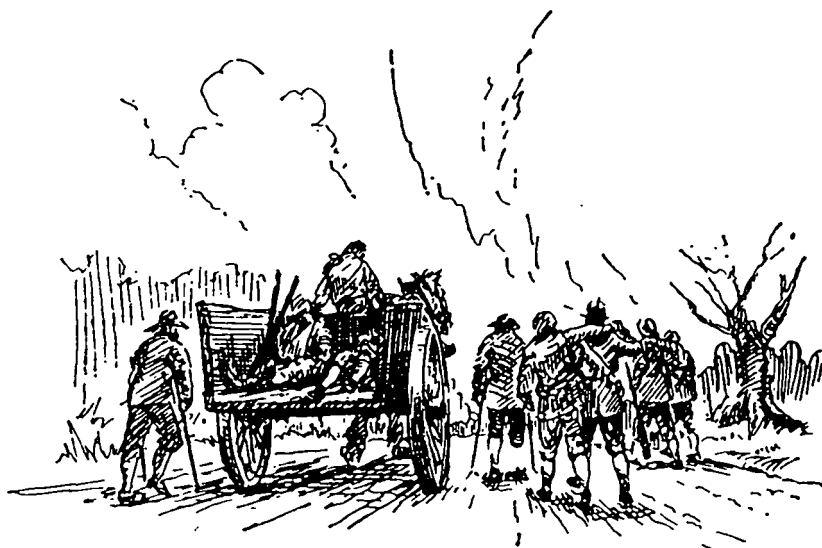


CAKE AND COCKHORSE



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**Details of the Society's activities and
publications will be found on the back cover.**

Cake and Cockhorse

The magazine of the Banbury Historical Society, issued three times a year

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If Summer comes, can Autumn be far behind, or so we hope to prove with *Cake & Cockhorse*. Fortunately coinciding with David Hitchcox's appeal in our previous issue I thought of asking our member Mrs Sarah Markham for a photocopy of the 1753 tax assessment list mentioned in passing last year. Its transcript, index and introduction make our main item. As it needed initial typing on my own PCW (not compatible with David's computer), and I had also accumulated other items for inclusion, it seemed sensible to offer (as a one off) to type and edit this issue throughout. But David will be back next time.

Another happy discovery was the text of the late Dr Brinkworth's twentieth anniversary talk to our Society. Readers will find it reads just as freshly as it sounded from Ted's lips, that evening in the crowded upper room at the Unicorn fifteen years ago. On reflection, how sad it is that we have not made more effort to publish such texts at the time, when they existed.

We have a plethora of book reviews, some of which, as unofficial reviews editor, I should have arranged sooner; now I must apologise that there is not a wider range of reviewers, but when copy date is imminent there is no time to spread the net wide. Nevertheless we are greatly honoured to have our most recent records volume, *Edgehill*, reviewed, and in such detail, by our member Dr Christopher Hill, one of Britain's leading Civil War scholars. Others too, by Ted Clark and Marjorie Lester, are hot off the press (just in time for Christmas), though I cannot think how we failed to review Mrs Lester's earlier book when it was published in 1986. It doesn't date!

On a domestic note, we have a new (but very familiar) Chairman to our committee, Brian Little, whilst Dr John Rivers has taken over from Penelope Renold as Programmes Secretary. Our thanks to John for his work in his previous role, and to Penelope for many years' work in providing such a splendid series of talks that we wish more members could attend. We draw members' attention to the meeting on 14th January 1993, when the well known local auctioneer Tim Holloway will be providing our own home-grown version of the Antiques Road Show. John Cheney (11th February) requires no introduction, and local member Dr Peter Cornah's title, 'History from Landscapes', promises much (11th March). Our village meeting on 15th April (just after Easter) is at Hook Norton, and will be held at 7.15 for 7.30pm at the Baptist Hall in The Nettings. Cars should be parked outside the Sun Inn or the Church, about 100 yards from the hall.

Elsewhere Brian Little reports on our October meeting, held at Broughton Castle to coincide (within a week or so) with the 350th anniversary of the battle of Edgehill, which was addressed by our member Dr Philip Tennant, author of our new records volume. With well over 150 attending, this was a worthily memorable occasion, and we are particularly grateful to our President and Lady Saye and Sele for enabling us to hold it in such an appropriate setting.

An initiative has been taken locally to form a group of those interested in family history, and its first meeting was held on 19th November. In due course this will probably have a formal association with the Oxfordshire Family History Society and, we hope, also become interested in Banbury's local history. In the meantime, readers can contact its organiser, Mrs Muriel Willson, at 330 Warwick Road, Banbury OX16 7AY (0295 259355). Very informal meetings are to be held on the third Thursday of the month (conveniently between our own and those of the O.F.H.S.).

Finally, and by now readers will be relieved to return to the editor's short and pithy notes, may I take this opportunity to pay tribute to David's work since Summer 1984 (long, we hope, to continue) as editor of *Cake & Cockhorse*. Our Summer 1992 issue was the 25th under his editorship, so he has already well passed the twenty of his immediate predecessor, David Fiennes. But don't think of resting on your laurels, David — Barrie Trinder edited 42! Keep up the good work.

J S W.G.

Cover illustration: One of Stephen Beck's evocative endpieces in *Edgehill*, which so aptly sum up the unglamorous futility of war.

ALFRED BEESLEY

by the late **E.R.C. BRINKWORTH**

introduced by **Jeremy Gibson**

Amongst historians of Banbury, the names Beesley and Brinkworth stand pre-eminent. Four years ago the commemorative 99th issue of *Cake & Cockhorse* (10.9, Summer 1988) gave the opportunity for Ross Gilkes' reminiscences of Ted Brinkworth, mainly of years long before our Society was founded, to make up for the obituary that he had so specifically forbidden. Seven years earlier, the 140th anniversary of the publication of Beesley's *History of Banbury* (whose 150th anniversary last year we must admit was overlooked) was marked by a worthy critical appreciation of his work and life, by John Steane, published in these pages (*C&CH* 8 7, Autumn 1981), together with Barbara Adkins' history of the Beesley family, well complemented by David Fiennes' elegant editorial.

My own intense interest in local history (preceded by genealogical research which so fortunately included many Banbury ancestors) dates from the autumn of 1957, when I first arrived in the town just as Ted's Extra-mural Delegacy series of talks, 'New Light on Old Banbury', was about to start. That first lecture and our first meeting meant the start of a great friendship and a collaboration which only ended with his death in 1978. In later years I have been fortunate enough to meet and become friends with other eminent historians, in particular two archivists, the late Francis Steer and, happily still with us, Dr Derick Emmison. As will be seen, these were two for whom Ted also had a great admiration.

Looking through accumulated papers I happened across some that Ted's widow or heirs had passed to me, amongst them the notes for a talk he gave to mark our twentieth anniversary, in November 1977, on Alfred Beesley. Knowing of John Steane's more recent article I assumed it would have been superseded by that (indeed John refers to notes for such a lecture in his acknowledgments). However, re-reading it I found much that seemed worthy of published record, complementing the later article, and indeed I felt I was once again hearing Ted's voice. I trust that other readers, many of whom will remember him themselves, will enjoy it just as much.

The notes are reproduced exactly as they are written. At the start they are just that, and one can easily imagine how he actually delivered the talk. However, the notes so soon turn into a smooth narrative that it seems a pity to attempt to gild the lily, and they are therefore left throughout as in the manuscript — Ted's authentic voice will over-ride.

* * *

To make this talk a little clearer, shall divide into four parts:

1. Life and other work besides *History*.
2. His talent as a writer of pleasing verse.
3. Then shall come to the *History* and how it came to be written; and attempt some assessment of its value.
4. Using Beesley as a text, say something about loc. hist. in general: the study we are mainly concerned with in our B.H. Society.

Life and other work

Thorough Banburian. Old family. Born, lived, died, buried.

Born 1800 [actually 1799] of a Quaker family, though he and most of family later became Anglicans. Died 1847. Remarkable what he accomplished in that short life, however versatile he was.

Pity no diary. Rather meagre. Only one picture. Potts

Educated in Banbury. No doubt at one of the academies; best of those gave sound basic education.

Apprenticed to watchmaker in Deddington. Served only part of time: whole then seven years. Then devoted mainly to literary and scientific pursuits.

Did not lose skill in clockwork.

Played organ well. Mastered the mechanism of organs. Became known in a modest way as organ builder. For a workshop used his relation Henry Beesley's warehouse in Pepper Alley.

Carried on small business as an insurance agent.

A bachelor.

So far know little of immediate family background [but see Barbara Adkins, 'The Beesley Family of Alcester and Banbury', *C&CH*, 8.7].

Lived greater part of life with his aunt in Cornhill, where she kept a chemist's shop. It was just at the corner which turns into the Market Place. Next to it, on the Market Place side, lived Mr Rusher, who had a printer and bookseller's establishment there.

One of the Rusher girls, Sarah married a boy of the next door family, Thomas Beesley, brother of our Alfred. She lived to be a great age and towards the end of her days she wrote a charming autobiography or journal which she had printed and called it simply *My Life*. Full of valuable history of the town as well as a fascinating picture of life in her society.

Unfortunately she does not tell us much about her brother-in-law Alfred, except that he was particularly fond of his niece, her daughter Mary, who died when very young. Alfred, in the sentimental manner of the time, asked that when the time came he should be buried with her in the family vault in the parish churchyard. No trace remains.

It was Thomas Beesley, the husband of Sarah, who compiled the section in his brother Alfred's work dealing with the botany and geology of the Banbury area.

The Beesley family prominent in the town. Indeed between them they did a good deal towards running the place. In one year, 1847, for example, there were two Town Clerks: one a Beesley, the other a Hunt. The Clerkship of the Magistrates was held by the firm of Messrs. Beesley, Hunt and Fortescue. Another Beesley was Overseer of the Poor, another was Secretary of the Auxiliary Bible Society, another Correspondent of the Anti-Slavery Society. And so on: the list of Beesley office holders could be enlarged.

I don't know if any of Beesley's family live in Banbury. But I know a lady aged 90 who well remembers nieces of Alfred Beesley living in West Bar: they were sisters of the little niece with whom Beesley lies buried.

This seems a good place to say a little more about Alfred Beesley's activities apart from the writing of the *History of Banbury*.

Beesley played a prominent part in the development of the Mechanics' Institute which took such an important part in the educational life of the town, as these Mechanics' Institutes did everywhere throughout the land. Beesley was connected with the Banbury Institute from the foundation in 1835. The Institute began in a very small way, in an upstairs room at No. 27 Parsons Street, rented at 3s.6d. a week, lit by candles — before the coming of gas and electricity.

Its membership grew rapidly and already in 1836 a special building for it was erected in Church Passage. There it remained until it moved to the newly erected buildings in Marlborough Road in the early 1880's, the buildings which are now Borough House and the Public Library. Fortunately the Minutes of the Mechanics' Institute exist from the beginning in 1835 until it was taken over and a Borough Library formed soon after the Second World War in 1946. Among many other activities the Mechanics' Institute ran a Magazine to which members contributed. It was written only, not printed. The Borough Library has a complete run of these. Among the early contributors was Alfred Beesley. His handwriting is interesting and highly reminiscent of the handwriting of Cardinal Newman.

Alfred Beesley as a poet

Another side of Beesley's versatility was the facility he had for writing attractive verse which now and then touches poetry. An article on this aspect of Beesley [by B.J. Burden] appeared in our journal *Cake & Cockhorse* (2.2) in November 1962.

Beesley's verses were collected and published in a volume called *Japheth, Contemplative and Other Pieces*, in 1834. Beesley was I think best at blank verse. Sometimes he is almost as good as Cowper. He was an admirer of Cowper, like Jane Austen who lived at the same time as Beesley.

[At this point in the talk, members of Drayton School spoke a few extracts from Beesley's verse. For a note of topicality, at its 350th anniversary, rather than quality of Beesley's verse, part of Mr Burden's comment on and quotation from the poem *Edgehill* may stand for the rest:

'It is interesting to compare part of [Beesley's] historical note to *Edgehill* with some lines from the poem:

"Considered in connexion with history, the hill has the advantage of giving almost a bird's eye view of the places of the leading events of the part of the campaign which preceded the battle. To the north-west, until lost in the distance, is the country surrounding Worcester, the towers of which may be seen on a clear day, whence sweeping to the northward are the coal and iron industries of Staffordshire; the smoke of whose furnaces, happily not the smoke of havock and rapine, points the route of the King's advance ... In the foreground runs the Avon ... its course being marked almost from beginning to end by the rising mists of summer evening.

"Here, wearying world, we may look down on thee
And think awhile that all thy toils are vain! ...
Thence to the time when thy own Shakespeare walk'd
Beside the classic Avon — there he lies!
Through regions vast where yonder spire shall stand.
Far in the distance then see Worcester's towers
Where the pale porcelain clay is mark'd with beauty."

'One good line (the only one in the poem). But the dry precision of the note, with its eye-witness veracity and controlled illusiveness, is a far more vivid digest of geographical, scenic and historical fact than the ornate, rather pompous fustian.'

To be fair to Beesley, Mr Burden had much more praise for many of his other poems, which he quotes extensively in his article. Unfortunately there is no note of which were spoken on the occasion of the talk.]

The *History* and how it came to be written; and its value

Beesley was led to the study of the history of his native place through studying George Baker's *History [and Antiquities of the County] of Northampton*. As Beesley himself says, 'It was in a great measure by the perusal of Baker's invaluable *History of Northampton* that I was led to attempt, in the inadequate manner that I have done, the compilation of the *History of Banbury*.'

He could not have chosen a better example, for Baker's is usually reckoned the best of all the older great county histories. (What a pleasure it is, by the way, to consult these elephant folios with their fine print and sharp engravings.) Baker's work came out in parts, the first in 1822. I think it was probably about then that Beesley got the idea of his work on Banbury and started on it.

Beesley published his work in parts, too, by means of guaranteed subscriptions. The whole was finished in 1841 when the parts were gathered and bound into volumes, usually by the individual owners of the parts. That accounts for the many forms of cover in which we find the book.

In the formal Preface, dated December, 1841, Beesley refers to the 'many years' — his own words — 'the many years' he has spent on the work. This bears out roughly the date I have estimated as the beginning of Beesley's labours.

The printing was well done by the local firm of Potts in Parsons Street. It has not the stately magnificence of Baker or Dugdale or Hutchins or White Kennett, but it makes a very respectable and dignified showing all the same.

Almost 800 copies were issued so now it is rare — and of course found in a variety of conditions, according to the quality of the binding and the vicissitudes of fortune. Being rare and desirable it fetches good prices if in anything like decent condition. The highest I have heard of is £25 [in 1977 — fifteen years later it may be ten times that price!].

Beesley's title was *The History of Banbury, including copious historical and antiquarian notices of the neighbourhood*.

A great merit is that it was based so largely on original historical records. It is remarkable what Beesley accomplished in this. For in his time, long before records were organised and available as they are now, they were extremely difficult of access and in a great many instances *impossible* of access, except those immediately to hand locally.

Also, since Beesley's time there has been a very great advance in our knowledge of the administration which produced the records, of the forms in which they were written, of the script and the language in which they were written — all of which of course adds up to our understanding of the records. Beesley had few indeed of the aids which we now take for granted.

There was no Public Record Office — that was opened after his time, in 1851. Before that the Public Records were largely in the Tower of London and almost entirely unarranged. There was the British Museum and Beesley in his Preface thanks the Keeper for his help (I quote) 'during my long researches in that establishment.' Let us hope that he was allowed as old John Aubrey tells us of a famous antiquary who used to do twelve hour stints, to send out now and then for bread and beer, in Aubrey's words, 'to replicate his spirits.'

Beesley also thanks Dr Philip Bliss, Registrar of the University of Oxford, I quote, 'for an Introduction to the treasures of that University' — and no doubt he is referring mostly to the Bodleian Library.

Further, Beesley examined many collections of records in private hands and family monuments. And he sent out enquiries all over England. In the Bodleian there are preserved over four hundred letters in answer to these enquiries. Some years ago I went

through them. They are worth much more careful study [see John Steane's article in *C&CH* 8.7]. These letters show the determination and thoroughness with which Beesley went to work. In his Preface he thanks these correspondents, and says the list of them is nearly as long as the list of his subscribers.

As I have said, Beesley's book was published by subscription; the subscribers were solicited by circular letter. The list is printed in the *History* and is well worth looking at. There were members of the aristocracy, beginning with the Duke of Marlborough (who took two copies) and including amongst others the Marquis of Northampton, the Marquis of Bute [of the North family of Wroxton] and Lord Saye and Sele; the Bishops of Durham, Lincoln and Ripon (though curiously not the Bishop of Oxford); Bodley's Librarian, Dr Bulkeley Bandinel; many of the heads of Oxford colleges, including the venerable Dr Routh, president of Magdalen; and nearly all the incumbents of parishes for miles around Banbury.

Among local well known laymen are many whose descendants are still to the fore. We notice the names Aplin [the lawyer]; Blencowe of Marston St. Lawrence; Edward Cobb of Calthorpe House (a member of the Cobb family visited the parish church recently when my wife was looking after it one Friday morning; they had a conversation and he sent a donation to her for the Restoration Fund). There was John Drinkwater of the White Lion [what a name for a publican!]; John Cheney [printer]; Gilletts [bankers], Holbeches of Farnborough; Lampreys [corn merchants]; John Loveday, squire of Williamscoote; Edward Stone [of Bermondsey; I think this must have been the elder son (b.1809) of Henry Stone (d.1850), the grocer and carter of whom I wrote in *C&CH* 12.1, Autumn 1991. J.G.]; Henry Stone [second son (b.1818) of Henry (grocer), bookseller and member of the committee of the North Oxfordshire Archaeological Society, founder of the cabinet makers and colour printers Henry Stone & Son, gt. grandfather to J.G.]; Walford [lawyers]; George Warriner of Bloxham Grove; and six members of the Beesley family loyally rallied round.

The book was dedicated to the Reverend J.R. Rushton, B.D., incumbent of Hook Norton. He had been Curate of Banbury when Thomas William Lancaster was Vicar [see E.R.C. Brinkworth, 'A Nineteenth Century Vicar of Banbury: Thomas William Lancaster', *C&CH* 2.4, March 1963]. But Lancaster spent half of his time in Oxford and Rushton did the work and was highly respected and beloved by the people of Banbury for his long and faithful ministry among them.

Beesley's achievement

Now to venture on an assessment of Alfred Beesley's achievement.

We have first to face the fact that the book is not as the title says, *The History of Banbury* in the way we have for long expected the history of a town to be: that is, an account of the development of the town, in all its aspects — a history, for instance, like Sir Francis Hill's *Lincoln*, W.T. Mellow's *Peterborough*, Preston's *Abingdon* or, on a smaller scale, William Potts' *Banbury*, ably re-edited by Mr Edward Clark and happily before long to be republished [Gulliver Press, 1978].

No, what Beesley provides is a most valuable collection of antiquarian notes and material *for*, or *towards*, a history of Banbury, together with the same sort of material for many places in the neighbourhood. Let us never underrate the lasting value of Beesley. It is almost uncanny how often he has *something* at least to tell us on so many points of our history. Much of this is to be found in his lengthy footnotes. Never omit to read Beesley's small print.

Then, when Beesley quotes from original records his standard of accuracy is surprisingly high, though he was too much given to quoting extracts which happened to interest him rather than coherent passages in full.

Beesley's descriptions of churches in the neighbourhood are particularly valuable because he made them just before most of them came in for the widespread restorations of the mid-nineteenth century.

Beesley is good on short biographies of worthies of the town and its neighbourhood, like the great scholar Lydiat of Alkerton; Kersey of Bodicote, the inventor or discoverer of logarithms; as well as the underworld: like Morrell the bigamist, Sansbury the highwayman, Parr the murderer; and curiosities like the Weatherman Shepherd of Banbury.

Possibly the strongest part of Beesley's work is the detailed account of the Civil War in this area [of which Philip Tennant's *Edgehill* takes good note], founded very largely on original pamphlets many of which are now lost.

Local history today

Using Beesley as a pretext, what about the position of local history today [1977]? The study of local history and antiquities has a firm tradition in this country going back more than four hundred years. It has had its ups and downs and a definitely down period was before some fifty years and more ago [i.e. pre-1927]. For many years, and often much later, local history was regarded as the Cinderella of historical studies, the happy hunting ground for the amiable dilettante potterer interested in old things and curious bits and pieces about the past. Now the position has almost completely reversed, the light has dawned, for local history — and by that I mean local history generally and at large — is regarded as a discipline in its own right and is now in the very forefront of historical studies: and it is recognised that the proper practice of it must satisfy the *most* exacting demands of historical scholarship. Further it is realised that local history can no longer be studied in a vacuum. It must be backed and placed within the whole body of historical knowledge. General and local history are indivisible and complementary.

This great change in local history has been brought about largely by the setting up of County Record Offices with great archivists like Francis Steer and F.G. Emmison and by county record societies whose volumes have been edited by the finest historical scholars; all of this powerfully backed by societies such as our own, relatively rare in 1957 but now, twenty years on, to be found *everywhere*.

I would like to emphasise that although local history very largely demands the highest expertise, there is plenty of work for the inexperienced that can be of great value; and once begun, very many go on to acquire more and more knowledge of skill and methods, and wider reading of more general history within which to set their findings.

For the beginner and for the professional there is an almost unending vista of work waiting to be done on local history, not least in the history of Banbury. But finally and above all I must pay tribute, and to voice the tribute of us all, to Alfred Beesley as the pioneer in the reconstruction of the history and antiquities of Banbury and its neighbourhood.

BRIDGE STREET: Some further evidence

Jeremy Gibson

The Survey of Bridge Street and Mill Lane published in the last issue of *C&CH* discusses the fragmentary evidence of sixteenth and seventeenth century occupation so thoroughly that it might easily be thought to be the final word on that subject. This can never be the case, and it seems worthwhile recording immediately some further scraps of information on that area, though they do not add significantly to the case already presented.

The more relevant can be dealt with simply. On page 59, after quoting the 1653 survey (see BHS.15, pp. 190-93), it is rightly said that the Corporation records become sparser and consequently 'there appears to be very little evidence relating to this area of Banbury from 1653 to 1778'. However, it is a pity the compilers of the report did not see the article published in *C&CH* 10.1 (Autumn 1985), 'The *Wheatsheaf* and *Adam and Eve* in Restoration Banbury.' The latter, occupied in 1676 by Nathaniel Vivers, mercer, was in Bridge Street, at a point which I suggest was at or near the junction of Bridge Street North and Mill Lane. The matter is fully discussed in the article, so need not be repeated here. Suffice it to mention that the land in question had been bought from Robert Scott, William Scott and William Clifton, in the tenure of Thomas Hunt.

It gives the opportunity of mentioning that this Nathaniel Vivers also occurs in an unexpected role in Philip Tennant's *Edgehill*. The Vivers family had been important in Banbury over the past century. Nathaniel's father Richard had been elected Mayor three times, when the town was notorious for its extreme puritanism; his elder brother Robert had married Ann Hawtaine of Calthorpe House and had been a Parliamentary officer at Edgehill; his younger brother Edward became the town's leading Quaker. Perhaps in reaction to his family's fanaticism, or merely because he had an eye to the main chance, Nathaniel is found supplying royalists in the besieged castle; and reported (amongst others) to have constantly informed against neighbours and 'violently carried away several men from their dwelling and took them to the garrison and kept them there under restraint until they paid several sums unjustly demanded.' It must have taken a brave man, or perhaps a foolish one, so openly to support the royalist cause in a town like Banbury.

The heading of the Survey implied it dealt with the whole of Bridge Street, whereas in fact it only related to Bridge Street North (and Mill Lane). Thus my other fresh information is of peripheral relevance, as it probably relates to the southern side of Bridge Street.

It comes from the will of a Banbury innholder, William Alsopp, dated 25th February 1615/6; he was buried later that month. He had married Millicent Knight in March 1575/6. She was not, I think, one of the influential John Knight's daughters who married so many of the leading Banburians. Nevertheless he was a man of standing, as shown not merely by his probate being in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury [PROB 11/128] but also by his request to be buried inside the parish church. He owned considerable property in the town. His daughter Margaret was to inherit a barn now or lately in the occupation of Thomas Goodby, John Rice and John Pitts, and three houses in Newland in the occupation of Isabell Ricketts, widow, Richard Rainsford and Robert Page. His son George was to receive five tenements in St. John's Street (South Bar) in the occupation of Thomas

Knight, Richard Miller, Christopher Nottinghame, Widow Bentley and William Higgens. Twenty nobles were to go each to his grown son Richard and daughters Margerie wife of Giles Ivetoie and Elizabeth wife of Symon Lovett. His eldest son Matthew was his main heir, but his son John (like George at that time still serving an apprenticeship) was to receive four tenements 'in a street called the Bridge in the occupation of John Walmesley, Thomas Kirtland, Richard Blackley and Anthonie Mayoc; and one other tenement in the occupation of John Joanes in St. Joanes [John's] Street'. Forty shillings were to be distributed to the poor of Banbury on the day of his burial. Overseers were 'my cozens' Richard Vivers (also a witness) and Robert Kinge. The other witness was John Leake. Matthew Alsop proved the will on 18th June 1617.

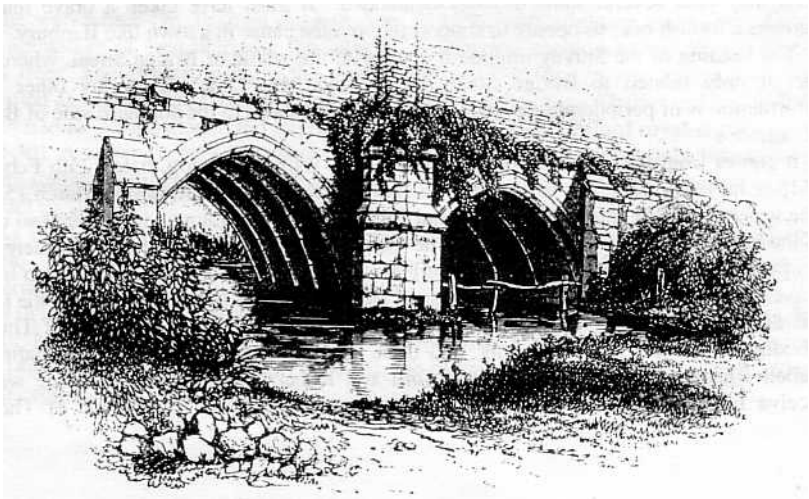
Matthew Alsop continued to live in Banbury and became a Burgess on the Corporation from 1622 to 1628. Nothing more is known of his brothers. That the property was probably in Bridge Street South is shown by the 1616/7 town rental, where his is the first name under that heading, paying 1s. Under his father's will he was charged with administering his younger brothers' legacies.

As early as 1603 John Wawmesley is noted as holding a lease of a tenement in the Hogmarket for 21 years from 1595, at a rent of 6s.8d. This was probably the same man as Alsop's tenant, though presumably of nearby rather than the same property. He was a fuller and died in 1629, his probate inventory [BHS.14, no. 302] showing household goods worth only £1.10s. with no room by room description. His son John, a taster for the Corporation in 1621 and later years, suffered in the 1628 fire, probably in a different part of the town.

Thomas Kirtland only occurs once in Banbury records, when, amongst town rents of 1616/7, there is a charge of 13s.4d. for tenure: 'Thomas Keartland: stands in the house but boards and four transoms, boards being 12 feet long'. This may be one of the 'houses built by Richard Draper upon the waste in the New Land.'

Richard Blackley also is only discovered once, in May 1608 when Mary daughter of 'Rycharde Blakesley' was baptised.

The last of the Bridge Street tenants, Anthony Mayo, had three children baptised 1613-17, and himself was buried in July 1628, described as labourer. Altogether these tenants of Alsop confirm that their dwellings were of minor importance, as might well be expected of this low-lying part of the town.



LAND TAX PAYERS IN BANBURY HUNDRED, 1753

Jeremy Gibson

In my article on the 1754 Election in North Oxfordshire (*C&CH*, 11.8, Spring 1991), I mentioned in passing that associated with the canvassing list (from the Loveday of Williamscothe archive) was a tax assessment of 1753. Its owner, our member Mrs Sarah Markham, has now very kindly provided me with a photocopy for me to transcribe, together with her permission for its publication by the Society. On examination it turns out to be of very considerable interest, as it is Oxfordshire's earliest surviving Land Tax assessment for a complete Hundred (the administrative area somewhat equivalent to the modern district councils).

The Land Tax was first introduced in the 1690s, and was only eventually abolished as late as the 1960s. Throughout the eighteenth century it was the main form of direct taxation, of much greater importance than the perhaps better known Window Tax. The nation's other substantial source of taxation income was indirect, from excise. Some years after the time of the tax lists in question, there was trouble with the colonies over 'no taxation without representation'; and even in recent years some, hoping to avoid paying local taxes, have failed to enter themselves on the electoral register. At that time there was no question of representation without taxation, for the franchise, in parliamentary elections for County members, was restricted to 40s. freeholders, and, as most such were subject to the Land Tax, the assessment list of taxpayers was a convenient form of primitive electoral register. Although the principle that Land Tax payers were entitled to the vote was accepted from 1745 on, this was not generally put into practice, by the Clerks to Quarter Sessions, until 1780 or later. From the 1780s Land Tax assessment lists survive in quantity in most counties, amongst records of Quarter Sessions, until the parliamentary reform of 1832. Such holdings for the whole of Oxfordshire (except for the city of Oxford) start in 1785, held at Oxfordshire Archives.

However, generally (apart from a few large cities, such as London and Bristol), despite the existence of the tax for nearly a century, few of the pre-1780s lists of taxpayers survive. In Oxfordshire there are chance survivals for 1760 for just two Hundreds, Ploughley (north-east Oxfordshire, the Bicester area south to Islip) and Wootton (Deddington south to Oxford, including Woodstock); Wootton Hundred is also partially covered for 1762. The only other early tax lists known are for the parish of North Leigh (1706-22). So the discovery of this 1753 tax assessment for Banbury Hundred is of importance.

Banbury Hundred covered only part of the Banbury area, as it was intermingled with Bloxham Hundred, whilst Epwell, Horley and Hornton were enclaves belonging to more distant Hundreds, and Shenington was even in a different county. Apart from Banbury itself (borough and parish, hamlets such as *Neithrop*), the Hundred included most of Cropredy and Swalcliffe parishes, their chapelries and hamlets; and, more distant, Charlbury with Finstock and Fawler.

Once there are Land Tax assessments for a run of years they can be used to track occupancy and ownership of land, and changes due to removal or death. With the chance

survival of a single year, use is limited. Nevertheless, at a time long before the Census and long after the Hearth Tax, any listing of those living in the area is welcome to historians.

This document clearly does survive because of its use, in just the way described, by William Taylor of Williamscoate in preparation for the 1754 election. He, like his father before him, was a Commissioner for the Land Tax. The names of Commissioners were printed every year in the renewal of the Act of Parliament sanctioning the Tax. He would thus have had access to the list of those assessed, and be able to have a copy made for his own use.

The earlier part of the assessment is of inhabitants of the Borough of Banbury, and is in four columns. The first of these is of the inhabitants (listed alphabetically), followed by the amount assessed, at two shillings in the pound, per pound rent. There follow, in a third column (in the transcript separated by a semi-colon), the names, when different, of the actual freeholders. Only adult male freeholders would be entitled to vote, hence the occasional remarks of 'A Woman', 'Child, Minor' etc. A final column shows, against some names, the initial 'B', presumably for Banbury, maybe indicating the person lived locally.

The latter part of the lists, in a different handwriting, covers the remainder of the Hundred, outside the Borough. This consists of two columns only, the names of (presumably) the freeholders, and the amount assessed.

Names have been compared with the published 1754 poll book and those identified asterisked (*). Those only appearing in the canvass lists have a dagger (†) before the surname. Where Christian names are missing from the tax lists but are shown in the poll or canvass and identification seems reasonably clear they have been added in square brackets, but this should be taken as supposition only. For convenience all 707 entries have been individually numbered, and names are so indexed.

This cross-referencing does show how many more people are named in these tax assessments than in the earlier lists of potential voters, both those below the financial minimum and, of course, women, though the latter, unfortunately, hardly ever with a distinguishing Christian name. Mr Brothers (41) is shown as a Roman Catholic, paying the relatively high sum of £1.6s. Catholics were penalised by having to pay double taxation. Several Banbury inns are mentioned: the Three Tuns (79), the Reindeer (74), the Black Lion (115), the Red Lion (233), the Saracen's Head (190), the Fox (220).

As with the earlier publication of the poll and canvass, I make no attempt to analyse or discuss the people listed or, in this case, the tax paid. My purpose is to make the names available, for use in other research. The editor of *Cake & Cockhorse* will, I am sure, welcome the opportunity to publish the outcome of such research.

Further reading

The Land Tax has been the subject of much discussion in recent years by economic historians, and its use to local and family historians has also long been recognised. My location guide (compiled with Dennis Mills) to *Land Tax Assessments c.1690 - c.1950* (Federation of Family History Societies, 1983-7; new edition for publication 1993) provides a select bibliography. There are sections on the Land Tax in W.B. Stephens, *Sources for English Local History* (Cambridge U.P., 1981, pp. 187-90) and John West, *Village Records* (Phillimore, 1982, pp. 143-45). For a readable all-round account see J.V. Beckett, *Local Taxation: National Legislation and the Problems of Enforcement* (Standing Conference for Local History, 1980); and for its use, see R.W. Unwin, *Search Guide to the English Land Tax* (West Yorkshire County Record Office, 1982).

**Borough of Banbury of Banbury in the County of Oxford.
A Copy of an Assessment made on the Inhabitants of the said Borough of 2 shillings
in the Pound, Pr. pound rent, 1753.**

- 1 Allington, Mrs, 10s. B.
- 2 Anton & Tenements, 2s , Mrs Daviss.
- 3 *Aplin, Benjn., 8s. B
- 4 Attree [?Appletree] &c., 4s.8d.; Mr Councer, Bloxham.
- 5 Austin, James see Perrin, Jos.; Elkington, Cropredy.
- 6 Baber, Mrs, late, 4s.8d., Mr Thomas Wheatley. B.
- 7 Baber, Mrs, 6s.; Miss Paynton.
- 8 *Badger, Overbury, 11s.8d.; The Revd. Mr John *Gibbard.
- 9 Baker, John, 4s ; Thos. *Palmer. B.
- 10 Baker, Willm., 2s.6d.; Richd. *Callcott. B.
- 11 *Baker, Thos., 2s.8d., B.
- 12 Baker, Joseph, 1s ; Richd *Turner. B.
- 13 Banister, John, 1s 6d.; Joseph *Wise. B.
- 14 Barker, Thos [no sum]; Mr Wm. *Barrett. B.
- 15 *Barrett, Wm., 4s 1d.; Mr Edmund Barton.
- 16 *Barnet, Mr [George], 4s. B.
- 17 Barton, Mrs, 6s., B.
- 18 Beal, Widow, 1s , Mr Richd. Lambert. B.
- 19 Beazant's Tenants, 3s.4d ; Will. *Pargeter. B.
- 20 Beazant, Edward, 4s ; Mr Wm. *Berry. B.
- 21 Bennet, Michael, 4s.8d. B.
- 22 Berry, Mrs, 2s.6d.; Mr [Robert or Stephen] †DOyley B.
- 23 Berry, Mr [William], 4s.; Miss Paynton. B.
- 24 Bloxham, Robt., 4s.; Foulk Neal, under age.
- 25 *Bloxham, John, 7s. B.
- 26 †Bloxham, Nathl., 6s , Mr [John] †Hughes, Warwickshire [of Welford, Glos.].
- 27 Bloxham, Dew, 2s.6d.; the Revd. Mr †Wardall.
- 28 *Bloxham, Thos., House & Shop, 6s 9d.
- 29 *Bloxham, Richd., 5s.4d.
- 30 Bloxham, Mr, Close, 5s.
- 31 Bloxham, Mr, House, 12s.8d.
- 32 Bloxham, Widow, 5s.; Tim. Buller.
- 33 *Bloxham, John, 5s.4d.; Mr [*William?] Long. B.
- 34 Bloxham, Mrs, 4s.6d.
- 35 Bloxham, Mary, 3s.
- 36 Bloxham Tenements, 5s.
- 37 Boffin, Humphry, 4s.6d.; Mr [Corbet] *Sodin, Winchester.
- 38 †Boffin, Lucas, 1s.[?: torn].
- 39 *Bradford, Thos., 5s.
- 40 *Bradford, Wm., 2s.6d.; Bodicott.
- 41 Brothers, Mr, £1.6s.; Roman Cathk
- 42 Buller, James, 4s.; Mr Bloxham.
- 43 *Buttler, John, 9s.
- 44 *Buttler, Wm., 10s.8d
- 45 Buttler, Wm., 1s.4d.
- 46 †Burges, Thos., 1s.
- 47 Butcher, Mr, 7s.; The Revd Mr [Samuel] West, [Maidford] Northn.
- 48 *Burford, Richd., 13s.4d.
- 49 *Burford, Edward, £1.
- 50 *Burden, James, 7s.
- 51 *Calcot, Wm., Ten'ts., 1s.6.

- 52 *Calcott, Richd & Close, 10s
53 Cater, Mrs, 6s.
54 Capp, Thos., 11s.6d.; The Poor, Charlbury.
55 †Chamberlain, Wm , 3s.4d.
56 Charles, Josh. & Son, 1s.
57 *Charles, Richd., 2s.
58 Clark, Supervizer, 6s.6d., Mr Fox, Chalcomb
59 Clark, Thomas, 5s.2d.; Overbury Badger. B
60 Claridge, Ambrose, 6s.6d., Miss Potter. B.
61 *Clarson, Henry, 8s.6d.; Henry Clarson & Saml Sale B.
62 *Clarson, Saml , Tenem'ts, 10s.
63 Cole, Henry, 6s 6d., Mr Jarvis B
64 Cox, Wm., 3s , Wm. †Taylor. B
65 Cropley, Wm , 6s
66 *Dawks, Thos., 4s
67 †Deacle, Wm., 12s
68 Deacle, Thos., 6s 6d ; Mr Wm. Hirons [*Hyrons]. B.
69 *Deacle, John, 9s.4d.; Mr Wm. †Deacle
70 *Dent, Charles, 1s , C Dent & Mr Thos. *Haynes. B
71 Dent, Wid., 1s
72 †Doyley, Thos., Ten'ts, 1s.8d.
73 †Doyley Thos., House & Garden, 12s
74 Durey, Rain Deer, £1 2s.; Mr [William] †Russell, Bodicott
75 Drury, Robt., Wem's [?], 3s.
76 Drury, 9s., Mr Robt *Gardner, Soulgrave.
77 Dumbleton, Wid., 3s 6d.
78 Dundass, Wm., 5s ; Boyce , London
79 Edge, [Francis], Tunns, £1.2s.; Mr Edward *Burford B [See *C&CH* 8.1 (Autumn 1979),
J.S.W Gibson, 'The Three Tunns in the 18th Century', p 5]
80 *Eld, [Timothy]'s Tenements, 6s.
81 Elger, Franc's, Rom. [? or Ram], 5s ; Mr Saml. *Gardner
82 Evans, Tenem'ts; 4s
83 Fairfax, Richd., 6s.8d , The Rev'd Mr [John] *Gibbard, Midleton [Waddon, Bucks]
84 Freeman, Mrs, Ten'ts, 8s.
85 Finnemore, 3s., Val. *Gardner. B.
86 *Fowler, John, 6s.
87 Fox, Mrs, 5s.
88 Fox, Widow, 1s., Wm. *Fox. Banbury.
89 Gardner, James, 4s.; Mr Harvey Wheeler
90 *Gardner, Robt , 5s.
91 *Gardner, Saml , 6s.
92 *Gardner, Valent., 5s.
93 Gascoyn, Mr, late, now Mrs Ganton, 5s.
94 Gascoyn, Mr, 5s 4d.
95 Garrett, Mrs, 5s
96 Gibbins, Mrs, £1 10s.; Mr John *Newman
97 *Gilks [?John], 4s
98 Godherd, Mr, £1 1s.2d.; Mr [Edward] *Busby.
99 Goldby, Wid., 4s
100 *Goodwin, Fran's, 7s
101 Goodwin, John, Apoth , 7s.; The Rev'd Mr [John] Gibbard
102 *Gulliver, Mr [Samuel], 8s.; Mr Fox, Chalcomb.
103 Gulliver, Wid , 5s
104 †Gunn, Wm., 3s
105 Gunn, Saml., 3s.; Miss Paynton.
106 Grant's Tenem'ts, 2s.8d ; [John] *Grant, Bodicott.

- 107 Grant, Thos., [Tenem'ts], 2s : John *Butlar
 108 *Grant, John, 2s
 109 *Greenall, Wm., 9s.
 110 Greenall, Mrs, 7s.
 111 Gwilliam, Mr, 5s : Mr Saml. Herbert & [Robert or Stephen] *Doyley.
 112 *Handes, Benj, senr., 1s 6d.
 113 Handcock, Wid, late, now Charles, 6s.6d., Handcock's child, minor
 114 Handcock's wid., 1s.
 115 Hampton's Close with ye Black Lyon, 11s.
 116 *Hams, John, 1s.
 117 Harker, Wm., Officer Excise, 1s 2d.; Mr Robt. *Barnes. B.
 118 Harvey, John, 2s., Mr *Burford. B.
 119 Harvey, Mrs, late, 1s.4d., Mr Wm. [torn].
 120 Hawtin see Reason, 12s; Mr Busby.
 121 Hawtin's Ten'ts, 10s.; Jos. [†Hawtin]. B.
 122 *Haynes, Thos, Tenem'ts, 2s. B.
 123 Haynes see Overton, 8s.
 124 Hayward, Apoth'y, 13s.4d. - The Rev'd Mr [John] *Wardall. B.
 125 Hemmings, Henry, 1s.; *Walker, Bodicott.
 126 Hide, Mrs, 4s.; John *Pain. B.
 127 Hill, Mr, 5s, Mr Saml. *Herbert, Broughton.
 128 Hirons, Mrs, 1s.2d.
 129 Hodgkin, Mr, 3s.4d., Leaver at Oxford.
 130 *Horseman, John, 4s.3d.
 131 Horseman, Wid., 1s.4d.
 132 Hurdis, Mrs, 6s.2d.; Barton, London.
 133 *Hirons, Wm., Senr., 5s.8d.
 134 Hirons, Wm, Junr. [no sum]; Mr John *Bloxham. B.
 135 Hirons see Justin, 6s.8d.; C. Doyley Esqr.
 136 †Jamson, John, 3s.
 137 Jameson, Wid, 1s.
 138 Jarviss, Mr, 5s.4d, The Revd. Mr [Robert] *Tatam.
 139 Jarviss, Mrs, Tenem'ts, 4s.
 140 Jarviss, Mrs, 4s.; [Thomas] *Abdy, London.
 141 Jephcoat, Wm., 7s., John *Pain. B.
 142 Johnson, Mr, 6s.6d.; Cor [Corbet] *Sodin, Winchester.
 143 Kenning, Mrs, 6s.
 144 Kenning, Mr [*Richard or †Robert], 7s
 145 Knight, Mrs, late, 5s.; The Rev'd Mr [Samuel] †West.
 146 Knight, Wm., 1s, Joseph †Hawtin.
 147 Lamley, [John], baker, 4s.8d.; Rymill, a minor.
 148 Lambert, 6s
 149 *Lambert, John, 3s.; Mr *Clarson. B.
 150 Lambert, Wm., 4s.
 151 *Lambert, Richd., 2s.; Mr John *Jarvis. B.
 152 Lambert, Mrs, House & Barn, 8s.
 153 Lambert, John, 4s.; Mrs Wheatley
 154 Lambert, Richd., but[cher], 4s.; a Woman.
 155 Lamprey, John, late [? John L., sen'r, d. June 1754], 2s
 156 †Lane, James &c., 14s
 157 Lane, Mrs, 14s
 158 Leaver, Edmd., 5s 6d
 159 Lovling, Mrs, 5s.; Mrs Lane.
 160 Lovedran, Wid., 3s.; The Rev'd Mr [Samuel] *West.
 161 *Long, Wm., apoth'e'y, 10s.4d.
 162 *Lucass, George, 6s, Mr John *Pain.

- 163 Lucass Tenem'ts, 4s.; Geo. *Lucass. B.
 164 M. ...ft, R[ich]d. [tom], 7s.. Captain †Twislenton [sic], Broughton.
 165 [tom], 9s.; Miss Box. B.
 166 Mascord, Mrs. 8s.; Joseph Charles. B.
 167 Mascord, John, 9s.; Wm. †Cartwright, Esqr.
 168 *May, James, 2s., Half his own for Life.
 169 Miller, Richd., 1s.8d.; Mr Thos. †Wheatley.
 170 Mourby, James, 1s.; [Samuel] *Rowley, Milton.
 171 Newman's Tenem'ts, 6s.; John *Newman. B.
 172 Nicholds, Wid., late, 1s.; [Timothy] *Eld.
 173 Nicholds, Wm., 2s.6d., Mr [Thomas] †Wheatley. B.
 174 North, Richd., 6s.8d.; The Poor, Lapworth.
 175 *Osborns, Job, 5s.
 176 Overton, Wm., 6s.6d.; Mrs Miller, Brackley.
 177 *Overton, John, Tenem'ts, 4s. B.
 178 Overton, Mr, Orchard, 1s.6d. B.
 179 Overton see Haynes, 8s. B
 180 *Palmer, Thos., 3s.5d.; Woodstock.
 181 Palmer, Joseph, 2s.6d.; Mr [John] †Welchman, Brackly.
 182 Pain, Richd., 5s.; John *Pain. B.
 183 Pain, Mr, yard & Tenem'ts, 3s.5d.; Mr [George] Denton, [* under] Wardenton.
 184 *Pain, John, 5s. B.
 185 Pain see Austin [no sum]; [Edward] *Elkington, Cropredy.
 186 Pargeter, Mrs. 4s. B.
 187 Parson's Barn yard, 4s.; Miss Paynton.
 188 *Pedley, Humphry, 3s. B.
 189 *Pettipher, James, 3s.5d. B.
 190 Piner, Saracens head, 6s.; [Edmund] †Barton, London.
 191 Potter, 1s.4d.; Wm. †Berry. B.
 192 Pratt, 5s., Mr Robt. *Kenning.
 193 Reason see Hawtin, 12s., Mr [Edward] *Busby. B.
 194 Read, Schoolmaster, 12s.; Mr Saml. Gardner.
 195 *Reynolds, Thos., 4s.
 196 *Reynolds, Michael, 14s.
 197 Richardson, Wm., 2s.; Mr *Denton, Wardenton.
 198 *Rymill, Robt., 5s.
 199 'Robt' [Roberts], Saml., 8s.
 200 Robins, Mrs, sen'r, 8s.; [John] *Appletree, Apoth., Dedington.
 201 *Rowley, Robt., 2s.6d. B.
 202 *Sale, Saml., 8s.; [Edward] Barton†, London.
 203 Sanders, Mrs, 8s.
 204 †Sansbury, Saml., 7s. [Mayor of Banbury]
 205 †Shurley, Wm., 3s.8d.; Mr [William] *Cleave, Kites Hardwick.
 206 Slatter, Saml., late void, 3s.; Leaver, Oxford, late.
 207 Slatter, Saml., Shambles [no sum], Town house, Banbury.
 208 Simkins, Richd., 1s 6d.; a Woman, Horley.
 209 Smith, Wid., late, 4s.; Revd. Mr *Wardall.
 210 Soden, Robt., 1s 6d.; Mr *Kenning.
 211 *Soden, [Corbet]'s Tenements, 2s.; of Winchester.
 212 *Spires, Saml., 6s.
 213 *Spurrett, Bamed, 3s.5d.
 214 Stacey, John, 1s.8d ; Mr [William] *Hirons, Banbury.
 215 *Stone, Thos., Tenements, 6s.6d.
 216 Swaetman, Thos., Tenem'ts, 4s.
 217 *Tolbott, John, 4s [Talbot in parish registers].
 218 Taylor, Wid., Tenem'ts, 7s.6d.

- 219 Taylor, Wid., 7s , Mr Perrin, Chields Wick[ham]
 220 Taylor, the Fox, 5s , Mr [William] Russell, [† under] Bodicott
 221 *Terry, James, 1s.6d , Terry.
 222 Terry, Mary, 10s . near Coventry
 223 *Thorp, Saml., 4s.6d , Mr Wm. *Hopkins, Banbury.
 224 Thorp, Mrs., 4s.; [Edmund] Barton, London.
 225 Thomas, John, 3s.5d.; Miss Paynton.
 226 Thorp, Mrs, 3s.5d.
 227 Tomkins, Edward, late, 3s ; [Edward] *Elkington, Cropredy.
 228 Turrel, John, 3s.; Wid. Smart B
 229 Towerzey, Edward, 14s. B.
 230 *Treadwell, Robt., 3s
 231 Truss, Joseph &c., Tenem'ts, 1s.6d , Mr †Doyly.
 232 Tustin see Hirons, 6s.8d.; Mr †Doyly.
 233 Tyler, Red Lyon, 19s ; Robt *Tyler. B.
 234 Tryst, Mrs, 14s. B.
 235 Walker, James [no sum]; Late Lever, Oxford.
 236 Walker, Mrs Marriah, late, 1s.6d.; Fenn Compton.
 237 Walso, Wid., 2s.8d.
 238 Weltch, Richd., 3s., a woman, Bristoll.
 239 Webster, Moses, 3s.5d.; Mr John *Newman*, B.
 240 Webster, Daniel, 1s.; Mr [Thomas] †Wheatley.
 241 Wells, Mrs, 3s.5d
 242 Wells, Mrs, Tenem'ts, 8d.
 243 Weston, John, 6s 6d.; Mr John *Webster. B.
 244 †Wheatly, Thos., 6s. B.
 245 Wheatley, Mrs, 5s.
 246 †Wheeler, Harvey, 5s 4d.; Mr Rev'd Catto.
 247 Wild, Robt., S'r Jonath. Cope: S'r Jonth. †Cope, Barr't
 248 *Wild, Wm., 1s 6d. B.
 249 Wild, Wid., 3s.6d.
 250 *Wise, Joseph, 2s.
 251 Wise, Thos., 12s , Mr Robt. Sodin, Winchester.
 252 *Woodfield, Richd., 9s.
 253 Wrighton, Wm , 1s. B.
 254 Wrighton, Wm. Senr., 8d ; Will. *Fox. B
 255 Wrighton, John, 12s.; Mr Thos. †Wheatley. B
 256 [tom], Willm., 8s
 257 [tom: ?Wyat], Charles, 6s.; Overbury Badger and Charles Taylor, Dedinton.

Bourton, Great and Little.

- 258 *Allet, John, 2s 9/4d.
 259 *Allen, Thomas, 6s. 1d.
 260 Allen, Thomas &c., 2s.9/4d.
 261 *Allen, John &c., 2s.9/4d.
 262 *Blencowe, Willm , £2.13s.5d.
 263 *Boucher [Boucher], John, £1.4s.4 1/2d.
 264 *Bagley, Geo., 1s.10 1/2d.
 265 *Bourton, Willm , 9s 4 1/2d.
 266 *Blencowe, Willm &c , 2s 9 1/4d
 267 *Barns, Richd , £1.19s.10d.
 268 *Batcheller, Willm., £2 4s 1 1/2d.
 269 *Bourton, Willm., £2 12s.6d.
 270 *Bourton, Thomas, £1.1s.6d.
 271 *Checkly, Thos., 15s.
 272 Checkly, John, £3.
 273 Claridge, Geo., 10s.10d.
 274 Clarke, Willm., 15s.
 275 Cleydon, Joseph, 2d.
 276 Eagles, John & Joseph Watts, 2s.4d.
 277 *Eagles, John, 5s.3d.
 278 †Eagles, John &c., 7s.6d.
 279 *Fairbrother, Willm., £4.8s.1d.
 280 *Fairbrother, Richd., 9s.4 1/2d.
 281 Faulkner, John, £1.5s.2d.
 282 *Goodwin, Joseph, 2s.9/4d.
 283 Gardner, Thomas &c., 11s.3d
 284 Glaze, Willm., £3.
 285 *Hall, Thos., £1.12s.11d.
 286 Hall, Crowley as was, 2s.9/4d.
 287 Hall, James as was, 2s.9/4d.
 288 Hall, Zachariah, as was, 2s 9/4d
 289 *Hemmings, Peter, 11s.3d.
 290 *Howe, John, 10s.
 291 Howe, John &c , 2s.9/4d.
 292 Kimbell, Thos., £2.14s.11d.
 293 *Kimbell [Kimbble], John, 5s.7 1/2d.
 294 †Luccock, John, £2.5s 8 1/2d.
 295 Parcells, Andrew, 5s.7 1/2d
 296 †Rosse, John, Rev'd, £1.2s.6d. [see Cropredy].
 297 *Southam, James Sen'r, 2s.9/4d.
 298 *Southam, James Jun'r, £2.16s.3d.
 299 *Stanton, Mat. [Matthias], 2s.9/4d.
 300 Shakespear, Wm., 2s.9/4d.
 301 *Times, Willm., £4.12s.4d.
 302 Taylor, John, £4.1s.7d.
 303 Townsend, Mat., 2s.9/4d.
 304 Welch, Geo , 2s.9/4d. [see Banbury].
 305 †Wheatley, Thos., £7.5s.10d.
 306 *Weaver, Ezra, £1.4s.5d.
 307 Welch, Geo. &c., 2s.9/4d.

Charlbury.

- 308 †Arrowsmith, Rev'd [Charles], 7s.6d

- 309 †Allen, Daniel, 4s.8 1/4d.
 310 †Afflet, Thos., 1s 10 1/2d.
 311 *Bassett, Fran., Esqr., 7s.6d.
 312 Barns, Hen., 4s.8d.
 313 *Busby, Parker, 3s.9d.
 314 Barrett, Job, 1s.10 1/2d.
 315 Badger, [no Christian name], 1s.10 1/2d.
 316 Ball, Widow, 1s.10 1/2d.
 317 Bowerman, John, 1s.10 1/2d.
 318 Boucher, Willm , 1s.10 1/2d.
 319 *Biles, Edwd., 1s 10 1/2d.
 320 †Biles, Richd , 1s.10 1/2d
 321 Bowell, Thos. & Cooke, Wm., 1s.10 1/2d.
 322 Brooks, Richd., 1s.10 1/2d
 323 *Baker, Frances [sic] Senr , 1s.10 1/2d.
 324 Baker, Fran. Junr., 1s.10 1/2d.
 325 Brooks, 10s.9/4d.
 326 *Barns, Edwd., 1s.10 1/2d.
 327 *Collier, Robt. & Wid. Grace, 1s.10 1/2d.
 328 Cole, Wid., 2s.9 3/4d.
 329 *Cleydon, Edwd. 9s.4d.
 330 Cleydon, Wm , 2s.9 3/4d.
 331 Chandler, Stephen, 5s.7 1/2d.
 332 Cotes, Widow, 9s.4d.
 333 Cotes, Widow, 1s.10 1/2d.
 334 Coleman, Fran., 1s 10 1/2d.
 335 Cotes, Joan, £1 17s.2 1/2d.
 336 Copland, Wid , £1 5s.1d.
 337 Chandler, John, 1s.10 1/2d.
 338 Coleman, of Shipton, 1s.10 1/2d.
 339 Cooke, Wm., see Bowell.
 340 Dicks, Edwd., 1s.10 1/2d.
 341 Druary, Wid., 1s.10 1/2d.
 342 Dutton, Wid., for the Bull, 5s.7 1/2d.
 343 *Evenis, John, 1s 10 1/2d
 344 *Edwards, Geo , 1s.1. 1/2d.
 345 *Franklin, John, 1s.10 1/2d.
 346 *Fairbrother, John, 5s.7 1/2d
 347 Fletcher, Thos , 2s.9 1/4d.
 348 Franklin, Widow, 11s.8d.
 349 Grace, Wid., see Collier.
 350 Grace, John, 1s.10 1/2d.
 351 Gardner, Alex., 1s.10 1/2d.
 352 Green, Robt., see Jefferson [no sum].
 353 Gadfield, Hen., 2s.9 1/4d.
 354 Gibbs [no Christian name], 11s.3d.
 355 †Harris, Richd., £1.6s 1/2d
 356 Harris, Wid., 5s.7 1/2d.
 357 Herbert [no Christian name], 3s.9d.
 358 Haines, Thos., 1s.10 1/2d.
 359 Hind, Wid., 2s.9 3/4d.
 360 Hager, James, 1s.10 1/2d.
 361 Harris, Nanny, 1s.10 1/2d.
 362 *Howard, Sam., 1s.10 1/2d.
 363 Hyat, Wm. or Gadfield, 1s.10 1/2d.
 364 Harrison, Wid., 1s.10 1/2d

365 Harwood, Thomas, 1s.10½d.
 366 Jenkinson, Sir Robt., for the Farm,
 £4.13s.10d.
 367 Ditto for Gardner's Farm, £3.6s.½d.
 368 Ditto for William's Farm, £3.1s.5d.
 369 Ditto for the Tythes, £3.3s.4d.
 370 Jefferson, Robt, 8s.9d.
 371 Ditto for late Doms, 1s.10½d.
 372 Ditto for Robt. Green's, 3s.3½d.
 373 Ireland, Wm, 1s.10½d
 374 Issard, Edwd., 12s.2½d.
 375 Issard, Wm, 12s.2½d
 376 *Issard, Abel, 8s.10¾d.
 377 Litchfield, Earl of, £6.6s.7d.
 378 Lee, Hon'ble Robt., £1.15s.3d.
 379 *Luck, Rev'd Dr [James], £2.13s.1½d.
 380 Lamborn, Hannah, 1s.10½d.
 381 Marlbro', Duke of, £6.0s.½d
 382 Ditto for the Park, £4.13s.10d.
 383 *Moss, John, £1.2s.6d.
 384 Morris, John, 8s.3½d.
 385 Morris, Wm., late Allen's, 3s.9d
 386 *Margetts, Wm, 2s.9¾d.
 387 Malin, John, 5s.7½d.
 388 Officer of Excise, £3.
 389 Osbaldeston, John, late, 18s.8d.
 390 Priddy, Widow, 8s.4½d.
 391 Poulton, John, 4s.8¼d.
 392 *Poulton, Wm., 11s.3d.
 393 Paslow, Wid., 3s.9d.
 394 Rives [no Christian name], £1 5s.1d
 395 Rawlins, Ralph, £1.2s.6d.
 396 Ryman, Wm, 14s.5d
 397 Robins, Wm., 2s.9¾d.
 398 Rooke, Wm., 12s.2½d.
 399 *Stannton, John, 2s.9¾d.
 400 Spendlove, Wm., 9s.10d
 401 †Spendlove [Spindelow], Edwd.,
 18s.10½d.
 402 Smith, for the Swan, 2s.9¾d.
 403 Smith, Richd., 1s.10½d.
 404 Smith, Wm, 9s.4½d.
 405 Smith, John, 2s.9¾d.
 406 Shepherd, [?George], Rev'd., 3s.9d.
 407 Turtle, John, 2s.9¾d.
 408 Tenant, John, 2s.9¾d
 409 †Tenant, Wm., 2s.9¾d.
 410 Williams, John, 2s.4½d.
 411 Wrenford [no Christian name], 11s.2d.
 412 Wrenford, [blank], Junr., 1s.10½d.
 413 Williams, Edwd., 12s.6½d.
 414 Ward, John, 1s.10½d
 415 Warner, Richd., 1s.10½d.
 416 Wood [no Christian name], 3s.9d.
 417 Willis, Geo., 1s.10½d.

Clattercott.

418 Prowet, John, £23.1s.4d.

Cleydon.

419 *Astell, John, 6s.8d.
 420 Astell, Isaih [†Josiah], £6.18s.3¾d.
 421 Archer, John, £1.7s.9½d
 422 *Buswell, [Martin], £5.3s.4d
 423 Brain, Anthony, £1.13s.4d.
 424 Beere, Wid., 4s.2d.
 425 †Beere, Owen, 3s.4d.
 426 *Collins, Joseph, £1 3s.4d.
 427 *Holbech, Wm. Esqr., £2.13s.4d
 428 †Harris, Mr [Anthony], £2.13s.4d.
 429 *Haslewood, Barnabas, 1s.8d.
 430 *Hill, Thos., 6s.8d
 431 *Knibb, Mr [James], £1.6s.8d.
 432 Langly, Thos., 6s.8d.
 433 *Orton, Geo, £2.13s.4d.
 434 Prowett, John, 7s.9¼d + 2 ½d
 435 *Savage, Wm., £4.16s.8d.
 436 *Tarvar, Sim [Simon], 3s.4d.
 437 *Tue, Wm., 6s.8d.
 438 †Wells, Thos., 6s.8d.
 439 Watts, John, £1 6s.8d
 440 *Wimbush, John, 10d

Cropredy.

441 †Anker, Sam., £4.3s.8½d.
 442 Ditto, Tythes, £3 7s.8d
 443 Blakemore, Thos., £4 11s.4d
 444 †Bloxham, Wm., £2.6s.
 445 Eagles, John, £3.0s.10d.
 446 Elkington, Edwd., £7.1s.3d.
 447 Elmer, Thos., £1 10s.5d.
 448 Griswold, Richd., £2.9s.
 449 Hunt's Land & Ham, £5.4s.6d.
 450 Howes, Joice, 7s.7d.
 451 Haslewood, John, £5.6s.6d.
 452 *Hunt, Thomas, 15s.3d.
 453 Lambert, Gabriel, £3.17s.
 454 *Lamprey, John, 8s.9d.
 455 *Mansell, Nehemiah. Lands & Meadows,
 £2.3s.1d.
 456 Phillips, Wm., 18s.
 457 Ditto, Tythe, £2.3s.8d.
 458 Ditto, Ladymoores, 7s.7d.
 459 Parish, Daniel, £4.11s.4d.
 460 †Rosse, John, Revd., £2.5s.7d.
 461 Stockly, Thomas, 15s.3d
 462 †Toms, Wm., £7.4s.5d.
 463 Toms, John, Lands & Meadows, £2 10s.
 464 Tims, Wm., Bourton, 19s.3½d.
 465 *Wyatt, Joseph, Lands & Meadows, £4.8s.
 466 Ditto, Tythes, £2.3s.8d.

- 467 Watts, Thos., 2s.
 468 Watts, John, £4.18s.11d.
 469 Wilkes, Ben., Close, 11s.7d.

Finstock.

- 470 Alder, James, 5½d.
 471 Alder, Wm., 11¼d
 472 Bustin, Isaac, for the Duke of Marlboro',
 8s.7½d.
 473 Brice, Wid., 1s 11d.
 474 Brain, Thos., 13s 2d
 475 Bowerman, Mary, 4s 4d.
 476 Brain, Richd., 11¼d.
 477 Bowell, Hannah, 2s.7d.
 478 Carter, John, 2s.7d
 479 Carter, Edwd., 10s.7½d.
 480 Carter, Hen., 3s.4d.
 481 Cockerill, Wm., 2s.5¼d.
 482 Campden, Wm., 6s.
 483 *Campden, Thos., 2s.2¼d
 484 Charlwood, Robt., 1s.11d.
 485 Dring, John, 6s..d.
 486 Elly, Hen., 11¼d
 487 Edy, Wm., 1s.11d.
 488 Francklin, John, 1s.5d.
 489 Fairbrother, for the Duke of Marlboro',
 7s 8d.
 490 Goodson, Richd., 1s.5¼d.
 491 Holloway, Thos., 8s 6d.
 492 Holloway, Thos., of Fulbrook, 13s.11d.
 493 Hunt, John, £1, 0s, 5¼d.
 494 Litchfield, Earl of, 17s.2d.
 495 Luck, Revd. Doc'r, 17s 2d.
 496 Lamball, Josiah, 11s.¼d.
 497 Longford, John, 2.10½d.
 498 Longford, Hen., 8s.8d.
 499 Marlboro', Duke of, for the Park, £1.3s.
 500 Ditto for Finstock, £2 17s.6d.
 501 Martin, Wid., £5.5s.5d.
 502 Maycock, John, for the Duke of
 Marlboro', 7s 8d
 503 *Smith, Thos., 9s.7d.
 504 Wisdom [no Christian name], for Wilcot,
 £6 5s.9½d
 505 †Warcus, Wm., 12s 5¼d.
 506 Watts, Wm., 11¼d.
 507 Williams, Edwd., 5½d

Fawler.

- 508 Bustin, Isaac, £6.17s.6d.
 509 Ball, Joseph, 1s
 510 Bolton, Wm., 6s 4d.
 511 Cox, Thos., £2.
 512 Davis, Wm., 1s 6d.
 513 Fairbrother, John, £7 5s.

- 514 Franklin, Hen., 6s.
 515 Fletcher, Thos., 2s.
 516 Horn, [no Christian name], 2s.
 517 Litchfield, Earl of, 16s.
 518 Lee, Robt. Esqr., 4s.
 519 Luck, Doc'r Rev'd, £1
 520 Marlboro', Duke of, 16s.
 521 Maycock, John, £6 15s.
 522 Ditto, 2s.
 523 Polton, John, 1s.
 524 Panting, Wm., 7s.
 525 *Rymill [Ryman], Wm., 2s
 526 Slatter, Sam., 2s.
 527 Stow, Wid., 1s.
 528 Townsend, John, 4s.

Neithrop, Calthrup, Wickham & Hardwick.

- 529 Aris, Wm., 3s.10½d.
 530 Annesley, Mrs, 2s.10d.
 531 Barber, Edwd Esqr, £12 9s.10d.
 532 Bloxham, John, £2.2s.6d.
 533 Barreld, late, £3 1s.8d
 534 *Buller, Tim., £1.18s.9d.
 535 Barnes, John, 15s.5d.
 536 †Bucknel, Wm Esqr, £1 3s.1½d.
 537 Busby, Mr, 11s.9d.
 538 Barrett, Mrs, 1s.
 539 Ditto, 15s 5d.
 540 Burling, C., 2s.
 541 Calthrop Lordship, £15.9s.2d.
 542 Cartwright, Wm. Esqr., £2.6s.3½d.
 543 Cope, Sir Monoux, £3 16s.11d.
 544 †Cross, Mr [?Rev'd], £3.16s.11d
 545 Calcot, Richd., 15s 5d.
 546 Calcot, Mr [*William?], £2 5s.1d.
 547 Childs, Thos., late Shaw's, 3s.4d.
 548 Cope, Sir Monoux, 15s 5d
 549 Childs, Thos., late, 3s.10½d.
 550 †Charles, Richd., 2s 6d
 551 Calcot, Mr, late Leaver, 2s.
 552 †Dickson [Dixon], Mr, £5 10s.5¼d
 553 D'Oyly, Mr, 3s.11½d.
 554 †Dashwood, Sir James, £1.18s.7½d.
 555 *Eden, Mr [John], £1.10s.10d.
 556 †Eddowes, Mr [George], 1s.9d.
 557 Fox, Mrs, £1.3s.3d.
 558 Goodwin, Mr, 19s.4½d.
 559 *Gough [Goff], Mr [Richard], 3s.10½d.
 560 *Gunn, Wm., £2.6s.3½d.
 561 *Gunn, John, 15s 5d
 562 *Gunn, Richd., £3.1s.8d.
 563 *Gibberd, Thos., 5s 2d.
 564 Gibberd, Mr [†Thomas?], late Hunt, 1s.
 565 †Gunn, Wm., late Wm. †Clardge's,
 3s.10½d.

566 *Goldby, John, 3s.10½d.
 567 *Grant, Mr [Thomas], 2s.10½d.
 568 *Gibberd, Thos., 3s.11d.
 569 Hardwick Lordship, £34.12s.2d.
 570 Horton, Mr, 15s.5d.
 571 Hawtin, Mr, 4s.6d.
 572 Hirons, Wm., 2s.6d.
 573 Hughes, Wid., 2s.6d.
 574 Jarvis, Mrs, 7s.9d.
 575 Joane, Richd., 5s.3½d.
 576 Javis [sic], Mrs, late Bowers, 7s.10d.
 577 Kenning, Mr, late Enoch, 7s.8½d.
 578 Kenning, Mr, 3s.9d.
 579 *Keel [Kcal], Obidah, 3s.6d.
 580 Leeds, Mr, £9.12s.1½d.
 581 Lambert, Wm., 4s.6d.
 582 Overton's Houses, £2.
 583 Perkins, John, late, 4s.9d.
 584 Rymill, Mr, 15s.5¾d.
 585 Rymill, John, 15s.5d.
 586 †Rosse, Rev'd Mr [John], £3.5s.4½d.
 587 †Russell, Mr [William], £1.18s 7½d.
 588 Rymill, Robt., 19s.3d.
 589 Soden, Mr, 15s.5d.
 590 Spires, Sam., 2s.9d.
 591 *Southam, Richd., £3.1s.8d.
 592 *Sansbury, Mr [Thomas], 8s 2d.
 593 †Sabin, Paul, House. 5s.
 594 Stoke's, Mr, late, 3s.
 595 Toms, Mr, late, £2.6s.3½d.
 596 Thorpe's, Mrs, Land, 15s.5d.
 597 †Thorpe, Mr [Samuel], 2s.6d.
 598 †Vennor, Mr [Henry], 19s.5d.
 599 Wickham Lordship, £37.13s.3½d.
 600 †Walford, Mr [Thomas], £1.3s.3d.
 601 Wilson, Mrs, £2.6s.3½d.
 602 *Wardle, Rev'd Mr [John], 15s.5d.
 603 Ditto late Greenal's, £2.12s.8d.
 604 Wells, Mrs, 15s.5d.
 605 *Webster, Wm., 11s.7½d.
 606 *Wightwick [Whitwick, Whightcrick],
 Peter, 5s.3d.
 607 Ditto, 3s.10½d.
 608 Welchman, Mr, 2s.
 609 *Youick [Yonick], Thos., £1.18s.5d.
 610 *Youick [Yonick], Thos. Sen'r, £1.3s.½d.
 611 Ditto, Stone's, 1s.4d.
 612 Ditto, Dace's House & Close, 5s.

Prescott.

613 *Danvers, Sir John, £27.18s.

Shu[t]ford.

614 *Alcock, Sam , £2.6s 8d.
 615 *Alcock, Nich. Sen'r, £2.9s.3d.

616 *Alcock, Nich. Jun'r, 13s.4½d.
 617 †Delly [Deeley], Isaac, £3.19s.
 618 Dean, Ann, £1.12s.8d.
 619 Dean, Christopher, 6s.8d.
 620 Dean, Isaac, 9d.
 621 *Ellis, Sam., Land that Ann Dean rents,
 6s.2d.
 622 Ditto, Land that Nich. Alcock rents,
 6s.7½.
 623 Hall, Richd., £19.8s.6d.
 624 Hall, Richd. Junr., £3.15s.
 625 Jobson, James, £1.8s.10d.
 626 Jobson, John, 9d.
 627 *Johnson, Mr [Steph.], 6s.6d.
 628 †Nichols [Nicholass], John, 13s.5d.
 629 Nichols, John, 2s.11d
 630 Peake, Ann, £3.13s.6d.
 631 Taylor, Robt., £2.13s.
 632 Taylor, Alice, Land that Jam. Jobson
 rents, 6s.8d.
 633 Underwood, Mr, £1.7s.9d.
 634 *Winter, John, £3.2s.6d.

Swalcliffe.

635 †Calcot, Richd., £2.17s.8d.
 636 Fortnam, Char., £7.9s.
 637 Grant, Sam., £3.16s.2d.
 638 *Hitchcocks, John, £8.18s.½d.
 639 †Loggin, Edmd., Gent , £6.8s.
 640 †Matthews, Joseph, 10s.4d.
 641 Prophet, John, £4.2s.
 642 Prophet, Henry, £2.9s.1½d.
 643 *Smith, Thos., 4s.
 644 Tredwell, John, 4s.2d.
 645 Wykham, Mrs, £5.7s.4d.
 646 Walford, Thos., Gent., 4s.
 647 Wilkes, Thos., 4s.2d.

Wardington and Coton.

648 Arnold, John, £1.17s.6d.
 649 Andrews, Wm., £4.10s.
 650 Andrews, Mr, £1.5s.
 651 *Blencowe, Mr [Nath.], 3s.9d.
 652 Baggott, Mrs, 15s.
 653 *Blakemore, Mr [Tho.], £1.2s.9d.
 654 *Checkly, Mr [Hawtin], £2.12s.6d.
 655 Cole, Mr, 11s.3d.
 656 Cole, Mrs, £3.15s.
 657 Cole, Mr, 7s.6d.
 658 *Denton, Geo. Esqr., £15.18s.9d.
 659 *Danvers, Mr [Richard], 7s.6d.
 660 *Eden [Eaden], Mr [John], £1.10s.
 661 +Eagles, John, £2.5s.
 662 *French, Mr [Edm.], £7.10s 7½d.
 663 Garrett, Sam., £1.10s.7½d.

664 *Gardner, Mr [John or Thomas],
£1.19s.4½d.
665 Gubbin, Sam., 15s.
666 †Gill, John, 7½d.
667 *Gardner, Mr, 7s.6d.
668 *Giles, Mr [John], 15s.7½d.
669 †Gubbin, Wm., 3s.9d.
670 *Hirons, Mr [John], £3.12s.2d.
671 *Healy, Mr [John], £1 10s.
672 *Hirons, Richd., £3.1s.10½d.
673 *Humphris, Mr [Richard], £1.10s.
674 Hunt, Justinian, 3s.9d.
675 *Jeff, Mr [Cres.], 3s.9d.
676 Knibb, Sam., 7s.6d.
677 Marsters, John, £2.8s.9d.
678 *Muddin, Mr [William], 15s.
679 *Moss, Richd., 15s.
680 †Rosse, Rev'd Mr [John], £2.5s. [see
Croprey].
681 *Sabin, Mr [William], 18s.9d.
682 *Stacey, Wm., £1.8s.9d.
683 Townsend, John, 3s.9d.
684 *Torsell [Torsell], Mr [Thomas],
£4.12s.4d.
685 *Wilkes, Mr [Thomas], £3.
686 *Ward, Mr [William], £1.8s.6½d.

Williamsote.

687 *Andrews, John, £1.2s.6d.
688 Arnold, John, 18s.9d.
689 Checkly, Hawtin, 7s.6d.
690 Cole, James, 3s.
691 Eden, John, 7s.6d.
692 French, Mr, £2 12s.6d.
693 *Gubbin, Wm., £1.2s.6d.
694 Gubbin, Sam., 15s.
695 Hunt, Justinian, 7s.6d.
696 †Humphris, Richd., £2.5s.
697 Hirons, John, 3s.9d.
698 Hirons, Richd., £1.2s.6d.
699 Hirons, John, 15s.
700 Harris, Thomas, 7s.6d.
701 *Langly, John, £1.2s.6d.
702 †Lord, Joseph, 15s.
703 †Moss, Richd., £1.2s.6d.
704 Marsters, John, 11s.3d.
705 Rosse, Rev'd Mr [John], 15s.
706 Sabin, Wm., 11s.3d.
707 *Taylor, Wm., Gent., £10.10s.4d.

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As so often before, Mrs Markham has generously allowed transcription of records from her family archives (in this case fortuitously a personal family copy of a long lost public record). I am also most grateful to Dr John Rivers for his proof-reading of the text (against a photocopy of the contemporary document) and index.

BOOK REVIEWS

Edgehill and Beyond: The People's War in the South Midlands 1642-1645, Philip Tennant, Alan Sutton Publishing, Stroud, for Banbury Historical Society (Records Volume 23), 1992. xiv, 306 pp., maps, illustrations, indexes, £17.99 (free to B.H.S. records members).

Anyone who is led by Dr. Tennant's sub-title to expect glorification of a popular struggle, whether against King or Parliament, will be disappointed. The author's subject is the sufferings of the ordinary people of the South Midlands as they endured the depredations of both sides in the civil war of 1642-45. Troops hastily scrambled together had to be paid, fed and housed, arrangements for these purposes being devised *ad hoc*. In theory both King and Parliament levied taxes to pay for their forces; but actual hard cash was always in short supply. Both sides had to live at the expense of the countryside, moving around to seek fresh pastures as one area had been squeezed dry. Both sides demanded free quarter, sometimes promising repayment at a later date. Local commanders imposed their own demands for cash, labour, services and equipment. The bewildering marches and counter-marches of the two armies, for which military historians have struggled to find strategic reasons, were, as often as not — Dr. Tennant hints — caused by the search for unexploited territory to live off.

There is little here about battles, of the great constitutional issues at stake. Dr. Tennant is concerned with the effects of the armies on the remainder of the population. 'The more one examines a specific area', he sums up, 'the more it becomes clear that, for a few short years at least, the lives of ordinary villagers, with their age-old preoccupations of field and market, weather and harvest, labour and rest, were profoundly disrupted' (p. xii). This is to ask novel and salutary questions. The author has made very thorough use of parish records, sources hitherto neglected for such purposes, and — more cautiously — of pamphlets in the Thomason collection. The picture presented is gloomy.

Household belongings as well as food and horses were requisitioned. Just before the battle of Edgehill, for instance, Widow Wootton of Tysoe lost 'twelve Cheeses worth viiis., half a pigge worth six shillings, foure yards of new Cloath worth xiiis., a flaggon and foure sawcers worth iiis.' (p. 56). Ralph Ellis of Butlers Marston had to provide quarter for 20 men and their horses for two days; they consumed 30 loads of hay, and 72 sheep were stolen (p. 57). Whole herds of livestock were distrained from some villages; horses seized supposedly for army use were sold for individual profit: there was no redress (p. 159). Horses were essential to rural labour and rural mobility; but horses were in permanent demand by both armies, and were seized ruthlessly. In time of harvest this might be devastating.

Trade was disrupted by destruction of bridges for military reasons. Travel permits were increasingly required, even for short distances, and could be withheld by any local commander. In October 1643 the King forbade any trade to London and other cities under Parliamentary control (p. 154). Parliament similarly forbade trade from London to Worcestershire and Herefordshire in 1645, disrupting the cloth trade (pp. 154-5). The risks of travel were increased by deserters or other highwaymen: the latter word derives from this period (p. 150).

King and Parliament each regarded themselves as the only legitimate rulers of England. In June 1643 two royalist officers were authorized to seize from the counties of

Gloucester, Worcester, Warwick and Oxford 'as many Horses, Carts and Carters as shall be required' to cart ordnance from Worcester to Oxford (p. 156). The Parliamentary besiegers of Banbury in September 1644 were ordered to seize from villages within ten miles of the town 'such number of workmen for pioneers as they shall think fit' (pp. 193-4). Forced labour might last for weeks on end — without pay (p. 167).

In April 1645, as the King's army approached Worcestershire, 'great store of biscuit bread' was required, plus 3,000 bushels of wheat, 500 shovels, spades, pickaxes and other implements, and huge quantities of hay, straw, oats and beans, together with 28 teams of at least five horses, 'a strong and able cart and two carters with each team', all supplied with food for three days. Parliament threatened reprisals against any constable who complied with these orders (p. 247). What a life! Later in the year Prince Maurice ordered all Worcester's able-bodied males between the ages of 16 and 60 to report for work on the city's fortifications, on pain of death (p. 266). In the summer of 1644 Major Pont's troop, numbering 42 men with 45 horses, was quartered upon the village of Hanwell for nine weeks, 'promising to pay' but not performing (p. 187).

The battle of Edgehill, Dr. Tennant reminds us, was fought over 'rich farmland, partly ploughed', partly pasturing sheep. After the battle, stragglers from both armies, 'cold and hungry and therefore plundering', took what they wanted from the neighbouring villages (p. 67). Carts were requisitioned to carry 3-4,000 wounded soldiers to Warwick (p. 67). In January 1643 royalists were stealing horses by the hundred, loading carts with looted goods which were promptly sold at local fairs for the profit of the plunderers. In Northamptonshire and Warwickshire many villages were left with 'neither beds to lie on, nor bread to eat, not horse, cow nor sheep' (p. 82).

Billeting meant nothing so simple as one household putting up a single soldier. Well over a hundred Parliamentary troops, many with horses, received free quarter for two days and nights at Bishops Itchington in 1644, six named householders putting up 53 of them (p. 177). Houses and fences were pulled down, fruit trees destroyed, wherever it suited military convenience (p. 96). In Tredington 'forty of our best houses' were plundered by royalist cavalry, 'which had already impoverished largely royalist Worcestershire' (pp. 106-7). Schools were especially vulnerable, many being seized for military purposes (p. 148). Vagrants abounded. When quarter sessions were resumed in Warwickshire at the end of hostilities, they had to deal with almost three times as many cases of poor relief as before the war (p. 141).

Most aristocratic houses had been built to stand a siege. The destruction of such houses in the war, which Dr. Tennant deplores (pp. 214-22), and 'sighting castles' after it, had the advantage of demilitarizing the society. Aristocratic revolt was less likely; mobility was freer. The church, usually the most defensible building in any village, was often fortified as well as being used to house troops or prisoners. King Charles ordered Boarstall church to be demolished in the interests of the security of the Oxford royalist garrison (pp. 229-30). Another perhaps fortunate consequence of the war was the reduction in size of many forests (refuges for outlaws) as trees were cut down to build fortifications or to use as fuel (p. 255).

As Dr. Tennant recognizes, there were reasons for 'the indiscriminate pillage'. For both sides, 'food was often non-existent for days on end', pay was 'meagre and almost invariably long in arrears'. 'Sickness and death were common, outbreaks of plague prevalent' (p. 118). A soldier whose leg was 'broke to pieces' in the siege of Banbury castle had to pay 13s. for a horse litter to bring him home, 41s. for medical treatment (p. 144). Prisoners of rank were ransomed, the money normally going into the pockets of their captors.

Refreshingly the stereotypes of godly Parliamentarians and chivalrous Cavaliers have no place in Dr. Tennant's book. A Parliamentarian veteran of Adderbury tore the Bible to pieces to show his disapproval of his vicar (p. 161). The royalist commander of Lark Stoke was accused of 'inciting his men to follow his example in raping local women' (p. 207). One plundering Parliamentarian officer, Major George Purefoy, Governor of Compton Wynnyates, had as his chaplain the Ranter Abiezer Coppe, who believed that 'sin was abolished'. After having had a profitable war, Purefoy was knighted at the restoration (p. 170). Colonel John Bridges was another who had a good war. In 1645 he told the constable of Twyning, near Tewkesbury, that unless he immediately paid in six months of contribution money allegedly due, 'you are to expect an unsanctified troop of horse among you; ... they shall fire your houses without mercy', and 'hang up your bodies wherever they find them' (p. 207). He did fire the Catholic fortified house at Lark Stoke (p. 208).

Atrocities were not peculiar to either side. Lord Byron celebrated Christmas Day 1643 by massacring twenty Parliamentarians — 'which I find the best way to proceed with these kind of people'. After the capture of Beoley House, Worcestershire, the Parliamentarian soldiers 'put all the Irish there to the sword', as well as burning the house to the ground. In October 1644 a Parliamentary ordinance ordered that no quarter should be given to any Irish or papist born in Ireland. Royalist women camp followers were killed after Naseby (pp. 211-12).

Dr. Tennant's book is a valuable corrective to most works on the civil war. He shows us an England which recalls Yugoslavia today: the breakdown of government left crude military violence unchecked. His worm's-eye view does not tell the whole story; but it is one that we had forgotten. It is hardly surprising that the last year of the war saw the emergence of 'Clubmen' in many counties — neutrals whose one objective was to keep the combatants out of their area. Their slogan

'If you take our cattle
We will give you battle'

sums up the frustration and anger to which Parliament ultimately responded by creating the New Model Army, regularly paid and disciplined. 'The counties of Stafford, Warwick, Leicester and Northampton', said one Parliamentarian, 'have suffered more within six weeks than would pay our new army in six months' (p. 258). Once the greater resources of London and the Parliamentarian south-east were mobilized, the war was soon finished off, the Clubmen rallying to the New Model Army. For a short time in the late 1640's it was a popular army. Its other ranks called for wider representation for ordinary people in Parliament. But that is another story.

The author and the Banbury Historical Society are to be congratulated on producing this thoughtful and thought-provoking work.

Christopher Hill

Note Readers will recall that Dr. Tennant wrote earlier on this subject in an article 'Parish and People: South Warwickshire and the Banbury Area in the Civil War' published in *C&CH* 11.6 (Summer 1990); itself reprinted by permission from *Warwickshire History* 7.6 (Warwickshire Local History Society). We thank our neighbour Society for their ready agreement to the suggestion that we should invite Dr. Tennant to expand his work. For its eventual magnificent appearance we are most grateful to Alan Sutton Publishing Ltd., who when approached agreed to take on its commercial publication and all production responsibility, supplying copies for our members on generous terms.

We Are the Music Makers: A Celebration of Fifty Years of The Banbury Choral Society, 1942-1992, compiled by Walter R. Cheney for the Society, 1992, 24 pp., illustrated, £3.50 (from W.R. Cheney, Summerscales, 18 Elton Road, Bodicote Chase, Banbury OX16 9TL).

Three years ago we published a history of music at Banbury parish church, by F.E. Burroughes (*C&CH* 11.4), which demonstrated the antiquity of choral tradition in the town. Even in the early sixteenth century, sixteen boys at the Free Grammar School were required to sing Mass every day. More than two centuries later, in 1765-6, *Jackson's Oxford Journal* was reporting concerts both in the church (Purcell's *Te Deum* and *Jubilate*) and at the Three Tuns. In 1834 an Amateur Musical Society was formed, giving monthly concerts, and was followed in 1844 by a Choral Society, meeting weekly. An early photograph, c.1850-54, in George Herbert's *Shoemaker's Window* shows Herbert with musical friends and their instruments, including John Cheney, flute.

Rightly this book is mainly a tribute to Geoffrey Furnish, who was the Society from its foundation in 1942 to his untimely death in 1974. He founded it, as the Banbury Co-operative Choral Society, in the darkest days of World War II, and from the start insisted on the very highest standard of musicianship from the amateur singers. In 1946 no less a singer than the contralto Kathleen Ferrier was the guest soloist. Geoffrey's mother's family were named Ludwig and were organ builders — were they connected with the Ludwig whose shop was illustrated on the cover of the preceding *C&CH*, I wonder?

Newspaper reports and notices of concerts are reproduced in facsimile, together with photographs of choir and soloists over the years. The eventual successor to Furnish has been Eddie Palmer, conductor since 1976, under whom the Society (which has been independent of the Co-op since 1967) flourishes.

The tradition of music making has long been strong in Banbury. So too has the involvement of the Cheney family. Walter has here put together a scrapbook which provides a coherent history of the present Choral Society; concluding with comment and reminiscence by members: 'Someone had neglected to put the Church carillon out of action and, after the Evangelist had sung "there was no room for them at the inn", the bells chimed out "Home, sweet home"!'; 'A conductor must be an actor — able to make his musicians think he knows what he is doing. If things go wrong — blame the tenors; there are usually fewer of them.' To this unmusical reviewer, the witty doggerel 'The Lighter Side', as entertaining as Joyce Grenfell's famous piece on singing at the Albert Hall, did more than the solemn listing of great choral performances to convey the sheer fun of being a member of the Society; its author, inevitably, John Cheney.

J.S.W.G.

Opposite, above. George Herbert with his musical friends, about 1850-54. George Herbert, viola, John Cheney, flute (far right) (from *Shoemaker's Window*)

Below: Banbury Choral Society in lighter mood (far left, John Cheney) (from *We Are the Music Makers*).



Memories of Banbury: an illustrated record of an Oxfordshire childhood, by Marjory Lester, 1986, 96 pp., 52 colour illustrations, map, £14.75.

These Golden Years: an illustrated record of an Oxfordshire market town from the 1930's, by Marjory Lester, 1992, viii, 108 pp., 24 colour illustrations, map, £16.75. Both published by the author, and available from her at 4 West Bar, Banbury OX16 9RR (allow £1.00 extra for p&p).

In the last years of the nineteenth century the octogenarian George Herbert was persuaded to write down his memories of his early life in Banbury, effectively from about 1820 to 1845. The manuscript remained known only to a few until it was published in 1948. Since then it has gone through two further editions, and is by far the most interesting and frequently consulted source for pre and early Victorian Banbury.

With these two books of reminiscences of Banbury exactly a century later (the earlier opens 'My father and mother and I came to Banbury in 1920 when I was six.') Marjorie Lester has provided us with our contemporary equivalent of George Herbert, but with two great advantages. First, we have not had to wait fifty years for publication, and the author is still with us to know of the interest the books create and pleasure they give. Second, she is an artist as well as a writer, and both books are charmingly and colourfully illustrated throughout.

Text and pictures together (and they are closely related, buildings and figures all being carefully identified, shop signs clearly lettered) constitute a fascinating and important historical record of Banbury as many of us can still just remember, but had almost forgotten — and are glad to have this reminder.

George Herbert's comments on individuals, friends, acquaintances were pungent and entertaining, the sort one can never get from official records or newspapers. Marjorie Lester's are their equal, both on those long gone and those still with us:

'The Brown sisters were inseparable. Both were extremely thin. Lizzie, the dominant sister, always walked at a great pace, with a stoop and her head thrust forward at a most unnatural angle, while Lottie was as rigid and upright as a bean pole ... They were well known characters in the town, having a reputation for being mean and narrow minded. They were narrow minded, and dreadfully mean over trivial things, such as using old fish paste pots for sugar and salt in their nice restaurant and forbidding their staff to laugh and joke. But in their private affairs, they were incredibly generous.'

At her first school, run by Fanny Harlock: '...she couldn't keep order, so there was usually a riot... Stanley Withey, the milkman's son, was the naughtiest boy in school.' For punishment, he was shut in the bathroom: 'When she went to let him out, he had filled the bath and was playing boats with our hats... Teddy and George Clark, twin sons of the miller Theo Clark, were always wrestling and fighting on the floor.' But despite this inauspicious start, they turned out well. Stan. Withey followed his father to become a well known milkman and, what's more, a stalwart member of the Banbury Historical Society for many years. Of the Clarks, 'George carried on the [mill] business. Ted, the other twin, served with great distinction through the War ... and became one of the owners of the Banbury Guardian.' His most recent historical publication is reviewed elsewhere in this issue.

The books are packed with amusing and evocative anecdotes, backed up by the pictures: 'In my picture I have put one of E.W Brown's errand boys and his cart. May Hawkins pushing her baby Arthur in his pram, my mother and I going for afternoon tea and T.E. Ivens, the milkman and his cart.'

The earlier book, remembering her childhood, is chiefly about the main part of the town, the centre. The second is far more devoted to Grimsbury, where the Lesters and Marjorie's parents lived before they moved to West Bar. Grimsbury is so often overlooked, the 'poor relation', and this book provides a healthy corrective, reminding us that at one time Middleton Road was an 'up-market', 'much sought-after' neighbourhood; and that the whole area had a friendly village atmosphere much loved by its inhabitants.

It is nice that both books have been printed in Banbury, the earlier one by Stone's, the later by Cheney's. One day they will be republished, and I hope will include an index, for they are not just entertaining memories but the very stuff of history, of inestimable value to future Banbury historians. Meanwhile, Mrs Lester, I'm sure you have plenty more memories worth noting down and illustrating in your inimitable way (what about The Green, and the Pembertons at Linden House?), so please keep going.

Jeremy Gibson.

Banbury: A History and Guide. Ted Clark. Alan Sutton Publishing, Stroud, 1992. vi, 122 pp., illustrated, index, £7.99 (paperback).

For a number of years there have been requests by visitors to Banbury and from Banburians themselves for someone to take them on a walk around the town, and point out the various buildings and sites of historic interest. This task has often been carried out by Ted Clark, the author of this *History and Guide*. In often inclement weather he has enlightened interested parties with his knowledge of Banbury's history. I believe that one of his reasons for writing this guide is to reduce the number of times he is asked to walk around the town.

The book itself takes the form of a short history of the town taking in many of the important happenings, from a discussion as to whether the Romans settled in Banbury to the latest events such as the opening of the Shopping Centre and the building of the M40 motorway. These events will leave their mark on the town just as the Civil War and the coming of the Canals and Railways did in years gone by. The guide covers all these details and many more besides. A chapter deals with some local characters who have influenced the town and in some instances the country as a whole.

The last part of the book takes on the form of a walking tour of the Town. It takes one on a comfortable stroll pointing out various buildings of interest and tying them into the fabric of the History of the town, with references to the people who lived in them and noting them in more detail in the main part of the book.

For the visitor to Banbury or to newcomers to the town, who would like to get to know it quickly, this is an ideal book for the purpose. With many illustrations and readable style the task is made easy and very enjoyable.

David Hitchcox.

Index to Oxfordshire Census 1851. Vol. 9. Banbury Union, compiled by Hugh Kearsley. Oxfordshire Family History Society, 1991. 44 pp., £3.50 (+ £1 p&p) from O.F.H.S. (Robert Boyd), 260 Colwell Drive, Witney, Oxon. OX8 7LW, or Oxfordshire Archives, County Hall, Oxford OX1 1ND.

Whilst George Herbert's reminiscences in *Shoemaker's Window* may be the most entertaining source for early Victorian Banbury, for the nitty gritty of detailed facts there is nothing to touch the decennial census returns. From 1841 these list every household and the people in it on the night of the census, from 1851 on giving relationship to head of

household, age, sex, whether married, occupation and, most important to genealogists, birthplace. Thus for the elderly one may get taken back well into the eighteenth century, before the mobility of the railways and the industrial revolution.

Quite apart from their value in showing relationships, there is much to learn from the make up the neighbourhood, the number living in each household, their occupations and so on. The census is a frequent source for project work, but there is always room for much, much more. The censuses for the Banbury area, 1841 to 1891, are available on microfilm at Banbury Reference Library and deserve greater use.

Whilst it is easy to locate specific villages in the census, to find people and places in towns such as Banbury has always been time consuming (and hard on the eyes). For family historians, wanting names and not necessarily knowing where, indexes are a particular boon.

The Oxfordshire Family History Society has now completed transcribing and indexing the whole of the 1851 census for Oxfordshire, together with those parts of registration districts (based on Poor Law Unions) in adjacent counties. Banbury Union covered everywhere in the county north of (and including) Adderbury, the Barfords, Wigginton and Hook Norton, in Warwickshire: Radway, Ratley, Avon Dassett, Farnborough, Warrington and Shotteswell; and in Northamptonshire: Warkworth, Middleton Cheney and Chacombe, Chipping Warden, Upper and Lower Boddington, and Aston le Walls.

The index is to surnames only, and refers to the folio numbers found stamped on the pages of the census enumerators' books (now only available on microfilm), so can be used with the local set. The O.F.H.S. has also put its typed transcript on to microfiche and can provide these or computer disks of individual parishes or registration sub-districts (details of both from Dr Hugh Kearsley, Beeching Close, Upton, Didcot OX11 9JR). As well as the main index to surnames, there are one to places (street by street in Banbury and Neithrop), and (rather indistinct) contemporary maps of north Oxfordshire and of Banbury streets. This publication is an invaluable finding aid to the 1851 census and should stimulate much more research.

J.S.W.G.

Epwell, Oxfordshire: A short General History, by the Revd. John V. Stewart, Rector of Epwell, 1970 to 1975. 16 pp., illustrated, £2.00 (from Michael Kinchin Smith, The Old Bakery, Epwell, Banbury OX15 6LA).

This is an attractively produced history, with nice illustrations: Buckler's 1820 view of the church, the 1881 Ordnance Survey map of the village, and delightful line drawings by Lawson Wager. The text is readable and provides a pot-pourri of historical facts about the village under various headings: church, mill, agricultural change, nonconformity *etc*. Apart from a passing reference to the Victoria County History no sources are mentioned, so it is difficult to see how much original research went into its compilation. This is a pity, as no history is ever 'finished', and there is nothing here to help or encourage others to find out more. The impressive list of subscribers shows there is plenty of interest in Epwell's history amongst its inhabitants. Bearing in mind Dr Brinkworth's remarks about subscribers to Beesley's *History* (this issue), maybe one day this list will be the most useful part of the booklet.

J S W G

Lecture Reports

Brian Little

Thursday 10th September 1992.

A new season got under way with **Nigel Yeadon's** observations on the mystery surrounding the **Turin Shroud**.

Four years ago this was hot news. That the topic can still pull in a good audience says much for the original publicity and even more for Nigel's enthusiasm.

After brief mention of its location, subjection to carbon dating procedures and tragic damage by fire and water, Mr Yeadon rapidly moved to the issue of the supposed figure on the fabric top. Photography of this had produced some remarkable differences between negatives and positives with the former more life-like. Could the Shroud be a forgery if light and shade were reversed? Certainly the developed picture reveals an owl-like stare.

Was there a fourteenth century forger? queried the speaker. If so, then the peppering marks across the back were very carefully put on. Also there is the matter of a spot on the wrists which could have supported a body. Images of body blood and non-blood areas were distinguished but was the staining iron oxide? Experts differ though there have been tests to try and identify blood type.

The mystery of the Shroud is a multiple one for there is the three dimensional character as well as an apparent pigtail on the head of the figure.

Carbon dating brought investigation into the Oxford area as one of the seven investigatory laboratories was in Oxford itself. The outcomes added to the growing list of claims and counter claims.

The only certainty is that the mystery endures. If there is further investigation Nigel Yeadon would like it to include historical study centred on the acquisition of the Shroud by France.

Thursday 8th October 1992. Joint Meeting with the National Trust and other local societies held at Broughton Castle.

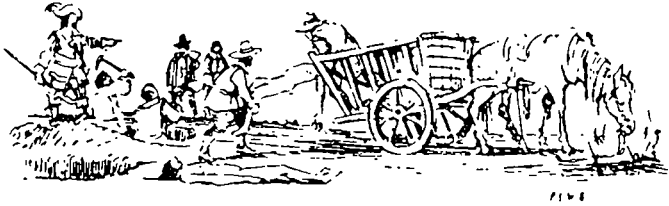
Savaged in Shutford, terrorised in Tysoc, besieged in Banbury — for **Dr Phillip Tennant** these were the dire lots of a Civil War package in which battles were less important than human suffering.

Co-ordinated with this most attractive and well supported lecture, the Banbury Historical Society published its records volume on the Edgehill conflict. Taking the theme of **Edgehill and beyond**, Dr Tennant demonstrated that countless numbers of ordinary folk were dragged into a war none really wanted but few could avoid.

As on so many occasions, mid seventeenth century Banbury was the frontier post of a buffer zone in which Royalist and Parliamentary skirmishes ensured that both the town and its hinterland of villages became one enormous garrison. The presence of troops meant provision of stores. Penalties for non-provision of these were often worse than the war itself.

The Civil War had many fine moments. The King raised his standard, Essex extended his demands and control and the Queen is alleged to have had an affair. Tabloids of the time would have enjoyed a field day.

Allegiances at all levels of society were mixed. Goodman at Prescott was firmly Royalist yet Knightly of Fawsley was a confirmed Parliamentarian. Their houses and those



of other worthies were bastions of support and sources of attrition. The clergy were also dedicated followers and equally split down the middle

In Banbury there was a special brand of the same conflict — castle versus town. Out of this division came recruitment for the ranks and an overall knock on effect of lasting proportions.

The period 1642 to 1645 is not long in mere time span; it was long enough for those who perceived the utter futility of Edgehill and Naseby that settled nothing.

Were there any winners? Possibly doctors who attended the injured and may be the landowners who secured localised and personal gain. Their houses permitted drink by day and sanctuary by night. For most people however, the Civil War was an intrusion which claimed lives and destroyed their environment.

Thursday 12th November. Brian Little on Whatever happened to historic Banbury? (contributed by Jeremy Gibson).

Those who have been fortunate enough to have been on one or more of Brian Little's conducted walks round (often unexpected) parts of Banbury will have welcomed this chance of having more of the same, from the comfort of their seats. To others this illustrated lecture will encourage them to come on future walks (one is scheduled for Thursday 20th May 1993; more information in the Spring with our Summer programme).

Brian is an historian of the present (a geographer, in fact), and as such brings a refreshingly different eye to our surroundings and the way they have changed and developed within our own recent lifetime. His slides taken over a period of years well demonstrated this and made us think again; not all is change for the worse. They reminded us of places we had forgotten and even of places we were glad we'd never known: just as much part of Banbury's history as the Cross, the Cakeshop and the Church. The identical slides could be used for an entertaining talk on the changes in car design over the past thirty years. It left us wanting more of the same.

BANBURY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Banbury Historical Society was founded in 1957 to encourage interest in the history of the town of Banbury and neighbouring parts of Oxfordshire, Northamptonshire and Warwickshire.

The magazine *Cake and Cockhorse* is issued to members three times a year. This includes illustrated articles based on original local history research, as well as recording the Society's activities. Well over one hundred issues and approaching three hundred articles have been published. Most back issues are still available and out-of-print issues can if required be photocopied.

Publications still in print include:

Old Banbury - a short popular history, by E.R.C. Brinkworth.

The Building and Furnishing of St. Mary's Church, Banbury.

The Globe Room at the Reindeer Inn, Banbury.

Records series:

Wigginton Constables' Books 1691-1836 (vol. 11, with Phillimore).

Banbury Wills and Inventories 1591-1650, 2 parts (vols. 13, 14).

Banbury Corporation Records: Tudor and Stuart (vol. 15).

Victorian Banbury, by Barrie Trinder (vol. 19, with Phillimore).

Aynho: A Northamptonshire Village, by Nicholas Cooper (vol. 20).

Banbury Gaol Records, ed. Penelope Renold (vol. 21).

Banbury Baptism and Burial Registers, 1813-1838 (vol. 22).

Edgehill and Beyond: The people's War in the South Midlands 1642-1645,
by Philip Tennant (vol. 23, with Alan Sutton).

Current prices, and availability of other back volumes, from the Hon. Secretary, c/o Banbury Museum.

In preparation: Lists of Tudor and Stuart Banbury Taxpayers, including the May 1642 subsidy for the Hundreds of Banbury, Bloxham and Ploughley (mentioning almost as many as the Protestation Returns of a few months earlier, for which Banbury Borough and Ploughley Hundred returns do not survive). Others planned: selections from diaries of William Cotton Risley, Vicar of Deddington 1836-1848; selected years from Rusher's *Banbury List and Directory*, 1795-1880; news items from the Banbury area from Jackson's *Oxford Journal* (from 1752) and the *Oxford Mercury* (1795-6); and letters to the 1st. Earl of Guilford.

Meetings held during the autumn and winter, normally at 7.30 p.m. at the North Oxfordshire Technical College, Broughton Road, Banbury, on the second Thursday of each month. Talks are given by invited lecturers on general and local historical, archaeological and architectural subjects. In the summer, the A.G.M. is held at a local country house and other excursions are arranged.

Membership of the Society is open to all, no proposer or seconder being needed. The annual subscription is **£8.00** including any records volumes published, or **£5.00** if these are not required.

Applications forms may be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, c/o Banbury Museum, 8 Horsefair, Banbury, Oxon. OX16 0AA.

