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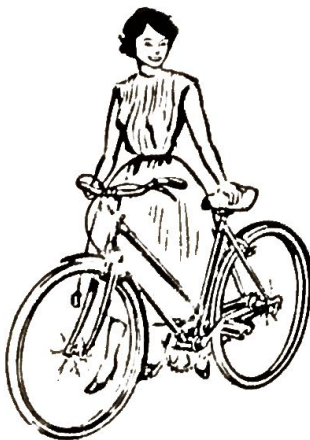
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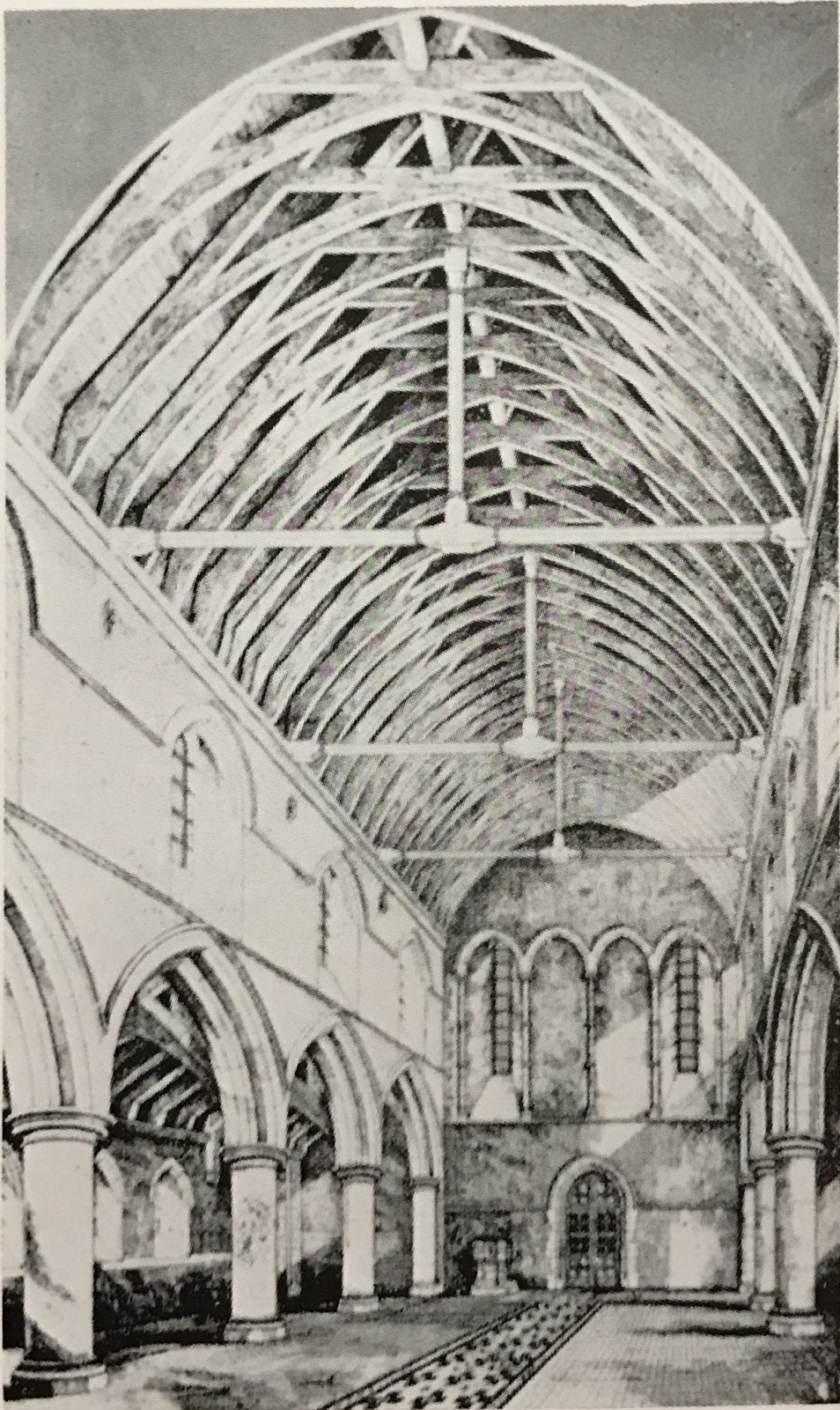
*by the*  
Revd. Brian Taylor, M.A.  
*(fifth Vicar)*

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## ILLUSTRATIONS

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1 The Parish Seal. St John, holding his crossed staff, clad in camel's hair, with a leather girdle, holds on his right forearm the Lamb of God, to whom he points with his left hand. The letters on the scroll stand for the Latin <i>Ecce Agnus Dei</i> , Behold the Lamb of God. (Drawn from an impression of the seal by Mr J. R. Eggleshaw.)	cover
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*THE INTERIOR LOOKING WEST*

## THE HISTORY OF SAINT JOHN'S

**I**N 1865, Edward Moore succeeded his father, Dr William Moore, as incumbent of St Mary and St Nicolas, which at that time was the parish church of the whole town. The new Vicar was a man of ruthless vigour and determination, and a convinced follower of the Oxford Movement, and his influence very soon began to cause changes in Spalding. The introduction of "high church" teaching and practices caused keen criticism, which his character, thought by many to be domineering, did nothing to lessen. One result was the establishment of St John's Church in Pinchbeck Street, in 1873, by a schismatical body, the Free Church of England, whose aim was to preserve in this country the protestantism which they saw endangered by the alleged popery of men like the Vicar of Spalding. The church soon to be built on Hawthorn Bank was in no way connected with the Pinchbeck Street conventicle, despite its name.

During his incumbency, which lasted until his death in 1889, Edward Moore was the originator of many charitable enterprises, both ecclesiastical and social. His own church was restored under his leadership, and the parish churches of St John Baptist and St Paul, as well as the chapel of ease of St Peter, were built to satisfy the need for church extension. The Vicar urged the wealthy townspeople to generosity to make his schemes possible, and they responded adequately.

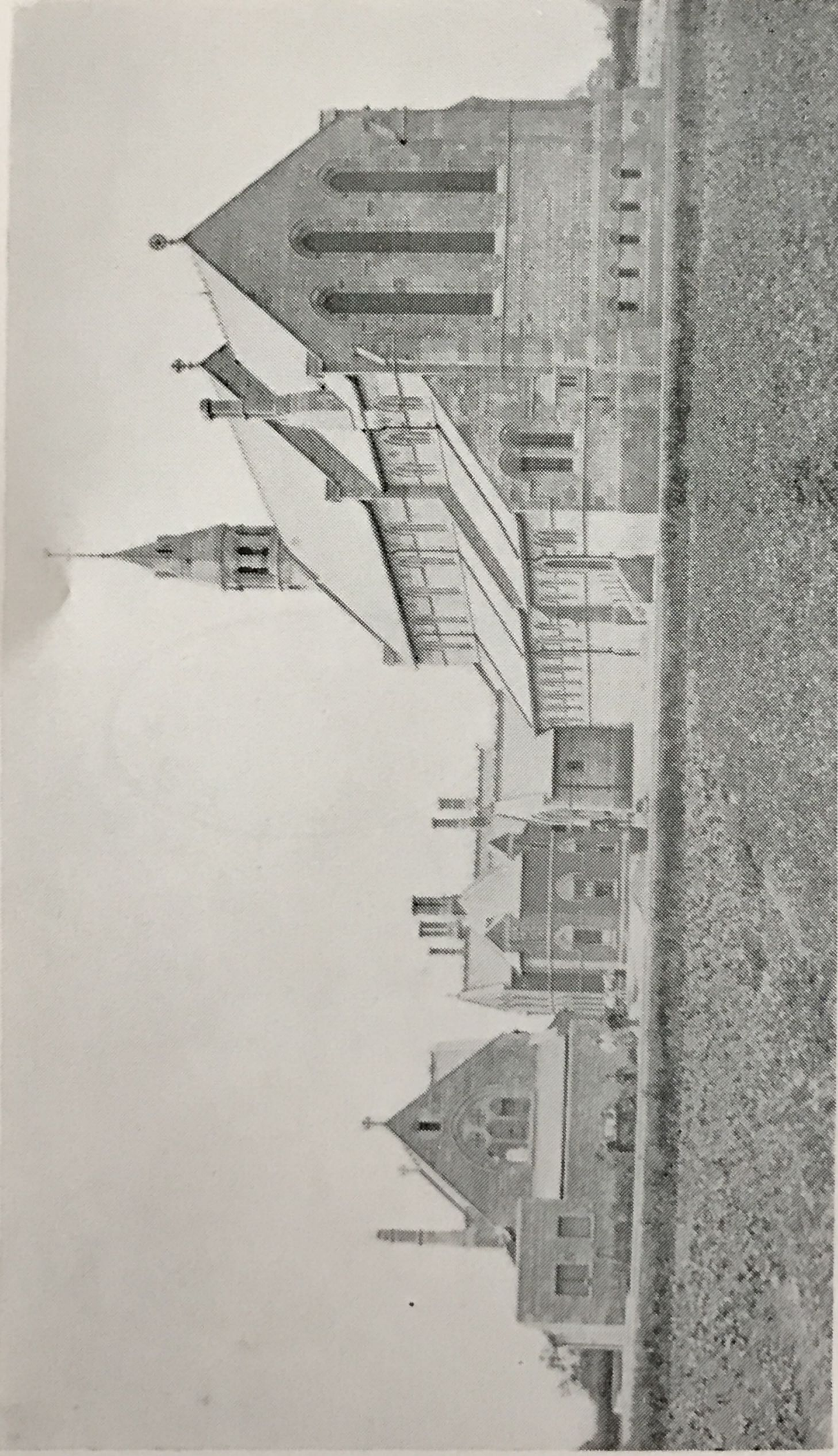
Among the most lavish of Spalding's benefactors were the Misses Elizabeth Ann and Mary Ann Johnson, of Fairfax House, better known as Holyrood. Miss M. A. Johnson was the foundress of St John's, for she paid for the erection of the church, day school and vicarage, and contributed to the endowment of the benefice.

Once it had been decided to build a church at the west end of the town, suggestions for a site were considered, and the most popular proposal was the London Road. But Hawthorn Bank was settled upon, and as housing has developed in the long, narrow parish, this has certainly proved the best possible position. The architect chosen was Robert Jewell Withers, of Adelphi, London, who had already designed churches in Lincolnshire, at Little Cawthorpe (1860) and Haborough (1869) and rebuilt West Torrington Church in 1861-2. On Thursday, February 12th, 1874, Miss Johnson laid the foundation stone, which may be seen at the north east exterior corner of the chancel. It is an unusually large

block of freestone, with a cross and the inscription LAUS DEO A D 1874. Just after the stone was laid in position, the platform from which the proceedings were being conducted partly collapsed, but no-one was hurt.

The builders were Huddlestone and Son, of Lincoln, whose estimate of £10,351 was the lowest (church £7057, school £2197, vicarage £1097). The architect would have preferred a builder called Dove, but his estimate was over £3000 more than Huddlestone's. So Withers had to accept the Lincoln firm, but the many letters written by the architect during the building, which have been preserved, shew clearly his dissatisfaction. "Huddlestone requires *constant* looking after or the work will suffer." "County builders as a rule are a great trouble and I am sorry to say that Huddlestone is no exception." Withers expected to have control of the furnishing of the church as well as the structure. For example, he devoted careful attention to the altar linen. "It is so sad to see good Churches spoilt by unsuitable subjects and designs being placed in at random . . . I should particularly beg them on no account to purchase 'readymade' articles but to allow me to design everything".

At first it was not certain whether a separate parish would have formed, or whether St John's would be a district of the old parish. During 1874 the present boundaries were agreed upon, after opposition from one of the feoffees had been over-ruled by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and the parish was established by an Order in Council given at the Court of Windsor on November 28th, 1874, to take effect from the publication of the London Gazette of Tuesday, December 1st. St John's parish extends from the level crossing on the Pinchbeck Road to Four Mile Bar. On the north and east the boundary is the railway line, to Welland Bridge crossing, and then the River Welland. From Four Mile Bar the boundary follows an irregular course to Cuckoo Bridge, Pode Hole and Jordan's Bridge, and so to the Pinchbeck Road. In some places the exact line has not always been clearly understood by St John's people or their neighbours. There are within the parish two isolated areas known originally as the Cowbit Allotments. One is a narrow strip on the west side of Cradge Bank Road (or Deeping High Bank), about two and a half miles long, containing several houses. The other, Cowbit Common, is a triangle based on the south east side of the main road to the south west of Luck's Bridge, containing two houses. The Commissioners tried to persuade the parish of Cowbit to surrender these two allotments, but they refused, as the church rates had been mortgaged to raise money for church repairs and the provision of an additional burial ground. The area of St John's parish is 3146 acres, of which 2636 acres were taken from the original parish of Spalding, and 516 acres from Pinchbeck.



THE CHURCH BUILDINGS FROM THE EAST



The benefice was endowed by Miss Johnson with £3400, which was transferred to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who agreed to pay in respect of it £102 a year to the incumbent, and also to add £50 out of the Common Fund. Miss Elizabeth Ann Johnson, sister of the Foundress, whose will was proved in February, 1872, had bequeathed £1500 for the endowment of a new district, and this was assigned to St John's. Part of it was invested, and part was used to purchase additional land by the vicarage. Building costs were greater than had been estimated, especially for the school and house. With a further gift for the endowment, Miss Johnson finally spent nearly £20,000 on St John's, and when she died, on March 16th, 1878, she left a sum of £1000 for the distribution of coal to the poor, and the coal dole is still given.

The building of the church, school and vicarage was entrusted to a committee of local gentlemen, but Edward Moore had practical control, and conducted all the negotiations with the architect.

The Church was ready for consecration on June 24th, 1875, the feast of the Nativity of St John the Baptist. Only two slight accidents had occurred during the work. The consecration was performed by Dr Christopher Wordsworth, Bishop of Lincoln, with a large congregation and in the presence of many local clergymen. The day began with Holy Communion at St Mary and St Nicolas, for which, according to a local newspaper, "the bells were silent, the ringers having either struck or been locked out". At St John's the consecration office was at 10.30, and the first hymn sung in the church was "The Church's One Foundation". Then followed Morning Prayer and the Holy Communion, the Bishop preaching with Isaiah 2.2 for his text. After the long service there was a tent luncheon, followed by twelve toasts. Later there was a children's tea, and at Evening Prayer the Archdeacon of Stow preached.

The Foundress was the patron of the living during her lifetime, and since her death the advowson has been in the hands of the Bishop of Lincoln. The first Vicar, appointed by Miss Johnson, was a nephew of the Vicar of Spalding. The Reverend Augustus William George Moore was a graduate of St John's College, Cambridge, who had previously served as an assistant curate in parishes in Cheshire, Yorkshire and Suffolk. He was a man of unusual versatility and remarkable vigour. While he was an undergraduate he spent his vacations learning various trades. He was proficient as a silversmith, as a blacksmith and at carpentry, and knew how to drive railway engines. His main interest was music, and he quickly formed a church choir, which at festivals was accompanied by a small orchestra, with the Vicar himself often playing his

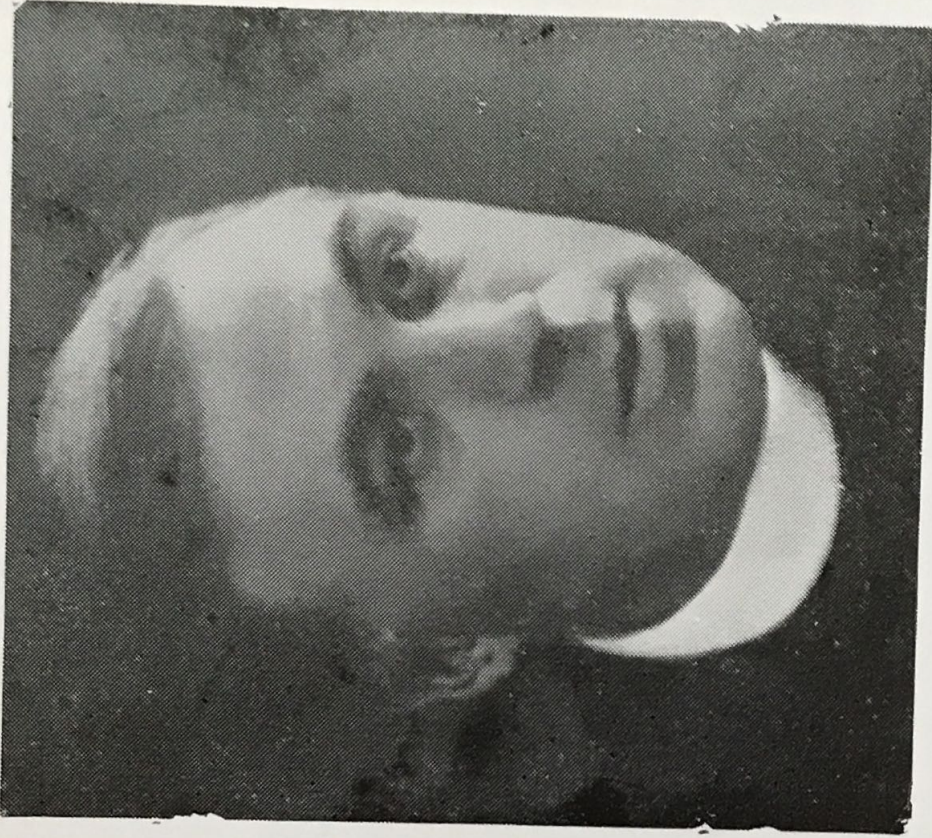


*A. W. G. MOORE*

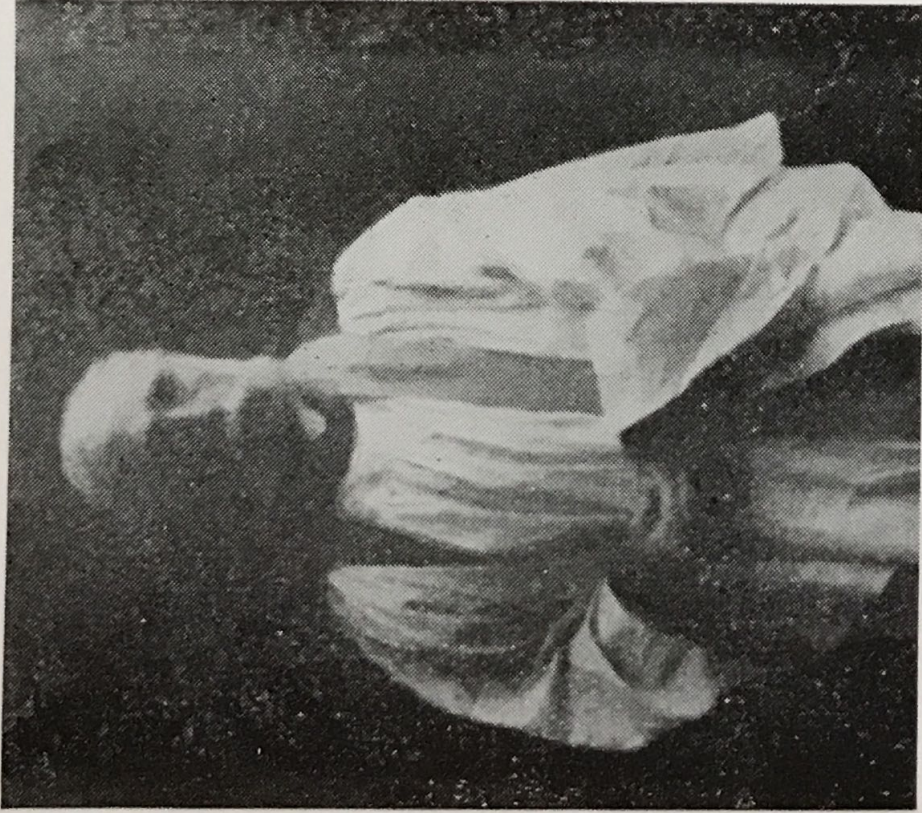
cuphonium. There was no organ in the church except a harmonium until 1890, when a two-manual pipe organ, built by Mr T. H. Nicholson of Lincoln, was dedicated at the Harvest Thanksgiving. As a parish priest he worked unsparingly — perhaps too hard, for he had no Sunday away on holiday before 1892, and possibly not after that. And he was generous. The parishioners were poor, and so the cost of maintaining church and school fell almost entirely upon the Vicar. When an extra schoolroom was needed, it was paid for by Fr Moore, who saved money by working as a bricklayer for seven hours a day, for six months. Towards the end of his life he had to appeal for help from the parishioners and from friends outside, as he could no longer afford this burden.

Moore was a convinced high churchman, and this was shewn in the way he organized his parish and the services, which were from the beginning attended by large congregations. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, regarded by many as a dangerous book, were used from 1875. Mass vestments were worn in 1878, if not earlier, and incense is first mentioned in 1886. For many years it was used in the Sunday services. The Eucharist was sung regularly from about Easter, 1876, normally on the first Sunday of the month at 8 a.m. Afterwards the weekly sung celebration later in the morning was established. But there was not only emphasis on external aids to worship; excellent, sound teaching was given, as may be read in the Lent letters that the Vicar circulated. Numerous guilds were founded, more than were needed, and most of them did not survive for very long. Some were branches of national Anglo-catholic organizations, and we read of meetings of the English Church Union, the Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament and the Guild of All Souls. When T. P. Dale, S. F. Green and J. B. Cox were imprisoned under the Public Worship Regulation Act, notices were pinned up at St John's, bidding prayers for these priests, who were suffering "for conscience' sake", of "for obeying the laws of the Church". These notices are carefully preserved in the parish chest.

Fr Moore died quite suddenly on Saturday, January 2nd, 1897, aged only fifty five. His burial took place at Weston St Mary. To succeed him, Dr Edward King, Bishop of Lincoln, appointed the Reverend Grant William Macdonald, the great-grandson of Flora Macdonald of Milton-in-Skye, who saved the life of the Young Pretender after his defeat at Culloden in 1746. On leaving St Mary Hall, Oxford (a college which was incorporated into Oriel in 1902) Macdonald became assistant curate at Holbeach, where he remained until he was appointed second Vicar of Holbeach Marsh, in 1879. In that parish, with its two churches of St Mark and St



A. H. MORRIS



G. W. MACDONALD

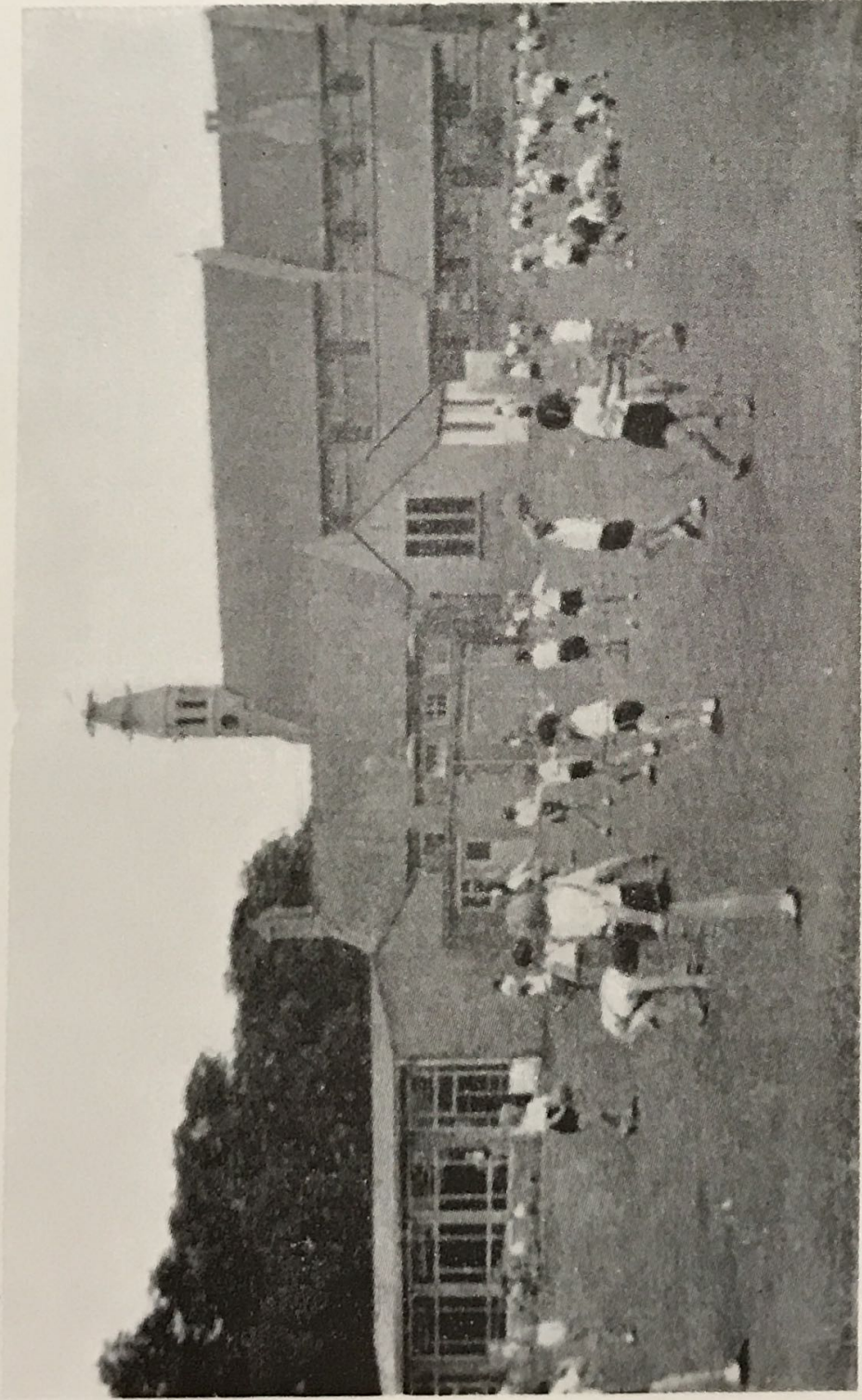
Matthew, he worked hard, and among many other improvements, built a day school at Holbeach St Matthew. He was a careful antiquarian, and published several books on Lincolnshire history. At St John's, Fr Macdonald was never very popular, despite the fact that he visited in the parish most diligently. As his large family grew up and left home he became more withdrawn and austere, and also he was much troubled with illness. Later there were financial difficulties, and finally, in 1913, the Vicar resigned because of ill health, and retired first to Weston-super-Mare, and then to Dorchester, Dorset, where he died on June 13th, 1923. During his incumbency there was a drift from church, and the condition of the buildings deteriorated. In these years there were certain "ritual" troubles. On September 5th, 1898, five of "Kensit's Wycliffe Preachers" attended morning church, and waved their handkerchiefs, and later left noisily. ("Kensitites" visited St John's again in 1958, but confined their protests to interviews with parishioners and the assistant curate; there was no handkerchief waving.) After the "Lambeth Opinion" on ceremonial matters of 1899, Bishop King wrote to Fr Macdonald, asking for the discontinuance of incense and processional lights. A meeting of communicants was called. There was great opposition to the Bishop's wishes, but as in many other parishes it was decided that in the future incense and portable lights should be used only before or after Prayer Book services. This usage continued until 1905. On Trinity Sunday, 1904, the Sung Eucharist was spied on, and a report was printed which stated wrongly that incense was used during the service. The Royal Commission on Ecclesiastical Discipline complained to the Bishop, who ultimately asked that incense and processional lights should be given up altogether. This was done, but not without keen protest from Fr Macdonald of his own loyalty to the Bishop's earlier request, and against the inaccuracy of the evidence that had been brought.

In 1913 Bishop E. L. Hicks asked the Reverend Arthur Henry Morris, the Rector of Crowland, to be the third Vicar of St John's. Although they included the difficult war period, the eleven years that Fr Morris was Vicar were a time of revival and growth. In 1924 he left to be Vicar of Gainsborough. He was later Rector of Skegness (1929 - 37). Then, after seven years as Rector of the country parish of Denton, he retired to Skegness where he still lived until his death in 1965.

The fourth Vicar was the Reverend Lancelot Smith, of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, who came from an assistant curacy at the old parish church in 1924, and remained for nearly thirty-six years. During that time, great improvements were made in the furnishings and appointments of the church. An efficient heating system was installed in 1925, replacing five fires. The boiler is in the crypt. (Oil fuelling was adopted in

1961.) The choir vestry was built in 1929, and in that year the gas lighting was replaced by electricity for the whole church. But perhaps the most important results of Canon Smith's long incumbency were the growth of enthusiasm for foreign missions, and the retention of the church day school and the improvement of its buildings.

Canon Smith retired in 1960, and lives in Spalding. He was followed by the Reverend Brian Taylor, of Keble College, Oxford, who had been assistant curate since his ordination in 1957. Fr Taylor came to Spalding as a layman at the beginning of 1954 to be Divinity master at the Grammar School, and also worked locally as a licensed reader. During the months that he was Vicar, the church suddenly seemed to feel its age, and numerous repairs had to be undertaken to the buildings and to the equipment. After only a short time, the Vicar's health was over-taxed, and after his recovery he resigned the benefice to take up a headmastership in Sarawak.



ST JOHN'S CHURCH AND SCHOOL

## A DESCRIPTION OF THE CHURCH

St John's Church consists of a nave of five bays, with north and south aisles, and a chancel with south aisle, which is divided into an organ chamber and sacristy. The choir vestry, added in 1929, is on the north side of the chancel. Under the sanctuary is a brick-vaulted crypt, regularly flooded, which was formerly used as the choir vestry. At the west end is a small tower containing the bells, with a short spire. The height to the top of the stonework is 82ft 6ins, taller than was originally planned. The added height was to allow room for a clock. Until 1961, when the wind points were set up, the spire was surmounted by a heavy iron cross, which did great damage to the stonework. The old gilded weather cock remains.

The architectural style is Early English, and the stone details, especially of the chancel, both inside and out, are excellent. Ancaster stone was used for the exterior walls, with Casterston stone for the dressings. The roofs are covered with Collyweston stone slates. Over the west doorway in three quartrefoil openings are, from left to right, the monograms of the Foundress's initials, the Lamb and the flag (the symbol of St John Baptist) and the coat of arms of the Johnson family, which are displayed elsewhere in the buildings. The wooden churchyard crucifix is the parish memorial to the Second World War. The holy water stoup in the porch is made of stones from medieval houses, Spalding Priory (the bowl and large stone in the base), St Katherine's Priory, Lincoln (the carved head) and Bardney Abbey (the cylindrical column).

The interior of the nave is 73 feet long, and the chancel is 36 feet long. The ridge of the nave roof is 43 feet above the floor, and the chancel roof is four feet less than that. The nave walls are plastered, but the chancel is faced with dressed Corsham stone. The columns are Sheffield blue stone, with some marble in the chancel. The roofs are a modification of the arched brace collar beam design, with tie beams and king posts in the nave. They are made of Memel fir.

The brass eagle lectern, of better design than most, was bought by subscription as a memorial to the first Vicar, who is also commemorated by a mural brass cross, set in Devon Kingsleigh marble on the north wall of the sanctuary. The wrought iron chancel gates are of an interesting and pleasing design. The rood beam was set up in 1919 as part of the parish war memorial. The pulpit crucifix was made and given by Belgian refugees during the first World War. Some of the



tiles on the chancel floor bear the monogram of Miss Johnson's name. (Similar tiles are used in the vicarage). In the sanctuary are a three-seat sedilia and a credence-piscina, all of stone. The reredos was coloured and gilded in 1924, in readiness for the golden jubilee of the church. The organ of 1890 wore out, and was replaced in 1932 with the present two manual instrument, which was previously in St Peter's chapel of ease. It was built by Foster and Andrews of Hull in 1899.

*The Lady Chapel.* An altar was set up in the north aisle in 1899. This was moved further west to make room for the choir vestry door. The old altar was attacked by worms, and replaced by the present oak table in 1938. The aumbry for the Blessed Sacrament was placed in the wall in 1935, and the Sacrament has been perpetually reserved since then.

The Children's Corner was made in 1927, furnished with gifts made by the boys and girls. Unlike many such corners, this one is really and frequently used by the children of the parish.

In the church there will be seen many wooden furnishings that bear a carved mouse, shewing that they came from the workshop of Robert Thompson, of Kilburn, Yorkshire.

*Stained Glass.* The east window was given, in 1875, by Mrs Osborne, the sister of Miss Johnson, the church's Foun-dress. She wished the three lights to contain a representation of the Last Supper, as nearly like the window at Gunby as possible. The architect insisted that the style of the Gunby window was entirely unsuited to the early Gothic of St John's. Mrs Osborne accepted his decision, and a series of scenes from the adult life of St John Baptist was agreed upon. The window, made by Clayton and Bell, is an outstanding example of Victorian stained glass at its best, and will repay careful examination with a glass.

The east window of the north aisle, behind the Lady Altar, shewing our Lady with her Son, is a copy of a window in the chapel of All Souls' College, Oxford. It was given by the women of the parish and congregation in 1929. Other stained glass windows, all by Kemp, in this aisle are, from the east, the Good Shepherd, given by the children in 1923; St Andrew, given in memory of a former churchwarden in 1928; St Peter, given by the men in 1930; and St John the Evangelist, given in 1918 by the third Vicar in memory of John Dunlop, who had carved and made the bishop's chair and desk near the High Altar.

In the south aisle are three windows by Arnold Robinson, of Bristol. All were personal gifts and bear the names of those commemorated. From the east they shew the Blessed Virgin,



BRIAN TAYLOR



LANCELOT SMITH

with our Lord and St John Baptist, as children (1938); St Nicolas blessing two choirboys (1941); St Hilda of Whitby (1957).

*Shrines.* There are four shrines inside the church. The earliest of these is the memorial tablet to the south of the chancel arch which, together with the great Rood on its beam, commemorates those who were killed in the first World War. On the north side of the arch, by the pulpit, is the shrine of the patron saint, with a very virile bronze statue of the Baptist, given by the children in 1931. The shrine of Our Lady, set up near the aumbry in 1946, contains an oak statue carved by Robert Thompson. The great Edward King, Bishop of Lincoln from 1885 to 1910, regarded in his diocese and beyond as a saint, is honoured in the south aisle, where a shrine with his portrait was erected in 1960.

*The Bells.* When the church was built, two bells were hung. They were founded by Warner, of London, and are now No. 1 and the tenor. These bells were retuned and two more were added in 1935, No. 2, to commemorate the church's diamond jubilee, and No. 3, to honour King George V and Queen Mary on their silver jubilee. The new bells were cast by Mears and Stainbank, of Whitechapel. Only the tenor bell can now be swung. A chiming apparatus for the four bells was installed in 1935.

1. SAINT JOHN BAPTIST ST. MATTHEW. III VER III. A.D. 1875.
2. ST JOHN BAPTIST. 1875-1935.
3. GEORGE R. MARY R. 1910-1935.
4. MARY ANN DAUGHTER OF REVD. WALTER MAURICE JOHNSON. ST. LUKE VII VER V. A.D. 1875.

*Plate.* 1. Large chalice and paten, silver. The chalice has a plain circular base, and a fluted knop. The bowl is a slightly elongated hemisphere. Engraved round the outside of the bowl is the inscription: The Cup of Blessing I Cor X XVI. Round the rim of the well paten is inscribed: The Communion of the Body of Christ. I Cor X.16.

Both pieces also bear the inscription (with slight variations in punctuation): +Presented to the Church of S. John Baptist by the Reverend Edward Moore & Elizabeth Sarah his wife. Nativity of S. John Baptist. A.D. 1875; and also the arms of the Moore family impaled with those of Mrs Moore.

2. Chalice and paten, silver. The chalice is plain, of inconvenient shape, with a circular base. The inside of the bowl is deteriorating. The foot of the chalice and the rim of the well paten are both incised with a cross. No inscription

3. Small chalice and paten, silver. The inside of the chalice bowl is gilded. The knob is decorated with beading, and a cross is engraved on the circular foot. These vessels were made in 1961. No inscription.

4. Ciborium, silver. The base is circular, and the inside of the bowl is gilded. The lid is surmounted by a cross. No inscription.

5. Small ciborium for the reserved Sacrament, silver wholly gilt. The base is circular, and the lid has a round knob. This piece was made in 1961 to Fr Taylor's design. No inscription.

6. Wafer box, silver. The square box has a cross engraved on the lid, and on one side of the lid the inscription: A.M.D.G. IN MEMORIAM B.C., 1939.

7. Pyx, silver, gilt within. The pull-off lid is hammered with a XP design. Underneath is the inscription: A.M.D.G. F.W. 1933.

8. Stock, silver, gilt within. The stock and the lid both have engraved the letter I, standing for the Latin *infirmorum*, to show that the oil is for anointing the sick. The stock was given by Canon Lancelot Smith, in 1961.

9. Baptismal shell, silver mounted. Inscription: A.M.D.G. THE GIFT OF PETER & EILEEN OADES. 1951.

10. Trowel, silver. The fluted ivory handle is held by a decorative clasp. The triangular blade has a chased pattern into which the inscription is arranged. Inscriptions, reverse, with two spelling mistakes: PRESENTED BY THE BUILDING COMMITTEE TO MISS MARY ANNE JOHNSON FOUNDESS OF THE CHURCH OF SAINT JOHN BAPTIST IN SPALDING ON THE OCCASION OF HER LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE 12TH DAY OF FEBRUARY A.D. 1874; obverse: GIVEN BY T. M. S. JOHNSON ESQ. TO THE VICAR AND CHURCHWARDENS OF ST. JOHN BAPTIST FOR EVER MAY 4TH. 1878. The architect wrote: "The trowel is useful as a Fish Slice & is generally so used."

11. Seal. This is a massive gold ring, which has at some time been very crudely enlarged. A large amethyst is engraved with a figure of St John Baptist. (See cover illustration).

12. Cruet, glass, on a silver base. Under the foot is inscribed: A.M.D.G. M.E.A.P. 1932.

13. Silver gilt and crystal double pyx. Given by Canon Lancelot Smith in 1962. No inscription.

The small chalice and paten (No. 3) and the gilded ciborium (No. 5) were made partly from gifts of silver and gold from friends of the church.

There are also some plated articles, and a fair quantity of brass, some of it of quite good design, including a beautiful and unusual processional crucifix, decorated with large crystals. The brass font ewer was the gift of the architect.



*SUNDAY MORNING AT ST JOHN'S*

## THE VICARS

1. Augustus William George Moore, M.A. (Cambridge). Ordained deacon, 1864, and priest, 1866, diocese of Chester. Assistant curate of Tarporley, Cheshire, 1864-1866; of Burn-sall, Yorkshire, 1866-1870; of Wolverstone, Suffolk, 1870-1875. Vicar of St John's 1875 until his death, January 2nd, 1897.

2. Grant William Macdonald, M.A. (Oxford). Ordained deacon 1871, and priest, 1872, diocese of Lincoln. Assistant curate of Holbeach, 1871-1879. Vicar of Holbeach Marsh, 1879-1897. Vicar of St John's 1897 until his resignation in 1913. Died, June 13th, 1923.

3. Arthur Henry Morris (St Aidan's College, Birken-head). Ordained deacon, 1900, and priest, 1901, diocese of Lichfield. Assistant curate of Hartshill, 1900-1901; of St Matthew's, Walsall, 1901-1903. St Hugh's Missioner in the diocese of Lincoln, 1903-1907. Rector of Crowland, 1907-1913. Vicar of St John's, 1913-1924. Vicar of Gainsborough, and Canon and Prebendary of Corringham, 1924-1929. Rural Dean of Corringham, 1927-1929. Rector of Skegness, 1929-1937. Rector of Denton, 1937-1944. Canon and Prebendary of Lafford, 1929-1965. Died May 31st, 1965.

4. Lancelot Smith, M.A. (Cambridge). Ordained deacon, 1909, and priest, 1910, diocese of Lincoln. Assistant curate of St Botolph's, Lincoln, 1909-1916. Temporary Chaplain to the Forces, 1916-1919. Honorary Chaplain to the Forces, from 1919. Assistant curate of SS Mary and Nicolas, Spalding, 1920-1924. Vicar of St John's, 1924-1960. Rural Dean of West Elloe, 1945-1960. Canon and Prebendary of Dunholme, from 1944. Chaplain of Wykeham, from 1946.

5. Brian Taylor, M.A. (Oxford; and the Bishop's Hostel, Lincoln). Ordained deacon, 1957, and priest, 1958, diocese of Lincoln. Assistant curate of St John's, 1957-1960. Vicar, 1960-1961. Principal. Licensed to officiate in the diocese of Kuching from 1962. Principal of St. Columba's School, Miri, Sarawak, 1962-1965. Chaplain and Tutor, Batu Lintang College, Kuching, from 1965.

6. James Paul Hopkins, B.A. (London; and Wells Theological College). Ordained deacon, 1931, and priest, 1932, diocese of Exeter. Assistant curate of Ford, Devonport, Devon, 1931-33; of SS. Mary and Nicolas, Spalding, 1933-37; Rector of St. John with St. Clement, Stamford, 1937-39; Rector of St. Mary's, Stamford, 1940-58; Domestic chaplain to the Marquess of Exeter, 1939-43; Proctor in Convocation, 1945-50; Vice-dean of Stamford, 1950-58; Confrater of Browne's Hospital, Stamford, 1952-58; Canon and Prebendary of South Scarle, 1953-58; Vicar of Budleigh Salterton, Devon, 1958-62; Vicar of St. John's from 1962.

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## THE PARISH SCHOOLS

St John's School. A schoolroom was part of the original foundation of Miss Mary Ann Johnson. The intention was that it should be a school for infants, and as such it was opened on May 31st, 1875, by the first headmistress, Miss Clara Brummitt, who held office until 1913. But quite soon children of all ages were receiving instruction. Extra teaching space had soon to be provided, and additions and improvements have been made at various dates, the most recent being the hall, kitchen and cloakrooms opened in 1959. In May, 1950, St John's was granted Voluntary Aided status, being the first school in the county to achieve that.

Goodfellows' School. Spalding Common was the only inhabited district in the undivided parish of Spalding without a school. The building of Goodfellows' was another of the enterprises started by Edward Moore. The money was raised by public subscription, and the school was opened in 1872 with Miss Mary Elizabeth Mower as headmistress, who remained there for nearly forty-two years. Goodfellows' is now a Church of England Voluntary Controlled School.

Since 1941, when the Glead Secondary Modern Schools were opened in Spalding, both St John's and Goodfellows' Schools have been primary schools.

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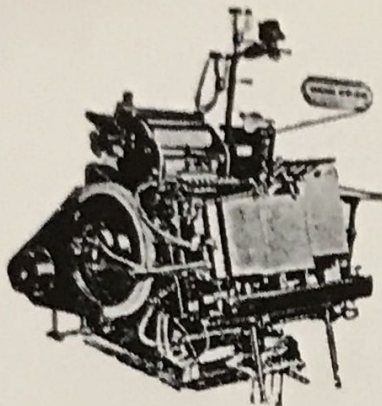
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