

wife Bridget's strong arm and tongue, always acted the part of peacemaker, never allowing the combatants to part until he had made peace between them. Oh, that we had more Peggy McWhees in our day.

The old Banbury Workhouse in South Bar ceased to be used as a poor house in 1838. Mr. Draper, solicitor, purchased the premises and built four houses with shops, one of those lately occupied by Miss Loxley. Much of the old building is still standing behind. The old White Swan Inn still retained the old features it has done without any visible alteration for the past 150 years, excepting the old billiard room at the back, which had to be removed when the Congregational Church and Sunday School was built in the year 1855 by Messrs. John and Thomas Davis, and opened the following year. I was then living next door, and well remember frequently seeing the Rev. Joseph Parker, Mr. J. G. Walford, and Mr. T. Watkins (the Building Committee) in consultation in my house. In several parts of the town stood large finger posts giving the directions to different towns and their distances. One stood just off the main road near the centre of the Horse Fair, another about where the front of the Town Hall now stands, and another at the top of Parson's Lane. A small sketch of one of these is shown in the Institute Manuscript Magazine for 1839. In the same picture is given a view of old Sally Garrett's shop, where articles of a miscellaneous character could be bought, from bulls-eyes to besoms. The husband of this chatty old lady was of a merry and convivial character, and went by the name of "Twisty" Garrett. There was at that time a large number of shops similar to that kept by kind old Sally Garrett. On the right-hand corner stood a fine stone house; those walls looked substantial but the timbers within were much decayed. It was occupied by Mr. Peter Bignell, an attorney, who died about 1839. The old house was pulled down and a new one erected by Mr. John Gazey, who carried on the business of spirit merchant upwards of thirty years. Beyond the old corner shop was a low, one-storied, thatched building, not more than ten feet high, several windows about sixteen inches square, with two iron bars fastened to the woodwork and shutters fixed from the inside. This malthouse was removed in 1840, and Messrs. Fortescues' offices and the three brick houses beyond were erected.

What is now Church Passage was a narrow footpath not more than four feet wide, with high walls on each side. There were three iron gratings about four feet square, which received the waste water as it came down from the churchyard. As people walked over the gratings, they gave a very peculiar sound which