Booton Bridge & Booton Hall

To the Editor of the Magazine

Previous to 1820 there was no Water Bridge at Booton merely a Ford, for the traffic -

The following are Bona-fide facts a gentleman who lived in Reepham went to Booton Hall to have dinner with his father in law and coming home on horse back through the Ford fell from his horse and dislocated his neck and died this was on December the 15th 1811, three years after a Bridge was built over the Ford,

On a Cast Iron Tablet which is 3 feet 5 wide and 3 feet 6 high which was built in the the ~~L~~ wall of St Michael's Church Tower

In a Vault beneath are deposited the remains of Mr David Williams who died December the 15th 1811 in the 58 years of his age He was a native of Stormy near Bridgend Glamorganshire and many years a respectable Surgeon in this Parish also Charlotte his beloved wife Who died November the 15th 1812 in her 44 years of her age She was the Daughter of Peter Elvin Esq of Booton Hall by his first wife Mrs Paston of Bale in this County, As a small Testomony of Respect to the momory of such Estimable Parents this Tablet is put her by their two sons Peter Elvin and Richard David Elvin

On the Parapet wall of Booton Bridge the up stream side is the following This Bridge was Built by Subscriptions 1820

Booton Mill

The wind to serve the Mill finished as the trees of Reepham ~~ye~~ House plantation grew tall and was removed to Booton Hill it stood there in working order under the tenancy of Charles Stackwood. Till 1900, Charles Stackwood at that time thought it was not necessary as he had ~~to~~ two wind mills at Lawston and persuaded his land lord to take down the mill with the exception of the brickwork and make same into a storeage building for corn &c, the land lord paying the writer to cover in same with felt, All the beautiful old oak was bought by the writer who used it to cover in the Reepham Brewery Well for the Late Samuel Bucham Esq and has the date on same 1900.

The Mill when at Booton was a pleasing dominant feature of the land scape. Few thought of the important part it had played in the economic life of the people or its constant battle against the wind. It was usefull after the mothers and their children had gleaned the corn in the harvest field took it to the mill to be ground into meal flour, also the neighbouring farmers who made use of the beautiful old mill to grind their second quality of corn for their pigs cattle &c

There was exciting times when the new sails were fitted, the apparent danger of the workmen fitting the sails ~~to~~ The length of the sails was about 60 feet long, weighing about 1 1/2 tons which was of had to be replaced

I am preparing an Imaginary Sketch of a Wind Mill standing by the old Miller's House now standing at Reepham occupied by a Mr Cole and his wife

H E H.

Please digest the above and alter same to suit you, have enclosed a sheet of ~~x~~ paper for the alterations if you may wish to make Mr Cross

I can give you a true story of the removal of Booton Mill which any one could read in a church.

You had better give the Mill a rest till after the holidays and then send it back for a day or so.