

Descendants of

# Philip Skipworth of Laceby

1783-1841

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### *Introduction*

This quite small group of Skipworths seems to have been plagued by early deaths, including infant deaths, which has contributed to the surname having almost, but not quite, died out by the beginning of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Philip lived through the first half of the nineteenth century when an interest in status and pedigree was blossoming among the rising middle classes. He did not have an entry in Burke's *Landed Gentry*, like his first cousins at South Kelsey Hall and Moortown, but he would have been regarded as a person of some local importance never-the-less. Like his cousins at both South Kelsey and Cabourne he would almost certainly have used the ancient Skipwith coat of arms, featuring a greyhound, on his stationery and perhaps his silver. The fact that the Skipworths had no entitlement whatever to these arms was no deterrent, they were simply following a common practice of the gentry of those times, to use the arms of a family of similar name.

Philip of Laceby enjoyed the status of a gentleman farmer and interested himself in politics. He either anticipated the decline in Lincolnshire farming or simply wished his sons to have a broader education, as each of the three younger sons took their degrees at Cambridge. Education continued to be a priority in the following generation with a governess being employed for younger children, who then went off to small boarding schools in their early teens.

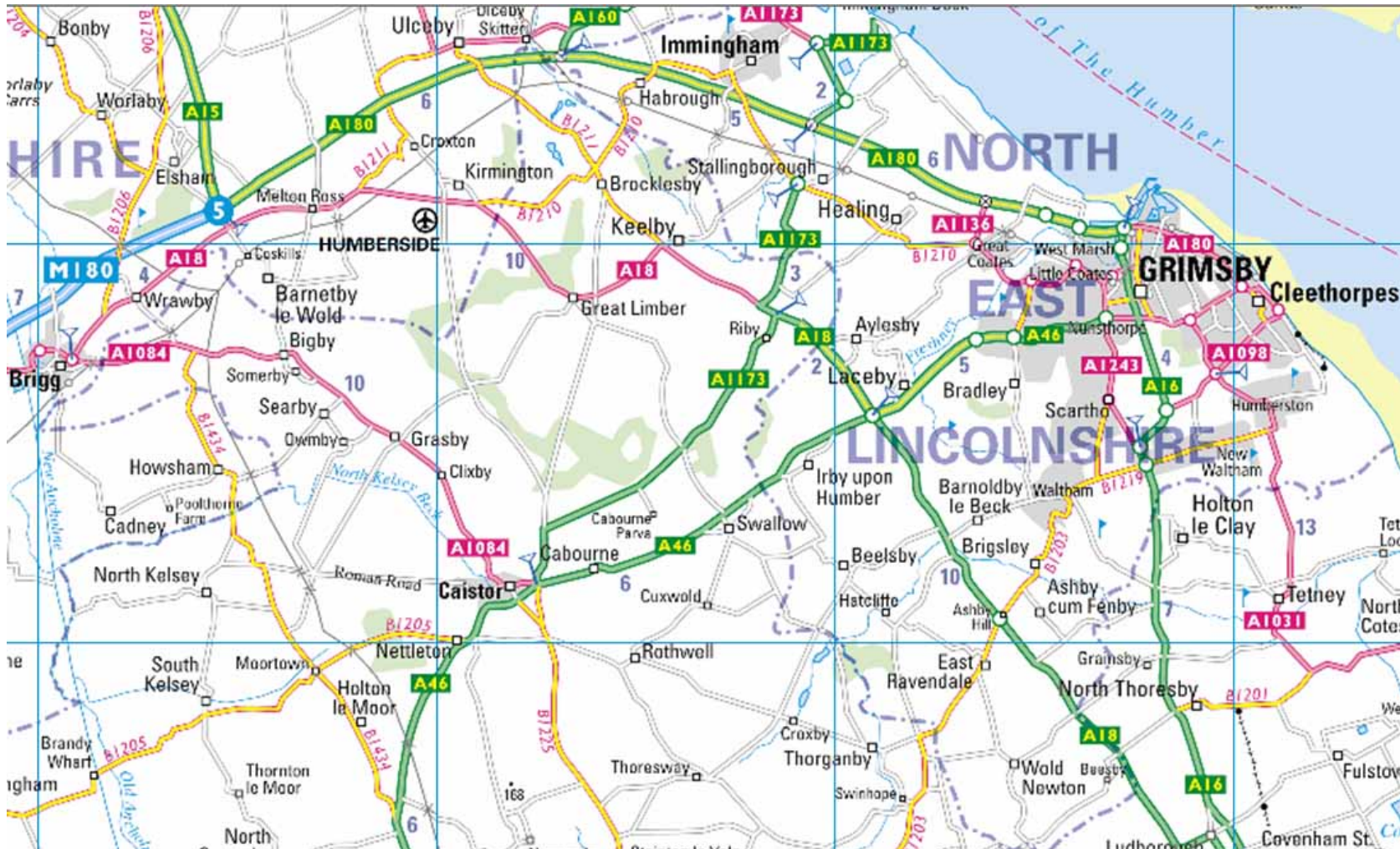
Arthur and Grey entered the Church of England priesthood, but retained farming interests as well. Septimus, who would hardly have known his father, farmed in the local area, supplementing his income with local government appointments. Henry, the only son of Philip's first marriage, never married and was a farmer of some substance, as well as being a leader in his local community.

Two individuals of outstanding ability should be noticed. Arthur Bolland Skipworth, #9, was a world ranking chess player. I acknowledge the generous collaboration of chess historian Timothy David Harding who is preparing a chapter on A.B. Skipworth for his forthcoming book.

Margaret Grey Skipworth, #23, was among the small group of women to take a university degree prior to World War I. She was eventually Vice-principal and Emeritus Fellow of Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford. For her times, Rosamund Mary Skipworth, #31, was also at the forefront of education for women, taking a formal midwifery qualification before World War I, and going on to become a hospital matron.

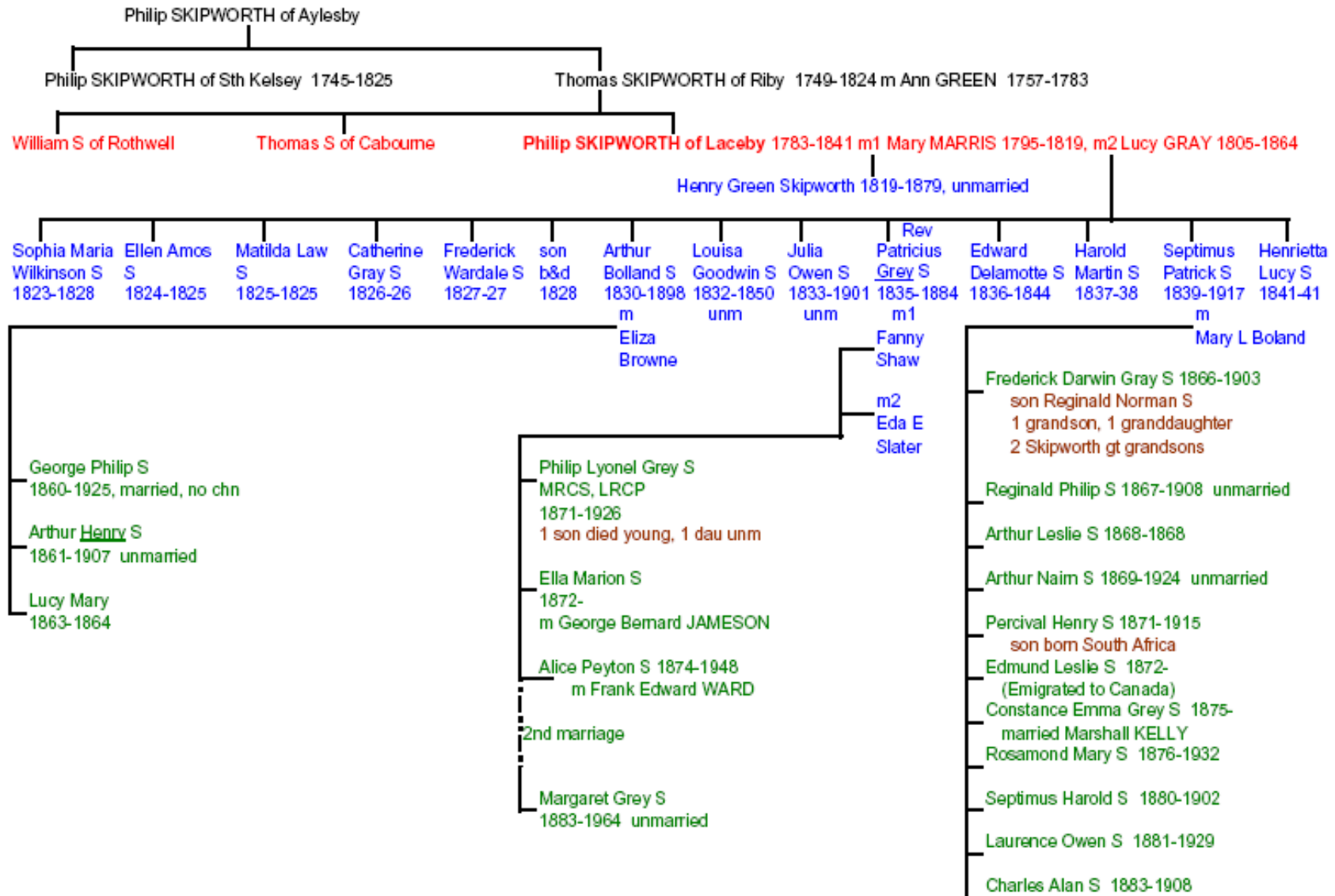
A brief account of Philip's father's life can be found in my document *Skipworths from Rothwell*<sup>57</sup> which deals with the family of Philip's eldest brother, William. His earlier ancestry has been discussed in the first chapter in this series *In the beginning*.<sup>58</sup>

## Map Caistor Area



Each map square 10 x 10 km    Places mentioned in text: Laceby, Aylesby, Ribby, Rothwell, Cabourne, South Kelsey, Moortown, Croxby, Ormby, Waltham, Bonby  
Tetford is off the map about 25km to the south.

## Philip Skipworth of Laceby



### *First Generation*

**1. Philip SKIPWORTH of Laceby**, third son of **Thomas SKIPWORTH** esquire of Riby and of Wingle Priory in South Kelsey and his wife **Ann GREEN**, was baptised on 16 Feb 1783 in Riby, Lincolnshire, UK,<sup>1</sup> died in Caistor,<sup>2</sup> and was buried on 26 Jun 1841 in Aylesby, Lincolnshire.<sup>3</sup>

Gentleman farmer of Laceby Manor farm, Lord of the Manor of Laceby, owned an estate there that was sold after his decease in 1841.<sup>54</sup>

1783: His mother Ann died when he was only a few months old, but his father did not remarry. This was a family which could afford to employ nurses and governesses for their children.

1819: marriage to Mary MARRIS and birth of their son 3 months later. Did they marry and live in Hull to conceal this out of wedlock conception? Mary appears to have died in childbirth.

1822: marriage to Lucy GRAY.

1824-26: children's baptisms at Sth Kelsey suggest that Philip resided there for a few years, following the death of his father in 1824.

1836: churchwarden at Laceby; Laceby Guardian [of the poor] for Caistor Union

1836: Philip replaced his nephew George on Grimsby Pier committee. His cousin, another Philip Skipworth then resident at Aylesby, was also on this committee. It was tasked with forming a public company to raise funds for the erection of a pier at Grimsby.

1836: of Laceby Manor House, acting as local agent to show property for sale at Tetney

1837: Report of Conservative MP's dinner: "afterwards Mr P Skipworth entered the room to cries of "Turn him out" as they disliked having a Radical enter a Tory assembly."

1837: present at a meeting of North Lincolnshire Agricultural Society

1841: census - age 56, farmer Laceby Manor House, with wife, 6 children and 3 servants

1841: age 58 in burial record, Probate £5000

1841: Obituary: *Awfully Sudden Death* On Saturday 26th ult [26 June 1841] Lord Worsley and party arrived at Caistor. His Lordship immediately addressed the freeholders and electors in the marketplace and was followed by Mr Philip Skipworth of Laceby, who while in the act of speaking, suddenly complained of dizziness in the head, and in five minutes was a corpse. This awfully sudden event put a stop to electioneering business, and the crowd dispersed immediately. His Lordship left for Kelsey about 4 o'clock and was greatly affected by the death of his friend Mr Skipworth.<sup>53</sup>

1842: Probate of will, Philip Skipworth of Laceby, gent., bequeathing £2,000 to younger children Arthur Bolland, Louisa Goodwin, Julia Owen and Patricius Grey (his eldest son having been similarly provided for under will of Philip's father); devises Laceby and Tetney property to brother Thomas S. of Cabourn, gent., cousin William S. of S. Kelsey, and friend William Marris, of Great Limber, in trust to continue Yarborough tenancies at Rothwell and N. Coates for benefit of children until they reach age of 21; real estate to be sold to pay legacies; widow to live with children on one of the farms, or, if trustees decide to dispose of tenancies, she was to have an allowance in addition to the terms of her marriage settlement; all children, including eldest son (Henry Green S.) residuary legatees. [Septimus is not mentioned, having been born after the will was written.]

2011: Laceby Manor House Golf Club is located on the site of the old farm.

Philip married **Mary MARRIS**, daughter of **Thomas MARRIS** of Limber, on 3 Feb 1819 in Sculcoates, Yorkshire, UK.<sup>54</sup> Mary was born in 1795, died in Apr 1819 at age 24, and was buried on 13 Apr 1819 in Aylesby.<sup>3</sup>

1819: age 24 of Hull, wife of Philip, in burial record

Philip and Mary had a son:

2            i. **Henry Green SKIPWORTH** 1819 - 1879

*Refer to page 7*

Philip next married **Lucy GRAY**, daughter of **Rev George GRAY**, Rector of Martin and Vicar of Aylesby, on 29 May 1822 in Laceby, Lincolnshire.<sup>5</sup> Lucy was born about 1805 at Waltham, Lincolnshire, died aged 59 at Rothwell on 15 Feb 1864,<sup>55</sup> and was buried at Aylesby.<sup>3</sup>

1851: The Laceby estate had been sold after Philip's death,<sup>54</sup> and Lucy was farming 650 acres, employing 18 labourers, and living at High St Caistor with Arthur and Septimus and 2 house servants. High Street, Caistor passes Rothwell and would have been the address for Rothwell House, refer Henry's will. Henry lived separately, with his retired uncle Thomas Marris.

1856: Kelly's Directory – Lucy a farmer of Rothwell



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## Philip Skipworth of Laceby

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1861: age 56, farmer 500 acres, 12 labourers, 6 boys, cook, 2 housemaids. The household included Francis Gray, boarder, unmarried age 68, annuitant (her brother or cousin?), also visitors Helen Shaw age 20, Fanny Shaw age 12, both born Attercliffe. This may be the Fanny Shaw who married Lucy's son Grey at Attercliffe in 1869, though the census ages don't quite match. In the same household was Henry Green Skipworth, stepson and lodger, age 41 unmarried, farmer 750 acres 12 men 6 boys, and male house-servant aged 15.

1864: Will proved at Lincoln by son Septimus, personal estate under £100  
Lucy gave birth to 14 children in 19 years of marriage, of whom only 4 survived her.

Philip and Lucy's children were:

- |    |  |             |                         |
|----|--|-------------|-------------------------|
| 3  | i. <b>Sophia Maria Wilkinson SKIPWORTH</b> | 1823 - 1828 | <i>Refer to page 8</i>  |
| 4  | ii. <b>Ellen Amos SKIPWORTH</b>            | 1824 - 1825 | <i>Refer to page 8</i>  |
| 5  | iii. <b>Matilda Law SKIPWORTH</b>          | 1825 - 1825 | <i>Refer to page 8</i>  |
| 6  | iv. <b>Catherine Gray SKIPWORTH</b>        | 1826 - 1826 | <i>Refer to page 8</i>  |
| 7  | v. <b>Frederick Wardale SKIPWORTH</b>      | - 1827      | <i>Refer to page 8</i>  |
| 8  | vi. <b>Infant Son SKIPWORTH</b>            | - 1828      | <i>Refer to page 8</i>  |
| 9  | vii. <b>Arthur Bolland SKIPWORTH</b>       | 1830 - 1898 | <i>Refer to page 8</i>  |
| 10 | viii. <b>Louisa Goodwin SKIPWORTH</b>      | 1832 - 1850 | <i>Refer to page 10</i> |
| 11 | ix. <b>Julia Owen SKIPWORTH</b>            | 1833 - 1901 | <i>Refer to page 10</i> |
| 12 | x. <b>Patricius Grey SKIPWORTH</b>         | 1835 - 1884 | <i>Refer to page 11</i> |
| 13 | xi. <b>Edwin Delamotte SKIPWORTH</b>       | 1836 - 1844 | <i>Refer to page 11</i> |
| 14 | xii. <b>Harold Martin SKIPWORTH</b>        | 1837 - 1838 | <i>Refer to page 11</i> |
| 15 | xiii. <b>Septimus Patrick SKIPWORTH</b>    | 1839 - 1917 | <i>Refer to page 12</i> |
| 16 | xiv. <b>Henrietta Lucy SKIPWORTH</b>       | 1841 - 1841 | <i>Refer to page 12</i> |



Philip Skipworth died 26th Jun 1841 aged 58, also Lucy died 15th Feb 1864 aged 59  
also 4 infants - Gravestone at St Laurence, Aylesby

*Image courtesy Brian Chester © Great Grimsby Family History group<sup>83</sup>*

## Second Generation (Children)

2. **Henry Green SKIPWORTH, J.P.** (*Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was baptised on 12 Apr 1819 in Sculcoates, Hull, died in Nov 1879<sup>4</sup> at age 60, and was buried on 1 Dec 1879 in Rothwell.<sup>3</sup>

1819: his mother Mary [Marris] died giving birth to her only child. 1822: age 3, father remarried  
1824: age 5, received £2000 in grandfather's will, presumed to be his mother's dowry money, since the other grandchildren, Henry's cousins, were not beneficiaries.

1841: age 22, his father died, no further inheritance. The Lordship of Laceby Manor passed to new owners with the sale of this property, refer White's Directory 1856 - William Coates Lord of the Manor Laceby.

1851: age 32, farmer at Rothwell, 736 acres employing 20 men, with his uncle Thomas Marris retired farmer, housekeeper, 2 other servants.

1854: Chess report refers to brothers HG Skipworth and AB Skipworth of Rothwell House<sup>64</sup>

1854: Commendation - Royal Agricultural Society for 2yo Lincolnshire Draught filly bred by self

1856: Kelly's Directory - farmer, Rothwell

1861: age 41, single, stepson and lodger with Lucy at Rothwell, farmer 750 acres 12 men 6 boys, male house-servant aged 15. Lucy was farming 500 acres, possibly the two were run together.

1864: age 44, stepmother Lucy died

1871: age 51, living alone, of Rothwell House, farmer 560 acres employing 15 men and boys

1875: legatee of his maternal aunt Mrs Eliza Skipworth nee Marris. She had no children.

1879: age 60 in burial record. Brass tablet in Rothwell church.

J.P. Some time Chairman, Caistor Board of Guardians. Never married

Obituary *Hull Packet* 12 Dec 1879 [another appeared in *Lincoln Mercury* 5 Dec 1879]:

### ROTHWELL.

**THE LATE MR. SKIPWORTH.**—This neighbourhood has sustained a great loss by the death of Mr. Henry Green Skipworth. His was eminently a life of disinterested usefulness, attended by the unpretended display of so many virtues, both in public and private life, as to win the admiration and hearty esteem of all who knew him. He was the only child of the late Philip Skipworth, Esq., of Laceby Manor, by his first wife, a sister of the late George Marris, Esq., coroner, of Caistor, and died a bachelor. His father died in 1837, suddenly, whilst delivering a speech in support of Lord Worsley's Parliamentary candidature on the hustings in Caistor Market-place. The deceased gentleman was interred in a plain grave in Rothwell churchyard on the 1st; the burial service was read by the Rev. A. Bower, head master of the Caistor Grammar School, and there was a very large assemblage of relatives, intimate friends, neighbours, and old acquaintances at the funeral obsequies. A writer in the *Eastern Counties Express* pays the following just tribute to his memory:—"The Caistor Board of Guardians have suffered an irreparable loss in the death of Mr. Henry Green Skipworth, of Rothwell House, the chairman of the Board. Mr. Skipworth, who died on Wednesday, in his 60th year, had filled the office of vice-chairman and chairman for about 20 years. During the whole of that time he was never known to be late once—and I think has only been absent twice, once when compelled to be at Lincoln Assizes, and the other occasion under circumstances over which he had no control—until Saturday, the 8th, when he was prevented by the illness which proved fatal. No member of the Board had such a knowledge of Poor-Law business; in fact, few men in the county had a better knowledge of all matters connected with the administration of the poor-law than had the late chairman. He was, moreover, a thorough business man, and in most respects well qualified for guiding an administrative body and directing a debate."

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## Philip Skipworth of Laceby

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Summary of Henry Green Skipworth's will signed 28 Oct 1879 (probate £5,000):  
Executors: Septimus Patrick Skipworth and Rev Harry Granville Southwell  
funeral expenses to be as economical as consistent with decency,  
modest tablet to my memory to be placed inside the church.  
to my half sister Julia Owen Skipworth one seventh of my property;  
to my cousin Mary Eliza Southwell one twelveth of my property;  
to my half brother Reverend Arthur Bolland Skipworth one twelveth of my property  
to my half brother the Reverend Patricius Grey Skipworth one twelveth of my property;  
to my Aunt Pleasance Dermott nineteen guineas as a small token of my gratitude and love;  
all the rest of my property to my half brother Septimus Patrick Skipworth and I hope he may be  
enabled and allowed to succeed me in the farm at Rothwell which my grandfather cultivated  
nearly a hundred years ago, the reason I leave my brother Septimus so much more than others is  
because his needs are greatest and not because I love my sister and other brothers less.

Notes on will: Henry's mother was probably Mary, daughter of Thomas and Mary Marris, bapt 1794 at Bonby. Among her siblings was Pleasance bapt 1806 at Limber Magna. Philip may have been taken in by his Marris grandparents and raised with his Aunt Pleasance, only 13 years his senior. Three years later, when his father remarried, Henry probably returned to his father's household but apparently remained close to Pleasance, judging by his will. [She married Christopher Dermott in 1839.] Harry Glanville Southwell married Mary Eliza Richardson in 1859. Mary Eliza's mother was probably another Marris sister.  
Rothwell House farm had been home to Henry's grandfather Thomas from about 1810 until his death when it passed to his elder son William's family. They continued there until Philip Green Skipworth left for Grimsby about 1842 and it passed to Philip's cousin Henry and his stepmother Lucy. Henry passed it to his half brother Septimus who gave it up in 1881.

**3. Sophia Maria Wilkinson SKIPWORTH** (*Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was baptised on 9 Jul 1823 in Tetney, Lincolnshire.<sup>6</sup> She died on 4 Feb 1828<sup>54</sup> and was buried in Aylesby, aged 5.<sup>3</sup> MI

**4. Ellen Amos SKIPWORTH** (*Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was baptised on 18 May 1824 in South Kelsey.<sup>54</sup> She died on 8 Jan 1825, and was buried on 11 Jan in Aylesby,<sup>3</sup> aged 8 mths of Sth Kelsey. MI at Aylesby.

**5. Matilda Law SKIPWORTH** (*Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was baptised on 1 Oct 1825 in South Kelsey,<sup>54</sup> and was buried age 1 week, on 5 Oct 1825 in Aylesby.<sup>3</sup> MI at Aylesby

**6. Catherine Gray SKIPWORTH** (*Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was baptised on 6 Aug 1826 in South Kelsey,<sup>54</sup> died on 7 Aug 1826, and was buried age 3 days on 8 Aug in Aylesby.<sup>3</sup> MI at Aylesby.

**7. Frederick Wardale SKIPWORTH** (*Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) died on 14 Nov 1827 and was buried, an infant, in Aylesby.<sup>54</sup> Not found with other family in St Laurence Aylesby burial register, I do not know the basis for this record. The same comment applies also to the next entry, but both are needed to place Septimus as the seventh son.

**8. Infant Son SKIPWORTH** (*Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) died on 23 Oct 1828 in Laceby.<sup>54</sup>  
Elliott does not name the deceased infants. National Burial Index has no record of this infant.

**9. Rev Arthur Bolland SKIPWORTH** (*Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was baptised on 30 Jun 1830 in Laceby,<sup>72</sup> died on 27 Nov 1898<sup>7</sup> at age 68 of cancer of the pancreas, and was buried in Rothwell.<sup>3</sup>

Louth Grammar School (cricket team); BA Cambridge 1856 (St John's and St Catherine's colls)<sup>73</sup>  
1851: census listing - age 20 at home, farmer, student - ? preparing for university studies  
1857: ordained Deacon, 1858 Priest Lincoln; 1857-60: curate of Croxby, Lincs;  
1861: curate of Beelsby - Kelly's directory 1860-72 Vicar of Bildsdale Yorkshire;  
1872-75: Inspector of Schools, Lincoln Diocese; 1875-98: Rector of Tetford Lincolnshire  
1881: Rector of Tetford & farming 291 acres, employing 8 Men 1 Woman & 2 Boys. Residence Glebe House, Tetford, with elderly housekeeper and 3 indoor male servants (farm?)



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## Philip Skipworth of Laceby

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1890-94: Prof of Agriculture, Suffolk (source: Elliott chart - this is unconfirmed)

1891: of Holbeck Hall nr Horncastle, aged 60, with 17 year old male boarder, a farm bailiff aged 52, the bailiff's wife as housekeeper, bailiff's daughter a lodger, female servant

1898: (July) exhibited prize Tamworth boar at Leicester Agricultural show<sup>63</sup>



He was one of the leading chess players of his time, and had letters to the Editor of *The Times* published on that subject on 9 Sep 1885 and 24 Dec 1885. He has been ranked at no 6583 in the world among the chess players of all times.<sup>59</sup>

"The fate of the Counties' Chess Association is inseparably connected with the name of the Rev. Arthur Bolland Skipworth (1830–1898). In the early years he undertook every effort to promote the association in his magazine, the Chess Players' Chronicle, and later also in numerous letters to chess editors all over the country. He was an untiring organiser and secretary of the Association, as well as an avid competitor himself. Unfortunately, he had a habit of falling ill early in a tournament, especially when things were not going his way, and this cost him much sympathy."<sup>61</sup> Skipworth, Arthur Bolland appears as a character on page 299 of *"The Moriarty Gambit"* (Fritz Leiber) by Arthur Conan Doyle.<sup>60</sup>

He has been described as an abrasive, dictatorial, autocratic, man whose word was law by Dr Richard Harper-Smith in *"Paupers, Priests and People of Tetford"* 2002. Refer to appendix 2. Obituary: *The Field* 3 Dec 1898 [another obituary appeared in *Lincoln Mercury* 2 Dec 1898.]

### DEATH OF THE REV. A. B. SKIPWORTH.

WE regret to announce the death, at the age of sixty-eight years, of the Rev. A. B. Skipworth, which occurred at his residence, Holbeck Hall, near Horncastle, on Sunday morning. The rev. gentleman had been in failing health for a year or so, but had not been confined to his bed for more than a few days when death resulted from cancer of the pancreas. The late Mr Skipworth had been Rector of Tetford since 1875, and he was a member of the village School Board and chairman of the trustees of Richardson's Charity. Before his appointment to the living of Tetford he was religious inspector of schools under the Diocesan Board of Education.

Mr Skipworth was one of our best amateurs, and the life and soul of chess in the provinces. He was secretary of the Counties Chess Association for nearly thirty years; but of late, through the establishment of separate County Associations, his sphere of activity has been circumscribed, and the Counties Chess Association existed only in name. He made a last effort to revive it by holding a meeting at the Craigside Hydro, Llandudno, a couple of years ago, but it had only an ephemeral existence, especially after the death of the Rev. W. Wayte, an intimate friend of, and fellow-worker with, the Rev. A. B. Skipworth. The late gentleman was a competitor in various tournaments, notably London 1883, and in the B.C.A. Tournament at Bradford.

Summary of will Arthur Bolland Skipworth of Holbeck Hall, signed 3 Dec 1894 Probate £1054 To "my kindest friend Louise Agnes Rogers, formerly of St Albans but now living along with her husband John Rogers with me at Holbeck Hall .... the furniture, the silver, my gold watch, the handsome old time-piece and everything else belonging to me in my house .... and all my other personal property to be hers for all time ..... Executors Louise Rogers and Alfred Bentley Refer to Appendix 1, for discussion of this will

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## Philip Skipworth of Laceby

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Arthur married **Eliza Mary BROWNE**, daughter of George BROWN Esq of Nunmunkton Hall, Yorkshire on 27 Jul 1859 in Fulford, Yorkshire.<sup>8</sup> Eliza was born about 1827 in York, Yorkshire, and died in 1909 at Bead Cottage in Sandgate, Kent, UK <sup>17</sup> aged 82.

1861: age 34 visiting George Dixon age 67, vicar at Helmsley YKS  
1871: wife, at home Bilsdale.  
1881: sister-in-law of John W Metcalfe, Grouville, Jersey, Channel Is, wife of clergyman.  
1891, 1901: not found  
1909: probate of Eliza Mary S of Kent, widow, to George Philip S. gent (her son) £510  
Being absent from her husband in four of five census, one wonders if they were estranged.

Their children were:

- |    |   |                         |
|----|---|-------------------------|
| 17 | i. <b>George Philip SKIPWORTH</b> 1860 - 1925 | <i>Refer to page 13</i> |
| 18 | ii. <b>Arthur Henry SKIPWORTH</b> 1861 - 1907 | <i>Refer to page 13</i> |
| 19 | iii. <b>Lucy Mary SKIPWORTH</b> 1863 - 1864   | <i>Refer to page 13</i> |

**10. Louisa Goodwin SKIPWORTH** (*Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was baptised on 16 Jul 1832 in Laceby,<sup>54</sup> died on 22 Feb 1850<sup>9, 54</sup> at age 17, and was buried on in Aylesby.<sup>3</sup> MI at Aylesby.

**11. Julia Owen SKIPWORTH** (*Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was baptised on 12 Dec 1833,<sup>54</sup> died on 13 Sep 1901<sup>10, 54</sup> at age 67, and was buried in Aylesby.

1841: age 7 at home  
1851: age 17, pupil, in Kensington Middlesex  
1861: age 27, farmer's daughter, at home Rothwell  
1871: age 38, living with unmarried uncle Francis Gray, one servant. Both had "no occupation".  
1881: age 47, Lady Supt, unmarried, born at Laceby, at "The Priory" Putney, Surrey  
This appears to have been a private hospital, possibly for mental patients as they are referred to as inmates and identified only by initials. Household included:  
A doctor (FRCP, head of household) and his wife  
A Lady's Companion, a Butler, 2 under-Butlers and 2 footmen  
A Housekeeper, 2 Cooks and 2 kitchenmaids, 9 assorted housemaids, a Lady's maid  
3 coachmen and a cowman, a gardener and another male domestic servant  
A Head Laundress, 4 other laundresses and a laundryman  
A Medical Superintendent, a surgeon, MRCS, A Lady Superintendent, (Julia Skipworth)  
A Head nurse & 7 other nurses (females), a Head Hospital attendant & 9 other attendants (males)  
48 inmates - ages ranging from 20s to 90 - many birthplaces not stated, for some an occupation is given and these indicate professional or other middle-class status.  
1891: age 57, occupation Matron, at Finchley, Middlesex  
1901: age 67, boarder in Septimus' house at Owmbly, living on own means,  
1901: Probate £3304 granted to Septimus



Julia Owen Skipworth, daughter of Philip Skipworth (Laceby Manor) died 13th Sep 1901 aged 67  
St Laurence, Aylesby

*Image courtesy Brian Chester © Great Grimsby Family History group<sup>83</sup>*

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## Philip Skipworth of Laceby

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**12. Rev Patricius Grey SKIPWORTH** (*Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was baptised on 23 Aug 1835 in Laceby.<sup>54, 72</sup> He died on 27 Feb 1884<sup>11</sup> at age 48, and was buried in Bonby, Lincolnshire.<sup>3</sup>

His name Grey probably honours his mother's family, with the spelling changed from Gray. However, there was also a trend among these Skipworths around this time to use distinctive names, such as Estoteville, Grey and Peyton, from the Baronets Skipwith family to suggest a connection (for which there is no proof). Thus PGS gave his daughter the name Peyton.

1841: age 6 at home; 1851: at school in Tonbridge, Kent (about 20 boarders)  
1861: tutor in classics, Hampstead  
Emmanuel College Cambridge. B.A. 1858, M.A. 1865  
Ordained Deacon (Diocese Armagh) 1862, Priest 1863.  
1859-60 Assistant master Lincoln Grammar School; 1860-1865 Armagh Royal School<sup>73</sup>  
1865-1872 2<sup>nd</sup> Master and sub Warden Oakham Grammar School; Chaplain Rutland prison  
1865: Rev Mr Skipworth with Rev Mr Strangways competing at Armagh Archery Club<sup>75</sup>  
1865-1875, Chaplain Oakham Workhouse,  
1872-74 Curate of Cold Overton, Leices; 1874-75 Curate of Burrough on the Hill, Leices;  
1875-1878 Headmaster Rishworth Grammar School; 1878-1884 Vicar of Bonby.<sup>54</sup>  
1871: age 35, of Lordshold, Oakham, Household: wife, wife's sister Rose Shaw, nephews George P Skipworth 10 and Arther H Skipworth 9, male pupils aged 20, 18, 15 and 2 servants.  
1871-1874: 3 children born at Oakham; 1880: wife Fanny died  
1881: age 45, widower, vicar of Bonby, 3 children, a teacher, a housemaid, and a cook  
1882: remarriage to Eda SLATER; 1884: birth of daughter Margaret  
1884: age 48 in burial record, Probate £2038 proved by brothers Arthur and Septimus  
MI at Bonby: Fanny S wife of Vicar of this parish, died 19 Apr 1880 aged 31, also Grey S. vicar

Grey married **Fanny SHAW** on 21 Jan 1869 in Attercliffe, Yorkshire.<sup>12</sup> Fanny was born about 1849 in Attercliffe. She died aged 31 on 19 Apr 1880 in Bonby, and was buried there.<sup>3</sup>

1871: age 22, wife at Lordshold, Rutland no children,  
1880: Probate Personal estate under £3000

Grey and Fanny's children were:

- |    |  |                         |
|----|--|-------------------------|
| 20 | i. <b>Philip Lionel Grey SKIPWORTH</b> 1871 – 1926 | <i>Refer to page 13</i> |
| 21 | ii. <b>Ella Marion SKIPWORTH</b> 1872 -            | <i>Refer to page 14</i> |
| 22 | iii. <b>Alice Peyton SKIPWORTH</b> 1874 - 1948     | <i>Refer to page 14</i> |

Grey married **Eda Eleanor SLATER** in 1882.<sup>13</sup> Eda was born in 1860 in Paddington, London.<sup>28</sup>

Her husband died after less than two years of marriage.  
The Dixon pedigree had the order of marriages reversed and this marriage with no children. It is surprising that the compiler did not have information about her daughter, but her marriage was so short that she was perhaps not widely known. Her brother-in-law Septimus, was still alive at the time the pedigree was compiled, and should have been consulted.<sup>54</sup>  
Eda Eleanor Skipworth of Moseley 1888.<sup>56</sup> [this could be the report of her remarriage]  
She probably remarried in ¾ 1888 in Kings Norton Registration District to Charles Frederick Slater. An Eda E Slater born 1861 in London, wife, has been found in 1891 census. Her second husband may have been a relative.

Grey and Eda had a daughter:

- |    |   |                         |
|----|---|-------------------------|
| 23 | i. <b>Margaret Grey SKIPWORTH</b> 1883 - 1964 | <i>Refer to page 15</i> |
|----|---|-------------------------|

**13. Edwin Delamotte SKIPWORTH** (*Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was baptised on 17 Aug 1836 in Laceby, died on 4 Jan 1844,<sup>14</sup> and was buried aged 8 in Aylesby.<sup>3</sup> MI

The Dixon pedigree suggests that Lucy's maternal grandmother may have been a Delamotte.<sup>54</sup>  
Charles Delamotte died at Laceby on 14 Apr 1796 aged 82 years. He is buried near the south wall of the chancel of Aylesby church [source Grimsby Methodism]. This man or his family are the probable source of the child's name.

**14. Harold Martin SKIPWORTH** (*Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was baptised on 28 Oct 1837 in Laceby, died on 6 Jan 1838,<sup>15</sup> and was buried aged 9 months in Aylesby.<sup>3</sup> MI National Burial Index gives Howard Martin. ONS ref gives Harold Martin or Harold Max.

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## Philip Skipworth of Laceby

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**15. Septimus Patrick SKIPWORTH** (*Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 30 Apr 1839, was baptised on 5 May 1839 in Laceby,<sup>54</sup> and died on 19 Jun 1917 in Owmbly, Lincolnshire, at age 78.<sup>74</sup>

Seventh son, hence Septimus - in due course he would name his own 7th son Septimus  
Educated Tonbridge; Christ's College Cambridge Scholar 1857, BA 1861<sup>73</sup>  
1841, 1851: at home  
1856: Charged in court for fagging\* at Tonbridge school - refer Appendix 3  
1861: age 28? Gentleman's ??? ( or gentleman travelling?) at Lincoln (living alone)  
1868: farmer Rothwell - PO Directory  
1871: age 31, farmer at Rothwell (535 acres, 9 men, 5 boys) with 3 eldest children, mother-in-law Anne Boland 70 Annuitant, a cook, 2 housemaids and a nurse [index Shipwash]  
1881: Farmer at Rothwell, 750 Acres, 12 men, 5 boys, governess, servant, nursemaid, 7 children  
1891: age 50, Sanitary Inspector & Registrar, of Owmbly Mount, wife, 5 children and governess  
1896: Kelly's Directory - Sanitary inspector, Registrar of Births Deaths Marriages, Owmbly  
1901: age 61, Owmbly, wife, daughter Rosamond, sister Julia, Survey of District Council Registrar  
Also 2 other boarders: Janet Birley aged 54 and Henrietta Birley aged 52 both unmarried and living on own means, also lady's companion aged 26, groom aged 56, and 2 general servants.  
1911: age 71 at Caistor, with Mary Louisa 64, son Arthur Nairn 40, surveyor and sanitary inspector, rural council, board of guardians, registrar of births, with groom/gardener + 2 female servants, 12 roomed house Ormby Mount  
1917: death - refer Lincolnshire Star 27 Jan 1917, page 2f [not seen]  
1917: will proved by son Arthur Nairn and widow Mary Louise

Septimus married **Mary Louisa BOLAND**, youngest daughter of Rev Michael Boland MA, (Rector of Killenummary, JP Co Leitrum, Ireland) and his wife Anne, on 20 Jun 1865 in The Cathedral, Armagh.<sup>54, 76</sup> They were married by the Rev J M H Strangways, M.A., Senior Vicar (who was married to the bride's eldest sister), and the Rev Grey Skipworth, M.A., (the groom's brother). Mary was born about 1848 in Ireland and died in 1918 in Surrey aged 71.<sup>77</sup>

Her brother-in-law was named Arthur Bolland Skipworth, suggesting the possibility of Mary and Septimus being related, perhaps through the Grays  
1866: named Mary Catherine on Frederick's birth record  
1871: age 23, Mary Catherine Shipwash, born Ireland  
1881: age 33, born Ireland, with governess, nursemaid, female servant, 9 children [Mary L.]  
1891: age 43, with husband, 5 children and governess at Owmbly Mount [Mary L.]  
1901: age 55 at Owmbly 1919: Probate to solicitor, £493

Their children were:

- |    |   |                         |
|----|---|-------------------------|
| 24 | i. <b>Frederick Darwin Grey SKIPWORTH</b> 1866 - 1903 | <i>Refer to page 15</i> |
| 25 | ii. <b>Reginald Philip SKIPWORTH</b> 1867 - 1908      | <i>Refer to page 16</i> |
| 26 | iii. <b>Arthur Leslie SKIPWORTH</b> 1868 - 1868       | <i>Refer to page 16</i> |
| 27 | iv. <b>Arthur Nairn SKIPWORTH</b> 1869 - 1924         | <i>Refer to page 16</i> |
| 28 | v. <b>Percival Henry SKIPWORTH</b> 1871 - 1915        | <i>Refer to page 16</i> |
| 29 | vi. <b>Edmund Leslie SKIPWORTH</b> 1872 -             | <i>Refer to page 17</i> |
| 30 | vii. <b>Constance Emma Gray SKIPWORTH</b> 1875 -      | <i>Refer to page 17</i> |
| 31 | viii. <b>Rosamond Mary SKIPWORTH</b> 1876 - 1932      | <i>Refer to page 17</i> |
| 32 | ix. <b>Septimus Harold SKIPWORTH</b> 1880 - 1902      | <i>Refer to page 17</i> |
| 33 | x. <b>Laurence Owen SKIPWORTH</b> 1881 - 1929         | <i>Refer to page 17</i> |
| 34 | xi. <b>Charles Alan SKIPWORTH</b> 1883 - 1908         | <i>Refer to page 17</i> |

**16. Henrietta Lucy SKIPWORTH** (*Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was baptised and died on 7 Oct 1841 in Laceby,<sup>54,16</sup> and was buried in Aylesby. MI

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\* **Fagging** was a traditional educational practice in British boarding schools, whereby younger pupils were required to act as personal servants to the most senior boys. The custom taught pupils about service from both ends of the relationship, with none being exempt no matter what their family status. Under school rules, fagging might entail harsh discipline and corporal punishment. The court case focused on whether the assault complained of on this occasion was attributable to standard fagging practice, or whether day boys were being singled out as an inferior "class" - which would have been contrary to the spirit of the tradition.

### *Third Generation (Grandchildren)*

**17. George Philip SKIPWORTH** (*Arthur Bolland*<sup>9</sup>, *Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 5 Oct 1860 in Croxby, Lincolnshire,<sup>18</sup> and died aged 65 on 22 Sep 1925 in Berne, Switzerland.<sup>78</sup>

1861: age 7 months at home Croxby  
1871: age 10, living with his uncle Grey at Oakham, probably his tutor  
1881: age 20, loco engineer's apprentice at Doncaster  
1891: Not found, 1901: Not found  
1905: Resident in Paris - made numerous trans-Atlantic crossings about this time on business  
1907: executor for his mother  
1911: managing director of electrical machinery company, visitor in an institution (?hotel) in Strand, London in census.  
1918: Assistant Commercial Attache, His Britannic Majesty's legation, Switzerland<sup>65</sup>  
1927: of Rabenthalstrasse Berne, Switzerland, died at Berne Sanatorium, Probate £1440 in England granted to solicitor - attorney for Theodor Otto Padel. Will suggests wife, no children.

George married **Jeanie Marie SEIFURT**, youngest daughter of T H Siefert of Strasburg, Alsace, on 1 May 1890 in Valley End Church, nr Bagshot, Surrey, UK.<sup>19</sup>

**18. Arthur Henry SKIPWORTH** (*Arthur Bolland*<sup>9</sup>, *Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 6 Sep 1861 in Croxby Rectory<sup>20</sup> and died in 1907 in Hamstead RD, Middlesex, UK<sup>21</sup> at age 46.

1871: age 9, living with uncle Grey at Oakham, probably his tutor (Arthur H)  
1881: age 19, architect lodger in Clerkenwell (H. Skipworth)  
1891: age 29, boarder in Hamstead (Arthur H)  
1901: age 39, b. Bilsdale, unmarried, architect, living with housekeeper at Shorne, Kent. (Henry A)  
1907: Letter to the Editor, *The Times*: Copyright In Architecture: someone had been measuring up St Etheldreda's church in Fulham, which he had designed, with a view to copying it.<sup>67</sup>  
1907: Intestate, Probate £143, architect of 5 Staple Inn London and Shorne nr Gravesend, G P Skipworth, Staple Inn administrator

References from Gale Group Biographical Databases

Biography Index. A cumulative index to biographical material in books and magazines. Volume 15: September, 1986-August, 1988. New York: H.W. Wilson Co., 1988.  
The Dictionary of Victorian Painters. Second edition. By Christopher Wood. Woodbridge, England: Antique Collectors' Club, 1978.

*Obituary*: Arthur Henry Skipworth (1861-1907) was a Yorkshireman by birth and became a pupil of Bodley and Garner. He died young amid widespread regret. He had been in poor health and his obituarist considered that because of a retiring and modest disposition, he had not been sufficiently recognised. The extensive coverage given to his death indicates the genuinely high esteem in which he was held, though many of his designs were never built. He was in practice by 1889 at 5 Staple Inn (KD/L) though much of his church work was unbuilt. Obit: *The Builder* 92 pp469, 483-84, 515 and 731. Restored: Nuthurst (1906-07); Udimore (1897 onwards).<sup>66</sup>

**19. Lucy Mary SKIPWORTH** (*Arthur Bolland*<sup>9</sup>, *Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was born in 1863 in Bilsdale, Northallerton, Yorkshire,<sup>22</sup> died and was buried there on 4 Jan 1864, at age 6 months.<sup>3</sup>

**20. Philip Lionel Grey SKIPWORTH** (*Patricius Grey*<sup>12</sup>, *Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was born in 1871 in Oakham RD,<sup>23</sup> was baptised on 25 Jul 1871 in Rothwell, Lincolnshire, and died in 1926 aged 55.<sup>79</sup>

1881: age 9 [Lyonel P G] at home  
1891: age 19, medical student living with his cousin Catherine Jameson at Waltham Holy Cross, Essex. She was single and living with a brother and sister Alice (whom Philip married in 1895) and 3 servants  
1901: age 29, living at 39 The Terrace, Gravesend, Kent, Physician, MRCS Eng, LRCP Lond,  
1927: Probate £11073, of Market Overton,

Market Overton is in the Oakham area, so his life ended quite close to where he was born. When Herbert Skipworth (PLG's second cousin, grandson of Thomas of Cabourne) retired, PLGS was one of those interested in purchasing his practice at Mt Sorrell, Leicestershire. Mt Sorrell is about 15 miles east of Oakham.



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## Philip Skipworth of Laceby

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Philip married **Alice Emily JAMESON** in 1895 in Edmonton RD, Middlesex.<sup>24</sup> Alice was born about 1866 in India (British Subject)<sup>47</sup> and died on 1 Feb 1940 at Cold Overton Rectory, Oakham, Leicestershire.<sup>78</sup> 1940: Probate £6436 to daughter MEGS, spinster.

Philip and Alice's children were:

- 35      i. **Philip Arthur Lyonel SKIPWORTH** 1898-1898      *Refer to page 18*
- 36      ii. **Margaret Emily Grey SKIPWORTH "Peggy"** 1899-1967      *Refer to page 18*



Cold Overton Rectory where Alice Emily Skipworth died in 1940, her father-in-law had been curate of Cold Overton in the 1870s.

*Image courtesy Google Streetview*

**21. Ella Marion SKIPWORTH** (*Patricius Grey*<sup>12</sup>, *Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 4 Sep 1872 in Oakham, Rutland, UK.<sup>25</sup>

1872: Registered as "Female", identified because of Oakham district

1881: age 8, at home with parents

1891: age 18, boarder at Ecclesall Bierlow, Yorkshire

1896: age 23 at marriage    1911: couple not found in census

Water jug in Bonby church: In memory of Ella Marion Jameson daughter of Rev Grey Skipworth, once vicar of this parish.

Ella married **George Bernard JAMESON, M.D.**, in 1896 in Gravesend RD.<sup>26</sup> He was born on 27 Jan 1867 in India. He probably died 1947 aged 80 in Croyden RD.

Ella's brother Grey had also married a Jameson, thought to be his cousin. It is not known how George Jameson was related to Alice, though both were born in India.

He was apparently interested in speculative investments in mining companies, several of which went into voluntary liquidation. The certificates listed were advertised for sale in 2011.

1903: holder of shares in Bayley's Mines Ltd

1907: of 3 Duppas Hill Road Croyden, holder of shares in Botallack Mines Ltd Cornwall

1908: holder of shares in International Copper Company Ltd

1912: holder of shares in Maikop Midland Oilfields Ltd Russia

1914: of 3 Duppas Hill Road Croyden, holder of shares in Planet Arcturus Gold Mines Ltd Rhodesia

1920: holder of shares in Colombian Oilfields Ltd

1928: of 6 Wellesley Rd, Croyden, holder of shares in New African Company Ltd

1928: of 6 Wellesley Rd, Croyden, holder of shares in Carmelite Trust Ltd

1929: of 6 Wellesley Rd, Croyden, holder of shares in Combined Pulp and Paper Mills Ltd

**22. Alice Peyton SKIPWORTH** (*Patricius Grey*<sup>12</sup>, *Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 6 May 1874 in Oakham, Rutland,<sup>27</sup> and died on 29 May 1948 in Mangatainoka, Wairarapa, NZ.

1880: age 5, mother died      1881: age 6, at home with father, Bonby

1882: age 7, father remarried      1884: age 10, father died

1891: age 16, pupil at Ealing Middlesex

1901: age 26, boarder, born Rutland Oakham, living on own means at Hammersmith, London

1911: couple living in Hitchin district, Hertfordshire, 1 dau, 1 son

Alice married **Frank Edward Ward** in 1906 in Gravesend RD.<sup>80</sup> Frank died on 21 Feb 1950, (of Pahiatua, NZ) at Ware, Hertfordshire, England, 2nd son of the late Henry Ward, of Ware. From 1928 they are listed in Pahiatua, NZ Electoral Rolls.

## Philip Skipworth of Laceby

**23. Margaret Grey SKIPWORTH** (*Patricius Grey*<sup>12</sup>, *Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 24 Dec 1883,<sup>29</sup> christened on 20 Jan 1884 at Bonby, and died on 17 Nov 1964 at age 81.

1884: her father died when she was 2 months old, her mother remarried

1891: age 7, visitor to Hine family in Croyden, Surrey, scholar - they had a governess whom Margaret may have shared

1901: age 17, pupil in girls' school at Caversham, Oxfordshire.

Obituary *The Times* Nov 20 1964 page 16 column A Associated with Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford for a lifetime, closely associated with the development of that college during the war and since. Going up as a scholar in 1911, First Class Honours in Modern Languages in 1914, resident French tutor 1916. Librarian 1921-30, Vice-Principal 1937, and after her retirement elected Emeritus Fellow 1954. Well-known figure taking a constructive part in regularising and strengthening the Faculty's self-government. Concurrently she held a tutorship at St Hugh's and part-time posts for a while at Bedford and University Colleges London. In later years she also directed the work of undergraduates reading modern languages at Balliol.

She made herself felt, was a distinctive personality with marked tastes, a fine sense of values, great courage and independence of character. At 17 she had left school (Queen Anne's Caversham) to travel in France, Germany, Hungary and Austria, maintaining herself working at the Sorbonne and returning home to train as a teacher and hold successive posts at Polam Hall, Dartington, and Sherborne Girls' School before going to Oxford. She was good at games and captained the "women students" eleven at hockey and when in 1922 she took to mountain-climbing she could count some of the greater Swiss peaks among her achievements.

Margaret Grey Skipworth's bequest contains 18th century literature as well as some 16th and 17th century editions. (*French Studies Collections in Oxford Libraries*)

**24. Frederick Darwin Grey SKIPWORTH** (*Septimus Patrick*<sup>15</sup>, *Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 8 May 1866 in Rothwell,<sup>30</sup> and died in 1903<sup>31</sup> at age 37.

1871: age 4 1881, 1891: not found

1901: age 37 single, born Lincoln, Ship's clerk at West Ham. Single was incorrect, but he was lodging with people who may not have known his correct status.

1901: widower, on marriage to Alice Holmes, Commercial Clerk, their address was no 1 Coleridge Road, Manor Park, West Ham

1903: died after 2 years' marriage, his widow remarried and his son probably had little contact with his father's family. This may explain him stating his father's occupation as ship's captain not ship's clerk on his marriage record.

Frederick's name was first registered Frederick Grey Skipworth, and subsequently amended to Frederick Darwin Grey Skipworth (refer right hand column below). The addition is easy to overlook. The name Darwin probably honours William Erasmus Darwin, eldest son of the famous Charles, who was Septimus' friend from University days.<sup>68</sup> The name Grey is discussed under no 12 above. He was described as Frederick De Grey Skipworth, Ship's Captain, on his son's marriage cert in 1925, and the name "De Grey" has been given to his grandson, suggesting a French connection. I believe that the change is accidental due to Frederick's habit of abbreviating his name to "Frederick D. Grey S" which sounds almost the same as "Frederick De Grey S."

English	Frederick	Septimus	Mary Catherine	Septimus P	English	Frederick
May	Grey	Patrick	Skipworth	Skipworth	English	Darwin
1866		Skipworth	formerly	Father	1866	Registrar
Rothwell			Abland	Rothwell		

Frederick married **Louisa Elizabeth HAYNES** in 1900 in Banbury RD.<sup>69</sup> In the 1901 census Louisa Skipworth age 29 was living with her mother Elizabeth HAYNES at Adderbury, Oxfordshire, whilst Frederick was lodging at West Ham. No death of Louisa Skipworth has been found, although Frederick gave his status as "widower" on his second marriage.

1907. Marriage solemnized at the Registrar's Office in the District of West Ham in the County of West Ham							
No.	When Married.	Name and Surname.	Age.	Condition.	Rank or Profession.	Residence at the time of Marriage.	Father's Name and Surname.
120	1907	Frederick Darwin Grey Skipworth	36 years	Widower	Commercial Clerk	Coleridge Road Manor Park	Septimus Patrick Skipworth
		Alice Holmes	29 years	Widow		Coleridge Road Manor Park	Frederick Grey
Married in the presence of <u>R. G. Lounsbury</u> and <u>F. Hale</u> according to the Rites and Ceremonies of the Anglican Church by me, <u>R. J. G. Lounsbury</u> Registrar.							

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## Philip Skipworth of Laceby

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Frederick later married **Alice HOLMES nee HALE** on 23 Nov 1901 in West Ham, UK.<sup>32</sup>

Peter Baizley wrote: Alice Holmes my Grandmother was a tall stern woman born Alice Hale in 1872 at West Ham. I have a good photo of her taken about 1902. Her father was a Frederick Gustavus Hale her mother Selina Bischoff. Bischoff is probably German but possibly Basle Swiss descent. She first married in I think March of 1897 to Charles Henry Holmes he died at age 38 in June 1899, they produced one child Violet Winifred Holmes who I believe was an infant mort. The next marriage the Skipworth one. Her third marriage was to an Ernest James Austin in the 4th quarter of 1904 they produced a boy Aubrey Gordon then my mother Margery Beatrice, then George, her husband a great old boy died in late 1945 or early 1946. Alice died in 1951.

Frederick and Alice had a son:

37      i. **Reginald Norman SKIPWORTH** 1902 - 1965      *Refer to page 18*

**25. Reginald Philip SKIPWORTH** (*Septimus Patrick*<sup>15</sup>, *Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 23 Sep 1867 in Rothwell,<sup>34</sup> and died on 23 Jun 1908 in Uplyme, Devonshire, UK<sup>35</sup> at age 40.

1871: age 3, at home Rothwell (indexed Shipwash)

1881: age 13, scholar at home with governess

1891: probably Reginald Percy Skipworth, age 25, born Caister, Lincolnshire, Officer at Putney Institution for the Insane, London, Clerk in the Consolidated Bank and Secretary in the Priory.

Reginald is last in the list for the institution, possibly he lived at the institution but worked partly for a Bank? The record is inaccurate as someone else was compiling the schedule.

1897: A Reginald S who married in Kensington was Sidmouth Skipwith's son - different family

1901: not found (probably in Sth Africa)

1902: travelled Cape to Southampton [Ancestry Passenger lists]

1903: travelled London to Cape, Sth Africa [FindMyPast Passenger lists]

1908: age 40 at death, of Waterside, Uplyme, Devon; Probate £57<sup>78</sup>

**26. Arthur Leslie SKIPWORTH** (*Septimus Patrick*<sup>15</sup>, *Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was baptised on 25 Oct 1868 in Rothwell, and was buried age 1 month on 23 Nov 1868 in Rothwell.<sup>3, 36</sup>

**27. Arthur Nairn SKIPWORTH** (*Septimus Patrick*<sup>15</sup>, *Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 20 Nov 1869 in Rothwell,<sup>54, 62</sup> and died in June 1924.<sup>84</sup>

1871: age 1, at Rothwell

1881: age 11, at home, scholar with live-in governess;

1891, 1901: not found

Lieutenant Sherwood Rangers, served Sth African War, see Army List

1903: Lieut A N Skipworth 28th Batt Imperial Yeomanry (in South Africa) cancelled the resignation of his commission refer London Gazette 3 Mar 1903, also 9 Jan 1902

1911: living with parents, at Owmbly Mount

1917: horsebreaker.<sup>54</sup>

1924: death notice Lincoln Star 28 Jun 1924 page 5c [index only seen]

**28. Percival Henry SKIPWORTH** (*Septimus Patrick*<sup>15</sup>, *Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was born in 1871 in Rothwell, and was baptised at Rothwell on 20 Apr 1871 and died at Walmer on 6 Sep 1915 aged 45. He was buried in St. John the Baptist Church Cemetery, Walmer, Port Elizabeth, Eastern Cape.<sup>38, 85, 86</sup>

1881: age 9, at home, scholar with live-in governess

1891: age 19, eldest pupil of 25 boy boarders at St Ives Grammar School, Huntingdonshire

1901, 1911: not found in English census

1903: of Pt Elizabeth, Sth Africa.<sup>54</sup>

1912: National Archives of Sth Africa (NASA) hold Mrs ML Skipworth's letter seeking assistance in obtaining better employment for her son, report of Chief Constable Port Elizabeth re previous (1913), letter re his employment - private secretary to Governor General (1913), also document re land settlement (1913), letter enquiring into his circumstances (1913).

Percy married **Mabel Jeanette THACKRAY**<sup>86</sup> who was born about 1877 and died on 17 Dec 1961 in Ely, Cambridgeshire, UK. She had returned to England with her son in 1916.

They had a child

38      i. **Patrick Montagu SKIPWORTH** 1908 - 1986      *Refer to page 18*

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## Philip Skipworth of Laceby

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**29. Edmund Leslie SKIPWORTH** (*Septimus Patrick*<sup>15</sup>, *Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 30 Jul 1872 in Rothwell.<sup>39</sup>

1881: age 8, at home Rothwell with live-in governess      1891: not found  
Resident in Canada.<sup>54</sup> (not found 1901 Canadian census)

**30. Constance Emma Gray SKIPWORTH** (*Septimus Patrick*<sup>15</sup>, *Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was born in 1875 in Rothwell.<sup>40</sup>

1881: age 6, at home, scholar, live-in governess      1891: age 16, at home  
1901: age 26, visitor at Bath, Somerset      1911: age 35 of Saffron Waldon, Essex

Constance married **Marshall KELLY** about Mar 1907 in St Geo Han Square RD.<sup>41</sup>  
The Dixon pedigree has her husband's surname Kerry.

**31. Rosamond Mary SKIPWORTH** (*Septimus Patrick*<sup>15</sup>, *Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was born in 1876 in Rothwell,<sup>42</sup> and baptised there on 16 Nov 1876. She died in 1932 in Guildford aged 56.<sup>78</sup>

1881: age 4, at home with family at Rothwell  
1891: age 14, at home with family at Owmbly, with live-in governess  
1901: age 24, at home with her parents at Owmbly  
1908: qualified midwife, Central Midwives Board June examinations  
1911: age 34 of Farnham, Surrey  
1919: matron Red Cross Hospital Richmond, awarded Royal Red Cross, 1st class  
1932: unmarried, probate admon to Prendergast, £1457<sup>78</sup>

**32. Septimus Harold SKIPWORTH** (*Septimus Patrick*<sup>15</sup>, *Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was born in Rothwell, was baptised on 3 Oct 1880 in Rothwell,<sup>81</sup> and died on 29 Sep 1902 in Canada at age 22, killed in a railway accident.<sup>54</sup> [birth record not found in registration index]

Educated St Ives Grammar School, co Hunt.  
1881: age 9 months  
1891: age 10, at home with live-in governess  
1901: Immigrant in Canadian census, province of Manitoba, aged 21<sup>33</sup>

**33. Laurence Owen SKIPWORTH** (*Septimus Patrick*<sup>15</sup>, *Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was baptised on 6 Nov 1881 in Owmbly,<sup>44</sup> and died aged 46 in 1929 in Richmond Surrey RD, UK<sup>43</sup>

1891: age 9, at home with live-in governess  
1901: age 19, boarder at Hornsey with Publisher's assistant manager, no occupation, brother Charles the same. They may have been learning the trade?  
1901-1905 Sth African Archives have "record of conduct and service of LG(sic) Skipworth"  
1917: Lance Corporal South African Infantry, 3rd Transvaal & Rhodesia Regt, discharged 1917, age 36, 5'8", grey eyes, dark hair, fair complexion, medically unfit for further military service (acute nephritis) 25% disablement, reduced to 10% 1921 Originated 1917 in France due to cold and wet  
1914-1920: British Army WWI Pension Record - served SW Africa, Egypt, France

**34. Charles Alan SKIPWORTH** (*Septimus Patrick*<sup>15</sup>, *Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was born in 1883 in Owmbly,<sup>45</sup> and was buried age 24 on 5 May 1908 in Rothwell.<sup>46</sup>

1891: age 7, at home with live-in governess  
1901: age 17, boarder at Hornsey with Publisher's assistant manager, no occupation, brother Laurence the same. They may have been learning the trade?

***Fourth Generation (Great-Grandchildren)***

**35. Philip Arthur Lyonel SKIPWORTH** (*Philip Lionel Grey*<sup>20</sup>, *Patricius Grey*<sup>12</sup>, *Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was born in 1898,<sup>48</sup> and died on 9 Aug 1898 in Gravesend, Kent.<sup>49</sup>  
"only child" at time of his death

**36. Margaret Emily Grey SKIPWORTH** (*Philip Lionel Grey*<sup>20</sup>, *Patricius Grey*<sup>12</sup>, *Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 21 May 1899 in Gravesend, Kent,<sup>50</sup> and died unmarried in 1967 aged 67 in Oakham RD.  
Probably named for her aunt Margaret, # 23 above, her father's half sister  
1901: age 1 at home  
1940: MEGS spinster, executor for her mother

**37. Reginald Norman SKIPWORTH** (*Frederick Darwin Grey*<sup>24</sup>, *Septimus Patrick*<sup>15</sup>, *Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was born in Sep 1902 in West Ham, North East London,<sup>51</sup> and died in 1965 in Essex.  
1911: age 9 with mother & stepfather Alice 38 & Ernest Austin 36, Aubrey Austin 3, Margery Austin 1  
1925: bank clerk of 174 & 178 Crownfield Road, Stratford, West Ham.  
After marriage lived in Seven Kings area of London

Reginald married **Nellie SMITH** on 4 Jul 1925 in Devises, UK.<sup>52</sup>

Their children were:

- 39        i. **Ronald Norman De Grey SKIPWORTH** 1929 - .
- 40        ii. **Renee Rosalie SKIPWORTH** 1929 - 2002.

**38. Patrick Montagu SKIPWORTH** (*Percival Henry*<sup>28</sup>, *Septimus Patrick*<sup>15</sup>, *Philip of Laceby*<sup>1</sup>) was born about 1908 in South Africa, and died on 29 Jun 1986 in Ely, Cambridgeshire.

1916: age 9, after the death of his father, returned to live in England, by ship *Italian*.  
1986: retired bank manager of Ely.

Patrick married **Janet Marjorie BARNETT** in 1936 in Ely. She died there on 16 Nov 1982.



## ***Appendix 1: Louise Rogers***

Who was Louise Agnes Rogers, wife of John, sole beneficiary of Arthur Bolland Skipworth's will, and how did she come to be in this position?

At the time of his death in 1898 Arthur's closest living relatives were his wife Eliza Mary Skipworth (1827-1909), and sons George Philip Skipworth (1860-1927), and Arthur Henry Skipworth (1861-1907), but none of them were acknowledged in his will, suggesting a serious estrangement. It has also been noted that Eliza was at home with Arthur in the 1871 census, but not in any of the other census 1861-1891, even when she had very young children. The boys were also away from home before the age of 10, so possibly Arthur formed very little connection with his family. Both boys were well educated and established in professions, and by the time of Arthur's death he apparently felt no obligation to provide for them.

In the absence of a wife, Arthur employed a housekeeper and other servants. In 1891 he had a family of Bennets living with him, but by 1898 they had been replaced by Louise Rogers and her husband John.

Evidence from birth and marriage registrations and census records has allowed the history of Louise Rogers to be pieced together. [Timothy Harding provided most of this material]

She was born Louisa LUCK at Harpenden Kent about 1857 (as evidenced in 1871 census). In 1879 she married aged 22 to Henry George LAMBERT; he died later the same year at age 24.

1881 census: Louisa LAMBERT, widow, was a licensed victualler at First Public House, Luton, Bedfordshire, giving her age as 28 though actually 24. Her widowed mother and her siblings were living with her.

In 1883 Louise LAMBERT married a second time to John ROGERS in Islington RD.

In 1891 John and Louisa Rogers were living at St Albans, Hertfordshire; two of her sisters lived with them. John was aged 58, retired, Louise was 33 (or 34).

Some time between 1891 and 1894 the Rogers couple came to live with Arthur Skipworth, and in 1898 Louise inherited some £1000 under Arthur's will.

In 1901 census John and Louise were living in Louth, on their own means.

None of this investigation has revealed any connection between Louise's family and the Skipworths.

The question remains as to why Louise specifically was the beneficiary and not her husband. One interpretation is that there may have been a romantic involvement between Louise and Arthur. The wording of his will, written four years before his death, is interesting. He describes her as "my kindest friend," and carefully mentions that Louise's husband also lives with him, not just Louise alone.

The wording of the *Field* obituary seems to rule out the possibility that Louise had nursed Arthur as a long-term invalid. It is possible though that John Rogers was an invalid. Why was he retired at age 58? If he had the means to retire voluntarily, would Louise need to take a house-keeping position? The thought of having to replace his housekeeper late in his old age would be unsettling for Arthur. If he found Louise suited his needs he may have effectively bribed her not to leave him with the prospect of becoming his ultimate beneficiary. For Louise, saddled with a husband who had not worked for many years, an arrangement such as this may have been essential to provide for her own retirement and eventual widowhood.

Further light is cast on the relationship of Arthur Skipworth and Louise Rogers in the book "*Paupers, Priests and People of Tetford*" by Dr Richard Harper-Smith 2002, especially page 99. Refer to appendix 2.

309 acres of land allotted at enclosure in lieu of tithes, but this belonged to the Rector, who paid a salary to the Curate. *'Records of the 18th century show that at least 70 Lincolnshire Parishes had no residence for the incumbent, and the clergy usually resided in the nearest town.'*<sup>18</sup> In the 1851 Church Census, we read the *'Condition of church is described as moderate while the chancel and churchyard good. There were 200 sittings plus 100 for children and the average morning attendance was 150 and evening 250 and 20 communion services a year.'*<sup>19</sup>

Reverend Mathew Manduell died in 1872 and the Parish were certainly going to miss him. Within two years Reverend Skipworth was appointed rector. He was an abrasive, dictatorial, autocratic man whose word was law! He would have been chosen by the Patron, Sir Montague John Cholmeley, who clearly wanted a strong man. The new Rector immediately tackled the church which was described in June 1876 as *'This fine church at present in a most lamentable condition which we hope will soon be rectified under the auspices of the present incumbent....The roof of the Nave is concealed by a plaster ceiling.'*<sup>20</sup> The following year he was granted £400 (\*£16,204) *'for altering and enlarging the farm buildings'* at Glebe farm,<sup>17</sup> and in 1881 he applied *'to alter and add to Glebe Farm House....Altering and enlarging the farm house necessary for the occupation of the farm appertaining to the Rectory 'Estimate for work is £285 and take out loan for £300.'*<sup>21</sup>

That the Rector upset many parishioners is confirmed in a notice in the Stamford Mercury of 13th, October 1876. *'Public Meeting at White Hart to discuss the stocking of the churchyard.'* This particular problem of sheep grazing in the churchyard has been a perennial hot chestnut and has certainly raised its head during my time. No wonder Bishop King was quoted as saying in 1886 after his first visitation *'Dissent, dissent, dissent!'*<sup>22</sup> There is no doubt however, that Reverend Skipworth was well thought of in the 'right places' and that he had a first rate brain. He was the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer of the Lincolnshire Chess Association<sup>23</sup> *'The Reverend A. B. Skipworth,...in connection with the Annual Meeting of the British Chess Association held in London last week, the Reverend A. B. Skipworth, Rector of Tetford, whose name is familiar to our readers as*



*Tetford Church interior prior to the 1902 restoration.*

being so eminent in the Chess world was announced as one of the players of the International Chess Tournament, but he not having arrived in time for the opening, his name was struck out at the last moment. Considerable annoyance has been expressed at the action of the Association. Has the fact of Mr. Skipworth being Secretary of a rival Chess Association anything to do with the step taken by the Committee?<sup>23</sup> and in October, 1886. *H/C News*, reported 'The Reverend Skipworth preached two excellent Sermons at St. Mary's Church last Sunday at the Harvest Festival. All the decorations were done by the Parishioners. The offertories we believe, were more than double any offertertery previously made at Tetford.' He died at Holbeck Hall in 1898 and 'letters of sequestration of all the tithes, etc. of the Rectory were granted to Louisa Agnes Rogers of Holbeck Hall and Fred Lucas of Tetford, the churchwardens and to their successors – for the time being, during the vacancy of this living'<sup>24</sup> and we shall meet Reverend Skipworth again, when we talk about the school.

The next Rector, Reverend W. Wood, was clearly appointed on the promise of a new Rectory (the third) being built and by 1902, plans had been approved at a cost £1147 18s 9d (\*£62,491.67).<sup>25</sup> He would be responsible for inaugurating a bazaar to restore the church and clock which raised £82 9s 0d. The church was certainly in need of attention, if we accept what Mr. C. Hodgson Fowler said in his report as architect:- *'In the tower of Tetford Church we have, besides two pre-Reformation Bells, one inscribed – 'God save his church, 1617.' Alas! since then our Parish Church has been allowed to fall into a sad neglect and dilapidation. The floor is cumbered with large square pews facing various ways, and in such a sad state of dilapidation that the Architect says they must all be removed. The Tower Arch is bricked up and hidden by a cumbersome western gallery; the roof is hidden by a flat plastered ceiling, and the whole is covered with whitewash, relieved only by green and brown tints where the damp has soaked through wall and ceiling; there are large holes in the roof, and the rain comes through in several places.'*

Mr. Fowler proposed:-

An open timber roof to nave (formed out of existing roof), and new aisle roofs.

Re-flooring, re-seating, re-glazing, and cleaning the walls of whitewash.

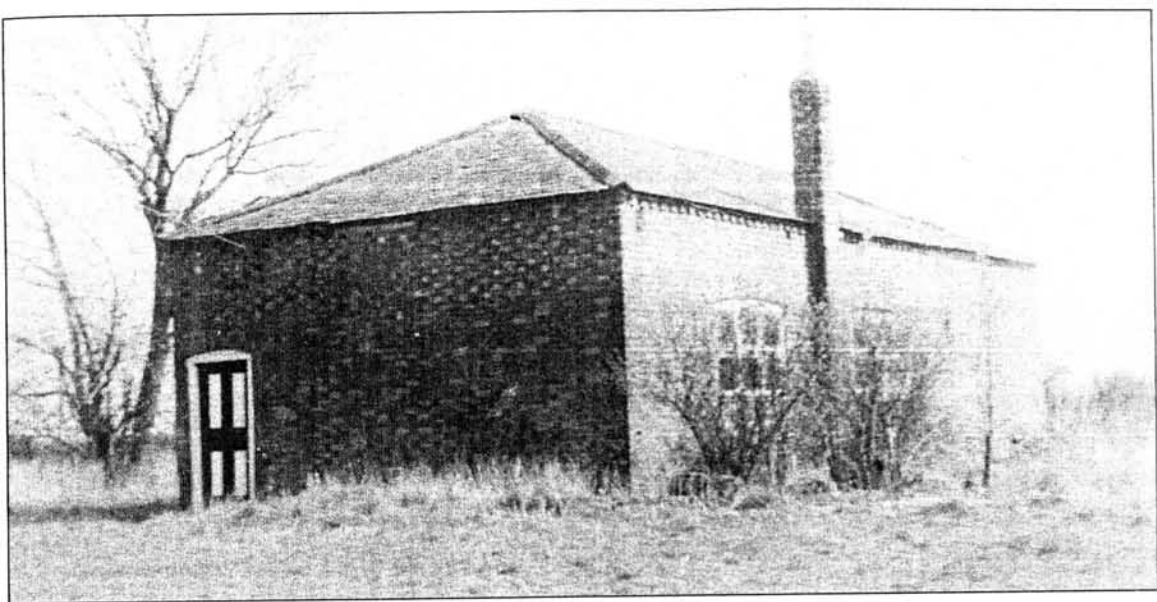
The great gallery extending right across the church and projecting 10 feet from the west wall must be removed, and the Tower Arch opened out.

To add a heating apparatus.

To repair the fabric (internal and external), making the church decent and safe for 37 the worshippers.



Rev. P. H. E. Goodrich (Rector and later Bishop of Worcester), Rev. D. Smith and Rev. M. Brackenbury in 1999.



*The Wesleyan School in East Road.*

We must not think, however, that Tetford was alone in the Church's opposition to Non-Conformist schools. After the 1870 'elementary Education Act, the Church of England made great and largely successful efforts to keep its schools which were already in existence and to start new Day Schools. The Church fought hard to prevent the formation of School Boards (Non-Conformists) and to ensure that the control and management of its voluntary schools remained with the Church. Methodism in Lindsey made no such sustained effort and had no such clear cut policy. It retained some of its existing schools, surrendered others to School Boards and founded only a small number of Day Schools. Indeed, in the 10 years after 1870, there were no less than 10 Wesleyan Schools closed, of which Tetford and Baumber were two'.<sup>10</sup> As soon as the Education Act of 1870 was brought in the Wesleyans were delighted, believing that they would now have a secure future with a government grant. However, disappointment soon followed, the School Board recording 'it was very disappointed and annoyed at the attitude of the Department up in London' and the Chairman John Jex said 'it might be necessary to consider whether the school could be kept open in such circumstances'. The Board were determined to hold out for as long as possible and in May 1877 the Clerk was instructed to negotiate with the Trustees of the Wesleyan Day and Sunday Schools for the use of their School by the Board and to advertise immediately in two newspapers for a Master and Mistress. Mr. John Browne was appointed at a salary of £100 per annum and Miss Gorbutt as temporary teacher. A precept of £20 was applied for from the Overseer and Mrs. Andrews appointed cleaner at £6 per annum. The children should pay 2d per week and there should be four weeks holiday a year. 'Children over 8 years however should be exempt from the prohibitions and restrictions for that period; and might be employed in the necessary operations of husbandry and the ingathering of crops'. By August both Mr. Brown and Miss Gorbutt had resigned and Mr. Walter Coobe and Miss Betsy Hobson were appointed at salaries of £100 and £20 respectively. A precept of £60 was sent for to the rating authorities. Not until the 19th December did the Board receive a letter from the Education Department refusing their application to recognise the school board! The Board stood firm and decided to continue the school and pay all bills under £5, but knew that unless the Authority granted their request for a precept they would be forced to close ultimately! The following February the first reference to the obstruction by the Rector is mentioned. There were now 'about 100 children attending the Board School, while very few at the Church School'. No communication was forthcoming and in May the following year the Board finally decided they would have to close the school. On 19th September a letter was received from the Local Government Board asking for a census! The Board agreed.

In January 1880, a resolution that the Tetford School Board should be dissolved was voted upon and the votes cast were :-

For Dissolution – 65

Against – 50



The Act stated there had to be a two thirds majority for Dissolution, but any joy was short lived, as by the following March, the Church in the form of the Rector, Dr. Gray, Mr. Wadsley, Mr. Shadford and Mr. Berry met at the home of Mr. John Stainton, the shoe maker, having been elected to form a new Board! The Reverend Skipworth was immediately voted into the Chair and all offices were soon filled, many after being proposed by the Chairman himself! So at a stroke the Church took over the Wesleyan School! Unfortunately this was not the end of the matter as Mr. Bellamy, an old Board member, now went to the County Court to recover his expenses from the Board. Reverend Skipworth initially persuaded the Board to resist but at the following meeting it was decided to settle the matter out of court! However, there was one other Court case which did go to the Assizes in Lincoln and which the Board won. Claims and counter claims still continued to be made and eventually in April 1882 the Board moved their meeting place to the National School! It is also clear that the Rector and Dr. (uncle) Gray were at constant loggerheads, and it was not long before Dr. Gray and Mr. Wadsley were disqualified, on the grounds of non-attendance and the Rector again advised the Board whom to elect. Then in July 1883, the National School and School Board (formerly Wesleyan) amalgamated!<sup>13</sup>

In 1886 The Rector Reverend A. B. Skipworth in his return to the Bishop, confirms that he is living in Tetford (Glebe Farm) and the total population *'is nearly 600, nearly all belonging to the labouring class'*. By this time there was only one Day School – (the Wesleyan School closed 1883.) – there is a Sunday School (35 children) – 1 Day School 110. To the question what age do children leave school? the answer was *'Most uncertain'* To *'How often do you give Religious instruction and at what hour?'* the answer was *'very seldom to attend myself'*.<sup>11</sup>

In the 1889 return, Reverend Skipworth responded:-

*'Now lives at Holbeck Hall' and that there are '2 Chapels – Wesleyan built 1808 and Primitive – 30 years ago'. There is '1 School ... 44 boys, 33 girls and 30 infants. Average leaving age 12. I have never been in the habit of taking religious teaching at any regular time but the Master is not responsible for it, as I am responsible for it being duly given. Schools – 1 School master and 1 other take those. (9.45am to 5pm) and 9 to 9.45 set aside for Religious instruction. No night School'*.<sup>12</sup>

By 1892. *'Average attendance is 80. Age for leaving is impossible to say, they leave as soon as they qualify for work'*. The Reverend Skipworth goes on to say that he went to Tetford in 1875 and complains that where as the living was worth £600 it is only £200 now! Perhaps this is one reason why he was so hostile towards the Non-Conformists.<sup>14</sup>

In February, 1884 the Board wrote to the Education Department to request that the Parishes of Salmonby and Worlaby being contributing districts to Tetford should be made to bear their share of the School expenses. At the same meeting it was agreed that Mary West's contract be cancelled due to her continued illness and a new appointment for a Pupil Teacher be advertised and favour given to Mary Ann Bowring of Tetford. The following month, Mr. J. Whittaker resigned and the Board advertised for a new Master with a salary of £60 – half the Government Grant, plus a house and garden free of rent and £10 in addition to teach sewing! Nearly 40 people applied and from these three were selected for interview. At the same meeting it was reported that the Government Grant of £80 had been received! Mr. Robert Jellicoe of Liverpool was appointed as successor to Mr. Whittaker and Mrs. Jellicoe undertook the sewing at £10 per annum. Miss Celia Rawlinson was appointed temporary teacher for two weeks at 30s per week to take charge of the School until Mr. Jellicoe could start. In July Mr. Jellicoe requested a Pupil Teacher as there was no Monitor and John G. S. Smith at £18 per annum was agreed. However his father objected and the Board finally agreed to raise his salary to £22 per annum!<sup>13</sup>

In February 1892 the election of a New Board was held and seven candidates stood for five places:-

			VOTES
Abbott, John	Tetford	Farmer	0
Garton, Alfred G. H.	Cagthorpe and Tetford	Builder/Grocer	66
Gray, James C.	Tetford	Doctor Medicine	103
Harrison, George	Salmonby	Farmer	116
Jex, John	Tetford	Yeoman	76



Milner, George	Tetford	Farmer	93
Skipworth, Arthur B.	Holbeck	Rector	96

The last five were elected and at the first meeting of the new Board Reverend Skipworth was elected Chairman after voting for himself. In March 1892 the meeting was informed that Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter the late teachers of the school were prepared to return. This was agreed at a salary of £75, one third of the Government Grant and £10 for the sewing. In 1893, the Board wrote to the Education Authority to ask that the Parishes of Salmonby and Worlaby be included in the District of Tetford School Board. This was agreed and the Board became known as '*The Tetford, Worlaby and Salmonby United District School Board*'!<sup>4</sup>

A Precept (rate) was served on Tetford for	£40 14s 0d
Salmonby	£18 2s 8d
Worlaby	£13 0s 0d

In March 1895, there was no election as only four people stood for five places:-

Dawson, John Robert	Tetford	Farmer
Gray, James Campbell	Tetford	Doctor
Harrison, George	Salmonby Grange	Farmer
West, Samuel	Tetford	Farmer

Mr. William Bowser of Worlaby was invited to join the Board and he accepted. Many people must have heaved a sigh of relief on finding that Reverend Skipworth had not stood, but by the next election in 1898 he did, together with his housekeeper Mrs. Rogers!

1898, Feb. Elections:-

Bowser, William	Worlaby	Farmer	111
Gray, James Campbell	Tetford	Doctor	133
Oliver, George	Salmonby	Farmer	72
Rogers Louise Agnes	Holbeck Hall	Married woman	85
Simons, Joseph	Tetford	Farmer	85
Skipworth, Arthur Bolland	Holbeck Hall	Rector	93
Welberry, Samuel	Tetford	Farmer	61

Mr. Oliver and Mr. Welberry were not elected.

At the first meeting of the new Board Dr. Gray was elected Chairman by three votes to two with Reverend Skipworth and Mrs. Rogers voting against. After the meeting however, Reverend Skipworth proceeded to enter a minute which stated that Mrs. Rogers had been elected Chairman and they both signed the book to this effect! At the next meeting when it was discovered what had happened the meeting ordered that the illegal entry should be expunged as there had been no meeting on the date of the entry! The Board then wrote to Reverend Skipworth and warned him that he must not tamper with the minutes in future or the Chairman was instructed to consult a solicitor! In November the Board wrote to the Education Department asking them to remove Reverend Skipworth and Mrs. Rogers as members of the Board for non-attendance for over six months. This would be the last we would hear of the rector. Mr. John Pinder, Farmer, Tetford and Mr. Thomas Goodwin, Farmer, Salmonby were invited to join the Board in their places, but by the next election in 1901, neither were elected. The results being:-

Brooks, William	Tetford	Draper and Grocer	138
Booth, John	Salmonby	Clergyman	114
Dale, Henry Marshall	Tetford	Farmer	98
Gray, James Campbell	Tetford	Doctor	79
Simons Joseph	Tetford	Farmer	78

were elected and Reverend Booth was unanimously elected Chairman at the first meeting. So ended a sorry chapter in the villages history.<sup>4</sup>

There was a brickyard in Tetford certainly, since the early 1800's (Spinney Hill, South Ormsby Road) and both the Methodist and Wesleyan Chapels would have been built with the bricks. Certainly Robert Brocklebank, brickmaker was supplying bricks to the school regularly during 1892 and we know he was a Methodist as was a predecessor Joseph Horne during the 1840's. The

Methodist Chapel still stands in West Road but the Wesleyan Chapel was partly demolished in 1980 and the school stood behind.

The National School was built in 1821 but the original building stood behind this, and the School Masters house was erected in 1846.

In 1894. The Board wrote to Reverend Skipworth, clerk of 'The Richardson Trust' asking the Trustees to consider the question 'of granting some land for building a Cloakroom at the southern end of the School Room' Mr. John Frieston, carpenter, tender of £5 6s 0d was accepted to 'ventilators in the infants class room and alterations to gallery in infant room according to the plan'. The following year a further request was made to the Richardson Trust 'for a portion of the field adjoining the School Masters House for a Play Ground... as the children at present have to play in the street which is considered very dangerous'. In August a contract for £29 was signed to build a cloakroom, and in December the Health Authority expressed concern over the girls closet and the Board agreed and wrote to the Richardson Trust 'to decide the best manner to carry out the work'. Horncastle RDC then wrote demanding that 'the girls and infants closet be removed at once to a greater distance from the School, or further proceedings would be taken'. Unfortunately Reverend Skipworth had not replied! In late 1897 the Board still had not received the plans back and a minute was made to instruct the Chairman to consult a solicitor! Not until the following year did the Board 'decide to purchase 13 yards wide by 22 yards of land at the back of the school from Dr. Gray for £15 to build new closets for the use of the school'. By 1900 the improvements to the 'Infants and Girls closets and Cloakroom were completed and a certificate issued'. Later, the 'School Inspector reported the play ground was bad and must be improved'. and in October 'Dr. Gray proposed 2 stoves be placed in the principle room of school to meet the requirements of the Education Department: the large fireplace to be removed'. There was always something!<sup>4</sup>

1885. 'George Robinson to do any necessary carpenter repairs about the school and D. Shadford any bricklayers work.'

The funding of salaries and running costs was a big issue and even after the introduction of the Education Act in 1870, money continued to be a continuing headache. 'Nov. 1884. Board discuss Masters rule that children who break their slates must pay for them. However Mr. Wm. Gant, whose



Spring cleaning the school, Wm. Camplin, Mrs. Smith, Kate Luck and Mrs. Tear.

children had broken 4, objected to the rule and refused to pay. The Board backed the Master and after Mr. Gant was threatened with being taken to the County Court he agreed to pay 2d per slate'. 'Sent John Horn home to see about his school fees. Had an interview with Mr. Horn respecting the fees', and again on 16th December 1889 'sent Walter Smith home for his school fees. He having failed to bring any pence since his return to school a month ago'.<sup>3</sup> and 'March 1891 sent Stainton children home this morning for their school fees being very much in arrears – they did not return this afternoon'.<sup>5</sup> Everything had to be approved by the Board from coal and wood, exercise books, readers, paper and knitting cards. Even the teachers it seems were not excused, and at almost every Board Meeting, finance took up the greatest amount of time and at the end of each quarter discussion took place as to whether they could pay the staff. 1885: 'Temporary teacher Mrs. Sharpe for 3 weeks paid 7s 6d weekly' and it is clear that there was no National Salary scale at this time as we often find the words 'salary not yet agreed'. Hardly surprising then, that there were so many teachers employed. 'Charlotte Baker resigns. Mrs. Sharpe again to be temporary teacher'. February 1886 'Mr. Frederick Hebblewhite, candidate on probation, be paid £4 4s 0d for teaching in the School during the past year'. In May, 1887 Reverend Skipworth proposed that 'in consideration of the bad times the salary of the school master Mr. R. Jellicoe be lowered £20 a year and that the reduced salary shall begin from the 16 August 1887'. Mr. Jellicoe promptly resigned, and in the November, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Piper, late of Tathwell School, were temporarily engaged at £24 for three months. Their work was satisfactory and so they were re-engaged at a salary of £60 per annum plus one third of Government Grant and £5 a year for teaching sewing. '1889 Dinah Green appointed cleaner at a salary of 1s 3d per week and 6d extra when fires are need, washing and brushing to be paid for extra. Holidays not to be paid'. Even the Government Grant was not assured. 1886. 'Clerk reported that the Report by H.M. Inspector of Schools had been a good one and announced a grant of £96 5s 0d had been approved'. When therefore 'Mr. Johnson called and paid the pauper children's fees to December 28th 1889. 14s 4d', they must have been grateful that there was at least one reliable source of income. However, they did have a soft spot for in 1886-7 when there was severe hardship 'Mr. Jellicoe was given discretionary powers to admit children to school of parents out of work without fee'. Finally in 1891 education finally became free, but Government Grants still did not cover all the expenses, as they never have, and in 1901 a Precept was served on the Overseers of the Parishes of:-

Tetford	£19 18s 6d
Salmonby	£8 1s 3d
Worlaby	£3 19s 6d <sup>4</sup>

As we have seen, the turnover of staff was considerable and in October 1889, Mr. Carpenter on taking up his new appointment stated 'The general state of the school is anything but desirable- the children don't appear to have been taught many manners of civility to others. ... they are exceedingly backward'. (By this time there had been five different heads!) and shortly afterwards he wrote:- 'The pupil teacher inadvertently carried the wrong figures forward in 4th Class register from second to third quarter'.

March 1890 Inspectors Report:- 'middle portion of school has done satisfactorily ... Mr. Carpenter appears to be working well, he must have found the children very backward. Infants are very fairly taught and promises to improve under Mrs. Carpenter'.

'March 1891 – Yearly school report shows great improvement in all departments'.

By 1893 there has been a great improvement in the education under Mr. Carpenter, and the whole atmosphere had changed. In March 1894 Mary and Alice Gant were both awarded prizes for attendance, while only a few years before they were always in trouble. This was confirmed in March 1894 by H.M. Inspector of Schools 'Elizabeth Shadford has charge of the infants. I have spent a considerable amount of time this week in showing her how to teach them. The average of infants this week is 26.6 almost too large a class for a girl who has everything to learn'.

1901 May. 'Information having been received from the Sergeant of Police that the School Board coal (some of which he had marked) was found in the school masters coal place. It was proposed by Mr. Brooks to issue a summons against him'. This was carried. Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter were then asked to resign which they did. They had been accused of stealing coal from School, and were taken to Court by the Board but the case was thrown out by the Magistrates.<sup>5</sup> My impression is

### Appendix 3:

#### Tunbridge School - The Fag System *Daily News 28 May 1855*

The *Dover Chronicle* contains a long report of a case heard on Wednesday, at the Tunbridge Town-hall, before William Elers, Esq, chairman, and George Nottidge, Esq., when S.P. Skipworth, a boarder at the grammar-school, was charged with assaulting Edmund Burke Shepherd, at Tunbridge, on the 8th of May. Mr Ribton, barrister, appeared for the complainant; and Mr Gorham, solicitor, for the defendant.

Mr Ribton asked if the defendant was in court, as he did not see him at the bar.

Mr Gorham replied that he was, and pointed to the defendant, who was quietly sitting at the magistrates' table.

Mr Ribton, in addressing the bench, said he must request that the defendant occupy the usual place of persons called upon to answer charges at that court, and he could not conceive that the magistrates would make any distinction.

The Chairman said he thought the defendant might remain where he was.

Mr Ribton, however, pressed the point; and the defendant took his place at the bar, and, by direction of the chairman, a chair was handed to him.

Mr Ribton had scarcely commenced his opening address when the chairman (who had been whispering for some time to his brother justice, and was evidently labouring under great excitement), interrupted him, and said that it was the opinion of the bench that the case ought not to have been brought before them. It was a matter which ought to have been left to the decision of Dr Welldon; and if his decision had not been satisfactory, they should have gone to the higher authorities of the school. It was only a last resource that recourse should be had to that court. (Great sensation in the court.)

Mr Ribton asked if he was to understand from the chairman's speech that the justices, sitting there to administer justice impartially, had come there having pre-judged the case, and that they refused to hear it ?

The Chairman said he knew nothing of the case; and with regard to not hearing it, they left it to Mr Ribton to proceed or not, as he thought best. They would hear him if he treated the bench with respect.

Mr Ribton said, "I have treated the bench with the respect it deserves."

Mr Ribton then said he should most certainly proceed. The school was originally built and founded in 1553 for the instruction of boys of the town and country adjacent. In

1820 the privileges of the school were extended to boys whose parents or guardians resided within 10 miles of Tonbridge, and a second class of scholars was allowed, now called "boarders." The latter lived with the master. The conduct and demeanour of these boarders towards the free or foundation scholars had long been the subject of complaint, and application for redress had in vain been made to the head master, Dr Welldon. Mr Ribton then proceeded to comment upon the disgraceful system of bullying and fagging the free scholars by the boarders. In reply to the remarks of the chairman, the learned counsel combated and ridiculed the idea of applying in a case of that kind for redress to the head master. The constituted tribunals of the country were open to them. That court was one of those tribunals; and that bench was bound to administer justice without partiality and without favour. (Great animation in the court, which the officers in vain tried to stop.) The learned counsel then proceeded to state the facts of the case as they appeared in the evidence, and called

Edmund Burke Shepherd - I am a day boy at the grammar school in this town, and was so at the beginning of May. On the 7th of May I was asked to go into the cricket ground by the defendant Skipworth. I said, papa had forbid me. On the 8th of May I went to school. When I entered the school some of the boys said, "Oh, Shepherd!" I went home to breakfast, and on my return to the school at half-past nine, when near the school, a boy named Hornell caught hold of me and carried me past Dr Welldon's door. I then saw the defendant, who seized me by the jacket and pulled me off the walk. He beat me with a cane, and the cane now produced is the same. He beat me on the back and arm, and it hurt me much. I called out, and screamed loud. He beat me for two or three minutes. I don't know how many blows he struck. I screamed so much that he left off. There were a great many boys about. The school bell then rang. The boys went into school. I saw Dr Welldon after defendant had left off beating me. I was crying when I saw Dr Welldon. Dr Welldon was looking out of his front door when I saw him. I was a few yards from the door when I saw him. I was a few yards from the door, on the other side of the road. I saw a person named Penn and one named Gurr while the defendant was striking me. I then went to

the top of the lane. In five or ten minutes I returned to the school. I felt sick and had a headache. Dr Welldon was in school. I was ordered to stand out, but was unable to do so. I leant against a desk. At ten o'clock the defendant told me he had given me a beating because I did not go down to fag for him. He said he would beat me again. I went home soon after eleven. Before I went home my nose bled. The cook let me in. I saw my father at one, and he went with me to school at two. I left school at half-past two. In the evening I felt worse than in the morning. I have been under the doctor's hands ever since.

Robert Payne (son of Mr Payne, grocer, Tunbridge), John Gurr, and Eliza Lipscombe were next called, and deposed, the two former seeing Shepherd "thrashed" by the defendant, and the latter to the condition in which he returned home after being beaten.

Rev. Robert Shepherd - I am the father of the complainant. On Tuesday, the 8th of May, I returned home. I saw my son in the dining-room. He appeared faint and delicate in the extreme. In consequence I examined his arm, and found a bruise 2½ inches long, 1 inch wide, and the blood brought up to the upper skin, showing blackness. I at once wrote to Dr Welldon. The boy's mental state was dreadful; he was evidently much excited. He complained of great pain and headache. His son had ever since been attended by a medical man. Up to Friday he had not been able to walk more than a mile.

A correspondence was then read which had taken place between Mr Shepherd and Dr Welldon. In the first letter, dated the Cedars, May 8, from Mr Shepherd, he expressed to Dr Welldon his regret at being obliged to summon his pupil Skipworth for "brutally striking" his son, in consequence of his not obeying Skipworth's "impertinent directions, to go to the cricket ground to fag." The second, dated on the evening of the same day, was from the same gentleman, complaining of not being able to obtain protection from Dr Welldon against the tyrannical conduct of his boarders, whom "for reasons best known to yourself you decline to punish for such outrages," and stating that Mr Shepherd would seek a legal

remedy for the outrage on his third son, as he could not regard the promise made to him as in any degree satisfactory, as the words, that Dr Welldon would punish in the event of seeing need, Mr Shepherd could only consider in the light of a "characteristic evasion of the point." Dr Welldon, in reply, remarked upon the "inconsistency" of Mr Shepherd in leaving matters in his hands at 2 o'clock on Tuesday, and then recalling it into his own at nine o'clock the same evening. Dr Welldon also denied that he had heard the screams, as alleged by Mr Shepherd, and stated that he made Master Shepherd stand out because he was late, and was not aware that he had been ill-used or was crying. Mr Shepherd, in answer to this, still considered the reply unsatisfactory, and stated that he did not know at 2 o'clock the extent of the injuries his son had received, and that he believed the assault was of a premeditated character, and that it was intended to be renewed. Two letters in conclusion referred to an alleged misquotation of the words used by Dr Welldon. The difference appeared only to be whether the doctor had said, "As I shall see occasion" or "As I shall see need."

Mr Parker, surgeon, deposed to the bruises and discolourations, which he found upon the complainant, whose pulse for days afterwards ranged between 120 and 125. The mark on the arm was a very violent blow.

Mr Gorham, for the defence, admitted the assault, but contended that it was a matter for the Head Master to decide.

The Chairman said the bench would not trouble Mr Gorham to call any witnesses, and he proceeded to give judgment. The bench thought it would be interfering with the discipline of the school if they decided on the case. It was a matter for the exercise of the authority of the Head Master, with which the bench could not interfere, and they should therefore dismiss the case.

At this announcement great excitement and astonishment was manifested by the persons present.

Our remarks on this most disgraceful case (says the *Dover Chronicle*) we reserve for next week.

This case was reheard at the Spring Assizes, Maidstone, on 12 March 1856, before Mr Baron Alderson and a special jury. Similar evidence was heard, and emphasis was placed on whether fagging at this school adhered to the accepted pattern of equality for all (with juniors serving their seniors), or whether the boarders had been treating the day boys as inferiors who should be chastised if they refused to fag. At the conclusion a plea of "Guilty" to the charge of common assault was entered, but no penalty was reported by the paper. Dr Welldon gave an assurance that no distinction was permitted at the school, and the judge advised the defendants that they would not be considered gentlemen if they made any such distinction in the future.<sup>70</sup>



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