

Swinnerton Family History

The Journal of the Swinnerton Society



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The Swinnerton Society

A non-profit making organisation devoted to the research and publication of Swinnerton family records and the welfare of Swynnerton Church.

A member of the Federation of Family History Societies.

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Later in this journal you will see an announcement of this year's gathering. Council at their last meeting discussed the arrangements for this in great detail and we are hoping to make it better than ever this year.

The theme of the gathering will be "Swinnerton Hobbies" and we invite you, if you have an unusual hobby, to bring along a little display for your kinsfolk to see. Three members of the Society will be giving a short talk of about 15 minutes each on their hobbies but we shall not ask you to speak, just to display your equipment and results.

In particular, in the Church Hall we shall have an exhibition of paintings by Swinnertons, both present-day and from the past so if you are an artist or had an artist in the family, do bring something along.

We shall have the usual short business meeting and Church Service and hope to have an official unveiling and viewing of the Church Hall which we have purchased.

In addition, for the particular benefit of our overseas visitors, we are arranging to extend the programme over to Sunday with a tour of places of Swinnerton interest in the locality and lunch at the hotel owned by one of our members where we held our AGM last year.

I hope to see you there.

THE BRANCHES OF THE FAMILY

A question was raised at the A.G.M. last year as to how we arrive at the names given to the various branches - Betley, Butterton, Warwickshire, etc. The answer is quite simple - it is the name of the place where the principal ancestor of that branch had his residence and usually the branch lived there for several generations at least.

Discussing this afterwards, it was suggested that we publish a summary of the branches and here in this first part, we will deal with the ancient branches now extinct.

SWYNNERTON of SWYNNERTON

This, of course, was the original family and took its name from the Manor of Swynnerton which was held by ALAN, the ancestor of all the family, at the time of the Domesday Survey of 1086. It ended, in the direct male line, with HUMPHREY SWYNNERTON of Swynnerton who died on the 25th August 1562. He had no son but the youngest of his two daughters married William Fitzherbert, the ancestor of our Patron, Lord Stafford.

Alan's great-great- great-great-grandson, Sir Roger de Swynnerton had six sons. The eldest, (also Sir Roger) inherited the Swynnerton estates, of course, but the second son, SIR JOHN DE SWYNNERTON, who died in 1340 was responsible for starting the first branch of the family :-

SWYNNERTON of HILTON

Sir John acquired the manor of Hilton in 1311 - it is situated N.W. of the modern Wolverhampton between Shares-hill and Essington on the way to Cannock (Sir John had married Anne, daughter of Philip de Montgomery, Steward of the Forest of Cannock). Today it is the site of a service station on the M6 but the Park and Hall survive although this is, of course, a much later building.

The branch continued until the death of THOMAS SWYNNERTON of Hilton who died about 1438. He again had only two daughters but the elder one, ANNE de SWYNNERTON

...

married HUMPHREY de SWYNNERTON of Swynnerton and so the branch was reunited with the main family until it died out in 1562 (see above).

Sir Roger de Swynnerton's next son, RICHARD de SWYNNERTON, was the true founder of the second branch. He appears to have acquired lands in Chorlton and Whitmore, probably from his brother, Sir John of Hilton (see above) who had purchased the lands at Butterton in 1310. His descendants continued to live at Whitmore but his great-grandson, ROGER de SWYNNERTON, who lived from about 1380-1450 was definitely described as :-

SWYNNERTON of BUTTERTON

Butterton is a small village about 4½ miles North of Swynnerton and lies in the parish of Trentham. The old Tudor Hall, built by William Swinnerton in the reign of Elizabeth I, was demolished in 1880 and its replacement, built by Thomas Swinnerton who was born in 1753, was pulled down in 1923. The church, however, (also built by Thomas) still stands and contains many fine Swinnerton monuments.

Thomas died in 1836 and was the last of his line - like the other two branches already mentioned he had only three daughters and the Butterton estate passed to the Pilkington family through the marriage of his second daughter MARY SWINNERTON to Sir William Pilkington.

(to be continued)

THANK YOU

to the following members of the Society who have made donations to reduce the deficit on the purchase of the Church Hall since our last list was published :

Mr.R.A.Swynnerton: Mr.H.R.J.Swinnerton: Miss L.E.Swinnerton: Mrs.Stiell: Mr.S.K.Armitstead: Mrs.Jackson: Mrs. Hazel Jones: Mr.W.S.Swinnerton: Mr.W.Swinnerton: Mrs. Rosalie Price: Mr.D.K.Swinnerton: the late Mr.H.A.Swinnerton: Mr.& Mrs.Hall: Mrs.R.E.Swinnerton: Mrs.King: Mrs. Scott: Mr.E.Nelson Swinnerton: Mrs.Ophuls: Mrs.Papps and Mrs.Davis.

We started with a shortfall of £351.46 and this has now been reduced to £123.65.

S. Mary's, Stafford, Parish Register.

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE

of the principal events in the history of the

CHURCH OF THE BLESSED MARY OF THE TOWN OF STAFFORD

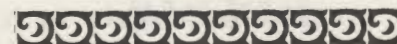
1326. Grant to Robert de Swynnerton, the King's Clerk, of the Deanery of the King's Free Chapel of Stafford. (Ibid., p. 343, 20 Dec., 20 Edw. II.)
1327. Prohibition to all ecclesiastical persons and others from proceeding in derogation of the king's right to collate Robt. de Swynnerton to the deanery of the King's free chapel of Stafford and of the possessions of the same by the sd. clerk. (Cal. Pat. Rolls, 1327-30, p. 2, 28 Oct., 21 Edw. III.)
1346. To Robert de Swynnerton, dean of the King's free chapel, Stafford. Order to admit John de Tamworth, the King's clerk, to the free chapel of Creswell, void and pertaining to the King's donation by reason of the lands which belonged to Adam de Peshale deceased, which are in the King's hands for certain causes as the King had granted that chapel to him and has ordered the sheriff of the county to notify John Basse, vicar of Eccleshale church, in unjust possession of that chapel, it is said that he was before the King in chancery a month from Easter last to show cause why he should not be removed from the possession of that chapel and John de Tamworth admitted thereto, but he did not come on that day when called. (Cal. Close Rolls, 1346-1349, 20 Edw. III., p. 29.)
1349. Grant to Nicolas de Swynnerton, King's clerk of the deanery of the King's free chapel of Stafford. Mandate to the Sheriff of Salop (*sic*) to induct him. (Cal. Pat. Rolls, 1345-1350, p. 363, 20 Aug., 23 Edw. III.)
1352. Ralph, earl of Stafford. On behalf of himself, James de Pipe, knight, and John de Pipe, his brother, Robert de Swinnerton, dean of Stafford, Robert de Brugga, abbot of Dieuleucresse, Hugh de Hopowas, Hamund de Strange and his wife. Thomas de Berkamstede, the master and warden of St. Thomas of Acon, London, Agnes relict of Hugh de Merington of Coventry, William Dingle, William de Rottewell, archdeacon of Essex, and Thomas Michel, D.C.L., his kinsmen and friends, for plenary indulgence. Granted as above. (Ibid.)

NEWS FROM NORTH AMERICA

As you will see later in this journal, we have gained another batch of new members from America and Canada and this is due entirely to the sterling efforts of our Hon.Member, BILL SWINARTON of Canada.

Bill now produces, entirely at his own expense, a Canadian-American Supplement to each issue of this journal. These go out with our journal to existing members and he also sends extra copies to other members in the family to try and arouse their interest and get them to join. He receives our journals in bulk and mails them all on for us, again at his own expense. This saves us a great deal of money in postage and we are looking forward to seeing him again at the Gathering in September so that we can say Thank You properly to him for all his efforts.

The last two issues of the Supplement contained a reprint of our member Hazel Jones's article on 'SWYNNERTON' which originally appeared in 'Staffordshire Life' in August 1968. The rest of the supplements were taken up with details of the history of the American Branches and reveal just how much research Bill is doing and what a voluminous correspondence he conducts. We are very lucky to have such a stalwart worker and very grateful.



Copy of letter received from The Royal Literary Fund,
11 Ludgate Hill, London EC4 7AJ. 10 December 1982

"Thank you very much indeed for your kind donation of £10 to the Royal Literary Fund in memory of the late Frank Swinnerton. Your generosity will be reported to the next meeting of the General Committee."

Anthony Mackenzie Smith
Secretary.

SHREWSBURY LOCAL STUDIES LIBRARY

Swinnertons noted in passing :-

MSS CALENDAR OF DEEDS & CHARTERS VOL.IX 11690

12394 12403 John SWINNERTON

12394 Jane SWINNERTON

11980 Thos. SWINNERTON

11980 Thos. SWINNERTON, a witness

12394. Bundle of papers relating to a case between JOHN SWINNERTON, an infant (by James Bayley his next friend) plaintiff, and JANE SWINNERTON, widow, Thomas Knight, Matthew Meakin defendants. The case was heard 27th July 1739.

12403. Indenture dated 9th Feb.1732. Between JOHN SWINNERTON of Stafford, James Bayley of Wistaston (Cheshire) and Thomas Knight of Whitchurch (Salop). Bargain and Sale from Swinnerton to Bayley and Knight of messuages and lands in Hankelow, co.Cheshire.

(ex Mrs.Barbara Philpot)

AN EXTRACT FROM THE HISTORY OF BURFORD CHURCH

"John Busby, who died in 1530, gave by his will "to my ghostly father, SIR NICHOLAS SWINNERTON 20 shillings. Item I bequeath to every priest belonging to this church, that is to say Master Prior" and four others, three shillings and fourpence each. Thus, with SWINNERTON the curate, there were five priests in 1530 "belonging" to Burford church". At this time, the vicar of Burford, Thomas Cade, was also "Master Prior" of the Hospital or Priory, a small foundation on a site where a much grander country house was built after the dissolution of the monastery. The Priory is now the Convent of Our Lady, the home of an Anglican religious order. "

(ex.Colonel J.C.A.Swynnerton)

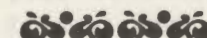
OUR PHOTOGRAPH COLLECTION

This is progressing well and will be on display at the Gathering in September. It is mounted on loose-leaf sheets of paper in A4 binders and follows a set format. On the left-hand page are photographs of the parents with (eventually) a brief record of their lives underneath and on the facing page are separate photographs of each of their children.

On the next page the first son is shown with his wife and opposite their children and so on. In the case of daughters, their husband's picture is placed opposite theirs but not their children as, of course, they are not Swinnertons (apologies to any militant feminists in the family !)

Thus we are building up a pictorial family tree as well as the usual name trees.

Are you represented ? If you have not yet sent in photographs, please do. If you only have originals our member Jack Swinnerton will copy and enlarge or reduce. It is amazing what he can do even with old Victorian sepia pictures. He can even extract individuals from groups. We will take great care of them and will, of course, return them.



OUR NEWSPAPER CUTTINGS COLLECTION

This is also progressing well and has recently been boosted by a large collection sent in by Colonel Jeremy Swynnerton. Our earliest to date is 1921. Have you any you can contribute ? Are you watching your local papers (& the Nationals) for any mention of a Swinnerton ? Again, if you want to keep the originals we can photocopy them and return them to you. Please have a hunt amongst your scrapbooks and see what you have.

"THE HISTORY & ANTIQUITIES of the COUNTY OF LEICESTER"

by John Nichols, Vol.I, Part II, published 1815
re-published 1971 (8 volumes altogether)

page 371

"John Bryn, Roger Leney, ROBERT SWYNNERTON, Thomas Marchall, and Henry Herdley, complain, that Robert Corbett and Richard Lacum, who in the last parliament had been returned knights of the shire for the county of Salop, had maliciously named the said petitioners to be collectors of the tenths, and fifteenths granted in that parliament; and, in further prosecution of their malice, had by force of arms obstructed them in the execution of their duty, and violently assaulted and wounded them, and killed their horses to the detriment of the king's revenue, and the dishonour of the crown and dignity. The answer to this petition appears in the large schedule annexed.

The large schedule referred to, enumerates many instances of interruption received by the said collectors at Eton, Moreton Corbet, Oldbury and Shrewsbury; and the particulars of an attack made at Dunstable (where the king - Henry V - then was) on two of the said collectors, who were deputed by their brethren to carry their collection to the Exchequer, when they were cruelly beat and wounded by Roger Leney. Ordered to be tried, by due form of law, in the court of the king's bench."

The above refers to petitions presented to parliament the first sitting of which was held at Leicester in 1414 on 30th April in the presence of Henry V.

(ex Mrs.Constance Bullock)



*Of comfort let no man speak. Let's talk of
graves and epitaphs.*

(William Shakespeare - Richard II)

THEY SERVED THEIR KING & COUNTRY (3)

WALTER JAMES SWINNERTON (WS.131)

Born 27 Aug.1906 at Bridgnorth. Enlisted in the Royal Navy 23 Jan.1928. Served in HMS Vindictive, Enterprise, Hawkins, Valiant, Ramillies and Intrepid and at shore establishments at Pembroke, Sea Bear (Canada) and Raleigh (Instructor).

Whilst on HMS Intrepid intercepted the German Prison Ship 'Altmark', was present at Dunkirk, escorted Arctic Convoys to Russia (1942), rescued the London blockade runner 'Stangate' from Spanish National warship and escorted Malta Convoy code-named 'Pedestal'. She was finally lost somewhere in the Aegean.

Achieved the rank of Chief Petty Officer, was awarded the 1939/45; Atlantic; Africa and Italy Stars, the War Medal and was Mentioned in Despatches on the 10th Nov. 1942 and again on the 23 May 1944. Left the Navy in 1950 and died on the 22 Oct.1978.

Mr.Swinerton was the husband of our member Mrs.H.J. Swinnerton of Devon and a descendant of a Shropshire branch of the family.

DOUGLAS SWINNERTON (DS.21)

Born 11 Oct.1917 at Fenton, Stoke on Trent. Enlisted 15 Feb.1940 at Yeovil in Royal Marines, later Royal Marine Commando.

Served with the 1st M.N.B.D.O., 2nd M.N.B.D.O. and 48th Royal Marine Commando. At Deal during Battle of Britain, 1940-41, Coast & Air Defence, Portsmouth, Plymouth, etc; North Africa 1942-43; Sicily 1943-44 where he contracted Malaria and returned to Commando Depot Wrexham 1945.

Awarded the 1939-45, Africa & Italy Stars, Defence Medal and War Medal.

Attained the rank of Sgt. and was demobbed on 29 Nov.1945.

Douglas is a member of the famous cycling family.

JOSEPH SWINNERTON = Ann Jones
 bp.6Feb1821 W.Felton Salop 21Dec1845 Liverpool
 bur.23Sep1871 Anfield c 1822 N.Wales
 Blacksmith,Engineer bur.18Feb1875 Anfield
 and Publican
 (JS.308)

JOHN
 SWINNERTON
 b. 1846 Bootle
 d.
 (JS.309)

THOMAS EDWARD = Annie Don
 SWINNERTON 25Dec1876
 b.4Jul1852 Liverpool
 Bootle
 d. 1905
 Engine Fitter
 (TS.112)

GEORGE = Harriet Louisa
 SWINNERTON Wheate
 b. 1853 20Apr1876
 Bootle Liverpool
 d.
 (GS.91)

JOSEPH ROBERT
 SWINNERTON
 b. 1856
 Liverpool
 bur.8Dec1873
 Anfield
 (JS.310)

SAMUEL HENRY
 SWINNERTON
 bp.30Jan1859
 Liverpool
 d. 1860
 Liverpool
 (SS.145)

THOMAS
 SWINNERTON
 bp.17Nov1850
 Liverpool
 d. 1851
 Liverpool
 (TS.114)

WILLIAM JOSEPH = Helen Nicholls
 SWINNERTON
 b.21Nov1882
 Liverpool
 d. Apr1948
 Butcher
 (WS.106)

1Nov1909 L'pool
 b. 1880
 d.28Sep1929
 = (2) Ann Forester
 1937

THOMAS EDWARD = Beatrice Hughes
 SWINNERTON 12Apr1909
 bp.21Oct1885 Everton
 L'pool b. c 1886
 Ship's Steward
 (TS.113)

ANNIE (AS.119)
 b. 1877
 Liverpool
 MIRIAM ADELAIDE (MS.201)
 bp.7May1880 L'pool
 =
 John Bagnall Kent
 28Aug1910 L'Pool

AMELIA (AS.120)
 b. c 1885
 Liverpool

WILLIAM FREDERICK = Daphne Green
 SWINNERTON 1936
 b. 1910 Wandsworth
 Liverpool
 (WS.107)

LESLIE THOMAS = Ivy McEwan
 SWINNERTON 1936
 b. 1912 Liverpool
 Liverpool
 (LS.25)

ERNEST KITCHENER = Irene Gifford
 SWINNERTON 1937
 b. 1914 Liverpool
 Liverpool d. 1978
 (ES.159) Chester

REGINALD = Marjorie
 SWINNERTON Forrester
 b. 1922 1955
 Liverpool Liverpool
 (RS.105)

EDWARD = Doris Edith
 SWINNERTON Mealor
 b.8Mar1926 30Apr1949
 Liverpool
 (ES.160)

ELLEN (ES.162)
 b. 1918
 d. 1920

STUART LESLIE = Christine
 ALEXANDER SWINNERTON Heald
 b.25Mar1943 24Sep1966
 Liverpool Haslingden
 (SS.125)

DOREEN HELEN(DS.49)
 b.30Oct1936 L'Pool
 =
 John Harding
 1959 L'Pool
 d.7Feb1976

PAUL = Margaret Ann
 SWINNERTON Gale
 b. 1938 1964
 Chester Newport.Mon.
 (PS.33)

CLIVE
 SWINNERTON
 b. 1946
 W.Cheshire
 (CS.89)

IAN
 SWINNERTON
 b. 1967
 L'pool
 (IS.16)

NEIL
 SWINNERTON
 b. 1968
 L'pool
 (NS.16)

MICHAEL PAUL
 SWINNERTON
 b.17Jul1954
 Liverpool
 (MS.180)

PAULA MARY(PS.32)
 b.5Mar1957
 Liverpool

ANTHONY JAMES
 SWINNERTON
 b.15Dec1966
 (AS.247)

RACHEL(RS.219)
 HELEN
 b.4Jan1971
 PHILIP LESLIE
 SWINNERTON
 b.22Dec1973
 Australia
 (PS.66)

SYLVIA(SS.126)
 b.3Jan1945 L'Pool
 =
 John Clothier
 22Sep1964 Ince

STEPHEN MARK
 SWINNERTON
 b. Jan1965
 Chester
 (SS.203)

PHILIP NEIL
 SWINNERTON
 b. Feb1966
 Chester
 (PS.58)

ANDREW VAUGHAN
 SWINNERTON
 b. Aug1967
 Cardiff
 (AS.208)

EÑA (ES.161)
 MARGARET
 b.24Jun1952
 Liverpool
 =
 Richard Storey
 24Apr1982
 Hambleton

Timothy Richard
 Barrett
 4Jul1981
 Hambleton
 BARBARA ELIZABETH(BS.40)
 b.7Mar1962 L'pool

A SOLDIER'S TALE

This little story was found among the papers of the late WILLIAM LESLIE SWINNERTON, a staunch member of our Society until his death in 1978. It is difficult for us today to picture the life of an ordinary 'Tommy' 65 years ago but it may strike a chord with one or two of our older members and also allow some of our later soldiers to compare his experience with their own.

A true story - "FEAR IN THE FOREST" by W.L.Swinerton

This is not a gory or lurid story about a soldier on the field of battle in the first world war, nor is it an account of his gallant and heroic exploits, but rather of a somewhat brief episode or encounter, call it what you will, but which by comparison you may well consider it unworthy of the effort of putting pen to paper. Nevertheless, it was an experience I would not relish to go through again, as meek and mild as you think it may be.

In France on one particular day, some time late in the afternoon, in the summer of 1918, found me on the march with a company of the P.B.I., in fact, the Lancashire Fusiliers, 42nd Division, following up the retreating German army, the whereabouts of which we hadn't the foggiest idea, not that there was anything unusual about that. The road, like a lot of others in France, was near enough as straight as a die, probably built by Napoleon, I suppose. It was one of five radiating from the centre of a large forest.

In a while we were brought to a halt, to rest our weary bones. Presently, the Officer in charge, with map in hand, attended by the Corporal, strolled the length of the company, conversing as they did so. Then they stopped within a few yards of where I was resting on the roadside. Pointing a finger directly at me the Corporal boomed out "Hey you soldier". "Me" I croaked. "Yes you" replied the Corporal, "Come here." I hoisted myself to my feet and timidly approached. What now, I thought, God only knows. I sensed that whatever they wanted me for would be no tea party. "Go along ahead"

said the Corporal, "until you come to the edge of the forest, then come back here and tell us your findings" or words to that effect. "Yes sir" I said, with emphasis on the sir, putting on a brave face, which unquestionably belied my true feelings which were very mixed to say the least. No use trying to tell the Officer that I wasn't the lad for this sort of mission, I thought, not that it would make the slightest difference anyway, but why, I asked myself, pick on a little fellow like me. I was only 18 and a bit, 10½ stone and 5'7" in my stocking feet. There were plenty of other "old sweats" knocking about but then I suppose the Officers reasoned, better to sacrifice a little 'un than a big 'un on such a hazardous reconnoitre as this. "God help me" I muttered, this is it. Disconsolately I picked up my rifle which I nearly forgot momentarily in my mental confusion, and set off on my lonesome journey into the unknown.

To make use of the common phrase "glorious uncertainty" would indeed have been only half a truth and even then the latter word would hardly do justice to the situation in which I found myself. Mind you, it was a nice enough day, lovely in fact, but too d....d quiet for my liking. I don't think I even heard any birds singing and goodness knows there were enough trees about.

Not being what you might call a really intelligent person, no full-blown Private could possibly be that, so they told us, but rather more imaginative, I readily succumbed to disturbing and fearful thoughts. There wasn't, of course, a soul in sight. For all I knew the forest could have been teeming with Germans, and me trudging along the road, I must have presented a lovely target, as good as any sitting duck, alternatively as good a prisoner of war as you could wish to have for the taking.

Presently I observed something ahead of me and upon getting nearer I saw it was a road block consisting of tree trunks, the express purpose of which was very obvious and patently clear to even such a low mentality as mine. A short detour into the thicket brought me on the other side of the barricade, and here I dwelt

awhile to take stock. I felt the situation was fast deteriorating, in fact, positively alarming, I therefore proceeded to load the breech of my rifle and put the safety catch on. Little comfort, I thought, in doing so but I couldn't do anything else, thinking of my precious hide, and not for the first time I might add, except of course to call it a day and retrace my faltering footsteps and to fabricate some likely story on the way back but, alas, even in my tremulous state of mind and body, I could not bring myself to do this. Must have been the small voice of conscience, I later reflected.

Continuing with my heart in my mouth half the time and my rifle at the trail, I was suddenly aware of someone on horseback galloping towards me. In due time I recognised the rider as a British Officer. What rank he was I never found out, not that I cared, suffice it to say, he was "one of ours" as we used to say. However, no words of glad tidings or otherwise were exchanged but possibly, if I can remember aright, only a wave of the arm expressed our unexpected encounter and reluctant parting.

The fact that the Officer, now on his way back, had already traversed this road, although in the opposite direction restored me in some small measure to a sense of security, but this rapidly receded because, as yet, I could not see the end of the road, but I pressed on regardless, the sound of crunching gravel echoing loud and clear beneath my clodhoppers with monotonous regularity, my only impassive companion.

By now I reckoned it was about 15 or 20 minutes since I left the company, which I will grant you is not a long time, but when you consider how far one can travel even on "shanks pony" it can be quite a distance. Only relative, you might say, but a h... of a long way so far as I was concerned.

Time was getting on and by now the shadows had lengthened but "thank heaven, the Saints be praised" at long last I could see a building at the end of the road, or was it only wishful thinking, but no, it couldn't be, I knew so, because I had pretty good long sight in those days. Getting nearer I could see a man, a civil-

ian, standing in the doorway of a barn-like, one-storey building. Friend or foe I conjectured. This lone figure could be anybody I said to myself. Might have had a pocketful of Mills bombs or possibly a decoy, how was I to know, I ask you, I therefore prepared myself by taking the safety catch of my rifle. Getting closer to this fellow, whoever he was, I stealed myself for any eventuality, when to my great relief he gesticulated in not an unfriendly manner pointing a finger in a direction approximately at right angles to us both, and there to my great relief I espied a group of "our lads" some little distance away, casually getting on with their activities and although my apprehensions were greatly allayed at this welcome turn of events, I was not in the least tempted to enquire who this 'mob' might be. The fact that they were wearing khaki was good enough for me. I recalled too that I had to march back that long, long road, furthermore, the jolly old sun had long since passed its meridian. Quickmarch, that is the order of the day and if needs be at the double, in other words not to tarry or loiter further.

Re tracing my steps, I soon reached the road block. Once passed this I reckoned would be, to use a soldier's expression "as safe as houses". By now the light was failing and I could not see so far ahead and as time slipped by I began to have certain forebodings which in the space of about 10 minutes or so became a reality. Yes, the worst had happened, the jolly old company had, to make more use of army jargon "opped it", "skipped it", vamosed, in a word B..... off. Well! this was the last straw. Plunged again into loneliness and into just as much uncertainty as hitherto, I wondered in God's name how I could possibly locate the company and what on earth I would do if I couldn't find them where was my next meal coming from and where was I going to doss that night. All these doubts were of no comfort to me, indeed, the future once again held no cheerful prospect in any shape or form. I now felt forsaken and despondent rather more than frightened. Why the hell couldn't they have left someone behind to pick me up I wouldn't know.

Pressing on with the one consoling thought that I was at least going in the right direction at that point in time, I presently saw someone approaching who turned

out to be none other than the jolly old Corporal, bless his heart ! "Where the B..... H... have you been" he enquired - quite unfriendly like. "The Officer made me turn back to look for you" he continued. "Thank God for that" I muttered inaudibly, then getting into step we marched down the road together until we reached the "parting of the ways". We then turned down another of those radiating roads to arrive, at last, at our destination, an outhouse, a stable of a kind with hay strewn about the floor. In the light of candles it looked like heaven to me. I cannot recall being asked where I had got to. The Officer, I don't think was even there but it couldn't have been of any consequence. Yes, all a bit of an anti-climax, I admit, but that's life, isn't it. Of course, had it finished otherwise, one would not be here to tell the tale !

SWINNERTON FAMILY BI-ENNIAL GATHERING

SATURDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER 1983

AT

SWYNNERTON

HAVE YOU GOT THE DATE IN YOUR DIARY ?

FULL DETAILS IN NEXT ISSUE BUT RESERVE
THE DATE NOW.

WHO'S WHO IN THE SWINNERTON FAMILY (6)

Mrs. Robert E. CUNNINGHAM

Mrs. Diana Cunningham is the eldest daughter of our member Mr. P. S. Lumm and a great-granddaughter of the Rev. Henry Ulyate SWINNERTON (1839-1927) and Levantia Roseboom both born in America, the Rev. Henry's father, James, an inn-keeper and descendant of the Gloucestershire Branch having emigrated in 1833 and become an American Citizen in 1851. Mrs. Cunningham has many of the Rev. Henry's papers including the correspondence between him and the Rev. Charles Swynnerton, the first historian of the family, and has donated copies of many of these to the family archives.

The REVEREND E. SWINNERTON

The Reverend Edward Swinnerton was born in Liverpool on 8th March 1926. He was educated at the Church of England School, Liverpool College of Technology and St. Aidan's Theological College, Birkenhead. He served an Engineering Apprenticeship from 1941 to 1947 with the L.M.S. Railway Co. His sea-going career began in 1947 with the Cunard Steamship Company as a Junior Engineer on R.M.S. "Queen Elizabeth" and in 1955 after qualifying and serving as a Chief Engineer he joined the Vulcan Boiler & General Insurance Company as an Engineer-Surveyor, covering Central Liverpool and Wirral area of Cheshire. In 1962 he entered Theological College and studied full time for 2 years on a General Ordination Course, he was ordained in 1964 to the parish of Prescott in the Liverpool Diocese and in 1967 moved to Holy Trinity, Blackpool, to serve a further curacy. After serving for over 2 years in Blackpool, he was appointed to the present living in Hambleton in November 1969.

Overleaf we give the tree for the Reverend Edward's family which, in turn, derives from a John Swinnerton born in Shropshire.

FAMILY NOTES

Despite my appeal in the last paragraph of the last issue of this journal, only 6 members have written to bring their outstanding subscriptions up to date. Sadly, this has reduced our membership considerably. However, on the credit side, I am delighted to say that we have a crop of new members and we welcome the following :

MRS. VALERIE MARGARET DALL (nee Swinnerton), [redacted] is the daughter of **ALEC SWINNERTON** of [redacted] who has also joined the Society. They are members of the Betley Branch and attended the AGM with other members of their immediate family.

ROBERT CHARLES SWINNERTON of [redacted] is the son of our member Kenneth James Swinnerton and another descendant of the Betley Branch.

MRS. EILEEN MARY BOLITHO J.P., [redacted] is a great-granddaughter of Esther Swinnerton who was born at Ballarat, Victoria, Australia in about 1854, the daughter of William Swinnerton and Eliza nee McQuade. This is far as we can go at present.

RICHARD A. SIMMERMACHER, [redacted] is a grandson of Bertram Swinnerton of the Pottery Family.

WILLIAM EARL NICHOLLS, [redacted] is a great-grandson of Phinia SWINARTON who was in turn a granddaughter of JOSEPH SWINARTON who emigrated to Canada from Ireland in 1831.

MRS. JANET PROVINE ROSS WILSON, [redacted] is a granddaughter of ANNIE MARY SWENERTON and a descendant of the same Joseph Swinarton above.

MRS. PATRICIA MARY SWINNERTON, [redacted] who is, of course, the wife of our Chairman.

ROWAN DUNCAN SWINNERTON, [redacted] is the second son of our member TOM SWINNERTON and a descendant of the Betley Branch.

MRS. NICOLYN R. WILSON of [redacted] is another granddaughter of Annie Mary Swenerton and sister of the other Mrs. Wilson above.

JAMES BINGHAM SWINERTON, [redacted] is a nephew of our member Mrs. Ophuls and is a descendant of Job Swinnerton - the early emigrant to America.

MRS. ALBERTA KNIGHT, [redacted] is a cousin of our member Fred Swinnerton of Dixon, Illinois. Also a descendant of Job Swinnerton.

MRS. GRETCHEN SWINNERTON, [redacted] is the widow of the famous Jimmy Swinnerton - the cartoonist who has been mentioned several times in this journal. James Guildford Swinnerton, to give him his proper name, was also a descendant of Job. Mrs. Swinnerton, herself, is a descendant of the Pershall family which had very close links with our family in the 12th century.

On the debit side we sadly have to report the deaths of :-

MISS ELLEN DOROTHY SWINNERTON (ED.76) on the 25th February this year. Miss Swinnerton had also been a very loyal and generous supporter of the Society and attended our first two gatherings. With her sister, she jointly indexed the first 2 volumes of this journal and provided much information over the years.

HAROLD ALBERT SWINNERTON (HS.41) Harold died very suddenly and unexpectedly in December and will be a great loss to the Society. Many of you will remember him talking to us at the last gathering about his job as a demolition expert. He made it all sound so amusing and simple but it was far from it and you can judge for yourselves his reputation in his profession when I tell you that when the Institute of Explosive Engineers was founded, 'Swin' was their first President. He had always been a very loyal supporter of the Society and we shall miss him very much.

MRS. AMY LOUISA SWINNERTON on the 15th February 1983. The mother of our members Mrs.Papps and Mrs.Barnes, she was very knowledgeable about the family and was of great assistance to me when I started to research into the history of our family.

We extend our sincere sympathy to all their families.

Congratulations to our member H.R.J.Swinnerton on becoming a grandfather. The newcomer is **DAVID GEORGE SWINNERTON**, born on the 9th March 1982 to Mr.Swinnerton's son David and daughter-in-law Jean.

As of today, the membership of the Society stands at 169 of whom 54 have already sent their subscriptions for 1983. If you have not already done so, a renewal form is enclosed.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

MR. & MRS. G. E. SWINNERTON to [REDACTED]

PUBLICATIONS OF THE SWINNERTON SOCIETY

Swinnerton Family History
(The Journal of the Society)

Vol.1 1974-75 (Indexed) (10 issues in Binder)
Inc.postage - U.K. £2.50, airmail USA/CANADA \$8, AUSTRALIA/NZ £3.80

Vol.2 1975-77 (Indexed) (10 issues in Binder)
Inc.postage - U.K. £2.50, airmail USA/CANADA \$8 AUSTRALIA/NZ £3.80

Vol.3 1977-79 (Indexed) (10 issues in Binder)
Inc.postage - U.K. £2.50 airmail USA/CANADA \$10 AUSTRALIA/NZ £4.60

Swynnerton & the Swynnertons (1971)
by the Rev.B.T.Swinnerton
Inc.postage - U.K. £0.75, airmail USA/CANADA \$3, AUSTRALIA/NZ £1.25

Swinnerton Family Trees Vol.1 (1974)
Inc.postage - U.K. £0.75, airmail USA/CANADA \$4, AUSTRALIA/NZ £1.50

Reprints of the works by the Rev.Charles Swynnerton

No.1 Two Early Staffordshire Charters (1979)
Inc.postage - U.K. £1.00, airmail USA/CANADA \$3, AUSTRALIA/NZ £1.35

No.2 Two Ancient Petitions from the Public Record
Office (1979)
Inc.postage - U.K. £1.00, airmail USA/CANADA \$3, AUSTRALIA/NZ £1.30

No.3 Introduction to "A History of the Family of
Swynnerton" (1979)
Inc.postage - U.K. £1.00, airmail USA/CANADA \$3, AUSTRALIA/NZ £1.45

**** Please send Dollar Notes (USA/CANADA) wherever possible - we can lose as much as 55p in changing a \$ cheque.