# SPORLE WITH PALGRAVE, NORFOLK - NEWS 1890 to 1891 - Extracted from local newspapers.

**1890:**

## The Lynn Advertiser 1890 4 Jan. Page 5

SPORLE. - On Christmas Day, services were held in the parish church and appropriate sermons preached by the Rev. T. Jones. The building was tastefully decorated with wreaths, holly and evergreen. The font, pulpit and prayer-desk were ornamented by Mrs. Jones, the Misses Matthews, Miss Harrison, the Misses Wells, Miss Smith and the Misses Belby, and reflected much credit upon their efforts. The chancel presented a pretty appearance. The church choir boys paid their annual visit to various houses in the neighbourhood at an early hour on Christmas morning, and sang various Christmas hymns at each place. They were followed by some of the Primitive Methodist, who sang hymns whilst walking along the streets until the dawn of day.

READING ROOM. - The subscribers to this room and the members of the education evening class were invited to tea at the vicarage on Friday, 27th December. After partaking of the good things provided through the liberality of Rev. T. Jones and his wife, the remainder of the evening passed in a very amusing manner. It is a pity that so few young persons avail themselves of the capital opportunities afforded for their intellectual improvement.

## The Lynn Advertiser 1890 4 Jan. Page 7

SPORLE. - The labourers upon the Priory farm, and the old and infirm poor, return their sincere thanks to Mr. T. S. Matthews for his generous gift of meat this Christmas.

## The Lynn Advertiser 1890 11 Jan. Page 5

SPORLE. - OBITUARY. - On Saturday morning, 28th December, Mr. Edward Fishpool, aged 68, bricklayer, a much respected inhabitant, died after a lingering illness. He had been a member of the Ancient Order of Foresters (Swaffham branch) for 50 years, and had been employed upon the Church farm under three generations of Mr. T. S. Mathews's family. His remains were interred in the churchyard on Thursday, 2nd inst. and the funeral was attended by a considerable number of friends. The Rev. T. Jones officiated.

## The Lynn Advertiser 1890 18 Jan. Page 8

SPORLE. - SCHOOL TREAT. - On Wednesday, 8th inst., the children of this parish assembled in strong force in the National school-room, where, through the liberality of Mrs. Farrer, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Matthews, Mrs. Wells, Mr. E. Hardy and Miss Matthews, of Swaffham, frocks, shirts, flannel petticoats, neck-ties, gloves and other articles of wearing apparel were allotted to each pupil of the Sunday school, according to the regularity of attendance. Ethel Worf (8), who made the most attendances, received the first gift. After distribution, each child was called upon to select from the magnificent Christmas tree, more than 15ft. high and very umbrageous, any one of the various articles with which it was profusely decorated. The difficulty of selection proved a source of much amusement to the kind donors. The parents were invited to be present, and seemed as much pleased as the children. Anthems and hymns were sung at intervals during the exhibition, and after a few kind words of advice from the Rev. T. Jones, and expressions of thanks from the parents, the gathering was brought to a conclusion by all heartily singing "God save the Queen." Previous to separating, each child received a bun and an orange. The decoration of the tree and the distribution of the articles with which it was laden were kindly superintended by Mr. Arthur Farrer, who was assisted by Mr. Sydney Matthews. Mr. W. G. Bilby, schoolmaster, accompanied some singing on the harmonium.

THE FIRST DISTRIBUTION OF SOUP during this winter took place at the vicarage on Thursday, 9th inst., when many gallons of good soup were sold at a penny per quart. The Rev. T. Jones and Mrs. Jones superintended the making and serving of the soup.

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 18 Jan. Page

SWAFFHAM. - APPOINTMENT. - At the fortnightly meeting of Guardians on Monday last, Mr. Robert Smith, of Sporle, who has held office pro. tem. was, on the proposal of Mr. R. H. Mason, seconded by Mr. Oldfield, chairman of the Board, appointed permanent sanitary inspector for Swaffham union, at a salary of £50 per annum.

Eastern Daily Press 1890 1 Feb. Page 6

THE HOUNDS.

WEST NORFOLK FOXHOUNDS

WILL MEET AT

Tittleshall Pound, Monday, February 3rd.

Sporle Mill, Wednesday, February 5th.

Little Congham, Friday, February 7th.

At eleven o’clock.

Thetford & Watton Times 1890 15 Feb. Page 5

SWAFFHAM.

AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS’ MEETING.

On Tuesday evening a meeting was held in the Corn Hall to revive the Labourers’ Union, which had lost some (at least) of its former vitality. Mr. Joseph Arch was announced to give an address, and a large number of labourers and other persons were gathered together. The proceedings commenced with singing “Hold the fort.”

Mr. JOHN GREEN, of Sporle, occupied the chair, and, in a capital speech, contended that the partial non-success of the Union, so far as resent years were concerned, was due to the men themselves, for many of them had listened to their enemies and left the Union, whereas it they had remained in it, and tried to correct anything they considered to be defective in it, they might be in a prosperous position. He was very glad they meant to retrace their steps, and had resolved again to join the Union.

Mr. ARCH, who was loudly cheered, said every labourer should review the past work of the Union, and their opponents should do the same. Eighteen years ago, when he first came forward, he stated that the object of the Union was to raise the wages of the labourer, and the Union did it. It was not Joseph Arch that brought it about, but the labourers, who combined. Was it the Union that let their wages drop? (Many voices– “No.”) Was he the cause of the wages going down? (“No, no.”) Then his accusers blamed him falsely. He told them that if they let their Union drop their wages would drop. He was pleased to be with them that night, and glad that they were opening their eyes again, for during the years 700 new members had been enrolled. Sporle had done well, and so had Necton; and he believed the thing was generally moving on. He hoped their opponents would not fight with the same weapons as they did before. The Union raised the men’s wages to 15s. a week, the farmers said, “Well, we should have done it without Joseph Arch.” Then, why, he asked, didn’t they do it? He would not tell them that they were better skilled in warfare now. They had the dockers strike to guide them. They never meant to fight again with ten or a dozen men. The farmers had lamented over the bad feeling between the masters and the men, and the men had foolishly listened, but their wages had been dropped to 10s., and they had to pay 5s. a week for the “good feeling.” He would caution them as to being in a hurry. They should go step by step, and their 10s. and 11s. a week would soon be dead and buried. In 1872 he was advised to keep to the social question and not touch politics, and the Tories abused him because he thought his brother labourers ought to have the franchise. Had they got the franchise? (“Yes.) But they never would have had it had it not been for the Union. (A Voice- “The Tories have been saying they gave it us.”) Mr. Arch replied that he would give a sovereign to any man who could produce a division list in which was the name of a Tory voting for the extension of the franchise to the labourer. (Hear, hear.) Respecting their attitude as labourers he contended there was no better time for them to combine than the present. The excuse of the farmers that they – many of them at least – did not pay more than half what they did, and he thought they should thank him (the speaker) for that. He saw no fear for the farmers. If they were wise men they should follow the example of their brethren in Wales, and combine against the tithe system. That must be dealt with, and he recommended the working-men to study it, for the tithe came out of their marrow bones and wages. If the farmers won’t move on the matter, they who had political power, who were labourers, must move the farmers. Mr. Arch then pointed out the advantage which would accrue to trade if the labourers had better wages, for they (the men) would spend their money in the shops. Trade was prospering in the manufacturing districts, for wages had risen 25 per cent., and if wages in agricultural districts were to rise in the same ratio, there would be greater prosperity among the tradesmen. A rise in wages would affect the former favourably in relation to his stock. He was riding in the train between Bury and Thetford, and some farmers were in the same compartment – for they liked to be with him– (a laugh) –and one said, “Tell me how to make meat dear.” He replied, “Raise your labourers’ wages, and they will spend it at the butchers’ shops, and up will go your meat, for the butchers have to get their meat off you.” They confessed he (the speaker) was not far out, knew the men did not get much meat, and he considered it hard for men to spend night after night in rearing lambs, and in process of time to say goodbye to them as they left the farm for the butchers, and hardly ever know what it was to taste them. He asked, “Was this Christianity?” No. Christ fed the people, and then preached to them. He was glad to tell them that if they helped themselves, thousands would help them. Their cause was right. “Thrice is he armed who hath his quarrel just.” Mr. Arch then alluded to what his enemies (the Tories) had said about his using the Union funds for fighting two elections. That he denied in toto, for never had a penny of theirs been spent for that purpose, and he called upon his accusers to write the charge on paper, and put it in the public newspapers, and he would meet them in the same way as Parnell had met the Forger Times. (Cheers.) He said he meant to fight Lord Henry Bentinck at the next election, not with post-office orders or forged cheques, but with principles. He urged them at the next election to vote for the candidate who would free Ireland from the cruelty of Tory Balfourism. The whole civilised world would be watching the labourers of England, for they had the power of handing down to their children a state of things which would ensure liberty and prosperity, and they could not do better that use every effort to bring the Grand old Man back to power at the next election (Cheers.)

Mr. Colman then delivered a humorous address, which followed by a vote of thanks to Mr. Arch and the chairman, and the meeting ended.

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 1 Mar. Page 5

SPORLE. - THANKS. - The cottagers of this parish wish to thank the Rev. T. Jones and others for the 9 cwt. of coal which have been doled out to each of them during the winter months.

THE ALLOTMENTS have been measured out for the labourers of this parish, and those who live at the top end of the village are now satisfied, but there is a great dissatisfaction amongst the men who reside at the lower end, as their wish was to have a portion of the Hemp close, which would have been much nearer to their homes than the land where the allotments have been staked out. Consequently they are very reluctant in taking up the land which after great trouble has been obtained for them.

Norwich Mercury 1890 1 Mar. Page 5

THE CHASE.

THE WEST NORFOLK FOX HOUNDS

will meet:-

Monday, Weasenham (Mr. Overman’s);

Wednesday, Sporle Mill;

Friday, The Kennels;

Monday, Weasenham (Mr. Overman’s), to finish the season;

at 11 o’clock.

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 8 Mar. Page 2

PETTY SESSION REPORTS

SWAFFHAM, MONDAY, 3rd March. - Before W. M. R. Haggard, R. H. Mason and H. Lee Warner, Esqs.

WITHDRAWN. - Robert Smith, school attendance officer, applied to the magistrates to withdraw summonses against the following persons: Elijah Wing and John Lusher, of Foulden, Alfred Couzens, of Sporle, Sarah Dack, of Swaffham, William Coggles, Great Cressingham. These people all appeared on the 17th ult., but there being so much business at the court that day, the magistrates did not hear the cases. Under the circumstances the Attendance Committee thought it would be a great hardship to bring the defendants up again, as some of them had come eight miles to court, but gave directions that if the children did not attend school regularly the officer was to bring the cases under their notice.

Norwich Mercury 1890 8 Mar. Page 5

DEATHS.

HIGH. – On the 21st ult., at Gibraltar, Mary Ann, the dearly loved wife of Thomas High, and the youngest daughter of Robert and Harriet Tuck, of Pettygards, Sporle.

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 15 Mar. Page 5

SWAFFHAM. - THE WORKHOUSE. - At the fortnightly meeting of the Guardians on Monday last, the whole of the medical officers, including Mr. G. Foster, of Attleborough, medical officer of health for the union, were reappointed. Mr. Robert Smith, of Sporle, was also reappointed inquiry and school attendance officer for the ensuing year.

Norwich Mercury 1890 22 Mar. Page 5

THE CHASE.

THE WEST NORFOLK FOX HOUNDS

will meet:-

Monday, Brisley Green;

Wednesday, Sporle Mill;

Friday, Narboro’ Contract;

Monday, Weasenham (Mr. Overman’s), to finish the season;

at 11 o’clock.

Eastern Evening News 1890 29 Mar. Page 3

HORSE SHOW AT EAST DEREHAM.

… COLT AND PONY STALLIONS.

Best Cob or Pony Stallion, not exceeding 14 hh. 3 in., any age, first £4 4s.; second, £2.2s.

1, G.H.K. Frances, The Old Hall Stud Farm, Mattishall, Dereham, Attraction, brown; sire, Confidence; dam, Connie. Five years. Bred by Mr. John Frances.

2, D. Vassar, Barnham Broom, Wymondham, Barnham Confidence, 895, brown; sire, D’Oyley’s Confidence, 158; Dam by Norfolk Phenomenon, 527. Seven years. Bred by owner.

R and h c, D. T. Armes, East Tuddenham, Tuddenham Wonder, black; sire, Old Confidence, 158; dam, Lady Reeve, 1210. Three years. Bred by owner.

C. H. Woodhouse, Foulsham, Bob, bay; sire, Doctor Syntax; dam, Besssie, 181 F.S. Three years. Bred by owner. C.E.T.G. Lindsey, Sporle, Swaffham, Chapelow, 1733, chestnut; sire, Cooke’s Cannon Ball, 113; dam, Patience, 267. Three years. Bred by Mr. William Fulcher.

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 5 Apr. Page 8

SPORLE. - A VESTRY MEETING was held on the 27th inst., the Rev. Thomas Jones presiding. Messrs T. S. Matthews and B. Fiddy were appointed surveyors of highways, Messrs W. Kerrison and J. Larwood were nominated as overseers, and Messrs R. Smith and J. Archer were elected parish constables.

THE LAST DISRIBUTION OF SOUP took place on Thursday, 27th ult. Through the liberality of Miss Amherst and other friends of the parish 300lb. of beef were purchased, and for three months a weekly distribution of 80 quarts of good soup has been made at the vicarage. Much praise is due to Mrs. Jones for the trouble she has taken in the matter.

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 19 Apr. Page 7

SWAFFHAM. - ELECTION OF GUARDIANS. The following is a list of guardians elected to serve for the ensuing year for the various parishes in the union… Sporle-with-Palgrave, Edmund Farrer and T. S. Matthews…

Norwich Mercury 1890 26 Apr. Page 5

MITCHELSON-GELDING. – On the 21st inst., at Sporle by the Rev. T. Jones, Arthur Edward Mitchelson, of King’s Lynn, to Susannah Gelding, of Sporle.

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 3 May Page 7

SPORLE. – FUNERAL. – On Monday, the remains of Mr. Alfred Hall, aged 76, were interred in the churchyard. The service was performed by the vicar, the Rev. T. Jones. Several of the parishioners attended to testify the respect in which they held the deceased.

The Lynn News and County Press 1890 3 May

SPORLE. - ENTERTAINMENT. - On Tuesday evening, the Baptist Chapel was crowded by an attentive audience, who came to listen to an entertainment given by friends from Swaffham. The Rev. Joseph Wilkins presided. Choruses were rendered by the choir; vocal solo by Mr. W. Hawes and Mr. Dent; recitations by Messrs. Christopherson, Ripper, Green and Fuller; reading by Mr. Youell, Mr. Kenny and Mr. King. A collection was taken at the close in aid of the chapel funds.

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 10 May Page 7

SWAFFHAM.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE. – The following is the report of the school attendance officer, Mr. R. Smith, of Sporle, which was presented to the committee on Monday: -

Gentlemen. - I most respectfully present my 7th annual report, which shews the amount and character of the work performed in the past 12 months, ending 25th March last. During that period I have visited, in a systematic manner, the whole of the elementary schools, and to some of the adventure schools in Swaffham, for the purpose of obtaining information of irregular and absent children. I beg to state that many of the children are kept in the latter schools in many instances as only stowages, until they are seven years of age and upwards; and when they are sent into the infant elementary schools they do not know one letter from the other. When such children are presented to H. M. Inspector of schools for examination, it causes him to make comments. The only reason I can give for parents sending their children to such schools is that they can send them at what hour they like, for they know that the proprietors have but little interest in a child’s regular attendance or progress, and for them to report the absence of the children to me would at once bring them into disrepute. So it is a difficult matter to obtain information from those schools. From returns I received from elementary and other information, I have made frequent visits to the parents and guardians of irregular scholars. I have issued 384 warnings to those who failed to comply with the requirements of the Educational Act. 35 persons who continued their neglect have been summoned before the justices, 28 convicted, 2 dismissed with a caution, and 5 withdrawn, an increase of 5 from last year. I hope it will be satisfactory to the committee to hear that the average attendance has been very good, taking into consideration the general sickness and the influenza epidemic which has been very severe in several of the villages. As inquiry officer I beg to state that the duties have very much increased. At the present time 217 children’s school fees have been remitted, against 65 in the year 1883, and with respect to the applications I have made 377 visits to parents and guardians in all parts of the district. I am, &c., ROBERT SMITH

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 17 May Page 4

On Tuesday Next, May 20th, 1890

SPORLE, NORFOLK

ELIGIBLE SMALL INVESTMENT Comprising THREE COTTAGES AND GARDENS

Which EDWARD BANHAM & SON Are instructed to Sell by Auction, at the Chequers Inn, Sporle, at 4 o’clock in the afternoon punctually, viz: All those three brick, stone and tiled cottages, with gardens and sheds, abutting on the road leading to Dunham, conveniently situated near the railway arch, in the occupations of Wright, Cornwall and Ellis, at rentals amounting to £11.

Further particulars and the conditions of the Sale may be had of Messrs Copeman and Mellor, Vendor’s Solicitors, Downham Market; or of the Auctioneers, Methwold, Brandon.

The Lynn Advertiser.1890 24 May Page 5

SPORLE. - ACCIDENT. – On Friday 17th inst., Mr. Henry Medlock, baker, Swaffham, left his horse and cart unattended, by the side of the road outside the Elephant and Castle public house, when one on the wheels came in contact with a post standing upon the bank, which turned the cart over. The horse thereupon plunged about, breaking the harness and clearing itself, and started off at full speed homewards; it was stopped near the railway arch by some women, fortunately without any further damage. This is the fourth accident which has happened to this man’s horse and cart at Sporle.

PROPERTY SALE. – On Tuesday, Messrs. Banham and Son, auctioneers, Methwold, sold by auction, at the Chequers inn, three Cottages with gardens, &c., the property of the late Mr. William Basham, and producing an aggregate rental of £11 per annum. Mr. William Constable, of Swaffham, was the purchaser at £90. Messrs. Copeman & Mellor, Downham, were the vendors’ solicitors.

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 31 May Page 5

SPORLE. - THE CONSERVATIVE VAN, entitled “The Beaconsfield” was to have visited Sporle on Monday evening, but owing to one of the shafts breaking when ascending Little London Bridge hill, it had to return to Swaffham for repairs. On Tuesday it passed through the village on its way to Necton.

THE PRIMITIVE METHODIST SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY was held on Sunday in the chapel. A sermon was preached in the morning by Mr. J. S. Mantripp, of Swaffham, and in the afternoon and evening there were recitations and dialogues and hymns sung by the children. A collection was made at each service in aid of the school fund. On Tuesday a tea was served to the children in the chapel, and afterwards about 60 of the teachers and friends sat down. They then went to a meadow kindly lent by Mr. Lindsey, when the remainder of the evening was spent in various games. The Rev. J. Pepler, of Swaffham, presided, assisted by Mr. R. Burton, superintendent of the school.

The Lynn News and County Press 1890 7 Jun. Page 3

SPORLE. - THE BAPTISTS. - The re-opening services of the Baptist chapel (which has been closed for a short time for renovation) was held on Sunday, when excellent sermons were preached in the afternoon and evening by Mr. E. Dunn, of King's Lynn. The services were well attended, and collections made in aid of the chapel fund.

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 21 Jun. Page 5

SPORLE. – AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS UNION. – On Saturday, a meeting was held in the Hare and Hounds public house yard. Amongst those present were Messrs. Joseph Arch, H. Lee Warner, R. Burton, R. Colman, J. Green, &c., and in some instances wives and children. Mr. Colman opened the meeting with a well-known union song. Mr. R. Burton was then voted to the chair, and asked the members to be united not only in their demand for wages, but for many other things. Mr. Arch said that after ten years he was amongst friends at Sporle again. Ten years ago their Union was strong, and their wages was 15/- per week. He understood that wages had gone up 2/- per week recently; that was all very well, but would they go down again. When they got 15/- a week they were 6 ft. high. (Laughter.) He wanted them to combine together, for without combination nothing could be done. No man need be afraid of joining the Union, and if they did they could lick the farmers. When they went out on strike they did not go out in fives, but by hundreds, and when the time came the old farmers would have to milk their cows themselves. When his friends Colman and Green went to their village clubs they got new members to join the Union, and he must congratulate them upon their work. They all held strong hopes for the future; and although he (Mr. Arch) had very little college education, only two days, he would upset the farmers, and some of the shopkeepers too in Sporle, who strutted about with pens behind their ears. (Laughter.) The labourers did not want to go back to 10/- per week: then let them join the Union. Were they in August next going to stop in their employ for the wages they are now getting? He longed for the time when they would hold together as the Union men did in the collieries and the London docks. In the coal mines the men had got 30 per cent increase, and the owner dared not charge the consumers one penny per ton more upon their coals. He hoped to see the time when no man would be allowed to work upon a farm if he did not belong to the Union, and then they would be able to turn upon the blacklegs, and decline to work with them. A short time ago the labourers wanted allotments, and they got them, but it was by a Tory Bill. He (Mr. Arch) was traveling by train upon one of the Norfolk lines a short time ago, when a Norfolk farmer in the same carriage recognized him and said: “What! Are you coming down here again to upset our labourers?” He (Mr. Arch) replied: “No; I am not come here to upset the labourers, but to upset the likes of you, and that you will find out before I have done with you.” (Laughter.) He appealed for the labourers ten years ago, and when he got them all in working order they left the Union, to their sorrow. He now appealed again, for they must have combination, without which they could not get along. He was come to draw the feather off their eyes, and to urge friends to combine upon all political matters as well. Mr. Arch concluded by naming a certain farmer in Sporle, and asked: Why does he not attend this meeting? I will tell you why. He is afraid, for I shut him up at Swaffham one time, and if he was here I would shut him up again. (A Voice: “He is a gentleman, and this is a well-known fact.” Mr. H. Lee Warner also addressed the meeting, as he said, as their representative on the County Council. The Chairman thanked Mr. Arch and Mr. Lee Warner for their speeches, and expressed a hope that at the next election they would be returned at the head of the poll. A vote of thanks to the chairman closed the meeting.

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 28 Jun. Page 2

SWAFFHAM PETTY SESSIONS

Swaffham, Monday, - Before Rev. B. Houchen (chairman), and J. C. Martin, A. C. Fountaine, H. Lee Warner, Esqs.

RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY. - Sarah Ann Bullard, widow, of Sporle, was summoned by Robert Smith, inspector of nuisances, for allowing her house to be overcrowded. From the evidence it appeared that the defendant, her son William (aged 31), daughters Eliza (24), Ruth (22), Florence (20), Mary Ann (18), and four illegitimate children, aged respectively 5, 2 and 1 years, and 2 months, were occupying a small cottage with two bed-rooms, with only sufficient air space for seven persons. The inspector said that he visited the cottage on the 18th of February last, and by direction of Mr. H. G. Foster, of Attleborough, medical officer of health, he gave the defendant a verbal notice that three of the inmates must get sleeping accommodation elsewhere within a fortnight. At the expiration of that time no change had taken place, and on the 24th March he served the occupier with a notice to abate the nuisance within 14 days. On the 10th inst. he accompanied the medical officer of health to the cottage, and found no change had taken place. At this time the state of the sleeping-rooms was very offensive. Mr. Foster, medical officer of health for the district, said that on the 10th inst., in company of the inspector, he visited the cottage in question, and found the inner bed-room most grossly overcrowded as nine persons slept in it, whereas there was air space for only 5. In its present state it was very injurious to health. In reply to the Bench as to whether any of the family could be allowed to sleep in the sitting-room, witness said that would give more cubic feet for each person, but it would not do away with the foulness of the rooms, as the air would ascend to the bedrooms, which would be quite as bad. After several other questions from the Bench, the witness said the nuisance would be abated slightly if three of the inmates slept in the sitting-room. The case was then adjourned to the next petty session, the inspector being deputed to visit the house in the mean time to see that other arrangements were made in the sitting-room. It came out that the defendant was under notice to quit next October. - Alfred Couzens, of Sporle, labourer, was charged by the inspector with a similar offence. His two bedrooms were occupied by himself and wife and the following children: Adelaide (17), William (14), Emily (13), Anna (11), Thomas (9), Eliza (7), Alfred (5), Mildred (4), and Ruth (2). This was also a very gross instance of overcrowding, and the evidence was similar to that in the last case. The charge was adjourned for a fortnight, five of the inmates to be provided with sleeping accommodation in the sitting-room in the mean time, and the inspector to see that this was carried out to his satisfaction.

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 12 Jul. Page 2

SWAFFHAM PETTY SESSIONS

Monday, 7 July - Before W. M. R. Haggard (chairman), R. H. Mason, J. C. Martin, J. Fielden, H. Lee Warner, Esqs.

THE OVERCROWDING AT SPORLE. - Sarah Ann Bullard, widow, Sporle, appeared on an adjournment, charged by Robert Smith, of the same parish, Inspector of nuisances, with allowing her house to be overcrowded. Alfred Couzens, labourer, Sporle, was similarly charged. Both cases were adjourned from the last petty session to see what arrangements could be made to meet the approval of the officer, whereby part of the families in each case would sleep in the rooms in which they lived during the day. In each case the Bench made an order that the nuisance must be abated within 14 days. The costs were remitted.

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 19 Jul. Page 7

SWAFFHAM LAMB SALE

Messrs. Salter, Simpson & Son auctioneers, of Attleborough, held their seventh annual sale in a meadow near the railway station at Swaffham last Monday afternoon when over 4,000 half-bred lambs and half- bred ewes (a useful a lot as ever was seen) were disposed of. There was a very large attendance of buyers and spectators from all parts of the county; and the sale promoted by this enterprising firm of auctioneers in West Norfolk is evidently much appreciated. Luncheon was served in excellent style by Mr. E. Lowe in a marquee, and the company, which numbered in all about 150, included Messrs. R. H. Mason (who presided) T. Brown, D. Brown, W. Goodwyn, T. Fulcher, J. R. Feilden, T. Fryer, W. Betts, J. H. Woodforde, A. Beck, W. Warnes, J. R. Roofe, C. B. Mason, S. Bunting, T. Matthews, W. Waters, E. Sainty, J. Dutchman, H. Whisler, T. M. Hudson, H. Gayford, Palmer (Tottenhill), W. Gamble, F. Mann, &c.

After luncheon…

The company then adjourned to the sale, and the following prices were realised…

Lambs, 100, Mr. T. Matthew, Sporle, 36/-…

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 26 Jul. Page 5

SPORLE. – MR. JAMES BILBY died on the 19th, aged 84 years, and his funeral took place in the parish churchyard on Tuesday. The cortege left the deceased’s late residence at 4.30, headed by the Rev. T. Jones, and followed by the choir and 84 school children, under the management of Mr. R. Smith. The deceased was a man of somewhat reserved habits, but possessed a fund of knowledge. In his early days he attended the Church school, South street, Park lane, Hanover square, where he received his education, and got a thorough knowledge of the scriptures and of the Church catechism, which was his guide through life. After leaving school he obtained employment in an office in London until he reached the age of 21 years, when he proceeded to Norwich in a like capacity. He was a regular attendant at church and a good singer, and was engaged to lead the choir in church. The clergyman proved to be a staunch friend and good adviser, and he recommended Mr. Bilby to become master of an infant school containing 200 children, where he remained for 14 years. In addition to teaching the children he trained choirs during the evening. In the course of his life he came into contact with many clergymen, among whom was Bishop Stanley, whose letters of recommendation he held to his death. He left this school and took up an appointment in the Docking Union for a short time, and subsequently took charge of a school in Wales, where he remained ten years. On leaving this place he went to Sporle with his son William, who is the present master of the National School, and there he spent the last 13 years of his life, as an assistant in the school, which place he filled to the end of last year. Thus ended a long life of comparative peace and happiness, and almost his last words were, “May God bless and protect the Church, which is the pillar and ground of truth; and “May God bless and strengthen the working people’s best friends – the Church of England clergymen. He was a staunch Conservative, and to converse with him respecting the doings of the past and present statesmen proved highly interesting. For the last 10 years he had been in receipt of a pension from the Church Schoolmaster and Schoolmistress Institution.

NARROW ESCAPE. – On Saturday as the children of Mr. W. H. Kerrison, miller of Little Cambridge mill, were playing near that place, one of the mill-sails broke off at the stock when in a perpendicular position, and fell upon the cap, one end resting upon the spindles of the flyers, doing great damage. The mill was immediately stopped by Mr. John Littleproud. The fall was heard for some considerable distance, and the children were much frightened. The sail lay in the same position until Tuesday, when it was removed without further damage.

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 2 Aug. Page 8

SPORLE. – TREAT. –On Friday, 25th July, the teachers, Misses E. Worf, E. Bilby and the Church Sunday school children, had their annual treat on the vicarage lawn. The wants of the little ones were attended to by Miss Harrison, Miss Eva Matthews, Misses Wells (4), Rev. H. and Mrs. Jones, and Messrs S. and G. Matthews. Several of the parents and the aged women were invited to partake of tea after the children left the tables. The afternoon and evening was beautifully fine, and games of various kinds were enjoyed in the vicarage grounds, Messrs. Matthews, Bilby (the school-master) and T. B. Fiddy giving material assistance. At 7 o’clock the children’s parents and friends were admitted to the grounds.

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 2 Aug. Page 8

WANTED, eight men for Harvest. Work can be given at once. Apply, Thomas Matthews, Sporle, Swaffham.

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 2 Aug. Page 4

Tuesday Next

NORFOLK

CHOICE RESIDENTAL,

AGRICULTURAL & SPORTING ESTATE, CALLED “PETYGARDS”

Situate at Sporle, near Swaffham. Comprising the Residence, with Pleasure Grounds, Kitchen Garden, Vineries, Riding Stables and Coach Houses, Steward’s House, Off Farm Buildings, 17 Cottages and about

1,030 ACRES of mixed soil, Arable and Pasture Land and Plantations.

DEBENHAM, TEWSON & CO AND SALTER, SIMPSON & SONS (jointly concerned)

Are instructed by the Mortgagees to offer for Sale at Auction, At the Mart, Tokenhouse Yard, E.C.,

On Tuesday, August 5th, 1890, at two o’clock precisely,

The above compact and desirable Estate, as for many years occupied by Edmund Farrer, Esq.

Particulars, plans and conditions of sale, when ready, may be had of Messrs. Debenham, Tewson & Co., 80, Cheapside; and Salter, Simpson & Sons, Attleborough and Bury St. Edmunds; or of Messrs. Hansell & Hales, Norwich; Partridge & Co., Lynn; and of OVERBURY & GILBERT, Norwich, Vendor’s Solicitors.

The Lynn News and County Press 1890 23 Aug. Page 4

HEMPTON GREEN FAIR

HAMPSHIRE DOWN RAMS

On Wednesday, September 3rd, 1890 Salter, Simpson and Sons

Will sell by Auction, at the above Fair, 30 Hampshire Down Ram Lambs, and 5 Shearling Rams, the property of Mr. Thomas Matthews, Sporle, from the flocks of J. F. Buxton, the Marquis of Bath, F. R. Moore, Messrs. Simonds and Proctor and others.

Officers: Attleborough and Bury St. Edmunds

Norfolk Chronicle 1890 23 Aug. Page 5

PETTY SESSIONAL REPORTS.

SWAFFHAM.

Before the Rev. B. Houchen (chairman), R. H. Mason, Esq. and J. Fielden, Esq.

Permission was granted to the following persons to open their public-houses at four a.m. instead of six, from that day to the 29th September, on account of harvest time:- David Sutton, Cressingham, John Mason, Newton; Thomas Archer and Mathias Winearls, Sporle; and Wm. Dodman, Foulden.

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 6 Sep. Page 5

HEMPTON GREEN FAIR

This annual sheep fair was held on Wednesday, when the weather was fine and there was a good number of buyers. The sheep, which numbered about 4,000 in all, made a better show then the previous year. Trade was slow, but the best sheep commanded very fair prices.

…Thirty Hampshire down ram lambs and five shearling rams, the property of Mr. Thomas Matthews, of Sporle, from 8 to 3 guineas and averaged £4/4/6.

Norwich Mercury 1890 13 Sep. Page 5

LYNN FOAL SHOW.

… Class II. – Hackney Foals, prenested by Mr. C. E. Cooke, for the best colt or filly foal by Cadet: first prize, £3 3s.; second, £2.2s. Five entries. 1, E.T.G. Lindsey, Sporle, Swaffham, brown, sire Cadet, dam Bella Rose 306, by Washington 852; bred by the exhibitor. 2nd, F. I. Cooke, Flitcham Abbey, Lynn, dark chestnut filly, Heroine, sire Cadet 1251, by Lord Derby II., 417, dam Hilda 676, by Reality 665, bred by exhibitor. Highly commended, Eldred W. Wilson, Leziate, Lynn, bay, Speculation, sire Cadet, dam an Irish mare; bred by exhibitor. …

The Lynn News and County Press 1890 20 Sep. Page 7

THE WEST NORFOLK HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

THE WATER COURSE AT SPORLE

Mr. Lee Warner said they had taken over a road at Sporle and now they had to take over the footpath, while going down the main street there was a watercourse. The watercourse was not in a proper state, and there seemed to be no authority to look after it. Very serious illness was breaking out, and they must act in some way while the water was low. It really wanted clearing out, and the rainy season might begin again at any time. The people used the water for washing, and it would be a mistake to arch it over altogether. He wanted to know if the County Surveyor had given orders for it to be cleaned out. - The surveyor replied that he had not. It was a very important matter. The watercourse ran alongside the road and sewage went into it. People threw water into it and some of the under sewage also got into it. If it was injurious to health he thought the Sanitary Committee ought to see to it. - The Chairman said Sanitary Authority only had to see that it was done. - The Clerk said he thought Mr. Heslop should give notice, and if the nuisance still went on that he should stop it. – Mr. Lee Warner said it was an urgent matter. The Chairman said they were all agreed about that and Mr. Lee Warner might understand that it would be attended to. – Mr. Lee Warner: I want no more delay. - The Surveyor: There will be no more delay. I wanted the directions of the committee.

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 20 Sep. Page 8

WANTED, a respectable steady man as Shoemaker; one used to strong country work preferred.

– R. Smith, Sporle.

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 27 Sep. Page 7

SPORLE. – AN INQUEST was held at the Chequers inn on Tuesday, 23rd inst., before Mr. W. M. Barton, coroner, touching on the death of William Bullard, age 31, who died suddenly on 22nd inst. It appeared from the evidence of his mother and sister that he was a strong healthy man and never had an illness. He had been drinking on the Sunday night, and went to bed a little before midnight, and at about 5.30 a.m. on the following morning he was heard moaning. He was attended to by his mother, but he died in a short time afterwards. The evidence of Mr. T. S. Thomas, surgeon, of Swaffham, was to the effect that death was due to syncope, and the jury returned a verdict accordingly.

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 27 Sep. Page 7

HARVEST CELEBRATIONS

SPORLE. – The harvest thanksgiving services commenced on Sunday last in the parish church, which was beautifully ornamented. The communion rails and east window were adorned with choice cut flowers and plants in pots, the work of Miss F. Wells. The pulpit was ornamented with choice flowers, corn and ferns in pots, kindly lent by Mr. E. Farrer. The prayer desk was covered with flowers, fruit, corn, &c, by Mrs. Jones; the heads of the seats in the center aisle had a bunch of flowers, making a floral pathway to the chancel, at the entrance to which was a beautiful screen, work of the Misses Wells. The font was ornamented with cut flowers, moss and ivy, the whole being crowned with a large pampas grass, which had been brought to this country by Mr. J. Matthews. For this part of the decoration the Misses Matthews, Harrison and Mayes were responsible. The window sills were prettily ornamented with foliage, fruit, tomatoes, miniature sheaves of corn, flowers &c., by E. Smith and E. Bilby. The service commenced at 3 p.m., but long before that the church was filled. The sermon was preached by the Rev. T. Jones, vicar, from Jeremiah v., 25, 26. At the close a collection was made on behalf of the Lynn Hospital, and realized nearly £4.

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 27 Sep. Page 8

WANTED, situation as House or Parlour Maid in small family. Age 22; good references. – Address, L. Easter, Sporle, Swaffham.

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 27 Sep. Page 2

PETTY SESSIONS REPORTS.

SWAFFHAM. – MONDAY, 22nd September. – Before R. H. Mason and H. Lee Warner, Esqs.

DRUNKENNESS. – James Twaites, labourer, Swaffham, was charged with being drunk and disorderly at Sporle on the previous day. He was committed for 14 days’ hard labour, without the option of a fine.

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 4 Oct. Page 3

PETTY SESSIONS REPORTS.

SWAFFHAM. MONDAY, 29th – Before Rev. B. Houchen (chairman), and R. H. Mason, A. C. Fountaine, J. Fielden and H. Lee Warner, Esqs.

ROUGH CHARACTERS. – Robert Rowe, labourer, Swaffham, was charged by Sergt. Storey, of Sporle, with being drunk and disorderly and using obscene language on the highway at Sporle on Sunday night, 21st September. He was further charged with using threatening language to Robert Smith, of Sporle, parish constable. The last named stated that at 7.30 p.m. on the day named he saw a cart coming down the street at a furious rate, followed by another. The first was driven up a yard near the Primitive Methodist chapel, and the second contained the defendant and two men. One of these, named Twaites, was sentenced to 14 days’ imprisonment on the previous Monday for being drunk and disorderly at Sporle on this occasion. The other man was George Powley. The cart stopped against the chapel, and two of the men jumped out and made use of obscene language towards the person who had been driving the first cart. Witness spoke to the defendant and the other two men, warning them about their language. One of them said: “What right have you to interfere with us?” Witness replied: “I am the parish constable, and you had better get into your cart and go home.” They then made an attempt to drive up the yard after the first cart, but the officer caught hold of the bridle and detained them until Sergt. Storey arrived. They were all drunk. Two of them got out of the cart again, and Rowe, still sitting there, held up his fist in a menacing manner at Smith and made use of some very obscene and threatening language. For the first offence he was fined 6d and costs 12/-, and in the second case he was ordered to pay costs 12/-, and bound over, himself in £5 and one surety in the like amount, to keep the peace for six months. – George Powley, labourer, Swaffham, was charged by Sergt. Storey with being drunk at the same time and place. Defendant, who appeared just as the court was rising, was fined 5/6 and costs 14/6. Paid.

The Lynn News and County Press 1890 4 Oct. Page 8

HARVEST FESTIVAL

SPORLE. - At the Baptist chapel, on Thursday, last week. The building was beautifully decorated by the ladies of the congregation. There was a large attendance, the chapel being crowded. Addresses were delivered by Rev. T. H. Sparham, of Necton, Messrs W. Gould, F. Everett, and J. T. Impson. Mr. Thomas Lindsey presided. Miss Kerrison presided at the harmonium, and during the evening an anthem was sung by the Swaffham Baptist choir. A collection was made at the close on behalf of Swaffham Cottage Hospital.

The Lynn News and County Press 1890 4 Oct. Page 5

On Thursday next

PETYGARDS, SPORLE, 3 miles from Swaffham, and one and a half from Holme Hale station.

Important and Extensive Agricultural Sale of

40 HORSES, Comprising 22 clean legged and active cart mares and geldings, 9 promising nag colts and foals, 9 cobs and ponies and a mule;

80 HEAD OF NEAT STOCK, Consisting of a small dairy of five choice red polled cows, 36 grazing steers, forwarded in condition, and 47 well bred young homebred steers, heifers and weanlings;

750 SHEEP, Including 230 brown faced flock ewes and 520 capital half-bred lambs;

40 PIGS AND POULTRY, which SALTER, SIMPSON AND SONS Are favoured with instructions, to Sell by Auction, without reserve On THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9th, 1890,

Together with the extensive assortment of agricultural carriages, implements, harness, &c, requisite for 1,200 acres, as carried on by Mr Edmund Farrar. Also eight-horse power portable threshing engine, Wood's Self Binder reaper, Normsby's Omnium reaper (nearly new), Wagonette by Shanks, with pole and shafts, dog cart by Hale, pony cart, car, saddlery, &c, &c.

Sale to commence at 10 o'clock. Luncheon at 1.

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 11 Oct. Page 7

SPORLE. - FATAL ACCIDENT. – On Thursday, 2nd inst., Mr. B. H. Vores, deputy coroner, held an inquest at the Chequers inn, upon the body of Alfred Couzens, aged 45, who died in consequence of inquiries apparently sustained through the deceased falling from the shaft of a wagon on the preceding Tuesday. – Robert Codman (14) deposed that on the 30th ult. He was with some sheep upon Newton road, near the Dunham road corner, when he heard a rumbling noise, and on looking round saw a wagon and two horses coming towards him. The horses were galloping, and the wagon was laden with oats which had been brought from a stack in a field by the side of Sporle road. The wagon was on the left side of the road. At the same time a man with a horse and light cart was trying to pass the wagon on the right-hand side and turned the corner of the road towards Palgrave farm, where the witness lost sight of them for a minute. When he got to the corner he saw that the wagon and cart were both turned over, and that the cart was being dragged down the road towards the farm upon one of the hobs of the wheel. The man in charge of the cart was running after it. Witness saw Couzens lying upon the bank by the side of the hedge, and went to him. Couzens then said that the wagon ran over him. He was bleeding very much from the ear, and could not walk. Witness left him lying upon the bank, and went to look for his sheep, as he had lost sight of them. On his return, in about 6 minutes, he found three men with Couzens, who at this time had got round the corner of the road on the opposite side to where the wagon turned over. This was about 75 yards from the spot where witness first saw him lying, and he died soon after. – John Worf said he was some distance off, down against the farm, but as soon as he saw that an accident had happened he ran to the spot. When he got to the corner of the road leading to Sporle he saw Couzens rolling over and over, and spoke to him, but he did not reply. Witness was about to pick him up, when he turned over on his back; made one gasp, and died. – P.s. Storey said that at about 4 p.m. on Tuesday, 30th September, he was on duty in Sporle, and saw Frederick Beales, a commercial traveler, of 41, Denmark road, Norwich, driving a gig. Seeing that the conveyance was damaged, and the men had blood upon his face, witness said: “You look as if you had met with an accident;” to which Beales answered: “Unfortunately I have. I was driving down the road from Sporle to Castleacre, and came up with a load of straw or oats. As I could not see the driver I pulled upon the grass by the side of the road to pass the wagon, but when I got on a line with the horses they started off at a rapid pace, and the faster I went the faster they went, and when I got just round the corner I was thrown out and became unconscious. When I came to myself my trap was being dragged along the road on its side, which caused the damage you see.” Mr. Beales then went on his way to Swaffham. Witness examined the spot where the accident occurred, and could see the wheel marks of the wagon where they first left the road upon the grass; also the wheel marks of the gig where they had left the road, which was about 90 yards from the corner of the road. This was 30ft. wide. At 75 yards from the corner of the road witness found marks of blood upon the grass, and by the side of the hedge was a large patch of blood. From that spot to where Couzens died, a distance of 80 yards, blood could be traced upon the grass. – The jury returned a verdict of “Accidental death.” – Mr. A. Kent, solicitor, Norwich, attended on behalf of Mr. Beales, who was too ill to be present. On the evening of the accident, Mr. Beales, with his horse a gig, was conveyed to Norwich by rail. This is the third sudden death which has occurred within 17 days in this small parish. The last two were teammen, both from one stable, and both lived under one roof.

The Lynn News and County Press 1890 18 Oct. Page 3

AGRICULTURAL SALE AT SPORLE.

A very large company assembled at Petygards, Sporle near Swaffham, on Thursday, 9th inst. when Messrs. Salter, Simpson and Sons sold 40 horses, 8 young home-bred cows, 80 head of grazing stock stock, 750 sheep and 50 pigs, together with an extensive assortment of agricultural implements upon the farm premises of Mr. E. Farrer, who has lived upon the estate for about 70 years. At one o’clock, a capital luncheon was supplied by Mr. E. Lowe of Swaffham. The company numbered about 290, and amongst those present were Messrs. R. H. Mason (Necton), who occupied the chair, H. Oldfield, A. A. Young, H. Haycock, T. S. Matthews, J. Matthews, W. Everington, W. Palmer, F. Case, R. Miller, T. King (the incoming tenant), Simpson and Son, H. Dutchman, D. Calton, G. T. and R. Heyhoe, H. Adcock, R. Mallon, F. Gould, H. Kerrison, W. Darling, W. Preston, J. Larwood, D. Wells, J. Grummett, W. Tuck, T. Clarke, J. Badley, T. Elvin, &c. The chairman gave the toasts of “The Queen” and “The Prince and Princess of Wales and the rest of the royal family.” He said no people took more interest in agriculture than the Queen and the Prince of Wales. (Applause.) He gave the health of Mr. Edmund Farrer, which evoked hearty enthusiasm. He remarked that although Mr. Farrer was absent from them he would undertake to say his thoughts were with them at that moment. It is a matter of deep regret to them all that he was leaving them, and he hoped that his health would still improve, and that he would live many years in his new home. (Loud applause.) Mr. Farrer was known to them all as an excellent neighbour and friend. (Cheers.) He (Mr. Mason) had more particular reason to speak of him as a neighbour, as their estates joined each other, and during the whole time he had lived at his present address he had always found Mr. Farrer a most amiable, estimable and self-denying man. There was no one upon whom he looked with greater respect and affection, if he might be allowed to say so, than Mr. Farrer. (Cheers.) Mr. Simpson proposed the health of of the chairman, who had spoken in such high terms of Mr. Farrer, whom he (Mr. Simpson) had known the whole of his life as a highly respectable gentleman. (Cheers.) Before sitting down he would like to say a word respecting Mr. Percy Farrer, who had rendered him great assistance in getting things together for the sale. He might say that he had never met with such courteousness from any young gentleman during the whole of his experience, and he wished every one present to drink to the health of Mr. Percy Farrer. (Loud cheers.) Amongst other toasts, were the healths of Messrs. Simpson, King and Everington, the latter, in reply, speaking at some length upon agricultural labour, and the difficulty surrounding the British farmer. An adjournment was then made to the ring when the horses were disposed of as follows:-

HORSES Guineas

Ball, chestnut gelding, 5 yrs. - Mr. Hardy 47

Smiler, chestnut gelding, 5 yrs. - Mr. Carlton 40

Short, chestnut gelding, 8 yrs. - Mr. Carlton 29

Blackbird, black gelding, 7 yrs. - Mr. Matthews 42

Proctor, bay gelding, 7 yrs. - Mr. Heyhoe 33

Brandy, bay gelding, 10 yrs. - Mr. Calabro 18½

Blossom, bay mare, - Mr. Brasnett 23

Pegg, bay mare, - Mr. Matthews 30

Spanker, grey gelding, 4 yrs. - Mr. Midlar 42

Bragg, bay mare, 9 yrs. - Mr. Middleton 28½

Boxer, bay gelding, 6 yrs. - Mr. King 19

Depper, bay mare – 26½

Bragg, bay mare - Mr. Broadwater 30

Ruffler, bay gelding – 15½

Spanker, bay gelding - 8

Short, bay gelding – 13½

Peggy, brown mare – 8½

Short, brown mare – 10½

Bury, chestnut mare – 15½

Spanker, chestnut gelding - 6

Smart, bay mare - 5

BROOD MARES AND FOALS.

Brown Steward’s mare - Mr. Childers 17

Bay horse foal, by Rosebach - Mr. Beck 12

Chestnut mare - Mr. Beck 8

Chestnut horse foal, by Rosebach - Mr. Beck 18

Brown horse foal, by Rosebach; dam a hunting mare - Mr. Everington 10

Roan colt foal, by Rosebach – Mr. Savory 13

HACKNEYS, COLTS AND FILLIES

Black cob, 4 yrs., by Norfolk Comet, fine stepper, broken to saddle - Mr. Preston 40

Brown gelding, rising 5 yrs., by Ziska - Mr Beck 17

Bay filly, rising 3 yrs., by Little Jim - Mr. Rush 21

Roan colt, rising 3 yrs., by Rosebach - 40

Chestnut filly, rising 2 yrs., by Norfolk Champion - Mr. Francis Smith 35

NAGS

Chestnut mare, 6 yrs., 16h.h. - Mr. Bloomfield 35

Bay gelding - Mr. Marshall 27

Bay Steward’s horse, 8 yrs. - Mr. Heyhoe 16½

Bay gelding - 9

- A home-bred cow made £21, and a similar animal in calf £24. Another home-bred fetched £19/10, and a heifer £19. The grazing stock and ewes made excellent prices.

The Lynn News and County Press 1890 18 Oct. Page 5

SPORLE. – STOCK SALE. - Messrs Salter Simpson, and Sons had a very large company at the sale at Petygards, Sporle, near Swaffham, on Thursday last week, when 40 horses, 8 young home-bred cows, 80 head grazing stock, 750 sheep, and 80 pigs, together with an extensive assortment of agricultural implements, were brought under the hammer. After the disposal of the dead stock a luncheon was held in the barn, Mr R. Harvey Mason presiding. The toast list was a very brief one, and the speeches all breathed largely of sympathy with Mr. Farrar, the outgoing tenant, in the circumstances under which the same was held. The toast of the incoming tenant, Mr Frank King, was heartily received, as was that of the Auctioneer (Mr Simpson), whose name the proposer, Mr Errington, said was a household word in the county. Mr Simpson suitably acknowledged the compliment, and an adjournment was then made to the ring. For the horses the highest price was 47 guineas. A home-bred cow made £21, and a similar animal in calf £24. Another homebred fetched £19/10/-, and a heifer £19. The grazing stock and ewes made excellent prices.

The Lynn News and County Press 1890 25 Oct. Page 7

THE WEST NORFOLK HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE

SPORLE WATERCOURSE

The Surveyor said the watercourse had been thoroughly cleared out, and the sides protected by boards. A thoroughly good job had been made of it, and he had had bills printed cautioning people about throwing slops into it.

The Lynn News and County Press 1890 1 Nov.

MR. JOSEPH ARCH AT CASTLEACRE

On Wednesday evening a meeting in connection with Labourers’ Union was held at the club room, Rising Sun inn, Castleacre. The room was crowded with a very attentive audience.

Mr. John Green, of Sporle, was called to the chair and in the opening the proceedings expressed his pleasure at being present. He recalled the time when he, with a few other labourers, met in Swaffham with closed doors and formed a union; soon after which they heard Mr. Arch establishing a Labourers’ Union, and they thought it best to centralize their forces and their money. The great men tried to annihilate them, and they found the local union of no use, so they amalgamated. They had fought several battles: Some they had lost and some they had won. Unless working men combined it was to no avail. Combination would stop wages from running down and make them higher. They had joined the Union for

a purpose – hold their present wage, and to get a higher wage. It was no use letting their masters drop the wages when they wished. He knew many men who said things about the Union to divert attention. Their business was to do something to benefit themselves. They never lived in a better period. Every class of men were determined to have a fair wage for a fair day’s work, and he urged the labourers to stick to the Union, as nothing on earth could keep them right but combination.

Mr. Joseph Arch… was enthusiastically received…

… Mr. Green has spoken about keeping up wages; but it pains me to hear of certain notions some labourers have. They think that if say 12 or 20 men were in the Union out of 100, they would be able to keep the wages up. That was not reasonable; wages had gone down because the majority of the men were not in the Union…

Norwich Mercury 1890 1 Nov. Page 6

SWAFFHAM.

PETTY SESSIONS – MONDAY.

A distress warrant was granted on the application of Sarah Stanford, of Sporle (agent for Susan Stanford, of Saffron Walden, against Potter Grimes, of Sporle, labourer, to be issued within 21 days.

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 8 Nov. Page 8

SPORLE. – MISSIONS. – A collection for the home missions of the Church was made in the parish church on Sunday. The deputation was the Rev. J. Schor, who in an interesting sermon vividly described the spiritual destitution in the many of our large towns and cities, and in the manufacturing and mining centers. He earnestly appealed for assistance to enable the society to increase the number of clergy already working in the districts.

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 29 Nov. Page 5

SPORLE. – UNFORTUNATE OCCURRENCE. – About 18 months ago, Jonathan Bell, a miller’s carman fell from a cart and fractured his ankle, and his foot was amputated. A Norwich firm made him a wooden leg, and on Thursday, 20th inst., he went there to have it refitted, and when returning, near the Norwich railway station, he accidentally fell and fractured the other ankle. He was taken to the Norwich hospital, where his injuries were attended to, and then taken home by a friend. The sufferer is under the care of Mr. F. J. Thomas, surgeon, Swaffham.

ACCIDENT. – On Friday, 21st inst., King Green, fisherman, was passing along the Norwich road, when the end shaft of his cart suddenly broke, and frightened the horse, which stated off at great pace. Green, being a strong man, succeeded in pulling the horse’s head into the hedge, when a man came up and assisted him in removing the horse from the cart without further damage.

The Lynn Advertiser 1890 13 Dec. Page 5

SPORLE. – MARRIAGE. – Mr. Thomas Stockdale Matthews was married on Thursday, 4th inst., to Miss Emily Catterall Harrison, only daughter of Mr. Edward Harrison, of Manchester, at St. Brides, Old Trafford, the officiating clergyman being the Rev. K. L. Jones. The wedding presents, which numbered over 100, were handsome and costly. The newly-wedded pair returned to Sporle on the 6th inst., with the good wishes of their friends. Miss Harrison formerly resided at Sporle with her father, who was a captain in the volunteers.

DOUBLE FUNERAL. – On Tuesday, the mortal remains of Mr. John Fox, who died on the 6th inst., at the age of 82 years, and those of his wife, Sophia, who died on the 4th inst., aged 72 years, were interred in one grave in the parish churchyard, in the presence of a large number of persons. The coffins were covered with handsome wreaths, sent by relations and friends. The Rev. T. Jones was the officiating clergyman.

The Lynn News and County Press 1890 27 Dec.

SWAFFHAM PETTY SESSIONS

Swaffham, Monday. - Before Rev. B. Houchen (chairman), J. Fielding, J. C. Martin, R. H. Mason and H. Lee Warner, Esqrs.

ALLEGED WIFE ASSAULT. - William Clarke, labourer, Sporle, was charged by Phyllis Clarke, his wife, with assaulting her at Sporle on the 14th inst. After hearing the evidence the Magistrates dismissed the case.

**1891:**

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 3 Jan. Page 6

SPORLE. – Christmas eve brought with it much happiness to many families, thanks to the benevolence and kind sympathy of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Matthews, who caused to be distributed materials for a substantial and wholesome Christmas dinner, amongst the whole of the men and boys in their employ, also to several distressed families and the aged poor of the parish. In the evening, in celebration of their marriage, which took place on the 4th December, there were great rejoicings at all the inns in the village. A large gathering assembled at each house, where dancing, singing and music added to other attractions, (through the kind liberality of Mr. Matthews), were much enjoyed. At the Hare and Hounds, Mr. Thomas Archer, the landlord, proposed the health of Mr. and Mrs. Matthews, wishing them long life and happiness. This was drunk with musical honours and deafening cheers. Mr. Matthews returned thanks for these expressions of good wishes, and hoped the party would all enjoy themselves – which they did most heartily.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 3 Jan. Page 7

SPORLE. – ENTERTAINMENT. – THE National school was crowded on Friday evening, 26th December, on the occasion of the first entertainment for the purpose of distributing Christmas gifts among the Sunday school children. The room was prettily decorated with flags, and the scenery around the stage was very pleasing. The Rev. T. Jones and Mrs. Jones were present, together with Mr. and Mrs. T. Matthews, Messrs. S. and J. Matthews, Miss E. Matthews (Swaffham) and the Misses Matthews, Misses Wells, P. Thomas (Swaffham), E and E. J. Smith, L. Fishpool, Bilby &c. The programme was as follows: Part 1.: Carol. “Good King Wenceslaus,” choir boys; recitation, “Lucy Grey,” Mary Wright; song “Kiss, kiss, dear mother,” the little children (encored); Hush, baby, hush; recitation, “The Letter,” Elizabeth Wright; recitation, “We are seven,” Martha Franklin. – The Rev. T. Jones, in a few well chosen words, here distributed the prizes. He remarked at the commencement of the season he made up his mind not to give any child a prize who had not made 52 attendances during the year out of a possible 208, but as subscriptions amounted to more than he anticipated he had broken the rule, and every child was to receive a present. These consisted of dress and shirt pieces, wraps, stockings, gloves and a quantity of useful articles of warm clothing. Each class was called forward, and those who had made the most attendances received the best prizes. In awarding the prize to Ethel Worf, aged 9 years, the reverend gentleman said that she had made the most attendances, and last year she stood at the head of the list. (Cheers.) Independent of the above-named prizes, 72 Bibles and Prayer books were distributed. – Part 11.: “Happy Childhood,” M. Wright, M. Taylor and S. Field; “Seasons,” E. Worf, M. Franklin, J. Blowers and S. Wright; “Fortune telling,” M. Wright and M. Franklin; “The old man,” W. Story; “Queen Anne,” K. Bilby, S. Walker and J. Gilding; “Babes in the wood,” W. Story, W. Walker, M. Franklin and E. Couzens; “Ten little nigger boys,” which caused much laughter. The Rev. Jones caused much laughter with his “Crying baby,” for which performance the boys and girls were dressed in pleasing costumes made by the ladies of the village. Great praise is due to the conductor, the Rev. T. Jones, who explained to the audience the character of each piece. Mrs. Jarley’s Waxworks,” schoolmaster, W. Story, N. Bilham; snuff taking, Tom Batterley; cobbler, George Green; dirty boy, Ellen Green, Herbert Samson; gossips, Lillie Story, S. Wright; New Year, 1891, Alice Taylor; feeding the baby, H. Hunter, M. Franklin; old village dame school. – The Rev. T. Jones said it seemed to him that absolutely nothing had been omitted, as everything had been shewn in the brightest possible character. (Applause.) He was much indebted to Miss Florence Wells and Mrs. Jones for the patience and trouble they had shewn in bringing the entertainment to such a successful issue; also to Mr. Sydney Matthews as stage manager. A vote of thanks to the Rev. T. Jones and Miss Wells closed a pleasant evening. As each child passed out of school, oranges, buns and Christmas cards was given to them. One family, that of Mr. E. Farrer, which has always been familiar at such gatherings, was sadly missed, the more so because they had left the parish.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 17 Jan. Page 1

MANOR OF SPORLE WITH PALGRAVE.

NOTICE is hereby given that a General Court Baron and Customary Court will be held for the said Manor on Thursday the 22nd of January instant, at twelve o’clock noon, at the Hare and Hounds Inn, Sporle, when and where all tenants of the said Manor are requested to appear and do their suit and service. And all persons entitled to admission to any lands or tenements holden of the said Manor are requested to attend and be admitted thereto.

Given under my hand this 14th day of January, 1891. SYDNEY MATTHEWS, Deputy Steward.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 17 Jan. Page 5

SPORLE. – THE SOUP KITCHEN was opened for the season at the vicarage on Thursday, the feast of the Epiphany, when 80 quarts of soup were distributed to many eager recipients.

MISSIONS. – The usual Epiphany appeal for the support of Church missions, was made in Sporle church on Sunday, when a sermon was preached by the Rev. E. G. A. Winter, rector of East Bradenham, and a collection made in aid of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts.

The Lynn News and County Press 1891 24 Jan. Page 6

PETTY SESSIONS REPORTS

SWAFFHAM, MONDAY. – Before J. C. Martin and H. Lee Warner, Esqs.

APPLICATION. – A woman named Clarke, living at Sporle, applied for a summons against W. Rolfe, farm steward of Snail’s pit farm, Swaffham, to recover 7s 6d for three days’ work at 2s 6d per day, and after she had been there three days she hurt her foot and was unable to walk far. Mr. Rolfe had declined to pay her for three days’ work she had done. The Bench advised applicant to see Mr. Tallent, and if then not satisfied to appeal at the next sitting.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 31 Jan. Page 5

SPORLE. – DINNER. – On Thursday, 22nd January, through the kind invitation of Messrs Thomas and Sydney Matthews, a dinner in connection with the manor court of Sporle-with-Palgrave was served at the Hare and Hounds club-room, when several farmers and others sat down to a substantial spread, provided by Hostess Archer. Mr. Sydney Matthews, deputy steward, was in the chair, and amongst those present were Messrs. T. S. Matthews, (lord of the manor), John Larwood (Swaffham), J. Larwood (Sporle), G. Worf, J. Green, G. Bell, T. Archer, H. Gilding, C. Wright, J. Grummett and others; which deserves mention as a laudable example of general good feeling which ought to exist. After a capital repast, harmony was the order of the afternoon. In proposing a vote of thanks to the chairman for his kindness, it was stated that what had taken place in the parish of late would greatly strengthen the unity which already existed there. The proposition was received with hearty cheers. Much praise is due to Mrs. Archer for the manner in which dinner was served.

ACCIDENT. – On Tuesday, the Misses B. and M. Kerrison were on their way from Sporle to Necton with a horse and car containing the young children of Mr. W. H. Kerrison and a servant, and when near the Tuns public house, the horse stumbled and fell, breaking both shafts off the vehicle. The horse escaped with its knees slightly cut. All the occupants of the car were thrown into one corner, much frightened, but fortunately they escaped without serious injury.

SEASONAL BENEVOLENCE. – The whole of the cottagers of this village return the Rev. T. Jones and Mr. T. S. Matthews, churchwarden, grateful thanks for their generous distribution of 9 cwt. of coals each during the severe weather.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 7 Feb. Page 8

SPORLE. A THUNDERSTORM passed over this place on Saturday afternoon. The lightening stuck the roof of a thatched cottage, in the occupation of Mr. William Winner, and passed through a bed-room, where the plaster was scorched as if a candle had been held against it and blackened round a small hole about the size of a marble. On the floor at the foot of the bedstead and on the staircase there were two similar burnt patches. In the sitting-room a small beam was struck near the ceiling, the paper torn off, and the clay wall cut away to the floor, breaking two pictures. The debris was scattered on the opposite side of the room. In the fireplace a small hole was made at the back of the stove, and the electric fluid thence passed up the chimney and brought down some soot. The occupants of the house were away from home, and on their return they were much alarmed to find the floor covered with splinters of wood, paper and pieces of dry clay. The storm was accompanied by a heavy fall of hailstones and rain. The cottage became a source of much curiosity on Saturday evening and Sunday, when many visitors came from the adjoining villages to see it.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 21 Feb. Page 2

PETTY SESSIONS REPORTS.

SWAFFHAM, MONDAY 16th February. – Before W. M. R. Haggard (Chairman), R. H. Mason, J. Fielden and H. Lee Warner Esqs.

APPLICATION. – Martha Clarke, field worker, Sporle, applied for a summons against J. Rolfe, farm bailiff, for arrears of wages which she said amounted to 7/6. Not having any money, she could not have the process.

The Lynn News and County Press 1891 21 Feb. Page 6

PETTY SESSIONS REPORTS

SWAFFHAM, MONDAY. – Before W. M. R. Haggard (Chairman), R. H. Mason, H. Lee Warner and J. Fielden, Esqs.

Martin Eagle, master butcher, Castleacre, was charged by Sergeant Story with being drunk while in charge of a horse and cart at Sporle on the 24th ult. William Chilvers, of Castleacre, labourer, deposed that on the day in question the defendant passed him on the wrong side, and at the same time driving his horses quite fast. John Cole, publican, Castleacre, said he noticed that the defendant had a young horse and was not sober. He got out his own cart and rode with the defendant, as he considered him not then competent to drive them. – The defendant was fined 20s, including costs.

Norwich Mercury 1890 21 Feb. Page 5

THE CHASE.

THE WEST NORFOLK FOX HOUNDS

will meet:-

Wednesday, Sporle Mill;

Friday, Congham House;

Saturday, Foddertone Gap;

at 11 o’clock.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 28 Feb. Page 5

SPORLE. - A BAND OF HOPE TEA was served in the Baptist chapel on Wednesday. Afterwards Mr. T. Lindsay (Swaffham) delivered an address, and recitations, singing, &c., were contributed by P. Easter, F. Bennington, N. Gilding, E. Larwood, H. Bennington, R. Norman, A. Whisker, E. Callaby and others. Miss M. Kerrison accompanied the singing on the harmonium.

Eastern Daily Press 1891 10 Mar. Page 3

CAMBRIDGE LOCAL EXAMINATIONS.

Norfolk and Suffolk Candidates who passed at other centres.

BOYS: Juniors.

… THIRD CLASS, - Bishop Stortford Centre: R. J. Armes, Sudbury, Suffolk, Nonconformist Grammar School. Bloxham: J. T. M. McDougall, Rendham, Saxmundham, All Saints, Bloxham. Nottingham: H. N. Matthews, Sporle, Swaffham, King Edward VI. School, Grantham. Ramsgate: A. W. Gretton, Ottley Rectory, Ipswich, South Eastern College. Wellingborough: H. G. B. Johnson, Scoulton Rectory, Norfolk; and T. W. Tingay, Dunton, Fakenham, Wellingborough Grammar School. York: V. G. Acton, Wicklewood Vicarage, Norfolk, Pocklington School. …

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 14 Mar. Page 5

SPORLE. SUDDEN DEATH. Mr. James Perry (66), died suddenly on Friday 6th inst. For years he had been a great sufferer from rheumatism. On the day named he got up at his usual hour, and had not been downstairs more than a few minutes, when his wife (who was in bed) heard him fall. Upon going downstairs she found her husband lying upon the floor, with a slight wound over the top of his eye. She raised an alarm, and several neighbours went to his assistance, and on examination found life extinct. The poor fellow had cut his face by coming in contact with a table whilst falling. It was not deemed necessary to hold an inquest. Deceased was interred on Wednesday in the parish church-yard, in the presence of a large number of friends and sorrowing relations.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 14 Mar. Page 7

SWAFFHAM.

THE WORKHOUSE. At the meeting of the Board of Guardians --- Mr. Robert Smith, of Sporle, was reappointed school attendance and inquiry officer.

The Lynn News and County Press 1891 21 Mar. Page 2

MR JOSEPH ARCH AT SWAFFHAM

A well attended and enthusiastic meeting was held in the Corn Hall, Swaffham, on Thursday evening last week, under the auspices of the Labourers’ Union. The chair was taken by Mr John Green, of Sporle. Mr Arch on entering the hall was loudly cheered. On the platform beside Mr Arch were Messrs A. Ford (Carbrooke), J. Raspberry (Gayton), R. Adcock (Saham), J. Wyer (Ovington), and G. Harrison (Castleacre), all bona fide working men, and R. Colman, district agent. After a short opening speech from the Chairman, Messrs Ford, Raspberry, Adcock, and Wyer addressed the meeting.

Norwich Mercury 1891 28 Mar. Page 1

SITUATIONS WANTED.

SEWING-MAID. – Situation wanted; good needlewoman; willing to assist in light housework. E. Fox, Sporle, Swaffham.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 28 Mar. Page 7

SPORLE. - SOUP KITCHEN. The last distribution for the season was made on Thursday, 19th March. Through the kind liberality of the Misses Amherst, Mr. E. Hardy, Mrs. Fiddy, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Larwood, Mrs. Matthews, Mr. T. S. Matthews and Mrs. Wells, 280 lb of beef was purchased and made into more than 800 quarts of soup, which was distributed at the vicarage; the onions, celery, carrots, &c., were the gifts of Rev. T. Jones and Mr. R. Smith.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 4 Apr Page 2

SWAFFHAM. WEDNESDAY, 1st April. – Before W. M. R. Haggard, Esq., Rev. B. Houchen, R. H. Mason and H. Lee Warner, Esqs.

NOT SCREENED. – Frank King, farmer, of Sporle, was charged by Sergt. Storey with working a steam threshing machine within 25 yards of the highway, without any screen, on the 12th ult. He was fined 5/ and 5/ costs.

The Lynn News and County Press 1891 4 Apr. Page 8

SWAFFHAM UNION

The following gentlemen have been nominated as Guardians for the ensuing years:-

… Sporle: Thomas S. Matthews, Thomas Jones…

The Lynn News and County Press 1891 11 Apr. Page 8

PETTY SESSIONS REPORTS

SWAFFHAM, MONDAY. – Before W. M. R. Haggard (chairman), H. Lee Warner and R. H. Mason, Esqs., and the Rev. B. Houchen.

RIDING WITHOUT REINS. – John Nelson, of Necton, farmer, pleaded guilty to riding on a tumbrel at Sporle, on the 10th March, without reins, and was fined 3s 6d and casts 6s.

The Lynn News and County Press 1891 11 Apr. Page 8

SOUTH WEST NORFOLK LIBERAL ASSOCIATION

The annual meeting of Liberal Hundred of South West Norfolk Liberal Association was held in a booth behind the Royal Oak Hotel, Fincham on Thursday afternoon. Rain fell throughout the afternoon and evening, but notwithstanding this a large number of delegates put in an appearance, many of them driving a considerable distance. …

… J. Green, Sporle …

The Lynn News and County Press 1891 11 Apr. Page 8

SWAFFHAM. THE HOSPITAL. – On Thursday afternoon last, when the yearly meeting was held in the Assembly Rooms, under the presidency of the Vicar (Rev Granville Smith), Mr A. J. Winter, hon. secretary,

Presented the annual report. From it we gather that the subscriptions are slightly less than last year, but more has been received by donations. The receipts included

… at the Baptist Chapels, Swaffham, Sporle and Pentney, £5/7/3; …

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 25 Apr Page 5

SPORLE. – THE CENSUS. The enumerator for Sporle with Palgrave, Mr. R. Smith, has completed his work, and find the numbers for the year 1891 to be as follows:- Males 314, females 336, a decrease of 79 since 1881; inhabited houses 159, uninhabited 16, with less than 5 rooms 132. This village has been on the decrease for several years, a great number of families having left to find employment in the north.

A SERVICE OF SONG consisted of fugal tunes, was performed in the Baptist chapel on Tuesday evening, by the choirs from Swaffham and Dereham chapels. The proceeds were in aid of chapel funds. Biographical sketches of the authors of various hymns were given by Mr. Thomas Green, of Swaffham, and the musical contributions were highly appraised. The chapel was crowded. Miss M. Kerrison accompanied on the harmonium, and Mr. J. Morris upon the cornet. At the close, Mr. Green the chairman, on behalf on the audience, proposed a vote of thanks to the performers, which was seconded by Mr. B. Bennington.

Norfolk News 1891 2 May Page 3

SITUATIONS WANTED.

WANTED, Situation as a useful Mother’s Help, fond of children, aged 20. – M. Draper, Sporle, Swaffham.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 2 May Page 4

SPORLE. – THE CUCKOO was first heard in this village on 23rd April.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 23 May Page 5

SPORLE. – PRIMITIVE METHODISM. The Sunday school anniversary was held on Sunday, 10th inst., when three services were conducted by Mr. T. Offord, of Swaffham. In the afternoon and evening suitable pieces were recited and hymns sung. On Whit-Tuesday a tea was provided for the children. In the evening there was a public tea and meeting under the presidency of the Rev. S. Hardy, and the chapel was crowded.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 30 May Page 4

SMITH GAGE, DECEASED

ALL persons having any claims against or being indebted to the estate of SMITH GAGE, late of Sporle, in the county of Norfolk, labourer, deceased, are requested to forward the particulars of such claims and to pay such debts respectively to me, the undersigned Executor, forthwith.

SYDNEY MATTHEWS. Swaffham, 27th May 1891.

The Lynn News and County Press 1891 6 Jun. Page 5

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS’ UNION

… 1,114 fresh members have joined this Union in Norfolk alone up to the present date in the year 1891. 35 fresh members this week. Notice of branch meetings for the month of June: … Sporle 27.

… The following are the Sub-Agents who will attend meetings when required in various parts of Norfolk … John Green, Sporle …

The Lynn News and County Press 1891 6 Jun. Page 8

SOUTH WEST NORFOLK LIBERAL ASSOCIATION

The annual meeting of Liberal Hundred of South West Norfolk Liberal Association was held in a booth behind the Royal Oak Hotel, Fincham on Thursday afternoon. Rain fell throughout the afternoon and evening, but notwithstanding this a large number of delegates put in an appearance, many of them driving a considerable distance. …

… J. Green, Sporle …

The Lynn News and County Press 1891 6 Jun. Page 8

SWAFFHAM. THE HOSPITAL. – On Thursday afternoon last, when the yearly meeting was held in the Assembly Rooms, under the presidency of the Vicar (Rev Granville Smith), Mr A. J. Winter, hon. secretary,

Presented the annual report. From it we gather that the subscriptions are slightly less than last year, but more has been received by donations.

… The receipts included … Baptist Chapels, Swaffham, Sporle and Pentney, £5/7/3; …

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 6 Jun Page 8

SHEPHERD. Wanted, thoroughly competent experienced: 250 ewes kept. Good cottage and garden found. – Apply, Dennis Wells, Sporle, Swaffham.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 13 Jun Page 4

CASTLEACRE, SPORLE, BEESTON AND BINTRY, NORFOLK

Mr. ROBERT HEYHOE Is favoured with instructions from the Executor of the late Mr. William Bitten, deceased, to Sell by Auction, at the George hotel, Swaffham, on Wednesday, June 24th, 1891, at 3 for 4 o’clock, the undermentioned

IN THE PARISH OF SPORLE

All those two enclosures of excellent ARABLE LAND, freehold and copyhold, containing 7a. 2r. 19p. (more or less) abutting upon the road leading to Newton, and now in the occupation of George Worf, at an annual rental of £14. … …

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 13 Jun Page 1

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the matter of a Deed of Assignment for the Benefit of Creditors, executed of the 15thday of June, 1890, by EDMUND FARRER, of Petygards, in the parish of Sporle, in the county of Norfolk, farmer. The creditors of the above-named Edmund Farrer who have not already sent in their claims are required on or before the 11th day of July next to send in their claims to us the undersigned, the solicitors to the trustees under the said deed, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the dividend proposed to be declared.

Dated this 11th day of June 1891

HANSELL & HALES, Solicitors for the Trustees, Cathedral Close, Norwich.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 20 Jun. Page 8

WANTED, situation as shepherd, by married man, with good experience. – Thomas Dixon, Palgrave, Sporle, Swaffham.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 20 Jun. Page 8

TO LET. SHOOTING. – 700 Acres of First-class shooting to let. Further particulars, apply, Dennis Wells, Sporle, Swaffham.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 27 Jun. Page 2

SWAFFHAM. – MONDAY, 22nd June. – Before Rev. B. Houchen, R. H. Mason, J. Fielden, J. C. Martin and H. Lee Warner, Esqs.

DAMAGING GATES. – Robert Cooper, labourer, Swaffham, was charged by Fred. Case of the same parish, farmer, with doing damage to some gates by throwing them off their hinges, and further with pulling up some hurdles, at Sporle on the 9th inst. Sergt. Storey called Harry Garrod, labourer, Swaffham, who was in defendant’s company at the time, but the witness said he knew nothing about the matter, and did not see Cooper throw off any gates or pull up any hurdles. In answer to the Clerk, witness said he never told any one he had seen such things done. The case was dismissed. – Defendant was further charged by Benjamin Bensley, aged 14, with assaulting him at the same time and place. The boy said Cooper struck him on the head, knocked him down on the bank, and hit him twice when down. This statement was corroborated by a boy named Battelley. Garrod, who was called for the defence, said he did not see Cooper hit the boy. Defendant was fined 2/6 and costs 15/. – The Chairman spoke in strong terms as to the evidence given by Garrod, and said he might hear further of the matter.

THE LOCOMOTIVES ACT. – William Payne, traction engine proprietor, West Dereham, was charged by Sergt. Storey with having an engine travelling on the Norwich road at Sporle on the 9th inst. without having a man in advance. The officer said that on the day named he was on duty at 11.30 a.m., and when the engine came in sight there were three men riding on it, but no one was in front. Complainant spoke to the driver, who said: “I hope you won’t take any notice of it.” Defendant called John Locke, the driver, who stated that one of his men was always in front of the engine. The man had occasion to stop, and the engine went on. The man did not ride at all. The Bench inflicted a fine of 7/6 and costs 12/6.

The Lynn News and County Press 1891 27 Jun. Page 8

PROPERTY SALE. – On Wednesday afternoon, Mr Robert Heyhoe sold by auction at the George hotel, some property of the late Mr Wm. Bitton, of Castleacre. In Castleacre, 4 cottages were knocked down to Mr Elijah Belsham at £85, 2 acres 25 perches, of arable land, in Sporle was sold to Mr W. H. Kerrison for £100, and 5 acres, 1 r. 34 p. of arable land in Sporle to Mr Belsham for £175. Mr Alfred J. Winter was the vendor’s solicitor.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 25 Jul. Page 7

SPORLE. NARROW ESCAPE. On Monday a horse belonging to Mr. William Curtis, builder, Litcham, was going towards Bunker’s hill, with a timber-drag laden with boards, poles, &c., driven by Alfred Butcher, who sat on the load, and, a few of the boards accidentally falling off, the noise frightened the horse, which darted off down the hill at a rapid pace. The shafts bar broke, and the horse continued its career with the shafts for about half a mile through the village. Fortunately the children had not left the school, but there was quite a panic along the route. Ultimately the horse stopped against the Horse and Hounds public house, where it was found that its legs were cut and bleeding very much. The driver was greatly alarmed, and could not say how he escaped, for he only had his face slightly cut and one of his legs grazed. The drag passed the hill without horse or shafts, and suddenly became looked and ran into the embankment.

CAMP MEETING. The Primitive Methodists held their annual meeting on Sunday in a field kindly lent by Mr. Lindsay jun., of Swaffham. A wagon was drawn into the field, which became filled with members of the society from Swaffham, and they addressed the meeting. Before the finish of the morning service there was a heavy rainfall, which caused the whole of the audience to make a hasty retreat home. The afternoon was fine, and there were very large gatherings.

The Lynn News and County Press 1891 1 Aug. Page 8

SWAFFHAM. – FUNERAL OF MR R COLMAN. – The funeral of the late Mr R Colman took place on Friday afternoon amid abounding manifestations of the esteem and respect in which the deceased was held in the town and throughout the neighbourhood.

… J Green (Sporle)

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 8 Aug. Page 8

SPORLE. –CHURCH SUNDAY-SCHOOL. – The annual treat was held on Wednesday, 29th ult. The tea was to have been served on the lawn at the vicarage, but at the time rain came pouring down and the party had to retreat to the school-rooms, where the youngsters did ample justice to the good things provided and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. During the tea, rain ceased falling, and at the conclusion the choir-boys and others went to the rectory field and played a cricket match. Amongst those who assisted in ministering to the pleasures of the party were the Rev. T. and Mrs. Jones, Mrs. T. S. Matthews, Mrs. Wells, Matthews, the Misses Wells and Matthews, Mr. Bilby, Miss Nellie Bilby and Miss E. Worf.

The Lynn News and County Press 1891 15 Aug. Page 5

SWAFFHAM

FESTIVAL. – On Thursday evening last week a choir festival was held in the parish church. The choirs comprised Swaffham, Sporle, Cockley Cley, Beechamwell, Great Cressingham, Necton, and North Pickenham. The festival was conducted by Dr Bates, organist of Norwich Cathedral, Mr A. H. Athoe (organist) presiding at the organ. The prayers were intoned by the Rev E. J. Alvis, of East Winch, and the lessons read by the Revs E. H. Nelson (Necton), and E. J. Harper. The sermon was preached by Rev Canon Du Port, rector of Denver. At the close a collection was made on behalf of the expenses of the festival.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 15 Aug. Page 8

PETYGARDS, SPORLE, near SWAFFHAM

TO BE LET at Michaelmas next, the above excellent mixed-soil farm, containing about 1000 acres, with capital house and premises, steward’s house and labourers’ cottages. Sporting rights included.

- For particulars apply to J. W. Gilbert, Esq., Norwich; or Salter and Simpson, Attleborough and Bury St. Edmund’s.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 22 Aug. Page 2

SWAFFHAM. MONDAY, 17th August. – Before the Rev. B. Houchen, R. H. Mason and H. Lee Warner, Esqs.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCES. William Bye, Arthur Hudson, labourers, and George Wilson, platelayer, of Swaffham, were charged by Mr. R. Smith with not sending their children to school. Bye was fined 2/6; the other cases were dismissed with a caution. – William Darkins, of Sporle, was charged with a like offence and fined 1/.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 22 Aug. Page 4

IMPORTANT AGRICULTUAL SALE

PETYGARDS, SPORLE

A mile-and-half from Holme Hale station and three miles from Swaffham.

Messrs. BIDDELL & BLENCOWE

ARE instructed by Mr. F. J. King, who is relinquishing farming, to Sell by Auction, on Monday, September 28th, 1891.

32 HORSES, viz.:

27 full-sized, active young cart mares and geldings, 2 cart yearlings and 1 foal, and two hackneys.

OF 1029 SHEEP, viz.

458 fine-framed Suffolk ewes, 467 ewe and wether lambs, 100 half-bred lambs, and 4 rams.

58 HEAD OF NEAT STOCK, viz.:

4 milch cows, and 54 grazing steers and heifers which (with slight exception) have been on the farm since Michaelmas last.

Set of Steam Threshing Tackle, and an unusually good collection of Carriages and Implements, as adapted for 1100 acres, a large proportion of which were purchased new last Michaelmas.

Catalogue in due course of the Auctioneers, Lavenham & Bury St. Edmunds.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 22 Aug. Page 8

SHOOTING – 500 acres of first-class Shooting to Let. – For particulars, apply Dennis Wells, Sporle, Swaffham.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 22 Aug. Page 8

SPORLE. – SCHOOL TREAT. - The Church Sunday school finished its festival in the Rectory ground on Thursday afternoon, 13th inst., when a very large number of children were entertained by Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Matthews sen., Mr. T. Matthews and Mr. G. Matthews, under whose direction the usual sports were engaged in with much spirit, several teachers and numerous’ friends assisting. Cricket, foot races, scrambling, tug of war, &c., were enjoyed. Eleven girls, whose ages varied from 13 to 7 years, standing upon one leg competed for a pair of scissors, and at the end of 75 minutes Ethel Worf, aged 10 years, was declared the winner. There were other rustic sports which gave vent to the energies of the juveniles until nightfall. The proceedings terminated with ringing cheers for the rector (who was absent through indisposition), Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Matthews, and all who had contributed to the success of the gathering. – On Wednesday the children attending the Baptist chapel Sunday school had their annual treat. Forty-six sat down to tea, and afterwards proceeded to a field kindly lent by Mr. Lindsey, of Swaffham, where the usual sports were carried out under the direction of Mr. Green of Swaffham. Thanks are due to Mrs. Kerrison and the Misses Kerrisons for their attention to the youngsters during tea, and to Mr. Green for superintending to sports, &c.

ACCIDENT. – A few days ago Mr. Jas. Gilding, an aged man in the employ of Mr. Lindsay, fell off a load of straw. Whilst in the act of binding it, the rope broke and Gilding fell to the ground. A man who was with him, at once walked away, leaving Gilding lying upon the ground. Gilding, however, made a person to understand that something unusual had taken place, and assistance arrived, when the injured man was taken home very much shaken, but no bones broken.

THE VICAR’S JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS. – On Sunday, 9th August, the 50th anniversary of the ministration of the Rev T. Jones, M. A., vicar, was commemorated, and on the following Sunday he preached from the text, Psalm 1 xxvii., 10 and 11, “This is my infirmity: but I will remember the years of the right hand of the most High. I will remember the works of the Lord: surely I will meditate Thy wonders of old.” He said: -

As all scripture was written for our instruction that which men did of old was written for our example. Therefore all their feelings, thoughts and actions called to us to do as they did. Regarding the text in this light, it is our duty to remember the works of the Lord, and his wonders of old time; to mediate upon his works; talk of his doings. The reasonableness of this was applicable to all men and all times; but especially to myself at this time, because this is the 50th anniversary of my services as pastor of this parish and minister of this congregation. These 50 years have been perhaps the most important and interesting that were passed away. People in different positions in life, with different proclivities, regard them with varied thoughts and feelings. One man would remember with admiration the amazing advance in learning and knowledge of every kind that has taken place in these years, the wonderful strides that have been made in arts and sciences, and the dispersion of the ignorance and prejudice that 50 years ago darkened this country. Another will be thankful for the blessings which have been showered upon the land and that God during those years has caused the grass to grow for the cattle, and herbs for the use of man; that war, with all the horrors which devastated others countries, had not been allowed to spread its black wings over England. Another will remember with gratitude how different is the present state of religion compared with what was 50 years ago; how various associations and societies have been organized and have been active in the cause of Christ and the Gospel; how numerous churches have built, especially in our large cities and manufacturing districts, for these dark spots have been enlightened by the labours of earnest men who devoted themselves to this work. We have a Queen who for 50 years has been an example of morality and purity of life to her people. I too, remembering the works of the Lord, know that these 50 years have been years of pleasure, mingled with some trials; and that goodness and mercy have followed me all my days, I should have no objection to live them all again. I have endeavoured to live peacefully with all men, and that while upholding the church have striven never to give offence to Christians of any denominations. I have endeavoured with all possible plainness to preach for Christ and him crucified; and have never from selfish motives sought the praise of man or courted popularity. I know better than man can tell me how far I have fallen from that state which a minister of the Gospel ought to occupy, and I can honestly use the words of Samuel and say (1 Samuel, 12 c.): “Behold, here I am,” old and grey-headed. “Witness against me before the Lord and before his appointed. Whose ox have I taken? or whose ass have I taken? or whom have I defrauded? Whom have I oppressed? or of whose hand have I received any bride to blind mine eyes therewith, and I will restore it to you.” But self-praise is not my object to-day, for different feeling, too numerous to express, crowd into my mind.

How could it but be that I should be affected with the losses I have sustained during these 50 years in the congregation. What seat is there in the church which has not more than once changed its occupant. How much loved and respected dust has been interred in the old churchyard, and how can I be otherwise than affected by the preservation of my own life. The greater part of my life is gone, and by far the greater part of it has been spent in your service. The evening of life has now set it, gently and mildly indeed. You have shared part of the spring of my life; you had the whole of its summer, its manhood; and now the winter has come and how can I but be affected with my awful responsibility. I have preached to you nearly 5,000 sermons; I have baptized 798 of the young of this parish; I have joined in holy wedlock 500 persons save 6, and I have committed to the earth of God’s acre 661 bodies, 11 more than there were when the census was taken in April last, at which time there were 650. What cloud of witnesses have I to meet at the great tribunal; but my consolation is that I have served a merciful master, who knows our frame and remembers that we are but dust. I am conscious that I never perverted my sacred office to worldly purposes; that I never shunned to declare what I believed to be the whole counsel of God; that I never concealed the truth, nor mangled it at the expense of my own convictions. In conclusion, let me express my heartfelt thanks to those who during all these years have shewn me so much esteem and regard. I entreat their prayers that Providence might govern me that I might speak boldly as I ought; that I might be supported and sustained in my afflictions, and be noble to preach to you the unsearchable riches of Jesus Christ. I would remind you of the many solemn warnings and visitations and urgent admonitions you have heard from my voice, a voice that has grown so familiar to your ears that it has left you unaffected. I warn you that the tone of that voice and the messages of grace that it delivered will be remembered hereafter; and that unless it should please God to awaken your conscience the remembrance of its pleadings with them would be as fuel to that fire that never shall be quenched, or food to that worm that never shall die.

Lynn News & County Press 1891 29 Aug. Page 5

THE COUNTY COUNCIL’S COOKERY CLASSES.

There seems every probability of the cookery classes being warmly taken up in the neighbourhood of Swaffham. In Swaffham an influential committee of ladies in being formed, and the vicar is willing to lend the national schoolroom for four evenings in the week. In the village of Sporle Mr. T. Matthews has kindly lent a room, and Mrs Jones and Mrs Kerrison have promised to help. At Great Cressingham Mrs Heseltine has kindly offered the rectory scullery for the purpose, and at Necton Mrs Mason is interesting herself. A Narborough, too, a ladies’ committee will soon be formed. And at Ashill Mr H. Oldfield is making enquiries. Miss Taylor is expected to arrive at Swaffham on September 28, and to make this her headquarters for ten weeks. The arrangement is that the County Council pays her fees and travelling expenses, the local committee in each place looking after materials and providing fuel and room. Utensils are lent by the Council. It is thought that at first the teaching in the villages should be confined to a practical class of twelve once a week for ten weeks, who will be taught the plainest household cookery. The sale of the food should, where well managed, cover the expenses of material. In Swaffham there will be alternate classes of demonstration and practical work, or of high-class cookery and household cookery. The former will be open at a fixed charge per head per lesson; the latter will be free.

Norwich Mercury 1891 29 Aug. Page 6

WRETTON.

A MEETING of the Labourers’ Union was held at the Chequer’s Inn on Tuesday evening, when Mr. R. Green, of Sporle, gave an address. There was a very fair number of the labouring class present.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 19 Sep. Page 5

PETYGARDS, SPORLE

A mile-and-half from Holme Hale station and three miles from Swaffham.

Messrs. BIDDELL & BLENCOWE

ARE instructed by Mr. F. J. King, who is relinquishing farming, to Sell by Auction, on Monday, September 28th, 1891, without the slightest reserve,

32 HORSES, viz.:

27 full-sized, active young cart mares and geldings, 2 cart yearlings and 1 foal, and two hackneys and a pony. The

FIRST CLASS BLACK-FACED FLOCK OF 1008 SHEEP, viz:

444 fine-framed Suffolk ewes formed in the Newmarket District), 400 ewe and wether lambs, 160 half-bred lambs, and 4 rams.

58 HEAD OF NEAT STOCK, viz.:

4 milch cows, and 54 grazing steers and heifers which (with slight exception) have been on the farm since Michaelmas last.

Set of Steam Threshing Tackle, and an unusually good collection of Carriages and Implements, as adapted for 1100 acres, a large proportion of which were purchased new last Michaelmas, including 11 road and harvest carriages and 12 strong 2-horse carts (which are nearly all new), 4 iron water carts, luggage and dog carts, 12 new A 2 Norfolk gallows ploughs by Murton & Co., 10 Howard’s and double ploughs, 2 self-binders and 2 Bamlett’s reapers, 3 corn and seed drills by Smythe and Murton and Co., Garrett’s root and compost drill, 5 Cambridge and iron barley rolls, 10 gangs of iron harrows, 4 lever iron horse rakes, 4 horse hoes, shepherd’s hut, hay shaker, machines, cart harness for 28 horses, including set of team harness, 12 iron water troughs, 66 sheep troughs, 50 dozen sawn and rift hurdles, 2 sheep-washing apparatus, 25 bullock bins, collection of hand tools, dairy utensils and various miscellaneous effects (416 lots). Sale to commence at 10 a.m. precisely. Luncheon at 1 p.m.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 19 Sep. Page 8

WANTED, a strong respectable girl as General Servant. Wages £4. – Apply to P. S. Allingham, grocer and draper, Sporle, Swaffham.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 26 Sep. Page 2

PETTY SESSION REPORTS

DRUNKENNESS. – Arthur Batley, labourer, Sporle, was charged with being drunk and disorderly at Swaffham on 19th inst., and with assaulting Sergt. Storey. Remanded.

The Lynn News and County Press 1891 26 Sep. Page 5

COUNTY COUNCIL COOKERY CLASSES. – On Monday, Miss Dale of Norwich cookery school, will take up residence in Swaffham for ten weeks to conduct cookery classes, for the benefit of women and girls who have left school, who may wish to join. The hours arranged as under:-

… Wednesday, A. free class 3–5 p. m., Mr T. Matthews’ room, Sporle …

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 26 Sep. Page 7

SPORLE. – ACCIDENT. – At 7.30 p. m. on Friday, Bassett, the driver of the mail cart between Litcham and Swaffham, had passed over the railway bridge near Little London, when the horse fell and pitched out on the road. Miss Lucy Fishpool, hearing his cries, hastened to the spot, and then ran to Little London cottages for further aid, which was quickly forthcoming. The driver was only slightly injured in the arm, but the shafts of the cart were broken. These were soon repaired, and Bassett went on his journey, arriving in Swaffham about 20 minutes late.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 3 Oct. Page 2

PETTY SESSION REPORTS

DRUNK. – Arthur Battley, labourer, Sporle, was charged on remand by Sergt. Storey with being drunk and disorderly at Swaffham on 19th September. He was further charged with assaulting that officer while in the execution of his duty. Prisoner said he knew nothing about the latter charge. The chairman said the bench would take into consideration the fact that the prisoner had been in custody a week, and he was committed to prison for a week further on each charge.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 3 Oct. Page 6

AGRICULTURAL SALES

SPORLE

On Monday Messrs. Biddell & Blencowe sold by action, at Petygards, Sporle, the live and dead farming stock of Mr. F. J. King, who is relinquishing farming. There was a large company, and Mr. Blencowe, who conducted the sale, deposed of the heavy amount of stock with remarkable celerity. The catalogue comprised 32 horses, viz., 27 full-sized, active young cart mares and geldings, 2 cart yearlings and 1 foal, 2 hackneys and a pony; black-faced flock of 1,008 sheep, viz: 444 Suffolk ewes, 400 ewe and wether lambs, 160 half-bred lambs, and 4 rams; 58 head of neat stock, viz., 4 milch cows, and 54 grazing steers and heifers; an unusually good collection of carriages and implements, as adapted for 1,100 acres, a large proportion of which were purchased new last Michaelmas. The prices realized throughout were good. An 8-horse power portable engine, by Clayton & Shuttleworth, made £25; a Barrell’s self-bagging drum £26, elevator with horse works £22, and Maynard’s chaff-cutter £25. The flock of Suffolk ewes, formed in the Newmarket district, were dispersed in pens of a score. Four pens of shearlings averaged 50/, and two pens of shearlings made 62/ and 55/ respectively. Six pens of three-shears made from 57/ to 44/, and seven pens of full-mouthed from 45/ to 41/, the eighth pen going for 37/. The first pen of lambs (black-faced ewe) fetched 40/, the remaining four pens of two score each making 34/ (two), 30/ and 25/6. The wether lambs, also sold in pens of 40, went at from 34/6 to 25/, and two pens of mixed ewes and wethers realized 31/ and 24/6. Three pens of fifty first-cross half-bred lambs fetched 19/6, 30/ and 27/6 respectively. Four rams made from 50/ to 45/. As to the neat stock, a home-bred horned cow (empty) made £14/10; Alderney cow £14; polled home-bred cow, £12/15; horned home-bred, £10/15; two half-bred Alderney and red polled heifers, 18 months (empty), £7/15 each; four polled heifers, about 15 months (empty), £7/12/6 each; five shorthorn heifers, about 15 months (empty), £7/17/6 each; pair of two-year-old home bred steers, £13; six shorthorn grazing beasts, about two years old, £9/15; three home-bred buds, £4/5; and five home-bred weanels realized good prices. The principal prices made for the horses were:-

Champion, bay gelding, 6 years Brewis Bros, London 49 Gs.

Smiler, bay gelding, 5 yrs Mr. Chandler, London 38 Gs.

Boxer, bay gelding, 10 yrs Mr. Chamberlain, Kempston 30 Gs.

Spruce, bay mare, 6 yrs Mr. Payne, Tittleshall 37 Gs.

Briton, black gelding, 9 yrs Mr. Chandler 32 Gs.

Jolly, bay gelding, 6 yrs Mr. Charlton, Attleboro 35 Gs.

Gypsey, black mare, covered by Royal Blagdon, 8 years Mr. Medler, Lynn 40 Gs.

Duke, bay gelding, 9 yrs Mr. Crafer, Langham 26½ Gs.

Beauty, chestnut mare, 7 yrs Mr. Payne 37 Gs.

Lightsome, chestnut mare, 5 years Mr. Riches, Bentley 48 Gs.

Kitty, black mare, covered by Wagon Shaker, 7 years Mr. Gayford, Syderston 49 Gs.

Club, bay gelding, 7 years Mr. Chandler 33 Gs.

Diamond, chestnut mare, 10 years Mr. Lindsey, Sporle 24½ Gs.

Brown, bay mare, 7 years Sir R. Beauchamp 31 Gs.

Gilbert, bay gelding, 4 years Mr. Charlton, Walton 45 Gs.

Proctor, bay gelding, 10 yrs Sir R. Beauchamp 25 Gs.

Tom, chestnut gelding, 2 years Mr. Wells 32 Gs.

Depper, black mare, 3 yrs Mr. Lindsay 28 Gs.

Sharper, bay gelding, 4 years Mr. Crafer 29½ Gs.

Blackbird, black gelding, 3 yrs Mr. Mason, Necton 45 Gs.

Blossom, bay mare, 5 years Mr. Chamberlain 30 Gs.

Smart, chestnut mare, covered by Wagon Shaker Mr. Sewell 22½ Gs.

Chesnut filly foal from the above By Mr. Gifford’s Playford Mr. Murfitt 10 Gs.

Darby, grey mare, 9 yrs Mr.Sewell 26½. Gs.

Darling, bay mare, 6 yrs Mr. Marriott, Narboro’ 44 Gs.

Captain, chestnut gelding, 9 yrs Sir R. Beauchamp 30 Gs.

Yearling bay filly, out of Spruce Mr. Rivetts 19 Gs.

Yearling bay gelding, out of Darling Mr. Rivetts 22½ Gs.

Fast roan hackney, 15.3 h. h., good mover, 5 years Mr. Marshall, North Lynn 38 Gs.

Black pony Mr. Gayford 17½ Gs

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 3 Oct. Page 8

WANTED, on Michaelmas day, General Servant not under 20, and a Girl about 16 for the Kitchen. Good characters indispensable. – Mrs. Dennis Wells, Sporle, Swaffham.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 10 Oct. Page 7

HARVEST CELEBRATIONS

SPORLE – A service was held on Sunday in the parish church, which was decorated with corn, fruit, vegetables and flowers. In the evening, the Rev. T. Jones preached an appropriate sermon from the words “Be thankful unto Him, and speak good of His name.” The offertories were for Lynn hospital.

A similar service was held on 1st October in the Baptist chapel. At 6 o’clock a public tea was provided, and the chapel was decorated with flowers and fruits. Miss M. Kerrison officiated at the harmonium, and the speakers were the Rev. J. Wilkin, Messrs. Lindsay and Green, &c. The collection was in aid of Swaffham cottage hospital.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 10 Oct. Page 8

SPORLE. – THE SCHOOLS. – In consequence of the adoption by the managers of the parochial school of the free grant under the resent Act of Parliament, a meeting was called. The Rev. T. Jones, who presided, said it was because elementary education having been made compulsory that The Assisted Education Act had now followed, and the school was open free to all children attending from the ages of 3 to 15 years. An appeal was made for increased support to the funds, and a hope expressed that some of the parents, regarding their responsibility to their children, might see their way to help by small subscriptions. The chairman further stated that he built the school 50 years ago next April, and he sketched the gradual growth of the educational movement on the part of the Government during that period. The parents of every child must understand that the attending was made compulsory under a bye-law of the union. There were 100 children now attending this school, but at present none had been admitted under the age of 5 years.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 17 Oct. Page 5

SPORLE. – THE GALE. – On Tuesday night a fierce south-westerly gale prevailed here, and at 2 a.m. on Wednesday it rained in torrents. Trees were blown down, corn stacks suffered severely, many of them being stripped of their thatch, chimney pots and tiles blew off, and the wooden fence attached to the railway bridge near Little London was blown away.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 17 Oct. Page 8

NARFORD. - NARROW ESCAPE. - As Mr. and Mrs. Charles Simmons, hawkers, of Sporle, were passing along the highway near the park on Tuesday with their horse and van, their attention was attracted by the cracking of a large tree, and on looking up they saw it falling. Mr. Simmons at once struck the horse, and by doing so they escaped, Mrs. Simmons only receiving a blow on the back of her hand from the falling bough, which caused a discolouration. The tree was struck by lightning from top to bottom a few years ago.

The Lynn News and County Press 1891 17 Oct. Page 8

SWAFFHAM

FOREIGN MISSIONS. – On Thursday the collectors and subscribers of Swaffham branch of the Baptist Missionary Society had their annual tea in the Baptist School Room. … collected by Scholars of the Sunday School … from Sporle £2/17/10 …

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 31 Oct. Page 8

SPORLE. - MISSIONS. – A meeting in aid of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel was held in the school-room, on Thursday 22nd inst. The Rev. T. Jones presided, and opened the meeting with a few appropriate words. The Rev. G. Crane, a missionary from Newfoundland, delivered an excellent address, and spoke of many interesting incidents associated with his travels.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 7 Nov.

MANOR OF SPORLE WITH PALGRAVE

NOTICE is hereby given that the next General Court Baron and Customary Court of the Master, Brothers and Sisters of the Royal Hospital of Saint Katherine; lords of the manor of Sporle with Palgrave aforesaid, will be held for the said manor of Thursday the 12th day of November next, at twelve o’clock noon, at the Hare and Hounds Inn, Sporle, when and where all tenants of the said manor are required to appear and do their suit and service. And all persons entitled to admission to any lands or tenements holden of the said manor are requested to attend and be admitted thereto.

Dated this 25th day of October, 1891. SYDNEY MATTHEWS, Deputy Steward.

Norwich Mercury 1891 7 Nov. Page 3

MR. JOSEPH ARCH AT SWAFFHAM.

On Monday evening last a public meeting was held, under the auspices of the National Agricultural Labourers’ Union, in the Club Room, White Lion Inn.

… Mr. JOHN GREEN, Sporle, having briefly addressed the audience, a vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the meeting.

Thetford and Watton Times 21 Nov. Page 2

TRADES AND INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION AT KING’S LYNN.

… This is the third trades exhibition held during the past four years, but an additional attraction was this year provided, in that exhibits of work from Her Royal Highness’s Alexandra Technical School at Sandringham, which was formed by and taken such interest in by T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales …

CLASS VII. … mouldings, Ethel M. Wells, Sporle (light and shade), bronze medal

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 21 Nov. Page 8

YOUNG Girl wanted to assist in shop and be generally useful. Must be good at figures, and have a good character. – Mrs. P. S. Allingham, grocer and draper, Sporle.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 21 Nov. Page 8

SPORLE. – THE MANOR COURT OF SPORLE WITH PALGRAVE was held on Thursday 12th inst. at the Hare and Hounds inn. At two o’clock host and hostess Archer provided an excellent dinner, of which a large number partook. The chair was occupied by Mr. Sydney Matthews, who was supported by the Rev. T. Jones, Messrs. W. H. Kerrison, D. Wells, J. Larwood, P. A. Allingham, J. Grummett, C. Wright, and others; the vice-chair was occupied by Mr. John Archer. After the cloth was removed the Rev. T. Jones proposed “The Chairman,” who on rising to reply met with a hearty reception which proved that in his office as steward to the manor of Sporle he had given satisfaction. The rector then left, and the remainder of the evening passed merrily with songs by G. Worf, R. Smith, P. A. Allingham, Archer and G. Bell. The proceedings were regarded with great interest, and several persons attended from neighbouring villages.

THE GALE. – During the gale on Wednesday, 11th inst. a very large ash tree upon the farm of Mr. Dennis Wells was blown down and killed two valuable sheep.

Eastern Daily Press 1891 27 Nov. Page 8

MR. JOSEPH ARCH AT GREAT MASSINGHAM.

On Wednesday evening Mr. Joseph Arch addressed a large and enthusiastic meeting of agricultural labourers at the Rose and Crown Inn, Great Massingham. The chair was taken by Mr. John Green of Sporle, who stated the Mr. Z. Walker, the secretary, who was advertised to take part in the meeting, was unavoidably absent in the interest of the N.A.L.U. in another part of the county: but as their president, Mr. Arch, was present, he was host in himself. …

Lynn News and County Press 1891 5 Dec. Page 5

WRETTON. – A meeting in connection with the National Labours’ Union was held on Monday week at the Chequers Inn, presided over by Mr. David Manning, which was well attended. Mr. Green, Sporle, gave an address which was listened to with much attention. The usual vote of thanks were passed to the chairman and Mr. Green.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 5 Dec. Page 5

DERSINGHAM. – DEATH FROM OVEREATING. – On Wednesday, Mr. R. A. Wilkin, coroner, held an inquest at the Dun Cow public house, on the body of John Green, of Sporle, aged 64, who died the previous day. Mary Green, deceased’s wife, said her husband was a labourer, but had had little to do for years. He had complained of his chest, and he had been attended by Mr. Thomas, surgeon, of Swaffham, although not for the last three months. Witness’s husband had been in the habit of travelling about the country lecturing with Mr. Joseph Arch and a Mr. Colman. On Monday 30th November he left home to attend a meeting at Dersingham. He had been ill, but appeared to be better when he left. Witness did not see him alive again. Catherine, wife of John Smith, landlord of the Dun Cow public house, said that Green, accompanied by Mr. Arch, came to her house on Monday and had a hearty tea, after which they went upstairs to a room where a labourers’ meeting commenced at 7.30, and where Green talked loudly, a fact which remarked to one of her friends. Green came downstairs a 9 o’clock, and went into the back kitchen. He said he was very warm, and asked for a glass of stout, with which witness’s granddaughter served him. After drinking it he went into the room where he had had his tea and sat down in a chair. Shortly afterwards witness’s granddaughter said Green was in great pain, and complaining of pain in the pit of his stomach. Witness saw him pacing up and down, holding his stomach, and said “Oh, my good man, what is the matter with you?” He replied “I have had a touch of this, and if I eat a good meal I am always feeling pain.” Witness asked him whether he would take a dose of medicine if she got it for him, and he said “Yes; anything to get ease.” Mr. Arch then came into the room, and suggested that a doctor should be sent for, and Mr. Hopkins, surgeon, of Snettisham, arrived in less than an hour. Witness put Green to bed and waited upon him during the night, and everything possible was done for him. Green died at about 4.45 p.m. on Tuesday afternoon. Mr. J. W. Hopkins said about one o’clock on Tuesday morning Mr. Potter came to house and requested him to attend to Green, which he did at once. Witness found him in bed, suffering greatly from pain in the region of stomach. He ordered hot fomentation and applied a mustard plaster, and gave him some medicine. After staying with him for some time and leaving directions as to what to be done, witness returned home. At 6.30 witness was again called to Green, and found that the pain was not easier and that the man was weak. Witness tried various remedies, but without effect, and anticipating that the pain would ultimately result in exhaustion, he applied a hypodermic injection of morphia, and the pain lessened. Witness left further instructions before returning home, and again visited Green at eleven o’clock, but found no improvement in the man’s condition. Witness judged from the state of his pulse that he would not recover. At 6.15 witness received a telegram, and again visited Green, and upon his arrival found that the man was dead. Witness was of an opinion that he died of acute peritonitis caused no doubt by distension of the stomach after a larger meal than usual, and by drinking the half-pint of cold porter, mentioned by the witness Smith, when in a overheated condition. A verdict accordingly was returned.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 12 Dec. Page 7

SPORLE. – MR. JOHN GREEN, whose death occurred suddenly at Dersingham on Tuesday 29th ult,. As stated in our last week’s issue, was an active member of the Agricultural Labourer’s Union and a zealous Liberal. During the last few years he devoted most of his time to the Union in question, and his services were highly valued by those he represented. A few weeks ago, upon the death of Mr. Colman, of Swaffham, he was appointed to the charge of Swaffham district of the Union, and for some time accompanied Mr. Joseph Arch, lecturing in many of the villages in various parts of Norfolk. On Thursday 10th inst. he should been one of a deputation to meet Mr. Gladstone in London, where he was to have represented South-West Norfolk in the interests of the Agricultural Labourers’ Union. In 1889, he found that a considerable number of labourers and others were desirous of hiring portions of land as allotments, and called a meeting at the Labourers’ Union club house in the village, and was deputed by the working classes to apply to the rural sanitary authority. His application he handed over to the leading agriculturist of the parish, and from that time until they got the allotments, he made himself very active in the matter. After the allotments were obtained he consented to act as agent and collect rents, &c. which office he held at his death.

Norwich Mercury 1891 12 Dec. Page 6

SWAFFHAM.

Our readers will be pleased to hear of the success of a Norfolk hackney mare by Cadet, bred by Mr. Edward T. G. Lindsey, of Sporle, and now at Pickenham, having won first prize at the Great American National Horse Show Association, recently held in New York. This show was the largest exhibition of horses ever seen on the side of the Atlantic.

The Lynn News and County Press 1891 12 Dec. Page 8

SPORLE. – COOKERY CLASS. – The cookery class terminated here last week, and at the close Mrs Bennington was presented with five shillings as a prize for regular attendance and good cooking. Miss Dale, the cookery teacher, has won golden opinions.

Norfolk News 1891 19 Dec. Page 2

FACTS AND HINTS FOR FARMERS.

… In an account of American shows the names of Norfolk sires and mares are all over the list. The popularity of the hackney in that country has become wide spread extending not only to the breeders, but to the public, who appear to be fast deserting their old love of speed for something that has more beauty of movement. Grout’s Fashion is still a popular horse in the States, as also is Star of Nepal. In the yearling filly class a handsome daughter of Mr. Cooke’s Cadet, bred by Mr. Lindsey of Sporle, was a popular winner.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 19 Dec. Page 5

DISTRICT NEWS

SWAFFHAM

CONSERVATIVE CLUB. – At a smoking concert in the Assembly room on Tuesday evening, there was a large attendance of members. The chair was taken by Mr. T. S. Matthews of Sporle, and Mr. N. H. Athoe assisted as pianofortest. In the course of the evening, all the daily, weekly and illustrated papers to be taken during the ensuing years by the club, were sold by auction by Mr. Freeman, of Lynn. A pianoforte solo was played by Messrs. E. Haydon, (Narborough), A. J. Johnson, C. Kerridge, J. J. Armes, R. Smith (Sporle) and others, and a recitation was given by Mr. F. Christopherson.

The Lynn Advertiser 1891 26 Dec. Page 2

SWAFFHAM. – MONDAY, 21st December. – Before Rev. B. Houchen, R. H. Mason, J. C. Martin and J. Fielden, Esqs.

SCHOOL CASES. – Joseph Norman, of Sporle, Alfred Barnard, of West Bradenham, and George Bowen, Wm. Eavy, Wm. Gilding and Arthur Hudson, of Swaffham, labourers, were charged by Robert Smith, attendance officer, with not sending their children regularly to school. Four of the parties had been similarly summoned before. They were all fined 1/ each and cautioned.

Spellings have been left as printed.

**SPORLE WITH PALGRAVE - NEWS** is an ongoing project and will be updated as more records are found.

Family: Our Gilding, Wright and Eagle ancestors, and their siblings, lived in Sporle with Palgrave during the period that the newspapers cover. Some members of family in the above reports include James Gilding and James Perry (both direct ancestors), H. (Henry) Gilding, Susanna Gelding (Gilding, daughter of Henry), C. (Charles) Wright, and John Green who was the husband of Mary Green formerly Mary Wright.