

their Clerk had been decreased three times of late years. Mr Cox had less than his predecessor; Mr Collin had less than Mr Cox; and last year Mr Collin's salary was decreased by the loss of the work of the School Attendance Committee.

Mr COWELL remarked that somebody else had got it, and a great deal more (laughter).

The CHAIRMAN said there was no doubt about it.

Mrs MIDGLEY observed that as Mr Collin was responsible for the work she would rather his salary be increased than that the Board should have a new official.

Mr JUDD said Mr Basham had complained of the increase in the rates. He had been looking up the figures and he found that the charges of the Common Fund had decreased by £240. The increase had been in the county rate, which was £2,274 more.

Mr WELCH remarked that the Board had a note from Chrishall the other day asking that the expenses be reduced as much as possible.

Mr COLMAN said that as representatives of the ratepayers the Guardians should not only have the power to increase the number of officers, but should be able to reduce them as well, if they thought necessary.

The CLERK said it would be a great help to him if Mr Cobden were appointed Assistant Clerk.

Mr A. HOLLAND asked if Mr Cobden would come under the report of the Salaries Committee and receive a rise on the sliding scale.

The CHAIRMAN replied in the negative, stating that the appointment of Assistant Clerk was not mentioned in that report.

Mr CUSTERSON remarked that if Mr Collin gave up the clerkship Mr Cobden would be "somewhat stranded" unless he were appointed by the Board.

The CLERK replied that that was just the point. Mr Cobden would be able to get another Poor Law appointment much easier than he could if he was not Assistant Clerk.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN thought if the Board could do anything to help Mr Cobden it ought to.

The proposition was then put, and there voted for it: The Vice-Chairman, the Revs. Banham, Bliss, Cholmondeley, Messrs Custerston, Emson, Gilling, Judd and Stear (9); and against: Messrs Basham, Gowlett, Perry, Thomas and Welch (5). The motion was accordingly declared carried.

In accordance with notice given, Mr STEAR proposed that sixpence extra be allowed to each household in receipt of out-relief during the next three months, as was done last year.

Mr BASHAM seconded.

Mr PETER COWELL suggested that the sixpence extra should be permanent, making the minimum allowance for all old people 3s a week instead of 2s 6d.

The CHAIRMAN thought a proposal of this sort would require the re-consideration of every individual case.

Mr COWELL remarked that at both the Dunmow and Braintree Unions the minimum for old people was 3s a week.

Upon the motion being put, sixpence extra for three months was granted.

DR. BARNARDO'S HOMES.

Mr STEAR proposed that a subscription of £5 a year be given to Dr. Barnardo's Homes. He said there were two children belonging to this Union in the Homes, one of whom had been there for some considerable time. Mr Basham said he should oppose this proposal, but Mr Basham did not consider that it would cost this Board a great deal more than £5 to keep these two children here.

Mrs MIDGLEY seconded.

Mr BASHAM said he did not believe in having more than one home to support. By sending boys away to these homes it took them off the land.

Mr JUDD moved as an amendment that it be a donation of £5 instead of a subscription. The Board could easily repeat it next year if it thought fit.

Mr GILLING seconded.

Mr CUSTERSON said it was quite wrong to say that these boys never came back to the land. There was a boy at Clavering who had been to one of these homes and was now working on a farm. He was a most quiet and industrious boy and was quite a friend in the village. Ninety per cent. of the boys turned out of Dr. Barnardo's homes were a success, but that could not be said of the boys who were brought up in Workhouses.

Mr Judd's amendment was carried.

APPROVED.

A letter was read from the Local Government Board approving of the increase in Dr. Sprague's salary from £66 10s to £75.

IN THE HOUSE.

The MASTER reported that the number of inmates was 120, as against 113 on the corresponding date of last year. There were 41 vagrants during the fortnight, against 37.

buttresses are niches for images. The register dates from 1559.

LITTLE (OR NEW) SAMPFORD.

(9 miles from Walden).

This village is also on the Freshwell or Pant. The church of St. Mary the Virgin is a 14th century building, chiefly in the Perpendicular style but with some portion of Norman work, consisting of chancel, nave of four bays, north aisle, north and south porches, and embattled tower containing one bell. The church, which retains a piscina, is fitted with stalls; the miserere seats are grotesquely carved underneath (if our recollection is correct), and on the walls are inscriptions to Sir Edward Green, Kt., who died June 22d, 1550, and Margerye his wife, who died March 25th, 1530. A monument with effigies to William Tweedy, Esq., an officer in Queen Elizabeth's army, and his wife Mabel, daughter of Sir Henry Curwen, Kt., who died July 7th, 1605. In the north aisle are several monuments to the Peck family, one a magnificent tomb nearly 12 feet high, with an effigy of fine workmanship, lying on a mattress, and inscribed above to Bridget, wife of William Peck, of Sampford Hall; died June 14th, 1712. The others date to 1770. There are also memorials to former vicars. Part only of the east window is stained glass. The register dates from 1563. Sampford Hall stands on an eminence well surrounded with woods.

HEMPSTEAD.

(7 miles from Saffron Walden).

Although this is an "out-of-the-way" village, and consists principally of clusters of thatched cottages, yet it deserves more than a passing notice on account of its associations. The church of St. Andrews, situated on a commanding position on the top of a hill, was formerly a chapel attached to Great Sampford. The building is ancient and in the Gothic style, consisting of a chancel, with Harvey chapel, nave, aisles and south porch. The tower fell on Saturday, January 28th, 1882, doing much damage to the church. The end has simply been bricked up, the debris still lying in great heaps in the churchyard. In this sacred building rest the remains of the celebrated Dr. William Harvey, the discoverer of the circulation of the blood. He was born at Folkstone in 1578, and was physician to James I. and Charles I. As one views the wreck of this edifice from a distance, it might very easily be mistaken for a barn. If an energetic appeal had been made to the British public for funds to repair the damage, soon after the tower fell, a liberal response might have resulted, or even when medical men from all parts of the country attended the ceremonial of removing the remains of Dr. Harvey, in 1883, from the family vault into a marble sarcophagus presented for the purpose by the Royal College of Physicians. The opportunity was lost, and the church will probably remain an eyesore to the neighbourhood for a long time. The tower had five bells; the tenor was shattered by the fall and lies in the grass in the churchyard; the remaining four are housed in a shed close to the east end of the church. Beneath the chancel and vestry is the vault of the Harvey family, where repose the remains of 30 or 40 of the doctor's relatives. In the chapel is also a monument to his memory, with his bust and a Latin inscription recording his death at the age of 80, date June 3rd, 1657. Here are also various other memorials to the family from 1661 to 1830, including one to William Harvey, of Winchlow Hall and Chigwell; he died December 14th, 1742. Another to William Harvey, of Roshampton, and Bridget his wife, 1719-1761; also to Captain Edward Harvey, Coldstream Guards, eldest son of Admiral Harvey, who fell at Burgos, October 11th, 1812. Sir Eliab Harvey, K.C.B., Admiral of the Blue, is interred here, died February 20th, 1830. He was in command of the *Temeraire* and with Nelson at Trafalgar. There are brass effigies of civilians, dated 1475 and 1480; one to Thomas Huntingdon, 1492; to William Mordant and his wife, ten sons and six daughters. He was chief prothonotary of the Court of Common Pleas; he died 1518. Another to a civilian and his wife, date 1536; an inscription to Richard Wistley, died 1518, and his wife Joan. The family seat of the Harveys, which stood amongst the trees on the hill to the north-west of the church, has, sad to relate, been pulled down; also the fine avenue which led up to it has gone, too. Dr. Harvey's brother was a wealthy London merchant.

Dick Turpin, the famous highwayman, was born here, although the Newgate Calendar mentions Thaxted as the place of his birth. The house at Hempstead where he first saw the light is now the Rose and Crown inn, facing the road leading up to the church. It is evidently a very old house, but has been so restored that little is left of the original. The tablet outside the house stating it was Turpin's birthplace has gone within the last year or two. The church register, dating from 1664, contains amongst the entries of

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The CLERK said he had received a telegram from Mrs Smith that morning saying that the Rev. Brabant Smith was now getting on nicely. The CHAIRMAN and several other members their pleasure at hearing the news.

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF SAFFRON WALDEN.

[Continued from last week.]

RADWINTER.

(5 miles from Walden).

This is a very pretty little village, through part of which runs a brook called the Pant, or Fresh well, flowing on through Sampford. It is the source of the Blackwater, which runs into the sea at Harwich. There is a tradition that a ship's anchor was found here many years ago, the inference being that in bygone years some vessel found its way close to the village. It is highly improbable. Here, too, is a well called St. Pris.

The church of St. Mary the Virgin is in the Decorated style, consisting of chancel, nave of four bays with clerestory, aisles, vestries, south porch and a massive embattled tower containing eight fine toned bells, five dating from 1616, the rest modern. The reredos is of carved oak, dating from about 1520, a curious example of Belgian work. The chancel retains a piscina. The gilded screen separating the nave from the chancel is a magnificent piece of work. The church was enlarged and the chancel re-built in 1869; the tower and spire were restored and a turret built in 1877. The tower was re-built in 1888 at a cost of £2,000—in fact very little of the original church is left.

St. Pris' well is a source of the Pant. The register dates from 1638 only.

The manor house is very old, or, rather, the original one was. It has been for many years in the possession of the Bullock family. Brockles was for a long period held by a family of the name of De Roos. They came from Yorkshire, and a branch of this family also settled at Sampford. We have, too, a Roos Farm on the road between Walden and Debden. Brockles was for some time the property of Thomas Wolfe, deputy-recorder of Saffron Walden. There was a family of this name at Woodhall, Arkesden. In early times Bendish belonged to a priest of the name of Ledmar; afterwards a relative of the Saxon King Ingelric held it. It passed into the hands of Eustace, Earl of Boulogne, and then to William, youngest son of King Stephen. Bendish Hall is mentioned in a charter in King Stephen's reign. There are traces of a chapel or some such building in a field close to the house, so it is said. Lord Cobham possessed it until tried for high treason, and ultimately it came to Lord Maynard. In the time of Edward II. the Bendish family held it. The Grange or Parsonage once belonged to the De Roos family. The New House was the property of the Carter family. Brockles at one time was called De Roos. In the old parsonage was a painted window, having a representation of his son (a) and a hare, evidently a play upon

A great fire brookly, who once lived here—Hare ago, and burnt down a number.

about the church. A fire also burnt some years house standing close to the pond. The village has very much improved of late years, through the great interest taken in it by the present Vicar. It has an excellent Assembly Room, good schools and capital cottages. The old stocks, which stood close to the churchyard gates, nearly facing the pond, have disappeared. All that part of Bendysh Hall on the right side of the front door was burnt down. There is a date, 1636, on one of the chimneys. It is said there was a secret chamber in the part destroyed, and a haunted room, a lady's hand ornamented with a frill round her wrist having appeared on several occasions. There are some fine oak beams, and remains of the ancient house, to be seen in the hall and room on the left. The moat has been filled in. The farm opposite, called "Homestead," is said to be very old, and to have some carved timber in it. There are monuments to the Bendysh family in Steeple Bumpstead church.

GREAT (OR OLD) SAMPFORD.

(8 miles from Walden).

This village is situated on the Pant or Freshwell stream, and is very ancient. In the time of Edward the Confessor it was a royal domain. The church of St. Michael is in the Early Perpendicular style, consisting of chancel, nave of four bays, aisles, south porch, and an embattled tower containing five bells. The chancel is of the Decorated period, and is fitted with stone stalls. There are memorials to the Culthorpe family, 1694, to several members of the Burrows family, and the Rev. John Gretton, who died 1788. (A Rev. William Gretton was vicar of Saffron Walden in 1766). In the churchyard is an obelisk to Jonas Watson, who died in 1693, erected by his son, Colonel Jonas Watson, killed at the siege of Carthage in 1741. There are two low side windows, one in the chapel on the south side and one in the chancel chapel in the north aisle. On the outer east wall of the chancel and in the

preserved a portrait of the car in which Turpin once took refuge from his pursuers. Dick Turpin began life as a butcher. His first offence was stealing deer. It is said that on twelve occasions he tried to break into the manor house at Tiptofts. He was a brutal, unmitigated ruffian, a burglar, smuggler and highwayman. His ride to York was a pure fable. At the head of what was called the Essex Gang, he was the terror of the neighbouring counties for nearly ten years from 1730. He fled for cattle stealing, and then became a smuggler at Rochford and Dengie Hundreds. As a highwayman and housebreaker his place of retreat was Epping Forest. Towards High Beach an excavation is still pointed out as Turpin's Cave. He also had a town house in Wych-street, Strand, now pulled down. He was hanged in 1732 for horse-stealing, for though he had been guilty of murder he was not tried on the capital charge.

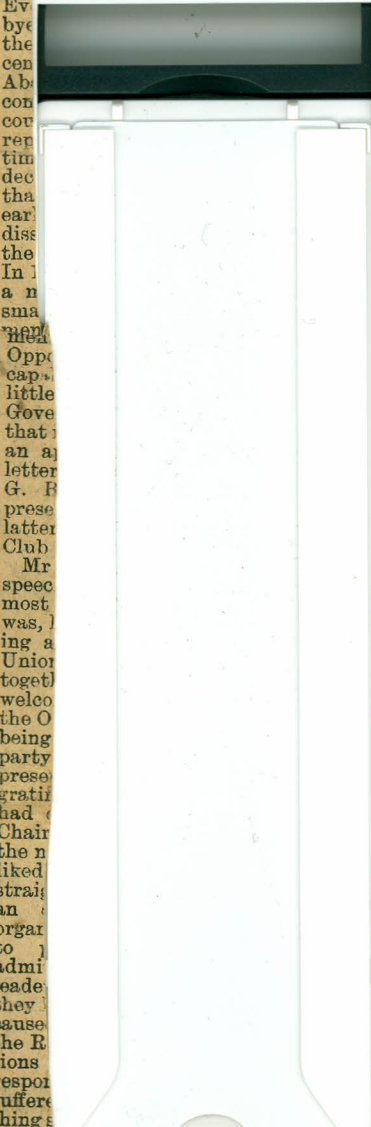
[Back numbers of the "Observer" containing the earlier instalments of the History of Saffron Walden, may be obtained direct from the Office, or through any local agent.—Ed.]

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