and songs by his friend Chapman - this will be the first public performance of these works. Fulletby is not far from Somersby. We hope that members will give this unusual meeting their full support. Booking forms for the day are enclosed with this Newsletter. If there is sufficient demand it may be possible to arrange minibus or coach transport from Lincoln. Please contact T R Leach if interested. Bookings must be sent to Jews' Court by June 2nd.

ANNUAL BRACKENBURY MEMORIAL LECTURE

This will be held on Saturday 7 July at 2,30 pm. and will be given by Arthur Owen. Full details in the July Newsletter.

OUTINGS IN 1990

There is a possibility of a coach outing being organised during the coming months. Unfortunately replies to letters have not been received in time for details to be included in this Newsletter. If outings are arranged booking forms will be included in the mailing with the Newsletter.

LINCOLNSHIRE FAMILY PORTRAITS SURVEY

(See No.63 p.3) The account of the Survey has been held over until a later issue as there was insufficient space for its inclusion in this issue.
MILESTONES OF THE TURNPIKE TRUSTS

The Industrial Archaeology Committee proposes a survey of remaining evidence of the turnpike trusts which for more than 150 years controlled over 300 miles of roads in Lincolnshire.

From formation of the first trust in 1726 for the Great North Road between Spittlegate (Grantham) and Little Drayton (Notts) until 1882 when the last section of the Lincoln Heath to Peterborough turnpike was freed from tolls, the trusts erected and maintained a range of toll cottages and milestones/posts.

While many of the cottages remain, lovingly labelled by their modern owners, the mileposts have been lost from several areas. Road widening works and WWII invasion fears have made them quite a rarity. The extent of the loss has been highlighted by earlier researchers who found that in 1823 the Brigg Turnpike Trust erected new oak and cast iron mileposts between Barton and Lincoln, then ordered a further set of 48 cast iron posts in 1847, each to be 6ft long.

We therefore hope to create an index of the locations of the remaining mileposts and any other relics of the turnpike trusts. At the same time we would like to locate toll houses which were built for other roads crossing private land and record other items of time-honoured road furniture from non-turnpiked roads.

We hope to expand the survey to include the recording of cast iron signposts and fingerposts which are rapidly being replaced by tubular steel, and sheet-metal aids to higher-speed travel.

Our aim is to allocate areas of the county to groups or individuals to examine the road sides most convenient to them. Also to locate any items which have been preserved or which remain buried as a war-time expediency.

Would anyone willing to help with these searches please contact David Wilmot, 1 Neile Close, Lincoln, LN2 4RT or telephone Lincoln 543695 for further details.

I C C I H - BELGIUM - 1990

The seventh International Conference on the conservation of The Industrial Heritage will take place in Belgium from 2nd September to 9th September 1990. The Conference includes lectures, reports and field visits.

The theme of the Conference is "Technology, Organisation of Labour and the Shaping of the Industrial Landscape". Lectures will be of not more than 30 minutes with 15 minutes for discussion of each lecture. There will be twelve lectures on each of five options, and simultaneous translation will be available in English, Dutch and French.

Full details are available from Tony Wall, 109 Bunkers Hill, Lincoln LN2 4QT. Tele: 533606.

EAST MIDLANDS INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY CONFERENCE

The 39th East Midlands Conference will be held at East Carlton, Northants on 19th May 1990 on the subject of ironstone Quarrying and transport.

LINCOLNSHIRE HISTORY & ARCHAEOLOGY

Readers of Lincolnshire History and Archaeology, 24, 1989 should note the following particulars of the Tennyson studies reviewed on p.28 which, due to circumstances beyond the Editor's control, were unfortunately omitted from the journal:

ELAINE JORDAN, Alfred Tennyson (British and Irish Authors), Cambridge University Press, 1988, xvi + 191pp. ISBN 0 521 30822 4 (cloth), 0 521 31337 6 (paper), £25.00 (cloth), £7.95 (paper).


RUTH PITMAN, ed., Edward Lear's Tennyson. Carcanet, 1988, 275pp, illus. ISBN 0 85635 738 3 (paper); ISBN 0 85635 786 3 (cloth), £25.00 (cloth); £14.95 (paper).


MARION SHAW, Alfred Lord Tennyson (Feminist Readings). Harvester Wheatsheaf, 1988, xv + 173pp. ISBN 0 7108 0962 X (cloth); 0 7108 1077 6 (paper). £20.00 (cloth); £7.95 (paper).


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SLEAFORD GROUP

The Sleaford group had the pleasure of a visit from Brenda Webster to talk about Wills and what have you, to end our 1989 season.

We opened the new season on a similarly high note with a visit from Brian Simmons telling us of the Roman sites in the locality.

The second Hosford Memorial Lecture will be given by Dr Simon Pawley - details to be published. We hope to include more in our future programmes about village life.

Are there any village history experts around?

J B Godwin - Chairman Sleaford Group 1989-90.

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NOTES & QUERIES

STAMFORD TEMPERANCE SOCIETY

Mr J Jenkinson (Bradshaw House, 4 Walling's Lane, Silverdale, Lancs. LA5 OSA) writes to seek information on the records of the Stamford Temperance Society. In 1882 the President was the Rev. Thomas Hutton, Rector of Stilton. The Vice President was Charles Hinson, the Treasurer Charles Chapman and the Secretary Mr Jenkinson's grandfather, George Jenkinson. The Office was at his home, 17 Maiden Lane, Stamford. "The Committee have published during the last three years the Stamford Temperance Monthly
Visitor and have circulated gratis above 30,000 copies in Stamford and Neighbourhood" (says Jenkinson's Almanac).
Mr Jenkinson finds that there was also a Church of England Temperance Society which ran a tea and coffee tavern at Broad Street, and another at Hope Terrance "where well aird beds may be obtained at the Tavern at Moderate Prices". There was also the Independent Order of Rechabites Excelsior Tent No.35, establihed over forty years (in 1879) which offered total abstainers benefits of 10s per week sickness benefit and £10 death benefit for 1/4½d a month, or 15s and £20 for 2/1½d a month. Medical attendance was 4d a month. The secretary was J Moore of St John's Street. Mr Jenkinson will be grateful for any information about the Society and the whereabouts of any records.

LINCOLNSHIRE PERSONALITIES

Mr John Ketteringham (27 Bunkers Hill, Lincoln) writes - having found an interested publisher I am hoping to compile a book on Lincolnshire People. As well as including the well known personalities I intend to include lesser known people such as Geoff Capes, Hereward the Wake, Colley Cibber, etc. If anyone has a favourite "Yellowbelly" they think should be included please let me know.

A LINCOLNSHIRE BIBLIOGRAPHY

Another project is A HANDLIST OF LINCOLNSHIRE SOURCES which will as well as including printed books, contain unpublished theses and dissertations. If anyone has any knowledge of the latter or other unpublished papers which are so easily overlooked I would be pleased to hear from them.

AN IDENTITY REVEALED

In consequence of my item, '...but who was Mrs Gutch?' (SLHA Newsletter No.55, January 1988, pp. 23-26), a number of readers have sent me a variety of contributions regarding this most interesting lady. The emerging picture of Mrs Gutch is of a forward-looking and pioneering lady, especially in the study of cultural tradition and language. She enjoyed a variety of interests, including architecture and literature, and gave many years of service to both education, and a number of charities, in her adopted city of York.

Whatever the cause adopted by Mrs Gutch for her attention, she would work for it and support it with exemplary determination and enthusiasm for the remainder of her life - in most cases this was for a very great number of years, since she died a nonagenarian.

The following extract, which was passed on to me by Steve Roud, the Honorary Librarian to The Folklore Society, proves no exception to this rule, and reveals to the reader not only yet another aspect of this Lincolnshire lady's work, but also discloses the identity of a pseudonymous writer whose regular contributions to Notes and Queries will not have escaped the attention of some of our members, but whose work may not previously have been recognised as having been so firmly rooted in the county of Lincolnshire:

The last survivor of the band who founded The Folk-Lore Society in 1878 passed over to the majority on 17th March, 1931, in the person of Mrs Gutch, of Holgate Lodge, York.
She was the indefatigable 'St Swithin' who figured frequently for seventy years, in the pages of Notes and Queries and from one of her notes therein came the suggestion leading to the formation of our Society, which has already passed by three years its jubilee.

I can but re-echo the closing words written by the Editor of Folk-Lore in 1931:

Adapting a saying of Chrysostom to her case, - "Her who is dead and gone, honour with remembrance, not with tears". May her bright example raise up workers to follow in her footsteps! (Folk-Lore, Vol 41, 1931, p.301)

Eileen Elder, Apple Garth, 33 Norman Close, Barton on Humber, South Humberside, DN18 5HX.

DE HAVILLAND DHC 1 CHIPMUNK AIRCRAFT

M D N Fisher (74 Manor Way, Deeping St James, Peterborough, PE6 8ST) is compiling a history of this aircraft and seeks photographs taken prior to 1973. Photographs taken with Reserve Training Schools or overseas (especially with the Rhodesian Air Training Group or by personnel acting as advisors to Commonwealth Air Forces) are of particular interest. Anyone who can help should write to Mr Fisher.

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FACES AND PLACES

THE READING CONNECTION (See Newsletter 63 p.12) Prof. Maurice Barley writes the following supplement to Ron Drury's note: "Frank Merry Stenton, son of a Southwell solicitor, went to Reading in 1897, at the age of 17. He went there to study music, but came under the influence of W M Childs, who from 1893 was lecturer in history in the Extension College, and taught young people who wished to get into the Oxford school of history. Lady Stenton described his early years at Reading in her obituary of her husband (Proceedings of the British Academy, LIV (1968)). Stenton switched to history, and while studying and composing music, went to Keble College, Oxford in 1899 to read history, with an open scholarship.

After getting a first, making his mark with distinguished Oxford historians, and writing for the Victoria County History, Child rescued him from school-mastering by finding the money in 1908 to appoint him at Reading as Research Fellow in Local History. As far as I know, this is the first time that local history was named as the subject for a research fellowship, and it makes even more significant the contribution of W M Childs to Stenton's career, and to the importance of our county in the development of local history."

Christopher Sturman writes on the same subject "Ron Drury's appreciation of W M Childs (1859-1939) omitted to record his fine reminiscences of childhood at Alvingham and North Cockerington which first appeared in The Hibbert Review and which were reprinted in The Lincolnshire Magazine Vol I No.11 (May-June 1934) and No.72 (July-August 1934) under the title Remembrance of Things Past.
LINCOLNSHIRE BELLFOUNDERS

It is always nice to know that one's pet hobbyhorse is of interest to others and I was, therefore pleased to see James Dear's note about Thomas Blackbourn in Newsletter 63. However, Blackbourn never cast bells in Lincolnshire so I cannot include it in my list of Yellowbelly bellfounders. There is one of his bells at Sutton St James which was cast in 1903 but I understand it is now cracked.

John R Ketteringham

FRANCIS BARLOW - A LINCOLNSHIRE ARTIST

Francis Barlow (1626-1702) is generally believed to have been a Lincolnshire man. The Tate Gallery has recently acquired a major oil painting by him, Monkeys and Spaniels Playing, painted in 1661. This was purchased with the generous assistance of the Friends of the Tate Gallery. Barlow is the earliest known British-born sporting painter and is, with William Dobson, one of the few acknowledged native masters of the seventeenth century. He is best known as a prolific engraver and illustrator, and his works in oil are fairly rare. The recently acquired painting is an exceptionally ambitious and swagger painting. Unlike the Collection's only other work by Barlow, a bird study, it is signed and dated 1661, and was no doubt intended for a very grand setting. At his best, Barlow has a marvellously direct and naturalistic approach to his subjects, often enlivened with considerable wit. His very personal sense of linear rhythm was to become one of the hallmarks of British sporting painting, achieving its apogee in the works of Stubbs - who also had strong Lincolnshire associations. Barlow is also Stubbs' ancestor in his uncompromising observation of animals in their natural habitat and motion, without any of the baroque overstatement of contemporaries such as Hondecote, whose work can be seen at Belton House) or Snyders.

In The Lincolnshire Historian No. 6 (Autumn 1950) F J Cooper (then Director of Lincoln Libraries, Museum and Art Gallery) published a Query about "Francis Barlow's Gate", writing that "Anything that would serve to establish that he was a native of Lincolnshire would of course be of great importance. The authorities of the Prints Department of the British Museum, for example, are very anxious for any information that would help in this way. The illustration reproduced herewith may be a helpful clue. Representations of such gates as this appear in a large number of Barlow's pictures. If it could be established that such gates are especially the work of craftsmen in Lincolnshire it would be good circumstantial evidence. Therefore I should be greatly obliged if any of your readers who have seen such gates in the County would let me know of their whereabouts. Information concerning quite new gates constructed after this model would be useful as they would almost certainly have been made after local prototypes".

As far as I know, no replies to this query were forthcoming. I have, however, checked the IGI and find that a Francis Barlow, son of John Barlow, was baptised at Castle Bytham on 21 March 1623. Could this be the artist? I have not got a copy of Edward Hodnett's book on Barlow (published in 1978) and have not therefore been able to check for the details of his life. I am indebted to the Tate Gallery for information about Barlow & his painting.

T R Leach
ANDREAS KALVOS: Christopher Sturman writes:-

(See Newsletter 63 p.12) Members interested in Kalvos might be interested to seek out an article by John E Rexine "From Lincolnshire to Zakythnos: two Greek poets in England: Andreas Kalvos and George Seferis" in the Journal of the Hellenic Diaspora VII Summer 1980, pp.51-64.

BARNABY GOOGE: Christopher Sturman informs us that The Times list of Anniversaries for 1990 included the poet Barnabe Googe, born at Alvingham in 1540. (The Dictionary of National Biography says that he was born in 1540 and died in 1594). Googe was a kinsman of William Cecil, who employed him in Ireland. (1574-1585). His "Elegies, Epitaphs and Sonnetes" published in 1563 was reprinted in 1871. He also published translations, including Hresbashius's "Four Bookes of Husbandrie" in 1577. There is an interesting note about the family in Lincolnshire Notes and Queries Vol IV p.85 by Rev. I Longley as a result of an account of the Alvingham Priory Register by R W Goulding in a previous volume. Longley wrote:

The Barnabe Goche whose name appears so prominently on the title page, that he was probably the owner, if not the translator, of the book, might be any of the following three:

1) Barnabe Googe (whose name is also spelt Goge, Gouge, Goche and Gouche) was born at Alvingham in 1540, being the son of Rob Googe, Esq., Recorder of Lincoln, by his wife Margaret daughter of Sir Walter Mantell. He first entered as an under-graduate at Christ's College, Cambridge, and then migrated to New College, Oxford, but apparently took no degree. On leaving the university he became a retainer of his cousin Wm Cecil, Lord Burghley, who in 1574 sent him over to Ireland (as an intelliegencer or letter writer) to keep him (Cecil) informed of the doings of the Earl of Essex. He remained in Ireland generally till 1585, becoming Provost Marshall of the Presidency Court of Connought. He published several works, including a translation of Regnum Papisticum by Naogeorgus (Thos Kirchmeyer). In 1585 he married Mary, daughter of Thos Darrell, of Scotney Manor House, Kent and died in 1593, leaving eight children including:-

2) Barnabey, the date of whose birth I have not been able to learn, but he graduated at Cambridge BA 1586, MA 1590, LL.D. 1604, and was Master of Magd. College from 1604-1626, when he died. It is to be noted that while the father's name was generally the same form of Googe, the son's both in the Cambridge Calendar and in the College Records is spelt Goche (as in the Alvingham Register). It is quite possible that this Barnabe had good reason to feel an interest in Alvingham Priory, apart from the fact of his father being born at Alvingham, for in 1587 Sir Christopher Wray, Lord Chief Justice of England, gave to Magdalen College the Impropricte Parsonage of Garthorpe, (which had belonged formerly to the Priory) for the maintenance of two Fellows and six Scholars, preferably from Lincolnshire, of whom Barnabe may have been one.

3) Four years after his death, in 1630, another Barnaby Googe appears at North Somercotes, as one of the appellants in Endymion Porter's enclosure case - possibly a nephew who still lived at Alvingham. Maddison's pedigree of the family of Googe of Alvingham states that Barnaby Gooche was 15 yrs and 11 mths old when his father died on 5 May 1557. He died at Alvingham
"about" 7 Feb. 1594, and was survived by his wife Mary Darell. Maddison gives as their fourth son Barnaby Gooche L.L.D., Chancellor of the Diocese of Exon; described as of the City of Exeter, 27 Nov. 1662. His will, dated 29 October 1624, was proved at Lincoln in August 1626. His wife was Elizabeth, and his will mentions his "daughter in law Pascha Parry bestowed in marriage on nephew Barnaby Gooche". She was the daughter of Henry Parry, Bishop of Worcester.

THE BELLs OF CROFT For the first time in nearly thirty years the people of Croft should soon hear their church bells. The six bells have been taken out of the tower and taken to Loughborough Bell Foundry. Five will be returned and cleaned, one will be re-cast. A restoration appeal has been launched to pay for the work and for a new steel frame for the bells. According to the Mablethorpe and Alford Standard (8.12.89) one bell was re-cast in 1788 and others have been re-cast since. North's Church Bells of the County and County of Lincoln (Leicester 1882) lists six bells - one cast by Lester and Packe of London in 1722, four cast by Henry Penn in 1776 and one dated 1877 by Mears and Stainbank, London. North recorded that a tablet in the church formerly had this inscription:

All buildings are but monuments for death
All clothes but winding sheets for my last knell
All dainties fattening for the worms beneath
All curious mussick but a passing bell
Thus death is nobly waited on, for why?
All things we have is but death's livery.

Thanks to Betty Kirkham of Hogsthorpe for the cutting from the "Standard".

RUSKINGTON CHALICE A Chalice at present on exhibition in the Treasury of Lincoln Cathedral has a rather unusual chapter in its history. Early in the 1960s Mr Thomas Lumley, whose relatives Mr and Mrs R P Burrowes lived at Dorrington Priory, noticed in the Dunluce Galleries, Beauchamp Place, London, a Chalice inscribed "The gift of William Watson to the Church of Ruskington 1662". As a result of a conversation with Mr Lumley, the owner Mr Nathan Goorwitch, contacted Mrs Burrowes, who put him in touch with the then Rector of Ruskington. Canon Beverly was able to tell Mr Goorwitch that William Watson had founded a charity at Ruskington. Mr Goorwitch having expressed a wish to restore the Chalice to Ruskington church, he handed it over to the then Bishop of Grantham (Rt Rev Anthony Otter) on All Saints Day, 1962 - the Patronal Festival of Ruskington Church (Information supplied by Miss J. Midworth, Canon A. Beverly & Canon D. Askew)

GAINSBOURGH & AMERICA Lincolnshire and its connections with the early history of America is a fascinating subject. On Saturday June 2 Jenny Vernon, Curator of Gainsborough Old Hall will give a lecture on 'The Mayflower Pilgrim Story: Gainsborough's connection with Plymouth Plantation' in Gainsborough Old Hall. An exhibition on this subject opens at the Old Hall on 26 May 1990.
THE HIGH SHERIFF OF LINCOLNSHIRE The High Sheriff of Lincolnshire for 1990–1 will be Mr Anthony James Longmore Worth, of Holbeach Burn, Spalding. He is the third member of his family to hold this ancient office. Arthur Hovenden Worth was born in 1877, the third son of Thomas Maudaut Worth of Sutton Bridge. He married in 1900 Lizzie, daughter of George Thompson of Long Sutton. They had two sons and three daughters. The elder son was killed in action in 1941. A H Worth was High Sheriff in 1940, and was Chairman of Holbeach Magistrates until he retired in 1948. He lived at Hovenden House, Fleet, a neo Georgian house built for the family in 1912 (the architect being a Lincolnshire man, John Edward Spain). The house is now a Cheshire Home. He died in 1953, having lived latterly at Lyndon Hall, Rutland. His surviving son G A Worth, was born in 1907 and married in 1935 a daughter of Air Chief Marshall Sir Arthur Longmore. Before the war he lived at Field House, Fleet. He was appointed a JP in 1939, served in the RAF during the war, and in the 1945 General Election was the Conservative candidate for the Grantham Division, but was unsuccessful. Coincidentally, his father-in-law, Sir Arthur Longmore, was the Conservative candidate for Grantham in the 1942 by-election, when the seat was won by Kendall, who held it in 1945 when Mr Worth was the candidate.

Ron Drury

RICHARD PILCHER AND JOHN SCOFHAM

Two distinguished natives of Lincolnshire have died in recent months and been the subjects of lengthy obituaries in the national press.

Dr Richard Pilcher, born at Boston in 1903, became an expert wildfowler as a boy and also developed a remarkable memory which he used in World War I in spying duties. He helped found the Pilgrim Hospital at Boston and was instrumental in the founding of the Wildfowl Trust. It was largely because of his actions that his friend Peter Scott had any birds with which to establish the Trust after World War 2; Scott had to leave his collection of wild fowl on the Wash when he was called up. Dr Pilcher, hearing that the army had moved into the area, went out in his van, rescued as many birds as possible, and looked after them. After the war he returned a number of them to Peter Scott at Slimbridge. He was a noted lepidopterist, and his collection of British Moths and Butterflies is now in the Natural History Museum.

Previous generations of his family had been doctors in Boston.

John Scofham, son of a Market Rasen builder was the B.B.C's first Controller of educational broadcasting. He was born in 1910 and died on 10 January 1990. John Cain, writing in The Guardian on 17 Jan 1990, said "his crowning achievement (was) his involvement on behalf of the BBC, in the founding and early operation of the Open University. It is no secret he had explored ideas for a College of the Air, before the Open University was proposed, thus reviving an idea of J C Stobart from 1924. He involved himself in all aspects of the planning of that great new institution, being particularly keen on the course team approach involving BBC producers alongside academics".
LINCOLNSHIRE APPLES

There is a growing interest in identifying and preserving old varieties of apples. I hope the following notes on Lincolnshire apples will be of interest to members; it would be splendid if they provoked research into this minor aspect of local history.

There is an enormous number of varieties of apple, though in modern conditions the number that can be bought from nurserymen has been much reduced, and commercial growers concentrate on a few varieties that suit the business of growing, picking, packing, preserving and marketing on a large scale. Varieties were disseminated and new ones produced in the gardens of the aristocracy, by nurserymen many of whose names are still familiar, and of course by gifts among friends and neighbours of scions for grafting. No great Lincolnshire landowner seems to have had a special interest in fruit-growing, or employed a gardener who did so; unlike for instance the Marquis of Exeter, whose gardener at Burghley produced a first-rate dessert apple named Lord Burghley. The only Lincolnshire nurseryman on the following list is Brown of Stamford, who was in business before 1674.

An unusual, but quite credible, way of disseminating an apple is revealed in the account of a Yorkshire apple called Nelson's Godlin, described in 1831. It was "first brought to notice by John Nelson, a noted Wesleyan preacher, who during his journeys in Yorkshire used to distribute grafts among his friends" (Hogg, 153). Did he ever preach in Lincolnshire?

There is an enormous literature about apples. Robert Hogg's The Fruit Manual (5th edition 1884) is the oldest comprehensive source; he described apples which he had in his Herefordshire garden, and many others which he did not possess. W V Taylor, The Apples of England (1940) contains descriptions, with many coloured plates, of apples then available. The most recent source is a remarkable compilation, National Apple Register of the United Kingdom by Muriel W G Smith (HMSO for the Min. of Ag., Fisheries and Food, 1971). It is based on the National Fruit Trials at Brogdale Farm, Faversham, Kent, set up in 1924 with the object of planting and identifying every kind of apple to be found. It is sad to report that the government has announced its wish to give up its responsibility for the Trials; representations have been made in the hope that the intentions will not be carried out, for the Farm is a unique living archive, invaluable for historical and research purposes. As an example of its work, in 1948 I sent there specimens of an apple from an orchard at Screveton, Nottinghamshire, in the hope that it would prove to be Screveton Golden Pippin, said by Hogg to have been bred in 1619 by Sir Henry Thoroton. My specimen seemed to answer to the description, and I then climbed the tree to get some grafts. The story has an anti-climax; my grafts were grown on, and years later when the tree fruited the apple proved to be Blenheim Orange. Screveton Golden Pippin and many other old apples known from print are lost. The Register gives the history of each apple in print, its origin and date, its parentage, qualities and characteristics. There are many problems of nomenclature; the better an apple, the greater the chance that it was disseminated in Britain and abroad, its name modified or a new one invented, especially by a noble grower. Names occur in every European language. The following notes are based on those sources.
Algarkirk Beauty. Small dessert apple, second early. Listed by Hogg; known 1862; not in NFT collection.

Allington Pippin. Excellent cooker, too acid for dessert. Raised 'in Lincolnshire' by Thomas Laxton, before 1884; introduced 1896 by Bunyard of Maidstone. Nine synonyms, including French and German. In NFT collection. A parent of 7 other apples.

Brown's Seedling. Late season cooker, raised before 1874 by Brown, nurseryman, of Stamford. In NFT collection.

Herring's Pippin. A very large apple, mid-season, for dessert or cooking (I have eaten one recently; it is very good), raised before 1908 "by Mr Herring of Lincoln"; introduced by Pearsons of Chilwell, Nottingham. In the NFT collection; still listed. But who was Mr Herring?

Holland Pippin. Also known as Kirkton Pippin. Medium-sized cooker, late season. Recorded 1729. Mentioned in 1948; not listed since. In NFT collection.

Lincolnshire Holland Pippin seems to be different from the previous. Large late-season cooker. Hogg described it as "a very showy but useless apple, fit only for kitchen use, and then only of second quality". It was recorded in 1812 and existed in 1946. Not in NFT collection. There was also a Lincoln Pippin, recorded 1872, as a large mid-season apple. Nothing more is known of it; not in NFT collection.

Peasgood's Nonsuch. The county's most distinguished apple, a large handsome cooker, season second-early to mid. Raised at Stamford by Mr Peasgood c.1858, from a pip sown in a garden pot by his wife. Its quality can be judged from the fact that it has 29 synonyms, including French, German and Slavonic. In NFT collection.

Stamford Pippin. There are three apples of that name, one of them according to Hogg, of first rate quality, for kitchen or dessert. Raised by Laxton of Stamford, recorded in 1838. In the NFT collection (if true). Another one was exhibited in 1888 by Pearson of Chilwell.

Stamford Pride was exhibited from Stamford in 1888.

Stamford Wonder was exhibited by W Brown of Stamford 1903; season second early. Neither is in the NFT collection.

A few other apples which did not originate in the county are known to have been grown here. Hogg wrote that Lord Lennox was much grown about Lincoln for market purposes; he said it was an excellent and pretty apple, in use up to January. It was still in existence in 1946. The Register has five apples of that name, of which ours is No.2, but it is not in the NFT collection. Taylor mentions that specimens of Galloway's Pippin grown in the gardens of Gate Burton Hall were exhibited in 1932. It was in fact a Scottish apple. Taylor also mentions Shakespeare as an old variety gathered from very old trees in Lincolnshire. He said it was yellow and sweet but "of very low value". No one else mentions it and it is not in the NFT collection.

It appears that only round Stamford were there nurserymen specialising in apples; their customers were no doubt the middle classes in the town and the neighbouring gentry. Lincolnshire people wanting to plant apples no doubt patronised Merryweathers
of Southwell and Pearsons of Chilwell, and bought from them such well-tried apples as Bramley's Seedling.

Newton Wonder and Radford Beauty. I would expect that in the north of the county Yorkshire apples and nursermen were well known.

Collecting old varieties of apple is nearly as addictive as collecting ancestors, but I hope that some members of the Society will succumb. Certainly there is here an unexplored field of local history, with people like Mr Herring to identify, nursemen to track down and their catalogues, and reports of local shows with lists of prize-winners. And of course old orchards to explore.

(Prof. M W Barley asks that any correspondence resulting from this article should be channelled through the Newsletter, please).

STURTON BY STOW 1837-1900

Living conditions for the small farmers probably varied greatly from poor mud and stud cottages and poor brick cottages to the six roomed dwellings of some tradesmen. It would appear that the brickyard on Tillbridge Lane was operating by the 1830s as John Northing purchased soughing tiles from there in 1838.

As the population expanded, more cottages would have to be built. A Victorian labourer's cottage survives in the Plough yard and its tiny two-up, two-down dimensions were typical of other rows of cottages demolished since the last war. Those who lived in such cottages describe the damp, the cramped space and the ladder used to reach the upper storey. Mice and beetles seemed omnipresent in these cottages and comparisons with modern housing are usually odious.

In a Parliamentary Paper (xxvi 1865) entitled Inquiry on the State of Dwellings of Rural Labourers a Dr Hunter, who equated the lot of the little man at that time in Sturton with the lot of the labourer, wrote of Sturton housing:

Many of the cots were very bad, and some too full; as, for instance, a married pair with five in one bedroom; in one single bed-roomed parish house were two pairs; in a double bed-roomed house were three adults with seven children.

The small farmers undoubtedly worked hard. Some had a trade or job in addition to their husbandry. For instance Edward Harrison was a blacksmith, John Northing was a weaver and John Needham was a labourer. Landlords of the three public houses in Sturton also practised husbandry.

The census returns may not always have recorded other aspects of life apart from the main one of husbandry but there are some examples. In the 1851 census both Thomas Booth and his brother William described themselves as 'landed proprietor and shoemaker'. In 1861 Robert Gibson appears as, 'grocer, joiner and wheelwright'. In 1881 Robert Booth is a 'carrier and beer house keeper occupying seven acres of land'. It's likely that some of the small farmers were Methodist local preachers as Methodism was strong in Sturton and there are several examples of little men being local preachers in the twentieth century. However, the only man to have this unpaid additional occupation recorded on the
census form was a William Huntington who was a labourer living in Sturton in 1861.

The energy of such men seems extraordinary but they still found time for their own pleasures and duties. The Chief pleasure-combined-with-duty (indeed an integral part of nineteenth century rural life), was membership of church or chapel. This gave the small farmers the ritual and theatre of their lives. The religious calendar punctuated their lives just as the agricultural seasons did. In chapel life particularly, the small farmer was able to practise his literacy and take responsibility in accounting and organisation. If he was inclined to preach, and many were, he was given an audience. The church or chapel gave him his straight forward code of ethics so that if he transgressed he knew what to hide or confess. The Anglican catechism taught him 'to learn and labour truly to get my own living, and to do my duty in that state of life unto which it shall please God to call me'.

Church and chapel and frequent feasts and at the end of the nineteenth century (and later) school children were given a holiday to celebrate the feasts, garden parties, sports' days, anniversaries and outings. There were camp meetings and Missions too. Sturton School log book is full of examples of the absence of half the school to go to a feast.

In the 1850s, and beyond, Adult School, or what we would now call adult literacy classes, were established by the rector. They were usually taught by the schoolmaster or curate. In the autumn of 1884 it appeared that adults in Stow were shy to present themselves. The schoolmaster, Edmund Garner, wrote to the rector, 'It seems to me that they don't mean to avail themselves of the opportunity of improving themselves'. (Letter in Stow Charity chest). The class held in Sturton was more successful however.

Lectures on subjects from temperance to theology were a feature of the Victorian era when self-improvement was flourishing. Bransby had an Improvement Society and towards the end of the century members of a class in Sturton were thrilled by a lecture on astronomy. Frederick Gelder wrote in his unpublished paper, History of Sturton that Mr Usher would take everyone outside to look at the stars and the planets - 'the Pole Star, Charley's Wain, Orion's Belt'.

Sport was not neglected. As early as 1844 Sturton was playing football matches against other villages. In May of that year Sturton boys had a 'severe contest' against the village of Beckhamingham. The Sturton boys won 'to the chagrin of their opponents'. The score was not reported. In 1855 the Lincolnshire Times (17th April, 1855) reported that, "The older inhabitants (of Sturton and Stow) spoke with respect of one pastor, who certainly took an interest in their affairs which was somewhat unusual, for he joined in their sports on the Sabbath, and the football was reverently placed at the church door before the service ended every morning, that he might have the first kick". Cricket came later in the century but was taken up with enthusiasm.

Agricultural demonstrations provided diversions and knowledge of modern machinery to the farmers. Demonstrators and lecturers travelled the country telling of new marvels. Few, if any, of
the little men would be able to afford machinery in the first half of the nineteenth century but later there was huge interest in the new machines.

Drinking was a pleasure for many youths and men in spite of the temperance movement which was espoused with enthusiasm by the Primitive Methodists and by some Wesleyan Methodists in the 1830s and 1840s. Only later did the Wesleyan Methodists fully support this movement.

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ASPECTS OF CARRE'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL, SLEAFORD 
DURING THE COMMONWEALTH

Douglas Hoare

The oldest known records of the school are contained in the Feoffees'/Trustees' Minute Book (the "Old Minute Book") covering the period 1 September, 1604, to 19 December, 1877. Its earliest entry is a copy of the indenture concerning the use of the revenues from "certain Landes in Gedney" belonging to Robert Carre (of Aswarby) "for the maintenance of a Schole and Relief of the Poore" in Sleaford. The last entry is the minutes of the annual meeting of the "Trustees of Mr Robert Carre's Charity", held in the school room (Northgate). Apart from the publishing of the text of the 1504 indenture and of the "Rules and Orders for the Government and Discipline" of the school of June, 1835, the only known extensive studies of the Old Minute Book (the O.M.B.) seem to have been by: i) Mr H A Shute, headmaster, 1932-1944 - a partial transcription; ii) the late Mr Charles Ellis, erstwhile head of History, in Carre's Grammar School, Sleaford, 1904-1954.

During the Civil War, the O.M.B. has a familiar sounding entry; "From 1644 untill May 1646 ye times were so confus'd in respect of ye warre that neither rents could be receiv'd nor accounts taken up yet ye money yt (that) could be got was disposed of as appeares by bills on ye file". The next set of accounts after this entry is dated March, 1646, and was presented by Henry Callow who was described in his will of 13 May, 1657, as a mercer of New Sleaford, was also a constable of the town, 1652-3, and was assessed on 7 April, 1654, at £5.8s. for "the rePAYre of the church of new Sleaford". His first mention in the O.M.B. is in an indenture of 13 May, 1630, concerning the "certain Landes at Gedney" and, for lack of evidence to the contrary, it can be assumed that he remained a feoffee until his death.

There is another gap in the accounts between 1646 and 1651, when Lancelot Sleightholme began to present them. Lancelot Sleightholme, yeoman and tanner, was the son of John Sleightholme and brother of Joseph, Katherine and Susan, and was churchwarden at Sleaford in 1655-6 and 1661-2. He was buried on 14 March, 1670.

A further identifiable feoffee was the Revd. George Boheme, vicar of Sleaford, 1556-1660. [See SLHA Newsletter 60, pp.28-9].

The other feoffees signing during the period 1651-1660 were: i) Robert Coulson, "yeoman of New Sleaford"; he signed the indenture of 13 May, 1630, the feoffee's accounts first on 25 March, 1646, and is last referred to as a feoffee on 13 January, 1668; he signed on 6 Nov. 1655, 6 Nov. 1657, 6 Nov. 1658, in 1659 and on 20 March, 1660; ii) Richard Parke, "yeoman of New Sleaford", "butcher" and churchwarden in 1667-8; he signed on the same dates
as Robert Coulson; iii) William Wilson, "yeoman", "parish register" 1655-9, buried on 17 Feb. 1659; he signed on 6 Nov. 1655 and 6 Nov. 1657, only.

The master of the school throughout the Commonwealth and beyond (1646-1663) was the Revd. Thomas Gibson, M.A. Yerburgh/Creasey (page 118) says that Gibson "was born at Keswick, Cumberland, and educated at Queen's College, Oxford, and after being preferred to the Free School of Carlisle, and thence to that of Newcastle, was promoted by the Bishop of Carlisle, to the vicarage of Horncastle in the year 1634. This person exposed himself to the fury of the Parliamentarians, and after being imprisoned at Hull, Lincoln and in Tattershall castle for a considerable time, and ejected from his living, was chosen master of the Free School at Newark in the year 1644, from whence, two years afterwards, he removed to the School at this place, being presented by Lady Elizabeth Carr, where he resided unto the restoration, and then, at the head of several hundreds of his friends, was restored to his Vicarage, in which he continued till his death, A.D. 1678, in the eighty-fourth year of his age". Gibson signs the accounts as "Tho. Gibson Scholemaster" on 25 May, 1646, and in 1659, and as "Master of ye Schole" on 6 Nov. 1655, 6 Nov. 1657, and on 28 March 1660. He received an annual stipend of £20, plus ten shillings to cover the rent of his house.

Between about 1653 and about 1794, the school was on the east side of what later became Carre Street, between Eastgate and the river, on a site it shared with Carre's Hospital (the present Eastgate bedehouses), founded in 1636. The schoolmaster, William Northen-(1622-9) is recorded in 1627 as occupying a house in Eastgate, but no evidence is known to suggest whether it was either close to the school or even part of the school itself.

The amounts of money passing through the feoffees' hands during the Commonwealth and deriving from the rents received from the Gedney lands were: £56.8s.; £105.11s.9d.; £113; £56; £103.12s.3d. and £55.10s.1d., there remaining a balance in "his" (i.e. Lancelot Sleightholme's) hands on 28 March, 1660, of £61.13s.5d.

The general impression gleaned from the O.M.B. is that the feoffees and the school tried to function as best they could, despite the "times' being so confus'd in respect of ye warre", and despite the changes of regime over a decade and a half.

AN EIGHTEENTH CENTURY ACCOUNT OF THE LINCOLNSHIRE FENS

Thomas Pennant

Society member Mr T E Barnes (9 Folkingham Road, Billingborough, Sleaford, NG34 ON1) found the following account of the fens in The Annual Register (Vol. 15) 1772. It was written by Thomas Pennant (1726-1798) the traveller and naturalist. He was a correspondent of Linnaeus, travelled extensively, met Voltaire, and wrote many accounts of his tours and books on natural history. Gilbert White published his 'Selborne' in the form of letters to Pennant and Daines Barrington. A long account of Pennant and his publications is to be found in the Dictionary of National Biography. /Contd.
The prospect from the eminence on which stands Lincoln Cathedral and the ruins of its Castle, is very extensive, but very barren of objects, a vast flat as far as the eye can reach, consisting of plains, not the most fertile, or of Fens and Moors. The Fens, naked as they now appear, were once well wooded; oaks have been found buried in them, which were sixteen yards long and five in circumference; fir trees from thirty to thirty five yards long and a foot to eighteen inches square. These trees had not the mark of an axe, but appeared as if burnt down by fire applied to their lower parts. Acorns and nuts have also been found in great quantities in the same places. The Moors are far less extensive than they were, many being drained, and will soon become the best land in the country. But still much remains to be done; the Fens near REVESBY ABBEY, eight miles beyond HORNCASTLE, are of vast extent; but serve for little other purpose than rearing great numbers of geese, which are the wealth of the Fenmen. During the breeding season these birds are lodged in the same houses as the inhabitants, and even in their very bed-chambers. In every apartment are three rows of coarse wicker pens, placed one above the other; each bird has its separate lodge divided from the other, which it keeps possession of during the time of sitting. A person attends the flock, and twice a day drives the whole to water, then brings them back to their habitations, helping those that live in the upper stories to their nests, without ever misplacing a single bird.

The geese are plucked five times a year. The first plucking is at Lady-day, for feathers and quills, four times more for feathers between that and Michaelmas. The old geese submit quietly to the operation, but the young ones are very noisy and unruly. I once saw this performed, and observed that goslings of six weeks old were not spared, for their tails were plucked, as I was told, to habituate them early to what they were to come to. If the season proves cold, numbers of geese die by this barbarous custom.

Vast numbers are driven annually to LONDON to supply the markets; among them, all the super-annuated geese and ganders (called "cagmags"), which serve to fatigue the jaws of the good citizens who are unfortunate to meet with them.

The Fen, called the WEST FEN, is the place where the ruffs and reeves resort to in the greatest numbers, and many other sorts of water-fowl, which do not require the shelter of reeds or rushes, migrate here to breed; for this fen is very bare, having been imperfectly drained by narrow canals, which intersect it for great numbers of miles. These the inhabitants navigate, in the most diminutive shallow boats; they are, in fact, the roads of the country.

The EAST FEN is quite in a state of nature, and gives a specimen of the country before the introduction of drainage. It is a vast tract of morass, inter-mixed with numbers of lakes, from half a mile to two or three miles in circuit, communicating with each other by narrow reedy straights; they are very shallow, none above four or five feet in depth, but abound with fish, such as pike, perch, ruff, bream, tench, rud, dace, roach, burbolt, sticklebacks and eels. The fen is covered with reeds, the harvest
of the neighbouring inhabitants, who may have annually, or may prove a much better measure than aawal, and not only so, but many useful good measures are covered by them. Species (presumably similar species) which during winter resort in numbers to roost in the meads, are very destructive, by breaking down in forage, and the vast numbers that perch on them. The people therefore very diligent in their attempts to drive them away, and are at great expense in powder to free themselves from these untoward guests. I have seen a stack of reeds harvested and stacked within two or three hundred pounds, which was the property of a single farmer.

The birds which inhabit the reeds are very numerous; I never met with a finer field for the zoologists to range in. Besides the common wild duck, wild geese, garganey, pheasants, teal and eiders breed here. I have seen on the East Fen a small flock of the tufted ducks, but they seemed to make it only a halting place. The pea-wit, gulls and black terns abound, the last, in vast flocks, almost casserone with their clamours. A few of the great terns, or tickets, are seen among them. I have seen several of the great-crested grebe on the East Fen, called there "guassa"; and met with one of their floating nests, as eggs in it. The lesser-crested grebe, the black and duaky grebe, and the little grebe, are also inhabitants of the fens; together with coots, water-hens, spotted water-hens, water-tails, tufted redshanks, lapwings - or wiles, red-breasted godwits, and whimbrels. The godwits breed near Washenbrough. The whimbrel may appear far and wide, and then suit the country. Opposite to FOSS-DYKE WASH, during summer are great numbers of avocettas, called there "Yelpers," from their cry: they have the sportman's head like lapwings, and fly with their legs and necks extended.

Knots are taken in nets along the shore near FOSS-DYKE in great numbers during the winter, but they disappear in the spring. The short-eared owl visits the neighbourhood of WASHENBROUGH, and with woodcocks, and probably performs its migrations along with those birds, for it is observed to suit the country at the same time. I have also received specimens of them from DANISH DOMINIONS, one of the retreats of the woodcock. This bird is not observed in this country to perch on trees, but conceals itself in long old grass; it is disturbed, takes a short flight, lights again and keeps staring about, during which time its horns are very visible. The farmers are very pleased with the arrival of this bird, as they clear the fields of mice, and will even fly in search of prey during the day, provided the weather is cloudy and misty.

But the greatest curiosity of these parts, is the vast heronry at CRESSY HILL, six miles from SPALDING. The herons resort there in February to repair their nests, settle there in spring to breed, and quit the place during winter. They are numerous as rocks, and their nests crowded together, so myself and the company that was with me, counted not fewer than eighty in one tree. I have had the opportunity of detecting my own mistake, and most of other ornithologists, in making too species of herons, for I found that the terebrata heron only the male of the other. It makes a most beautiful appearance with his snaky neck and long green streaking in the wind... The families who owned this place, used at the same name as their thistles, "HERON", which seems to be the original term in enonment to pressawing them.
In the time of MICHAEL DRAYTON:

"Here stalk'd the stately crane, as though he marched in war"

But at present this bird is quite unknown in our island, but every other species enumerated by that observant poet still are found in this fenny tract, or its neighbourhood.

SPALDING, in form, neatness and situation resembles very much a Dutch town; the river WELLAND passes through one of its streets, a canal is cut through another, and trees are planted on each side. The church is a handsome structure, the steeple a spire. The churches in general, throughout this low tract, are very handsome, all are built of stone, which must have been brought from places very remote, along temporary canals, for in many instances the quarries lie at least 20 miles distant. But these edifices were built in zealous ages, when the benedictions of maledictions of the church made people conquer every difficulty that obstruct their pious foundations. The ABBEY OF CROWLAND seated in the midst of a shaking fen, is a curious monument or the zeal of the times it was erected in, as also the beautiful tower of BOSTON church, visible from all parts, is a magnificent specimen of a fine Gothic taste.

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A LETTER FROM A MEMBER

To the Editor, for publication please cc Chairman, for executive Chairman of FH Section

7 Ravenscourt Road, Canterbury, Kent
16-1-90

Dear Sir,
The current situation regarding FH is bewildering to say the least. There are a number of points which I make and some which need answers.

The Chairman's red letter - reported that the Executive rejected differential subscriptions as being divisive. Yet what can be more divisive than TWO organisations. Surely differential subscriptions would have kept the SLHA as a UNITED SINGLE organisation.

It seems to me that in the handling of this dispute, the officers and executive have not had the best interests of the society at heart. However, be that as it may, we the members now need to decide the fate of FH either by continuation within the SLHA or the new FH society, WITHOUT knowing how each is proposing to serve its prospective members!

Also what happens to publications in the pipeline? Census indexes? Transcribing the 1881 census? etc. If we are to make an informed answer to the question paper, then we need information first please.

Finally although I received very nice replies in answer to my previous letter, they did not address the question of proxy votes, or referenda, especially as such important problems as this ought to be decided by the majority of members rather than I suspect the few who lived near and attended the EGM. Democratic organisations, IF that is what the SLHA is, (see the chairmans yellow letter), ought to have such inbuilt voting mechanisms.

Yours faithfully, - A J D Cooke
Richard Gurnham's Georgian Spilsby was mentioned briefly in the last Newsletter. The book will doubtless be thoroughly reviewed elsewhere; in the meantime some serious errors of fact in this book should be pointed out lest they mislead readers and future students of local history. It is regrettable that these errors were not corrected when the book was in draft form, as they are all caused by a misreading of, or ignorance of, evidence readily available in printed form.

The errors about the Willoughby de Eresby family and its estates will annoy anyone familiar with the well-known history of this great Lincolnshire family, and could have been avoided by a cursory glance at a book on the peerage, of which there is no shortage. On page 6 we are told that "The Manor court of the Earls of Ancaster would seem to have been but rarely called from the 1690s" and on p. 10 we have "surveyed in 1771 (as part of a general survey of the Ancaster estates in Lincolnshire)". On page 11 there is reference to a "general survey of the Earl of Ancaster's properties" and on page 13 "the Earl of Ancaster's agent".

The truth is that throughout the Georgian period, and for most of the Victorian, there was no Earl of Ancaster. The Earldom was created in 1692 and references to "the Ancaster family" would be incorrect even after that date - Willoughby or Heathcote Drummond Willoughby, depending on the date of reference, would be more easily understood.

The most wildly inaccurate error appears to be on page 6 where it is said that "At the beginning of our period (c.1710-1720) the lord of the manor ... entrusting his interests largely to the safe keeping of his lawyer, Robert Carr Brackenbury of Skendleby, who was himself a squire of considerable wealth and influence in the district". Robert Carr Brackenbury was not born until 1752 and died in 1818; he was never a lawyer, and never lived at Skendleby. He lived at Raithby. The lawyer at the time referred to was Carr Brackenbury, his grandfather. Reference to Burke's Landed Gentry, Charles Brackenbury's The Brackenbury of Lincolnshire published by this Society in 1983 or The Lincolnshire Historian Vol. 2 No. 11(1964), would have saved the author from such garbled information.

Alas, poor Robert Carr Brackenbury is misrepresented again on page 32 in an account of the Methodist activity in Spilsby. "The chapel ... was completed in 1803 and Brackenbury was to be the first Superintendent Minister, a position he held until his death in August 1818". Brackenbury was not a minister of any kind, for he was never ordained. He was listed with the preachers at Spilsby Circuit for some years as Supernumerary - rather a different office from that given him by Dr. Gurnham.

The book also follows the sloppy modern habit of referring to "Revd. Alexander" and "Rev. Cotton Smith". If the clergyman's Christian name is unknown, there is nothing wrong with Mr. Alexander or the Rev. Mr. Alexander - and in the case of Cotton Smith his initials appear on the title page of the book which is listed in the bibliography!
The misuse of H. Cotton Smith's rather odd book on Spilsby has led to another serious error on page 7 where we are told that Gervase Holles visited Spilsby in 1739. This must have been a somewhat supernatural visit, as Holles, born in 1607, died in 1674. What Cotton Smith said was that the description 'is taken from The Topographer 1739, which was copied from Gervase Holles manuscript'. As long ago as 1910 Lincoln Record Society's first volume gave information on Gervase Holles and his notes, and other books published since, if consulted, would have made it obvious that such a visit was impossible. By careless reading, the author has given information which is a century out of date.

Microfilm and word processors may seem to have little connection with the riches of the manuscripts in the library of an ancient cathedral, but they have made possible a notable work by Dr. Rodney Thomson, Reader in Medieval History at the University of Tasmania - Catalogue of the Manuscripts of Lincoln Cathedral Chapter Library (Published on behalf of the Dean and Chapter of Lincoln by D S Brewer, £95). It describes MSS in the library, about half of which were in the cathedral's medieval library, and others which came there before the late seventeenth century, many being the gift of Dean Michael Honeywood (1660-81). There is a history of the library and a wealth of illustrations. The book was launched at a Reception in the Chapter House on 20 January.

Modern technology has also been much involved in a book which will prove to be of great value to all Lincolnshire historians, especially those interested in any aspect of the City of Lincoln and its inhabitants. This is A Bibliography of Printed Items Relating to the City of Lincoln. Compiled by D Mary Short. It has been published by Lincoln Record Society and was commissioned by the Francis Hill Memorial Trust as a tribute to the work of the late Sir Francis Hill. It is a worthy memorial of a great historian who was much involved with this and other societies in the county. Members will be pleased to know that his Medieval Lincoln is shortly to reappear as a paper back with an introduction by our President, Dr. Dorothy Owen.

Royal Arms in Lincolnshire Churches by Jennifer S Alexander and Geoffrey F Bryant has recently been published by Barton on Humber WEA at £3.00. This is a well illustrated, carefully researched guide to the arms which are to be found in one hundred and eleven of the churches in Lincolnshire.

T R Leach

CHRISTOPHER RICKS, Tennyson. Macmillan, 2nd edition, 1989, x + 390pp. ISBN 0 333 48654 (cloth); 0 333 48655 2 (paper), £35.00 (cloth); £9.99 (paper). Christopher Ricks' fine introduction to Tennyson first appeared in 1972 and has been out of print for a considerable time; its reappearance in a revised form is to be welcomed. In the intervening years there have been important contributions to Tennyson scholarship, reflected in the revisions, including R B Martin's biography Tennyson. The Unquiet Heart of 1981, Lang and Shannon's edition of the letters (the third and final volume is due to be published by O.U.P. in March) and Ricks' magisterial three-volume
edition of The Poems of Tennyson in 1987. Although Martin discussed Tennyson's poetry, his analyses are perhaps the weakest point in an otherwise fine study. Ricks' strength lies in his comments and observations on the poetry - though the life is far from neglected. I found Ricks' Tennyson a most stimulating book when embarking on my Tennysonian research a decade or so ago, and I am certain a new group of readers will find the revised edition equally rewarding and come to relish both the rigour of the analysis and the affection for the man.

Christopher Sturman


This is a valuable publication for any member whether a serious researcher or simply interested in our heritage. The services offered by the Public Record Office and the range, value and fascination of the records are described and the book includes very useful location maps.

The book starts with a history of each of the buildings and then goes on to describe the type of record which is available. Perhaps one of the most useful chapters is headed "Research". I expect I'm not the only member who has to pluck up considerable courage before visiting an unfamiliar archive but this chapter sets out the procedure to be followed very clearly.

There are chapters on "Preservation" "Exhibitions" and then the Records themselves are described under eight headings.

A most useful list of all the classifications and where they are located is included as well as Information leaflets available. There is even a list of major collections of documents stored elsewhere.

The book is lavishly illustrated with very good quality illustrations and all this for £3.50! I highly recommend it.

John R Ketteringham

Batsford Books publish many books on archaeology and local history, including English Place Names by Kenneth Cameron (£9.95)
Local History: A Handbook for Beginners by Philip Riden (£9.95)
Record Sources for Local History by Philip Riden (£9.95)
Maps for Local History by Paul Hinde (£12.95)
Maps and Plans for the Local Historian and Collector by David Smith (£19.95)
Photographs & Local History by George Oliver (£14.95)
Church and Parish A guide for Local Historians by J H Bettey (£10.95)
LINCOLNSHIRE PLACES - SOURCE MATERIAL

[See Newsletter No.52 p.32. We are indebted to Miss E Nannestad Local History Librarian, Central Reference Library, Lincoln for this material]

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HALL, J G Notices of Lincolnshire.......Hull Eastern Morning News, 1890
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ROSS MSS Vol. IV Walshcroft

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Lincolnshire C.C. Recreational Services, 1983
pp. 24-27 (Enclosure)

STOVIN, Cornelius - Journals of a Methodist farmer 1871-1875;
ed. Jean Stovin. Croom Helm, 1982

Rev. C Henry Evison - A short history of S S Mary and Gabriel
Binbrook 1969.

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A MARKET RASEN EMIGRANT

FROM: THE SUN (Pub'd London) Tuesday Feb 3 1807, p4, col 1

'COUNTRY NEWS - STAMFORD, Jan 30: On Tuesday died aged 68, Mr
LILLY, Sub-Librarian at the Subscription Room in this town and
brother to MR LILLY, Hosier. Few men have known more of the
troubles and vicissitudes of life. He was a native of MARKET
RAISING (sic) in this Co but early in life embarked for America.
In an excursion up the country he and his companions were seized
by a party of unsubdued negroes, the subject of this article was
for a long time held, being repeatedly transferred from one
savage chieftain to another, at the price of a few skins of
wild beasts. Having endured innumerable hardships, he at length
effected his escape and after some time as a Schoolmaster in
America, he returned in indigence to his native country, and was
indebted for a moderate subsistence of the situation he was
charitably put into the Public Library.'

(Mrs T Williams, 87 Pasture Road, N Wembley, Middx HAO 3JW)
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