

from Research Publications Ltd. The film of the allegations may also be consulted at the Genealogical Society, Salt Lake City, and the Society of Genealogists, London.

Medical Licences

Barber, M. *A directory of doctors and surgeons licensed by the archbishop of Canterbury, 1535-1775*, (typescript, 1997, 2000).*

Includes licences in faculty office muniment books and *fiats*, together with the series of post-Restoration letters testimonial submitted in application for licensing.

Introduction and indexes available [online](#).

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8) LAMBETH CONFERENCE PAPERS

The Papers of the Lambeth Conference, which met first in 1867 and roughly every ten years thereafter, comprise verbatim accounts of the proceedings, committee minutes, correspondence and photographs. The subjects covered by the Conferences were wide-ranging, spanning social and political issues as well as matters of ecclesiastical and theological significance throughout the world (see the published reports and resolutions, and Davidson, R.T. (ed.), *The six Lambeth Conferences, 1867-1920*, 1929).

Catalogue of the records of the Lambeth Conferences, 1867-1958, and of the Central Consultative Body, 1897-1954 (typescript).*

Barber, M. (ed.) *Index to the Lambeth Conference Papers, 1867-1958*, (typescript, 1993).*

This provides an index of correspondence, speakers at the Conferences, and photographs of the bishops. A [microfilm](#) of the proceedings, 1867-1958, and correspondence, 1867-1888, is held by the archivist of the Protestant Episcopal Church, Austin, Texas.

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9) PAPAL DOCUMENTS

A collection of papal bulls and rescripts, some of which were addressed to the archbishop, but the majority of which relate to monastic houses, which came to Lambeth following the dissolution of the monasteries. The collection was arranged by A.C. Ducarel in the 18th century and bound up as MSS. 643-4. In 1960, the collection was disbound and numbered.

Sayers, J.E. *Original papal documents in the Lambeth Palace Library. A catalogue*, (Bulletin of I.H.R., special supplement no. 6, 1967).

Micropublication of the papal bulls is available from World Microfilms Publications in "Lambeth Palace Library: the medieval manuscripts" section II (Law MSS.), reel 18.

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10) TEMPORALITIES

Records of the administration of the estates of the archbishops of Canterbury situated principally in Kent, Surrey and Middlesex, but including property in Buckinghamshire, Lancashire, and Sussex. These include accounts, court rolls, leases, maps, plans, rentals, surveys and valuations, correspondence and related papers. The composition of the temporalities was extensively changed by the Henrician exchanges whereby Archbishop Cranmer received a number of the former monastic estates in Kent and Lancashire in exchange for some of his more valuable properties in Kent and Surrey (see F.R.H. Du Boulay, *The lordship of Canterbury*, 1966). The majority of the pre-Restoration records and most of the court rolls are described in Professor Sayers' catalogue, whereas most of the post-Restoration records are listed in Miss Barber's catalogue.

Sayers, J.E. *Estate documents at Lambeth Palace Library. A short catalogue*, (1965). Includes court and account rolls for a few religious houses, including Christ Church, Canterbury, and the convent of St. Benet of Hulme, Norfolk, and for mediaeval bishops of Bath and Wells, Chichester, and Winchester.

Barber, M. *Catalogue of the records of the Archiepiscopal Temporalities in Lambeth Palace Library*, (typescript, 1994).*

Lists of leases and other title deeds, arranged in alphabetical order of properties (TA 1-703, TB 1-24), with *card index of lessees* (typescript in progress).*

Barber, M. *Card index of surveys of the archiepiscopal estates, 1599-1862*, (TC 17-

90).*

Barber, M. *Card index of the maps and plans of the archiepiscopal estates, 1631-1861, (TD 1-354).**

For some Middlesex and Surrey documents, see also the [Manorial Documents Register](#).

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11) VICAR GENERAL

The records of the vicar general of the Archbishop of Canterbury relate to the ecclesiastical administration of the province, diocese and peculiars of Canterbury, mainly from the Restoration onwards. From 1663, the act books supersede the [archbishops' registers](#) as the principal record of archiepiscopal administration. They provide the link between the two major aspects of his metropolitan and primatial jurisdiction exercised through the Vicar General and the [Faculty Office](#). The act books record the appointments of bishops, the institution of clergy in the diocese of Canterbury, sede vacante appointments of clergy throughout the province of Canterbury, licences to officiate, to practise medicine, surgery, or midwifery, dispensations to clergy to hold in plurality, and appointments of proctors and advocates of the Court of Arches. With the exception of the subscription books, diocesan surveys, and visitation returns, and a small collection of visitation act books, 1540-1640, most of the purely diocesan records are in [Canterbury Cathedral Archives](#). [Information about the extent of the diocese of Canterbury and the peculiar jurisdiction of the archbishops](#) (use your browser's back button to return here).

Provisional catalogue of the records of the vicar-general of the archbishop of Canterbury (typescript).*

Vicar General Records: Archbishops' Peculiars (typescript).

View this catalogue on the [A2A \(Access to Archives\) website](#)

However, for Peculiars [marriage records](#), [testamentary records](#) and [visitation records](#) there are separate finding aids in hard copy.

There is also a card index to the subscription books.

Act books of the archbishops

Jenkins, C. & Fry, E.A. (ed.s), Dunkin, E.H.W. (compiler) *Index to the act books of the archbishops of Canterbury, 1663-1859*, (Index Library, vols. 55, 63; 1929, 1938).

[Micropublication](#) of the act books, 1663-1914, is available from [World Microfilms Publications](#).

Court records

Peters, V.B. & Breay, C. *Catalogue of the cause papers of the archbishop of Canterbury's peculiars of Croydon, Shoreham and the Arches in Lambeth Palace Library*, (typescript, 1997).

View this catalogue on the [A2A \(Access to Archives\) website](#)

Marriage records

Records of the issue of marriage licences by the vicar general of the archbishop of Canterbury throughout the province of Canterbury (England south of the Humber, and Wales). With a few exceptions before Lord Hardwicke's marriage act, 1753, all of these were common licences. The records comprise marriage allegations (sworn statements in application for a licence), and, until 1823, marriage bonds.

Indexes to marriage licences issued by the vicar-general 1694-1850 are available [online](#).

Armytage, G.J. (ed.) & Chester, J.L. (extractor) *Allegations for marriage licences issued by the dean and chapter of Westminster, 1558 to 1699; also, for those issued by the vicar-general of the archbishop of Canterbury, 1660 to 1679*, (Harleian Society, vol. 23, 1886).

This is selective; for licences omitted from this volume, see Armytage vols. 33 and 34 below.

Armytage, G.J. (ed.) *Allegations for marriage licences issued by the vicar-general of the archbishop of Canterbury, 1660 to 1668*, (Harleian Society, vol. 33, 1892).

Armytage, G.J. (ed.) *Allegations for marriage licences issued by the vicar-general of the archbishop of Canterbury, 1669 to 1679*, (Harleian Society, vol. 34, 1892).

Armytage, G.J. (ed.) *Allegations for marriage licences issued by the vicar-general of the archbishop of Canterbury, July 1679 to June 1687*, (Harleian Society, vol. 30, 1890).

Armytage, G.J. (ed.) *Allegations for marriage licences issued by the vicar-general of the archbishop of Canterbury, July 1687 to June 1694*, (Harleian Society, vol. 31, 1890).

Index of the marriage allegations for the archbishop's peculiars of the Arches, Croydon and Shoreham in Lambeth Palace Library, (typescript, 1996).*

Calendar of the marriage licences for the archbishop's peculiar of Bocking, 1771-1831,

in Lambeth Palace Library, (typescript, 1998).*

The indexes and calendars of the marriage allegations are available on microfiche from Research Publications Ltd. The film of the allegations may also be consulted at the Genealogical Society, Salt Lake City, and the Society of Genealogists, London.

Medical Licences

Barber, M. *A directory of doctors and surgeons licensed by the archbishop of Canterbury, 1535-1775*, (typescript, 1997, 2000).*

Includes licences in archbishops' registers and act books, together with the series of post-Restoration letters testimonial submitted in application for licensing.

Introduction and indexes available online.

Testamentary records

Wills and administrations for the archbishop's peculiars, parishes in the city of London (deanery of the Arches), Middlesex and Surrey (deanery of Croydon) and Kent (deanery of Shoreham), 1614-1841. The wills of parishioners with bona notabilia were proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury: these records are in the Public Record Office, and are available on microfilm at the Family Records Centre, 1 Myddelton Street, London EC1R 1UW.

Foster, J. *Index to testamentary records of the deanery of the Arches in Lambeth Palace Library, 1620-1845*, (Index Library, vol. 98, 1985).

Manuscript index to the testamentary records of the archbishop's peculiars of Croydon and Shoreham, 1614-1841.*

There is a calendar of the registers of peculiars wills, 1664-1841 (ref: VH 97), available on the A2A (Access to Archives) website, but finding aids to other testamentary series are only available in hard copy.

Visitation returns

The visitation returns comprise answers by the beneficed clergy to questions circulated by the archbishops before their visitation, and include information on the residence of the local clergy, the value of the benefice, conditions prevailing in the parish, the

provision of services and schools, and the numbers of nonconformists and recusants, 1717-1935.

Index to the visitation returns for the diocese and peculiars of Canterbury, 1717-1935 (typescript).*

The visitation returns, 1717-1807, are available on microfilm from World Microfilms Publications.

Introduction, volume lists for Canterbury diocese and peculiars, examples of articles (questions) and returns (answers), and place name index now available online.

Information about the extent of the diocese of Canterbury and the peculiar jurisdiction of the archbishops (use your browser's back button to return here).

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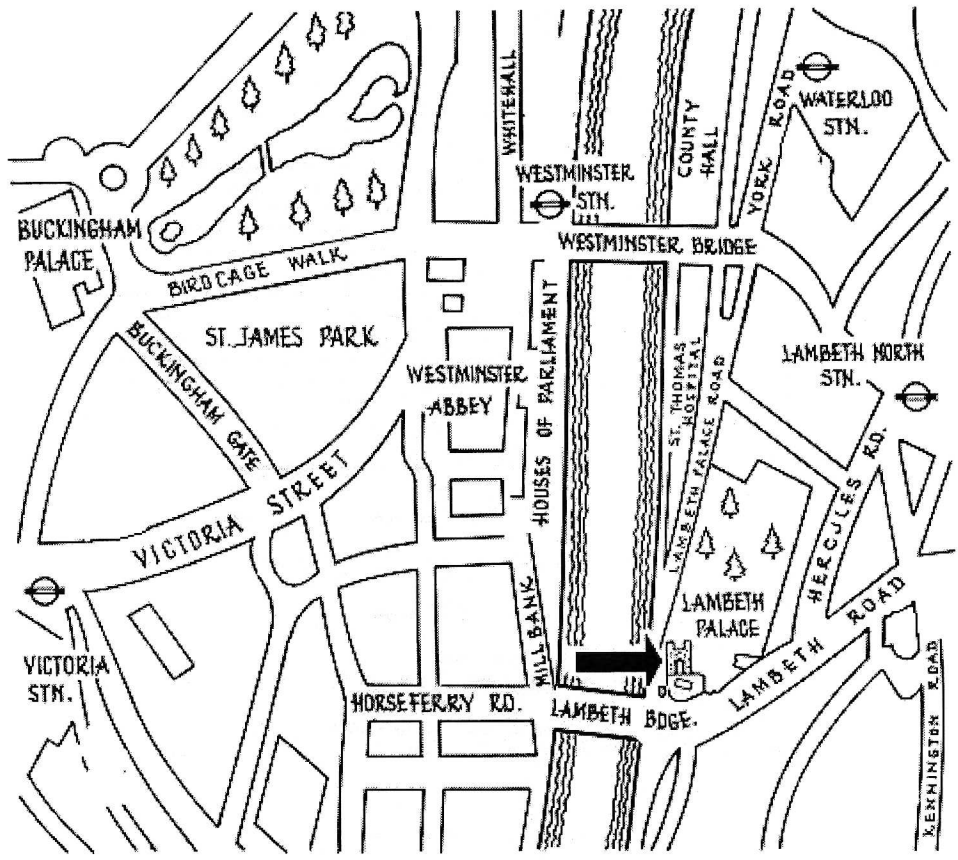
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British Army Lists

Military Records Information 17

1. Introduction

The broad outline of an army officer's career can be discovered fairly easily by using the *Army List*. The National Archives holds a set of this from 1759 to date in the Microfilm Reading Room. Manuscript lists of Army Officers were kept from 1702-1752 ([WO 64](#)). There is an index in the Research Enquiries Room. The first official Army Lists was published in 1740.

Although we talk about **the Army List**, there are in fact six separate series with that name, plus *Hart's Army List*. For each year between 1798 and 1951, there are two (and sometimes three) series of *Army List* available. The different series vary in format and content, as described below.

2. The Regular Army

Annual Army Lists, 1754-1879

These are arranged by regiment, of the regular army only. They are indexed from 1766, but engineer and artillery officers are only included in the index from 1803. They were continued by the Quarterly series (see below).

Quarterly Army Lists (First Series), 1879-1922

These continued the Annual series, from 1879-1922. They contain the regimental list until 1907 only. However, all include a gradation list, which is a list of officers in order of seniority, with dates of birth and promotions. From April 1881, details of officers' war service are also included. From 1909 to 1922, these details of war service appear in the January issue only. This series was replaced by the Half-yearly *Army Lists* in 1923.

Half-Yearly Army Lists, 1923- Feb 1950

These included a gradation list of serving officers. The January issue (but not the July) also included retired officers. From 1947 they were in fact issued annually, in February.

Modern Army Lists, 1951-Ongoing

The *Army List* was revised in 1951, and now consists of three parts. Part 1 is a list of serving officers. Part 2 is a list of retired officers: this is now produced only every four years. Part 3 is the Gradation List, a brief biography of officers, which is a restricted publication and not available to the general public.

3. Regular Army, Militia, Territorial and Colonial Forces

Monthly Army Lists, 1798-June 1940

These are arranged by regiment, but also give some idea of where the regiment was. Officers of colonial, militia and territorial units are included, along with the regular army. Unfortunately,

there is no index until 1867.

Quarterly Army Lists (Second Series), July 1940-Dec 1950

These took the place of the Monthly *Army Lists* from July 1940. During the Second World War, they were not published but were produced as confidential documents. Despite their name, they were actually produced monthly or bi-monthly until December 1943. They were then issued quarterly until April 1947, when they were produced three times a year, in April, August and December.

Home Guard List, 1939-1945

These are arranged by Command (area) and included name indexes. They are available in the Microfilm Reading Room at Kew.

4. Hart's Army List

Hart's Army List was an unofficial list, produced between 1839 and 1915. It is useful because it contains details of war service from 1839, which the official lists did not do until 1881. An incomplete set is available at Kew covering 1840-1915. A full set, together with Hart's own papers can be found in record class [WO 211](#) .

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- Name of street, place, road, etc.
- House number or name
- Name of each person that had spent the night in that household
- Age*
- Sex (indicated by which column the age is recorded in)
- Profession or occupation
- Where born**

*The ages of people over 15 years old were usually rounded down to the nearest 5 years. Therefore, someone who was actually 24 years would have their age listed as 20, and someone who was actually 27 years old would have their age listed as 25.

**The "Where Born" column only asked two questions - 1) whether born in same county, and 2) whether born in Scotland, Ireland, or Foreign Parts. Possible answers and abbreviations to question #1 include: Yes (Y), No, (N), or Not Known (NK). For question #2, the following abbreviations were used: Scotland (S), Ireland (I), and Foreign Parts (F).

Enumeration forms were distributed to all households a couple of days before census night and the complete forms were collected the next day. All responses were to reflect the individual's status as of 6 June 1841 for all individuals who had spent the night in the house. People who were traveling or living abroad were enumerated at the location where they spent the night on census night. All of the details from the individual forms were later sorted and copied into enumerators' books, which are the records we can view images of today. The original householder's schedules from 1841 to 1901 were destroyed.

The clerks who compiled and reviewed the census data made a variety of marks on the returns. Unfortunately, many of these tally marks were written over personal information and some fields, such as ages, can be difficult to read as a result. More useful marks include a single slash between households within a building and a double slash separating households in separate buildings.

Extended Description:

How the census forms are organized:

For the 1841 census parishes were organized into hundreds (and into wapentakes in Lincolnshire and Yorkshire) rather than registration districts as in the later censuses. The 1841 census returns were organized alphabetically according to county, hundred, and parish names. Consecutive piece numbers were assigned to hundreds or parts of hundreds for reference purposes. You will find the piece number on a paper strip on the side or bottom of every image, following the PRO class number (HO 107). There may be hundreds of pieces within a county.

Pieces are comprised of books which in turn are comprised of enumeration districts. It is the book number, rather than the enumeration district number that is important to researchers for referencing. The book number is shown on the paper strip on the side or bottom of every image following the piece number.

In addition to the piece and book numbers, each page of the returns includes a folio number and/or a page number. The folio number was stamped onto every other page before microfilming and is located in the upper right hand corner of the image. Folio numbering usually starts over at the beginning of each book. The page number is part of the printed form and is found on every page, usually at the top centre. The page numbers start over at the beginning of every enumeration district. A full reference number for a record in the 1841 census includes the PRO class number (HO 107), the piece number, the book number, and the folio number.

Some of the above information was taken from "Chapter 6: Census Returns," Ancestral Trails: The Complete Guide to British Genealogy and Family History by Mark D. Herber (Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc, 1998) and Using Census Returns, Pocket Guides to Family History by David Annal (Richmond, Surrey: Public Record Office, 2002).

Known problems with the 1841 Census:

The following table shows piece numbers where part or all of the piece is missing, as well as piece numbers that were not used.

Piece	County	Parishes and Hamlets
89	Cheshire	Parish: Malpas (part) Townships: Agden Chidlow Egerton Oldcastle Bickerton Cholmondley Hampton Overton Bickley Chorlton Larkton Stockton Bradley Cuddington Macefen Tushingham Broxton Duckington Malpas Wichaugh Bulkeley Edge Newton-juxta-Malpas Wigland Parish: Shocklach Townships: Caldecott

		Church Shocklach Parish: Shocklach Township: Oviatt Shocklach Parish: Threapwood
192	Derbyshire	Parish: Walton-upon-Trent
404	Southampshire	Parish: Winnall
465	Kent	Parish: Bishopsbourne
467	Kent	Parish: Herne Bay
469	Kent	Parish: Reculver
470	Kent	Parish: Sturry Parish: Swalecliffe Parish: Westbere Parish: Seasalter Liberty Parish: Whitstable Township: Harwich
471	Kent	Parish: Ashford (part)
475	Kent	Parish: Smarden
668	Middlesex	Parish: St Luke Townships: West Finsbury Old Street Golden-Lane Whitecross-Street
680	Middlesex	Parish: Paddington
690	Middlesex	Parish: Kensington (part) Townships: Brompton Kensall Green (part)
797	Northamptonshire	Parish: Blatherwycke Parish: Bulwick Parish: Bulwick Short Leys Parish: Deene Township: Deenethorpe Parish: Great Weldon Township: Little Weldon
798	Northamptonshire	Parish: Weedon-Beck
809	Northamptonshire	Parish: Haselbeech
864		Piece number not used
890	Oxfordshire	Parish: Yarnton or Yarington
942	Somerset	Parish: Mells
1074	Surrey	Parish: Walton-upon-Thames Hamlet: Hersham Parish: Weybridge
1075	Surrey	Parish: Malden
1172	Wiltshire	Parish: Hardenhuish
1174	Wiltshire	Parish: Downton Townships: Charlton East Downton Church Hamptworth Downton Wick & Walton Witherington Parish: No-Man's Land
1176	Wiltshire	Parish: Patney
		Parish:

1184	Wiltshire	<p>Bishop's Cannings</p> <p>Townships: Coase Bourton & Easton Horton Chittoe St James or Southbroom</p> <p>Parish: West or Bishop's Lavington</p> <p>Townships: Fiddington Littleton Pannell</p>
1186	Wiltshire	<p>Parish: Allcannings</p> <p>Townships: Allington Etchilhampton Fullaway or Fullway</p> <p>Parish: Alton-Barnes</p> <p>Parish: Beeching-Stoke</p> <p>Parish: Churton or Cherrington</p> <p>Township: Conock</p> <p>Parish: East or Market Lavington</p> <p>Township: Easterton</p> <p>Parish: Marden</p> <p>Parish: St Bernard Stanton</p> <p>Parish: Urchfont or Erchfont</p> <p>Townships: Eastcott Stert Lydeaway Wedhampton</p>
1286	Yorkshire	<p>Wapentake: Claro (Lower Division)</p> <p>Parish: Ripon (part)</p> <p>Township: Bewerley</p> <p>Hamlet: Greenhow Hill (part)</p> <p>Wapentake: Claro (Lower Division)</p> <p>Parish: Ripon (part)</p> <p>Township: Dacre</p> <p>Hamlet: Hayshaw</p>

Source Information:

Ancestry.com. *1841 England Census* [database online]. Provo, Utah: MyFamily.com, Inc., 2006. Indexed by MyFamily.com, Inc. from microfilmed schedules of the 1841 England Census. Data imaged from the National Archives, London, England. The National Archives gives no warranty as to the accuracy, completeness or fitness for the purpose of the information provided. Images may be used only for purposes of research, private study or education. Applications for any other use should be made to the National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU. Infringement of the above condition may result in legal action.

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RELEVANCE ■■■■■

TITLE *Biographia Britannica*: : or, the lives of the most eminent persons ... in Great Britain and Ireland, from the earliest ages, to the present ... By Andrew Kippis, ... With the assistance of other Gentlemen. Volume the first [-fifth].

EDITION The second edition, with corrections, enlargements.

PUBLISHER London : Printed by W. and A. Strahan; for C. Bathurst, W. Strahan, J. Rivington and Sons, L. Davis, G. Keith [and 12 others], 1778 [-1793]

DESCRIPTION 5v. ; 2.

NOTES A-Fastolff only (no more published). - Compiled from various authors by Kippis with the help of J. Towers and others. - Vol. 3 printed by J. Rivington, Jun., vol. 4 by Rivington and Marshall, vol. 5 by J. Nichols. - All vols with half-title.

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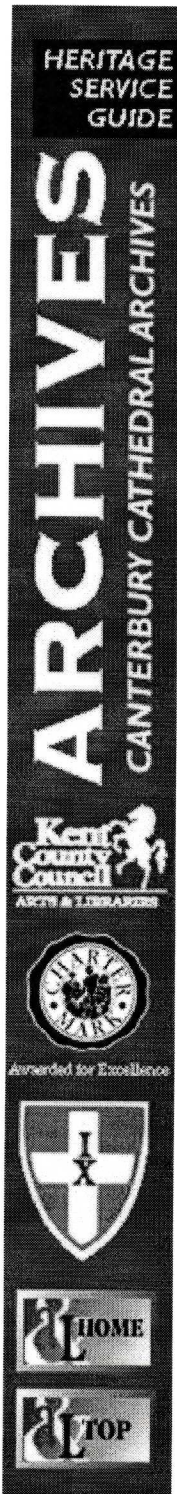
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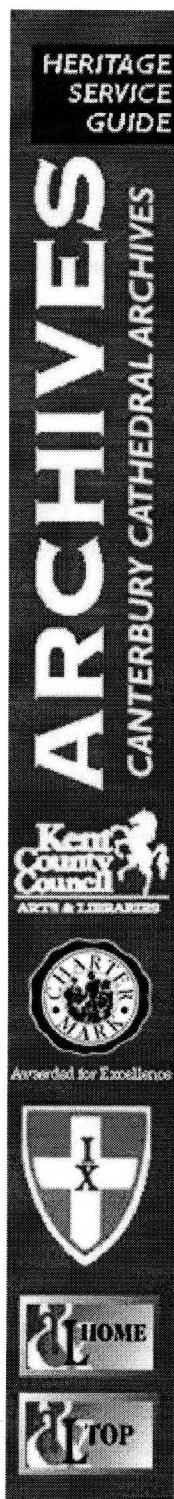
"In books lies the soul of the whole Past Time; the articulate audible voice of the Past, when the body and material substance of it has altogether vanished like a dream." Thomas Carlyle

The material held in Canterbury Cathedral Archives provides a rich resource for those local and family historians whose researches bring them to the city of Canterbury and the East Kent region. The core of the archive is formed by the administrative records of the cathedral, city and diocese of Canterbury. The service is provided by the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury in partnership with Kent County council. There is no charge for access to the records. This leaflet is a very general introduction to the available sources. Archives staff are on hand in the office to help with specific enquiries.

THE COLLECTIONS

Sources for researching family history include:

- *Church of England parish registers for parishes in the archdeaconry of Canterbury for the 16th-20th centuries.*
- *Bishops' Transcripts of registers from parishes in the diocese of Canterbury for the 16th-20th centuries.*
- *Marriage licence records for Canterbury diocese, 17th-19th centuries. There are printed indexes to these records.*
- *The 1988 International Genealogical Index for Kent*



Other material which may be useful for genealogists:-

HISTORY OF BUILDINGS

Possible sources for tracing the history of a building include:-

Genealogical indexes for Kent ~ Sussex and several local directories are available on microfiche.

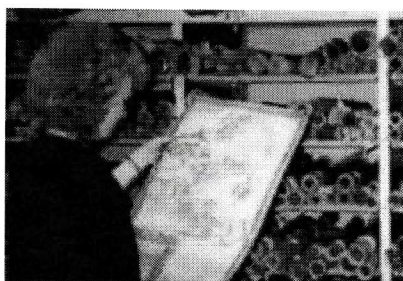
- Census microfilm for Canterbury registration district 1851-1891.
- Registers of Canterbury freemen (indexed) 1753-1883.
- Register of Canterbury apprentices 1765-1835.
- Registers of electors 1832-1833, 1895-1915, 1945-1991.
- Records of Canterbury diocesan clergy, 1564-1900.
- Diocesan and Archdeaconry church court records, especially deposition books.
- Manorial court rolls and books.
- School records, 19th and 20th centuries.
- Canterbury taxation records.
- Maps and plans of Canterbury and other local areas 1580-1980.
- Canterbury City Council and Dean and Chapter lease books and title deeds, 12th-19th centuries.
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PHOTOGRAPHS

Below are listed some of the other classes of records held by the archives:-

DEAN AND CHAPTER OF CANTERBURY

Including records of:-

- *family and estate collections.*

A wide variety of maps and plans are held. Canterbury is very well covered, but other Kent areas are also represented. Tithe maps for the mid 19th century are held for parishes in the diocese of Canterbury, along with large scale Ordnance Survey maps for East Kent.

There are over 1,000 photographs held in the archives, with Canterbury and the cathedral being very well represented.

- *Estates in Kent, Surrey, Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Devon.*
- *The cathedral and its properties in Canterbury and elsewhere in Kent.*
- *The clergy, monks and lay personnel of the cathedral.*
- *The running of the medieval province of Canterbury when there was no archbishop.*
- *City of Canterbury, 1155-1990.*
- *Fordwich borough records,*

LOCAL GOVERNMENT



CHARITIES AND HOSPITALS

Including:-

- 1259-1907.
- *Parish council records, 1894-1991.*
- *Bridge Blean rural district council, 1933-1974.*
- *Herne Bay urban district council, 1877-1974.*
- *Whitstable urban district council, 1856-1974.*

- *Maynard and Cotton's Hospital, 1599-1891.*
- *Nixon's charity, 1733-1860.*
- *Strensham's charity, 1584-1846.*
- *Ann Smith's charity, 1779-1930.*
- *St John's Hospital, 1358-1962.*
- *Eastbridge Hospital, 1150-1968.*
- *Jesus Hospital, 1599-1971.*

CHURCH RECORDS

- *Canterbury Archdeaconry records, 1200-1992.*
- *Canterbury Diocesan records, 1364-1985.*
- *Canterbury Congregational Church, 1645-1960.*
- *Canterbury Methodist Church, 1492-1860.*
- *Wingham Congregational Church, 1817-1958.*
- *Canterbury French Church, 1576-1836.*

COLLECTIONS

- *Bargrave collection of artefacts c 1660.*

TRADE AND

- *Woollen Drapers and*

INDUSTRY

Tailors Company, 1545-1970.

- *Maylam and Maylam, solicitors, 1665-1918.*
- *Holman Brothers, engineers, 1855-1969.*
- *Post Office Engineering Union, 1928-1938.*
- *Kingsford and Wightwick, solicitors, 1611-1934.*
- *Ash family brewery, 1857-1910.*

SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION

- *Parish schools in the Archdeaconry of Canterbury.*
- *Canterbury Cathedral Choir School, 1920-1970.*
- *Canterbury Diocesan Board of Education, 1838-1920.*
- *St. Augustine's Missionary College, 1850-1980.*
- *Broad Street Schools, Canterbury, 1811-1932.*

FAMILY AND ESTATE RECORDS

- *Bridges family of Goodnestone Park, 1755-1886.*
- *Hales family, 1272-1876.*
- *Oxenden family of Barham, 1440-1867.*

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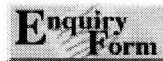
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BIFRONS

A Kentish Mansion

by

L. Laurence Boyle

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Acknowledgements

I am grateful to Dr. Maurice M. Raraty, chairman of the Bridge Historical Society, for persuading me to write this account.

Particularly important for obtaining a detailed view of the outgoings and income for Bifrons were the ledger books of half-yearly accounts of the Bifrons and Minster estates which had been left in an oast house which has since been demolished. Robert Swift, the antiquarian bookseller of Egerton, rescued three of these from an empty house in Oaten Hill, Canterbury, which covered the periods 1865-68; Mrs Gabbe of Bekesbourne was thoughtful enough to find a home in Canterbury Cathedral Library* for the ledger covering the period 1896-1903 and the Earl of Mount Charles, now 7th Marquess Conyngham, deposited those for the period 1926-1932 which can now be found in the East Kent Archive Centre at Whitfield.

I am grateful to Mr. Paul Pollak, Archivist at The King's School, Canterbury, for information and advice on the status of various Bargrave boys in the school records.

* Shelf-mark U213.

CHAPTER ONE

Introduction

Bifrons was a mansion house in Patrixbourne, Kent, which was first built about 1609, reconstructed in 1791 and demolished in 1948.

CHAPTER TWO

The Bargrave Dynasty

(a) Robert Bargar

It has been suggested that Robert Bargar was the builder of Bifrons. Robert was born about 1540. As a yeoman farmer and tanner of Bridge he cannot be assumed to have had sufficient money to build a mansion house. He married Joannah Gilbert, daughter of John Gilbert of Sandwich, on February 1st, 1568 and we assume that his first son, John, was born in the early 1570s. There is no evidence from parish registers or elsewhere that he had anything to do with Bifrons or even Patrixbourne. His will was proved in 1600 so we shall assume that Bifrons was built after his death.

(b) John Bargar, later known as John Bargrave

Robert and Joannah's son, John, matriculated as a Fellow-Commoner at Clare College, Cambridge at Easter 1588 and was admitted to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn on November 7th, 1590. Life in the City enabled him to meet (and marry in 1597) Jane Crouch, the daughter of Giles Crouch, the armigerous haberdasher of Cornhill. John himself was granted arms in September 1611 so we can assume that he was by then a person of some financial standing, indeed, one who might well want the arms to go with his house.

It was the fashion at the time to adorn the facades of houses with mottoes or other lettering: a well-known extant example, which dates from 1624, is to be seen on Castle Ashby in Northamptonshire. Bifrons sported the lettering:
DIRUTA ÆDIFICAT UXOR BONA, ÆDIFICATA DIRUIT MALA
which roughly means "A good wife rebuilds what has been destroyed while a bad wife destroys what has been built". The text derives from chapter 14, verse 1 of the Book of Proverbs but it is not clear what Jane Crouch was *rebuilding*. Nor, indeed, is it clear where the lettering appeared. It was never indicated on any of the early views of Bifrons.

By the time he had applied for arms, the transition in John's surname from the rather humble Bargar to the less humble Bargrave was complete. Bann has speculated extensively on the motives behind this change.

John's mother had died in December 1598 and when his father died soon after any estate would have to be used to provide for the other children, some of whom were of school age. Two well-documented examples are Richard, who was a scholar at The King's School, Canterbury, from 1598 to 1601, and Isaac who was born in 1586 and by 1625 had become Dean of Canterbury Cathedral.

The Bargar family of Robert and Joannah appeared to be quite well connected and financially stable. The main connection was probably through Sir John Boys who married Angell, one of John's sisters, on October 4th, 1604, in St. Mary's Church, Patrixbourne. We cannot assume that this implies that Bifrons was standing in 1604 as Bridge church was subsidiary to Patrixbourne church.

We know from parliamentary documents that John Bargrave owned a pinnace called the *Edwin* on May 4th, 1618, and that James Brett was its master. The evidence of the persons who travelled from the Port of London to Virginia recorded in the muster taken in the Virginia settlements in January and February 1627/8 reveals that the *Edwin* had arrived from London each year from 1616 to 1619. There may have been other departures. Sir Edwin Sandys is reputed to have noted that Captain Bargrave had sent out various ships so the scale of Bargrave's investment cannot be assessed on the involvement in the *Edwin* alone. At least one other ship, a magazine, was noted. This would be for the commercial operations of carrying goods in both directions while the *Edwin* would have been primarily for passengers.

One of John's younger brothers, Thomas, who was the incumbent of the livings of Eythorne and Sevington, arrived in Virginia in 1619 to take up the post of director of the Episcopal church at Henricus (now known as Henrico) in St. John's, Richmond. He was the successor to the Rev. Alexander Whitaker who had gained fame as the minister who had baptised Pocahontas and married her to John Rolfe in 1614:

unfortunately he drowned in the James River in 1617. Thomas himself died in Virginia in 1621 and left his library to the college in Henrico.

John Bargrave's brother, George, married Dorcas Martin, the daughter of Captain John Martin who was similarly involved in shipping to Virginia and was one of the pioneer planters.

John Bargrave was buried on October 24th, 1624, in the south chapel of Patrixbourne church.

(b) Captain Robert Bargrave

The Acts of the Privy Council of England for March 31st, 1630, recorded that "this day John Bargrave, being sent for by their Lordships' warrant, appeared by his servant and was discharged from farther attendance upon his conformitie in finding such Armes as he is charged with, and withall to attend the Lord Chamberlaine, Lord Lieutenant of the County of Kent".

Exactly what happened to Bifrons after John Bargrave had finished with it is far from clear. According to Hasted, the actual sale of Bifrons took place late in 1661 or in 1662 when it was acquired by Sir Arthur Slingsby. However, Geoffrey Ridsdell Smith states, without indicating his source, in a section on the period from 1634-1638 that Bifrons was the family home of Sir Arthur Slingsby's father, Sir Guilford Slingsby, who had married Margaret Walters of York and had 8 sons and 4 daughters. A few pages earlier he reported that Sir Guilford, who was Comptroller of the Navy, had been lost at sea in 1633. Other reports give the date of the drowning as 1631 and so we have to conclude that either Sir Guilford's residence at Bifrons was very brief or that John Bargrave himself had vacated the property before he died, possibly on financial grounds, although he still had at least one servant at the time of the Privy Council summons. It is most likely that Sir Guilford, and subsequently his widow, had rented Bifrons from the Bargrave family and that it was eventually sold in 1661 to Sir Arthur Slingsby. This is in accordance with the epitaph in Patrixbourne church which reads:-

Per totum hoc sacellum { Generosa
Bargraviana
terra

sparsa est

Cujus familiæ armiger &
 Johannes Bifrontis Conditor
 Et Hæres ejus Robertus sub hoc
 Marmore una cum uxoris } jacent
 Bello civili ex p'tibus regiis } Amen
 Stetit et cecidit familia } eccles X^{ti}
 Lugens Scripsit filius } Cant Præb
 Et frater Johan
 Johan Hæres a ruinis
 In ruinas lapidem posuit

Possible evidence for the continuation of the Bargrave ownership until 1661 would be that the sale was arranged by Sir Samuel Peyton of Knowlton Court. Sir Samuel's daughter, Elizabeth, had married John Bargrave's eldest son, Robert, in 1635 and, since Robert was a naval captain, the attractions of living at Bifrons were possibly neither desirable nor compelling.

CHAPTER THREE

The Slingsby Dynasty

(a) Sir Guilford Slingsby

Sir Guilford Slingsby married Margaret Walters, a daughter of William Walters, one of the aldermen of York. He lived at Bifrons with his family.

Sir Guilford was lost at sea in 1631. His wife was referred to as "Old Lady Slingsby" by Samuel Pepys in his Diary.

(b) Sir Arthur Slingsby

Sir Arthur Slingsby had a house near the park in Brussels. Arthur was knighted at Brussels on June 24th, 1657 and created 1st Baronet of Bifrons by letters patent at Bruges on October 19th, 1657.

Arthur retired to Bifrons with his wife and family and managed to purchase the property from the Bargrave family in 1661 or 1662. His wife submitted a petition for the place as Lady of the Privy Chamber which had been promised her at Breda. She argued that she had lost all her fortune in the King's service and had left her country in the confident hope that her husband's faithful service would give him employment¹. Arthur himself appealed for their son, whose godfather was the King himself, to be made a Page of Honour to the Queen when the next vacancy occurred². The comment has been made that it was the state of want, which seemed to be chronic with most cavaliers, led Arthur to run a lottery.

Arthur died at Bifrons from a sudden fit of vomiting on February 12th, 1665³. He had been playing tennis at Whitehall only two days before.

(c) Sir Charles Slingsby

Arthur's eldest son, Charles, succeeded Arthur and became the second (and last) baronet of Bifrons. He was reported to have been under 21 in 1664 and so relatively young in his career. It

CHAPTER FIVE**William Wootton**

Hasted's reference to the purchase of Bifrons by a "William Whotton" is unlikely to refer to William Wotton (13.8.1666–172^{6/7}), the natural scientist. William had local roots, coming from the Wotton family of St. Alban's Court, Nonington. Having suffered a precocious youth in which he mastered Latin, Greek and Hebrew at the age of six, he was admitted to St. Catherine's Hall, Cambridge, at the age of nine, took his Bachelor of Arts when he was 12½, and became in time a Doctor of Divinity and a Fellow of the Royal Society. According to Nigel Ramsey³, there is ample evidence of scholars, such as the philologist William Wotton, using Canterbury Cathedral Library in the late 17th century. Bifrons would therefore have been a convenient residence for such work.

Equally reference to the William Wotton who was the vicar of Cholsey from 1662 does not fit Hasted's description of a London gentleman.

A more likely possibility is the William Wootton who was a warden of the Cordwainers' Company in 1685⁴.

CHAPTER SIX**Thomas Adrian**

Thomas Adrian was born in either 1647 or 1653; the latter date would correspond better to the baptism recorded in St. Christopher-Le-Stocks church on 12th January, 1654 in which case his father would be John Adrian and his mother Judith. On November 11th, 1675 in Hammersmith, he married Ann Crisp who was the daughter of Ellis Crisp and his wife, Anna Strode. She died, however, on August 16th, 1677, and so Thomas acquired a second wife, Catherine, by whom they had a daughter Judith.

He was a member of the Grand Jury at Maidstone Assizes on July 19th, 1687.

Thomas Adrian was Sheriff of Kent for the year 1690.

Thomas Adrian was the owner of Hode Farm from about 1680.

In 1694 he sold Bifrons and Hode Farm and other estates to John Taylor.

After Thomas Adrian died on April 15th, 1701, Catherine remarried Francis Wilkinson. Catherine died on January 21st, 1706.

CHAPTER SEVEN

The Taylor Dynasty

(a) John Taylor

John Taylor was born on December 7th, 1655, the son of Nathaniel Taylour (as he spelt his surname), a Puritan who had supported Cromwell. Nathaniel had served as Recorder of Colchester at the time of the Commonwealth and was appointed Member of Parliament for Bedford simply by Cromwell writing a letter without bothering with the formality of an election. Nathaniel was fanatical. He had 18 children, mostly born in Brook House, Holborn. Several died young.

About 1679, John married Olive Tempest, the daughter of Sir Nicholas Tempest of Stella, Co. Durham and Margaret Swinburne who was the daughter of the Sheriff of Northumberland. They had 14 children of whom the first three were girls — Mary, Olive and Margaret. Nathaniel died on January 15th, 1683, and so did not live to see their first son, Brook, who arrived on August 18th, 1685, when they were in Edmonton.

John purchased Bifrons on September 29th, 1694. Their son, James, died a year later. About 1696, John Closterman was commissioned to paint the surviving family in oil on canvas. This picture currently hangs in Beningbrough Hall. More children followed and

In 1704, John purchased Bridge Place from the heirs of Walter Bræms (who had died in 1692) who had become so impoverished by its construction that they had to sell it. Surprisingly John demolished the greater part of his new acquisition leaving just one wing standing which he regarded as sufficient for a gentleman.

According to the Rev. Dr. John Harris⁵, there were in 1719 "some very large and fine hollies and two brick walls covered on each side with striped holly which is planted on one side of the wall and made to bend down over the top and cover the other side to the bottom. The green walks are here also fine

and covered with the cleanest turf I ever saw. About 500 yards below the house is a canal at the end of which are two islands and a little house built, which they call Trout Hall; in it are bathing places, some beds and rooms for company. The rivulet which makes the canal abounds with trout of two sorts, white and speckled, and in it are many loaches, some of which are often found in the trouts' bellies".

(b) Brook Taylor

Brook was educated at home by the vicar of Folkestone, the Rev. John Sackette, M. A. (Cantab.), who on October 24th, 1702 married (in St. Pancras' church, London, though recorded in Canterbury Marriage Licences) Brook's aunt, Margaret Tempest, who was resident in Bifrons at the time. Brook qualified for admission to Cambridge University as a Fellow-Commoner at age 15 but didn't go up until April 3rd, 17012/3. His tutor at St. John's College was no less than his brother-in-law, John Bowtell, who had married his elder sister, Olive, and who had been the vicar of Patricxbourne since February 2nd, 1697/8, appointed by his eldest sister, Mary. Brook matriculated in 1709 and was awarded the degree of Bachelor of Laws that same year.

On March 20th, 1711^{1/2} he was elected to the Royal Society, the foremost scientific society of which Sir Isaac Newton was president. Just 28 days later he was appointed to the committee whose remit it was to inspect the letters and papers relating to the dispute between Newton and Leibniz.

On January 14th, 1714 he was appointed a Secretary of the Royal Society as he was conversant with nearly all of the discoveries, which Sir Isaac Newton had made and was able to elucidate them in the most abstruse ways and also support them. His knowledge of languages enabled him to answer the pressing correspondence of foreign academies, which were engaging in wars of literature with the Royal Society. This contact with foreigners led to invitations which he felt too busy to accept. However, he did give in to a pressing invitation from Pierre Rémond de Montmort, the Abbé Antonio Conti and others to meet them in Paris.

In 1714 he became a Doctor of Laws and was admitted to the grade of advocate in the Court of Arches, the ecclesiastical court of appeal of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Brook was always a favourite with the ladies and this was explained by his grandson on the basis of family sources as being due to the facts that he was remarkably handsome, that he was most elegant and that he had considerable social talents. He had been associated with Marcilly de Villette and Caroline Barton who was a beautiful and accomplished niece of Sir Isaac Newton.

Brook's mother, Olive, died in April 1716 and Brook returned to Bifrons. The funeral was on the 17th and on the 22nd Brook wrote⁶ to Newton asking for leave of absence until the summer recess. This meant that he did not take the minutes of the meetings from April 12th to May 17th which was a little difficult as the other Secretary, Dr. Edmund Halley, was also away. Pierre Rémond de Montmort was a great admirer of Newton and had sent Brook a hamper of champagne out of which 50 bottles were to be passed on, "either by land carriage or by water" to Newton. The real destination of this wine was in fact Newton's bubbly niece, Catherine Barton, who had lived with Newton for nearly 20 years. She was admired by many of Newton's foreign visitors as well as Montmort who had to be careful as he was married. Catherine had become available since the death in May 1715 of Charles Montagu, a predecessor of Newton as President of the Royal Society and also sometime Chancellor of the Exchequer, founder of the Bank of England and a great debater. His wife had died in 1698 and his relationship to Catherine Barton was variously described from one of a "secret marriage" or "open concubinage" to a more casual, but close, relationship. Montagu was created Baron of Halifax in 1700 and Earl of Halifax in 1714. She profited very substantially from his will and, notwithstanding the considerable competition for her at the time, she married in August 1717, at the age of 38, John Conduitt, an economist for whom Newton had secured an appointment at the Mint. They had one child the following year.

Brook returned to London in February 1717 and the overwork necessary impaired his health. Consequently, he went

on his doctor's orders to Aachen to take the waters. He decided he would prefer to study moral as well as natural philosophy and so, on October 21st, 1718, he wrote from Bifrons to Edmund Halley a letter of resignation from his office of Secretary asking that a successor be appointed at the next election. His reason for resignation was stated to be that he would not be spending enough time in London to enable him to discharge his duties. He returned from Aachen early in 1719.

Towards the end of 1720 Henry St. John, Viscount Bolingbroke, invited him to pass some time at the Chateau de La Source (near Orléans) which he been granted a life-lease of in the right of his second wife, Marie Clara des Champs de Marcilly, who was the widow of the Marquis de Villette. The two men became lifelong friends and in 1721 he returned to England.

Brook's scientific productivity had not completely declined once he had given up his Royal Society post but his last paper in the *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society* appeared in May 1721 and his biographer admitted that the lack of any further contributions indicated an "impaired state of mind".

It was in that same year, 1721, that Brook married an Elizabeth Brydges of Wallington, near Croydon. She was regarded as being of good family but no fortune and the absence of a dowry caused a complete rift between Brook and his father. This caused considerable unhappiness, especially for the new Mrs. Taylor, but some hope was given when John announced that if they produced a son all would be forgiven. Unfortunately, both she and their child died in childbirth early in 1723.

John commiserated with Brook, forgave him and almost as quickly his former affectionate regard returned. Brook moved back into Bifrons in the autumn of 1723 and Bolingbroke wrote him a letter of congratulation dated December 26th that year. Brook continued at Bifrons in 1724 and 1725: there were musical parties and the attentions of a numerous family welcoming an amiable brother ultimately persuaded him to being effectively retired in the country, domesticated and with fixed habits.

In 1725 Brook met Sabetha Sawbridge, daughter of Jacob and Penelope Sawbridge of Olantigh. He liked her and proposed marriage. The union enjoyed the full approval of his father as a dowry of no less than £4000 was involved. It appeared not to matter that Jacob Sawbridge had been disgraced by expulsion from the House of Commons, where he sat as the Member for Cricklade, on January 23rd, 1720¹, for his leading part in the scam known as the "South Sea Bubble". Jacob's gross assets were assessed at £121,639 in 1721 and much of this remained after punitive levies had been made.

John Taylor died on April 4th, 1729, leaving his estate to Brook for his lifetime after which it should pass to Brook's son, if he had one; otherwise it should revert to John Taylor's successors. John had outlived his sons John, Nathaniel, James, Bridges and Upton so that only Herbert and four daughters, Mary, Olive, Margaret and Hannah, remained as potential inheritors. Brook and Sabetha set about acquiring a son and on March 20th, 1729², a daughter, Elizabeth, was born. Most unfortunate, however, was that Sabetha died in the process. Brook was naturally very upset.*

Brook's condition clearly gave his friend Bolingbroke cause for concern. In March 1729³, Bolingbroke asked John Brinsden of Durham Yard, a palace in the Strand, to visit Brook at Bifrons, as part of his trip to Calais to fetch the wine he had ordered, to ascertain the state of Brook's health.

Bolingbroke wrote to Brook from Dawley Farm, Middlesex, on January 3rd, 1730⁴, saying that John Brinsden had showed him a letter from someone wishing to be a tenant at

* The fate of the orphan Elizabeth Taylor was not too bad. She married William Young on January 29th, 1747. He was the son of a Scottish physician of the same name who emigrated to the West Indies after the 1715 Uprising and married Margaret Nanton of Antigua. He became Lieutenant-Governor of Dominica and in 1769 was created 1st baronet Young of the Delaford estate in Buckinghamshire. They had seven children of whom the eldest son, also named William, (born in 1749) became the Governor of Tobago and died there in 1815. It is this William Young who wrote Brook Taylor's biography in 1791 while crossing the Atlantic and using the few letters left behind by Brook.

Bifrons. This could be an innocent enquiry or be interpreted as indicating a bad financial situation: a view which is reinforced by a letter from Brook to his eldest sister, Mary, dated April 24th, 1731, in which he says he had arrived at Dawley where his host, Alexander Pope, the satirical poet and essayist, had enquired once they were alone about the situation of his affairs. Pope insisted on taking him to London to consult his own lawyers to ascertain fully the whole nature of his present circumstances. This language is indicative more of a financial, rather than a medical, problem.

The last news was final: Brook went into a decline from which he did not recover: he died in Somerset House on 20th November, 1731, and was buried in St. Anne's churchyard, Soho. His extensive personal library was sold to the Holborn bookseller, Fletcher Gyles, who offered them for sale "very cheaply" on February 22nd, 1731⁵.

(c) The Rev. Herbert Taylor

Bifrons now passed to Brook's eldest surviving brother, Herbert, who was Rector of St. Alphege with St. Mary Northgate parish in Canterbury, a job which he retained for 27 years. He had married Mary Wake, the daughter of Dr. Edward Wake, a prebendary canon of Canterbury Cathedral and nephew of Archbishop Wake. Apart from a number of children who died in infancy and did not survive their father, Herbert and Mary had two sons, Herbert and Edward. Herbert, son of Herbert (as he was known), was born in 1731 and accordingly baptised in St. Alphege's church, Canterbury, while Edward was born in 1734 and therefore baptised in Patricbourne.

Herbert, father of Herbert, had to wait until February 3rd, 1753, to become vicar of Patricbourne as his predecessor, Dr. John Bowtell, occupied the post for nearly 55 years. He had been promised this living in the will of his father, John, who had conferred the right of patronage on his eldest child, Mary, on condition that she would give it to Herbert when it became vacant.

One of the early tasks which Herbert assumed was the cataloguing of the 1078 books and a large quantity of individual sermons and pamphlets which John Bowtell had bequeathed for the use of parishioners. 431 of the books were located in the study over the hall of the vicarage while the rest occupied 13 shelves in another study. The sermons and pamphlets were kept in a chest under lock and key.

According to his will dated May 5th, 1738, his son, Edward, would inherit Bifrons.

It was agreed on June 6th, 1761 that the properties of Herbert the father would pass on to Herbert the son on his death. This then facilitated the indentures of lease and release dated June 8th and 9th, 1761, by which the Herbert Taylors raised a sum of £1000 from William Gason using as security the manors of Patricbourne Cheney and Patricbourne Merton with their appurtenances, 50 messuages, 1 forge, 2 malshouses, 3 dovehouses, 2 tanyards, 120 gardens, 800 acres of land, 100 acres of meadow, 100 acres of pasture, 100 acres of wood, 10 acres of hop ground and 200 acres of furze and heath, common or pasture.

Herbert died on September 29th, 1763, and was buried at Patricbourne eight days later.

(d) Herbert, son of Herbert, Taylor

The tenure of Herbert, son of Herbert, was only just over 4 years as he died, unmarried, on November 19th, 1767.

(e) The Reverend Edward Taylor

On his brother's death, the Reverend Edward Taylor inherited the Bifrons estate and its mortgages. He had been vicar of Patricbourne since November 16th, 1763, in succession to his father, the Reverend Herbert Taylor. At the time of taking over the responsibilities of Bifrons, he was unmarried, but he soon remedied this by marrying Margaret Turner of Ileden in 1769. This was a shrewd move, as the Turners changed their name to Payler in 1771 by Act of Parliament to enable them to inherit a significant sum. Margaret's father, Thomas, died that same year and Ileden passed to her brother, Thomas Watkinson Payler, who, also earlier in 1771, had married Charlotte Hammond, a daughter of William Hammond of St. Alban's Court, Nonington.

(i) The rebuilding of Bifrons

The Reverend Edward Taylor decided to demolish Bifrons in February, 1775, on the grounds that it was in need of repair and inconvenient. This latter description would refer to the sequential arrangement of the rooms which had fallen out of fashion by then and was being replaced in many places by more private, dendritic, arrangements.

(ii) The tenancy of Sir John Brewer Davis

Surprisingly little is known about this knight. He was created a knight on September 28th, 1778, and was resident in the parish of St. George, Hanover Square, at the time of his marriage on August 28th, 1784, to Frances Tattersall of Streatham. The ceremony was performed by licence by an elder brother of the bride, James Tattersall. Their only son, Horatio, was baptised at Little Chart on April 18th, 1789.

Bifrons is recorded in a directory⁷ compiled in 1792 as being the seat of Sir John Brewer Davis. This tenancy is confirmed in the accounts for 1798 where it is recorded that the rent was £120 *per annum* out of which Edward Taylor had to pay Land Tax of £9. 8s. 0d. The total amount of rent received in 1798 from 50 sources in the Bifrons Estate was £1138. 14s. 0d. out of which £127. 19s. 0d. was to be deducted for Land Tax.

In between these dates we have a record of Jane Austen passing by in a carriage en route from Rowling to Nackington in September 1796. She wrote in a letter to her sister and confidante, Cassandra, "We went by Bifrons and I contemplated with a melancholy pleasure the abode of him on whom I once fondly doated [*sic*]". Edward Hugessen Knatchbull, 1st Baron Brabourne, who edited these letters in 1884, freely admitted that he did not know to whom Jane referred. Certainly the statement in a modern picture-book that it was Captain Edward Taylor could be ruled out, as although Edward was of the right age, we would have to believe that Jane did not know that he had not been in residence for some years. If one rules the servants out, a member of Sir John Brewer Davis's family seems a possible, if unlikely, candidate.

(f) Captain Edward Taylor

When the Rev. Edward Taylor died on December 8th, 1798, his eldest son, Edward, was only 24 years old. He was a captain in His Majesty's Regiment of New Romney Fencible Dragoons and, it would appear, not in too healthy a financial state.

The marriage agreement with Louisa Beckingham

The financial settlement between Edward Taylor and his wife, Louisa Beckingham, was formalised by indentures of lease and release respectively dated 30th and 31st August 1802. It provided some short-term relief for Edward and some longer-term headaches. The dowry was to amount to £5000 of which £4000 was to be used to pay off the debt to John Dilnot and £1000 was for Edward's own use. Further, in the event that Louisa would outlive Edward, she was to have the choice to make Bridge Place her residence for an annual rent of £50. She would also get an annual pension of £400.

The £1000 was insufficient to enable Edward to pay off his debts which at the time of his marriage were £2000 to his brother, Brook (1777-1846); £800 to his brother, Bridges (1777-1814); £500 to Eleanor Thompson, a widow living in Bridge; and a further £500.

It appeared by May 1st, 1804, that Edward Wilbraham-Bootle and Daniel Messman had been unable to raise the sums of £5000 and £2000, which were needed to pay off Edward's debts. The situation was alleviated by Edward's cousin, Thomas Watkinson Payler, who agreed to provide a mortgage of £4000 secured on some of Edward Taylor's property.

On 30th October 1809, Edward owed £2000 to Margaret Taylor, £800 to each of his brothers Brook and Bridges, £500 to John Dilnot and £500 to each of two widows living in Bridge, Elizabeth Nash and Eleanor Thompson. Edward consolidated his debts by borrowing £5000 from his brother-in-law, Edward Wilbraham-Bootle and Daniel Mesman. These credit-worthy gentlemen had raised the sum by a loan from William Baldock of Canterbury, James Foord of White Hill, Ospringe, and Deane John Parker of Holy Cross parish, Westgate.

Time had taken its toll before the next transaction. William Baldock had died on December 21st, 1812.

On June 26th, 1829, Sir James Gore Ouseley agreed to lend Edward and Herbert Edward Taylor £24546 and a bond for twice this amount as the sum to be paid in case of default was signed.

CHAPTER EIGHT

Captain Taylor's Tenants

(a) Abraham Parry Cumberbatch

The dating of the departure of the Taylor family from Bifrons and their renting it out depends on the evidence of the records of St. Mary's church. The Taylors buried an infant daughter, Charlotte Margaret, in the churchyard on July 16th, 1819. Abraham Parry and Caroline Cumberbatch baptised their daughter, Emma, there on January 30th, 1820. This suggests that the Cumberbatch tenancy commenced at Michaelmas 1819.

Abraham Parry Cumberbatch had been previously married to Charlotte Jones who had died in January 1818. The three children of that marriage, Abraham Carlton, Eliza and Benjamin William Robert, all came to Bifrons. Unfortunately Benjamin died at Bifrons on May 7th, 1820. Following the birth of Emma, Abraham and Caroline had three more children but the first of these, Robert William, was baptised in Tunbridge Wells in February, 1822, and hence we obtain the latest quarter day for the end of the Cumberbatch tenancy as probably some time in 1821. If the house remained unlet for a period the Cumberbatch tenancy could have ended as early as Midsummer 1820.

It is difficult to guess why the Cumberbatches should have wished to rent Bifrons. His roots were at Bristol where his father and paternal grandfather were both buried in the cathedral itself. Caroline was a member of the Chaloner family of Guisborough. Like his father and paternal grandfather, Abraham Parry was born in Barbados and owned several sugar plantations there. Much of his work involved the triangular journeys between Bristol, Africa and Barbados and the number of slaves he had working on his plantations is recorded as late as 1830. On leaving Bifrons the Cumberbatches seemed to have chosen Tunbridge Wells for their residence, although their last child, Robert William, was born in Queen's House, Lyndhurst, in 1827. Abraham Parry died in Tunbridge Wells on October 10th, 1840, aged nearly 56.

Of the children, Abraham Carlton became Consul-General at Istanbul (then known as Constantinople) and was appointed a Companion of the Order of the Bath. He died on October 24th, 1875, at Bingham House, Richmond. His will revealed that he had a settled estate in Barbados.

(b) The Second Marquis of Ely

John Loftus was born on February 15th, 1770, and became the 2nd Marquess of Ely in the Peerage of Ireland on the death of his father on March 22nd, 1806. On May 22nd, 1810, he married Anna Maria Dashwood, daughter of Sir Henry Watkin Dashwood, 3rd Baronet of Kirtlington Park, Oxfordshire. She held household appointments under Queen Charlotte and Queen Adelaide. Their first child, Charlotte Elizabeth, was born in Co. Fermanagh on April 22nd, 1811. Their first son, Henry Robert, was born on March 15th, 1813, but died exactly a month later. Their heir, John Henry, Viscount Loftus, was born in Hill Street, near Berkeley Square, on January 19th, 1814.

The date on which the Marquis and Marchioness of Ely began to rent Bifrons from the Taylors is not totally clear. The first Loftus to be baptised in Patricxbourne was Henry Yorke Astley on April 12th, 1822, followed by Caroline Louisa on April 19th, 1824, and Elizabeth Caroline Augusta on July 30th, 1826.

In 1824, John was appointed *Custos rotularum* for Co. Wexford.

John died on September 26th, 1845 at Ely Lodge in Co. Fermanagh. Anna Maria died at Hampton Court Palace on September 6th, 1857. Charlotte Elizabeth married William Tatton Egerton, the Member of Parliament for ???????? on December 18th, 1830. He became Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire in 1868. John Henry went into politics, contesting Gloucester in 1841 and becoming Member of Parliament for Woodstock from May 1st to September 26th, 1845, when he succeeded his father.

(c) Lady Noel Byron and the Trevanions

Annabella, Lady Noel Byron, did not like Bifrons and never overcame this distaste in the four years she rented it. She lent it

to Henry Trevanion and his wife, Georgiana Augusta Leigh (known as "Georgey"), as they were desperately poor at the time. They had three children in as many years. One of these, Ada, was baptised in Patixbourne on June 8th, 1828.

The affair became known to the rural dean, the Rev. William Eden, who reported it to Lady Noel Byron. As a consequence the Trevanions and Libby were dispatched to Calais where the baby was born in February 1830. It was left in the care of a doctor but died within a few months.

CHAPTER NINE

The Conyngham Dynasty

(a) The First Marquess Conyngham

The sale by auction of the Bifrons Estate for the then phenomenal sum of £95,600 may well have fuelled speculation that it had been bought by King George IV, if Greenwood's account⁸ of 1838 is to be understood. At the time, the local newspapers seemed unaware that the Conynghams would be moving from Windsor to Bifrons. The death of King George IV coincided very well with the completion of the deeds of sale and in principle the Conynghams could have moved straight in. The following account⁹ of the Conynghams' departure from Windsor on Saturday, June 26th, 1830, is sufficiently amusing to merit transcription:

"The Marchioness Conyngham, with the ladies of her family, were very busy packing up during the whole of Saturday morning and her ladyship, with a carriage full of ladies, set out from Windsor with four horses at a quarter past 12 on Saturday and drove with haste to Mr. Denison's (her brother's) house near Dorking where she arrived before dinner. The people about the castle understood that her Ladyship intended to go to Paris. The Marquess of Conyngham remained behind at the Palace, the corridor of which, near the late King's suite of apartments, he paced like a man lost in abstraction; and it was not till one o'clock he was reminded that he had important duties to perform in London with the new court and Parliament. He then, as if suddenly recollecting himself, ordered a chaise and four and came to town with all speed, arriving at Westminster at 20 minutes before 4 o'clock, just in time to enable the Speaker to take the Chair in the House of Commons, after being sworn in the long gallery".

On acquiring Bifrons, the Conynghams appointed the architect Thomas Frederick Hunt to design various extensions. Hunt was at that time Clerk of the Works at Kensington Palace and was well thought of in Court circles as well as at the Office of Works. He did, however, live beyond his means and was constantly harassed by bailiffs because he was always in debt. We can date the time of these extensions quite accurately because they would hardly have been commissioned before

completion of the sale in June 1830 and could not have been done after Hunt died, at the age of 40, on January 4th, 1831.

B. M. Thomas has discussed the possibility that Hunt might have designed the extensions between 1815 and 1824 but has noted that Ireland¹⁰ made no mention of any such extensions in 1829. Given that the known financial state of Edward Taylor and his need to maintain Bourne Park, he would have surely been precluded from making any significant expenditure on extensions at Bifrons. Furthermore, it was reported in the local newspapers^{11,12} that, in the short period since the Conynghams purchased Bifrons, "large sums have been expended in beautifying the mansion, which has given employment to upwards of 50 persons".

A further enhancement of Bifrons was occasioned by the auction at the East Cliff House, Ramsgate, of the 635 dozen bottles of fine wine which its wealthy occupant, Sir William Curtis, had failed to consume before death. Curtis is renowned as the illiterate Lord Mayor of London of 1795 who proposed a toast to "The Three R's — Reading, 'Riting and 'Rithmetic". The Bifrons accounts show that the cost of the Marquess's purchase of 362 bottles for £82. 18s. 11½d was debited from the estate account rather than the Marquess's personal drawings.

The accounts for Michaelmas 1830 give a realistic impression of the tradesmen's bills one had to face at the time:—

Beazeley	dyer	£18. 13s. 11d.
Sharp	upholsterer	£13. 11s. 10d.
Keeler	glass men (discounted)	£ 7. 5s. 6d.
Kingsford's	coal merchants	£19. 19s. 0d.
Fisher	tinman	£ 2. 1s. 3d.
Wright	wine merchant	£ 1. 10s. 0d.
Martin	collar maker	11s. 11d.
Quested	coal baskets	8s. 0d.
Cook	chimney sweep	18s. 0d.
	sundry small bills per abstract	
	2 visits to Bifrons and gift to servants	£ 6. 19s. 6¾d.
Beioley	linen drapes for toilets	7s. 0½d.
G. Denne	ton hay for horses	£ 4 0s. 0d.

B. Helps	for 12 pheasants and expenses to and from London	£13. 19s. 6d.
T. Collard	for keeper's suit of clothes	£ 6. 10s. 0d.
Wm. Vickers	22 weeks wages as keeper and carpenter	£23. 1s. 0d.
F. Colegate	tenants' dinner	£ 9. 4s. 0d.
	sundry cottagers' usual presents on prompt payment of their rents subject to your Lordship's pleasure (½ year)	£ 1. 13s. 9d.
	stamps for receipts	£ 1. 5s. 0d.
	stamps for postage	£ 1. 0s. 0d.
	extras	5s. 0d.
	2 journies [<i>sic</i>] to Isle of Thanet on your Lordship's account, <i>viz.</i> Minster tenants and East Cliff wine sale: hire horses <i>etc.</i>	£ 2. 2s. 0d.
	2 days attending Mr. Wright in survey of Sir Henry Oxenden's Hearne [<i>sic</i>] Estate by order horse and gig	£ 2. 2s. 0d.
[R. Pilcher]	Agency — ¾ year from Lady Day to 31 December	£75. 0s. 0d.
	extra labourers for river course timber felling and fences	£ 9. 15s. 11d.

Henry died on December 28th, 1832, at his London residence and was buried in a vault in the chancel of Patribourne church on January 4th. The Kentish Gazette reported that he "was distinguished for his unostentatious demeanour and great urbanity of manners, united to a cheerful temper and an unparalleled evenness of mind, which had gained for him the affections of all who had the pleasure of his society and those employed under him".

(b) The Second Marquess Conyngham

One of the favourite hobbies of the 2nd Marquess was yachting. He was an ordinary member of the Kingstown Boat Club and offered to use his influence with Queen Victoria to get the privileges of a Royal Yacht Club conferred. By May 1845 both Queen Victoria and Prince Albert had agreed and in 1846 the Marquess became the first Commodore of the Royal Kingstown Yacht Club. He flew the club's Burgee on his 186-ton schooner *The Flower of Yarrow*. In 1847, the club was renamed as the Royal St. George Yacht Club though the reason for including St. George in the name is unclear. In 1850, he launched the 218-ton *Constance* which secured him a permanent place in the history of yachting. He resigned as Commodore in 1863 due to ill-health and took up the less arduous position of Vice-Commodore from 1865 until his death a few days before the club's 1876 regatta.

(i) The sale of Bourne Park

It was an aspect of the Dowager Marchioness's character that the idea of having freeholders near Bifrons was undesirable and that any property which became available should be bought. Consequently when Bourne Park came up for sale in 1844 every effort had to be made to purchase it since it was contiguous with the Bifrons estate. The vendors were the executors of the recently-deceased widow, Mrs. Louisa Beckingham, who had actually resided at 18, Marine Crescent, Dover and rented out her mansion. As Mrs. Beckingham was the mother-in-law of the Edward Taylor from whom the Conynghams had bought Bifrons, the Marchioness thought she should have first refusal. But the executors were rather more shrewd than expected given that there was clear competition from a Matthew John Bell who had been renting *Oswalds* in nearby Bishopsbourne since 1841 as a temporary measure until he could find something more suitable. The sale was to be effected by the private tender of sealed bids and subject to the condition that the highest bid should be accepted. Matthew Bell's offer turned out to be £150 higher than that of the Marchioness¹³.

¹³ Kingstown, Co. Dublin, is now known as Dun Laoghaire.

(ii) Lady Jane Conyngham's wedding

The social highlight of Patricbourne in 1849 must have been the wedding of Lady Jane Conyngham to Francis George Spencer on May 19th. The chancel of St. Mary's church had been restored at the Marchioness's expense this year. She had given six more pieces of Flemish painted glass for the small, unmoulded, Norman windows in the north and south walls. The architect responsible was a Mr. Marshall of Canterbury and his work was well spoken of by Sir Gilbert Scott 8 years later when he came to restore the whole building. The splendid occasion was recorded in the local newspaper¹⁴ where it was reported that the marriage had taken place "in the presence of a select circle of relatives and friends of both parties and a large congregation of neighbours, together with upwards of 100 schoolchildren, arranged under a tastefully-formed laurel bower, interspersed with all kinds of flowers which extended from the entrance of the churchyard to the porch. After a most impressive service the children sang an appropriate hymn, composed for the occasion, which had a very pleasing effect".

The official guest list can be deduced from the newspaper report with a bit of detective work and tolerance for journalistic euphemisms such as "The Rev. A. Steward" who was perhaps a useful clerical version of "Mr. A. N. Other". The guests then appear to have been the Dowager Marchioness Conyngham (*bride's grandmother*), the Ladies Elizabeth and Cecilia Conyngham (*bride's sisters*), Lady Louisa Spencer (*a sister of the groom*), the Misses Fitzroy, Miss Elizabeth Somerville (*cousin*), Miss Augusta Conyngham (*a sister of the bride*), Lord Mount Charles (*her brother, George Henry*), Mrs Stevenson (*vicar's wife*), Miss Stevenson (*vicar's daughter*), Miss Kippen, Miss Wildman, Lady Maria Tollemache (*née Anna Maria Jane Seymour, daughter of the 11th Duke of Somerset*), her daughters Emma Maria and Matilda Jane (*both aged about 9-10 years*), the Dean of Canterbury (*William Rowe Lyall, a successful seeker of patronage and equally successful in the art of nepotism*), Matthew and Fanny Bell (*owner-occupiers of Bourne Park*), Lady Louisa Spencer (*a sister of the groom*), Major Spencer (*probably The Hon. Sir Augustus*

Almeric Spencer, a brother of the groom), Commander Spencer (probably *The Hon. John Welbore Spencer, another brother of the groom*), Rev. Charles Oxenden (*Rector of Barham, Vicar of Eastwell and sometime Honorary Canon of Canterbury Cathedral*), Miss Montessori and Miss Charlotte Georgiana Oxenden (*25-year old daughter of Charles Oxenden*).

(iii) The restoration of St. Mary's Church

The chancel of St. Mary's church was completely restored under the direction of George Gilbert Scott in 1857. His firm was responsible for such "restorations" (in Gothic revival style) of some 500 churches and 39 cathedrals: previous projects had included the Martyrs' Memorial (1841), St. John's College chapel and Exeter College chapel in Oxford. Subsequent successes included the Albert Memorial (1862-3), St. Pancras Station (1865) and the Home and Colonial Office (1858 on). His firm was the largest architectural firm of the period so it is difficult to attribute any particular restoration to him personally. He was knighted in 1872 and when he died in 1878 was buried in Westminster Abbey.

(iv) Death of the Dowager Marchioness

The end of a great era was signalled by the death of the Dowager Marchioness Conyngham on October 11th, 1861. Her will made interesting reading: she gave her son Albert any picture in her home at Bifrons or Hamilton Place. To Lady Albert Denison, his wife, she gave any pictures of Lord Albert in either house. [It is to be noted that since Albert was by this time very rich he was deemed not to need any other legacies].

[Silver] plates and plated articles, linen, china, furniture, the remaining pictures, statues, books and prints in both houses were bequeathed to Francis Nathaniel, her eldest surviving son and 2nd Marquess Conyngham. Her diamonds were bequeathed to him for his life and after his death to Lord Mountcharles (*i.e.* George Henry, the eldest son of the 2nd Marquess and successor to the marquessate) for his life and after his death to whoever is Marquess Conyngham. One must assume that some of these diamonds had been acquired from King George IV.

She was empowered by the will of her late brother, William Joseph Denison, dated August 3rd, 1848, to dispose of £30,000 to her granddaughters. Accordingly she left £6000 to Augusta Elizabeth Denison to be paid on the day she married or reached 21, whichever be the sooner. She further left £4000 to executors as trustees to invest and pay to Augusta Elizabeth at the same time.

She left her sister, the Rt. Hon. Lady Anna Maria Wenlock, an annuity of £500 for her life to be paid quarterly. [She had in fact died on August 20th, 1850.] She left her son-in-law, the Rt. Hon. Sir William Meredyth Somerville*, the sum of £2000. The family solicitor, John Benbow, was left £500 and her steward, Robert Pilcher, £100. Each of her male servants who have lived with her for three years prior to her death received £50 while the female equivalents got £25. £100 was left to the parish of Patricbourne for distribution to the poor of the parish of Patricbourne and Bridge by the vicar, the Rev. John Stevenson. £100 was to be distributed to the poor of Templecrone, Co. Donegal, by the minister of that parish, Frederick Corfield. The rest was to go to her son, the 2nd Marquess, and she appointed him and Sir William Meredyth Somerville as executors. Under a codicil, she withdrew the money awarded to Augusta as she had plenty and bequeathed £24,000 to the four daughters of the Marquess.

(i) The building works of 1862-1863

The death of the Dowager Marchioness provided a suitable break in the occupation of the house to modernise it and remedy

* He had married her sister Maria who died on December 3rd, 1843 and in 1860 had remarried Maria Georgiana Elizabeth Jones. In civil life he was the Member of Parliament for Drogheda from 1837 to 1852 and for Canterbury from 1854 to 1865. He held office as Under-Secretary for the Home Department from 1846 to 1847 and as Chief Secretary for Ireland from 1847 to 1852. He was created Baron Athlumney in the Peerage of Ireland in 1863 and Baron Meredyth in the Peerage of the United Kingdom in 1866. He died in Dover on December 7th, 1873.

the defects which had accrued with age. Accordingly, three contracts were drawn up:-

1. The original contract for alterations to the mansion and the stables dated May 21st, 1862, costing £5268.0s.0d.
2. An extra contract for alterations to the sole of the stables dated August 18th, 1862, costing £602.12s.3d.
3. A contract for repairs to the ground floor and part of one floor dated September 4th, 1862, costing £308.0s.0d.

O The 2nd Marquess Conyngham

Jane, 2nd Marchioness Conyngham, died at her residence at 14, Marine Parade, Folkestone, on January 28th, 1876¹⁵ and the following Wednesday, February 2nd, her remains were deposited in the family vault in St. Mary's Church, Patricbourne. Her husband, Francis, was unable to attend due to a severe attack of gout¹⁶ and her youngest son, Francis, was travelling in Egypt at the time. Consequently the chief mourner was her eldest son, George, Earl of Mountcharles.

The 2nd Marquess Conyngham died at his residence, 5 Hamilton Place, Piccadilly, on July 17th, 1876. His will, dated October 18th, 1874, with a codicil thereto dated April 1876, was proved on September 25th, 1876, by the executors, the Rt. Hon. Charles John Colville, 10th Baron Colville of Culross and Chamberlain to Queen Alexandra, and John Henry Benbow, the solicitor, with the personal estate being sworn to be under £500,000.

His will specified that £100,000 was to be raised for the purchase of any property in Kent from his real estate in England and Wales and was to form part of his residuary personal estate. After this he specified that all his real estate and also that in Ireland was to devolve to the use of his son, George Henry, for life, with remainder to Henry Francis Conyngham, the son of George Henry, 3rd Marquis Conyngham. The fate of his leasehold property was settled similarly. He left his son, Francis Nathaniel, and his four daughters £10,000 each, and in trust for his two grandsons, Theodore Francis Brinckman and Victor Albert Francis Charles Spencer £5000 each and £2000 for each of the children of his daughter Lady Frances Caroline Maria Lambart. Each of his executors received £500 as a mark

of his esteem and the vicar of Patricbourne, the Rev. Dr. John Stevenson, got £250. Legacies were also left to the servants according to the length of their service. His eldest son received the furniture, pictures, plate and household effects together with a pecuniary legacy of £20,000. His trustees were directed to keep up the payment of certain voluntary allowances made by him and the residue of his property was to be divided equally between his younger son and his four daughters,

(d) George Henry, 3rd Marquess Conyngham

When George Henry succeeded to the Marquessate in July 1876, he had already retired from his military career and since 1872 had been equerry to Queen Victoria. He was therefore logically based in London most of the time.

When his eldest son, Henry Francis, Earl of Mountcharles, celebrated his coming-of-age in October 1878, the Marquess was unable to attend due to his continuing indisposition¹⁷ and the festivities were largely held in several locations in Bridge. Those involved included about 40 workmen who were engaged in extensive alterations and improvements to the mansion.

Like his father, George Henry was figured in *Vanity Fair* under the epithet "Bill". This cartoon appeared on January 1st, 1881.

When the 3rd Marquess died on June 2nd, 1882, the Inland Revenue Legacy Receipts under the Legacy Duty Act provide an insight for us into his domestic establishment, which we must presume were those based at Bifrons. The executors were the Most Honorable James Edward William Theobald Butler, 3rd Marquis of Ormonde, and the solicitor, William Henry Saltwell of Lincoln's Inn. The will provided each domestic servant who had been in his service for two years or more with two years' wages! However, since all of the servants were "strangers in blood", 10% duty had to be paid. The beneficiaries and the gross sums received were:- Mary Ann Lynagh (£24), Margaret ("Maggie") Leonard (£28), Mary Ratcliffe (£36), Eliza List (£40), Caroline Elizabeth Long (£60), Fanny Gill (£100), William Henry Archer (£80), William Littlewood (£120), James Hosacks (£160), Martha Logan (£34), Caroline White (£44), Elizabeth Mary Critoph (£46), Edith Charlotte Moffrey (£50) and Anne Payne (£120). There was also a pecuniary legacy of £200 for the benefit of the poor of the parish of Patribourne entrusted to Francis T. Vine and subject to the same 10% duty. More substantial legacies were paid to William H. D. Fitzgerald (£500), William Henry Saltwell, the solicitor, (£500), Robert Hipisley Cox (£200), Edgcome Venning F.S.E.C.S. (£200) and The Marquis of Ormonde (£500). This last bequest was only subject to 6% duty

as the Marquis was a descendant of a brother of the grandfather of the deceased.

The Marquess was buried in the family vault in the chancel of St. Mary's church in a nest of three coffins — two wooden and one leaden. His widow sought permission shortly afterwards to have the body transferred to a new plot to be provided by the Conynghams on the western side of the churchyard, north of the tree-lined path. This formed the nucleus of the group of graves which form a major feature in the churchyard today.

The family vault was covered over in 1885 when the Commissary General granted permission¹⁸ for the level of the chancel to be raised. This task was accompanied by the removal of the reredos to the west end, the lowering of the children's seats, the placing of additional stalls in the chancel and the moving of the pulpit as far south as possible to open up the chancel arch.

¹⁷ The 3rd Marquess Conyngham's maternal grandfather was Henry William Paget, 2nd Earl of Uxbridge and 1st Marquis of Anglesey. One of his younger brothers was General the Hon. Edward Paget, whose eldest daughter, Frances Jane, married John Butler, the 2nd Marquis of Ormonde.

CHAPTER TEN

The Conyngham's Tenants

(a) Edward Wienholt

Edward Wienholt was born in Laugharne on March 28th, 1833, to John Birkett Wienholt and his second wife, Sarah (*née* Hill).

The first European to arrive in the Darling Downs region of what was to become South-East Queensland was Henry Dennis who set up Jondaryan Station in 1842.

Edward Wienholt was the Representative for Western Downs in the Queensland Parliament from September 14th, 1870 to November 4th, 1873 when the constituency was split up: he continued as the Representative for Darling Downs until February 1st, 1875.

A Wienholt family arrived at Fremantle, Australia, in the ship *Assam* in March 1877. The family consisted of a husband and wife with an infant and two servants and another Mr. Wienholt.

It is known that an E. Wienholt was a main shareholder in the Central Queensland Meat Exporting Company and a "wealthy Victorian pastoralist".

On the night of April 5th, 1891, it was recorded in the census that Bifrons was occupied by an Ellen Wienholt, wife, age 34, living on her own means, born in Melbourne with her children Muriel W. (age 15, born in Llanwern, Monmouthshire), Arnold (age 13; scholar; born in Goomburra, Queensland), Brenda and Mary Magdalena. (both born in Goomburra) and sons Edward Arthur (age 7, born in Goomburra) and William Humphrey Meyrick (age 5, born in Kingstone, Herefordshire). Also present were a cousin, John M. O. Bode, born in Newcastle, New South Wales, age 21 and occupied as a student of theology; a governess, Elizabeth Schipplach, born in Pomerania and aged 30 and a professor of music, Carl Deichmann, who was born in Hannover 63 years previously and was a visitor. The servants in residence were the butler, John Bayley, the housekeeper, Elizabeth McCraig and

the Head Bursar, Mary A. Lodge, all aged 36; the Lady's Maid, Lucy Derry, aged 35; three housemaids, Fanny Smith (aged 31), Annie M. Luet (aged 22) and Edith F. Eldridge (aged 15); the kitchenmaid, Ellen Heath (aged 22), the dairymaid, Susanna Lynces (aged 40), Mlle. Rosa Cuendet of Switzerland, aged 21, as a tutor in French; the footman, Edward G. Gard (aged 19), the hallboy, Frederick J. Webb (aged 16) and the scullerymaid, Esther Barnet (aged 18).

The Queenslander reported on October 28th, 1893, that Mr. Edward "Wienholt" had left on the 23rd by the mail train to join the French mail steamer *Le Polynésien* at Sydney, *en route* for England to rejoin his family. *Le Polynésien* was a twin-funnelled steamer, 152 metres long and displacing 10,300 tons. It was capable of 17.5 knots and could take 172 passengers in first-class, 71 in second class, 109 in third class and 234 *rattionnaires*.

An Arnold Wienholt (1877-1940) was an extraordinary adventurer about whom a book was written in 1987.

An Arnold Wienholt was a member of the Fourth Queensland Contingent (the Queensland Imperial Bushmen) who left for the Boer War on May 18th, 1900, was promoted to Sergeant on June 1st and returned on August 5th, 1901.

A Lieutenant Frederick Edward Wienholt of D squadron, Central District, 7th Battalion, Australian Commonwealth Horse (Queensland) is recorded as having departed Australia on May 19th, 1902 and returned on August 2nd the same year as a member of the Tenth Queensland Contingent.

(b) John Alexander Miller

John Alexander Miller was born on September 27th, 1867 as the son of William Miller, a merchant of Leith who became the Liberal Member of Parliament for Leith Burghs and later for Berwickshire. His mother, Mary Anne *née* Farley Leith, was the daughter of John Farley Leith, Q.C., M.P. It is said that Gladstone created the baronetcy in 1874 in recognition of this marriage.

John was the younger brother of James Percy Miller who became the second baronet in 1887 and, as owner of Manderston House, Berwickshire, was responsible for the opulent rebuilding of that house in 1903-1905.

In 1889, John married Inez Mitchell-Innes, the eldest daughter of Captain William Mitchell-Innes of the 13th Hussars, and their residence in 1890 was in Barney Hill, Dunbar.

Both brothers were interested in racehorses and John's first venture as an owner was to build in 1892 a model training establishment at Steep Lane, Findon, Sussex, known as the Nephote Lodge stables. His racing colours were olive green with white hooped sleeves and quartered caps. He engaged the local artist and fellow Scotsman, Edwin Douglas (1848-1914), to paint his horses. He is known to have accommodated horses belonging to the Prince of Wales at his racing yard stables. His success on the turf was in much part due to engaging William J. Halsey as trainer and jockey. He did not, however, race on the same scale or with such success as his brother who had at some time won most of the classic races including the Derby in both 1890 and 1903. Nevertheless, he had a useful horse called "Bridge" who won a number of races over a long period.

His solicitor was Mr. Hugh Murray, Writer to the Signet, of 48, Castle Street, Edinburgh. Although his first lease has probably not survived, an amended version dated 2nd February 1897, was with Henry Francis, 4th Marquess Conyngham, and was to expire on June 20th, 1901. Its provisions are somewhat illuminating: there was a Still Room containing one locked cupboard and a Lumber Room. The lease stipulated that no sale, bazaar or public meeting was to be

held on the premises and, further, that the gamekeepers together with the Head and other gardeners were to be retained as well as the wild fowl on the lake. The lessor allowed the lessee the use of a mule for pumping purposes and the lessee could keep the fruit grown in the orchards. However, no grazing rights were included.

The 4th Marquess died in Slane Castle at the early age of 39 on 28th August, 1897, leaving seven young children. The eldest of these, Victor George Henry Francis succeeded to the Marquessate. Since he was only 14 years of age, the estates were entrusted to Sir Theodore Henry Brinckman of 34, Grosvenor Street, London, who was the husband of the 4th Marquess's late cousin, Cecilia Augusta, and the Member of Parliament for Canterbury from 1868 to 1874, together with the family solicitor, William Henry Saltwell of Messrs. Saltwell & Co.

The rent consisted of £600 *per annum* for the mansion plus £250 for the household goods, furniture, glasses, books and other articles.

John sold the Nephote Lodge Stables "at the turn of the century" to Eliza Charlotte Thirlwell for £5000 and high-grade training continued there. John moved on to the Michelgrove Stables nearby which were larger and occupying land formerly owned by Sir John Shelley, 9th baronet of Michelgrove. Although it has been alleged that Sir John was related to the poet, Percy Bysshe Shelley, the reality was actually quite different — they were 10th cousins, once removed!

1901 was a memorable year for John Miller: his first wife divorced him; he left Bifrons and he married Ada Mary Paget, the only child of Francis Henry Paget of Birstall, Leicester. It appears from a schedule of rents received by the Bifrons Estate that John continued to rent a property in the village for £6.10s. per year — the same rent as the vicar was paying for the vicarage — but it is not clear which property this was.

John succeeded to the baronetcy of Manderston on January 22nd, 1906 when his brother died. His sister-in-law continued living at Manderston but John took over his brother's racing colours as second colours to his own as they were