



4. The long-established late afternoon stopping train from Paddington to Banbury approaches the end of its journey on a summer evening in 1961 behind 'Grange' class 4-6-0 no 6825 *Llanvair Grange*.

The one stopping train that was not an autocar was a departure from Paddington around 16.30 (the precise time varied from year to year). This stopped at Denham, Gerrard's Cross, Beaconsfield, High Wycombe, Princes Risborough, Haddenham, Brill and Bicester, which before the Second World War took about two hours to reach Banbury. In the post-war years it was the return working for one of Banbury shed's best 'Hall' class locomotives and a set of five or six coaches. They left Banbury just after 08.30 and travelled to London via Oxford and Reading. As mentioned above [and readers will *of course* recall. *Ed.*], it picked up the slip coach detached by the 17.10 from Paddington at Bicester.

Special Workings.

A few trains that took the route through Bicester and High Wycombe, turned right at North Acton Junction, circuited Wormwood Scrubs, and gained access at Viaduct Junction to the West London Line, enabling them to join Southern Region tracks which took them to the Thanet resorts, or the Brighton main line.