

AN 18th-CENTURY MINUTE BOOK
RELATING TO MEETINGS HELD BY INCLOSURE
COMMISSIONERS FOR THE PARISHES OF
HARTWELL AND STONE, 1776-1777

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INTRODUCTION

I HAVE not attempted here to show the principle upon which the system of land inclosure was carried out in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, as the subject has already been dealt with in great detail elsewhere. It has been my aim throughout to give a complete account of the minutes of the meetings held by the Commissioners in connexion with the inclosure of the parishes of Hartwell and Stone, without going to the length of transcribing them in full.

The chief difficulty with which an intending editor is faced is whether to prune his material harshly (and thus run the risk of missing some of the finer and more intimate points) or whether to err in the other direction (thus inviting criticism on the grounds of being too detailed). I have accordingly endeavoured to avoid either extreme, but if I have failed in this, I trust that the reader will bear with me, as it has been my desire to capture the spirit of these minutes by the inclusion of so many extracts from the originals.

No doubt discrepancies can be found between the action taken as recorded in the minutes and in the Award proper, but I have not considered it my duty, in editing the minutes, to make any detailed comparison between the two documents. Suffice it to say that the Minute Book, the Inclosure Award, and the Award Map may all be inspected, by the student, in the office of the Clerk of the Peace for Bucks (The County Hall, Aylesbury), to whom I am greatly indebted for permitting me to carry out the research into this interesting subject, and but for whose kindness I should not have been able to produce this paper.

MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD BY THE COMMISSIONERS FOR
THE INCLOSURE OF THE PARISHES AND LIBERTIES OF HARTWELL
AND STONE

1776-1777

THIS Minute Book, which has recently come into the possession of the Bucks. County Council, is, perhaps, the one of the greatest interest and value of those already in their custody, as it is the earliest in date by some twenty-two years. It

is a slim foolscap volume, bound in marbled boards, having a capacity of seventy-six pages, of which thirty-four alone are occupied by the minutes of all the proceedings (covering a period of only eleven months).

Despite its often all-too-brief minutes, the book is a complete record of the progress of this inclosure, which, for its size (1,880 acres¹), must surely have been remarkably expeditious. At all events, the Commissioners do not appear to have wasted much time, as, during that period, they met on twenty-nine days, commencing, in a great number of cases, at 8 a.m., and in one instance at 7 a.m. With one exception, all indoor meetings of the Commissioners were held at the George Inn, Aylesbury (a favourite haunt, it would seem, of Inclosure Commissioners), the exception being held at the 'Red Lyon', Aynho, on 7th September, 1776, presumably for the convenience of two of the Commissioners, i.e. Francis Burton of Aynho and Robert Weston of Brackley.

In view of the nature of this document, it is proposed to refer to each separate meeting, giving a précis of the work which was there carried out.

Thursday, 25th April, 1776. Of the five Commissioners appointed by the Act (16 Geo. III, c. 46), i.e. 'Francis Burton of Aynho in the County of Northampton, Esquire, Robert Weston, of Brackley, in the said County of Northampton, Thomas Green, of Whitchurch, in the County of Bucks., John Brickwell, of Eythrope, in the said County of Bucks, and John Fellows the Elder, of Westcote, in the said County of Bucks, Gentlemen,' three only met for the first time and took and subscribed the Oath as laid down.² They were Thomas Green, John Brickwell, and John Fellows the Elder.

Their first action was to appoint William Minshull³ as their Clerk 'in the Business of the said Inclosure³, after which they proceeded to appoint John Watts of Sulgrave, Northants, and Henry Wright of Easington, Bucks., as Quality Men, to 'Quality and Value the said Fields'. James Jennings of Somerton, Oxford, and John Fellows Junior of Westcott, Bucks., were appointed Surveyors to the Commissioners.

Having completed these formalities, business on the Inclosure proper was then commenced with the customary order to all proprietors that they should compile and deliver to the Commissioners a list of their respective properties and acreage, together with the number of horses, cows, and sheep kept or entitled to be kept, and that they should state their choice of land to be allotted. They were next ordered to set out and mark the 'Headlands, Jointways, Highways and Furlongs in the said Fields as soon as possibly may be', the first day of the setting out to be the following 6th May.

Instructions were given that all arable land 'in the Fallow Fields of Stone and Bishopstone' were to be sown with oats or barley and also with red clover 'allowing Twelve pounds of Clover seed to every acre of Land under the inspection of Mr. Thomas Grace, Mr. John Woodman and Mr. William Claydon'. Furthermore, after 12th May, 1776, no sheep were to be kept in any of the open fields of Bishopstone, and only one-third of the usual number were to be kept in the fields of Stone; but horse and cow commons in both places could be stocked as usual until further notice.

A slight deviation from the customary practice of affixing notices, etc., on the Parish Church door is minuted by an order that 'Copies of such Orders as relate to

the state of the Fields be delivered to The Reverend Mr. Smith who is requested to read them in the Parish Church of Stone after Divine Service on Sunday next'.

Thursday, 16th May, 1776. The remaining two Commissioners took and subscribed the Oath appointed to be taken.

- Ordered: (i) That no sheep be kept on Heyford Meadow until 12th August.
(ii) That the proprietors mark their lands at each end, distinguishing the different tenures by separate marks, and duly inform the Surveyors thereof.
(iii) That Thomas Hughes and John Wright attend on the Quality Men and Surveyors until Harvest, at a payment of eighteen-pence a day each.

Friday, 17th May. John Watts and Henry Wright took the Oath as Quality Men.
Ordered: 'That any Orders relating to the Proprietors be read in the Churches of Hartwell and Stone.'

Monday, 8th July. 'Petitions for situation' and 'several Claims for property' were delivered in by the proprietors at this meeting; and the Quality Men produced their Quality Book. This was 'publicly read in the presence of the proprietors or such of them as thought proper to attend'. No alteration or objection was made, but the proprietors asked that they might have time '(until the next meeting of the Commissioners) in which to 'be at Liberty to Object to the same in Writing'.

Tuesday, 9th July. After viewing the fields, the Commissioners set out the following roads, which they accordingly instructed the Surveyors to stake:

- (a) Public Cart and Drift Road (60 feet wide) from Stone to Bishopstone, and Bishopstone to Ellesborough.
- (b) Private Cart and Drift Road (40 feet wide or the same width as it then was between the hedges) from Stone to Eythrope.
- (c) Public Bridle Road (20 feet wide) from 'Cross Way in Stone to Ford'.
- (d) Public Cart and Drift Road (60 feet wide) from the Road leading from Stone to Bishopstone up Port Way to the lane leading into the Aylesbury-Thame Turnpike Road.
- (e) Public Cart and Drift Road (60 feet wide) from Bishopstone to Great Kimble.
- (f) Public Bridle Road (15 feet wide) from the road leading from Stone to Bishopstone to Moreton.
- (g) Public Bridle Road (20 feet wide) 'leading out of the Road from Bishopstone to Ellesborough at Great piece and leading to old Bridge towards Aylesbury'.
- (h) Private Cart Road (30 feet wide) 'leading out of the road from Stone to Bishopstone, on the South side of the new fence leading from the aforesaid road to the South-West corner of Southwarp⁴ Green and from thence over the said Green to the entrance of the Lane leading to the Cally'.⁵
- (i) Public Bridle Road (15 feet wide) leading from the last-mentioned road at Standal's piece towards Stoke Mandeville.

Ordered: (i) That when such roads had been staked out, the Clerk prepare an

advertisement 'for the Oxford Paper, signifying that the Commissioners . . . have set out the Publick Roads which they apprehend are necessary', and inviting objections, etc.

- (ii) That the Clerk do pay 'the Bills for the Grass Seeds'.
- (iii) That all disputed claims be heard at the Meeting to be held on 27th August or as soon after as possible.

Monday, 15th July. Several proprietors delivered objections to the Quality, and it was accordingly ordered that the said Quality be reviewed by the Commissioners with Mr. Grace and Mr. Woodman in attendance.

Friday, 26th July. In accordance with the terms of their last meeting, the Commissioners 'went and viewed the several Fields of Stone and made several alterations in the Quality thereof'.

Saturday, 27th July. (Commenced at 7 a.m. !) This time the fields of Bishopstone were viewed and several alterations made in the Quality. Certain of the inhabitants of Ford objected to the public bridle road from Cross Way to Ford, 'requesting that the same may be made a public Cart Road'. Final consideration of this was postponed until a later meeting.

Tuesday, 27th August. In view of some disputes concerning the amendment of the Quality made at the last meetings, this meeting was adjourned for further consideration until the following day, when the Quality Men were ordered to attend.

Wednesday, 28th August. Some divergence of opinion amongst the Commissioners is evident from the minutes of this adjournment, which state that 'Mr. Burton having declared his Disapprobation of the Mode adopted by the Commissioners for the Regulation of the Quality, some debate arose touching the power of the Commissioners to proceed in such Regulation and whether any appeal from the Judgement of the Qualitymen lay to the Commissioners. It is ordered that the Clerk do forthwith draw a State of the Case and take the opinion of Council thereupon and that it be an Instruction to the Clerk that he do take the opinion of Mr. Skinner, Mr. Dunning or Mr. Wallace upon the case'.

It was further ordered that the Quality Men review the Quality and return their opinion at the next meeting, saving to the Commissioners 'the power of finally determining upon the same in case Council should be of opinion they have a right so to do'.

Thursday, 29th August. The only business done was the perusal and approval of the statement of the case prepared by Mr. Minshull.

Saturday, 7th September. (At Aynho.) The opinion of one Mr. Mattocks given to the case stated was perused^e and the Quality Men attended and 'produced the Book of the re-quality of the several fields . . . which was approved by Francis Burton Esq., and Robert Weston, and Disapproved by Thomas Green, John Brickwell'.

Ordered: (i) That the Clerk provide 'such of the proprietors as Chuse' with copies of the minutes of the several meetings.

- (ii) That the Surveyors 'do take up their account according to the Quality now delivered by the Quality Men untill Cause (be) shewn to the Contrary'.

The note of dissension is still evident in the last entry, viz. 'Be it Remembered that we do hereby withhold our Determination on the Quality and only sign our Consent to the above adjournment (sgd.) Thomas Green, John Fellows, John Brickwell.'

Thursday, 19th September–Saturday, 21st September. The first minute states that the Commissioners (by now three in number) ^o 'took into further Consideration the Quality, and determined that the quality as regulated and set forth in a Book signed by us shall be established and stand as the Quality of the said Fields of Stone and Bishopstone hereby intended to be enclosed'.

The Surveyors produced their Survey plan of the fields and some progress was made in the scheming of allotments 'in the Course of which it appeared that several exchanges of old Inclosures were necessary'.

Ordered: That the Clerk should notify the several proprietors concerned of the exchanges considered necessary, inviting them to express any preference by the date of the next meeting.

Monday, 30th September. Proceedings at this meeting were resumed on 'the Calculations'.

Tuesday, 1st October. The 'Calculations and Scheme of the Allotments' were completed and the Surveyors were accordingly ordered to stake out the Allotments 'agreeable to the Marks now made in the plans'.

The objection by the inhabitants of Ford to the bridle road from Cross Way to Ford was then considered, and it was ordered that the same should be made a public cart road of the breadth of 60 feet.

Lastly it is recorded that a message had been received from Sir William Lee ^o 'to the following purport: "That if it is the opinion of the Commissioners that the proportion directed by act of parliament to be given for Corn Tithes be too great, that the overcharge of that proportion (chargeable on the whole of the proprietors) should be taken out of the Estate of Sir William Lee."' '

Monday, 14th October. This meeting was spent in viewing the allotments as staked out, and in making alterations consequent upon certain objections.

Tuesday, 15th October. An allocation of fencing to be done by the various proprietors to their respective allotments was the first business of the day.

Ordered: (i) That the Surveyors show the said proprietors 'the particular parts to be made by each of them respectively as now marked upon the plan', the proprietors to have permission to proceed as soon as convenient to them.

- (ii) That all rights of common over the fields be extinguished as from the 21st October.

A further message was received from Sir William Lee desiring the Commissioners to 'take into their Consideration the difference in Value between one fifth of the arable Land and four nineteenthths thereof directed to be taken for tithes and that they will

take the amount thereof, so far as (it) affects the small proprietors out of his Estates and distribute the same amongst them in a rateable proportion according to the Value of their arable Land’.

Ordered: (iii) That Thomas Taylor of Swanbourne and Charles King of Lee be appointed to value and appraise the trees, hedges, and fences on lands to be taken over by different proprietors.

(iv) That Mr. Minshull collect the Bills of Expenses and produce them at the next meeting.

Wednesday, 20th November. Several bills relative to the inclosure were examined.

Friday, 22nd November. Work on the draft Award was commenced.

Saturday, 23rd November. A Thomas Newman complained to the Commissioners that the Surveyors had ‘taken up a certain Close in Bishopstone belonging to him, as common Field Land when the same is old Inclosure’. After the examination of witnesses and deeds, the Commissioners decided in his favour and instructed the Surveyors to make the necessary alteration.

Wednesday, 27th November. Further progress was made on the draft Award.

Thursday, 28th November. The boundary between the parishes of Hartwell and Stone formed the day’s business, and it is recorded that the Commissioners ‘examined upon Oath John Thompson of the parish of Hartwell aged 72 years William Farmborough aged 60 Henry Monk Francis Farmborough and Thomas Grace of Stone touching the same. The said Deponents unanimously declare that they understand and believe that the antient Cross or Mark upon a certain Beam over the Water Wheel in Haydon Mill is the right & proper boundary between the parishes of Hartwell, Stone and Aylesbury; and that the following described Line as now staked out is the Proper Division of the parishes of Hartwell and Stone’.¹⁰

It is also recorded that, in the unanimous opinion of these deponents, a certain farmhouse in Sedrup as occupied by Henry Monk, and a cottage or tenement and close—also in Sedrup—in the occupation of Michael Horton, were in the parish of Stone.

Friday, 29th November. The Commissioners continued their work on the fixing of the said parish boundary ‘thro’ the hamlett of Southwarp’.¹⁰

Saturday, 30th November. Work on the draft Award occupied the attention of the Commissioners at this meeting.

Monday, 2nd December. Work on the draft Award still proceeded, but consideration was also given to the question of the water supply to an allotment of the Earl of Chesterfield, called the Rivy. This allotment had, apparently, become separated from ‘the antient Watercourse running from Sink Close down the said Fields towards the road to Ford’. It was ordered that the ‘said watercourse be diverted and turned at the South East corner of Bean close, along the Ditch belonging to the said Bean Close into the allotment to the said Earl of Chesterfield . . . and that the said Water course be for ever thereafter continued in the said Course’.

Mr. James Jennings (one of the Surveyors) was also instructed to stake out the boundary between the parishes of Hartwell and Stone as described in the minutes of the 28th and 29th November.

Tuesday, 3rd December. Messrs. Taylor and King brought in their valuation of the Hedges, Trees, and Bushes; and still more progress was made on the draft Award.

Wednesday, 4th December. At this meeting the Commissioners 'finished reading the Draft of the Award and Examination thereof with the Plans'.

Thursday, 5th December. Ingrossment of the Award proper was ordered to be completed for inspection by 10th February, 1777.

Ordered: (i) That the following rates be raised for the various purposes stipulated: ¹¹

<i>Amount of rate.</i>	<i>Purpose for which raised.</i>	<i>Rate levied on.</i>
£542 2 0	'On account of and towards paying and Defraying the expences of Surveying and Qualitying the said Fields and sowing grass seeds and Fencing the Improprate tithes.'	'Several proprietors of the open and Common Fields of Stone and Bishopstone (except the Rev. Mr. Smith for his Tythes and Glebe and the Earl of Chesterfield for his tithes only).'
£102 11 0	'On account of and towards making and maintaining the Boundary Fence to the Vicar's allotments in Stone.'	'... the said proprietors together with the proprietors of Lands in Southwarp in the parish of Stone (except Sir William Lee for his Tythes and except also the Glebe & tithes of Stone).'
£19 14 0	'On account of and towards his Share of the General Expences of the Act & Commissioners for his Tythes only.'	Sir William Lee.
£821 13 0	'On account of and towards the expence of Obtaining the act of Parliament and Expences of the Commissioners and all other expences of carrying the said Act into execution.'	'... all the Proprietors of the open fields of Southwarp Hartwell Stone and Bishopstone (except the several Glebe and Tythes).'
£1,486 0 0		

(N.B.—These amounts to be paid to Mr. Minshull 'at or before the next meeting of the Commissioners'.)

- (ii) That Mr. Minshull acquaint the proprietors of their respective shares to be paid and also notify them of the sums due to be paid upon 'the Ballance of Hedges and trees valued by Mr. Thomas Taylor and Mr. Charles King'.
- (iii) That Stephen Gurney be employed to make the fences to the Vicar's allotments.

17th March, 1777. Examination of the bills of expenses is recorded.

18th March, 1777. It is stated that Stephen Gurney agreed to do the necessary fencing to the Vicar's allotments (amounting to 105 perches) for the sum of

£66 19s. 6d., such figure to include seven years' maintenance; and executed a bond in the sum of £200 for the due performance of his contract.

Then follows a detailed list of the 'several Bills of Expences,' which are here summarized under their general headings:

Surveying, valuing, grass seeds, and ring fencing the Im- propriate tithes	£	s.	d.
	531	0	10
Ring fencing Vicar's allotments	95	16	3
Obtaining and passing Act, and for carrying it into exe- cution	817	8	10
	<u>£1,444</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>11</u> ¹²

This left a balance of £41 14s 1d. in hand, which was accordingly ordered to be refunded proportionately to the various proprietors.¹³

19th March, 1777. The Award, as ingrossed, was laid before the Commissioners, who 'examined the same with the draft thereof. And the whole thereof was publickly read and Executed'.

APPENDIX

DETAILS of the boundary between the parishes of Hartwell and Stone as described in the Minutes of the Meeting of the Inclosure Commissioners, held on Thursday, 28th November, 1776.

'From the said Cross or Mark on the Beam aforesaid to another Cross or Mark upon the Frame carrying the Stones in the said Mill & from thence to a Stake at the North-East corner of Mill Close from thence to the South-east corner and from thence to the South-west corner of the said Close from thence continuing the Line or Fence Between Mill Field and Bushey Ground, between the said Mill field and Little Breach, between Little Breach and Ban Furlong Between Ban Furlong and Great Breach Between great Breach and Hemphill and continuing between Great Breach and Gardens to a Lane called Wire Lane and continuing on the East side thereof between the said Wire Lane and Kirby's Close & Brickiln Close & part of the Great Green to a certain Gate leading out of the Little Green into the Great Green and then crossing the said Lane to a Stake at or near a Barn in the Occupation of Francis Farmborough and continuing along the Fence dividing the Little Green on the West side thereof from certain Gardens Yards and Homesteads to the Corner of Lince Lane and continuing along the Fence on the West side of Lince Lane to Dog Kennell Lane or long Pond: and continuing along the Fence on the West or South West side of the said Lane to a Stake near the Bridge or Passage of Communication between the Park and Gardens belonging to Sir William Lee and from the said Stake in a direct Line over the said Garden to a Stake on the South side of the Turnpike road and continuing along the Fence on the same side of the Turnpike road to a Stake at the corner of Port Lane.'

Further details as to the boundary between the said parishes of Hartwell and Stone as described in the minutes of the Meeting of Friday, 29th November, 1776.

' . . . from the Stake at the corner of Port Lane continuing along the fence Between

the Turnpike road and the Cally to the North-West Corner thereof continuing on the fence Eastward Between the Cally and Southwarp field to the North-east corner thereof from thence continuing South westward to the South west corner of a piece of Ground called Stone pit hill from thence continuing South Eastw'd along the fence dividing Stonepit hill furlong from the Homestale in the occupation of Henry Monk and from the North East Corner of the said Homestale continuing Southwestw'd along the fence at the North West end of the Several Closes Called Todds Home Close Monks Home Close Callow Close and Long Close and from thence Continuing South Eastward along the fence on the South side Long Close and Southwarp green from thence Northward along the fence at the North side of Coxes Close from thence Continuing South Eastw'd along the fence dividing Coxes Close from thence Continuing North Eastw'd along the fence dividing Coxes Northw'd Close from the New Allotments in Southwarp from thence Continuing South Eastw'd and N. Eastw'd along the fence dividing the old Inclosures of Southwarp from the New Allotments and from thence continuing S. Eastw'd to the South East Corner of Lower Rustingdon Leys and from thence in a Straight direction to the South East Corner of Hayford Meadow and by the fence on the South East side of the said Meadow to the Brook separating the Liberty of Hartwell & Stone from Walton. Also a Detach'd piece of Land in Bishopstone fields being allotm'ts to the said Robt. Smith in lieu of Tithes of Southwarp Glebe & Right of Common in Ditchingham & over Slattenham Meadows in the parish of Hartwell, is to be deemed & taken as part of the parish of Hartwell aforesaid, according to the direction of the act.'

¹ The total area inclosed as given in the Award was 1,880 acres, 1 rod, 33 perches. (The Act estimated 1,740 acres.)

² 'I A.B. do swear that I will Faithfully Impartially and Honestly according to the best of my Skill and Judgment execute the Trusts reposed in me by Virtue of an Act of Parliament made for dividing and inclosing the open and common Fields within the Parishes and Liberties of Hartwell and Stone in the County of Bucks. So help me GOD.'

³ Clerk of the Peace for Bucks., 1764-87.

⁴ Sedrup.

⁵ The land on part of which the Hartwell Dog Track (recently a Prisoner-of-War camp) is situate.

⁶ What this opinion was is not stated in the minutes, but its purport is mentioned in the letter of R. Weston, given in full in the next footnote.

⁷ Amongst letters from the Eyre collection now in the custody of the Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society was found one written by Robert Weston presumably to Sir William Lee. In view of the light which it throws upon the disagreement between the Commissioners, I have considered it worthy of reproduction in its entirety. So far no further correspondence on this subject confirming the resignation of Messrs. Burton and Weston (or otherwise) has been forthcoming.

SIR,

From your letter of the 1st instant, I find you had not at that time rec'd my Letter from Aylesbury, which I left in the care of Mr. Sheriff, informing you of what was done at the last meeting, and when and where our two next meeting(s) were proposed. If I had omitted that information I sh'd. have thought myself guilty of (to say no worse) great incivility, as I cannot but think it must be disagreeable to you to seek for the resolutions of the Commrs. from any other Quarter.

Whatever inconvenience might arise to you on the Aylesbury inclosure, from your being unacquainted with the proceedings of the Commrs., will I hope be carefully avoided in this; for my own part, I have no desire of keeping any of our determinations a secret, nor do I apprehend any of the Commrs., have, however an order is made, and signed by Mr. Burton and myself, that any Propr. may have copies of the Minutes by applying to the Clerk.

At our Meeting yesterday Mr. Minshull produced the opinion of Mr. Madock, the other Counsel being out of Town, who is clear that the Commrs., have full power to alter and settle the Quality, without the Quality men: Mr. Watts and Mr. Wright delivered to the Commrs., the Quality upon their review, with several alterations from their first Quality, which was agreed to by Mr. Burton and myself, and disapproved

by Mr. Green and Mr. Brickwell; Mr. Fellows was Neuter, and therefore nothing was agreed to or settled, altho' it was urged by Mr. Burton and myself that the business ought not to stop here, for if the other Commissrs. thought Mr. Burton and me mistaken, they were a Majority and ought to proceed to business, that if they did not proceed to Establish a Quality of their own, Mr. Burton insisted on the Quality then delivered by the Quality men being given to the Surveyors with instructions to make up their accompts agreeable to such Quality, untill cause shewn to the contrary; however no arguments would avail, and the meeting dissolved without any minutes being signed but by Mr. Burton and myself.

Mr. Brickwell signified his intentions of resigning, and seems determined to do it in form at the next meeting, if possible.

The Meeting on Thursday the 19th being part of the Minutes of yesterday, and signed by two Commrs. only, will be illegal, and as it appears by your note to me at Aylesbury, that you was in hopes some mode would have been found out of adjusting all matters and proceedings of the Commissioners but if otherwise, and the business is to be prolonged, you desire Mr. Burton and myself will not take any further trouble in attending, we therefore beg the favour of your thoughts upon that head. Mr. Burton and I are going into Wiltshire, shall return about Friday, when I shall be exceeding glad to meet a Line from you.

I am Sir,

Your most Obedient Servant,

(sgd.) R. WESTON.

P.S. I don't mean to lay any great stress upon the illegality of the Meeting, as that might be surmounted if other things could be settled.

Brackley. 8th September, 1776.

⁸ Having regard to Mr. Weston's letter already referred to, it may reasonably be inferred, with some certainty, that Sir William Lee did, in fact, ask Mr. Burton and Mr. Weston to withdraw from their appointment as Commissioners. The minutes of this, and subsequent, meeting(s) are signed by Thomas Green, John Fellows and John Brickwell only, as is the Award itself. As already mentioned, however, no authoritative evidence or confirmation of this rift can be traced. (The Act permits three or more Commissioners to proceed in the matter.)

⁹ Lord of the Manors of Hartwell and Stone.

¹⁰ For full details of this boundary, see Appendix.

¹¹ The rates ordered to be raised do not appear in this form in the Minute Book, but have been tabulated for convenience of reference.

¹² From this figure it will be seen that the cost of the Inclosure was approximately 15s. 4d. per acre (exclusive of road charges, which are not shown).

¹³ Details of this refund are also set out in the Minute Book.

(To be concluded.)