

## CHAPTER SEVEN

## SALT HILL

The Chalvey Brook (or Farnham Brook, as it is marked on maps of Farnham Royal parish) can be seen still at Salt Hill, to the west of the Montem Mound and the Swan Inn. The brook was for centuries the boundary between the parishes of Upton-cum-Chalvey and Farnham Royal. (1) It was not until 1930-31 that the sites of the famous Salt Hill coaching inns were brought within the boundaries of Slough, but Salt Hill has always been closely associated with Chalvey and Slough, especially during the coaching era.

## THE SALT HILL MILLS

Camden's map of 1675 shows a mill at Salt Hill, which stood on a site north-east of the present Windmill Hotel. Domesday Book records: Bertran de Verdun holds Ferneham (Farnham Royal) . . . and Ralf Taigebose set up (fecit) on Bertran's land a mill which was not there T.R.E., as the Hundred (court) testifies'. (2) From this, it is evident that it was not set up until after the Norman Conquest. It is first mentioned as a watermill in 1309, and in 1539, the Earl of Shrewsbury, then lord of the manor, leased it and 'le Oysle Browne Close to Nicholas Cowper,' alias Mousfrey' for 30 years. (3).

In 1541, the manor of Farnham came into the possession of the Crown, when Francis, 5th Earl of Shrewsbury, exchanged it with Henry VIII for the manor of Worksop. (4) In 1550, 'the Lady Elizabeth' (afterwards Elizabeth I) was granted the manor for her maintenance, including the water mill 'with all waters fishings, grysts, and other profits, etc., belonging to the same', with 'two closes of land called Great Bounds and Little Bounds' and all those 'meadows, pastures and commons pertaining to it.'

In 1560, two years after Elizabeth ascended the throne, she granted the mill to the tenant, Anthony Reade, for a period of 21 years, at 40s. annual rent, 'with the usual exceptions of woods, mines, etc.' At the end of Reade's lease, it was to be leased to William Cox, 'in consideration of services' (unspecified) 'for 21 years at the same rent, payable half yearly'. (5) In 1572, Commissioners were sent down to Farnham to enquire into the damage done to the Crown property by the raising of the mill pond. (6)

In 1585, the Queen 'for the good services of Anne Twiste, her laundress, and Thomas Twiste, one of the grooms of the State', gave them the lease of 'the water-mill called Farnham Mill, at Farnham Royal, and two closes called Great Bounes and Little Bounes, and all arable and meadow . . . to the said Anne Twiste, from the Feast of St.Mary, 1603, at 110s. per annum, for 21 years.' (7) The Twistes appear to have transferred their interest in the mill to David Salter, who was in possession in 1608. The following year, a Commission was appointed to enquire into the lands attached to the mill. (8) The Commissioners found that there were 31 acres, and that 10 acres were necessary for 'the pinning in of the water', and they severed from the mill 11 acres, described as being in a close of arable land abutting west upon a lane 'leading downe to London highewaie', which is now Farnham Road. (9) In a list of land holders in Farnham Royal, made in 1635, a Mr. Salmon has 40 acres 'for the mill'. (10)

This mill was obtained 'in free socage' that year (1609), by Sir Edward Coke, chief justice, and was afterwards held with the manor by his descendants, passing to the Godolphin family, in whose possession it is last mentioned in 1741. (11)

All trace of this watermill has been lost. It was probably superseded by the windmill which stood on the Chalvey Brook, on a site which is now part of the Recreation Grounds.

This windmill was bought in 1848 for £100 by a Kentish miller, Thomas Manwaring. He had it dismantled and taken by barges down the Thames and up the Medway to Chatham, and the last two miles by road to Luton, at the cost of £80. William Coles Finch, (12) who gives the career of Manwaring, and of the mill after he purchased it, says ' . . . it was one of a pair known as Two Sisters, standing on Salt Hill, and a few cottages named Mill Row commemorated their existence'. He says the mill was a 'tarred smock, stage and fantail mill, with two floors of brickwork under the

stage and three above . . . the two pairs of stones were originally driven in a similar manner to a watermill'. It had four cloth sails, or 'commons', and a wooden windshaft. It was worked at Luton, Kent, until 1887, when it was burned down.

In 1849, the foundations which had been left were 'blown', and the whole body of water running into the mill pond was passed to Chalvey Brook, the bed of which was inadequate to deal with the additional water. Chalvey was inundated, and much damage was done to houses and gardens there. (13)

William Neville, founder of Messrs. Neville & Griffin's Dairy, lived in the Mill House for some 60 years. He had a dairy there, and farmed the land until his death in 1917. (14)

The remaining 6½ acres of the original farmland were sold to the Council in 1935. The Mill House stood until 1938. (15)

Mr. Coles Finch gives no authority for his statement that this mill was one of a pair known as The Two Sisters, and I have been unable to trace any other mention of this name, or of any other windmill on the site. No 17th, 18th or early 19th century maps I have seen mark more than one windmill at Salt Hill. It is possible that the nickname of the Two Sisters originated when the old watermill and new windmill were in existence together, but possible confirmation of the existence of a second windmill there at one time is found in Suffolk.

Mr. Rex Wailes, in Suffolk Windmills, Part II Tower Mills, (16) says the smock mill at Great Thurlow, Suffolk, which stopped work in 1915, when the machinery broke down, and which was derelict in 1926, bears on its door-jamb the date 1807, and 'is said to have come from Slough in Bucks', and that the gearing bears out this, as it does not follow either Suffolk or Cambridgeshire practice.

The West Suffolk County Librarian, Mr. P.R. Labdon, could find no evidence either way. Mr. K. Hall, the West Suffolk Acting County Archivist, to whom the query was passed, confirmed there was no evidence either way to establish whether the Great Thurlow mill originated from Slough. He adds:

"The mill does appear on the Great Thurlow Tithe Map of 1841, and Ordnance Survey 6" maps of 1891 and 1902 (I have not seen the later editions). In 1841 the owner and occupier of the Mill premises was Thomas Gardiner. However, it is apparent from the Inclosure Award and map of the parish, 1825, that the site of the mill was an allotment exchanged under the award. Thomas Gardiner then received an allotment of a piece of land between the site of the mill and the Withersfield road, but did not then own the actual site. There is no mention of the mill there at that time and although this is not conclusive, it seems strange that the site should form an allotment if the mill itself was already on the site.

Among the papers at this Office is a collection of photographs of the Revd. W.H. Lummis of Suffolk windmills compiled in 1938 by him in conjunction with N. Collinson, Esq. The mill, although long disused, at that time was still in the tenancy of J.B. Collis, a miller. Lummis and Collinson report that it was stated to have been brought from Slough . . . . Some further notes by a Mr. G.N. Shann give the following:

"Date 1807 left of door — but may have been moved from Slough (Queen Anne Mill) as long as 200 years ago." (17)

Mr. Rex Wailes was good enough to confirm to me that he had received the statement that the mill had come from Slough verbally from the then owner, now deceased, and had found no other record to support the statement.

It appears the possibility of a second windmill having been at Salt Hill can be neither proved nor disproved. (18)



## THE SALT HILL INNS

A glimpse of Salt Hill in 1782 is given by Pastor Moritz, who says:

'... at Salthill, which can hardly be called even a village, I saw a barber's shop, and so I resolved to get myself both shaved and dressed. For putting my hair a little in order, and shaving me, I was forced to pay him a shilling. Opposite to this shop there stands an elegant house and a neat garden'. (19)

Moritz makes no mention of the Salt Hill inns, which he certainly could not have afforded to patronize, and owing to the fact that they were either replaced by modern buildings or became private houses early in the 20th century, they are not mentioned in any of the numerous books on Old Inns published since then. All the information available is in local records, private documents, or incidents recorded in the many Diaries and Letters of the 18th and 19th centuries, or from Richard Bentley's *Some Historic Inns of Slough* (some details of which are inaccurate), or the personal memories of the older local inhabitants still living before the 1939-45 war.

The two inns most closely associated with the Eton Montem were the Castle Inn, and the Windmill Inn, both of which dated from the 18th century, or earlier.

## THE CASTLE INN

The Castle Inn (20) was a handsome red-brick building, with a central window projecting in a semi-circular wall. It stood on the south side of the Bath Road, west of the junction with Farnham Road.

The Castle Inn took its name from the delightful view it commanded of Windsor Castle, which is mentioned in Carey's *Itinerary* (also called '*The Travelling Companion*'), published in 1826. The large garden at the back of the hotel also commanded an extensive view of the surrounding country. (21)

In the 18th century, the host of the Castle Inn, Partridge, charged so much that Foote, (22) the actor, after taking some refreshment at the hostelry, told him he ought to change his name to Woodcock — 'on account of the length of his bill'. (23)

The most famous event at the Castle Inn was the dinner which took place there on 29 March, 1773. It had such a tragic ending that it gained widespread notoriety, and was reported in the *Gentleman's Magazine*:

'During the course of the month past a very remarkable affair has been agitated in the papers, of which the following is a true relation: on 29th March the Commissioners of Colnbrook Turnpike met at the Castle Inn at Salthill, when the Hon. Mr. O'Brien, Capt. Needham, Edmund Mason, Esq., Major Mayne, Major Cheshire, Walpole Eyre, Esq., Captain Salter, Mr. Isherwood, Mr. Benwell, Mr. Pote Senr., and Mr. Burcombe, attended and dined together. The dinner consisted of turtle soup, jack, perch, and eel pitch cockt fowls, bacon, and greens, veal cutlets, ragout of pigs' ears, chine of mutton and salad, course of lamb and cucumbers, crawfish, pastry and jellies. The wine Madeira and Port, of the very best quality. The company ate and drank moderately. No excess in any respect appeared.

Before dinner, several paupers were examined, and among them one miserable object that was remarkable. In about ten or eleven days after, every one of the company, except Mr. Pote who walked in the garden during the examination of the paupers were taken ill, and Captain Needham, Mr. Eyre, Mr. Isherwood and Mr. Benwell soon died. Mr. Burcombe languished a short time and is since dead; the rest are still alive, but not yet out of danger.

From every circumstance that can be collected, some infection from the paupers must have occasioned this fatal catastrophe, as Mr. Pote, who was absent at their examination, was the only person who escaped unaffected, though he ate and drank in exactly the same manner as the rest did'. (24)

Mrs. Papendiek, writing some years afterwards, gives a few more details, and the eventual solution:

'I also heard from Miss Delavaux the particulars of a terrible poisoning catastrophe that had occurred several years before, by which Mr. Cheshire nearly lost his life . . . . At a county meeting held at the 'Castle Inn', Salt Hill, he was one of the three-and-twenty saved from the poison taken at the dinner which was always given on that occasion. Nineteen died, many of them even before they could reach their homes, and the cause could not be ascertained . . . Of course the house was done for, and the landlord dying soon after, they could scarcely find buyers for his goods, stock, &c. Mrs. Partridge, the widow, and her three daughters took a house at Hammersmith, on the high road, and opened a school for young ladies, which was very prosperous . . . .

'The widow, on her death-bed, said that as she considered it right to disclose the secret of the poisoning now that it could no longer hurt any individual, and was at the time purely accidental, she would confess that it arose from the turtle having been left in the stewpans cold, and then heated afresh for the dinner. The cook, renowned for the dressing of this favourite luxury, came down from London late the evening before, expressly for this purpose. He said that as the turtle was better for long stewing, he should do it through the night, during which time he would be preparing various other dainties. He did not keep to his word. He slept, let the fire out, and heated the turtle soup up again without removing it from the pan.

On the alarm of illness being given, the husband flew to the cellar, the wife to the kitchen, where she at one glance perceived the cause. From the acids used in dressing the turtle, the pan was covered with verdigris. When she showed it to the cook, he said he was not aware of harm, so she screened him. One or two other dishes were impregnated with the same deadly gris or poison, but I did not hear whether the pans were of bell-metal, or of copper tinned and worn . . . . The commissioner, who was supposed not to have eaten in the house, had, Mrs. Partridge acknowledged, dined freely, before he went in with his accounts, upon the dishes as they came out from the dining room . . . .' (25)

Allowing for a slight exaggeration in the numbers of those who died — due, doubtless to hearsay evidence after a few years — Mrs. Papendiek's account appears to be substantially correct, although it is not true the Castle Inn was ruined. As the fatalities had been attributed to infection from the paupers, even the Colnbrook Trustees continued to hold their dinners there, alternately with the Windmill Inn, as previously.

One of the most curious features is the extraordinarily brief and business-like way in which this tragedy was dealt with in the Minutes of the Turnpike Trust. (26) For some unknown reason, only eight Trustees are recorded as having attended and signed the minutes on 29 March: The Hon. Thomas Needham (in the Chair), M. O'Bryan, Edmund Mason, John Cheshire, John Maine, Walpole Eyre, Henry Isherwood and Elliot Salter. Of these, the names of Needham, Mason, Eyre and Isherwood were at some later date marked with a cross, and a note added: 'the above died in a few days after the meeting as well as Mr. Benwell, the Treasurer & Mr. Burcombe the Surveyor'. The only mention of Mr. Pote is that the Treasurer was ordered to pay 'Mr. Joseph Pote' for printing the general Turnpike laws, and other work.

At the next meeting, in June, it was ordered that notice should be given of the appointment of a Treasurer 'in the room of the late Joseph Benwell decd. and a Surveyor in the room of the late William Burcombe deceased . .' without a word of condolence or explanation of their death. It was also ordered 'That no business shall be transacted at any future meeting in the room where the Commissioners meet, but such as respect the Turnpike Road only', which seems to bear out the belief that the deceased had contracted a fatal illness during the examination of the paupers.

During the meeting on 19 July, 1773, at the Castle Inn, it was arranged to appoint ' . . . fifteen Gentlemen Trustees in the room of some deceased, due notice having been given for the electing of Trustees according to the Act of Parliament.' The names of the deceased are given as 'Lord Collreine (sic), Richard Lane, John Perryman, Henry Isherwood, Joseph Benwell, Thomas Virgo, William Style, Humphrey Hackshaw, Walpole Eyre, William Hatchett, John Hatchett, William Burcombe, Edmund Mason, Hon. Thomas Needham, Samuel Besouth' (? writing not clear). Again,



there was no expression of regret, or explanation. It is possible some of the fifteen named died from natural causes, and not from the poisoning affair, but others unquestionably did so.

Some of the unfortunate men seem to have lingered days before they died. The Burnham parish register records on 26 April, 1773: (27)

'Walpole Eyre, East Burnham, aged 38 died April 18; one of those unfortunate gentlemen who dined at ye Castle Inn 29 March' (1773). (28)

John Cecil succeeded Partridge as Landlord of the Castle Inn and seems to have prospered, although another tragedy occurred during Cecil's time as landlord. Fortunately, it had a less direct connection with the inn. After a meet of the Royal Buckhounds in April, 1798, a Mr. Mellish dined at the Castle Inn before starting back to London. He set out in good time, but was attacked by footpads, who shot and fatally injured him, soon after he passed through Slough. A surgeon who had been summoned to attend him was also stopped and robbed. (29)

A John Cecil is given as the inn-keeper at the Castle Inn in 1830, but it is not clear whether this was the original John Cecil, or his son. (30)

In 1841 it became a private house, and its licence was transferred to Dotesio's Royal Hotel, Slough. A large part of the building was pulled down in 1887. (31) The remainder was opened as the Salt Hill House Hotel in the 1930's, but it was demolished in 1964.

Among those who lived there when it was a private house was General Sir William Macbean George Colebrook (32) (1787-1870), the distinguished soldier and Colonial governor. He died at Salt Hill on 6 February, 1870. (33)

### THE WINDMILL INN

The Windmill Inn stood to the east of the Castle Inn, on the north side of the Bath Road. The present-day Windmill Hotel is on practically the same site as the original inn, which was a very large building of dark red brick, with bow windows and a shady verandah on the ground floor. The front of the inn was beautified by one of the finest mauve wistarias (34) in England. The tap-room of the hotel was a separate building, standing on the south side of the main coach road, but not quite opposite the inn.

The gardens of the Windmill also lay on the south side of the Bath Road. They were even more extensive than those of the Castle Inn, and were planted with firs, cedars, 'weeping' trees and bushes, and were watered by the Chalvey Brook.

The watercress beds at the back of the hotel were once famous, and in the first quarter of this century, large quantities of cress were despatched daily to the London markets. (35)



27. The Eton Montem – Ticket of Admission to the Gardens of Botham's Windmill Hotel



28. The Eton Montem Ticket given in exchange for 'Salt'

The Windmill achieved such fame and prosperity under the Bothams that it was usually referred to as 'Botham's' rather than The Windmill. When the bed of the mill pond was dug up in laying out the Recreation Grounds, numerous large oyster shells were found, eloquent of past banquets. Fragments of good quality dishes and plates were also dug up.

The Windmill was a great centre for sportsmen, and the *Sporting Magazine* of 1797 contains the record of a Hunt dinner held there by subscribers to the Berkeley Hunt. It was used regularly by members of the Royal Buckhounds Hunt. A special meet of the Buckhounds was held at Salt Hill on 1 January, 1828, in order 'to allow H.R.H. Don Miguel of Portugal to participate in the national sport of England. Don Miguel, who was accompanied by the Master of the Buckhounds, brother of the Duke of Wellington, wore an English costume and rode a beautiful black horse from the King's stud. They passed through Slough to Salt Hill, whither the suite was conveyed in a carriage with four horses and outriders in state liveries. About two hundred gentlemen, attired in hunting pink, joined the cavalcade on the way to the Windmill Inn. Amongst the company were the Dukes of Wellington and Devonshire, Lords Mountcharles, Strathaven, Kinnauld and Berkeley, General Grosvenor, and several foreign notabilities. Good sport was had in a thirty-five minutes hard run via Stoke Park, back by Baylis House, down the high road from Slough to Windsor, and back towards Datchet. The stag was taken in a field at Horton. The Duke of Wellington was among those up at the finish.' (36)

The first of the Botham family connected with the Windmill was Mrs. Botham. A pen and ink sketch of her, by the Duke of Beaufort, appears in the Badminton volume on driving.

Presumably the Windmill was as expensive as the Castle Inn, for the charges at the Pelican Inn at Speenhamland, which was also owned by Mrs. Botham, provoked the actor, Quin, (37) to write the often-quoted stanza:

The famous inn at Speenhamland  
That stands beneath the hill,  
May well be called the Pelican,  
From its enormous bill'.

Among the many famous people who stayed at the Windmill were the Cabinet Ministers who attended Queen Charlotte at Windsor Castle during the King's long illness, and it is said the great Earl of Chatham stayed there on his way to Bath. The younger Pitt also stayed there on his last journey from Bath to London, when he was so ill that his physician, Sir Walter Farquhar, rode in the post-chaise by his side. He left Bath on 9 January, 1806, and took three days on the journey, (38) stopping one night at the Windmill. (39) He died at his Town house on the 23rd of the same month. (40)

A story attributed to Moyle Sherer, the traveller and author (1789-1869), is that the inn achieved a special *éclat* from the circumstance that in the Dog Days the waiters changed the chairs of the visitors mid-way in the dinner, thus providing (though such an interruption might seem inconvenient), cool seats for toppers lingering over their wine. (41)

Washington Allston (1779-1843), the American artist and author, who settled in England in 1810, (42) was taken ill suddenly whilst passing through Salt Hill, accompanied by his wife, on his way to Bristol, and had to remain at an inn there. He was joined by Samuel Taylor Coleridge, who was affectionately attached to Allston, and Dr. Tuthill. They both stayed with Allston and his wife, for the few days he was confined there. The inn at which they stayed has been identified as the Windmill. (43)

On 14 June, 1814, during a visit of the Allied Sovereigns to England, a breakfast was given by the Prince Regent at Botham's to the Emperor of Russia, the King of Prussia, and his two sons (both of whom afterwards became Kings of Prussia, and the younger, Emperor of Germany); the Prince of Orange, the Grand Duke of Oldenburg, and other notabilities. (44)

Mrs. Richard Trench (45) grand-daughter of Richard Chenevix, Bishop of Waterford (1698-1779), Lord Chesterfield's correspondent, and mother of Richard Chenevix Trench (1807-1886), Archbishop of Dublin, (46) said in a letter to Mrs. Leadbeater, dated 'Salthill, May 17th, 1819: I seize a quiet hour at Salthill (where we came yesterday) for the purpose of breathing a little fresh air, and sitting under the shade of the lime trees, to converse with you in peace . . .' Although Mrs. Trench makes no mention of the name of the inn at which she was staying, Bentley identifies it as the Windmill. (47)



The sophisticated, observant and sometimes highly critical Prince Pückler-Muskow was a very different type of German from the penurious, innately good and lovable Pastor Moritz, but his entertaining account of his travels in England is equally readable. One of his letters, headed 'Salthill, August 25th (1827)', says 'The first resting place is a delightful inn, like a gentleman's villa'. (48) He, too, fails to give the name of the inn, but it was probably the Windmill, although his enthusiastic account of the creeper-clad inn, and its well-tended pleasure-grounds, with the 'noble view of the gigantic Castle in the distance' (49) would have been equally applicable to the Castle Inn.

Tom Moore, in his *Diary*, under the date 26 June, 1830, mentions the inn by name, saying: 'Vernon told me that the first news he had of the King's (George IV) death in the morning was from Botham at Salt Hill, where Vernon and Elizabeth were staying. Botham said to him, when he came downstairs, "Well, Sir, I have lost my neighbour" '.

In July, 1834, there was a big dinner at the Windmill Hotel to celebrate the defeat of the Parliamentary Bill for the newly projected Great Western Railway from London to Bristol. The Marquis of Chandos (afterward second Duke of Buckingham) was in the Chair. (50) Having regard to the fact that it was undoubtedly the coming of the railway that finally set the seal on Slough's prosperity the short sightedness of those who were celebrating seems incredible, although the inn-keepers undoubtedly had cause to deplore the advent of railways, for with the falling off of the coach traffic, the stream of visitors to the Salt Hill inns steadily diminished.

Mrs. Botham's nephews, George Botham and his brother William Botham, succeeded her in the control of the inn, and George, after his retirement, was living at Wexham as late as 1892. (51) Thomas Botham was landlord in 1830. (52)

The abolition of the Montem hastened the decline of the Windmill, but Ralph Nevill (53) says that for some time after it was an occasional resort of Etonians, who carved their names on a table there. Some 70 names of well-known Etonians with dates mostly ranging from 1845 to 1857 could be seen. (53)

After the last of the Bothams retired, the inn remained untenanted until it was let for a school. When it was being prepared for the new occupants, a supply of mattresses was stood up in coils, in front of the fires which had been lighted to air the rooms, but during the temporary absence of the caretaker, a mattress toppled over into a fireplace, and kindled at once. The whole house, with the exception of some of the detached stabling, was destroyed during the night of 21 April, 1882. The late Mrs. Mary Elderfield, of the Garage, Fulmer, whose father, Frank Finer, was a licensee of the Three Tuns Inn at the time, was then 19 years old, and told me in 1938 that she was asleep in the back bedroom of the Three Tuns when Mr. Tyrell Thompson, whose father kept a school nearby, came banging at the door, shouting that Botham's was on fire. At the same time, his father had come to the front door and awakened Mr. Finer, who went out to the scene of the fire. He forbade his daughter to go and see the fire, as she had a bad cold, but she crept out into the road, and saw it from there. (54) The stems of the great wistaria were twisted into agonised shapes by the flames. (55)

Some of the incidents said to have taken place at the Windmill are not so well authenticated. It has been said (56) that the Duc de Montpensier (brother of Louis Phillipe, afterwards King of the French), died there whilst an exile in this country, but he is buried at Christchurch, and appears to have died in that neighbourhood. Similarly, it has been alleged (57) that Rogers, the banker poet, said Sheridan wrote his prologue to *The Maid of Oaks* whilst he was staying at Botham's Hotel, but there is no mention of this in Roger's *Recollections*, or his *Table Talk*, and no work on Sheridan I have been able to trace even mentions that he wrote a prologue to the *Maid of Oaks*, let alone at Salt Hill.

It has also been said that Charles Kean, the actor, stayed at Botham's when needing temporary rest in the country. There is no mention of the inn in works dealing with Kean's life, but as he arranged the Christmas theatricals at Windsor Castle for about ten years (1849-59) he might have stayed at Botham's then, although it would appear to have been more convenient for him to stay in Windsor. Similarly, so far as Dickens is concerned there does not seem to be any written evidence to support the claim that he stayed there, but as Richard Bentley, who makes mention of this, (58) belonged to the publishing firm with which Dickens was at one time closely associated, he may have had personal knowledge of such a visit by Dickens.

After the destruction of the original Windmill Hotel, a large red brick house was built in the grounds for Miss Letty Lind, the Gaiety Girl who was especially famous for her skirt-dancing. She came to 'Brookside' in 1897, and made it her home until her death there on 27 August, 1923, at the age of 60. (59)

'Brookside' is now a Residential Nursery.

### THE SWAN

The Swan Inn is mentioned in the Upton Court Rolls in 1682 as The White Swan, and presumably took its name from the cognizance of Buckinghamshire. It was again mentioned in the Rolls in 1701, when Anna Casbert, the licensee, changed the name to the Queen's Head. It has been suggested she changed the name in honour of Queen Mary, consort of William III, but unless the change had been made some years earlier than the records suggest, this is very unlikely, for Queen Mary had died in 1694, and it could not have been in honour of Queen Anne, as she did not come to the throne until 1702.

Bentley says (60) the first Swan Inn stood on the south side of the original coach road to the West of England, but the Bath Road ceased to run through Burnham when Maidenhead Bridge was built, and the line of the road was diverted south to the bridge. Camden's map of 1675 appears to show the same course through Salt Hill as it follows today. The landlord in Bentley's list of 1830 is given as William Smith. The present Swan Inn on the North side of the road, is comparatively modern.

### THE THREE TUNS

Although the Three Tuns and the Castle Inn were in the parish of Farnham Royal until 1831, and Carr-Gomm wrote *Records of Farnham Royal* in 1901, his only references to Salt Hill inns are unhelpful. He says:

'It is said that seventy years ago a post-boy who had committed suicide at Salt Hill, and on whom a verdict of *felo-de-se* had been recorded, was brought at midnight outside the churchyard, and in the presence of the churchwardens, but without any burial service, the body was lifted over the railings and deposited in a grave which had been dug alongside . . . The suicide had been prompted by jealousy, the young woman to whom the post-boy was engaged having taken up with a private of the Windsor garrison. He consequently went into the stable of the inn and blew his brains out. The girl, and a few of her friends, were present at the interment'. (61)

Carr-Gomm does not give the name of the inn where the suicide took place, although the statement that it occurred at the Three Tuns has been erroneously attributed to him.

Of the Castle, he only mentions ' . . . a gravel pit on the south side of the Bath Road, west of the Castle Inn, which was one of the pits utilized in 1831 for the repair of roads in the parish of Farnham'. (62)

The Three Tuns dates from the 18th century or earlier, and in spite of some modernization, remains much as it was originally. Mrs. Elderfield told me the Royal Buckhounds (then known as the Queen's Stagbonds) frequently met at the Three Tuns during the time her father was a licensee; the stags used to be released at Cantrell's Farm, near Baylis House, and one of the stags ran on to the railway and was cut to pieces by a train.

An Inn at Salt Hill, not mentioned by name, figures in Smollett's *Humphrey Clinker*, when Matthew Bramble, Tabitha and Miss Liddy ' . . . proceeded without further altercation, to Salt Hill, where we proposed to dine'.

### THE SALT HILL SOCIETY

The Salt Hill Society was founded in 1783 to protect the property and persons of local farmers and gentry from 'Robbers, Felons, Highwaymen and Footpads'. There was an entrance fee of a guinea, and an annual subscription of 5s. Among the original members who met at the Three Tuns



on 15 April, 1783, were John and Edward Mason, William Bonsey of Upton, John Pocock of Stoke, and John Pitt of Upton. In 1899 other familiar names appear: H.D. Bowyer, Charles Luff, W.H. Butt, H. & A. Turner, R. Bentley, John Harding, Veitch, W.W. Pope, and, from further afield, Sir Robert Harvey of Langley Park, S.R. Christie Miller of Britwell, F.C. Carr-Gomm of Farnham, and A.H.E. Allhusen of Stoke Court, Stoke Poges. (63)

Numerous posters were issued by the Society. Typical posters offer 15 guineas compensation for the stealing, killing or wounding of a horse, mare or gelding, and 10 guineas for burglary or highway robbery. (64)

The booklet issued in 1933 to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Society has much interesting information. The list of members in that year included Sir Richard Howard-Vyse of Stoke Place, Stoke Poges, whose father had also been a member. Both father and son held office as Chairman of the Society. Frank Farr, of the well-known firm of auctioneers and estate agents, was Secretary from 1915 until 1950, and was succeeded by his son John. Other members in 1933 included the Slough Labour Hall; the Trading Estate; the Co-operative Society; the Slough and Langley Brick Company; Messrs. Spottiswoode & Co. of Eton and numerous individual members, in an area extending over Denham, Stanwell, Winkfield, Hounslow, Laleham, Longford, Marlow, Sunbury and Windsor.

Annual Dinners were held at Botham's Windmill Hotel until it was burned down, and afterwards for many years at the Public Hall, Slough, where Lidstones were the caterers. After the 1939-45 war, the numbers wishing to attend the Annual Dinners grew so greatly that the venue was changed to the Bell House Hotel, Beaconsfield, where 400 can be accommodated – and even then, at least 100 have to be refused each year.

The Society now numbers nearly 300 members, (65) and still does excellent work, which deserves to be even more widely known.

### THE MONTEM MOUND

The small mound on the south side of Montem Lane, close to its junction with the Bath Road, was for centuries the scene of the picturesque ceremony of the Eton Montem. It is this fact, rather than its ancient but obscure origin, which has caused it to be scheduled as an Ancient Monument. (66)

### THE ETON MONTEM

The origin of the Eton Montem is also obscure. It has been suggested that it is comparable to 'Hills' at Winchester, and that before Eton had any playing fields the boys were marched two by two to play at Salt Hill, but that by the reign of Henry VIII they had acquired the playing fields near the college, and the daily march 'ad montem' was superseded by an annual march commemorating the old custom. (67) Other suggestions are that it was a travesty of the medieval ceremony of electing a boy-bishop, (68) or that it was the tenure by which Eton College held some of its lands. (69)

The earliest known account of Montem is found in a *Consuetudinarium*, giving the rules and observances of Eton College, compiled by William Malim, when Headmaster of Eton, about 1561. He described the ceremony as an initiation of new boys at Salt Hill by sprinkling them with 'sal' in its double meanings of 'salt' and 'wit'. By the 18th century it had ceased to be an initiatory ceremony, and had come to be a sham military march, the military element having possibly been suggested by Malim's use of military metaphors in his account. It was then frankly a festival for the purpose of collecting 'salt' – now money contributions towards the expense of the Senior Colleger when he went to King's College, Cambridge. By 1712 the salt was given not to the boys, but to passers-by, who were made to pay for it. Up to 1758, the festival was held annually in January, but it was then changed to Whitsun Tuesday, as a more convenient and agreeable season. The ceremony was then held biennially, and from 1778 it was only held triennially, until its final suppression.

The 'salt' was collected by two 'salt-bearers' – usually the second in seniority of the collegers, and the captain of the Oppidans, who were assisted by ten or twelve 'runners' or 'servitors', all



29. *The Eton Montem*  
*A Salt Bearer*



30. *The Eton Montem*  
*Collecting 'Salt'*

dressed in fancy costumes, who scoured all the approaches to Eton and Windsor. Rowland Williams, (70) writing to his father on 12 June, 1835, says:

'I send you a paper with a better account of Montem than I should be able to give you. I was up myself at half-past four, but did not get away before half-past six, owing to my bag not being ready. The man had not received his packages, and had to sit up all night to make up for it. However, at last, off I went in a gig to Colnbrook with Hawtrey ma(jor), and worked from seven till twelve. Of course we got most money from carriages which were coming expressly to Montem; we got £15 out of one; to some we had to give long explanations, and, after all, perhaps got 6d. or 1s. for our trouble. However, altogether we did very well. Hawtrey ma., between the gardens and Colnbrook, got £75; I got £77; Balston got £103 on Windsor Bridge, Yonge not above £40. Simmonds and Essington were at Maidenhead. At about a quarter to one we set off from Colnbrook, galloped half way to catch a gig which had given us the slip while starting; got 7s. out of it; reached Salt Hill at half-past one, saw the king, &c., &c., dined at two — bad champagne and claret, for which the captain paid . . . . I had far, far better fun than at either of the two Montems before. But for the expense I should like it over again. My dress was very good; but now comes the worst part, 'the paying for it'. Mr. Cash's bill is £4. 4s. It is rather an object with him to have ready money . . . Lord Clive was at Montem, but I did not see him. I heard that his carriage gave B--- £8. The total Salt is £1006, and not £967, as in the paper. This is more than the last two Montems, but the two before got £1,400. Money will probably pocket £500, as the Montem has been more economical than any for some time before, which is a very good thing. We got saluted by beggars on Montem day, as brothers of the profession . . . .' (71)

Writing to his sister on 21 June, 1835, he says:

'The runners ought to have a dinner after Montem, but we have heard nothing of it, and we suspect the captain means to leave us un-dinnered, which we are hardly quite satisfied with'. (72)

All the collectors carried staves and satin money bags, and latterly these purses were magnificent articles, emblazoned with the College arms. A pinch of salt was sometimes given to the donor of the money, and always a little blue ticket was given inscribed with a Latin motto — either 'Mos Pro Lege' or 'Pro More et Monte', which were used at alternate ceremonies. The recipient put the ticket in his hat, or otherwise displayed it prominently as protection from further demands for the rest of the day.



In its later phases, Montem was a muster of the whole school in a semi-military array, with a band and colours. The senior boys were dressed as officers of different ranks, and the junior boys in blue coats and white waistcoats and trousers, and carrying white poles. These poles were cut in two by the corporals just before the procession left Weston's Yard. A flag was waved in the Yard as a signal for the procession to start for Salt Hill, where the flag was again waved, and dinner taken either at the Castle Inn or the Windmill Inn.

Doggerel rhymes on people in the procession, known as 'Montem Verses' were sold, many of them composed by a succession of self-styled 'Montem Poets'. These broad-sheets of punning rhymes always had a large sale among visitors and Etonians. The best-remembered of the 'Montem Poets' was Herbert Stockhore, a native of Windsor, who flourished through the period when Keate was Headmaster. He was an eccentric individual, who began life as a bricklayer. He attended every Montem from 1784 to 1835, even when he was 90 years old, arrayed in a tunic and trousers of patchwork, an old military coat, and a chintz-covered conical head-dress, with rows of fringe on it like the crowns on a papal tiara. He drove about in a donkey cart reciting his 'Ode' and selling copies of it. In 1826, when W.E. Gladstone was at Eton, and Stockhore was about 81, the 'poet' wrote:

'I Herbert Stockhore, once more,  
In spite of age and pains rheumatic,  
Hop down to Montem with verses Attic,  
To make the Muse as have done before  
For why should I lie abed groaning and bickering  
When I ought to be up to sing Captain Pickering ?'



31. *Herbert Stockhore, the Montem Poet*

Pickering was the boy who had the benefit of the 'salt' collected at that Montem. (73)

Every boy in the sixth form ranked as a 'Sergeant' in the procession, and every boy in the fifth form as a 'corporal'. There were also a captain, marshal, colonel, lieutenant, ensign and sergeant-major. All these officers wore an officer's red dresscoat, with a cocked hat and sword, and some of the smaller boys created great laughter by their droll appearance in such finery. The fancy costumes of the salt-bearers and servitors were magnificent in the extreme, and ranged over Turks, courtiers of the 17th and earlier 18th centuries, Highlanders and Spaniards. The red coats were at one time used by the boys up to the end of the half-year.

In addition to the military features of the ceremony, there were in earlier times a 'parson' and a 'clerk' represented by two of the Senior Boys, who stood upon Salt Hill to read a burlesque Latin service, after which the 'parson' solemnly kicked the 'clerk' down the hill. This custom was continued until the first visit of Queen Charlotte, after her coronation in 1761, when she was so shocked by the mockery of religious observances that she made it a personal request that this part of the ceremony should be omitted from future programmes. It was well worth the Etonians' while to accede to her request; both she and George III took the greatest interest in the proceedings. The King rarely missed for nearly forty years, and usually contributed 50 guineas, and the Queen also made a handsome contribution.

The earliest printed account of a Montem is that quoted by Brand from the *Public Advertiser* of 1778, when George III and Queen Charlotte attended and gave 50 guineas each. There is a tradition at Eton, which is generally credited, that when William III was either passing through Slough, or attending the Montem, soon after his accession, his carriage was stopped on the Bath Road by salt-bearers, and his Dutch guards, naturally failing to understand such daring, were only stopped by the intervention of the king himself from cutting down the offenders.



32. *George III and Queen Charlotte at the Eton Montem in 1778*

Among other notable visitors to the Montem were George IV, William IV, Queen Victoria (74) and Prince Albert (afterwards the Prince Consort). The latter was present at the last celebration in 1844, and gave the munificent donation of £100. There are many references to the ceremony in diaries and letters of the time. Lord Chancellor Campbell, (75) writing on 26 May, 1820, says: 'On Monday evening I rode down to Colnbrook. Reached the Windmill at Salt Hill between 8 and 9 next morning, was told Mr. Scarlett (76) and family were breakfasting in the garden . . . under a great tree. At 11 we proceeded to Eton and with great difficulty got into the College Yard. Here we were baked above an hour till the King arrived. When the boys had passed in review before His Majesty and the Eton part of the ceremony was over. I remounted my horse . . . . . My horse, terrified by the crowds and noise reared up between two lines of carriages . . . I saw the horse falling upon me and gave myself over but he could not have done more than touch me or I must have been crushed to death . . . I got into Mrs. Scarlett's carriage and was driven back to Salt Hill . . . Here we had a very interesting promenade for several hours, the boys in their fantastic dresses were scattered about in whimsical groups . . . about 6 we had a sort of scrambling dinner . . . I attended the ladies to the Terrace at Windsor. (77)

The Montem ceremony also figures in Maria Edgeworth's *Parents' Assistant* and Angela Thirkell's *Coronation Summer*. (78)

The average amount collected latterly was £1,000, but this was subject to deductions for the payment of expenses, including a breakfast to all the Sixth and Fifth Formers, and a dinner afterwards to friends, and the Captain seldom received more than half the total proceeds. It was also the custom for the boys to foray in the garden of the inn after dinner, and use their swords with devastating effect on the garden cabbages and rose trees, for which damage also the Captain had to pay, and if he was unpopular, the bill was deliberately 'run up'.

One of the boys, William Grimston, writing on 4 July, 1767, to Sir Michael Fleming, mentioned 'our Montem' which is just over, Mr. Brume was the captain, and cleared £174 only, which was the poorest Montem that ever was in this century'. In 1784, £451 was collected, but the expenses amounted to £204. 18s. 0d. 'Captain' Dyson's accounts give details:



'To salt-bearers, £21; to twelve servitors, £18. 18s., to marshall, £5. 5s.; to stewards, £3. 3s.; eight musicians, £8. 8s.; drums and fifes, 12th Regiment, £4. 14s. 6d.; drums and fifes, Guards, £8. 18s. 6d.; twelve polemen, 3s. 6d. each, £2. 2s.; Binfield, for painting flag and truncheons, £2. 2s.; to Kendall for supper; £25. 12s. 6d.; claret from London, £9; 5½ yards of crimson silk, ½ yard of blue silk, and white riband for flag, £2. 14s.; Pitt and March for Salt bearers' men's dresses, £4. 11s.; Larder for dinner, etc., £23. 19s.; Mr. March for Salt Hill expenses, £45. 9s. 6d.'

After much hesitation, Dr. Hawtrey, the then Headmaster, finally decided to abolish the custom in 1847, as the opening of the railway had attracted a very rowdy crowd of visitors from London in 1841 and 1844, and these unwelcome visitors had swamped the genuine Eton element. The expenses had also increased so much that the larger portion of the day's 'salt', was swallowed up. In order to mitigate the Captain's natural disappointment, Dr. Hawtrey gave him £200 out of his own pocket, in lieu of the profit likely to be made if the 1847 Montem had taken place. (79)

### BAYLIS HOUSE

It has been suggested that the 'elegant house' (80) which stood opposite the barber's shop patronized by Pastor Moritz was Baylis House. Although Baylis House is approached by a drive from Stoke Poges Lane, and is not, strictly speaking, in Salt Hill, it lies just north of the Salt Hill Recreation Grounds, and can be reached by a footpath which plunges through a tunnel under the railway. In 1782, it would have been very conspicuous from the Bath Road, and it is certainly an 'elegant' house — a splendid survival from the past which has been scheduled as worthy of preservation.

Baylis 'alias Whitmarsh', in the parish of Stoke Poges, was included in the property of Abraham Sybell at his death in 1501, as 'the manor of Bailis'. After passing through various hands, chiefly by marriage, it seems to have been purchased by Dr. Gregory Hascard, who became Dean of Windsor in 1684. It was he who built Baylis House in 1696. After his death in 1708, it was bought by Dr. Henry Godolphin (1648-1733), (81) who became Provost of Eton in 1695. He was elected Dean of St. Paul's in 1707, but resigned in 1726 and returned to Eton. He remained Provost until his death. Henry Godolphin was the fourth son of Francis Godolphin, M.P. for St. Ives, and brother of the statesman, Sidney Godolphin, who was created Lord High Treasurer in the reign of Queen Anne. (82) Baylis House, like the manor of Chalvey, remained in the Osborne family, passing by marriage to the Dukes of Leeds. (83)

During their ownership it was leased to a succession of tenants. The statement that the fourth Earl of Chesterfield (1694-1773) lived there, and wrote some of his famous Letters to his son when at Baylis House, cannot be substantiated, (84) but Alexander Wedderburn (1773-1805) lived there after his retirement. He had been created first Baron Loughborough in 1780, became Lord Chancellor in 1793, and was created Earl of Rosslyn when he lost this office in 1801. He was a man of unbounded ambition, and after he came to Baylis House it is said he often contrived to force himself into the company of the king. He died suddenly at Baylis House on 2 January, 1805. (85) He had attended a party given by the Queen on New Year's Eve, and when George III heard the news of his death, he is reported to have said 'he has not left behind him a greater knave in my dominions'. (86)

The last private tenant of Baylis House before it became a Roman Catholic school in 1830 (see p. 91) was the widowed Mary, Marchioness of Thomond, née Mary Palmer, niece of Sir Joshua Reynolds, and ward of Edmund Burke. In 1792, the same year in which Sir Joshua died, leaving her nearly £100,000, she married at Beaconsfield, the home of her guardian, (87) Murrough O'Brien, fifth Earl of Inchiquin, afterwards first Marquess of Thomond. He died in 1808, after a fall from his horse. (88) The Marchioness died in 1820, without issue.

The Butt family, who ran the Roman Catholic School for nearly a hundred years, left Baylis House in 1907, after which the fortunes of the house fluctuated considerably. It was sold by the tenth Duke of Leeds, and in 1911 was owned by a Mr. Wood, who had adapted the house as a Food Reform Establishment. (89) It became the Baylis House Hotel in 1923, with Mr. J.B. Whaley as Resident Managing Director for Baylis House Hotel Ltd. (90) It was during the time Mr. and Mrs. Whaley ran the hotel that the present swimming pool was constructed. After they left in 1936, there was talk of demolishing the house, but after spirited protests in the local and national press,

and particularly correspondence in *The Times*, and an Editorial in *Country Life*, a meeting of interested bodies was held, and representations were made to Slough Urban District Council. Eventually the new Borough Council purchased the house and some 16 acres of grounds in 1939. The house was leased to the Buckinghamshire County Council, and the grounds were later developed as a sports and recreational centre. During the 1939-45 war the house was used for various official services and later as a meeting place by local clubs and organizations, and as a County Council day continuation school. After the war ended, various projects for the use and development of the house were made by the Slough Civic Society and the local press, and in 1949 it was included in the Provisional List of buildings of architectural and historical interest.

A fire in 1954 led to further rumours of pending demolition but although the fire gutted the top story, which was a later addition to the original 17th century house, it did singularly little damage to the historic fabric, and the Bucks County Council undertook the work of restoration. In 1958, Messrs. Urwick, Orr and Partners (founded in 1934 by Lt.-Col. C.F. Urwick), took it over on a long lease from the Bucks County Council, and it became the Urwick Management Centre. (91)

#### NOTES

1. Salt Hill was in the parish of Farnham Royal until 1831. For nearly a century afterwards it was partly in the parish of Upton-cum-Chalvey and partly in the parish of Stoke Poges. V.C.H., Vol. III, p. 225.
2. V.C.H., Vol. I, p. 268.
3. *ibid.* Vol. III, p. 229.
4. *ibid.* Vol. III, p. 228.
5. Lipscombe, Vol. III, p. 277.
6. V.C.H., Vol. III, p. 229.
7. Lipscombe, Vol. III, p. 277.
8. V.C.H., Vol. III, p. 229.
9. E.L. Reynolds, Letter to the Editor of the *Slough Observer*, 3 March, 1933. This was one of several letters and articles on the Salt Hill mills published in the *Slough Observer* between 10 February and 21 March, 1933.
10. Carr-Gomm, p. 9.
11. V.C.H., Vol. III, p. 229.
12. William Coles Finch, *Windmills and Watermills* (1933) p. 73 and 185.
13. Luff.
14. Letter to the Editor of the *Slough Observer*, signed 'Salt Hill', 17 February, 1933. Confirmed by Mrs. Cook of Old Windsor, (grand-daughter of William Neville). (see p. 107).
15. *Slough Observer*, 6 March, 1936, confirmed by W.H. Fussell, some personal knowledge, and Slough Borough Council.
16. Newcomen Society Transactions, Vol. 22, 1942, p. 51. This is only one of a long series of articles on windmills and watermills by Mr. Wailes, who is a leading authority, in the Newcomen Society Transactions, and I am very much indebted to Major Michael Lee for drawing my attention to it. Mr. Wailes repeated the statement about the origin of Great Thurlow Mill in his book *The English Windmill* (1954) p. 170.
17. Letter to me from Mr. K. Hall, Acting County Librarian, Bury St. Edmunds and West Suffolk Record Office, dated 24 November, 1972. I am much in Mr. Hall's debt for all the trouble he took in this matter.
18. There is a possibility further information is given by Stanley Freese in his unpublished typescript *A Topographical and Historical Account of the Windmills and Watermills of Buckinghamshire*, dated 1946, a copy of which he deposited in the Buckinghamshire County Museum at Aylesbury, with the strict understanding that no-one should be allowed to consult it without his prior approval. Unfortunately, when I wrote to his last known address, the letter was returned marked 'deceased'. All efforts by Mr. C. Gowing, Curator of the Buckinghamshire County Museum, and myself have failed so far to trace Mr. Freese's literary executor, and therefore it has not been possible for me to consult it. However, it does not appear very likely that he found any additional information, as he wrote to the Editor of the *Slough Observer*, 20 March, 1936, appealing for further information about the Salt Hill mill, but in his book *Windmills and Millwrighting*, published in 1952, he does not mention the Great Thurlow mill, but only the mill removed to Luton, Kent, in 1848, which he refers to as the 'Salt Hill or Chalvey Mill, Slough'.



19. Moritz, p. 105. Reginald Nettel, in *Journeys of a German in England in 1782* (Jonathan Cape, 1965) p. 120, refers to the barber's shop as 'a wigmaker's booth'.
20. Approximately on the site now occupied by Michaelmas House, 135, Cranbourne Terrace, Bath Road.
21. An 18th century drawing in Indian ink by P.R. Maye, in the British Museum, shows 'Two trees opposite the Castle Inn, Salt Hill'. Why they should have been chosen for portrayal is a problem, as they do not appear to differ from other trees of their species.
22. Samuel Foote, the comedian and dramatist (1720-1777).
23. Ralph Nevill, *Floreat Etona* (1911) p. 142.
24. *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1773, Friday 30 April, p. 201.
25. *Papendiek*, Vol. I, pp. 320-323.
26. I am indebted to Mr. W.J. Smith, Deputy Archivist of the Greater London Record Office and Library (with special responsibility for Middlesex Records) for photocopies of the Minutes of the Meetings from which I quote.
27. I am indebted to Mr. E.J. Davis, County Archivist for Buckinghamshire, for checking this entry in the Burnham Parish Registers, which are now in the County Record Office at Aylesbury.
28. Bentley, *Notes*, p. 25 quotes this entry correctly, but in *Inns*, p. 10 says Mr. Walpole Eyre was buried at Stoke Poges. Harper, Bath Road, p. 108 says '... they lie buried in the little churchyard of Wexham, two miles distant, where an inscription records the facts. I read all the inscriptions on the tombstones in the churchyard at Wexham (fortunately, not very numerous) and there was no such inscription there, or in the church. I also, through the kindness of the Rector, the Rev. John A.C. Smith, inspected the records of burials at Wexham in 1777, but there was no mention of any of the men at the Turnpike Trust meeting which had such fatal results.
29. Bentley, *Inns*, p. 10. Harper, *Inns*, Vol. I, p. 315-5 says Mellish was held up at Sipson Green, but does not mention the Castle Inn, Salt Hill.
30. Luff. Quoted by Bentley, *Inns*, p. 41.
31. Luff. Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 142, says that at one period it was used as a school. He may be confusing it with Botham's Windmill Hotel, but Mrs. Elderfield's reference to 'a school nearby' the Three Tuns (see p. 72) suggests he may be right.
32. Bentley, *Inns*, p. 11 says '... a Waterloo veteran, General Sir Edward Colebrooke', but this is incorrect. General Sir William Colebrook was in Bengal from 1814 to 1815, when he went to Java. Sir William was the son of Colonel Paulet Welbore Colebrooke (d. 1816) and married the daughter of Lieut.-Col. Robert Colebrooke (d. 1808) in 1820.
33. D.N.B.
34. This, and all the older wistarias of the district, were grown from a plant raised at Dropmore, which was one of the earliest brought to this country from Japan.
35. Bentley, *Inns*, p. 11-12.
36. Luff.
37. James Quin (1693-1766).
38. D.N.B.
39. Bentley, *Inns*, p. 14.
40. D.N.B.
41. Bentley, *Inns*, pp. 13-14.
42. *Dictionary of American Biography*.
43. *Life and Letters of Washington Allston*, by Jared B. Flagg; and Bentley, *Inns*, p. 15.
44. Luff.
45. Melesina Trench (1768-1827).
46. D.N.B. Bentley, *Inns*, p. 15 says: '... mother of the Dean of Westminster'. Richard Trench was Dean of Westminster 1856-64, and was consecrated Archbishop 1864.
47. Remains of the late Mrs. Richard Trench (1802). *The Leadbeater Correspondence*.
48. *A Regency Buck: Letters of Prince Pückler Muskow*, edited with notes by E.M. Butler, from the original translation by Sarah Austin (Collins, 1957) p. 252.
49. *ibid.*
50. Bentley, *Inns*, pp. 15-16.
51. *ibid.*, p. 14.
52. Luff.
53. Nevill, *op. cit.*, p. 156.
54. Victor B. Clark gives further details taken from the *Windsor Express* 22 and 29 April, 1882, in a letter to the Editor of the *Slough Observer*, 3 March, 1933.

55. Nevill, op. cit., p. 142.
56. Bentley, Inns, p. 14.
57. ibid. pp. 14-15.
58. ibid., p. 16.
59. Information kindly given to me by Messrs. Raymond Mander and Joe Mitchenson, owners of the Mander & Mitchenson Theatre Collection. Letty Lind had five sisters, one of whom, Adelaide, married George Grossmith.
60. Bentley, Inns, p. 17.
61. Carr-Gomm, pp. 24-5.
62. ibid., p. 45.
63. Minute Books of the Salt Hill Society, now in the Bucks County Record Office, Aylesbury.
64. Posters now in the Bucks County Record Office, Aylesbury.
65. Information kindly given to me by Mr. John Farr, Secretary of the Salt Hill Society, and his brother, Mr. Frank Farr.
66. Among other theories, it has been conjectured Montem Mound is a Saxon tumulus. None of the theories can be proved without excavation, and permission for this is unlikely, as it is not considered to be 'in danger'. Difficulties are arising, however, over its inclusion in the proposed development of the Montem Pleasure Ground as a Sports Centre.
67. Nevill, op. cit., p. 131.
68. Maxwell-Lyte, pp. 450-1.
69. Nevill, op. cit., p. 131.
70. Rowland Williams, D.D. (1817-1870), Vice-Principal and Professor of Hebrew, St. David's College, Lampeter, Cardiganshire, 1850-1862.
71. Life and Letters of Rowland Williams, D.D., 2 Vols., edited by his wife, Ellen, née Cottesworth (1874); Vol. I, pp. 20-21.
72. ibid., p. 21.
73. Nevill, op. cit. p. 153.
74. The famous Ackermann print, published in December, 1838, depicts the Queen and her mother, the Duchess of Kent, driving in a carriage to the foot of the Montem Mound. I have a copy of the print in my possession. There is also a copy in the Town Clerk's Office, Town Hall, Slough.
75. John Campbell (1779-1861) created 1st Baron Campbell, 1841.
76. Presumably this was James Scarlett (1769-1844), who was created Baron Abinger in 1835. Lord Chancellor Campbell married one of Lord Abinger's daughters.
77. The Life of Lord Chancellor Campbell, by his daughter, the Hon. Mrs. Hardcastle.
78. Angela Thirkell, Coronation Summer (1937) pp. 103-109.
79. The foregoing account of the Eton Montem is condensed from Maxwell-Lyte, pp. 450-471, except where otherwise stated.
80. Pastor Moritz, p. 105.
81. V.C.H., Vol. III, p. 310. Lysons, Vol. I, part 3, p. 639, says: 'The former mansion was the chief seat of the Duke of Cleveland' but there appears to be no evidence to support this.
82. D.N.B.
83. V.C.H., Vol. III, p. 310.
84. This statement has been made repeatedly, but a search through the various editions of Lord Chesterfield's Letters, and biographies of Lord Chesterfield, failed to produce any reference to Baylis House.
85. D.N.B.
86. Luff.
87. D.N.B., under Mrs. Mary Palmer (1716-1794).
88. Murrough O'Brien, 5th Earl of Inchiquin, married as his 1st wife Mary, Countess of Orkney, and held the manor of Taplow, Bucks., until her death in 1791. He was one of the Trustees of the Colnbrook Turnpike Trust. (See p. 68 and 69).
89. M.F. Nalder, The Country Home, June, 1911, p. 116. Mr. Nalder says the Food Reform Establishment carried out the ideas of 'Dr. Haig, who very often stays at Baylis House and gives lectures to visitors there'.
90. There is an advertising booklet of Baylis House Hotel, c. 1936, in the Slough Public Library.
91. This summarises very briefly the detailed information collected by the Librarian of the Urwick Management Centre, Baylis House. I am indebted to Mr. J. Kettlewell, Bursar of the Urwick Management Centre, for permission to make use of this information.