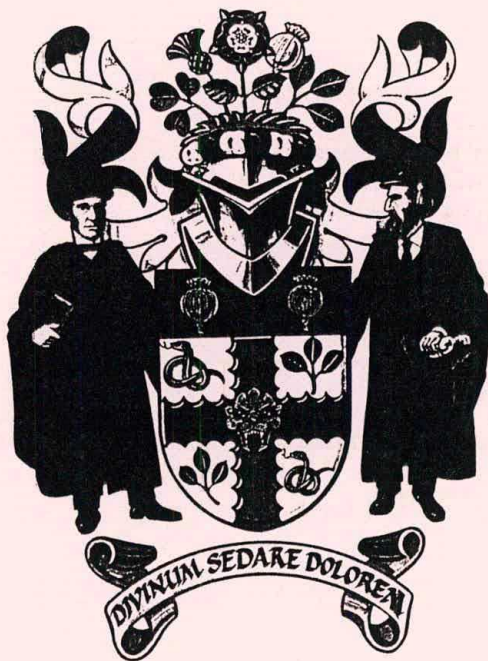


AYLSHAM LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY



Vol. 4 No. 5

March 1995

The JOURNAL & NEWSLETTER is the Quarterly publication of the Aylsham Local History Society. It is published each March, June, September and December, and is issued free to members. Contributions are welcomed from members and others. Contact:-

EDITOR: Tom Mollard, Flint Cottage, Calthorpe Rd, Erpingham. Norwich
NR11 7QL. Phone Cromer 761638

CHAIRMAN: Jane Nolan
Aylsham 732226

SECRETARY Valerie Belton
Aylsham 734121

CONTENTS

Memories of Aylsham, by Eileen Daines	99
Joseph T. Clover of Aylsham.....	101
Joseph T. Clover (1825-1882) by C. Woollam	103
Society News	114
Notes and Queries.....	116
Gwendolen Wiles [Wenda].....	117
The Norwich to Cromer Turnpike, by G.Wiles	118
Diary dates	120
Some Norfolk sayings, by Molly Long.....	121
Aegel, by Avril Fox.....	123
The Plight of the Hevingham and Marsham Hand-loom Weavers, in 1840 by R.C. Fiske.....	124
Cuttings from the EDP in 1914	128

Cover Illustration is the Coat of Arms of the College of Anæsthetists (of the Royal College of Surgeons of England) now known as the Royal College of Anæsthetists. One of the figures on the side is that of Clover.

The cover picture and that on p.102 are taken from photographs in the Aylsham Town Archives.



JOURNAL & NEWSLETTER

Vol 4

No.5

MEMORIES OF AYLSHAM

Eileen Daines

Following the article in Vol.4 No.3 issue of the Journal, which gave some memories of Millgate, I thought perhaps some members might be interested to read of my memories of Aylsham before the war.

My grandfather, Frederick Matthews, was estate gardener to the Belt farm, and moved to the Belt Lodge on the corner of Sir Williams Lane in 1891, when my mother, Bessie, was a year old. He had four children, the eldest, Jack, who lived on Mash's Row, worked in the mill all his life and died at the age of 98. My mother was next, she married a Londoner and lived to be 81. Uncle Billy was a carpenter/builder and lived in Mill Road, and lived to be 76. The youngest, my aunt May, and my mother both worked at Pages in tailoring and millinery, before marriage.

My mother left Aylsham in 1920 to join my father in London. She must have found life very different there than in Aylsham, where in those days everyone knew every detail about everyone else. I grew up spending holidays in Aylsham when my mother visited her parents, and spent days at the coast. As I grew older and was able to travel alone, I spent all my holidays in Aylsham, staying with my aunt May and cousins Graham, Freda and Daphne in what I understand used to be called the 'double house' in Millgate. Coming to the country from a flat in London was heaven to me. In those days there was a large open yard behind the house, with a pump in the middle which served the double house (part of which was occupied by Mrs. Durrell) and the cottage occupied by the Spink

family. The other side of the square was the egg depot. There were also stables and a large barn. Although there was a sink and running water in the kitchen, no one ever drank anything but water from the pump. There was always a bucket in the pantry [called the dairy]. Presumably this name had come down through the years from the time when this was a farmhouse. It was quite large and had a stone floor and stone shelves. I understand this house was mentioned in a will in 1750. Had my aunt known this she would have understood why the wallpaper had a habit of falling off the wall. My aunt had a lodger, Harry Hall, who was the stonemason in Millgate. He had one leg and walked with a crutch.

I was happy in Aylsham and roamed about every day on my own or with friends. I had no interest in other holidays - my school had a trip to Dusseldorf in 1937, but I had no wish to waste my holiday like that.

My aunt had an oven in the wall, and I well remember the huge square tins of casseroled rabbit and sausages. The only meal I didn't enjoy was stew, as she always put brown sauce in the gravy. Practically everything was delivered to the door. I always enjoyed Billy Pye's visit, as his basket usually had chocolate in it. We always had pig's fry on Friday, and cold meat and hot treacle pudding on Sunday, after the service at the Tabernacle, where my aunt played the organ. To her horror, she got there one day in her slippers. I very much enjoyed the services there as everyone sang at the top of their voices, and I was fascinated with the apparent ease with which the men could harmonise during the lively hymns

I remember being sent to Postle's bakery in Hungate St. quite often, to pick up bread dough, which meant of course, that we would have dumplings for dinner - no "lunch" in those days! Postle's also produced the best jam sponges I have ever tasted.

As a London child, I was amazed to be sent to Page's haberdashery department (opposite the Post Office in the charge of Miss Hilda Pegg) to ask for a selection of - for instance - aprons 'on appro' for aunt May. I was then allowed to take about six aprons home for my aunt to make her choice. I then returned the rest, and paid for the one she kept. Needless to say, no London shop ever offered that facility.

I knew a large percentage of Aylsham folk in those days, and there seemed to be more characters then. I am sure no one who knew "Tuddy" the verger, will ever forget him. There were no bungalow estates then, indeed when we decided to move to Aylsham in 1953, we had to buy a house, unseen, on the recommendation of my uncle, and we were lucky to get it. We lived in Pound Lane for five years, and then bought a field and built a bungalow.

As a child, the only benefit I could think of for living in London was that the pavements were much better for roller-skating!

—ooOoo—

JOSEPH T. CLOVER of AYLSHAM

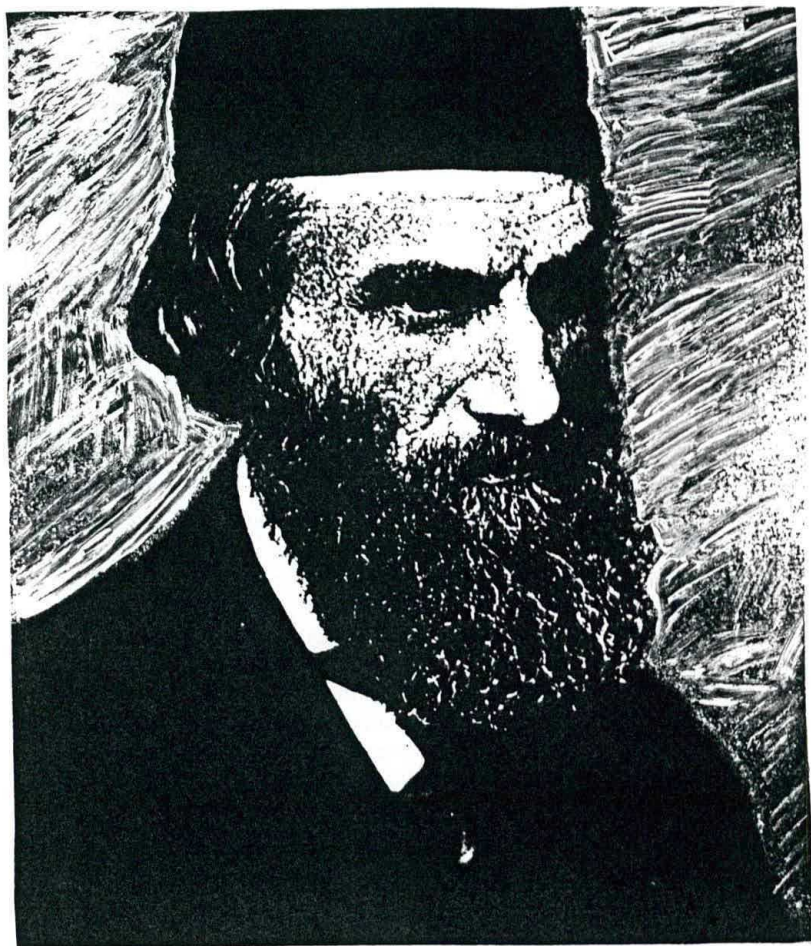
Joseph Thomas Clover, born in Aylsham became a pioneer anaesthetist, and the father of the modern technique and science of anaesthesia. Aylsham people rightly lay claim to him as a famous son of this town, and from time to time, this Society has published snippets of his life and achievements.[Vol.3 pp107-8; 360-61]

Dr. Christopher Woollam has made a detailed study of Clover's life and medical career. In 1993, Dr. Woollam presented a lecture to our members, on Clover, and many members will remember hearing and enjoying this. Last year, the most detailed account so far, of Clover's life appeared in the journal *Current Anaesthesia and Critical care*. (1994) 5 pp53-61. This paper was presented by Dr. Woollam. Now, with Dr. Woollam's kind permission and that of the publishers of the journal, we are able to reproduce that paper in our quarterly *Journal & Newsletter*, so that it will become available to a wider audience locally, and accessible to present and future readers of our Journal.

As our interest is primarily historical, I have missed out a small part of the original article dealing with the more technical aspects of anaesthesia.

I am grateful to the author and publishers for their permission to reprint this invaluable and definitive account of Clover's life.

Editor



Joseph Thomas Clover

JOSEPH T. CLOVER (1825-1882)

C.H.M. Woollam

The Family -

The name of Clover first rose to prominence in Norwich in the 1750s with the emergence of Joseph Clover (1725-1811) as one of the founders of Veterinary Science. His father died when he was 17, and Joseph had to give up his studies and take on his father's smithy to support his mother and younger brothers and sisters. About 1750 he came to the notice of a Norwich physician ¹ Dr. Kervin Wright. Wright encouraged Joseph to take up his studies once more, and particularly to pursue his investigation and treatment of the diseases of horses. His studies demanded that he became proficient at Latin and French. In 1753 he described the life cycle of the Bot. (*Aestrus equi*). It was not until 1765 that his reputation had grown to an extent that he could give up the smithy and take up veterinary practice full time. He was well known to all the medical practitioners in Norwich at this time, and was a particular friend of Benjamin Gooch. Gooch was so impressed with his work that he included, in his second volume of surgical cases, a description of Clover's treatment of ruptured tendons and fractured legs in the horse. Clover retired in 1781, but lived for a further 30 years.

One of his sons, Thomas, moved to Aylsham, ten miles to the north of Norwich. Here he purchased a shop in the Market Square and married a local girl, Anne Barnard, in 1776. They were to have 12 children. The fate of all but three is documented on the family tombstone to be found against the east wall of St. Michael's Church, Aylsham. The three survivors were - Joseph (1779-1853), John Wright (1780-1865) and Thomas (1782- ?). John Wright took over the drapery business on the death of his father. John married twice. His first wife, Elizabeth, was only 19 when they married. She died at the age of 27 in 1818, and left John with a daughter, Anne.²

Three years after his first wife's death, John married again. His new wife was Elizabeth Mary Anne Peterson; she inherited the considerable estates of her uncle, John Peterson on his death in 1835. John and Elizabeth had four children, all probably born over the shop in Aylsham Market Place, Emma Elizabeth (1822-1894), John Peterson

(1823-1883), Joseph Thomas (1825-1882), Frances (1829-1853) and Elizabeth Anne (1833-1925).

EDUCATION

Joseph Thomas Clover was baptised on the 7th. of May 1825, and was educated at the Grey Friars School in Norwich for the teaching of Classics and English. He was a neat, hard working pupil, and examples of his handwriting and testimonials of his work survive to this day.

When he reached 16 he was apprenticed to a surgeon working in Norwich, Charles Mends Gibson. Gibson had been born in Plymouth in 1808. He qualified from St. Bartholomew's Hospital and was created FRCS in 1852. Examination of the Contract reveals that John Clover agreed to pay Gibson £80 per annum for three years to instruct Joseph "in the art, science, profession or business of Surgeon, Married-wife and Apothecary". He also agreed to supply Joseph with food, clothing and medical care, if needed. Despite being a skillful surgeon and lithotomist, he failed to be elected to the Consultant Staff at the Norfolk & Norwich. He was the resident Medical Officer of the Bethel Hospital for Lunatics from 1846-1872.

At the same time as he was apprentice to Gibson, Joseph had been accepted as a Dresser at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital. He was proposed by J. G. Johnston*. The fee was £21 per annum, half coming from the Dresser and half from the Consultant Surgeon.³ Two years into his apprenticeship, ill-health, that was to dog him for the rest of his life, forced Joseph to give up and return to Aylsham. After two years rest he was able to go to University College Hospital in 1844, to complete his training. On 28th. May 1847, he passed the MRCS. During his time as a student he became very close to his artist uncle Joseph, who lived in Newman Street, off Oxford Street, London. Joseph's diaries record the frequent visits of his nephew, and his cash books the monthly loan of £5 with no record of repayment.⁴ William Squire writing in the *Lancet*⁵ immediately after Clover's death, stated categorically that Joseph Clover was present at the first public demonstration of General Anaesthesia at University College

* John Godwin Johnston, Assistant Surgeon, Norfolk & Norwich Hospital (1839-1847) Surgeon (1847-1853)

Hospital on 21st. December 1845. The diaries of Joseph and his uncle contain no mention of this momentous event. It is difficult to believe that such an event, if witnessed, would not have been recorded either by the witnessor, or by the man he often discussed his work with.

After qualifying MRCS in May 1847, Joseph became ill again. He returned to Norwich to seek the advice of his old mentor, Gibson.⁶ The advice given was to take a holiday in Dieppe. Joseph did not feel well enough for such an arduous journey. His younger sister, Frances, had also suffered a relapse, so the two of them, accompanied by their mother, took a seaside holiday, first at Hastings and then at Ventnor on the Isle of Wight. They returned to Norwich in late summer in time for Joseph to assist Gibson in his campaign for election to the post of Assistant Surgeon at the Norfolk and Norwich. A letter to his uncle describes 'the unsettled state of affairs at the hospital'. George Firth[†] was the successful candidate.⁶

Medical Career

Returning to London in January 1848, Joseph took up the post of Physician's Assistant and House Surgeon to Thomas Morton and James Syme. In July of that year Syme was offered, and accepted his old post of Surgeon to the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh. His first action was to write to the Royal Infirmary managers⁷ asking that Joseph Clover should be offered a Resident Clerkship. Joseph sent an application that was considered, and the post offered on 31st. July⁸. At this time Joseph was on holiday with friends in Hereford. Letters to his uncle show that he was undecided whether to accept the post. His uncle offered a loan of £60 to help him with the journey to Scotland. After careful discussion with his friends and the coincidental offer of the post of Apothecary to University College, he opted to stay in London.^{6,9}

Later, he was appointed Resident Medical Officer and awarded the FRCS on 11th. April 1850. He remained in the post of Resident Medical Officer until moving, in 1853, to private general and surgical practice at 3 Cavendish Square. This was to remain his residence for the rest of his life.

[†]George Warren Watts Firth (1813-1878) trained at St. Bartholomew's was assistant surgeon and then surgeon (1854-1878)

Joseph became proficient at lithotomy and in August and September 1849 visited hospitals in Paris* to observe the M.Civale's † lithotomy technique. When he was not attending the hospitals in Paris, he and a friend purchased a body for 25FF and spent their spare time in dissection.⁶

In March 1853 he had to appear at a Coroner's Inquest into the death of Caroline Baker, a 28 year old spinster who had died while being administered chloroform at UCH.¹⁰ The anaesthetist was an unqualified acting house physician, Mr. White. When she collapsed on induction, Mr. Clover was called. He tried artificial respiration and galvanism, but to no avail. Mr. Clover stated that though not a qualified practitioner, Mr. White was fully capable of administering chloroform. There had been 1,600 chloroform anaesthetics in four years at UCH, and this was the first fatality. The cause of the death was decided by the jury as "accidentally and misfortune". However, the jury foreman added a rider, "it was the unanimous opinion of the jury that a medical gentleman of experience should always be present when chloroform was administered."

After five years of general and surgical practice, Joseph turned towards full time anaesthetic practice. This change was probably influenced by two factors; his poor health and the early death of John Snow in 1858. Snow and Clover knew each other. Snow's diaries contain several references to domiciliary administration of chloroform while Clover operated¹¹. After Snow's death Clover was appointed chloroformist to the Westminster Hospital, Administrator of Anaesthetics at the Dental Hospital and Lecturer in Anaesthesia at UCH. The last two posts he held until his death. He set up a workshop on the premises of 3 Cavendish Place and set about developing his ideas for the safe administration of anaesthetics. His contribution in this field is well described by Barbara Duncan:-

His was an original genius, but it was to a certain extent moulded in the likeness of Snow's. But whereas Snow's greatness lay primarily in his power to grasp and formulate physiological processes of anaesthesia, and afterwards to harness them to the service of practical

* Hotel Brillaytt, Hotel Dion and Hotel de l'Union

† Jean Civale (1796-1867) leading French Urological Surgeon

*anaesthetists, Clover's chief claim to eminence lay in his resourcefulness and his inventiveness in devising apparatus and methods of administration based on scientific principles.*¹²

[after dealing with the more scientific aspects of Clovers inventions, Dr.Woollam continues:-]

Other Inventions

Clover's inventiveness was not confined to anaesthetic apparatus alone. He started as a surgeon with an interest in bladder stones, and so it is not surprising that he invented a bladder evacuator, first used by Sir Henry Thompson in 1865.¹⁵ An example may be seen in the museum of the Royal College of Surgeons of London. He also invented a crutch for maintaining the patient in the lithotomy position.²⁶

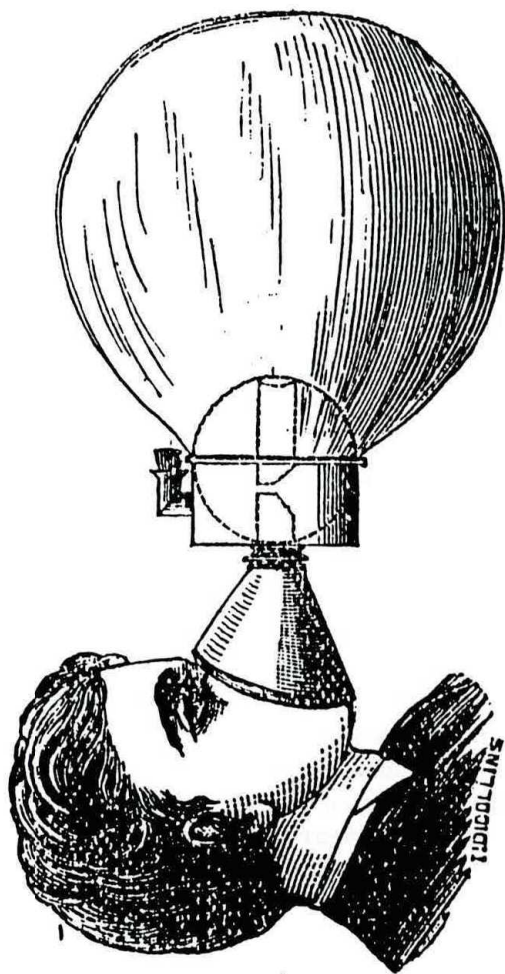
His Patients

Following the death of John Snow, and up to the time of his own death, Clover was the leading anaesthetist in London. This meant that his services were much in demand from London Society. He anaesthetised at least two members of the British Royal Family: The Princess of Wales - later to become Queen Alexandra - and Princess Beatrice. Clover anaesthetised the Princess of Wales on 6th. April 1867 for an aspiration of the knee. He received a fee of five guineas.²⁷ His association with Sir William Thompson* led him to anaesthetise King Leopold of the Belgians (1862), and Emperor Napoleon III. He anaesthetised Napoleon three times immediately prior to Napoleons death on 9th. January 1873 for Sir William Thompson to remove bladder stones. He used chloroform apparatus on each occasion.²⁸ Other notable patients were Florence Nightingale and Sir Robert Peel. Florence Nightingale paid a fee of two guineas for a dental anaesthetic.²⁵

Clover's views on anaesthesia

Clover's first major contribution to the science of anaesthesia was the realisation of the importance of administering chloroform in a controlled manner. He acted as an adviser to the Royal

*Sir William Thompson (1820-1904) Consultant Surgeon, University College Hospital, leading authority on diseases of the bladder and removal of bladder stones.



The illustration from Clover's original paper describing his 'Portable Ether Regulator'. This early model was quickly replaced by one with a separate bag attached via a right angle connector. Reproduced by kind permission of the Editor of the British Medical Journal.²²

Medical Society Committee on Chloroform. Their findings were published in 1864.²⁹ Clover had attended most of the meetings and acted as anaesthetist for the animal experiments. He used his chloroform apparatus for this. Most of the observations of the Committee were on the effects of chloroform on the respiratory and cardiovascular system. Clover emphasised their findings in his presentation to Odontological Society of Great Britain in 1868¹⁵. He differentiated between the cardiac syncope seen at the induction of chloroform anaesthesia and respiratory depression seen with overdose. He stressed the importance of continuous monitoring of both pulse and respiration. He condemned apparatus that required two hands to work and so did not allow continuous palpation of the pulse.

He was prepared to take on any authority on this matter, and an article in the *British Medical Journal* in 1871³⁰ takes Lister to task for his article on anaesthesia in Holme's *System of Surgery*. Lister stated that in deaths from chloroform, respiration failed before the circulation, and the chief danger to safety was laryngeal obstruction. The main duty of the administrator was to watch for laryngeal obstruction. If it should occur then the tongue must be immediately drawn forward with forceps. Chloroform could be quite safely given using the open drop technique, and nothing could be gained by monitoring the pulse.

Clover points out that up to that time he had never had an anaesthetic death in over 11,000 cases. He had never had to draw forward the tongue. The airway could always be maintained by pulling forward the jaw. His main aim was to provide just sufficient anaesthesia for the surgery, and no more. His description of cases suggest that the patients hovered in and out of the plane of surgical anaesthesia. Coughing, swallowing and even vomiting was commonly observed.

Clover reinforces his opinions in an article in the same journal three years later.³¹ In this article, he goes through all the techniques available to him including descriptions of the apparatus used for administering the different agents and their benefits and contra-indications. He points out that the obvious safety of ether over chloroform was leading to a resurgence of its popularity. Nitrous oxide was the best anaesthetic for short procedures (4-5 min.) Interestingly, he also claims to have been present at Liston's first operation under ether anaesthesia. Unfortunately, later the same year, Clover records his first death under chloroform anaesthesia.³² In 1877 he described a case where only laryngotomy and

prolonged artificial respiration by the Silvester method saved the day.³³ Clover's final writing on anaesthesia was published posthumously and this was the entry under *Anaesthetics* in Quain's Dictionary of Medicine. This once again demonstrates his care and knowledge of Anaesthesia:

Any person fit for a severe operation is a fit subject for an anaesthetic, but no one is so free from danger that care in watching its effects can be dispensed with.

*The pulse as well as respiration must be watched.*³⁴

Clover's social life.

The residence at 3 Cavendish Place was to be Clover's home from 1853 until his death in 1882. 1853 saw great changes in his immediate family. The death of his younger sister Frances was probably one reason why his father and mother left Aylsham.² They moved very close to him, taking up residence at 44 Mortimore Street, and lived there until the death of Clover's father in 1865, when his mother moved to St. John's Wood. This year also saw the death of his uncle, Joseph. He lived only a few hundred yards from Cavendish Place, at 85 Newman Street. He made Clover one of the two trustees of his will³⁵ and the chief benefactor.

Clover does not appear to have lived the life of a lonely bachelor. He was a capable artist, his notebooks showing both drawings of his apparatus and sketches of artistic merit.³⁶ He mixed with the intellectuals of his generation, including Ruskin, Burne-Jones, Isambard Kingdom Brunel and the Terrys.³⁷ Falconer Larkworthy describes many soirées at 3 Cavendish Place.³⁸ At one of these, recently widowed, he renewed his acquaintance with Clover's younger sister, Elizabeth. This led to their marriage in 1863. Four years after his father's death, at the age of 44, Clover became engaged to Miss Mary Anne Hall, daughter of the Reverend T.G. Hall.⁴⁵ Surviving letters to his fiancée show Clover to be capable of great tenderness, but still practical, congratulating himself on negotiating a change in the marriage settlement to his and his future wife's advantage. They were married on 2nd November 1869 at St. Margaret's Westminster.³⁹ They originally thought they could get married in St. Peter's, but Mary did not live at the right end of Victoria Street for

this. They had five children, the eldest dying in infancy. Accounts of their lives can be found in Dr. Aileen Adams articles.^{37, 40} Sadly, Clover was to die before the eldest survivor was 10 years old.

Ill health had led Clover to convalesce for several long periods in his life and he often returned to his beloved Norfolk. It had even shaped his choice of career. Towards the end of 1881 he became ill again. This time it was to drag on for nearly a year, until his untimely death on 27th. September 1882. He was looked after in his final illness by his friend Dr. Sidney Ringer. Sir William Jenner and Dr. Wilson Fox were also consulted as his life drew to a close. Dr. Ringer said he did not like to be alone in attendance on "one who belonged to the whole profession and was so highly valued by all".

Following his death there were many glowing obituaries

*The British Journal of Dental Science:-*⁴²

"Those who have the pleasure of operating with him, well remember what pains he took to allay fear, whether it were the little child or the adult, he would find some subject that would be sure to interest the patient, and as consciousness was ebbing away, the remarks would cease, to be resumed upon the approach of recovery. The Dental profession has lost a kind friend, the public an able scholar, and suffering humanity a great benefactor. He has bequeathed to us his researches and his inventions, and so long as anaesthetics are required the name of Joseph Thomas Clover will live."

*The Journal of the British Dental Association:-*⁴³

"...as an administrator of anaesthetics he was absolutely fearless, but it was the courage born of perfect knowledge and not the foolhardiness of ignorance.He was never at a loss - never embarrassed and never, if he could possibly help it, unpunctual to an engagement. Always willing to learn if any new thing was brought forward, and always ready to teach all he knew to those who desired knowledge."

Probably, the best description of his life comes in the last few lines of his obituary in the *Lancet* written by his old friend and physician, Dr. Sidney Ringer:⁴⁴

"His end was quite in keeping with his whole life - gentle, amiable, uncomplaining, grateful, to the last. The world wants one true man since he was taken away."

Clover was buried in the Brompton Cemetery some 200 yards from John Snow. At the time of his death he held the posts of Lecturer in Anæsthesia at University College Hospital, and Administrator of Anæsthetics at the Dental Hospital. His widow, Mary, lived for a further 47 years. In his will he left £29, 932-14-2d. The chief benefactors of the will were Mary and one of her brothers, the Reverend George Thomas Hall.⁴⁶ The estates in Aylsham were now shared between Mary, her brother George and the widow of Joseph's older brother, John Peterson.⁴⁷ They sold the entire estate [302 acres] in 1886.

The Royal College of Anæsthetists has ensured the name of Joseph T. Clover lives on. A biannual lecture is named in his honour, and his figure stands on the left side of the College coat of Arms.

© Longman Group UK Ltd. 1994

References

1. Goodwin, Gordon. Memoirs of the late Mr. Joseph Clover. The Gentleman's Magazine and Historical Chronicle 1811: July-December. Vol.LXXXI part II 191-92
2. Woollam C.H.M. The Clovers in Norfolk. Proceedings of the History of Anæsthesia Meeting. 1992; 11: 10-15
3. Minutes of the weekly meeting of the Norfolk & Norwich Hospital Board. 1842 page 331, Norfolk Record Office NNH1/15-16
4. Clover, Joseph. Diaries 1832-50 and Personal account book 1835-43. Norfolk Record Office; The Clover collection 119/5-6.
5. Squire, William. The Lancet. 1882 ii; 649
6. The Clover Collection. NRO MC115/14
7. The Edinburgh Royal Infirmary Manager's Minutes, 1848 Vol.15, July 17th.(LHB 1/1/15)
8. The Edinburgh Royal Infirmary Manager's Minutes, 1848. Vol.15, July 23rd. (LHB 1/1/15)
9. The Edinburgh Royal Infirmary Manager's Minutes, 1848. Vol.15, August 14th. (LHB 1/1/15)
10. The Lancet, 1853. i; 30
11. Snow, J. The Case books of Dr. John Snow of London (manuscript). The Royal College of Physicians of London, London

12. Duncan, B. The development of inhalation anaesthesia. The Wellcome Historical Medical Museum, Oxford University Press. 1947; 241
15. Clover, J.T. Br. J Dental Science 1868, ii; 125-26
26. Lee, J.A. Joseph Clover and the contributions of surgery to anaesthesia. Ann R. Coll Surg. 1960; 26; 280-98
27. Secher, O. Chloroform to the Royal Family. In Atkinson R.S., Boulton T.B. International symposium on the History of Anaesthesia. (2nd. ed. 1987) London. Royal Society of Medicine Services, Limited, 1989, 248
28. Secher, O. T.W.Evans and J.T. Clover and their common patient. In Atkinson R.S.....etc. pp515-517.
29. Thomas K.B. Chloroform Commissions and Omissions. Proc. Royal Soc.Med. 1974; 67: 723-730
30. Clover, J.T. Chloroform accidents. BMJ 1871; ii; 33-34
31. Clover, J.T. Remarks on the production of sleep during surgical operations. BMJ 1874; i, 200-203.
32. Clover, J.T. A case of fatal syncope during the administration of chloroform. BMJ 1874; i; 817-818
33. Clover, J.T. Laryngotomy in chloroform asphyxia. BMJ 1877; i, 132-133
34. Quain, R. A dictionary of medicine. London, 1882. 40.
35. The Clover Collection. NRO MC119/14
36. Gray, T.C. The disintegration of the nervous system. Ann R. Coll Surg. 1954; 15; 402-419
37. Adams. A.K. More about Joseph Clover. Proceedings of the History of Anaesthesia Society. 1989. 7; 7-10
38. Larkworthy, F. Memoirs of Falconer Larkworthy. NRO. The Clover Collection. MC115/41, 585x5
39. Marston. A.D. The life and achievements of Joseph Thomas Clover. Ann R Coll Surg England. 1949; 4; 267-280
40. Adams, A.K. The family of Joseph Clover, Proceedings of the History of Anaesthesia Society. 1989; 6A; 50-52
41. Clover, M. Personal Correspondence.
42. Br.J.Dent.Science 1882; LXXV; 1021-1023
43. The Journal of the British Dental Association. 1882; III no.10; 555-557
44. The Lancet. 1882; ii; 597
45. Thomas Grainger Hall (1803-1881) educ Wisbech School and Magdalen College, Cambridge BA 1824, (Senior Wrangler) a Prebendary of St. Paul's Cathedral (1845-1881), Professor of Mathematics at Kings College, London.(1830-1869);and Chaplain to the Bishop of Lichfield.
46. Reverend George Thomas Hall (1843-1931) MA; Rector of Woolaston, Salop and Shrewsbury College.
47. John Peterson Clover (1823-1883) Barrister-at-law, 1 Kings bench Walk, The Temple.

—ooOoo—

SOCIETY NEWS

Vernacular architecture in Norfolk - Adam Longcroft is a lecturer in the Extra Mural Department at U.E.A. working for Chris Barringer. Over 50 of our members and friends enjoyed his talk at the Friendship Club, on November 24th. on the vernacular architecture of our county.

It was a well-prepared talk, profusely illustrated with excellent slides. Although Adam prefaced his talk by explaining that dating buildings is an inexact science, and is only possible within certain wide parameters, he then demonstrated how skilfully he was able to apply this particular science. He took us through all the stages of architectural development that help us to fix dates. Understandably, many examples that he used were in Lavenham, in Suffolk, which is rich in half-timbered buildings. What I had never realised before, was that Lavenham's wealth of mediæval buildings comes from a quirk in East Anglia's economic history. The high point in mediæval buildings coincided with the start of the decline in the East Anglian wool trade. If agricultural prosperity had continued at its previous rate, then wealthy citizens would no doubt have ripped down their older houses and replaced them with more grandiose buildings. As a decline in prosperity continued, people were more inclined to hang on to what they already had, and so a larger number of buildings survive until today.

We learnt about Crown posts and Queen posts, and how the introduction of dormer windows in the latter half of the 16th. century affected construction techniques with changes that help us today to date some buildings. Most houses were thatched until the late 18th. century when the use of expensive, imported pantiles began. Although Suffolk is rich in early vernacular architecture, South Norfolk also has a generous share. Many good timbered houses in Norfolk are not readily recognised as such, as they are often covered in render or plaster which hides the excellent timber work beneath. Why this should be so is not clear. Was it a bit of mediæval one-upmanship?

T.W.M.

NEW YEAR'S PARTY - Our New Year's Party was the 10th annual party in the Society's history. Now we are into double figures, we are

slowly establishing a history of our own, and the New Year's Party is becoming an established part of it. About 60 members and friends gathered in the Friendship Club in January, and enjoyed wholeheartedly our annual dinner. It followed the successful pattern of previous dinners, with hot punch, a good meal, Peter Holman's photographic competition, all rounded off with some good music provided by Cliff Godbold and his musicians. This is a good formula that has always served us well. The only thing we 'did different' this time was to leave the catering in the hands of professionals. This time, everyone was able to enjoy the party without having to spend half the evening in the kitchen. The professional caterers did us proud, and the meal was a great success.

TWM

Society Publications - There are several items to note in the Society's publishing programme. Starting with *The Journal & Newsletter*, Volume 3 which was completed a year ago, now has a title-page and index to contents available for anyone who wishes to bind their copies up into book form. These are available from the editor. Only a few have been produced, and there will have to be a charge [50p] for them. They are not essential, but they do make the volume complete, if you wish to bind them.

Regarding the binding, I have negotiated a price with a Norwich bookbinder to bind sets of Vol.3 at £15 per volume. This is a very reasonable price, and the volumes would be bound in hard covers in a dark blue buckram. If anyone wishes to take advantage of this, please let me have their copies as soon as possible so that they can be handed in all together.

Wright's Map of Aylsham: 1839 - This was on display in last year's 10th. anniversary exhibition in the Town Hall. Arrangements to publish this on a small scale have been completed. An attractive package containing the printed schedules in a volume in spiral binding, and the sectionalised maps, all contained in a plastic folder, can now be purchased at £7.50 per copy, for members; £8.50 to non-members, plus postage and packing. An order form should be distributed with this issue of the *Journal*. Copies will not be produced in great numbers, but just a few at a time to meet specific demand. Any member wishing to purchase a copy, please put your order through Geoffrey Gale, 2 Mash's Row, Aylsham. The schedules to this map contain the names of all Aylsham householders

and property owners in Aylsham in 1839, and they are an invaluable aid for family history researchers.

Local History Research Group (The Archives class!) - Following the Aylsham, Millgate book, the Local History Research Group studies on the Poor Law in Aylsham are shortly to be published. Julian Eve has edited the work of the group, and prepared the whole, ready for publication. This will appear as "*The Poor in Aylsham 1700-1836*", priced at, probably £3 to members and £3.75 to the general public. The separate topics have been blended together by Julian into an attractive publication. This will also be "Occasional Paper, No.3" in the Society's publishing programme. Orders for copies of this book should be placed directly to Julian Eve, although the precise date of publication is still uncertain.

Finally, a 32pp celebratory booklet of our 10th. anniversary exhibition held last year, is being prepared for publication under the title, "*A Backward glance; Events in Aylsham's past.*" This will feature all the research that went into the displays that filled the Town Hall last summer. It will record the work in greater detail than was possible in the exhibition itself. This will be an attractive, illustrated publication, costing [probably] £4.50 to members, and £5.50 to the general public. It is hoped to be able to publish this book by May. Orders for this title should be placed with Geoffrey Gale. One of the original aims of our Society was to publish where possible the results of members' research, and it is good to see this happening at a faster pace.

NOTES & QUERIES.

Joseph T. Clover - a large part of this issue is devoted to the life of Clover, thanks to the kindness of Dr. C. Woollam in allowing us to reprint his article. Following the fire which affected the Local Studies library and the Record Office, Dr. Woollam finds that his researches have come to an abrupt halt. He is looking for information on Joseph's uncle - Thomas, who farmed at Colney. He would also be pleased to learn of any family portraits that might exist? If any member can help, please contact Dr. Woollam directly at - 105a Newmarket Rd., Norwich. NR2 2HT

In the December 1994 issue, we raised a query about the **"Beauchamp Proctor Diary" 1764**. The diary was a manuscript extract amongst Dr. Sapwell's notes, with no clue to its origin. I am pleased to record that we now know quite a lot more about it. Several readers recognised it immediately, as part of a chapter in R. Ketton-Cremer's book *"Norfolk Assembly"*, and kindly supplied the answer to the enquiry. My thanks to all who contacted me, and to those who offered to lend copies of the book, and to the kind person who actually gave me a copy to keep.!

Particular thanks go to Dr. David Case from Cheshire who supplied the most detailed answer, including a family tree which showed that the Beauchamp Proctor family was related to the Custance family of Weston Longville, and is well-documented in the *"Journal of the Parson Woodforde Society"*

Who did write the diary, then? They were in fact Journals written by a Letitia Johnson to her sister, Agneta. In the early 1760s, Letitia had married Sir William Beauchamp Proctor, as his second wife. Letitia was a stranger to Norfolk, and Sir William arranged the tour for her benefit. In fact, he arranged two tours, one in 1764 and another in 1772. Letitia described both tours in her Journal which she wrote to her sister, Agneta, in the course of her travels. After visiting Blickling, the party went on to Wolterton, Felbrigg, then to the Feathers at Holt, before arriving in Holkham.

In 1957 when Ketton-Cremer was writing his *Norfolk Assembly*, he records that the Journals had never been published, and it seems likely that they are still unpublished. This is a great pity, as the descriptions are vivid and detailed. There is no point in explaining more about it, as you can all read about it for yourselves in *Norfolk Assembly*. Thanks, again to all who responded. I had often wondered if anyone ever read the *Journal*, so I am delighted to have evidence that they do!

GWENDOLEN ANN HARPER WILES

"Wenda"

All of us at the New Year Party would have seen Wenda, and probably chatted to her and her sister, Pat, who were enjoying the

evening along with the rest of us. It was all the more a shock to learn the next Tuesday morning that Wenda had died the previous night. It left us all a little stunned. Wenda had been a member of our society for several years. She had served on its committee, taken part in the various archive courses in addition to her own personal researches, and devoted hours to the study of the Aylsham/Norwich Turnpike. In her own quiet way, she had taken part in most of the activities that the society provided.

Her own quiet way was very deceptive, and one tended to be unaware of the wideness and variety of all her interests. Before her retirement, Wenda had spent most of her working life with the County Library. She started in the days when the library service came from a handful of small branch libraries and a large variety of rural 'village centres' run by volunteer librarians in schools or village halls. Wenda was responsible for all these rural services, most of which she had set up herself. She travelled the length and breadth of the county to do this, and her knowledge of the county and its people was unequalled. Later she helped to introduce the Mobile Library service which gradually replaced these village centres, and by the time she retired, a fleet of a dozen mobile libraries covered the whole county. At her funeral at Stratton Strawless church on February 7th, the large and varied congregation was evidence of the many and widespread interests in which she had been involved. Our society was well represented at the service. Shortly before her death, Wenda had given me a short item for the *Journal*, an interesting little snippet on the Turnpike, and this appears immediately after this appreciation. She will be missed by many.

Tom Mollard

THE NORWICH TO CROMER TURNPIKE

Wenda Wiles.

In 1845, the Trustees published revised tolls. For the first time appears a mention of a - "*vehicle propelled by machinery*" whatever that might have been. The toll was 1/6d for four wheels; 6d for two wheels. A new toll gate near the present "Firs" public house, presumably to replace one nearer Mile Cross, with a side-gate "*on the lane*

from Catton” was in place in October 1845. One page from the gate keeper’s Record Book has survived, detailing traffic on Catton Lane, over one month - October to November, and may be of interest.

October

13th.	2 carts	4d
14th	1 cart, 1 gig, 1 donkey	5d
15th	3 horse wagon 3 cart.....	1s. 1d
	2 donkeys, 1 cart	2d.
16th.	2 donkeys, 1 cart, 1 horse.	4d.
17th.	2 horse gig, 1 horse cart	4d.
	1 horse, 2 donkeys.....	6d.
	1 pony gig, 4 horse wagon.....	9d
18th.	2 horse cart.....	6d.
	2 gigs, 3 horse wagon, 1 horse cart.....	9d.
19th.	2 gigs	4d.
20th	3 horse wagon, 2 horse cart	11½
	1 gig.....	2d.
21st.	1 gig	2d.
22nd.	4 horse wagon, 2 gigs	1s. 1d.
23rd.	3 horse wagon, 1 horse cart.	9d.
24th.	1 pony cart, 1 gig, 1 donkey.....	6d.
25th.	4 horse wagon, 3 carts	1s. 1d.
26th.	2 fish carts, 1 gig.....	6d.
27th.	1 painter’s cart, 1 pony gig, 46 beasts	11½d
28th.	2 carts, 1 donkey cart.....	6d.
29th	1 horse cart, 1 cart, 1 gig.....	8d.
30th.	2 horse cart, 1 donkey.....	5d.

November

3rd.	1 gig, 1 cart, 1 riding horse	4½d.
4th.	1 gig, 1 cart, 2 donkeys.....	5d.
6th.	2 horse cart, 1 gig, 1 cart.	8½d
7th.	2 horse cart, 1 gig.	6d.
8th.	2 gigs, 2 carts.	8d.

9th.	2 gigs.....	4d
10th.	3 horse wagon.....	7d.

.... Total 17s.3d.

This does not seem to be excessive traffic even for a side road, but there were exemptions, i.e. farmers moving stock to a farm, water or pasture, and clergy and military personnel about their duties. I would guess that many Catton people found other ways into the city.

—ooOoo—

DIARY DATES

MARCH

- Saturday 25th. The Mary Rose and her crew, by Dr. Ann Stirling
NNAS
 Thursday, 30th. Norfolk's Industrial past, by Mary Manning. ALHS

APRIL

- Saturday, 22nd. Plague and Society in Early Modern Italy: the case of
 Florence, by Dr. J. Henderson

HA

- Thursday, 27th. The Tudor and Stuart Home, Richard Wood.....ALHS

Key

NNAS = Norfolk & Norwich Archæological Society
 meets at the Assemby House, Norwich. 3pm.

H.A. = Historical Association, meets at
 the Assembly House, Norwich. 2.30pm

ALHS = Us!

SOME NORFOLK SAYINGS

Molly Long

I once worked with a lady, now deceased, who was Norfolk to her very core, and proud of it. She was born in Buxton Lammas. She possessed a fund of 'Norfolk' expressions. These are a few of her sayings:

At the end of a long and tedious series of jobs, she would say,
"That's the one we are looking for, the one the cobbler threw at his wife - the last!"

An enquiry after her health was answered,
"I'm getting on like the old lady said when she fell off the bus - I'm getting on"

When found reading the paper, she would excuse herself by saying she just wanted to see. *"if the Dutch have took Holland"*

At a free show or a Jumble sale, when the same people always turned up:
"Here they come, no show without Punch."

As an acid comment on someone:
"Fur coats don't care who wear them," or

"Here they come, the chosen and the élite, like the devil had at his wedding."

Trying to guess at a distance, which was a long way out:
"You are as far off as the Chinese."

On the subject of mean-ness:
"He's so mean, if he was a ghost he wouldn't give you a fright."

Talking about a darkening sky:
"It's looking black over Will's mother's." [a phrase often heard today]

"As black as the hakes" Does anyone know what the hakes are? They are

the part that is black and sooty at the back of a stove or fire-place.

Other sayings I have gathered up over the years are:-

"Old dogs for hard roads."

A misty morning is probably due to *"a skud off the sea."*

and hands are referred to as 'Clawkes' feet were *"wamps."*

On receiving a cup of tea in a white cup which is not quite as full as you would wish, leaving a rather large rim of white at the top of the cup, your comment would be:

"I see the vicar is coming to tea again to day."

If my old friend was not feeling or looking very well, she was *"drewselly"*

On a sunny day, it would be *"we can see Phoebe"* or *"Phoebus is out today"* [there is good literary precedent for that one]

"According to Juniper". who or what was Juniper. Used as *"well, according to Juniper, that's right."* or *"according to Juniper, we should be doing it this way."*

and finally, there is *"now look you here."* to drive home a point of view.

—ooOoo—

Catching up with back copies of our *Journal*, I was interested to see, on page 252 of the issue of December 1992, Robert Whitmore's comment that the name Aylsham was derived from "*Aegel* or *Egil*, brother of Weland, a Saxon god". I had thought the name was merely that of some local Saxon landowner, but I recollected that our ancestors were frequently named after deities, perhaps because of the day and season in which they were born. This custom continues in the Roman Catholic Church of today, in which babies are given the names of saints when born on the day of that saint. So perhaps our Aegel was a Saxon named after a minor Saxon deity, which seems rather more likely than that the early Aylsham settlement had some sacred grove dedicated to Aegel - a romantic, but unlikely possibility.

But who was Aegel, and what did he do? I turned to my book of Norse mythology and found yet another spelling of the name: Egil. He had two brothers - the god Wayland, the blacksmith [also Weyland or, as in my book, Volund] and Slagfinn. They are the mythical Norse characters in one version of a very ancient European tale; that of three (sometimes only one, as in *Swan Lake*) beautiful maidens, the Valkyrie immortalised by Wagner, attendants on the gods, who flew in swan's plumage, but put it aside during their earthly activities.

Egil and his brothers caught the maidens bathing, snatched up the swan plumage and forced them to become mere wives. This they submitted to for nine years, when "the spell being broken in some way" (probably because the husbands broke a vow not to hit them, as in other versions of the myth) they regained their plumage and flew away. According to my book, Volund [Wayland] alone refused to accept this loss, and carried out a number of bloodthirsty acts for which his brother Egil was instructed to use his "marvellous skill as an archer" to kill Volund. However, he cunningly avoided doing so, while giving the appearance of obedience, and Volund is said, eventually to have found his beloved wife in Alf-heim, dwelling of the gods, where he became the blacksmith deity.

It is rather pleasant to think that our comfortable, respectable Aylsham may have this link with a Saxon lord named after a skilled and likeable mythological character. As he was such a great archer, it is perhaps appropriate that Aylsham is one of the few towns to have retained its ancient mediæval Buttlands as an open space, with an even more ancient mark stone standing in it.

—ooOoo—

THE PLIGHT OF THE MARSHAM AND HEVINGHAM HAND-LOOM WEAVERS. taken from Reports of the Assistant Hand-loom Commissioners in 1840with notes by R. C. Fiske

The following extracts were taken about 1920, by Barbara McClenaghan¹ from Mr. J. Mitchell's report on the East of England, to the Assistant Hand-loom Commissioners in 1840. After dealing in considerable detail with Norwich, and in lesser detail with Wymondham, Mitchell reported on a few villages in North and South Norfolk. He tells, in graphic detail, of the plight of the Marsham and Hevingham weavers, and it is only necessary to add that within six years, the Marsham looms were nearly extinct.²

p.331 After hearing much in Norwich & Wymondham of the great amount of weaving sent to be done in the villages in Norfolk, there was double interest in going to ascertain the real facts. The results showed that work was sent to be done in the villages, that it was through the medium of carriers from Norwich, and was done greatly below the list prices of the Union of Norwich Weavers, but as to the amount of work, it was very far less than was supposed, and the weavers in the villages were in a worse condition than the weavers of Norwich.

p.332. Marsham³
Weavers of Marsham : a village about 9 miles north from

Norwich, stated that about 20 years since they had been induced to leave agricultural labour and take to the loom. Those single found great difficulty in getting employment, and only at less wages than married men.

Bombazine⁴ weaving was then brisk in Norwich. They were able to make 15 shillings a week.

Upward of 10 years ago, they were obliged to take work at less than Norwich prices. They suffered reduction after reduction until they could not earn above six or seven shillings, and that too with the assistance of their wives to wind bobbins.

Number of looms in the village - 80. Half unemployed.

Some were engaged at bombazines, others at cotton bottoms and chellis.⁵

Suffered much last winter from large "play"⁶

From whom the work came they know not. They felt themselves to be outcasts. They had no master to whom to make their complaints, and when they went to the farmers to ask for work, the farmers told them that their own men had a preferable claim.

In case of sickness, scarce assistance was from the parish. In other cases, the parish sent weavers to dig clay for one penny per solid yard. The parish sold the clay to the farmers to put on land which was sandy. Weavers could earn three shillings and sixpence to four shillings and four pence a week.

When any weaving was obtained the parish would not allow weavers to set their wives and daughters to work, whilst they went on digging, but immediately discharged them.

They expressed regret at not being able to emigrate, but when it was proposed to them to make up a list of all who were willing to go abroad, they all shrank back and gave as an excuse, that they had heard unfavourable accounts of the weavers who had gone to Canada from the next parish, Hevingham.

Notwithstanding all the misfortunes of the trade, some of their sons and daughters were still retained in weaving.

They very earnestly requested that no inquiry should be made as to their names, lest the carrier should hear of them, and refuse them employment, He had warned them against the visit of a gentleman, he said was going about the country in order to cause the cottagers and weavers to be assessed to the Poor Rate.

Guardian of the Poor, M. J. Howlett, ⁷ farmer, said weavers were excused paying the Poor Rate on account of poverty. At any time, if he could give seven to nine shillings a week to weavers, they would leave regular employment.

p.332

Hevingham. ⁸

120 looms in the parish - half employed

Weavers better off than in Marsham, therefore they could get agricultural labour if they wanted it. A weaver might put his wife or daughter to the loom, and himself to work in the fields.

A landholder ⁹ residing in the parish was making great improvements, and was therefore the cause of so much agricultural labour.

The people of Marsham often sought for employment in

Hevingham, and sometimes obtained it.

John Willimot, who had himself been a weaver, stated that if a weaver could get full employment, he could earn more than an agricultural labourer, but such was not the case. All parties agreed that the agricultural labourer was the better off of the two..

The work was brought by a carrier, and the names of the manufacturers were not known.

Notes

1. Barbara McClenaghan was then a student at the London School of economics, and later wrote "*The Springs of Lavenham.*"
2. Kelly's Post Office Directory of London and Nine Counties. 1846
3. The population of Marsham in 1841 was 694.
4. A fabric made of silk in the warp and worsted in the weft. Mostly used for mourning garments
5. Chellis, or Challis, was an elegant worsted introduced about 1834. It was thinner and finer than Norwich Crape and did not have its gloss. The patterns were figured in the loom, or printed after weaving. It was an expensive fabric used by the better off.
6. Time unemployed.
7. Howlett was also Chief Constable.
8. The population of Hevingham in 1841 was 893.
9. R. Marsham was lord of the manor and the chief landowner. C.W.Marsham lived at Rippon Hall.

—ooOoo—

STEALING HEN'S EGGS

AYLSHAM. A special magistrates meeting was held at the Clerk's Office on Tuesday, Messrs W.H.Bolton (Chairman) and Colonel Kerrison being present.

William Taylor, who describes himself as a ship's carpenter, of no fixed residence, was charged with stealing two hens eggs, the property of Colonel Sapwell. Herbert Lee, farm steward to Colonel Sapwell, stated that he saw the prisoner standing in a field, known as twenty-two acres, and he saw him put his hand up to his mouth, and afterwards throw something into the fence.

Witness afterwards went to the fence and picked up a handful of egg shells. Prisoner told him he had had a nap and when he awoke, he found an egg beside him.

Prisoner now pleaded guilty and pleaded for mercy. He was sentenced to one day's imprisonment.

EDP 23rd. April 1914

LANGUAGE CASES

AYLSHAM, before Major H.S. Marsham, (Chairman), The Earl of Orford, Mr. W.L. Buxton, Mr. W. Case and Colonel B.E. Sapwell.

William Hunter of Aylsham, labourer, was charged with using obscene language at Aylsham on May 9th. Police constable George Cordy proved the case, and the Bench fined the defendant 2/6d, and costs 4/-, or seven days.

John Joyce of Eastgate, Cawston, was charged with using obscene languagefined 1/-, costs 4/- or seven days.

Seaman Saul of Eastgate, Cawston, was charged with using obscene languagefined 1/- and costs 4/- or seven days.

Walter Doughty of Colby was charged with using obscene language at Alby on the 17th. May.....fined 1/- costs 4/- or seven days.

Major Marsham remarked that there was a great deal too much of this obscene language going on, and admired the police for bringing these cases up. There must be a stop put to it. Superintendent Southgate said they were continually receiving complaints about it.

EDP 27th. May 1914

What a terrible world it must have been in those days, to have such heinous offences to contend with.

No one knew what real horrors were waiting for them just a few months later