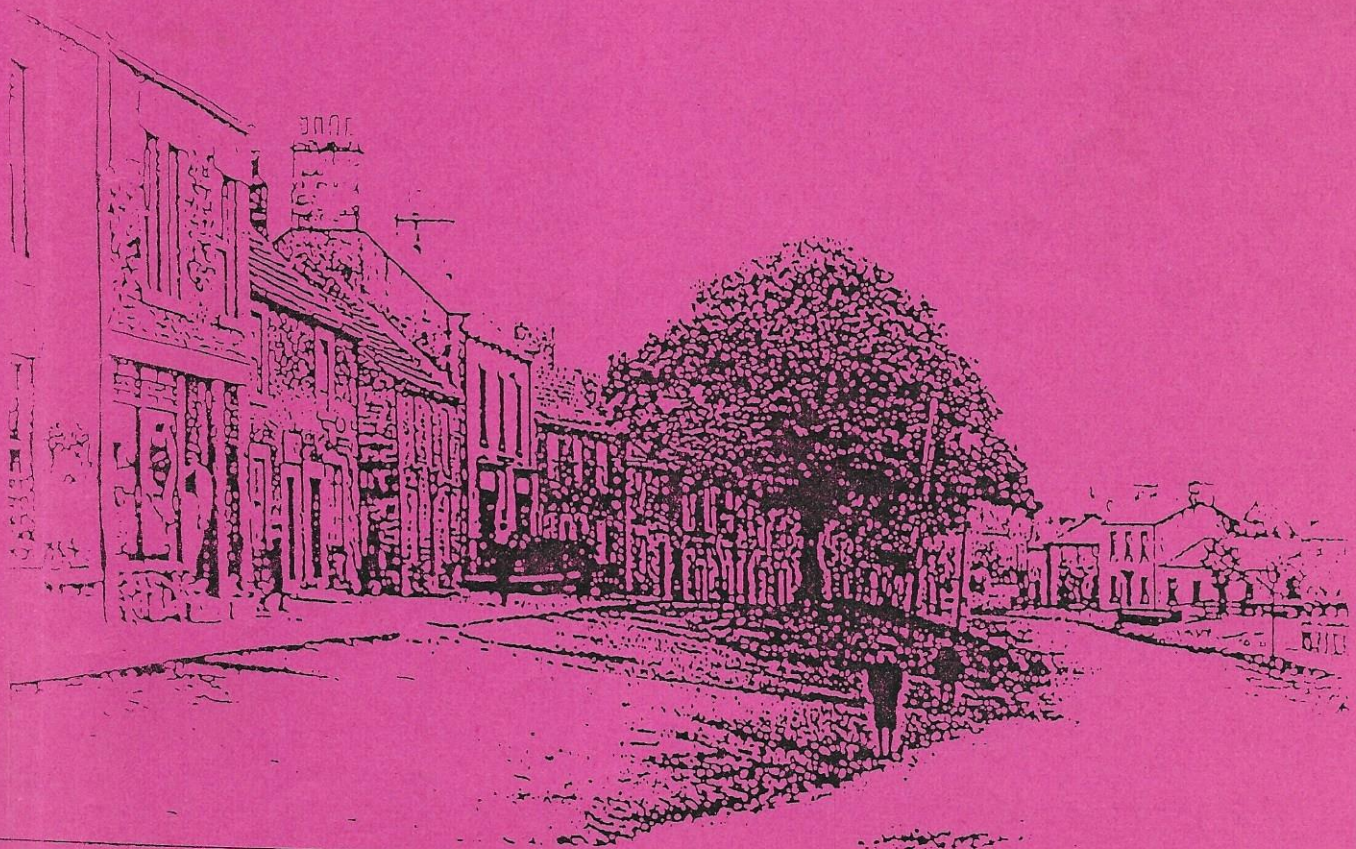


LANCHESTER

LOCAL HISTORY
SOCIETY

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SCRIPTA BREVIA LONGOVICIENSIA

The Journal of the
Lanchester Local History Society

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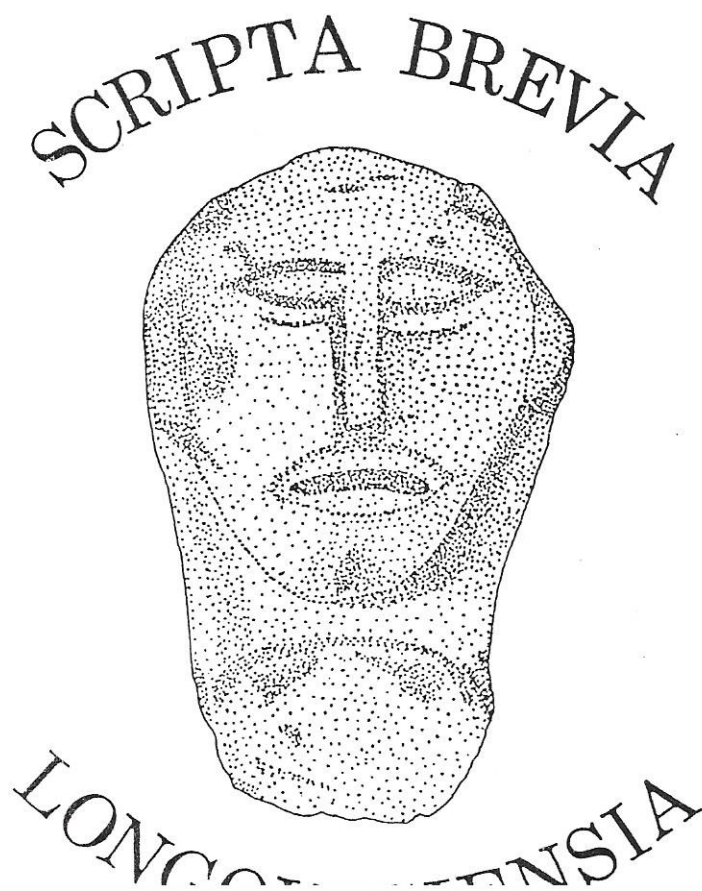
The Horned God of the Brigantae
found at Upper Houses Farm, Lanchester

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Life in the nineteenth century, observed from the last decade of the materialistic twentieth century, has given rise to the emotive expression 'Victorian Values' - a yearning for some perceived moralistic golden age. It is apposite, although accidental, that this issue of the Lanchester Local History Society Journal should contain four interesting illustrations of the lives led by people of different social strata in that century. The players are still with us - the poor, the homeless, the clergy and a prime minister who feels the need to defend his honour. I leave the reader to ponder on the irony of this.

The fifth article concludes Kevin Leary's survey of Langley Hall with a detailed account of the family who built it and their main residence Bolton Castle. You should find this a fascinating illustration of the part played by one family in the history of England.

Our meetings are still held on the first Friday of the month and new members are always welcome.

John Clifford

Editor

DIPPING INTO MR RITSON'S LETTERS

Mr Ritson was Clerk to the Lanchester Board of Guardians. A bundle of letters written to him in his official capacity in 1891 is deposited in the County Record Office. Allowing for the fact that it is a one-way correspondence, it nevertheless sheds light on the plight of the poor and the local administration of poor relief.

The bulk of the letters were from other Boards of Guardians to the Lanchester Board about their respective responsibilities for the care of particular paupers. Since the poor Law Act of 1834, parishes had been grouped into Unions, Union workhouses built and Boards of Guardians elected locally to supervise the work of paid officials. The cost of maintaining the poor was borne by the ratepayers of the Union, consequently the question of which Union paid a pauper's relief was of great concern to its ratepayers and to its Board of Guardians who were often accused of being guardians of the rates not the poor.

Responsibility depended on the pauper's place of settlement. By 1891, the place of settlement was the parish where he or she had lived for a year (previously it had been longer) without during that time being chargeable to the rates. The Union in which the parish lay was responsible for his relief. Wherever a pauper was living when he applied for relief if settlement was proved to be in any of the parishes of the Lanchester Union such as Satley, Knitsley, Consett, Annfield Plain, Stanley etc., the pauper could be returned to the Lanchester workhouse. However this did not happen generally; only 10-20% of paupers saw the inside of a workhouse and these were the aged, the sick or infirm and the children, mostly orphans. In most cases the Union of settlement would accept chargeability without removal and ask the Union in which the applicant was residing to provide outdoor relief and agree to reimbursement. Orders for removal had to be signed by two J.Ps.

The Unions mainly in correspondence with Mr Ritson were not far away, namely Weardale, Hexham, Alnwick, Durham, Chester-le-Street, Gateshead and Newcastle, an indication possibly of the places to which people from this rural area moved to seek work. Much of this internal correspondence between Unions about this troublesome law of settlement could have been avoided had a national system of poor relief existed, as many reformers were advocating by the end of the nineteenth century, but the Boards of Guardians opposed the idea, not wanting to see local control diminished, so a national system was delayed until 1948. The following are some examples of the way in which the system of chargeability and settlement operated in practice.

On 23rd December 1890 Weardale Union wrote to Ritson about William Salmon aged 64 who had recently moved to Crawleyside in Stanhope and had become chargeable. He was in a weak state, suffering from anaemia and likely to be permanently disabled. His last legal settlement was the parish of Muggleswick where he had lived for over three years in a house belonging to the Weardale and Shildon Water Company which employed him to clear the filter beds at the Company's Waskerley reservoir. Lanchester Guardians were asked to accept responsibility for him without removing him. Nevertheless, on February 21st, the J.Ps, Charles Backhouse and Charles Arnison signed an order of removal. Before he could be removed his condition deteriorated and Weardale Union agreed to pay him relief on behalf of Lanchester Guardians provided that any extra expense for sickness or burial was borne by the latter. Similarly, Weardale Union had Joseph Brown removed from Stanhope workhouse where he had been an inmate since May, to Lanchester Union, on the grounds that he had only moved to Rookhope on the 14th April and had previously lodged for five years with Mary McGuinness at 2 Delves Lane, Consett. In the case of the Walters family, living at the time at Bearpark, the husband totally disabled and the wife recently confined, Durham Union agreed to pay them 6/- weekly on behalf of Lanchester Guardians until Mrs Walters was sufficiently recovered to enable the family to be removed to Lanchester workhouse.

When a Union requested another Union to pay relief on its behalf it usually specified not only the amount but also the time limit. Thus Lanchester Union was requested by South Shields Union to pay relief for six months to Sarah Wake aged 78 who was living at Burnhope, and by Newcastle Union to pay Mary Crisp, a dressmaker aged 40, then living in Stanley, 3/- per week for six months.

The amount of relief was pitifully small; usually 2/6 a week, sometimes 3/- and occasionally, in cases of special need, as with William Salmon, 5/- or with Mary Longstaff, 3/6. But Jessie Burnett from Oxhill, aged 18, unable to work because of defective vision and her father recently dead, received only 2/- per week. All that can be said was that it was enough to keep the recipient alive but little else. To put the amount in perspective, wages too were low, about 13/6 for an agricultural labourer and 18/- for a town labourer, and 2/6 per week for rent; this was what Salmon paid for his Waskerley cottage. The first Old Age Pension in 1908 was 5/- a week for men over 70 and 7/6 for couples and this amount saved many of the old from the stigma of the Guardians and the workhouse.

The plight of widows in the days before the Widows Pension can be perceived by the case of Mary Turnbull, a widow of 46 with 5 children. The eldest, a coal hewer paid her 12/- a week for board and lodgings, a daughter of 15 earned 5/6 a week: the other children were aged 12, 9 and 5 years respectively. After six months residence at Chester Moor she applied for relief. Three weeks later Lanchester Union was asked by Chester-le-Street Union to take responsibility for the family as her last settlement was Annfield Plain. May Lucas's husband was lost at sea when she was 29. At 66 she went to live with her son-in-law at Hamsteels Colliery, six years later she was in Lanchester workhouse where she remained for four years. For a short time she lived at Chester-le-Street, was taken into the workhouse there, then she moved on to Quarrington and was living at Coxhoe Pottery when, aged 77 she applied for relief. Lanchester Guardians accepted chargeability without removal and she was allowed 2/6 a week.

Sometimes Unions would dispute chargeability. This happened in the case of Jane Ann Surtees. Lanchester Union refused to accept an order from Durham Union requiring her removal and took the appeal to Quarter Sessions. Jane's husband had gone to South Africa. She claimed relief but could not acquire settlement in her own right whilst her husband was legally living with her, so according to Durham Union responsibility lay with Lanchester Union. The questions raised were: why William Surtees had gone to South Africa, did he intend to remain there permanently or return to England, did he send his wife money, was there any promise to send for her and what had happened to their furniture when they went to live with Jane's father? Mr Greenwell was instructed with the brief at Newcastle on April 7th 1891.

Three of the letters show that relief was discontinued either on the marriage of a female pauper or on the birth of an illegitimate child. Lunatic paupers for whom Lanchester Guardians were responsible were sent or transferred from other asylums to the Durham County Asylum at Winterton. In 1891 five males and two females were transferred from Lanchester Asylum to Winterton, a soldier from Berry Edge was sent there by the army and charged to Lanchester Guardians, as was Arthur Wells Smith who was removed from Melton Asylum in Suffolk to Winterton, the cost being £14/5/3 for maintenance at Melton and £10/8/9 for his removal.

Throughout the nineteenth century a third of the paupers were children. The Cottage Homes in Lanchester were not yet built in 1891. Boarding out was often practised. Joseph and Margaret Carroll were

boarded with Mr John Hughes of Flass Hall in Waterhouses who was paid 4/- weekly on behalf of Auckland Union. Foster parents had to report to the Board on the progress of the children. On 11th November John Hudson of Castle Dean House reported that John Hall, the boy in his care was going on well and would be able to earn his living. The Catholic Orphanage in Wigton reported that Lizzie Collins had left the orphanage and had gone to her sisters in America and that the four children remaining were in good health. Later it reported that Mary Simpson, provided with a good outfit paid for with the £3 sent by the Lanchester Guardians, would leave the next day to take up a situation in Hexham.

Emigration to the colonies was often the fate of orphan children. A letter from the Emigration Home for Destitute Girls in London asked whether the Lanchester Guardians would like to send any Protestant girls between the ages of 9 and 13 years to Canada. The girls must be in good health and of fair intelligence. The Guardians would pay £8 per child and provide a box of suitable clothing. The girls should be handed over at Liverpool where an officer from London would vet the children before promising to take them. The Canadian government would report on the children when they were placed in Canada. The last report from Hamilton had stated that 'not one child in that district had an inferior home'.

Concern of her family for little Susan Hudson who was an inmate of the Lanchester workhouse is shown in a letter from her aunt to Mr Brotherhood, the Master of the workhouse. The family was dispersed, a brother and one of the aunts had emigrated, another had made her home in Suffolk and another was in service with Lady Vernon of Poynton Towers in Stockport. Again emigration was thought to ^{be} the ultimate solution for Susie. First Lady Vernon wrote to the Guardian agreeing to Susan staying with her aunt at Poynton Towers for six to eight weeks and then the following letter was written in November by the aunt to Mr Brotherhood.

Poynton Towers
Stockport

Mr Brotherhood
Dear Sir,

You will think me a very long time writing to you but as you so kindly said any time would do for me to send the money for little Susy fare I have not hurried to write to you till I had heard from her Brother and he have written to say that both himself and My sister wishes to have her sent out to them and he will send me the money for her passage out to them but I have written and told him I should much rather she stayed in England another year and my sister in Suffolk would very much like to

take her for a time and she have got a very comfortable home and she would be well cared for and treated like one of her own and off course I shall also do my very best for her so I hope that you will kindly speak for me so that she need not return to Lanchester. She have been a very good little girl since she have been hear and very happy she attends day and Sunday school regular and seames to enjoy going very much

I must apologise for been so much trouble to you thanken you very much for pass kindness

Yours truly

E Hudson

Doubtless the request would be granted as a family was expected to provide if posible. Defaulters were reminded of their responsibilities as can be inferred from a reply from F. Sawyer, a soldier, saying that he was unable at present to support his step children being an unpaid Lance Corporal earning a 1/- a day and barely able to support his wife but promising to do so when he earned a better rate.

The Board of Guardians tried to ensure that the children in their care were able to earn a living when they left the workhouse. They were sent to the parish school, then the boys were apprenticed to a trade and the girls usually placed in service. On March 21st Charles Jeffreys of the Great Grimsby Ice Company wrote to Mr Ritson asking him whether the Board had any boys between 14 and 16 years who wanted sea service. If so, and the Board agreed, he would come and choose those suitable. They would be provisionally apprenticed with the approval of the Board of Trade and sent to sea for eight weeks on trial. If the boy liked the service his indentures would be confirmed and the Guardians would pay the Company £5 towards his outfit, if he didn't, he would be returned to the Board. The offer must have been accepted because another letter confirmed that Mr Jeffreys would call to see Mr Ritson the following month. The Newcastle Guardians wrote to ask whether there was any reason why they should not go ahead with their proposal to apprentice one of their boys to Mr Jacob Rowell, a tailor of Linz Green.

Sometimes a member of the public drew attention to the need for action by the Board as Mr Wiles of Consett did to the plight of Thomas Connor, a 14 year old boy who had been wandering about Shotley Bridge homeless for two to three weeks. His father had deserted the home, his stepmother refused to provide for him so he depended upon the charity of neighbours and had been sleeping in a stable in Shotley Bridge. Similarly Mr Buckham of Lanchester wrote to Mr Logan, the Chairman of the Board asking for outdoor relief for Dinah Thompson, who, as a ratepayer for many years

deserved consideration.

The Board of Guardians was elected annually and consisted of representatives from each parish according to population. Service as a Guardian of the Poor or Overseer was not generally popular in rural areas where the recipients of relief were likely to be known personally, so re-election was usual. However letters showed some interest in the forthcoming elections for Greencroft township and Cornsay Colliery. The Board supervised the administration of poor relief locally. It appointed the paid officials, the Workhouse Master, the Relieving Officers who distributed the outdoor relief, the Collectors who collected the poor rates and the Assistant Overseers who carried out the routine work of supervision on behalf of the Overseer.

In February, Ralph Walton, Relieving Officer of the East district with twenty five years experience, applied to the Board for a rise in wages because the extensive area he covered from Ushaw Moor to the Derwent involved much travelling and because the growth in the population of the district had increased his duties. He commented that relief was no more than it was twenty years ago and that with one exception it was proportionately lower than in any other Union in the county. It was not unusual for poor law officers to combine their duties with other work. Mr Matt Coupland of Westwood House, Ebchester, Collector of the Medomsley poor rate and Assistant Overseer resigned from the first position but continued in the second, dividing his joint salary of £70 a year on the basis of £45 for the Overseer and £25 for the Collector. He suggested the name of one of the other overseers as Collector. However, there were other candidates for the post, namely George Armstrong, a Medomsley clock and watchmaker, John Collinson, for nineteen years Headmaster of Shotley Grove school, a draper and grocer and the Hamsterley Mill postmaster. Collinson got the post subject to the consent of the Local Government Board and the production of a security bond which he intended to obtain from an insurance corporation which he also represented.

The overseers were dealing with considerable sums. In 1891 the Asylum rate was fixed at $\frac{1}{2}$ d in the £ and the poor rate at 2d in the £. Coupland's collections for the three years previous to 1891 were £1,608/5/6½: £1,394/14/4½ and £1,281/3/10½ respectively. For the year 1890 the County Council handed over to Lanchester Union grants totalling £2,194/14/0 towards the cost of Union Officers, school fees and the maintenance of lunatics.

Towards the end of the century Poor Law officers were becoming better qualified. Provision for the appointment of District Auditors had been

made by an Act of 1879. An incident occurred at Ebchester in 1890 which caused the District Auditor to write to the Lanchester Board that he had re-audited the half-yearly accounts of Mr Moody, late bursar of the poor of Ebchester and surcharged him with £20/12/9½ part of the £30 which Moody had misappropriated to his own use. They do not seem to have been totally competent however. A letter from Mr Bolt of Prospect House, Ebchester Mill refers to two lost cheques of £12/10/0 and £8/5/0 put by his son in a letter box of the National & Provincial Bank of England in Newcastle on his way to school and asks whether he could obtain fresh cheques. The Chairman of the Board wrote to Mr Ritson enclosing the key to Mr Cummings' table drawer and asked him to look to see if there was any money or a cheque which had been left in as he was £7 short.

About the same time the Boards were being urged to improve their sick wards and appoint trained nurses. It is impossible to judge how far progress had been made in the Lanchester Union since from the letters it appears that only one nursing vacancy occurred in 1891. Applications were received from a surprisingly widespread area which included Brighton, Huddersfield, Leeds and Liverpool. Some of the applicants had experience in lunatic asylums and sanatoria but others presumably had no training being lady companions or housekeepers.

Lanchester Union incurred some complaints for refusing or delaying the payment of their charges. Weardale Union reproached Lanchester for paying only 15/- of the charge due for William Salmon, mentioned earlier, and avoiding paying the balance on a legal technicality. Hexham Union complained about a balance of £1/15/0 outstanding, while Reid & Sons of Newcastle wrote that their account had still not been paid although sent in several times.

An order to supply the workhouse was important to local tradesmen but could be sought after from further afield, so as a concluding illustration I append this letter from an enterprising Grimsby fish merchant.

F.B. Coulson
Whole Fish and Ice Merchant

Fish Docks
Grimsby.

To: W. Logan Esq.,
Chairman Board of Guardians
Lanchester.

September 1891

Dear Sir,

Fish as a cheap article of food is now used in almost all large Institutions, Colleges, Schools, Asylums, Workhouses etc. etc. as it is not only palatable but nourishing, but is much cheaper than meat, and forms a

splendid change from the ordinary regulation diets.

I am supplying a number of the above establishments with best live quality Fish consisting of Cod, Haddock, Hake, Ling, Rock Salmon, Codling etc. cleaned ready for cooking and carriage paid at 2d per lb. and I am pleased to make you the same offer. If you will kindly lay this offer before your Board at its next meeting I shall be extremely obliged, as I can guarantee the best satisfaction being given. Trusting this may receive favourable consideration,

I am

Yours obediently,

Fred B. Coulson

P.S. Prime qualities as Turbots, Soles, Brills, Salmon etc. sent for officers' use at same price.

E. L. Thornborrow

WILLIAM FAWCETT

I have recently obtained a copy of a newspaper article from the Whitfield family at Hamsteels Hall. It illustrates very well Fawcett's grasp of the local area and culture, it would be of enormous use to studies of the Lanchester area if his works and articles could be collated/reprinted.

John Bulman - A Local Character

There died in the Poor Law Institution at Lanchester at Eastertide, three months after attaining his eighty-fifth birthday. John (or Jack) Bulman (alias Johnnie or Jackie Bulman), one of the best known characters of North-West Durham (Consett, Knitsley, Lanchester, Butsfield and Satley districts chiefly), "a wander kind" of the last seventy years or more. He belonged to one of the best known and most respectable families of the mid-Derwent Valley. His grandfather was a well known agriculturist of his day, was for many years farm bailiff to Robert Smith Surtees Esq., the sporting novelist, of Hamsterley Hall, and, if the writer mistakes not, forms the subject of one of the characters in one of those novels. Jack's mother was a member of the yeoman family of Greens, who were quondam residents of Whittonstall Hall Farm, and died soon after giving birth to her only child. Jack was born on the last day of the year 1847, and his upbringing was left to the cruel jealousy of a hard hearted step-mother, whose treatment of a stepson was neither motherly, womanly, nor natural. When a young lad his father left the Hamsterley district, and became a farmer at East Butsfield; where he resided seventeen years till he went through Jack's patrimony which accrued to the orphan lad from his mother. Then he entered the services of the late W.B. Van Haansbergen of Woodlands, and acted for some years as his farm bailiff.

In the late seventies of the last century ~~he~~, his (second) wife, two sons, and four daughters migrated to British Columbia. One of these sons - half brother of Jack the wanderer, is an employee on the present Prince of Wales's farm in Alberta. When the family went abroad Jack was left behind to sink or swim. Jack went to Satley School and received his education from Alexander McDonald, "little Ellick", or little Allick, the Satley skeynlmaster", as he was generally called; and his successor, William Heaviside. Very few of Jack's old schoolmates are now left in the land of the living. When he left school his parents gave him employment on their farm, but as there was "nee pay" and "little meat", and "little to eat", Jack betook himself off to the Castleside district where he worked for a few years, in the bark woods, and it was said that he soon

became an adept in stripping the oak trees of their skins, and was looked on as the champion barker of the district. Jack was also a great sprinter and won many a bottle of whisky, which was always the first prize at that time for foot-racing. It was the custom for the winner to have the first "swig", and then to pass the bottle on to the loser, who, after have "a sup" passed it on to the principals and the supporters. When Jack won the race, which occurred most times, there used to be very little left in the whisky bottle after he had first "swig". When not employed in the bark woods at Castleside, he used to work for the late Ralph Hedley, of Satley - one of his schoolmates, either in his water sawmill at West Butsfield, which stood on the site of the present ganister quarries, or travel with Hedley's steam thresher, then a horse drawn affair.

Jack travelled seventeen seasons with the thrasher and then joined the "thresher gang" of Tommy Hunter's thresher, of Medomsley. In between times, and of later years he worked at odd jobs for farmers, stutting whins in the winter months, spreading muck, setting "taties", hacking "taties", hoeing turnips, hay making, binding corn, following the reaper etc., etc. and generally sleeping among the hay and straw in the barn, byre, stable or loft. Jack had a hard life, and as the years rolled on he found it rougher and harder to live. As his old schoolmates, who all had a warm place in their hearts for Jack, died, the number of his friends lessened. Many and many a time Jack has had to sleep out, "back of a wall" with only an old sack over him.

The writer, who knew Jack since a boy, once found him fast asleep behind a wall, in a rainstorm, the rain pelting down on him and his clothes sodden. More than once he has found him in a similar position in the winter months, covered with hoar frost. Many a time he has given him a shelter at his own fireside, allowing him to sleep on the mat in front of a good fire. One dare not give Jack a bed, for he kept company that no cleanly person cared for. At one time Jack got a barrel organ, and travelled the North of England. It is hard to say to what part he did not get into with it, "makking musick" as he called it.

The writer has known him with it on the north side of the Tweed and the Cheviots as far south as Northallerton, and as far west as Carlisle. Jack was a good cadger, and if he could only get a "bit of bait" and a "sup of tea" was all right. If one treated him kindly, there was no kinder friend than Jack. With all his failings and foibles Jack was a harmless fellow, and the writer does not remember in the past fifty years that he knew him, ever to have seen Jack in the hands of the police, or known him to be in their clutches. Jack was many times advised to

go into the workhouse, but life and liberty outside is sweet, and Jack preferred to roam about picking up a bite and a sup here and there, to a caged existence. Besides, Jack and fresh water did not always agree, and once, when he was ill (which was not often) the writer advised him to go there, but Jack's answer was - "No, d'ye knaa that they mak a fellow hev a wesh when yen gans there"? Jack's last days, however, were spent there and he was well cared for.

The writer saw him at Christmas, just a "wriggle of bones" but with a memory second to none in the world, and he recounted deeds of fifty years ago with a freshness, and described men and women known to him personally to the writer as if they were still alive and moving about.

John Gall
The North of England Open Air Museum
Beamish

JAMES WILLIAM FAWCETT (1859-1942)

James William Fawcett was born on 14th April 1859 at Brancepeth, where his father was a farmer. Here his schooling began, but at the age of 12 he also began as a wage earner, collecting rents at Buttsfield in Lanchester parish, for which he received 30s. a year, out of which he had to pay postage. When he was fourteen he passed an examination which gave him admission to the Model School for boys in Durham. He had an extraordinary gift for languages, and, while at school in Durham, he used to walk to Newcastle for private lessons in Hebrew and Latin, which were not in the school curriculum.

When he was nineteen he qualified for the position of Spanish interpreter at Malta in the Intelligence Department of the Imperial Service, winning the post for which there were 2000 competitors. At 25 he could speak 33 foreign languages. He remained in the Government service for 17 years, and acted as interpreter in the High Courts of Justice in Spain, Italy and Egypt. During his Egyptian service he worked for Lord Kitchener personally for 7 years, having the rank of bimbashi or major.

He married on 20th August, 1915, but had no children. He retired from the Government service in 1895, and spent 7 years in Australia, where he was member of parliament for the Kennedy district of New South Wales in 1897 and later Chief Stipendiary Magistrate at Kennedy.

In 1902 he returned to England and to the district of his birth, living first at Consett and later at Holly Cottage, Satley. He was a devout churchman and his other interests were many. As a naturalist he promoted field clubs at Blackhill, Dipton and Burnopfield. With his wide knowledge of languages he took some interest in philology, but it was chiefly the spoken tongue which interested him. The greater part of his time and energy he devoted to local history and genealogy. He was secretary of the Durham Historical Society and made himself thoroughly acquainted with local records by constantly indexing those he read; these indices, with his remarkable memory, enabled him to reply to genealogical inquiries from all parts of England and the U.S.A.

He last joined the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle in 1917, but his first contributions to Proceedings was in 1890.

Although his health had been failing for some time, his last illness was brief. He was taken from his home in Satley to hospital at Consett and died there on 20th March 1942. Mrs Fawcett who survived him gave his papers and indices and many of his books to the Black Gate Library, Newcastle and to the Society of Genealogists, London.

Mr. John Gall

Works known:

Historic Places in the Derwent Valley, 1901
The Birds of Durham, 1890
Tow Law – Descriptive and Historical
Charles Attwood – Founder of Tow Law

Tales of Derwentdale
 Men of Newcastle-upon-Tyne
 The Naturalist in N. Queensland, 1895
 The Australian Aborigines, 1895
 Songs & Recitations of the Australian Bush, 1896
 Life & Labours of Dr Broughton, First Bishop of Australia, 1897
 Some timber trees of Queensland – issued by Queensland Government, 1898-19901
 Annals of Consett District
 Life of Bishop Westcott
 History of Dipton, 1911
 Lanchester Registers 1560-1603, published 1909
 Satley Registers
 Muggleswick Registers
 Newspaper articles on Durham Families (300+)

Talks/Papers to Dipton Naturalists Club (listed below)

Swordmakers of Shotley Bridge, 1901
 The Derwent Valley, its history, biography and legendary lore, 1901
 Historical Account of Whittonstall Parish, church and village, 1901
 Popular Superstitions of the County of Durham, 1901
 Hamsterley Hall and its owners, 1903
 Greenwell Family, 1904
 Dora Greenwell, essayist and poetess, 1904
 The Romans in County Durham, 1904
 A Naturalist in New Guinea, 1908
 Up the Nile from Alexandria to Khartoum, 1908
 The Aborigines of Australia, customs and habits, 1909

Harry Dent had many interesting papers and manuscripts which now(1991) seem to have been lost – most had been obtained from Fawcett's house after his death and they gave a fragmentary glimpse of what the region lost in 1942. The only hope for survival would be the folk, like Harry, who saved little bits – who knows what may turn up in future from this long lost treasure. The following items were seen and are recorded from memory:-

- (a) Parish documents from Tanfield Church
- (b) Railway plans of proposed line across Butesfield area
- (c) Railway plans of line from Stanhope to Hexham
- (d) Drafts of 2nd volume of Lanchester Registers in manuscript
- (e) Letters from G. Stephenson on Railways
- (f) Large amounts of vellum charters, early manuscripts and plans.

THE REMINISCENCES OF THE REV. DR. CANON WILLIAM GREENWELL

(Generally known as 'the Canon')

(The following is a non-academic light-hearted contribution to the CBA North meeting at Appleby 8.5.93.)

I think it would be fair to say, at the age of 98 and looking back from the year 1918, that in 1820, I was born into a different world. Our home was at Greenwell Ford - some half a mile south of Lanchester - on land that had belonged to my family since the seventeenth century. My parents, brothers and sisters and I, lived in a late eighteenth century house, and my father was a country gentleman and farmer - Deputy Lieutenant of the County and so forth. Our upbringing was a normal family life, filled with rural occupations - of which my love of fishing remains. To this day I am proud of the reknown of "Greenwell's Glory", just one of the fishing flies that I devised. I particularly remember with much affection my grandfather. He died just before I was nine, and I remember the wonderful yarns he told - when he wasn't telling me scurrilous tales about my ancestors - and I am sure it was partly from him that I obtained the beginnings of that passionate drive to unravel and protect history which has motivated me since.

But there were other influences on my childhood. There was our small, but fine, old family church at Lanchester, with its architecture, transitional between Norman and Early English, on which I later lectured. In my day it had a delightful orchestra with bassoon, trombone, bass fiddle, flageolet and violin - now long since defunct and replaced by an organ. Music is another love of my life.

Then there was the site of the Lanchester Roman fort, within a stone's throw of our house, and which for decades previously known for the worked stones that it threw up, some of which, later, I was to be instrumental in bringing to a good home.

And, of course, there was the daily over-arching - during my attendance at both Durham Grammar School and Durham's University College - of that wonderful everpresent cathedral - the bells of which filled so much of my youth and also, though I didn't know it then, of so much of the rest of my life.

After acquiring my BA, I left for the Inner Temple, in London, to enter the legal profession. After a year, however, ill-health forced me to come back home, and I returned to University College Durham to read theology, and was ordained in 1844. In 1846 I travelled in Germany and Italy - and learnt much that was to be of use later.

The following period was a sad one - my father's financial losses eventually meant the sale of our family home, and we went through a period of poverty and instability that left a profound mark on my sister, and which implanted a determination in me to see that, in the future, my family would be provided for.

My first clerical post was at Ovingham and Mickley in Northumberland - which was a good introduction to this county so rich in antiquities of every date, and in which, later, I was to dig some thirty-five barrows. I next worked at Burton Agnes in the East Riding of Yorkshire, and those knowing my later work can imagine my appreciation of the Yorkshire Wolds - such a visible cradle of man's prehistoric past and so much a northern mirror of the great Sir Richard Colt-Hoare's county of Wiltshire.

My next appointment took me to Newcastle, as the principal of Neville Hall, where I was responsible for the medical students who lived in it. The cholera epidemic in 1853, in which we all worked so hard for the relief of the suffering, is a period I would perhaps rather forget. More memorable to me, that year, was that I edited two volumes for the Surtees Society, one of which was 'The Boldon Buke', the other the 'Pontifical of Archbishop Egbert', the start of a number of publications I was to make in that series.

In 1854, when I was thirty-four, I came home, so to speak, when I became a minor canon of Durham Cathedral - an office I was to hold for the next fifty-four years until I really felt I had to retire in 1908. Here I had the bottomless resource of the great Cathedral Library together with all its manuscripts; and, on being appointed librarian in 1862, I was able to rationalise the complex archive of the medieval Prior and Convent which lay comparatively unexplored within the cathedral precincts.

Not that I neglected my clerical duties! I was responsible for the, admittedly small, parish of St Mary the Less, in addition to my cathedral obligations. Nor did I fail to make contribution to the community, I held a whole series of public offices - even when I was eighty, if a little deaf, I was still chairman of the Petty Sessions of the Durham Ward.

From now on, when I wasn't working on the manuscripts, I was writing prolifically - I have nearly two hundred publications to my name covering most periods of history, archaeology and architecture - my guide to the cathedral for example is still the standard work. I have served on no end of archaeological committees, including presiding over The Architectural and Archaeological Society of Northumberland and Durham for fifty-three years, and have filled the pages of their journal accordingly. I have been

adamant in making my opinion known about the needless destruction of monuments in search of treasure; and forceful in my views on the appalling over-restoration of churches, from which my own abbey church has not escaped - my jealous regard and reverence for the cathedral fabric is well-known. On a different vein, I did much to bring the coffin of St Cuthbert out of the obscurity in which it had lain since its discovery in 1827, and I shared the task of publishing the Cathedral's medieval seals. I also built up a personal collection of silver Greek coins that was so comprehensive that I was eventually able to sell it for £11,000.

At this point, I must digress, I want to say straight away, in answer to those who claimed that I profited from the sale of these coins, and from the later sale, in 1908, of my collection of antiquities to the British Museum (for £10,000): that the money was not for myself but for my family, including the re-purchase of land at Greenwell Ford. Therefore I am sure you will appreciate why I sold my collections.

My personal collection of antiquities, a large part of which was prehistoric tools, ornaments and pottery, was built up as a result of my barrow excavations - for which I always took care to acquire permission. In addition local prehistoric discoveries tended to be referred to me, and always received my prompt attendance. For example, when the Heathery Burn Cave in Weardale was destroyed by quarrying, I was enabled to become possessed of the great part of the Bronze Age articles found, and learnt many valuable details connected with the finds and their attendant circumstances.

However, I was also able to enlarge the collections belonging to the Dean and Chapter, held in the Cathedral Library. These were formed around a core collection, chiefly of medieval and Roman sculpture, that was already in existence when I was appointed Librarian.

My particular contribution here, was to identify and collect a class of relics which, until then had escaped anyone's interest: the Celtic, Anglian and Scandinavian crosses and grave covers which are now the glory of the Library, beginning with the Cross of Acca from Hexham, and ending with the eleventh century fragments excavated from the foundations of the Cathedral Chapter House.

I got them in various ways, legitimate and illegitimate, by gift, by purchase, and by felony. In justification of the last method, I must emphasise that throughout the Diocese I would see the neglected remains of crosses and tombstones, strangled by ivy, or mouldering in some corner along with prayerbooks and old vases. On one occasion, after a reprimand

to the incumbent, on a second unannounced visit I found that a valuable inscribed stone had been brayed by the sexton's wife. Thereafter I had no compunction about carrying a stone off and placing it under my care. Furthermore, anyone using the 'Catalogue of Sculptured and Inscribed Stones' in the Cathedral Library, Durham, prepared by Professor Haverfield and myself, will notice the care with which the donation or purchase of items is, on the whole, acknowledged, contra those who maintain otherwise.

It was about this time too that I must have opened my first barrow - I remember investigating one near Chollerton in December 1847. The snow was six inches deep, and there was a high wind, so you may imagine that the work was done under difficulties. There were two bodies, one in an urn, sadly broken and decayed; and a central cist, in which were the very trifling remains of a body; and nothing buried with them. The cist was examined by candlelight and the scene must have been very picturesque - the workmen standing around in the partial light, some fine old bushes waving above us, and myself on my knees with a candle held in front of me, discussing the mouldering remains.

My barrow howking became a life-long interest - and until his death in 1881, was often undertaken as a holiday activity with my friend and co-author, George Rolleston, Linacre Professor of Anatomy and Physiology at Oxford. It was, however, done with serious scholarly intent. Our first publication in 1877: 'British Barrows: a Record of the Examination of sepulchral mounds in various parts of England' itemises the excavation of no less than 234 barrows. Each entry lists in detail the location of the barrows (is it my fault that sometimes subsequently our datum points were removed!), the nature and dimensions of the mound, the disposition of the burials, their relationships, and the grave goods accompanying them. My method was to drive a trench from south to north, the original width of the barrow. The sides were often left as these rarely contained secondary internments - though often I turned over the whole mound.

My current barrow total, to date, is 295 barrows excavated, mainly from the Wolds, Northumberland and twenty or so barrows in the counties of Cumberland and Westmorland, of which the chief is the remarkable long cairn at Raiset Pike. Rolleston and I also explored barrows in the area round his Oxford base.

All these barrows are published. Is that a dilettante interest? That scoundrel Mortimer (who in his lifetime only succeeded in digging nine more barrows than me) spread the most calumnious reports to the effect that I was destroying all the Wolds barrows and missing half the internments. He even had the temerity to re-excavate one of my barrows because he

thought I had completed it too rapidly and left it unsatisfactorily explored!

Enough! The point is that Rolleston and I were determined to bring the most up-to-date methods to our presentation of our results. Our use of typology, whether it be applied to the barrow structure, the artefacts found within it, or to the craniometric measurement of the skulls, were using the best techniques currently applied elsewhere in the natural sciences. Perhaps, looking back, I can see that maybe 'British Barrows' lacked the, now more common-place, sections and plans, but at that date our detailed verbal descriptions seemed sufficient.

Of one thing I am absolutely certain, and that is that never again will anyone assemble such a comprehensive collection of antiquities, and, in addition make them available to the nation, as I did.

Certainly I cannot take leave of the results of the labour of many years barrow-digging, without an expression of gratitude for the happy hours and pleasurable associations that labour has begotten. Friendships have ripened and grown over the graves of the ancient dead. I cannot look back to any part of my life with less regret or greater satisfaction than that which has been passed in an endeavour to revive, in however faint a form it may be, this almost forgotten past.

Georgina Plowright M.A.
Curator, Corbridge, Chesters &
Housesteads Roman Museums

(The writer wishes to thank Mr Eric Cambride, Mrs Gill Ivy, Mr Roger Norris and Mr Adam Welfare for their advice in preparing this, but they are not responsible for the result!)

A PRIME MINISTER DEFENDS HIS HONOUR

Greenwell Ford is presently occupied by Mr Nicholas Greenwell and among his family archives is a document which, with his kind permission, is reproduced below. It consists of twenty-four sheets of notepaper (8" x 6½") handwritten in black ink and the foolscap manilla nevelope in which it is contained gives the following details on the front.

Copy of an M.S. account by an eye-witness (supposed to be a doctor) of the only duel the "Iron" Duke of Wellington was ever engaged in on March 21st, 1829. The original M.S. account is supposed to have been asked for by General Sir Leonard Greenwell who fought under the Duke in the Peninsular War. It afterwards came into his - Sir Leo's - nephew (The Rev. Wm. Greenwell) and was left by his son Leonard Wm. Greenwell to his nephew Alan Leonard Stapylton Greenwell in whose custody it now is.

17th October, 1915.

The account, though beautifully narrated, suffers from an overuse of punctuation which to the modern eye interrupts its flow. The editor has taken the liberty of adjusting this. And so to London in 1829...

Saturday, 21st March 1829

In consequence of a note, which I received last night from Sir H. Hardinge, requesting my attendance on him at an early hour this morning, I repaired to his house in Whitehall Place at 1/4 before 7 o'clock, when I found that he was engaged as a second in a duel, and desired that I should accompany him to the field. Sir Henry did not inform me who the parties were, but he mentioned that they were persons of rank and consequence, and begged of me particularly to keep near him, on the ground that I might witness everything that took place, and be able to testify how anxious he had been to prevent this meeting, and what his efforts still were to avoid bloodshed. He then told me he was obliged to mount his horse in order to find his friend, and requested me to step into his carriage, which was waiting in readiness, and would convey me to the place where my attendance was required.

I got immediately into the carriage, which drove through the Green Park, by Pimlico, along the King's Road, Chelsea over Battersea Bridge, and stopped about half a mile on the other side of the river, at a point where the two roads cross each other at the foot of the hill. Here I

alighted and was looking about to see if anyone should make his appearance, when to my astonishment, I perceived Sir H. Hardinge and the Duke of Wellington riding towards me. The duke rode suddenly up to me, saying in a laughing manner, "Well. I daresay you little expected it was I who wanted you to be here".

I was overwhelmed with amazement, and so greatly agitated, I could scarcely answer him, but I put on as steady a countenance as I was able, and replied, "Indeed my Lord, you certainly are the last person I should have expected here". He said, "Ah! Perhaps so, but it was impossible to avoid it. You will see, by and by, that I had no alternative I could not have acted otherwise than I have done". Sir H. Hardinge, who was a little behind the Duke, then came up, and after a few words of common conversation, they rode to the top of the hill, going to the right and to the left, as if looking out for their opponents. They returned in a short time to the carriage, near which I remained, walking backwards and forwards on the road, and requesting me to take out a case of pistols I had brought with me, and to follow them. They turned down the cross road on the left, which runs parallel to the right bank of the river, looking towards London. I took the pistols out of the case, and carrying them in my hand, with my great coat thrown over my arm to cover them, I proceeded along the road, till it opens, after you pass a small Farm House, into an extensive plain, called (I believe) Battersea Fields, having left directions with Sir Henry's coachman for the other parties to follow when they should arrive.

The Duke and Sir Henry had again rode some little distance up the height, and seemed looking out for those they expected, and, having laid my great coat with the pistols in the inside of a field, behind some broken hedges, I continued quietly walking along the path to avoid attracting observation. I had not been long in this situation when I perceived two gentlemen issue from the narrow road whom I immediately recognised as my Lord Falmouth and my Lord Winchelsea. Sir H. Hardinge and the Duke turned their horses at the same instant and came towards them. Sir Henry got off his horse, and saluted Lord Falmouth and his friend, but the Duke kept at a little distance, although he also dismounted from his horse, and, recollecting Sir Henry's request, I joined him with the two Lords, and walked along with them.

Lord Falmouth, as we turned through the gate into the field where I had laid the pistols, said that he hoped he had not kept Sir Henry waiting, but that his coachman had, by mistake, driven him to Putney instead of to Battersea Bridge. Sir Henry said, "Oh! No! It is no

matter. Pray let us proceed!" Lord Falmouth then begged to know if he had received and read a certain paper he had sent, or left for him, to which Sir Henry answered he had got the paper but had not read it, and made some remarks on the bitter necessity, as it appeared to them, for coming to this extremity.

Lord Falmouth seemed much agitated, and very much affected, and said that nothing had ever given him so much pain, but he found it impossible to act otherwise than he had done.

We had, during this conversation, proceeded further into the field, the Duke accompanying us at some little distance, and had got near the hedge at the opposite end of it, when he perceived some people at work which made us turn off to the right, and leap a small ditch to get into the next field. The Duke went on by himself. Lord Falmouth, Sir Henry, and myself, remained at the bank near the ditch, Lord Winchelsea being also near the ditch, but at a little distance from us.

I placed the pistols on the ground, and said to Sir Henry, "As you have only one hand, perhaps you would permit me to load?" To which he replied, certainly if Lord Falmouth had no objection. To this Lord Falmouth assented. He then gave the pistols to Lord Falmouth to examine, and having afterwards returned them to me, I first loaded one, and was proceeding to load the second, when Lord Falmouth said, "Will not one be sufficient?" I replied that I thought it might save trouble afterwards, and loaded that also and was going with them towards the Duke, who had been joined by Sir Henry Hardinge, when he - Lord Falmouth - called me to look at the manner in which he loaded. I answered carelessly, "You may load, my Lord, in any way you please," and went on. His Lordship, however, seemed a good deal agitated, which I observed on turning round, and therefore I went back and offered to load for him; but he had at length succeeded in getting the ball into the mouth of the pistol, and rammed it home; he thanked me most politely, and whilst I stood beside him, till he had finished priming, he stated again, most earnestly, his regret at the circumstances which led to this meeting and the painful situation he was unavoidably placed in. I said to him, "But surely, Sir, it might have been prevented? Could not you have prevented it? Is not Lord Winchelsea entirely to blame? As for the Duke, I know so well his discretion and temper on all great matters, that I am certain that he would never do or say anything to hurt or offend any man's feelings".

Lord Falmouth replied, "I do not say whose fault it is, but I assure you it cannot be settled without the meeting".

We went together towards the Duke and Sir Henry, who were further in the field, when Sir Henry proposed measuring the ground, and having fixed upon a spot, he said to the Duke, "Have the goodness to place yourself here, Duke," and then stepped off 12 paces towards the ditch, near which Lord Winchelsea was standing, and was followed by Lord Falmouth, who also paced the ground, making a mark with the heel of his boot when he came to the spot where Sir Henry had halted. Lord Winchelsea came forward, and placed himself on the spot marked, but as I heard him observe that Lord Falmouth had placed him between the trees, I observed, "Oh! You may stand where you please, either a little more to the left or the right", and accordingly he moved two or three steps to his right.

Sir Henry then took one of the pistols from me, and, placing it under his arm, he went to about half way between Lord Winchelsea and the Duke, where he stood still and, taking a paper from his pocket, he called on Lord Falmouth to come near him, and on Lord Winchelsea to pay attention, whilst he read it aloud. The purport of what Sir Henry read was that he took that opportunity of protesting, in the strongest manner, against the necessity of pushing this affair to the extremity to which it had been urged: he reminded and warned both Lord Falmouth and Lord Winchelsea that they alone must be answerable for the consequences that might result from the meeting, and said he, "If I do not express my opinion, to your Lordships, in the same forms of disgust I have done so in the progress of the affair, it is because I wish to imitate the moderation of the Duke of Wellington". Lord Falmouth seemed much affected, and replied with tears in his eyes that nothing that he had ever been concerned in had given him so much pain as the conduct he had been obliged to pursue on this occasion, but that, although he entirely disapproved of the publication of the letter, which was indeed indefensible, what he had done was unavoidable; that when everything was over he was confident even Sir Henry Hardinge would do him justice. He opened again some paper, which he said he had sent to Sir Henry Hardinge, and I think he asked him again if he had read it, to which Sir Henry replied, "No, and if I recollect right", he added, "indeed, my Lord Falmouth, I do not envy you your feelings". Sir Henry then said, pointing to some people who were looking on, "We had better take our ground: the sooner this affair is over the better", and went up to the Duke, who had remained all this time on the same spot, without speaking a word, but with a smile on his countenance which displayed on this occasion all that calm mildness of expression, which, at times, contrasts so strikingly with the manly firmness and determination of his character, and gave him the pistol, which the Duke

took, and cocked. Lord Falmouth at the same time gave his pistol to Lord Winchelsea, and he and the Duke remained with them in their right hands, the arm being extended down by their sides. Lord Falmouth and Sir Henry then stepped back a few paces, when Lord Falmouth said, "Sir Henry, I leave it entirely to you to arrange the manner of firing", upon which Sir Henry said, "Then, gentlemen, I shall ask you if you are ready and give the word 'fire' without any further signal or preparation", - which in a few seconds after he did, saying, "Gentlemen! Are you ready? Fire -"

The Duke raised his pistol, and presented it instantly upon the word "Fire" being given but, as I suppose, observing that Lord Winchelsea did not immediately present at him, he seemed to hesitate for a moment and then fired without effect.

I think that Lord Winchelsea did not present his pistol at the Duke at all, but I cannot be quite positive, as I was wholly intent on observing the Duke lest anything should happen to him; but when I turned my eyes to Lord Winchelsea, after the Duke had fired, his arm was still down by his side, from whence he raised it deliberately, and, holding his pistol perpendicularly over his head, he fired it off into the air.

The Duke remained still in his place but Lord Falmouth and Lord Winchelsea came immediately towards Sir Henry Hardinge, and Lord Falmouth addressing him said, "Lord Winchelsea, having received the Duke's fire, is now placed under different circumstances from those in which he stood before, and therefore now feels himself at liberty to give the Duke the reparation he requires". He seemed to pause for an answer and Sir Henry replied, "The Duke expects an ample apology, and a complete and full acknowledgement from Lord Winchelsea of his error in having published the accusation against him, which he has done", - to which Lord Falmouth answered, "I mean an apology in the most extensive, or in every sense of the word". He then took from his pocket a written paper containing what he called an admission from Lord Winchelsea, that he was in the wrong, and which he said was drawn up in the terms of the Duke's last memorandum. Upon reading it, it appeared that the word "apology" was in no place inserted, although the paper expressed that Lord Winchelsea did not hesitate to declare, of his own accord, that he regretted having inadvisedly published an opinion which had given offence to the Duke of Wellington, and offered to cause this expression of regret to be published in the Standard Newspaper as the same channel through which his former letter had been given to the public.

The Duke, who had come nearer, and was listening attentively, said in a low voice, "This won't do, It is no apology", upon which Sir Henry took the paper to the Duke and walked two or three paces on one side with him but immediately came back saying, "I cannot accept this paper unless the word "apology" be inserted". He then took a paper from his own pocket and was proceeding to read saying, "This is what we expect", when Lord Falmouth interrupting him said, "I assure you what I have written was meant as an apology", and he entered into a description asserting that the admissions contained in his paper were the same as those, or were quoted from those, in the Duke of Wellington's own memorandum.

Sir Henry said, "My Lord Falmouth, it is needless to prolong this discussion. Unless the word "apology" be inserted we must resume our ground", and turning to Lord Winchelsea, whom Lord Falmouth had taken aside to converse with, he said, "My Lord Winchelsea, this is an affair between the seconds", upon which Lord Winchelsea retired. After some little hesitation Lord Falmouth said he did not well see how he could put the paper into any other form and, referring to me, he said half aside, "Do you not think it sufficient?"

I said, "If you insert the word "apology" in the body of your paper", to which he replied, "Well, Sir Henry, I will do it in this way and I trust that will answer every purpose. I will insert "apology" here in this manner", writing with his pencil after the word "hesitate to declare of my own accord that (in apology) I regret..." etc.

Sir Henry then went to the Duke and spoke a few words but came back almost instantly and said that he was satisfied, or that it would do. He added, "And now, gentlemen, without making any invidious reflections, I cannot help remarking that, whether wisely or unwisely, the world will judge that you have been the cause of bringing this man (pointing to the Duke) into the field where, during the whole course of a long military life, he never was before on an occasion of this nature".

The Duke came forward bowing coldly to Lord Falmouth and Lord Winchelsea, the former of whom seemed greatly affected and stated he had always thought and told Lord Winchelsea he was completely in the wrong on which Sir Henry remarked that if he did so, and came with the writer of the letter to the round, his Lordship had done that which he - Sir Henry - would not do for the dearest friend he held in the world. Lord Falmouth addressed himself to the Duke in vindication of his conduct, and was beginning to express the pain and anxiety he had experienced during the whole of these proceedings, but the Duke interrupted him, lifting up

his hands and saying, "My Lord Falmouth, I have nothing to say to these matters". He then touched the brim of his hat with two fingers saying, "Good morning, my Lord Winchelsea. Good morning, my Lord Falmouth", and mounted his horse and Sir Henry also got on horseback having said, "I wish you good morning, my Lords". They both rode quickly off the field.

I took up the pistols, gave them to the Duke's groom to put in the carriage, and was walking away when Lord Falmouth called me to say that Sir Henry Hardinge had not verified the paper and requested me to do so which I did by putting my initials under the word "apology". That was underlined, and signing my name at the top and bottom, Lord Falmouth repeated again and again how painful it had been to his feelings to be engaged in a business of this kind with a person for whom all the world, and he and Lord Winchelsea in particular, had so much respect and esteem as the Duke of Wellington; and on my remarking, "Then why did you push it so far?" he replied, "It was impossible to avoid. The fact is, Lord Winchelsea has been very wrong, so much so that he could not have made any apology sufficiently adequate to the offence consistently with his character as a man of honour without first receiving the Duke's fire. Had he done what he did in the heat of debate, or in the excitement of the moment, he might easily have retracted his expressions but he had sat down deliberately and written and published a letter in the 'Standard' containing accusations and insinuations which were highly improper. He certainly had discovered soon after that he had no right to attribute to the Duke's conduct the motives he had done, but this only rendered an ordinary apology the more inadequate and he had therefore determined first to give the Duke satisfaction that his expression of regret might have more effect or something to this purpose".

I said I could not agree with him in the view he took of the matter. That what might be justified, or even praiseworthy, towards an ordinary adversary was very different towards a man like the Duke of Wellington. "For, indeed, my Lord", said I, "I had never contemplated the possibility of his being engaged in an affair of this kind and I am filled with something approaching to horror when, after exposing himself for so many years in fighting the battles of his country, after triumphing over all her enemies by a series of victories, the most glorious and complete that ever adorned the page of history, that he may still be found to put himself on a level with other common men and expose to impertinence that life which he has so often risked for the benefit of us all".

Lord Falmouth said that on this occasion he did not risk his life.

"I assure you, sir, that on no other condition would I have accompanied Lord Winchelsea except on this of his acting in the manner he has done and his declaring to me, on his honour, that he would not return the Duke's fire".

I said, "Indeed, gentlemen, I never was relieved so agreeably from the most painful suspense and alarm as when I saw Lord Winchelsea's pistol fired in the air. I had before felt towards you both something like what I could suppose myself feeling towards parricides but I immediately saw that, though I might consider you wrong, you had erred, perhaps, through an excess of mistaken generosity. Or, at all events, this is the construction you must desire to be put upon your conduct; yet I still cannot help regretting you should have considered this necessary and forgotten the circumstances of your antagonist".

Lord Winchelsea then replied, as if speaking to himself, "God forbid that I should ever lift my hand against him".

As we walked along Lord Winchelsea made some remarks on Sir Henry Hardinge's manner of conducting the correspondence which I do not recollect and after a few more words Lord Winchelsea said, "One thing! If I had taken as deliberate an aim at the Duke of Wellington as he did at me I should not have missed him", upon which I exclaimed, "Good God, Sir! How can you say that the Duke took any deliberate aim at you? Did you not perceive that he hesitated on not seeing your pistol presented at him? I thought at one time he was going to take down his also, and when it went off I scarcely think the muzzle was directed towards you".

We had by this time reached the carriage and I took my leave and drove home.

THE LORDS SCROPE OF BOLTON

BOLTON CASTLE

Standing on the northern slopes of Wensleydale, Bolton Castle was built by Richard, first Lord Scrope of Bolton, during the last quarter of the fourteenth century.

On the accession of King Richard II, Lord Scrope was appointed Steward of the Royal Household, and later Lord Chancellor of England. While holding this office, he sought and obtained the Royal Licence to crenellate his Manor House at Bolton. The cost of crenellating the Manor House amounted to 1,000 marks per annum, and occupied a period of eighteen years, during which time the Manor House seems to have entirely disappeared.

Though designed as a fortress, the function of the Castle appears to have been residential rather than military. In plan it follows a pattern which developed during the fourteenth century - a rectangular curtain built round a courtyard with a strong tower at each corner, and a smaller turret in the centre of each curtain.

The entrance to the Castle was built in the east curtain wall, it was protected by a heavy two-leaved door, supported by a portcullis.

The Castle was completed in 1399, the same year the Earl of Wiltshire, son and heir of Richard, first Lord Scrope, was beheaded at Bristol. Richard died in 1403, at the age of seventy six, and was succeeded by his son Roger.

John Leland, Antiquary to King Henry VIII visited Bolton some time during the 1530s, and the entries made in his Itinerary throw much light on the early history of the Castle.

In 1537, Adam Sedbar, Abbot of Jervaulx, sought sanctuary in the Castle when his Abbey was threatened during the Pilgrimage of Grace in 1536.

Mary, Queen of Scots was held in honourable custody there after her defeat at Langside in May 1568. She arrived on the 15th July 1568, and was moved from Bolton to Tutbury in January of the following year.

After the defeat of the King's army at Marston Moor in 1644, Bolton Castle was held for the King by John Scrope, son of Emmanuel Scrope, eleventh Lord Scrope of Bolton. The siege lasted for more than a year before the garrison surrendered on 5th November 1645. John Scrope was fined £7,000, but before the fine was paid he died in London at the early age of twenty.

In 1647 the Commonwealth Committee ordered the Castle to be rendered untenable.

Bolton Castle today is partially in ruins, and although most of the interior of the Castle, especially the upper floors, has disappeared, the ground floor appears to be intact which gives some insight into the everyday running of the Castle.

The only preserved section is in the west curtain, which is now a restaurant, and is situated in the Great Chamber.

Richard, the first Lord Scrope of Bolton, founder of Bolton Castle was a great patron of the Church. At his own request he was buried at the Abbey Church of Saint Agatha, near Richmond. During his lifetime he made many bequests to the Abbey, especially to the Refectory.

The Abbey Church is now in ruins, the Refectory laid low, and of his tomb not a trace can be found, but in his Castle at Bolton, as long as it remains standing, Richard will never lack a memorial to his greatness.

SCROPE OF BOLTON

The great Baronial House of Scrope had an unbroken male line from the Conquest, if not from the time of Edward the Confessor. Scrope of Danby (Yorkshire) is male heir and head of a house which in its time has held the Baronies of:

Scrope of Bolton (1371-1630)
 Scrope of Masham (1350-1517)
 Earldom of Wiltshire (1397-1399)
 Earldom of Sunderland (1627-1630)
 Sovereignty of the Isle of Man (1393-1399)

The family can also claim five Garter Knights, to the Medieval Church this family gave two Bishops, and one Archbishop, and to the secular world, a Lord Chancellor, four High Treasurers and two Chief Justices.

The family name appears in early Charters as Scrop (often in its Gallicised form Escrop, or Le Scrop). It is suggested that it is a personal nickname of old Norse, meaning crab, and that was probably believed in the family, as later members of the family bore a crab as their crest.

By 1296 Sir William le Scrope was holding lands at Bolton in Yorkshire. He was knighted at the Battle of Falkirk in 1298, and there were several reports notably from Sir Thomas de Roos of Kendal, and Sir William Aton, that Sir William was celebrated for his conduct in the field, and was the best knight at joists and tournaments.

Henry le Scrope eldest son and heir of Sir William le Scrope became a Judge of the King's Bench in 1309. He was trier of petitions in the Parliament which met at Lincoln in 1316, and the following year was made Chief Justice of his Court, a position he filled for seven years. Henry le Scrope was in high favour throughout the greatest part of the reign of Edward II, and was employed in various positions of high trust. On the accession of Edward III in 1327, he was reappointed Chief Justice of the King's Bench, and subsequently appointed Chief Baron of the Exchequer. He obtained Charters for his Manor

SCROPE OF BOLTON 1371-1630

Sir Henry le Scrope. = Margaret, daughter of Lord Roos of Kendal.
Died 1336.

Sir Richard le Scrope. = Blanche, daughter of
1st Lord Scrope of Bolton, died 1403. William de la Pole.

Sir Roger le Scrope. = Margaret, daughter of
2nd Lord Scrope of Bolton, died 1403. Robert, Baron Tibtoft.

Sir Richard le Scrope. = Margaret, daughter of Ralph Neville,
3rd Lord Scrope of Bolton, died 1420. 1st Earl of Westmorland.

Sir Henry le Scrope. = Elizabeth, daughter of John Scrope,
4th Lord Scrope of Bolton, died 1458. 4th Baron Scrope of Masham.

Sir John le Scrope. = Joan, daughter of William,
5th Lord Scrope of Bolton, died 1498. Baron FitzHugh.

Sir Henry le Scrope. = Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Percy,
6th Lord Scrope of Bolton, died 1506. 3rd Earl of Northumberland.

Sir Henry le Scrope. = Alice, daughter of Thomas,
7th Lord Scrope of Bolton, died 1533. Lord Dacre of Gilsland.

Sir John Scrope. = Catherine, daughter of Henry Clifford,
8th Lord Scrope of Bolton, died 1549. Earl of Cumberland.

Sir Henry Scrope. = Margaret, daughter of Henry Howard,
9th Lord Scrope of Bolton, died 1592. Earl of Surrey.

Sir Thomas Scrope. = Philadelphia, daughter of Henry Carey,
10th Lord Scrope of Bolton, died 1609. 1st Lord Hundson.

Sir Emmanuel Scrope. = Elizabeth, daughter of = Martha
11th Lord Scrope of Bolton, died 1630. John, Earl of Rutland. Jones.

No Issue

John Scrope.
Died young

Mary Scrope.

Elizabeth Scrope.

Annabella Scrope.

in Bolton in Yorkshire, and for other lands, and for his large benefactions was considered the founder of the wealthy Abbey of Saint Agatha in Richmondshire.

Sir William le Scrope was born in 1320, did homage for his father's lands about July 1338, and accompanied King Edward III in several of his French and Scottish expeditions. He was at the Battle of Virefos in Picardy in 1339, at the seige of Tournay in 1340, and at Vannes in 1342 under the command of the Earl of Northampton. Sir William le Scrope died from a wound received at the siege of Morlaix in 1344, and was buried at Easby Abbey. He was succeeded by his brother Sir Richard le Scrope.

Sir Richard le Scrope was born in 1327. He fought at the Battle of Crecy 26th August 1346, and at Neville's Cross 17th October 1346 and was knighted at Neville's Cross when the Scots were defeated and their King David was taken prisoner. Sir Richard was also present at the siege of Calais the same year.

It is enough to say that between the years of 1346-1385, a period of nearly forty years, there was scarcely a battle of note in England, France, Spain or Scotland where English forces were engaged, in which Scrope did not gain honour.

But as a statesman he was still more distinguished, Sir Richard was Lord High Treasurer to Edward II, and twice Lord Chancellor to Richard II.

Sir Richard le Scrope was created Lord Scrope of Bolton by writ of summons in a Charter dated 8th January 1371, and was continuously summoned to Parliament during the reigns of Edward II and Richard II, and he was trier of petitions on many occasions.

In 1386 he challenged the right of Sir Robert le Grosvenor of Hume to bear the same arms as himself (Azure a bend gold). After a long trial lasting four years before a Court of Chivalry under the Presidency of Thomas, Duke of Gloucester, Constable of England and at which John of Gaunt, Harry Hotspur, and the poet Chaucer all gave evidence on behalf of Lord Scrope, the judgement was given against Sir Robert le Grosvenor, and his subsequent appeal to the King was dismissed. Lord Scrope's right to bear the arms was confirmed by Richard II on 27th May 1390.

Lord Scrope built the Castle at Bolton in Wensleydale Yorkshire in 1399, the same year his heir apparent the Earl of Wiltshire was beheaded for treason for supporting Richard II on 29th July 1399.

He died on 30th May 1403 aged seventy six years, and was buried in the Abbey of Saint Agatha, Easby, Yorkshire.

The eldest son of Sir Richard le Scrope was created Earl of Wiltshire, and Sovereign Lord of Man and the Isles in 1394.

Sir William was a friend of Richard II, served under John of Gaunt at Harfleur in 1369, at Guinne in 1373, and in 1378 went on a Crusade to pagan

Prussia. He was Constable of Dublin Castle in 1394, Chamberlain to the Household 1394-1395, Chamberlain to Ireland 1395, and joint ambassador to France with the Earls Rutland and Nottingham to negotiate the King's marriage in 1396.

Sir William was one of seven courtiers who, in suits of the King's colours, accused and appealed the Royal Duke of Gloucester, and the Earls of Arundel and Warwick of high treason before Parliament in 1396.

On the surrender of Bristol Castle, which he held for Richard II against Henry of Lancaster, later Henry IV, Sir William was seized, and after a hasty and irregular trial was beheaded on 29th July 1399. His estates were forfeited in the first Parliament of Henry IV, and the Sovereignty of the Isle of Man was claimed by right of conquest.

Richard le Scrope, Archbishop of York, in 1405, was concerned with another rising in the North of England. The Earl of Northumberland who had been unable to attend the Battle of Shrewsbury through illness had been pardoned, and he joined a conspiracy with Mowbray, Earl of Nottingham, and Richard le Scrope, against Henry IV. Both Mowbray and Scrope were executed in 1403, but Northumberland escaped and was killed at Brabham Moor in 1408.

Sir Stephen le Scrope was one of the few who remained loyal to Richard II after his downfall, the dramatic nature of this being used by William Shakespeare in his play Richard II.

He later became reconciled to Henry IV, but was refused his request to reclaim Sovereignty of the Isle of Man. He was then appointed Lord Deputy of Ireland 1401-1408, and his forces defeated the Irish at Callan in 1407.

Sir Roger le Scrope who succeeded Sir Stephen, was born in 1348 and was knighted on the 23rd November 1385. He was summoned to Parliament from 20th October to 23rd November 1403, and was deputy to his brother William, Earl of Wiltshire, as Lord of the Isle of Man.

Sir Richard le Scrope was born on 31st May 1394. Joan, Queen Consort had the custody of all his father's lands during his minority. He was never summoned to Parliament, but served in France with fifteen men-at-arms, and forty five archers at the Battle of Agincourt on 25th August 1415, and was at the siege of Rouen 1418-1419.

He left issue - Henry le Scrope, eldest son and heir.

Richard le Scrope, born 1419, was Chancellor of Cambridge University in 1461, and created Bishop of Carlisle on 24th June 1464. He died on 10th May 1468, and buried in Carlisle Cathedral.

Sir Henry le Scrope was born on 4th June 1418 at Bolton Castle, his uncle, Sir Richard Neville had custody of his father's lands until his full age, and

he was granted full livery of his father's lands, having proved his age on 2nd February 1439.

Sir John le Scrope was born on 22nd July 1437, was summoned to Parliament from 30th July 1460 to 16th January 1497, and was knighted by King Edward IV on 23rd August 1460.

Sir John fought with Richard Neville, Earl of Warwick at Northampton on 10th July 1460 against the Lancastrians, and during the reign of Edward IV was a person of great power and influence.

He was present when Thomas Bouchier, Archbishop of Canterbury surrendered the Great Seal of England on 25th July 1460. Lord Scrope was wounded at the Battle of Towton 29th March 1461, was present at the Battle of Hexham 15th May 1462, and attended King Edward IV on his journey to Scotland during December 1462. He was created a Knight of the Garter before 22nd April 1463, and was Captain of Newcastle in the winter of 1463-1464.

When Edward IV did not restore to him the Isle of Man, previously taken from the Lancastrians, he began to raise Richmondshire for the Nevilles, but his cousin Warwick fled, and Sir John made his peace with the King, and stood proxy for the King's daughter Cecily at her betrothal to the heir of the Scottish throne on 26th October 1474.

Sir John was at the Castle of Norham, Northumberland, when it was besieged by the Scots. The fortress was relieved by the Earl of Surrey, and the Scots were driven North, even beyond the Scottish border.

Lord Scrope also took part in the invasion of France in 1475 with 200 archers, and 20 men-at-arms; he went to Rome with Earl Rivers in 1476, and served in the Scottish campaigns up to 1477.

Sir John attended the Coronation of Richard III on 6th July 1483, and later that year was commissioned to resist the rebels in Devon and Cornwall. As a result of his good service against the rebels, Richard III granted him and his heirs certain Manors and lands in Devon and Cornwall, and appointed him Constable of Exeter Castle for life on 6th December 1484.

After the accession of Henry VII he was present at the banquet of the Order of the Garter on 22nd April 1486 at York, but in 1487 he was pardoned by the King for his support, with his cousin Lord Scrope of Masham, of the imposter Lambert Simnel, who in 1487 was encouraged by the Yorkists to come forward and declare he was the young Earl of Warwick escaped from the Tower. The imposter was exposed by the simple process of taking the real Warwick from the Tower and sending him escorted through the streets of London.

Sir Henry le Scrope, an only son, was born in 1468 and was never summoned to Parliament. He was knighted before 1498, and married Elizabeth, daughter

of Henry, Lord Percy, 2nd Earl of Northumberland. Lord Scrope died in 1506 and was buried at Wensley.

Sir Henry le Scrope was born about 1480, and he had license to entry on his father's lands on 15th November 1503. He was present at the Coronation of King Henry VIII on 23rd June 1506 where he was created a Knight of the Bath.

Lord Scrope was on the Commission of the Peace in the North Riding of Yorkshire in 1512, and it was approximately about this time that Langley Hall was built.

He was at the Battle of Flodden on 9th September 1513 where King James IV of Scotland and nine thousand of his men were killed by the English forces under the command of Thomas Howard, Earl of Surrey.

Lord Scrope was summoned to Parliament from 23rd November 1528 to 9th August 1529. He attended Margaret, Queen Consort at York on 14th April 1516, and served against the Scots in 1522; he was at Newcastle with the Earl of Surrey in 1523, and was Collector of the Loan in November 1524.

He was one of the Peers who signed the letter to Pope Clement VI, praying that the Pope would grant a divorce between Henry VIII and Catherine of Aragon. This letter dated 13th July 1530.

Of his sons, Henry le Scrope was in treaty to be married to Catherine Parr, later Queen Consort, but he died in 1525.

John Scrope was born about 1513, and was summoned to Parliament from 5th January 1533 to 4th November 1547. He had livery of his father's lands on 29th December 1533, and negotiations began in 1532 regarding the selling of the Manor of Pishiobury in Hertfordshire to the King. In 1534 the Manor was bought by Henry VIII, and on 5th November was granted to Anne Boleyn.

Lord Scrope was granted the Offices of Constable of the Castles of Richmond and Middleham for life, Steward of Richmond, and Chief Warden of the forest of Richmond for life. Charter dated 6th April 1536.

In the same year of 1536 he was involved in the conspiracy occasioned by the Dissolution of the Monasteries, called the Pilgrimage of Grace, led by Robert Aske.

Lord Scrope took part in the Pilgrimage of Grace together with Lords Latimer, Lumley, and D'Arcy, but afterwards was given a safe conduct to Doncaster to treat with the Dukes of Norfolk and Shrewsbury on 4th December 1536. Robert Aske who led the rising was arrested and together with four Abbots and two other leaders was put to death.

Of his children, George Scrope buried a daughter at the Parish Church of Lanchester. The entry reads as follows: "A daughter of Mr George Scrope, was buried ye 13th day of March 1569".

Sir Henry Scrope was born about 1534, and was summoned to Parliament from 21st October 1555 to 4th February 1589. He was titled before Queen Elizabeth I at her Coronation Tournament, and was Marshal of the Field in the army which entered Scotland in 1560, being at Restalrig in April and at the siege of Leith in May 1560.

Lord Scrope in 1563 was created Warden of the Western Marches at a salary of £424 per annum, and constituted Governor of Carlisle Castle at a salary of £221 per annum.

Soon after Mary Stuart's arrival at Carlisle as a refugee, Sir Henry removed her, prisoner, to his Castle at Bolton, where she remained from 16th July 1568 till 26th January 1569, when she left for Tutbury Castle. Of the eight or nine Castles in which Mary Stuart was imprisoned during the next eighteen years of her life only Bolton remains.

In 1569 he was subsequently in arms against the insurgents under the Earls of Northumberland and Westmorland, and was created a Knight of the Garter on 15th April 1585, the same year he was commissioned to enquire into the death and murder of Francis, Lord Russell of Cocklawe on 3rd September 1585.

Of his children, Mary Scrope married Sir William Bowes of Bradley Hall, Durham.

Sir Thomas Scrope was born about 1567 and was knighted on 13th April 1585 at Greenwich. He was member of Parliament for Cumberland and member of the Council of the North from 29th July 1592 till his death.

Sir Thomas attended King James I at Newcastle 12th April 1603 and was Bailiff of Richmond and Middleham Castles for life, and Steward of Richmond and Richmondshire for life.

He married Philadelphia, daughter of Lord Hundson K.G., first cousin of Queen Elizabeth I in 1584. She was present when the Queen died at Richmond Palace on 24th March 1603, and she handed the Queen's ring to her brother Sir Robert Carey who travelled to Scotland to inform King James VI that he was King of England.

Emmanuel Scrope was born on 1st August 1584 at Hunsdon, Hertfordshire. Queen Elizabeth I, the Earl of Arundel and Lord Scrope were sponsors at his Baptism on 15th August 1584.

Lord Scrope was Commissioner for the repression of robbery and other crimes in Northumberland, Cumberland, Westmorland and in the Bishopric of Durham in 1617. Other important positions included Lord President of the Council of the North from January 1619 till December 1628, Lord Lieutenant of Yorkshire during the same period, and he signed the proclamation on the accession of King Charles I on 28th March 1625.

He was, on 19th June 1627, created Earl of Sunderland in the Bishopric of Durham, but in 1628 he was relieved of both the Lieutenantancy of Yorkshire

and the Presidency of the Council of the North on the grounds of "His long disposition of body". Charles I gave him a pension of £3,000 as satisfaction for these offices. He had really been dismissed because the government of the North, under his rule had been too corrupt to be tolerated, and he was succeeded by Wentworth, Lord Stafford who later was tried and executed for treason on the 12th May 1641.

Emmanuel Scrope died on 30th May 1630 without a male heir, and the great Baronial House of Scrope of Bolton came to an end, and with it the Earldom of Sunderland.

Although Scrope of Bolton became extinct, this great family still lives on as Scrope of Danby, who are direct descendants of the Bolton family who played such an important part in the illustrious but turbulent history of the English nation.

Kevin Leary

'Of that same noble prelate, well beloved,
The archbishop... who bears hard
His brother's death at Bristol, the Lord Scroop.

Henry IV (Shakespeare)

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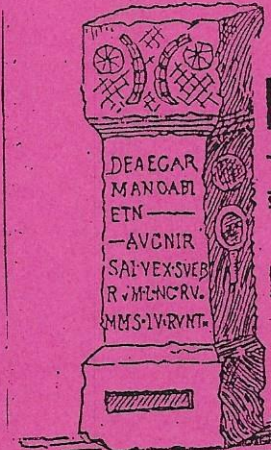
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THE LANCHESTER ALTAR

(To the Editor of the Daily Chronicle.)
Sir, Herewith is a sketch I made to-day of the Roman altar found this week at Lanchester. It is now in the Church porch. It appears that the supply of water to the workhouse was in some way stopped and the master set his men to find out the cause of the stoppage, and



In excavating came upon the altar. Canon Greenwell, of Durham, has been apprised of the find and at the Durham railway station I met Dr. Hoopell, of Bluyers Green, who made a sketch of it and took note of every particular. We may possibly hear more of the subject in a short time from our antiquaries.—Yours, &c.

LANCHESTER STOCK MART COMPANY, LTD.

Annual Meeting of Shareholders,

TO BE HELD AT THE KING'S HEAD HOTEL, LANCHESTER,

On WEDNESDAY, the 23rd day of February, 1898.

The Directors

WILLIAM FAWCETT,
THE ABOVE-NAMED PERSON of the City of York, Bachelor, left his home in the month of December, 1894, to join her Majesty's Army as a soldier, and has not since been heard of. He was entitled under the respective laws and orders of his four brokers, Messrs. John, George, and Henry Fawcett, to a share of each of their respective profits, which shares are now payable. Information is now desired as to the whereabouts of the said WILLIAM FAWCETT or his legal personal representatives and persons able to give such information are requested to communicate with Messrs. HOLMES and PROCTON Solicitors, York.

OFFICIAL NOTICES.
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE PROBATE DIVISION AND ADMIRALTY DIVISION (DIVORCE)
TO JOHN HERRIOTT late of No. 1 Grosvenor Court Warwick in the County of London
NOTICE that a Bill

BURIALS.

- Mar. 24—James William Fawcett, aged 74.
- Apr. 13—Margaret Jane King, aged 68.
- 20—John Atkinson, age 69.

From the author
J. W. Fawcett
Sattley
Tow Law

A Helping Hand

Dear Sir,
I enclose herewith a SPECIAL GIFT to help you to send forth your First Party for 189 which will (D.V.) sail for Canada on 17th



(Name) _____ (Please state whether)

Kitchener's Assistant Forgotten

BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

LANCHESTER (County Durham), Wednesday.
SEVENTY-SIX-YEARS-OLD James William Fawcett —brilliant antiquarian, author, holder of 13 honorary degrees, and a man who knows 33

languages — is to-day trying to eke out his old-age pension with historical research work which brings him in just enough for mere exist-

ence. In his stone cottage at Sattley, near here, he is transcribing old British university charters for a Northern antiquarian society, wondering when fortune will smile again.

When he was 18 Fawcett was chosen from 2,000 candidates for the post of Army interpreter. He travelled the world, was shipwrecked in the Mediterranean, the Indian Ocean and the Red Sea. Later he became aide-de-camp to the late Lord Kitchener.

No Army Pension

In New South Wales, Australia, he studied law and became stipendiary magistrate for Kennedy and represented the town in the Legislative Assembly. But in spite of his colourful career, Fawcett has been forgotten by the world. He does not grumble, except to say with gentle emphasis that the Army has treated him "rather shabbily."

"I was looking forward to an Army pension," he told me, to-day. "I have never received one. I don't know why. If only Lord Kitchener had been alive my circumstances might have been different."

"Now I manage as best I can on the old-age pension. I work here and sleep at the home of a friend in Headley Hill."

J. W. FAWCETT,

- of the Blackhill and District Naturalists' Field Club;
- President of the Vale of Derwent Naturalists' Field Club;
- of the Durham Historical Society, &c., &c.
- of "The Birds of Durham";
- "Tow Law: Descriptive and Historical";
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