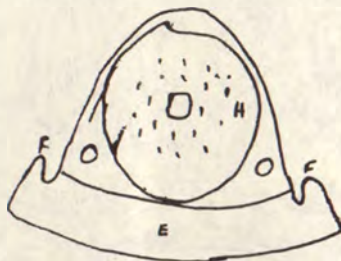




WALL

A.S.L.C.



The Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais meets downstairs in the Meeting Room of the N.S.W. State Archives, 2 Globe Street, Sydney.

The Executive meets from 12 noon to 1 p.m. (all interested members welcome) and the main meeting commences at 1 p.m. Tea and coffee from 3 p.m.

MEETING DATES FOR 1987/88 are:

Saturday, 7th February, 1987

Saturday, 2nd May, 1987

Saturday, 1st August, 1987

Saturday, 7th November, 1987

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, 23rd January, 1988.

COVER: Framework Knitters Arms set on Nottingham Lace from the Bransen Family.

ISSN No. 0815 - 3442

Issue 19 Oct 1987

It never fails to amaze me that yet another year has passed - it's Christmas around the corner and our big year 1988 is almost upon us. What a wonderful year to be alive and part of the celebrations - Australia, 200 years of European settlement. Make the most of it, not too many of us were around to celebrate Federation, so put film into the camera, invite the country relatives to stay and join in the fun. Let me hasten to suggest, don't forget the great advantages of television. I do not think we will need to be home-bound to enjoy the coverage that panoramic cameras can give.

Our Annual General Meeting Luncheon is coming up on

Saturday, 7th November

at - 12 noon

at - The Archives

We look forward to seeing you all especially those who can only make meetings once a year. We will have a guest speaker, and a lovely social day of renewing friendships and catching up and meeting new friends.

Luncheon, similar to last year's cold collation, wine, coffee and juice, cheese, salads and dessert will cost \$10.00, pay at the door. Please try to come, we look forward to seeing you all.

P.S. For catering purposes, could those who intend coming for lunch please ring me on 02-8691670 by 4-11-87.

CLAIRE LONERAGAN.



CL

IN JUNE 1987, BARBARA KENDRICK visited NOTTINGHAM. She writes:

My trip to Nottingham was purely for pleasure. My friend and I had the pleasure of visiting Stoke on Trent with the lovely china and pottery, then on to Nottingham where it was lace, lace and still more lace.

We walked around the old lace market and were intrigued with the names of the streets and lanes such as BOTTLE LANE, PILCHER GATE, GOOSE GATE, WOOLPACK LANE, and many others to send the mind into action.

A visit to St. Mary's and St. Peter's Churches was rewarding and also acted as a shelter for a heavy downpour of rain.

The Statue of Robin Hood guarding the Castle Museum was a delight, then to visit Sherwood Forest which is about 20 miles from the centre of Nottingham, and we managed that by local buses.

We had the pleasure of meeting Elizabeth Simpson, and having lunch with her. Elizabeth is well and sends her best wishes to all and she hopes to be here in 1988. Unfortunately Margaret Audin has problems as her husband has Alzheimer's Disease. This is very restrictive for her and exhausting.

My final fling was to visit the lace centre to bring back a sample of lace for the descendants of WILLIAM & ELLEN GASCOIGNE. We enjoyed our stay in Nottingham where new buildings seemed to blend in well with the old. There was no time for family history which was a pity.



(For those who might be waiting for answers from Margaret, please be patient. Alzheimer's Disease patients require constant care and attention -- Margaret probably finds that her day is 25 hours long!)

Amongst the papers, etc., which I received when I became secretary (including those returned from Wollongong) I found this STUBBS RESEARCH from Margaret Audin. As it mentions a number of our member families, I produce it here in full. It is a very faint photocopy -- so I trust I have de-cyphered it correctly.

Information animal, vegetable and mineral....

The first Stubbs found so far is Thomas born 16.8.1824 but this family was still present after 1848 and there are twenty five references noted from the decennial tables of birth and death.

The census returns for 1846 give several families:

35 rue Lafayette: section D

Henry Stubbs	lacemaker	34
Mary Ann Stokes wife Stubbs		33
Mathilda Stubbs		11 d
Mary Ann		9 d
Sarah Stubbs		8 d
Maria Stubbs		6 d
Henry Stubbs		5 s
Emma Stubbs		3 d
Robert Stubbs		2 s
William Stubbs		4 mths s

23 rue des Prairies section D

George [*] Stubbs	laceworker	39	the census
Sarah Mays wife Stubbs		41	man was
Mary Stubbs		21	obviously
William Stubbs		19	French
Ann Stubbs		17	d
Elisa Stubbs		15	d
Fanny Stubbs		13	d
Lucy Stubbs		12	d
Jane Stubbs		9	d
Elisabeth Stubbs		7	d
George Stubbs		3	s

This is page 123 of the census return.

At 21 same street is the Archer family with 3 boys, 14, 13, 12 and 9 mths old Anna; at 22 there is the Bown family with 4 children, a girl of 10 and three boys, 8, 6 and 1; at 24 the Payne family have 2 children, a girl of 8 and a boy of 3; at 16 the Shaw family have a daughter aged 15 and at 18 the Keayton family have two daughters: Louise 13 and Catherine 14. Among these would be the playmates of the Stubbs children. Until the next visit to Calais it is difficult to say which house is next door and which opposite. In France most streets have odd numbers one side and even the other but the present numbers may not be those of 1846 - to be checked.

4 rue du Jardin des Plantes section G

William Stubbs	laceworker	40
Elisabeth Hopkins wife Stubbs		44
Henry Stubbs		16 s

One of the Saywell families is at No. 5 and John Broomhead (Bromhead) and wife at No. 8. William was a witness for a Bromhead birth declaration (see later).

62 rue de Vic section G

John Sanson	lacemaker	47
Mary Ann Stubbs wife Sanson		42
Maria Sanson		18 d
William Sanson		17 s
Elisa Sanson		14 d
Johh Sanson		12 s
Mary Ann Sanson		10 s
Emma Sanson		7 d
Francis Sanson		5 s

62 rue du Temple section G

Flora Peet widow Stubbs	lacemaker	43
Thomas Stubbs		22 s
Francis "		20 s
Maria "		18 d
Robert "		16 s
Edward "		13 s
Albert "		6 s
Ann "		3 d
Ernestine Mercier	servant	22

16 rue Eustache St. Pierre section G
Robert Stubbs laceworker 67
Mary Brown wife Stubbs 76

Like all census returns the ages may or may not be correct.

Extracted from registers of birth St. Pierre-les-Calais (also known as Basseville because it was low-lying).

Thomas Stubbs son of Francis Stubbs 22 mechanic and of Florence Peat his wife. Witnesses: Robert Stubbs 45 mechanic, Thomas Harrison 24 mechanic.
16.8.1824. No. 168.

Robert Stubbs, 45, lacemaker and Francis Stubbs, 22, same occupation were witnesses for birth declaration of Robert John Harrison, son of Thomas, 35, lacemaker, and Mary Stubbs his wife.
28.1.1824. No. 279.

Francis Stubbs, son of Francis Stubbs, 24, lacemaker and of Flora Pitt his wife. Witnesses: Robert Stubbs, 47, lacemaker, and Thomas Harrison, 26.
19.9.1826

Alfred Harrison, son of Thomas Harrison, 27, lacemaker, and of Maria Stubbs, his wife. Witnesses: Robert Stubbs, 48 lacemaker and Francis Stubbs, same occupation.
23.4.1827.

Emma Harrison, daughter of Thomas Harrison, lacemaker and of Maria Stubbs his wife. Witnesses: Thomas Peet, 60, lacemaker and Francis Stubbs, 27, same.
2.1.1830.

Sarah Emilie Philippine Whitmarsh, daughter of William Hoile Whitmarsh, 32, lacemaker, and of Emilie Francoise Senlis, his wife; witnesses: Henry Stubbs, 31 lacemaker and Ambroise Vache, 27 tailor.
22.3.1843

Ann Peet Stubbs, daughter of Francis, 40, lacemaker and of Flora Peet, 40 his wife; witnesses: Henry Stubbs, 31 lacemaker and John Sanson, 42, lacemaker.
25.3.1843.

George Stubbs, son of Georges 37, laceworker and Sarah Mays his wife. Witnesses: Henry Constant Lancel, 40, assistant secretary at the townhall, John Lee, 23, laceworker. The family lived rue des Fontinettes, section D
321

2.10.1843

Unless I am much mistaken this is Fanny's young brother.

Robert Stubbs, son of Henry, 32, lacemaker and of Mary Ann Stokes his wife; witnesses: Robert Stubbs, 65, lacemaker and William Stubbs, 37, same.

3.8.1844

William Stubbs, son of Henry, lacemaker and Mary Ann Stokes his wife; witnesses: William Stubbs, 39, laceworker and Thomas Harrison 45, same.

16.2.1846

Henry Stubbs, son of George, 40, laceworker and of Sarah Mays 44 his wife. Witnesses: Andrew Giles, 36 laceworker and Thomas Barrowcliff, 30, publican. 26.8.1848.
Another younger brother.

William Stubbs aged 40, laceworker was a witness with Walter Wells, 43, same, for declaration of birth of George Bromhead born 15.1.1848.

Francis Stubbs, son of Henry, 36, lacemaker and of Mary Ann Stokes his wife. Witnesses: Fidel Joseph Cordier 58, man of independent means and William Bown, 26, laceworker.
17.2.1848

George Stubbs, 41, laceworker and William Moon, 27, same were witnesses for declaration of birth of William Sewell son of William, 35, laceworker and of Ann Cooke, 40, his wife.
25.3.1848.

Henry Stubbs, 36, laceworker and Joseph Fidel Cordier, 59, man of independent means, were witnesses for declaration of birth of Arthur Oswin, son of James, 54, lacemaker and of Elisabeth Towle, birth 8.6.1848.

These are from my rough notes and will be double-checked.

Graves in Calais: southern cemetery

Henry Stubbs, born Radford Nottingham Sept. 21, 1811, died Calais May 21, 1888.

Mary Ann Stokes, wife of the above, born at Deal, Nov. 4, 1812 died at Calais Jan. 11, 1870.

Robert Stubbs, son of the above, Aug. 3, 1844--Nov. 15, 1856

Emily Stubbs, daughter of the above May 6, 1854--Nov 24, 1870
(am not sure of this last date)

Matilda Stubbs, March 3, 1835--March 3, 1912

Emma Stubbs, Calais October 1842--Norwich July 8, 1912

Eugene Stubbs, grandson, Calais Jan. 12, 1856--Dijon, June 24, 1918.

These are the stay-behinds. How the various people fit together needs working out but Henry, son of George could have been named after this Henry. This means that there may be cousins still in France as Eugene could have left children.

When all the copies arrive I can give the addresses of all the Stubbs parents but not the witnesses.

I have a note to say that Elisabeth Stubbs is in the decennial for 1840 on October 7 but this register was not checked. According to the shipping list I had the idea that George's daughter Elisabeth was not born in Calais -- was she?

For the earlier years the occupations were usually either 'fabricants de tulle' or 'faiseurs de tulle', but in the later years I find 'fabricants de tulle' and 'ouvriers en tulle'. It could be that there was little difference or that the fabricants were those who actually owned machinery. This is something that can only be decided when all the lace-people are extracted from the registers. I'm inclined to be in favour of this idea as Henry Stubbs was one of those who remained behind and it seems to be almost certain that those who stayed behind were in the majority those who had machinery or shops of some kind.

While checking through the photocopies I spotted three more Stubbs signatures:

Henry Stubbs, 31, lacemaker witness with Thomas Smith, 38, lacemaker for declaration of birth of James Vickers son of William, lacemaker and Sarah Ann Hiskey, 22 his wife.

George Stubbs, 37, laceworker and James Bannister, 39, same were witnesses for declaration of birth of Anna Branson, daughter of William, 30, laceworker and Miriam Chaulerton, 22, his wife.

George Stubbs, 39, laceworker and Robert James, 30, lacemaker were witnesses for declaration of birth of Samuel Barker, son of Samuel, 32, lacemaker and Mary Ann West, 27, his wife.

Margaret Audin

15.2.82

From 'Sydney Morning Herald' of Thursday, 12th September, 1861

From part of an Item headed: CENTRAL POLICE COURT.

Two women of the town, apprehended in the midst of a pugilistic encounter in George Street, between the hours of nine and ten last night, were ordered to pay a penalty of 10s. each, or to be imprisoned twenty-four hours.

(We seem to have lost something of the ability to use our English language, with our 'Plain English' of the late 20th Century, do we not?)



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Rare Finds.

Sometimes a few hours spent in the cataloguing room of a library can produce gems that outweigh the time spent in finding them.

Recent explorations in the National Library of Australia has produced two gems of great interest to the Lacemaker researcher.

Both are rare books: one because of antiquity, the other because of rarity.

Nottingham County Records, County Records of C18, written by K, Meaby, is number 3 in a limited private edition of 28 that was printed in 1928. It contains extracts of interest for C18. Many of the Australian Lacemakers' names appear. It needs to be stressed that the following share the names in which we hold an interest, and before claiming them, proof through genealogical lines would need to be found.

Archer, James: Served as a volunteer in the Navy for Gunthorpe.

Broomhead, William : Charged at Mansfield 2.8.1716 for frequently entering premises and disturbing goods with dogs, fined 6d.

Broomhead, John : On 13.4.1711 was robbed of 18/- by three

armed horsemen.

Crofts, Thomas, of Blyth Wheelwright was charged with breaking down a Common gate. (undated)

Crofts, William : , framework knitter, of Gotham, on 22.4.1734 was charged with refusing to follow Hue and Cry, fined 2/6. Hue and Cry was instituted for the arrest of felons. Everyone had to join in or be leave to indictment fine or imprisonment. It was made by blowing a horn and yelling on foot and horse, and the person pursued could be cut down if he resisted arrest.

Elliot, George : 15.1.1774 George Elliot was whipped around the Newark marketplace, and stood in pillary for one hour at Southwell for publishing a counterfeit pass.

Harrison, J: 1722 a fire destroyed his ale house and its contents.

Harrison, J : A house was built for him and family at Retford in 1740, his being unable to work and support them.

Rose, Sam : 18.7.1778 inserted an apology in the local paper for having a boat on the Trent at Gunthorpe contrary to the statute.

Rose, John: Of Sutton Bonnington, in 1773 was living a disorderly life and using his family ill and refusing to maintain them. He was brought before the court and appeared insane. The court ordered he be cared for.

Branson, William: 7.4.1769, apprehended and brought before the court as a rogue and vagabond, for belling and playing an unlawful game. The game in question being for 6 and 30 shillings each play, Branson was ordered to be

discharged from his confinement and sent as a vagrant to the place of his last legal settlement.

The second book is called The Annals of Nottingham, published in 1848, and is a history from Nottingham's beginnings to 1848, in two volumes. It is a year by year record of the city and as such is marvellous for Lacemakers' purposes.

Some Brief Excerpts:

1741: Richard Harrison was bailiff for East Retford.

1750: John Harrison was bailiff for East Retford.

1811: Decrees of the Emperor of France against British commerce was telling fearfully on the conditions of the working classes.

1812: The misery of the poor increased.

1832: A riot included an attack on the Castle. Joseph Shaw was charged with setting fire to Colwich Hall. Richard Branson was charged with an attack on Wollaton Park gates.

1848: A great number of lacemakers of Calais and Basseville mostly immigrants from Nottingham and its vicinity, having, during the fury of the revolutionary mania, been driven, because they were foreigners and intruders, from their adopted homes, by the advocates of Liberty, Equality and Fraternity in France, and arrived at Nottingham in a state of great destitution, a public subscription having been commenced on their behalf, which amounted to six

hundred pounds. Application being subsequently made to the Government in their favour, the greater portion of them were removed to Australia.

And this is the last entry in the book!

Gillian Kelly.

LACE MAKERS' WEEKLY EARNINGS SOME EXAMPLES 1797 - 1950

<u>Year</u>	<u>Earnings</u>	<u>Source</u>
1797	Under 7/-	Nottingham Journal, 15.4.1797
1807	£ 10	Felkin, p 169
1813	£ 10	Felkin p 204
1823	£ 5	Penny Magazine, 1873, p 114
1835	8/-	Nottingham and Newark Mercury July 4, 1835
1846	12/6	Nottingham Journal, April 3, 1846
1850	33/-	Boden Papers, Petty Cash Book, 1850
1855	45/9	Boden Papers, Wages book, Feb 1855
1859	20/-	Boden Papers, Articles of agreement, April 11, 1859
1879	15/-	Council Minutes, Amalgamated Soc, May 20, 1879
1880	£6 - 8	Local Preachers' Mag, Jan 1880 p38
1950	min wage £5	Plain Net Agreement, 1950.

C.K.

Of Shoes and Ships and Sealing-wax

Recently the Bathurst Historical Museum were given two technical drawings, which were brought to Bathurst and Rockley by William Brownlow, from Nottingham and Calais. The drawings were handed over by Mrs Cooper-Booth, daughter of Louisa Buckland, who was the youngest daughter of William and Emma Brownlow, lacemakers of Nottingham and Calais, who came to N.S.W. on the Barque "Agincourt". They then went to Summer Hill Copper Mine, near Rockley.

The family had been told that the drawings were of some vital parts of a machine that it was hoped would eventually produce perpetual motion. It is now known that the drawings were, in fact, of some vital parts of a lace making machine; and we also now know that England was trying to prevent the export of the machines, so that William Brownlow, no doubt at considerable risk, brought the drawings to N.S.W., maybe with the hope that he could build a lace machine later on. He had also brought a box of gear wheels which, no doubt, had something to do with the machines. Unfortunately the value of these gear wheels was not known and they became lost.

Mrs Cooper-Booth has been very worried about these drawings, as with age it would seem that some proper preservation methods are needed. The drawings are on, of course, very old parchment, and the notations are in French.

The Historical Society is now endeavouring to obtain information and advice on the best methods of preserving the drawings.

Should any of our members be in Bathurst at any time, they may feel inclined to visit the Museum, next to the Court Ho use, and have a look at these drawings. They will be very welcome and will find lots of interesting items on display.

BILL BROWNLOW

(Bill Brownlow's grandfather, George Agincourt, was born on the ship two days sail after passing the Straights of Gibraltar.)

(ANTHONY COOPER, 7th Earl of Shaftesbury, born 28th April, 1801, died 1st October, 1885. British Member of Parliament, and philanthropist. Most noted for his work on behalf of better treatment for lunatics, and for the improvement of working hours and conditions in factories, especially for women and children. He succeeded to the earldom in 1851.)

So says my old 'Concise Universal Encyclopedia' -- but it was the casual browsing through one of my old 'The School Magazine' (Vol. XXI, No 4, and Vol. XXII, No. 5) that made me look up the Earl. Here is the story which made me investigate him. Elsewhere I have read that quite tiny children also made lace -- I wonder if any of our ancestors were involved in such conditions?

The not so 'good' old days .

Lord Ashley's cold blue gaze and immobile, delicate features gave no hint of his feelings as he paused in the doorway of the library of his London house and put his monocle to his eye. A master sweep was standing beside the fireplace administering a kick to the naked boy about four years old.

"Up, you go!" grunted the sweep.

The child crouched on the floor whining.

"What's this?" drawled Lord Ashley.

The master sweep pulled his forelock. "Good, isn't he, my lord? Just of a size for these new flued chimneys. Goes up them like smoke."

The young Englishman looked down from his five feet eleven to the child on the hearth. It had been many years since he had happened on a chimney-cleaning job, and he had forgotten the details.

"But, my good sweep," he murmured, "this is only a baby!"

"Oh, he likes it! Don't you, Jimmy?"

The child turned astoundingly blue eyes from one man to

to the other and rubbed his sooty little nose with his sooty little hand.

"Speak up, Jimmy!" snarled the master.

"But what can he say?" drawled Lord Ashley. "That he dotes on soot? Look at the sores on his elbows and knees! It must be torture for him to climb the flues. Eh, my climbing boy?"

The master sweep's face was furious, but he dared not express his fury. This was Lord Anthony Ashley Cooper, son of the Earl of Shaftesbury, one of the young men who talked in Parliament.

"Is this your son, master sweep?" asked Lord Ashley, in his gentle voice.

"No, my lord, but he belongs to me. I bought him fair and upright from a trafficker. If your lordship's in need of a boy there's plenty to be bought, and if you don't want a workhouse brat, every day or so there's a bankrupt sale of apprentices."

Lord Ashley's pale skin was showing an unwonted glow. The scene had revived in him memories that he had spent years in suppressing. His own boyhood had been deeply unhappy. Indifferent parents had sent him as a little boy to a school in which bullying and brutality took the place of teaching. His only early spiritual training had been received from his mother's maid, and as Lord Ashley stared at the child on the hearth, there rose in his mind the memory of that good soul, sobbing over his bruises and telling him that God was teaching him to understand the suffering of all the little children of the world.

"Sell me this boy, master sweep!" he said suddenly.

The baby on the hearth blinked, and, padding across the room, seized a fold of Lord Ashley's fashionable pantaloons in his little black hand.

"I'll not sell him, my lord," growled the master. "Go and dress yourself, Jimmy. You're not wanted here."

Deliberately Lord Ashley stooped and lifted Jimmy in his

immaculate broadcloth arms. The little fellow put an arm around his new friend's neck and stared at his owner.

Lord Ashley neither moved nor spoke. The master sweep glared and muttered, then gathered up his pails and brushes and Jimmy's clothes. "We'll see whether there's any law for the poor man in England, my lord!" he shouted, as he started for the door.

"It's certain there's no law for the child save the Almighty's," said Lord Ashley.

He waited until the sweep had shuffled from sight, then he carried Jimmy upstairs to the nursery. As he appeared in the doorway, the nurse gave a little scream of protest and horror.

"Don't be troubled!" smiled Lord Ashley. "I've taken him from his master and I'm going to send him to live with one of my father's cottagers. But first he must be cleaned, and bandaged, and dressed, and fed. I'll attend to him myself if you'll give me the wherewithall, as I'm already contaminated."

Jimmy, emerging from many layers of soot, proved to be a delicate, engaging infant, precocious, yet timid. Ashley sent for his solicitor and arranged for the child to be taken at once to his own old nurse in the country, and ordered that the master sweep be found and indemnified to the amount he had paid in the purchase of the child.

It was only a minor episode, and yet Lord Ashley could not dismiss it from his mind. He was not a happy man, although he had all that one could desire. He had many friends, he had only to reach out and take what he wished. His life was filled with pleasant duties. An upright, cultured, temperate gentleman, his conscience should have been as clear as his fine blue eyes. And yet at the age of twenty-nine he was writing each night in his diary of his criminal waste of days, while his fervent nightly prayer was that the Almighty would open the way to him for true usefulness to his kind.

The episode of Jimmy seemed an answer to the prayer. Ashley told himself that here was something to bring to the attention of Parliament, something for which a man could really fight with his heart'. Almost immediately he began work on a

bill for the sweeps, but no sooner had he opened his mind and heart to the plight of the "climbing boys" than people deluged him with pleas for other children, tiny victims of the mines, the mills, and the farms. But these Ashley did his best to ignore. He hesitated to attack the moneyed interests, which violently resented every effort to protect the cheap labour of mill and mine.



But Ashley could not limit his gaze perpetually. Only a few months after Jimmy's rescue, there appeared in the "Leeds Mercury" a letter signed by Richard Oastler which, at a single reading, upset Ashley's new-found complacency. The letter took as a text a familiar saying of the English, "It is the pride of Britain that no slave can exist on her soil," and proceeded to give a heart-rending picture of the slave children of England. The evidence that it offered was so horrible that Lord Ashley could not sleep after reading it, and the day following he wrote to Oastler and begged him to admit that his picture was over-

drawn. Oastler's reply was to challenge Lord Ashley to disguise himself as a workman and to go with him to different factories, seeking a position. Unwillingly, but urged by a force he could neither name nor understand, Ashley accepted the challenge.

About ten o'clock at night he and Oastler entered to apply for a night job. The spinning was in full blast. As they made their way across the main floor, Lord Ashley observed a child only a little taller than Jimmy had been at the moment of his rescue. She was standing beside an adult spinner and holding across a little palm a bunch of cordings from which she drew one at a time for the spinner. She was so tiny, and her motions were so regular that the young Englishman paused near her. One after another she cleared the cords from her little palm, and Ashley waited for her to procure another bunch. But she did not do so. With palm still extended, she continued the action of lifting the cords, lifting, lifting, with an empty air in her fingers.

Ashley changed his position to look into her face. She was asleep, eyes wide, at her toil! How long she might have gone on thus Lord Ashley was not to know, for the spinner suddenly struck the child, and the little right hand instantly dropped to the basket and tossed another bunch of cordings across her left palm.

Ashley suffered himself to be drawn away from the tragic little figure, but he refused to continue the investigation. "I can endure no more," he murmured.

Having returned to his lodging, he packed his bag, and started that night for London. He was perplexed, moved, uneasy, and again deeply unhappy. Someone must head the children's cause, but whoever undertook the leadership undertook a life struggle of gigantic proportions. If he championed them he would have against him his own class, the landlords, the landed gentry, and even the church. Anthony Ashley Cooper considered all these aspects of the problem in the weeks and months following his glimpse of the tiny sleeping girl at her toil in the Bradford mill. And he hesitated long.

While he hesitated, Oastler's friend, Sadler, introduced into the House of Commons a bill limiting the working day of children to ten hours. The bill failed, and Sadler soon after

lost his seat. The children's chief champion was gone.

On the first day of the next session there arose in Parliament a tall, slender, elegant figure in the most fashionable of morning clothes, his curling dark hair, his large blue eyes, his delicate lips, giving an impression almost of effeminacy in spite of his fine height. Anthony Ashley Cooper was about to present the first of his many bills for the protection of the working child.

Ashely had in no way under-estimated the difficulties of the task he had undertaken. It required seventeen years to pass the Ten-Hours Bill alone, years that made Lord Ashley a great statesman. During that time the most helpful single influence came from neither politician nor reformer. It came from a young author who, in the early days of Ashley's fight published the story of a workhouse child, *Oliver Twist*, and a year later a school story called "*Nicholas Nickleby*." These two novels by Charles Dickens roused more sympathy for unfortunate children than all the speeches and all the testimony given in that seventeen-year fight.

The passage of the famous bill did not end Lord Ashley's war. For thirty years more he worked to improve the lot of the children in factories. During the entire period Ashley was also helping in the schooling and the spiritual training of the children he was rescuing.

Anthony Ashley Cooper loved all children, without regard to class or condition. His long war for the recognition of all children's right, not only to live but to be protected by the State from the greed of their parents and guardians, marked the next step upward in the children's fight for existence.

---HONORE WILLISIE MORROW in "The Ladies' Home Journal"

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MAITLAND MERCURY, 19th December, 1865

BATHING IN THE RIVER DURING PROHIBITED HOURS

At the West Maitland Police Court yesterday, 6 lads, named Richard Marshall, Michael McGarry, Chas. Farebrothers, William Lambert and John Bromhead were charged with bathing in the River during prohibited hours. They were discharged on payment of costs (2s. 6p. each). James Reid for a similar offence was fined 5s. and 2s. 6p. costs in consequence of his having given a false name when spoken to by police.

N.B. Prohibited hours were between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Thank you, Lindsay Watts.

THE AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF THE LACEMAKERS OF CALAIS

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