



NEWSLETTER

Issue 18 - 4/4 Winter 2018

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Meetings are held at: Trinity Methodist Church Hall, Theatre
Street, Trinity Close, Dereham NR19 2EP

On the third Wednesday of the month ... Starting at 7.30 pm

- 16 January 2019 Quakers & their Family History Records
By Julian Crutch
- 20 February 2019 Life of a Norfolk Family in 1900's
By Christine Humphries
- 20 March 2019 Norfolk Women in WW1 By Neil Storey

*Best wishes to all our readers for a Merry
Christmas and a Happy New Year*

A few words from your Editor ...

Hello again

Another year has flown past and our Society is still going strong, it seems that people are still keen to find out about their past, its fascinating, its something personal to each individual. I think that if you know about the past you have a better understanding of the present.

Thank you to all who have contributed to the Newsletter, please carry on because without your contributions we wouldn't have one. And if you've never written a piece for the Newsletter before, why not make 2019 the first year you got into print!

Best wishes to everyone for Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Kate

(Editor)

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Format for Newsletter Contributions Preferably typed using Microsoft Word or handwritten, then please either:

- email the file to me at kate.easdown@btinternet.com or
- post handwritten copy/CD, to me at the address on the back of the Newsletter

Please contact Sheila Moulton, the Membership Secretary if you change your address or email address (contact details on back cover).

**Deadline for inclusion in the next Newsletter -
16th January 2019**

LET'S LOOK AT A CHURCH

No. 92 – Thuxton, St Paul



Thuxton is a small village, on the outskirts of Garvestone, some 5 miles south east of Dereham, sign posted off the B1135 road, down the narrow “Station Lane” the churchyard entrance gate is located opposite the village sign. From the gate, one is faced with a full view of the north side of this medieval church. To the left, is the chancel, with just a single Y-tracery window and a priest’s door, next, the nave, with two very large 3-light perpendicular windows and a porch. Finally, at the west end, a very substantial square tower, extending the full width of the building; low, stopping at roof ridge height, topped by an octagonal belfry covered by a pyramid shaped roof.

Following the tower round to the south side, one can see the square turret, which houses the stairs to the bell chamber. These are accessed from inside the church, via a very narrow, very old looking door (I declined the invitation to ascend). Apparently, at one time, there were three bells,

but today there is just one, cast by John Draper in 1642. I was assured the mechanism has been well maintained and the bell can be safely rung.

Continuing along the south side of the building, we see a different arrangement of windows. The nave has three perpendicular, 2-light, windows and the outline of arches, above which are three small 'clerestory' windows, that once overlooked, a now demolished, south aisle. The chancel has three lancet windows, the bricked up entrance to a chapel, once at the end of the aisle, having a stained glass window depicting St Paul.

Inside the building, the faces of the arches which once separated the aisle from the nave, have been neatly filled in. There are only eight pews down each side of a central aisle, which using today's human stature, would only seat four, but as the village only has a population of about 60, most of whom rarely go to church, is adequate. I particularly liked the six electric 'oil' lamps hanging low from the roof, which, I thought gave the church a homely feel and must provide an atmosphere for the annual carol service. One cannot fail to notice the enormous 'bowl' type Norman font with its 'Victorian' short marble pillars and support brackets. The brackets have floral decoration, but one has an unmistakable fox's head carved into it, maybe installed by the Fox family, for there are three headstone memorials (1862 – 1877) near the porch to that name. The east window depicting the crucifixion has an inscription, which tells us, the chancel was restored in 1896. A photo in the church suggests, that at the time the Royal Arms of Charles I, painted on a wooden board and dated 1637, hung above the altar. Today, after the back has been liberally treated with woodworm killer and painting "conserved," they are located above the entrance door.

There are eight memorials in the church, the two to Gregory Palgrave's wives, make interesting reading. One tells us that his 2nd wife was Mary Sessowle who died in 1587, the other, to his 3rd, is in the spelling and prose of the time: *This bodie buried in this grave/ was third wife of Gergory Pagrave/ Katherine Pigeon was her name/ Rich in faythe and*

honest fame/ Whos virtures & works briefly to declare/ Many poor folks did fele what they were/ This life she ended the fifteenth of /July the yere of grace MD six/ and nynenty/ Her soul rest in joy by Gods fre mercy.

In this WW1 Centenary Year, mention should also be made of another brass plaque in the chancel, displaying a minimum of information, to Rosalind Beatrice Easlea ,who died in 1927 and beneath, the inscription continues with "*Also Algernon Henry Porteous Eastlea. RGA who gave his life in the war 1918*". A little research revealed that this is mother and son. Algernon was a gunner in The Royal Garrison Artillery, married to Vera, aged 32, when he was killed. He is buried in Cocques Military Cemetery in France. His name heads those on the Thuxton with Garveston War memorial located by Garveston's churchyard gate.

Overall, the church and churchyard appear to be well maintained and cared for but sadly, evidence suggests, that the former is frequented more often by members of the Chiropteran species, than Homo sapiens.

Note: Car parking is possible by the churchyard gate.

For church keyholder: see notice on Church (not Parish) notice board.

Tom Garland

THE THUXTON VILLAGE SIGN

The Thuxton Village sign is located on a small island by the churchyard gate. According to Norfolk Village Signs* it was the work of Harry Carter and erected in the late 1970s. Paid for by Jack Abbot, a fellow turkey dealer who favoured the Cambridge Bronze. However, it was restored and given a repaint by inmates of Wayland Prison in 1995



One side depicts a farmer with several

domestic animals, on the reverse, a horse drawn ploughing scene, the old hall and a steam train. The whole is supported by a pair of turkeys – one painted black representing the famous Norfolk Black, the other, on closer inspection, has a brown tinge - a ‘Cambridgeshire Bronze’

The Norfolk Blacks were, still are, bred and reared at Thuxton. Many would, undoubtedly have been shipped from Thuxton station, which is little more than a stone’s throw from the village sign. Today the railway is a Heritage Line, 11½ miles long, operated by The Mid Norfolk Railway, between Dereham and Wymondham. Thuxton station is an important feature on the route, as it is a single track railway but they have constructed a passing loop here, enabling trains to be operated from each end. However, the station is a request stop and passengers should inform the guard if they wish to alight at Thuxton, should a passenger wish to board the train, a notice explains, they must “Show a clear hand signal to the driver”. In 2010, Michael Portello brought the line to the Nation’s attention, when it was featured in the Great British Railways series, on TV. Michael disembarked at the station to visit Rookery Farm.

This was the home of Frank Peele and his wife Gertude, who were the saviours of the Norfolk Black Turkey. Frank moved to the farm in 1932, with a philosophy of allowing their turkeys to live a natural life, mating as nature intended, living freely outdoors in organic meadowland, on food free from additives and antibiotics. The flock have survived wartime policies and bird flu. They have featured in Paul Heiney’s Victorian TV series, also are recommended by Rick Stein and Delia Smith for their taste. Today, Frank and Gertude lie in the churchyard, their headstone having the ‘turkey’ logo. However, the firm and the dedication to the breed, is continued by James, a 4th generation Peele. Speaking to his mother, who is equally enthusiastic in the rare breeds survival, suggests, that unlike today’s white commercially bred turkeys, the Black Norfolk is as fit as their Victorian ancestors and could survive the three or four month drive to London, if only the ground underfoot could be converted to grass.
TG

SHARE YOUR FAMILY HEIRLOOMS



Many moons ago Tom gave a presentation about his research into the famous pre-Raphaelite painter, William Holman-Hunt. This artist's most well-known work is "The Light of the World" a picture that depicts Christ with lantern in hand knocking at an unused, handle-less door, inspired by a passage from Revelations 3-20 - *Behold I stand at a door and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.*

It was first painted between 1851-1853 but it was probably the third version of his masterpiece, painted at the turn of the century, when his eyesight was failing, which sealed its fame. This large painting, with an almost life size figure, was seen by an estimated 7 million people when it was taken on a two year tour of the 'British Empire', and after its return was presented to St Pauls cathedral, in 1908, where it remains to this day. It is one of the most significant religious paintings ever and has been reproduced on pamphlets and cards etc, millions of times.

The lantern, used as a prop for the picture, was hand-made in brass to the artists own design featuring many symbolic features. Measuring 13 inches high and 7 inches in diameter, in 1852, it cost the princely sum of £7. It passed to Thomas Combe, Holman-Hunt's prominent patron, when he purchased the original painting for 400 guineas. On Thomas' death, his widow bequeathed the picture to Kemble College, Oxford, but retained the lantern. When she died it was sold by her executors to her nephew, a John Crossby, at auction, for £10. Subsequently, wired for electricity, it

remained in that family until 2001 when it was auctioned by Bonhams and purchased on behalf of Manchester City Art Gallery, achieving a massive £52,100.

At the following society meeting, one of our members brought along a framed print of this picture, which had been given to her parents in the 1930s on the occasion of their wedding. Today, this framed print, although of little monetary value remains a priceless family heirloom, unlike the lantern, which probably had little family history value to the owners, but great monetary worth. **Do you have a family heirloom story which you would like to write up and share with us?**



Pictures from The Manchester jCity Art Gallery website

Further Information: ffirstimpressions.com/light-of-the-world-history.html.

YOUR LETTERS

Michael Bidewell wrote in about an error he found in the Little Ellingham booklet, and Tom's reply is as follows:

WAR MEMORIAL ERROR

Yes, Michael Bidewell is absolutely right, we have made an error, the first name should read "SHERMAN [definitely not SKITMORE] CHARLES D."

I thought I was going to confirm the correct name easily by going on line, for googling "Little Ellingham War Memorial" gave four immediate



hits, each with a picture of the memorial, but none showed a readable inscription. Although, www.role-of-honour.com/Norfolk does list the men with some details and www.ww1-yorkshire.org.uk gives details of the Yorkshire soldier (Taylor), I wanted proof. So, I visited the memorial at Lt Ellingham just to make sure. These are the ww1 men, in the layout that they appear on the memorial.

IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHO FELL IN THE GREAT WAR 1914 – 1918	
SHERMAN CHARLES D EDWARDS JOHN CLARKE GEORGE MATTHEWS ROBERT LINCOLN ALBERT C	
SKITMORE GEORGE HERBERT G TYRE HORACE WALTER C FOX JOHN ARTHUR C	CREASY SKITMORE WRIGHT TAYLOR WALTER W

Unfortunately, reproducing it here has made me ask another question! In our booklet we recorded the men alphabetically (probably to save space), but why are they presented in this order? Was there something special about Charles Sherman, which entitled him to be top of the list?

TG

Do you have any ideas, please write to Kate (Ed

CHAIRMAN’S REPORT 2018

The society has survived yet another year. Our Statement of Income against Expenditure will be produced in the next issue of the Newsletter and it will be seen that, although our margins are small, we are still in the black.

Membership has fallen this year, but only by 5 and now stands at 150. However, we are pleased that our attendance at meetings averaged 32, only very slightly down on last year. We have looked at these statistics and

found that they are not appreciably affected by weather, the month of the year or even speaker. Regarding the latter, I think all would agree, that even the biggest Family History Society would be proud to equal Graham's Speaker programme, although his task is becoming increasingly difficult. Local members are requested to try and help formulate next year's programme by filling in the annual proforma – negative and positive comments against last year's speakers is very helpful, but ideas for the next season will be even more so.

At the last AGM, I promised a post box for comments throughout the year, regarding speakers and the society in general. Unfortunately, as the saying goes - "you can take a horse to water, but you can't make him drink" we had just ONE useful comment.

Which brings me to the Newsletter, despite our reluctance, or inability to contribute, Kate has managed to produce another year of interesting articles. BUT a major problem looms. Denise and Roderick have run out of churches to provide the lead article. Apart from, the need to come up with a new idea, Roderic thinks that after ten continuous years, of "Let's Look at a Church" he has done enough and has retired from contributing the regular lead article. Thank you Roderic, we shall miss your churches, which all seemed to have that little extra element of interest. But, we now need to find another subject and another author. Village signs in our area, accompanied by details of the village and its people (past or present), has been suggested, but we need a volunteer to put it together. This is in addition to the need for more members' articles, of course.

Running out of information also applies to our MI Booklets, we've done all the churchyards in our area that the church wardens want done. To keep our hand in we did do Bawburgh, a little outside our Area and we have redone Beetley – originally done in 1997. But you could say the end is in sight

Amazingly we are still boosting our income by selling these publications. 135 last year, but our MI booklet sales are falling off, for 84 of these were Brent's "Trooper at War". The same goes for the National Burial Index

which can be searched again, but we have had only one request so far this year, fortunately this doesn't matter too much, for it is still on FindmyPast and we still get royalties when our data is called up.

On our modernisation programme – our new logo now appears on our letterheads and our new website is now established, Matt tells me we are getting 50-60 hits a month. I am sure that with time it will become even more useful. Most of us will have realised that “Members Interests” are now on our website, but to comply with the GDPR no personal data is included therefore, initially contact has to be made via the Members Interest Sec. (details on our website). <https://midnorfolkfhs.wordpress.com>

Concerns have been raised regarding our “ageing” and less fit committee, some like myself have been involved since the early days. We are all continuing for another year, but

So to sum up, thanks to the efforts of all our committee and the membership for your continuing support, I can thankfully report that it has been another successful year for the Mid Norfolk Family History Society.

Tom Garland (Mem No 2)

THEY MAY HAVE BEEN LISTED AS MISSING

You can't tell me much about searching the census, I have been doing it for donkey's years. I can still remember visiting the darkened London Census Rooms in Chancery Lane, where you had to book your own microfilm viewer. Although I seem to remember the hardest part in those days, was to master the numerous indexes to find the relevant Public Record Office piece numbers. In those days you had to search by the place where they might be, not by a person's name. Finding an ancestor in the census returns was indeed an achievement. The idea of simply inserting a name into a PC and all the possible people and their locations would appear in a

matter of seconds, really was beyond imagination.

I suppose I had never given much thought as to how amazing it is that the census returns have even survived at all. Literally thousands, if not millions, of enumeration books/schedules were completed, every 10 years and passed through numerous official departments. Statistical information was extracted and they were then “stored” by the Registration Authorities until eventually, they were transferred to the Public Record Office for archiving. It is really not surprising that possibly the reason we cannot find our man, is simply that the relevant document has been mislaid in the handling process.

Quite by accident whilst googling, I found this:

*

Census for England, Wales and Scotland: missing pieces

*

which in turn, took me to:

<https://www.findmypast.co.uk/.../census-for-england-wales-and-scotland-missing-pieces>. *This article lists the missing pages, (by census year) when they were deposited with the PRO. It is surprising how few are listed as missing.*

However, probably a better method to see the ‘missing pages lists to go to TNA Discovery catalogue at

<https://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk>

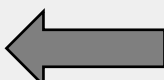
Here, using the “Advanced Search” option and “Containing all these words” you can narrow your search to a specific Area. If nothing else, you will learn just how good this search feature is.

For example

inserting “missing” and “census” gives 1,202 hits and inserting “missing” and “census” and “Norfolk” gives 37

You can, of course insert just the census year or the National Archive Record Office reference "HO107" for 1841 and 1851, or "RG" by itself or followed by the number "9"- "14" for the appropriate 1861 - 1911 census

Below is the result of one of the 37 "Norfolk" hits:

<u>Registration Sub-District 2 Wymondham. Parish: Kimberley. Parish: Crownthorpe. Parish: Wicklewood (3). Parish: Hackford. Parish: Hingham....</u>	
General Register Office: 1861 Census Returns. NORFOLK. Registration District 235. FOREHOE. Registration Sub-District 2 Wymondham. Parish: Kimberley. Parish: Crownthorpe. Parish: Wicklewood (3). Parish: Hackford. Parish: Hingham. Parish: Deopham. Parish: Morley St Botolph. Parish: Morley St Peter....	
Note: Missing pages: Enumeration district 7: 17-18 (48 persons) 	
Held by:	The National Archives - General Register Office, Social Survey Department, and Office of Population Censuses and Surveys
Date:	1861
Reference:	RG 9/1222
Subjects:	Census

Personally, I don't have Norfolk Ancestors. However, my wife's family originated in Deal, Kent. I had assumed the reason they were not in the census under their name was because they had not been enumerated. Researching for this article, I now know why they are not there – The enumeration District of Deal for 1861 is one of the few places missing in its entirety.

TG

FILLING THE GAPS

Thanks to MNFH Society Newsletter I have been able to fill gaps in my family Ancestry.

At family gatherings the name Cyril Griggs (my mother's brother) was often spoken, that he had been buried alive but no information as how. Typing in search, "Cyril Griggs buried alive" into Newspaper Archives, within seconds on the screen was a front page of The Essex Newsman Saturday 24th 1925 with the coroner's report of the accident, Gap #1 filled.

At these same gatherings, talk of - "I wonder what happened to Sally-Ann" my mother's first great granddaughter, I knew my niece had married a G.I. in 1956, and they went to the U.S.A on his demob. Using the Family Search .org I was able to get all the information as to niece's marriage, the birth of Sally-Ann, the divorce, the marriage of Sally-Ann, the death of her father, and she was now living in Texas, much more information was available all due to the article in the News Letter "Family Search". Gap #2 filled.

On my father-in-law we had very little information on his 1st and 2nd World War experience, like a lot of other men they chose not to speak of the times. MNFH recommended Forces War Search, from this I was able to follow his 1st World War record of battles the Battalion was engaged in, the fact he was wounded at Mons and returned to active service two weeks later. Also a Link to obtain information of medals he was awarded. His 2nd World War service was short, France in September 1939, reported missing at Dunkirk, but four weeks later, with others, had managed to get back to the UK, no information as to how this was achieved. Gap #3 filled

Using the same web site I was able to find out about another of my uncles, Gunner Albert Mons Kitchener Griggs how's that for a Monika!. He died in Malaya and is shown on the "Yokohama Cremation Memorial" Panel Two. By kind permission of The War Graves Commission. I have a photograph. Gap #4 filled. All thanks to MNFHS Newsletter advice on tracing one's ancestors.

One Gap I have not filled is The search for Grandfather William Osmond, but I take this opportunity to thank those members who helped in my search, to no avail.

Len Osmond

KITCHENER NEEDED THEM



THE IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM US TO HELP PERPETUATE MEMORY BUT TIME IS RUNNING OUT

You may remember back in 2014, the beginning of the WW1 centenary, Mel Donnelly, then from the Imperial War Museums (IWM), gave a presentation on



their plans to build a permanent digital memorial, to those who were involved in the Great War. To give us a start, medal index card information was inputted for army, RFC and RAF personal. They were asking us to expand on this basic information, add further facts and insert images of our own family mementoes of both service and civilian personnel. The IWM project in partnership with FindmyPast (FMP) was, and still is, accessed at

www.livesofthefirstworldwar.org.

I, along with a few other members found the site not very user friendly and I put it aside for completion later. But for me, LATER didn't arrive and soon later will be NEVER for the centenary armistice is THIS year. The IWM are appealing once more for the public to help complete those 8 million life stories before November.11th.

I have re-read the instructions, looked at the FAQs and believe I have a great deal of information I could add to my families ww1 soldiers stories.

Basically the idea is that using facts obtained from GRO certificates, census returns, soldier documents, even family antidotes etc, we complete stories about our WW1 military ancestors. You don't have to purchase anything and there should be no copyright complications. Using "Eternal Source" we are just required to quote the source and insert the details. "Knowledge Base FAQ" on the website should answer any questions.

Essentially it is Find the Evidence, then add Fact from that Evidence.

At the projects end, the IWM will become custodians of the stories which will then be made freely available as part of their collection.

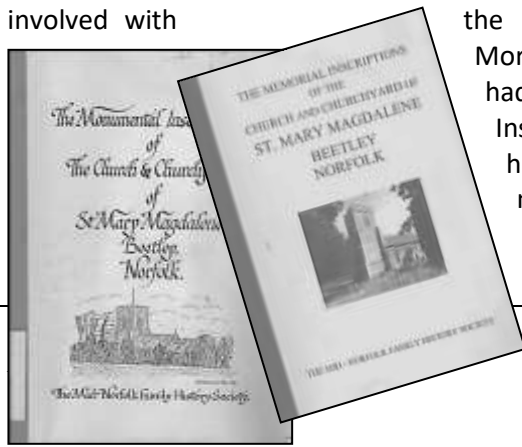
I think my comment on an earlier article still stands. "All computer programs get easier with practice" If you haven't already done so, do join me in making an effort to add your WW1 soldiers to this unique database.

Tom Garland

WHAT A DIFFERENCE 20 YEARS MAKES

Twenty years ago, in July 1997, the MNFHS proudly produced Beetley Memorial Inscriptions. Previously, several of us had been involved with

the then defunct RAF Swanton Morley Family History Society who had produced three Memorial Inscription (MI) booklets. These had sketches of all the memorials, their dimensions, condition of the stone and



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legibility of the inscriptions, etc. We had read all the literature on “how to record a churchyard” and followed the expert advice. At that time the RAF Society had plenty of volunteers to record the information, but the PC was still in its infancy, and putting them into booklets was a problem. ‘Cut and paste’ meant just that with liberal amounts of ‘sno pake’ to hide the glued edges prior to photocopying, which of course, meant ink drawings for at that time photographs could not be successfully copied. Typing was done by ladies called ‘typists’ during their lunch hour, although most of the inscriptions were hand written. The booklets received good reviews and we photocopied the pages and offered the booklets for sale.

Our MNFHS Beetley MI booklet was a compromise. It had 16 pages of hand written/sketched church MI details, (inherited from the previous society), while the churchyard MIs carried much the same information as in the RAF books, but typed. From that initial Beetley project success, we have recorded and produced booklets for most of the churchyards in our Area. Unfortunately, there are no pictures of the memorials and over the years, to speed up production, we have slightly reduced the quantity of information included.

Earlier this year (2018) we agreed a request by the Beetley Church authorities to update their MI booklet. This proved a bigger job than expected. Although there were only about 25 new memorials, some older ones had had details of later deceased family members added to the inscriptions, and some reported errors had to be checked and corrected. In consequence, effectively, every memorial had to be re-read and their location confirmed. Fortunately, all memorials recorded in 1997 were still there. The old booklet contained 50 pages, but the NEW Beetley MI booklet, in our now, standard format, contains just 32. It has details of all the current memorials, a churchyard plan and improved index. Today, like all our publications

the booklet has been digitised and Beetley's, MIs can now be 'professionally' reproduced to order, virtually at the press of a button, for the cost of just £3.20 plus postage (see our website for full list of all our publications and postage costs).

Tom Garland

PERSECUTION OF FAKENHAM QUAKERS IN THE REIGN OF CHARLES II:

After a talk to us by Simon Pawley about Dissent & Nonconformity, it seems appropriate to remind members of this book written in 1679:

The lamentable cry of oppression, or, The case of the poor, suffering & persecuted people called Quakers in and about Fakenham in Norfolk shewing the cruelty, injustice and inhumanity of several magistrates, officers and informers in those parts against the said people for these many years, in the great spoil and havock of their goods and estates ...

By Joseph Harrison and Samuel Cater (d. 1711). See:

<http://quod.lib.umich.edu/e/eebo/A45674.0001.001?rgn=main;view=fulltext>

According to Dr. Peter Smith's 2012 UEA Ph.D. thesis, a former New Model Army officer, Edmund Peckover, established a Quaker meeting at Fakenham in 1654. See:

<https://ueaeprints.uea.ac.uk/40587/1/2012SmithPPhD.pdf>

[There is a small Quaker cemetery in Oxborough Lane, Fakenham (next to the Aldiss store) which has eleven Peckover graves between 1744 and 1836. The Peckovers are today more recalled for Peckover House in Wisbech than in Fakenham. However, Jonathan Peckover moved to Wisbech only in 1777, establishing a small grocer's business there. Later, he moved into banking.]

Joseph Harrison was a prominent Fakenham Quaker who wrote (with Samuel Cater) at length about their persecution under the Acts mentioned

by Simon Pawley. The Conventicle Act of 1664 forbade conventicles (religious assemblies of more than five people, other than a family, outside the Church of England). Informers were often reporting them to the Magistrates, resulting in repeated fines or seizure of their goods, or imprisonment. He accuses informers of frequently giving false evidence, which was accepted by magistrates without query. A fifth person seen on the road could be added to four Quakers to create an offence. Some examples from the book:

A Brief Account of the Sufferings of the People of God called Quakers at Fakenham, the account of not going to the Steeple House, to their Worship; where for several Three First Dayes Absence therefrom, they had Goods taken from them, and were sent to Prison, as follow.

First follows the Proceedings of Robert Sheldrake and Robert Pepper against the said People, in and about the Year 1668.

In the fourth moneth, (1668) there was taken from William Monk a Chair-Table and four Joynt-Stools, to the value of 6s.

And taken from Anne Harrison ... a pair of Dog-irons, a Hake, a Chasing-dish and pair of Tongs, to the value of 6s. Her Husband being then a Prisoner in Norwich Castle.

In the 8th moneth (1668), the said William Monk and his Wife, she being also an Aged Woman, had their Mitimus (warrant) made to send them to Prison, by Henry Clifton a Justice (so called) but falling both sick, Margaret Peckover their Daughter took them home to her House before they went to Prison; but no sooner were they made able to stir abroad, but the said Clifton sent to the Constable, threatning to send him to Prison if he did not speedily carry the two Aged Persons away to Prison, which accordingly the Officers did; and they both Dyed Prisoners in a little above a quarter of a year, finishing their Testimony for the Everlasting Truth.

Joseph Harrison of Fakenham was fined £5 for a Meeting at his House, about the 29th of the 3d moneth, 1670. and had taken from him about the 2d of the 5th moneth following, by the Officers of the said Town, William Watt being Informer, two Feather Beds, two Feather Boulsters, one Flight Boulster, a Rugg, Curtains, Vallans, Curtain-Rods, two Bed Blankets and a pair of Sheets, four Darnick Stools, two Darnick Chairs, three great Green Chairs and a Bed-cord, all worth £7.

And concerning Mary the Wife of Francis Larder, who was fined 10s. in the said Warrant by Christopher Bedingfield, the Officers came to strain for it; but seeing little left in the House, except the Bed she lay on, they went away, and reported the same to the said Magistrate, who commanded the said Officers to take her Bed from

under her, though they told him, she was more like to Dye than to Live; and she did Dye the same Night, being the first day of the first moneth, (1675) in the morning.

☞ Note, Mary Larder's Husband was one that was not called a Quaker; yet, according to his Wife's Desire, he was willing she should be Buryed in Friends Burying-Ground, which was accordingly done: but the Savage Cruelty of some acted upon her Dead Body, ought not to be buried in Oblivion; for upon the 5th day of the same moneth Thomas Bretland's Servant, Richard Tendick and one Robert Bloome pulled the Dead Corps out of the Grave (where it ought to have rested) in an Inhuman Manner, breaking the Coffin, so as they were forced to tie it together, lest the Corps should fall out; and they brought it and set it in the Market-place, by Edmund Peckover's Door, to the great Amazement of many People, who were troubled as the sight thereof, she having been some dayes in the Ground. This is an Action which would be detested of the sober Heathens: How great a Shame then is it, to see and hear of such Barbarity amongst those that would be called CHRISTIANS!

The 12th day of the 7th moneth (1675) Friends being peaceably met at the House of Joseph Harrison, William Watt's Wife came to the Door, and stay'd a while looking upon Friends, and went away; so Watt and his Wife went to Christopher Crow of East-Bilney, a Justice (so called) and swore it a Meeting, and he granted out his Warrant, and fined as followeth;

Joseph Harrison for the House £9 Fran. Hill 10s. for himself, and 5s. for Sarah Hill, and £6 for the House; Nathaniel Urine 10s. for himself, 10s. for Mary Mayes, 5s. for Mary Turner, and £5 for the House of Joseph Harrison: Edmund Peckover for his Wife 10s. Joseph Peckover 10s. for himself, and 10s. for his Sister Rebeckah; Rose Cambridge Widow 10s. and Thomas Watson and his Wife 20s.

So on the 25th day of the 7th moneth (1675) the Officers of Horningtast (*presumably Horningtoft*), viz. Thomas Reeve Warden and Over-seer, with

several others, went to Fran. Hill's to levy his Fine of £6.15s. and took from him twenty-one yards of Cloth, two Horses, and another parcel of Cloth, in all worth £7 15s. and in Money £2.9s.6d. in all £10.4s.6d.

It is observable, that this William Watt the Informer, that has been so active in persecuting his honest Neighbours, ... was made a publick Example of the Anger and Displeasure of God against this his Wicked and Ungodly Practice; for several Times when he has come to our Meetings, to inform against us, he has been so seized on, that he could not speak of a long time; and when he has gone away, has been forced to stand still several times in less than a Furlong going: It was observed, that his Illness seized most upon him when he was most busie in this Work; which caused him and his Wife to say, The Quakers bewitch't him: he made such strange Noises many times when his Fit was upon him, that many were much affrighted with it, which caused many sober people to say, His Work of Informing was Bad, and he would come to a Bad End. And about the 16th day of the 8th mon. 1679 he was stirring as he used to be about his Wicked Work, and at Night eat his Supper, as his Wife says, as well as ever he did, and after he had sup't, suddenly fell down on the Floar, and his Daughter skreck't out, and he stared on her, it seems, and so dyed, ... and it was very hard to get any Body to carry him to burying, only the Overseers for the Poor hired four men to carry him. Note also, That notwithstanding all the Money and Goods that he had gotten from the Sufferers by his Informing, the Parish was fain to keep him before he dyed, and be at the Charge of burying him; and also now are fain to keep his Wife, who was a Companion with him in this Wicked Work.

Attested by: Joseph Harrison, Anne Harrison, Edmund Peckover, Margaret Peckover, Tho. Watson and his Wife, Joseph Peckover.

B. Scholes

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