



# Campden and District Historical and Archaeological Society

Regd. Charity No. 1034379

## NOTES & QUERIES

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### From The Editors

The next instalment of the fascinating story of Francis Tomes continues in this issue. Although most people did not travel widely in his day, it is a useful reminder of how far and how often lengthy journeys could be made last century. A topic for research, should one be sought by a reader, might well be the origins and number of visitors to Campden and district from distant parts over the centuries and the places visited by Campdonians and others from the neighbourhood. (Try the *Campden Churchwardens' Accounts* for a start). Ebrington again features in a study of Harrowby House. Unusually there is archaeological evidence as well as information on architectural features. Would that excavations could add to our knowledge of other places and buildings!

Amongst the purposes of this publication is the inclusion from time to time of a review article summarising known material on a particular topic. The note on mediæval master craftsmen falls into this category and is intended to spur those with special background knowledge of this subject to seek further and to share their findings with us. Finally, a few notes are provided on two elections last century. Thanks to a member who obtained copies of material from the *Evesham Journal*, extracts from reports of addresses by candidates are included. Have we lost something perhaps by not having to attend such meetings today? Much other valuable information, including advertisements, could not be quoted here for lack of space - another opportunity for research! In addition, the number of replies received lags far behind the number of queries - please keep both coming!

## The Vicar's Book

In an earlier issue (Vol. I, No. 3; p.28), in an extract from CADHAS Bulletin No. 3, the story was told of the *Vicar's Book*, begun by Canon C.E.Kennaway and continued by R.Braithwaite. The book was subsequently used as a scrapbook for pasting in cuttings etc. and passed out of the parish. The following excerpts relating to the old vicarage have been extracted. (The entries have been abridged omitting most references to Canon Kennaway's time away from Campden resulting from the ill-health of his first wife which may form the basis of a future item.)

### "Notice

I have set apart this book as a 'Vicar's Book' by which my successors in the Living may learn several matters connected with the Church the House and the Parish, of which they might not otherwise be informed. I hope my successors will add to it and extend its scope.

C.E.Kennaway  
Vicar Nov. 8 / 1863"

CEK:

### "The Vicarage House"

The House (1832) extended to the North wall of the present dining room which was then a Drawing or Sitting room - the little room on the north of the second entrance being the Dining room and the north end of the Kitchen forming a small entrance hall.

On the following year I built the Drawing room with a bed room and dressing room above it. The latter is now an open lobby.

In 1840 I accepted the Incumbency of Christ Church Cheltenham ..... I was able to hold it, together with this vicarage.

I left Cheltenham ..... in 1842 and after a year spent in various places for my dear wife's health I accepted the Incumbency of Trinity Chapel in Brighton wherein three months my dear wife died .....

I returned from Brighton in 1847 .....

On returning I added the northernmost portion of the house ..... having raised the money (£1200) on mortgage to Queen Anne Bounty." .....

"When I came to the Vicarage in 1873 I found it in such a dilapidated state ..... spent nearly £1000 ..... The total expenditure incurred by me - included 2 Water Closets on the east side and a complete system of drainage. ....

R.Braithwaite"

Also in the Muniment Room [D2.1d] is an undated manuscript note by Miss Kennaway (daughter of CEK).

..... "the Conduit near the quarries from which the stone came for the almshouses. It is a curious old stone building. In my Father's time pipes were connected with the Vicarage, as the water was superior to what was used in the house at that time." .....

## Francis Tomes

### Part 2

Benjamin Holme

In April, 1830, Robert Tomes at the age of 13 accompanied his father on one of Francis's regular trips to England - a voyage which he says took 21 days, "average" for an easterly passage at that time. Robert says that on this trip "My father's chief business was in Birmingham although he had important commercial relations with London, Sheffield, Derby and other places in England." He says that his father was treated with great respect among all of his business contacts in England, but there is no reference to a house and farm at Moseley, and the two stayed most of the time in Birmingham with friends or relatives, which could be taken to suggest that Francis had not by then bought such a property. The Introduction to Robert's *Memoirs*, however, states that on the 1830 trip Robert and his father "visited Moseley Grove, the family's English house near Birmingham ..." but there is no indication as to whence this comes. As Robert was writing nearly 50 years after the event, he may simply have forgotten. Francis, in 1838, writing contemporaneously with the events says he arrived at his "own house" in Moseley after a voyage from New York.

Also on the 1830 trip they visited Mr. Longsdon at Longstone, in Derbyshire - a relationship that was then of long standing and lasted as long as Francis and Mr. Longsdon lived. Longsdon had made a fortune in America but on retirement returned to the Longstone property, which had been in his family since the time of Henry IV. He was apparently a person of some standing in the county as Robert says that "He dined occasionally with the Duke of Devonshire ..." Francis and Robert returned to New York at the end of July, 1830, and Francis then bought a house in Houston Street. Two years later there was an epidemic of cholera in New York.

Some time between 1830 and 1836, but probably in 1831 or 1832, according to Robert:

"My home was revolutionized by the departure of my mother and my two sisters whom she took away with her to England on the plea of giving them the better advantages of an English education, although, I fancy, my mother's own caprice and some incompatibility of temper with my father had no little agency in precipitating this serious step. Although my mother occasionally visited the United States, and finally died in New York, her visits were at long intervals, and her more permanent abode, if such a term can be applied to her constantly shifting residence, was ever after in England, now in Lexington [sic] now in London, then in Birmingham and finally in Brighton, while my sisters' schools were varied accordingly. My father continued to occupy the house in Houston St. which he reorganized according to his own sense of fitness ..."

The further record in Francis's journals and letters remains scanty until 1837, when at the age of 57 he began journals of his Atlantic crossings and of his long overland journeys in America. These tend to corroborate the statements elsewhere that for some substantial time before 1837 he had had a house and farm in Moseley as well as the family home in New York. Between 1815 and 1838, according to his report of the second of these voyages, he had been aboard 20 ships, which could mean ten round trips between Liverpool and New York in

about 20 years; but one tends to accept Robert's estimate, reported above, of a total of 25 round trips, which may include some made after 1838.

According to the *National Encyclopedia of American Biography*, Francis was "one of the founders" of Washington (later Trinity) College in Hartford, Connecticut, but Robert says only that his father helped by contributing money to the enterprise. There is no indication that he had any further connection with that city, although he may well have had customers there.

The voyages between New York and Liverpool which Francis made beginning in March, 1837 are generously reported in his journals. On the first of these, aboard a sailing ship (as were most of them, since he preferred sail to steam - the latter being noisy, dirty and lacking the steadying influence of sails), he made the trip from New York to Liverpool in 28 days; but the return, against unfavourable winds, took 44 days at the end of which the ship's larder was somewhat diminished. This would have been the longest voyage he ever had, except that a note on the back of a portrait of him says that his voyage in 1815 took 80 days!

His other reported voyages were:

New York - Liverpool	June 8 - 28, 1838	20 days
Liverpool - New York	October 2 - 29, 1838	27 days*
New York - Liverpool	May 14 - June 10, 1839	27 days
Liverpool - New York	October 4 - Nov. 3, 1839	30 days

\* his shortest westward passage

He notes that the *Great Western*, on her second voyage, made New York to Bristol in 13 days, thus cutting the time nearly in half but reducing the time for leisurely reading which he enjoyed on sailing ships. (Some of us might regret this but one fears that we are a vestigial minority of failed mariners.) These times are radically different from the 70 days which *Maria* took, and from Francis's 80 days, in 1815; the efficiency of sail must have improved considerably in the meantime, but Robert reports that his mother's voyage included a stop in the Azores - hardly a direct route - and it may be that both sailings were against particularly boisterous headwinds.

Francis was an active reader and according to Robert largely self educated; but Robert also says that his father attended a school founded by King Edward VI - which school and for how long, it does not seem possible to ascertain, although one would like to think that it was in Stratford-upon-Avon.

Francis's journals of his Atlantic crossings are full of interest, including a stabbing and a burial at sea as well as the carrying of sheep, pigs and poultry for the table, but for the most part their flavour is of course best conveyed by the full text. When he arrived in Liverpool in 1837, he found the economy in a deep recession; and when he arrived on June 28, 1838, he found the city *en fête* for the coronation of Queen Victoria on that day.

On June 30, 1838, after a trip by train from Liverpool to Birmingham, he "... met with a happy reception and an excellent dinner in my own House at Moseley after an absence of thirteen months." On July 4, 1838, at Moseley, his son Ben - aged 12 - was present, with fireworks brought from New York, and the Glorious Fourth was celebrated, but Francis

refers to America as Ben's "native land", and seems to excuse himself from the celebration. On August 7 he took his daughters Margaret and Mary to their school in Liverpool. On August 31 he received news at Moseley of a wedding in New York between one of his children - presumably Frank who was 25 that year - and someone unnamed, although we know from the genealogical record that she was Eleanor Hadden, aged 18.

All of this reflects the fact that the family was divided between Birmingham and New York, and it appears from later sources that Frank, the eldest, was active in the business at Maiden Lane. Where was Maria, the wife and mother? According to Robert, as stated above, she was by this time living almost continuously in England, and not with her husband. When Francis returns from Liverpool to New York on November 3, 1839 it is "... to a quiet but solitary home."

The greatest information about his business activities - not to mention the condition of the American hinterland at a time near that at which Fanny Trollope visited some of the same places (see her *Domestic Manners of the Americans*, 1832) - comes in Francis's journal of his business trip from October, 1837 to May, 1838. This took him from Detroit and Chicago, down through Indiana to Ohio and the juncture of the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, north on the Mississippi to St. Louis, and then south to many places in Tennessee, Georgia, Louisiana, Florida and South Carolina - then by sea from Charleston back to New York. At the end of his journal of the trip he says that he arrives in New York "... after an absence of exactly Seven Months, during which I have traveled Eight Thousand & three hundred & forty miles."

The journal, with the accompanying account of his expenses, is a wonderfully informative document about the condition of the United States at the time - less Mrs Trollope's acidulous perspective - full of interest about people, roads, prices, accommodations for travelers, and the like. It reflects the character and personality of a man of great endurance and activity, with keen intelligence, powers of observation, and business acumen - as well, it must be added of vast impatience with fools, cheats and vulgarity. The full flavor of this can of course be had only by reading the whole of the journal, which is not the main purpose of these notes, but several details are worth reporting here.

As to his business activity, it is clear that he had wide contacts all over the area he visited, in small towns and villages as well as in cities like Detroit, Chicago, Lexington, St. Louis, Natchez, Mobile and New Orleans. His daily notes indicate a preoccupation with the collection of accounts due him from his customers, and he seems to have had trouble with a debt of \$3,367.89 owed by a firm named Compton & Oldham, who may - it is not clear - have defaulted on the full amount. There is no description of the products he was selling, although it appears that he was taking orders as well as collecting accounts due. At one point his notes say, somewhat ominously: "Take care of your pistols." It is not clear whether this admonition is to himself or someone else, but it may well have been to himself, as he seems to have been carrying substantial amounts in cash and negotiable instruments.

to be continued

## A Measure of Information

At the research meeting on 6 March, 1997, this editor found she was not the only one with a hazy recollection of the measures that used to be set out so conveniently on the back of school exercise books together with the times-tables. In case it is of use for reference old measures of length and area, regularly found in documents of last century are given here.

<u>Length</u>		<u>Area</u>		
12	inches	1 foot	144 sq.in.	1 sq.foot
3	feet	1 yard	9 sq.ft.	1 sq.yard
5½	yards	1 rod, pole or perch	30¼ sq.yds.	1 sq.perch*
4	rods	1 chain	40 sq.perches	1 rood
			1210 sq.yards	1 rood
22	yards	1 chain	4 roods	1 acre
10	chains	1 furlong	160 sq.perches	1 acre
			4840 sq. yards	1 acre
8	furlongs	1 mile	640 acres	1 sq.mile
1760	yards	1 mile		
5280	feet	1 mile		

\* To avoid confusion with roods, sq.poles or perches are often used in tabulations instead of sq.rods:- eg an area of land is given in Acres (A), Roods (R) and Poles or Perches (P).

## Chipping Campden Churchyard - 3

In Memory of  
 SARAH BIRD Wife of  
 NATHANIEL BIRD. She Died  
 March 29<sup>th</sup> 1807 Aged 37 Years  
 Also JAMES SON of the above died  
 March 23<sup>rd</sup> 1807 Aged 3 Years  
 Also NATHANIEL, their Son died  
 April 5<sup>th</sup> 1807 Aged 14 Years  
 Also ANN their daughter died  
 April 11<sup>th</sup> 1807 Aged 13 months

Time swept by his overwhelming tide  
 My wife and children from my side  
 And you of yours deprived may be  
 As unexpectedly as me.  
 Set then your hearts on things above  
 Death soon will end all mortal love.

[I16]

## Queries

If you can contribute to the answer to the following question, please contact *The Editors*, 14, Pear Tree Close, Chipping Campden, GL55 6DB. A written answer would be most helpful.

The Noel Arms Sign was once displayed on a post set into the pavement in the same way as the present sign outside the Lygon Arms. It is to be seen on old postcards and photographs but is no longer there. Does anyone know when it was removed, why and what became of it? Or does anyone remember it and when they last saw it?

[029]

## Harrowby House

Stephen Ball

### Part 1 The Excavations

Harrowby House, situated on the north side of Ebrington churchyard, was built c.AD 1300 as the principal chambers attached to the hall of the rectory. Constructed of coursed rough dressed Cotswold stone and now minus the hall which was demolished probably mid-14th century, the building was refronted in fine ashlar with ovolo mullion windows c.1670. A mid-18th century cottage is now attached to the south gable, the site of the earlier mediæval hall.

When purchased by the present owner in 1970, the building was, despite a grade two star rating, a roofless shell with no surviving inner walls or floors. This sad state did however, during subsequent restoration, allow for the complete excavation and recording of features both above and below ground. These are summarised below:-

**Pre-Roman:** A few unstratified re-touched flints were recovered from both the garden and the adjacent churchyard.

**Roman:** Two areas have been excavated, under the existing buildings and to the south in foundation trenches for an extension. Under the house, apart from a few small pits, post-holes and slots, the main features of this period were a short section of a rock-cut enclosure ditch with an entrance, and the fragmentary remains of an oven. Other than potsherds and roof tile fragments, the only 'find' of note was part of the neck of an octagonal beaker of blue glass with a white thread round it. In the excavations of the foundation trenches for the extension, the only feature of note was a large ditch about 3.5 metres wide where it cut into bed-rock and from there about 2 metres deep. This ditch has been recorded in two other locations to a distance of over 40 metres. Beside potsherds and roof tiles, four coins and a bronze finger ring were found.

**Saxon:** Following the Roman period the area seems to have been used for animal husbandry and agriculture, with enclosures indicated by rows of stake-holes. More substantial activities took place during the 11th century, with pits and other related features producing a few sherds of this date. From the early Saxon period are two fragments of clay loom weights and, from a neighbouring garden, one complete and totally unabraded loom weight, found whilst deep digging to remove dock roots. This suggests the possibility of a hitherto undisturbed primary context. Also found in the garden, a half of a bronze square headed brooch, but as many 6th century graves were discovered in the village during the early 19th century, I would suggest this was probably a 'souvenir.'

**12th Century:** The first stone building on the site, evidenced by a large stone hearth surrounded by a burnt clay floor bounded on the east side by a dry-stone wall, surviving two courses high in places with an entrance opposite the hearth and vertical posts set within the wall - one at least of which had been burnt in situ. Following the demolition of this building

a shallow pit was dug toward the east end, this was filled with a large dump of pottery of the late-12th century.

**Mediæval:** The second stone building was the Hall of the Rectory, recorded in 1383 when a vicarage was to be built:

. . . he shall have a mansion for his habitation in the Rectory of the aforesaid church  
between the Hall which leads from the principal Chamber to the said Rectory unto the  
Churchyard of the aforesaid church . . . .

The site of the Hall, under the 18th century cottage annexe, was excavated during November, 1990. The original south-east corner of the hall still survives to a height of more than 3 metres in the south-east corner of the cottage. Internal width was 5.5 metres, length at least 9 metres. The base of one pillar was found 2.7 metres from the east end, with two doorways along the north wall. The remains of a first floor fireplace have been recorded on what is now the exterior face of the south wall of the principal chambers, originally the internal wall of the hall. Thus the hall would appear to have been a stone built first floor hall on a vaulted under-croft.

The principal chamber, the present-day main house, was built c.AD 1300; one two-centred arched doorway of this date survives. During rebuilding of the chimneys in 1982, over 40 fragments of moulded stone were recovered, having been used as rubble infill when the chimney tops had been rebuilt in the 1670s. These make up a substantial part of an octagonal louvered chimney, very similar to that still in place on Bredon tithe barn (Worcs.), which is dated c.AD 1280.

Whilst laying a water-pipe to the church in 1977, near the 1380s vicarage (which still survives including one pair of massive internal crucks, despite many alterations in the mid-19th century) to the south of the hall, a dump was found of glazed pottery ridge-tile pieces c. 14th-15th century. Very little pottery later than the 13th century has been found, but 'small finds' include encaustic tile fragments, decorated glass, lead tokens, bronze and pewter seal-top spoons, even an axe-head from the foundation trench of the principal chambers.

## **Part 2      Architectural Summary**

The main body of the house was built c.1300 and refronted in free ashlar about 1660-70. Windows are ovolo mullioned with traditional hood moulds with turned stops. The central doorway is two-centred arched with simple chamfer with hood mould. The doorway in the west wall, c.1300, is situated between two large chimneys, one of which contains a passage at first floor level which leads to a small room, originally a garderobe. The garderobe window is probably original (c.1300) as is the small stair window near the present back door. All other doors and windows at the rear are c.1670 or later.

Both chimneys are c.1300, rebuilt from the shoulders with square stacks set diagonally c.1670. Both were again restored in 1982. The small wing to the west was originally a stair turret containing a large newel stair serving three floors, all of which retain their original stone doorframes.

Internally little of the original remains. By 1970, the house had been gutted and the roof at the front had collapsed. What does remain dates from c.1670. Four main ceiling beams survive - two elm, one oak and one ash - all with deep chamfer and simple moulded stops;

and the top beam of the wall partition on each floor survives. These show where the doorways were situated.

There are four fireplaces. The two on the first floor and one on the ground floor are of fine freestone, four-centred arch, plain chamfer with stop. The ground floor fireplace has an angle on each side. The other fireplace on the ground floor at the north (or service) end has a large timber beam with incised compass drawn decoration on it.

The cottage annexe on the south was built early 18th century as a small barn with loft over, converted to a cottage probably mid-19th century. The gable wall utilised the existing mediæval hall wall of c.1200 which previously had been retained as a boundary or garden wall.

### **Oxford University Press - A Request**

The Society has been approached, in common with similar societies and others, by the Senior Assistant Editor of the *Oxford English Dictionary* with a request for assistance in the task of the comprehensive revision of the dictionary now under way. She writes:-

... As part of this enterprise, we are hoping to contact researchers working with literary and historical texts whose work may have brought to light evidence which has a bearing on this revision.

I am enclosing a copy of our call for research materials which is aimed principally at people working on documentary sources, especially those which are being prepared for publication or which have been published in local sources. .... We would also like to be able to make contact with any of your readers who may not already have been reached by this appeal.

She has therefore kindly provided the following notice for inclusion in *Notes & Queries* -

#### **Revision of the *Oxford English Dictionary*: *you may be able to help***

Work is now in progress on a complete revision of the *Oxford English Dictionary*, and one of the most important aspects of this is the improvement of the range of the quotation evidence which illustrates the history and development of words. Often the existing quotation evidence can be antedated or postdated, or new evidence of the changing use of a word can be found.

The editors are concerned that a great deal of the research which has been and is being done on manuscript sources such as wills, inventories, accounts, letters, and diaries, and which is subsequently published, is not being brought to their attention. The period of greatest interest to us is that from about 1500 to 1900 but earlier and later evidence will also be welcome. A team of researchers has started work recently on extracting material from some sources of this kind, with very encouraging results.

If you are aware of any sources which you think might provide useful material, please contact **the Call for Research Materials, Oxford English Dictionary, Oxford University Press, Great Clarendon Street, Oxford OX2 6DP**, either by letter or by fax on 01865 267810, or by e-mail to [oed3@oup.co.uk](mailto:oed3@oup.co.uk).

## Some Local Mediæval Craftsmen

Jill Wilson

A small number of the names of master craftsmen who may have a connection with Campden and the surrounding district have been preserved in records elsewhere. In more recent times we know of the Woodwards, quarry owners, master masons and architects, with a wide reputation, so it should not be too unlikely that in earlier times others went on to play a part in more distant great building works. Whether they served their apprenticeships and began as journeymen in this neighbourhood is, at present, not known.

About 1250, in the reign of Henry III, John de Blockley (Blockle, Blockleya, sometimes John de Westminster) was the master carpenter of Westminster. Both he and his son, Nicholas, appear in Westminster Abbey records according to John Harvey's *English Mediæval Architects*<sup>1</sup>. No craftsman with a link to Campden is listed for nearly another hundred years.

Master Nicholas of Campden was called in 1336, along with Master John the Mason (John de Teynton), to give expert evidence at an enquiry into the state of repair of Gloucester Castle keep<sup>1</sup>. Work to the north aisle of Campden church has been dated to about 1355, twenty years later; the mason who did the work could have known Master Nicholas. One wonders, could Master Nicholas himself have been involved in any way?

Finding records of such early master craftsmen as these one is led to hope that something might be found on those who worked on the rebuilding of Campden church nave and tower.

Apart from the usual records tradition in the form of rhyme is also available, but though entertaining its value is somewhat doubtful. Percy Rushen<sup>2</sup> for example quotes several different versions of an old rhyme - each purporting to say that it was a John Bower who built Campden Tower, one of which is as follows:-

John Bower built Rosamund's tower  
Gloucester Cathedral and Campden tower.

He also records that it was said that yet another version of this couplet existed on a tombstone in Campden churchyard -

Here lies the body of John Bower  
Built Gloucester Cathedral and Campden tower.

This epitaph however is not listed by Bigland<sup>3</sup> or any other local historian and no gravestone earlier than the C17 has been found by the Churchyard Survey. Indeed no record has yet been found of any John Bower connected with Campden or late mediæval buildings anywhere. If the *Rosamund's tower* is Fair Rosamund's Bower, at Woodstock, John Bower must have been very long lived - for she was the mistress of King Henry II and Campden tower is C15! One is reluctantly driven to the conclusion that these rhymes could well be of fairly recent vintage.

They may even be based on an old rhyme which speaks of *John Gowere, who built Campden Church and Glo'ster Towre*. But who was John Gower? John Harvey<sup>1</sup> suggests that he was one of two John Gores who worked briefly as setters at Eton College in 1445. (No evidence has yet been found to link either or both with Campden, or indeed Gloucester, apart from the rhyme quoted above.) The same work dates Campden Church and Tower about 1450 to 1460

and Gloucester Cathedral Tower to 1454 - 57. However, many histories and architectural studies suggest a later date for the great rebuilding at Campden - the church guide amongst others - dating the great reconstruction of the nave to about 1490 to 1500. When the basis of the choice of this decade is sought part of the answer always seems to be the will of William Bradway, who in 1488 left the munificent sum of 100 marks for the building of the 'Navy' of the church. But could not the work have been already well in hand at this date? Another aspect often mentioned is the remarkable similarity of the nave of Northleach Church with that of Campden. Indeed many have felt that the architect must have been the same for both. Thus it is perhaps necessary to look for master masons with connections with both Campden and Northleach.

A mason working at about the same time, Thomas Elkin<sup>1</sup> [Elkyn, Elkyns] held land at Berynton (believed to be Berrington in the same hamlet as Campden church). Described as a *lathamus* (mason) of Gloucestershire origin, he contracted on 16th January 1439/40 to complete the building of the Divinity Schools of Oxford University which had been begun by Richard Winchcombe<sup>1</sup>. Those members of the Historical Society who took the tour of the Divinity Schools and Duke Humphrey a few years ago will remember their attention being drawn to the change in the decorative detail between the first and subsequent bays of the hall of the Divinity School. It seems that Winchcombe was responsible for the more highly decorated section. Elkin, who had taken over even before the date of the formal contract, was required to avoid undue enrichment (*supervacuum talem curiositatem dicti operis*) and paid one mark (13s. 4d.) a year plus 4s. a week in the summer and 3s. 4d. weekly in the winter. His work follows that already begun but far simpler, and no doubt less expensive. He did not live to finish the building and it is recorded that 3 masons had supervised the work by the time it was finished in 1490.

Other records of Thomas Elkin include a deed he witnessed at Balliol College on 20 June, 1445, and his will. He seems to have lived in Oxford for the last ten years of his life. His death fell somewhere between 29 September and 16 October, 1449; he specified that he should be buried in the Austin Friars, left 1s. 8d. to the repairs of St Mary Magdalen without the North Gate. His wife, Katherine, and son, John, were bequeathed his tenement in Catte Street and his apprentice William received his tools and some other belongings.

It has been suggested that the Richard Winchcombe supplanted by Elkin might have been related to the Henrie Winchcombe whose name is scratched, beside a mason's mark on a column in the nave of Northleach church. This is a very tenuous and roundabout link between the architecture of Northleach and Campden churches. However it seems reasonable to assume that there was much interchange of ideas between master masons. Was Thomas Elkin consulted over the planned rebuilding of the nave of Campden church? Is there any record of what land he held in Berrington? If anyone can add to this brief survey, please send a contribution to this publication!

#### Notes

- 1 Harvey, John, *English Mediæval Architects*, Allan Sutton (1987); p.27 John de Blockley; p. 44 Nicholas of Campden; p.92 Thomas Elkin; p.123 John Gower; p.336 Richard Winchcombe.
- 2 Rushen, Percy, *The History & Antiquities of Chipping Campden*, pub. by author (1911) p.119
- 3 Bigland, Ralph, *The County of Gloucestershire*, reprinted by BGAS (1989), pp.281-64

## Notes on Two Elections in Campden - last Century

Jill Wilson

Over 100 years ago, without benefit of radio or TV, those wishing to see and hear candidates attended their meetings - which gave great opportunities for heckling and spontaneous responses. The *Evesham Journal* of 27th June, 1885, reported on a meeting "held in the Noel Arms yard .... The speakers addressed the meeting from the steps of the Assembly Room." This being the first election since the change in the franchise in 1884, which gave uniform male suffrage to both householders and lodgers, the chairman commented that

It had been boasted by Conservatives in days past that a Liberal dare not show his face in the district but that was when only one class of persons had votes. Now appeals could be made to the people at large, and it would be seen what would be the result. Alluding to the agricultural question, he said it was a fact that many of the labourers had been driven away, and much of the land was going out of cultivation. .... No candidate deserved support unless he was prepared to promote some reform in this matter. He believed Mr Winterbotham was ready to vote for a change, and .... hoped they would return him. (Mr Griffiths: 'No we won't.') .... they wanted protection from the abominable selfishness of those landlords who took great rents - (Mr Griffiths: 'Shameful fellow.') [Mr Winterbotham here .... said he could not allow such language .... ]

When Mr Winterbotham, the Liberal candidate, addressed the meeting he appealed "to his Conservative friends for fair play." As in Stroud, he warned those who interrupted "would be turned out neck and crop." Mr Ulric Stanley then pointed out the yard was a public place. The *Evesham Journal* published a very full report of the candidate's speech - and the subsequent proceedings in which Mr P.Haines put forward an amendment in favour of Mr Dorington, the Conservative candidate. The report concluded

This was stated to be the largest political meeting ever held at Campden, the number present being estimated at one thousand persons. Before the proceedings commenced the drum and fife band, headed by banners, paraded the town.

Mr Winterbotham was duly elected Member of Parliament for East Gloucestershire (Cirencester Division) and defended his seat at a later election. A brief report in the *Evesham Journal* of 9th July, 1892, was entitled 'A Noisy Meeting at Campden.'

A statement to the effect that the labourers supporting Mr Winterbotham had no education, alleged to have been made by Mr Cripps, at Weston Subedge last week, has apparently had the effect of irritating the class of persons alluded to, and on Thursday night Col. Chester Master had a warm time of it at Campden. During the afternoon a leading Liberal went round trying to persuade the labourers to give 'the Colonel' a fair hearing but .... the fair play .... was almost entirely absent from the proceedings in question. The speeches - or as much of them as could be - were delivered from a wagon in the square ..... The speaker said he did not think Mr Cripps said anything of the kind. 'But it is in the *Evesham Journal*' was the retort. .... Colonel Master then proceeded with his address, but nearly every sentence was punctuated by an interruption, relevant or irrelevant .... next speaker .... the uproar was so great as to make the .... remarks inaudible. The Chairman rose .... the uproar his appearance evoked prevented even the reporters catching what he said. .... the proceedings concluded with cheers for Mr Winterbotham and Mr Gladstone.

Once again elected, though with a reduced majority, Mr Arthur Brend Winterbotham was not to enjoy his seat for long. The *Evesham Journal* for 10th September, 1892, contained his obituary, and the newspaper records the first events in the ensuing by-election a few weeks later.