

was called "tink-a-tank," and the place retained that name for many years. In the year 1834 there were four very old low-roofed houses with bow windows and small panes of glass. They were purchased by Messrs. Garrett and Webster, and the three brick houses between the bottom of Church Passage and the White Horse Hotel were built. Mr. Joseph Garrett then arranged for the widening of "Tink-a-tank." One of the walls was taken down and set back seven feet, and from that time the road was called "Church Passage." The next year the old Mechanics' Institute, now used as Church Rooms, was built. The late Lord Saye and Sele came to reside at Broughton Castle in 1849, and became President of the Institute in 1851. In 1852 his Lordship was made High Steward of the Borough of Banbury. In the same year he became a life member of the Society of Arts and affiliated the Institute with that society. Classes were taught at the Institute Room and a scholarship in botany, medals, and high class certificates were gained by pupils. Lord Saye and Sele was a frequent visitor to the Institute and took much interest in its welfare. To return to the High Street, the old White Horse Hotel, with its fine old gateway, was removed more than sixty years ago, and the present one erected. In the centre of the High Street many old and curious houses were pulled down a very few years. Over sixty years ago, Mrs. Bays kept a sweet shop on the spot where Mr. T. J. Watkins lived for so many years. It had a large old-fashioned bow window. One market day a bullock entered the shop, went round the counter and dashed through the window, carrying the whole framework with him, all the glass bottles of sweets were sent into the middle of the road, and a large crowd of boys were soon on their hands and knees filling their pockets with the soiled goodies. Nearly opposite the Red Lion Hotel were three narrow houses with small shop windows, gables over the top, and four steps to each door. These were all pulled down at one time. There was a remarkable old low-built house where Messrs. E. and H. Austen built their grocery premises, now about fifty years ago. The house was very long with some very small windows over the shop. The front wall consisted of mortar and dab, with quantities of small pebbles sticking out. The shop window was not more than three feet from the ground. The front of the house was set back from the pavement about two feet. All along the front were white posts and a rail, two feet high, so that loungers could rest and admire the sweets and other articles of confectionery displayed. A very favourite spot of juveniles. Mr. George Crosby occupied the premises many years. He was father of the late Alderman G. Crosby. There was another old house in the High Street occupied by an old Banbury