

Flower Parade. In striking contrast to the grandeur of the horses, whose individual weight is often more than a ton, Mr. Sueath senior's inseparable companion is a minute *chihuahua*—Dignity and Impudence at Money Bridge! There is one unique room in the oldest part of the farm-house—in it the doors each have seven sections, the walls are divided into twelve panels and the windows add to fifty-two panes in all—a testimony, no doubt, to the builder's pre-occupation with the calendar!

At the other end of Pinchbeck lies the Yews—this neat, attractive farm standing on the Vernatts is the home of another of the village's animal experts, Mr. Sam Freir has dealt in cattle and horses all his life and is said to be able to recognise any horse which has at any time passed through his hands. By reason of his expertise he has a long association with most of the well known circus folk. His farm was the scene of an astounding sight in 1903 when Will Cody's Wild West Show came to the district. At that time Baxter's Pit was still in existence and for the first and only time the astonished locals were treated to the sight of three hundred Indians, of both sexes, bathing together, stark naked, in an open pit in the *Lincolnshire Fens*! In an old harness room at the Yews, now used as office, Mr. Freir has an excellent photograph of Sir Winston Churchill riding with the Surrey and Barstow Hunt.

It is appropriate that in a village so animal minded there should be found a Champion Farrier. Mr. Briggs and his son have a workshop and forge in Church Street—the walls are festooned with trophies of all kinds. Last year Mr. R. H. Briggs became the Champion of Champions at the Royal Lancashire Show at Blackpool after previously winning almost every title in the world of the farrier.

Granted a Market and Fair in 1339 Pinchbeck was once a town with a Guildhall, where sheriffs and magistrates conducted the public affairs. The Guildhall, built by Sir Richard Ogle, was the focal point of the town and is still remembered today, for the Parish Council in its wisdom has preserved several of the old names in today's street names: Guildhall Drive, Market Way, Wayet Road, Brownlow Crescent, Flaxmill Lane, Mill Green Road are all echoes of the past. Richard Ogle was the original provider of the Pinchbeck stocks over 300 years ago—the ones standing near the Bull Inn today are later ones provided in 1860 for exhibition purposes—these were last used in 1878 when the village constable confined a drunk there for some six hours. The Watch House or Lock Up formerly stood at the end of Bear Lane and was later moved down to Crossgate near the Workhouse which was closed in 1835.

Pinchbeck has its fair share of interesting houses: one of the oldest is the Manor Farm in Church Street. Now in the ownership of Mr. John Cooke, this house, part Elizabethan, has been carefully modernised but preserves the air of antiquity which is acquired through the passage of time. There is a curious old fireplace on the outer wall and inside, the original oak beams run the length of the house which is reputed to be haunted. The huge old fireplace in the now modern kitchen still carries part of the original spit. Outside, there is evidence of the existence of an underground passage connecting the house to the nearby church. Otway House, some little distance away and occupied by Mr. R. Cooke, Mr. John Cooke's father, is a handsome Georgian building—standing high and originally moated, this fine house is the third one to be built on the site.



Otway House, a Georgian building and the third house to be built on the site. It is now the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. Cooke.



This unusual Georgian scallop shell hood is over the doorway of Graft House in Knight Street, the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. Francis.



The village stocks.



TF 22 NW

PINCHBECK

SPALDING ROAD
(east side)

7/105
3/60

Otway House

II

House. c.1812, altered mid C19. Red brick in Flemish bond, hipped slate roof, wall stacks, parallel range plan. 2 storey, 3 bay front with plinth, wooden dentillated eaves and cornice, moulded stone coped parapet. Central bay slightly advanced, with half glazed double doors, panelled reveals, fluted Ionic doorcase, dentillated flat hood, flanked by single canted bay windows with dentillated cornices and flat lead roofs. To first floor 5 plain sashes with flat splayed rubbed brick arches. Interior has dogleg stair with slender turned balusters, wreathed mahogany handrail, open carved string, semi-circular hall arch, acanthus cornice and ceiling rose. Reeded and ribbon cornice to front room.

Handwritten notes and signatures in the bottom right corner, including a signature that appears to be "J. W. A." and some illegible text.

