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NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

Records of Towcester Charities deposited in the
Northamptonshire Record Office in 1961

Accession 1961/40

Catalogued as TC. 1 - 853

A.	Sponne's charity.	TC 1 - 306
AB.	Sponne and Bickerstaffe jointly.	307 - 334
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With an appendix listing Sponne charity records
in the Public Library collection.

Note: The National Register of Archives report on
the Fermor Hesketh (Easton Neston) collection calendars over
800 medieval charters of Towcester and places nearby.

APR 1962

Records of Towcester CharitiesA. Sponne's Charity.

William Sponne, Archdeacon of Norfolk and Rector of Towcester died in 1447. A chantry to his memory was founded in 1448 and on January 5th and 15th 1450/1 (TC 16-19) Thomas Lane, clerk, in accordance with his last wish vested in trustees a messuage called the Tabard, and lands in Towcester, Woodhurcote and Caldecote. This estate had been purchased by Sponne from John Lord of Chirton in 1440 (TC 6). It was to be held by the trustees on these conditions: that they meet annually in the parish church of Towcester within 15 days after Easter to elect one or two of their members to act on their behalf during the year. From the rents of the Tabard £40 a year was to be locked in a chest with a treble lock; a yearly obit and requiem was to be said for William Sponne; and the lord or the parish of Towcester to be relieved of the payment of a fifteenth, whenever the tax was levied; the residue (if there was any) to be spent on repairing the Tabard, repairing the pavements of Towcester, and in distributions to the poor. There was also to be an annual allowance of 40d. to the chaplains of Sponne's chantry for the renewal of books and ornaments. Whenever 4 to 6 of the trustees had died, new trustees were to be elected, and the surviving trustees were to convey the charity estate to the two chaplains of Sponne's chantry, who would reconvey to the surviving trustees and the new trustees. The original trust deed was to be read aloud in Towcester church twice a year.

The charity was maintained in its original form until the dissolution of chantries, when one of its objects fell into abeyance. Amongst a large original bundle of miscellaneous receipts (TC 160) are a number for the payment of a fifteenth in the sixteenth century. The original method of vesting the land in new trustees was continued until the late 17th century, when one deed sufficed. By the 18th century the charity was mainly devoted to the repairing of pavements in Towcester, and distributions of money to the poor. In 1895 the Talbot Inn (the Tabard had changed its name) was sold, and the proceeds were invested. There was some dispute as to the sale. In 1896 a new scheme was established under the Charity Commissioners whereby the Parish Council were entitled to have representatives as trustees. The proceeds of the sale had originally been invested in shares in Phipps Breweries, however the Charity Commissioners pressed for the sale of these shares and investment in Consols. In 1897 part of the interest money was assigned to the County Nursing Association for the establishment of a Samaritan Committee (TC 794-835). Distributions of money were replaced by distributions of coal.

B. Bickerstaffe's Charity.

Thomas Bickerstaffe, citizen and founder of London, and a native of Towcester, leased a small piece of ground in Towcester from Sir William Fermor of Easton Neston in 1689 with the intention of building almshouses for the

labouring poor of Towcester (TC 336). In 1693 these almshouses had been built, and William Lord Lempster to whom the original lease had been surrendered leased the site to Bickerstaffe for the term of 500 years at the annual rent of 4d. (TC 337). By his will of 1696 (TC 335) Bickerstaff bequeathed his title to the almshouses to the trustees of the Talbot charity with £250 to be invested for the upkeep of the almshouses, and the maintenance of 3 old people therein. In 1698 the trustees purchased lands in the common fields of Farthingstone (TC 345-7) with this bequest. From 1722 the Bickerstaffe and Sponne Charity estates were together vested in one transaction in new trustees of the joint charities (TC 307-20).

The Bickerstaffe charity was always devoted to the maintenance of the almshouses and their occupants. These latter were women, elected by the trustees, though Bickerstaff's will had mentioned 3 ancient men or women. Two new almshouses were built, one of them by Simon Adams, who left £120 for their maintenance in his will (1801). For a short time a separate account for the Adams almshouse was kept (TC 360).

C. Grammar School Charity.

In 1552 the trustees of Sponne's Charity purchased the messuage called the Chantry House late Sponne's chantry (this chantry had been founded in 1448 with 2 priests, 1 to preach and 1 to teach. It was dissolved in 1548) and a cottage in Parke lane (TC 505). The chantry house continued to be used as school and house for the master. In 1721 thirteen acres of land in Whittlebury were purchased with a bequest of £100 from William Marriott of Grays Inn (TC 540). The school was quite small, and the number of charity boys attending seems to have been between 15 and 20. In 1867 there was a plan to build a new school, but this came to nothing, and the school was closed until 1890 when new buildings, under a Charity Commission scheme of 1887, were opened. During the closure the trustees paid for the charity boys to be educated at Towcester commercial school. Other bequests made to the school were by Ann Jones (TC 793) and William Perry (TC 789-92). The latter comprised land in the parish of St. Margaret's, Westminster.

D. Hick's Charity.

In accordance with the will of Richard Hick two tenements and a barn were vested in trustees by Henry Archer, chaplain, of Towcester, in 1519/20 (TC 640). The profits from this property were to be spent in repairing the church of St. Lawrence in Towcester. By 1669 all the original trustees were dead, and no successors were appointed. An order of the Commissioners for Charitable uses was therefore made, vesting the property in new trustees (TC 641). George Benson seems to have been responsible for this move. From then on the number of trustees was filled up as vacancies occurred. The two messuages, in the High Street, were known for some time as the Iron Crown, and the Town House. At first the income was spent in repairs to the church, but in the nineteenth century it was mainly used to pay the organist's salary. The trustees for this charity seem to have been the same as those for the Sponne and Bickerstaffe charities, as the minute books (TC 321-4) record meetings dealing with the affairs of them all. At the annual meeting at Easter the accounts of Sponne's, the Grammar School, Bickerstaffe's

and Hick's charities were audited, and 2 acting feoffees were appointed for each charity.

E. Other Charities.

Other gifts of which some record remains are an annuity of 40/- bequeathed by John Clarke of Towcester, 1677, for the relief of the poor (TC 838), and a gift of £10 by Mary Cook, 1800, to purchase supplies for the inhabitants of the almshouses on New Years Day (TC 839). Robert Grendon (d.1557) left his estate to his children George and Audrey, and failing any issue of theirs, it was to revert to trustees on trust to use the revenues for the poor of Towcester, road repairs, and the maintenance of two priests of Sponne's chantry, 1 to preach and 1 to teach (TC 837). It seems never to have so reverted, but it is interesting in that the original foundation of Sponne's chantry was so bestowed, tho' only the teacher remained after 1548.

Towcester Charity Records.

A. SPONNE'S CHARITY

1. Deeds.

TC

- 1 Quitclaim, Geoffrey Josep of Towcester to Walter Warde of Bradewell: all lands of Geoffrey Josep held of the gift of Lord Hugh de Veer, in Towcester, 1314/5.
- 2-3 Grant, John de Clynton, knight to William of Daventre, of all his lands in Towcester, 1391/2.
- 4 Grant, Hugh Glover of Towcester and wife Joanna, daughter and heiress of John Powes, to Master William Sponne, archdeacon of Norfolk, and rector of the parish church of Towcester and Master Thomas Lane, clerk - 8a. and 3r. of arrable land, of which $\frac{1}{2}$ a. lies in the field of Towcester at Coppedthorne, and another $\frac{1}{2}$ a. in the same field in le Merche, 2 rods in the same field, 4 butts next Spetylforthe, 2 rods at Merefurlong, 2 rods next Schortwode, 3 rods at Wytecros, 1a. at Parkelane, $\frac{1}{2}$ a. in the field of Burcote at le Schawes, $1\frac{1}{2}$ rods in le Schawys, $\frac{1}{2}$ a next Austonyehil $\frac{1}{2}$ a. in losdenfurlong, $\frac{1}{2}$ a in the field of Burcote in Southcroft, 1 rod in Asterhull, 1 rod on Pyshull. 1430.
- 5 Grant, William Arderne to son John, and Margery Stretley: all his estate in Towcester, 1437.
- 6 Grant, John lord of Clynton and of Say and wife Joan to William Sponne and Thomas Lane, clerk: messuage with the garden adjacent called le Tabard in the town of Towcester with all the appurtenances in Towcester, Caldecote and Woodbyrcote, 28th Jan. 1439/40.
- 7 Power of attorney John lord of Clynton and Say to Robert Wale of Towcester and Richard Slade of Whysston, premises as above. 28th Jan. 1439/40.
- 8 Receipt: John Brown, gentleman, servant with the lord of Clynton and John Mayne citizen and sadler of London to William Sponne and Thomas Lane: for 80 marks. 29th Jan. 1439/40.
- 9 Power of attorney: Wm. Sponne and Thos. Lane to Thos. Wilby and Wm. Kimcote of Towcester, to receive seisin of the Tabard. 1st Feb. 1439/40.
- 10 Quitclaim, John lord of Clynton and Say and wife Joan to Wm. Sponne and Thos. Lane: all rights in the Tabard. 12th Feb. 1439/40.
- 11 Final Concord: Wm. Sponne and Thos Lane v. John Clynton esq. and wife Joan: 1 messuage, 8a. of land, 4a. of meadow etc. in Towcester. Michaelmas 1440.
- 12 Grant, John Ardenne, son and heir of Wm. Arderne of Herdewyk, Oxon., and wife Margery, to Wm. Sponne: all his lands in Towcester, Caldecote and Woodburcote lately held of the gift of Wm. Arderne. 1441.

- TC
- 13 Bond, Roger Poure of Cleckyndon, Oxon, gent,
and John Arderne of Herdwyk, Oxon, gent to Wm.
Sponne. 1441.
- 14 Quitclaim, Richard Slade of Whysshton to Wm.
Sponne: all actions real and personal. 1443.
- 15 Quitclaim Richard Slade to Wm. Sponne of rights in
the Tabard by virtue of an annual pension of 4
marks granted to him by John lord of Clynton and
his wife. 1443.
- 16 Grant, Thomas Lane to Master Wm. Hall, and Master
Nicholas Germayne, chaplain of Sponne's chantry in
the parish church of St. Laurence, Towcester,
Thos. Billyng senior of Astewell, Wm. Chacombe,
Richard Grendon, Peter Emston, John Holt, Wm.
Precious, Richard Salford, Robt. Gregory, John
Sutton, Wm. Wikyn, Thos. Lufwik, Wm. Shepherd and
Thos. Phippes, parishioners of the said parish:
messuage called the Tabard in Towcester lying
between le Awngell and le Swan, and the Tabard
croft, 6a at Copmanthorn, 2 butts extending to
Nederdepslade, 8 butts at Sharpslond, 5 butts in
Writhenale called le Chekker, 2 sellions in
Writhenale, meadow called Wyntersshore and Hyll
Mede held by Wm. Sponne of the gift of John lord
Clynton, 5th Jan. 1451.
- 17 Power of attorney, Thos. Lane to John Eborall and
John Fisse to deliver seisin, 5th Jan. 1451.
- 18, 19 Deed of settlement of Master, Thos. Lane, clerk.
Recites TC 16: to be held in trust in accordance
with the will of Wm. Sponne. Tabard to be let:
from the profits - an obit to be said for Wm.
Sponne; lord of the town to be relieved of the
payment of a fifteenth when levied on the town;
remainder for the repairing of the Tabard and of
the pavements of Towcester, distributions to the
poor of Towcester and 40 pence p.a. to the
Chaplains of the chantry for the renewal and
mending of its books and ornaments. When 4, 5 or 6
feoffees have died, the survivors are to elect 4,
5 or 6 new feoffees, then to vest the lands in the
2 chaplains of chantry, who will immediately reinvest
it in themselves, the surviving feoffees and the new
feoffees. The deed to be read twice a year in the
parish church of Towcester. 15th Jan. 1451.
- 20, 21 Translations of deed of 15th Jan. 1451 with
endorsed memoranda of its being read in church,
1778, 1806, 1810, 1821, 1827.
- 22 Release, Wm. Oxton alias Walls of Towcester to
Richard Maryat, Richard Almayne, John Hatter, Thos.
Heythe and other inhabitants of Towcester; yielding
all claim to a parcel of land in the field of
Towcester called Costowe, the subject of a dispute
between the parties. 1545.
- 23 Decree of Sir Wm. Farmer, bt., Sir Edmund Bray, bt.,
Francis Harvy, Francis Morgan, Richd Naylour, Wm.
Tate esq., Geo. Wake, M.D., chancellor of the diocese
of Peterborough, and Will. Langham, doctor of Music,
Commissioners for Charitable Uses: original grant,

TC

- 23 (cont.) and lease of the Tabbard alias the Talbott of 1666 confirmed: case brought by Wm. Wills, Thos. Whittear and Richd Griffin v. Geo. Bensone, Geo. Waple, John Clark, John Grundon, Thos. Shepheard, Josiah Ebrall, Chas. Goare, Thos. Cooper and John Shepheard without cause. 1669.
- 24 - 41 Feoffments, surviving feoffees of Sponne's charity to two clerks of a messuage in Towcester called the Tabard with the appurtenances in the town and fields of Towcester, Wodeburcote and Caldecote. 1466-1637.
- 42 - 61 Feoffments, 2 clerks to feoffees of Sponne's charity of property described above. 1466-1677.
- 62 - 66 Feoffments, surviving feoffees to new feoffees, of property described above [called the Talbot 1685]. 1677-1717.
- 67 - 68 Powers of attorney to deliver seisin of the Tabard, 1466.
- 69 Draft feoffments, surviving feoffees to 2 clerks, and 2 clerks to feoffees of the Tabard &c. 1545.
- 70 Mortgage, feoffees of Sponne's charity to John Lawe of Woodburcote, of the arrable lands etc. lying in the fields of Towcester, Wodeburcote and Caldecote, called Harrye Saundres land. 1492.

2. Leases etc.

- 71 Lease by the feoffees of Sponne's charity of a messuage in Towcester called the Tabard. 1468.
- 72 Lease (unexecuted) of the Talbot alias the Tabard and Tabard close, 1602.
- 73 - 87 Leases and counterpart leases of the Tabbard and Tabbard Close [alias Talbot, 1649, with other lands 1750] 1607-1803.
- 88 - 89 Tenancy agreement; the Talbot Inn, Baths Close, and 4 closes called Lampart Green Close, Pest House Meadow, Pest House Close and Ransoms Hill Close, 1837.
- 90 - 91 Tenancy agreements, Talbot Inn and Bath Close,
93 - 94 1846, 1853, 1874, 1884.
- 92 Tenancy agreement, Talbot Inn, 1866.
- 95 - 96 Tenancy agreement: 4 closes called Lampart Green Close, Pest House Meadow, Pest House Close and Ransoms Hill, 1846, 1896.
- 97 Tenancy agreement: Bath Close, 1866.
- 98 - 99 Lease and draft: 4a. 2r. of land being the east side of Lampart Green Close. 1859.
- 100 Tenancy agreement: close called the Cow Pasture and Stripe in Whittlebury. 1856.

3. Surveys.

- 101 A terrier of the Tabard lands in Towcester, 1557.
- 101A A survey of Sponne's Charity estate in Towcester made by Saml. Smith, 1820.
- 102 - 103 Agreement, feoffees of Sponne's charity with Stephen Branson and John Branson of Towcester, bricklayers: to keep the pavements (named) of Towcester in good repair, 1737.

4. Accounts.

- 104 Account book: accounts of the collectors of Sponne's charity [2 elected annually from the feoffees]. In front list of implements belonging to the Tabard (1485/6); at back memo. of agreement of Thomas Kyng and John Kislingbury to repair the Tabard or give up the tenancy (1542/3), 1482-1566.
- 105 Account book as above. At back accounts of School charity, 1664-1704; agreement for distribution of 10/- p.a. arising from enclosure at Woodend in Blakesley, 1679; memo. that Geo. Benson receive the rent of a tenement in Park Lane till he be reimbursed for expenses in repairing the school, 1684; memoranda of gifts of Paul Reynolds of East-neston, Sir Geo. Farmer, Eliz. Green of Abthorpe and Wm. Hopkins of Farthingstone, 1622: lists of feoffees, 1631, 1598; memo. of agreements with tenants of the Tabard to leave all the glass and casements undefaced, 1575, 1585, 1566-1767.
- 106 Account book as above. At back Chantry House charity accounts (school) 1786-98, 1767-1878.
- 107 Account book as above. Contains accounts of sale of the Talbot, 1895, 1878-97.
- 108 - 114 Annual statements of accounts (with some drafts), 1854, 1856, 1892-4.
- 115 - 159 Draft yearly statements of accounts containing yearly bundles of vouchers. Some of the later ones contain vouchers for the Bickerstaff Charity. Vouchers only 1916-26. 1895-1940.
- 160 Bundle of receipts etc., mainly Sponne, but some also for the Bickerstaff and School charities. The 16th c. receipts are for the payment of a fifteenth. Also a memo. of the collectors giving their annual accounts, and the contents of the chest, 1459/60, and a note of dispute with tenant of cottage in Park Lane (17th c.); 1459/60, 1561-1837.
- 161 - 236 Annual bundles of vouchers, 1808, 1814-96.
- 237 Receipts for quit rents paid to the Earl of Pomfret, 1750-99 (4).
- 238 Receipts for contribution made to the trustees of the Chester turnpike for repairs to roads in Towcester, 1774-1835 (8).
- 239 Stock receipts, 1803-11, 1885-1901.

- 240 - 244 Distribution books: giving names of recipients of charity and amount. 1869-77; 1878-87; enclosing letter re telegraph pole outside Talbot, 1888, and copy scheme for applying part of the Sponne charity funds to the Grammar School, 1887-9, 1891; n.d. c.1892, at back list of trees in closes, named.
- 245 - 250 Lists of recipients of charity 1891-5: "names of Men for Easter Monday" c.1890.
- 251 List of persons receiving coal and amount. 1936-40 (small vol.).
- 252 Vouchers for coal and counterfoils, 1939.
- 253 - 254 Bank pass books, 1869-83, 1884-6. Enclosing draft minutes, 1886, and letter with proposal to build market at the end of the Talbot Yard, 1886.
- 255 Cheque-book counterfoils, 1889-93.

5. Correspondence and papers.

- 256 Correspondence, Spottes trustees and Robert Curtis of Riches Court, Lime Street, Stratford E. re plan for alterations to the Talbot, 1854-5 (9) with plans (4).
- 257 Letter from W. Adams, returning signed leases, 1856.
- 258 Letter from John Judkins re application for "Crossings". 1858.
- 259 Corresp. re the Talbot and change of tenancy; 1861. Letter re proposed party wall, 1877.
- 260 Letter from A. Jones refusing to undertake to keep the Talbot in repair. 1864.
- 261 Letter giving notice of inquiry into Towcester charity schemes. 1870.
- 262 Letters accepting office of charity feoffee, 1871-6 (8).
- 263 Feoffees corresp. - various subjects 1882-4 (18).
- 264 Letters accepting office of charity feoffee, 1892 (4).
- 265 Letters asking for reduction in rent owing to the agricultural depression 1893, n.d. (2).
- 266 Letters from the vicar of Towcester (A. Mountain) re annual feoffees' meeting. 1893 (2).
- 267 Feoffees corresp. mainly re proposal to sell the Talbot in 1895. 1894-6 (18).
- 268 Feoffees papers and corresp., general 1895 (18).
- 269 Letter from P.O. Engineer (S. Midlands) re proposed erection of telegraph poles along Watling Street, 1895.

- 270 Corresp. re investment of money (from sale of Talbot ?) and way leave for telegraph poles in Watling Street 1895 (5).
- 271 Letter from Geo. T. Smith of Towcester re bad state of repair of footway from High Street to the sawpitts. 1897.
- 272 Corresp. with Charity Commissioners re raising loan for repairs to Talbot, 1854-5 (11).
- 273 Letter from Charity Commissioners asking for further details about annual accounts, 1869.
- 274 Letter from Charity Commissioners asking for form re scheme for school to be filled up. 1878.
- 275 Letter from Charity Commissioners re desirability of new scheme. 1892.
- 276 Corresp. with Charity Commissioners re sale of Talbot and new scheme. 1895-6 (12).
- 277 Corresp. with Charity Commissioners re restoration of original oak head etc. to Sponne's monument in Towcester Church, 1929 (1 file).
- 278 Papers etc. re claims for refund of Income Tax on property. 1843-66 (4).
- 279 Papers etc. allowing repayment of tax on property 1851-4 (3).
- 280 Valuation of growing crops in the garden of the Talbot, 1821; valuation of Talbot Inn and farm, 1822; Geo. Gunays acct., 1822; bill for dinners, 1836; agreement to be tenant, with list of repairs to be done, 1837; corresp. re leasing the Talbot, 1853.
- 281 Contract for work at the Talbot, 1855; bill for cupboards and shelves at the Talbot, 1856; letters re proposal to lay crossings in Towcester, 1859; plan and estimate for new stables at the Talbot, 1861.
- 282 Papers:- receipts for taxes 1855-68; 2 letters from tenants, 1854.
- 283 Notice to creditors of John Ames of the Talbot Hotel, Towcester, innkeeper, and letter enc. cheque 1872-3 (2).
- 284 Misc. receipts found loose. 1850-72 (5).
- 285 Draft notices: re letting of the Talbot, 1872; conditions for applications for grant from Sponnes charity c.1895.
- 286 Notice by S. Major of termination of tenancy of shop in Park Street, 1893.
- 287 Tenders for paving by cottages at Islington (Terrace ?) 1894 (2).

- 288 Invitation for tenders to supply coal and 3 tenders. 1909.
- 289 Notice of tenant's intention to quit the Talbot, 1833, with corresp. plan etc. re repairs to the Talbot, 1834 and receipts bill for repairs to the almshouses 1865.
- 290 Specifications, tenders etc. for paving works to be done in Towcester, 1844-5.
- 291 Plans and estimates for building 'Mr. Vernon's' hovel in the meadow. 1849-50 (4).
- 292 Estimates: for various works at the Talbot and to pavements: plan for "Wm. Howes Front Window". 1852-4.
- 293 Specifications of work to be done at the Talbot; agreement of John Brown and Wm. Bowden to undertake the work, and bills. 1854-6. (4).
- 294 Report of Robert Curtis on the state of the works at the Talbot. 1856.
- 295 Valuation of dilapidations to be paid by outgoing tenant of the Talbot. 1861.
- 296 Specifications of repairs etc. to be done at the Talbot, 1873-4 (4).
- 297 Specifications and estimates for works at the Talbot, 1882-3 (8).
- 298 Specifications of works to be done at the Talbot, and corresp. with the Charity Commissioners thereon. 1887-8. (6).
- 299 Specifications for erecting new stables at the Talbot, 1887, with surveyors report and plans.
- 300 Fire Insurance Policies: on the Talbot Inn and other properties, 1750, 1784, 1870; a hovel in Lampart Green, 1897; a dwelling house in Park Street, 1898 and 2 receipts for premiums, 1812-3.
- 301 Receipt from Nicholas Gifford of Towcester, plumber for bill for repairing gutter between the house of Thos. Jones and the Talbot, and agreement to keep it in repair for 50 years, 1674. [In cloth bag marked "R.A." "Sponnes Feoffee Meeting 26 March 1818"].
- 302 Grant of way-leave to the Guardians of the Poor of Towcester Union to lay 6" water pipes through the Charity lands (plan). 1883.
- 303 Order from Quarter Sessions to stop a public footpath from the stile at Tranter's Close to the rails there.
- 304 Copy resolution and letter of the Highway Board, re exchange of land for improving the road to the cemetery. 1885.

- 305 Case and opinion re obligation of Turnpike Trustees to repair road in Towcester in front of the Talbot. 1749.
- 306 Case and opinion as to whether new trustees can be occupiers of property in, but not parishioners of, Towcester. 1866.

AB. SPONNES AND BICKERSTAFFES CHARITIES

1. Trust Deeds.

- 307 - 320 Towcester and Farthingstone. Investment of lands in new trustees: the Tabard alias the Talbot with its appurtenances, and lands lying in the common fields of Farthingstone, 1722-1887.

2. Minutes.

- 321 Minute book of the Towcester Charities Feoffees. One joint annual general meeting was held for Sponne's, Bickerstaff's, Hicks and the School charities at which separate accounts were audited. Other meetings were held by the various charities as the need arose. The same feoffees served all four charities, but each charity had 2 separate acting feoffees. 1804-38.
- 322 Minute book, as above. At back, memo. re joint wall of the Talbot and John Brown's house, 1854. Enc. corresp. 1870-85 (5). 1838-75.
- 323 Minute book, as above. At front, list of Sponnes feoffees 1876. Cont. newspaper reports of meetings re dispute over sale of the Talbot, 1895. 1876-95.
- 324 Minute book as above. Not fully used, as in 1897 a new charity scheme came into operation. 1895-6.
- 325 Minute book of the Feoffees of Sponne's and Bickerstaff's Charities, under the new scheme. 1897-1905. Indexed.
- 326 Minute book, as above, 1905-16.
327. Minute book, as above, 1917-33.

3. Correspondence and Papers.

- 328 Letter Book, feoffees of Sponne's and Bickerstaff's Charities. 1897-1917. Indexed.
- 329 Corresp. with Charity Commissioners re sale of land in Brackley Road to the Wesleyan Society for the site of a manse. Report on proposed buildings in Brackley Road. 1908-9.
- 330 Letters from Charity Commissioners acknowledging receipt of annual accts. from various Towcester charities. 1856-67 (5).

- 331 Bills, accounts etc. all charities, 1803-23; bond to perform covenants, 1641; corresp. of Thos. White, schoolmaster, claiming all the rents of the school lands, 1816; survey of Mr. Wilcox's close adjoining Spittal Lane, 1818; draft statement of charitable donations, incomplete; terrier of Talbot lands, n.d.
- 332 Cheque books (used) and paying in book, feoffees of Sponne's and Bickerstaff's charities, 1936-40.
- 333 Corresp. and papers re tenders for sinking an artesian well, with analysis of water, 1878-9. [property not identifiable].
- 334 Note of the amount of stock standing in the name of Mr. (John) Lovell, n.d. 19th C. [charity not identifiable].

B. BICKERSTAFF'S CHARITY

1. Deeds.

- 335 Copy will of Thomas Bickerstaff, citizen and founder of London: bequest (inter alia) to the trustees of the Talbot charity of the interest in lease of a site whereon testator had built almshouses, and £250 to be invested in land and the rents to be used for the preservation of the almshouses, and the Blackwell, and to maintain 3 people in the almshouses. 1695/6.
- 336 Lease: Sir Wm. Fermor of Easton Neston to Thos. Bickerstaff of a small piece of ground 15yds. x 17 yds. in Towcester (abuttals) for 100 years in consideration of the almshouses Bickerstaff intends to build thereon, and settle them as a charity. 1689.
- 337 Lease: Wm. Lord Lempster to Thos. Bickerstaff of land of 3 almshouses in Towcester for 500 years 1693.
- 338 Agreement between the Trustees of the Talbot lands and Wm. Lord Lempster for an exchange of leasehold lands provided Lord Lempster leases the site of the almshouses to Thos. Bickerstaffe for 400 years. 1693.
- 339 Lease: Wm. Lord Lempster to the feoffees of Sponne charity of 13 selions of arrable land in Normill field, containing 3a. 3r. 26p. for 500 years, and lease by the feoffees to Lord Lempster of lands in Spittle Field, Towcester, 1693.

Farthingstone

- 340 Final Concord: Wm. Wills and Robert Bunting v. Ursula Adams, widow, John Adams and wife Jane, Richard Nelson and wife Temperance, Abigail Kilby, widow, Wm. Shepard and wife Sarah, John Tucker and wife Eliz. of 2 messuages 1cottage, 3 gardens, 3 orchards 40a. of land etc. in Farthingstone, Litchborough, Duncott, Greens Norton, Weston and Weedon, 1697. [Nos. 336-40 an original bundle].

- 341 Deed to declare the uses of a fine: messuage in Farthingstone, 2a. of pasture adjoining a cottage in Farthingstone and 7 yard lands in the common fields of Farthingstone. 1674.
- 342 - 343 Mortgage: John Adams the elder of Farthingstone, and John Adams the younger to John Freemantle of Morton Pinkney, gent: a messuage, close of pasture and 3 yard lands in the common fields of Farthingstone: and bond to perform covenants. 1687.
- 344 Assignment of mortgage: John Freemantle to Thomas Bellasse of Charwelton, gent: property as above. 1691.
- 345 Assignment of mortgage: Thos. Bellasse to charity feoffees: messuage, close of pasture and 2 yard lands in Farthingstone. 1697.
- 346 Assignment to attend the inheritance: charity feoffees to James Thomas alias Rice of Towcester of lands in the common fields of Farthingstone (scheduled), and conveyance to John Adams and Ursula Adams of the remainder of the mortgaged premises. 1698.
- 347 Lease and Release: Ursula Adams, widow and John Adams to charity feoffees: lands in the common fields of Farthingstone (scheduled). 1698. Charged with payment of £8 p.a. to Eliz. Bickerstaff widow.
- 348 Investment in new Trustees: lands in the common fields of Farthingstone. 1718.
- 349 Receipt: feoffees of Sponne's charity to Mary Burnell, for £100 paid in lieu of a bequest by Joseph Newman of Towcester, ironmonger of a close of land in Towcester, for the benefit of the widows in the almshouses, which had been declared void by the Statute of Mortmain. 1776.

2. Leases.

Farthingstone

- 350 Lease by the feoffees of Bickerstaff's charity to Geo. Wilkinson of lands in the common fields of Farthingstone. 1700/1.
- 351 - 356 Leases and Tenancy Agreements: 28 acres of newly inclosed land in Farthingstone. 1773-1899.

3. Accounts.

- 357 Account book of the feoffees of Bickerstaff's Charity. At back, memoranda of election of widows to almshouses, 1730-1738; memoranda of investment of £167 in Consols, 1781 and of anonymous gift of £80 to be invested and the proceeds spent in coal, 1789. 1713-92.

- 358 Account book, as above; at back notes etc. of election of widows to the almshouses, 1795, 1799, 1803-33, and minutes of feoffees meetings, 1803-32. 1792-1833.
- 359 Account book, as above. At front, list of elections to the almshouses, 1842-84. At back, minutes of meetings, 1833-47; memorandum of legacy under will of Mary Sheppard of Towcester. n.d. 1833-97.
- 360 Account book "Mr. Adams Charity" for the lower or back almshouses. Memorandum of decision owing to keeping of separate accounts "having frequently been attended with mistakes" to keep them with Bickerstaff's accounts in future. 1857. 1813-57.
- 361 - 366 Copy annual statements of accounts, 1854-8. 1894.
- 367 - 409 Draft annual statements of accounts, enclosing bundle of vouchers, 1896-1940.
- 410 - 491 Annual bundles of vouchers, 1809, 1812-13, 1820-96.
- 492 - 493 Bank pass books, 1876-86, 1909-39.

4. Minutes.

- 494 Minute book of feoffees of Bickerstaff's charity, at back, list of elections to almshouses, 1842-85. 1852-90. [see also TC 321-7].
- 495 Minute book, as above, 1890-6.

5. Correspondence and papers.

- 496 Inquiries from Charity Commissioners re details of endowment funds. 1857 (2).
- 497 Letters from Inland Revenue and Charity Commissioners ack. receipt of annual accounts. 1858-9 (3).
- 498 Letter from Charity Commissioners re transfer of Consols to Official Trustee of Charitable Funds, 1871.
- 499 Corresp. re tenancy of land in Farthingstone, 1875-7 (16).
- 500 Corresp. re proposed sale of land in Farthingstone for labourers allotments, 1887-90. (1 file).
- 501 Corresp. of T. Mountford of Snorscombe (tenant) re land in Farthingstone 1887-95 (12).
- 502 Papers and corresp. of E.K. Elliott, acting feoffees, 1893-5 (15).
- 503 Stock receipts, corresp. etc. 1871 (6).
- 504 Fire insurance Policy on 3 almshouses in Towcester and barn etc. in Farthingstone Field. 1899.

C. GRAMMAR SCHOOL CHARITY

1. Deeds.

Towcester.

- 505 Conveyance: Richd. Heyborne and Wm. Dalby to John Farmer of Esteneston esq., Thos. Davie of Towcester and others, of a site or capital messuage called the chauntry house in Towcester late a chantry called Sponnes Chantry, and a cottage in Parke lane in Towcester, to be held of the king as of the manor of Moulton in free socage. 1551/2.
- 506 Release, by Robert Compton of London gent to Thos. Davy, Wm. Marryat, Wm. Capurn, Nicholas Easwell and Thos. Weste, of arrearages of rent in the Chantry House. 1572.
- 507 Grant: Wm. Marryat, Wm. Caporne and Thos. West to Richard Blande of Towcester, mercer, and Christopher Savage of Towcester, baker of the Chantry house and a tenement in Park Lane. 1581.
- 508 Grant: Richard Blande and Christopher Savage to trustees of the Chantry house etc. 1581.
- 509 - 512 Enfeoffment of new trustees: site or capital messuage commonly called the chantry house alias the Colledge alias the schoole house and a cottage in Park Lane.

Towcester and Whittlebury

- 513 - 525 Enfeoffment of new trustees: the chantry-house alias the college alias the schoolhouse and the schoolhouse itself and a tenement in Park Lane in Towcester, and 13 acres of land in the common fields of Whittlebury. 1722-1876.

Whittlebury

- 526 Mortgage: James Langrake of Whittlebury gent to Robert Parker of Towcester, shepherd, of 9 ridges of ground in the field of Whittlebury. 1630.
- 527 Grant: James Langrake to Robert Parker of 9 and 6 ridges in the field of Whittlebury, and 4 ridges in Broadmeade field. 1630.
- 528 Grant: John Gray of Whittlebury, fuller and wife Sarah to John Middleton of Whittlebury yeoman, of 2½ acres in Whittlebury, 1 acre in Broadmead furlong, 2 ridges in Ladywell Furlong, 2 ridges under couny close and 2 leys in Netherends furlong. 1638.
- 529 Grant: Thomas Parker of Towcester, shepherd to John Middleton of 9 ridges in the fields of whittlebury. 1641.
- 530 - 531 Bonds: John Middleton to Francis Gray of Paulerspury, yeoman: to repay £25. 1660/1.

- 532 - 533 Grant (and bond): Richard Gar(d)ner of Silverstone, yeoman to John Middleton of 2 acres in Willeland in the fields of Whittlebury. 1662.
- 534 - 536 Grant (with bond and receipt): John Waterman of Whittlebury, gent., to John Middleton the elder and John Middleton the younger of 6½a. called bushey hill in Broadmead Field. 1676.
- 537 Marriage settlement: John Middleton the younger and Joan Savage, daughter of Geo. Savage of Greens Norton; 16½a. of land lying in the fields of Whittlebury, 1680/1.
- 538 Deed to lead the uses of a Fine: to bar dower of Eliz. wife of Wm. Mathews of Great Everdon, yeoman, and daughter of John Middleton and wife Joan: lands as above. 1712/3.
- 539 Copy lease and release: Wm. Mathew of Hellidon and wife Elizabeth to Edward Ashwell of Farthingstone, yeoman: messuage in Greens Norton and close thereto adjoining, 7a. in the common fields of Greens Norton, and 16½a. in the common fields of Whittlebury, 1716/7.
- 540 Lease and Release: Edward Ashwell to the trustees of Towcester Grammar School and Ralph Robinson, clerk and master of the School; 13a. of land in the open fields of Whittlebury (described) purchased with a bequest of £100 from Wm. Mariott of Grays Inn. Enc. certified extract from the will. 1721.
- Towcester and Abthorpe.
- 541 Copy Order of the Inclosure Commissioners for and exchange of land between the feoffees of Towcester Grammar School and the Duke of Grafton: Part of Ives Meadow, Towcester, and a pasture called Oziers in Abthorpe. Plan. 1875.

2. Leases.

Towcester.

- 542 Lease to Jerom Farmer of Burcot, gent., of the College house and a garden and a Dufhouse etc. sometime called Sponnes Chantry. 1583.
- 543 Bond: of John Kynngston of Towcester to pay rent of a cottage in Parke Lane, 1649.
- 544 Lease to John Tomson of Towcester, a labourer of a messuage in Park Lane, a cottage containing 2 rooms thereto adjoining and a garden. 1684.
- 545 - 549 Leases: a messuage at the corner of Parke Lane, in Towcester. 1700-34.

Whittlebury

- 550 Lease: to John Waterman of 13a. in the common fields of Whittlebury. 1736.

Abthorpe.

- 551 Lease: to Robert Cockerill the elder of Towcester, basketmaker, of a close of land in Abthorpe, 1799.

3. Appointments of Schoolmasters.

- 552 Appointment of Jethro King, of Corpus Christi, Oxon. 1681.
- 553 Appointment of Thomas White of Hanslope, Bucks. 1795.
- 554 Appointment of Thos. Clement White, 1828.
- 555 Appointment of James White Willets of Towcester, 1849.

4. Accounts and Vouchers.

- 556 - 562 Copy annual statements of accounts, 1853-9, 1894.
- 563 - 580 Annual statements of accounts, with yearly bundles of vouchers, 1880-1900.
- 581 - 616 Annual bundles of vouchers; 1822-3, 1831, 1835-9, 1844-91.
- 617 Account book, 1799-1837, and notes of admissions to the school, with lists of charity boys, 1772-1835. At front, copy appointment of Jethro King as schoolmaster, 1681.

5. Correspondence and Papers.

- 618 Corresp. of the feoffees of the Grammar School with Thomas Clement White, schoolmaster, re vacancies at the school. 1837-8 (9).
- 619 Letters from the Charity Commissioners acknowledging receipt of annual accounts, 1856, 1857 (2).
- 620 Letters and memo. from Alexander Wilkins, curate of Birkin asking to be appointed master of the Grammar School. 1867. (3).
- 621 Covering letter of Schools Inquiry Commission re report of commissioners (not found) 1867.
- 622 Letter: E. Kebby of York St., Westminster to Rev. Willetts re arrival of 'Order' (?). 1867.
- 623 Corresp. from T. Heywood Vernon of Pimlico, London architect, re plans for new Grammar School, with plans (9) 1867-9.
- 624 Letters from John Steane asking for post of schoolmaster, with testimonials; offering to take Free School boys at Towcester Commercial School. 1868, 1870.
- 625 Letters: Lord Penrhyn and others re proposed union of Towcester Grammar School with others. 1868 (3).
- 626 Letter from R.P. Lightfoot, vicar of Towcester, offering £10 to Grammar School fund, and to rent Grammar School garden. 1868.
- 627 Nomination by the rector and churchwardens of Greens Norton to a place at the Grammar School, 1870.

- 628 Applications for free places at the Grammar School, 1872-9 (41).
- 629 Letter: from W. Knight asking for testimonial as to his work at the Charity School, 1889.
- 630 Corresp. re Endowed Schools Committee, with copy Act (1869), reports etc., prospectus of the school (1869) and report (1872). Corresp. re gift of site for new school by Sir J. Hesketh, 1876-7 (20).
- 631 Feoffees corresp. and papers, including letter offering £600 for site of old school (1867); draft application for permission to suspend appointment of a new master pending the building of a new school (1868); and statements of accounts, (1869-76). 1857-77 (21).
- 632 Notice to quit: to William Fielding; land in Whittlebury. 1855.
- 633 Extract from Whittlebury Forest Inclosure Award 1861; notes on proposed exchange of land with Duke of Grafton, with plan, n.c. c.1875.
- 634 Copy minutes of meeting of Feoffees of Sponnes Charity re proposed amalgamation of charities, 1870.
- 635 Insurance policy: 2 tenements in Park Lane, Towcester. 1871.
- 636 Charity Commission's scheme for Towcester Grammar School, pr. 1886.
- 637 Undertaking: of Thomas Wheeler to execute the new school building. 1889.
- 638 Draft specification and contract for building the new school, n.d. c.1889.
- 639 Agreement: of Victor Ashby of Towcester, cabinet-maker to pay an acknowledgment rent of 1/- p.a. for new windows. 1896.

D. HICKS' CHARITY

1. Deeds.

Towcester

- 640 Grant: Henry Archer of Towcester, chaplain, to Benedict Davy, bailiff of Towcester, Henry Barker, Wm. South, Richd. South, Thos. Goodgame, Jas. Glassynebury, John Rook, Hugh Almayn, John Rockyngham, Wm. Goodgame, John Pynkard, Wm. Ketell and Thos. Carswell. Tenement in Towcester at the Lower end: to be held on trust to fulfill the last will of Richard Hicks: the profits therefrom to be used to repair the Church of St. Laurence, Towcester. 1519/20. Endorsed, terrier of lands in Towcester.

- 641 Order of the Commissioners for Charitable Uses: Reciting will of Richd. Hickes, and bequest of 2 houses and 6a. of land in Towcester: all trustees dead, and no heir known. Order that it be vested in Geo. Benson, John Tow, Thos. Shepheard, Josiah Ebrooll, Chas. Goare, John Clarke, Thos. Clarke, Geo. Waples and John Grindon. 1669.
- 642 - 657 Feoffments of new trustees: 2 messuages in Towcester and 6a. of land in the common field. 1706-1904. With copy deed of 1520.

2. Leases.

Towcester

- 658 - 667 Leases (and counterparts) of a cottage in Towcester and 3a. of land in the fields of Towcester. 1677-1840 [mess. called the Iron Crown, 1734-68; mess. in Church Lane and 7a. 1r. 32p. in Moor Field, 1788, 1840].
- 668 - 674 Leases, (and counterparts) of a cottage in Towcester and 3a. of land in the common fields. 1677-1856. [called the Town House, 1716-34].

3. Accounts and Vouchers.

- 675 Accounts: book of repairs to the church 1773-1890. Later payments are mainly for the organists salary. At front, list of trustees, 1774-1864. At back, notes on repayment of £400 to Mrs. Jenkinson, 1810-20; measure of the whitewashing of the church, 1798; tenancy agreement, 1819; agreement to pay 1/- p.a. for oven, 1818; minutes of meetings, 1820-47.
- 676 - 699 Draft annual statements of accounts, 1854-6, 1881-2, 1901-20.
- 700 - 715 Draft annual statements of accounts, with annual bundles of vouchers 1885-1900. Corresp. re corner house in High St., Towcester, 1895.
- 716 - 773 Annual bundles of vouchers, 1828, 1830-7, 1844-84, 1901-20.
- 774 - 775 Bank Pass Books, 1869-86, 1887-1907.

4. Correspondence and Papers.

- 776 Letter from John Becke re payment of salary due to C.J. Tarry, organist. 1856.
- 777 Correspondence etc.: report of E. Law, architect, on alterations to the church; report of S. Hall on the clock mechanism. 1861 (3).
- 778 Correspondence: general corresp. of the feoffees, 1875, 1880-6 (16).
- 779 Correspondence: re tenancy of house to be vacated by Mr. Dawson 1905 (16).

- 780 Papers and corresp. re sale of timber in Brackley Road 1908-9 (11).
- 781 Specification and estimate: repairs to Mr. Martins house. n.d. early 19th c.
- 782 Correspondence and opinion; as to legality of payment towards organists salary 1856-7 (5).
- 783 Insurance policy: 2 houses in High Street, Towcester. 1863.
- 784 Plan for alteration to Reading Desk in Towcester church. n.d.
- 785 Estimates: for alterations and repairs to feoffees property, and for new gates to the churchyard. 1906-8 (5).
- 786 Agreement: with Mark Williams Groom of Towcester, motor engineer, allowing him to erect a trade sign on house in the High Street, 1908.
- 787 Circular letter from the Secretary of the Royal College of Surgeons (used as a label) 1886.
- 788 Incomplete claim for return of Income Tax re Charity lands. c.1890.

E.1. PERRYS CHARITY.

Land in Westminster.

- 789 Copy will of William Perry of the parish of St. Bartholomew the Less, London, chirurgion, citizen and blacksmith of London. Bequest to wife Elizabeth of life interest in all his messuages, subject to a yearly payment of 40/- to the churchwardens of Towcester out of the rents of a g house in the George and Plow Yard, Westminster for the teaching of 2 young boys of that parish, and providing them once every 2 years with an orange coloured coat and cap. After wife's death, said tenements to the churchwardens of Towcester 1691 (copy, 1850).
- 790 Lease: churchwardens of Towcester to Edward Otley of Carteret St., Westminster, of a parcel of ground with the shed etc. in the George and Plough Yard, in the Broadway, Westminster. 1811.
- 791 Lease of messuage in Kings Head Court, Westminster 1850, with corresp. and letter re title of churchwardens of Towcester re land in Westminster 1855 (11).
- 792 Correspondence: re title, 1853; re rent, 1887; re repairs to 14 Kings Head Court, 1891; copy of bill for the regulation of the vestries of St. Margarets, Westminster and St. Johns Westminster 1852-3 (22).

E.2. MISCELLANEOUS

- 793 Book of transcriptions of deeds etc. Copies of No. 18, 23; feoffees v. Geo. Russell, order to enfeoff the trustees with the Chantry House, 1638/9; opinion re exchange of lands, 1692/3; extract from No. 553; lists of 'Church Charities and Charities for the Poor'; lists of acting feoffees for Sponne Charity, 1566-1834; trustees of Hickes Charity, 1774-1828; extract from No. 339; receipt for £6 for the poor of Towcester under will of Sir Geo. Farmer, 1621; will of Thomas Bickerstaff 1695/6; faculty to erect 3 galleries in St. Lawrence's church, 1789; notes on the history of Towcester and Abthorpe churches; wills of John Jones 1694 and Ann Jones, 1699; map of land on Brackley Road; abridgement of Act 10 Geo. II for making chapel of Abthorpe a parish church, 1736/7; exemplification of judgment, churchwardens and overseers of the poor of Towcester v. Ambrose Bennett esq. for a poor levy, 1652; copy of Nos. 554, 838; trust deed; $\frac{1}{2}$ yardland at Woodend bought with £50 given by Thomas Cleave citizen and haberdasher of London to provide 13 penny loaves every week for the poor of Towcester 1639/40; similar trust deed for the benefit of the poor of Blakesley, 1637; copy No. 640.

E.3. TOWCESTER SAMARITAN COMMITTEE

- 794 - 835 Draft yearly accounts of the Towcester Samaritan Committee. 1901-39.

E.4. MISCELLANEOUS CHARITABLE BEQUESTS.

- 836 List of 'Bread Bequests' made to the parish of Towcester. n.d. c.1812.
- 837 Inquisition Post Mortem: on Robert Grendon, gent. By his will, if there were no direct issue of himself and his children George and Audrey, estate to be vested in trustees for Sponnes chantry, for teaching and preaching. 1557.
- 838 Extract from the will of George Clarke, of Towcester, gent. Charged his estates with payment of 40/- p.a. for the relief of the poor of Towcester. 1677.
- 839 Receipt: to Mary Cook for £10 to be laid out in 3% Consols, the interest for the purchase of candles, bread, cheese, beer and fuel for the almshouse people on New Years Day. 1800.
- 840 Correspondence re pension of Richard Tilley, retired soldier. 1835-6 (5).
- 841 Verses: various versions to be put on the well maintained under will of Thos. Bickerstaff. n.d., 18th c.

E.5. KNIGHT FAMILY: DEEDS OF SLAPTON & ABTHORPE.

- 842 Marriage Settlement: Thos. Knight the elder of Slapton, gent and Anne Standish of Canons Ashby: messuage in Slapton and lands, close in Abthorpe, and lands in Wappenham. 1664.
- 843 - 851 Deeds: Knight family, property as above. 1667-1704.
- 852 Plan: unidentified, probably charity lands in Towcester [Talbot?]. Made 1802, copied 1872.
- 853 Feoffment by trustees (?) of lands in Towcester. 1660/1. Much damaged, the greater part missing. Probably next in sequence to No. 41.

A P P E N D I X

The following documents amongst the Northampton Public Library miscellaneous mss. deposited in the Northants. Record Office appear to have once been part of the Sponne charity records:-

NPL No.

- 1029/1 Copy of a grant by Avelina, Countess of Essex to Joseph Masor of yardland in Towcester vill &c., (after 1213).
- 895/1
1029/6 Copies of a grant by John son of Ralph Joseph to Lord Hugh de Veer of his lands in Towcester, 1301.
- 895/2
1029/2 Copies of a grant by Lord Hugh de Veer to Walter Warde of his lands in Towcester, 1314.
- 1029/3 Copy of quitclaim by Geoffrey Joseph (1314.). (Same as T.C.1.)
- 1029/4 Copy of marriage settlement of Walter Ward of same lands, 1319.
- 889 Final Concord, Walter le Warde & his wife to Richard de Croulton, 1335.
- 888 Lease by Sir William de Clynton to Walter le Warde of Towcester manor with custody of his woods and warren &c., 1336.
- 897 Defeasance of a grant by Walter Warde to William de Clynton, Earl of Huntingdon, of his lands on payment of arrears of rent of Towcester manor, 1341.
- 1029/5 Copy of quitclaim by Walter Ward to the Earl for all Walter's lands which the Earl holds under an execution of a statute merchant, 1342.
- 896 Copy of a Final Concord, W. Warde to the Earl, 1342.
- 892 Lease from the Earl to Walter Warde and his wife of his lands for their lives, 1342.
- 891 Demise by Sir John de Clynton to William Dauentre of his lands in Towcester for 110 years &c., 1392.
- 1030 Order by William de Clynton to William Dauentre to pay annuities due to William Merton, 1401 (or 1415).
- 890 Grant of annuity by William, Lord Clynton to John Porter payable by the tenant of Le Tabard in Towcester, 1410.
- 1031 Order by the same to William Daventre to pay the same, 1411.
- 894 Bond by John, Lord de Clynton to William Sponne and Thomas Lane void on Lord Clynton conveying to them Le Tabard &c., 25 January 1440.
- 905 Feoffment by John Lynne and Thomas Man, chaplains to trustees of 38½ acres in Towcester &c., 1474.

NPL No.

- 923 & 916 Receipts for 15ths, 1559 and 1610.
- 915, 924 Receipts for chief rents of Sponne chantry lands,
922, 910 1564-1593 and 1673.
913, 917
918, 911
914, 920
and 899
- 915, 910 Receipts for chief rents of the Talbot,
909, 908 1564-82.
- 912 Memo. of agreement for certain alterations and
repairs at the Talbot, c.1580.
- 906 Terrier of Talbot lands, 1665.
- 919 Receipted account for road mending materials and
for removing rubbish, 1691.
- 893 Final Concord: A. Hill and J. Herbert v. William
Mathew and others of land in Whittlebury, Staverton
and Byfield, 1712 [Grammar School Charity - see
T.C.538].
- 900, 901 Receipts for Fire Insurance Premiums, 1734-53.
902, 898
903, 904
- 907 Fire Insurance Prospectus, 1750.
- 328 The Bishop of Peterborough's licence to Thomas
White of Towcester to teach in the public school
in Towcester, 1795.

8479
AUG 1975

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

Additional records of Towcester Charities

Accession 1975/105

	TC
F. Additional Sponne and Bickerstaffe records	854 - 871 & 940
G. Additional Sponne records	
a) Re Grammar School	872 - 880
b) Sponne Charity	881 - 920
H. Additional Bickerstaffe records	921 - 939
I. Additional Hicks charity records	941 - 966
J. Miscellaneous:	
a) Samaritan Committee	967 - 980
b) Red Cross	981
c) Other documents	982 - 995

G. Sponne.

a) Grammar School.

TC

- 872 Extract from Charity Commission Report, 1825.
- 873 Charity C. Scheme, Sponne's charity, appropriating a piece of land & £50. p.a. to T.G.S., 1886.
- 874 Agreement by John Grant to erect new buildings, 1889.
- 875 Draft lease of land in Whittlebury by Governors of T.G.S.
- 876 Charity Commission Scheme of 1901 re pensions of schools with schedule showing T.G.S. was regulated by an Endowed Schools Act scheme of 1887 and Commissioners alteration there of 1895, 1901.
- 877 Board of Education new scheme, 1912.
- 878 Brochure c.1930.
- 879 T.G.S. Schedule E. 'Foundation Account', 1946/8, - Minute of N.C.C. Education Committee & papers re Sponne Feoffees efforts to restrict the use of their contribution to local pupils, 1946-8, including copies of 1887, & 1895, schemes &c.
- 880 B.R.A. pamphlet re saving school records, 1950.

G. Sponne.

b) Sponne

TC

- 881 Will of Sponne & corr. re translation of it &c. in 1949.
- 882 Letters re Sponne's chair, 1907.
- 883 Letter re money for repair of Sponne monument &c. 1938.
- 884 500th anniversary service leaflet, 1949.
- 885 Deed of exchange of part of Talbot meadow, 1885.
- 886 Deed re drain from Talbot meadow, 1916.
- 887 Provisional valuations, 1912.
- 888 Sales 1895-1952 Talbot (1895) & Brackley Road
(also re new road to Lamport fields, 1951)
- 889 Appointments of representatives on Grammar School
Governing Body, 1931-56.
- 890 Lease of shop in Park lane 1899 and letter 1917.
- 891 Corr. re tenancy &c. of Talbot meadow, 1909-48.
- 892 Corr. &c. re G.P.O. easement in Talbot meadow 1917-61.
- 893 Note re planting trees in Station Road, 1931.
- 894 Corr. re drainage of Talbot meadow 1964, 1968.
- 895 Tenancy agreements 1902, 1913, 1923, 1946.
- 896 Corr. re tenancy &c. of Lamport Farm 1931-67.
- 897 Corr. re drain from cemetery 1931.
- 898 Corr. with Electric Light Co. re compensation &
easements 1933-39.
- 899 Corr. plans &c. re new water mains, 1939-40;
also River Board Drainage Scheme 1940-1.
- 900 Corr. re tithe redemption 1940, 1958.
- 901 Corr. re War Damage Contribution, 1941
- 902 Letter re easement of drain to Grammar School 1951.

b) Sponne

TC

- 903 Corr. re claim for depreciation in land value, 1951.
- 904 Corr. re land tax redemption, 1951-55.
- 905 Corr. re development value of plots, 1955.
- 906 Allotments Extension Act 1882.
- 907 Allotments Act 1922.
- 908 Corr. re letting allotments to Allotment Association, 1919.
- 909 Agreement re allotment 1942.
- 910 Allotment rent book 1937-44
Allotment rent book 1945-50.
- 911 Allotment rent receipt counterfoils 1939-68.
- 912 Letter re coal supplies & permits in war time 1939.
- 913 Coal gift book 1940-1943, 1943-1948.
- 914 Coal tickets 1943, 1960.
- 915 Coal ticket counterfoil books, 1943-1960.
- 916 Lists of coal gifts 1951-62 (incomplete)
- 917 Lesser Charities coal ticket counterfoil books, 1962.
- 918 Investments - corr. re 1934-52.
- 919 Bank deposit account book 1956-63, 1967-69.
- 920 Bank books 1932-47 (2)

H. Bickerstaffe Charity.

TC

- 921 Register of Alms persons c.1900-30 (14 only)
- 922 Register of applications 1901-10.
- 923 Notices of (blanks)
- 924 Application forms for appointment as almsperson (& blanks) 1905.
- 925 Applications by letter &c. 1941-60.
- 926 Letter re gift to almspeople 1958.
- 927 Papers re quit rent payable for almshouses 1909-58.
- 928 Papers re almshouses, repairs, lack of money to repair &c., 1941-67.
- 929 Papers re rating of almshouses 1942-57, also income tax 1931.
- 930 Insurance Policy on Almshouses & Farm buildings 1929.
- 931 Rent account book 1941-45.
- 932 Bank, rent account, 1941-2, 1946-7.
- 933 Nuffield Foundation Questionnaire 1945.
- 934 National Corporation for care of Old People inquiry 1948.
- 935 Corr. with National Assc. of Almshouses 1956-67.
- 936 Farthingstone land : lease 1904 & corr. &c. 1906-66. Also L. Tax redemption 1954.
- 937 Bank books 1939-47 (2)
- 938 Bank deposit account book 1967-69.
- 939 Papers re investments 1951-9.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

Additional records of Towcester Charities

F. Sponne & Bickerstaffe.

TC

- 854 Minute book 1933-1953
- 855 Trust deed 1892
- 856 Scheme of 1896 & corr.
- 857 Order varying scheme 1918
- 858 Scheme varying 1896 scheme, 1920 & corr.
- 859 Amended scheme, 1931 & corr.
- 860 Letters re proposed amendment, 1941 &c.
Note: all these concern almspeople and almshouses.
- 861 Appointments of Trustees, of parish council
Representative Trustees, approvals of appointments
by Charity Commissioners under 1896 scheme and
1906 order of Cooptative Trustees, letters of
resignation &c. 1931-60.
- 862 Corr. re Secretaryship & bond &c. 1937-8, 1945.
- 863 Corr. re the records of the charity 1950-60.
- 864 General corr. (various charities) 1960-66, 1966-72.
- 865 Balance sheets 1937-61 (incomplete, some only Sponne,
some only B.)
- 866 Bank statements 1947-65.
- 867 Postage book 1897-1916.
- 868 Paying in books 1940-1969
- 869 Cheque book counterfoils 1942-68.
- 870 Investments corr. 1933-54 (& other local charity's
holdings)
- 871 Towcester District Nursing Association Accounts
1936/7 & 1940/41 showing gift from S. & B. and
letter re grant in 1932.
- 940 Unsorted vouchers, including some of other charities
&c., c.1920-70.

I. Hicks Charity.

TC

- 941 Minute book 1853-1913
- 942 Trust deed 1913
- 943 Provisional valuations of land 1912 & house 1914.
- 944 Charity Commissioners Order re raising £50 for repairs, 1936.
- 945 Letters re new trust deeds 1927 & 1944.
- 946 Letter re selling the property 1946.
- 947 Appointments and resignations of Trustees 1900-45 (including inquiry re same 1904)
- 948 Tenancy agreement for house 1895-1936 (also one of 1869)
- 949 Tenancy agreement for close 1873, 1925, 1932.
- 950 Tenancy of house corr. &c. 1907-53, including Insurance 1886 & aircraft insurance 1916.
- 951 Tenancy of field corr. 1924-41.
- 952 Letters re land tax 1940.
- 953 War damage contributions 1944.
- 954 Account book 1891-1958.
- 955 Annual statements of account 1921-47.
- 956 Note book, receipts & payments 1935-6 in notebook of accounts of H.S. Roberts of Deanshanger 1907-11 and others 1921-29.
- 957 Rent receipt counterfoil book 1945-52.
- 958 Paying in books 1929-46 (2)
- 959 Bank books 1907-47 (2)
- 960 Bank books deposit account 1925-27, 1932-45, 1951-59.
- 961 Check book stubs 1919-48.
- 962 Letters re bank interest 1925.
- 963 Letters &c. re investments 1886-1945.
- 964 I T forms 1931, 1938, 1940.
- 965 Requests from vicar for grants for various purposes 1897-1938.
- 966 Vouchers 1921-45.

J. Miscellaneous.

a) Samaritan Committee

- TC This was a committee of the Towcester Nursing Association formed in 1897.
- 967 Minute book, 1897-1916.
- 968 Minute book, 1917-1950.
- 969 Letter re grant 1932.
- 970 Statements of account 1924-51 (incomplete)
- 971 Account book 1915-43 ($\frac{1}{2}$ unused)
- 972 Account book 1944-51.
- 973 Account book, monthly milk payments to named individuals, 1940-51.
- 974 8 milk books 1921-51, various suppliers.
- 975 Grocer's book 1898-1952.
- 976 Chemist's book 1923-41.
- 977 Bank book 1904-40.
- 978 Bank book 1940-47.
- 979 Bank statements 1947-50.
- 980 Cheque books 1931-51 (6)

b) Red Cross Society, Towcester Branch.

- 981 Accounts and vouchers 1959-64.

c) Miscellanea.

TC

- 982 Note of early Towcester document for sale.
- 983 Photo and letter re Towcester Churchwardens Chest, 1935.
- 984 Towcester Church employers liability insurance policy for sexton renewal notice, 1933.
- 985 War Memorial Unveiling Ceremony service programme 1920.
- 986 Papers re a War Memorial Tablet in Church, 1946-48.
- 987 Towcester Hospital week papers, 1945.
- 988 Towcester War Savings Committee, Hospital Appeal, minutes 1945-48, also papers of Towcester Local Savings Committee 1945. Letter re engaging Northants Regimental Band. Letter of thanks from R.A.F. Station, Silverstone. Letter from the 'Regionaires'.
- 989 Letter, Salter Bros. Oxford re terms for trips on Thames, 1946.
- 990 Notice from Northants County Cricket Supporters Association, 1968.
- 991 Towcester Studio Band bank statements 1967.
- 992 2 law student's notebooks and Papers re law student's courses and exams 1944-57.
- 993 2 piano playing certificates 1949-50.
- 994 Sundry private bills.
- 995 Recipe for 'feeding' a plant.
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