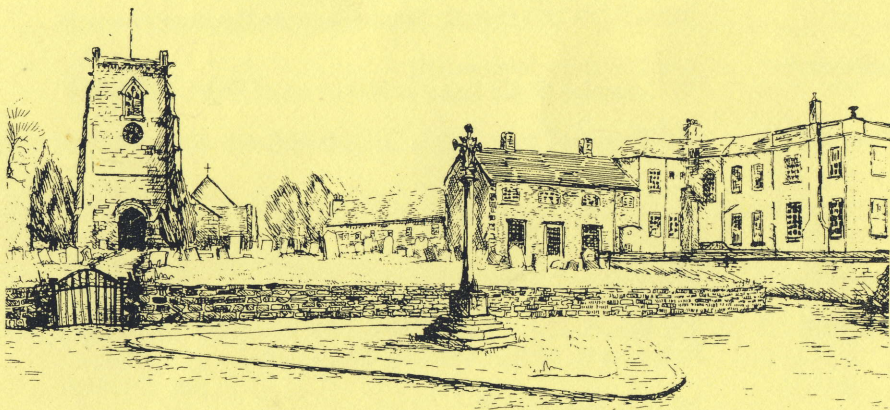


SWINNERTON Family History



Swynnerton Church and Hall

JOURNAL OF THE SWINNERTON SOCIETY

VOLUME 11. No.4

AUGUST 1999

The Swinnerton Society

A non-profit making organisation devoted to the welfare of Swynnerton Church and the research and publication of Swinnerton Family Records

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Editor - Iain Spencer Swinnerton

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FOREWORD

The Chairman

So another Gathering has come and gone but this one was special – a celebration of 25 years of the Society since its foundation in 1974. Perhaps I should say re-foundation because the Reverend Charles Swynnerton was the lynchpin of a Swinnerton correspondence association that ran from the middle 1870s until his death in 1928.

63 people attended including our Canadian Vice-President, Bill Swinarton and his wife Anne, Bob and Diana Cunningham from Texas and Dick and Mary Anna Swinnerton from Oregon. Many other old friends from all over the country came and quite a few youngsters which is encouraging.

The Gathering followed our usual format with coffee and refreshments on arrival followed by the AGM in the Church. The ecumenical Church Service came next: for the first time ever our Chaplain, the Reverend Edward Swinnerton was unable to attend due to Doris being very unwell, so the service was taken by our Treasurer/Lay Reader, Keith Livesey with the lesson read by secretary, Elizabeth Swynnerton. The highlight was undoubtedly the dedication of our Jubilee Banner, the result of many hours hard work by members all over the world and many of those present crowded up to the front to photograph it, flanked first by Angela, who put it all together, and Ron, who made the beautiful stand and then by the donors. An account of its production appears after this foreword. The excellent and very apt sermon which followed was preached by the Reverend Brian Swynnerton one of the founder members of the Society and a former Curate of Swynnerton.

Although the numbers were slightly smaller than usual (we shall never, ever again achieve the 223 we got for the 1986 Domesday Gathering) everyone said how much they enjoyed it and several said it was the best ever.

After lunch, we had an account by Dick of his cycle ride across America from coast to coast when he retired, a talk by me and then tea and a magnificent Silver Jubilee Cake with the Society's badge in icing in full colour. I was unable to take many photographs, I was kept far too busy, so we would welcome any for our archives – the more the better. Please help.

Actually, I was kept far too busy talking to people which I was able to do because, for the first time ever, except for putting up the usual display of family trees and laying out a small exhibition, thanks to an excellent organising team consisting of members of the Council, I had nothing to do with the organisation of the day. This, for me, was quite wonderful – a very far cry from the days when I did it all single-handed. Marvellous progress. My sincere thanks to Roger and Elizabeth, Geoffrey and Carole, Keith and Elizabeth and Ron.

Iain Swinnerton

I was originally inspired with the idea of a banner by a competition which was held a few years ago organised by the Federation of Family History Societies. There were some wonderful entries on the family history theme submitted by member societies and individuals: we did not enter at that time but I thought how nice it would be if we could do one ourselves and if it could be contributed to by members of the family all over the world, hence my idea of having small panels. The idea worked but only after a great deal of hard work by a lot of people not least by my wife, Angela, who, Kay having had to drop out because of family pressures, had the horrific task of sewing all the panels together and backing them. The result, after a great deal of initial doubts was stupendous and our Silver Jubilee Banner, which, naturally, was the centre of attraction at the Gathering, is a unique artefact for us to hand on to the coming generations. I hope to be able to show you a photograph of it in the next issue. On the back is a pocket in which, printed on card, is the following legend:

THE SWINNERTON SOCIETY JUBILEE BANNER

This banner was made by members of the Swinnerton Society in 1999 to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of the founding of the Society in 1974.

The Banner was designed by Iain Swinnerton and panels to patterns by Armorial Tapestries and Cross Stitch 2000 were embroidered by:

Edythe Seeley (Canada)
Eileen Bolitho (New Zealand)
Marjorie Nightingale (Australia)
Glenda Simpson (Australia)
Ellen Morris (USA)
Christine Cork (England)
Elizabeth Livesey (England)
Kay Sabell (England)
Laura Sabell (England)
Emma Sabell (England)
Angela Swinnerton (England)
Kirsty Swinnerton (England)

The panels were stitched together, and the banner made up, by Angela Swinnerton and the carrying poles were made by Ron Swinnerton.

The whole cost of the banner was born by Frances, Valerie, Cynthia, and Geoffrey Swinnerton "In memory of our Mum and Dad, John and Edna Swinnerton with much love and fond thanks for everything from their grateful children".

THE PRICE OF DATA

ALAN LINDFIELD

The following article appeared in Longshot the Journal of the Lin(d)field Society and it was so similar to my own experiences that I asked Alan for permission to reprint it which he willingly gave. If you substitute our name for his throughout, it is very relevant.

Members will be aware that a substantial part of the subscription income of the Group is directed into research, but it may be interesting, and may help to put those subscriptions into context, to know how much a typical item of information costs.

As with most areas of research, the cost of family history information follows a law of diminishing returns. In the early stages, it is natural to collect all the available information from sources such as the telephone directories, the International Genealogical Index and the birth, marriage and death registration indexes. These yield relatively large quantities of data at very little cost, assuming that the work of collecting the information is done by volunteers! However, the quality of the information is obviously limited.

An entry for a telephone subscriber will often give only an initial and no indication of gender, so that even with a fairly uncommon surname, there are several possibilities including the widows of that surname whose first names we have not recorded. The identities of these individuals will often be established only when a street directory or other record yields further details such as the full first name. Except for a few such directories in public libraries, these will usually involve some cost, either to purchase the directory from a secondhand book dealer, or by payment to a search service such as FONS. The Group has a modest collection of Kelly's and other street directories, particularly from areas of Sussex with significant numbers of Lin(d)field surnames.

Entries in civil registrations indexes did not give the age on death prior to 1866, nor the surname of the spouse on marriages prior to 1912. The maiden name of the mother appears in the birth index only after 1911. In these cases we may have no alternative but to order a copy of the certificate, which remains, for the present at least, the only way to obtain the full details. There is a lively debate on this issue, and a great deal of pressure is being applied to

the government to make this process less expensive and the records more accessible, but the cost for a certificate remains at £6-50 until this is resolved.

Having collected the more obvious and freely available information, the search naturally moves on to more specialised and obscure types of record. Military records are a rich source of data, and mention has been made previously in LONGSHOT of some of the main sources. These include pension records and medal rolls and of course the list of war graves held by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission. Whilst the medal rolls are accessible without charge at the Public Records Office, it is obviously more convenient, and less costly in travelling expenses, to obtain books listing all the recipients of a particular medal where these are available.

FONS (Family Origin Name Survey) has been going for a number of years. We have been using them for at least 4 years and they have proved to be a very useful source for our one-name study. However, at £2 per item, their service would obviously be very expensive if we were dealing with a relatively common name, since they do not provide the facility to specify the particular categories of record in which we are interested. We are now beginning to find that some of the material they send us has already been covered in our records. For example, we had a search carried out some time ago by the War Graves Commission at a cost of about £20, for all the Linfield and Lindfield graves listed in their database, some 30 in all. (We are registered with FONS for each of the 4 services, pre-1600, 1600-1858, 1859-1900 and 1901-1940). FONS have recently covered some of the published lists of war graves and several of the items they have sent us recently have been graves we already had on the WGC list. Whilst it is irritating to have to pay £2 each for these, it is inevitable given the way that the service works.

In terms of a price per data item, £2 is clearly expensive when compared with, say the 1881 census fiche (about 400 Linfield/Lindfield individuals in Sussex at a cost of around £40, or around 10p each). On the other hand, it looks like good value alongside the Biography Database CD-ROMS at around £90 each which yielded less than 20 items between the two issued so far, or around £10 each, and we certainly have books in our library which have cost £10 or more and only contain one reference to the names we are researching.

Clearly, the examples shown do not bear direct comparison, in that many of the books and records in our library are also a source of information on other names, such as the families with whom the Lin(d)fields married. Incidentally, we are always happy to look up other names for members, particularly where the search will add to the information on the various Lin(d)field family trees.

Another source which appears at first sight to be excessively costly is the CD-ROM of Soldiers Died in the Great War. SDGW was originally published by the War Office in 81 volumes and sets of these books are very expensive and seldom appear for sale. The CD-ROM is actually much more than an electronic copy of the books - it includes extensive database search facilities which allow, for example, searching by regiment and place of death. The cost of the CD is currently £220, though we bought it at the pre-publication price of £150 plus VAT. Each of the 15 Lin(d)field entries might therefore be costed at around £10. However, the value of owning the CD in the longer term is that we can also find the husbands of female Lin(d)fields widowed in the war, as well as being able to assist other researchers in return for assistance with the Lin(d)field research.

The complete listing of all the books and other material owned by the Group is held as part of the main database and can be printed for any member who would like a copy. Please send an A4 SAE to me, with a cheque or stamps to the value of £1. The Library List also includes material held by individual members, where these have been notified to me.

(We, too, have access to the 'Soldiers Died' CD ROM but this is my own private copy which I use in my military research for clients).

SOME MISCELLANEOUS FINDS.

SUTTON COLDFIELD (Warwickshire) Burgess Rolls 1896, 1900 & 1903.
Mary Swinnerton. Rectory Road (no number given)

OLDSWINFORD (Worcestershire) Parish Magazine. December 1984.
In Memoriam.

Miss Agnes Butler Swinnerton passed away in October at the advanced age of 96. She was in some ways a survivor of a past age, being the daughter of Frank Swinnerton, a dentist whose practice was in Stourbridge at the end of the last century. She held many teaching posts and eventually became Principal of her own establishment in Bridgnorth. She was the survivor of four sisters and had outlived all her contemporaries (*sic*). She used to be a regular attender at the mid-week Holy Communion Service but increasing deafness and blindness meant that she eventually had to live in a nursing home.

(I have never yet discovered who the Dentist was although he always told my father that we were related - ISS)

SHEFFIELD LIBRARY Archives Dept.
Arundel Castle Manuscripts Catalogue of Leases 875/73
31.10.1809 George Swinnerton Fields in Sheffield 21 years £63 rent
Husbandman (Park) + 2 days boon work

WEST BROMWICH (Staffordshire) Burgess Rolls 1883
20th October. Amelia Swinnerton, 132 Pikelelve St. Hill Top U.B.

The History and Antiquities of the County of Leicester

(8 volumes altogether) by John Nichols Vol.1 part 11. published 1815.
Republished 1971.

page 371

"John Bryn, Roger Leney, **Robert Swynnerton**, Thomas Marchall, and Henry Herdley, complain, that Robert Corbett and Richard Lacum, who in the last parliament had been returned knights of the shire for the county of Salop, had maliciously named the said petitioners to be the collectors of the tenths, and fifteenths granted in that parliament; and, in further prosecution of their malice, had by force of arms obstructed them, and killed their horses to the detriment of the king's revenues, and the dishonour of his crown and dignity. The answer to this petition appears in the large schedule annexed".
(The large schedule above referred to, enumerates many instances of interruption received by the said collectors, at Eton, Moreton Corbet, Oldbury, and Shrewsbury; and the particulars of an attack made at Dunstable (where the king, Henry V, then was) on two of the said collectors, who were deputed by their brethren to carry their collection to the Exchequer, when they were cruelly beat and wounded by Roger Leney. Ordered to be tried, by due form of law, in the court of the king's bench).

The above refers to the petitions presented to parliament the first sitting of which was held at Leicester in 1414 on 30th April, in the presence of Henry V.

(ex Mrs Constance Bullock)

Eddowes Salopian Journal

9th July 1845

Monday.

(Before J.T.S. Edwards and E.H. Haycock Esq., Justices of the Peace)

Thomas Jones and Joseph Thomas two labourers residing in Castle Foregate were charged by P.C. Swinnerton with fighting near the Threshers Inn between 8 and 9 o'clock on Saturday evening. The defendants admitted the charge but pleaded in excuse they were in liquor and had only had one round. They were required to find sureties to keep the peace for 2 months, and pay the expenses, 4s.6d. each.

(Abstract of the Quarter Sessions Rolls for Shropshire 1820-1830)

ANN BAGOT'S DIARY (Continued)Dec. 1819A visit to Brighton Pavillion

19th. The storm at sea which has been to my Lichfield eyes very awful abated and the fishing boats to the number of ten which have been in the utmost danger all safely return'd.

20th. Went with Sir Thomas to see the Pavilion which is more like the Palace of Aladdin than any other habitation I could fancy. Instead of the Rook's egg in the Dome there is a Dragon. Charlotte, Willy & I went to a Conjurors at the desire of the Duchess of Leeds - He was excellent in his way.

21st. The Duchess of Leeds, her daughter & son in Law, Lady Catherine Mr. Melville - Gen. Mr. Harcourt, Capt. Waldegrave dined. The Duchess is not I think quite unlike Mrs. Bagot - the seeing her always reminds me of St. Asaph.

22nd. Lady Catherine Stewart called. She said she was obliged to me for having tried to get Lady Stamford to live at Lichfield.

23rd. Heard from Mrs. Drummond that the soldiers had been sitting up for 4 nights to guard the Cannon which a body of Radicals from Birmingham had threaten'd to attack.

25th. Christmas Day. Went in the morn: to St. James' Chapel. I was shock'd at the indecorum of pushing to get up first to the Altar.

26th. Went to St. James' Chapel. The Duke & Duchess of Gloucester were there.

27th. Lord & Lady Saye & Sele, Miss Twistleton, Lord Eardley, Mr. & Mrs. H. Windsor dined.

28th. Went with all the six young Neaves to a show of Wild Beasts.

1820

I went with Caroline to the Parish Church and saw there poor Ralph Sneyd's monument.

Ann Bagot's Diary (contd.)

23rd. Sir John better. He had observed many of his clothes mark'd C.B. and on asking his servant what it meant was told he had done it "as they were his second best"

30th. Went to St. James' Chapel & heard a very good sermon on the Duke of Kent but without any allusion to the great event of the day.¹ How differently it is attended to what it used to be at Blithfield in my youth. In the evening arrived the account of the death of our dear good old King² at 4 o'clock in the morning in this the 60th year of his reign - it brought to my recollection my Father's saying Sir Walter [Bagot] had inform'd him of the death of his predecessor on his return from the Sunday duty at Leigh. It is then, 60 years since the words "the King is dead" have been heard in the Land.

31st. The King's death confirm'd with the exception that it took place at 8 o'clock on the evening of the 29th. Went with Sir Thomas and his two girls to hear George the 4th proclaim'd - the Duchess of Leeds join'd us.

Feb.

4th. Left with Sir Thomas who good naturedly conveyed me and my baggage to London. Much have I enjoy'd the two months I have spent with them. We arrived in Grosvenor Square to dinner. The house gave me beaucoup a penser - the head of Mary Howard in the unfinish'd picture belonging to Wm. in her Mother's dressing room which we inhabit did me good to see, it is very like. I walk'd to Park St. my Aunts seem'd quite knocked down by the accounts of Lady Bagot. She is nearly the last thing belonging to them.

5th. Levett called in the morning the account of the death of Lady Bagot at 4 o'clock at Blithfield on the morn: of the 4th.

6th. Went with Levett to Park St. Chapel. We had a funeral sermon on the last King ending with a Eulogium on the present - his illness which, so dangerous happening so immediately after the death of his father, occasions a very great sensation both of consternation and of awe.

¹ Probably the anniversary of the Decapitation of King Charles 1st on Jan. 30th 1649.

² King George III

Ann Bagot's Diary (contd.)Visits to Lord Curzon & Baroness Howe

8th. Dined in Park St. tête-à-tête with Aunt Betty and a great batch of talk of old things and old places and old people one had they seem'd to have in great measure recover'd the shock they had received from the death of My Lady.

9th. Miss Curzon came for me to go to Richmond owing to a blunder we did not arrive till Lord³ Curzon, Lady Bromley & Miss Harbord had begun their dinner - Lord Curzon did not know me but confused me with the Anne Bagot of his own youth said I must be very old.

10th. Lady⁴ Bromley took me to Twickenham to see Baroness Howe who rec: me very cordially. Sir Watkin Waller shew'd me more beautiful things than I ever saw before in the same space - Spoils of French Royalty noblesse - amongst them a kind of Patchwork curtains which had hung some of the apartments of Louis 14th, the work of Mdl. de Maintenan and the Ladies of St. Cyr. The fleur de lys had been picked out by some fool during the Revolution. There was also some china belonging to the Dairy of Petit Trianon since the property of Josephine, a writing table which had belong'd to Louis 12th, 15th & 16th beautifully ornamented with Séveres China and there was also a picture of the Duke of Orleans delivering his sword to Sir Wm. Weller at the battle of Agincourt as well as a candlestick to commemorate the same event. Lord Wellesley when he was asked if he had heard Sir Watkin had made out his descent from the Waller of Agincourt said "Aye. Descent so rapid it might be called a Cateract."

13th. Lord Curzon's 91st birthday I was quite glad to be able to celebrate it with him. Many is the pleasant day I have spent under his hospitable roof at Hagley.

14th. Lady Bromley brought me back to Grosvenor Square. A letter from Lord Bagot worded most kindly to say his mother had left me a legacy of £100.

16th. Lady Barbara Legge to marry F. Newdigate.

³ Lord Curzon was Assheton 2nd son of Sir Nathaniel Curzon of Kedleston. Created a Viscount 1802 - His son Penn Assheton married Sophia heiress & daughter of Admiral Earl Howe K.C. Baroness in her own right. Lord Curzon lived at Hagley, Rugeley.

⁴ Lady Bromley Lord Curzon's daughter

Ann Bagot's Diary (contd.)An Attempted Assassination of the Ministers

18th. Dined at Whitehall with Elizabeth and her children. Phillimore I hardly saw as he came home from the house late and went in immediately to Lord Buckingham's. Rather nervous work in the Political line. Went in the morning with Honora to the Bazaar which is a wonderful sight in its way. We went also to the Panorama of Spitzbergen so well done it makes one cold to look at it.

19th. Sent Ann Temple away to my great expense and inconvenience from impudence of language neglect of duty of no common description. Jarvis took her to the coach to wait to see her actually gone. Went in my Aunts' carriage to call upon the mother of my new maid Rebecca Turner who seems very tidy and promising - I do hope she may do - George & Wm. Legge came from Westminster.

Honora, George and myself went to dine at Chelsea with the Bishop of Winchester....blind, lame rather deaf, still keeps his kind heart sweet temper, the manners of the well bred gentleman are still apparent....We left there early - George and I went to the Comic Opera.

21st. ...drank tea with Lady Suffolk. I thought her a good deal aged since we had last met. Perhaps she thought the same of me.

24th. The town in consternation at the intended attempt to stab the ministers which was prevented by the vigilance of the police seizing the miscreants just before they left their den of iniquity the place they had fixed on was Lord Harrowby's close to us. Lord Harrowby was some little time ago in the park - a milkman stopped him and asked him if he was not Lord Harrowby and on answering in the affirmative he said "Take this note to Lord Castlereagh it concerns you all!" the note contained an account of the conspiracy. I walked to tell my Aunts thinking they would hear frightful reports and know nothing.

29th. My journey home as I intended could not take place owing to the Dissolution of parliament.

Anne Bagot's Diary (contd.)Death of Lord Curzon aged 91March

1st. Sir Thomas going tomorrow to Chelmsford to begin his office of Sheriff to his great annoyance. He had dined a day or two ago with Lord Westmorland who told him that six weeks ago he was given a cabinet dinner but that the house of Lords providently sitting longer than was expected, prevented most of his guests from coming - that day had been fixed for an attempt to assassinate him but so few arriving of the ministry, the miscreants who had laid the plot did not think it worth while to murder them.

2nd. . . Saw the intended Assassins well guarded, go by to the Tower.

7th. Left Grosvenor Square between 9 and 10 - Went by Totteridge to see little Dick Levett who I found in his bedroom with 3 other boys recovering from measles - He seem'd very well taken care of - I got to Daventry about ten o'clock.

8th. Came through Coventry the day the Polling for new members began but suffered no inconvenience from it. Came home where I found the old members just elected.

14th. The town full of noise from the arrival of Sir John Boughy and the County full of surprise, I believe at the resignation of Lord Gower!⁵ To be sure it is a turn of the wheel of fortune when I think of the relative position of the two candidates in my youth.

22nd. The three Lady Greys called upon me. I had not seen them for many years and many recollections did the sight of them recall. Their manners seem very pleasing though they have not the beauty of their poor Mother - Mrs. C. Madan came to see me at Breakfast to tell me of the death of our Kind old friend Lord Curzon. How many happy hours have I spent under his hospitable roof I am quite glad I saw him so lately at Richmond.

⁵ Lord Gower was the son of the Marquess of Stafford and Elizabeth Countess of Sunderland in her own right - Their Staffordshire seat was Trentham.

FROM THE BOYNE TO THE BRAMPTON Bill Swinarton

This book was the first and only knowledge I had of my great grandfather Thomas Swinarton. I can remember, as a child, that my family had a copy but unfortunately it has long since disappeared. Nobody at present knows what happened to it. This is now a rare book and a collector's item.

William Perkins Bull was quite a historian and apparently he spent many years and probably a great deal of money in collecting the history of Peel County, Ontario.

This book was one of about half a dozen that were published for Bull. One of the others was "From Rattlesnake Hunt to Hockey". I do not have the pertinent pages but the book includes a picture of the 1904 Bolton Hockey Team with William Albert Swinerton.

"From the Boyne to Brampton" is a history of the Orange Lodge in Peel County. Thomas Samuel Swinarton was a devoted Orangeman and so earned his niche in this book. Columbia #1020 L. O. L. was chartered, Aug. 3, 1869 to Thomas Swinarton according to present day records of the Orange Lodge in Toronto. I have hopefully corrected them on the proper spelling. Thomas was first master of the Lodge. As you will note he had his ups and downs. George Miller, James Wolfe, and James Roberts had already, in 1861, got into hot water with Columbia L.O.L. No. 1020 when they, together with Thomas Swinarton, retiring master of the lodge, had been charged with using their influence against the Grand Master during the recent election. They had been expelled at that time but re-admitted, as it were on probation, after being for some months without the annual.

After five years' service, Cameron had intended to retire, but these attacks on his conduct in parliament brought him up fighting. He insisted the state should not "coerce the conscience of any man".

"The Roman Catholic declares that it is against his conscience to separate religious from secular education; he says that such is the teaching of his Church, and however erroneous we as Protestants may believe that teaching, his faith is that it is true. He claims that as part of the religious liberty which the civil Government has given him, that the conscience of his child shall not be subjected to secular teaching only, and he asks that his own rates and taxes only - not a farthing of any Protestant's - shall be allowed him for that purpose."

This was startling doctrine for Orangemen, and it is a tribute to their fine spirit and to Cameron's own greatness of character and personality that he was permitted to make defence before the Grand Lodge at Belleville. It is an even finer tribute that Grand Lodge completely vindicated his stand, re-electing him by acclamation.

In this summer another County Fermanagh Irishman, Frank Somers, made the acquaintance of George Rutledge at an especially spectacular parade in

Toronto. George L. Allen, formerly of Streetsville and now governor of the Toronto gaol, was Grand Marshal, and introduced his old Peel friend to the younger new comer. "He's from Maguire's Bridge, and is going to be a real help to us," said Allen, who was master of Somers's lodge. His prophecy was fulfilled. Somers was to be county master 1884-7, and to render valuable service in connection with the erection of the present county Orange hall. His son James has a splendid record of fifty years as city clerk in Toronto.

Allen was a guest at an auspicious wedding in the summer of 1863, when Isaac Ferguson of Cookstown, brother of Thomas Roberts Ferguson, became his brother's brother-in-law by marrying Gowan's younger daughter.

Thomas Swinarton, who represented Cardwell in the provincial house in 1867, lived in Albion township. He was born in County Down, but had seen thirty-six years of Canadian life. He was a practical business man, operating successfully a grist mill, carding mill, saw-mill, tannery, and general store. He had also a wide experience in municipal politics. Eight year earlier he had founded Columbia L.O.L. No. 1020, of which he was first master.

Elected as an anti-coalitionist, Swinarton refused to accept the dictation of George Brown. In the second session, with eight companions, he went over to Sandfield Macdonald. These "nine martyrs", as the *Globe* satirically called them, were much aggrieved at the contumely heaped upon them by their old comrades and supporters.

John Coyne, although of greater mental stature than Swinarton, and selected by Clarke as one of the prominent supporters to whom the Sandfield Macdonald government could point with special pride, resembled his fellow member in that he was a man of independent mind, capable of sinking party feeling when it conflicted with principle. His remarks were always "tersely put, with a dash of sarcasm making them acceptable to friends and remarkably disagreeable to opponents".

His maiden speech was to move the address in reply to the first speech from the Throne in this first Ontario legislature. In it he stressed the importance of obliterating party differences. Also, surprisingly, he advocated the conservation of timber - then recklessly wasted - the transfer of tavern licences from municipal to legislative hands, a new policy of wild land settlement to relieve congestion in older farming communities, and the appointment of a proper board of audit.

At the nominations White found himself,

"Pitted against an opponent, who, in a back sitting-room, was resting with one eye covered with a piece of raw beef and a lump on the side of his head that spoiled the set of his hat, and who was unable to take part in the speaking that followed the nomination. Clarke Wallace urged the election of Bob White; Thomas Swinterton [sic], of Bolton, reeve, of Albion, protested against an outsider coming to Cardwell; Bob White asked for support for 'the grand old party and the grand old flag' ... Colonel Tyrwhitt urged unity; Went

Willoughby said White would win . . . Elgin Myers, of Orangeville, although an avowed Grit, supported Stubbs; and Sir John Thompson appealed for support of the Conservative policy of building up a greater and a united Canada."

Not long before this No. 455 had suffered a heavy loss in Thomas Swinarton, a former member of its building committee and master in 1855, who withdrew in 1859 to organize L.O.L. No. 1020 at Columbia. With him went Robert Elliott, a former deputy master who became secretary. Other inaugural officers of the new lodge included William Scott, deputy master, James McGinnis, treasurer, John Rhodes, tyler, and Forbes Duke, senior committee-man. In the year of its organization No. 1020 received congratulatory visits from lodges at some distance, for the minutes of L.O.L. No. 613, away up at Black Horse, note that members were to "go to Columby Village on 5th November" in this year. Soon after the formation of No. 1020, No. 148 had moved to Macville and Booth had taken over a further contingent of Orangemen from No. 455.

In 1879 No. 146 absorbed the little unit No. 1020 which had served its purpose at Coventry but was now too weak to continue independently. It started out bravely, but under Robert Elliott, master, 1862, and William McKee, master, 1863-73, the membership flagged, and it was not until the seventies that there was a temporary revival. A committee appointed in 1866 to secure the schoolhouse for regular meetings evidently succeeded, for in 1870 James McAllister had been appointed to "look after the Lamp that belongs to the School-house".

No. 1020's chief trouble was political disunion. Swinarton was under fire in 1861 for having supported J. C. Aikins against John Hillyard Cameron and again in 1870 when he was considering withdrawing from the lodge. By 1876, however, when William Dowzer was worshipful master, Swinarton's store became the regular meeting-place.

It is notable that the lodge was strongest when Swinarton was in favour, and that the final decay seems to have been associated with his transfer to No. 260 of which he appears as first committee-man in 1878. In December of the following year the lodge voted to join with Bolton.

Columbia had a cadet lodge as well; the story of the distressing parade of 1860 refers to its cadet band. It is possible that these juniors were merged in the junior Bolton organization, which seems to have been considered fairly strong financially at least. In 1876 the senior lodge called upon "the young Brittens" for \$10 towards mortgage interest. In 1877 the junior society was billed with half the taxes and insurance on the hall and in 1878 it was charged \$85 and "half of any expences incurred until their money is paid".

Abstract made by Mrs Pauline Litton of the will of Thomas SWYNERTON [TS48] of the parish of MADELEY, Yeoman.

Will made 14 Jun 1552.

(1 sheet A3: Inventory 1 x A4)

No statement re age, state of health etc. Soul to God. Body to be buried in MADELEY Church

All lands, tenements etc. to executors + rents belonging, for 11 years after his decease, except third part which goes to wife Elen during natural life.

Executors to pay debts, take care of children & discharge funeral expenses.

After 11 yrs. all lands etc. go to William Swinerton "son & heir apparent" (& to his legally begotten heirs for ever) except for copyhold lands in the lordshippe of KELE, co.Staffs.

If William has no legal issue, then legacy passes to Hugh S., next son, & his legal heirs or, next, to son John S. & his legal heirs ... or to Grace MORRES, daughter, & Johane S., daughter, & their legal heirs.

If no heirs at all, then to remaining legal heirs of Thomas S. forever.

Johane (dau.) to have 20 marks. Hugh (son) to have £10

John (son) to have £10 Grace MORRES (dau) to have (??)

William (son) to have 5 marks when he reaches full age if there is enough left.

Randull LEIGH, gent., to supervise William + lands etc. until William is of full age. Also to 'rule' etc. the other children. Hugh & Johane to dwell in 'my mansion house called Ryehill' (presumably Ridgehill) until William is of full age.

Rest & residue of goods to be divided between Hugh, Johane, & John

Executors: Randull LEIGH, Hugh S. & Johane S. who are to have 4/- each 'for their paynes'.

Witnesses: George HILTON, Rauffe HALES CLEYE (?), Randull LEIGH & John SEDWAYS (?)

List of debts owing to:

Richard COCLOUGHE,	4 nobles	William LAWTON	4 nobles
William SYMSON	5 marks	William BOOKELEY	24 shillings
William Byskyne	a noble	Robart Hales	a noble

Inventory

19 items listed.

Oxen, Asses, Kine, Heffers, Bullocks, Calves, Twinter Heffer, Mare, Sheep (? & lambs), Swine, Poultry, Wheat, Barley & Oats, Bedding, Pewter & Brass, Coffers & Looms, Yoke etc., Treenware.

Mrs Litton says:

Can quite see why Rev. Charles got tied in knots with this one! Half the time it sounds as William was the youngest son, the rest of the time as if he was the eldest. If Hugh wasn't legitimate (Swinerton of Butterson tree) then neither was John. It sounds as if William was the eldest and that John had left home even if still under age (personal opinion based on statement that Hugh & Johane were to remain in house until William of age. No mention in Will of Ellen Grace definitely married to a MORRES which might not make any difference except that MOORES is often spelt that way in Cheshire.

Sounds also (personal opinion again) as if Thomas's wife, or possibly his mother, was a LEIGH since Randull was guardian to the children. Reference to Thomas S. whose 'remaining legal heirs' inherit if Thomas himself ends up without any could refer to Thomas his grandfather which, to me, casts doubt on William entered tentatively as brother of Thomas (jnr).

The following Inventory of Ellen only complicates matters; could she have been Thomas's mother?

INVENTORY OF ELLEN SWYNNERTON OF MADELEY

1 x A4 sheet

Inventory taken 13 Jun 1551

Elyn SWYNNETON of RIDGEHILL, parish of Madeley.

Sheep, 1 panne, a cloth gowne, a Kyrteell of sey, a sylver pynne, □ a Kerchyff, Lynneyn, a whyte cappe

a lease of ground in the Lordship of KELE

a lease of ground in the Lordship of MADELEY

Appraisors:

Randull LEE, gent. (they never could decide how to spell Lee/Leigh etc.)

Thoms WHYTMORE, yeoman.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Swinnerton Society held at Swynnerton on Saturday June 5th 1999

The Chairman, Iain Swinnerton, welcomed 70 members to the Silver Jubilee AGM of the Society. Sadly, he had to report the death of our former chairman, Joe Swinnerton. The meeting stood for a minute in silence in memory of Joe.

1.99 APOLOGIES were received from Sir Roger Swynnerton, Kay Sabell, Val Dall, the Rev. Edward Swynnerton, David Swynnerton, Col. Jeremy Swynnerton and Norman Swynnerton.

2.99 MINUTES of the last AGM, which had been published in the Journal, were taken as read, approved and signed.

3.99 MATTERS ARISING The "Steeple-chase Notes" are not published yet, but will be printed as soon as they are ready. The sashes for stewards were obtained by Joe and are being worn for the first time at this AGM.

4.99 CHAIRMAN'S REPORT. Iain Swinnerton reported that the Council of the Society had met twice since the last AGM – once in Somerset and once in Birmingham. The society was making steady progress and he was very pleased to see more members becoming involved. It was vital we looked for younger members to carry on the work of the Society into the next Millennium.

5.99 ARCHIVIST'S REPORT Iain Swinnerton reported that the Family Trees were pinned up in the Village Hall as usual. He asked the meeting to write in pencil any alterations to their own family trees. These are now being computerising to make amendments in the future much easier. Great progress was being made with the computerisation of our other records but there was still a lot to do.

6.99 TREASURER'S REPORT Draft accounts were presented by Keith Livesey but they had yet to be audited. He also mentioned that there are funds in America, Australia, Canada and New Zealand which are used, in the main, for research in these countries.

7.99 MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT Geoffrey Swinnerton volunteered to take over this job at our last Council Meeting and he had been kept busy banking money he had received for memberships, and the cost of the day for the gathering, as well as donations. He will try to encourage more people to become members.

8.99 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chairman: Iain Swinnerton, was proposed by Geoffrey Swinnerton.

Secretary: Elizabeth Swynnerton proposed by Elizabeth Livesey.

Treasurer: Keith Livesey was retiring. Cynthia Howe was proposed by Geoffrey Swinnerton, and seconded by Roger Swynnerton.

Council Members: The Rev. Brian Swynnerton was nominated for re-election. Roy Talbot, a co-opted member, and Elizabeth Livesey were nominated. These elections were proposed en bloc Roger Swynnerton, and seconded by Leslie Swinnerton.

Auditor: Frank Swinnerton agreed to replace Nigel Sabell as auditor. He was proposed by the Rev. Brian Swynnerton and seconded by Rosemary Swinnerton.

The Chairman thanked Keith Livesey for the work he had contributed to the society as Treasurer and asked that our thanks should be recorded in the minutes. The members greeted this with considerable applause showing their appreciation of all his efforts.

The Chairman also thanked the other officers for their work over the past year.

9.99 ANY OTHER BUSINESS The Society now has its own page on the St. Mary's web-site on the Internet. Roger Swynnerton reported on his liaison with Steve Parkhouse, who runs the church's web site at Swynnerton.

10.99 JUBILEE BANNER the Jubilee Banner, now completed, was on display in the church. The work on the banner was done by members in Canada, the USA, New Zealand, Australia and England. Special thanks were given to Angela Swinnerton, who co-ordinated the making and completion of the banner, and to Ron Swinnerton, who made the stand.

Iain Swinnerton expressed our appreciation and thanks to Geoffrey Swinnerton and his sisters, Francis, Valerie and Cynthia who had borne the entire cost of the banner, in memory of their mother and father,

11.99 CORRESPONDENCE

The Rev. Brian Swynnerton read a letter from the Rev. Barry Brewer, Rector of Swynnerton, assuring us of our welcome to St. Mary's Church. He informed the meeting of the provision of a new carpet, which was now laid in the church. He thanked the Society for their promise of a gift of money to church funds. The meeting voted a sum of £900 to be used to provide runners for the pews. Some money from Society funds would be given, as well as the proceeds of the raffle to be held that afternoon, and an approach should also be made to members in the next edition of Swinnerton Family History.

THE FAMILY TREES

Roy Talbot

Displayed at the Society's periodic Gatherings may be found the considerable acreage of the family trees. These were originally created many years ago by a great deal of hard work by our chairman and, most notably, our former secretary, David Brock.

Unfortunately, as time passes, the completion of more and more research tends to render them further and further out of date. The time has come, therefore, to create the next edition of the trees, this time with the aid of electronic technology.

I have started to do this but it is most noticeable that there is a paucity of data pertaining to the 20th century and those of you who attended the Gathering will remember you were invited to make any additions you could there and then.

Any member who feels the urge, therefore, could be most helpful by dropping a line to me, Roy Talbot, at 9 Sadleir Road, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL1 2BL indicating particulars and relationships of modern Swinnertons and the spouses thereof particularly any alterations since you joined the Society.

FAMILY NOTES

Our congratulations to our member Leonard Swinnerton, a regular attender at our Gatherings, who celebrated his 90th Birthday on the 26th July.

His grandson, Paul, has appeared in these pages several times in reports of his acting career but Leonard's son, Paul's father, our member Colin Swinnerton has now also decided to 'tread the boards' and made his acting, singing and dancing debut at the Grove Park Theatre, Wrexham as Lord Brockhurst in "The Boy Friend". It got good reviews and, at the age of 58, who knows - he may very well have a new career in front of him. We shall watch his career with interest.

We were very sorry to hear of the death of Winifred Swinnerton, aged 87 widow of Geoffrey Swinnerton and mother of Peter and Cynthia. Peter said he chose to send me the sad news by e-mail as he was sure the use of modern technology would have brought a smile to his parents' faces.

And finally:

Swynnerton Parish Council have decided to mark the Millenium by providing a Toposcope in hard York stone on high ground at Swynnerton donated by Lord Stafford.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE SWINNERTON SOCIETY

Swinnerton Family History (The Quarterly Journal of the Society)

Vol.1 1974-5. Vol.2 1955-1977. Vol.3 1977-79.

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Price per volume - UK £2.50 USA \$5 Canada \$8 Australia \$6

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Swynnerton & the Swinnertons by the Rev.Brian Swinnerton

Swynnerton Family Trees Vol.1

Two Early Staffordshire Charters by the Rev.Charles Swynnerton

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Overseas members please send dollar notes as the commissions deducted by the banks for exchanging dollar cheques are prohibitive.