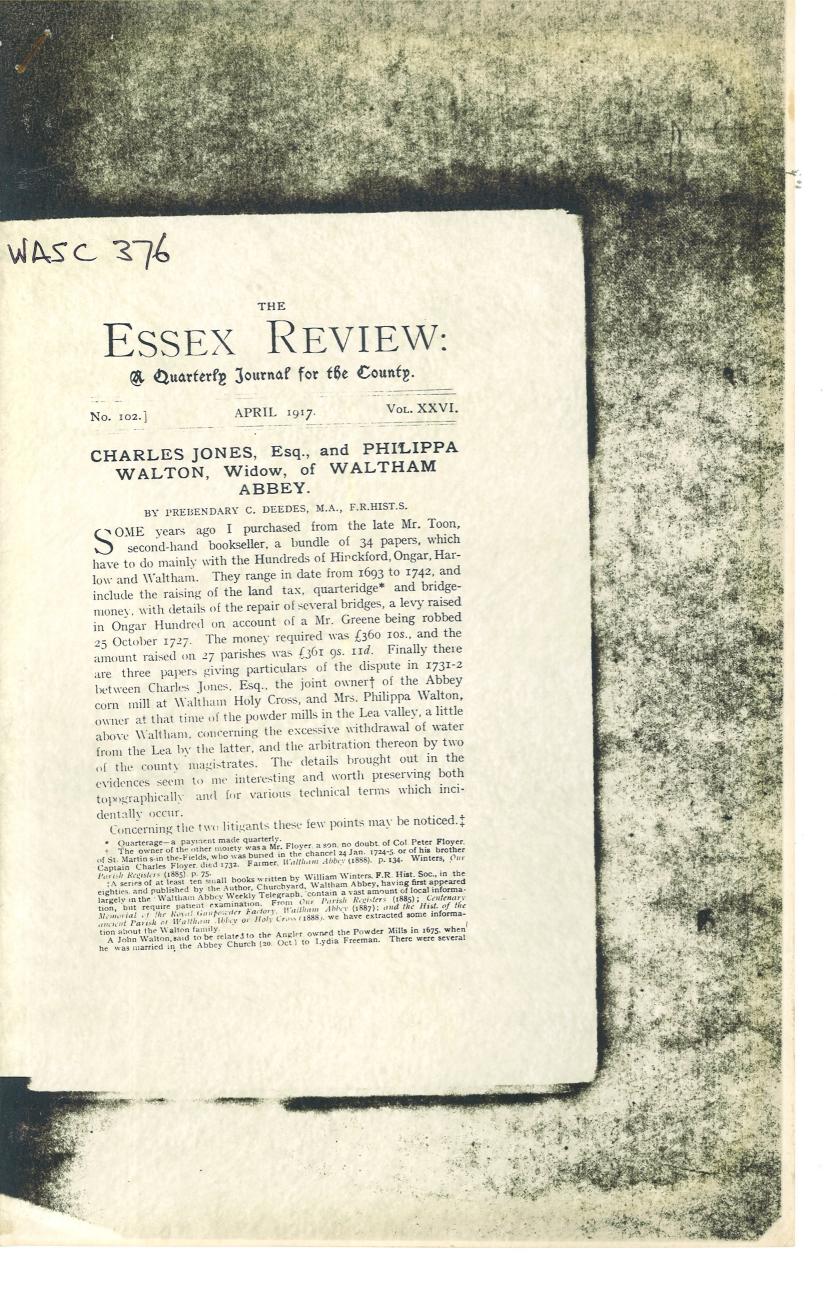
WASC 376 Charles Jones, Esq., and Philippa Walton, Widow, of Waltham Abbey. Prebendary C. Deedes, M.A., F.R. Hist.S. The Essex Review April, 1917, 26 (102), 49-57



The de Waltons were an ancient Essex family with large estates in various parts of the county. Morant has copicus records of them chiefly in his second volume, but not at Waltham Cross nor elsewhere later than the 15th century. When John Farmer, of Waltham Abbev, Gent., compiled his History of the Ancient Town and once famous Abbey of Waltham, printed for the author, London, 1735, it would seem that widow Walton was no longer living, for on pp. 2, 3 one reads:

A This town is seated on the east-side of the Lee (which by Act of Parliament 1 Stat. 13 Eliz. 18 was made Navigable from Ware to London), which not only parteth Hertfordshire from Essex, but also parteth itself into several small rivers or rivulets coming into town and over which are many bridges. . . . Near the town, on one of these rivers, are curious gunpowder-mills, which supply the Nation with great Quantities of gunpowder, being esteemed the largest and compleatest Works in Great Britain, and are now the Property of Mr. John Walton, a Gentleman of known Honour and Integrity.

Farmer, in his preface, gives very special thanks to Mr. Walton: 'I pay my first complements (sic) to John Walton, Esq., to whom I am obliged, as for a long and beautiful series of Favours on this and many other Accounts, so in particular for his Assiduity and Goodness in obtaining me the Liberty to take Copies, from the Records in the Tower of London, of the Original Grants and Charters of this once famous Abbey, and of many other Authorities and valuable Papers. . . ' Mr. Walton, who took seven copies of the book, received the honour of the second dedication with a copperplate impression of his arms at the head.* The first dedication was oddly enough to Charles Wake Jones, Esq., who has perhaps the place of honour because he took ten copies, and was the author's landlord He was also lord of the manor of Nazing.† Although the second name 'Wake' is not given in the copies of legal proceedings, I presume that he was Mrs. Walton's opponent on that

descendants of the same names—John Walton.

Philippa Walton was 'fourth daughter and co-heiress of John Bourchier, Esq., M.D., of this county She married William Walton, of Balam [Balham] in the parish of Streatham, Surrey, and had two sons; the second, John Walton, married Hester, one of the two daughters and co-heiresses of Sir Jacob Jacobsen, of Walthamstow, survived her without issue, and died 19 July 1757, aged 58 and was buried at Waltham Abbey. (Cenl. Mem., p. 21, inscription in chancel.) She had also two daughters; Anne, the younger died unmarried, 29 May 1772, in her 66th year, and was buried in the Abbey Church. Muilman, writing in 1770, says the 'Mils are now the property of Bourchier Walton. Esq.' probably a grandson of Mrs. Philippa, through the elder son.

Winters, who was pastor of the Particular Baptists' Ebenezer Chapel in Fountain Square, came from Hertfordshire to Waltham Abbey, he tells us, at the age of four, and entered on his charge at the chapel in 1876. He died some years ago.—Ed.

"My colleague, Dr. Codrington, says of the Walton arms:—'It is a quarterly co't impaling another, of Mrs. Walton, which I should say is certainly foreign.'

† Morant, Hist of Exect (1768), i., 53. descendants of the same names-John Walton.

occasion. His mill was no doubt that bestowed on the abbey by Maud, Henry 1st's Queen. Farmer, mentioning this bestowal (p. 31), adds: 'This Mill is used for the grinding of Corn; it is now rebuilding in a very commodious and beautiful manner, and there are near an hundred hands constantly at work in cleaning the river that supplies it with water; so it is by all workmen reckoned to be (when finished) the compleatest and most commodious Work of its Kind, and is now the property of Charles Wake Jones, Esq., and Peter Floyer, Esq.' Mr. Farmer takes great pains in the progress of his History (pp. 150-162) to trace the descent of his patron from the Wakes of the Conquest, and to describe the 'Abbey,' C. W. Jones' residence,* of which an engraving is given, as also of the famous tulip-tree

which grew in the garden.

Farmer includes, facing p. 2, an interesting print of the powder-mills, engraved by Jas. Mynde after a drawing by R. West, dated 1735 (see the Frontispiece to this number). The buildings are numerous and detached, the purpose for which each was designed is described above the plate, and it is dedicated to John Walton, Esq. Some mills were worked, if the plate is to be trusted, by horse-power, others by waterpower. In Chapman and Andre's Map of the County, published in 1777 from an actual survey taken 1772-4, the river ad rivulets appear to be traced very accurately. A little northward of the town there are five distinct waterways. The River Lea proper is westernmost: the straight canal cut intersects it. Then, passing eastward, the other course of the river at the 'Water Turnpike' splits into two streams, upon that to the West is the powder mill which stands on the little islet between two branches of this rivulet. That to the East pursues a double nearly-parallel course, and all re-unite at the town and empty themselves into the main river Lea below the Town Mead. The mill close to the Abbey is here called 'Silk and Corn Mill.' It is a pity that the designers of this excellent map did not give the names by which the separate streams were then known. It is now more than 200 years from the date *For more concerning this family and estate see Ogborne's Essay (1814), p. 196. Sir Charles Wake Jones died without issue in 1746, and the Abbey House was pulled down in 1790. The arms of Charles Wake Jones, as engraved above the dedication, are quarterly Wake and Jones impaling the quarterly coat of his wife Elizabeth Sambroke. Wake on two bars gules in chief, three corbeaux. Jones argent, a lion rampant sable. The crest is the Wake Knot.

This print also appears in the Viet Hiel of Frence and its illustration.

Wake Knot. This print also appears in the Vict. Hist, of Essex, vol. ii. illustrating an article by Mr. ler Christy, F.L.S., on one of the Industries of the County, i.e., Powder-making \rightarrow Eu.

to which the older assistants at the Walton-Jones inquest carried back their early memories of the sites described, but probably the main features of the water-meadows remain the same on that fair borderland of Essex and Herts.

The documents are plain enough, and do not seem to me toneed any comment. Thoroughgood's Ditch may have taken its name from George Thorowgood, Esq., one of the Commisioners of the Inquisition taken in the 17th of King Charles I. (1641) of a perambulation of Waltham Forest (Farmer, p. 184).

Of the arbitrators, Sir Robert Abdy, Bart., was elected M.P. for Essex in 1727, and continued to represent the county till his death in 1748. He was a man of high ability and great integrity.* Sir Edward Smyth, Bart., was of Hill-hall in the Parish of Stapleford-Tawny.† The variant forms of that timehonoured name Smith find perhaps their quaintest spelling in Smijth. This is no doubt Smyth pure and simple, and arose from the medieval habit of dotting the letter v, 'v' being afterwards separated into i and j, and thus one produces Smijth.

I can find nothing more about John Farmer. Perhaps he settled at Waltham Abbey in some legal practice. He seems to have had a liberal education, both general and classical, with a. tolerant and kindly disposition, except to the Church of Rome, whose abuses he lashes unmercifully. Some reader of the Essex Review who knows Waltham Holy Cross well may be disposed to add to these notes, and at the same time to correct errors in fact and inference into which a Hertfordshire native, and occasional visitor in the distant past, may have fallen.

· Here follow the deeds aforesaid.

In communi Banco.

Inter Carolum Jones arm. ct Philippam Walton vid. } In Arbitrio.

The said Mrs. Walton having been long possessed of Powder Mills in the Parish of Waltham Holy Cross in the County of Essex which have been always supplied with water out of the River Lea by three several streams or currents, called or known by the names of the Thoroughgood's Ditch, the Hull, and the Lock, and the said Mr. Jones being lately possessed of the

moiety of a Turnpike (or floodgate erected across the said River on purpose to facilitate the navigation of Barges and Boats from the town of Ware to the City of London and vice versa): and also of the moiety of a corn mill in Waltham aforesaid, which turnpike and corn mill are situate below the said currents called Thoroughgood's Ditch, the Hull and the Lock, supplied also with water out of the River Lea by a Rivulet called the Mill River, running out of the said River Lea near the said Turnpike, and the said Mr. Jones observing that the said turnpike and corn mill would be better supplied with water in case there were no such currents as those above mentioned is therefore desirous to have them obstructed, particularly those called Thoroughgood's Ditch and the Hull, or at least so curtailed in their several dimensions as to render them almost useless to the said Mrs. Walton, to prevent which and prove Mrs. Walton's right to the same, the following or the like testimony will be given on oath if required (vizt.)

Thos. Ramsey will depose that he has known the said current called Thoroughgood's Ditch for upwards of 50 years, and that the wharfing at the mouth thereof at the River Lea and also the said current with the banks thereof thence to the powder mill river wherein the said current discharges itself about 40 perches in length, and likewise several bridges built over the said current in Hooke Marsh were always during his memory (and believes no one can remember the contrary) repaired and cleaned at the respective costs and charges of Mr. Hudson (formerly proprietor of the said mills), and since by Mr. Walton (late husband of the said Mr.[s] Walton) and Mrs. Walton

to this day.

And the said Ramsey will also depose that he knows and is well assured that in consequence of a dam made across the said Thoroughgood's Ditch through which Dam there always passed water enough for the cattle depasturing in the Common Meads of either side called Hooke Marsh and the friary according to the original design thereof, the said Mrs. Walton always repaired and cleaned the Ditch along Hookes Marsh and the friary (in length about 228 perches), and moreover, if any trespasses were committed by cattle getting out of either of the said Common Meads into the other (through or over the said Ditch) Mr. Walton always paid the Poundage, damage, etc., and the said Ramsey believes Mrs. Walton does so to this day.

And the said Ramsey will further depose that he has never known the mouth of the said current narrower than now, but often wider, so wide that himself has been brought several times in a boat from Waltham Marsh along the same into the River

Lea and back again to Waltham Marsh.

As to the Hull the said Edward Ramsey will depose that he has all his life time know[n] it as such, and always known by

^{*} Morant, Essex, i., 177
† Muilman, History of Essex by a Gentleman (1770-7), iv., 42.
‡ In Winters' introduction to The Hist, of Waltham Abbey 1888, he gives among a list of names from Parish Registers', Richard Farmer, of Piness Green, near Waltham Abbey, 1729, 1732, and his son. John Farmer, Attorney, Waltham, 1734. This was the historian, who was buried there 3 Oct. 1750.—ED.

the name of the Hull at Hook's Marsh Stile, and that water always ran through it out of the River Lea. But of what bore or diameter the said Hull was of this deponent never observed. The said Ramsey also remembers a Powder Mill standing near the said Hull (vizt.), where the Lock now is.

Edward Brown will depose that he remembers the said current called Thoroughgood's Ditch for upwards of 26 years, and that he never knew it narrower at the mouth by the River Lea than now, but he has known it so wide that a boat fo[u r foot wide and upwards might pass through and that the said Brown knows the bre[a]dth of the said Current to be now as settled by a commission of sewers about II years ago, by order of whom this deponent assisted as a carpenter and then laid down the post that now limits the bre[a]dth of the inlet thereof.

And the said Brown will also depose that he knows the said current, banks and bridges (as above set forth in Ramsey's testimony) have been always repaired and cleaned, at some hundreds of pounds expense, by Mr. Walton and his predecessors (proprietors of the said powder mills).

As to the Hull the said Brown will depose that he has known it also for upwards of 26 years, and that about 18 years ago he assisted there at taking up a powder mill trough, which appeared to be ancient because wrotten and rusted, of 15 inches by 18 diameter in its bore. In the room whereof another of the same dimensions was then laid down. And that about two years ago the last mentioned trough was taken up (which is now in Mr. Walton's custody ready to be produced if required), in room whereof a square trough or hull* of 12 inches by 16 diameter, as appears also by Fogg's testimony herein after set forth, was then laid down and which now remains there.

Edward Fogg will depose that about 2 years ago he assisted at taking up the last trough at the Hull, in the room whereof there was made a square trough of planks (no powder mill trough as usual being ready to lay there), of 14 inches by 19 diameter, in order to be laid down. But Mr. Walton examining of it and finding its diameter somewhat larger than the last ordered it to be reduced to 12 inches by 16 (less than any of the former troughs), which was accordingly done by strongly spiking two fresh boards with the said trough, and of that Bore it was then laid down and continued so till the bargemen with their poles, etc.,endeavouring to stop up the same have broke of [f] the inside planks, and thereby rendered the said Hull of a larger diameter than was intended.

And lastly both the said Brown and Fogg will depose that

they never knew the said Hull dry, but always had water running through it out of the River Lea.

2nd Dec. 1731.

Ex parte Jones armiger, 23 Nov. 1731. Inter Car. Jones armigerum et Ph. Walton-Videlicet.

Ch. Warner aged about 70 saith he hath known the Cutt near the Ware in Hook's Marsh in Waltham H[igh] C[ross] near 50 years, that the pipe there fixt was not above 9 inches bore; that the said pipe of no larger size remained there about 20 years. About [2]7 or 28 years ago in the same Cutt there was a Powder Mill trough laid down in room of the same pipe till about the year 1729, when another trough was laid down near 20 inches lower in the River Lee. He also saith that the old pipe in the said Cutt and river used to lie dry when the turnpike a little below in the navl [?Navigable] River Lee was drawn half an hour. When the water was low in the River Lee he verily believes that Mr. Robert Rutter, the present tenant of the corn mill at Waltham, hath sustained damages from Lady Day last to this time about thirty pounds, by reason of the several incroachments made by Mrs. Walton out of the said River Lee. And this examinant saith that he was tenant of the said mills about six or seven and forty years; that he left the said mills 2 years ago last March by reason that the water was drawn from the said mills by the several incroachments made by the said Mrs. Walton from the said river Lee, etc. He also saith that the pipe was about 9 or 10 inches diameter.

William Hills about 30 years ago remembers a pipe fixt in the cut of the said River Lee, which said Cut now helps to supply the said powder mills with water: that at the same time the said pipe was not above 9 inches bore, and that about 2 years ago he saw a trough in the room of the said pipe laid down about 20 inches lower than the said pipe.

Henry Bolton says the same to the same line. Thomas Ramsey speaks to the said purpose for 50 years, and further saith that the apron* of the lock lies at least a foot lower than formerly. He also remembers that above 20 years ago a dam was made at Letter H† in Thoroughgood's Ditch to turn the water coming from the River Lea to the powder mills. He also says that the water in said ditch runs through an 18-inch trough to the Powder Mill River and no otherwise, and that always there

was a watercourse there and that formerly the water ran freely

^{*}This particular sense of 'hull' is given neither in the 'Oxford' nor the 'Dialect' Dictionary, and it is a question with which of the two main meanings of the word it is connected. The trough in question no doubt gave its name to the rivulet which flowed through it

^{• &#}x27;Apron.' At the bottom of a sluice or entrance to a dock. A platform placed so as to intercept the fall of water and prevent the washing away of the bottom. Oxford Dict.

† H probably refers to a plan before the Arbitrators.

to the Powder Mill River before the said dam was made by means of mud gathered in the adjoining ditch,

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William North to the same. Oliver Millwright, ditto.

John Carter, sen., 40 years ditto, and that the bore in Mr. Hudson's time who rented the mill was not above 9 inches diameter and was never altered or made bigger till Mrs. Walton hired the said mill. He saith that he hath known the ditch called Thoroughgood's ditch above 40 years, that the ditch was not above 60 yards wide and then very low in water, that he could walk through without being wet above his shoes. The same is now and hath been many years much deeper.

William Waller says that the ditch called Thoroughgood's ditch wer [? where] is the Fence between Hook's marsh and Cheshunt Mead was usually cleansed, scoured and kept up by Mrs. Walton (owner of the said Powder Mills) or her Order.

Endorsed 'Ch. Jones Esq. and Philipa Walton. Copys of Examn.'

Jones Esquire and Walton widow. Copy. Award. To all to whom this present writing indented of award shall come We Sir Robert Abdy and Sir Edward Smyth Baronetts send Greeting, Whereas diverse Controversies and Disputes have been had moved and depending between Charles Jones of Waltham Holy Cross in the County of Essex Esquire of the one part and Philippa Walton of Waltham Holy Cross aforesaid Widow of the other part. For the appeaseing and determining thereof the said Parties have submitted themselves by Bonds of Arbitration with Conditions thereunder written to abide by and perform our Award, Arbitrement and Determination between them, which said Submission was ordered on the 24th day of November last past by the honorable Court of Common Pleas at Westminster to be made a Rule of the said Court: And whereas since the submission and order of Court we have attended the said parties and heard the proofs of both their witnesses touching the disputes between them, videlicet, whether or not the said Philippa Walton hath enlarged the Cutt commonly called the Hull near the Weare in Hooke's Marsh in the said Parish of Waltham Holy Cross, As also the ditch of the said Charles Jones near there commonly called Thoroughgood's ditch then used by the said Philippa Walton to convey water to her Powder-mills, by means of which said several enlargements a greater quantity of water is drawn out of the river Lea than formerly to the prejudice of the said Charles Jones; We do now upon proofs, examination of witnesses as aforesaid, and our own view of the premises, adjudge and determine that the said Philippa Walton doth and shall on or before the first day of May next ensuing the date hereof take up or cause to be took up the

pype or trough now fixed at the said cutt called the hull, and lay down or cause to be laid down within the said time another pype or trough there of no larger dimension than 12 inches square, and not so low or deep in the water as that which is now there by 16 inches. And also that she shall within the said time alter or cause to be altered the mouth of the said ditch called Thurgood's ditch and cause it to be made within the said time no wider than 4 feet. And further we do award and order that the said Charles Jones shall, within 14 days after the said Philippa Walton hath done and pe formed what she is hereby awarded and ordered, execute in due form of law unto the said Philippa Walton a general release of all trespasses, damages and demands whatsoever to him done (by reason of the said several enlargements) unto the day next before the day of the date of the said Bonds of Arbitration. In witness whereof we, the said arbitrators have to this our award indented sett our hands and seals this two and twentveth day of January Anno Dni. 1731.

loco Sigilli.

ROBT. ABDY E. SMYTH

Sealed and delivered in the presence of us (paper being first legally stampt) JOHN LAKE, Jo. WINDUS.

UNPUBLISHED MATERIAL RELATING TO JOHN RAY.

BY G. S. BOULGER, F.L.S., F.G.S.

NDOUBTEDLY when preparing the notice of John Ray for the Dictionary of National Biography, or when on other occasions I have dealt with his life,* I ought to have consulted the treasures of the Bodleian. I have, however, had but little opportunity of visiting Oxford, and it is to the kindness of Dr. W. Warde Fowler, of Lincoln College, that I am indebted for my knowledge of the existence of a manuscript sketch of Ray's life, and a number of unpublished letters by him in that library, and for hospitably giving me an opportunity of studying these precious documents. I have also to thank Bodley's Librarian.

^{*}Trans. Essev Field Club, vol. iv., p. 171 (1885-6); Journ. of Proc. Essev Field Club, vol. iv., p. clix. (1885-6); Essev Naturalisl, vol. xvii., p. 146 (1912-13)