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## NOTES & QUERIES

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<u>Contents</u>		page
From the Editors		61
The Spiriting away of William Harrison	Jill Wilson	62
Chipping Campden and its District in the Civil War - 2	Philip Tennant	63
On Matters of Brass and Stone	Christina Reast	70
Hubert Walter, Archbishop of Canterbury, holds Campden	Allan Warmington	72
From the Guild of Handicraft Trust	Frank Johnson	75
Chipping Campden Churchyard 1 & 2		71 & 73
A Groat of Mary Tudor		74
High Street Houses		74
The 1851 Census - an odd occurrence		76
Queries		69
Replies		76

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### From The Editors

In the first issue of this volume our President, Mrs Jacquetta Priestley, called for the past to "be brought alive." It is a matter for our readers to decide how far this aim has been achieved in the first volume which ends with this issue. It most certainly has however in the exciting survey of the Civil War by Dr Tennant - the second and final part of which appears herein. We are particularly grateful to Dr Tennant since he wrote this article whilst also working to a deadline on the completion of his new book, to be published later this spring by The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust and Alan Sutton Publishing Ltd.: *The Civil War in Stratford-upon-Avon: Conflict and Community in South Warwickshire 1642-46*.

A follow-up to the talk on monumental brasses last year by the late Dr. Malcolm Norris has been written by a member, Mrs Christina Reast, which encourages us to seek out and study more local examples. A curious moment when the Archbishop of Canterbury held the manor of Campden is described by Allan Warmington and a note by Jill Wilson suggests a possible interpretation of an aspect of the Campden Wonder which does not seem to have been considered before. Another glimpse of the early days of the Guild of Handicraft from Frank Johnson includes the welcome promise of further instalments in the next volume.

Finally, a consolidated list of Contents for this volume and an index (now in preparation) is planned to accompany issue 1 of Volume 2, in the Autumn. Meanwhile, you are invited to reread all the Queries in this Volume and see if you add more to the Replies. As has been seen there is room (eventually) for all contributions long or short, serious or amusing so a final request from the editors is for more contributions from members and other readers.

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## The Spiriting Away of William Harrison

Jill Wilson

Over the centuries much doubt has been thrown on William Harrison's statement of what actually happened to him and whilst it seems very likely that he was 'economical with the truth' in some respects some parts are not quite as unlikely as might seem today.

In the middle of the seventeenth a number of spirits were brought to trial. These were not witches but kidnappers who enticed or shanghaied apprentices and maidservants on board ship, taking them for sale as slaves or bond-servants in Virginia or the West Indies, where there was a severe shortage of such skilled labour. From the number of cases in ports such as Bristol and especially in London<sup>1</sup>, the trade must have been widespread. One or two cases in the Middlesex Quarter Sessions records suggest that these 'spirits' would, for a consideration, see to the disappearance - without murder - of people who were in the way. An heiress (a married woman, with child) was rescued just in time in the spring of 1661<sup>2</sup>. It thus seems possible that William Harrison's story of the sum of £7 changing hands on Deal beach was the amount paid by his captors to the rascally ship-master to take him to the New World. So often seen as an impediment to belief in his story, (who after all would *buy* a 70-year old for £7), it may well be an indication of its truth!

As to why he might have been forcibly removed from the scene, there were many reasons so soon after the Restoration, why a respectable steward's testimony or evidence might have been feared. His knowledge of the true events of the occupation and burning of Campden House has already been suggested.<sup>3</sup> The case for the return of the sequestered Campden House in London and other cases for compensation to the Noel family were already in preparation at this time. No doubt if he had reached the far side of the Atlantic, he would have been able to get word back and eventually return - but it would be thought too late to give his evidence and affect the issue. The Barbary pirates however at this time preyed upon Europe and as far as Iceland, being even seen in the English Channel. The originator of William Harrison's plight was perhaps, if he even knew of it, delighted by the loss of the ship and by poor silly John Perry's false accusation which deflected suspicion from a wider field.

### Notes

- 1 Middlesex County Records (Old Series)  
Vol.3 1625 - 1667 46 cases of 'spiriting'  
Vol.4 1667 - 1688 28 cases of 'spiriting'  
eg Vol 3 p.331 apprentice persuaded on board ship "by enticeing words."  
Ibid. p.381 Ralph Richardson was "assaulted and unlawfully and hurtfully" conveyed on board ship.  
Ibid. p.336 a kidnapped apprentice was sold in Barbadoes for 1600 lb of sugar.
- 2 Ibid. p.302. "Sarah Bezer ... being shee was with child and heire to land whereby hir husband ... may be much damnified by the loss of her."
- 3 Seumas Stewart in discussion at CADHAS meeting (6.12.90) & personal communication.

## **Chipping Campden and its District in the Civil War**

### **Part 2**

Philip Tennant

Although the Campden district was never to suffer a garrison to match the permanent and highly effective ones at Warwick and Banbury, a number of temporary, mainly Royalist ones were set up throughout the neighbourhood from the outset, active recruiting was periodically stepped up, and Campden's crossroads situation, already referred to, ensured that the district was highly militarised for much of the time. In the early months of the war, each side made strenuous efforts in Gloucestershire to take the initiative, with rival forces 'both threatening in these lawless times', as one local correspondent put it on 14 March 1643.<sup>1</sup> But it was the Royalists who were the most active throughout the entire region, seen as vital to their supply routes. The staunch Sir William Russell was made governor of Worcester, Sir Thomas Lyttleton of the other walled town, Bewdley, Samuel Sandys was commissioned to raise regiments of horse and foot, and the King himself imposed measures to ensure regular taxation to support his garrisons.<sup>2</sup> On 6 February 1643, Lord Chandos, acting on Prince Rupert's instructions in a move which gave some hint of the cost to the community which the war was to entail, led 13 other Gloucestershire gentry in setting about raising the enormous sums of £3000 immediately and £4000 per month thereafter to support occupying troops,<sup>3</sup> among which were no doubt those raised by Baptist Noel as his father's body was brought back from Oxford for burial at Campden, and later scathingly described in an enemy report as 'a horde of plunderers, Campdeners'. A fortnight later, as if in direct response, Nathaniel Fiennes was ordered by Parliament to raise a regiment of horse throughout the entire region and to seize the horses of 'delinquents' - the usual blanket insult favoured by Parliamentarians to describe Royalist sympathizers.<sup>4</sup> The ever-restless Rupert passed twice through the district, first south through snowbound countryside via Shipston-on-Stour and Burford to storm Cirencester in February, then barely weeks later, north through Chipping Norton and Shipston again to assault Birmingham and Lichfield.<sup>5</sup> Expelled by a surprise attack from his seat at Sudeley, Chandos was quartered nearby, at Little Wolford, in May, while Col. Charles Gerard's regiment was stationed at Sezincote and plundering in the area, the Earl of Middlesex's houses and estates at Sezincote, Bourton-on-the-Hill and Longborough being prime targets.<sup>6</sup> Rupert's brother Prince Maurice was reportedly active between Evesham and Cirencester, 'feeding himself with the contents of that fat vale'.<sup>7</sup> By now Campden itself was occupied too: when skirmishing took place near Ilmington on Sunday 28 May, resulting in many Cavaliers being reported killed or taken prisoner, the Parliamentary account claimed that 'the rest fled to Camden and raised the Troops of Cavaliers there' and that these promptly returned to Ilmington and looted it indiscriminately as punishment for remaining neutral, 'so that the poore Towne, who medled not with either Party, was indamaged by them at least three hundred pound, and no distinction made between friend or foe'.<sup>8</sup> The general impact of such events on the ordinary life of the neighbourhood may be gauged by the simple but significant fact that by 1643 the May Day fair at Stow was but a shadow of its former self, with sales of sheep counted in mere dozens rather than the thousands in normal times - a dismal picture repeated at the town's cattle fair in October.<sup>9</sup>

Seen at this distance much of this Royalist activity appears largely aimless and, no doubt, was - short-term territorial gain and its inevitable consequence, a ruthless occupying force dependent on heavy local taxation and looting, taking precedence over any overall strategy. But the Cavaliers' presence in the Campden district was given a sharper focus in mid-1643 by two dramatic events, the expected arrival of the Queen and, immediately following, the King's decision to capture Gloucester, the only substantial Parliamentary garrison in the whole area. In early July, Henrietta Maria was approaching the Midlands from Yorkshire, leading a large consignment of men and ammunition destined for the King at Oxford. Her exact route was unknown even to the King, but it was assumed that she would accept his advice and, rather than passing near the strong enemy centres of Coventry, Northampton and Warwick, make for Royalist Worcester, which would have meant her passing close to Chipping Campden. In the event, as is well known, she travelled via Kings Norton, Stratford and Banbury, but Rupert's instructions to Lord Arthur Capel in July to march from Bidford to Campden were probably intended to cover the Queen's expected arrival there.<sup>10</sup> But this change of plan meant very little respite for the civilian community, for once the queen was reunited with her husband at Oxford, 'multitudes' of Royalists were promptly reported pillaging at Clifford Chambers, Luddington, Welford and elsewhere on their way to join the King on his new campaign, the siege of Gloucester in August, while others were still lording it at Sezincote, stealing and killing sheep, seizing corn, emptying fishponds and generally doing 'muche mischeife therabouts'. 'I thinke the most unreasonablest of men living are quartered their abouts, whom nothing will satisfie', a distraught local estate manager lamented.<sup>11</sup> To add to the confusion, the Earl of Essex's ragged and starving Parliamentary relief force for Gloucester arrived in the district in June and skirmished with Prince Rupert near Stow, villages in south Warwickshire in the Whichford and Long Compton area were the scene of plundering by other Parliamentarians arriving to help Essex, and there was violence at Little Wolford where Hastings Ingram's manor house was set on fire by Royalists in August. Nor did the ending of the King's siege of Gloucester on 5 September bring much relief for the local civilian population, since many Royalists promptly withdrew northwards, a Parliamentary report noting that their main quarters lay 'about the Vale of Easome' [Evesham], with the enemy watching their movements closely. Colonel Massey warned his superiors in October that although the Gloucester district was quiet, 'a great partie of the King's Forces are upon a designe to gaine Winter quarters in those parts, if not timely prevented'. Acting on his own warning, he routed Royalists attempting to fortify Tewkesbury, while John Bridges, the highly active Parliamentary governor at Warwick, attacked others under Lord Molyneux

.... at Camden in Gloucestershire, and routed them all at the second charge, killed divers, tooke an hundred horse and many prisoners, among the rest Captaine Seager, two Cornets and their Colours, three Quartermasters, and all with the losse of one man, and is safely returned to Warwicke.<sup>12</sup>

The result of this raid was that Parliamentarians replaced Royalists in Campden, at least temporarily, as Robert Fawden, the Earl of Middlesex's bailiff at Milcote, noted in despair on 26 October:

.... for a garrison being comed [sic] to Cambden, they send for provisions to Weston[-on-Avon] weeklie, to the vallew of about £6. Also, their is a warrant sent from Warwick to Weston for £20. and to Welford and divers other Townes in Glocestersheire for £30 a peece, by the onelie Authoritie of Captaine Welles for the maintenance of his Troupe,

and being in the middle betwixt [rival forces] I am in a continuall feare of both, not knowing what to do.

Caught between the two enemies, local people were in dire straits. Forced to pay exorbitant taxes by the local Royalists, the money gathered in was often promptly stolen by Parliamentary interceptors from Warwick, who then, for good measure, plundered the offending villages as a reprisal for helping the other side. 'God in his good time amend it', Fawden prayed, 'for between the one side and the other, none is safe. One day they pillage on the one side, & where they miss, the other takes.'<sup>13</sup> Nevertheless it was the Royalists who were the dominant presence across the entire region from Worcestershire eastwards throughout 1643, confirmed in December by Sir Gilbert Gerard's appointment as governor of Worcester, Henry Washington's at Evesham (strengthened by local recruits under Col. Samuel Sandys), with Sir Thomas Aston's horse quartered in the Evesham area and Sir William Russell's around Worcester. Gerard was ordered to continue the convoys of military hardware from Worcester to Oxford, and did so.<sup>14</sup> But there was always the likelihood of Parliamentary incursions into the Royalist-held territory, particularly over the Gloucester relief convoys which, as we have seen (see Part 1; *CADHAS N&Q* I. issue 5), reached a climax in the spring of 1644. Attempting to capitalize on the Royalist disarray in the wake of the successful relief of Gloucester, the Parliamentarians actually seized the initiative briefly in the summer. Colonel Thomas Archer, one of the Earl of Denbigh's most competent Worcestershire commanders, took the offensive in July, routed the Royalist garrison at Evesham, but then for lack of support had to garrison Campden briefly and eventually withdraw to Alcester.<sup>15</sup>

It is evident therefore that although Chipping Campden and its immediate district had been in the forefront for some time, occupied and reoccupied by both sides as well as being used as a staging post for military convoys, it had not so far been converted into a major permanent garrison. That situation seems to have changed in the autumn of 1644 when Royalists reoccupied Campden in the campaign which was ultimately to end in their disaster at Naseby. By then, Royalists were in the district in such numbers as to suggest to the Parliamentarians that some major campaign was in the offing: by November and December, not only Worcester, Evesham, Campden, Stow and Moreton, but Lark Stoke, Marston, Bourton-on-the-Hill, Pebworth, and other towns and villages were all occupied by the Cavaliers, seemingly on Rupert's instructions, and the Parliamentary scoutmaster and chief intelligence officer, Sir Samuel Luke, using a network of spies reporting back to his command post at Newport Pagnell, noted that the Royalists were fortifying everywhere and that 'they all lie there and about the Vale of Evesham'. If these activities were indeed part of some overall plan, it seems to have been a hastily concocted one not thoroughly thought through. The Royalist officer-in-command at Marston early in December (presumably the mansion of the Bushell family at Broad Marston), Captain Nicholas Blount, wrote to Prince Maurice more than once in some desperation: first, that he had occupied the house but could not hold it without reinforcements of at least another 200 men, and then, a fortnight later, even more desperately from Pebworth,

May it please your highnesse, I sent a messenger to your highnesse yesterday, but have not yet heard of him, signifying by your brother's comission and orders, I had possessed my selfe on Sunday night of Marston house. But those horse that came to assist me, without orders from mee, returned yesterday morning by 4 of the clocke, soe that if your highnesse had not been soe neere I had been left in a desperate estate. And seeing my selfe not able to mainteine the house and bring in the Country to fortifie, I retreated to

*CADHAS Notes & Queries*

the Church [Pebworth] where I now am, but in such a condition that if your highnesse march not this way (or at least wise stay not thereabouts where you are) I shall be forced to retreat to Worcester, unlesse your highnesse will be pleased to send me some horse, untill I receive some assistance from your brother. I beseech you, Sir, to lett me know your remoove by this bearer, or I shall not know how to make my retreat....<sup>16</sup>

Such a letter gives a fascinating insight into the general chaos, lack of logistical support and basic foresight that characterize so many of the campaigns of both sides during the war, and there is much more to come. At Campden, Col. William Legge, a veteran protégé of Prince Rupert (who writes to him affectionately as 'Dear Will') and until recently governor of Oxford, may have been nominally in charge, but it is another of Rupert's officers, William Duggan, who seems actually in charge on 23 December. That he was less than happy with his lot at Campden - and with taking orders from Legge - seems abundantly clear from his letter to Rupert:

I have accordinge to your orders marched, and am now heere in Campden with my Company intire as it was when your Highnesse parted last from us; it is likely the country will prove well for us, but the howse no ways answers my expectations, beinge in my opinion neither of it selfe nor of any thinge I see about it tenable. Yet in as much as it is your especial comand .... I will by God's assistance with the utmost of my care and Hazard of means labour in it. And to this purpose, and that wee may goe on in this undertake [sic] the more cheerfully, my humble suite unto your Highnesse is that you will be graciously pleased to send an expresse to Major Legge upon what termes or conditions you expect that I and my men should be with him heere.<sup>17</sup>

This letter is doubly revealing. In describing Campden house as not 'tenable', Duggan hints at the probable reason why it was never chosen by either side as a site for a major permanent garrison: its situation in the shadow of the hills made it vulnerable to surprise enemy attack and, therefore, a poor defence prospect. Amusingly, what neither he nor Legge (whoever was in charge) realised in considering Campden's main attraction to be the rich countryside nearby ripe for rich pickings for their starving men, was that their colleague Nicholas Blount, stationed nearby at Marston, had already been authorized to bleed the countryside dry. In a letter dated 22 December 1644 from Marston house to the Constables of Kiftsgate Hundred (a very large tract of Gloucestershire countryside extending from the Worcestershire border at Evesham to Moreton and from near Stratford as far as Sudeley in the other direction) Blount wrote imperiously:

These instructions are in his Majesties name to will and require you uppon sight here of to Issue out warantes to all the parishes & tithings within your hundred and give them notes [notice] to bring in their Contribution according to the ratte as they have formerly paid to the parliment, & likewise to send into my Garison att Pebworth one hundred pounds worth of provision for my present occasion, as Beafe, mutton, Bacon, Bread, Chese, beare, poultrie, rabtes & all things nesisary .... for my Garison. Hereof faile not att your perill.<sup>18</sup>

Not only, therefore were several Royalist commanders in the district competing for scarce local provisions to maintain their garrisons, but it is clear that until recently the luckless civilian population had been paying taxes to Parliamentary commanders also. No wonder, then, that it is about now that military commanders on both sides were becoming seriously concerned about increasing resistance from ordinary people - the trend which developed into the so-called 'Clubmen' movement in Worcestershire and Herefordshire particularly, when civilians banded together into a kind of aggressive neighbourhood watch organisation to

defend their property from soldiers of both sides. Gloucestershire's role in this remains obscure; but understandably, the growing feeling was that summed up by the dying Mercutio's bitter cry in *Romeo and Juliet*, 'A plague o' both your houses!'<sup>19</sup>

Interpreting all this Royalist activity around Campden as evidence of a build-up for some major campaign, and with the Earl of Northampton already dominating the Banbury-south Warwickshire area, Parliament decided to act decisively against the existing enemy garrisons and prevent the establishment of further ones. The immediate result was the liquidation of the Royalist outpost at Lark Stoke by a ferocious assault from Warwick, and - most spectacular of all the acts of pointless vandalism in the district - the wholesale burning of the elderly Earl of Middlesex's deserted mansion at Milcote, outside Stratford, in December 1644.<sup>20</sup> These events were followed up by continual raiding in January 1645 by the new Parliamentary governor at Compton Wynyates throughout south Warwickshire and north Oxfordshire, at Chipping Norton, Rollright, Hook Norton and elsewhere. It was on one of these aggressive sorties that the often-quoted Royalist letter was intercepted announcing that Chipping Campden was now under the control of yet another of Prince Rupert's protégés (though a veteran twice the Prince's age), Sir Henry Bard. The notorious Bard's ruthless reign at Campden, which lasted only a brief few months, has been sufficiently described elsewhere to need little further comment here.<sup>21</sup> He has been roundly condemned over the years, but it is clear that he was no worse than other garrison commanders, as a comparison with his local Parliamentary counterpart, George Purefoy, at Compton Wynyates, shows. He settled in at Campden characteristically, digging trenches round the house and constructing fortifications, evidently burning and pulling down nearby houses (as was done by the Royalists at Banbury too) to prevent their use by the enemy for surprise attacks. Equally characteristically, Bard had no compunction in looting and threatening throughout the district in order to keep his men happy: a Parliamentary report describes such activity at villages such as Buckland and Hinton, and an onslaught on Chipping Norton where, 'at their going hence, to show their impartiality (though there was but one Roundhead in the town) they plundered every house therein of whatever was of value, took 200 sheep, and above £40 from one man alone'.<sup>22</sup> A further report, doubtless exaggerated but highly disturbing, claimed that Bard's men had burned half the houses in Campden. Despite Bard's authority at Campden, the command structure remained as confused as ever, in fact. Richard Brent, late governor at Lark Stoke, had now arrived in Campden to demand his share of the spoils, which a highly indignant Colonel Robert Howard, a close friend of Rupert, complained bitterly in a vividly written letter dated Campden, 30 January 1645, at having to share the resources of Kiftsgate Hundred with other Royalist officers far better provided for than his own regiment - presumably a reference to Bard and Blount. Howard concludes jokingly that he is prepared to obey Rupert in everything 'bar starving' (which, he points out, he could do with less effort at Oxford), but that unfortunately, 'I am prepared to live'.<sup>23</sup>

As is well known, Campden house was soon to be burnt to the ground on Rupert's orders, to prevent it ever becoming a Parliamentary garrison, but long before that final tragedy in May 1645 the situation in the town was rapidly deteriorating. Even allowing for partisan bias, a Parliamentary report at the end of February is probably substantially accurate in painting a bleak picture of life in these months immediately preceding the onset of the decisive Naseby campaign:

From Cambden in Worcestershire [sic] we have this intelligence, that the Cavaliers there (most of which are Irish and French) have burnt and pulled downe neere halfe the houses

### CADHAS Notes & Queries

in the Towne, both friends and foes, and would hardly be perswaded to spare Mr Bartholomew's, the Parson of the Towne, though he was the most active to bring them thither. They now keep their Garrison in the great house, and the Hospitall built by Sir Baptist Hickes, having turned out the poore thereof. Captain Richard Brent the elder, a great Papist who was taken in Lark Stoke house is come back againe to Cambden, where he domineers more than ever, and threatens that he will make the Roundheads pay ... He and the rest of his fellowes have already so taxed the County that many of the Inhabitants thereabouts are forced to fly for shelter to Warwick.<sup>24</sup>

As the King prepared to set out from Oxford to march north, time was running out for Bard's reign at Campden, already being threatened by Massey's troops advancing north via Sudeley to Laverton and Broadway early in May and, according to one report, 'giving them [the Royalists] an alarm at Campden house'.<sup>25</sup> Great Midland houses like Beoley and Milcote had already disappeared in the flames of an increasingly bitter war, and even more palatial ones, like Wormleighton, Aynho and Kenilworth, were soon to follow. Campden, like these, was regarded as expendable, as each side adopted a scorched-earth policy of depriving their opponents of potential advantage. According to one lurid Parliamentary report, the Royalists were not content with burning the house itself:

The enemy in Campden house, being lately called to join with His Majesty's army, before their departure turned their horses into the cornfields, and committed many outrages to the inhabitants. And when they had made such a devastation that nothing was left for them to destroy and spoil, they set fire of Campden house itself, & burnt and consumed all the wainscots & and other furniture of that brave house, which cost Sir Baptist Hicks about £10,000 the building.<sup>26</sup>

Arriving by chance shortly after 'to cudgell them [the Royalists] up in their Reare', the Parliamentary governor of Compton Wynyates, Major George Purefoy, found the house blazing, and charged those Royalists lingering in the vicinity 'through the whole Town ... killed 14 of them upon the ground, besides many more wounded, put them all to run, and quit the Town'.<sup>27</sup> Only weeks later, in his lightning march to the south-west after his defeat of the King at Naseby, Sir Thomas Fairfax stopped overnight in Campden, on 24 June 1645. Unfortunately, he was far too busy, preoccupied as he was with affairs of state and the appalling condition of his mutinous men, either to record the state in which he found the town and its once great house, or to give any indication of where he, (or Cromwell, who accompanied him) stayed. Campden's role in the Civil War, intermittently dramatic though never a glorious one, was over. Only the few vestiges of the great house remaining today hint at those troubled times when our ancestors fought each other, at those 'old, unhappy far-off things, and battles long ago'.

### NOTES AND REFERENCES

- 1 Kent Archive Office, Maidstone, U.269/1, E.126, Robert Fawdon to the Earl of Middlesex
- 2 R.Hutton, *The Royalist War Effort, 1642 - 46*, Longman, 1982, pp36-7, 87
- 3 *CSPD 1641 - 43*, pp 442-3
- 4 *Lords Journals*, V.618; *Historical Mss Comm.* V, 74
- 5 P.Tennant, *Edgehill and Beyond* (hereafter *EB*), pp 93-4
- 6 as 1 above
- 7 British Library, Thomason Tracts: E.99(21)
- 8 *Ib.*, E.105(17)
- 9 as 1 above
- 10 For the Queen's journey through the Midlands, see *EB* pp 108-115
- 11 as 1 above
- 12 BL, E.250(12); E.252(2,3)

## CADHAS Notes & Queries

- 13 as 1 above
- 14 Hutton, op.cit., pp 127-8
- 15 *EB*, p 202
- 16 E.Warburton, *Memoirs of Prince Rupert and the Cavaliers*, 1849, I,512; BL Add Mss 18981 f.334. Capt. Nicholas Blount appears to be a relative of Mountjoy Blount, Earl of Newport, who married a sister of the courtier Endymion Porter, and a catholic. Also related to Walter Blount of Soddington, Worcs.?
- 17 Warburton,op.cit., I,516. It looks likely that Warburton I,512 is wrong in dating Legge's Christmas Day letter from Campden, as Legge wrote several letters to Rupert at this time from Faringdon (well over 30 miles away, by atrocious roads) (e.g. 26 Dec), and Warburton's own 'Chronological Catalogue' of letters dates this particular one from Faringdon, not Campden. If so this error has been repeated by many subsequent commentators.
- 18 BL Add Mss 18981 f.335
- 19 For the activities of the Clubmen in a neighbouring county, cf. R.Hutton, 'The Worcestershire Clubmen in the English Civil War', *Midland History* 5, 1979-80, and M.Atkin, *The Civil War in Worcestershire*, Alan Sutton Publishing, 1995, pp 95-99.
- 20 *EB*, pp 207-9
- 21 For example, *DNB*; P.Rushen. *The History and Antiquities of Campden in the County of Gloucestershire*, 2nd ed.1911, pp 52-4; J.Wilson in *CADHAS N&Q*, I. 1 & 2, Autumn 1993 & Spring 1994; Bard's letter is BL E.258(16)
- 22 N.Wallington, *Historical Notices of the Reign of Charles I*, 1869, II, p 246
- 23 Warburton, op.cit., III, 56
- 24 BL E.271(16). Note the unambiguous reference to the vicar's Royalist sympathies.
- 25 BL Add Mss 18982, f.55; E.284(5)
- 26 BL E.284(7)
- 27 *EB*, pp 215-216

## Queries

*If you can contribute to the answer to the following questions or to any that have appeared inearlier issues, please contact "The Editors." 14, Pear Tree Close, Chipping Campden, GL55 6DB. A written answer would be most helpful.*

**Summerton Family** An enquirer says that by family tradition Charles and William Summerton and their father, the postmaster, lived in Campden last century and that at least Charles and William were buried in the Churchyard. The *Churchwardens' Accounts* record payment of several bills submitted by a William Summerton between 1869 and 1876 and Whitfield mentions a grocer of the same name in 1847. Can anyone add to this please? [026]

**Redding Family** The same enquirer believes that the Reddings were connected with the Summertons - does anyone know of a family of this name in the district? [027]

## **On Matters of Brass and Stone**

**Christina Reast**

Following the late Dr Malcolm Norris's visit last March, it was thought that CADHAS members stimulated by his talk and obvious enthusiasm for our own Campden brasses might be interested to know where others are to be found locally. There is no large concentration, but an interesting scattering does exist. Apart from the idiosyncratic series in Blockley described so vividly by Malcolm, the only brasses in the immediate vicinity are at Weston-sub-Edge and Broadway. The latter (old church of St Eadburgha) is a recently-installed facsimile of the 1572 palimpsest stolen in August 1992. That at Weston-sub-Edge is a rather nice later Elizabethan example which shared the common fate of countless brasses in the late 19th century, when the restoring zeal of the Victorians removed them from their stone slabs to be refixed murally, usually quite arbitrarily and away from the original burial places they marked - almost invariably casting out their handsome Purbeck marble casements in the process. This drastic tidying-up and overhaul of our medieval heritage was so widespread that it is a rare pleasure indeed to enter a church whose ancient floor with all its rich history in tile and stone has been allowed to survive.

Slightly further afield, the group at Tredington offers a poignant example of how badly these memorials can fare even in modern times in the absence of proper conservation advice. Two brasses (one commemorating a former rector who was chaplain to Henry V) have been crudely relaid into pink plaster on a wall at the back of the church, where they are suffering badly. Deterioration noticeable a year or two ago has become conspicuously worse as a result of the corrosive effects of damp and the chemical action of lime in the inappropriate plaster. A point of interest is that the original slab to one of these brasses is still in the church, obscured by seating, its indents filled with cement. This 1482 memorial to another rector is coincidentally akin to the brass at Blockley to which Malcolm called our attention, in that it deviates from the norm of being London-made, coming instead from a Midlands workshop (probably Coventry). And a more immediately obvious slab in the nave, though badly trodden-out and worn, almost certainly held the composite Elizabethan brass of which one remnant survives, a lone female figure now relaid into another stone in the south aisle. These brasses in distress have lost much of their dignity and certainly all significance of their proper context by virtue of this unsympathetic treatment.

A representative group at Fladbury (off the B4084 Evesham to Worcester road) includes a memorial of 1445 to a Throckmorton who served as Under-Treasurer of England, an austere London-made brass with classic knightly figure in full plate armour. A fine canopied brass of c.1430 on a tomb-chest at Lower Quinton shows Joan Clopton as a vowess; her husband's alabaster effigy also lies in the church. The pear fruits delightfully engraved within the inscription are a punning allusion to her family name of Besford, or Pearsford (there is an interesting biographical link with the Wixford brass mentioned below). At Wormington is a good example of a popular 17th century artistic convention which depicted women who died in childbirth lying in elaborate four-poster beds with their chrysom infants.

Beyond Tewkesbury the church at Deerhurst, wonderful also for other reasons, possesses amongst its brasses one of national importance. This is the splendid 1400 memorial to Sir John Cassy, "chief Baron of the Exchequer of our lord the King". He is shown in his judge's robes and coif beside his wife Alice, whose pet dog in belled collar gazes up at her, and

whose name is actually engraved below. This “Terri” has only one known counterpart, the dog “Jakke” shown on a lost brass formerly at Ingham in Norfolk (recorded by Cotman but destroyed in 1800, at which date the chancel “was completely swept of all its beautiful memorials of the Stapleton family. They were sold as old metal, and it was commonly reported by whom they were sold and bought; but nobody sought to recover them; neither minister nor churchwarden cared for any of these things.”).

There are a number of lesser brasses in the area (e.g. Clifford Chambers, Todenham, Barcheston, Chastleton) and of course, somewhat further removed from Campden, the well-known collections in the wool churches of Northleach and Cirencester. But by far the most outstanding brass within reasonable radius is to be found, quite unexpectedly, at the obscure little church at Wixford, near Bidford. This monument, like Campden’s Grevel brass, was commissioned from one of the most prestigious London ateliers; sister-products lie in Westminster Abbey and commemorate other men intimately associated with Richard II and the ferment of contemporary political events. The once immaculate and glistening Purbeck marble slab has crumbled badly, but the superb brass itself is remarkably intact.

It is hoped that this brief overview might encourage people to seek out brasses and enjoy them for their beauty, their history and their very tangible link with previous generations. For despite the paradox which exists in that these often striking images are intended to portray real individuals whilst rarely being likenesses in the modern sense, yet it is worth remembering that brasses were not infrequently ordered and laid down within their subject’s lifetime; thus the broken, scarred and dusty images of status and family we gaze upon now would actually have been seen by their eyes, resplendent, burnished, gilded - and incidentally often far more colourful than we can easily imagine from the perished relics which poignantly remain today to remind us of the lives and faith of these people who have gone.

### Chipping Campden Old Churchyard - 1

The survey of the churchyard has recorded a number of interesting inscriptions. In advance of the completion of the work and any publication of the results, the opportunity will be taken to include an occasional note or transcript in *Notes & Queries*.

Here lieth the Body of  
Martha Hiron Who Departed  
this life the 29 Day of Septem<sup>ber</sup>  
ANNODOM 1708 Aged 41  
Here lieth A virgin pver and chast  
WHO did not vainly her time Weaste  
Shee clerely lo<sup>g</sup>ged to married be  
To Christ her Lord and none but hee.  
And now shee is her souel at rest  
With Glorious Saints for Ever Blest.

[H13]

**Hubert Walter, Archbishop of Canterbury, holds Campden  
as Lord of the Manor** **Allan Warmington**

It has always seemed a mystery why the name of Hubert Walter, Archbishop of Canterbury appears in the records for a time at the beginning of the thirteenth century as the lord of Campden. This is one of the curiosities that occurred during the overlordship of the earls of Chester. Hubert held Campden in somewhat the same way as the manor came to be held by Hugh de Gondeville some three decades earlier.

Earl Ranulf de Blundeville, who had taken over the manor of Campden about 1290, remained remarkably loyal to both King John and Henry III. However, John does not seem always to have appreciated this loyalty. Especially during the early part of his reign he had reason to fear the earl's power in England. Moreover, both of Ranulf's marriages (to the mother of the rival claimant to the throne, Prince Arthur, and afterwards to the ward of a powerful dissident Breton) led John to be wary of him. In 1204 Ranulf was accused of aiding the Welsh prince Gwenwynwyn against the king on the Welsh border and in December of that year letters from the king at Bristol to the sheriffs of Lincoln, Nottingham, York, Leicester and Warwick commanded those sheriffs to seize all the earl's lands and possessions in their respective bailiwicks into the hands of the king, and to prevent the earl from receiving the service of any of his tenants until he had satisfied the king in relation to the offence he had caused.<sup>1</sup>

No such orders were sent to the sheriff of Gloucestershire, and Campden escaped this sequestration. However it had already been taken into the king's hands for another reason. In May 1204, during the wars in France, a huge ransom (amounting altogether to thousands of marks) had been demanded by King Philip Augustus of France for the redemption of Ranulf de Blundeville's kinsman, Roger de Lacy, constable of Chester. Roger had most bravely defended the Château Gaillard in Normandy for King John after the rest of the province had been overrun by the French forces. He had eventually been captured by the French when the castle fell in 1203. The courage he had evinced during its defence augmented the size of the ransom demanded. Ranulf seems to have made himself responsible for raising this ransom, and had borrowed 200 marks from the king<sup>2</sup> as part of his attempts to raise it. In return for this loan he had pledged as surety the manors of *Tiwe* (almost certainly Great Tew in Oxfordshire)<sup>3</sup> and of Campden, which had therefore temporarily been taken into the king's custody.

And this is where Hubert Walter, Archbishop of Canterbury comes in. For the Archbishop was also the Chancellor of England. The manor of Campden was granted to him in a letter to the sheriff of Gloucester sent from Winchester by King John's justiciar, Geoffrey fitz Peter, earl of Essex. It reads as follows:

We command you that you should cause our venerable priest, H. Archbishop of Canterbury, to have the manor of Campden with its appurtenances, because he will answer therefor at our exchequer at our command and at our will.<sup>4</sup>

As Canon Bartleet suggested, this grant was probably an expedient to allow the archbishop to hold Campden for the king.<sup>5</sup> The manor remained in the hands of the king, and hence of

the archbishop, presumably until the loan had been repaid by Ranulf, or until the amount had been recovered from the revenues of the two manors.

Hubert Walter had been Justiciar in England during the reign of Richard I, and John had appointed him Chancellor in an attempt to bring financial order back into the kingdom after the neglect of his absentee brother's reign. The archbishop resigned as chancellor that same year and he died in 1205 - a death that led indirectly to the Great Interdiction imposed on the kingdom by the Pope. But that is another story.

Ranulf de Blundeville was deprived of his lands in Yorkshire and the Midlands for only a relatively short period and by August of 1205 the king ordered that all his lands be restored to him.<sup>6</sup> The earl also appears to have regained Campden in due course and he held it without further interruption right up to his death in 1232.

NOTES

1. Records Commission *Rotuli Litterarum Clausarum* (London 1833) 6 John p.16
2. T. D. Hardy (ed) *Rotuli de Liberate* (London 1844) 5 John p.103
3. The manor of Great Tew had been granted to the earls of Chester in the middle of the previous century.
4. *Rot. Litt. Claus.* 5 John p.14b
5. S. C. Bartleet, The Manor of Chipping Campden: *Trans. Bristol & Gloucester Arch. Soc.* Vol ix pp.150-56
6. *Rot. Litt. Claus.* 7 John 1205 p.46.

## Chipping Campden Churchyard - 2

In hopes of a Blessed  
Ressurectiom Here restet<sup>h</sup>  
the body of Iohn the Son  
of John and Elizabeth Dutto<sup>n</sup>  
who departed this life y<sup>c</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> of  
December 1719 Aged 45 Ye<sup>ars</sup>

Meek was his temper modest was his Life  
a prudent and deutifull son  
and so he ends this Life  
and bids surviving walkers ore his grave  
Love the world less and strive  
Your soul to save.

[H41]

## **High Street Houses Notes**

Certain members have already supplied information on the dated initials on some High Street houses listed in the last issue (p. 50) and their contributions have been combined in this note. In date order, as before:-

Martins; 1714: These could perhaps be John and Elizabeth Martin but John was only 9 years old in 1714, and she was 21. Their memorial may be seen in the Church (north Chancel wall). However a further difficulty is that the surname would be likely to begin with I or J and the husband & wife's names with E & M respectively because of the arrangement of the letters. The order of the names certainly follows the expected pattern on -

Trinder House; 1717: The initials are in fact situated between Trinder House and Clifton House, which in 1717 was occupied by Hazelwood Wells and his wife Lydia. He was a grocer or chandler. The house was built in more or less its present form in 1676 and work on the new front and some other alterations was carried out in 1711. The arrangement of letters differs on -

Saxton House; 1798: but the top row MR could be Richard Martin who acquired the house in 1773, and the family owned it to 1830. Perhaps his wife was Elizabeth? - a popular name at that time. A more recent Campdonian still is WHL found on -

Treasures Antiques; 1881: which relates to the schoolmaster William Henry Lane ("Hammer" Lane to those who've read Fred. Coldicott's book). He owned this house in 1881 and sold it to Charles Hooke in 1922. His previous address was 28, Myddelton Square in London, before he came to Campden. At one time he also owned Elm Tree House - buying it on 12 August, 1891, and selling it to C.R.Ashbee on 9 October, 1902. In 1890 he was living in Thatched Cottage, Sheep Street. Was he renting out the house that is now Treasures Antiques one wonders?

More information on other houses would be welcome.

## **A Groat of Mary Tudor**

A bent silver disc found in one of the fields round Campden has proved to be a groat of the first year of the reign of Mary Tudor. It bears the Queen's bust on the obverse - crowned and with an elegant pearl necklace and cross. The reverse has the royal arms and a cross. In the days before newspapers the quickest way to ensure that subjects knew not only of the accession of a new monarch but that monarch's appearance was a speedy issuing of new coinage. The news told in the marketplace in Campden during the months up to and just after the issuing of this coin would perhaps have included the marriage of Lady Jane Grey to Lord Guildford Dudley (21st May, 1553), the death of King Edward VI (6th July) followed swiftly by the astonishing events of the proclamation of Queen Jane (10th July) and her deposition (19th July). The arrival of Queen Mary in great pomp in London (3rd August) was rapidly followed by the reintroduction of the Roman Mass at court - and the execution of the Duke of Northumberland. By September Bishop Latimer was in the Tower and Protestants were leaving England for safety on the continent. What was the feeling in Campden? In November came news of the trials of Lady Jane Grey and others of her supporters - and of the marriage treaty between Queen Mary and Philip of Spain!

This silver groat came to Campden in troubled times. The next year in 1554, a new coinage was issued with the heads of both Mary and Philip.

## From the Guild of Handicraft Trust

**Frank Johnson**

Reference was made in my previous contribution to this Journal (Vol.I. 3 p.35) to the Annual Reports on the Work of the Campden School of Arts and Crafts. The very first Report shows that, in addition to a regular presentation of lectures given by eminent people in their field, the work of the School embraced a wide range of activities. These were directed to helping those in need at an elementary level as well as those seeking more advanced tuition.

The Report for 1903 - 04 states:

The following classes were arranged for during the session: Elementary Geometry & Carpentry Construction with practical demonstrations, Freehand Drawing, Carving, Modelling, also a life class for advanced students. A set of four Cooking Classes was arranged for after Christmas, one in the morning for children at the Elementary Schools, two in the afternoon and one in the evening for girls and women in the town. With the elementary drawing classes a new method was adopted - in the manner of Japanese teaching. Live animals were regularly brought in, to the delight of the children - ducks, geese, pigs, goats, lambs, the whole farm-yard as far as possible - so as to encourage observation.

Students attending the various courses were encouraged to enter the National Competition. Success in this competition (administered by the Board of Education, South Kensington) brought with it financial benefit to the School in the form of grant aid. In 1903 - 04 'Campden carried off two bronze medals, and one book prize. As this was from among some 40,000 competitors the average was extremely good, and the Board of Education recognised this by giving a grant on the basis of 10s. a head.' It is recorded that in the year 1902 - 03 there were 53 students but this had increased to 122 in 1903 - 04.

The removal of the Guild of Handicraft to Campden from London resulted in considerable change to the day to day living standards of its members but it also had a great effect upon the people of Campden. One such effect can be seen through the School of Arts & Crafts. In 1888 '... the notion was that a School should be carried on in connection with a workshop, that the men in the workshop should be the teachers in the school, and that the pupils in the school should be drafted into the workshop as it grew in strength and certainty.'<sup>1</sup> 'In conjunction with the Guild, and in part dependent on it, is the School, in which various forms of handicraft are imparted - not as trades, but educationally - in the evenings, to those who care to come and be taught.'<sup>2</sup>

In delivering his report for the year 1903 - 04 Ashbee reflected on the role of the School within his Guild and School of Handicraft '.... it will be remembered that the Trustees were formed in the first instance for supplying an educational want already felt in London by the skilled craftsmen of a growing industry. The removal of the industry into Gloucestershire increased and accentuated this want, .... subsequent developments should be on the lines of what was educationally needed not for the industry alone, but for the town of Campden with its adjoining district. .... It devolves upon them [Trustees] therefore to widen their curriculum and accept responsibility for this larger constituency.'

The Trustees of the Campden School of Arts and Crafts accepted this responsibility and their proposals for the year 1904 - 05 were then made known. Adding to the classes already established would be provision for needlework and dressmaking, lectures or talks on cottage

hygiene - to be given by Dr Dewhurst, elementary literature or history classes for boys and girls who have just left elementary school; 'a course in music, with a view to encouraging the various musical ventures at present carried on in a haphazard way by different energetic people in the town,' and University Extension lectures.

As a result of all these various activities a significant teaching and learning environment was being created in Campden. The Trustees had outlined their plans for the immediate future but they had also been discussing the longer term development of the School. These proposals I will write about on another occasion.

Notes

- 1 Ashbee, C.R.      *An endeavour towards the teaching of John Ruskin and William Morris.* E.Arnold, 1901
- 2 Ashbee, C.R.      *The Manual of the Guild and School of Handicraft.* Cassell, 1892.

### The 1851 Census - An Odd Occurrence

The Editors' attention has been drawn to an odd entry in the 1851 Census for Campden. The King's Arms Inn was kept by George Stiles and his wife Ruth (née Parkinson). Her sister Mercy Nash and her brother John Parkinson and their respective families were residents of Shipston. However, for the night of the 1851 Census, John Parkinson and Mercy Nash and her youngest child were visitors to Campden, staying with the Stiles at the King's Arms. The rest of their families were left in Shipston. Was this because of some family occasion - or was there some benefit to be gained by being able to prove residence in Campden? For example, was this something to do with the regulations of the Poor Law union? Were the Parkinsons a Campden family trying to keep their connection with the town? Can anyone suggest another reason? Was this going visiting for the Census a common practice? If so it must prove a complication for those studying their family history!

It is assumed that the King's Arms in question was the *Old King's Arms*.

### Replies

The Editors would like to thank everyone who has given information and the replies received are summarised below.

[022] Gardner Family John Gardner may be of this family; he was a farmer of Aston-sub-Edge and owned pasture, orchard and farm buildings "Known by the name of Littleworth." He died on 13 October, 1869. In his will, made on 15 April, 1869, he left Littleworth to his two sons of his niece Mary, (daughter of his brother William) who had married John Hiatt Esq. of Mickleton. The Hiatts owned Peacock House in Lower High Street at one time.