A HISTORY OF STAMFORD SCHOOL

WILLIAM CECIL, FIRST BARON BURGHLEY
At Stamford School *c.* 1534

A HISTORY OF STAMFORD SCHOOL

BY

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ME

SPEDE

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FOREWORD

THE HEADMASTER has asked me to bring up to date the history of the school that I wrote over a quarter of a century ago; and I am very conscious of the words I quoted then from Sir Walter Raleigh: 'Whosoever in writing a moderne history shall follow truth too neare the heeles, it may happily strike out his teeth.' I am also conscious that since 1968 I have been living a hundred miles away from Stamford, far removed from the day-to-day and month-to-month life of the school and concerned with other matters. During that time, too, many have been researching into the architecture and history of the town and the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments has issued its splendid work *The Town of Stamford*. However, it was an honour to be asked and, perhaps rashly, I accepted.

But it is too early for anything that has happened in Stamford since the war to be described as history. I have therefore chronicled some of the events since 1947 in a new epilogue and have adapted the previous epilogue in some sort to be 'history'. There is also included, in an earlier chapter, an account of a notorious sixteenth-century headmaster—one Robert Browne—of whom I have heard only lately. I have also made some other additions and some corrections to the text, appendices and notes. But there is too little mention here of those who are at the school today or of many who have served it in recent years—staff who have given a large part of a lifetime to the school and who are warmly remembered for their teaching, or as housemasters or as coaches on the games field. Again I have said far too little about the Junior School. The Senior School is noticed more by the outside world but the years spent by boys in the Junior School seem to me as important as those spent in the Senior. It is also necessary for me to say that I was headmaster from 1947 to 1968. Mr H. A. Staveley was headmaster from 1968 to 1978 and Mr G. J. Timm is headmaster now and has put this request upon me.

Finally, I would like to thank all those who have written to me with comments and suggestions since the publication in 1954 and

also, in particular, I would like to thank the Cambridge University Press for their fine production of the previous volume and for the help they are giving me now.

B.L.D.

WARBOROUGH, OXFORD
OCTOBER 1981

PREFACE

ALTHOUGH Stamford School is over four hundred years old it has comparatively few written records. There is a chantry certificate quoting the Founder's will, which he made in the reign of Henry VIII, a private Act of Parliament in the reign of Edward VI confirming the establishment of the School, scattered references in college and parish registers, and the records of occasional lawsuits; but until we come to recent times there is little else. No admission register survives from before 1833, no complete list of masters from before 1907. The School magazine began in 1885 but was not published regularly. Governors' minutes exist only from 1882. The eighteenth-century files of the *Stamford Mercury* have provided little. For some periods the School's history has to be put together piece by piece rather in the manner of an anthropologist reconstructing a prehistoric animal from a few small bones, or of an astrophysicist determining the structure of vanished stars from the content of a few meteorites.

Towards the end of the last century Mr Justin Simpson, F.S.A. (O.S. 1844–5), the Rev. John Tinkler (O.S. 1847–51) and Mr Thomas Sandall (O.S. 1849–53) made some researches and published their findings in the *Stamfordian*; and in 1920 Mr Sandall, then over eighty, wrote *The History of Stamford School*. This was a valuable work, though short, and filled a need. Since then, little by little, further evidence has come to light and there seems to be a call for a new history.

What I have written takes the record of the School from its beginnings to the present day. It may seem rash to try to write a history without more investigation than I have had time to make. This book probably contains errors and it certainly has many omissions. Also, the epilogue, covering the School's life since 1912, is little more than a list of some of the principal events. But I thought it would not be right for the present generation to be without its history, and so I have written the pages that follow in the hope that someone with greater leisure will, before long, write something better.

Many have helped me in compiling this book and I wish to thank them, especially those colleagues who read and criticized the MS at different stages, and those Old Boys who have given me information within their own memory. In particular I would like to thank the Rev. Canon J. P. Hoskins, Rector of St Mary's, Stamford, for his forbearance in helping me over the first chapter, which he could have written so much better himself. I am indebted also to the Mayor of Stamford for allowing me to use the Phillips Collection and to read the Corporation Minutes; to the Rector and Church Wardens of St George's, Stamford, for giving me access to the Parish Chest; to the Master and Fellows of St John's College, Cambridge, for permission to quote from documents in their muniment room, and especially to the Librarian, Mr F. P. White; to Mr Hugh Last, Principal of Brasenose College, Oxford, for initial guidance over the matter of the Brasenose Secession in 1333; to the Proprietors of the *Stamford Mercury* for making it easy for me to consult their files; to Mrs J. Varley, Archivist at Lincoln; and to officials in the British Museum, Public Record Office, National Portrait Gallery and the University Library at Cambridge.

B.L.D.

8 SEPTEMBER 1953

*The symbol * refers to the Notes at the end of the book. The Notes are mainly concerned with giving sources of information but also include some things which it seems necessary to record although not always of immediate relevance.*

CHAPTER I

THE BRASENOSE SECESSION

> And shall see Stamford, though now homely hid,
> Then shine in learning, more than ever did
> Cambridge or Oxford, England's goodly beames.
>
> SPENSER, *Faerie Queene*, IV, xi, 35

> Doctrinae studium quod nunc viget ad Vada Boum
> Tempore venturo celebrabitur ad Vada Saxi.
>
> Attributed by ANTHONY À WOOD, 1632–95, to Merlin

> That studious throng which Oxen-ford doth cherish,
> In time to come the Stony-ford shall nourish.
>
> The above, translated by FRANCIS PECK

STAMFORD SCHOOL was founded in 1532, but inherits a history that is much older. The chapel, which was consecrated as recently as 1930, had for nearly four hundred years previously served as a schoolroom, and for nearly four hundred years before that had been part of the church of Stamford St Paul.* The earliest reference to it is in a deed from the first year of King John, dated 17 February 1200, concerning the right of presentation to the livings of four churches in Stamford, including the church of St Paul. It seems probable that St Paul's had been built in the first half of the preceding century.

The School may also be said to owe something, at least by way of inspiration, to the tradition of learning that distinguished Stamford in the Middle Ages. The historian of Stamford, Francis Peck, gave to his *Antiquarian Annals* the alternative title of *Academia tertia Anglicana* or 'Third English University'.* In this he went too far. Stamford was never a university town but there were two periods in its history when it nearly became one.*

The tradition of learning may be said to go back at least to the eleventh century when William Bishop of Durham founded St Leonard's Priory which was to become a cell of Durham.* Such cells were used as schools for young monks or as places of retirement and were attached to the greater religious houses.

There were already at the time of Domesday Book (1086) at least four churches in Stamford, and during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries the town was to see a rapid growth both of churches and religious houses. Stamford was a centre for the wool trade and times were prosperous. First the Black Friars settled outside the walls to the south of the present St Leonard's Street and then some time between 1256 and 1269 the White Friars (or Carmelites) occupied the site of what is now the Stamford Hospital. The founder of this order at Stamford was Henry de Hanna, second Provincial General of the White Friars in England, and it seems that he himself lived at Stamford and attracted scholars to the town.* The walls around the college in which the friars lived were nearly a mile long, and inside was built a church famous for its beautiful steeple. Peck says that the college 'was always made use of for reception of our English princes, who were lodged, and entertained here, in their progresses, and other journeys, into, or out of, the north', and he describes the place as 'pleasant, royal and magnificent' and as '*coenobium amoenissimum*: a most delightful monastery'. The gateway used later by out-patients to the Hospital may have been built to commemorate one of Edward III's visits and bore on it his shield with the arms of France and England.*

A certain influence was exerted also by the religious order of the Gilbertines which had been founded some time before 1190 by St Gilbert of Sempringham, a small place in Lincolnshire some eighteen miles north of Stamford. This St Gilbert had been a considerable scholar and had established a School of Philosophy at Sempringham from where his order spread to Cambridge (among other places) and occupied a site opposite Peterhouse. About a hundred years later, in 1292, Robert Luttrell, Rector of Irnham (near Sempringham), founded Sempringham Hall as a collegiate foundation in St Peter's Street, Stamford, for the support of scholars studying philosophy and theology; and he endowed the Hall with lands at Ketton, Cottesmore and Casterton to enable it to maintain three chaplains who were to say masses for the founder's soul, one in the Hall itself, one in a chantry at Irnham, and one at Sempringham.*

It was about this time also that the Grey Friars established them-

selves to the south of St Paul's Street, where are now the houses of Holwell, Scarrington and the Pantiles. There were other halls and colleges as well. The names of Black Hall and Peterborough Hall are known, both near All Saints', and Vaudey Hall, of the Cistercian Order, in St Mary's Street. Richard Butcher, Stamford's seventeenth-century historian, has said of the town in those days:

'To manifest the profitable and pleasant Situation of this Town, The Monks, Friers, and Nuns of those superstitious Times (like so many Rats or Mice, which make choice to feed of the daintiest Cheese) made choice of this Place to build here several Receptacles...'*

But although there were halls and places of learning in Stamford there is no evidence that there was any university organization. To have won the status of university in the first half of the fourteenth century Stamford would not only have had to show proof of definite university administration among the collection of students meeting there, but would have to have had that administration recognized by Pope or King. Students tended to migrate. A natural way for universities to be founded was by a group leaving an established university and settling elsewhere, bringing with them something of their customs and organization. Cambridge, and possibly Oxford, had been so founded. There had been a movement to Northampton in 1261 when a number of masters and students from Cambridge settled there and were joined two years later by a number from Oxford. Henry III even went so far as to grant them a charter, only to withdraw it the next year, after which some of the scholars moved to Stamford.

In 1333, however, there occurred a secession of Oxford masters and students to Stamford which might well have made Stamford a university. They came to seek peace and quiet and brought with them the traditions of the life they had known at Oxford as well as a talisman in the form of a knocker taken from Brasenose Hall in Oxford.* Moreover, they later wrote to the King, Edward III, asking permission to remain at Stamford. Not only Oxford but Cambridge also was alarmed at this rival seat of learning.

The secession seems to have had its origin in factions at Oxford between Northerners and Southerners. The Church of Durham* in particular supported the Northerners and complained that

Merton College refused to choose northern students as fellows. The city was the scene of riots and the castle was unable to hold all its prisoners. In November, therefore, of that year, 'several students of the University, as well Masters as Bachelours and scholars' migrated from Oxford to Stamford. They came without licence but seem to have been well received and took over a hall in the town just inside the walls, almost opposite St Paul's Church, and to the door of the hall they fixed their knocker of the Brazen Nose as a symbol of sanctuary.

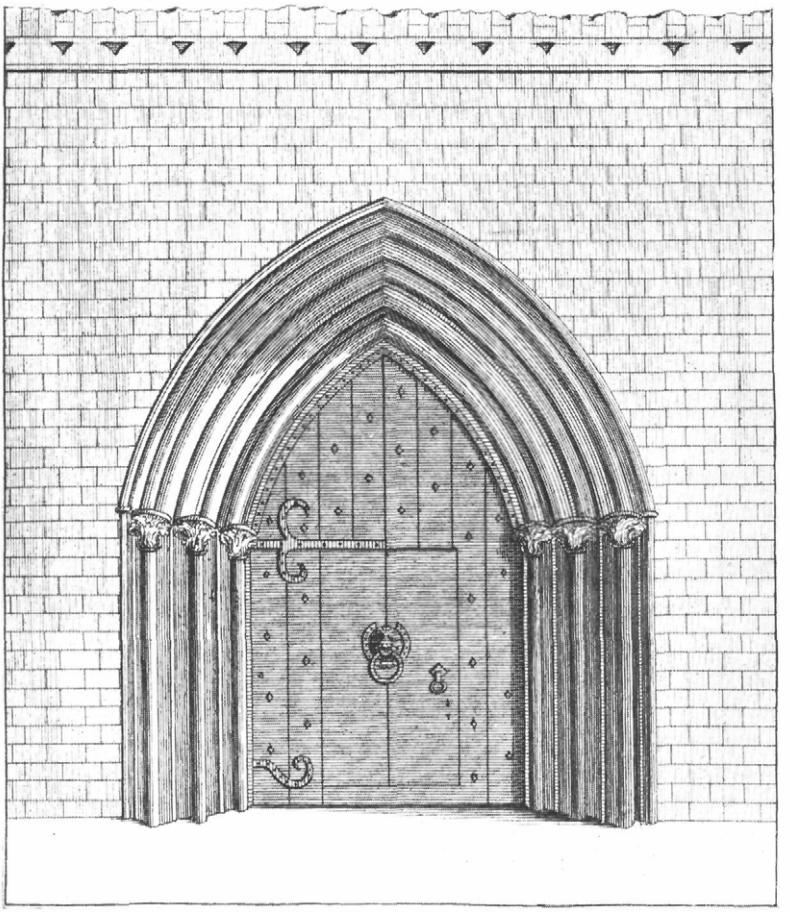
During the darkest months of the winter they remained undisturbed, but on 14 February 1334 the Chancellor and Masters of Oxford wrote to Queen Philippa. They wrote to the Queen because the King was busy with the Scottish war; and they wrote in French as women were not expected to understand Latin:

'To the very noble and very honourable lady, Lady Philippa, by the grace of God Queen of England, her subjects, if it please her, the Chancellor and Masters of the University of Oxford, all respect and honour with very humble obedience. Most honourable lady, for the great good you have often done to your little University of Oxford we give you heartfelt thanks....And for that, lady, certain persons, who have received all their honours among us, to the destruction so far as in them lies of our University, have betaken themselves to Stamford and daily attract others by their illegal assemblies. Be pleased, most noble lady, to give counsel to your humble daughter....'*

But more students left Oxford, and in March, May and July 1334 they arrived at Stamford in such numbers that the Chancellor was seriously alarmed. It was probably in June that he wrote (in Latin) to the Bishop of Lincoln, in whose diocese both Oxford and Stamford lay, saying that the University had decided to send envoys to the Pope and asking the Bishop to secure letters from the King in their support:

'that the strayed sheep may be reunited to the flock and seek again their rich and pleasant pastures, rest together in their wonted fold and spare their fleeces to correction.'*

Shortly afterwards the Chancellor wrote to the King himself begging him (as Peck translates):



BRAZENOSE GATEWAY

'. . . to write to Pope Benedict XII by all means to prohibit the hurtful and pestiferous and so new concourse of their scholars to Stamford under pretence of holding schools there, the same being both a hindrance to their university in particular, as well as a general nursery to the divisions of the whole kingdom.'*

The letter had some effect. The King made no appeal to the Pope, but he took the matter into his own hands and wrote two letters on 2 August* from Windsor, one to John de Trehempton, Sheriff of Lincoln, and one to the Bailiffs of Oxford. Both letters were to the effect that the Sheriff was to forbid, under threat of confiscation of goods, the 'exercising of scholastic acts' anywhere within his jurisdiction; that he was to go himself to Stamford and make a list of all those who disobeyed; and that the King, for his part, would see that speedy justice was administered in Oxford. The trouble was not only that so many had migrated to Stamford but that rioting continued in Oxford. In September the King summoned to Westminster both the Chancellor of the University and the Mayor of Oxford, and appointed a commission consisting of the bishops of Durham, Coventry, Lichfield and Norwich to settle the disturbances.* Meanwhile the Sheriff seems to have done little at Stamford, and on 1 November the King repeated his command to him. This time the Sheriff went to Stamford himself, issued a proclamation, and some of the secessionists returned to Oxford.

It was probably at the end of January 1335 that those remaining at Stamford realized that unless they could win royal favour they would soon be turned out, and accordingly themselves sent a letter to the King, not in Latin, as might have been expected, but in French. They argued that members of other professions could practise where they wished and that it was unreasonable for scholars to be confined to Oxford and Cambridge. Peck translates:

'To our lord the K. & to his council, pray the clerc's residing in the town of Staunford, that, whereas, by reason of many debates, counsels, & differences which long time have been, & still are in the university of Oxenforde, whereby great damages, perils, deaths, murders, maims, & robberies oftentimes have happened, for which, in hopes of the good grace of our lord the K. they have retreated out of the said town of Oxenford to the town of

Staunford, to study and profit more in quiet & in peace than they were wont to do, by permission of the noble man John E. of Waren; that it would please our lord the K. to suffer the said clerc's for the future (which are his liege people) to continue in the said town of Staunford under his protection, as people of all manner of professions of what condition soever, of the liegeance of our lord the K. may remain in any lordship, by leave of the king.'*

The King did not reply to this letter, and as Oxford still remained in commotion there seemed to be a danger that the number of secessionists from the University, which recently had been much reduced, would again increase. On 28 March, therefore, he wrote from Nottingham to Baron William Trussel, 'escheator this side Trent', expressing himself 'much incensed and disturbed' and commanding him to go to Stamford and settle the matter.* The Sheriff of Lincoln, who had twice failed, was to accompany him. Trussel and the Sheriff did as the King commanded and expelled the university men from the town, staying till they had gone. But even this was not the end. The secessionists had been well settled in Stamford and the townspeople had profited from their presence. As soon as Trussel and the Sheriff were gone the students, 'persuaded by the burghers, flew back, & renewed their former discipline for several months'. Trussel went again to Stamford and with an inquisition of twelve on Wednesday, 26 July 1335, received the names of all who still exercised university discipline there. They were:

Magister Gulielmus de Barnebey
Magister Thomas de Kendale
Magister Thomas de Hotoste
Magister Johan. de Whitwell
Magister Gulielm. de Robey
Magister Robertus de Barton
Magister Hugo de Lincolne
Magister Gulielm. de Donelschawe
Magister Simon de Bekyngham
Magister Petrus de Aulebey
Magister Johan. de Stockton
Magister Thomas de Eston
Magister Petrus, Rector S. Petri in Stanfordia
Magister Johan. de Bolton

Magister Thom. de la Mare
Magister Johan. de Ramiston
Magister Robert Bernard
Gulielmus le Bachelaure
Dominus Johan. Blandolfe Rector Ecclesiae de Scottes prope Granthamam
Dominus Henricus, Rector Timwellensis
Dominus Robertus de Bourle Vicarius S. Andreae in Stanfordia
Dominus Henricus, Vicarius Omnium Sanctorum ultra pontem Stanfordianum
Dominus Richardus, Rector S. Georgii in Stanfordia
Gulielmus de Everwickes
Radulphus de Acherche
Gualterus de Notyngham
Johannes de Lincolne
Gualterus de Trekyngham
Johannes de Kirbye-Beliers
Dominus Thomas, Rector de Stanhope
Johannes de Twyselyngton
Hugo de Suttewell
Robertus de Heselbethe
Johannes de Kelemershe
Philippus, Obsonator Eneansensis in Stanfordia
Johannes de Schetlanger
Johannes filius Gilberti de Foderingbey
Johannes filius Galfridi de Bernake*

Of this number seventeen were masters, one a bachelor and seven were parish priests. All the masters were Northerners, of whom three were Yorkshiremen, including William de Barnebey, who in 1310 had been made fellow and in 1321 Bursar of Merton College.* John de Twyselyngton was also a Merton fellow. The only man in the list, except the parish priests, to be given a description was Philip the Brazenose Manciple.

Most of these thirty-eight secessionists, together with a man of some importance referred to by Anthony à Wood as H. de R.,* were removed to Oxford and punished with some loss of goods and possibly imprisonment. With them were others less important, including servants. The parish priests most likely continued to exercise their cure of souls in their parishes. The Brazen Nose

knocker still hung on the door. Probably the whole building was immediately confiscated and none dared tamper with it.

Oxford and Cambridge, however, still had their fears, and both now passed statutes by which all candidates for degrees had to swear that they would not attend or give lectures anywhere except at Oxford or Cambridge. The oath administered at Oxford had a special clause specifying Stamford:

'Item tu jurabis, quod non leges nec audies Stanfordiae, tamquam universitatis studio aut collegio generali.'

When William de Barnebey, who had been one of the leaders of the secession, finding both Oxford and Stamford barred to him, sought to establish himself at Cambridge, the Oxford Chancellor wrote to Cambridge giving warning that William de Barnebey was a notorious rebel and advised the University to have nothing to do with him. It is presumed that Cambridge followed this advice.

So ended the secession. To prevent Stamford becoming a university Oxford had appealed to its bishop, to the Queen and to the King. Against this the secessionists had only been able to set their own pertinacity, the favour of John de Warenne, Lord of the Manor of Stamford, and the support of the Church of Durham. It is no wonder that they failed.* The town of Stamford, however, does not seem to have been seriously affected by the suppression of the embryo university and still remained a seat of learning with its fourteen parish churches, its monastery, nunnery, friaries and hospitals.

A greater change in the life of Stamford came over a hundred years later, in the Wars of the Roses. Through its lord of the manor Stamford was committed to the Yorkist cause and it lay in the path of the Lancastrian Sir Andrew Trollope when he marched south in February 1461. Presumably the town shut its gates, for 'the northern men brent miche of Staunforde tounne'. Churches were demolished. The White Friary itself suffered seriously. Although historians may have tended to exaggerate the lasting effects of the damage, the shock to the town was great and fine buildings undoubtedly were destroyed. But the tables were turned nine years later when the war came near Stamford again and the town had a chance of taking revenge. It was still able to

LADY MARGARET BEAUFORT
Member of St Katherine's Guild
1502

provide a strong contingent for the King; and the army clashed with the Lancastrians three miles north-east of Little Casterton, routed them and pursued them. The battle was named the Battle of Lose Coat Field because, so it is said, the enemy in their efforts to escape threw away their coats and accoutrements.

Much of the town's glory had departed but the work of restoration began. St Martin's was rebuilt and a certain William Browne promoted the restoration of All Saints'. This William Browne was a wealthy merchant of the Staple of Calais. He was six times Alderman, as the Mayor was then called, and founded an almshouse or hospital. His work of piety endures. Browne's Hospital* still stands in Broad Street. It still has its Warden, Confrater, and twelve men and women, after the ruling of the charter given it in 1485. It may not be without significance that the year which saw the charter granted to Browne's Hospital happens to be the year which later historians have taken as marking the end of the Middle Ages. William Browne at the end of the fifteenth century founded his hospital for the aged. The next century looked to the future and was interested in education.

It is not known what schools existed in Stamford at this time. If any monastic schools survived they were soon to disappear with the dissolution of the monasteries. Stamford had suffered in the wars, but at least it recognized the need for education and showed itself fully alive to the spirit of the new age. David Cecil, grandfather of the future Lord Treasurer, was living in the parish of St George's; Lady Margaret Beaufort, mother of Henry VII and founder of St John's College, Cambridge, was a member of St Katherine's Guild* that met in the chamber over the church door of St Paul's; and William Radcliffe, a Stamford burgess, was soon to emulate the piety of William Browne by founding a school. There were thus present at this early date three influences that for over four hundred years have promoted the welfare of Stamford School: the family of Cecil, the patronage of St John's College, Cambridge, and the continued interest of the Aldermen and Mayors of Stamford following William Radcliffe, the Founder, who himself had been four times Alderman of the Borough.

CHAPTER II

THE FOUNDATION

'To educate and bringe uppe children and youthe as well in learnynge as also in Cyvile maners.'

Act of Parliament, 1548/9, confirming the foundation of the School

'Nor they be not more diligent to instruct them in learning then in vertue and good manners.'

THOMAS MORE's *Utopia*, Bk. II, ix, translated by RALPH ROBINSON (O.S.), 1551

THE School was founded by the will of a Stamford citizen, William Radcliffe, in the reign of Henry VIII. The year 1532 may be accepted for the foundation because, although Radcliffe did not make his will until 1 June, the wording of the chantry certificate that quotes the will suggests that he died very soon after making it.* Further, a private Act of Parliament, passed sixteen years later in 1548/9, states that Radcliffe had willed that a schoolmaster should be appointed 'immediately after' his death; and that one had, in fact, been teaching for '*about* seventeen or eighteen years'.*

William Radcliffe and his brother John were sons of Christopher Radcliffe, a man of some substance in Yorkshire. Their mother died when they were young and their father married again. Early in life William came to Stamford, and he is often mentioned in the town records. In 1490 he was admitted to scot and lot (in other words he became liable to local taxation) and the next year was chosen a member of the First Twelve. He was subsequently Alderman (as the Mayor was then called) four times and represented Stamford in Parliament; and between 1505 and 1527 his name appears as a member of St Katherine's Guild. That is nearly all that is known of the Founder.* He married, but died, as the records say, without issue, and appears to have left all his money to endow a priest-schoolmaster to pray for his soul and to teach grammar in the town of Stamford. No copy of his will is known to exist, but it is quoted by the commissioners of Edward VI in

1548 and in the private Act of Parliament of 1548/9. Feoffees (trustees), whose duty it was to choose the schoolmaster, were mentioned in the will.

The choice of the feoffees fell on one Libeus Byard, and they chose well. Although Byard was only twenty-one at the time of his appointment he remained headmaster (or 'schoolmaster' as he was probably called) for at least fifteen years. The Act of 1548/9 was to recognize him as 'honest and learned', and made it plain that the School had been well conducted from the start 'greatly to the benefyte of the same poore towne and to thother Townes thereunto adioynynge'. Byard's reputation certainly spread quickly to Bourne, eleven miles away, where the young William Cecil, who had been born there in 1520, was living in the house of his maternal grandfather. Later in life, as Lord Burghley, he was to be Queen Elizabeth's chief minister for more than a quarter of a century. For a time Cecil went to a school at Grantham endowed in 1528 by Richard Fox. Presumably he was a boarder or weekly boarder.* With him was Ralph Robinson, who was to be the first translator into English of More's *Utopia*.* However, Byard had not long been teaching when Cecil and Robinson both transferred to Stamford, and Cecil probably came to live in the house of David Cecil, his paternal grandfather, who had recently acquired the manor of Stamford Baron by purchase. No doubt Cecil progressed fast under Byard, and in May 1535, at the age of fourteen, he went up to St John's College, Cambridge. His grandfather must have known the Lady Margaret Beaufort, who had founded St John's College twenty-four years earlier, as both had been members of St Katherine's Guild. It is also possible that Byard himself was a Johnian, but records likely to have contained his name have not survived. The eighteenth-century historian Arthur Collins, on the authority of an original manuscript written soon after William Cecil's death by one who had lived in the house with him during the last twenty-five years of his life, writes:

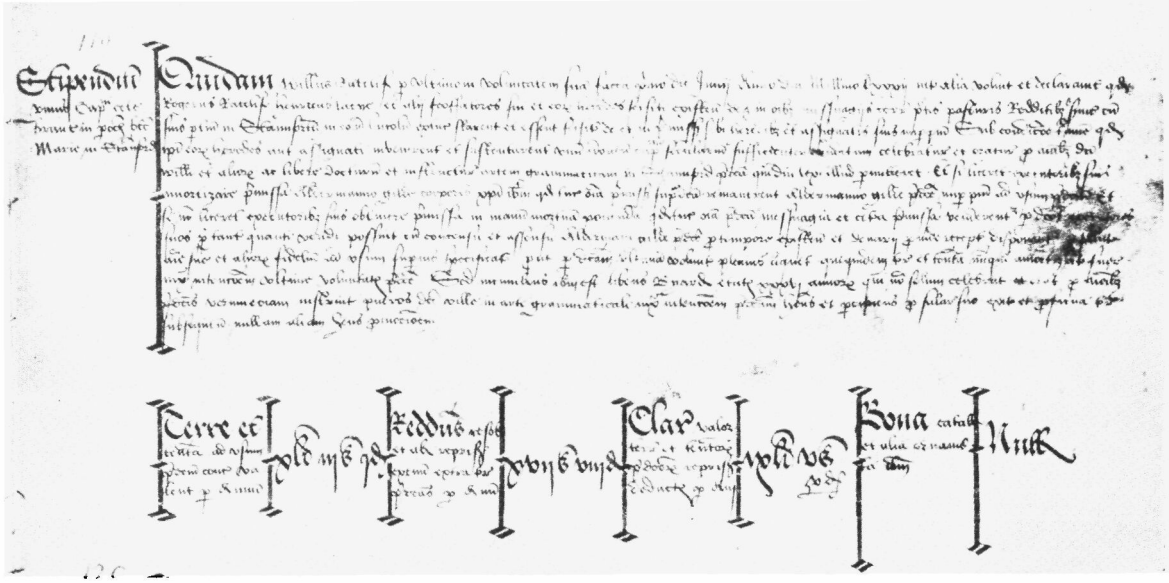
'...his Lordship being, in his infancie so pregnant in witt, and so desirous & apt to lerne as in expectation foretold his great future fortune, was vertuously brought up and taught at schoole at *Grantham* and at *Stameford* in the Countie of *Lincoln*, and at the age of fourtene yeres in *May* 27 *Hen. VIII* he went to *Cambridge*,

where he was Student in St *John's* Colledge, being so diligent and painefull, as he hired the Bell-Ringer to call him up at foure of the clocke every morninge.'

Ralph Robinson, on the other hand, in 1536 went to Corpus Christi College, Oxford, recently founded by Richard Fox.

The School, therefore, began as what is known as a chantry school—where the priest-schoolmaster combined instruction with the saying of prayers for the dead. Possibly the boys were taught in the Corpus Christi Chapel of St Mary's, but, with the advance of the Reformation, chantry schools were in danger of losing their existence. In 1536 Henry VIII had by Act of Parliament abolished the lesser monasteries and in 1539 by another Act had dissolved the greater monasteries. This set an example to private individuals, who began to acquire for themselves the revenues of the many chantries that existed up and down the land. But in 1546 the King again stepped in and appointed commissioners to make a survey of all chantries. With Henry's death in January 1547 the powers of the commissions ceased, and it was left to the advisers of the young Edward VI to promote another Chantries Act in December of the same year.* By this Act, which made special exception of the Oxford and Cambridge Colleges and of Eton and Winchester, Parliament intended to appropriate not only the chantry revenues but the funds of any guilds which it thought were used to support superstition. All were to be vested in the Crown from Easter 1548. Accordingly, in February of that year, some half-dozen or more commissioners were appointed for each county or pair of counties. They were drawn from the local gentry, many of them being the same men as had served on the commissions set up by Henry VIII two years before, and they were told to produce certificates of all chantries, colleges and guilds that they thought should fall to the King under the Act. When the Commissioners came to Stamford they seem to have found all in order and the certificate they drew up shows that Libeus Byard, then a man of thirty-six, was teaching and receiving for his pains the income of Radcliffe's lands amounting, after 16*s.* 8*d.* had been deducted for expenses, to £9. 5*s.* 5*d.* a year.

The certificates of the County Commissioners were to be completed by 31 May, and on 20 June another Commission was



CERTIFICATE OF KING EDWARD VI'S CHANTRIES COMMISSIONERS, 1548

appointed, this time a single commission consisting of only two men. Their task was, on the basis of the county certificates, to issue warrants for the continuance of schools throughout the whole country, and they or their deputies worked with such dispatch that they finished all the business within a month. The relevant passages in the Schools Continuance Warrant for Lincolnshire run:

'And that a grammer Scole hath been contynually kept in Staunforth [etc], with the Revenues of landes geven to the fyndynge of a preest in the Churche of our lady in Staunforth aforesaid, and to teche a grammer Scole in Staunforth aforesaid, and that the Scolemaster of the same Scole had [etc] £9. 5*s*. 5*d*.... And that the saide Scole in Staunforth aforesaide shall contynewe, and that Lybeus Byarde, Scolemaster there, shall have [etc] £9. 5*s*. 5*d*.'

It seems, however, that such warrants were to be regarded only as interim arrangements. Not only were they drawn up in a hurry, but schools were not necessarily the first concern of the two Commissioners, who had to deal with other matters besides, such as pensions and the assignments of curates and vicars. Moreover, the warrants were to run only 'untill suche tyme as other order and direction shall be taken therein, in maner and forme before rehersed'.* For most schools 'other order' never came and at best many were left with an income then fixed and paid by the Crown, to dwindle in real value as money depreciated. But for at least three schools—Berkhamsted, St Albans and Stamford—local pressure brought about the 'other order' by Act of Parliament.*

The position of Stamford School at this time was further complicated by a clause in the Founder's will which made it necessary for the school lands, within a period of twenty-one years from the foundation, to be put in trust to the Guild of Corpus Christi in Stamford, failing which they were to be sold. Though in theory the lands were already confiscate to the Crown by virtue of the second Chantries Act, the position was no doubt obscure and the feoffees seem to have done nothing, probably in the hope that the lands would soon fall into their own hands. It was fortunate that the School had a strong supporter in William Cecil, elected to Parliament in 1547. In September 1548 he became the Protector Somerset's secretary, and it must have been on his initiative that

two private Acts of Parliament* were carried through that winter, the first (No. 50) giving authority for the grouping of parishes in Stamford, and the second (No. 60) confirming the establishment of the School. This Act bears the mark of Cecil's drafting—awareness of the dishonesty of the scheming feoffees, recognition of the value of the School not only to the town but to the neighbouring towns (he had lived at Bourne) and affection for his late schoolmaster. Moreover, in a forthright way, it placed the responsibility for the future guidance of the School firmly upon the Alderman of the town and his successors and upon the successive Masters of Cecil's old college. The Alderman was to choose the headmaster, but it was to be with the approval of the Master of St John's, who was also to make rules for the School.*

A copy of these rules has recently come to light. They show how rigorous school life was then—scholars to be at school before six o'clock in the summer and seven in the winter, with evening prayers concluding the day at either five o'clock in the winter or six in the summer. All were to be examined in reading and writing before being admitted. However, it is to be wondered whether the rule was always observed that stated 'ITEM the Schollers shall speak in the Latine Tongue as well in the Streets and their playing as Else where'. These rules are reproduced in Appendix VIII.

The School was governed by its Act until 1871. But the other Act (No. 50), concerning the grouping of parishes, was indirectly to have an effect upon the School that lasted even longer. This Act recognized that with the decay of trade and also the devaluation of money the worth of livings had depreciated 'so that a greate sorte of them are not a competent and honest living for a good Curate... by reason whereof the said Boroughe and Towne is not onlye replenyshed with blynde guydes and pastoures but also the people muche kept in ignorance'. It accordingly gave authority to the 'ordinarye and Alderman of the same Towne and two Justices of peace in the said Countie to Unyte and knytte together the said paryshes into a fewer number'. They were given powers to pull down the churches which they thought superfluous and to 'bestowe the same towards the reparacions and enlargement of the other churches and brydges of the said Borowe and

Towne and the Amending of high wayes and to the relief of the poure people'. This Act may have regularized to some extent in Stamford some of the worst of the confusion and spoliation that was suffered by many parishes in England during the next two or three years. But Stamford did not escape entirely. Certainly St Paul's was pillaged and part of it, including the belfry, pulled down.

It seems that during this period of upheaval the School left the Corpus Christi Chapel of St Mary's and moved into a schoolroom which was formed within the remains of St Paul's. At this time Byard may no longer have been headmaster. He had probably felt his position insecure as a chantry priest and in 1547 had been appointed to the living of West Deeping, five miles from Stamford. It is quite possible that he held this living in plurality, as we still hear of him as rector there in 1551, although in 1550 he had been appointed to All Saints' in Stamford.* Under the Act the townspeople had been given all the authority they needed, and in about 1551 an Instrument was drafted for the incorporation of the parish of St Paul's with the parish of St George's.* The Instrument is a rambling document and mentions that the revenues of St Paul's were sunk to a mere £1. 13*s.* 4*d.* a year, and those of St George's to £3. 10*s.* 8*d.*, which sums were 'so slender and scanty that they are not sufficient in these days for the support of two honest Curates'. The parish of St Paul's, therefore, was to be incorporated in the parish of St George's; but at the same time the Instrument made it clear that the ground upon which the School had been erected, together with the old churchyard around which a wall had been built, was to be exempt and was to be reserved for the 'School and the Ministers and Scholars thereof'. Thereafter whatever remained of 'walls, stones, timbers, glass, iron, doors, windows, bells, belfrey, books, chalices, jewels and other ecclesiastical ornaments' was to be at the disposal of St George's and also used, as the Act had permitted, in the repair of parish roads and the town bridge or for the relief of the poor. The Instrument, which bears signs of redrafting, was sealed on 23 February 1553.

Three thirteenth-century pillars still standing indicate that St Paul's had been a church of considerable size and that the

schoolroom was built in what had once been the south aisle.* It was well fitted for its new purpose. The large east window and two south windows, either inserted or enlarged at this time, gave it ample light. The pillars lent it dignity. It was situated within the walls to the north-east of the town in a quiet corner between New Gate and St Paul's Gate. Country carts passed it coming from the Fens, but it was far removed from whatever traffic or adventure moved up and down the Great North Road.

The School took some time to adapt itself to new circumstances. By 1553 Byard was no longer headmaster, and despite the recent provisions the School's income had sunk to less than £6 a year; although it was probably as much as the now combined revenues of St Paul's and St George's, it was not enough to attract a schoolmaster. The townspeople accordingly had begun to take action. By common consent (so it was alleged) of the parishioners they had already appropriated and sold plate and jewels from the Stamford churches, belonging to the disbanded guilds, and had taken over guild lands.* With the proceeds they had bought slum property, 'divers decayed houses and tenements', and added the rents to the Radcliffe endowment. They professed that the motive for their actions was 'the exhibition and finding of an honest, learned man continually to teach Grammar'. They were, nevertheless, acting precipitately and were suddenly alarmed to learn that 'the plate and jewels above mentioned are now called for to be answered to the King's Majesty'. The Alderman, therefore, John Fenton, together with his Burgesses, wrote in distress on 28 April 1553 to Sir William Cecil that 'for the love of God and in the way of charity it may please you to make a suit to the King's Majesty for us that, by your means, this godly act begun [the founding of the School] may have a perpetual continuance'. What the result of the letter was is not known. But the next year, when the Roman Catholic Queen Mary had succeeded the Protestant Edward VI, we hear of William Campynett, Fenton's successor as Alderman, writing to Sir William Cecil and complaining of Fenton, alleging that he had spoiled the churches, recently united, 'contrary to the Commission'.*

Whatever Sir William Cecil may have done about Fenton, he is seen two or three years later using his influence with the Alderman

to raise the headmaster's salary, for a successor to Byard had by that time been found in one John Beaumont, possibly appointed later in 1553. He is the second headmaster of whom we have record, and nearly all we know of him comes from a single letter he wrote to Sir William Cecil, in elegant Latin and a good hand, on 5 December 1556. In it he thanked Cecil for the raising of his salary, for which, he said, he was particularly grateful in view of rising prices and the general cost of living. Among other things he mentioned that he had been overwhelmed by the number of boys and the Alderman had allowed that 'one of the priests of the town, an energetic and learned man, should teach with me'. And it was without flattery that he could write 'I have always remarked your great affection for this our school'.* We do not know when Beaumont ceased to be headmaster. He was certainly alive in 1557, as in that year he was trying to secure the living of Market Deeping for a friend of his.* And at the same time the Burgesses were writing to Cecil seeking for further endowments for their schoolmaster and usher whom they were anxious to retain.* A few years later the Master of St John's was also playing his part according to his obligation under the Act, and was in correspondence with the Alderman about the rules for the School.*

The School seems to have flourished under Beaumont, with the aid of Cecil's patronage. In 1559 Cecil became Chancellor of the University of Cambridge, and he attended the Queen on her state visits to Cambridge in 1564 and Oxford in 1566. He was a generous benefactor to his old college, and, among other benefactions, in 1581 he made over to St John's rents of lands in Northamptonshire amounting to £20 a year. With this the college increased the commons of the Lady Margaret scholars from a penny a day to a shilling a week, and, in return, St John's granted to Cecil (now Lord Burghley) and his heirs for ever the nomination to the college of 'one meet scholar out of Stamford School'.*

By 1583 Beaumont had been succeeded as headmaster by Thomas Atherton of Trinity College, Cambridge,* who remained at the school three years. He was followed by one of Stamford's more colourful headmasters, Robert Browne.

Browne had been born nearby at Tolethorpe and was of the family of that William Browne who had founded Browne's

Hospital.* He had gone up to Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, in 1570 where there was a strongly puritan Master, and in the years that immediately followed, as part schoolmaster but mostly preacher, he had violently and incessantly denounced anything that was popish. He had attracted a wide following known as Brownists and had himself twice been imprisoned and once excommunicated. But Cecil was a friend of the family and when Browne's health broke down after prison he secured for him the mastership of Stamford. This seems to have been a turning point for him, and no trouble (nor, indeed, anything) is reported of him during his six years at the School. And his life later, as Rector of Achurch, appears also to have been blameless until suddenly, at the age of eighty, he struck a constable, who was demanding a rate, and again went to prison, where he died. It is ironical that we know nothing about the School itself during these years except that one of the boys appears to have been Thomas Wilson, who later, as Sir Thomas Wilson, was appointed Her Majesty's Keeper of Records.* But Browne himself had secured immortality of a sort from Shakespeare's Sir Andrew Aguecheek who maintained that he would 'as lief be a Brownist as a politician'.

CHAPTER III

THIRTEEN HEADMASTERS
1591–1691

Novit multa et multis impertiit.
From an epitaph to RAYNER HERMAN, headmaster, who died 1668

FOR the hundred years 1591–1691 the School seems to have been prosperous. Its surviving records are mostly concerned with its headmasters, of whom there were thirteen during the period. The appointment still lay in the hands of the Alderman of Stamford and the Master of St John's College, Cambridge, and this led to long correspondence and sometimes to differences between them. But the School owed much during the seventeenth century, as it has since, to the guidance of St John's. Without it and without the patronage of the family of Cecil the School would have remained purely local and of less significance. Throughout the century boys continued to go up to St John's and other colleges. Although it is to be presumed that many boys were trained to be apprenticed in the town or neighbourhood, the purpose of the School was understood to be the preparation of students for the University.*

The first headmaster during this period was Robert Mylles, appointed fresh from St John's College, Cambridge, probably in 1591. He is known only from references in the registers of St George's Church and from some verse he wrote which was included in a manuscript collection of poems, made by a friend of his at Cambridge, and now in the Bodleian Library. One of the poems particularly concerns Stamford. It seems that there had been disturbances in the town and the people had appealed to Cecil for help. The young headmaster, probably Cecil's protégé, played his part by composing a poem in praise of peace. He imagines Philomel, the nightingale, perched on a tree in the

Meadows, admonishing the citizens. The poem concludes:

> Thus sat philomela Harpinge of peace
> Redoublynge noughte but peace with warblynge voyce.
> Jove grant your jarrs, Stamfordians, to surcease
> And of this peace to send a well won choyce.
> With hei nonne no peace, peace nonne no hei.
> Where peace is perpetuall bleste is that citty.*

By 1594 Mylles had been succeeded by a certain Samuel Johnson, described as 'schoolmaster of the Free School' and referred to in the St George's registers. He was licensed (all schoolmasters had to be licensed) at St Mary's where he is called 'master of the grammar school'.* He was presumably headmaster and possibly the only master.

When in 1598 the headmastership was vacant a St John's man, Robert Newton, was appointed, but although he was only twenty years of age he does not seem to have valued his appointment and two years later became Warden of Browne's Hospital. It is possible that he combined the duties of warden and headmaster until he married in 1602.*

The next headmaster of whom we know, Richard Swann, also a Johnian, took his degree early in 1602 and may well have been appointed straight from the University. His father was Vicar of Ryhall, two and a half miles north of Stamford, and he himself may have been an old boy of the School. He became headmaster at a difficult time, for in 1604 the town suffered severely from plague. Being placed on the Great North Road, Stamford was more exposed than most towns, and the visitation of 1604 was one of the worst in its history, as the records of burials in the parish registers show.* The School must surely have suffered too, but in contrast to the town it began to grow more prosperous and in 1609 received a welcome present when a certain Thomas Bellot gave the headmaster a house. Bellot with eight other gentlemen of the district bought for £50 from Nicholas Lambe of Stamford 'a house, garden and orchard with ground adjoining...in the parish of St Paul's...for the benefit, behoof, abode and dwelling house of Richard Swann, then Schoolmaster of the Free School in Stamford,...from Schoolmaster to Schoolmaster for ever'.* A

stone was inscribed commemorating the gift and, having been twice moved, now stands in the wall outside a small room, formerly the porter's room. It reads:

DONUM
M: THO BELLOT
STAMFORDIAE
GYMNASI
ARCHIS
ANO DNI
1609

that is, 'The gift of Thomas Bellot, Esq., to the headmasters of Stamford School 1609'. It was probably this Thomas Bellot who had been the Lord Treasurer's Steward and to whom on his deathbed Burghley had entrusted his will, saying, 'I have ever found thee true to me and I now trust thee with all'.* It seems that the house Bellot gave was a good one. Only twelve years before when Shakespeare, at last a comparatively wealthy man, had returned to Stratford to buy New Place, he paid no more than £60 for it, although it was the most important house in the town.*

That Swann was a good schoolmaster there can be no doubt. The *Libri Cleri* at Lincoln can record of him in 1611: 'Stamford Schole. Richard Swann was Scholemaster—of good behaviour. Stipend XVIII £ per annum.' A further suggestion of the importance of the School under Swann was the endowment in 1613 by the Earl of Exeter (Lord Burghley's eldest son) of eight scholarships to Clare Hall, Cambridge, and the stipulation that the Hall 'shall principally prefer such persons of the said University as formerly have been taught and instructed in the School at Stamford'.* Unfortunately for the School a further clause was added, 'if...they shall be found fit and able as others which shall be competitors for the said scholarships'. This clause, whatever may have been the intention of the Earl of Exeter, threw the scholarships open to all comers.

In April 1612 Swann was ordained deacon and a few months later instituted Rector of St Michael's, Stamford. He was also holding, in plurality, a curacy at St Mary's. At some period he was seeking counsel's opinion about the 'original donation of the

schole, thinking he had some wrong therein'.* Competent legal opinion supported him. Nothing seems to have come of it at the time, but more was to be heard of it later.

In 1618 a new headmaster was appointed, Thomas Newborough, on the warm recommendation of the Countess of Exeter, whose son's tutor he had been:

'...my son's schoolm^{r} at this time who is an antient Master in Arts a good scholar (as I am very credibly informed) both for Latin, Greek and Hebrew, and particularly such a one as is much given to good books and of a very temperate and orderly disposition for his carriage...'*

Unfortunately, he did not live up to his testimonial. He survived as headmaster for six years and was then dismissed. The first entry in the Corporation Minutes, dated 6 June 1623, that directly relates to the School, records

'the great negligence of Newborough, School^{m} of the Free School of Stamford he hath ever used in teaching of his scholars... to the very great damage and hindrance of the Town, which complaint being duly examined hath been found just whereupon the said Newborough hath had divers warnings he was altogether careless of...therefore it is agreed upon by the s^{d} Alderman, Comburgesses and Capital Burgesses here assembled that the said Newborough for the cause before named is dismissed...and shall have warning to provide for himself against the Feast of St Michael the Archangel next ensuing....'

The Alderman by himself, with the consent of the Master of St John's College, was legally responsible for the appointment of the headmaster, but the Corporation quite naturally assumed responsibility with him. They were anxious to find a better successor, and at their next meeting recorded that 'divers suits had been made' for the appointment but that they preferred to make inquiries 'for such a man that is both grave and approved to the world to be a good schoolm^{r}... to the intent that the credit of our school may be recovered'.

The Corporation, accordingly, seem to have played for safety and they appointed Lionel Lambe, a man probably well known in Stamford already, for it was his sister that Newton had married twenty years before. It is likely enough that Lambe took straight

over from Newborough in 1623 but, if this was so, the Corporation was slow to ratify the appointment. In a letter dated 29 July 1625 the Alderman, Henry Rastell, wrote to Dr Gwynn, Master of St John's, recommending Lambe and explaining fully the terms of the appointment as though they had been little known or observed in recent years. The Master, too, waited some time in order to learn further what powers he had in the matter before giving his approval.

The School quickly recovered under Lambe, and the Corporation, continuing to take an interest in its welfare, made an allowance in 1627 of £12 to provide an usher. Also in the same year John Marshall of the Borough of Southwark left for the benefit of the School certain moneys to provide scholarships.* But Lambe resigned in 1629. In 1637 he became Vicar of St Martin's and in 1640 Confrater of Browne's Hospital. It is not known when he died, or whether he remained Confrater during the Civil War and the Commonwealth. His successor as Confrater was not appointed till 1660. If Lambe in fact lived on in the town to see the Restoration, he must have seen, too, an interesting and successful thirty years at the School.

These years began with the inevitable delay in the appointment of another headmaster. The Alderman, Peter Fulwood, in 1629 proposed William Dugard, a man of twenty-three, who since coming down from Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, had been an usher at Oundle. It is possibly because he was a Sidney Sussex man that the Master of St John's at first withheld his approval, preferring one Buddle, probably a Johnian. Nevertheless, Dugard seems to have been teaching at Stamford before the end of 1629 as his son Richard was baptized there in December. Nor was Dugard the kind of man to be hindered by such a formality as the Master's approval. There are no letters for this period from the Master of St John's, but there are several to him from the Alderman, preserved in the College Library. On 12 February 1631 the Alderman, Richard Wolphe, wrote a letter to the Master under the Borough Seal. The plague had been visiting the district again, and the letter shows incidentally something of the effect that the plague and the fear of the plague had upon communications in those days:

'Whereas the bearer hereof William Dugard, Master in Arts, hath been heretofore nominated and propounded to your worship as a fitt man to supply the place of a schoolmaster in the corporation and your worship deferred your approbation of him till... Mr Buddle (who was then a competitor for the place) had surceased, these are therefore to signify to your Worship that Mr Buddle hath not only surceased, but (as we heard) is placed in a good benefice in Lincolnshire. I therefore again propound unto you Mr Dugard (experience of whose painefull diligence hath fully confirmed the good opinion...of him) and therefore desire your worship's approbation of him. I too had long since repaired to your worship had not God's inevitable hand hindered safe passage unto the University; but now (God be praised) we conceive good hopes that not only God hath stayed his destroying hands, but also the povety of those that suffered by reason of want hath not only been relieved by the charitable devotions of neighbouring towns (among which the town of Stamford according to her ability hath shewed her good will and affection to the University) but now will be helped by the repair of scholars thither again. Thus commending the bearer hereof to you....'*

At the foot of this letter is a note, in another hand, presumably that of the Master, to the effect that he had taken his time but in the meanwhile Mr Buddle had been got to Grantham.

Nevertheless, the Master still refused his approval and Dugard asked the Alderman for a formal testimonial. This was granted and a letter was sent to the Master dated 16 April 1631 commending Dugard, who

'gives us good hopes for the future that his painefull endeavours will not only prove profitable to the Town for the instruction of youth in good literature but also help to supply the University with such who with their learning and religious carriage may prove fruitful instruments of God's glory either in the church or common-wealth. And this having certified the good opinion of him wee doubt not but you will please to confirm the same by your approbation. In the meantime we rest

Your loving servants,...'

The name of Richard Wolphe, Alderman, follows with thirteen others. It may be presumed that the Master's approval was then given.

Dugard's later history shows him to have been a man of independent mind, and there can be little doubt that he set about his work at Stamford with energy. He was a good schoolmaster but also a man of affairs, and he soon began to tackle the School's finances. The income of the School was derived from lands and property under control of the Alderman, who had many opportunities for deducting a proportion of the income for other purposes before handing the remainder to the headmaster. At least in the eighteenth century and possibly in the seventeenth century too the Corporation let out the property at low rents on condition of receiving initially a lump payment down, called a 'fine'. The rents went to the headmaster, but the Corporation often kept the fines. Dugard began to press the Alderman. On 7 May 1635 the Earl of Exeter wrote to Archbishop Laud: 'Mr Dugard, schoolmaster, intends a suit in the High Commission, on pretence of the concealment of lands by the Alderman and Burgesses, a work, if true, both pious and fit to be reformed, yet of small yearly value...', and he asked the Archbishop to refer it to Commissioners.* The case seemed to have been settled out of court, but the issue was raised by Dugard's successor. It may have been in connexion with this suit that Dugard the same year was able to persuade the Master of St John's to use his power under the Act to make some alterations in the rules of the School, to which, for some reason, the Bishop of Lincoln was called upon to give his approval.* In 1637 Dugard left Stamford. No memorial remains to him at the School, but in the Library of St Mary's Church there is a catalogue which he compiled in his own hand and also a book he gave to the Library.*

Dugard's successor at Stamford was Simon Humphreys.

'These monies under written was gathered for the hiring of carts to bring Mr Humphrey's goods to towne, he being elected schoolmaster of the free-schoole of Stamforde.'

So run the minutes of the Corporation for 25 February 1638. Humphreys was arriving from Melton where he had been headmaster. Like Dugard he had been at Sidney Sussex College and had taken his M.A. there in 1617. He seems to have been a good schoolmaster and under him a regular succession of boys went up to Cambridge. He was also more successful than his predecessors

in raising the legal issue of the misuse of School lands. In 1639 he obtained a Commission of Charitable Uses and an inquisition was held at the Swan in Stamford under Sir Edward Hussey. As a result, by a decree of 15 January 1640, certain long leases of School property at low rents improperly granted by various Aldermen in the reign of Elizabeth I were set aside and arrears ordered to be paid to the headmaster. Up till that time the income to the School from land seems to have been £30, but it was then considerably increased.*

Whether Humphreys was a royalist as Dugard had been is not known, but the outbreak of the Civil War in 1642 does not seem to have had any bad effects on the School. In 1644 Cromwell was at Burghley House, and in 1646 Charles I as a fugitive passed a night in Stamford. Nevertheless, during the four years 1642–5 Humphreys sent at least six boys to St John's, where Cromwell's troops had been quartered, and six to other colleges; and he sent six more in the years 1647–8. Humphreys died in 1657 and was buried at St George's on 24 September. Four days later, Edward Browne and John Richardson, Burgesses, writing to Mrs Tuckney, wife of the Master of St John's, said, 'our Free School here is voyd by the death of Mr Humphreys... besides a dwelling house... £50 per annum... will Dr Tuckney think of a man?'

The two Burgesses had taken upon themselves to write to Mrs Tuckney fearing the election of a Mr Hix of Oundle whom in ecclesiastical matters they described as a High Arminian. But, the day after, they had second thoughts and asked Mrs Tuckney to wait, as the Alderman would soon be out of office and they thought his successor would choose a better man. On 25 October they wrote, 'Our Alderman hath nominated Mr Herman.... Wee are pleased with the converse we have had with him.' The Master replied immediately, giving his approval to 'Mr Harman'.*

Herman, who had been born in Holland and educated at Westminster and Pembroke Hall and had recently been teaching in Sussex, was forty when appointed to Stamford. In 1660 the Earl of Exeter procured him the appointment of Confrater to Browne's Hospital and, in 1662, he became Rector of Tinwell, a mile and a half west of Stamford. Pupils were sent by him to St John's up to 1662 and another to Christ's in 1663. But in 1664

a Mr Shalcross appears as sending a pupil from Stamford to St John's, and it seems likely that by this time he had taken over from Herman and had come to live in the headmaster's house which we find in the Corporation Minutes was repaired that year. Shalcross died in 1666 and Herman two years later.

There is an inscription to Herman in Tinwell Church, at the east end, high on the south wall of the chancel, at an angle very difficult to see. It runs as follows:

Rainerus jacet Heic
Hermanus Origine
Tanger, Qui novit
Multa et Multis Imper
tijt in quo Docte cum
Cultis Habitarum meri
bus artes, Christi Sanc
ta Fides Zelus pietatis Avite
Aetatis: 5j:
October 18
Obijt Anno Domom;
1668

It is a pity that Herman could not have guided the engraver's hand and saved him from so many faults in copying. Emended the Latin might be translated: 'Here lies Rayner Herman of Antwerp. He knew much and to many he imparted knowledge. In him dwelt learning and gentle manners, a holy trust in Christ and a zeal for the goodness of his fathers. He died at the age of 51 on 18 October in the year of Our Lord 1668.'

Samuel Geery was the next headmaster.* After he left Emmanuel College, Cambridge, he went as headmaster to Wakefield Grammar School 1663–5 and was at Stamford by 1666. He died in the summer of 1673. In 1674 a John Shepherd, 'Schoolmaster', was buried at St George's, and it seems probable that he taught at the School.* But in September of the previous year the name of Joseph Sedgwick appears in the St George's registers and he is later described as 'clark' and 'schoolmaster'; and his name is attached to one of the boys going to Cambridge from Stamford in 1681. The same year he was followed by Robert Smith.

Practically the only written record that survives of the ten years that Smith was headmaster is the sorry translation of a sorry Latin

speech made to the Mayor by one of the boys at the Mayor's procession in 1686. The custom of the speech may have originated from the Act of 1548/9 when the Alderman became so closely connected with the School. Richard Butcher, town clerk of Stamford, writing some years later, says of the Mayor's procession, 'and in divers Places as they pass the Scholars of the Free Grammar School do pronounce before them several Orations in Greek and Latin'. (This is the only mention of more than one speech.) The speech of 1686 is full of flattery and was translated at the request of the Mayoress. It will be enough, and perhaps more than enough, to quote one sentence:

'But amongst all the preludes of an eloquent oration, our Corporation of Stamford doth chiefly boast in that it is exceedingly pleased with its most ingenious and expert Mayor, a Mayor instructed in sacred things, careful and vigilant in the same, exercised in much business, having a treasure of vertue that is inexhaustible, that he hath brought more splendour to this office than he received from his predecessors.'

Drakard, the nineteenth-century historian, well comments in his book that the speeches were 'replete with such flattery as must nauseate the very person to whom they were addressed, besides affording a very proper subject of ridicule to others'.* The custom of the oration ended forty-three years later when the orator for the year let his sense of humour outrun his discretion.

Robert Smith was a Lincolnshire man and had been at Clare Hall, Cambridge. He sent a few boys to Trinity and St John's. He died in 1691. Perhaps not the least of his services to the School was a connexion he maintained with his old college, for it was from Clare Hall that his successor, William Turner, was to come.

CHAPTER IV

THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

'Dinner to be on the Table at Three O'Clock.'
Notice of Old Stamfordian Dinner, in
Mercury, 31 August 1778

THE eighteenth century was in general a period of good living and bad education in England.* However, at Stamford, during the eighty years 1691–1771, there were only three headmasters and the School flourished with a more than local reputation. The first of these three was William Turner, who was appointed in 1691, apparently without controversy, and who does not seem to have taken part in any disputes while at Stamford. It may be imagined that he devoted himself to teaching and that the School was well served by him. He was a scholar and grammarian, like many schoolmasters writing his own schoolbooks (*Turner's Exercises*) and publishing them. His name appears in the correspondence of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, founded in 1698, which sent round parcels of books to schools from their headquarters, and sometimes included Turner's books with them. He himself received books from them for the Bluecoat School which was founded in 1704 and established in Brazenose House, rebuilt sixteen years before. Here boys and girls were taught trades and especially spinning, and Turner seems to have taken a personal interest in them.*

In 1714 Turner increased the School property, by an indenture of 24 March purchasing 'all that messuage or tenement with the appurts. situate standing and being next the free school' for £76. Up till then we only know the School to have consisted of the schoolroom, the site of the old churchyard and the headmaster's house and grounds given in 1609.

In 1717 a series of dialogues was performed at the School based on a comic play, *Bellum Grammaticale*,* by Andreas Guarna, which had been acted in 1592 before Queen Elizabeth at Christ Church, Oxford. The characters of the play, which was in Latin, included

'Poet, King of the Nouns'; 'I, Leader of the Pronouns'; 'Pape, Leader of the Interjections'; and 'Cis, Queen of the Prepositions'. The scene was set 'in the camp of the Nouns'. This was clearly a subject that appealed to Turner, and he may have been influenced in choosing it by some local association, as a copy of the play printed in 1635 had been dedicated to Thomas Grey, son and heir of the first Earl of Stamford.

Turner sent a number of boys to St John's and Trinity. Himself a Clare man, having been at school at Merchant Taylors', he has received particularly favourable mention in the *Clare College History*, which says that under him the School was 'considered second only to Westminster'.*

In 1720 a William Jephson,* Curate of St Martin's and probably a relative of Francis Peck, was acting as usher, but otherwise little else is known of the School during Turner's time. He resigned in 1723, but although he was sixty-five he did not retire, and was appointed headmaster of Colchester Grammar School, where he remained until his death in 1726. In the Library of St Mary's Church there are still several books that he gave to the church at the time of his leaving Stamford.

The fact that Turner could continue at another school after leaving Stamford does not suggest that his powers had far declined. The School was clearly in a good state when William Hannes, a man of forty-eight, late chaplain at Magdalen College, Oxford, Rector of Newton Purcell in Oxfordshire and for six years usher and, later, second master at Magdalen College School, was appointed headmaster.* Hannes was the School's first headmaster from Oxford, and he appears to have had a friend in George Fothergill, a barrister and fellow of St John's.* He came strongly recommended and was said to be a 'very learned, sober, valuable and worthy man, of true orthodox principles and of an exemplary life and character'. On his arrival he found one Jacob Dodd acting as usher.

At first Hannes carried all before him. The Corporation held the highest opinion of him. The headmaster's house had been improved under Turner but the Corporation now pulled down the front of it and rebuilt it,* having raised for the purpose a sum of £129 by public subscription headed by Lord Exeter. The

contemporary historian Howgrave described the renovated house as 'magnificent as well as convenient and fit to receive gentlemen's sons of any distinction'. Probably about this time the Bellot inscription was removed to the south wall of the courtyard of the headmaster's house. In 1724 Hannes was preaching the Charity Sermon in All Saints' on behalf of the Wells Petty School; and in 1727 he was one of the subscribers to Francis Peck's *History of Stamford* which was published that year. But at some period the Corporation began to realize that all was not as they had thought. It may be that a change came in 1728 when Hannes was appointed Rector of Kirkby Mallory, a village twenty-seven miles away in Leicestershire, at the same time retaining his appointment at Stamford. He certainly left the usher to deputize for him in the School, but the townspeople who could tolerate pluralism in parsons found such pluralism in their schoolmaster too much for them. Matters came to a head in a curious way in 1729, at the time of the election of the Mayor (as the Alderman had been called since 1664) and the making of the Latin oration. The head boy of that year, apparently abetted by his headmaster, took the opportunity to ridicule the Mayor, Charles Shipley, who was a rope-maker and provision dealer. The head boy, trusting to the Mayor's ignorance of Latin, made fun of him and his profession. (A copy of the verses is in the Library of St John's College, Cambridge, and the writing is the headmaster's.) Some person told the Mayor that he was 'most ignominiously and scandalously abused' in the verses, and for the Mayor's edification had them translated in a sense rather worse than the original.* The translation, or rather paraphrase, ran:

To the Mayor of Stamford, 1729

All hail your Worship! Hail fam'd Stamford's Mayor,
Success and happiness attend your care.
A man more lov'd, no city's annals tell,
Nor one more useful to the common weal.
Of pains and skill what great variety
Has raised your merit to this dignity.
The bristl'd stores 'tis difficult to reckon
Which grunting feed to furnish us with bacon,
And good milch-kine in several counties low
Us to supply with cheese, with money you.

Tho' nicer tastes more modern customs please
The heartiest breakfast still is bread and cheese.
Where appetite is keen, how good the dinner
Bacon and sprouts afford to saint and sinner.
But spinsters three, as say the Poets learned,
Are with the thread of human life concerned,
Thousands of hands your different arts employ
That you in plenty may the world enjoy.
These beat, those dress, some turn the nimble wheel
Whilst humming spools from less'ning distaffs swell,
Some at the coarser loom, some finer weave
(Sonnets or merry tales their toil deceive)
Hence sacks to hold, and sheets to winnow corn
And ships by sails to distant realms are borne,
No more is wanting to commend that skill
Which can the money bag both make and fill.
The hempen twist, when with impetuous smack
It pain imparts to little villain's back,
Or to the beam transvers'd, the greater ties
(Quick interrupting breath and rogueries)
Shows to what art and vegetable 'tis owing
That power and property are kept from ruin,
Since of success, when gentler methods fail
The fear or fate of this does still prevail.

A petition for the removal of Hannes was signed by eighty-three people and supported by the Earl of Exeter. Evidence was collected and a copy sent to the Master of St John's. It was alleged that Hannes had neglected prayers and catechism and that on more than one occasion he had been absent from School for several months together. When there he did not appear for more than two hours a day. He did not correct work, but on the contrary made the holidays long and charged higher fees. The numbers in the School fell. The depositions of six boys or old boys were taken, and that of the usher Mr Dodd. One boy named Anthony Wingfield, recently left, maintained that Hannes never read prayers more than once a month and Dodd never more than once a week. Hannes, if he came to School, did not come before 10 a.m. and then only stayed a short time. He could be seen sleeping in his study for hours on end. A Richard Peale said that 'he often said the same lesson for a week together without the

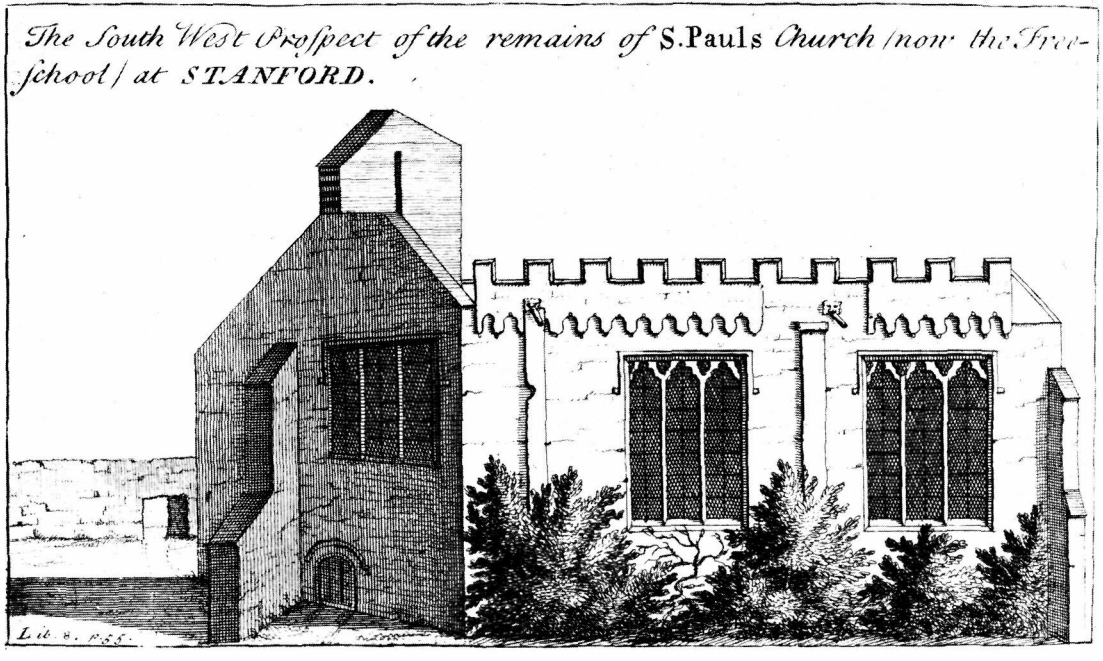
said Mr Hannes taking any notice thereof'. He had once been told to construe twelve chapters of Greek Testament. Hannes slept through three chapters and then woke up to say that he had construed all very well. Neither of these witnesses, however, was without a grudge against the headmaster. We learn from a letter of Hannes to a friend at St John's that Hannes had certified Wingfield as not fit for a university; and Peale was 'the most impudent boy who ever came into a school... he left upon being corrected with the ferula'.

Hannes could not deny the charges of absence. They were due 'to some necessary avocations, for he has lately married, and his courtship and addresses took up some time, and he lately having a living given him... by Sir Cloberry Noel, one of his pupils at Oxford'. His absences and the fact that the School was reduced almost to nothing are sufficient evidence of Hannes's failure as headmaster. But it would be a pity to judge him entirely by the standards of another age. The beginning of the eighteenth century was a tolerant time and Hannes was tolerant and himself expected tolerance. Moreover, he had his supporters, including William Noel, Member of Parliament for Stamford. The Master of St John's suggested that the Mayor should send for Hannes, and if he found his answers unsatisfactory he should dismiss him and suggest to the Bishop that he revoke his licence. Hannes was accordingly summoned to appear before the Mayor on 26 May. He received the summons just as he was setting off for Leicestershire. He went to his parish but his lawyer persuaded him to come back. He made the journey, twenty-seven miles on horseback, in considerable discomfort, suffering from the stone. In a letter to the Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge Hannes said that not to meet the Mayor might have allowed a situation to arise which would be bad for future headmasters, some of whom might not have private means. Nevertheless, Hannes sent a note to the Mayor on 26 May saying he would not attend.

The summer passed and Hannes still remained headmaster. His usher was now following his example of pluralism, as in June he had been instituted Vicar of Castle Bytham, some six miles from Stamford. This was in addition to a curacy at St George's and the post of Confrater at Browne's Hospital. In October Shipley was

succeeded as Mayor by Holcot, who renewed the pressure to remove Hannes. He wrote to the Master of St John's saying that the School was reduced to five boys. Soon it would be four and, of those, two would leave at the end of November. Hannes himself wrote to the Master on 14 November to say that he had been 'so very ill that most likely my death would have ended the dispute... now I am better it (my answer) will be finished and sent as soon as I possibly can'. But he did not finish it and before the end of the next month was dead.

Hannes was gone, but trouble arose again over the appointment of a successor. Dodd tried to obtain the post and offered the Mayoress a hundred guineas if her husband would sponsor him for it. In desperation the Master of St John's was asked to examine Dodd in Greek and Latin, 'in which, it is imagined, he will be found very defective'. Meanwhile two other candidates appeared, a Mr Goodhall, headmaster of Lincoln, whose name had been suggested by the Earl of Exeter, and a Mr Clendon. The latter, an Oxford man and a stranger to the town, was described by the town clerk as 'a man of very loose character'. He offered forty guineas down for the post with sixty guineas in hand. An appeal was made privately to Lord Exeter, who suggested legal proceedings. The Mayor, too, had reckoned without Richard Wyche, his town clerk, who was writing that 'we must be as easie as we can without a Master till next Terme and then we doubt not but the Court of the King's Bench will humble our conceited Mayor'. The Master of St John's also entered a caveat against the election of Clendon. This seemed to leave the field clear for Goodhall, but he was not satisfied about the School's income. This was stated by the Corporation to be '£60. 10*s*. 0*d*., the Corporation taking fines for repairs to the School House and other properties and for their trouble'. Goodhall said he would consider the post if the Corporation would give up the fines; and he also had hopes that Lord Burghley would be one of his pupils. The Corporation, however, would not give them up and Goodhall withdrew. A few days later he changed his mind. Then he declined again. Then again he came forward. Then in mid-April 1731 a Dr Wallis put forward the name of Mr Faringdon Reid. The Mayor supported the application and on 25 May Faringdon Reid received the approval of



THE SCHOOL IN 1727

the Master of St John's. Lord Burghley later went to Winchester.

The Rev. Faringdon Reid, who was to be headmaster for forty years, was the son of the Rev. Anthony Reid, Succentor of Lincoln Cathedral. He had been at school at Lincoln under his rival for the post of headmaster, Mr Goodhall, went to St John's College, Cambridge, in 1725, and was elected to a fellowship in the same year as his appointment to Stamford at the age of twenty-four. It is to be presumed that the School recovered fairly rapidly under Faringdon Reid and flourished in so far as schools and universities flourished at all in that age. Reid naturally maintained the connexion with St John's, and one of the first pupils he sent to Cambridge was Zachary Brooke, who was later to become Lady Margaret Professor of Divinity; and in 1747 John Chevallier left Stamford to go to St John's, later to become Master of his college and Vice-Chancellor of the University.

After he had been at Stamford for twenty-five years, Reid entered legal proceedings against the Mayor and Corporation who were continuing to retain much of the School income for their own purposes.* According to the Act of 1548/9 the Founder willed 'for the whiche able Scoolemaister the same Alderman for the tyme beinge shall yerely well and trulye content and pay the yerely proffits of the sayde Lands'. Judgement was entered for Reid on 3 August 1756, and the Corporation was ordered to pay costs amounting to the large sum of £632.

It was about then that the door was opened, as it were, for the first time, into the schoolroom or Old School, as it later came to be called, to allow posterity the briefest of glances at what went on inside. The early nineteenth-century historian Drakard recalls how it was remembered in his day that Reid and his usher both taught in the Old School with their desks divided only by an oak table, the headmaster at the east end and the usher at the west, both facing south. The boys' benches had boards between them rather in the manner of church pews, so that nothing lower than the boys' shoulders was visible to the master. At the west end were a large church clock and a bell and also, inside the building, some sort of gallery in which a boy could be stationed to watch for the headmaster's approach from his house across the court-

yard. There was no fire in the room. Presumably the curriculum was exclusively classical, as a boy who was there at the time recorded the information that 'we had no writing table as we were taught writing and accounts at other schools'.*

Shortly after his appointment to Stamford, Reid had received the living of Marnham in Nottinghamshire and in 1748 he became Rector of Somerby and Humby in Lincolnshire. His absences from Stamford may not have been on a scale comparable to those of Hannes, but he certainly held both these livings for the rest of his life and no complaints or petitions from the townspeople are reported. The *Stamford Mercury* on Thursday 21 March 1771 records: 'On Thursday last died the Rev. Mr Reid, after a long and tedious illness. He had been the Head Schoolmaster of this place about forty years, which Station he filled with great good nature and reputation.'

Over the appointment of Reid's successor there followed another encounter between the Mayor of Stamford and the Master of St John's. The Rev. Henry Knapp, who was appointed, seems to have been the only man considered for the post, but both the Mayor and Master wished to claim the appointment for his own. Within a week of Reid's funeral the Mayor, Joseph Wilford, put his hand to a document in which he 'elected, nominated, constituted and appointed Henry Knapp of Uppingham, Clk., M.A., Schoolm^{r} of the Free School in the room, place and stead of Faringdon Reid...'. He then wrote a letter to the Master of St John's recommending Knapp as 'an honest and sufficient learned man, well equipped to teach'. But the Master would not pass this by. He replied (the next day) that *his advice* was that they should name and appoint Knapp as being likely to raise the reputation and the numbers of the School. If they would appoint Knapp, he said, under the Mayor's hand and seal or the common seal of the Borough, he would upon the same instant declare his consent. The Corporation did not press the matter and on 18 May announced Knapp's appointment 'with the advice and consent of the Master of St John's'. This was endorsed by the Master the next day 'having before the sealing...signified my consent'.

Knapp had been at King's College, Cambridge, and since 1757 headmaster of Uppingham. His tenure of office seems to have

been comfortable and from 1777 to 1781 advertisements appear yearly in the *Mercury* to announce dinners celebrating 'the anniversary of the Gentlemen educated under the Rev. Mr Knapp... appointed to be held at the Bull [or sometimes at the George] Inn. Dinner to be on the Table at Three o'clock.' The names of a few boys sent by Knapp to the University are known, but Knapp does not seem to have been without rivals. It was generally a period of decline in grammar schools, and the middle class tended to send their sons to small private schools. There were probably a few such private schools in and around Stamford. In 1776 St John's accepted a boy from Stamford sent up by a Mr Wiggan; and in the same year a Charles Chaplin, nephew of the Earl of Exeter, was sent to St John's by the Rev. Mr Skynner of Easton. In 1781 a Thomas Cave was sent up from Stamford by the Rev. Mr Knowles, Rector of St George's; and a Thomas William Trollope is listed in the St John's registers with the following addition: 'schools Stamford (Mr Knapp) and Easton (Mr Skynner).' Mr Knapp may have remained in Stamford after his resignation as his grandson, Henry Hartopp Knapp, was baptized at St Michael's in 1782. This grandson was subsequently tutor at Eton to W. E. Gladstone and A. H. Hallam, and was described by Gladstone as 'an easy, kind tempered man with a sense of scholarship but no power of discipline and no energy or desire to impress himself upon his pupils'.* It is tempting to think that this was a strain that ran in the family.

CHAPTER V

ATLAY *v.* BLORE

'not to join...in altering or adding to the said old Rules and Ordinances.'

Minutes of the Corporation, 31 January 1785

KNAPP resigned in 1781, and in June that year the Mayor appointed as headmaster the Rev. Richard Atlay, Fellow of St John's College, Cambridge. Atlay was then thirty, and since his ordination seven years before had held the curacy of St Mary's in Stamford. He seems to have been a personal friend of the Mayor, Joseph Robinson, and there was no trouble over his appointment, which was formally approved by the Master of St John's, John Chevallier, himself an Old Stamfordian.

It is clear that for good or ill Atlay belonged in spirit to the century that was drawing to its close. Although his family was connected with men of affairs in the nation's life it may be supposed that the French Revolution, the Industrial Revolution and the Napoleonic Wars meant little to him, and even in his own sphere, in education, his mind was in the past. Such a man would see no wrong in regarding his appointment as a comfortable 'living' unfortunately necessitating from time to time the instruction of a few pupils. In 1783 he married Sarah Robinson of Northampton, sister of the late Mayor. At that time he was receiving an income from the School of £172 a year as well as his house. Two years later he was appointed Rector of St John's in Stamford and in the following year Vicar of St Martin's. These appointments he held, with the headmastership, until his death in 1832. His son Henry, who was born in 1785 and went up to St John's in 1802, became Rector of St George's, Stamford, in 1814. Another son, Charles, born in 1794, who also went to St John's, was appointed curate of All Saints' in 1819, before he followed his brother as Rector of St George's in 1823. The Atlays thus held important positions in Stamford. It is not possible to say what personal example they showed in their lives, but living at a time when the old order was

being questioned the only evidence they have left is that they thought all such questioning unnecessary.

The need for education was being felt more and more by people whose sons could not all be accommodated in the grammar schools of the country and for whom not even enough 'writing schools' existed. It should have been clear that Stamford was to be no exception to this demand. The first evidence there is of popular demand at Stamford is in 1785, when the Corporation voted that the rules of the School, established by the Master of St John's, 'be not changed'. These were the rules, a copy of which has recently been found, made in 1565 and amended in 1636. But three years later, in 1788, the demand seems to have been repeated when a committee was set up to consider whether to ask Parliament to convert the 'Free Latin School' into a school for teaching 'English, reading, writing and accounts as well as Latin'. This may have resulted in the appointment of a writing master, as one was teaching in the School by about 1797. In 1809 there were only sixteen boys in the School, and when on 25 March that year the rentals of the School properties were raised from £265 to £361, the headmaster, who received the rents for his salary, seemed to many to be overpaid.

On 1 April, after a stormy political election, a party in the town, largely inspired by Thomas Blore, passed a series of resolutions on the subject of public charities in Stamford, of which the eighth resolution dealt specifically with the School and ran as follows:

'Resolved unanimously,—that the public school of Radcliffe's foundation in this town is so nearly reduced to a sinecure, that less than one-tenth of its revenues (which are now on the eve of being considerably increased) would more than remunerate an able master for the education of the scholars now instructed there, either in that line of instruction which is now pursued in it, or in such as, consistently with the spirit and intention of the founder, would be more advantageous to the public, according to the habits and manners of the present age.'*

Thomas Blore was a barrister of the Middle Temple and Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries. For some little time he had been turning his attention to the reconstruction of the charities in

Stamford. That same year, on 26 December, a meeting was convened at the Swan and Talbot Inn with Sir G. N. Noel (the builder of the Stamford Hotel) in the chair. A society was established 'for the reform of schools, hospitals and other charitable institutions' and a sum of £208 contributed. In 1813 Blore published his book: *An Account of the Public Schools, Hospitals and other Charitable Foundations in the Borough of Stanford in the Counties of Lincoln and Rutland.* In it he stated that the numbers in the School did not exceed sixteen, one of whom was the headmaster's son; that the headmaster was wrongly charging fees for admission and was himself attending for only two and a half hours a day; that the education was confined almost entirely to instruction in Greek and Latin; and that the appointment was 'a sinecure provision for the benefit of any person who should happen to be a favorite of the Mayor of Stanford'. To all this, he said, the Corporation showed a 'frigid indifference'. He admitted that there was a safeguard, inasmuch as the form of instruction in the School had to be approved by the Master of St John's, and he was firmly persuaded 'that no Gentleman will ever preside in the College of St John, who would prescribe a trade, form and manner of instructing and teaching that would be useless to a great majority of the real objects of this Charitable Foundation'.

There is nothing to show whether the attacks of Thomas Blore achieved anything, and the surviving records give only his side of the case which, although it carried weight, bears the mark of overstatement. Briefly, he argued that the will of the Founder was not being fulfilled in two respects: first, that Atlay was not competent; and, secondly, that the School was providing the wrong type of education. If Atlay is judged according to present standards Blore's first charge must be accepted as proven. But his second charge fails. The Founder had willed that a schoolmaster be appointed who should 'teach grammar' (*instructurum artem grammaticam*), and there can be no doubt that the Founder had intended to create a grammar school, an intention which all Masters of St John's supported. A. F. Leach, writing in the *Victoria County History*, has upheld this view and has given it as his opinion, based on a wide knowledge of the history of many schools, that Blore was quite wrong in wanting to throw the

School open to all who wished to come, irrespective of whether they were fitted for an education at a grammar school or not.

In the years following Blore's attack the School began to take boarders as it had not been doing for some years past. The fees charged were twenty guineas a year and the numbers slowly increased. In 1819 they rose to thirty-six and in 1822 to over forty. Of these more than twenty-five seem to have been boarders, not under the direct charge of the headmaster, however, but of an assistant, the Rev. Thomas Mounsey.* The fees were said 'to include education'. Atlay was by now over seventy, and it may have been through the initiative of his assistant that boarders were kept. But in 1825 the Corporation took notice that the School premises were falling into disrepair and that Atlay had not been reserving £3 a year for their maintenance as he had been bound.* Repairs were estimated at £260 and Atlay was made responsible. This could not have hurt him much, however, as recently there had been another rise in rents, brought about by the inflation during the Napoleonic Wars, and his salary as headmaster had further increased to £470. The Corporation was still not satisfied and appointed a committee to look into the affairs of the School. This committee presented its report, which was approved, on 26 August 1826. It recommended radical reform, and, as a result, it was decided to petition Parliament to give the proposals effect. The decision was not unanimous and there was some argument before it was agreed on 12 February 1827 that the Mayor alone should put his signature to it. The petition came the next year before the Court of Chancery and on 28 April the Lord Chancellor delivered judgement. He was perfectly satisfied, he said, that the Founder had intended a grammar school,* but whether or not it was conducted in a manner suitable to its constitution the Court had not been called upon to decide, as the instruction at the School was under the direction of the Master of St John's. The Lord Chancellor saw no reason for preparing a new scheme or appointing fresh trustees. There was no ground for the judgement of the Court to be exercised upon any of the allegations of what he called 'this voluminous petition'. He accordingly dismissed it with costs. The Corporation, next year, sought to raise £300 upon security to pay these expenses.

Atlay was seventy-seven and the Corporation began to consider the appointment of a successor. On 27 August 1829 they again set up a committee, this time to inquire into the right to appoint the schoolmaster and also the right of presentation to the livings of St Michael's and St John's,* questions which it might have been supposed their clerk could have answered forthwith. The committee reported, a year later, that the Mayor had the right to appoint the headmaster, subject to the approval of the Master of St John's, but they were not yet able to answer the question about the livings. The Corporation had to wait three years, however, before they could act, as it was not until the morning of 20 December 1832 that Atlay died, having been headmaster for fifty-one years. The Mayor wrote to the Master of St John's that day to tell him.

CHAPTER VI

FREDERICK EDWARD GRETTON
1833–1871

> 'it had an atmosphere of refined culture, blended with that large sense of leisure, which has since been driven into exile.'
>
> Letter to the *Stamfordian*, 1930

THE Mayor of Stamford and the Master of St John's College were unable to agree over the appointment of Atlay's successor. The correspondence between them, begun on 20 December 1832, continued until 6 June 1833. The Mayor then sought Counsel's opinion and had the correspondence printed.* During the whole of this time and for a further four months the School was without a headmaster.

The Mayor, John Roden, wished to introduce into the School a mixed system of education including commercial education. He had the support of a number of people in the town, and their policy was in line with a general demand that had been growing in the country for 'commercial' or 'middle' schools.* Such a policy, however, if applied to Stamford, would have been contrary to the decision of the Lord Chancellor five years before, that the School had been intended by the Founder to be a grammar school. The Master of St John's College, Dr James Wood, opposed the policy and referred the Mayor to the Act of Edward VI. A deadlock followed as, by the Act, the Mayor had the right to appoint the headmaster while the Master had what amounted to the right of veto.

The Master from the first wanted to waste no time, but the Mayor was in no mood to hurry. Both began to receive applications for the post. The Master considered that he was more likely to be able to find a suitable candidate, but the Mayor preferred to choose a candidate himself and submit his choice for approval to the Master. The Master suggested that they should seek the opinion of the Attorney-General or Solicitor-General upon the construc-

tion of the Act. The Mayor did not agree but instead went to Cambridge on 26 March 'to receive such advice as the Master would be kind enough to give him'. The Master did not seem to expect this visit and found himself 'unfortunately engaged' for the next few days so that he only managed to spend a few minutes on a call to the Mayor at his inn. The Mayor thought this unsatisfactory as they only discussed the business 'so far as it was the Master's own pleasure that the business should be discussed'. The Mayor accordingly returned to Stamford and on 13 April wrote to the Master to inform him that he had chosen as headmaster the Rev. J. R. Major, M.A., of Trinity College, Cambridge, and at that time headmaster of the King's College School, London; he requested an interview for Mr Major and later forwarded his testimonials. The other testimonials he withheld, saying that he 'had put an end to the suspense of every other candidate'. The Master refused to see Mr Major except upon the same terms as he was prepared to see the other candidates. He had by then sent to all the candidates of whom he knew a circular letter stating how, in his view, matters stood. Mr Major, however, declined the Master's offer. Instead, he himself called upon the Master, who did not receive him. The Mayor wrote, therefore, on 6 June, to say that he had retained as his counsel Sir James Scarlett in the King's Bench and Sir Edward Sugden in the Court of Chancery. 'He had no doubt', he said, 'that the Mayor of Stamford will be able to maintain his rights against the whole strength of St John's College, in this most unjustifiable aggression.' The Master replied by letter saying that it was his advice that the Mayor should appoint the Rev. Frederick Edward Gretton, who had already submitted testimonials.

Meanwhile, a public meeting had been called in Stamford and a sum subscribed to meet the legal expenses of the Mayor. On 12 July the Council met and decided to ask the Marquess of Exeter to mediate. Counsel's opinion had by now been received and Lord Exeter had sent it on to the Master. But there was little success to be reported to the Council at its next meeting on 29 August. Lord Exeter, after meeting the Master in London, had written to say that he had no hope of being able to bring about a satisfactory settlement. The public subscription, however, had

risen to £491 and a further £50 was voted out of Corporation stock. Thanks were given to Lord Exeter and the Mayor, and a petition, by which it was hoped to obtain an Act in Parliament to amend the Act of 1548/9, was left at the Town Hall for signatures.

Contributions continued to be received, signatures were put to the petition and the Mayor convened a special meeting of Aldermen and Capital Burgesses for 6 September. They met at seven o'clock but a difficulty immediately arose. The Mayor was to go out of office on 10 October and it was essential to his plans that his successor should carry on his policy. Thomas Mills, who was one of the two Aldermen who had been nominated Mayor, was asked to give a pledge to this effect. He said he would not; moreover, he refused to sign the petition that lay on the table for the very reason that it sought to take away the right of veto from the Master of St John's College. It seemed that nothing more could be done. Mills had not by that time been elected Mayor but he was the senior of the two Aldermen nominated and it is possible that he had more support for his views than is suggested by the correspondence and newspaper reports. The meeting went on ineffectually until past midnight and ended without passing any resolution. Afterwards a friend suggested to Roden that he should at least make the appointment himself before going out of office and that he could do this by choosing a St John's man. He accordingly dropped his support of Major and appointed Gretton. The Master of St John's concurred. The deed of appointment, dated 30 September 1833, was signed by the Mayor and endorsed by Dr Wood. It shows that though these two had agreed on the appointment of Gretton, neither yielded upon the principle which was in dispute. In the document the Mayor stated that he had found and chosen Mr Gretton whom he accordingly named, deputed, assigned and appointed headmaster. Dr Wood, in his written endorsement, pointed out that as long ago as June he had given it as his advice that Gretton be appointed.

'I do hereby certify my full approbation of such appointment accordingly, But I at the same time as Master of the said College enter my humble protest against the construction within put upon the said Act of Parliament and against all the irrelevant, super-

abundant and erroneous matter which hath been (contrary to all precedent and to my desire and in my judgement very improperly) introduced into the written instrument and I discountenance every part of the same except the Appointment of the said Frederick Edward Gretton....'*

The new headmaster was thirty at the time of his appointment. As a boy he had been at Shrewsbury under Dr Butler and had gone up to St John's College, Cambridge, where in 1826 he was a Senior Optime in the Mathematical Tripos and in the same year seventh in the Classical Tripos. He was ordained and became second master at Oakham and in 1829 was elected a fellow of his college. On coming to Stamford he must have found things moving quickly. The outgoing Mayor had not only contrived to keep Gretton's appointment in his own hands, but nine days later and on the day before he went out of office he laid the foundation stone to a second schoolroom. The inscription on it ran:

ERECTED
BY PUBLIC SUBSCRIPTION
THIS FIRST STONE WAS LAID
IX OCT MDCCCXXXIII
JOHN RODEN ESQ MAYOR

The inscription is probably misleading. According to Burton's *Chronology of Stamford* the building cost £522, of which only some £149 was met by public subscription, this being the sum left over from £565 collected to pay for the legal expenses of the Mayor in his late controversy. Gretton himself privately contributed the remaining £373.*

On 26 November new rules for the School were signed by the Mayor, Thomas Mills, and on 5 December were formally approved and allowed by the Master of St John's. The Mayor was left sole trustee, and it was to him in the first instance that all applications had to be made for admission. Boys, if judged fit by the headmaster, were to join the School between the ages of eight and twelve. Of the 'free scholars' only six were allowed to remain over fifteen, and then only if they were working for matriculation at Oxford or Cambridge. The length of the terms and of the day's work was regulated, and it was laid down that besides classical

instruction the principles of common arithmetic, decimals, vulgar fractions and the elements of algebra and geometry were to be taught. The headmaster had the power to maintain discipline by 'admonishment, punishment and expulsion'.*

These rules mainly concerned day boys and Gretton was left a fairly free hand in regard to boarders, whose number he intended to increase. Besides paying for so large a proportion of the new schoolroom, he had extensive alterations made to the headmaster's house at a cost to himself of £1520. This house abutted on St Paul's Street and was joined to another which the headmaster rented from Lord Exeter, together with some stables and a strip of land lying between the headmaster's house and the School. Both houses were fitted out with dormitories at the back, over studies, for forty to sixty boarders, and a dining-hall was made.* Behind the houses was a playground shut off by a door from the general School playground next the old Schoolroom. As was the custom in those days, the new headmaster brought with him a number of boys from his previous school, and among them were C. J. Ellicott and J. W. Sheringham, later Bishop and Archdeacon respectively of Gloucester. The School register of admissions shows these boys as coming in 1834, and it is possible that Gretton did not open school fully till the new year. In 1834 he admitted sixty-five day boys and eleven boarders; in 1835 seventeen day boys and ten boarders; and in 1836 four day boys and fourteen boarders. In 1837 there were forty boarders in all. A School prospectus gave the fees as forty to fifty guineas a year, with writing and arithmetic as extras at two guineas each and with washing at three guineas. Mathematics could be taken without additional charge; French, drawing and dancing were at the option of parents, but there was no mention of Latin and Greek, which presumably all were taught. A special point was made that each boy had a separate bed, and in this Gretton advanced beyond Butler of Shrewsbury, with whom separate beds had been extras.

But in much that he did at Stamford Gretton seems to have emulated his old headmaster; he had seen Butler double his school in size and from him he had derived his love of classical scholarship. Gretton had the reputation of being a glutton for work. It is likely that he had advised the Master of St John's in framing the

School rules and especially those regulating the hours of work which were:

First Lesson*	7–8 (Winter 8–9) a.m.
Second Lesson	10–1 p.m.
Third Lesson	3–5 p.m.

Second and Third Lesson were of course split into a number of periods, and Saturday and the King's or Queen's birthdays were half-holidays. All lessons were prepared out of School. There were only two terms, or 'halves', in the year, with six weeks' holiday at midsummer and six at Christmas.

Gretton's desk was in the new room (lately the library), and he is remembered as standing there, in white corduroy trousers, back to the fire, rather knock-kneed. The second master sat in the old Schoolroom, as did Mr Phillipson the writing master, who was in charge of day boys and mended their quill pens. Gretton introduced half-yearly examinations. Examinations to-day seem to be so necessary a part of school life that it is difficult to realize that it was Dr Butler who first brought them generally into use, and that Gretton borrowed the idea from him. A mark sheet of examination results for the year 1836 shows the ground covered in the previous six months by the top form (see p. 49).

A similar sheet for 1843, in which E. Clapton, later Senior Physician at St Thomas's Hospital, was top, shows much the same subjects covered except that 'Mathematics' is included generally instead of 'Euclid' and 'Algebra'; and 'Geography' becomes 'History and Geography'. There was still no mention in the time-table of French.

As a stimulus to endeavour, Gretton adopted a system by which parents were called upon to reward their sons at the recommendation of the School. After examinations a boy might receive a slip of paper from his headmaster with a request on it that his father should supply him with 'merit money'. One such slip is preserved in the Phillips Collection:

MERIT MONEY

J. Phillips
is entitled to
THREE SHILLINGS
27 March, 1838 F.E.G.

Gretton also encouraged music, for which he allowed the use of his study. There was a small orchestra in which Ellicott and Sheringham played the flute and in which the dancing and music masters played their violins.*

	Ellicott	Shering-ham	Knipe	Lindsay	Two-penny	Peacock
Hexameter Verses	60	40	20	35	40	40
English Theme	55	35	45	30	25	35
English into Latin and Greek	65	75	50	50	35	35
Elegiac Verses	70	60	45	40	25	a
Latin Theme	80	65	45	30	40	a
Geography	40	25	25	0	15	a
Greek Testament	80	70	40	55	50	a
Greek Chorus into Latin Lyrics	75	40	20	10	10	a
Terence, Andria	70	55	50	40	40	30
General Paper	65	40	40	15	30	5
Greek Iambics	60	50	25	40	15	5
Euclid	95	65	45	0	25	0
Algebra	100	55	45	30	25	5
Thucydides	55	60	45	25	35	10
Choephoroe	45	55	35	15	20	0
Butler's Analogy	85	65	40	35	30	a
Scripture Paper	80	60	70	35	40	a
Greek Verse Translation	100	50	40	25	35	70
Greek Prose Translation	85	75	45	40	35	55
Latin Verse Translation	80	55	50	40	45	40
Latin Prose Translation	100	80	50	35	50	40
TOTAL	1545	1180	880	625	665	370
Order	1	2	3	5	4	6

It was not long before Gretton was achieving results at the universities. In 1836 he sent one boy to Oxford and one to Cambridge; in 1837 four to Cambridge; in 1838 four to Cambridge and four to Oxford; in 1839 six to Cambridge and two to Oxford. In this year there were eighty-five in the School, which is the largest number recorded under Gretton.* For just at a time when the future of the School seemed assured there came a curious change of fortune. In 1840 Gretton admitted seventeen boarders;

but in the three years that followed only a total of sixteen; and thereafter no admission of boarders is shown during his headmastership. Whether the change of policy was deliberate, or whether it was forced upon Gretton by some trouble at School followed by a loss of confidence, the records do not show.* It is quite likely that there was some serious trouble, as the early decades of the century were wild and lawless times in schools generally. (They were years also of revolutions in Europe and of the Reform Act in England.)

At Rugby Dr Arnold (1828–42) was solving the problem by his methods of discipline imposed by trust (and Gretton later is known to have admired him*), but his influence had not had time to spread. Dr Butler, at Shrewsbury, had had his difficulties and on consulting a friend had received the strange advice to add to his dignity by wearing a wig.* He wore one, therefore, whenever he went into school until the boys discovered where it was kept and it developed the habit of disappearing. At Eton Dr Keate (1809–34), son of William Keate who had been usher at Stamford under Reid,* 'flogged over eighty boys on a single summer day'. There is a register surviving at Stamford in which Gretton has made notes of boys' offences that suggest it may have been in powers of understanding and discipline that he was lacking, fine scholar though he was. It is said of the nineteenth-century schools in England that they neglected the less able boys, and it is unlikely that Stamford of those days was an exception. Moreover, Gretton's troubles may not have been helped by his own erratic and violent temper, of which he once gave notable instance at a Vestry Meeting in St Mary's.*

The School for a time became a day school, averaging thirty to forty in number, so that Gretton had opportunity for other things. He had held the curacy of the village of Tickencote since 1833, and in 1847 he became in addition Rector of St Mary's, thenceforward taking an active part in church work in Stamford. In 1843 he had brought out a volume of sermons and he was to publish many more throughout his life.*

The mid-nineteenth century was a quiet time in Stamford, for the stage-coach had gone and the motor car had not arrived. An old boy has described the School then as at a low ebb but a place

'to which, nevertheless, I shall never cease to be grateful, for it had an atmosphere of refined culture, blended with that large sense of leisure, which has since been driven into exile. In the eighteen-fifties the times seemed to me at least, as spacious as those of great Elizabeth. Every Friday, market-day, the Midland Guard brought the proper time to Stamford and watches were set by the station clock....'*

Also, immediately opposite the School, in Brazenose House, there was further evidence of the old order that was soon to pass away. It may not be irrelevant to quote from the *Stamfordian* of a later day, recalling that there lived there then three frail old people, Miss Hurst, her sister Mrs Berry and the latter's husband, Titus Berry, a regimental surgeon who fought with Wellington at Waterloo. They were the last of the 'migrants':

'they came to Stamford for the winter, but with the advent of spring they took their seats one day in their yellow travelling-chariot, provided with plate-chest and blunderbuss complete, while the two ladies' maids climbed into the rumble, the powdered footman and white-wigged coachman mounted the box, the postillion cracked his whip, and off they posted to Chester Terrace, Regent's Park, their London House.'*

In 1853 the Rules were amended to allow as many free scholars as wished to remain at School over the age of fifteen if they intended to go to the university. In the same year the number of admissions of day boys rose to twenty-five. But in the next three years only six more were admitted and the number continued low until 1864, when the Corporation made a complaint to the Charity Commissioners, who sent Mr Thomas Hare to investigate. Extracts from Mr Hare's report show that he had found 'no evidence of any want of confidence or dissatisfaction on the part of the inhabitants of Stamford with the instruction imparted'. At the same time a silver tray was presented to Gretton by 120 old boys and some parents. As a result of Mr Hare's visit, however, it became more widely known that any boy could be sent to the School free as a day boy provided 'he could read well, write a legible hand, repeat perfectly the Lord's prayer and the Ten Commandments according to the rubric, and be able in the master's judgement to enter upon Latin Grammar'. Although admission

was at the headmaster's discretion and he could presumably refuse anyone he considered unfit for Latin grammar, he seems that year to have relaxed his standards, as the register for 1864 shows forty-seven admissions.

Education in England was just then entering a period of State aid and intervention. The State had already intervened indirectly in the management of charitable and educational foundations by Romilly's Act in 1812, and by the Grammar Schools Act of 1840. In 1861 the Government appointed a Royal Commission to inquire into the administration of nine public schools and it published its report in 1864. The same year a second commission, known as the Schools Inquiry Commission, was set up to make a comprehensive survey of secondary schools in the country. These commissions, and the Endowed Schools Commission which followed (1869–74), took over for a time much of what had in part been done by the old Charity Commissioners in respect of school trusts, until in 1874 their functions were merged in the Charity Commission (1874–1902). In 1901 the Board of Education took over from the Charity Commission the power to make 'schemes' for schools. Mr Hare's visit to Stamford on behalf of the Charity Commission in 1864 is the first record of State intervention in the affairs of the School since the Royal Commission of 1548 and the Act of 1548/9.

The investigator sent by the Schools Inquiry Commission to report on the schools of Nottinghamshire, Rutland and Lincolnshire was Mr H. W. Eve, who visited Stamford, probably in 1867, and published his report in 1869.* The picture he gives of Stamford is different from that of Gretton's early days and different again from the leisurely days of the eighteen-fifties. Gretton was maintaining, however, his reputation for hard work, and in 1866, at the age of sixty-three, had only one assistant master, although numbers had risen again to seventy-seven. There were six forms in the School. The headmaster, unaided, taught the top three forms and also made a point of hearing all the lower forms once a day. All the School did Latin, but only fourteen (probably the top two forms) Greek. All did arithmetic, but only fourteen mathematics. All did English literature, history, geography and 'Writing', but only twenty-two did 'English Composition'. The

Sixth Form still had a rigorous classical time-table, and the influence of Butler and of Shrewsbury upon Gretton remained strong. Among the Sixth Form books were Butler's *Ancient Geography* and *Modern Geography*; the *Latin Grammar*, *Greek Grammar*, *Curriculum*, *Palaestra*, and *Shrewsbury Verse Book for Greek Iambics* of Dr B. H. Kennedy who was Butler's successor; and Gretton's own *Reddenda*. To add to his work Gretton also had at the time three pupils in his house as boarders, paying the high fees of 80–100 guineas a year. Among other incidental items in the report is a remark that some sort of monitorial system existed, and that caning was rarely resorted to, and always in public and by the headmaster. The Upper School had thirty hours a week and the Lower thirty-two. There were still the twelve weeks' holiday in the year. The five senior boys were sons of clergymen. The report ended with a seemingly irrelevant remark that the town was rich in charities and that the revenues of Browne's Hospital were large.

Such was the impression made by the School upon the Commission's Inspector. The impression made upon a boy at School in those days and remembered through seventy-nine years is given in the following letter:

I am now approaching my eighty-ninth birthday and it is a long hark back to my school days. I think it was in 1869 that my younger brother Edgar and I called upon the Rev. F. E. Gretton, the headmaster, at his house to undergo examination for our grade. At the time I was ten and Edgar about nine. To qualify, Mr Gretton asked us 'Who fought the battle of Hastings?' He then very generously retired to another room to give us a chance to consult. Edgar knew the answer, I didn't; and we were admitted as scholars.

A peculiarity of the School was that we had three sessions a day, from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m., from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. with two half holidays a week. In the winter the sessions were one hour later.

As we lived at the Elms, a house on the hill south of the river and situated almost a mile from the school—I have measured it—we had to walk six miles a day, commencing at 6.30 a.m. This was quite an undertaking for boys of our age. In our youngest period our mother, whose bedroom was next to ours, used to get up and

help us to dress, during which period we drank a glass of milk and ate a slice of bread and butter.

Strange to say, twice during the summer months we arrived at the School an hour ahead of time and had to sit on the doorstep till seven o'clock....

The Rev. Mr Gretton was a noted scholar of the old school. He devoted most of his time to coaching boys for Cambridge. The rest of the School received a very modest education at the hands of the Usher, Mr Walter Smith, who had no easy time of it.

Mr Gretton's daily recreation, when the weather was fine, was to ride upon his horse Rosinante. I don't know how old this animal was but he was never known to travel beyond a slow walk. It is said that while taking this gentle exercise the eminent equestrian composed his best verses in Latin and Greek. He was a dear old gentleman and we all loved him. I possess a copy of a book he wrote which he sent to me, *Memory's Harkback through half a century 1808–58.* A most amusing book accompanied by a very charming letter. He died in the spring of 1890.

In my days the School was held in the buildings of St Paul's Church. The initiation of the new boys by kissing the face of the 'Old Man',* which forms the keystone of the church door, was seldom practised. ARTHUR BROWNING*

Gretton retired in 1871 at the age of sixty-eight. The present generation know him by a photograph, in School House, which shows him sitting on his horse 'Roderick' ('Rosinante' may have been a re-christening by the boys). He had been weak in his legs and was always happier in the saddle. He lived till 1890, and one year before he died he published a book of reminiscences, the *Memory's Harkback* referred to in the letter above. This tells of many good stories and conversations he enjoyed and gives a gentle picture of his relaxation and his holiday rides on horseback. He has been scrupulous not to mention his professional duties. He speaks of his own school days and the Church, but there is scarcely a word in the book about himself as either priest or schoolmaster.

FREDERICK EDWARD GRETTON (ON HIS HORSE 'RODERICK') AND MRS GRETTON

CHAPTER VII

STATE COMMISSIONS

† me spede

Motto adopted by the School
from WILLIAM BROWNE

GRETTON'S retirement came at a critical time for the School. Since his appointment and the long struggle it had involved, the powers of the Mayor, in regard to the School, had become vested in the Stamford Municipal Charity Trustees.* Mr Eve's report of 1869 had recognized that there was still some doubt about the proper way to appoint a headmaster, but more than the appointment of the headmaster was now involved and the years 1869–82 were to see the whole future of the School in the balance. Under the powers vested in the Commissions a succession of schemes* was put forward; and it was not until the final scheme was approved by the Queen in Council on 30 November 1882 that the School could again be sure of its future. During those thirteen years it had three headmasters and one temporary headmaster. Gretton was followed by E. Fynes Clinton, who held a temporary appointment until 1874; E. C. Musson, who was headmaster 1874–80; and A. W. Welch, headmaster 1880–2.

The initiative on behalf of the School was taken by the Stamford Municipal Charity Trustees. On 30 October 1871, acting on the hint by Mr Eve at the end of his report, they wrote to the Governors of Browne's Hospital to ask if they would consider putting some of their surplus revenues at the disposal of the School. Browne's Hospital had been founded in 1485 by William Browne, who had been a fellow-member with William Radcliffe of St Katherine's Guild. His hospital had remained, much as he had founded it, doing good service for nearly four hundred years, giving asylum to twelve old pensioners. But in 1854 it had received a new scheme through the Charity Commissioners and, as a result of this and a reorganization of leases, its income had increased from £2000 to £4000 a year and was likely to increase

further. Its farm property had been put in order, and in 1869 extensive repairs and rebuilding were begun to the hospital itself. These were completed in 1871. The inmates were well cared for and the Governors were faced with the problem of disposing of their surplus revenue. This problem had been foreseen and understood by Mr Hare of the Charity Commissioners, and it was the source of Mr Eve's hint at the end of the Schools Inquiry Commission's report in 1869. It seems to have been the Charity Commissions' policy, in cases of this sort, where the immediate objects of charities had been fulfilled, to apply the surplus funds to other but kindred objects, and particularly to education. They felt it would be a very happy solution if the two foundations, which had originated at approximately the same time but which for over three hundred years had been managed separately, might in part be united to the further benefit of the town which the two founders had served.

In their letter to the Hospital the Trustees pointed out that it was their wish to retain the School as what was then known as a First Grade school, that is to say, a school at which more than one-tenth of the boys were over sixteen, whereas the Commissioners were recommending that it should be a Second Grade school. The Governors of the Hospital were sympathetic, and their first suggestion was to make available £500 a year for a Second Grade school so that Stamford School (or Radcliffe's School as it was then called) could remain First Grade.

Meanwhile a draft scheme was being considered by the Endowed Schools Commission for the establishment or re-establishment in Stamford of four schools: the Bluecoat Elementary School; a 'middle' school for boys to be known as 'Browne's Middle School'; a 'high' school for boys to be known as 'Radcliffe's High School'; and a 'middle' school for girls. On learning that the success of these proposals depended on there being enough money, the Governors of Browne's Hospital agreed to make available to the Governors of the Stamford Endowed Schools, who were to control the four schools, the sum of £1500 a year, provided they had the nomination of three governors to the schools and subject to a clause concerning religious instruction. This agreement was embodied in a new scheme for Browne's Hospital in 1873. The

general scheme then went forward and under it a Governing Body was appointed. The School, as it existed, was to be known as 'Browne's Middle School' and was to be reconstructed to take a hundred day boys and fifty boarders. But all were supposed to leave at sixteen; and, as soon as possible, a 'high' school to be known as 'Radcliffe's High School' was to be built for 120 day boys and 30 boarders. The scheme was signed by W. E. Forster on 14 February 1873, and, on 26 June, was approved by the Queen. Already in April, before the Queen had actually given her approval, the elementary Bluecoat School had been completed on St Peter's Hill.

In all this the Stamford Municipal Trustees and the Governors of Browne's Hospital showed both imagination and generosity, but their scheme was not to last long. It had two weaknesses. First, there was, for the School, an unnecessary and harmful break in a long tradition. The School had existed for 341 years as a grammar school, known by the name of its Founder, Radcliffe. That the School met a real need was not in dispute, and although it was not very prosperous at the time of the Schools Inquiry Commission, its state was not considered unsatisfactory. It was wrong to change the name and purpose of the School, even with the intention of refounding it, as it were, possibly on a new site, some years later. Part of the purpose of the School had been, since 1548, to provide a steady flow of boys to the universities and particularly to St John's College, Cambridge. Had the advice of the Master of St John's carried more weight at this juncture, or had there been a headmaster of authority and experience, this mistake might have been avoided. Happily the break in tradition was more theoretical than actual, and School life continued on the old site and Latin was still taught, even though boys were supposed to leave at sixteen. The scheme was to break down through its second weakness. This weakness was the expectation that, where formerly there had been a school for eighty boys, there could immediately be scope for two schools containing together three hundred. But meanwhile, at a meeting of the Governors on 2 May 1874, Edward Coulson Musson was appointed headmaster of 'Browne's School' and at the end of July the temporary appointment of Fynes Clinton terminated.

Musson, who was vice-principal of Queen Elizabeth's College, Guernsey, was forty-two. He had been a boy at Mill Hill, whence he went up to Queens' College, Cambridge, in 1854. Plans for new construction must already have been drawn by the time he came to Stamford, and it is doubtful whether he had any say in the buildings that were to be put up that year and the next.

There existed in 1874 teaching accommodation for about eighty boys in the Old School and the new classroom, room for fifty boarders, and a headmaster's house. What were needed, according to the first phase of the scheme, were classrooms for a further seventy. The plan adopted was both bold and imaginative. The existing headmaster's house with the house next door, both on the street, were to be demolished (although in good condition), and the new buildings set back from the street and behind the Old School. This at once gave space and dignity and made the Old School visible from the road. The buildings which then arose have survived the criticism of later generations better than most school buildings erected at that time, and everyone has cause to be grateful to those who planned them for placing them where they did. Inside, the main hall was lofty and dignified but had the serious defect that it had to act as a passage between one end of the building and the other. The Bellot inscription was again moved when the headmaster's house was demolished, and placed, not in the new headmaster's house, but at the east end of the buildings, opposite the Roden inscription and above the new porter's room. The School was formally reopened in its new guise by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Rt Hon. Sir Stafford Northcote, on 21 December 1875.

There were old boys who recalled those days. The chief impression made upon a new boy entering the School in 1876 was that of Musson's forked beard, or his 'two beards' as they were called. He was certainly a man to inspire fear, and instilled Latin by frequent application of the cane—far away from the tradition of Gretton. Musson used to teach in the new classroom. The Rev. E. B. Cooper was second master and taught classics in the Hall, and a Frenchman took classes in what was until recently the junior common room. The Frenchman was badly ragged and also quarrelled with Cooper. He had fought in the Franco-

Prussian War, and when worsted in an exchange of words with Cooper challenged him to a duel. 'You are a clergyman and can talk. I can fight. I fought the Germans.' Of Musson's pupils the most famous in later life was A. C. Harmsworth, afterwards Lord Northcliffe, founder of *The Daily Mail*. His time at Stamford does not seem to have been happy. He earned for himself the nickname of 'the Dodger', yet suffered his full share of corporal punishment. There was an occasion when he was seen by Musson as he was being let down by a sheet from an upper window, and this resulted, as he subsequently told a Speech Day audience, in a prolonged and exciting interview with his headmaster.* But he bore no malice, and besides being the Visitor on Speech Day he became a Governor of the School, Chairman of the Old Boys, and regularly gave a Speech Day prize. J. H. Boam, who was contemporary with Harmsworth, provides a different account from most of the ceremony of 'kissing the Old Man', the worn stone head over the west door of the Old School. He cannot recall that there was any initiation ceremony by which new boys were made to kiss the Old Man; it was an ordeal through which any boy had to pass, amid much pinching and banging, if he had done anything which was considered to be against the honour of the School. There was no School uniform in those days except for a red and blue band worn on straw hats and even, at the week-ends, on bowlers. Football was played on one of the fields at the back, but cricket in Burghley Park. The School had a swimming hut in Uffington Meadows.

Musson had started in 1874 with only forty-three boys in the School, but the number had risen in 1878 to a hundred and seven, of whom thirty-six were boarders; but they fell the next year to seventy-three and in 1880 to sixty-three, the fall being attributed to the fact that it was forbidden for boys to stay at School after sixteen. The Governors in March 1880 recommended that the School, then a 'middle' school, should be converted into a 'high' school in two divisions, and the plan for a separate 'high' school be dropped. It is not known what Musson's feelings were about this. He had been appointed to be headmaster of the School as a 'middle' school. It is possible that the Governors felt they wanted a man with different qualifications if the School were to

return to its old status. In 1880 Musson resigned to become headmaster at another school and negotiations went forward for a new scheme.

Meanwhile the Governors had successfully completed the third phase of their existing scheme with the building of a girls' school on the site of the old Daniel Lambert Inn in St Martin's. At its formal opening on 6 December 1877 by the Home Secretary, the Rt Hon. R. A. Cross, it was known as 'Browne's Middle School for Girls'. In 1888 the Governors proposed that its name should be changed to Stamford High School for Girls on Browne's Foundation. Although the High School and Stamford School are at opposite ends of the town and are distinct from each other in matters of administration, they have always been governed by the same board of Governors. Both schools have adopted the crest of William Browne, popularly believed to be a stork sitting on a wool-pack, examples of which are on brasses in All Saints' Church and in glass at Browne's Hospital; and also his motto: '† me spede.'

Musson was followed by A. W. Welch, who had been a mathematics master at Harrow. He was an Old Harrovian himself and had played football for Harrow before going up to Trinity Hall, Cambridge. There is little to record of his short time at Stamford. To one boy at least he appeared 'modern', and was not respected because he did not use the cane as much as Musson. Moreover, he was clean-shaven, and all headmasters were expected to have beards. But he played association football vigorously with the School.

The numbers dropped to forty-five. Further, the agricultural depression had affected the revenues of Browne's Hospital, and as the schools were only to receive the surplus revenues, it became obvious that no separate 'Radcliffe's High School' could any longer be contemplated. A new scheme was prepared in 1881 and received the Queen's approval on 30 November 1882. By the scheme the Endowed Schools were to consist of an endowed elementary school, Browne's School for girls, and Radcliffe and Browne's School for boys.* The first meeting of the Governing Body appointed under the new scheme was held on 14 December 1882, when it was resolved that the Marquess of Exeter should be

Chairman. This is the first Governors' Meeting of which minutes survive.

Meanwhile Welch had gone.* By the time of this meeting E. B. Cooper, the second master, was acting headmaster, and for two more terms lived in the headmaster's house until the new headmaster, the Rev. Henry Richard Verry, could take up his appointment in September 1883. Verry was thirty-one and was married. He had been a scholar of Christ's College, Cambridge, and had been placed in the First Class of the Classical Tripos in 1875. He came to Stamford from Dulwich, where he had been an assistant master. At his coming Cooper resigned and shortly afterwards moved to the Rectory at Uffington. The Governors, however, were unlucky in their first appointment. Verry had only been at the School one term when he decided to leave and accepted the living of Easton-on-the-Hill, just outside Stamford.

CHAPTER VIII

THE TURN OF THE CENTURY

'They came to school not to be crammed... but to learn how to learn.' Speech Day, 1887

THE success of schools during the first period of State intervention depended upon their being able to retain their individuality while assimilating such benefits from the State as they either chose or were forced to accept. The benefits ranged from advice to financial help, with which went a corresponding loss of independence. That Stamford was successful at this time was largely due to the length of its tradition and the manner in which control had been divided between town, university and the family of Cecil. For the School's relations with the State since 1869 had been difficult. Because Stamford had substantial endowments the State, through the Charity Commissioners, had had the power and obligation to frame a scheme by which the School should be governed. But though the Commissioners recognized and respected the School's tradition they had not had the experience to make a really satisfactory scheme. There had been fifteen years of trial and error during which schemes had been followed by amended schemes; and on top of this there had been several changes of headmaster, so that the School was left uncertain of itself. Yet, without the intervention of the Commissioners it is doubtful whether the endowment of William Browne would ever have been brought to help the endowment of William Radcliffe, and the School would not have had the block of buildings that was erected in 1875 and marked the beginning of a new era. Moreover, the Mayor of Stamford, the Lord of the Manor and the Master of St John's College, Cambridge, all three now members of the new governing body, were still there to guide the School. A period of uninterrupted development was needed, and it was important that the next headmaster should remain longer than his immediate predecessors.

To succeed Mr Verry the Governors appointed the Rev. D. J. J.

Barnard, then headmaster of Kibworth Beauchamp Grammar School, Leicestershire. As a boy he had been at King Edward VI's School, Norwich, and had gone up to Trinity Hall as a classical scholar. On leaving Cambridge he was for five years assistant master at Lancaster Grammar School before going to Kibworth, where he remained seven years. On his arrival at Stamford for the September term of 1884 he found in the School twenty-nine day boys and one boarder. From Kibworth he brought with him thirteen boarders. By Speech Day the next year the numbers had risen to thirty-five day boys and twenty-one boarders, and the new headmaster expressed the hope that one day there would be fifty day boys and fifty boarders.

The staff consisted of three masters: the second master, J. H. Collinson, a Queens' man who was later to be founder and first headmaster of Highfield School, Hamilton, Ontario; a Frenchman, Mons. E. L. Marinier, B. ès L.; and the Rev. W. W. Margetts. Collinson and Margetts came with Mr Barnard, but Marinier had been appointed by Mr Verry.

There was no call for any sweeping reforms, but the next seven years saw several small adjustments and innovations. A regular School cap and School games clothes were introduced in 1884. In 1885 there followed the first issue of the *Stamfordian*, consisting originally of eight pages, in form and content easily recognizable as the ancestor of the *Stamfordian* of today.* In 1886 the School built a gymnasium. Gymnasia had been an essential feature of classical antiquity, but English schools, despite their study of the life and language of Greece and Rome, had never thought fit to copy them in this until 1859, when Uppingham was the first to build one. Stamford's gymnasium was built on the site of what had been a covered playground to the north of the new classroom and at first it had the disadvantage of a stone floor. It remained the gymnasium until 1936, when the new hall was used instead, and it thereafter became known as the 'old gym'. (A pillar that for many years had stood there, seemingly supporting the roof, was eventually recognized to be the old swarming pole and in 1948 was removed. Many remember encountering it in the dark, to their cost.) Also in 1886, on 2 November, the lime trees along St Paul's Street were planted. They had been given by the

Marquess of Exeter and were put in with some ceremony by the headmaster and others; and the School was granted a half-holiday.* A cricket pavilion (later the 2nd XI pavilion) was put up in 1887. In 1888 two new rooms to the north of the gymnasium were built, one downstairs for a workshop, and the other upstairs for a laboratory. In 1889 the gallery in the hall (the recent dining hall) was erected to give more accommodation at concerts. After this there seem to have been no more structural alterations for many years. An opportunity was missed in 1890 when Brazenose House and gardens were sold. The School does not seem to have considered the advantage of acquiring the property which stretched immediately along its front. Brazenose House and gardens were bought by Brasenose College, which at once removed the knocker to Oxford. The College lent the gardens for the Speech Day reception but then sold the property and for a time it became a girls' academy.

Speech Days under Dr Barnard were held at the end of the summer term and were important occasions. Besides the speeches and distribution of prizes there was a full programme of singing and of acting which usually included scenes from Greek, French and English plays. A particular feature was the Examiner's report. Shortly before Speech Day a special examiner from Oxford or Cambridge was invited to visit the School. His report was delivered at length and in detail before the assembled Speech Day audience, criticizing boys individually for the felicity or infelicity of their style and the accuracy or inaccuracy of their mathematics or grammar.*

In 1889 the Old Stamfordian Club was founded. There had been informal reunions of old boys before, in particular the dinners held by Knapp in the seventeen-eighties, but the Club as it exists today dates from 1889. Its real founder was Joseph Phillips (O.S. 1835–40), who compiled a register of old boys for the previous fifty years. It is perhaps of interest to record the names of the original committee:

Joseph Phillips (1835–40)
George Cayley (1839–45)
Sir Richard Cayley (1842–51)
T. Sandall (1849–53)

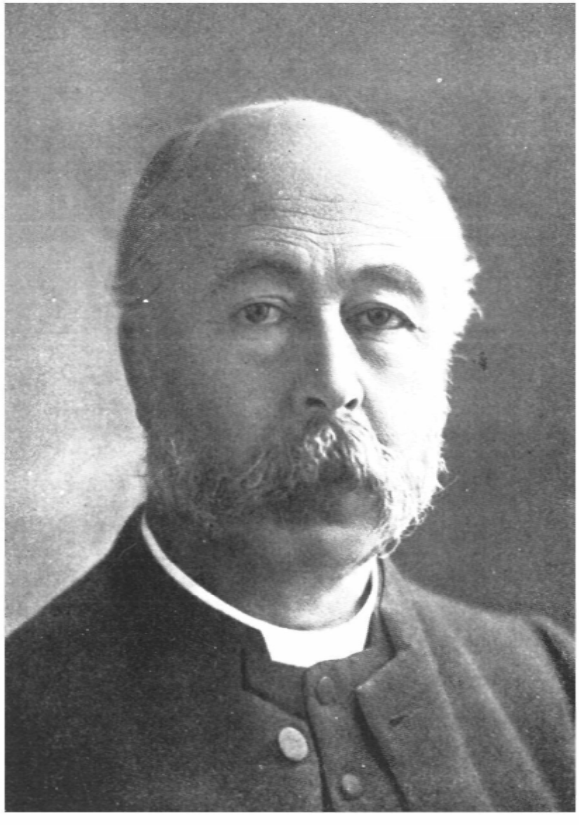
G. H. Burton (1853–7)
The Rev. F. W. H. Courtier (1853–62)
H. Nevinson (1863–70)
J. A. Langley (1871–8) } *Hon. Secretaries*
T. E. Sandall (1881–88) }

The founding of the Club seems to have been the last innovation made while Dr Barnard was headmaster, and the next sixteen years could be devoted to the proper work of the School, to teaching and learning. Dr Barnard was a good scholar and received his LL.D. in 1887. The numbers in the School were seldom more than sixty, and as there were four or five masters, and in addition a drawing master and drill sergeant, every boy could be given individual attention, and the abler boys certainly profited from it. An old boy records that those who found Latin and Greek six mornings a week and mathematics four afternoons a week too much for them were given harmless activity. Dr Barnard usually taught in the hall (later the dining hall). Classics to him were the only proper vehicle of education, and today—rightly or wrongly—his approach to them would be regarded as narrow. But boys were encouraged to work on their own and many had cause later in life to be grateful for the self-discipline and self-reliance they learned from him. 'So Classics and Mathematics', he said on Speech Day, 1892, '*funguntur vice cotis*, they *do* sharpen the intellect, they *do* train the mind, they *do* exercise the brain so that it may turn with ease to any subject that it will, and they should not be assailed simply because they are of no actual use in counting house or office.' During the years 1884–1906 the School won six classical scholarships, one choral scholarship and one mathematical scholarship at Cambridge; and one classical exhibition at Oxford.

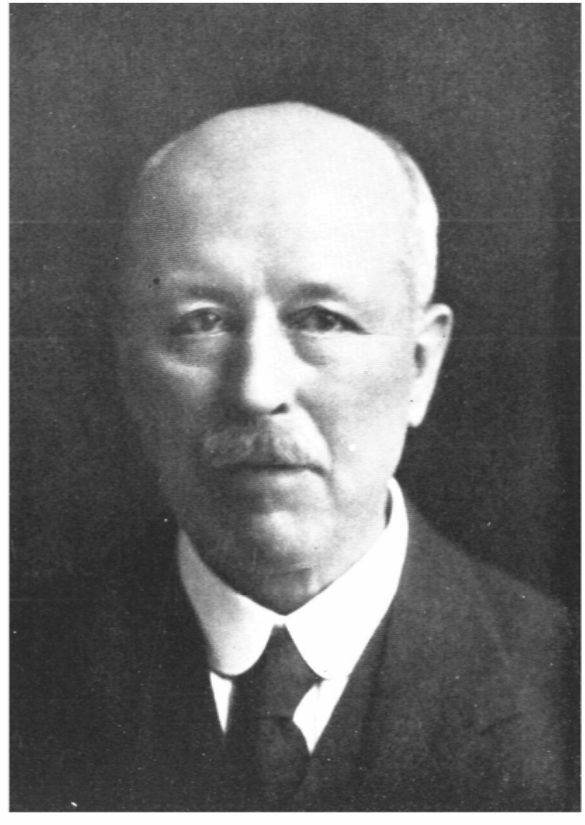
There were usually five or six forms in the School. In the hall was the headmaster's form and often one other; there was a form in what was later the library, and others in corners of the Old School. The two most outstanding masters of the eighteen-eighties were H. R. Armitage, who taught classics to the Fifth, and G. Middlemass, who is remembered as an excellent teacher of mathematics and English. Chemistry upstairs, above the carpenter's shop, was regarded very much as an oddment, like

French, and was not encouraged. Geography was an oddment too. A well-known author of geographical and historical works recalls that he had a strong dislike of geography instilled into him at Stamford and that he only overcame this later in life. History seems to have been enjoyed but ended with George III. Nothing so frivolous as maps or pictures hung on the walls, and except just before Speech Day there was no formal singing. Morning and afternoon prayers were conducted without hymn or psalm. There were strong contrasts—particularly those between 'in school' where much was dull, and 'out of school' where masters were found to be normal, friendly people; and between the lot of those who were suited to the classics and those who were not. The boarders lived a fairly spacious life, each having his own room and window in what were later dormitories, as well as a common-room (later the junior common room) and freedom to use the hall and sit around the fire. Up till 1890 Mrs Johnson made Brazenose Gardens available to them on Sundays. Although no time was found for music in the School time-table the headmaster was a keen musician and in 1900 wrote the School Song, composing both words and music.* The boarders and his family spent many musical evenings. Dr Barnard was also something of a cricketer, and there was a full fixture list for both cricket and football (soccer), and masters played in many of the matches. Until about 1890 lacrosse flourished and the School had fixtures against Cambridge 2nd XI (on Parker's Piece) and against Trinity College. Sports were held in early summer and there was unorganized bathing in Uffington Meadows. The outside world did not impinge much upon the School, and some knew little of it in term-time beyond Elson's shop which provided hot jam buns in the break.

At the end of 1906 Dr Barnard retired. He had been headmaster for twenty-one years and the School had been able to regain something of the sense of continuity and permanence that had been broken by the changes just before his time. Many remembered with awe his remote and stern figure scurrying with sidewhiskers and flowing gown over the gravel outside the Old School. Those who saw most of him knew him as a man who, though he seldom unbent, was always kindly and helpful when approached. He had



DENNIS JACOB JOHNSON BARNARD



EDWIN WILLIAM LOVEGROVE

few outside interests and was devoted to the School and his family. Anything concerning the School's history always interested him, and from time to time the *Stamfordian* recorded what he could discover about the Old School, William Radcliffe or past schoolmasters. Also, in the summer of 1902, his son J. D. Barnard, later to be senior classical scholar at Jesus College, Cambridge, began excavations in the Old School. He recounted in the *Stamfordian* how he had found the original floor some eighteen inches below the existing level, and added with inspiration: 'If the happy day were ever to come when this room should become the School chapel....'* A farewell party was given to Dr Barnard on 5 December and he retired to live at Bredcroft in Tinwell Road. To follow him the Governors appointed the School's second Oxford headmaster, E. W. Lovegrove, late scholar in mathematics at New College. He was thirty-eight and for six years had been headmaster of Clee Grammar School, Grimsby.

It is customary for each generation of old boys from any school to think that the generations succeeding them are softer and have comforts undreamed of in earlier, sterner days. This is probably true of all who were at School between 1907 and 1912, and they have stronger grounds for their opinion than have some others. A routine and a discipline which were often severe were combined with a wide liberty in which a boy could learn to stand on his own feet. The aim of the School was not only to encourage scholarship but to strengthen independence of character. Games accordingly became increasingly important and rugby football replaced association. Most of the masters were good games players and often took part with the School. The Sports, in the Easter term, had a place of high importance, and it is said that success in them saved many from the penalties of failure in the examinations which preceded them. In winter, on whole school days, when work had finished, there was a four-mile run, which seldom varied, round Ryhall, Belmisthorpe and Uffington; and on half-holidays, if the grounds were unfit, there was a ten-mile run; but all returned to a chilly reception, as except on Saturdays there was no hot water in the bathrooms and all had cold baths daily. In the dormitories the old partitions were removed and the wide, airy, but then unheated, rooms were formed that long remained. On Sundays,

instead of going to one of the churches in the town, the boarders had to tramp to some distant church in the country, often not returning to dinner till half-past-two. If the church were not so far away as usual the House might be required to attend evensong elsewhere as well. Also, whenever a whole holiday occurred, the School was encouraged to explore the countryside and boys as young as ten were set objectives a dozen miles away and more at Bourne, Oakham, Oundle or Peterborough, from which they might return by train or other means. As might be expected in such times, new boys looked forward with apprehension to the ceremony of kissing the Old Man, and the initiation was often accompanied by fairly rough treatment; but when it was over each felt something of a hero and properly a member of the School.

With all this Spartan life individual interests were encouraged and talent recognized. School societies were not common in schools of those days but the debating society flourished and the School learned about architecture, archaeology and the countryside. Many did carpentry, several against their will, and the headmaster was a keen carpenter, having his own workplace in a room at the end of what was later the junior dormitory. Moreover, in 1911, by the appointment of Mrs Tinkler to teach the piano, more was done for the music of the School than was then realized. Two of her pupils, Malcolm Sargent and Michael Tippett, would be the first to admit the debt they owed to her.* Thirty-seven years later, in 1948, a signal honour was to be paid to Sir Malcolm Sargent and to the School when the Mayor and Corporation of Stamford met in the School Hall to confer upon Malcolm Sargent the freedom of the Borough. Mrs Tinkler was still teaching at the School and she continued to teach until a few weeks before she died in 1950, when her friends endowed a prize in her memory.

During the six years that Mr Lovegrove was headmaster the School won only two scholarships at Cambridge, both in classics, but other subjects, and particularly chemistry, were encouraged; and four boys taught under him won university awards in science after he had left. There were only sixty-four boys in the School when he came in 1907 and these included seven whom he brought with him from Clee. The numbers the next year rose to eighty-two

but dropped again in 1911 to sixty-one. Meanwhile the School had received a new scheme from the Board of Education, dated 4 October 1910, altering slightly the composition of the Governing Body but otherwise making little change; and this scheme, with some amendments, is that under which the School runs today.* But it was not a particularly favourable time for schools, and many were having difficulty in maintaining numbers. In December 1912 Mr Lovegrove left Stamford to become headmaster of Ruthin, where he remained till he retired in 1930.

CHAPTER IX

1912–1947

'Whosoever in writing a moderne history shall follow truth too neare the heeles, it may happily strike out his teeth.'

SIR WALTER RALEIGH, Preface to his *Historie of the World*

IT is not the purpose of this book to describe in detail the life of the School after 1912. The time is too close. A few facts only will be recorded here which those who knew the School in those days will clothe with their own memories and which others must take as the barest evidence of the School's development. Throughout these years the School was fortunate to have as its Chairman the Fifth Marquess of Exeter. Other Governors gave it long and valuable service, but it was from the Chairman that the School received its real direction and sense of continuity over more than half a century of sustained growth and progress.

For thirty-four years Mr Day, later Canon Day, was headmaster. He was appointed on 15 January 1913, thirteen days before the beginning of term; and as Mr Lovegrove had taken a number of boys away with him to Ruthin he found only fifty-two left in the School, of whom three were boarders; these were T. H. Baldwin, F. J. Cummins and L. King. There were four assistant masters, L. I. Pitt and A. W. S. Cowie, already in the School, and two newly appointed temporary masters whose places were taken later that year by M. H. Wood and C. R. Beechey (O.S.). Changes in the School's administration followed the headmaster's appointment and association football took the place of rugby, not only because the headmaster himself was a keen association football player but because the game was felt to be more appropriate to the size of the School. (In 1917, when the School had grown again, it returned to rugby.) The *Stamfordian* was restarted after a lapse of six years, the Library was reorganized, *Twelfth Night* produced, and the Old Stamfordian Club re-established under the presidency of Lord Northcliffe.

THE MOST NOBLE THE MARQUESS OF EXETER, K.G.

Chairman of the Governors since 1899

Semper perspexi hanc nostram scolam maximae tibi curae fuisse

It was clear that a new spirit was at work, but all seemed checked in 1914 by the outbreak of war with Germany. It was Canon Day's lot to be headmaster throughout two world wars, having been appointed less than two years before the first and retiring less than two years after the second. Pitt, Cowie, Wood and Beechey all enlisted and all were killed. The School continued under older and often temporary masters and a sadder headmaster.

At the School the year 1915 was notable for two things: first, for the arrival of C. Edley-Morton who, with one excursion to Cambridge, was to remain a pillar of the staff until he retired, as second master, in 1944; and, secondly, for the institution of houses. By the autumn the School had grown to ninety-two, and three houses were formed: Town House, Country House and School House, the last comprising the eighteen boarders. In 1924, when its numbers had grown, Town was split into North House and South House. These remained separate until 1938 when they again became one owing to the growth of the other two houses.

The year 1916 saw the forming of a cadet corps under the command of the headmaster; and a scout troop under Mr Edley-Morton. An important appointment was made in 1919 when E. Dungey joined the staff as senior science master, for during the seventeen years he was at Stamford the School was to win a considerable reputation for the scientists it sent to the universities. Between 1922 and 1936 sixteen of the boys he taught won open awards at Oxford or Cambridge.

In 1920 the headmaster was elected a member of the Headmasters' Conference and that year the numbers in the School exceeded 200. Shortage of accommodation began to be serious, but there was no money immediately available for capital expenditure. Offers of help were made by the county, and for a time plans for large-scale building were discussed. These did not materialize but aid was nevertheless accepted with some loss of independence. In 1921 new laboratories were equipped in the efficient but hardly beautiful huts that remained until 1957; and the old solicitors' offices at 19 St Paul's Street were acquired as a junior house. By 1923 the numbers were 243, about the size they were to remain until the beginning of the Second World War. For a time the School had to make do with what form rooms it had, but this and

other difficulties were solved in 1929 by the purchase of the Brazenose property. It was not so easy, however, to arrange for games, as the School field was small, mainly sloping and crossed by a hedge. Worse still, up to 1923, it had been held on lease only. But that year the Governors bought it outright, plans for reshaping the whole area were made, the hedge was grubbed up and levelling began. For twelve years the work continued with much labour from the School and with the aid of a light railway. It was finished in 1934.

The acquisition of Brazenose was a landmark in the School's history. Not only did the School stride the road into an inheritance that would seem to have been awaiting it for centuries but secured badly-needed classrooms. It could at last restore the Old School as a place of worship and make it a fitting memorial to those who had given their lives in the war. A fund for the conversion of the building into a chapel had been begun by the Old Stamfordian Club in 1920 but work could not start until a home had been found for the forms which were still taught there. As soon as Brazenose was acquired, the Club renewed its appeal for subscriptions, and building began that autumn. On 17 October 1929 Lady Burghley laid the foundation stone, the keystone of the new west door into which had been fastened the head of the Old Man; and on the same day she opened Northfields House, which the School had bought. The Junior House moved into Northfields under Major A. B. Cowburn, and its old home for some years became the sanatorium. On 21 June 1930 the Bishop of Lincoln consecrated the chapel at an impressive service, and the headmaster read the names of those who had fallen in the war.

The School still needed a place of general assembly and was fortunate in not having long to wait. The foundation stone of the present Hall was laid by the Marquess of Exeter on 13 December 1935, and the building opened by Lord Hugh Cecil on 18 December 1936. It has been in such constant use ever since that it is difficult to imagine how the School had before done without it.

The growth of the School was naturally followed by a steady increase in the Old Stamfordian Club, which was ever anxious to give it support. The Club was active not only in Stamford but also had branches at Oxford and Cambridge, and in London where

T. G. Marriott and his brother Major S. C. Marriott vigorously promoted its interests, as did Nelson Dawson who in 1934 gave to the School a large number of his pictures. In 1938 the Club presented the School with a cricket pavilion to mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the headmaster's appointment. In the same year the headmaster was made a Canon of Lincoln.

In 1939 came the Second World War and with it again the casualty lists of old boys, many of them this time in the Royal Air Force. The panels in the chapel show in how many places they fought and died. In the alarm of June 1940 the School moved to Cors-y-Gedol in Wales, but returned in September. The numbers, which had started to grow again in 1937, maintained their level for the first three years of war at about 300, of which eighty were boarders; but they began to mount and in 1943 had reached 410, of which 122 were boarders. There was a corresponding increase in the duties of the domestic staff. This was largely the concern of Mrs Day, and there are still those who have warm memories of what she and her daughter Patsy Day did for their welfare. That year the School took over Clapton House (No. 30 St Paul's Street, across the road from the headmaster's house) which had just been left by the Polish Army. In the summer of 1944 a new junior boarding house, St Martin's, was opened under Mr A. V. C. Moore at 52 High Street, St Martin's.

With the passing of the Education Act of 1944 the School was in a dilemma. It would have been natural for it to return to its old Direct Grant position* which it had before 1920, but this was not allowed. Had the School chosen to maintain its direct contact with the county it would not have been able to keep its preparatory department and its boarding side would have suffered severely. The Governors, therefore, chose independence. This change had no effect on the School's numbers, which continued to rise, but in the housing shortage that accompanied the end of the war it was impossible to build permanent classrooms. As a temporary measure, therefore, three prefabricated classrooms were put up to the east of the Hall in 1946; and a large private house, No. 33 St Peter's Street, was turned into a new junior boarding house, called St Peter's, for smaller boys, under Miss E. M. Gilbert, who had formerly taught in the preparatory department. When the

question of a war memorial again arose the Old Stamfordian Club for a second time came forward to organize subscriptions and to plan the memorial, which was to be a swimming pool in the waste ground to the north-east of the playing fields. Money was received and plans were soon ready but everything was held up for want of a building licence.

At the end of the long, severe winter of 1946/7 Canon Day retired, having been headmaster for thirty-four years and one term; and, like two of his predecessors, was installed vicar of St Martin's. Mr Edley-Morton wrote in the *Stamfordian*:

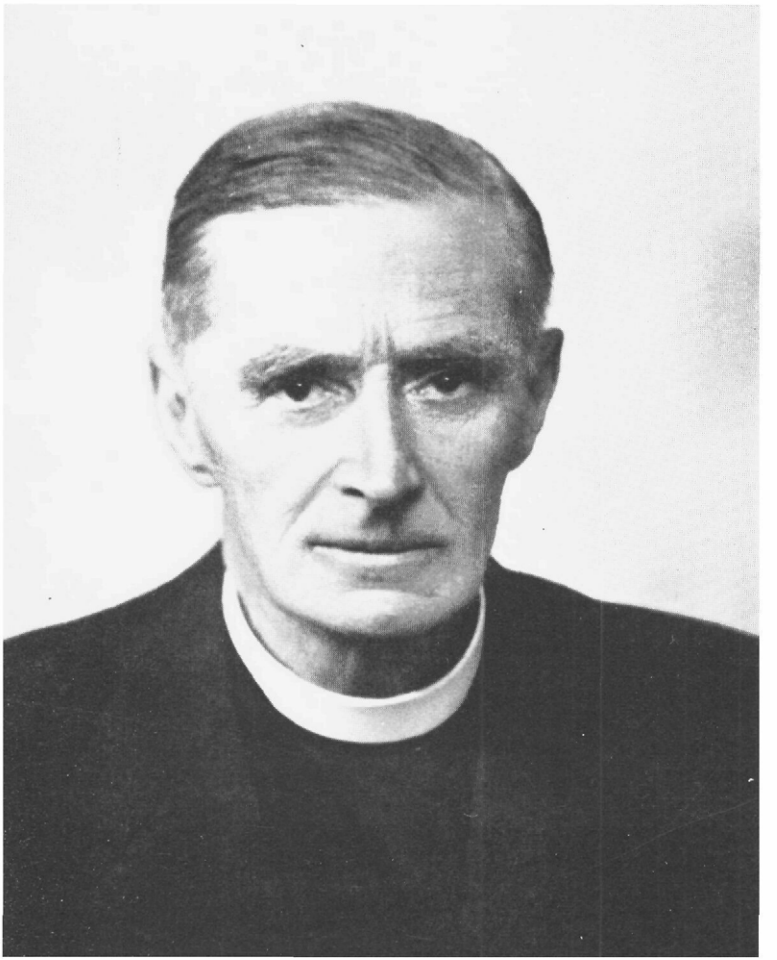
'Canon Day's place of honour in the archives of the School derives from the immense progress, material and spiritual, that has been made during his headmastership, and, especially, from those qualities of his that made this progress possible. Of the progress itself little need be said; it is extant and known to all. An account would quickly degenerate into a catalogue; the rapid rise in academic and athletic achievement, the steady flow of scholars to the Universities, the widening circle of fame from the old town through the counties, the Chapel, the School Hall, Brazenose, Northfields House—*cetera quis nescit*? What space is available must be given to those qualities of our former Headmaster that have made the achievement possible.

First among these must come the self-devotion, almost amounting to self-immolation, to the interests of the School....

This self-devotion made him unwilling to suffer fools gladly: they wasted time and interfered unprofitably with work in progress. It also led to what some were inclined to regard as over-centralisation in the management of the School. Even if this idea had any truth in it, it must stand on record that it was balanced by one of the most precious privileges a headmaster's colleagues can enjoy: the Head never interfered unduly with any competent member of the staff; if a man knew his work, and if the results of that work were good, he had a free hand.

Another quality that calls for mention is the headmaster's singleness and persistence of purpose. Once he had made up his mind that some object was desirable no obstacles discouraged or daunted him....The third characteristic that is outstanding is his refusal to rest contented with success. Not that he was never satisfied with work of colleagues....It was the success of his own projects, or those inspired by him, that found him insatiable.

These three qualities have always seemed to the writer to be



THE REV. CANON J. D. DAY, HEADMASTER 1913–47

most characteristic of Canon Day as headmaster of Stamford School....However, it is not possible to avoid mention of the Head's volcanic energy, his love of cricket, his genius for improvisation in the face of unforeseeable difficulties, his knowledge of individual boys in a school enlarged tenfold and of Old Boys of many years standing....I must record also his frequently heard "the boys come first".

Of a great patron of learning under the Tudor despotism it was said by Shakespeare:

> "Exceeding wise, fair spoken and persuading:
> Lofty and sour to them that lov'd him not;
> But to those men that sought him sweet as summer",

and, with reservations, this would apply to Canon Day too.'

EPILOGUE

1947–1980

Time present and time past
Are both perhaps present in time future,
And time future contained in time past.

T. S. ELIOT, 'Burnt Norton'

THE years 1947–1980 saw the school expanding. Numbers increased from under 500 to nearly 900, the sixth form from sixty-two to a hundred and seventy-three and the staff from twenty-nine to fifty-nine. And yet already in 1947 there seemed too little room. The school was well served by its chapel, its hall, the charming building of Brazenose and by the playing fields, all sited inside the town but within easy reach of the country. But, by today's standards, the form rooms were inadequate, the dormitories crowded and there was an acute shortage of common rooms both for boarders and day boys. Further expansion was only possible if more land could be acquired and more property bought or built.

It was at first a time of general shortage. Food was still rationed, clothes were on coupons, new beds and bedding were hard to come by and at the beginning of the summer term 1947 even the school mowing machines had broken down and the grass was long on the cricket field. During the winter that followed the heating boilers in many of the school's scattered buildings began to give out and a fire, starting in a boiler room, nearly destroyed Brazenose. It was a time of austerity but a time of confidence. The war was over, there were many—too many it seemed—who wanted to come to the school and all sights were set on the future.

Of the thirteen masters who had been in the school in 1939 five remained, and with their memories of what had been before the war they were to play an invaluable part in handing on traditions to greatly swollen numbers. These masters were the Rev. T. Wright, second master and senior modern language master; Lieut.-Col. W. Pollard, commanding the school contingent of the

Combined Cadet Force; Major R. A. Lamb, senior science master and careers master; H. E. Packer (O.S.), in charge of games; and C. A. M. Bowman (O.S.), who had always played a prominent part in the affairs of the Old Stamfordian Club. In May 1947, for the first time in thirty-three years, there was a new headmaster.*

As was to be expected after the changes and confusion of war, standards of work in the school varied widely. At the top all was fairly well and three open awards were won that year at Oxford and Cambridge; but frequent changes of staff had taken their toll on work further down the school. On the games field it was different. The cricket XI in 1947 was undefeated in its eight school matches and—presage of the future—the fourteen-year-old M. J. K. Smith was the chief run scorer. In the school sports that summer many records were broken.

But the urgent need was for new buildings, and permission to build them was unobtainable. (Priority, after the war, was being given to houses for people to live in.) Fortunately the school was able to buy the large St Michael's Rectory at the southeast corner of the school site and, for the time being, used this building for form rooms. The next year the school bought a row of condemned cottages at the southwest corner of the playing field and converted them into temporary changing rooms. Equally important for the future, the school took a chance that was offered to buy a small piece of land off Brazenose Lane, which gave access to Clapton Garden and Clapton House, at that time rented by the school for form rooms but bought the next year. Without this small piece of land neither Big School nor the Science School could later have been built. It was not until 1951, however, that the school was allowed to build new form rooms and immediately put up six in the Dell and named them Little School.

A change in the house system followed. Eleven 'houses' were formed where there had been, in theory, three before; and a clearer distinction was made between Junior and Senior School.* The junior boarding house Northfields (housemaster M. C. Wainwright,* 1939–56) was well sited up on the hill at the north end of the playing fields, but St Martin's House (housemaster A. V. C. Moore, 1944–52) was some way off across the river. In

1952 this 'house' was moved into St Michael's Rectory which was no longer needed for form rooms and which was then converted and extended and renamed Southfields. Mr D. A. Cruickshank was appointed housemaster and, subsequently, Master in Charge of the Junior School.

Two years later the congestion in the Senior School was at last relieved by the building in Clapton garden of nine form rooms known as Big School. This building has its failings but it is strange to think that it only cost £12,000. It was dignified by a photograph and an appreciative notice in a *Times* supplement. And in 1956/7 the Science School was built, also in Clapton garden, and was opened on a cold, wet but memorable December day by the Duke of Gloucester. It had been financed largely by generous gifts from industry and by a legacy from the late Frederic Horspool.

The school was now reasonably well equipped for teaching and it would be tedious to recount all new buildings as they occurred. They are listed in Appendix X. Building continued almost every year throughout this period and continues today.

Just before the beginning of the autumn term 1960 Mr Wright died. Besides being second master he had been Rector of Little Casterton and this seems to have given him a breadth of vision that was of added value to him as a schoolmaster, and his service to the school was unstinted. He was succeeded as second master by Mr B. M. McKenzie, head of mathematics and still playing an active game of rugger against the school XV. Mr A. M. Chew followed as head of modern languages. At that time Major Lamb, a chemist himself and with close ties with the University of St Andrews, was still head of sciences, Mr H. B. Sharp, who produced many of the school plays, head of English, Mr R. Chapman of classics, Mr J. R. Shelford of geography, Mr D. Maland of history, Mr W. F. E. Douglas of art and Mr G. G. Johnstone of music. The Rev. D. B. Harley had succeeded the Rev. R. Kinghorn as chaplain in 1958.

Since 1946 (as mentioned in the last chapter) the school had been independent. In the more distant past it had been what was known as a Direct Grant school—receiving a direct grant from central government and under obligation to take a certain number

of boys from local authorities. This the school had always done and wished to do, but from 1920 to 1945 it had been in closer association with local authorities under what was known as 'Aided' status. In 1946 the school had wanted to revert to Direct Grant and when this was not allowed it became independent but continued its close and friendly ties with the counties of Kesteven, Rutland and Northamptonshire. Meanwhile it pressed for the reopening of the Direct Grant list, and when the government briefly reopened it in 1957 Stamford was one of the few schools to be admitted—and parents were surprised when fees were reduced.

In 1955 Lord Exeter retired from the Chairmanship of the Governors. He had been Chairman during six reigns—since March 1899. Lord Ancaster succeeded him and was Chairman until he retired in 1969 when Major W. Birkbeck was elected. Perhaps only a headmaster knows what a school owes to its chairman. I am sure that Stamford, at least since the war, could not have been better served.*

Entry to the school for those who were sent by local authorities was mainly by the eleven-plus examination; others, many at eleven, took the school's own entrance examination, and its standard was no lower. The Junior School included the preparatory department for boys aged eight and over. Even these took an entrance examination and it was felt better so, rather than that any should be admitted who could not cope with the work later on. The preparatory boarding 'house' of St Peter's, taking boys 8–10, was moved in 1954 from St Peter's Street to two houses in St Paul's Street which the school had bought and converted. This house remained happily first under Mr G. D. Sinker as housemaster and then under Mr J. S. Hartley until 1977 when it was closed and Northfields and Southfields began to take boys from the age of eight. The building vacated now forms part of the new Browne House, opened in September 1981 and built on the site of St Peter's garden. The east side of St Peter's has become once more the housemaster's house and the west side is occupied by the sanatorium and matron's rooms, and there are two bachelor flats on the first floor. The vacated School House will become the Sixth Form centre, ready for occupation in September 1982.

Examination results show only in part the success or failure of a school. The motivation with which a boy leaves is equally or more important; and the careers that old boys from Stamford have followed cover a wide field.* Nevertheless it was satisfactory that by the early sixties as many as a hundred old boys of the school could be counted at any one time as reading for a first degree at a university. The classics (Latin and Greek) were still taught and Russian and Economics introduced. A feature of the sixth form was the number of distinguished people who were willing to spare the time to come and speak to them. As there was no press present these talks were not only informative but uninhibited.*

With Malcolm Sargent and Michael Tippett as old boys and with Mrs Tinkler, their former teacher, still living (until 1950) in Stamford, it was natural that music should play a large part in school life. But, after the war, it was at a low ebb. Certainly the school had the benefit of distinguished visitors performing in the school hall at concerts arranged by the town, but the school itself in those days had only one full-time music member of the staff and a very small orchestra. This was said to have 'performed tunefully in the intervals of plays', but when *Dido and Aeneas* was performed in 1949, in conjunction with the High School, the strings were supplied by the town orchestra. At a notable production of *Trial by Jury* in 1954 there was indeed a school orchestra but it was strongly supported by staff. By 1959, however, the school had two orchestras and in 1961 took part in a BBC programme in the hall celebrating the borough's quincentenary.* The same year the chapel choir for the first time sang evensong in Lincoln Cathedral and Sir Malcolm Sargent conducted the Pro Arte Orchestra in two concerts in the school hall; also an organ was installed in the chapel.* The next year the school choir sang the BBC's Sunday Half Hour in chapel, and by 1967 music in the school had so far developed that the chapel choir was able to accept an invitation from the BBC to join with the Royal Choral Society to sing (at nine days' notice) a programme of carols broadcast on Christmas Eve from All Saints, Stamford, as a reminder of Sir Malcolm Sargent's carol programmes.* (He had died that October.) There followed, in 1968, a headmaster who, among much else, was himself a musician and had been an organ scholar of his college. The

next ten years saw both a development of formal music in the school and the spread of music still more widely by means of societies and musical groups. In 1969 the orchestra for the first time gave a concert of complete and fully scored works built round a classical symphony; the following year it took part in BBC 2's *Sing Alleluia* and the next year performed (with the High School) *The Beggar's Opera*. At last, in 1977, the school received a new music school, the gift of an old boy, T. G. Clancy. There is today a music staff of sixteen in the school.

Besides concerts, there were plays. It is difficult enough to review a single play. To say anything worthwhile in a short space about all the plays produced at the school over many years is next to impossible. For over thirty years there was a play at the end of each autumn term. There were many other plays besides—plays by the Junior School, plays outdoors, plays by groups of enthusiasts. Much effort went into them. Perhaps it may be of interest to give as a note to this paragraph a list of the plays acted at Christmas for the years 1947–77.*

The school has for long had a cadet force (now Combined Cadet Force, with Army, Air and Naval sections; formerly O.T.C. or J.T.C.) with its ancillary activities of band, rifle shooting, arduous training courses, camps; and, being within the area of Bomber Command and near to R.A.F. Wittering, it has had close contacts with the Royal Air Force.* At present some 40% of the Senior School belong to the C.C.F., the remainder enrolling in some other form of public service ranging from maintenance and repair work on the site to visiting and helping the elderly and the handicapped. School societies have proliferated. There may be as many as twenty at any one time ranging from chess to brewing. There have been many school visits abroad and the Modern Language Department arranges exchanges with schools in France and Germany. A distinctive contribution has always been made by the Art Department, housed for many years inadequately in an old hut* but later moving into the vacated premises of the Stamford Church Lads Club, in St Paul's Street. Its influence has not been confined to those who by nature are good at drawing or painting.

The levelling of the main playing field, completed in 1934, had raised the standard of games. The Junior School played association football and the Senior School rugby in the autumn and hockey after Christmas. In summer there was cricket for all. But with the rapid growth in numbers after the war things became difficult. The two sloping fields, Willow Pond and Springfields, at that time leased from the Burghley Estate, made very indifferent pitches. Gradually, however, opportunities became greater and life, perhaps, less rigorous. (School House no longer had its daily P.T./Games practice at 7 a.m.) Tennis courts were made in the Dell. (The headmaster had suggested combining these with a pelota court but the architect would not allow it.) In 1956 the swimming pool was opened by Lord Burghley. It was the gift of the Old Stamfordians and a memorial to those who had died in the war. The bridge and the gymnasium were built in 1965 and opened by the Chairman, Lord Ancaster; and by 1966 the Upper and Lower Drift fields were being used for the first time. These had been acquired and levelled through the generosity of the Burghley Estate. The same year saw the start of the levelling of Springfields (now owned by the school). This was brought about and completed in 1971 by the persistent initiative of Mr C. A. M. Bowman who secured and had delivered and spread on site some 50,000 tons of soil. Four squash courts were built in 1973. They have been much used.

For many years the school had had a very successful boxing team but later, with the decline of boxing in schools generally, its place was taken by fencing and badminton. A school sailing club was established (again at Mr Bowman's initiative) and through the generosity of F. R. J. Gibbons (O.S.) it was able to make use of the gravel pits at Langtoft; and a few senior boys played golf. (D. R. Hare won his half blue for sailing at Oxford in 1956 and in 1965 was in the winning British team in the International 14 ft dinghy races against America and Canada; M. H. James in 1974 won the English Open Amateur Golf Championship and subsequently played in the Ryder Cup matches.) There was also some decorous croquet introduced in the early sixties on the chapel lawns. But cricket, rugby football and hockey remained the

B. L. DEED, HEADMASTER 1947–68

H. A. STAVELEY, HEADMASTER 1968–78

school's principal games and its outstanding player has certainly been M. J. K. Smith who played rugger for England in 1956 and at cricket captained England in twenty-four Test Matches besides, when at Oxford, scoring a century against Cambridge in three successive seasons. At school he was top scorer in 1947 when just fourteen in a young but undefeated school side and was captain 1949–51. It is a great encouragement to all in any school to have had an outstanding performer, and yet the principle remains that school games are not for the few but for the many. On one day in the autumn of 1980, instead of school matches being restricted to two or three teams, there were no less than ten teams playing rugby football against Oakham.

All schools are subject to the economic and social pressures of the day and, increasingly, to decisions taken by central government.* In the later 'sixties it became clear that the Direct Grant system, for which Stamford was so suited, was under threat and it was a time of uncertainty in schools. (Abroad there had been student riots in Paris and elsewhere.) Direct Grant was one of the problems that faced Mr Staveley when he came—or, rather, returned—to the school as headmaster in 1968.* But there was little doubt what the school's decision would be. When the Government abolished the system in 1971 Stamford chose independence. Fees were raised but the school continued, and continues today, its close association with the county—now Lincolnshire, in the place of Kesteven.

Another problem was the increase in the size of the school. In order to fulfil its (unwritten) obligations to the county authorities (with enlarged numbers to provide for) Stamford had to become a school of four 'streams' instead of three—and already in 1968, to provide for this, additional form rooms were being built next to Big School. But the very real difficulty of having suddenly to absorb these numbers was not outwardly apparent; and there was success in awards gained at universities. There was also at this time a further growth in the Old Stamfordian Club. This club, with its local members and active branch in London had always been a great help to the school and now, with a headmaster who himself had been a boy at the school, its numbers and its support

to the school increased. And the club much appreciated the school's success on the games field of the early 'seventies.

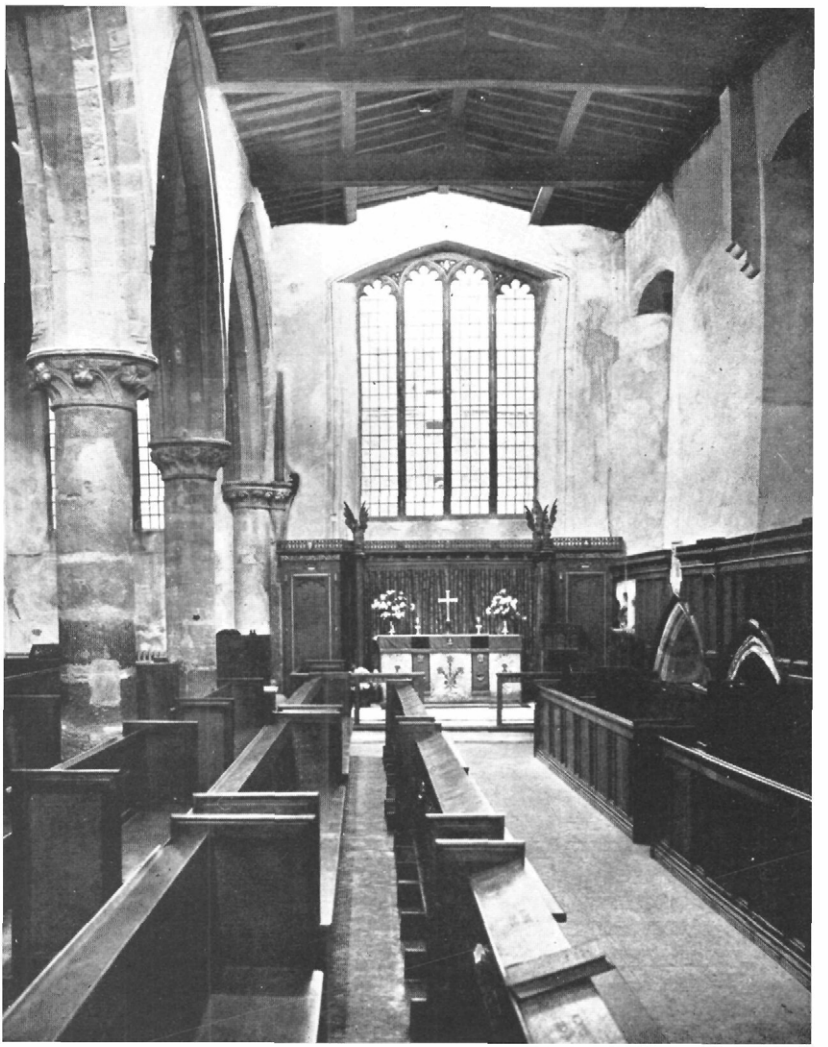
But the school still needed more buildings and, for the first time, a general appeal was made for funds, an appeal to parents, old boys and all friends of the school.* This was a success. Some large anonymous gifts were received and many others, bringing a total of £126,000. With this there was built a new dining hall, with new kitchens, to accommodate over 300 people and supply over 650 meals on a cafeteria basis; Browne and Byard houses were improved and another storey was added to the Science School. The reconstruction of No. 16 St Paul's Street (a small house bought by the school from Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, in 1912) to be a new office for the bursar revealed it, in the opinion of the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments, as one of the most important domestic buildings in England extant from the thirteenth century.*

A building that could not (within reason) be extended was the chapel. For years after its re-consecration in 1930 the school had met there daily for prayers and, with the increase in numbers, there were, for a time, three services held there each morning—for the Senior, the Middle and the Junior School. (The conduct of these services was shared between the chaplain, the headmaster, the second master and the master in charge of the Junior School.) But numbers grew further and today it is no longer possible for there to be morning prayers for everyone every day in chapel. And with six parish churches in Stamford it has never been the tradition for day boys to come to services in the school chapel on Sundays. Yet the chapel remains at the heart of the school. Whether its influence among this generation will be seen to have been greater or less than in the past, who can say?

This chapter has attempted to pick out some of the principal events in the school's development since the war, but, as has been said, it is not history. And old boys who have kept their copies of the *Stamfordian* will be reminded of much for which there has been no room here and old copies of the termly calendar, the Blue Book,* will recall names—something more important than grey stone, bricks and mortar. The school in numbers today is many times the size it was a hundred years ago and outwardly may seem

very different. But those who know it best will see in it a *genius loci* that other centuries would recognize. The school has a record of four hundred and fifty years service to the community and Stamfordians today can look to the future with a confidence that is all the stronger for being based upon a long tradition.

APPENDICES



THE CHAPEL

APPENDIX I

THE CHAPEL

THE chapel, formerly the Old School, was originally the church of Stamford St Paul. Without full excavation of the site it seems unlikely that the exact size and shape of the church in the twelfth to fifteenth centuries can be determined. The proportions of the pointed arches suggest that St Paul's was large, with a nave of four or five bays having a north and south aisle. The easternmost of the remaining pillars seems to have formed a part of the chancel arch, and the chancel may have extended to the east of the more northerly of the present east windows. If this were so the main part of the present chapel would be the south aisle of the former church. At some period, probably in the fourteenth century, the east end of the aisle seems to have been made into a side chapel, so that the present altar stands where the altar of the side chapel once stood, of which the piscina still remains. It is known from the records of St Katherine's Guild that St Paul's had a tower and belfry and that there was a room over the church door. A narrow stone staircase of (now) ten steps survives in the south wall and there are traces of the staircase ascending higher. It seems probable that these led to the room above the church door but possibly they led to the tower.

Dates can be given to different parts of the chapel with a fair degree of confidence. The string course outside and the machicolated parapet are probably twelfth-century, and the foliage on the capitals of the three pillars inside is probably thirteenth. The present east window is late fifteenth-century and the two easternmost of the south windows mid-sixteenth, although some earlier tracery may have been used in their construction.

The present age knows how churches can disintegrate if not kept in repair, but there were two periods when deliberate destruction may have reduced the size of St Paul's. The first was when the Lancastrians sacked the town in 1461; and it is possible, although there is no other evidence, that the building of the east window was a part of a scheme of reconstruction. The second period was 1548–53, when it was only a decision to move the

School into the remains of the church that saved St Paul's from being destroyed completely. The period of the reconstruction and conversion of the Old School into the chapel falls within living memory.

The earliest documentary evidence for the church is the deed of 17 February 1200. This shows that at that time the right of presentation to the living of St Paul's belonged to the Prior and monks of St Fromund's (in Normandy). In the document the Prior and monks agree to yield to the Prior and canons of Merton (in Surrey) their right of presentation to St Paul's and to other livings in Stamford; and in exchange they are to receive the right of presentation to the church at Caen. The deed was made under the indulgence of Pope Lucius III and the agreement ratified by King John. Nevertheless, it does not seem to have had effect, as we know that the Prior and monks of St Fromund's continued to present to the living of St Paul's.

The connexion between St Paul's and St Fromund's (Fromund or its equivalent is still a name known around Stamford) may have come about in the following way: The Priory of St Fromund was founded and subsequently, in 1154, refounded by the family of de Humet. In the next year Henry II made Richard de Humet Constable of Normandy and at the same time bestowed upon him, *inter alia*, the lordship of Stamford with all its appurtenances in the castle and borough. The Stamford churches thus passed into his hands, and it would be understandable for him, or his son William who succeeded him in 1182, to have entrusted them to St Fromund's. It would also have been understandable for there to have been negotiations for control to pass back to the English side of the Channel; but, for some reason, the agreement, when made in 1200, proved abortive. In 1205 William de Humet forfeited the lordship of Stamford and it passed to William de Warenne. The rights of the Prior and monks of St Fromund's only lapsed more than a century later, when Edward III invaded France at the beginning of what was to be the Hundred Years War. Appendix II gives the deed of 1200, and Appendix III gives a list of the rectors of St Paul's.

There is still remaining another memorial to the times when St Fromund's was connected with the church of St Paul, in the

form of an inscription to Eustachius Malherbe, who had been a member of Parliament for Stamford and had owned Hudd's Mill near St Leonard's Priory. The inscription runs: *Hic jacet Eustachius Malherbe quondam burgensis Stamfordiae cuius animae propicietur Deus Amen.* The last incumbent of St Paul's to be appointed by St Fromund's was Thomas de London, Rector at the time of the Brasenose secession. It is not known how he conducted himself, but at least he was still in favour in 1344 when on 10 June an inquisition *ad quod damnum* was held at Stamford and a messuage was given 'to Thomas London, Rector of the church of St Paul, and to his successors, for his manse in pure and perpetual alms'.

Later in the same century there lived a rector with whom the present generation is more familiar, as he was buried in the church and his memorial slab was discovered in 1903. An inscription carved on it in letters that are still sharp and clear runs:

'Henry Elyngton: Jadis Parson de sa glyse gyt iscy.
Dieu de sa alme eut mercy amen.
Katerine & Margarete preiez p li
A vost Chapel il fut pour amy.'

which may be translated:

Henry Elyngton, formerly parson of this church, lies here.
God have mercy on his soul. Amen.
Katherine and Margaret pray for him.
To your Chapel he was for a friend.

His remains, which were also found at the same time, showed him to have been a man of finely shaped head, of perfect teeth and a good square jaw, but one who walked lame through a broken leg badly set. The request, made in the inscription, to St Margaret and St Katherine to pray for him gives rise to the suggestion that it was to them that the side chapel was dedicated and that Elyngton either furnished it or embellished it, and in this side chapel he himself was buried. He still lies where he was laid to rest.

At the time of the Lancastrian attack in 1461 William Geralde was Rector. He himself survived, but there is no record of what happened to the church. At the Archdeacon's visitation of the Stamford Deanery in 1473 (the earliest extant record of this kind) the report on St Paul's is: *Omnia bene.* But in 1494 at least it seems

to have been a church of some importance, as in that year there was re-established there the old Guild of St Katherine which met in a chamber upstairs within the church. There is an original register of the guild in the library of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, and a copy is in the Joseph Phillips Collection, under the heading:

'Constituciones Gilde Ste Katerine Ville Stamford, edite et stabilite in parochia Sti Pauli ibidem, anno Domini millesimo quater centesimo nonagesimo quarto, et anno Regni Regis Henrici septimi post conquestum Anglie decimo.'

The guild had its meetings 'over the parissh Churche durre of Seynt Poules' and it was ordained that the guild should

'never ffrom that Chaple be alyened, ne done awaye from thens in noo manner wise, but ever there to abyde, endure, and be maynteyned withoute ende.'

The alderman and brethren of the guild were to meet there at evensong on St Katherine's Eve and on St Katherine's Day (25 November) at matins, mass and evensong. A fine of one pound of wax was payable for absence. After the first evensong

'the Alderman and his Bredern shall assemble in their Halle and dryncke; and there have a curteys Communycacion for the weele of the seid Gilde.'

On the Sunday next after St Katherine's Day the alderman, brethren and sisters were to meet in their guild hall together

'when the more [greater] Belle at Powles Chirch is knelled; and theyr dyne togedre and take such as shall be provided by the Stuarde of the Gilde ffor the tyme beyng. Att the which dyner a man and his Wyff shall pay iiij d. and every other single man—both preste man and woman—shall pay ij d.'

Absence meant a forfeit of a pound of wax. The entrance fee was 6*s.* 8*d.*, to be paid in four yearly instalments of 1*s.* 8*d.*, and 2*d.* each a year for wax and lights. Also, on St Leonard's Day or on the Sunday next after, the brethren had to assemble

'in the Chapell of Seynt Katryn, at oone after noone, and there have their yerelye speche and prouyde and ordeyn for the worshippe, profite and all thynges necessarye at that tyme for the welfare of the same Gilde.'

Or in other words this was to be their annual general business meeting. The fine for absence was again a pound of wax. The surviving register of the guild contains the names of men and women who were members between the years 1480 and 1532, among which are the following:

1480 William Browne, merchant
1494 Richard Purley, rector
1497 David Cysell & Agnes his wife
1502 Margaret, Countess of Richmond and Derby and mother of Henry VII
Richard Colmont, waiting on the Countess
William Elmes and Elizabeth his wife
William Radcliffe and Elizabeth his wife
1504 Cecilia, daughter of Edward IV
1502 Henry Lacy and Alicia his wife
Robert Shepey, rector
1519 Dame Elizabeth, Countess of Oxford
John Fenton

Many names occur more than once: between 1502 and 1527 the name of William Radcliffe occurs seventeen times. Some years are missing from the register.

No more is known about the church during the eventful years of Henry VIII and Edward VI than the little that has been quoted in the text. The Act of 1548 permitting the amalgamation of Stamford parishes may have been the signal, in the case of St Paul's, for partial demolition, as ready-cut stone was useful material for secular buildings and for road repair. Certainly the tower and belfry, and probably much more, disappeared about this time. No doubt it was only the drafting of the Instrument finally sealed on 23 February 1553 that prevented the church from being quite demolished. Who first suggested that the School should move into St Paul's Church may never be known, but demolition ceased, the church was patched up and it was probably at this time that the south windows were put in or enlarged.

Thereafter little change was made in the schoolroom, or Old School as it was subsequently called, for nearly four hundred years. A reproduction of a plate from Peck (page 34) gives some idea of its appearance in 1727. The plate is probably none too

accurate, but it is more faithful than a certain engraving made in 1821 which is well known in Stamford and is to be found in Drakard's *History*. This shows the east window blocked up and may represent a period after the old leaded panes had been removed. But in other ways the drawing of the east end in this engraving appears to be a work of fancy and to have little basis in fact. It is not included here.

In the mid-eighteenth century there seems to have been a gallery at the west end of the Old School, and it may have been reached by the stone staircase; but it was later removed. Also, during the second half of the century a fireplace was installed. In 1833 a room, in later years a library, was built on to the north, and was entered from the Old School by two doors, and the inscription to Eustachius Malherbe, formerly on the north wall, was placed above the west door. This accommodation sufficed for teaching until 1875.

The first known suggestion for converting the Old School into a chapel appeared in a poem in the *Stamfordian* for the Lent Term, 1888, under the initials S.O.M. The suggestion was repeated by J. D. Barnard at the time of his excavations in 1902. Mr Lovegrove also had this wish. It was Mr Day who made it a reality and who during the First World War thought of the restoration of the building as a fitting memorial to the fallen. At the end of hostilities an Old Stamfordian committee raised subscriptions, and to help the fund Thomas Sandall published *The History of Stamford School*. It was impossible to start building immediately, partly through lack of funds and partly through lack of other classroom accommodation. (In 1925 grass was sown to take the place of gravel around the building.) But when, in 1929, the School at last acquired the Brazenose property, the committee was formed anew by Col. L. H. P. Hart, and at the beginning of August that same year work was begun under the direction of Messrs Traylen and Lenton, Architects, and Messrs Pettit of Thrapston. On Speech Day, 17 October 1929, Lady Burghley laid the foundation stone. This was the keystone to the new west door into which had been fitted the head of the 'old man', the worn head formerly over the old west door.

The plans, which altered from time to time as the work pro-

ceeded, included the extension of the building thirty feet westwards and the lowering of the floor eighteen inches to the original level. Two new windows were added to the south side, another to the west and another to the north. Tracery which was dug up during the reconstruction was used to fill a false window on the north side and caused a change of design in the new south windows. The inscription to Eustachius Malherbe was moved to a position over the new west door (inside) and above it was placed a head, believed to be a head of Christ, found during the excavations. The slab over the remains of Henry Elyngton was cleared and a door that had been placed over it in the fifteenth century moved. The use of the doorway for a time had worn the slab, but later the entrance had been blocked. In 1930 the door was placed, as a false door, on the outside of the south wall. Two figures, believed to be of St John and St Mary, were found and placed high up on the inside of the south wall. Over the smaller tomb on the south side, in which were found the bones of one who in shape of head and build resembled Henry Elyngton, was laid a stone cross which had been dug out of the ground and seemed as though it had once marked the burial place of a child. Round the east window the plaster was cut away to reveal the moulding. In general all construction work was carried out with the remains of the west wall and with stone from old stabling nearby, so that the extension from the first was hardly distinguishable from the rest of the building. Furniture was given later by friends of the School and the names of those who had contributed money for the pews were carved on them.

The chapel was consecrated on 21 June 1930 by the Bishop of Lincoln, and the headmaster read the names of those killed in the 1914–18 War. These were later carved on panels on each side of the altar. To record the 1939–45 War other panels were fixed round the chapel with the names of the fallen. The Roll of Honour is given in Appendix XII.

APPENDIX II

THE AGREEMENT OF 17 FEBRUARY 1200

[In the Public Record Office, Chancery Charter Rolls (c. 53), no. 2, m25]

Confirmatio canonicorum de Mereton et Monachorum sancti Fromundi

JOHANNES dei gratia et cetera. Sciatis quod nos gratam et ratam habemus permutationem factam inter priorem et canonicos Mereton' et priorem et monachos sancti Fromundi de ecclesiis suis scilicet de ecclesia de Kaannes in Normannia quae fuit praedictorum prioris et canonicorum Mereton' praedictis priori et monachis concessam et de decimis et ecclesiis quae fuerunt prioris et monachorum sancti Fromundi in Anglia predictis priori et canonicis concessis scilicet de decimis castelli de Stamford et de duabus marcis argenti de ecclesia omnium sanctorum de Stamford de sanctimonialibus eiusdem villae annuatim percipiendis et de ecclesiis sancti Johannis et sancti Pauli et sancti Michaelis et sancti Georgii in eadem villa de Stamford et de duabus ecclesiis de Saxebi et de Bundebi in Lindeseyn sicut permutation illa rationabiliter et secundum deum facta est ex indulgentia Lucii Papae tertii et sicut cartae episcoporum diocesanorum H Lincolniensis et H Baiocensis et patronorum earumdem ecclesiarum decimarum rationabiliter testantur. Quare volumus et firmiter praecipimus quod praedicta permutatio sicut rationabiliter et secundum deum facta est perpetuo firma et stabilis permaneat. Et prohibemus ne aliquis predictos canonicos vel monachos de predictis decimis vel ecclesiis vel eorum pertinentiis injuste vexare praesumat.

Teste Willelmo Comite Sar[esberiae], Willelmo Marescallo Comite de Pembroc', Thoma Basset, Roberto de Turnham, Roberto de Trosgor, Willelmo de Kantilupo, Thoma de Bellomonte.

Datum per manum S Wellensis Archidiaconus apud Valen[ce] xvii die Februarii Anno Regni Nostri Primo.

Translation

Agreement between the canons of Merton and the monks of S. Fromund

JOHN by the grace of God et cetera. Be it known that we welcome and confirm the exchange made between the Prior and canons of Merton and the Prior and monks of S. Fromund in the matter of their churches, to wit the church of Caen in Normandy which formerly belonged to the aforesaid Prior and canons of Merton now surrendered to the aforesaid Prior and monks, and the tithes and churches which belonged to the Prior and monks of St Fromund in England now surrendered to the aforesaid Prior and canons, to wit the tithes of the castle of Stamford and two silver marks from the church of All Saints in Stamford to be received every year from the nuns of the same town, and the churches of St John and St Paul and St Michael and St George in the same town of Stamford and the two churches of Saxby and Bonby in Lindsey, as this exchange has been regularly and godlily made by the indulgence of Pope Lucius III and as the deeds of the diocesan bishops Hugh of Lincoln and Hugh of Bayeux and of the patrons of the tithes of these same churches regularly testify. Wherefore it is our wish and firm command that the aforesaid exchange as it has been regularly and godlily made do remain for ever firm and stablished. And we forbid anyone to take upon himself to trouble the aforesaid canons or monks unjustly in the matter of the aforesaid tithes or churches or things relating thereto. Witness William Earl of Salisbury, William Marshall Earl of Pembroke, Thomas Basset, Robert de Turnham, Robert de Trosgor, William de Cantelupe, Thomas de Bellomont. Dated by the hand of Savaric Archdeacon of Wells, at Valence, on the seventeenth day of February in the first year of our reign.

APPENDIX III

RECTORS OF STAMFORD ST PAUL

	Date of Institution	Patron
William de Brancewell	*c.* 1218	William de Munfichet, proctor of St Fromund's
Peter de Stanford	1244	Richard de Burden, proctor of St Fromund's
Stephen de Riston	1269	John de Riston, proctor of St Fromund's
John de Welleton	1273	John de Riston, proctor of St Fromund's
John Pilat		
Bartholomew de Staunford	1285	Thomas, Rector of the Church of St Peter, Stamford, proctor of St Fromund's
Richard le Blund	1289	John le Flemeng and Thomas de Iwardeby, proctors of St Fromund's
William Thingdon	1302	The Prior of St Fromund's
Thomas de London	1320	The Prior of St Fromund's
Robert de Bury	1349	The King
Henry de Elyngton	1384	The King
Richard Walyngton	1400	The King
William Templer	1432	William Assheby of Oleby, Esq., and Roger Dalam, chaplain
Thomas Bleyndamour	1435	Roger Dalam and William Assheby
Henry Clement		
William Geralde	1458	John Goldsmyth of Melton Mowbray
Alan Muston	1464	John Goldsmyth
Robert Parnyll	1466	John Goldsmyth
Richard Purley	1493	John Goldsmyth
Robert Brokelhurst	1499	John Goldsmyth

Robert Shepey	1503	John Goldsmyth
John Harropp	1508	William Brokesby and William Loll in the right of Elizabeth and Colet their wives, daughters of John Goldsmyth deceased
Thomas Webster*	1517	The Bishop, by lapse
David Smyth	before 1536	

(The above is taken from a list now in the chapel.)

APPENDIX IV

BRAZENOSE HALL IN STAMFORD

WHEN the Oxford secessionists quitted Stamford they left behind them their knocker, presumably still fixed to the door of their hall, and it remained there for over 500 years either fastened to the door itself or at least kept somewhere on the property. The knocker was in the form of a leopard's or lion's head grasping an iron ring in its jaws, and it has been compared to the sanctuary knocker on the door of Durham Cathedral. A full description of it is given by F. D. Madan in the *Brasenose Quatercentenary Monographs*, Chapter II, and he quotes the late Sir John Evans and the latter's son, formerly Keeper of the Ashmolean Museum, as assigning to it a date about 1120–30.

The hall which the secessionists inhabited had probably been built in the thirteenth century, and it is marked on the map of Stamford made by Speed about the year 1600. By at least 1658 the Corporation seem to have been the owners of the property as is shown by their Minutes. In 1673, while considering a lease, the Corporation stipulated that the brazen nose knocker should 'be affixed upon ye court gate next ye street, or elsewhere as ye mayor and aldermen shall appoint'. The next year, Anthony à Wood in his *History* (1674, p. 167) says:

Stat porro in Parochia *S. Pauli*, prope alteram Turris Portam, Aedificium perantiquum; cui nomen ab *Aeneo naso* impositum. Quippe Portam ampliorem habet, inque eo ostiolum cui affixum est Caput Aeneum multam antiquitatem prae se ferens, & in naso perforato annulum gestans. Refectorio praeterea satis pulchro instruitur, & usque hodie in Dimissionum syngraphis ab *Aeneo Naso* cognominatur.

Peck's version (Lib. XI, pp. 23, 24), slightly emended, runs:

Moreover, there stands in the Parish of St Paul near the other gate of the tower, a very antient structure yet called Brazen-nose. Because it hath still remaining a larger gate, & in that a wicket or lesser door, to which is affixed a brazen head, which carries with it an iron ring, hanging at a hole in the nose; having a show of great antiquity. This place is also furnished with a fair refectory;

& at this day, in all writings & receipts, preserveth its old name of Brazen-nose.

In 1688 the Corporation Minutes show that Richard Burman, Alderman, 'offered & proposed to make the messuage called Brazen Nose fitt & commodious for the keeping of his ffeast for his Mayoralty'. But he does not seem to have got his way, as Peck (Lib. XI, p. 24) states:

'Brazen-nose college was pulled down by Mr Burman in 1688, by order of the corporation, proprietors of the fabric; & another large building erected with the materials; which, tho' not designed for that purpose at first, is since [1704] made use of for a charity school. The gate of Brazen-nose college stood formerly more backward than it does now; but, when pulled down with the college, the corporation knowing the value of that piece of antiquity, ordered it to be set up again, though not in the very same place where it stood before; yet as near as might be. The fashion of it, I think, looks a good deal older than Edw. the thirds time. I have talked with one Alexander Morris (now living 1725) one of the workmen who pulled down the refectory or hall above-mentioned, who tells me, it was a strange wide place, with a fire hearth in the middle; a description exactly agreeing with that of our university halls. He adds, there were many little rooms & apartments about the rest of the house, with stone stairs leading up to them: which, we may suppose, were the students' lodgings.'

After being used as a charity spinning school the new building in 1739 became the town workhouse (see *The Religious Foundations of Mediaeval Stamford* by J. S. Hartley and Alan Rogers, 1974). The building gradually fell into disrepair, but the knocker was still upon the door (Drakard, *History of Stamford*, p. 312) when about 1806 the Corporation sold the property. In about 1816 the estate was sold to a Mr James Hurst (Burton, *Chronology of Stamford*, p. 43) and in 1822 the building was pulled down and the name Brazenose transferred to the present house. Miss Hurst, who later lived there, kept the knocker in a box and would not part with it. The house was sold in 1879 but a builder, T. G. Jackson, who had been rebuilding the front of the house, knew of the knocker and told the Bursar of Brasenose, Alfred Butler, about it. (*Recollections of Thomas Graham Jackson 1835–1924*, by B. H. Jackson, O.U.P. 1950.) When again the house was sold in 1890 (for £1,950, much

less than eleven years before) it transpired that it had been bought by a Mr Moore on behalf of Brasenose College, and Alfred Butler is believed to have attended the sale himself and carried away the knocker to Oxford, where it now has a place of honour in the hall of Brasenose. The college immediately sold the house and gardens. After serving as a girls' academy the house was bought by Stamford School in 1929. In 1951 the gateway was scheduled by the Office of Works as an ancient monument. In 1960 Mr Maurice Platnauer, Fellow and former Principal of Brasenose, with other fellows visited the school and later Mr Platnauer offered to have the gateway thoroughly repaired (the stonework was crumbling in parts), a new wooden door fitted and a replica of the knocker made and hung on it. The offer was accepted and the next year when the Queen and Prince Philip visited the school at the time of the town's quincentenary celebrations, they stopped to look through the open gateway. The gateway had, as it were, been closed by the command of Edward III in 1335 and it seemed appropriate that it should not be opened again without sanction of the Queen.

A second replica of the knocker was given by the Old Stamfordian Club to the headmaster upon his retirement in 1968.

APPENDIX V

CHANTRY CERTIFICATE OF 1548

[In the Public Record Office,
File 33, No. 119]

STIPENDIUM unius capellani celebrantis in parochia beate Marie in Stanford

QUIDAM Willielmus Ratclif, per ultimam voluntatem suam factam primo die Junii, anno Domini millesimo DXXXII inter alia voluit et declaravit quod Rogerus Ratclif, Henricus Lacye, et alii feoffatores sui et eorum heredes, seisiti existentes de et in omnibus messuagiis, terris, pratis, pasturis, redditibus et serviciis, cum suis pertinentiis in Staunforth, in comitatu Lincolnie extunc starent et essent seissiti, de et in premissis, sibi heredibus et assignatis suis in perpetuum, Sub condicione tamen quod ipsi, eorum heredes aut assignati invenirent et sustentarent unum idoneum capellanum secularem sufficienter eruditum, celebraturum et oraturum pro animabus dicti Willielmi et aliorum, ac libere docturum et instructurum artem grammaticam in Staunford praedicta, quamdiu lex illud permitteret. Et si liceret executoribus suis amortizare premissa Aldermanno gilde corporis Christi ibidem, quod tunc omnia premissa supradicta remanerent Aldermanno gilde predicte in perpetuum ad usum predictum; Et si non liceret executoribus suis obtinere premissa in manum mortuam ponenda, quod tunc omnia predicta messuagia, et cetera premissa, venderentur per dictos executores suos, pro tanto quanto vendi possint, cum concensu et assensu Aldermanni gilde predicte pro tempore existentis, et denarii proinde recepti disponantur pro salute anime sue et aliorum fidelium ad usum superius specificatum, prout per dictam ultimam voluntatem plenius liquet; Quequidem terre et tenementa numquam amortizata fuerent iuxta intencionem ultime voluntatis predicte; Sed incumbens ibidem est Libeus Byard, etatis XXXVI annorum, qui non solum celebrat et orat pro animabus predictis, verumeciam instruit pueros dicte ville in arte grammaticali iuxta intencionem predictam, habens et percipiens

Translation

STIPEND of a chaplain celebrating in the parish of the Blessed Mary in Stamford

A CERTAIN William Radcliffe by his last will made the first day of June in the year of our Lord 1532 among other things willed and declared that Roger Radcliffe, Henry Lacy and others, his feoffees and their heirs, being seised of and in all his messuages, lands, meadows, pastures, rents, and services, with their appurtenances in Stamford, in the county of Lincoln, from that time should stand and be seised of and in the premises, to them and their heirs and assigns for ever, On condition nevertheless that they, their heirs and assigns should find and support a suitable secular Chaplain properly learned who would celebrate mass and pray for the soul of the said William and of others and who would freely teach and instruct the art of grammar in Stamford aforesaid, as long as the law would permit. And if it were lawful for his executors to amortize the premises to the Alderman of the Guild of Corpus Christi there, that then all the aforesaid premises should remain to the Alderman of the guild aforesaid for ever to the use aforesaid. And if it should not be lawful for his executors to have the premises put in mortmain, that then all the aforesaid messuages and the other premises should be sold by his said executors for so much as they could be sold with the consent and assent of the Alderman of the guild aforesaid for the time being, and the money therefrom received should be laid out for the safety of his soul and of other faithful, to the use above specified, as by the said last will is more fully clear, which said lands and tenements were never amortized according to the intent of the last will aforesaid; But the incumbent there is Libeus Byard, aged thirty-six, who not only celebrates mass and prays for the souls aforesaid, but also instructs the children of the said town in the art of grammar according to the intent aforesaid,

pro salario suo exitus et proficua terrarum subsequencium, nullam aliam habens promocionem. Terre et tenementa, ad usum predictum concessa,valent per annum £X IIIS ID.

Redditus resoluti et alie reprise exeuntes, extra terras predictas, per annum XVIIS VIIId.

Clarus valor terrarum et tenementorum predictorum, reprisis deductis, per annum £IX VS Vd.

Bona, catalla et alia ornamenta ibidem, nulla.

having and receiving for his salary the issues and profits of the lands following, having no other preferment.

The lands and tenements granted to the use aforesaid are worth £10. 3*s*. 1*d*. a year.

Repayment of rents and other charges issuing out of the said lands 17*s*. 8*d*. a year.

The net value of the lands and tenements aforesaid, deducting the outgoings, £9 5*s*. 5*d*. a year.

Goods, chattels and other furnishings there—none.

APPENDIX VI

ACT OF PARLIAMENT OF 1548/9

[1 & 2 Edward VI cap. 60]

The following is taken from the copy in the Record Office of the House of Lords.

Soit baille aux Segneurs
A ceste bille lez seigneurs
sont assentuz

Soit faict comme il est desire

FORASMOCHE as yt is a righte godly and a charitable deade, to educate and bringe uppe children and youthe as well in learnynge as also in Cyvile maners; and a greate nombre of persons havinge children bene not able to kepe the same to scole THEREFOR William Radcliffe of the Towne of Stamforde of his godly zeale and good mynde, intendinge to founde and erect w^tin the saide Towne of Stamforde oon Scoole where suche poore yonge children and Infants myghte be freely taughte in learnynge and maners withoute takinge any salarye or rewarde of the parents of suche poore Scollers The same William Radcliffe by his last will and Testament wylled that his Feoffees whiche then were seased of all his lands Tenements medowes Leasues pastures and hereditaments in Stamforde aforesaide; sholde ymmediatly after his deathe Fynde an honest and able person being learned, to teache scollers within the same Towne of Stamforde Freely withoute takinge of any rewarde of the same Scollers or their parents for the same. And for the paynes of suche Scoole maister well and truly to paye to the same Scoolemaister; the yerely proffitts of all his saide lands in Stamford. And ferder wylled that his said Feoffees or his executoures sholde within xxj yeres after his deathe obtayne and gett the Kings maiesties lycence for th'admortisement of the saide landes to the use aforesaide; And if it shoulde fortune the saide Feoffees and executors not to obtayne the said lycence within the saide tyme of xxj yeres that then his executoures should selle the same Lands and employe the moneye thereof

commynge to suche deads of Charitie as to them or the Survivors of them should seeme moste expedyent AND forasmoche as it is abowte xvij or xviij yeres syns the deathe of the saide William Radcliffe by all whiche tyme hathe bene an honest learned Scoolemaister whiche hathe within the same Towne accordinge to the mynde and intent of the same William Radcliffe greately to the benefyte of the same poore towne and to thother Townes thereunto adioynynge and yet no lycence obteyned of the Kings Highnes for the admortisement of the said Lands to the godly purpose before remembred by the saide Feoffees nor executoures, by the whiche delaye yt is feared that the Feoffees and executoures rather myndinge to take benefyte of the sale of the land after the saide terme of xxj yeres expired then the advauncemente of the saide godly and moste charitable yntent of the saide gyver, never entend to obtayne the saide lycence; which myghte be greatly to the hynderaunce of the poore inhabitannts of the same Towne and contrarye to the wille mynde and intente of the saide William Radcliffe FOR REMEDYE whereof and for the establishment of the saide good and vertuous mynde of the same William Radcliffe BE YT enacted by the Kinge owre soveraigne Lorde with the assent of the Lordes spirituall and temporall and the Commons in this present parliament assembled and by the aucthoritie of the same that from henseforthe the Alderman of the Towne of Stamforde for the tyme beinge and their Successoures for ever shall have holde occupie possede and enioye all the saide measses Lands Tenements medowes leasues pastures woods waters Rents revercyons and hereditaments in Stamforde aforesayde before willed bequethed or geven, to the intente therewith yerely to Fynde oon honest able and suffycyent lerned man to teache freely within the same towne of Stamforde all suche Scollers as shall from tyme to tyme resorte to the Scoolehouse appoynted for the teachinge of such Scollers, For the whiche able Scoolemaister the same Alderman for the tyme beinge shall yerely well and trulye content and pay the yerely proffits of the sayde Lands towards his necessarye Fyndinge to be payed at fower tymes of the yere that is to saye at the feaste of the Annuncyacyon of owre Ladye The natyvitie of Saynte John Babtyste Sainte Michell tharchangell and the natyvytie of our Lorde by evyn porcon AND BE IT also enacted

by the aucthoritie aforesaid that the Alderman of Stamford aforesaid for the tyme beinge with the advise and consent of the maister of the College of Saynte John Evangeliste Cambridge for the tyme beinge to name depute assigne and appoynte from tyme to tyme as often as nede shall requier such an able learned person to be Scoolemaister there as shalbe apte and meete for the same And also shall have power to remove and put owte any suche Scoolemaister there For lacke of deue attendannce or other reasonable cause, and to nomynate assigne appoynte and place any other suche learned man as shalbe appointed by the Alderman of Stamforde for the time beinge by the advise and Councell aforesaid And that also the fourme trade and maner of the instructinge and teachinge to be used within the said Scoole be approved and allowed by the sayde maister of the abovenamed Colledge for the tyme beinge SAVINGE to all and every person and persons bodyes politique and Corporate theire heires and Successoures and the heires and Successoures of every of them; other then the heires Feoffees and executoures of the saide William Radcliffe or of any other person or persons claymynge in or by the saide Heires Feoffees or executoures or any of them All suche righte tytle Interest Leasses condicions commodities and proffytts as they or any of them have had or should have had before the makinge of this Acte and as thoughe this Acte had never bene had or made; any thinge conteyned in this Acte to the contrary therof in anywise notwithstanding.

[*Subscribed*:] Jo Mason.

APPENDIX VII

OLD STAMFORDIANS KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN AT CAMBRIDGE

1532–1912

[With the headmasters under whom they were at the School]

LIBEUS BYARD, 1532

1535 William Cecil, *St John's*

JOHN BEAUMONT, 1556

1560 Thomas Crooke, *Trinity*

THOMAS ATHERTON, M.A., *Trinity*, 1583

ROBERT BROWNE, *Corpus Christi*, 1586

ROBERT MYLLES, 1591

SAMUEL JOHNSON, 1594

ROBERT NEWTON, M.A., *St John's*, 1599

RICHARD SWANN, M.A., *St John's*, 1605

1623 Edward Willan, *Christ's*

THOMAS NEWBOROUGH, M.A., 1618

1624 Peter Maidwell, *Christ's*

LIONEL LAMBE, M.A., *Christ's*, 1625

WILLIAM DUGARD, M.A., *Sidney Sussex*, 1630

1631 Abraham Cole, *Sidney*
1633 William Kimberley, *Sidney*
Christopher Legard, *Sidney*
William Wood, *Sidney*
1634 John Bale, *Sidney*
Christopher Browne, *Sidney*
John Browne, *Sidney*
1634 Richard Edwards, *Christ's*
Francis Hatcher, *Sidney*
Richard Sherrard, *Sidney*
1635 Peter Cooper, *Sidney*
William Corney, *St John's*
1637 Edward Stoyte, *St John's*

SIMON HUMPHREYS, M.A., *Sidney Sussex*, 1638

1639 Thomas White, *St John's*
Edward Wigley, *St John's*
1640 Francis Dowman, *St John's*
1641 John Webbe, *Caius*
1642 John Kirkham, *St John's*
1642 John Sibthorpe, *Christ's*
Francis Watson, *St John's*
1643 Samuel Pancke, *St John's*

1644 George Quarles, *Peterhouse*
1644 William Wimberley, *St John's*
1645 William Aslack, *Christ's*
William Bourne, *Peterhouse*
Richard Brownlow, *Sidney*
Richard Hudson, *St John's*
Simon Humphreys, *Caius*
Nicholas Pasmore, *St John's*
1647 Robert Buck, *Magdalene*
Thomas Lambe, *St John's*
Philip Tallents, *Magdalene*
1648 Richard Cammock, *Christ's*
Robert Fish, *Sidney*
Thomas Marshall, *St John's*
1649 John Buck, *Magdalene*
1649 Thomas Holt, *St John's*
1650 Thomas Briggs, *St John's*
Anthony Farmar, *Sidney*
1651 Charles Bunworth, *Mag.*
1652 Jeremiah Fish, *Caius*
1653 Robert Butcher, *St John's*
1654 James Raven, *Sidney*
John Vokes, *St John's*
1655 Richard Bunworth, *Pet.*
William Emling, *St John's*
John Goodman, *Caius*
Robert Wilson, *St John's*
1656 Edward Cammock, *St John's*
1657 Benjamin Johnson, *Sidney*

RAYNER HERMAN, M.A., *Pembroke Hall*, 1657

1660 Henry Ward, *St John's*
Francis Whatton, *Caius*
1661 Thomas Goodlad, *Sidney*
Thomas Troope, *St John's*
1662 John Cooper, *St John's*
1663 Richard Baldwer, *Peterhouse*
Thomas Rawson, *Christ's*
1664 George Potter, *Sidney*
John Stubbs, *Caius*
1666 James Seaton, *Sidney*

WILLIAM SHALCROSS, M.A., *Trinity*, 1663

1664 Thomas Thistlewait, *St John's*

SAMUEL GEERY, M.A., *Emmanuel*, 1666

1668 Joseph Johnson, *St John's*
1669 George Sisson, *Magdalene*
1669 Turpin Field, *Peterhouse*
1671 George Blyth, *Sidney*

JOSEPH SEDGWICK, M.A., *St Catharine's* and *Christ's*, 1673

1674 Humphrey Dalby, *Magdalene*
Joseph Hunt, *St John's*
1676 John Twells, *Peterhouse*
1676 John Wildbore, *St John's*
1677 J. Dinham, *St Catharine's*
1678 Thomas Harris, *Magdalene*
1681 John Longe, *Caius*

ROBERT SMITH, M.A., *Clare Hall*, 1681

1686 William Hawkins, *St John's*
1688 Robert Orme, *Trinity*
Robert Wildbore, *Trinity*
1690 Charles Wilson, *St John's*
1692 Richard Austin, *St John's*

WILLIAM TURNER, M.A., *Clare Hall*, 1691

1694 Meares Clarke, *St John's*
Richard Cumberland, *Magdalene*
1698 Charles Titley, *St John's*
Nathaniel Popple, *Sidney*
1701 Thomas Seaton, *Clare**

1701 Robert Tipping, *St John's*
1703 Charles Kirkham, *St John's*
1704 Benjamin Palmer, *St John's*
1706 Everard Breton, *Magdalene*
1707 Peter Neale, *St John's*
1708 Thomas Pretiosus, *Magdalene*
1712 John Dinham, *St John's*
1714 William Dupaquer, *St John's*
Jonathan Hooker, *St John's*
1715 Beverley Butler, *St John's*
William Cole, *St John's*
1716 Francis Jackson, *Sidney*
1717 William Beale, *Magdalene*
John Foster, *St John's*
1720 John Bellinger, *St John's*
Joseph Pepper, *Trinity*
1721 John Turner, *Trinity*
1723 Charles Bellinger, *Trinity*
Thomas Sismey, *St John's*

WILLIAM HANNES, M.A., *Magdalen College, Oxford*, 1723

1726 Daniel LePla, *Trinity*
1727 Henry Booth, *Trinity*
1727 Samuel Neale, *Magdalene*
1730 Anthony Wingfield, *Christ's*

FARINGDON REID, M.A., *St John's*, 1731

1734 Zachary Brooke, *St John's*
1735 Thomas Strong, *St John's*
1747 John Chevallier, *St John's*
1751 John Norton, *St John's*
1754 Hunter Sedgwick, *St John's*
1768 Thomas Reid, *St John's*

HENRY KNAPP, M.A., *King's*, 1771

1775 Hardy Robinson, *St John's*
1777 J. W. Branston, *Trinity*
Henry Harrison, *St John's*
1777 George Turnor, *Trinity*
1780 Gibbard Pywell *Trinity*
1781 T. W. Trollope, *St John's*

RICHARD ATLAY, M.A., *St John's*, 1781

1797 John Forster, *St John's*
1802 Henry Atlay, *St John's*
1812 Charles Atlay, *St John's*

FREDERICK EDWARD GRETTON, M.A., *St John's*, 1833

1835 William Willimont, *Corpus*
1836 C. C. Layard, *St John's*
1837 C. J. Ellicott, *St John's*
John Knipe, *Pembroke*
1838 J. F. Harward, *St John's*
C. P. Lindsay, *Clare*
J. W. Sheringham, *St John's*
1839 George Babb, *St John's*
Alan Cheales, *Christ's*
J. S. Clarke, *St John's*
G. F. Holcombe, *St John's*
Thomas Ingleby, *St John's*
Robert Knipe, *Emmanuel*
C. F. Porter, *Caius*
1840 W. T. Cookson, *St John's*
John Fearnside, *St John's*
G. T. Gordon, *Jesus*
1841 F. H. Brett, *St John's*
T. H. Jones, *Pembroke*
T. W. Knipe, *Corpus*
J. T. Layard, *Christ's*
G. C. Pease, *Magdalene*
1842 F. Joplin, *Queens'*
1843 W. P. Anderson, *St John's*
E. P. Brett, *St John's*
Charles Peach, *Christ's*
1844 G. T. Lermit, *St John's*
C. O. Eaton, *Trinity*

1844 F. H. Paley, *Christ's*
1845 C. W. Foster, *Christ's*
1846 Stafford Bateman, *St John's*
H. S. Brett, *Caius*
A. B. Cheales, *Christ's*
1847 H. G. Jebb, *St John's*
1849 Frederick Brodhurst, *Christ's*
1850 B. T. Atlay, *St John's*
Edward Cayley, *St John's*
1851 Richard Cayley, *St John's*
1855 W. D. Cayley, *Queens'*
1858 John Climenson, *Trinity*
1858 J. F. Snaith, *St John's*
1860 Henry Waterfield, *St John's*
1861 J. T. Watson, *St John's*
1862 F. W. H. Courtier, *Clare*
1863 H. T. Clough, *Caius*
1865 F. G. Gretton, *St John's*
1870 T. K. B. Nevinson, *St John's*
1871 G. G. Hildyard, *St John's*

EDWARD COULSON MUSSON, M.A., *Queens'*, 1874

1877 F. W. Jones, *Peterhouse*
1878 Arthur Robbs, *St John's*
1880 J. A. Langley, *St John's*

ARTHUR WILMOT WELCH, M.A., *Trinity Hall*, 1880

1884 C. P. Handson, *Caius*

HENRY RICHARD VERRY, M.A., *Christ's*, 1883

1884 Harold Heward, *St John's*

DENNIS JACOB JOHNSON BARNARD, M.A., LL.D., *Trinity Hall*, 1884

1885 E. E. Nottingham, *St Catharine's*
1886 Frederic Marvel, *St John's*
1887 R. H. Leakey, *Corpus*
1888 T. E. Sandall, *St John's*
1889 R. J. Leakey, *Corpus*
1890 G. E. Warren, *St John's*
1891 C. O. S. Hatton, *St John's*
C. H. Badcock, *St Catharine's*
1892 H. R. Collins, *St Catharine's*
1893 W. H. C. Greene, *Corpus*
C. C. W. Sumner, *St John's*
1894 Harry Sneath, *St John's*
1896 C. R. Beechey, *St John's*
T. H. Clements, *St John's*
Archibald Jones, *Selwyn*
1898 H. B. Atkinson, *Trinity*
1899 D. C. Barnard, *Trinity Hall*
W. P. Osborne, *Queens'*
H. C. Sandall, *St John's*
1902 Harold Edmonds, *St John's*
1904 J. D. Barnard, *Jesus*
1904 G. W. Barnard, *Jesus*
1904 S. H. Hare, *Caius*
1906 V. K. Haslam, *St John's*

EDWIN WILLIAM LOVEGROVE, M.A., *New College, Oxford*, 1907–12

1909 H. N. Leakey, *St John's*
1909 W. A. Nowers, *Emmanuel*

The above list has been compiled from college registers and from Venn's *Alumni Cantabrigienses*. It is clearly not complete, as some colleges did not keep their registers as well as others, and

the names of the schools from which undergraduates came are not always recorded. The years given for Old Stamfordians are those in which each is first known to have taken up residence in the university. The years given for headmasters are in each instance the first in which a headmaster is known to have been holding his appointment, although in some cases the appointment may have been held earlier.

The list of headmasters differs from earlier lists. Beaumont has been added on the strength of the letter he wrote to Sir William Cecil in 1556; Atherton on the evidence of a single entry in the *Libri Cleri* at Lincoln; Johnson on the evidence of entries in the St George's and St Mary's parish registers; and Sedgwick on the evidence of St George's registers alone. But Bellot has been omitted. He probably owed his inclusion before to a mistranslation of the Latin inscription recording his gift of a headmaster's house. Hezekiah Haines has also been omitted as successor to William Hannes. Haines was a Sidney Sussex man who is not known to have had any connexion with the School. He may have owed his inclusion to someone who was unable to believe that a Stamford headmaster could be appointed from Oxford, and accordingly looked for Hannes, sometimes written Haines, at Cambridge. A third name to be omitted is that of Dr Craven. Craven had been included previously through a misreading of the report of the judgement in Chancery on 28 April 1828 where he was referred to as 'the immediate predecessor of the present Master'. But in the context the 'Master' was clearly not the headmaster of Stamford but the Master of St John's College, Cambridge. Dr Craven was Master of St John's 1789–1815. Two other names to be omitted are those of E. Fynes Clinton and the Rev. E. B. Cooper, whose appointments were temporary.

Since the publication of this history in 1954 the name of Robert Browne, headmaster 1586, has been added to the list. He was omitted before through ignorance and is included now on the strength of his entry in the *Dictionary of National Biography*.

APPENDIX VIII

RULES FOR THE SCHOOL, 1565

Rules and Orders to be Observed in the Freeschool of Stamford confirmed by the Alderman there and the Master of St John's Colledge in Anno Domini 1565.

IMPRIMIS every Schollar now or hereafter to be received shall have perfectly by heart the Catechisme sett out by common order, & every morning being at School before Six of the Clock in Summer & 7 in the Winter, shall reverently upon their knees use such prayers before the School begin as the said Master of St John's shall Approve and prayers likewise every Evening at 5 in Winter & 6 in Summer at their Departure thence.

ITEM there shall be a Common Book alwaies in the safe Custody of the School Master for the time being & bought at his Charge wherein the Christian Names Sir Names and Age of all such as shall be admitted into the School shall be written & Registered from time to time.

ITEM every one before he be received into the School shall be Examined how he can Write and Reed by the School Master upon whose Advertisement to the Alderman that he is meet to Enter into his Grammer he shall be received or Else not.

ITEM Every one so admitted shall pay to the School Master for registring his name iiij^{d}.

ITEM if any Schollar be absent from the School by the Space of a whole week in a Quarter altho' it be Severall daies & times without a true & Lawfull Excuse approved by the School Master shall pay (before he be Admitted into the School again) iiij^{d}. and if he be Absent 3 weeks in a Quarter tho' it be at Severall daies & times he shall then be Clear dismissed from the School for ever Except the Alderman & the School Master see good Cause to the Contrary.

ITEM the Alderman for the time being with 3 of the Most Ancient Brethren shall every quarter once Visitt the School at what time if the School Master shall present unto them any of his

Schoolers by Sufficient tryall found unapt or unable to go on in learning the parents of the said Scholler so found shall be exhorted by the Alderman to put them to some other kind of Life.

ITEM Candles shall be used in the Winter every Scholler to his own use shall find same within the School.

ITEM every Inhabitant within the Town of Stamford haveing Children admitted and Taught within the said School shall for his paines in Teaching give some what to the School Master to the Increasing of his liveing wherein if the School Master shall be unreasonable he shall be moderated by the Alderman for the time being.

ITEM the Schollers shall speak in the Latine Tongue as well in the Streets & their playing as Else where.

ITEM none of the Schollars shall Depart from the School untill [blank] before Easter & and the Thursday next before Whitsuntide & the Feast of St Thomas the Apostle before Christmas & that they repair to the School againe on the Munday next following Easter week and Whitsunweek & the Munday next following twelfday.

ITEM if any of the Schollers break the Glass Windows by Hurling Sticks or Stones or other means (besides the punishment of the Masters Discretion) he shall pay for every quarry two pence to the Common Box.

APPENDIX IX

GAMES: 1833–1953

CRICKET was played in Stamford at least as early as 1771 and football presumably much earlier. But organized games only came into fashion in schools after the nineteenth century was well advanced. Under Gretton (1833–71) the School went to a field off Barnack Road for cricket but played a kind of football and also a kind of fives in various yards and playgrounds round about the buildings. In 1876 it was leasing the field behind the School for football. Mr Welch, who was appointed headmaster in 1880 and had been in the Harrow football XI, played vigorously with the School in that field. By 1885 the School was playing cricket on its own ground, but the playing area was not large enough and the Editor of the *Stamfordian* expressed the hope that the School 'might acquire Mr Huckbody's field as well'. This field, presumably part of what is now the main playing field, the School was using for football and with it was able to have a straight 220 yards in the Sports which were held always at the end of the Spring term.

Hockey was played before 1885, but the next year its place was taken by lacrosse, which for some time was played with enthusiasm and success, as the principal game of the spring term. There was even a lacrosse race in the Sports and an event known as 'throwing the lacrosse ball'. The game had apparently come to Stamford in 1885 when a match was played in Burghley Park between the Gentlemen of Nottinghamshire and the Gentlemen of Derbyshire. This was followed by the formation of a Stamford Town Lacrosse Club, and in that year the Town played the School two matches, one on the High Park and one on Mr Handson's field, winning both games. But next year the results were reversed, and the following year the Lacrosse XII paid a two-day visit to Cambridge when they were beaten 4–1 by Cambridge 2nd XII but beat Trinity College 2–1. This two-day visit was repeated in 1889 and 1890 and so soundly did the School beat Cambridge 2nd XII that next year they challenged the university, but the match was never played. In 1906 hockey eventually supplanted lacrosse and became

the principal game after Christmas. It appears to have dropped out again, however, as in 1922 the Editor of the *Stamfordian* claimed that hockey was then being played at the School for the first time.

Cricket and association football remained the chief games of the summer and autumn terms. There were many fixtures, more than today if the present under-age matches are not counted; and this is remarkable, as most of the journeys had to be made by train. In 1887 the first cricket match known to have been played against Wyggeston ended in a draw; but a return match was won by Stamford, the School desperately playing out time in the second innings in order to win by their lead in the first innings of this one-day match.

The tradition that it is members of the School who are largely responsible for the maintenance and care of their own ground goes back to this time, as in 1887 the *Stamfordian* refers to 'gangs of willing boys daily lending their muscles to the laudable task of rolling the pitch'. Also in 1887 the School's first cricket pavilion was built, and in 1890 pipes were put in to bring water to the pitch, and the square was relaid. This was done so badly, however, that only four matches could be played on it the next year. The year 1899 saw the best team the School had yet had, with S. R. Packer the best player, winning eleven matches, losing one and drawing three.

Although the School usually had a good football eleven and in 1888 beat a school some thirty miles away by the extraordinary score of 27–0, there was not so much support for football as for cricket, and the *Stamfordian* complained from time to time of lack of support for it. The main game was cricket. But all the same there seems to have been a fairly wide scope for talent. C. O. S. Hatton, who was later to receive his lawn tennis and association football blues, won the under-seventeen all-England lawn tennis championship. Athletic sports were taken seriously and R. J. Leakey, who like G. E. Warren won his university cap for lacrosse, also won his blue for the long jump at Cambridge in 1890, jumping 22 feet 4 inches; he also played rugby football several times for Cambridge. In 1897 J. Horrabin presented the Victor Ludorum Challenge Shield which was won that year by MacDougall who set up a long jump record of 19 feet 10 inches.

There had been swimming during the summer term in the

Tinwell meadows under Gretton, but under Musson the School had a bathing hut in the Uffington meadows to the east of the town. No mention is made of any swimming sports or competitions until 1890, when on 26 July there was a swimming race in Burghley Lake to the island and back 'for a handsome Gladstone bag presented by the Mayoress' and won by Sandall. There appear to have been no regular swimming sports before 1920, when on two afternoons towards the end of the term seven events were contested. A relay race was won by School House, the School championship by J. E. Bowman, and an event recorded as 'swimming under water' by A. M. Clark. Thereafter swimming sports have been held every year towards the end of the summer term.

When Mr Lovegrove became headmaster in 1907 the School changed over to rugby football. J. A. Nowers, who had captained the association football eleven before Christmas, became first captain of the fifteen in the spring term. On 9 March 1907 the School played its first rugby match—against Oakham 2nd XV. They lost 11–21, but, considering their inexperience, thought they had done well. It was at this period that the School suffered seriously from encroachment by the town on to the playing fields. Fences were broken, the grounds damaged and on Sunday afternoons the field seems to have been used as a place of common resort. The headmaster and police were powerless to stop it. With some optimism the cricket square was relaid in 1910, but the nuisance from the town continued and for a time it was found preferable to play on the ground by Empingham Road.

With Mr Day's coming in 1913 the School returned to association football, winning five out of its first eight matches and continuing to play association football until the end of 1916. In the cold and snowy spring of 1917 it went back to rugby which it has played ever since. In 1918 only local R.A.F. matches were played, but in 1919 the School played and beat Nottingham High School and Newark Magnus Grammar School (twice), but lost to Oundle 2nd XV and to Trent. In 1923 the School beat Northampton and also had victories over two schools nearer home with scores of 63–0 and 91–0; but it succumbed nevertheless to Oundle 2nd XV 0–40, a defeat avenged the next year. In 1925 the School played Wyggeston for the first time at rugby and won 13–8. In 1927 the

School played Worksop and drew 11–11 and beat Trent in 1928 22–17; but these fixtures were only kept up for a few years. In 1934 the School first encountered Warwick, at Warwick, and beat them 19–5. Ratcliffe met and defeated the School for the first time in 1936. The 1st XV's of Stamford and Oakham did not meet till 1939 when Stamford won at Stamford 35–0.

The record of 1st XV matches played 1919–1952 with Nottingham High School, Oundle 2nd XV, Ratcliffe, Wyggeston and Oakham is:

Opponents	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn
Nottingham	33	20	13	0
Oundle 2nd XV	32	10	21	1
Ratcliffe	9	4	3	2
Wyggeston	27	13	11	3
Oakham	13	8	5	0

There is little record of cricket played when Mr Lovegrove was headmaster, although games were taken seriously. The most notable player was F. J. Cummins, who was in the eleven four years, captaining it in 1913 and 1914 and in the latter year scoring 739 runs and taking 82 wickets. Except for the Wyggeston match (which, however, had lapsed for some years) it was not until 1922 that the School played any of the schools it now plays at cricket. In that year the School played and beat Oundle 2nd XI. And from that year till 1938 it played Northampton, winning six and losing seven of the games. Nottingham High School was first played in 1924 (a victory) and the Wyggeston match renewed with a victory in 1926. Uppingham 2nd XI (a victory) was played in 1933 and Warwick (a victory) in 1934. Ratcliffe (a draw) was first played in 1937 and Oakham (a defeat) in 1941. The record of 1st XI matches played 1922–53 with Oundle 2nd XI, Wyggeston, Nottingham High School, Uppingham 2nd XI, Ratcliffe and Oakham is:

Opponents	Played	Won	Lost	Tied	Drawn
Oundle 2nd XI	28	13	8	.	7
Wyggeston	29	16	7	.	6
Nottingham	25	8	4	1	12
Uppingham 2nd XI	18	5	3	.	10
Ratcliffe	8	2	2	.	4
Oakham	12	6	3	.	3

AERIAL VIEW OF THE SCHOOL IN 1981

[opposite page 121]

APPENDIX X

GROWTH OF SCHOOL PROPERTY AND ENDOWMENTS

1532 School established by Radcliffe with income of £10. 2*s*. 1*d*. (£9. 5*s*. 5*d*. net).
1553 School moved into St Paul's Church.
1582 Scholarship to St John's College, Cambridge, endowed by Lord Burghley.
1609 Headmaster's house and grounds given by Thomas Bellot.
1627 Legacy of John Marshall (now the Marshall Exhibition and Prizes).
1714 Land adjoining the Old School bought for £76.
1833 New classroom built; headmaster's house enlarged to take sixty boarders.
1873 School re-endowed by Browne's Hospital.
1875 New school house and headmaster's house built in place of headmaster's old house demolished.
1882 Exhibition founded by will of Samuel Edwards (O.S. 1834–8).
1886 Gymnasium built.
1888 Two form rooms built to north of gymnasium.
1912 Purchase of 16 and 17 St Paul's Street from Sidney Sussex College.
1921 Hutted laboratories put up.
19 and 20 St Paul's Street (now Byard House) bought.
1923 Purchase of playing fields (formerly rented).
1928 Purchase of 24 St Paul's Street.
1929 Purchase of 21, 22 and 23 St Paul's Street.
Purchase of Northfields.
Purchase of Brazenose property.
1930 Consecration of the Chapel.
Acquisition of ground for car park.
1934 Levelling of main playing fields completed.
1936 School Hall built.
1937 Acquisition of East Street cottages.
1938 Cricket pavilion built.
1940 School House domestic staff block built.
1943 Clapton property (29 and 30 St Paul's Street) acquired (rented).
1945 Erection of three prefabricated classrooms.

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1947 Purchase of Southfields (formerly St Michael's Rectory), temporarily used as form rooms.

1948 Conversion of East Street Cottages into changing rooms. Purchase of small piece of land off Brazenose Lane.

1949 Purchase of Clapton property and garden. Purchase of Priory Court (old houses, for demolition, adjoining Clapton garden).

1950 Extension to school kitchens.

1951 Six junior form rooms built in the Dell (Little School).

1952 Southfields extended and converted into junior boarding house.

1953 Clock fixed to front of school.
Nine senior form rooms begun in Clapton garden (Big School).

1954 Purchase and conversion of two houses in St Paul's Street for St Peter's (preparatory boarding house). Bequest by the late Frederic Horspool to Stamford Endowed Schools of some £20,000.

1956 Opening of War Memorial Swimming Pool (the gift of Old Stamfordians).

1957 Opening of new science school.

1958 Memorial cricket scoring box built on field.

1959 Sanatorium completed opposite Brazenose Gateway.

1960 Extension to Byard House completed.

1961 Extension to Southfields House completed.

1962 Extension to Little School completed.

1963 Combined Cadet Force buildings put up in car park. Extension and alterations to Hall. Church Lads Club acquired in St Paul's Street for use as Art School.

1964 Hard tennis courts built at Northfields.

1965 New gymnasium, changing rooms and bridge across East Street.

1966 New grounds Upper and Lower Drift levelled.

1967 Levelling of Springfields begun.

1969 New form room block built adjoining Big School.

1971 Establishment of new office for Bursar at 16 St Paul's Street.

1972 Appeal raised £126,000. Work started on new dining hall. Swimming pool heated. Springfields levelled.

1973 Four squash courts built.

1974 New storey on Science School.

1977 New Music School, the gift of T. G. Clancy, O.S.

APPENDIX XI

HEADS OF THE SCHOOL

1907–1981

1907	W. A. Nowers
1909	L. G. Robinson
1913	O. C. F. Elliott
1914	T. H. Baldwin
1915	J. C. Hensman
1916	E. S. S. Bowman
1917	W. H. Turnbull
1918	J. E. Bowman
1920	C. A. Knight
1921	R. F. B. Rance
1922	W. H. M. Branston
	W. R. Hare
1923	G. R. Dolby
1924	A. L. Arnold
	P. J. Lamb
1925	J. A. G. Everitt
1927	J. E. Dolby
	G. Hadman
1928	P. L. Adams
1929	H. E. Packer
1931	St G. K. Day
1932	L. J. Coverley
1933	C. L. Edgson
1935	E. T. C. Joyce
1936	P. B. Aitken
1937	N. A. Brampton
1938	W. F. Gutteridge
1939	P. J. Draper
1940	F. P. Tomes
1941	A. N. Loweth
1942	G. de B. Mitford-Barberton
1943	J. H. Lambert
1944	J. R. Lovell
1946	T. R. J. West
	J. T. Laws
1947	J. Henderson
	P. H. E. Goodrich
1948	A. Jauncey
	R. E. Pearce
1949	D. H. Murphy
	R. M. Chantry
1950	J. D. Clark
	T. J. Guffick
1951	J. M. Lunn
	J. Nickerson
1952	W. R. W. Pike
1953	P. J. Hopper
	A. B. Collingwood
1954	K. G. Ford
1955	C. C. Hemmings
	R. C. M. Tallack
1956	J. F. Tomblin
1957	E. T. Hinch
1958	S. R. Burman
1959	G. Rowe
1960	A. J. G. Banks
	R. M. G. Maule
1961	A. G. Clarke
1962	J. E. Gorton
	D. J. Parrish
1963	M. G. Snarey
	S. M. Jefferies
1964	P. E. Spry-Leverton
1965	P. R. Steele
1966	A. P. Pedder
1967	N. J. Bateman
1968	C. J. Wright
	T. V. Barrett
1969	J. P. Newlove
	R. F. Ivett

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1970	B. P. Watson
	C. T. Lloyd
1971	R. F. Palmer
1972	C. H. W. Birch
	R. F. W. Beesley
1973	D. R. Denney
1974	D. R. Denney
1975	D. A. Allsop
	C. A. Linale
1976	K. R. Hughes
	G. A. McCreadie
1977	M. M. Franks
1978	P. A. Chew
1979	A. G. McConchie
	A. J. Hardy
1980	T. J. Ross
1981	J. G. Franks

APPENDIX XII

ROLL OF HONOUR

1899–1902

F. E. Lowless C. H. Warren

1914–1918

J. A. R. Andrews
W. C. Arnold
G. L. Atkinson
B. R. Beechy
C. R. Beechy
L. R. Beechy
C. G. Bird
A. M. Blades
C. E. Branwhite
F. J. Camm
E. B. Carvath
G. H. Clark
S. St J. Clarke
A. Claydon
W. C. Close
C. Clulee
A. W. S. Cowie
A. H. Curtis
H. Curtis
H. R. Curtis
F. M. Davis
O. C. F. Elliott
A. C. Evans
A. E. Glew
C. S. Gray
J. P. Gray
V. Grivel
H. Harrison
F. Healey
E. Hudson
H. W. Jackson
P. Jennings
G. St J. Jones
C. E. Knight
H. N. Leakey
C. H. Leary
C. Lowe
W. P. Markwick
G. Murphy
J. A. Nowers
L. I. Pitt
T. F. Seneschall
S. Le F. Shepherd
H. Skelton
E. Smalley
H. T. Springthorpe
C. C. Staplee
A. F. Taverner
P. J. Thrower
W. H. Wass
M. L. W. Westbrooke
F. Whincup
M. H. Wood
W. R. Wright
F. H. Young

1939–1945

C. Banks
F. J. Barker
A. G. Beardsall
A. G. Boam
C. G. Bristow
R. J. Broad
J. J. Brogan
M. A. Brogan
B. Close
A. V. Crawford
D. J. Crosweller
P. J. Draper
C. J. Duncan
J. B. Ellingworth
E. S. Ennals
A. P. Hateley
W. F. Hircock
P. Julyans
G. A. Jury
F. H. King
J. Leckie
J. C. Lowe
G. D. L. Machin
C. H. Mawby
A. M. L. Merry
C. F. Miles
H. D. Mordle
J. L. Mulligan
J. R. A. Nicholson
J. P. Padley

1939–1945 (*continued*)

E. H. Payne
D. S. Reid
R. B. Roffe
R. F. Schooley
D. A. Sills
F. C. Smith
W. A. Smith
N. Stewart
S. F. Thiselton
D. G. C. Thorpe
R. H. A. Turner
P. Walmsley
M. R. Warr-King
J. R. de M. Warren
W. F. R. Webb
B. E. Whincup
R. C. B. Wyman

NOTES

NOTES

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Stamford St Paul. See Appendix I for the chapel and Appendix II for the deed of 1200.

Third English University. The full title of Peck's history of Stamford is: *Academia tertia Anglicana; or, the Antiquarian Annals of Stanford in Lincoln, Rutland, and Northampton Shires. Compiled by Francis Peck, Rector of Godeby by Melton in Leicestershire.* It was printed in London for the author by James Bettenham in 1727 and takes the history of Stamford from its beginning to 1461. Later historians of Stamford have borrowed extensively from Peck. The first chapter of the present book borrows from him too.

nearly became one. The first occasion was the Brasenose Secession of 1333 here described in the first chapter. The second was in 1961. This was a period when new universities were being set up in the United Kingdom and a promotion committee under the chairmanship of the Bishop of Peterborough (the Rt Rev. Robert W. Stopford, Bishop designate of London) applied to the University Grants Committee for the establishment of a university at Stamford. A site of 200 acres along the Tinwell Road was suggested and, in addition, there were said to be plots of land centrally situated in the town which could be made available for halls of residence, and also several buildings belonging to Stamford Corporation could be adapted for university purposes. The promotion committee consisted of fifty-seven persons including the Lords Lieutenant of Lincolnshire (the Earl of Ancaster), Northamptonshire and Rutland, the Marquess of Exeter, the Bishops of Lincoln and Ely, the chairman and chief education officers of neighbouring counties, the Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University, the Master of St John's College and other Heads of Cambridge colleges, the Mayor of Stamford, Sir Malcolm Sargent (Hon. Freeman of Stamford), the members of Parliament for Rutland and Stamford and for Peterborough, local leaders of industry, the headmasters of Oakham, Oundle and Uppingham and the headmaster of Stamford School and the headmistress of Stamford High School. But Stamford never got its university.

a cell of Durham. Peck says (Lib. II, p. 11): 'the priory of S. Leonard by Stanford, & the distinct rectories & churches of S. Mary Bennewerk & S. Maries by the bridge in Stanford Lincolnshire, all belonged to the monastery of Durham; &...the priors of that cell, & the rectors of those churches, were always presented by the prior & convent of

Durham for the time being...the prior and convent of Durham had antiently very large possessions at Stanford in Lincolnshire; the whole whereof made up a distinct manor within the manor of Stanford, &, as it belonged to the church of Durham, was, & is to this day, called the manor of S. Cuthberts Fee.'

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scholars to the town. Peck (Lib. x, pp. 2–4) mentions William Lidlington, a doctor of Oxford and professor of Paris, who lectured in theology and died at Stamford in 1309; John Repingale and Walter de Heston, both doctors of Cambridge and Carmelites; and another Carmelite, William Wheteley. Of this last, two works survived 'either mentioned by approved authors or batteling it as it were in old libraries with the moths & bookworms'. One was a commentary upon the *De Consolatione* of Boethius, and the other a commentary on Boethius' *De Disciplina Scholarium.* On a MS. copy of the latter there was a note that Wheteley 'rexit scholas Stanfordiae...1309'. Peck uses this as a proof that Wheteley exercised university functions at Stamford, but A. F. Leach, in the *Victoria County History of Lincolnshire*, Vol II (1906), argues that the words *rexit scholas* might be used of a schoolmaster and might therefore support a view that a grammar school existed in Stamford then. He maintains that the *De Disciplina* was a school book and not a university book. It was among those books given by William of Wykeham to Winchester but not to New College, Oxford. By 1316 Wheteley had left Stamford and was Master of Lincoln Grammar School.

arms of France and England. These are now so worn as not to be recognizable, but they can be seen in Peck's reproduction (Lib. XI, opposite p. 29).

and one at Sempringham. It is notable that scholars were to study philosophy as well as theology—from such beginnings universities developed. The original indenture concerning Luttrell was given to the school by Lord Exeter and is now on permanent loan in Lincoln County Archives, ref. No. Misc. Dep. 210. These archives had recently acquired the other copy of the deed which is similar but not an identical counterpart indenture. Its reference is Hill, 2. Thus, after nearly 700 years, the two documents have come together again.

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several Receptacles. From p. 9 of *The Survey and Antiquity of the Town of Stamford, in the County of Lincoln....Written by Richard Butcher, Gent. Sometimes Town-Clerk of the same Town....London: Printed in the Year* 1717. (The first edition was 1646.)

Brasenose Hall in Oxford. A brief but authoritative account of the affair is given in the *Brasenose College Quatercentenary Monographs*, Vol. I, Ch. II, pp. 15–20.

The Church of Durham. This is the phrase used by Peck (Lib. XI, p. 10), quoting and translating Anthony à Wood's *Ecclesia Dunelmensis.* Peck goes on to say that it was the '*monks*' of Durham who were complainants.

p. 4

your humble daughter. Collectanea, first series, edited by C. R. L. Fletcher and printed for the Oxford Historical Society at the Clarendon Press, 1885, p. 8, quotes from B.M. Royal MS. 12. D, xi, f, 29: 'A sa tresnoble et treshonurable dame, Dame Philippe, par la grace de Dieu Reyne dengleterre, Les soens si lici pleist subjectz le Chancellier et les Maistres de la Universitee d'Oxenford, ou treshumbles obeyssances toutes reverences et honeurs. Treshonurable dame, de grantz biens et honneurs qe vus avez sovent fet a vostre petite Universite de Oxenford devotement de queor. Vus enmercions....Et pur ceo dame qaukunes gentz, qe toutz ses honeures ount resceuz entre nus, en destruction quant en eus est de nostre Universite seu sont treez a Estanford, et toutz les jourz treount aultres par leur fauses covines. Vuliez, tresnoble dame, a vostre humble filie partant conseillier....'

spare their fleeces to correction. Collectanea, p. 10, quoting B.M. Royal MS. 12, D, xi, f. 28: 'ut disperse jam oves gregi conformiter counite pascuas suavissimas et uberrimas repetant, in ovili solito conquiescant, fetus virtutum parturiant, et vellera parcant discipline.'

p. 5

of the whole kingdom. Collectanea, p. 11, quoting B.M. Royal MS. 12, D, xi, f. 22b: '...velit vestra Regia celsitudo summo pontifici literas gratiosas dirigere...reliquum siquidem malum quod per omnem modum nocivum et pestiferum arbitramur, novum scilicet consursum scolarium ad oppidum Stanfordie pretextu scolastice discipline, quod fortassis quia tam in d'spendium studii nostri, quam in tocius Regni discordiarum seminarium generale redundare presumiter per potenciam Regiam obsecramus et petimus extirpare....'

letters of 2 *August.* Quoted by Peck (Lib. XI, p. 11). The letter is Close Roll, 8 Edw. III, m. 17 d and is quoted by A. F. Leach in *Educational Charters* (1911): 'Rex vicecomiti Lincoln. salutem. Quia datum est nobis intelligi quod quamplures magistri et scolares universitatis nostre Oxonie colore quarundam dissensionum in universitate predicta nuper ut dicitur exortarum et aliis coloribus quesitis se ab eadem universitate retrahentes apud villam de Stamford se divertere et

ibidem studium tenere ac actus scolasticos excercere presumunt assensu nostro seu licencia minime requisito, quod si toleraretur non tantum in nostrum contemptum et dedecus, set eciam in dispersionem universitatis nostre predicte cederet manifeste; Nos nolentes scolas seu studia alibi infra regnum nostrum quam in locis ubi universitates nunc sunt aliqualiter teneri, tibi precipimus firmiter iniungentes quod ad predictam villam de Stamford personaliter accedas, et ibidem ac alibi infra ballivam tuam, ubi expedire videris, ex parte nostra publice proclamari et inhiberi facias, ne qui, sub forisfactura omnium que nobis forisfacere poterunt, alibi quam in universitatibus nostris predictis studium tenere vel actus scolasticos excercere presumant quoquo modo, et de nominibus illorum quos post proclamacionem et inhibicionem predictas inveneris contrarium facientes nobis in Cancellaria nostra sub sigillo tuo distincte et aperte constare faceretis indilate. Volumus enim omnibus et singulis qui de violenciis aut iniuriis apud dictam villam Oxonie illatis coram iusticiariis nostris ibidem ad hoc specialiter deputatis se conqueri voluerint celerem iusticiam exhiberi prout decet.

Teste Rege apud Wyndesore secundo die Augusti per ipsum Regem et concilium.

Consimile breve dirigitur maiori et ballivis ville regis Oxonie mutatis mutandis. Teste ut supra.'

settle the disturbances. From the account by Anthony à Wood in his *Historia et Antiquitates Universitatis Oxoniensis*, MDCLXXIV, Lib. I, under the year 1334.

p. 6

by leave of the king. Peck, Lib. XI, pp. 16–17, footnote: 'A nostre seignieur le Roy, & a son consail, prient les clers demorauntz en la ville de Staunford, qe come per resoun de plusours debatz, concels, & melles qels longtemps ont este, & uncore sont, en la universite de Oxenford, donc grantz damages, perils, morts, mordres, maihemes, & robberies sovent foiz sont avenuz par quoi en espoir de la bone grace nostre seigneur le Roy, ils se sont retretz hors de la dite ville de Oxenford, vers la ville de Staunford, a estudier & proficer plus en quiete & en pees, qils ne soleient faire par soeffraunce le noble homme Johan counte de Garen, qil plese a nostre seignieur le Roy soeffrer le dites clers de puis, quils sount ces liges gentz, a demorer en la dite ville de Staunford souch sa proteccioun q gentz de touz maners de mestiers de quele condicioun qil soient de la liguance nostre seignieur le Roy puissent demorer en chesqune seignurie par conge du Roy.'

settle the matter. Peck, Lib. XI, p. 17.

p. 7

Galfridi de Bernake. The list is taken from Anthony à Wood, *Historia et Antiquitates Universitatis Oxoniensis*, p. 166.

Bursar of Merton College. The list is discussed by A. F. Leach in the *Victoria County History of Lincolnshire*, Vol. II (1906). Mr J. R. L. Highfield of Merton College states that Barnebey and Twyselyngton seem to have been the chief Mertonians concerned. Barnebey came from the diocese of York and was Canon and Prebendary of Southwell by papal provision in 1317. There is no mention of him or Twyselyngton in the account of the scrutiny held in the college in 1338–9. Barnebey died in 1361. His biography has not yet been written. There are probably more details to be brought to light.

H. de R. Described by Anthony à Wood as 'praecipuus dispersionis illius, & secessionis Stanfordianae suasor & Antesignanus'. As Peck translates: 'chief ringleader & encourager of the scholars in dispersing themselves from Oxford, and removing to Stanford' (Lib. II, p. 20).

p. 8

they failed. The secessionists failed and no further university was founded in England for just on 500 years. But Durham did not entirely fail, although it had long to wait. The statute containing the Stamford oath was not repealed until 1827. Durham University was founded in 1832.

p. 9

Browne's Hospital. See *The Story of the 'Domus Dei' of Stamford (Hospital of William Browne)*, by H. P. Wright, M.A. (Parker and Co., London, 1890), pp. 17, 18.

St Katherine's Guild. In the Joseph Phillips Collection in the Town Hall, Stamford, No. 177, there is a 'Copy of the Register of the Guild of St Katherine, Stamford, held near the west door of St Paul's Church, 1494–1534'. The original MS. is in the Library of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge.

p. 10

very soon after making it. For the chantry certificate see page 12 and Appendix V. The evidence for placing Radcliffe's death very shortly after 1 June 1532 has been put forward by Mr R. C. Lowe (O.S.) and is as follows: The chantry certificate of 1548 in giving an abstract of the will states in effect that Radcliffe on 1 June 1532 willed that his feoffees who were at that time seised of his land should 'from that time forward' (*extunc*) remain seised, etc, etc. The word *extunc* in its context implies

reference to 1 June but must also in fact refer to the moment of Radcliffe's death, before which the will could not become operative. It seems likely, therefore, that the abstract was taken from the probate of the will, which would have shown the date of death. If that date came very shortly after the date of the will, which might well be the case if the will were written *in extremis*, the person making the abstract may well have treated the two dates as practically simultaneous.

It is to be noticed that Radcliffe had adopted a practice, common in his day, of vesting his land, during his lifetime, in feoffees who thereby became the legal owners, holding the property in trust for him. By this means it was possible to avoid some of the more serious restrictions of the feudal system under which, for instance, a man could not devise his land by will, as it passed automatically to his eldest son or some other specified person.

The last time that Radcliffe's name appears in the St Katherine's register is 1527. The lists for 1528–30 are missing and he is not mentioned in 1531. The last mention of him in the town records as a member of the corporate body is 4 November 22 Henry VIII (1530) and he may have spent the last eighteen months or so of his life in retirement, or, at least, he may not have attended meetings. His successor was appointed 17 December 24 Henry VIII (1532). The Act of 1548/9 said that Radcliffe had willed that a schoolmaster be appointed *immediately after* his death, and that Byard had been teaching *about seventeen or eighteen years*. It is presumed that he was teaching, and the School may therefore be said to have been founded, before the end of 1532.

'*seventeen or eighteen years*'. For the Act of 1548/9 (No. 60) see Appendix VI.

known of the Founder. The evidence was collected by the Rev. John Tinkler in the *Stamfordian* for the Lent term and for the summer term 1887 and the Michaelmas term 1889. But he has made no mention of a reference to Radcliffe in the will of the Lady Margaret Beaufort, mother of Henry VII. In her will she refers to an agreement, made in 1506, whereby William Radcliffe, David Cecil and one Thomas Williams were granted 'a felde and close with thappurtaunce callid Newe close beside Crakeholme late in the tenure of James Mandesley within oure Lordshipe of Maxey to haue and to holde to them and theire assignes duryng the lif of Margarete White Ancores in the house of Nonnes beside Stamford to thuse and entente that the same William Ratcliff David and Thomas and theire assignes shall take and dispose thissues and profittes therof to and for the exhibicionn and fynding of the said Ancores: and of an honest womann to attend upon hir during hir life'. (The whole will is quoted in *Collegium Divi Johannis Evangelistae*, printed at the Cambridge University Press, 1911).

p. 11

boarder or weekly boarder. This is one of several suggestions made by Professor Conyers Read of Pennsylvania. There appears, he says, to be no evidence that Cecil boarded, but it is unlikely that so young a boy would have ridden fourteen miles a day from Bourne to Grantham and fourteen miles back.

More's 'Utopia'. The first edition of Robinson's translation, dedicated to Cecil, is 1551. In the preface he says: 'in the time of our childhood, being then schoolfellows together'. Like Cecil, Robinson went to school both at Grantham and Stamford. Professor Conyers Read quotes as evidence a letter written to Cecil by Robinson in 1551 (B.M. Lansdowne MSS. 2, 57).

p. 12

in December of the same year. The effect on schools of Edward VI's Chantries Act is discussed in A. F. Leach's *English Schools at the Reformation* (1896), pp. 65 ff.

p. 13

'and forme before rehersed'. The Commission for Continuance of Schools, Preachers, etc and Pensions, under Chantries Act, 1 Edward VI, from Patent Roll, 2 Edward VI, Part iv, m. 22(*d*) is quoted in full by Leach, *English Schools at the Reformation*, Part II, pp. vii–xvii.

by Act of Parliament. See Leach, *Educational Charters*, p. xliv.

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two private Acts of Parliament. Contemporary copies are in the Record Office of the House of Lords.

rules for the School. It is likely that from the first the Master took his duties seriously. The Master of St John's in 1548 was William Bill, but he was succeeded in 1550 or 1551 by Thomas Lever who in sermons preached to Edward VI complained bitterly of Parliament's treatment of schools: 'But now many Grammar Schools be taken, sold, and made away to the great slander of you and your laws, to the grievous offence of the people, to the most miserable drowning of youth in ignorance, and sore decay of the Universities.' (Quoted by Leach in *English Schools at the Reformation*, Part I, p. 78.)

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appointed to All Saints' in Stamford. References to Byard are in the *Libri Cleri*, Lincolnshire Archives Committee, Exchequer Gate, Lincoln. Although Byard was appointed to West Deeping in 1547 the Chantry Certificate of 1548 speaks of him as the schoolmaster at Stamford and says he holds no other preferment.

parish of St George's. A copy of the Instrument is in the St George's parish chest. The Commissioners mentioned at the beginning of the Instrument are: Henry, Bishop of Lincoln; Thomas Watson, Alderman; Richard Cycell, Esq.; Thomas Holland and Robert Walpole, gentlemen, Justices of the Peace. The Instrument must have been in draft by 1551, as Henry, Bishop of Lincoln, died 23 August 1551. The Instrument is sealed by John Taylor, Bishop of Lincoln, who had formerly been Master of St John's, Cambridge, and was consecrated bishop 26 June 1552.

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the south aisle. See Appendix I 'The Chapel'.

taken over guild lands. See letter of 28 April 1553 from John Fenton and others to Sir William Cecil (Historical MSS. Commission, *Cecil Papers*, Vol. I, pp. 119–20).

'*contrary to the Commission*'. See *Calendar of State Papers* (Domestic Series), Vol. IV, No. 20, 14 August 1554.

p. 17

'*for this our school*'. Semper perspexi hanc nostram scolam maximae tibi curae fuisse (B.M. Lansdowne MSS. 3.58).

for a friend of his. Cecil Papers, Vol. I, p. 144, dated 10 September 1557.

were anxious to retain. Calendar of State Papers (Domestic Series), Vol. IV, 17 December 1557.

rules for the School. The Stamford Corporation Minutes for 31 January 1785 make mention of 'the orders relative to the Free School in this Borough dated 1565 from the then Alderman of the Borough and the Master of St John's College.' An eighteenth century copy of the 1565 rules has recently been found in Stamford Town Hall by Mr J. S. Hartley. See Appendix VIII.

'*one meet scholar out of Stamford School*'. Baker's *History of St John's College* gives the details (Vol. I, p. 415). In 1581 Lord Burghley made over to St John's College 'two several rents' amounting to £30 a year, £20 out of lands and tenements in Northamptonshire and £10 out of Hertfordshire. In return Lord Burghley and his heirs were to have the nomination of two scholars, one from Stamford and one from Hoddesdon. The college for their part were to distribute to each of the twenty-four Lady Margaret scholars 5*d.* weekly towards their commons making their total weekly allowance up to 1*s.* (To do this cost £26 a year.) Each of the scholars nominated by Burghley was to receive 12*s.* yearly 'for to buy and provide a gown'. Of the 56*s.* remaining 40*s.* would go on charges for collection of rents; and the remaining 16*s.*

was to be spent to increase the dinner of the Master, Fellows and twenty-four Scholars on the Sunday after St John's day. Since 1857 the Stamford scholars have been known as the Marquess of Exeter's Exhibitioners. The value of the award remains at £20.

of Trinity College, Cambridge. The *Libri Cleri* at Lincoln under '1583, St Mary's, Stamford', give: 'Thomas Atherton, master of the grammar school, licensed 17 Sep. 1583, lic. 8*d.* M.A.' Venn's *Alumni Cantabrigienses* adds that he was a sizar of Trinity, Easter 1569; B.A. 1573–4; M.A. 1577; B.D. 1589; and that he was Vicar of Pinchbeck, Lincolnshire, 1593–1608.

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founded Browne's Hospital. This family had been wealthy and important in Stamford since the fourteenth century and Robert Browne's grandfather had received a curious patent from Henry VIII allowing him to wear his hat in the royal presence. The *Dictionary of National Biography* says that after leaving Cambridge Browne became a schoolmaster in London but 'delivered his soul on Sundays by preaching in the open air in defiance of the Rector of Islington'. He eventually received a licence to preach from the Bishop of Norwich but threw it in the fire and preached openly in Cambridgeshire and Norfolk. He was complained of by the Bishop of Norwich but Cecil, who even on occasions acknowledged him as a kinsman, defended him. In 1584, after prison, he refused a summons to appear before the Bishop of Peterborough and was excommunicated. It was only after pledges for good behaviour that he was appointed to Stamford. The constable he struck when Rector of Achurch was actually his godson. Browne was transferred from local custody to Northampton gaol by cart, but, despite a feather bed to soften the journey, he sickened and died. Venn's *Alumni Cantabrigienses* states that Browne is claimed as the founder of Congregationalism. A. L. Rowse in his *William Shakespeare* calls Browne the 'unattractive, ill-tempered, wife-beating founder of the Independents'.

(I am grateful to the Rev. J. S. Reynolds for drawing my attention to this headmaster and to the reference in *D.N.B.*)

Keeper of Records. The *Dictionary of National Biography* says 'apparently' at Stamford. Nothing further is known specifically of the School at that time, but the questions asked at the Bishop of Lincoln's visitation of 1585 indicate what was required of schoolmasters in the diocese: whether they 'be diligent in teaching and bringing up youth; and whether they be examined, allowed and licensed, by the ordinary; and whether they teach the Grammar set forth by King Henry the

Eighth... whether they teach the scholars the Catechism in Latin lately set forth, and such sentences of Scriptures as shall be most expedient and meet to move them to the love and due reverence of God's true religion now truly set forth by the Queen's Majesty's authority...' (quoted in *The State of the Church*, Vol. I, p. xxxiii. Publication of the Lincoln Record Society).

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students for the University. This was recognized by the Aldermen in their correspondence with the Masters of St John's. See in particular the letter of 16 April 1631, p. 24. Venn's *Alumni Cantabrigienses* shows that by far the greater number of those going from the School to Cambridge became country parsons.

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bleste is that citty. Mr Hugh Allan has drawn attention to this MS in the Bodleian Library (Ref. Rawlinson Poetry MS 85). The collector of the poems was J. Finnett and in the margin of another of Mylles's poems he has written 'beinge a schoolmaister at Stamforde'. In common with many poets, and against nature, Mylles makes the female nightingale sing, and not the male.

'master of the grammar school'. The name Samuel Penson also occurs, but this is a misreading of Samuel Johnson in the St George's registers for 1594.

married in 1602. Information about Newton comes from an article in the *Stamfordian* for the Lent term 1891 by Justin Simpson, quoting mainly a commonplace book for 1720 of the Rev. John Lambe of Clare, Minor Canon of Southwell. He does not say where the commonplace book is kept.

parish registers show. For St George's Parish alone the following numbers of burials are recorded in 1604: May, 12; June, 32; July, 20. A curious indirect result of the plague in Stamford that year was the founding in the Parish of All Saints' of a school known as the Wells Petty School (petty, or petits, for little ones). In August a shoemaker of that parish, Edward Wells, in making a long will bequeathing his property to many friends but in particular to his two children, added a clause that if his children should die (implying, presumably, without issue) his house and lands, one year after his death, should go to the parish for it to establish and maintain a petty school. The registers record that within the space of nine days that August there were buried Edward Wells, his wife and his two children. The petty school so

founded survived into the nineteenth century and presumably sent many boys on to its larger neighbour. (See Thomas Blore, *An Account of the Public Schools, Hospitals and other Charitable Foundations in the Borough of Stamford*, 1813, pp. 72 seq.)

'*Schoolmaster to Schoolmaster for ever*'. This is quoted by Justin Simpson 'from a deed of feoffment dated January 13 1608/9' in the *Stamfordian* for the Lent term 1890, p. 22. Drakard, *History of Stamford*, 1822, says that the stone with the inscription was supposed to have been fixed to the front of the headmaster's house before it was rebuilt [in *c.* 1723–6?], but was then moved to 'the south wall of the court-yard of the house in which the masters of this school reside, over the doorway'. Today there is under it a further inscription: 'This stone placed above was removed in 1875. From the old master's residence demolished in that year.' In the first inscription 'Gymnasi archis' is either to be construed as *Gymnasiarchis* (*Gymnasiarchus*, meaning 'schoolmaster' and found in Cicero) or, as some would have it, *Gymnasii Archididascalis*. *Archididascalus* was, according to Leach (*Educational Charters*, p. xliii), a new-fangled phrase for head or high master in about 1540.

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'*trust thee with all*'. Peck, *Desiderata Curiosa* (1732), Lib. I, Ch. XXXII, p. 55.

house in the town. So Ivor Brown, *Shakespeare*, p. 57.

'*in the School at Stamford*'. The agreement is set out at length in Blore, *Account*, pp. 65 ff.

p. 22

'*some wrong therein*'. A letter dated 21 September 1625 from Samuel Hill, Rector of Medbourne, to the Master of St John's College, telling him (at second hand) of an inquiry Swann had once made about this. Quoted in the *Eagle* (magazine of St John's College), Vol. XXVI, No. 136, p. 26.

for his carriage. There is a copy of this letter in the Phillips Collection with no indication of where the original is.

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to provide scholarships. This bequest is now administered under the Marshall Charities Act of 1855 and provides Marshall Prizes for boys going up from the School to universities; and also a Marshall Exhibition for boys entering the Senior School.

p. 24

bearer hereof to you.... Acknowledgement is made with thanks to the Master and Fellows of St John's College, Cambridge, for permission to quote this extract and the following extract from MS. letters in their Muniment Room.

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refer it to Commissioners. *Calendar of State Papers* (Domestic Series), 7 May 1635, p. 61.

to give his approval. See Stamford Corporation Minutes for 31 January 1785.

he gave to the Library. Dugard has a full notice in the *Dictionary of National Biography*. His career after leaving Stamford is interesting. He went first as headmaster to Colchester, whose numbers he raised from nine to sixty-nine, and in 1644 to Merchant Taylors'. While there, among other activities, he ran a private printing press and in 1649 was committed to Newgate prison for printing a defence of King Charles I. He was released after a month at the instance of Milton whose friend he was and who on at least one occasion made use of his press. In 1650 he was reinstated at Merchant Taylors' but next year some of his books were burned by order of the House of Commons. He remained headmaster of Merchant Taylors' until after the Restoration, but in 1661 was dismissed for various breaches of order and in particular for taking too many pupils (275). A month later he opened a private school and soon raised the numbers to 193, but in 1662 he died, certainly a vigorous and probably a great schoolmaster.

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then considerably increased. The £30 is quoted from Blore, *Account*, p. 55; the Commission of Charitable Uses from the *Victoria County History of Lincolnshire*, Vol. II.

approval to 'Mr Harman'. The correspondence is given fully in the *Eagle* for October 1904 and Lent term 1905.

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the next headmaster. Geery took his B.A. in 1656 and his M.A. in 1660. He must have been at Stamford by 1666, as in that year he appears as one of the Trustees of the St George's Charities, a position once held by Herman and other headmasters of the School (Blore, *Account*, p. 293, where, however, he states 'the name of Samuel Gery, Clerk, can scarcely be believed to have been admitted on good authority').

taught at the School. There were at this and at other times in Stamford

schoolmasters, sometimes incumbents, who taught boys privately. For instance, the Corporation Minutes for 1696 (p. 180) state that as there were a sufficient number of persons teaching already within the borough they were not admitting one Joseph Popper. It is possible that Shepherd taught privately, or, alternatively, that he was headmaster, as a parish reference in November 1674 refers to Sedgwick as *Hypodidasc.* (*Hypodidascalus* was a word often used for usher.) But terms in registers were used loosely, and as the first entry for Sedgwick was in September 1673, two and a half months after Geery's death, it seems quite likely that he was in fact Geery's successor. The boy mentioned in the text as being sent up to Cambridge by Sedgwick was John Longe, admitted to Gonville and Caius College and entered as 'School, Stamford (Mr Sedgewicke), 1681'.

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'ridicule to others'. Quoted from Drakard's *History of Stamford*, pp. 109–10.

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education in England. 'Education' is used in a narrow sense. There was a decline in numbers at grammar schools and universities, but there was at the same time the rise of the charity schools. Also there are those who say that life in eighteenth-century England in itself provided a good education.

interest in them. The Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, founded in 1698, issued a circular in 1699 as a result of which many charity schools were founded throughout the country. The Bluecoat School at Stamford must have arisen as part of this movement. The records of the Society show that the Corporation at Stamford allowed the school £20 a year for three years besides providing the house; and the remainder of charges were met by public subscription. By 1710 there were eighty in the school with three teachers, one for spinning and two for reading. Twenty of the children had been so well instructed in the catechism that they had been confirmed the previous year by the Bishop of Lincoln. The children 'attended the master every Sunday to Church, 50 of which are cloathed in Blew'. Further details are given in Blore, *Account*, pp. 105 seqq. The Society has a note from William Turner dated 10 August 1710 thanking it for sponsoring his book and for 'putting it in their packet'.

a comic play, Bellum Grammaticale. For the performance A. J. Waterfield (O.S.) quotes *The School Drama in England* by T. H. Vail Motter. There are several copies of Guarna's book in the Cambridge

University Library, the first dated 1536. The copy of 1635 has the dedication referred to in the text, and also notice of the performance of 1592.

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'second only to Westminster'. Stamfordians have suspected a Westminster source for this remark, but it probably owes its origin to A. J. Edmonds, contributor to the *Clare College History*, who was born in Stamford.

William Jephson. Jephson was the maiden name of Peck's mother. Drakard, *History of Stamford*, p. 470, thinks that Peck was at the School.

was appointed headmaster. From the Magdalen College records about William Hannes: 1697 matriculated as clerk (a kind of choral scholar) aged 16 (his battels accounts show that he lived economically, not often being away from college); 1701 B.A.; 1704 M.A. and became a chaplain (a higher position than clerk), a position he held with a year's break (1708–9) until 1717, when he became usher at Magdalen College School. He was Rector of Newton Purcell at the same time as he was at Stamford. The records show that he returned for one year as Chaplain to Magdalen in 1726, but there is no record of this at Stamford. Blore gives Hezekiah Haines of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, as headmaster in 1726 (he does not mention Hannes). There is no other known source connecting Hezekiah Haines with Stamford, although as Haines had been at school at Colchester and Merchant Taylors' he may have known something of Stamford from Turner, who went to Colchester in 1724, when Haines was still living near there.

fellow of St John's. Most of the evidence about Hannes is quoted in the *Eagle* for 1904 (October Term) and in the *Victoria County History of Lincolnshire*, Vol. II.

and rebuilt it. There are many bills in the school archives relating to the rebuilding in 1723–5. It seems that the Corporation pulled down the front of the house and rebuilt it, having raised for the purpose a sum of £129 by public subscription headed by Lord Exeter. The Royal Commission on Historical Monuments in *The Town of Stamford* notes that in the eighteenth century the importance of Stamford as a market town increased and there was a change in its physical appearance, especially in the refronting of buildings by local men.

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rather worse than the original. The notorious verses were:

Ad Praetorem Stamfordiae, 1729

Inclyte Praetor ave! prae quo, neque clarior alter,
Quove nec utilior civis in urbe viget.
Per quem sudorem, per quae discrimina curae,
Attigeris meritus praemia summa loci.
Porcorum innumerus passim grex grunnit in agris,
Pro Te, quot vaccae ac ubera tenta gerunt,
Pinguis ut huic nostrae premeretur caseus urbi,
(Et Tua dulcisono tinniat aere manus;)
Strenua, cui junctus, praestat jentacula, panis,
Lautaque cum lardo prandia praebet olus.
Tres solum, ut perhibent, aliorum fata sorores,
Mille, Tuam at sortem, nent faciuntque manus.
Quae Tibi fila trahunt, calathis referuntque peracta
Stamina, dum fusis lintea pensa tument;
Frumento hinc sacci, nautis hinc vela, Tibique
Lucrum, eadem nummos, ars loculosque parat.
Urit sive latus funis, seu colla coercens,
Et vitae et vocis, pendula, rumpit iter,
Imperii monstrat quae sint arctissima vincla,
Dum quod non possunt praemia, poena potest.

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their own purposes. The judgement, delivered in 1756, is preserved in the Phillips Collection.

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accounts at other schools. This information is from a 'Mr Lowe' (O.S.) quoted by Drakard, *History of Stamford*, pp. 222–3.

p. 37

himself upon his pupils. From Morley's *Life of Gladstone* (1906), p. 29.

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of the present age. Not quoted in Blore but a copy is in the Phillips Collection.

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the Rev. Thomas Mounsey. The poet John Clare recalled that when he was first seeking to publish his poems and the publisher (J. B. Henson, a bookseller from Market Deeping) was raising his price, Mounsey happened to come in and immediately became Clare's first subscriber. 'This gave me heart and did me more good than all I ever met with

before or after. I felt deeply and never forgot the name of the Rev. Mr Mounsey... he is worth a thousand of the contributors who saw the sun rise before they haild my success who woud doubtless in the storm of disappointment cast me behind them'. Mounsey was said to teach 'the Greek and Latin languages and every branch of Commercial and Mathematical Learning'. See *John Clare, a Life, by J. W. and Anne Tibble, 1972.*

as he had been bound. This was part of the judgement of 1756, p. 35.

a grammar school. In 1805 Lord Eldon, in the Court of Chancery, had accepted Dr Johnson's definition of a grammar school as 'a school in which the learned languages are taught grammatically'.

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St Michael's and St John's. Why they were inquiring about St Michael's and not St Martin's is not clear.

p. 43

correspondence printed. There is a copy in the Phillips Collection. It contains thirty-one pages of small print.

'commercial' or 'middle' schools. The *Report of the Consultative Committee on Secondary Education* ('Spens Report'), H.M.S.O. 1938, p. 26, quotes Dr Arnold describing Commercial or English Schools in 1832: 'The pupils receive instruction in Arithmetic, History, Geography, English Grammar and Composition.... The rudiments of Physical Science are also taught in them, and with a view to his particular business in life he learns Land Surveying if he is to be brought up to agricultural pursuits, or Bookkeeping if he is intended for trade.'

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Frederick Edward Gretton. There is a copy of this document and also various other papers dealing with this dispute in the Phillips Collection.

the remaining £373. See G. Burton, *Chronology of Stamford*, under 'Charities', p. 8. It is possible that after the meeting of 6 September the Mayor had decided to build, as a means of spending the money subscribed, but that the fees of Counsel had been higher than he had expected. It was fortunate that the new headmaster had capital to invest.

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'punishment and expulsion'. The rules are in the Phillips Collection.

a dining-hall was made. These two houses together had a frontage of nearly ninety feet and stretched back about the same distance from the road, enclosing a small courtyard. They were situated where is now the garden in front of the headmaster's house, built up against 17 St Paul's Street. They are clearly marked on a survey published in February 1834, by J. A. Knipe of Stamford. This survey also shows a line of trees, presumably elms, along the course of the present Elm Street at the back of the School. It marks, too, the Bluecoat School at that time on the site of today's Byard House (19 St Paul's Street).

p. 48

First Lesson. This arrangement of First, Second and Third Lesson was until very recently maintained in the school where Gretton learned it.

p. 49

played their violins. Stamfordian, Midsummer 1904, p. 19.

recorded under Gretton. Burton's *Chronology of Stamford,* Charities, p. 11, gives 94 free scholars in 1838 but only 25 in 1842.

p. 50

the records do not show. The only evidence to suggest trouble is a sentence in an article in the *Victoria County History of Lincolnshire,* Vol. II, which says that the School was very successful until 1850 when, in consequence of several boys being expelled for grave offences, its repute was tarnished. The article in which the sentence occurs is in the main true to the facts known but has a number of small inaccuracies, and it may well be that it was in 1840 and not 1850 that the expulsions occurred. The Report of the Schools Inquiry Commission in 1867 also refers vaguely to this episode as having happened fifteen or twenty years earlier and may be the source of the *Victoria County History*'s statement.

to have admired him. F. E. Gretton, *Memory's Harkback,* 1889, p. 313.

by wearing a wig. J. B. Oldham, *A History of Shrewsbury School* (1952), p. 83.

Stamford under Reid. The *D.N.B.* under 'John Keate' says that his father William Keate took his 'M.A. in 1767, became master of the Stamford grammar school, and afterwards rector of Laverton, Somerset'. The source of this information is not clear. Venn mentions him, without date, as master at Stamford and says he became rector in 1768. He cannot have been at Stamford long. Reid was headmaster till 1771 and Keate was presumably usher.

Meeting in St Mary's. Stamford Mercury, 6 November 1863.

throughout his life. See obituary notice, *Stamfordian,* Lent term 1890.

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by the station clock. *Stamfordian*, Spring 1930, p. 13.

their London House. *Stamfordian*, Summer 1929, p. 15.

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report in 1869. *Schools Inquiry Commission*, Vol. XVI (1869), pp. 307–14.

p. 54

'*Old Man*'. The origin of the ceremony of 'kissing the Old Man' (the worn, stone head, possibly of St Paul, formerly over the west door of the Old School and now over the west door of the chapel) is not known. The custom is now, mercifully, no longer observed. The ceremony took place during a Saturday break when two prefects held each new boy up in turn to kiss the stone to the accompaniment of the applause, often ironical, of the whole School. No contemporary written records of the custom are known to exist before 1887 (*Stamfordian*, Lent term 1887, p. 36), but it was by that time well established.

Arthur Browning. Letter to *Stamfordian*, Spring 1948, pp. 16–17.

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Charity Trustees. The names of twelve trustees for 1867 are given in the *S.I.C. Report*, p. 311.

succession of schemes. Copies of the schemes are in the Phillips Collection.

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exciting interview with the headmaster. *The Times* of 15 July 1965 (the centenary of Harmsworth's birth) recalled this interview and added that Harmsworth was beaten at school every Monday, Wednesday and Friday for two years. This type of education, *The Times* thought, would not necessarily be recommended today to those aspiring to journalism but the fact remained, it said, that never since Harmsworth had there been an old boy from Stamford to found a newspaper of such consequence as the *Daily Mail* or to become editor and owner of *The Times*.

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Browne's School for boys. The name Browne was subsequently dropped. The scheme of 1910 refers to the School as 'Stamford School (Radcliffe and Browne's Foundation)'. The Governors continued to control the Bluecoat Elementary School until 1902, after which they shared administration with the Kesteven County Council. From 1873 to 1927 the Bluecoat school was known as the 'Stamford Endowed (Elementary) School', but in 1927 the County Council took over full control and it

reverted to its old name of 'Stamford Bluecoat School'. Mr J. H. W. Taylor, an old boy of both the Stamford Endowed (Elementary) School and Stamford School, was headmaster of the Bluecoat School at the time and remained headmaster until his retirement in 1953.

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Welch had gone. It is not known why he left. In 1883 he became headmaster of Archbishop Holgate's School in Yorkshire and was ordained the next year. In 1896 he gave up schoolmastering and for forty-one years was Vicar of Millington in East Riding, until he retired in 1937. Although he was at Stamford so short a time a letter he wrote in 1937 shows that he looked back upon the School with pleasure. He died in 1939 at the age of ninety.

p. 63

the Stamfordian *of today.* Except for two lapses, 1891–9 and 1907–12, the *Stamfordian* has been the School's chronicle, for many years eschewing all verse and literary elegancies.

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granted a half-holiday. Stamfordian, Lent term 1886, pp. 10–11.

mathematics or grammar. For example, 'In Division VI Hatton's work was good on the whole, especially the Analytical Conics. The Geometrical Conics was somewhat scanty. In Statics and Dynamics the last three questions (all Dynamics) were entirely omitted.' (From a report of Speech Day, Wednesday, 30 July 1890, in the *Rutland, Oundle and Stamford Post.*)

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words and music. This *Carmen Stamfordiense* was composed to be sung on Speech Day, but on Dr Barnard's retirement his successor introduced *Dulce domum* in its place. In about 1913 a master, A. W. S. Cowie, wrote a rather more light-hearted song to the tune of the *Vicar of Bray.* This is still sung on less formal occasions. Dr Barnard's *Carmen,* with new music by H. M. Palmer, School Director of Music, was reintroduced at Speech Day, 1950.

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'*the School chapel*'. See also Appendix I. Continuing his excavations in the Easter holidays 1903, J. D. Barnard found the tomb of Henry Elyngton, Rector 1384–99, and also the stone staircase in the south wall which is presumed to have led up to the meeting place of St Katherine's Guild.

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the debt they owed to her. Sargent's first appearance on stage or platform was as Sword Bearer in a Stamford town performance of *The Mikado.* He turned the pages for Mrs Tinkler at rehearsals and once, when the conductor failed to arrive, she persuaded, or rather forced, Malcolm to take the baton. This was the first time he conducted. Another side of his life is not so well known. He later became President of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. He had a love of animals and a strange power over them. He could even stroke a lion in its cage. Mrs Tinkler had a great affection for her two outstanding pupils. She in fact had three pupils she regarded as having more than usual promise but the third followed a career other than in music.

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School runs today. The Governing Body, under the scheme, consisted of: the Mayor of Stamford; the Lord of the Manor of Stamford; one governor appointed by the Council of St John's College, Cambridge; two governors appointed by the Parts of Kesteven County Council; two governors, of whom one at least shall be a woman, appointed by the Rutland County Council; six governors appointed by the Stamford Town Council; three governors appointed by the Governors of Browne's Hospital in Stamford; and four co-optative governors.

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Direct Grant position. The School was independent until July 1903, when it accepted a grant from the Kesteven Education Committee. It later became Direct Grant (date not known) until 31 March 1920. From then until 31 December 1945 it was Aided. In January 1946 it again became independent, but continued to work in friendly association with the County.

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a new headmaster. I came to Stamford from Shrewsbury. I had been teaching there (except for the war years) since 1937 and, before that, at Berkhamsted. From 1928 to 1931 I was at Peterhouse, Cambridge, where I read Classics.

Senior School. Country House was divided into two senior houses, Ancaster and Exeter, from the north and south of the Welland; School House into Byard and Browne (there was no physical change in where they lived but they were divided for games); and the old Town House was renamed Radcliffe. In the Junior School there were Northfields, Southfields and St Peter's—the last still for boys 8–10. To these houses

were added St Paul's from the junior part of Town House; and Willoughby and Cecil to the north and south of the Welland from the junior part of the old Country House. Generally speaking, the Senior School (five houses) comprised all boys over thirteen on 1 September in any year; and the Junior School (six houses) those under thirteen. In time the senior dayboy houses became too large and in the autumn of 1969 a new house, Brazenose, was formed, of boys living in Stamford, to be parallel with Radcliffe.

Mr M. C. Wainwright. He was also District Commissioner for Scouts. On his retirement in 1956 he was succeeded both in school Scouting and as housemaster, by Mr D. A. Hughes.

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better served. The school Chairman was (and is) the Chairman of Stamford Endowed Schools, being also the Chairman of Stamford High School. There is one Finance Committee for both schools of which for a long time Air Marshal Sir John Baldwin was chairman. Each school has its own 'school' committee and a particularly important part is played by its chairman. For Stamford School Mr E. S. S. Bowman (O.S.) was chairman 1948–66; the Rev. Canon E. F. Wright 1966–75; Mr J. D. Dolby (O.S.) 1975–80; and Mr T. G. Clancy from 1980. Mr R. C. Lowe (O.S.), of Stapleton and Son, has long served the Endowed Schools as Clerk to the Governors.

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cover a wide field. There seems to be no exceptional pattern of career followed by old boys from Stamford. The news of them reported in the *Stamfordian* shows a wide spread of useful service in industry, business and the professions. Besides others mentioned elsewhere in this history those who have been noticed recently by a wider public include Philip Goodrich, Bishop of Worcester; Major-General R. E. J. Gerrard-Wright; Major-General A. C. Iyappa; Dr W. R. Hare, Director of Reckitt and Colman; G. F. Whitby on the Board of I.C.I.; A. J. Turner, head of the Financial Policy Department C.B.I.; J. A. Terraine, author of the definitive life of Douglas Haig and of BBC series about the first world war; Dr Graham Webster, co-author (among other things) of the definitive history of the Rebellion of Queen Boudicca; Dr D. G. Broadley, herpetologist; Dr J. Dominian, psychiatrist, author and broadcaster; the late Sir Norman Jude, formerly Minister of State, South Australia; the late J. F. Horrabin, Member of Parliament and author; and fellows of colleges and university lecturers; also F. H. Gilman, farmer and owner, breeder and trainer of Grittar, winner of the 1982 Grand National.

but uninhibited. For some years these talks took place every week and were known as the Friday Lectures. Titles of talks varied. Notable speakers were Sir Charles Darwin (grandson) on Population; Sir Michael Tippett on Music and Painting; Professor O. R. Frisch on Nuclear Energy; Anthony Thwaite on Modern Poetry; Professor Charles Manning on Apartheid; P. Berenson on Amnesty International; Major-General R. H. G. Wheeler on Defence; and practising politicians on politics. An inspirer of these lectures was Mr D. Maland, appointed to the staff in 1957 and later to become High Master of Manchester Grammar School.

the borough's quincentenary. By this time the Director of Music, Mr G. G. Johnstone who had been appointed in 1959, had Mr L. G. Forsdyke as a full-time assistant. Mrs K. Needham, who had played a large part in building up the orchestra, taught the violin 1951–66; and Mrs A. C. Kelham has been teaching the 'cello since 1953.

organ installed in the chapel. This organ was acquired through the enterprise of Mr Johnstone and Mr Forsdyke. It had been built in 1866 by the firm of Gray and Davidson for a private house, which in 1961 was about to be demolished, in Oban. It was bought by the Governors for £1,700. Additions to it and panelling were completed in 1971.

Sir Malcolm Sargent carol programmes. At this service Sir Malcolm's younger grandson was singing in the choir and his elder grandson introduced the carols 'with an elegant aplomb', as *The Times* said on 27 December, 'which would have delighted his grandfather'. The same evening, at the annual carol service in King's College, Cambridge, J. S. Wells (O.S.) was playing the organ.

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plays. . .for the years 1947–1977

1947 *The Devil's Disciple*
1948 *Julius Caesar*
1949 *The Rivals*
1950 *The Proposal* and *Androcles and the Lion*
In the above five plays E. N. McCarthy took the parts of Judith, Cassius, Sir Lucius O'Trigger, Lemov and Ferrovius. Many will have seen him since in *Who Pays the Ferryman?* and other BBC plays and serials)
1951 *The Makers of Violence* (Robert Gittings: first performed that year at the Canterbury Festival)
1952 *Tobias and the Angel*

1953 *Coriolanus*
1954 *The Government Inspector*
1955 *Henry IV Part 1*

(In *The Government Inspector* the set was designed by R. O. M. Bayldon, who also designed and painted the scenery for *Henry IV*. His design for *Trial by Jury* earlier that year had been too expensive to implement. He has subsequently had the finances of the BBC behind him for his designs.)

1956 *The Dumb Wife of Cheapside*
1957 *The Frogs* (Dudley Fitts translation)
1958 *The Comedy of Errors*
1959 *Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme* (Miles Malleson translation)
1960 *Macbeth*
1961 *Captain Brassbound's Conversion*
1962 *The Merchant of Venice*
1963 *Noah* (André Obey)
1964 *Julius Caesar* (in semi-modern dress. The High School took part in this play, as they had done on occasions before and, with increasing frequency, were to again)
1965 *A Resounding Tinkle* (N. F. Simpson)
1966 *L'Ecole des Femmes* (Miles Malleson adaptation)
1967 *Hamlet*
1968 *Macbeth*
1969 *Sergeant Musgrave's Dance*
1970 *The Crucible*
1971 *The Tempest*
1972 *A Christmas Carol*
1973 *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*
1974 *Richard II*
1975 *Coriolanus*
1976 *The Dumb Waiter*
1977 *Henry IV Part 1*

The first three of the above plays were produced by Mr G. S. Parker and there were some five or six other masters who produced plays; but from 1950 to 1969 most were produced by Mr H. B. Sharp.

the Royal Air Force. There were many sons in the school of R.A.F. or Army parents and a small but fairly constant number went, on leaving, to R.A.F. Cranwell or R.A.F. Henlow or to Sandhurst. R.A.F. Wittering is at present commanded by an Old Stamfordian, Group Captain P. King. The school C.C.F. was under command during this period first of Lieut.-Col. W. Pollard; then of Wing-Commander J. R. Shelford; then of Lieut.-Col. K. A. Riley and today

of Wing-Commander G. D. Sinker. The C.C.F. inspection in 1981 was taken by an old Stamfordian, Col. W. R. Pike, Col. (G.S.) Eastern District.

old hut. Memories remain of G. A. Hoffnung who was Art Master for a short period round about 1945 and who was later to become internationally known as a fun-loving and sincere musician. At Stamford he inspired misrule, intellectual curiosity and affection.

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decisions taken by central government. Such decisions were not confined to education. In 1961 the town and school narrowly escaped what could have been a very serious constraint. Traffic along the Great North Road through Stamford had almost ground to a halt and the government (abandoning earlier plans) intended to build a dual carriageway right through the town passing over the site of the Post Office. The school petitioned against this on the grounds that it would cut the town in half and seriously disrupt the town's chief industry, which was education. There are those who believe that it was this plea that inclined the ministry to its final decision to build the present bypass.

Another decision to benefit both town and school was the passing of the Civic Amenities Act of 1967 under which Stamford became the first town in the country to be declared a conservation area.

headmaster in 1968. Mr Staveley came back to Stamford from Lawrence Sheriff School where he had been headmaster since 1958. He had previously been on the staff of Rugby School. During the war years he had served in the Ministries of Labour and of Reconstruction. Earlier he had been an assistant master at Trinity College, Glenalmond and at Cargilfield. At Trinity College, Oxford, he read Classical Honour Moderations and Modern Greats. He was a boy at Stamford 1924–35.

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friends of the school. There had been other appeals before but by the Old Stamfordians rather than by the school, notably for the restoration of the chapel in 1930 and for the memorial swimming pool. (The target for the latter was reached on 21 July 1956 at a school fête that brought in nearly £2,000—a large sum in those days.) There is also the school's Re-Endowment Fund (Secretary, Mr B. S. Frere), started in 1961, of which the capital is not spent but lent to the school for specific projects. These have included the hard tennis courts, the bridge, the conversion of 16/17 St Paul's Street, the chapel organ, the

minibus, the squash courts and the financing of the present edition of this history.

the thirteenth century. For the previous fifty years and more this house had been the home of Mr and Mrs W. Pick. Mr Pick had been a well-known figure about the school. He could mend anything and was a specialist on keys and locks. With his brother at the end of the last century he had set up the Pick Motor Company in Stamford and until the 1914 war you could buy the New Pick Car of 14/16 h.p., high-tension magneto, four cylinder, 28 m.p.g. and average speed 30 m.p.h., for 170 guineas. At least two of these cars are believed still to exist and one was seen some years ago on the roads around Stamford.

the Blue Book. This was first published for the autumn term 1947. Besides the academic staff it has always listed the governors, the bursar (Mr C. E. Duncombe, 1947–60; Commander L. Lumley, R.N., Rtd., 1960–75; Wing-Commander J. H. Dyer, R.A.F., Rtd., 1975–) and the headmaster's secretary. The headmaster's secretary since 1947 has been Miss G. M. Wyman. There is little about the school she does not know and she could well have written this history. The Blue Book today mentions other members of the ancillary staff, in particular Mrs D. H. Vine, assistant bursar and Mr E. V. Shinn, caretaker. It is a pity that the Blue Book in the past did not include the school matron, the groundsman (Mr A. P. Williams, 1947–73), Miss F. M. Fawkes seamstress and maker of costumes for school plays), Mrs Chappell (head cook from before 1946 to 1973) and others on whom so much of school life depended.

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Thomas Webster. There were schoolmasters in Stamford before the founding of Stamford School. The Rev. J S. Reynolds, Rector of Easton, quotes from *Northants and Rutland Clergy* by H. J. Longden 'Sir Thomas Webster, scolemaster of Stamford'. In 1529 Webster became Vicar of St Martin's and was alive in 1533 when he was bequeathed by another cleric his 'whytest geldyng amblyng'.

p. 111

1701 *Thomas Seaton*, Clare. Thomas Seaton was the founder of the Seatonian Prize at Cambridge for an English poem on a sacred subject by a Master of Arts. It is still awarded annually.

INDEX

For the names of those killed in the wars, for the names of old boys who are known to have gone up to Cambridge University, and for heads of the School, see the relevant appendices.