The Life and Family of Reverend Henry Usher, Rector of Saltfleetby St Clement's from 1867 to 1889

Anyone who knows Lincoln is familiar with the Usher family name, thanks to the Usher Gallery and long-established High Street Jeweller's shop.

Richard Usher (1778-1837) was born in Lincoln and married Milicent Radford (1781-1832) in Bulwell, Nottinghamshire. They had children John, James and Ann, before moving to Lincoln where Mary, Henry, Richard and Eliza were born. The family lived on Broadgate where Richard worked as a *labourer, wood sawyer,* then in the textile industry as a *scourer* (washing wool using soap and urine in preparation for dying) and a *dyer*.

Their son **Henry Radford Usher** was born in December 1816, and was christened in St Swithin's Church on 28th December 1816, an older building on the same site as the present-day church near Greyfriars.

His eldest brother John died in 1825 at the age of 19 and was buried in St Swithin's. By 1835 Henry's brother **James** was working as a watch and clock maker in a tiny shop at the south end of Lincoln High Street. In 1837 he moved to a larger shop on the High Street, opposite The Cornhill. Youngest brother Richard also worked as a watchmaker, but was sentenced to 6 months in Lincoln Gaol for felony in 1838. He died in Boston in 1841 aged 22, his brother James was in attendance.



Lincoln High Street in 1851, with Usher's Jewellery shop on the left Lincoln Library Local History Collection

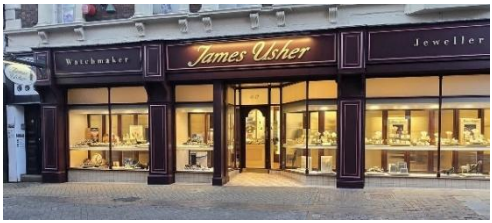


One of James Ward Usher's original Lincoln Imp Brooches Lincoln Museum

James' son **James Ward Usher** was born opposite the jewellery shop in 1845, which he took over in 1874. He made a fortune making and selling souvenirs depicting the *Lincoln Imp* on numerous items such as brooches and spoons, obtaining the rights to use the image from Lincoln Cathedral. He became mayor of Lincoln and his collection of art and craft objects are now housed in the Usher Gallery.



The Usher Gallery, **Lincoln**, built 1927, named after Rev Usher's nephew



James Usher Jewellery Shop, Lincoln now on Guildhall Street, owned by H L Brown

Young **Henry Usher** went to live in London where he worked as a teacher at **Radnor Street School** in Islington (which was demolished in 1958). Founded as a Methodist Mission in 1798, it was the oldest dedicated Wesleyan Sunday School premises in London. The institution was a pioneering educational effort in London's rapidly growing, poor, overcrowded City Road area, near the north edge of London. It provided a rare opportunity of somewhere for boys and girls to go to learn to read and write. It also established its own private circulating library, a soup kitchen and children's sick fund. With help from a grant from the City of London, and voluntary subscriptions, a boys' day school was opened there in 1837.

Henry Usher was a schoolmaster at Radnor Street in 1840, when he enrolled at **University College London**. The grand innovative new university was then only 12 years old, founded as a secular alternative to Oxford and Cambridge.

Here he took courses in "*the four classes*": which consisted of fifteen lectures on Latin, Mathematics, Natural Philosophy and Greek. The course was listed as *Lectures to Schoolmasters*, established out of funds donated by an anonymous benefactor.



London University (UCL) in 1828

The lectures were delivered by the professors in the colleges of the respective subjects, on weekday evenings from 7 to 9pm. The students had to read the same books as for the BA degrees in the separate subjects.

At the age of 24 in 1841, he was living in a student lodging house on Cannon Row in Westminster. It was provided by the National Society of Education, a Church of England organisation founded to promote religious education in England and Wales, especially for the poor. Most of the residents there were

young men from working-class backgrounds, who went on to have careers as teachers. Also, resident was 40-year-old Robert Oxlad a former Baptist minister and famous author on the Reformation.

In 1842 Henry was working as a **schoolmaster** at Armley near Leeds, a rapidly expanding industrial town, location of the world's largest woollen mill at the time, and site of workers' riots in August 1842.

On 27th September 1842 he married **Alvira Fields** at Holbeach All Saints' Church, Lincolnshire. Alvira was born in Holbeach in July 1819, the daughter of Cotnam Fields (1776-1847) and his second wife Anne (nee Copeland, 1783-1872). Mr Fields was a tailor and draper with a shop on Back Road, Holbeach. The large family lived on Holbeach High Street, where Cotnam was a well-respected local businessman, involved in local politics.

Whilst living in Holbeach, and working as a schoolmaster, Henry and Alvira had their first child, **Alexander Fields Usher** on 20th July 1843. He was christened in Holbeach All Saints' Church on 17th August 1843.

Henry went on to study at **St Bees Theological College** in Cumbria in 1845-46.



St Bees College & village in 1842, by William H. Bartlett

Founded in 1816, St Bees was the first independent theological college established for training men for ordination into the Church of England. It aimed to address the shortage of good new clergy, and open up opportunities for poorer students. Old St Bees Priory was used as the main lecture room and library. The parish vicar acted as college principal.

The students lived in lodgings in the village; many were married men who moved with their families. Around 100 men were enrolled at this time, each were required to complete two years of study. They had to wear a cap and gown in college, and when out in the nearby towns, to indicate that they were "gentlemen". The college day began with morning prayers at nine in the nave, the students taking turns to read the lesson. Lectures took place from ten till twelve in the two rooms and library, they dined in the middle of the day and took exercise in the afternoons. On Saturday mornings they

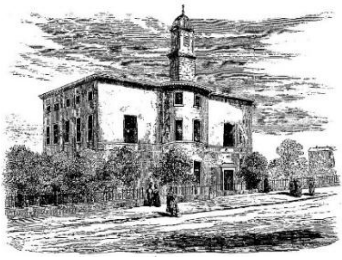
composed sermons, which they submitted and received back with remarks. Their busy curriculum included writing essays in Latin and English, studying theological texts, the Greek text of the New Testament, and taking exams each term.

After completion of the course, Henry underwent a lengthy examination to be approved for ordination into the Church, by the Canon of Worcester. He was judged as one of the equal top four candidates out of 42 applicants.

On Sunday 20th December 1846, he was ordained a deacon by the Bishop of Worcester at a ceremony in **Worcester Cathedral**. Of the large number of candidates admitted into holy orders there that day, he was the only graduate of St Bees, among many from Oxford, Cambridge and some from Dublin.



Worcester Cathedral



St James's Church, Ashted
near Aston, Birmingham**,**
demolished in 1956

He was appointed curate of **St James's Ashted**, Birmingham. The chapel served the local community as well as members of the Dragoon Guards and their families, based at the barracks opposite on Great Brook Street. As an assistant curate, he conducted many of the ceremonies on behalf on the incumbent priest. In September 1847 he preached at the funeral of his father-in-law, Cotnam Fields, in Holbeach.

After a year as a deacon, on Sunday 19th December 1847, Henry Usher was ordained a priest by the Bishop of Worcester at a ceremony in Worcester Cathedral. Of the 38 candidates, he was placed at the head of the list by the examining chaplain.

Continuing his curate's duties, as a priest he was also allowed to preside at Holy Communion and marriages. In September 1848 he officiated at the wedding his cousin, at St Martin's Church, that used to be on St Martin's Lane in Lincoln (where just the graveyard remains today).

In March 1849 the Usher family moved to **Lower Oddington** in Gloucestershire, where Henry was appointed curate for the parish church of

St Nicholas. Here their daughter, **Selina Louisa** was born on 18th November 1850. He performed her christening ceremony there on 21st December 1850.



Oddington St Nicolas

In 1851 the church had space for a total of 302 worshipers, the average attendance was 90 for the morning service and 150 in the afternoon, with 50 Sunday School scholars in the morning and afternoon.

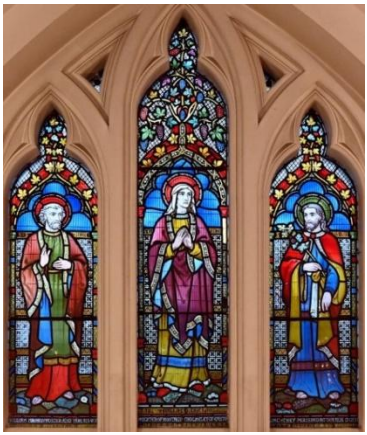
He remained involved in life in his home city, frequently going back to preach at St Martin's Lincoln. A Sunday evening service that he gave there to a large crowd in September 1855 was praised as "*a very impressive and eloquent service*". A collection was made to help towards the expense of gas fittings.

After praise for a review he wrote for the *Lincolnshire Chronicle* in 1855, the editor replied: "*The review in question was from the pen of the Rev Henry Usher, brother of Mr Usher, watchmaker of this city, a laborious hard-working curate in another diocese. The reverend reviewer has preached some capital sermons in St Martin's church in this city, and we should be happy to see him located in this neighbourhood: but he is a self-made man and has no powerful connections, so that we are afraid the chance of obtaining a living amongst the friends of his youth is but small, Would it were otherwise, - Ed. L.C.*"

In April 1857 Henry became the curate of the medieval Cotswolds church of St Paul's in **Broadwell, Gloucestershire**. The rector lived in his other parish, so the Usher family moved into the parsonage at Broadwell, where he had sole charge for seven years.



Broadwell St Paul's Church



1857 chapel window by Rev Usher

Henry was a keen amateur stained-glass artist who made church windows. He designed and made a series of windows for the new chapel at **St Anne's Bedehouses**, Lincoln, for use by the residents of the alms-houses. In October 1857 he installed a memorial window there in remembrance of WM Forster and his wife Jane (nee Cholmeley, who was related to two former rectors of Saltfleetby).

Still there today, it consists of three nearly life-size figures depicting Elizabeth wife of Zaccharias (centre), Simeon blessing her (left) and Joseph of Arimathea (right). In 1858 his west window design was installed, depicting the Adoration of the Magi, inscribed in remembrance of Mr & Mrs Sibthorpe.

In 1862 Rev Usher delivered a **lecture** at Moreton-in-Marsh, and then at Newcastle-upon-Tyne Church Institution, entitled: "**On the Introduction of Christianity into the British Isles**". In front of large audiences, including many influential clergymen, he traced the history of religion in Britain through successive ages. He covered subjects such as the ancient wisdom of the Druids, the legend that St Paul preached in England, and the arrival of St Augustine from Rome. One review noted: "*the Rev gentleman had bestowed great labour in preparing the lecture, which showed an extensive historical and biblical research*", a vote of thanks to the lecturer "*was heartily responded to by all present*".

In 1863 he wrote a pamphlet called "The Christian Embassy". In September 1863 Rev Usher was appointed as the curate of **Barrowby All Saints** Church, near Grantham, working alongside the village rector, Rev George Earle Welby.



Barrowby All Saints

In May 1866 the church choir were entertained to tea and supper by Rev and Mrs Usher. By 1867 he had designed a window in the church. Said to have been very popular with the parishioners, in the spring of 1867 he was selected as one of the Lenten preachers at Grantham church. He was also engaged in writing a work on "*The Ancient British Church*", covering the social and religious history of England from a period of 2,000 years before the Christian Era to the time of William II.

In June **1867** it was announced that The Honourable Charles Cust had preferred Rev Henry Usher to the rectory of **Saltfleetby St Clements.** Charles Cust, former MP for Shropshire South and High Sherrif of Northamptonshire, was the son of the late John Cust, 1st Earl Brownlow, of Belton House, patron of St Clement's Church. The Brownlow family retained responsibility to choose the new parish priest, and nominate them to be instituted into the role by the Bishop of Lincoln. Rev W. J. Williams who had been rector of St Clement's for the last 6 years, left to be vicar of Saxilby near Lincoln.

After years of work as a curate, at the age of 50, Henry was finally awarded his own parish. As a rector he was entitled to receive a substantial income from tithes, the declared annual value of the living was £210 (worth about £30,500 today). The family moved into St Clements Rectory on the Main Road. At this time 23-year-old son Alexander was an aspiring stained-glass artist, soon to establish a business in London making church windows. A governess was appointed for sixteen-year-old Selina at the rectory.



A GOVERNESS WANTED, at Christmas, in a clergyman's family by the sea-side. She will be treated every way as a member of the family. Required, good Music, pure French. A high stipend not given.—Address, stating qualifications and stipend required, Rector, St. Clement's, Saltfleetby, Louth.

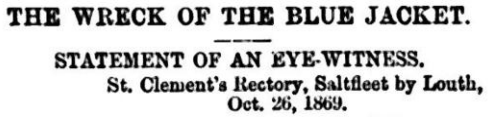
Hereford Journal, 16th November 1867

In November 1867 Rev Usher took part in an entertainment evening in North Somercotes, where he read "*a very amusing and interesting piece": "King John and the Abbot of Canterbury"*. The event was organised by the vicar of North Somercotes, who made sure that "*nothing in the least offensive or wanting in decorum was allowed to take place"*, so everything was submitted for the vicar's approval in advance.

Later that month Rev Usher officiated at the wedding of Alvira's nephew from Holbeach, which took place at Hammersmith parish church, London.

After successfully employing a governess for Selina, they then advertised in the *Yorkshire Post* for girls to join her as companions in her education: "*HOME EDUCATION in a CLERGYMAN'S FAMILY by the SEASIDE. – A beneficed Clergyman, who has engaged a superior Governess for his only daughter, wishes to receive into his family TWO OTHER YOUNG LADIES, age from 10 to 16, to associate with her for companionship and education. The advantages are home-training and bracing atmosphere, good music, pure and fluent French, German, drawing &c. Terms, including everything, 60 guineas per annum. References given and required. – Address, Rev H. U., St Clement's Rectory, Saltfleetby, Louth."* [Yorkshire Post, 6th January 1868]

A large **Harvest Festival** celebration took place in St Clement's on Thursday 24th September 1868. It was reported that nearly every man, woman and child in the parish, and numerous visitors from the neighbourhood attended the divine service in the church, which was full to overflowing for a full choral service. A collection was made for funds for the county hospital, raising 12s 6d. The church was decorated for the occasion by the ladies of the rector's family and other parishioners, with evergreens, flowers, corn etc. The festivities were followed by *a "substantial tea, with meat for the men; after which an entertainment of vocal and instrumental music was given in Mr Stubb's barn".* The barn was decorated by the ladies with a profusion of evergreens, flowers and banners. A large union jack floated from the top of the church tower, which had been lent by Captain Brooks RN, commandant of the coast guard. Later the men were regaled by a supply of beer and tobacco. "*Fine bright weather contributed much to the enjoyment of one of the happiest days which this parish has seen".* [Grantham Journal 3rd Oct 1868]



THE WRECK OF THE BLUE JACKET.

STATEMENT OF AN EYE-WITNESS.

St. Clement's Rectory, Saltfleet by Louth, Oct. 26, 1869.

Newcastle Daily Telegraph 28th October 1869

In October 1869 the coast was struck by a disastrous storm. As a volunteer with the coastguard, Henry aided in the attempted rescue of the schooner "***Blue Jacket***".

Despite their best efforts, the ship was wrecked with the loss of all crew. Rev Usher later gave eye-witness evidence of the disaster, and attempted to trace the families of the victims.

An active member of the Lincoln Diocesan Architectural Society, at a public meeting at Newark Town Hall in June 1871, he read his paper on "**Glass Painting**". At a meeting in Holbeach in June 1872, he read his sequel paper on the "**Walls and Windows of our Churches**".

Rev Usher attended the first planning meeting for **a proposed new railway** from Louth to Mablethorpe, held in October **1871** at the New Inn in Saltfleet. He declared the motion that Rev Freshney of Saltfleet be appointed chairman. Attended my many local clergymen, farmers & businessmen, the advantages of the scheme were discussed and speeches given; Rev Usher seconded a resolution expressing cordial approval of the scheme and pledge to use their best endeavours to carry it out in its entirety. He continued his

support for the railway, agreeing that it would be of great advantage to the local farmers, and the neighbourhood. The *Louth and East Coast Railway* opened in 1877, including a station at Saltfleetby, it served the Marsh villages for 83 years. A proposed branch to North Somercotes was never built.

Rev Usher was involved in organising the **Saltfleet District Flower, Fruit and Vegetable Show,** the object of which was "*to raise the moral tone, and so to increase the happiness of our cottage hearth and homes*". Their first exhibition was held at Saltfleetby School Room in July 1873. A bus left the Mason's Arms Inn in Louth at midday to bring attendees to Saltfleetby for the event. There was a public tea in the afternoon, when the Louth Model Band played, followed by a Grand Concert at 7pm.

By 1874, Henry and Alvira's son **Alexander Usher** was in partnership with his friend Edwin Kelly, and their **stained-glass window business** was thriving. Examples of their detailed expert work were installed in numerous churches around the country such as Lincoln St Mary le Wigford, Flamborough St Oswald, Cokethorpe in Oxfordshire, St Augustine's in Derry, and Fimber St Mary in Yorkshire. In January 1874 Edwin Kelly died at the age of 33, of pulmonary tuberculosis. Alexander was in attendance at their home in Camden. On 20th September 1874 Alexander died of rheumatic fever, aged 31. They were both buried in Highgate Cemetery in London.

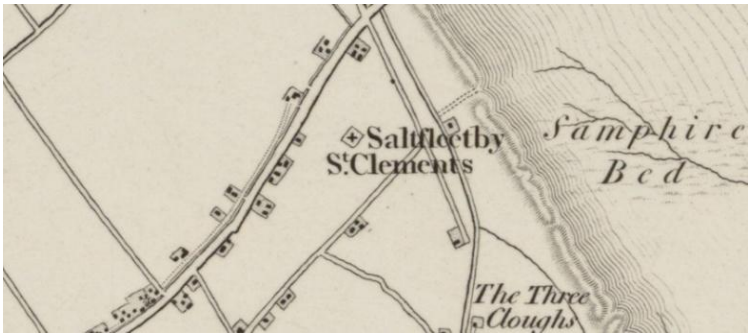
Rev Usher placed eight new stained-glass windows in the old church of St Clement, the last of which in 1876, was dedicated to the late rector of the parish, Rev Richard Garvey. It depicted Jesus taking up little children in his arms to bless them, completed by Alexander's successor, the artist James Bell of London.

Numerous animals were kept at the Usher household. In November 1876 Rev Usher was fined 14s 6d for allowing a horse to stray into the road. In September 1878 four live tame ducks were presumed stolen from his property. They were found in the nearby garden of Edward Fowler, who kept ducks and said in court that he thought they belonged to him. The case was dismissed. In March 1879 Rev Usher was fined 13s 6d for keeping a dog without a licence.

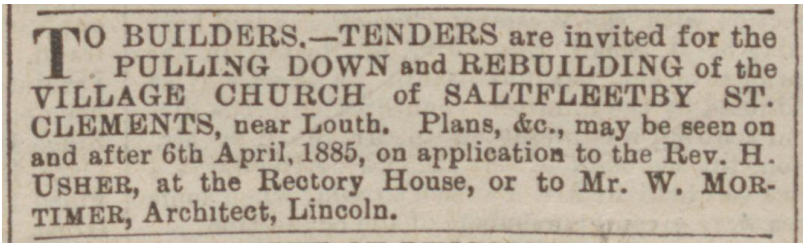
In 1880 **Selina** married **John Edwin Swithinbank**, who was born in Armley, Leeds in 1851, the son of a house painter and merchant business owner. She went to live with him in Oxford where he was a student at Queen's College. Here they had their first four children, some were christened there by Rev Usher. John graduated and was ordained in 1886, then worked as a curate in Essex and Sussex, where they had another son.

In 1882 Rev Usher attended a meeting in Saltfleetby schoolroom chaired by the rector of St Peter's, to consider starting a parochial branch of the **Church of England Temperance Society** (to promote abstinence from alcohol). Rev Usher made a speech saying that Saltfleetby was considered a sober place, but after careful consideration he had been led to the conclusion that a great special evil like intemperance demanded special organization and special means to grapple with it. He concluded with an appeal for all to join the branch. The resolution was seconded by farmer George Reed of Grove Farm, a prominent member of the Wesleyan Church. It was carried unanimously and many names were speedily enrolled.

At this time the **13th Century St Clement's Church** was in a dangerously dilapidated state, despite many attempts having been made to restore it over previous years. By then the south aisle was completely destroyed. In **1885** it was decided that the only safe solution was to completely dismantle the old church and rebuild it at a nearby site, which would also be more easily reached near the Main Road. As much of the old church as possible was to be preserved, with the ground plan mostly the same, with the addition of a vestry and taller tower. The pine benches etc that Rev Usher bought for the old church three or four years earlier were transferred to the new building.



The position of the original medieval church of St Clements about, 300 metres from the road. Map published 1824, accessed from National Library of Scotland



TO BUILDERS.—TENDERS are invited for the PULLING DOWN and REBUILDING of the VILLAGE CHURCH of SALTFLEETBY ST. CLEMENTS, near Louth. Plans, &c., may be seen on and after 6th April, 1885, on application to the Rev. H. USHER, at the Rectory House, or to Mr. W. MORTIMER, Architect, Lincoln.

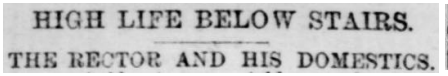
Lincolnshire Chronicle 20th March 1885

The work was carried out mostly at Rev Usher's own considerable expense. The prestigious Lincoln architect William Mortimer designed the new church, 5 new bells were cast by Taylors of Loughborough, decorative tiling was made by Maw and Co of Shropshire.

The new church was opened and consecrated on 26th August 1886 by the Bishop of Lincoln, Rt.Rev Edward King. Rev. Usher and his son in-law, Rev. Swithinbank also gave readings at the well-attended opening services. An oak pulpit was gifted by Rev Swithinbank's father; Selina made the altar cloths and gifted vases, candlesticks and other items. Stained-glass windows designed by Alexander Usher were taken from the old building and refitted into the new church, with an inscription dedicated to Henry Usher's parents and brother (James who died in 1882 aged 74). An inscription at the east end of the nave read: "*To the glory of God, in memory of Alexander Fields Usher, who died September 21, 1874, aged 31 years. An upright and blameless son".*

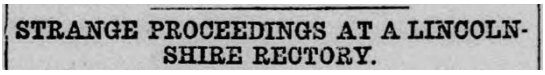
The ceremony was followed by luncheon for 60 guests in a marquee at the rectory, and then a tea for a very large number of people from Saltfleetby and the surrounding parishes when Alvira, Selina and other local ladies presided at the trays. An evening service was followed by the ringing of the new bells of St Clements by the ringers from Saltfleetby All Saints' Church.

In September 1887 Reverends Usher and Swithinbank assisted at the opening ceremony and concert for **St Matthias' Church Institute** and Working Men's Club in Canning Town, London. In October 1887 Rev Usher aided the Bishop of Lincoln at a public meeting of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel at Louth Town Hall.



HIGH LIFE BELOW STAIRS.
THE RECTOR AND HIS DOMESTICS.

The London Echo 15th March 1888



STRANGE PROCEEDINGS AT A LINCOLNSHIRE RECTORY.

Hull Daily News 17th March 1888

When Henry and Alvira went away for a few days in on 27th February **1888**, their two servants, sisters Annie and Jane Fatchett from Louth, were left in charge of the rectory. During their absence the maids (aged 19 and 20) held parties at the house, inviting a number of young men to spend a few days. When the Ushers returned on 9th March they found the house in great disorder: the best bedroom had been broken into and occupied with everything disarranged; his desk had been forced open to extract a key; the wine cellar broken open where about 30 bottles (of mostly 20-year-old port) were missing, presumed to have been consumed during the festivities. During this time, they had also ordered meat from a local butcher and killed several fowls. Annie and Jane absconded when the Ushers returned, but attended Louth County Police-Court on 14th March, along with two 20-year-old men from Louth. They all pleaded guilty, one stated that he was made too drunk to remember anything. Rev Usher strongly recommended that they be leniently dealt with, taking this into consideration the magistrates imposed a fine of £3 each.

Whilst on her way to church on a dark November evening in 1888, Mrs Usher accidentally walked into the **Mar Dyke**. It was such a dark night that she could not see where she was walking and mistook the water for the road. After being in the water for quarter of an hour, 69-year-old Alvira was extricated in an exhausted condition.

In July **1889** the Usher's left Saltfleetby after 23 years, and Henry was appointed the Rector of St Nicholas' **Snitterby** near Kirton Lindsey, by patronage of the Crown. The living (income) at Snitterby was higher, valued at £420 per annum. Rev Swithinbank left his new appointment at St Mawgan in Cornwall to take over the rectory at St Clements, now valued as a living of £290. He, Selina & their four surviving young children moved into the rectory.

Rev Usher frequently visited **Snitterby School**, in November 1889 he went every day for a week and brought in some needlework for the girls. In January 1890 he spoke at an entertainment of music, acts and recitations, held in local farmer Mr Trafford's barn, to raise money for the school. He introduced the comic characters in the charade, and called for a vote of thanks for their endeavours, which raised £6 18s.

On 25th November 1890, Alvira died suddenly at their home, at the age of 71, while Henry was at her side. The cause of death was recorded as *apoplexy* (probably a stroke). She was buried in a family vault in Saltfleetby St Clement's churchyard.



Brass in memory of Alvira Usher in Snitterby Church

In March 1891 Henry installed a window dedicated to her in Snitterby St Nicholas church, depicting the crucifixion, and a memorial brass plaque on the nearby wall of the chancel inscribed: "*in loving memory of Alvira the devoted and lamented wife of the Rev Henry Usher MA".*

On 18th August 1891 Henry Usher married widow Mary Ann Chapman. She was born in 1825, the daughter of Dr Henry George a surgeon and general practitioner in Kirton Lindsey. Her first husband, of 35 years, William Chapman, a farmer with 500 acres in Burton on Stather, died in 1884 aged 71.

Rev Usher undertook plans for the restoration of the church, including rebuilding the fallen tower. Architects *W Mortimer and Sons of Lincoln*, engaged local builders for the project in April 1894. A bazaar held in the rectory grounds in June 1894 raised money for the new tower, and also for a new peal of bells and a clock. A service of dedication for the new tower took place on 30th October 1894, preached by the Bishop of Lincoln, and evening service by Rev Swithinbank.



The tower of Snitterby St Nicholas, rebuilt by Rev Usher in 1894

After further fund-raising, including a collection at the Harvest Thanksgiving celebrations, the clock was installed in the tower in September 1896.

Rev Henry Usher died on 7th December 1896 at the age of 79, of rheumatism and cardiac failure, after suffering illness for some months. A tribute in The *Hull Times* on 19th December said: "*he was an earnest worker in his Master's cause, ever courteous and kind to his parishioners. No one who went to him*

for comfort and help ever came away disappointed". "*He is greatly missed by the members of his choir, his voice having always led the singing in time and tune".*

The first part of his burial service was held at Snitterby Church at 9.30am on Thursday 17th December, conducted by the Rev Simpson, rector of Waddingham who led a touching service to a full church.



The Usher family vault in Saltfleetby St Clement's churchyard

The coffin was then taken to Saltfleetby where the remaining part of the service was held at 1 o'clock on the Friday. The coffin was covered with wreaths from friends, parishioners, choir and school children. The vault bears inscriptions in memory of Alvira, Henry and Alexander, now much weathered.

Probate was granted to his widow Mary, daughter Selina, and the architects William Mortimer & his son William Malkinson Mortimer, who were executors of his will. He left effects to the value of £3698 4s 2d.

Selina and John Swithinbank had a further two children at St Clement's Rectory: Gladys in 1890 and Theodore in 1891. On 3rd September 1897 Rev John Edwin Swithinbank died of heart disease age 45. He was buried in St Clement's churchyard. Selina took over as patron of the church, and appointed Rev William H. Hutchins of Saltfleetby All Saints', to also act as rector of St Clements. She and her children moved to Ella Street in Leeds.

Mary Ann Usher moved to Kirton Lindsey where she lived with her domestic servants, including Lizzie Trafford from Snitterby. Mary died on 20th January 1903 age 77. She was buried at St Andrew's churchyard, Kirton in Lindsey.

Selina continued to live with her children in the Leeds area, then in Manchester. In the 1930s and 40s she owned a house on Ashton Old Road, Manchester where she lived with her oldest daughter, Kathleen and her husband. She died in Manchester Park House Hospital on Crescent Road Crumpsall on 16th June 1944 at the age of 93.