

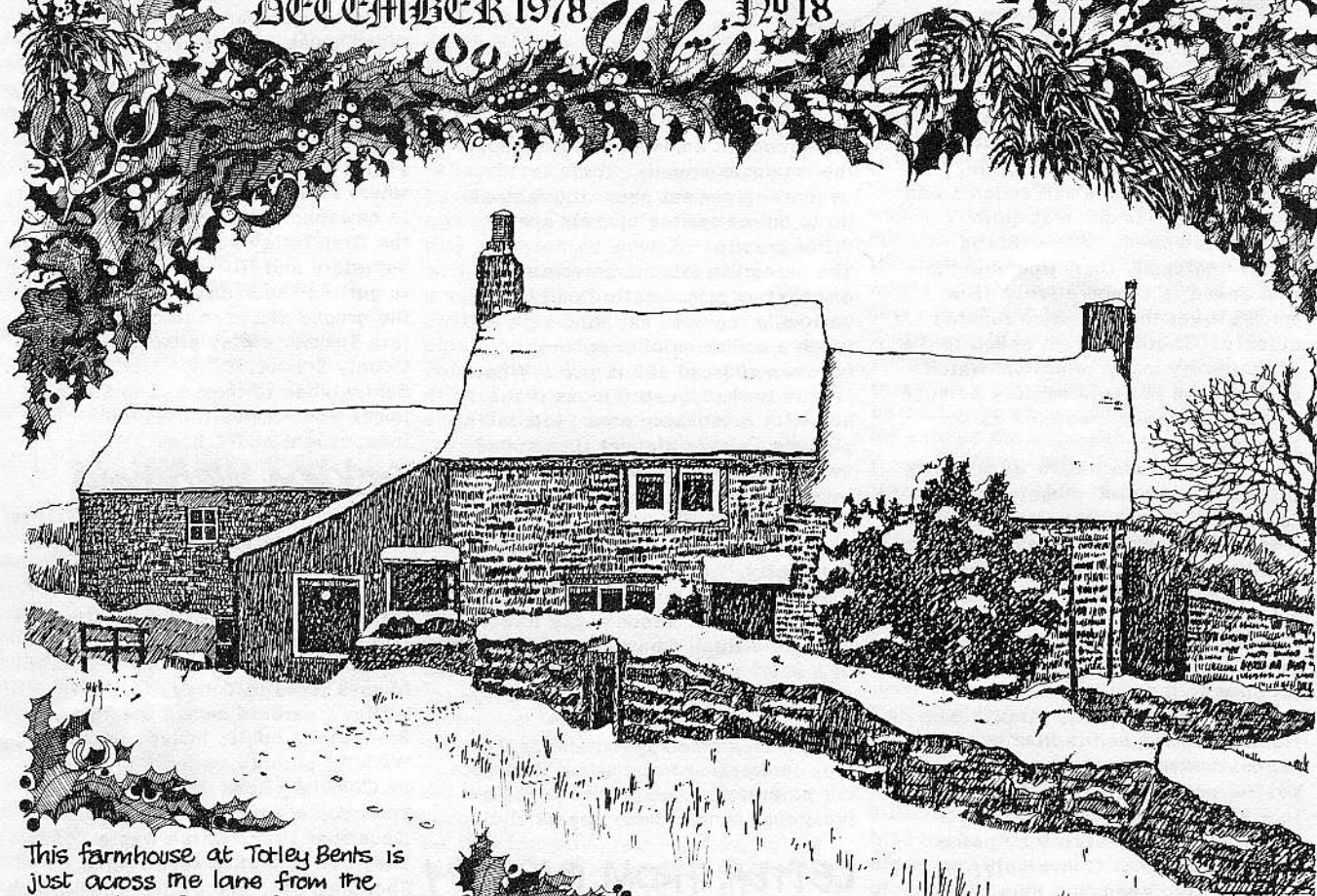
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TOTLEY INDEPENDENT

DECEMBER 1978

No 18

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Totley
Residents
Association



This farmhouse at Totley Bents is just across the lane from the Cricket Inn. Records for this building are believed to date back further than any other building in Totley. Nobody knows the date of Cannon Hall up on the hill nearby although unsubstantiated stories place it as a 9th Century farm. Totley Hall wasn't built until 1623 whereas, two years earlier, the Lower Bents farmhouse had been sold for just £12. A yeoman from Dore called John Raworth paid that sum to John Priest, a millstone maker from Totley, and Ralph Woodus of Holmesfield. What the original date of this building is, we may never know but, even these days, documents are uncovered fairly frequently in some library or private collection.

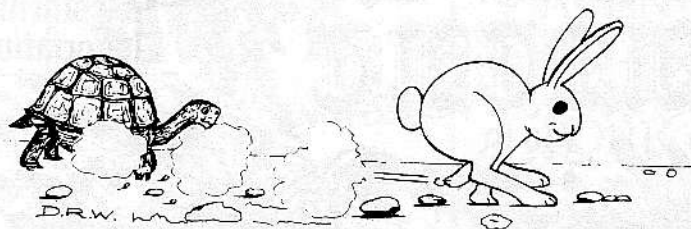
In the 1770's a member of the well known and large Totley family of Dalton lived in this tiny dwelling. Their family still owned it until the 1950's when Mr and Mrs. William Taylor took possession. Over the years, since it was first built, the farmhouse has had a number of additions grafted onto the original central part of the structure. Despite these changes and the more recent brick-built cowhouse, it is doubtful if the above scene has really changed much for centuries. When the planners drew up plans for the Totley Conservation area, they sadly missed this important building and that little

cluster of stone buildings at Totley Bents. They did however give it special mention as a building of special architectural or historic interest.

As we go to press, the first snow has already fallen, thick fog and ice are already making life a little difficult. Whatever the weather we hope you have a happy time over this Christmas and a prosperous and healthy New Year.

Finally may we thank all our readers for having such wonderful taste in reading matter!

WARBURTONS WORLD



Often, whilst I am walking in the countryside, I am surprised at the speed of the animals that I see. Some, such as the small rodents and shrews, seem to move at quite incredible speed. When this is really analysed, their true straight line speed is comparatively slow, much slower than a human running quickly. Their apparent speed is due to their very quick reactions which enable them to avoid capture by such large and clumsy creatures as ourselves.

The fastest of our native mammals is probably the hare, closely followed by the fox and our three species of deer. The rabbit is deceptive, being easily caught by a whippet, the same dog standing no chance of catching a hare.

Amongst the birds, the judgement of speed is far more difficult. The main problem is that birds often use air currents and the wind, so that their true still-air speed is almost impossible to record. I have seen a kestrel cover a mile in a few seconds in a Scottish glen with scarcely a flap of its wings, simply by using the funnelled air. Conversely, all of us must have seen the blue tits, wings whirring madly, being easily overtaken by an apparently slower moving blackbird.

Of our Summer visitors, it seems inconceivable that any bird could fly faster than the screaming careering swifts, yet the hobby, a small falcon, frequently takes swifts, swallows and martins in flight. The heron too, is deceptive - the slow, laboured wingbeats seem barely capable of maintaining its place in the sky. It can disappear very rapidly when the occasion arises. It is fairly easy to compare speeds, but very difficult to give actual measurements. The reason is obvious birds, and any untrained animals in general, cannot be persuaded to run races in a straight line for the benefit of an observer with a stop-watch.

This explains why there is great disagreement amongst experts about the maximum speeds. There is general agreement about the fastest birds but estimates of their speed differ greatly.

The peregrine falcon, an aristocrat amongst an aristocratic family, is variously reported as being able to reach a maximum of anywhere between 100 and 180 m.p.h. What is true is that these falcons regularly and with reasonable ease, kill racing pigeons, whose highest time speed over a distance is over 90 m.p.h.

Insects are even more difficult to time - they fly for such brief spells and follow such an erratic path. Personally, I can vouch for the fact that a overfly's wings beat at over 1,000 times per second. My flash-gun has a flash duration of 1/1000th of a second, and it has never managed to 'stop' the wings of these common little insects.

Having discussed speed and flight, it is interesting to note that some of our scientists have proved conclusively that bumble bees cannot fly!

LETTER FROM EVERLEY

My maiden name was Rodgers and I believe my paternal grandfather William Henry Rodgers was either born or lived in Totley at the beginning of the century, and I am trying very hard to find out more about my family. Only my father, George Stanley Rodgers' (born approx. 1907) sister Evelyn, is still alive and remembers very little. With their mother (my grandmother) Alice, they both left to live in Blackpool. My grandfather had connections with the cutlery trade.

If it isn't too much trouble, I should be so grateful for any information you may be able to give me.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs. G. Murfin,
4, School Lane,
Everley, Brackley, NORTHANTS.

On the move

Up for Sale this weekend went Toft House on Totley Hall Lane. In 1839 Thomas North occupied the house and the part fronting onto the Lane was a shop. At that time it was claimed that Toft House was built in about 1813 although the small stable close by was part of a very much older house. The fairly recent name appears to have been derived from the adjacent field of that title. Peter and Jill Weston and their family, who have lived there for the past two years, are shortly moving to Luton where Peter has taken up a new post in newspaper distribution. He was the first Totley Residents Association Secretary and Jill was instrumental in getting the Badminton section off the ground and also in organising this Summer's play scheme at Totley County School.

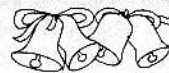
Best wishes to them and to Sarah, James and Rachael, from the Independent and T.R.A.

Golden Wedding

Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. Willars who celebrate their Golden Wedding on the 23rd December. Most Totley residents will know Mr. & Mrs. Willars because they owned the shoe shop (now Whiteheads) on Totley Rise. However, the couple have not always lived in Totley, for Mrs. Willar's parents owned the "Star of Brunswick" public house, whilst Mr. Willar's parents owned a shoe shop on Cemetery Road.

The couple were married on 23rd December 1928, which was a Sunday! They set up a shoe repair shop on Shoreham St., and owned this through the period when shoes were on ration. They moved to Totley shortly after the Sheffield Blitz and opened the premises on 49 Baslow Road, where they lived behind the shop but moved to 3, Laverdene Rd., two years before they retired.

The celebrations run in the family because their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. & Mrs. Burns, celebrate their Silver Wedding on the 17th December. Many Totley people will also know Mrs. Willar's daughter because she used to work in the shop too. Mr. & Mrs. Burns are planning to hold a double celebration, with a family party, on the 17th December at their home in Cortworth Road.



PAST DECEMBERS IN TOTLEY

1423

On 7th December, 1423, Hugh Mayrell of Heyton, Lancs., alias Lord Hugh Maynell of Totingley (Totley) granted four dwellings and a field at Benteley (Hillfoot) to Ralph Barker of Dore.

1669

On 1st December 1669, George Greaves, the son of James Greaves of Totley, was bound as an apprentice blacksmith for 7 years.

1691

On 14th December 1691, an inventory was taken of the goods and chattels at the Strawberry Lee Farmhouse, which was up on Totley Moor, and was then owned by the Strelley-Pegges of Beauchief Hall. "Item: seaven score weathers (castrated rams) and seventy-five ewes - value £53.10.6d. Item: Hay there £3.6.8d. Item: One cow in calf - £2.10.0d." Sheep had pastured on Strawberry Lee since at least the 12th Century when the Monks of Beauchief Abbey farmed it.

1726

On 1st December 1726, John Fenton and John Nodder assigned the right of enclosing the six acres on Totley Moor, containing the coal pit, to Christopher Elliott, a local mason. The pit was probably at the junction of Strawberry Lee Lane and Deep Hollow Road, scene of blackberry & bilberry picking nowadays. The land was then owned by Lord Middleton of Woollaton in Nottinghamshire.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS AT TOTLEY LIBRARY

A wide selection of music to suit all tastes, specially chosen with Christmas in mind, will be presented by

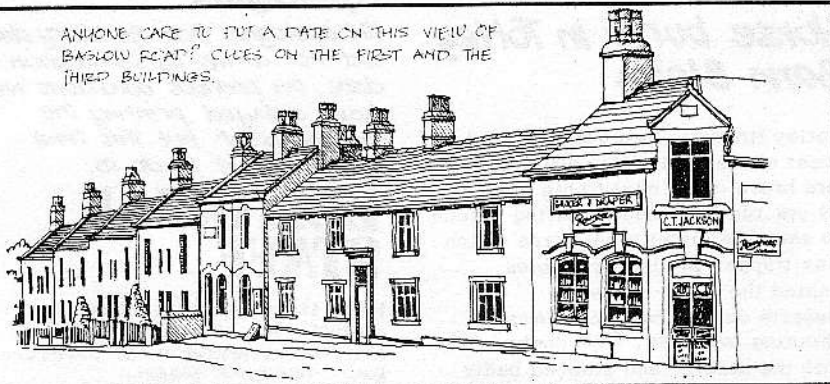
Mr. N. Atkinson
in Totley Branch Library
at 8.00 p.m.

on
12th December, 1978

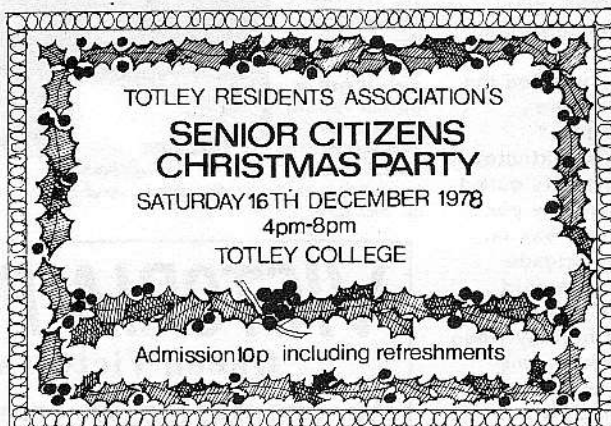
The records chosen include:
Carols from King's College, Cambridge
Tchaikovsky: Nutcracker Suite
Humperdinck: Hansel & Gretel
Plus the modern styles of the
Spinners and the Boston Pops.
Orchestra.

Everyone is Welcome

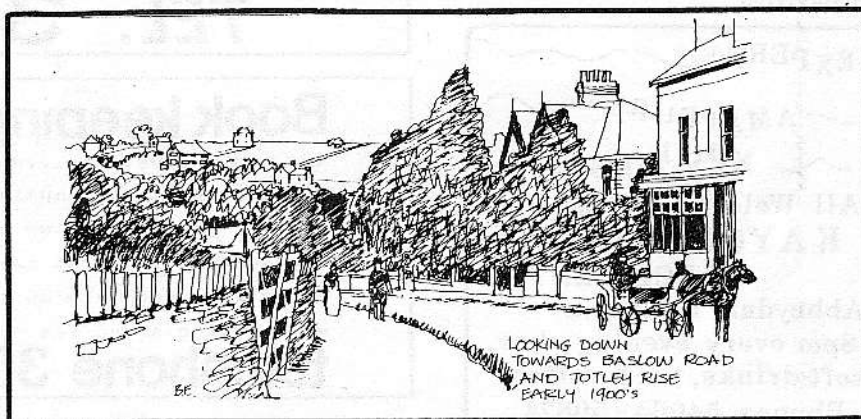
ANYONE CARE TO PUT A DATE ON THIS VIEW OF
BASLOW ROAD? CUES ON THE FIRST AND THE
THIRD BUILDINGS.



SENIOR CITIZENS AHoy! IT'S PARTY TIME! 16th DECEMBER



TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW FROM PERKINTON'S SHOP AT THE TOP OF
MAIN AVENUE OR FROM HARRY WOOFINDEN AT 11 GREENOAK DRIVE.
HURRY AND BUY ONE NOW - 10 PENCE INCLUDING REFRESHMENTS,
BINGO, ENTERTAINMENT.



Horse burnt in Totley Barn Blaze

Totley fireman, Neil Tyler, was the toast of his family last week when fire broke out... next to his home. 19 yrs. old Neil made a daring rescue to save his sister's pet horse which was trapped in blazing stables behind the Fleur-de-Lys.

Despite dense smoke & flames shooting overhead, Neil dashed into the stables and grabbed badly burned Magic. Then he dragged him out to safety.

Said Neil, who has only been in the Brigade for 7 months: "I didn't think Magic would still be alive, as the barn was well alight when I got there. I couldn't see a thing for the smoke, but I heard him cough. I just grabbed his harness and pulled him out."

His father, publican, Ozzie Tyler, said: "We are all very proud of him. He is a brave lad."

Sub-Officer Brian Smith, who led the relief crew who fought the fire, added: "Neil did a grand job."

Fire crews from Lowedges & Ringinglow put out the fire which virtually gutted the barn. They were alerted by post master David Rudkin. Neil was on his first holiday from the Brigade when the fire broke out. He said afterwards: "I was really looking forward to a nice restful holiday when that happened, but I think anyone with my training would have done the same. I have been in much worse situations than that whilst on duty but none where I have had to act so independently."

Magic, a 6½-yrs. old gelding was badly singed. He lost his mane and parts of his coat but the vet. who tended him said he had a good chance of surviving.

EXPERTS

— AMATEURS —

— NOVICES —

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Abbeylee Ballroom
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Apologies

We apologise that the diary details did not arrive by publication date. On previous occasions we have delayed printing the Independent but this time were unable to do so.

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FELICITY CROWTHER 34 ROWAN TREE DELL

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RIGHT: A view up Mickley Lane towards Baslow Road. On the left is the entrance to Lemont Road. On the right, the fields once formed part of the old Victoria Gardens (or Monkey Gardens as they were called locally). Now, of course, houses have been built on the right hand side of the lane.



WELCOME TO TOTLEY

Welcome to Mary & Joe Pantilly of Hastings-on-Hudson, New York, who are over here for 3 weeks at Christmas. Their trip will include a visit to life-long friends Lily & Arthur Milnes of Greenoak Drive.

DIARY DETAILS

FOR FUTURE ISSUES, WILL ALL SECRETARIES ORGANISERS ETC, NOTE THAT DIARY DETAILS OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS SHOULD BE SENT OR GIVEN TO ONE OF THE STAFF SHOWN ON THE LEFT OR NOTED IN THE COMMUNITY DIARY (WHICH IS AVAILABLE AT TOTLEY BRANCH LIBRARY). ALL DETAILS MUST BE TO HAND BY THE 20TH OF THE MONTH BEFORE THE EVENT. THIS PROCEDURE SHOULD ENSURE PROMPT PUBLICATION.

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SPORTS

one step away!

Totley Sports 2nd.XI moved into the semi-finals of the Hall Trophy on the 18th November. The result that put them one step away from the Final was a 5:3 victory over Chapel-town Reserves away. We wish them the best of luck in the Semi.

Other results for November were as follows:-

4/11/78 1st Team v Duron Away
Drew 3:3
4/11/78 2nd Team v Fairfield Utd.
Home Lost 1:0
11/11/78 Dore Shield Rnd. 2
1st Team v Dronfield Woodhouse
Drew 0:0
18/11/78 F.A. Junior Cup
1st Team v Peakvale Away
Lost 2:1
25/11/78 1st Team v Otters Home
Won 5:2
25/11/78 2nd Team v Grindleford
Away Won 2:1

Hope Valley Tables

A.Division	P.	W.	D.	L.	Pts.
Bakewell	9	8	1	0	17
Duron	10	5	3	2	13
Chapel T	9	6	0	3	12
Green Acres	9	6	0	3	12
Bradwell Spts	10	6	0	4	12
Totley Spts	8	4	1	3	9
Harpur Hill	8	3	2	3	8
Otters	8	4	0	4	8
Dron.Wdhse.	7	3	1	3	7
Buxworth	7	3	1	3	7
Peak Dale	9	2	2	5	6
Bamford	10	2	0	8	4
Chinley	7	1	1	5	3
Youlgreave U.	7	0	0	7	0

B.Division:

Totley Res.	12	10	0	2	20
Bakewell Ath.	8	8	0	0	16
Chapel T. Res.ll	8	0	3		16
Grindleford	9	6	1	2	13
Fairfield U.	9	6	1	2	13
Dove Holes	12	5	2	5	12
Tideswell U.	9	5	1	3	11
Holmesfield	9	3	1	5	7
Hope Spts.	11	3	1	7	7
Buxton Eagle	11	3	0	8	6
Hathersage	12	3	0	9	6
Dron.Hilltop	8	2	1	5	5
Biggin Rovers	8	1	2	5	4
Green Acres Rs	11	1	2	8	4

Swimming

The 45th.Totley Girl Guides took part in the Annual District Swimming Gala, held at Heeley Baths in November.

A good effort by all resulted in the Totley Company taking overall 3rd. place in the competition. To achieve this, Sarah Burrell and Sarah Weston gained 1st, and 3rd place in the Under 12 dive. Fiona Jackson and Sarah Weston were each 3rd in the breast-stroke races in their respective age groups and Ruth Evans came 2nd. in the Final of the Over 12's Taper Race. Sarah Hodges and Suzanne & Angela Kirton also reached the Finals.

New Totley Youth Club To Start

A number of Totley young people have decided to take the initiative and form a Youth Club. We hope this encouraging move by local youth will receive everyone's fullest support and help. Too often we criticise them for the smallest mischief and it is heartening to see them showing the way to the older generation. 17 yrs. old Steve Treece of 130, Greenoak Rd., one of the founding group, explained that they hoped to have the All Saints Church Hall each Friday for table tennis; snooker; darts; dancing and music initially, although it is hoped to extend their activities out of doors too. They would cater for the 14 to 17 yrs. old age group. Each third Friday in the month, the hall will be used by another group and therefore the youth hope to find some other activity or venue on that night. Although about a dozen adults have offered their support, more people are needed to help supervise on an occasional basis, so come on, don't let this initiative fail because of lack of support from the older generations. If you are interested in helping, please contact the Independent and we will put some young member in touch with you. Alternatively, fill in the form on the back page and return it to them as soon as possible. On Saturday, 16th December, from 9.00 am. to 9.00 pm., these young people are holding a sponsored five-a-side football match at the Polytechnic Gymnasium in Collegiate Crescent to raise funds.

AS an adult would you be prepared to help out on an occasional basis, no experience is necessary! If so contact Steve Treece 130 Greenoak Road.

Rifle Range News

Reports that machine gun nests and helicopter pads were being built at the Rifle Range in Totley Bents are

quite untrue according to a Territorial Army spokesman. Extensive work is being carried out to alter the line of firing to reduce the risk of ricochets. Spent bullets have been found on and around the footpath which skirts Brown Edge to the rear of the range so obviously there was justified concern. About two years ago, the range was 'condemned' by the Ministry of Defence and it was suddenly closed. The Range, which is administered by the Territorial Army Volunteer Reserve, escaped the 1973 axing of Army land. Then the Defence Lands Committee pointed out that closure would 'probably put an end to civilian full-bore rifle and pistol shooting in the area'. The present work includes the construction of a new carpark off Moss Rd., and new butts is said to be an opportunity to improve the landscape. Local fears have, no doubt, been exacerbated by the sudden advertising for sale of the adjacent Moneybrook House. Totley Rifle Range was opened on 15th September 1900 and came into its own during the 1st. World War, when soldiers camped in that area. Early postcards show over 150 bell tents and large marquees pitched on both sides of Moss Road. At one time in the early 1900s there was a wooden hospital building there, but Mr. Creswick of Cannon Hall then bought it and re-erected the structure at the Hall. This wooden building could well have been a relic of the 1880s when the navvies building the Totley Tunnel were billeted in that area. A number did die of smallpox and their unnamed graves are to be found in Dore Church graveyard marked "S.P. Full Up". One reference to the range is quite amusing. In October 1914, the Fourth Hallamshire Battalion moved to Totley to carry out a musketry course. The stay was memorable for its atrocious weather which not only rendered shooting practically impossible but made the camp almost uninhabitable; so bad were the conditions that it was necessary to allow numbers of men to go home to Sheffield to sleep. The Regiment memoirs of the 1914-18 period praised the men for their courage - "it spoke well for their keenness that there were very few absentees or defaulters, they moved to Gainsboro' on 2nd November". Perhaps it's a good job they weren't there in January!

PETER SWIFT

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