

## THE BLEAK HOUSE BAND

In the days before radio, television and the motor car, people organised their own amusements and one of these was the local band. At one time Feock had such a band, but it shut down and the instruments became available so Mr W. Trebilcock of Carnon Downs, who then lived at Bleak House, organised the Bleak House Band. He had formerly been a member of the Perranwell Band, later joined the St Keverne Band and still maintains his interest in band music.

The members of the band were:

Mr William Trebilcock	cornet
Mr Tom Trebilcock	euphonium
Mr Richard Trebilcock	E flat bass
Mr B. J. Marshall	baritone
Mr William Trebilcock (farmer)	drum
Mr R. Michell	tenor horn
Mr R. L. Michell	cornet
Mr Jack Marshall	"
Mr R. Moore	"
Mr Gordon Marshall	"
Mr Frank Marshall	"

The band used to practice in the front room at Bleak House or in the shed on the bank behind the house, and, at times, in the barn at Mr Trebilcock's farm (now Barn House).

At Christmas the band collected for Doctor Barnado's Home and on one occasion joined forces for carols with the Devoran Chapel Choir.

As the members married and moved away, the band broke up and was finally dissolved in 1929. Mr R. Michell still has the tenor horn and for a long time the drum was in the barn but finally disappeared. Mr W. Trebilcock has several photographs of the band when it was at its full strength.

This information was supplied by Mr W. Trebilcock and Mr R. Michell.

## TREGYE

The earliest known plan of Tregye - from Doidge's Survey of 1737 - shows no principal house but at least two small ones and lists twelve fields, or closes, a wood and orchards still recognisable in the Tithe Map of 1842 (where a number of additional fields are shown) and indeed even to-day. For most of this time the land has been leased by successive owners to tenant farmers. The principal house, or The Mansion as it was once called, was built, it is believed, at the beginning of the last century, enlarged at the end, and substantially altered in recent years. Although occupied for a time by tenants or caretakers, the house has been, during three periods of its history, the home of a prominent local family, involved not only in the development of the house and grounds but in the economic and social life of the neighbourhood.

The name, spelt variously Tregye, Tregie, Treguy or Tregy - as in the earliest record, the Subsidy Rolls of 1327 - is thought to mean "the house of the dog". In the Feet of Fines of 1398, right of tenement was acknowledged as belonging to Henry Gourlyn and Margery, his wife, as a gift from John Nansmolkyn.

The 18th Century

The earliest known document referring to ownership or tenancy is dated 1715 when an agreement was made on the assignment of tithes relating to about two acres purchased by Martin Bodinar of Newlyn in the parish of Paul from Andrew Jenkin of Feock, yeoman, and Willmot, his wife and the daughter and co-heir of Christian Hendra.

The earliest known resident, however, is Stephen Adams, and it would seem that the estate had been divided into two as it is mentioned in both the will of Stephen, who died in 1717, and that of his brother William Adams, who died in 1725. This suggests that the property may have been owned by their father and divided on his death between his sons - a late but in Cornwall by no means uncommon example of the "Gavelkind" system of tenure whereby, in intestacy, the estate descended to the sons in equal shares. Stephen's estate passed to his widow Martha and then to his daughters, while William's estate passed to his daughter, Ann Adams, who died in 1773, and then to her cousins Grace and Ann Cardell (see "Some Feock Wills and Inventories" elsewhere in this issue).

It seems likely that at that time all or most of the land was owned by the 3rd Viscount Falmouth and this connection with the Boscawen family has continued. An example of a