

## An Itinerary of Nottingham.

Continued from the Transactions of 1934, pp. 1-15.

*Being information as to the history of the Streets, Buildings, etc,  
of the City, collected from many sources by*

J. HOLLAND WALKER, F.S.A., F.R.HIST.S.

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*This itinerary was prepared before modern conditions altered the lay-out of the streets of Nottingham. It has been thought better to leave the itinerary as it was when written so as to preserve some record of many streets and houses now destroyed.*

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### THURLAND STREET.

**T**HURLAND Street is quite modern. It was laid out in 1845, but it is more or less upon the site of a very historic mansion which was first called Thurland Hall and then its name was changed to Clare Hall. It was called Thurland Hall from its builder, Thomas Thurland, who died in 1473 or 1474. He was an extremely wealthy merchant of the staple and a very valuable citizen, being elected as burgess and Member of Parliament four times. He was nine times Mayor of Nottingham, and his public spirit is reflected by the great gifts that he gave for the reparation of the bridge, which in those far-off times had to be kept in order by private benefactors. He was made Commissioner for Land Taxes, and it is interesting to realise that he assessed himself on one-tenth of his income, which amounted to the extraordinary sum of 74/7½d. Amongst other activities, he was a benefactor of the Trinity Guild whose altar stood in the north transept of St. Mary's Church, and eventually he was buried in

this transept and the canopy of his tomb still remains. He built Thurland Hall in 1458, and a very delightful residence it must have been, for it and its grounds occupied eight and a half acres of land, the property being bounded by Parliament Street on the north, Pelham Street and Carlton Street on the south, Clumber Street on the west, and Broad Street on the east. This hall remained in the Thurland family for some time, but was eventually sold to Thomas Markham somewhere about the time of Queen Elizabeth's death.

The Markham family is interesting. It seems to have been founded by Mr. John Markham of Cotham, near Hawton, who was Standard-bearer to Queen Elizabeth's company of Gentlemen Pensioners. His son, Thomas Markham, was the man who bought Thurland Hall, and he in his turn sold it to Sir John Holles, who was son of Denzil and Eleanor Holles. He had seen much service fighting against the Armada, and had been a member of the Azores expedition, and so distinguished himself in Ireland that he won his knighthood. Thereafter, he went to Hungary and fought against the Turks and succeeded to the family estates at Houghton in 1590. The family was of great importance in 17th-century Nottingham, and when James I visited Nottingham in 1616, his eminence was emphasized by the king creating him Baron Houghton. This honour was augmented upon the occasion of James I's visit to Nottingham in 1624, when he made him the Earl of Clare.

This first Earl of Clare was married to the daughter of Sir Thomas Stanhope of Shelford, and he died in Thurland Hall in 1637 and was buried in St. Mary's Church. His son John was born in 1595, and was made Recorder of Nottingham in 1642. It was he who entertained King Charles at Thurland Hall upon the king's

visit to Nottingham to raise the Standard at the commencement of the Civil War. The Earl of Clare was a Loyalist and suffered for his convictions. He died in 1665, and was buried, like his father, in St. Mary's Church.

Of his son Gilbert, the third Earl, there is little to say, but his grandson John, the fourth Earl, married in 1690 Margaret Cavendish, the co-heiress of the Duke of Newcastle, and he was created the first Duke of Newcastle of the second creation. He died in 1711, having brought into the Newcastle family the Clare name and estates.

The old hall must have been an extensive and interesting building. In the 18th century it consisted of a single wing, in the centre of which was placed a double row of ornamented pilasters. The main door was eight feet above the ground and was reached by stairs, as was common in those days. The Hall was built of brick but had a stone facade towards Pelham Street. It was crowned by curved gables, and the heavy stonework window frames gave it a rather gloomy appearance. Four royal visits were paid to it : Charles I stopped here two nights in 1612 and in 1614 ; in 1634, Charles I and his Queen spent five nights within its walls, and such was the popularity of the royal pair in those days, only eight years before the outbreak of hostilities, that considerable sums of money were spent in tidying up the town, cleaning and smoothing the roads, rough casting house fronts and so forth, in order that their majesties might be edified by a neat town. Only eight years later, in 1642, Charles was again here, but his reception, as we all know, was very different from that which he obtained on his former visit.

It was just after this that a rather curious character,

Robert Loveday, was employed in Thurland Hall, probably as a footman or upper servant. He had considerable literary pretensions, and published several volumes of poems, including *Love's Masterpiece*, which drew to its author considerable attention.

The house seems to have been abandoned by its noble owner soon after this, and in Deering's time the Tradesmen's Assembly was held in its court-room, which was seventy feet long by twenty feet wide, on the third Thursday in each month, and in 1816, at a meeting held within its walls, it was decided to establish the library which afterwards became the Bromley House Library. Eventually, the old house was pulled down in 1831, and it all disappeared. However, a few fragments still remained underground, and these were discovered in the course of some building operations in Cobden Chambers by the late Mr. Harry Gill. They only consisted of foundations which, I believe, Mr. Gill carefully measured and drew, but unfortunately I do not know where these drawings are now preserved.

On part of the site of Thurland Hall the Corn Exchange was built in 1850, and thirteen years later, in 1863, within the walls of this Corn Exchange, the Nottingham Chamber of Commerce was established.

Number eight is the building in which, in 1853, the Artisans' Library was established, which afterwards developed into the Free Public Library which was opened on April 13th, 1868, by Alderman Barber, the then Mayor of Nottingham.

#### CARLTON STREET.

Carlton Street, a wide open space nowadays, is a relic of very ancient times. It only obtained its present name in 1802, and before that it had been called

Swine Green, a name which clung to it even after it had been officially designated Carlton Street. We can trace this name of Swine Green back as far as 1408, and it calls up visions of an agricultural Nottingham which has now disappeared. In the Middle Ages, everybody kept swine, but they were a public nuisance. One comes across all sorts of strange regulations concerning them in old records, but even allowing for these regulations, it must have been very unpleasant to have pigstyes here, there and everywhere throughout the town. A swineherd was appointed for Nottingham, and it was his duty each morning to collect the swine of the town and drive them out to their feeding ground at the Coppice and elsewhere, and to bring them back again in the evening, and it was on Swine Green that the pigs were collected each morning and a certain number of them were herded there for the night. It appears to have been an extensive area, stretching down as far as Parliament Street, and at its lower end in later times a pottery sprung up. Somewhere on it, as we have seen when considering High Cross Street was situated the mysterious Headless Cross, and it was in this open space that was first established the great fair of St. Matthew, which has come down to our day as Goose Fair.

The George Hotel is called after George de Ligne Gregory, who was the representative of the Gregory family in his day. The Gregory's as we have seen, built their great house facing Swine Green at the upper end of Gridlesmith Gate in 1674. There were two families of Gregory in Nottingham in the 17th century which were unconnected with each other. This family was established by John Gregory, who was Mayor in 1571 and again in 1586. His son, William, represented the town in Parliament and gave the tenements called

the White Rents to the town for the benefit of the poor. The family has always been very intimately associated with the public life of the town until almost modern times, and a portion of their old house still remains behind the modern premises occupied as a banking house and as Messrs. Bell's book shop.

#### GEORGE STREET.

George Street is so called in honour of George de Lign Gregory, who sold the land upon which George Street was formed for building, about 1810. For a long time, the district had been known as Gregory's Paddock, but this was considered by no means a sufficiently dignified name, and so the modern one was adopted.

As the street is so modern, there is little of interest to say about it. Upon its eastern side stood, from 1820 to 1925, St. Paul's Church, which was built from the designs of a London architect, a certain Mr. Wilkins. Its classic exterior was somewhat impressive with its great portico supported by Corinthian pillars. Although in its early days it did good work and made its mark upon the ecclesiastical life and local history of the town, it gradually became redundant as the district ceased to be residential, and its congregation removed elsewhere, and so eventually it was pulled down and its site has been utilised for business premises.

During its demolition, very extensive relics of a mediaeval kiln were found underneath it, which were probably associated with the potteries which were known to have worked in this neighbourhood up to about the 15th century.

Almost opposite to the site upon which St. Paul's Church stood, remains an ecclesiastical-looking building now used for business purposes. This is the

old centre of Roman Catholic activities in the town. As we have seen already, for many years the Roman Catholics met in King's Place, but about 1827 their activities were very much increased and many new converts flocked to their place of worship. This humble sanctuary in King's Place was found to be quite inadequate for their needs, and so a site was purchased in Gregory's Paddock and a church was erected and opened in 1828. It remained their principal centre until St. Barnabas Cathedral on Derby Road was ready for their occupation, and when they removed to their new Cathedral, they disposed of the old building in George Street, and upon dismantling it sold the organ to St. Nicholas Church. The Baptist Chapel which stands close to this disused church, was built at the cost of £6,000 in 1815. This body of worshippers was originally formed in Carey's Chapel in Park Street.

The only interesting event which has occurred in George Street appears to have been in 1832. In that year the town celebrated with processions, banners, and all manner of festivities the passing of the Reform Bill. The school children of the town took part in the procession, and at the conclusion of their itinerary they were marched into George Street, the ends of which were barricaded off, and there the children were regaled with tea.

#### LINCOLN STREET.

Lincoln Street, with its tributaries Clinton Street and Houghton Street, reflect the titles of the Newcastle family, and appear to have been formed about 1812 to give access to the back land of Clumber Street, which, at that period, was sold by the Duke of Newcastle for building purposes. Only one interesting person seems to have lived in this neighbourhood, and his interest

is rather more gruesome than important, and we have already met him when considering the General Cemetery, for it was in Lincoln Street that in 1838 lived John Wheatley, the eccentric who, so far from fearing death and all funeral panoplies, purchased for himself a site in the General Cemetery where he caused so much scandal by erecting a summer house by the side of his open grave. In his house in Lincoln Street, he kept his coffin which, he used as a cupboard in which to store his supply of beer and wine.

#### CLUMBER STREET.

Clumber Street, although only of secondary age, for it was part of the enclosure of old Nottingham, has always been of the utmost importance in the policy of the town, for it was a link in the great chain of through communication throughout the Middle Ages. It formed part of the earliest route *via* Narrow Marsh, Drury Hill and Bridlesmith Gate, and also it was a portion of the latter route *via* Hollow Stone, the Pavements and Bridlesmith Gate, so that ever since the formation of pre-Conquest Nottingham, which was certainly no later than 924 and probably much earlier, Clumber Street has been a part of the main road to the north.

For centuries it was called Cow Lane, and we can trace this name with a variety of spellings, such as "Cowlane" and "Kaulan," etc. right back to 1298. I think, probably, it derives its name from the fact that the cattle would be driven out along it to their pasturage, which was towards the modern St. Ann's Well Road, just as the sheep used Sheep Lane, the predecessor of Market Street, as their exit from the town. It is pleasant to remember that its name is very similar to one of the exits from ancient Rome, the Porta Mugonia. When



Henry II caused the town to be fortified, one of the town gates stood at the northern end of Clumber Street about in the middle of where Parliament Street is nowadays, and of that we will say more later. Clumber Street, albeit a busy and important thoroughfare, has always presented a difficult problem to the Civic Authorities by reason of its narrowness. It was a little wider at its northern end than it was at its southern end, but that is not saying very much, and in 1812, sixteen feet were added to it through the action of the then Duke of Newcastle, who was desirous of marketing the land which had formed the estate upon which Thurland Hall was built, and who realised that a wider Cow Lane would be a very great advantage to the purchasers of the property he had to offer.

This widening all took place on the eastern side, so that there is nothing of antiquarian interest to be looked for on that side. At any rate, his action was looked upon as patriotic by his contemporaries, and the old name of Cow Lane was changed to Clumber Street in honour of the Duke. A great beam used to cross Cow Lane, which carried the swinging sign of the White Lion Inn, and this beam was a much-coveted point of vantage from which to witness processions and other public displays, particularly the ghastly execution processions wending their way to Gallows Hill. The White Lion Inn itself, which has come down to our own days as the Lion Hotel, was of the greatest importance to our forefathers. It appears to have been established in 1684, a year before James II came to the throne, and it was not until 1806 that the neighbourhood became so valuable that it was felt that its forecourt should be put to better purposes than being left open. Accordingly, in that year, shops were built over it which were only one storey high,

and which remained that height so as not to interfere with the light reaching the main buildings constituting the inn, which stood behind them. In 1847, the inn itself was sold, and its courtyard was built over.

It was one of the important inns of Nottingham, in fact, during part of its time I think we may be right in saying it was *the* important inn in Nottingham, although perhaps the associations of the Blackamore's Head were rather more aristocratic. It was a great social rendezvous, and was also celebrated for its cock fighting. In 1763, the great match between Nottingham cocks and London cocks, whose abandonment was caused by the poisoning of the competitors, which tragedy led, as we have seen, to the establishment of a Society for the Protection of Fighting Cocks which was arranged to take place within this inn. A few years later, in 1776, at a meeting of the aristocracy of the neighbourhood, it was agreed to erect a Grand Stand on the Nottingham Racecourse, and no less a sum than £2,460 was raised before the meeting broke up. In 1799, Thomas Wentworth, the Earl of Stratford, was staying here when he was seized with his fatal illness and expired within the walls of the old inn, and in 1779 the Duke of Cumberland, brother of George III stopped here upon the occasion of his visit to Nottingham, when he was made a freeman of the town. A year before this, in 1778, the Honourable Charles Meadows, who was the Tory candidate for Nottingham, and who was the nephew and heir of the Duke of Kingston, made the White Lion his headquarters. He was opposed by Abel Smith, a member of the great banking family, and the stage was set for a very violent election campaign. However, after the poll had remained open for about a week, Mr. Meadows withdrew his candidature, and Mr. Smith was

declared a member of Nottingham amidst the most extraordinary scenes of popular enthusiasm, for Mr. Smith was intensely popular in the town because of his benevolence and his deep sympathy with the distress of the frame-work knitters.

It was about this time that those ghastly attacks upon freedom of opinion which were called "the duckings" began, and they take their commencement from the action of a certain man called Linday of Newthorpe, at the White Lion. Thomas Paine had written a book called *The Rights of Man*, which was regarded by loyal citizens as an attack upon the King and Constitution. Paine became intensely unpopular amongst certain classes, and it was the custom to set up his effigy as a cock-shy. One such effigy was set up at Newthorpe and was fired at by the populace until all their powder was expended. They applied to Linday for a fresh supply, but he refused it, which led to a riot in which Linday's windows were broken. He applied for legal redress and attended a court which was held at the White Lion Inn, Nottingham, to press his claims. He was not successful in his suit and he, together with his companions were seized by the mob, for they believed that they were sympathisers with Paine, and were subjected to all sorts of personal insults and injuries. A well-known garment which we used in those days is called a "Spencer." It is a short coat without any tails and this coat gets its name from this outbreak, for one of the indignities to which Linday was subjected was suggested by a man called Spencer, and consisted in cutting off the tails of the wretched man's coat.

It is curious to think that this stronghold of the Tory party should so completely change its colour that by 1803 it had become the headquarters of the Whigs.

The main importance of the White Lion, however, is in the fact that during the first quarter of the 18th century and, in fact, down to about 1843, it was the headquarters of coaching in Nottingham. The Maypole, The Blackamore's Head and other inns did a certain amount of coaching, but the "Clapham Junction" of the Midlands was undoubtedly the White Lion. It was here that the through coach from London to Leeds stopped and changed its horses, giving its through passengers time for breakfast, besides dropping such passengers as desired to reach the neighbouring towns. Many coaches used it as their centre, as did also a good many wagons, so that radiating from it were innumerable routes by which passengers from other parts of the country could reach such places as Loughborough, Castle Donington, Matlock, Cromford and so forth.

It always seems to have tried to keep up to date, and we get an interesting instance of its struggles to maintain its position in the forefront of comfort from the remark that occurs in Woodward's curious *Eccentric Excursion*, which was written at the close of the 18th century. After reminding his readers that Nottingham was always celebrated for fish, particularly salmon, he points out that at the White Lion there was a large tank in which fish were kept alive so that the supplies offered to the customers of the inn should be fresh.

#### PARLIAMENT STREET.

Parliament Street is quite a modern name for an ancient thoroughfare, which as early as 1576 was known as "The Back Side." We have seen how the lay-out of Long Row into narrow and long strips, divided by numerous footpaths and with very short frontages to the busy Market Place denotes its early origin, and the Back

Side was associated with this lay-out, for it afforded access to the rear of these long, narrow strips.

In 1770, there dwelt hereabouts a man of the name of Rouse, who, notwithstanding the fact that he was not quite mentally normal, had great political aspirations. Above all things, he desired to be elected a member of Parliament, but his wishes, not unnaturally found little favour with his fellow-townsmen. In order to emphasize his pretensions, he caused a number of boards bearing the name "Parliament Street" to be prepared and exhibited in the Back Side. The innovation had no effect on his destinies, but the name struck our forefathers as being dignified and suitable, and has been applied to the thoroughfare ever since.

The very welcome width of both Upper and Lower Parliament Street has an historical significance, and is due to the fact that the Town Wall of Henry II's time ran down its midst almost from end to end. Traces of the foundations and lower courses of this wall have been found from time to time, notably in 1864 and again about 1900, so that its exact position is well known to anti-quaries. On its outer side was a wide ditch and on its inner side, as is usual in cases of defensive walls throughout the realm, was a lane which ran round the whole area and facilitated the traffic of the defenders from point to point of their fortification. We do not know exactly when the wall was abandoned, but at any rate by Tudor times its use would have vanished and it would probably have so far decayed that its ruins would either be thrown down and used to fill up the town ditch, or else used as a quarry for building purposes. Anyway, the site of the wall itself, together with the outer ditch and the inner lane, were thrown into one spacious thoroughfare which is so welcome to us nowadays.

But this spaciousness was not always appreciated as much as it is to-day, and so, in 1625 we find that for a simple fee of £6 13s. 4d. permission was granted to Thomas Jackson and his heirs to erect a row of tenements in the midst of Lower Parliament Street, which afterwards became known as Parliament Row. The granting of this permission was a very costly mistake, for when Parliament Row was finally cleared away in 1884, the alteration cost the town £20,000.

About 1732, Parliament Street was very narrow at its Chapel Bar end, and somewhere about where Toll Street now enters Parliament Street stood the Dolphin Inn, one of the little group of inns which sprang up outside the Chapel Bar for the accommodation of wayfarers arriving after the gates were closed for the night, and which may possibly derive its name from the Dauphin. Tobias meant to stay at this inn in 1732, on one of his visits to Nottingham, but apparently he had been there before and he received a letter from the landlord's daughter not only refusing him accommodation, but requesting that neither he nor his lady friends (who were roundly described as "Bedizened play-women from the fair") would visit the house. Tobias took his revenge by conducting Bouncing Bella to call on the landlord of the Dolphin disguised as a "parson's lady," dressed in a black mantilla, veil and gloves.

In front of this inn was one of the many common wells of the town, but all trace of this has long since disappeared, as have the row of fine poplar trees which stretched down the middle of Parliament Street until they were felled in 1791. Until 1853, the entrance to Parliament Street from Chapel Bar was extremely narrow, but in that year it was so widened as to allow of two vehicles passing each other, and this was sufficient

for dealing with traffic until the advent of electric trams about 1902, when the road was altered to its present width. At the north-west corner of the old street was erected St. George's Hall. It was opened with much *eclat* in 1853 by a concert in aid of the victims of the Crimean War, but it never seems to have enjoyed much popularity, and in 1902 it was pulled down to make way for street improvements.

The narrow passages and yards which connect Parliament Street with Long Row are worthy of exploration, for they present many curious and interesting features, and some of them have their story to tell, as, for instance, has Talbot Yard where, in 1850, Mr. Shaw, the eccentric founder of the great leather firm that bears his name, met with his fatal accident.

The three-storied house on the south side was used as a convent for a number of years prior to the erection of the modern establishment in College Street.

The Theatre Royal was erected in 1875 from the designs of the architect Phipp, and its portico with fine Corinthian capitals is a beautiful composition. The theatre stands upon a part of the old sand field, or sheep walk of the town, and for a long time there had been nothing on the site except a few houses and a small inn. All to the north was open fields. The theatre itself is of some importance in theatrical history, for it was in it that such plays as "The Scarlet Pimpernel" and "The Sign of the Cross" were produced, and within its walls Lewis Waller played his last part.

Mrs. Kendal, as Madge Robertson, was also associated with the Theatre Royal, and a perfectly charming story is told about her. One day a friend of hers brought his bride to the green room and introduced her to the great actress, saying that folk commented on the great

likeness between the two ladies. Mrs. Kendal critically surveyed the blushing bride, and then said to her, "Folk say we're just alike; well, my dear, I've had a good look at you and if what folk say is true, I'm quite satisfied."

Where King's Walk is now constructed, Robert Goodacre in 1799 conducted the Nottingham Academy which was afterwards transferred to Standard Hill. It was at this Academy that Lord Byron received a part of his early education. It was near here, at the junction of Clumber Street and Parliament Street, that the Nottingham Maypole stood with a well hard by. After the election of 1715, Sir Charles Sedley had given the tallest fir pole that could be found to serve as a maypole, and this served until 1747, when it was replaced by a new one which stood until 1789, in which year, one Thomas Wyer, the Overseer of Highways, took it into his head to pull it down without any reason.

The Cow Lane Bar, which was one of the gateways to Nottingham, stood at this crossing, and very little is known about it. Probably it was very similar to Chapel Bar

An archway leading into the yard of number eleven (St. Stephen's Buildings) is noteworthy, for it is the chancel arch of St. Stephen's Church, a modern structure built in 1869, pulled down to make way for the Victoria Station. Parliament Street Chapel is on an interesting site, for it was hereabouts that the curious Nottingham Pottery was made during the 15th century. Many finds of this pottery have taken place, and there is a good collection of specimens in the Castle Museum. A chapel for the Methodist New Connection was commenced here in 1816, and it was enlarged in 1826. The present structure was erected in 1875. It was almost opposite



this chapel on the site now occupied by the Victoria Station that William and Mary Howitt lived for some time, and it was there, I believe, that *The Spider and the Fly* was written.

#### GOLDSMITH STREET.

Goldsmith Street is not a particularly interesting thoroughfare, and is quite modern in its origin for until the beginning of the 18th century, the town did not stretch further northwards than Parliament Street and, except for a few scattered houses here and there, there was nothing in this direction. The only interesting buildings in the thoroughfare are the Masonic Hall, which was opened on July 2nd, 1881, and St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, which was built in 1874 from designs by the late Mr. Evans.

Goldsmith Street leads through into Waverley Street, which has a little of interest associated with it, for as early as 1650, it was called the Bowling Alley because there was a bowling green situated where the Vernon Arms and the neighbouring houses are now erected, and this bowling green and coffee house was a well-known rendezvous in the 17th and 18th centuries. "Bowling Alley" was alternatively called "Lingdale" from the word "Ling," meaning heather, and apparently this neighbourhood with the neighbouring Larkdale were country lanes leading to the great open tract which we nowadays call the Forest.

The School of Art is, perhaps, the most important building in the thoroughfare, and it was opened with full Masonic honours by the Duke of Newcastle on June 19th, 1865. The design was by an architect of the name of Bakewell, and the curious multi-coloured roof is noteworthy. In front of it stands a statue of Richard

Parkes Bonnington, presented to the town by Mr. Watson Fothergill, and surely Bonnington is a man to be highly honoured by the city, for he was the greatest landscape artist of his day. He was born at Arnold in 1802, and the greater part of his life was spent abroad and he died in London in 1828. His pictures are beautiful, and when one has once fallen to their charm, as one may do in the Wallis collection, or to a lesser degree in the Nottingham Castle Collection, one is anxious to get back again and again to see through his eyes the wonderful atmospheric effects in the French coast which he so loved to reproduce.

The Arboretum is a portion of the old common lands of the town which was preserved when the Inclosure took place. It was carefully laid out as a pleasure garden and opened to the public on May 11th, 1851. A great feature was made of the gentle undulations of the land, which were emphasized, and although the park is small it is as beautiful as any park of its size in the country. The great object of interest within its confines is the Chinese Bell which hangs in a pagoda-like structure surrounded by flower beds. This bell was captured at the storming of Canton on December 20th, 1859, and was presented to the town by the officers of the old 59th regiment. The inscription says "that it hung in a joss house," and the origin of that word "joss" is curious, for Canon Isaac Taylor says that this is a corruption of the Portuguese word "dios," meaning God, and its association with the east is a memory of the old Portuguese merchant explorers of the late Middle Ages.

The terrible statue of Fergus O'Connor, which is mercifully hidden by much greenery, reminds us of the hectic political times of the early 19th century. He was a violent chartist, and was elected for Nottingham in

1847, and presented the monster petition of 1848. Unfortunately he became hopelessly insane and he died in 1855.

#### CLARENDON STREET.

Clarendon Street is noticeable for the Royal Midland Institute for the Blind, the foundation of which was laid on August 10th, 1852. We have witnessed the beginning of this noble charity when we saw the little house in Park Street where Miss Chambers first commenced her work amongst the blind.

The Friends burial ground is a small portion cut off from the General Cemetery, and lies on the northern side of Waverley Street, and few people are aware that the little group of cottages adjacent to it are built from a prize design by the late Mr. Evans, who with this design, introduced a new and more comfortable system of accommodation for the working classes.

#### SHERWOOD STREET.

Sherwood Street is a continuation of Sheep Lane, which has now been modernised into Market Street, and it passed through the sand fields or Sheep Walk of the town. Down to 1852, it was called Shaw's Lane from Parliament Street to Babbington Street, but the northern part, from Babbington Street onwards was called Sherwood Street before that time. Although it was little more than a rough track, it is of great antiquity, as is shown by the fact that it is a sunk road, the traffic having worn down the soft sandstone foundations. Evidence of this remains in the cliff which still exists about Annesley Grove.

The Jews' burial ground on the east side of Sherwood Street almost at its top, was consecrated with considerable ceremony in 1823, but has long been disused and is

very difficult of access, while the story of the northern water works, which stood between this burial ground and Forest Road, has been already studied in the opening pages of this itinerary.

Sherwood Street is crossed by Burton Street, which enshrines the ancient name of Burton Leys, a district lying where the Mechanics Institute and the Guildhall are now erected. It seems to have been a rough dump for all manner of rubbish and was something of an eyesore until it was altered and put into order in 1837, when a large number of out-of-work hosiers were found employment thereon. From 1870 to 1886, part of it was used as a cattle market and the present Guildhall was erected in 1887 at a cost of £97,000, Messrs. Verity and Hunt of London being the architects.

On the other side of Sherwood Street, the University College stands, erected on ground which was formerly called "Horse Fair Close." It was opened by Prince Leopold on June 30th, 1881, and is the outcome of educational lectures delivered to the Mechanics Institute by University Extension Lecturers.

Shakespeare Street is referred to in 1336 as Lingdale Gate, and lying as it does in the valley between two gently-sloping hills, it was conveniently placed to collect all the drainage from these hillsides and, consequently, was always notorious for its unpleasant condition. In fact, so bad did it get that it was called Mud Lane. In 1358, the Jews' gallows stood somewhere here (for no Christian could be hanged upon the same gallows as that which terminated the life of a Jew), but in 1852 it was all tidied up and re-christened Shakespeare Street.

*(To be continued.)*