

AN INN BLOWN DOWN AT MILTON

"At 12.30pm, a powerful gust of wind blew the side wall off The New Inn, New Mill, near Milton, and afterwards lifted the roof off and carried it into an adjoining field, the premises being completely wrecked. The landlady of the inn is Mrs. Vaughan, whose daughter lives with her. A party of sportsmen, comprising Messrs. H. J. Chambers of Marlborough, G. Fall jr. of Burbage Wharf and T. Hyland had just entered the building and were on the point of sitting down to lunch when the upper part of the side wall collapsed and crashed into the bedrooms over their heads. Mrs. Vaughan, realizing the danger, advised them to get out at once, and at the same time she and her daughter ran out and were fortunate in escaping the falling debris, a considerable quantity of which fell just as they were passing out of the door.

The fury of the storm was terrible, and it was evident that the wind would make short work of the tottering house now that it had got under the roof. The visitors made an effort to secure it by means of ropes, but while they were in the act of throwing these over, the hurricane lifted the roof completely off the building and carried it some 30 or 40 yards away where it fell into a field. Happily no one was injured. But the house became a total wreck and the occupants were forced to seek shelter in the midst of the pitiless storm."

The Marlborough Times Saturday 16th December 1893

OPC Note: – The inn was repaired soon afterwards. Mrs Vaughan remained the licensee of the New Inn until her death in 1930. Her daughter Georgiana took over the license of the renamed Liddiard Arms until she retired in 1938.

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