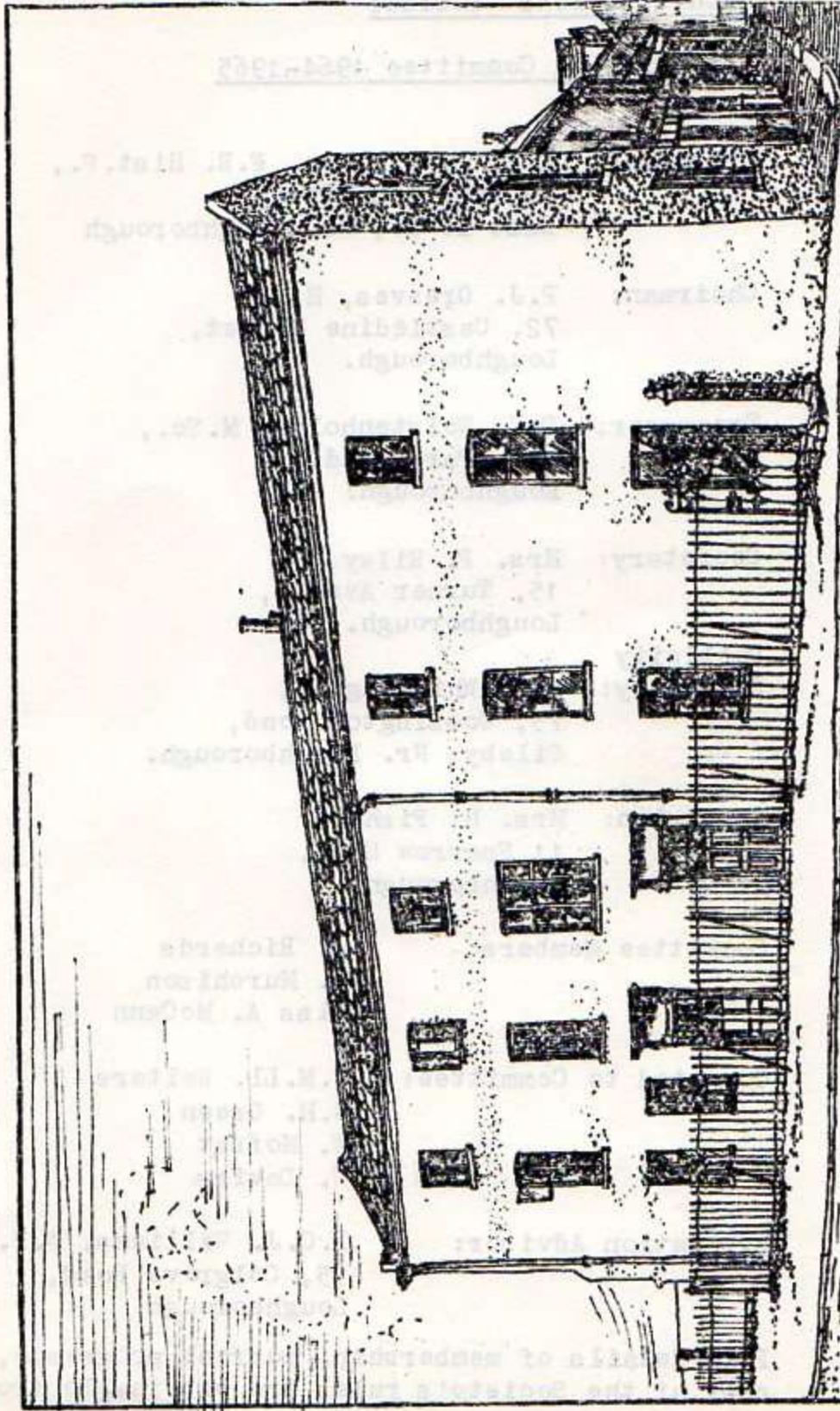


J. Harrison

The
BULLETIN
of the
**LOUGHBOROUGH & DISTRICT
ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY**



No. 7
Autumn 1964



Brnp. C. O. Williams, /64

The house reputed to have once been the property of Thomas Burton merchant of the Staple of Calais (died 1496). This sketch is based on old photographs and depicts the building about 1936 on the corner of Church Gate (sheet in shadow on the right) and its main facade on the newly made Lewington Street just after it had ceased to be a double dwelling for the Schoolmaster and Cavetley of the Church Gate School (demolished in the making of Lewington Street). The ground floor remnants of this house were demolished in April 1964.

THE LOUGHBOROUGH AND DISTRICT
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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Loughborough

Full details of membership, current programme, and a copy of the Society's rules are obtainable from the Secretary.

THE BULLETIN

of the

LOUGHBOROUGH AND DISTRICT ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

No.6. - Autumn 1964

EDITORIAL

The contents of the present issue will make clear to every reader the need for a local archaeological society and its value for the preservation of the history of Loughborough and district. Once again a building of great age and of historical and archaeological interest has come to light and, but for the work of a small group of members under the direction of our indefatigable Excavations Adviser, Mr. Brian Williams, would have disappeared without record. Many will remember the wartime air-raid shelter at the corner of Church Gate and Lemington Street. Examination on the eve of its demolition - one might almost say during the process of demolition - showed it to be part of a thirteenth century house, contemporary with and bearing a certain family likeness to the Old Rectory. Although no scrap of it now remains, the first article in this issue of our Bulletin preserves some record of it.

Another historic local building being currently demolished is Garendon Hall. Though the latest building on the site was of no great age or interest, it contained much re-used older material and was on the site of Garendon Abbey. Demolition has made possible excavation of the Abbey site. A number of our members have been busy with this and we look forward to a report in due course. A preliminary reference will be found in our second article.

It is often difficult to assemble at short notice sufficient members for these emergency "digs". Mr. B.J.C. Williams would be glad to have the names of all members

willing to lend a hand when such occasions arise. No particular experience is needed as they will be working under expert guidance and may learn much in the process.

Similarly Mr. G.H. Green (33, Queen's Road, Loughboro') will be grateful for early information of demolitions in the area so that inspection and recording can be undertaken.

There are ways in which all members can help.

H.F.B.

CONTENTS OF THIS ISSUE

	Page:
Was this Thomas Burton's House ? by B.C.J. Williams	4
Leicester and Leicestershire Historic Churches Preservation Trust	14
Demolitions (Loughborough and District) 1963-64 by G.H. Green	15
Brief Notes on Three Notable Local Houses by G.H. Green	25
Finds at Upper Broughton Cross Roads, Fosse Way	33
Early Loughborough Documents by G.H. Green	34
Book Reviews	41
Roman Site on M.1 Motorway between Oakley and Piper Woods	49
Garendon by B.C.J. Williams	51
The Second Inscribed Tablet from the Roman Site at Red Hill, Ratcliffe on Soar, Nottinghamshire by B.C.J. Williams	53
The Society's Activities	56

WAS THIS THOMAS BURTON'S HOUSE?

An Emergency Investigation of a Medieval Building demolished in April 1964 on the corner of Church Gate and Lemyngton Street, Loughborough.

Introduction

It would be difficult for anyone to imagine the late miserable looking single storey air-raid shelter harbouring unwanted electrical lumber and rubbish on the corner of Church Gate and Lemyngton Street as ever having been a medieval building such as could be afforded only by the wealthy; fit possibly for a nobleman or a merchant on the grand scale. Old stonework had long been noticed peeping beneath stucco on portions of the building abutting to to the now also demolished Brain's Pork Butcher's Shop in Church Gate. The fact that it did form a party wall with the shop prevented investigation while the shop was in use. It was also known that this air-raid shelter had once been a Schoolmaster's house and repute had it that it once belonged to one Thomas Burton a rich merchant of the Staple of Calais who died in 1496. Little more was known and outwardly nothing other than a hint of old stonework mentioned above indicated anything older than 18th-century and far removed from Thomas Burton's time.

Toward the end of March 1964, Mr. Brain, the butcher, kindly loaned a key for investigation on moving his business with demolition pending. Although the shop's roof-beams appeared old it seemed to date mostly from the 18th century but using a much older stone wall of the dilapidated schoolhouse-cum-air-raid shelter as a party wall at the Lemyngton street end. Further investigation was carried out by climbing on the air-raid-shelter roof and stripping the external stucco from this gable-end wall. This revealed the remains of a 13th century type fireplace backed by a stone buttress and also a cusped window blocked with stone rubble of similar date.

It became obvious that the air-raid shelter incorporated the remains of a medieval structure and what was worse due to be demolished in a matter of days. Mr. Bates, the Borough Surveyor, kindly gave permission for investigation to continue inside the air-raid shelter. In the days that followed

despite the risk from collapse of old beams still in situ under the concrete roof, woodworm, dry rot, darkness and slimy walls, not to mention bottles of discarded acid, members measured and stripped plaster to try and obtain an accurate plan. In this we were largely successful though one vital feature, that of a possible medieval staircase was only witnessed by one fortunately present member, Mrs. Fisher, when that part of the building was being demolished. An architectural report of the discoveries is given later in this text. It is regretted that no time existed for making elevation drawings, except for details here published, but a fairly extensive photo record has been made. The 13th century type 1st floor window and the lintel of a ground floor window were removed piecemeal from the building, the stones being numbered for reconstruction later. Their removal to Mr. & Mrs. Fisher's premises nearby at the Manor House (Plumber's Shop) was only made possible by Abel Brothans, the Hoton contractors, who demolished the property giving us the services of a tractor-scoop. By the end of the second week in April the building and its adjacent neighbour, the butchers shop, had been swept away.

Historical References, Etc.

While practical investigations were in progress work also began on trying to trace the history of the building. A great deal of record tracing has yet to be done, little of which may bear fruit. Old documents are notorious for their inadequate references to buildings. Little is gleaned from such remarks as "the house" or "his property in Loughborough is left to-".

Various wills and terriers have yet to be sought but below are recorded investigations made in conjunction with this report. The building in question is tied up with the development of the schools and education in Loughborough. From its architectural date it certainly existed at the time of Thomas Burton the merchant of the Staple of Calais who died in 1496 leaving a legacy from which the first known schools in Loughborough started and associating later with the Grammar School. In his will in which he leaves

very extensive property in the area mention is made of much in Loughborough but no specific reference to any particular building or house is given. Nicholls in his County History of Leicester compiled in the second half of the 18th century makes the first detailed reference to the building yet known to us and also gives the tradition of it being once the property of Thomas Burton. This tradition has to bridge a gap of 250 years at least and although possible should be viewed with caution. His observations are as follows:

"Towards the upper end of The Church-Gate, on the right hand (going up the street) stands a very ancient stone building, for many years known by the name of the Old Gaol, which in 1753 was repaired, stuccoed over, and beautified, and was then appropriated to the use of the high-schoolmaster, for the reception of his boarders. Before the said alteration notwithstanding it had been inhabited from time to time by various persons, and as some say, by Mr. Thomas Burton, the great benefactor to the town----from the thickness of its walls, the particular form of the stone door cases, its windows crossed with iron bars, a deep dark cell in one corner of the house resembling a dungeon, and other dismal marks of durance, it hath always worn the appearance of a prison, but at what period of time it really was such, is not at this day known."

The holes in the windows into which the iron bars ran, as mentioned above, were found, but investigation failed to determine the "deep dark cell", but it is possible it may still exist. If so, it may more probably have been a medieval storage or wine cellar than a dungeon as rumour held it to be in Nicholl's time. A modern reflection is that during the work on the building an unknown elderly gentleman approached one member, Mr. Davis, and said there was a penance cell within. (Any hint, I wonder at a place with which to threaten misbehaving scholars in the 18th or 19th century?).

From 1753 the building continued in use as a dwelling for the high schoolmaster, the school itself then standing

in the east angle of the churchyard. One tenant appears to have been a Thomas Stevenson who is recorded as master of the Free School. In 1813 the town inhabitants complained of his irregular attendance and that of late he had given up attending before breakfast.

By 1825 the School had sub-divided into four known as the Free Grammar School, the second or High School, the Lower Free School and the Girls' Free School.

In 1825 the school buildings in the churchyard were demolished for extra burial space and new schools erected in the Church Gate, (school buildings also existed in Rectory Place), out of funds of the Burton Charity for boys and girls. These buildings (see plan) ranged around three sides of a playground with its open end on the Church Gate, the main school building straddling across the middle of the present Lemyngton Street. The children were then educated on the Bell and Lancastrian System giving rise to the name Lancastrian School.

In 1844 the Grammar School section of the school group ceased to exist and remained defunct for eight years until the present premises were erected in 1850 off the Leicester Road. In 1858 the Church Gate Lancastrian Group were improved and enlarged.

On 1st October 1892 the governors of the Thomas Burton Charity transferred their Church Gate Schools (including the schoolmaster's house) to the Loughborough School Board. The house continued to be the residence of the schoolmasters for the Church Gate Schools and also a caretaker. If the picture of the house is studied it will be seen that there are two doors. The left side of the house having a kitchen at the rear was for the caretaker, the right or Church Gate end for the schoolmaster. The date of the division of the building into two houses is uncertain but the brick internal dividing wall and external door styles would hint at c.1858 when the Church Gate Schools were enlarged and improved.

The house remained in use as the schoolmaster's house until about 1934, the last schoolmaster being Mr.

J.H.W. Matthews, when the Church Gate Schools were pulled down and the Limehurst Secondary School for Boys and Girls (now Girls only) were erected off Bridge Street. Two large dedication stones that once rested over the main entrance to the Church Gate School now stand in the grounds of Limehurst School. They read as follows:-

Schools Founded and Endowed
by Thomas Burton Merchant

AD. 1495

and remodelled under a scheme of
The High Court of Chancery

AD. 1850

This building erected by the order of the
Feoffees out of the funds of the Charity.

William Middleton, Eq.^{RE} Bridge Master

AD. 1825

was enlarged by Voluntary Contributions
aided by a grant from the Privy Council

AD. 1858

The second stone

The freehold of these buildings, with
The Playground and adjacent residences
was presented, & the schools transferred, by
The Governors of Thomas Burton's Charity to
The Loughborough School Board, on the
1st Oct^R., 1892.

William Moss Mayor

Hussey Packe, Chairman of Governors.

Benjamin Baldwin, Chairman of School Board

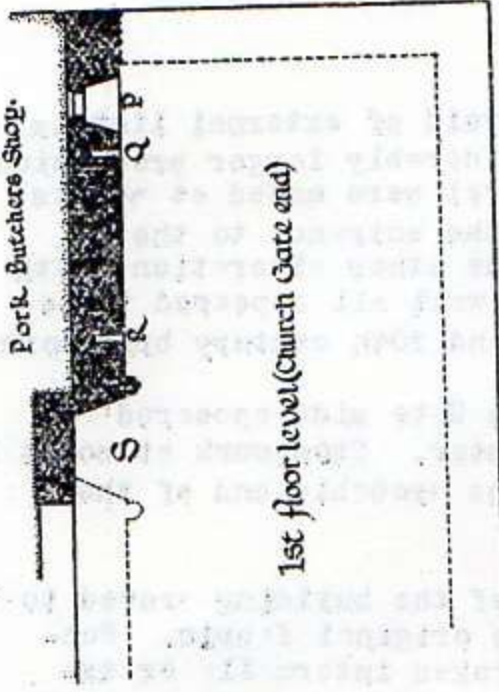
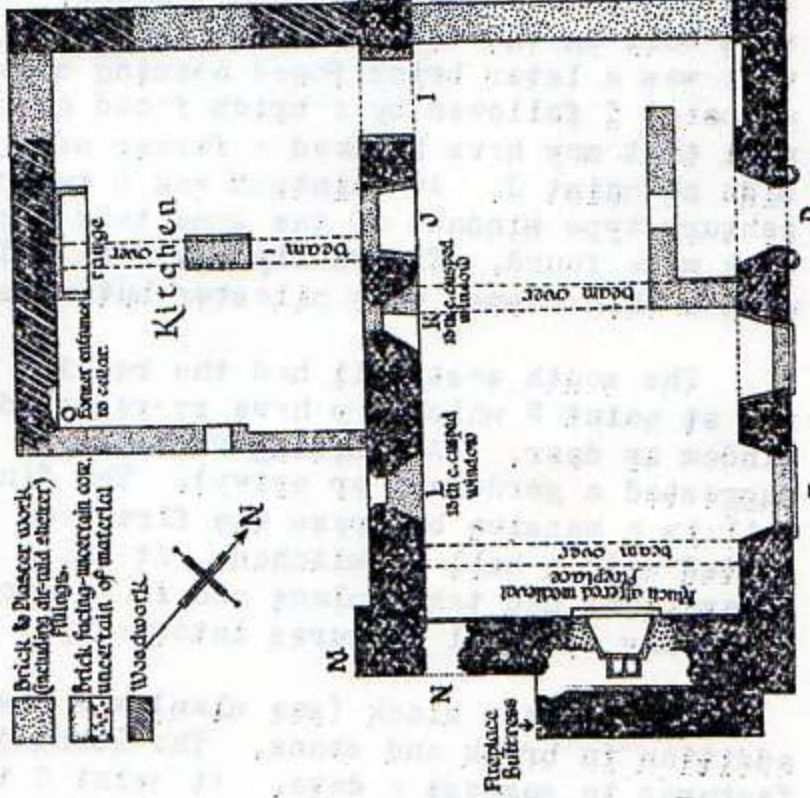
The house survived intact as a private residence until 1939 when, upon the outbreak of war, the upper two storeys were demolished and the ground floor capped by a six inch reinforced concrete roof. The windows were all bricked up and its conversion into an air-raid shelter was complete. After the war part of the premises were used to store old electrical equipment but by the 1960's the building was a derelict sealed tomb, to be finally demolished in April 1964.

Architectural Report

The house proved from the ground floor fabric to be essentially a long rectangular medieval stone building lying parallel to the present Lemyngton Street at the Church Gate end, the basic internal measurements being 64 ft by 14 ft 8in. The material used for the walls was the local rough Charnwood Forest Stone and Slate with sandstone dressings possibly from the Castle Donington Area to windows and doors. These walls all average 2 feet 6 inches in thickness except in the instances of one corner buttress and two fireplace buttresses (see plan). No original internal divisions could be determined except in all probability at point A. This brick-faced wall containing two later 19th century fireplaces to the rooms forming the ground floor of the schoolmaster's house, appeared on demolition to have a stone inner wall. At the exact point A, a stone square headed doorway was observed on the south east face possibly leading into a newel staircase. This may have represented the way up from the ground floor "hall" to the "solar" above. Demolition made investigation impossible but this possibility has an exact parallel in the Old Rectory nearby, the newel staircase connecting the "hall" to the "solar" being in the same relative position. The original main front facing Lemyngton Street was the most affected by later alteration. One side only of the original main door was found at point B, consisting of simple chamfered sandstone blocks to a 15th century type flat springing point for the arch at a height of some 4ft 6 ins. above the present ground level. Of the original window openings on this face one much defaced and stuccoed over stone window was found at point C (see illustration C), measuring 31 1/2 ins. wide by 5ft high to the lintel externally. The lintel was cusped with simple corner decoration but curiously flat headed at the top instead of being rounded or pointed (not unknown in other medieval buildings). Above this was an equally curious triangular headed arch constructed in the Forest stone of the general walling. A similar feature is to be seen in the 1st floor fireplace and also behind the fireplace at the Old Rectory. They have been described as relieving arches but this structural asset is difficult to comprehend if that is what they are. In various church fabrics such instances are labelled 10th-11th century Saxon! I can make no further comment.

A plan of the Medieval Building on the Church Gate -
 -Lenington Street corner, Loughborough, demolished
 in April 1904.

- Key
- Medieval Stonework
 - Stonework of uncertain date.
 - Brick to Plaster work (including air-mid shelter fillings).
 - Brick facing -uncertain cor.
 - Uncertain of material
 - Woodwork.



Entrance to Schoolmaster's dwelling

LEMINGTON STREET

R.C.J. Williams, A.I.D., August 1904.

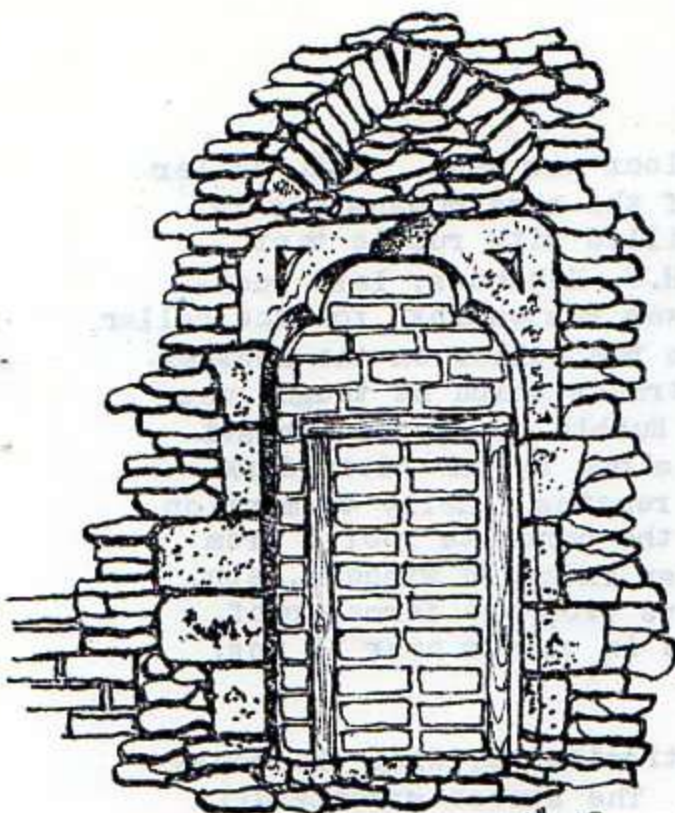
Traces of window openings devoid of external lintels but having oak inner ones of considerably larger proportions set some 8ft high above ground level were noted at points D and E. Point D was made later the entrance to the caretaker's side of the house. The other alterations both internally and externally on this wall all appeared to be of various periods of 18th, 19th and 20th century brickwork.

The north west face or Church Gate side appeared entirely altered in brick and plaster. Stonework at point F indicated however that this was the probable end of the medieval building also.

The south west or back wall of the building proved to be the most unspoiled section of the original fabric. Running west to east the wall is unbroken internally or externally for 33 ft except by a buttress point G measuring 5 ft by 2 ft supporting the former 1st floor fireplace chimney. At point H a blocked 13th century stone window type P (see illustration P) was found. Continuing along this wall on the other side of the later house dividing wall was a later brick faced opening made into the kitchen at point I followed by a brick faced cupboard opening in the wall that may have blocked a former medieval opening on this side at point J. At points K and L two more beautiful 13th century type windows of the same type blocked by later brickwork were found. Externally the wall ends at the corner with a thin Norman type pilaster buttress point M.

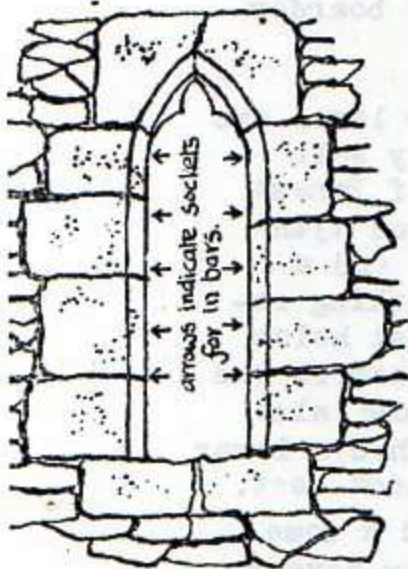
The south east wall had the remains of a faced opening at point N which may have represented either a small window or door. (A visiting Ministry of Works official has suggested a garderobe or privy). The final feature of this wall is a massive buttress cum fireplace of the type associated with a hall or kitchen. At least two later brick alterations had taken place and it was not possible to trace any original features internally.

The Kitchen block (see plan) was obviously a later addition in brick and stone. The stonework betrayed no features to suggest a date. At point O the former entrance



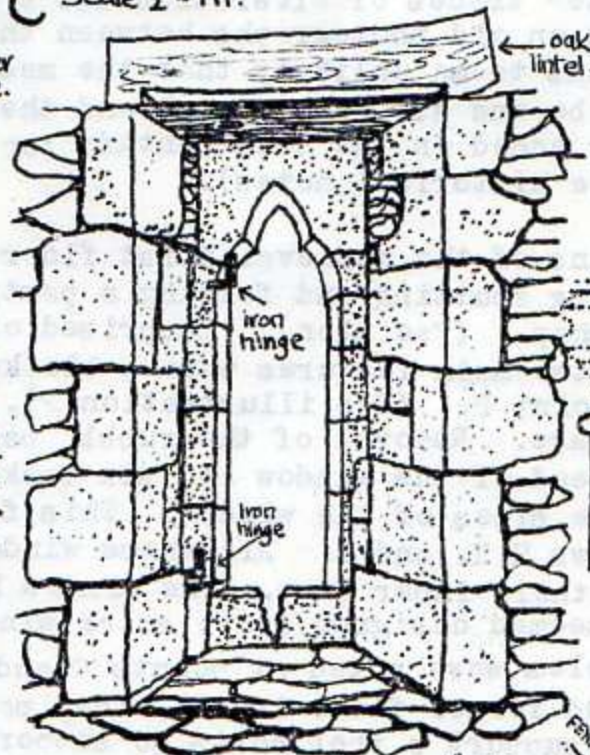
Ground floor medieval window on the Lemington St. side. Brick filled. Note also later smaller wooden window frame.

C Scale $\frac{1}{2}'' = 1\text{ft.}$



P. (outer face) Scale $\frac{1}{2}'' = 1\text{ft.}$

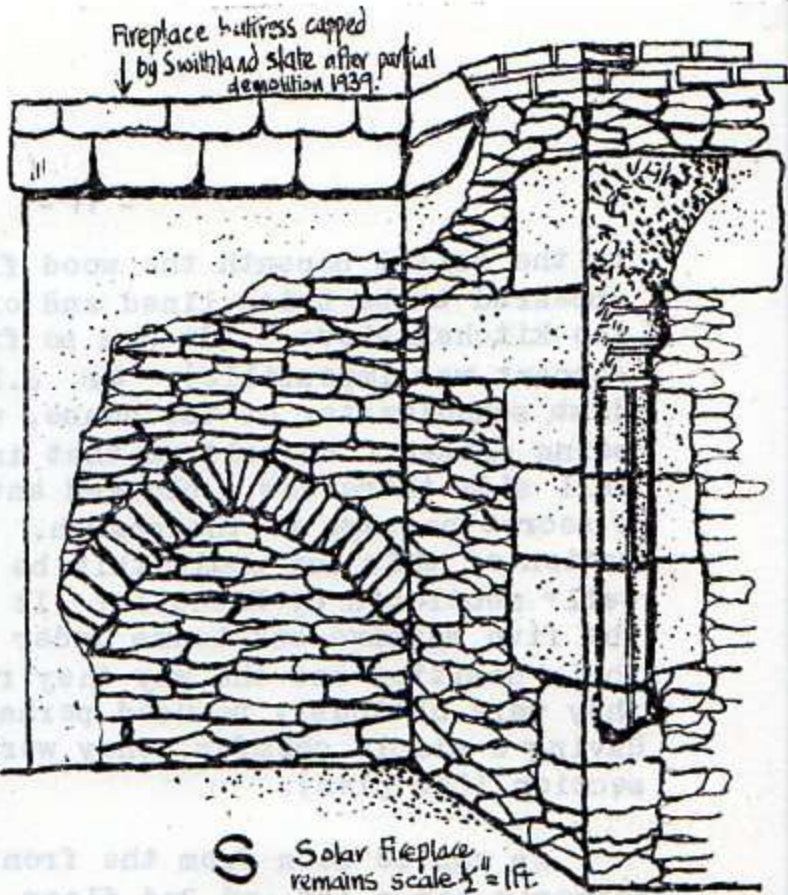
Solar window as seen from the 1st floor of the Butchers Shop after removal of rubble pucking and plaster.



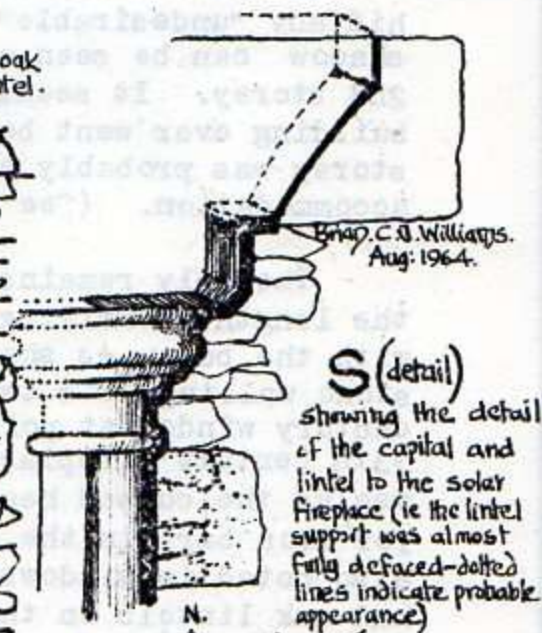
P (inner face) Scale $\frac{1}{2}'' = 1\text{ft.}$



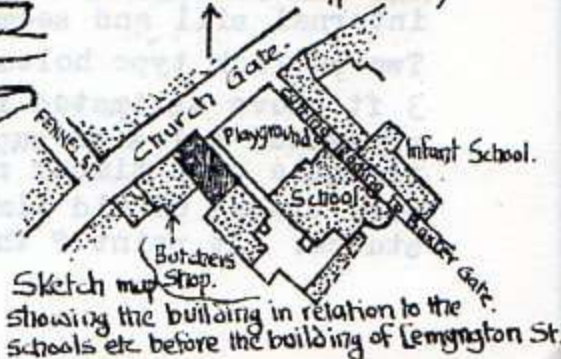
T. scale $\frac{1}{2}'' = 1\text{ft.}$



S Solar Fireplace remains scale $\frac{1}{2}'' = 1\text{ft.}$



S (detail) showing the detail of the capital and lintel to the solar fireplace (ie the lintel support was almost fully defaced-dotted lines indicate probable appearance)



Sketch map showing the building in relation to the schools etc. before the building of Lemington St.

to the cellar beneath the wood floor was seen. This cellar appeared to be brick lined and of the same dimensions as the kitchen above. (It was so filled with rubble that descent was impossible). Mr. J.H.W. Matthews, last resident schoolmaster of the house, was responsible for the cellar being closed. He told me that in the cellar on the medieval wall side there was a blocked entrance which he thought was a secret passage to the church. Rubble prevented investigation of this but could this be a clue to the "deep dark cell" mentioned by Nicholls? It remains finally to mention the five massive oak beams under the concrete roof. From their position and the way they ran into old windows, etc, they were obviously re-used perhaps from the former roof. Having a simple chamfer, they were in places over 16 ins. section (See plan).

As can be seen from the frontispiece drawing the house formerly had a 1st and 2nd floor. The stucco successfully hid any "undesirable" traces of alteration but a distinct shadow can be seen on old photographs between the 1st and 2nd storey. It seems to me unlikely that the medieval building ever went beyond 1st floor level and the 2nd storey was probably added in the 18th century for boarder accommodation. (See historical notes).

The only remains of the medieval first floor level was the length of walling abutting and forming a party wall with the butcher's shop. (See plan). Comprised of Forest stone walling, its two main features were a blocked 13th century window at point P. (See illustration P), and a 13th century fireplace. Removal of the rubble packing revealed the cusped head of the window and six socket holes for iron bars in the sides of the window. This feature was also noted in windows H.K. and L. All these windows also had oak lintels on their inner face. The window had a lower internal sill and seemed designed for a solar window seat. Two putlock type holes were noted at points O and R some 3 ft above estimated former floor level. They may have represented holes to support corbel posts to support the probable open timber roof. This section of walling also bore traces of old lime and hair plaster beneath the later stucco. At point S the back end and one side of a formerly

handsome 13th century type fireplace were revealed. (See illustrations). The supporting back buttress had a so-called respond arch in it almost an exact parallel to the one in the solar fireplace at the nearby Old Rectory. The fireplace had outer sandstone facing and flanking column with elaborate moulded capital to the former hood support and base. Two small features remain. The fragments of an 18th century type sixteen pane rectangular leaded light window were found blocked by air-raid shelter brickwork on one of the Lemyngton Street side windows. Beneath it let obviously into the wall was a curious sandstone disc perforated with holes which disintegrated on removal. Mr. Grudgings carefully reconstructed the remains on which the illustration T is based.

Conclusions

Margaret E. Wood in her treatise on 13th century domestic architecture in England (Arch: Journal 1950) states, "No complete example of a 13th century town house is so far known in England." From her work it would appear that in Loughborough we may have recently lost the closest approximation to one. With evidence so scarce it is difficult to make comparison. The building certainly has close parallels to the Old Rectory in Loughborough both in materials and architectural details such as the fireplace backing arch on the 1st floor levels and in the 13th century cusped windows. (The Old Rectory 13th century window has a stone inner lintel, however, not a wooden one.

By comparison with various plans in Margaret E. Wood's work and more especially with general similarities with the Old Rectory above mentioned the building may originally have been something as follows: A long two storey stone hall or house with its main frontage on the present Lemyngton Street side. The main frontage would be entered by a door roughly in the middle of its length. Entry would be into the main hall possibly open to the roof measuring some 48ft by 14ft. 8ins. This would be lit by two large windows on the front wall. The opposite or rear wall would comprise three small 13th century windows and a rear door (see cupboard recess "J" on plan). The extreme end or south east wall

would be dominated by a large fireplace serving both heating and cooking arrangements. In the north corner of the same wall there may have been another small window or garderobe. The wall on the right on entry would divide the hall from the buttery or pantry end of the house measuring some 16 feet by 14 feet 6 inches and lit by not more than two windows: one on the frontage (see diagram C) and possibly a similar one on the Church Gate side. This internal dividing wall would have at least two doors: one leading into the pantry end of the house, the other to a newel staircase leading to the solar or retiring chamber situated over the pantry of which the fireplace and one 13th century window are recorded on the plan.

This description although fitting the remains as found and typical in principle to other known medieval manor houses must be treated with caution and regarded only as possible since time did not permit exhaustive study of the fabric. The possibilities of the use of the building in the medieval period are plentiful enough. In giving it at least a 13th century date it is clear that whether Thomas Burton ever owned it or not we must look back beyond him. It is possible that it could have been an early manor house or merchant's house. Its position so central to the old town also makes possible a guildhall of which Loughborough had several. The rather long proportions of the building are not unlike those of a medieval hospital. We have one fleeting mention of one in 1301 when Bishop Dalderby allowed alms to be collected for it. Medieval gaols or prisons are well attested in the country though little is known about them and Nicholls' reported tale may have some small credence. It is only hoped that future documentary study may shed some small light on this vexed question and it is no consolation to know that thousands of people knew what the building was but they are all lying in the churchyard a stone's throw away.

B.C.J. Williams.

Footnote. Lengths of the old beams found in this building together with Swithland slates from the former butcher's shop were removed to the Old Rectory by the Ministry of Works for restoration work there. Thanks are also due to Mr. Bosomworth, the Borough Librarian, for his co-operation in

the loaning of old photographs and access to archives. A photo record of this building is in the possession of the Society for anyone who seriously wishes to examine the evidence further.

-----oOo-----

B.W.

Leicester & Leicestershire Historic Churches Preservation Trust

The above organisation, of which one of our Committee members, Mr. T.M.Ll. Walters, is a Trustee, has issued the following appeal which we commend to all our readers.

"The historic churches of our City and County are not only an essential part of the Leicestershire scene, but a heritage of great architectural beauty. In towns and villages long have they ministered to our needs, in many cases for a thousand years, in their monuments is written the history of our land.

Now, this heritage is in peril. The shift of populations and other social changes have resulted in many noble churches needing essential repairs, the cost of which is beyond local resources. To provide this help and to prevent this truly national heritage from falling into decay, the Historic Churches Preservation Trust was founded in 1952. Now under the Presidency of the Lord Bishop of Leicester, a local City and County organisation has been founded, with special responsibilities for helping maintain historic churches in Leicester & Leicestershire. This will afford to all the opportunity to contribute according to their means, to the preservation of local churches which they know, and which may well be dear to them."

Further information from the Secretary to the Trust at 3, Granby Street, Leicester.

-----cOo-----

DEMOLITIONS
(LOUGHBOROUGH AND DISTRICT) 1963-1964

by

GEORGE H. GREEN

There are occasions, of course, when one shrinks from a self-imposed task but hesitates definitely and firmly to lay it down. Loughborough has been demolished and re-built many times during its long history. That process is again going on during the current decade. In greater or less measure surrounding villages are in the same death throes and the same phoenix-like resurrection. During the twelve months since the last notes on demolitions were furnished the pace has quickened not only in regard to the flurry of dust and destruction but equally so in regard to the re-utilisation of the old sites by new buildings. The present article is based on the same lines as previous ones with a reference number being given to the points discussed so that the exact site can be defined by that number on a large scale map. If it is necessary to refer to the same site again in subsequent years the same number is quoted. This time, however, the article must be prefaced by a brief word on wide-scale demolitions too numerous for each building to be discussed individually. Then those selected for separate mention will follow. Readers are reminded that much lengthier notes are being kept in a card index and reputable students, research workers etc., will normally be conceded permission to use them. Ideals are not always attainable and the ideal of making measured drawings and sketches is in most of these cases impossible owing to lack of prior notice and dramatic swiftness of modern demolition.

GENERAL DEMOLITIONS OF ENTIRE AREAS

- (A) Loughborough. Most of the widespread demolitions are under so-called Slum Clearance Orders. It is once again commented that much of what is going is constructionally sounder than the flimsy replacements of modern building. Thorough restoration, modernisation

(B) DEMOLITIONS IN DISTRICTS ROUND TOWNHURGH

and amalgamation of two small living units into one sizable dwelling would have been more economic in many cases, than total demolition and total re-building. Moira Street, just to the rear of Leicester Road and parallel with it is nearly gone. The properties here with the varied up and down effect of rooflines at differing levels, were nearly all early nineteenth century. Nothing is singled out for especial mention. Its future use is not yet noised abroad but it is noted that new light factory buildings have already been erected as it nears Gregory Street turn. There had hitherto been small factories at that end of the street and the new ones are on a line set further back. Wellington Street also is nearly demolished. There were a fair number of Georgian three-storey type houses in that street especially at the Barrow Street entrance. Holland Street also has practically vanished. Moor Lane on its right-hand side on coming from Barrow Street is demolished up to the Holland Street turn, and more properties between there and Trinity Street are just awaiting like fate. No. 1 Pinfold Jetty has lost its roof and we wait to see if the other cottages there will survive. Sundry other cottage demolitions have occurred here and there. Most of the cottages in this area are late eighteenth or fairly early nineteenth century buildings, describable as industrial revolution housing. There is the freak presence in Moor Lane of three houses with round brick chimneys. The central one lost one of its three round stacks in recent years and the builder evidently could not match it and built instead a square stack. There is a gap of ordinary chimney pots and then another solitary three stack round brick chimney occurs. The type is Tudor, the bricks are old rich red but most likely they are no older than the early nineteenth century - a late survival of an older style! Having disposed of this general small house demolition (and there is much more to come), this account turns to other more important demolitions.

(B) DEMOLITIONS IN DISTRICTS ROUND LOUGHBOROUGH

Pride of position in this section must be given to GARENDON HALL. This huge mansion so badly treated by the Army had continued to deteriorate and the presence of the Motorway Contractors on the Garendon estate provided an opportunity to secure demolition in the most economical fashion. There have been many requests for some account of this building. Space would not permit that here. Representatives of the Society were permitted by G. de Lisk Esq. to go over the premises before the house was fired to demolish the woodwork. Reputedly the house was on the site of the Garendon Abbey Church. It is not known for certain how many residences have stood there nor even whether the 17th century mansion was precisely on this site. The Hall demolished in May 1964 was erected in 1836 and greatly altered in the 1870 period. The addition of mansard roofs of a continental type had masked the earlier architecture. It is worth recording that this mansion had the first flush lavatory in Leicestershire. Its central heating was also massive with radiators of great weight. Throughout the summer the owner has most kindly allowed the Loughborough Archaeological Society to excavate on the lawns in an attempt to gather details of the vanished Abbey. At the time of publishing this, the outcome of that work is still uncertain - it is hoped ultimately to give a fuller account of the long story of Garendon. For the moment its removal is entered here - a notable addition to the already too long lists of demolished Leicestershire

Great Houses which includes Gumley, Gopsell, Buckminster, Appleby, and Heather. Like others, Garendon at its zenith was a great centre for the patronage of the arts. So we give it in our records its sad little reference number - NO.97.

No.98 QUORN. An ancient house containing crucks has been destroyed - its skeleton still shows one cruck at the time of writing this record. We had inspected the property and recommended its preservation. The big battalions of capital spoke louder and down it came - No.8 Station Road. It had been a convent in the nineteenth century of a French Order of nuns. There was a little stained glass relating to that period. It had been used more recently as a Guest House plus Café. There was much timbering. Some walls on the exterior were so thin as to suggest they had once been party walls in the interior. The most complete cruck was somewhat strange being flat on both sides of each fork but with original bark on the edges. At the base plinth it was about two feet above ground level but was shaped out with a curving feature as though for decoration. The apex was opened out by a brace. Actually in demolition this building did not look so impressive and was doubtless a mixture of very many rebuildings. Almost certainly the large surviving cruck had been both patched and re-used.

No.99 EARLY ST.ANNE'S MANOR, SUTTON BONINGTON. Despite vigorous local campaigns it did not prove possible to find anyone willing to preserve this and in the week ending July 3rd, 1964 it was swiftly demolished. Already a group of bungalows is rising on the site. It was a mixture of periods but included much stone and also post and frame building. For a period it had been used as several separate dwellings.

No.100 TWO COTTAGES ON MAIN STREET, SUTTON BONINGTON. Two old cottages came down during 1964 next to the King's Head Inn. On their site a lawn has been laid and their traces have vanished.

No. 101 KINGSBURY HOUSE, MOUNTSORREL. This was a post and frame house that had long stood empty next to Messrs. Allen & Sons' bus garage. At its rear were farm buildings so doubtless this was once a farmhouse. How it got its name is not known. Already here on a fresh building line a new house has been built and no representative of Loughborough Archaeological Society was present at its demolition early in 1964. It had the usual Mountsorrel feature of large cellars.

No. 102 PINFOLD, MOUNTSORREL. Strictly speaking no demolition has taken place here but in June, 1964, it was noticed that more and more gaps in this pinfold were to be seen. It is the most remarkable pinfold in Britain being composed of immense granite blocks, even up to a ton in weight and backing onto the solid granite hill as though it had grown out of it. It is mentioned here to draw attention to the need for preservation.

No. 103 FRAMEWORK KNITTERS' HOUSES, MOUNTSORREL. These formed a row of three storey high houses next door to Loughborough Road Methodist Chapel. The owner of them was Mr. H. Bass and somewhat reluctantly he disposed of them to an Oil Company. He confirms they were framework knitters' dwellings and he could well remember the frames being worked recollecting the sound - a jerky Che-Che-Che and then "Tek" as the machine was returned for the next row (a very high pitched sound this). Despite the brickwork frontage there was some granite in them. The framework knitting machines occupied the whole of the top floor. The demolition was in the middle of 1964.

No. 104 FRAMEWORK KNITTERS' HOUSES, HATHERN, (END OF DOVECOTE STREET AND TANNERS LANE). This row was probably one of the finest surviving examples of the framework knitters' houses with a

third storey equipped with long rectangular windows. Several well known nineteenth century knitters lived in this row. One, Mr. William Ward, has often appeared in illustrations to books about this industry. In July and August they were stripped and made ready for total demolition. The second in the row was totally demolished. A peculiar feature was that at the rear each one had a little round-headed window to give light on the rather awkward stairs. It will now be difficult to find a good example of an entire row of such dwellings in the Loughborough area.

No. 105 NOTTINGHAM ROAD, HOTOH. Upon turning the left-hand corner on the main road at Hotoh when travelling from Loughborough to Nottingham a group of houses set back on the right-hand side of the road and rather in a dip has always seemed rather set apart from the main village. It may be these also had a framework knitting origin (although nothing definite has been ascertained about them). Part of these houses were demolished during 1964.

No. 106 THE PRINCE OF WALES INN, EAST LEAKE. Our member, Mr. John Richards, reports this was demolished early in 1964. It is remembered as a changing room for local football teams. It was set rather high on a bank near the bottom of Castle Hill, on the east side, was long and low and probably had a long history behind it.

The account of demolitions now turns to Loughborough and at the beginning a few notes are provided regarding development on sites mentioned in last year's Bulletin quoting the reference numbers used there.

No. 82 On the site of "The Cottage" next to Emmanuel Parish Church, Forest Road, a series of blocks of new flats have arisen - a grim addition to Loughborough's new architecture. The entire

series is reported in the Press to be purchased by Loughborough Colleges to aid in overcoming their student accommodation problems.

No.85 OLD PARSONAGE HOUSE. RECTORY ROAD, ETC. The Ministry of Works has continued restoration work on the portion that is being retained. It is now cut off by fencing from the near-by new flats. The ultimate use of this ancient fragment is not yet fixed.

No.89 BIGGIN STREET-CHURCHGATE CORNER. New shops are rapidly arising on this site. The very old shop occupied by the old established butcher's business still uneasily survives.

No.66 The old Red Lion site already carries a row of small shops set back to a new street line.

The record of demolition and change now turns to several individual cases that have arisen in the 1963-1964 period.

No.107 WELLINGTON STREET, THREE-STOREY HIGH ROW. In August, 1964 the first row of these houses on the left when entering Wellington Street from Barrow Street, was demolished. As Moor Lane frontage had already gone (they were also 3-storey pattern) the back of this Wellington Street row could be seen and it was surprising to notice that the third storeys had no windows on this back elevation. Entering, it was discovered that each house carried two flights of stairs in sweeping curves and the rear elevation housed these cutting off entirely from the width about 4 to 5 feet: a very strange design. No windows were given to the back of the third (top) storey because they would only have lighted this staircase well in each house. The houses had the feature usual to this part of the town - rather extensive cellars.

NO. 108. BURTON'S HOUSE, LEYMINGTON STREET (CHURCHGATE CORNER)

It is needful to give this reference number. A full account appearing elsewhere in the Bulletin. At present it is not easy to deal with the claim that Thomas Burton lived in this residence - research is continuing.

NO. 109. CRUCK HOUSE, HATHERN, Loughborough Borough. When approaching the Church from the main A6 road the lane by its left-hand had various small cottages, larger old houses and just by The Stints opening an old patterned red brick farmhouse. Some of the cottages have been demolished in recent years. One had left a very small cruck pendant on the neighbouring property - the typical Hathern small type with a distance at ground line of about 7 feet between the forks. Many of these little crucks have vanished in this village without any adequate record.

It is most pleasing to record this fragment has been splendidly touched up with white wall and black for the cruck itself and now catches the eye in very striking fashion.

NO. 110. HUME STREET, CHERRY TREE PLACE AND PINFOLD CORNER.

On May 17th, the premises formerly occupied by Owen Brown and Sons, Tentmakers, were demolished. The rear buildings included an old factory and in the rear a row of probably old stables with large round-headed entrances. There may have been portions about 200 years old but so many subsequent alterations of doors and windows had taken place that to have read the history of the property from its last condition would have been difficult. This site was near the Loughborough Pinfold. Some fragments of stone wall remains even now at the opening of Pinfold Jetty.

NO. 111. SWAN STREET METHODIST CHAPEL, ETC. Services ceased

to be held here in 1963. By about the end of November, 1963, it was totally demolished. A building of ornate style, dating only about 100 years back, it was also of surprising strength and thickness in its brick front. It was in ornamented bricks in three colours and must when built have

been striking to the eye. Deepest regrets were expressed by general bystanders as it came down. The Chapel had played a major part in the social and economic life of the town in the nineteenth and twentieth century. It had always been known that the Wood Brook tunnelled beneath it. It was now exposed to view with its simple, rather weaklooking, brick roofing - not a round but a rather depressed flat arch. The row of small shops came down. Also the varied assemblage of sheddings that was the business of Moore, Herbert and Moore, ironmongers. Indeed the first house on the right-hand side of Shakespeare Street (right when entering from Derby Road) also had to be demolished. The entire site has been speedily built upon with a block of shops and offices above and bearing the new name JOCLAR HOUSE. They are a venture of an outside Finance House and have not yet been occupied.

NO.112.HACK'S TRIPE SHOP, BROOK STREET, etc. This faces No.111 above. The well known tripe shop was no great problem for the demolition men. It will linger long and fragrantly in local memory. Nearby was the little by-lane through into Ashby Square and including at that end the INDEPENDENT CHAPEL. (This, in the hands of the College, has been extended and its little graveyard with a few surviving headstones is now restricted to a mere passage. The rest of this lane, which is properly named Brook Street, was occupied on the Chapel side by a few old cottages long used as warehouses. Messrs. Moore, Herbert and Moore, Ltd. have moved over here and erected a very modern new shop on two floors and

in our judgment one of the soundest and strongest erections in this town since the end of the War. The cottages, as they came down, revealed many old timbers including round trees - some doubtless were older than the dwellings and were re-used in that group. No trace remains but it is interesting to record the back doors of these houses carried the house numbers, showing they had once faced away from the brook and what seemed to be the front doors to the Lane were actually the back doors. It required much imagination to realise what a pleasant site this area was when the brook ran open. Both on this site and on No. 111 beaten clay floors were cut through. The brook course where tunnelled is far from straight and some notes have been made of the precise route from Brook Street to Bridge Street.

It will be realised this account is much compressed. If any item of outstanding interest has been totally omitted perhaps readers will report with a note to the Editor.

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BRIEF NOTE ON THREE NOTABLE LOCAL HOUSES

by

GEO. H. GREEN

From time to time the Society receives notices of threatened demolition of old and historic buildings and also requests to inspect other old buildings. The past year has been an exceptionally heavy one for such requests for new building and road schemes are many. As a result of our inspections one house on the list of ancient buildings at Birstall is being retained. Unfortunately in the case of another at No. 8 Station Road, Quorn (a cruck house) we did not succeed in convincing the Ministry that it was worth retaining. We admit in this case it was more the history involved than the actual building that made it seem a pity that it should be lost to posterity.

Additional to these cases raised with us officially we have a very watchful and active membership who from time to time draw attention to and secure permission to view other old houses. During the last twelve months interest had been quickened because of the lecture by M.W. Barley, on "Long Houses", and it was thought one of the three that will be briefly discussed in this short article might lie in that category. It is well that as many as possible should be made aware of the interesting character

and warmest thanks are expressed to the owners who so kindly made us free of their premises. Our visits were not always at the most convenient hours and in at least one case was unavoidably unannounced. Despite this our small delegations were given very ready access.

It is a matter of regret that funds do not yet permit the provision of pictures as word descriptions are often much clearer when accompanying views can be supplied. At each of the three houses mentioned below photographs were taken and notes were made. It may be possible at a later date to re-visit them for making measured drawings. In the meantime the author wishes to acknowledge the help and interest of Mrs. A.R. Elliot and Miss G. Barber, of Messrs. J. Richards, M. Davies, J.H. Whittington, and others who are members of the

Loughborough and District Archaeological Society.

BISHOP BEVERIDGE'S HOUSE, BEVERIDGE STREET, BARROW-UPON-SOAR

This house has long been famed on account of its picturesque antiquity and its historic association with one of the most notable men born at Barrow-upon-Soar. The Beveridge (often spelt Berridge) family were of long residence in the village. At one period it appeared that their occupancy of the Rectorate was becoming hereditary. As it is the house that is under consideration, only the briefest word is permissible upon the family. William Beveridge who ultimately became Bishop of St. Asaph's was born in Barrow-upon-Soar in 1636 A.D. and was one in a succession of six Beveridges who occupied the living of Barrow. He was a local benefactor, an author of some note and reputedly extremely popular. The house which is always pointed out as his birthplace stands in the street bearing his name (Beveridge Street) and is next to the Baptist Chapel - so near in fact that one wall of the chapel has had to be set in at the ground floor and corbelled out above in order to accommodate a gateway between the two properties. By courtesy of a new owner (Mr. L. Middleton) an examination was made of Bishop Beveridge's house in November, 1963. It is a noteworthy building with unusual features and it must be confessed that after examining it the record has to be made that we do not know which house the worthy gentleman was born in and most likely no-one will ever know, for the present range of building is a cunning amalgam of three quite distinct houses. Externally the joining up is so neatly done that only on the roof of the rear elevation can a join be seen. Internally the evidence also has to be sought but it can be found.

Such variety of building materials is displayed that mention should be made of these. They are all local and include:-

Granite
Limestone
Oak Timberings
Red Clay Bricks

Machine made bricks (recent)
Barrow cement, mortar and daub
Swithland Slates
Stone flooring slabs
Brick flooring slabs
Reeds
Pebbles (Water-worn) for
pathways

To Beveridge Street (1) the house presents a fairly normal front and with its receding end wing might be thought of as an "L" shaped dwelling. This elevation looks "all of a piece". The base both here and all round the other sides is granite with a crude plinth jutting out about two feet high. Above, the local limestone is employed. It looks crumbly, does not cut into sharp masoned lines, but is fairly durable. The steep pitched roofs shown in nicely graded Swithland slates and have red brick chimneys. From the street it can also be noted that the end gables are lifted to the roof apex from wall plate level in Tudor type red bricks set with stepped endings but again crude in appearance. These gable-ends actually rise above the slate roofs by a foot or more - a typical Leicestershire/Nottinghamshire pattern. On this front elevation is another gable-like feature - in it a window shows a round head but has a simpler rectangular window set in it. The house porch is not central but nearer to the right-hand end (Baptist Chapel end). It is stone built, juts out about 4 feet and has side seats. The left-hand end of the house is occupied as a separate dwelling and it was once totally disjoined. The junction has been effected near the chimney. (It can be found very clearly on the rear exterior and inside, the gap thus bridged being several feet).

The rear elevation, which is reached by using the left-hand side entrance opening - an opening so wide as to suggest the place was once used as a farmyard, is by no means so regular and "kinks" into varied angles of walling. Seen from the garden (where various small out-buildings are and others have been demolished and where the original well water supply can still be seen), the extreme left-hand of this elevation is equipped with a

(1) This street earlier in this century was named Industry Street.

separate chimney and has been originally a totally separate building. It has a peculiar roof line and internally the remaining timbers incline us to the view that it was a cruck construction - say a one 16'0" bay. There is evidence of the join up on the side elevation facing the side of the Baptist Chapel.

Space forbids a detailed description of the interior but three points are selected as an example of the many that might be discussed.

1. **THE CELLARS.** The descent is by 11 steps - 8" risers. There are several divisions but the cellar is regarded as common to both residences. The right-hand portion is divided by a red brick party wall. Even this division wall is not without interest for in its extreme left-hand corner is a great round timber pillar with a top cut to give an appearance of a capital. Going round the division wall the same timber shows on that side. It is somewhat decayed. The cellar outer walling is stone but if one turns into the left-hand cellar momentarily it might be thought the end wall was brick. The brick is a casing inserted as an easier way to obtaining rebates to drop the bearers of a restored floor in the kitchen into. Evidently the builder did not fancy the task of cutting into the granite. The left-hand cellar contains the base of the great chimney that runs up right through the building.
2. **THE CHIMNEY.** This chimney is of great interest. At the ground floor level, it is 7'6" wide, has a stone seat on either side, the burnt ground shows where the open fire lay, and also later re-flooring in rough 2¹/₂" thick quarry tiles 9" to 10" square. At 4'6" from ground level two square 6" holes occur and each contains a square section block of wood that can be pulled forward and out of the holes. The blocks go back about 18" into the wall. It is suggested these may have been to accommodate hanging fittings for cooking over the open fire. The old ovens are there. Looking

up the chimney it is seen to be centrally divided at 6'0" above floor level, first with a brick walling but a little farther up with stone. This may be to pull the smoke upwards easier. The chimney tapers and far overhead appears as a mere simple slot (louvre) at roof level. For a time the right-hand side to the beholder had been totally partitioned off and a cupboard provided there. The left-hand had the open fire in a fire basket at that end of the hearth and the differences of the two sides is amazing: one still wreathed with encrusted soot: the other practically clean. The cupboard and associated plastering have been removed now and the entire chimney can be seen.

3. **TRIANGULAR KITCHEN.** Further back from the street is a nice modern kitchen amply fitted but strangely shaped as a mere triangle. This is the result of the joining of the central building to the third (rear) one which was at somewhat different angles from the other. To get a reasonably straight exterior wall this triangular space was formed inside.

These are but 3 points out of a multitude to show how interesting is Bishop Beveridge's house.

CRUCK HOUSE ON LADY GATE, DISEWORTH

Mr. Walter Davies of the Loughborough Archaeological Society had several times drawn attention to this interesting house. Just at the rear of William Lilley's birthplace, a little side lane breaks back. On its beginning, a small house has a front towards Lilley's house. Then to its rear is a totally detached ancient cottage which has a gable on the Lady Gate frontage but runs nearly through to the point where the side lane bends further round. There are associated outbuildings and evidently it was once a small farmstead. In recent years a bungalow has been erected on the same plot of ground. Messrs. W. Davies, J. Richards and G.H. Green visited this site on 5th January, 1964. Both outside and inside the property is striking. There is

a slight chance the whole may have been a long house. There is a round stone oven projecting on the long front - age facing south. Its cone top has collapsed once but is partially restored. The oven has been used within living memory and access can yet be gained in the house. The gable end to Lady Gate is apparently ordinary post-frame with some areas of original plaster remaining. The gable end away from the street shows an excellent cruck. The gable end is battered but also has a pronounced tilt. Inside, the stone oven has a small opening high up near its roof and we were told the oven used to be heated by children going through and lighting sticks. It is really extremely large, being about 7'0" high. The cone roof is restored in thatch thus emphasising it has not served its purpose for some time.

Enough remains at the kitchen wall near this oven to show there was a second pair of crucks. One fork is cut off at about head level. The kitchen doorway from the yard outside once gave access to a central or nearly central passage through the building. Examination shows it was once some six inches wider than the present door - the old ceiling timbers seem to make this clear. This feature is rather suggestive of a long house. It would place the two pairs of crucks in the animal portion of the property. There are two sets of stairs and we were permitted to see the equally interesting bedrooms. The top of the second cruck shows there and apparently has never been opened out by a cross brace. Old timbers abound. Most internal walls and floors are insertions although very old. The bedrooms near the road contains most graceful timbers curving strangely. It was felt that there might here be (re-used) portions of a third pair of crucks. In this bedroom can be seen the infilling between timbers and it is rubble stone with some large water worn pebbles. (There are other examples of this infilling method at Hathern and Weston-on-Trent).

The residents, Mr. and Mrs. Sreaton, Junior, are to be warmly congratulated on their preservation of the features, on the great taste shown in decorating and their own deep interest in its story. The bungalow in

the garden is occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Screaton, Senior, and the elder Mr. Screaton confirmed its use as a farmhouse by saying the garden yet retains the foundations of a large farm building. The courtesy shown in receiving an unannounced visit from inquisitive strangers is remembered with gratitude.

FARMHOUSE AT HOTON (Last farm on left on Wymeswold Road)

The visit made to this residence on 24th November, 1963, is a pleasant memory. The happy family of children trim, smart and smiling gathered round a large farmhouse table in the portion of the house where once the animals may have been kept. Warmest thanks must first be expressed to Mr. and Mrs. James who in spite of the extreme pressure of working two farms and bringing up with such care a splendid family, yet found time to talk to party of visitors and then with unostentatious generosity gave us permission to wander just where we liked through the residence and farm buildings. Mrs. Elliott and Miss Barber had thought the house despite it being at present an obvious "L" shape might originally have been a "Long House". The long leg of the "L" is the portion concerned and it has a through passage about one third of the way along it. Wider than a normal house passage it has a wide door on its right when entered from the front of the house which gives admittance into a large kitchen with a great fireplace in the exterior gable wall. The site is slightly on the tilt downwards to this point. The entire leg is on a stone foundation nearly buried from sight.

It was noted with surprise that turning leftwards on entering the through passage gave access to a corridor at right angles which provided the point for one set of bedroom stairs and gave access to other rooms in the long leg of the "L", to a very wide doored cellar, to further stairs at the other end, and by turning left again passed into the shorter leg of the "L". In this house, as at the smaller one at Diseworth, much of the internal walling is later insertion. The first set of stairs gave

added surprise for they had $1\frac{1}{2}$ " thick wood balusters of the flat type found at Stordon Grange - they may be the work of the same carpenter.

On account of space only a few points of interest can be quoted. First, the downstairs passage has stone slabbing in large squares; upstairs the bedroom floors (except one boarded one) are the typical local plaster of blackish grey shade. There is a long lounge which, if a true "Long House", would be the house place. Parallel with the passage but not central in the ceiling a great beam runs across this room and then continues across another room beyond. It seems to total 35'7" length with its section estimated as 14" x 14". This strength of timbering is a notable feature throughout. If the passage wall were taken out the beam would be central to the house width.

An exhaustive expedition round the first floor and into lofts beneath the roof was rewarding. In the lofts the roof is open overhead and halfway down each roof pitch is a huge round oak tree. This continues over two bedrooms and then is neatly spliced into a continuing oak to pass across the width of the short leg of the "L" as a third loft. One of these oaks has the original bark on it. The timbers here are complicated by timbers to form the intersection of the roofs of the two legs of the "L" shape. One timber seems to be part of a farm wagon.

Perched high on rafters the short leg is of great interest as there are two pairs of curved timbers large enough to be cottage "crucks" but so high is this wing that they appear to stop at the floor line of the loft. This leg has been totally re-cased in brickwork. It has once been a separate building apparently from the long leg. Probably beneath the decorations much of an earlier post and pane building may remain inside the brick casing.

Every room has its features and its problems. The farm garth has many ancient buildings and one large barn is rich in more timberings but extremely decayed. Through

it can be glimpsed the post and pane walling of one end of the house. Although nothing could with confidence be given a very early date (sixteenth-seventeenth century is likely for much of the present building) it does seem quite likely this is an ancient site and an early "Long House" pattern may be preserved by the present long leg of the "L" shape.

In conclusion it may be said that much fuller notes on all three houses have been made. It was felt that members of the Loughborough Archaeological Society might like to have this attentuated description. None of the three figure in any of the more recent guide books. Each has points of much interest and presents problems. Measured drawings of each might reveal even more. All three are examples of smaller domestic architecture and of how humble homes can have a long history of change. It is hoped that the occupiers will accept this small tribute to their careful custodianship and that all three houses will long survive.

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FINDS AT UPPER BROUGHTON CROSS ROADS, FOSSE WAY

It had been expected that the major Roman finds would be made here which is the site marked by the Ordinance Survey or VERNOMETUM. However, the first big discovery was Anglo-Saxon and not Roman (a few intrusive sherds of Roman period pottery were noted). A series of burials were encountered with bodies in slightly crouched positions. Most were accompanied by Saxon brooches, beads and bangles. It is reported that 42 have been exposed and that there may be as many more. The jewellery was of high class and had both gold and enamel. Clearly this will demand a full scale published report and as it is in the hands of the University of Nottingham Archaeology Department and West Bridgford School the full details will be looked forward to with interest. This find gives a firmer foundation for the persistent traditions that there was a village of Long Billington around this area. There has only been one authentic reference found to it. In Stathern Churchwardens' Accounts there is recorded the gift of a small sum of money to help on his way a man from "Long Billinton."

EARLY LOUGHBOROUGH DOCUMENTS

We have established the practice of presenting examples of early Loughborough documents in each issue of the Loughborough and District Archaeological Society's Bulletin. Last year's was (probably) the very last corrody established at Garendon Abbey - quite a coincidence as the demolition of Gerendon Hall came almost immediately afterwards. This year the document chosen is an INVENTORY OF THE GOODS OF A LOUGHBOROUGH BOOT MAKER. The will to which the inventory relates is brief and defective but it is also given. It will be noted that the date is considerably over 4 centuries ago being 1536 when the suppression of the monastic establishments was already proceeding. Nearly all Loughborough wills until this one had provided gifts for the use of Garendon Abbey but this one perhaps for two reasons does not mention it. In the first place it may be a recognition that there was common knowledge of the fate that hung over even the largest monasteries. In the second place, and more important, the trade in which the boot maker was involved had evidently not proved very lucrative as indicated by the pathetic "if there be any left" in the will.

The will is given just as it survives. The inventory, for ease of reading, is given with the items in current English spelling. The first few entries are shown in the spelling employed by the friends and neighbours who took the inventory - the variations of spelling in such documents are many since often the items were written down as nearly as possible as they were pronounced in the differing localities. In just one or two instances the original spelling has been added in brackets to show some of the difficulties encountered in handling such documents.

ROBERT PERKYN¹ WILL DATED 16th JULY, 1536.
DATE PROVED - not known

ARCHDEACONRY LEICESTER
1536 Bundle transcripts

Testamentum Roberti Perkyn de Loughborowe ye xvi
day of July the yer of o^r lord god A MCCCCXXXVI^{te}
Also I bequeth in my mortuery aft^r ther statutys
of thys realme. to the hys cult^r lllld
yff ther be onny Leffte I wyll that...² amongst aft^r the
Lawe of charyte I make... John Perkyn to be my
executors to se that this my wyll be p^rformed.
Theys beyng p^rsent to ber record
B Will...
Rychard Haremen
and John Haremen wt. other more.

AN INVENTORY of the guddes of Robt. Perkyn of Loughborough
indifferently p^rsyd (appraised) by John sear, gylbert Wreyth,
Edmond Cutler and thomas Middleton the 28th day of July Anne
Dn. M CCCCC XXXVI.
ffyrst in the halle

the hangyng	xviid
It. ij centers	iijsiiiijd
It. ij ambryes	visviiiijd
It. iiij cheyres	xijd
It. iiij coshings	xviiijd
It. a stoullle	iiiijd
Some	xiiijsiiiijd

-
- 2)...indicates pieces missing from the will.
 - 1)...There is a little uncertainty over this name. At this period there were Perkyns or Parkeyns in Loughborough. In the actual document the abbreviation symbols are vague and uncertain.

(N.B. This short section only gives the original spellings, etc. Are the items tapestries, counters, cupboard, chairs, cushions and a stool? "Some" is the sum or total. Pence were still being reckoned 20 to one shilling. Where figures include several "ones" the last is always written as "j". The rather lengthy lists of goods in other rooms which follow are, as mentioned above, put into current spelling. G.H.G.)

The Bedroom

First 3 chests	3s.4d.
Item 2 little coffers	6d.
" A bedstead	6d.
" A form	2d.
" A board with 2 trestles	10d.
" 3 mattresses	15s.0d.
" 5 bolsters	3s.4d.
" 3 little pillows	6d.
" A window cloth	8d.
" A Tester over the bed and 5 painted cloths	20d.
" 6 pairs of flaxen sheets	8s.0d.
" 8 pairs of harden sheet	8s.0d.
" A towel	8d.
" A board cloth	8d.
" 5 napkins	10d.
" 4 pillowslips	16d.
" 4 coverlets	6s.8d.
" A covering for a bed	6s.0d.
" 3 1/2 yards plain cloth	3s.0d.
" 5 yards of Jersey	5s.0d.
" A furred gown	5s.0d.
" 3 jackets with sleeves	10s.0d.
" 2 jackets without "	3s.4d.
" 2 doublets	2s.0d.
" 3 pairs hose	3s.4d.
" 4 shirts	3s.0d.
" A locket (?)	4d.
" 3 silver spoons	5s.0d.

The Second Bedroom

First 4 bedsteads	2s 0d.	Item old iron	4d.
Item A featherbed	6s 8d.	" 6lbs. of wool	18d.
" Tanned leather	13s 0d.	" Linen yarn	3s 4d.
" 4 iron weights	12d.	" 2 little spin-	
" 4 sayles	16d.	ning wheels	6d.
" A beam with scales		" A sword	8d.
and weights	3s 4d.	Total	24s.4d.

The Kitchen

First 8 brass pots	10s 0d.	Item 3 cupboards	8d.
Item 3 pans	4d.	" 2 spits	3d.
" 3 skewers	8d.	" 2 pairs of tongs	2d.
" A frying pan	6d.	" A pothook and pot	
& cresset		hangers	8d.
" A land iron	2s 0d.	" 2 leads (Vats)	6s 8d.
" 2 trestles	6d.	" 2 Cheving dishes	16d.
" a latten basin	8d.	" 8 porringers	20d.
" 5 candlesticks	16d.	" a little board	4d.
" a laver and ladle	4d.	" 2 tubs	12d.
" 8 platters	11s 8d.	" 2 pellets (?)	2d.
" 7 pewter dishes	2s 8d.	" a dozen trenchers	1s 0d.
" a dozen saucers	2s 0d.	Total	44s.9d.

The warehouse

First in tallow	6 half barrels	46s.8d.
Item in lacquer	2 half barrels	20d.
Item in Chopping knives		7s.0d.
Total		48s.10d.

The Yard

First a trough for hogs	2d.	" old wood	4d.
Item a tube	2d.	" 2 spades	4d.
" 1 tallow mould	4d.	" 3 pitchforks	4d.
" 3 boards	6d.	" in hay	10s 0d.
" a bucket for wool	4d.	" a horse	12d.
" a load of coals	20d.	" a saddle and	
		bridle	2s 0d.
" in wood	53s 4d.	" 3 young hogs	6s 8d.
Total			£4 8s.2d.

The Buttery

First 3 looms for hall	8d	Item 3 pails	6d.
Item 2 bottles	6d.	" a toasting forkid.	
Total 21d.			

The Shop

First 13 dozen shoes	3 5s 0d.
Item 4 pairs of boots	
and	
4 pairs of shoes	6s 8d.
" in dressed leather	26s 8d.
" shoes cut and	
unnmade	4s 0d.
" 10 dozen lasts	10s 0d.
" 5 shaping knives	
with other in-	
struments for the	
shop	2s 0d.
" a barrel of oil	10s 0d.
Total	£6 4s 4d.

Debts owing to Robt. Pkyn.

First Thomas Cawdwell	4s 8d.
Item Mr. Robt. ffernans of	
quardon	20d.
" Mr. Willm. ffernans	
of Roythley	16d.
Mr. John belle	12d.
Total	8s 6d.

Sum total of all foregoing £31.13s. 8d.

Debts that Robt. Pkyn did owe at his death

First	to James Mayson of Nottingham	£ 4.18s. 4d.
	to John bell otherwise Sutton	£ 3. 3s. 4d.
	to Raufe Shenew of Melbourne	£40. 6s. 8d.
	to Henry Dawson	50s. 0d.
	to Brewus Glazobrook	27s. 6d.
	to Libeus Andrew, the son or Richard Andrew	30s. 0d.
	to Raufe Eglet	6s. 8d.
	to John Pkyn	£ 8.12s. 4d.
Item	to M. Doctor Adeson	3s. 0d.
	Total	£31. 3s. 10d.

SO THE DEBTS COME OVER THE GOODS £8.

Little needs to be said in the way of final comment. Some spellings gave a difficulty in transcribing for example "howill" has to be looked at several times before the man's trade suggests the answer is "oil". One may suspect that Robert whose will this is was somewhat of a humourist. Not until the shop is entered in the inventory and the end does it become apparent that he was Loughborough's shoemaker of the 16th century. Little in the previous rooms had given any clear clue as to his trade - once it seemed that he was an early archaeologist with his spades and pitchforks. (Members of Loughborough "digging" squad will recognise the description of their own miscellaneous array of tools). The list of his clothing suggests he was a guild member - possibly in high position - for his neighbours recorded his fur be-decked gown. If there was a separate guild of shoemakers in Loughborough it indicates a town perhaps rather larger than we normally think of at this period. For the times, he seems to have been living at a high standard. The coals show that he was well up-to-date with his times. The kitchen is particularly well equipped with brass, pewter and wooden utensils. (The brass is disguised under the word "latten"). At one point a spinning and weaving industry seems to be appearing but perhaps his womanfolk handled the wheels and the looms. The weighing machine is also an interesting item - you don't weigh boots and shoes! It seems likely he engaged in

various enterprises. In his very brief will (and some Loughborough wills are of very great length) he introduces that vague doubt "if there be any left". The doubt was justifiable - he was in final debt to the extent of £8. That despite having two of the great Farnham family as his customers - one at Quorn and one at Rothley. However, it will be noticed that the arithmetic of the Inventory is incorrect. On the figures given the deceased was solvent and not insolvent. Perhaps something was omitted by those doing the inventory.

Geo. H. Green

-----oOo-----

In your interest in "Politics" or "Politics" I even an ordinary topic such as "Politics". It is, this is the book for you. It gives through the lengthy subject index covering around 1,500 aspects of the entire field of British archaeology reveals the fact that ambitious though the scheme of the book may be it has come very near to complete success. The index generally is well planned - near the front. The general background text covers 59 pages with the different outlines running in roughly chronological sequence. Another 189 pages cover the varied types of field investigations. Things as far suggested in the preliminary data and all courses will receive attention. Part I covers "The technical and legal aspects of Archaeology". Part A with strong practical emphasis provides suggestions for (i) following up; (ii) sites to visit (collected by committees and regions, and (iii) books to read - general and also by subject divisions.

To complete the usefulness the index of subjects also has a companion - an index of places. Names as additions as this often tend to disappear. This is indeed an exception and the text is far more informative and detailed than might be expected. Naturally it has had to be selective, especially in regard to sites to visit. It has also been

REVIEWS

It has been a year in which many fresh publications have come to hand and selection of those for review in our bulletin has not been an easy matter. The first two reviewed arise out of requests made by the Committee and individual members. Practically all the rest are chosen on account of their being directly related to the surrounding area. It would seem that a similar problem of selection is likely to arise next year as we have advance notice of two more very important Leicestershire books and rumours of a possible third.

COLLIN'S FIELD GUIDE TO ARCHAEOLOGY IN BRITAIN. By Eric S. Wood (With an introduction by Sir Mortimer Wheeler). Publishers: Collins, St. James' Place, London (1963). Pp.384. 25s.0d.

Is your interest in "builds" or "cillini" or even an ordinary topic such as "Mazes". If so, this is the book for you. A glance through the lengthy subject index covering around 1,500 aspects of the entire field of British archaeology reveals the fact that ambitious though the scheme of the book may be it has come very near to complete success. The brief glossary is well placed - near the front. The general background text covers 59 pages with the different cultures running in roughly chronological sequence. Another 189 pages cover the varied types of Field Antiquities. Things as far separated in time as prehistoric huts and golf courses all receive attention. Part 3 covers "The Technical and Legal aspects of Archaeology". Part 4 with strong practical emphasis proffers suggestion for (i) Following up; (ii) Sites to visit (detailed by counties and regions, and (iii) Books to read - general and also by subject divisions.

To complete its usefulness the index of subjects also has a companion - an index of Places. Schemes as ambitious as this often tend to disappoint. This is indeed an exception and the text is far more informative and detailed than might be expected. Naturally it has had to be selective, especially in regard to sites to visit. It does also have

occasional lapses as in the caption to Plate 23 where Kirkstead Abbey is wrongly placed in Leicestershire. Such errors appear to be amazingly few. Certainly many professional archaeologists might with great profit read from Page 89 onwards on identifying earthworks. Few mistakes could then be expected. For the purely amateur archaeologists the book opens up vast and even tantalising prospects of unexpected width and depth. It can be taken into the field as it will fit (just) a large jacket-pocket. It can be kept just to hand on the reference shelf. Indeed two copies per archaeologist seems to be indicated - one the tattered mudstained field copy, liberally acquiring personal notes and discoveries, and another kept in good condition for the study (but finger worn at favourite sections). It is not often one can so warmly congratulate an author (and publishers) on filling such an obvious "want".

FEACHAM, Richard. A GUIDE TO PREHISTORIC SCOTLAND.
Publishers: B.T. Batsford Ltd., London. (1963) Pp.223.
35s.0d.

Although not dissimilar from the previous book reviewed above, this is more limited in conception being as its title indicates confined to the fields of pre-history. It is also more limited in area and covers only the one country. It provides a Gazetteer by subjects, such as Chambered Tombs, Henge Monuments, etc. It adds a considerable list of book references and a place index. The illustrations and diagrams seem adequate. Armed with appropriate maps the sites can easily be located as the MAP REFERENCES are quoted. This reviewer does not know enough of Scotland to pick out the minor flaws that well nigh inevitably creep into a work so large, but he does feel this is a very competent piece of work. Indeed a similar up-to-date work for England and Wales would undoubtedly be useful. It is noteworthy how much of visible archaeological remains may be sought in the North Country and found there.

HOSKINS, W.G. Provincial England: Essays in Social and Economic History. Publishers: Macmillan & Co. Ltd. London (1963) Pp. 236, 42 s. Od.

This book is of a type that perhaps is becoming too common but which, nevertheless, meets a very real need. One of the complaints often heard in the circles of archaeology and of local history, is that it absorbs fortunes to find and buy all that is new in the subjects as it is scattered over so many learned and obscure journals or in the transactions of widely dispersed local societies. Even the current method of supplying off-prints only partially meets the need as the stock is not always sufficient if the particular article is valued and sought after. Therefore, when an author has written such pieces of work here and there, the newer mode is to draw them together into one volume but also to add one or two fresh articles of some substance. So that even though by subscribing to a wide range of Societies the interested folk have at considerable expense already secured them, they still feel they must have the new volume because of the extra(s). When, as in this case, two guineas is needed to purchase it, the cost of maybe a 20 page new article is indeed exorbitant. Having loosed this "grouch", fairness demands that it should be stated that this volume is an addition to Social and Economic History in its local or provincial setting. Some of the essays it contains are already familiar to Leicestershire readers but Essay 1 on the sheep farming in Saxon and Medieval England, though an unpromising subject, has much to commend it. Essay 2 on the Highland Zone in Domesday Book will again be new territory for some readers though many may be unfamiliar with the geographer's term "Highland Zone" - it has no particular connection with Scotland. The Essay 11 is another freshly published item. With such an author the volume is recommended not least perhaps for good presentation by the printers and the well chosen illustrations. Leicestershire readers should note that the interesting essay in the book (Page 53 et seq.) upon The Origin and Rise of Market Harborough is now supplemented by another author in the book that is reviewed next.

DAVIES, J.C. Bowden to Harborough. Publisher The author and printed by Wellandside (Photographics) Ltd. Market Harborough. (1964) Pp. 181. 18s.0d.

Like the previous review, this one starts with a "grouch" or maybe it can be regarded as a general warning to authors. This bound volume is produced by one of the newer processes. None of these are entirely satisfactory and authors or printers who adopt them should realise they have limitations not imposed by the older and extremely adaptable metal type. The dust cover describes the particular process adopted in this case and it need not be repeated here. Pride seems to be expressed that no Half Tone blocks were used. This reviewer suggests that while line drawings are fairly well produced the actual illustrations of buildings would have been much better from the traditional blocks. The text produced photographically direct from a master copy done on a varietyper shows all the usual defects - some pages heavy and others thin in the printing, some crowding of letters together and others widely spaced (this is to secure uniform alignment at the right hand side of the pages, which has to be secured by variable space devices on the special typewriter), and an element of monotony in the actual type employed (because the type matrices are costly and costly in labour in changing from one face to another - the tendency being to have no type variations throughout). The chief motivation in accepting these newer processes being economy one must be content to accept the limitations as compared with monotype or linotype. A rather different proof marking technique has to be adopted and other slight "snags" met as they arise. This should be taken as a general expression of opinion. Inside the limitations this is a fair example of the results obtainable - the printers have obviously done their best. So much depends on the perfection and skill in preparing the "master copy" on the varietyper. Mistakes maybe tend to slip through easier - see page 37 where "assessed" stutters into "assessed".

Now to the text. Mr. Davies has given us a competent and almost exciting piece of local history. With him we stand in the homes and amidst the possessions of quite remote residents (using their surviving wills and accompanying

household inventories). Nine appendices covering 41 pages enable the removal of the drearier (?) supporting evidences from the sequence of text allowing the letter to flow smoothly and very readably from period to period. This is far and away the best of the histories of the somewhat unique township of Market Harborough and its rather complicated Domesday Book predecessors. It is hoped that it commands a ready and wide sale: such is of more than local interest.

The items remaining for review are slighter than the above volumes but not, therefore, to be despised.

SQUIRES, A.E. The Badger in Charnwood Forest. Loughborough Naturalists' Club. Surveys of Leicestershire Natural History No.2 (with a Supplement - separate - by WHALL, T.J. Badger Notes: Observations at a Charnwood Set). (1963) 7s.6d. (Issued from 66 Outwoods Drive, Loughborough).

Admittedly a bit wide of the archaeologists' realm although therefrom he might be saved from making errors of origin of some quite old local earthworks that are the labours of "Old Broc". There are tips on cartography and methods of presenting tabular matter that might well be observed by archaeologists, while this reviewer has nothing but admiration for the provision of beautiful, if expensive, colour frontispiece. Congratulations to this local society on an excellent production and best wishes for a long sequence in this tradition. Keep your eyes open for any odd fragments of pottery or metal your local fairs throw to the surface.

SHRIMPTON, Dorothy M. St. Peter's, Flawford and St. Peter's Ruddington. (1963) 44pp. 3s.0d.

A quite fascinating account of a vanished church and its modern replacement (that is "modern" in the long term years of the archaeologist - 1888 A.D.). There is work awaiting the spade and shovel groups for somewhere in the locality there is paving arranged from Swithland slate gravestones while the remoteness of the old church site suggests a vanished settlement there or maybe some earlier prehistoric use there. The pamphlet is an up-to-date "glossy" and very attractive. It might need a reprint.

There is a most interesting section on alabaster figures from the early Flawford site.

COLLEDGE, J.I.W. St. John the Baptist. Whitwick. Guides to the Church and Historical Notes. (1964) 1s.0d.

Too modestly priced! The Church dealt with is interesting and the site on which it stands perhaps more so. Nearby is the Motte and Bailey Castle. Around are the misty traditions of the great Talbot family ("Talbot's Wood and Talbot's Lane, is all that's left of Talbot's name" - but, the post missed Talbot's Farm). Mr. Colledge has spared no effort to secure full information. He gives not one but quite a number of previously unrecorded facts and even throws a sidelight on the local "Spar" industry. The hope is expressed that this may be a prelude to a wider history of this ancient village and manor on the edge of the Charnwood waste.

HAMMOND, A.T. The Church of St. Nicholas, Lockington-cum-Hemington. Diocese of Leicester. (1963) 2s.0d. Pp.22

Another excellent addition to the series of Leicestershire Churches with suitable guides for visitors. This one is made more attractive by pen and ink drawings by Stanley Heady. The book is not too technical (and it is that) to be human. The visitor will rejoice with the author, who is the Vicar, that his wife

"Unhesitatingly, soon after our marriage, faced me with the prospect of a black parsonage house and Church" for today, with the Guide in hand, it is evident that a great restoration has taken place in the latter building and it may be hoped that the adjacent Vicarage may also receive a full modernisation. Few village churches have so many points of interest and it can now be added that fewer have such an informative guide encompassed within brevity.

KEEPING, S.F. St. Bartholomews, Quor. A Short History. (1963) Pp.24.

The author of this booklet is also a member of Loughborough Archaeological Society. As in the other guides reviewed above his work can be heartily commended. It is true, as he so modestly notes, that a fairly substantial description of the Church was provided by that famous son of Quorndon Archaeological Society. As in the other guides reviewed above his work can be heartily commended. It is true, as he so modestly notes, that a fairly substantial description of the Church was provided by that famous son of Quorndon (the late G. Farnham) and his co-author A. Hamilton Thompson in

Leics. Arch. Soc. Transactions, 1928 (Vol. XVI, Part II). Much water has gone under Quorn Bridge since then and this new account takes due account of the changes and additions, Quorn (as Lockington) is of interest even though it was but a Chapelry of Barrow-upon-Soar until 1868. The centre pages reproduce a magnificent scaled plan; the work of Mr. Albert Herbert showing the stages of developing the structure to its present form. It is a worthwhile publication and, in total guides such as it and those reviewed above should quicken public interest in the tremendous tasks of preservation and maintenance. Some contend that church architecture is beyond the interests of archaeology but churches are custodians of much of the local records whilst of unwritten history their stones are oftentimes sole contributors to the local student's knowledge.

G.H.G.

English Churchyard Memorials by Frederick Burgess.
Lutterworth Press, London, 1963. 50s.

This work fills a long neglected gap in the appreciation of a hitherto much neglected art and the engravers and sculptors who created it. Behind this rather seemingly morbid title lies a revelation in photographs and well executed drawings, accompanied by a text that is both comprehensive and very readable. The style, pattern, art trends, materials and artists are studied from Roman times to the present day. No one interested either in the development of lettering and pattern from Classical forms to the fantastic penmanship styles of the 18th century can afford to neglect it, since these memorials mirror the fashion of the day. The delightful miniature sculptures found on many 18th and early 19th century examples are a study in their own right varying from full bodied nymphs and angels to scenes of the final doom and classical legend. Poetry, tools and peculiarities of local "folk art" styles are also noted. The book is amply filled with chapter notes and book references for further information sources and contains an excellent place name list headed under counties of the many memorials referred to.

Because of Leicestershire's Swithland Slate, and its excellent wearing qualities we feature very handsomely in this work, indeed the book reveals by the distribution

that we represent one of the great Memorial Art Centres. Some 49 different Leicestershire villages and towns are mentioned by examples contained in their churchyards and over 21 photographs and drawings are given of these examples. Several more are given in the neighbouring counties. The book gives reference to several local stone carvers including the Belvoir Vale "folk art" school and in its excellent index of monumental stone carvers by far, the highest proportion are from Leicestershire including several Loughborough names. Space does not permit description of individual local stones for choice is difficult. Mr. Burgess has produced an excellent work and draws attention to the need to record outstanding examples especially with the present regrettable habit of "clearing" churchyards.

A copy is available at the public Library and will be a sound reference for many years to come.

B. C. J. W.

H. P. D.

ROMAN SITES ON THE M-1 MOTORWAY BETWEEN QUINCY & FIVER WOODS

It was expected that the work done in Leicestershire...
 named by the new Motorway would reveal some archaeological...
 sites. Several years ago at a visit made with Jerry...
 this Archaeological Society one of our members signed...
 vigorously for their being a Roman Road from the Monastery...
 to Trent lock, in particular he placed it by reason of...
 small finds as bearing between the two words mentioned above...
 The Motorway has turned matters into certainty. The...
 Archaeological Society has undertaken what can be done in...
 the way of an emergency etc. They have found abundance of...
 Roman pottery and small finds. They have exposed a field

Loughborough Markets And Fairs (through 7¹/₂ centuries)
by George H. Green & M.W. Green (Markets Manager). Echo
Press, Loughborough. Pp.79. Copies from Mr. G.H. Green,
33, Queens Road, Loughborough at 3/6d- or by post 4/6d
post free. Overseas 7/6d post free.

This is a most interesting and valuable contribution to the history of Loughborough which will answer many of the questions naturally arising in the minds of both residents and visitors. While primarily concerned with the markets and fairs, it inevitably touches on other aspects of the town's history for much of that revolved around its weekly markets and annual fairs. The booklet is the result of research carried out under the leadership of Mr. G.H. Green by members of a W.E.A. class at Quest House, which included several members of the Loughborough Archaeological Society. It is well documented with references to and extracts from original sources and can be recommended for use in history classes in local schools. It is to be hoped that the group responsible for this research will continue its activities and investigate other aspects of our local history. There are a number of minor errors of spelling and dates which will no doubt be corrected in a second edition - which I hope the booklet will achieve.

H. F. B.

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ROMAN SITE ON M-1 MOTORWAY BETWEEN OAKLEY & PIPER WOODS

It was expected that the gash across Leicestershire caused by the new Motorway would reveal some archaeological sites. Several years ago at a united meeting with Derbyshire Archaeological Society one of our members argued vigorously for there being a Roman Road from the Monastery to Trent Lock, in particular he placed it by reason of small finds as passing between the two woods mentioned above. The Motorway has turned surmise into certainty. The Shepshed Archaeological Society has undertaken what can be done in the way of an emergency dig. They have found abundance of Roman pottery and small finds. They have exposed a laid

Their work is still in progress and Loughborough will look forward with deep interest to their ultimate report. The next edition of the Ordnance Survey map of Roman Britain will be vastly different from its fore-runners and this should certainly be another road marked on it, especially as the work of two Long Eaton archaeologists has confirmed the presence of Roman buildings on precisely the same route as it proceeds towards the Trent.

G.H.G.

-----oOo-----

... of documentary evidence...
 ... in the early 19th century...
 ... the Trent...
 ... the discovery...
 ... the Trent...
 ... the Trent...

... the debris of the...
 ... large rounded blocks of sandstone...
 ... in the rubble...
 ... many fragments of door and window...
 ... 17th century...
 ... of these...
 ... 18th century...
 ... capital...
 ... many...
 ... sandstone...
 ... part...
 ... narrative...
 ... window...
 ... been...
 ... slightly...
 ... obviously...

... following the...
 ... any...
 ... the...
 ... various...
 ... ancient...
 ... carved...

Garendon

Introductory

During July following the demolition of Gerendon Hall the Excavation Group of the society obtained permission from Mr. G.A.A. March Phillips De Lisle to make a series of investigations.

It was known that Gerendon Hall was reputedly built on the site of Garendon Abbey founded in 1133. This Cistercian Abbey is important historically in being the second house of this order in England, a direct offshoot of Waverley Abbey in Surrey founded in 1129. There exists a great deal of documentary evidence for this Abbey but hitherto no known published evidence of the material remains have been made. During the 17th century the ruins were demolished and extensively erased and only scant tales of the discovery of odd tombs, fragments of carving were reported since. The whereabouts of such items are not at present known if they still survive.

Work began with the removal from the debris of the demolished hall of several large moulded blocks of sandstone that had been re-used in its fabric. They represented in many instances sections of door and window openings of 13th and 14th century type together with sections of quatrefoil pillars. Many of these bore traces of original colour - i.e. white limewash and red line work. An early 12th century capital fragment was also rescued from the rubble. A great many tons of dressed but otherwise plain monastic sandstone sandstone were removed with the rest of the rubble to form hard-core for the M1 motorway construction nearby. One massive core of stonework showing traces of a square headed window opening in the centre of the former hall may have been in its former monastic position but the evidence was slight. All the moulded stone, et., referred to above was obviously re-used material.

Following the rescue work from the hall rubble preliminary work of surveying the park began. This has resulted in the noting of several earthworks, two mediaeval bridges, various underground watercourses some of medieval date, an ancient dovecote together with a buried pile of mediaeval carved stones (now sorted and recorded) and finally two

barns of probable medieval date. One of these barns constructed of Charnwood Forest Stone with dressed sandstone buttresses is due for demolition. Measurements have been made and it may represent a former tithe barn later converted to stables.

Trial excavations were carried out in the vicinity of the Hall and revealed rubble stone foundations and also a 12th century type drum pillar base. These were recorded and the trenches re-filled.

It is hoped to begin the new season's work next Easter with an intensive resistivity survey followed by grid method excavation. Much will depend on the surviving extent of the foundations. The work so far achieved has only been possible through the kind co-operation of Mr. G.A.A. Merch Phillipps De Lisle faced with creating a new Garendon from the old.

B.C.J. Williams.

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A week after the East Leicestershire Group's work ended at Garendon, the Ministry of Works arrived on the site to investigate a small scheduled area due to be built over by the lower station and suspected to be part of the Romano-British site.

The second inscribed tablet from the Roman Site at Red Hill, Ratcliffe on Soar, Nottinghamshire. By B.C. Williams A.T.D.

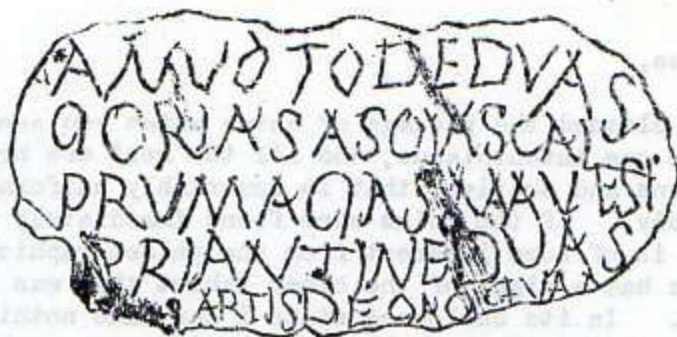
In Bulletin 6 for 1963 a full report was made on a rare lead curse tablet found by Mr. Roger Wilson of Thrumpton on Red Hill in 1961. The same site has since produced two more inscribed lead tablets, one at the moment in the possession of this Society and the other in the hands of Dr. Riek in conjunction with the Ancient Monuments Team who found it.

The background to these tablets is briefly as follows :-

At least part of the suspected Roman - British site on Red Hill was to fall within the area of the new power station now under construction. Despite the solid local opposition and with a final hearing still to be made, preliminary work of clearing the site had begun by the middle of last year.

In September 1963 the East Leake Archaeological Group made a series of visits to the site in order to make test investigations on unscheduled portions of the hill that fell within the boundary of the new power station. These proved negative, On the Western side of the site (virtually on the Soar River cliff edge) vandel digging as elsewhere on the site was noted. Since this was very near the spot S.K.494304, where Roger Wilson had found traces of a floor and also the other inscribed tablet above mentioned, examination was made despite the danger of the cliff edge (being just above the Red Hill Lock). This examination revealed fragmentary traces of stone flooring, limestone rubble and diamond shaped Roman Slates. Roman - British pottery fragments were also noted, i.e. Grey ware, black gritted shellware and buff fragments. From the drop of the cliff it became obvious that much of this building had disappeared with subsequent erosion of the river cliff. No actual wells or actual robber trenches could be defined within the traces surviving, much of which was not only eroded but also previously tampered with. The area in question was limited to some six square feet. The finds were only some four inches below turf level on the cliff top edge becoming a scatter just below the turf further over the cliff. The major discovery was made some five inches below the surface in fine soil bearing carbon traces. This consisted of some twenty two bronze Roman coins, the fragmentary remains of a beautiful small bone comb triangular in shape, some four inches long by one and a quarter inches at the widest point, together with fourteen teeth recovered in sifting, (These are to be treated and reconstructed), and the lead tablet here reproduced.

A week after the East Leake Group's work ended Mr. Greenfield, Archaeologist for the Ministry of Works arrived on the site to investigate a small scheduled area due to be built over by the Power Station and suspected to be part of the Romano - British site.



Inscribed tablet from Roman Site on Red Hill

Some forty test square holes were dug with negative results. After this annoyingly fruitless task was finished Mr. Greenfield made an investigational dig on my indication near to the spot where the East Leake Group had investigated but within the scheduled area a few feet from the cliff edge. This I understand resulted in traces of probably the same building much robbed of its material and difficult to trace. Finds included pottery, painted wall plaster, one coin, a bronze spoon and another inscribed lead tablet (An official list or report is not yet available). The Ancient Monuments hoped to follow up this investigation this year but it is not known when making this report whether they have done so or not.

The tablet and twenty two coins recovered by the East Leake Archaeological Group were sent to Professor E.G. Turner of the Department of Greek, London University, who was responsible for the article and translation published in last year's bulletin. Despite his heavy commitments he willingly undertook this work. It is not as yet complete but below is reproduced the basis of his letter report dated 24th July 1964.

The illustration (above) is slightly enlarged and is not guaranteed to be a perfect interpretation of the original since scratches made by man and nature are not always easy to distinguish. Further investigation and photographs taken in London may later produce a more exact reproduction.

The letter extract.

Dear Mr. Williams,

I have had cleaned the package of coins which you sent to me. The coins include one Antoninianus, and all the rest are bronze of Valentinian, Valens and Gratian, that is remarkably uniformly between 367 and 392 roughly. If the coins were found immediately with the tablet, the fact is of some interest from the palaeographical point of view. I have had a sight of the other tablet that was found during the excavations*. In its uncleaned state I can make nothing of it, and I am not sure whether I shall be able to read very much of it even after it is cleaned. On the other hand, your second tablet is reasonably straightforward to read, but puzzling to understand. I am inclined to think that it is a list of tools dedicated to the deity, but more work will be needed before I can make any certain statement. I have now got good photographs of it, and I am satisfied that the text I have is as good as can be got. I very much fear I shall not be able to do very much on it during the next few months, as I shall be in America from August till Christmas.

Yours sincerely,

E.G. Turner.

* The one found by Mr. Greenfield.

