

# THE KNIGHT WILL GO WITH THEM

**THE FINE** old stone barn at Water Stratford which caught fire on Friday is being restored and transformed into what should prove an impressive family residence, with its best features preserved.

Chatting to the owners, Mr. and Mrs. P. A. V. Wright, of Churchgate Lodge, Twyford, Tatler learned that inside the barn is a stone inscribed with the date 1598.

The couple also told Tatler of a link between Twyford and Water Stratford which will, in a small but interesting way, be marked when they move house taking with them a fine brass rubbing of one Thomas Giffard.

Mr. and Mrs. Wright started their married life at Twyford, living in the old Vicarage. They then moved to Manor Farm, Water Stratford, next to the barn now being restored, and in the meantime have moved back to Twyford.

They discovered that Manor Farm once belonged to John Gyffard, a former lord of the manor or Twyford, who gave the land attached to the farm, and presumably also the barn, to his son, Sir Thomas Giffard.

Now Mrs. Wright is a keen brass rubber, and has an impressive collection of rubbings. Tatler noted a fine example hanging in the hall of their present home, Churchgate Lodge, and learned that this represented Thomas Giffard, and was taken from the brass inside Twyford Parish Church.

Naturally they will be taking this knight gentleman along with them when

they move to Water Stratford, to a place which may well have been honoured with his actual presence hundreds of years ago.