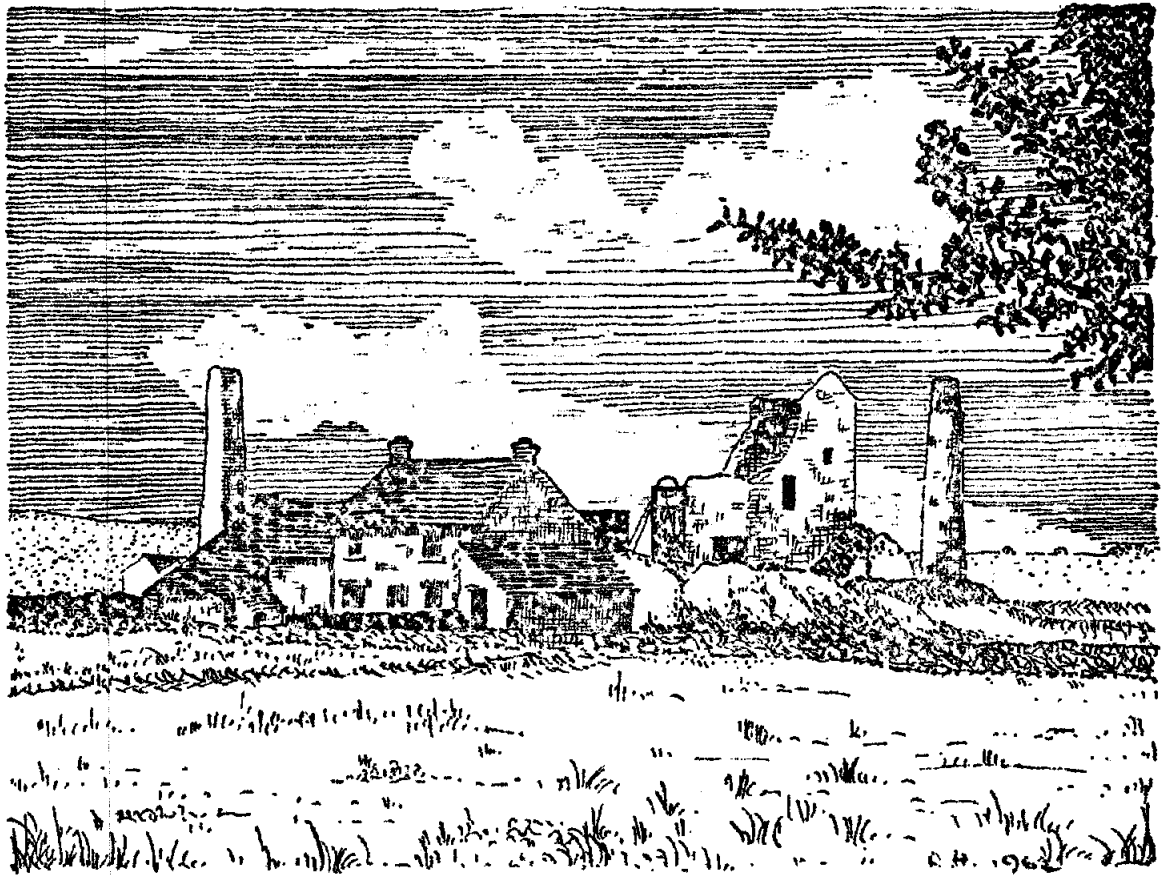


VOLUME 2

# DERBYSHIRE MISCELLANY.



BULLETIN  
OF THE  
LOCAL HISTORY SECTION  
DERBYSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

DERBYSHIRE MISCELLANY

VOLUME 2 NO.7

FEBRUARY 1962

Editorial

A combination of unforeseen circumstances made it impossible to produce the Autumn Bulletin in October last year. It has been decided, therefore, to combine it with this February issue.

It is some years since Mr. R. H. Oakley contributed his note on the Barlborough Hall Documents, and so his article on the Mills of Holymoorside is especially welcome. Very few of Derbyshire's many watermills remain to-day, and it is important that all existing information should be recorded. At Holymoorside, for instance, not one of the five known mills remains standing, and it is gratifying to be able to publish the results of Mr. Oakley's valuable researches.

Many other old buildings are disappearing, and any effort to preserve records is praiseworthy. Mr. C. J. Smith, for example, has shown to the Section many fine colour photographs of old buildings in the Chesterfield district. On February 10th Lt. Cdr. H. S. Bromby will be giving to members in Derby an illustrated talk on the work which he has been doing in the Duffield area.

It was with very deep regret that we heard of the death of Mr. G. H. Large. He had been an active and enthusiastic supporter of the Section since it was formed, and had lately been engaged, with Mr. Nicholson, on researches into the life of Woolley the Codnor clockmaker. Mrs. Large has very kindly sent along her husband's notes, and these are reproduced here.

If after reading the interesting article on crossbows any member remembers seeing other examples, Mr. Hayhurst will certainly be glad to hear about it.

Mr. Francis Fisher's notes from old documents are always read with pleasure, and it is hoped to publish a further series shortly. Meanwhile it is interesting to study the names of garden plants which were being grown nearly three hundred years ago. Mr. Fisher's devoted labours to prepare the hitherto unpublished Glover notes would be better rewarded if members could send in additional information to supplement these.

It is hoped to issue Miss Nellie Kirkham's tragic story of the Magpie Mine before Whitsuntide. Anyone requiring additional copies should write to the Editor at once, please.

## THE MILLS OF HOLYMOORSIDE

by R. H. Oakley

In a county of hills and rapid streams it is a commonplace of local history that the origin and development of many communities is to be sought in the use of water-power for corn-grinding and industrial purposes. But where most of the visible evidence has disappeared, the point may easily be lost sight of. Such is the case with Holymoorside on the little River Hipper, three miles west of Chesterfield. The stream rises about the 1000 ft. line on the East Moors, and in its descent through the narrow and picturesque valley of Cathole, falls 600 feet in just over two miles. A little below the eastern end of Holy Moor the hills begin to tail off and the valley broadens out considerably, but the stream, joined by a small tributary (Loads Brook, also called Cliff Bottom Brook), still flows swiftly, and rises rapidly after rain - an ideal spot for the siting of mills and the growth of a community around them.

Five mill-sites at Holymoorside can be easily recognized on the ground, but no buildings other than dwelling-houses stand on any of them to-day. They are for the most part fairly well documented, though changes of name sometimes raise problems of identification.

A. Mr. Ashmore's farm buildings by Loads Brook, on the north side of Loads Road. The site of the mill-pond, running parallel with the brook between the farm buildings and Chander Lane, is now dry, but a sluice-gate still survives at the north-west end.

This seems to be the oldest mill-site in Holymoorside. An entry in a manor court roll of 1501 mentions:-

A road leading from the upper of le Loods to Hole Myln, which was a common road to the tenants there. (1)

The road must be identical, in part, with the narrow road still leading from the Loads region through the waterworks to Chander Lane, ending at a point nearly opposite the site of the mill-pond. The fact that the road was in common use amongst the local inhabitants suggests that the mill was an ordinary village corn mill such as most mediaeval communities possessed.

A deed of 1599 mentions "a watermill called Holly Milne" and cottages, both standing on or near Holley Moore alias Holley Greene (2) and another deed of 1634 refers to the corn mill at Howley alias Holley More (3). At this time the mill was part of the estates of the Clarke

family of Somersall Hall nearly two miles away.

In the time of the Commonwealth, or somewhat earlier, a lead-smelting mill came into operation near this site. It was regarded as a great nuisance by the local farmers, and about 1656 one of them, named Swift, obtained a legal verdict against the tenant, Paul Fletcher, which compelled him to close it down. About 1663, however, Fletcher's heir, Richard Jenkinson, proposed to re-open it, and Swift's son, Francis, petitioned the Duke of Newcastle to get it closed again. His complaints against the lead-smelters seem reasonable enough. By diverting the stream off his land they had deprived his cattle of their drinking-place, and the smoke and fumes from the building were injurious to both cattle and corn. (4) But this time the protest met with no success. In 1667 Godfrey Clarke of Somersall leased to George Birds of Stanton Hall, Youlgreave, for seven years, a "Lead Mill or Smelting House on Hawley Moore commonly called Longe Chimney" (5), and in 1671 there were at Howley Moore, in addition to a water corn mill, two "smilting mills for the meltinge of leade oare and makeinge of leade", in the occupation of Godfrey Watkinson Gent. and George Birds. (6)

In 1745 (7) the corn mill was worked by Joseph Condy (8), who lived in a cottage adjoining the dam. The mill was still part of the estates of the Clarke family, who let it at £25 per annum. Attached to the deed which records this information is a complete list of the machinery and implements of the mill at this time:-

	£	s	d
The water wheele part worn the workmanship valued at (9)	2	10	0
The Two Shafts part worn	0	10	0
The two Cogg wheels little worn	2	12	6
Both the Mill Trundles part worn	0	6	8
A pair of Wallars and Cogg wheels Trundles and Shafts for the Black Stones a Quarter worn	3	15	0
The Blackstone case and head Gear a Quarter worn	0	6	9
The Shulling Mill Case and head Geare halfe worn	0	6	8
The over Mill Case and head Geare almost new	0	10	0
The hurst almost new	0	13	4
Three Meal Troughs under the Mill part worn	0	6	0

continued

	£	s	d
Seaven Setts of Coggs and Rounds the Hewing at 18 pence a Sett	0	10	0
The Shutles about halfe worn	0	3	9
Four Moulter Arks halfe worn	0	10	6
A Pair of Blackstones Cost £12 about 20s worn off So valued	11	0	0
A pair of Stones on the Wheat Mill	7	15	6
A pair of Stones on the Shulling Mill	4	0	0
A Mettle Grate in the Killn cost 17s 10d a Heur Cloth 7s	1	4	10
Three and Twenty Picks 6s. Three Black Stone Picks 1s	0	7	0
The Pulley Heads Wind and Ropes 8s. A Fann and Cloth 10s	0	18	0
A Strike two Pecks and two Quarterns	0	4	6
A Iron Crow, 3 Stone Chissells, a wood Chissel a Saw a Busking hamer a little hammer	0	8	0
A Dusting Scive 5s Four Meal Scives 4s Three Scuttles 10d	0	9	10
A Fire Range and Tongs 1s 6d a Grindle-stone 8d a Ladder 1s 4d	0	3	6
A Spade and Fire fork 1s 6d a paire of Trundles 3s	0	4	6
Five Loads of Cokes 4s 2d Two pounds of Candles Grease and Tallow	0	5	2
	<u>40</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>

The deed contains no reference to lead-smelting, which suggests that activity had ceased here by 1745.

The mill remained in the hands of the Cundy family for many years. In 1824 another Joseph Cundy is named as the miller. In that year the Marquis of Ormonde, to whom the Clarke estates had descended, sold up all his property in the Chesterfield area. (10) The estate was broken up into small lots, and Cundy purchased the mill which he occupied as tenant. The sale-notice and accompanying map, combined with the earlier Clarke documents mentioned above, enable us safely to identify this site with Holly or Hole Mill. By 1824 that name seems to have been forgotten, but "Holly Mead" and "Holly Cliff" were still in use

as the names of the fields adjacent to the pond on its northern side.

In 1828 both this and Cathole Corn Mill (see below, B), belonged to Joseph Cundy, but at that time the business was "being intended to be conducted under a different management", and he requested all persons having any claims on him to send in their accounts. (11) He seems, however, to have remained there to the end of his life, for the Brampton Tithe Award gives "the executors of Joseph Cundy" as occupiers in 1840.

I have not discovered when this mill ceased working.

B. Corn Mill Cottage, in Cathole, on the west bank of the river near the road, about half a mile from the centre of Holymoorside. The original mill-building has been converted to a dwelling-house, and two millstones are preserved near the drive. The wheel was fed by an underground channel from a small rectangular pond of purely artificial construction at the end of the field on the south-west side of the building. The site of the pond, now dry, is perfectly clear beside the road, with the mouth of the underground channel still visible in the corner nearest the building. On the ground it is not obvious how the pond itself was supplied (the river being much lower), but the Brampton Tithe Map shows a narrow watercourse connecting the pond with the river at a point three fields upstream.

This mill was originally connected with the lead industry. The earliest reference to it which I have seen is a deed dated 1698. (12) It was called Cathole Mill and at that time stood on the Duke of Newcastle's estates. There were a red lead mill and a pig-lead smelting mill, both under the same roof. The red lead mill had been occupied by Thomas Shaw, merchant of London, and in 1698 was leased for seven years at £5 annual rent to another London merchant, Richard Lindsey. It is surprising that the two mills were worked as separate concerns, but this must have been the case, for the document expressly excludes the lead mill from the lease.

The lead-smelting mill continued to operate for over a century after this date. The place was (and still is) a remote one surrounded by woods, and no doubt the fumes and mess gave annoyance to no-one. In 1804 it was in the hands of Isaac Wilkinson (13), a partner of the Barker family, which held extensive interests in the Derbyshire lead industry during the latter part of the 18th century. In 1807 Wilkinson withdrew from the partnership, and it was probably in that year that the mill stopped working. It was certainly idle in 1812, when it was leased to one Thomas Hayes for conversion to corn milling, as is shown by an entry in a Chatsworth Estates lease-book:-

Messrs. John and Isaac Wilkinson (Holymoore Side).

Smolting Mills, Pond etc. Rent £5.

Thomas Hayes proposes to take the Mill etc. at the rent of £8 per ann. and to convert the same into a Corn Mill. To put into it 3 pair of stones, viz. 1 black and 2 grey, and to build a shelling Mill - also to build a small Dwelling House - the whole to be at his own expense. The Duke giving him the old materials towards it. Rent to commence from Lady Day 1813.

I agree to take the above Mill etc. on these terms.  
May 8, 1812. Thomas Hays.

3 May 1812. Let these premises to Thomas Hayes from Lady Day 1813 at yearly rent of £8.

By 1828 Joseph Cundy had come into possession of this mill as well as the previous one, but it was his intention that Cathole Corn Mill should be demolished. (15) This intention was published as an inducement to prospective purchasers of the adjacent cotton mill (see below, D). May we conclude that the corn mill interfered with the working of the cotton mill? The demolition, however, was never carried out. The Tithe Award gives James Hayes as the miller in 1840, and in 1845 he appears in a list of persons who were members of the Chesterfield and North Derbyshire Banking Company. (16) Mr. Hopkinson, an old inhabitant of the district, told me that the mill was still working about 1887, when oats were brought from Ashover for grinding there. But the miller of that time, named Robinson, was succeeded as occupier by a Mr. Needham, who built an extension on to the house towards the road, and took out the waterwheel and machinery.

C. "Manlove's Cotton Mill", on the western side of the Hipper near the bridge on the road from Holymoorside to Walton. The building itself has been demolished, but the large mill-pond and dam remain.

D. "The Dye Works", on the Hipper just below Site B, now converted to dwelling-houses. Originally another cotton mill called Cathole Mill stood here, between the present buildings and the remains of the dam. The dried-up mill-pond, with a sluice-gate at the farther end, can be seen in a little wood which extends from here to the corn mill.

These two cotton mills were usually under one ownership, and are best dealt with together.

The former dates back to at least the last decade of the eighteenth century. In 1797 five persons - Samuel Belfitt joiner of Walton, John Belfitt farmer of Brampton, Jarvis Radley mercer of Chesterfield, Paul Bright, Gent. of Inkersall and John Beighton yeoman of Brampton - were partners in the business of "preparing, spinning and vending Cotton

Yarn or Twist at the Cotton Mill situate at Holymoore Side".(17)  
In April that year the first two withdrew from the partnership, selling their shares to the rest for £600. In 1812 the partnership is named as "John Beighton and others"; they paid £41 annual rent for the mill to the Lord of Walton Manor. (18)

In the 1820's the partners were William Cundy, his brother John Cundy, and a man named Crozier. They extended the business by building the second cotton mill (D) at a cost of over £1,000. But the partners did not get on well together. Their agreement had been that Crozier should have a house rent free and a fifth share of the profits. But owing to some disagreement Crozier withdrew from the partnership. The compensation he received was less than he considered himself entitled to, and to make this up he took away two skips of cops of cotton. The Cundys were granted a warrant to search his house for the property, but Crozier alleged that the constable and his assistants who took part in the search took away some household utensils. (19) One is left with the impression of Crozier as an incurable trouble-maker, but it seems probable that the Cundys lost his partnership through sheer incompetence at their business, for in the same year, 1826, they were declared bankrupt. (20)

The older mill now came into the hands of John Hackett and Co. of Derby; the other seems to have remained empty from 1826 to 1828.(21)  
In 1828 both were put up for sale. The history of the mills during the next few years is rather obscure. In the Directories of the time Joseph Mellor is described as a cotton-spinner at Holymoorside (residing at Well Spring House) in 1828 and 1829, and "Mills and Elliott" as cotton-spinners there in the same years. (22)

In 1833 the older mill was again advertised for sale, and both mills in January 1834; "John Hackett or his under-tenants" being named as the late occupiers of the older, and J. W. Haythorne of Nottingham as late tenant of the newer. (23) The sale-notices contribute some details which help to form a picture of what the mills were like at this time. The older mill was stone-built, three storeys high, and capable of employing over 100 hands. It was driven by an over-shot waterwheel 24 ft. in diameter, and a new wheel, shafts and gearings had been installed in or just before 1833. Attached to the mill was a dwelling-house and an extensive garden. It was advertised as being "in a populous neighbourhood where" (a characteristic nineteenth-century touch) "any number of hands can be had at very moderate wages". (24) Further advantages were "a good bridle road to Chesterfield, and a cart road to the Coal Pits without a toll-bar, and where coals are good in quality and very moderate price". (25)  
The other mill also was stone-built, three storeys high, and employing nearly 100 hands. It had an overshot water wheel with a fall of 18 ft.



Although I have seen no positive evidence for it, I think that it was at this time (1834) that the mills were purchased by the first of the Manlove family to come into the district. Simeon Manlove is at any rate described as a "Persian sewing-cotton manufacturer" at Holymoorside in 1846 and 1857. (26) His sons J. E. and W. M. Manlove continued in the business, which became a very thriving one. I have as yet found no materials for a detailed history of it during this period, and can give only the barest outline. The Manloves resided a mile away from their mills at Belmont, "a fine old mansion surrounded by a park" (27), formerly the home of the Gladwins. They took a predominant part in local government, and it must have been during this period that Holymoorside took on the lay-out and appearance which we see to-day. Most of the houses in New Road (the main part of the village) give the appearance of having been built at this time as accommodation for the employees at the mill, and the Manloves built the school here in 1874. (27) The cotton was spun at the older mill, and Cathole Cotton Mill was converted to a dye-works. The business seems to have closed down about 1905, but the older mill remained standing for some twenty years more, being put to various uses including the billeting of soldiers during the First World War.

E. East of Holymoore Road, directly behind Hipper Hall Farm, is a small mill-site now completely deserted. The field on the east side of the Hipper here is named "Mill Field" in the Ormonde Estate sale-notice of 1824, but the mill had gone out of use by that date. Its position is clearly indicated by a small oblong "earthwork" on the river-bank.

The history of this mill is very obscure. Beside the farmhouse is an old stone-built barn of unusual length, reputed to have once been a tithe-barn. On the western side of the stream, immediately opposite the mill-site, a fragment of an old track bordered by ancient hawthorn trees extends for a short distance in the direction of the farmhouse. It seems almost certain that the mill had some connection with the farmhouse, which on architectural and other evidence can be dated to the seventeenth century or a little earlier. (28)

While walking over the mill-site I extracted from the ground a large sherd of pottery of the type known as Cistercian Ware, which, if "in situ", indicates sixteenth or seventeenth century occupation. I am inclined to identify the site with a corn mill at Holymoorside named Owler Mill or Haye Mill, mentioned in a sale-notice of 1801. (29) The miller was Robert Botham of Chesterfield (this was also the name of the family that farmed at Hipper Hall until 1959); the mill was "in full work" in 1801, and there was an intention to enlarge the dam.

The writer is only too well aware how many gaps in the story remain to be filled in, and would be grateful to anyone who could supply any further information on the topic. It may perhaps be possible some time

to deal more fully with certain personalities and periods. In the meantime, it is hoped that this article may serve as an introduction to an area hitherto little investigated by Derbyshire historians.

### Glossary

Busking hamer	"Busk" is an old verb meaning to dress or prepare. Presumably a "Busking hamer" was a heavy one for rough preparatory work, as distinct from the "little hammer".
Cop	A ball of thread wound on a spindle.
Grindlestone	A grindstone.
Huer cloth	Meaning?
Hurst	The frame in which a pair of millstones was placed.
Moulter Ark	Correctly spelt "multure-ark", a box for holding multure. Multure was a toll consisting of a proportion of the grain brought or the flour made, paid to the tenant of the mill for the privilege of having corn ground.
Shelling or Shulling Mill	A mill for "shelling" (taking the rind from) grain.
Strike	A corn measure, its quantity varying from district to district.
Trundle	A lantern-wheel, i.e. two discs turning on an axle, connected to each other by parallel staves cylindrically arranged.
Wallar	A cog-wheel attached to the main driving-shaft, to which it transmitted the drive from the waterwheel.

### References and Notes

- (1) Temple Normanton Manor Court Rolls, published in DAJ lxxviii p. 40 foll.
- (2) Notts. County Record Office, Portland Collection, DDP 53/9.
- (3) Do. DDP 53/12.
- (4) Do. DDP 53/15.

- (5) (6) (7) Deeds in Northants. County Record Office; Photostat Copies in Chesterfield Borough Library.
- (8) The usual spelling of the surname is Cundy or Cundey. In the Parish Registers of Brampton the name occurs frequently from 1663, and "John Cundy miller" occurs in 1709.
- (9) In the original the last four words occur in most of the items.
- (10) Sale-notice in Chesterfield Borough Library, L942.51.
- (11) Chesterfield Gazette, June 21, 1828.
- (12) Portland Collection DDP 53/25.
- (13) Sheffield City Library, Bagshawe Collection 483 (Barkers and Wilkinsons' Waste Book). I owe this reference, and the details regarding I. Wilkinson, to G. G. Hopkinson's article in DAJ lxxviii p. 9 foll.
- (14) In the Hardwick Estates Office, Chesterfield.
- (15) Chesterfield Gazette, July 5, 1828.
- (16) Derbys. Courier, Feb. 15, 1845.
- (17) Deed in possession of J. Pashley, Chesterfield.
- (18) Sale-notice in Derby Borough Library, Document Collection 6307.
- (19) Chesterfield Gazette, July 5, 1828.
- (20) Derby Mercury, Feb. 8, 1826.
- (21) Chesterfield Gazette, July 5, 1828. Hackett and Co. also owned cotton mills at Wirksworth and Tansley in 1816 - Derbys. Miscellany, Mar. 1957.
- (22) Pigot's Commercial Directory 1828; Glover's Derbys. Directory 1829.
- (23) Derbys. Courier, April 6, 1833 and Jan. 4, 1834.
- (24) It seems surprising that Holymoorside should be described as a populous neighbourhood in 1833. Perhaps most of the mill-hands came from New Brampton, where a "considerable increase in population" is reported as early as 1789 (Pilkington's Derbyshire, ii p. 242).

- (25) The pits at Walton are probably meant. There were coal-pits at Brampton Moor and Ashgate, but between there and Holymoorside there was a toll-gate at Brookside.
- (26) Bagshaw's Derbys. Directory 1846; White's do. 1857.
- (27) Bulmer's Derbys. Directory 1895.
- (28) The architectural style is "Tudor", but in Derbyshire this lasted to "an astonishingly late date" (Pevsner, Buildings of England, Derbyshire, p. 26). Some window-scratchings were recently discovered in the house with a date 1607.
- (29) Chesterfield Borough Library, L942.51.

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DERBYSHIRE AND THE CROSSBOW

by Rennie Hayhurst

At the moment there is considerable agitation in favour of a ban on atomic weapons because of their inhumanity.

Following the 1914-18 War there was a similar agitation against the use of poison gas; in the 12th century there was an outcry against the use of the crossbow - and for the same reason. Feeling was evidently so strong that in 1139 the Lateran Council prohibited the use of the crossbow in warfare between Christian peoples, though its use continued to be permissible against infidels.

In England it appears that the crossbow was never popular as a weapon of warfare; indeed it might be true to say, remembering the praises given to the success of the longbow at Crecy and Agincourt, that it was rather an object of derision, and therefore it is only infrequently that one meets with a reference to it.

This being the case, it is rather remarkable that we have in Derbyshire two items of interest concerning the crossbow. Firstly at Haddon Hall I remember being shown, several years ago, in the Peveril Tower, an appliance, made of wood and fastened vertically to a wall, which was described to me as "a rack for stringing bows". I have since seen it described and illustrated in "The Peak of Derbyshire" by John Leyland and "Haddon" by G. Le Blanc-Smith.

I recall that I was at a loss to see how it could possibly have been used, but it is obvious now that its purpose was undoubtedly for the stringing of crossbows. I am told that the strongest longbow can be strung by hand, without any mechanical aid. Perhaps the rack at Haddon, incomplete as it is, may be unique in this country; in any event it must be extremely rare.

Secondly, at Morley Church there is a series of windows which came from Dale Abbey. In the first scene of the series depicting St. Robert and the deer, St. Robert is seen with the deer he has shot. It will be noted that St. Robert holds a crossbow - very clearly shown. One of the keepers in the background holds a longbow and a longbow will be seen in another window also. One is tempted to think that the mediaeval artist was intentionally trying to give St. Robert the aura of a foreigner by giving him a crossbow. However, to see a crossbow depicted at all is unusual, and in stained glass it may well be unique.

Perhaps therefore as we live almost in the shade of the traditional haunts of Robin Hood, and having buried here at Hathersage the remains of Little John, it is fitting that these two connections with the crossbow should be noted.

The "inhuman power" of the crossbow has been referred to, and it is a fact that the weapon reached a very high standard of power and efficiency. No doubt at first the bows were of wood, but later a steel bow was used, and whereas the longbow had a pull of some 40 lbs. the crossbow in its ultimate state of development had a pull of almost half a ton. The strength of this bow could, I think, fairly be compared with that of a rear spring on a motor car. It is obvious, therefore, that it was a weapon of tremendous power, and that is where the necessity arises for the Haddon Hall rack.

The rack was used in putting a new string on a bow - and the string was some half-inch in diameter. The procedure was this: the new bowstring was prepared, having a loop at each end. Then a second string, also with looped ends, and made sufficiently long to slip over the ends of the relaxed bow, was made ready. This was known as a "bastard" string. The bastard string was looped over the bow, the stock of the crossbow was placed in the rack, a hook went over the bastard string, and the bow was then bent either by a long lever or a screw. The ends of the bow having thus been brought closer together, the proper bowstring was slipped over them, the pull was eased, and the bastard string dropped off, leaving the new bowstring taking the strain. The rack, therefore, was used only in replacing bowstrings - not for re-loading.

But it is interesting to consider the various devices which were used to load the crossbow during its period of development. At first

the bowstring could be pulled back by hand, but as bows became stronger this was no longer possible. The first move was to put a stirrup, for one or both feet, at the front of the stock, so that the bowman could put the nose of the bow on the ground and pull against the pressure of his feet. Later a cord was fastened to a belt round the bowman's waist; on the cord was a pulley with a hook. The hook was placed on the bowstring and by pulling on the cord the bowman would thus double the power of his pull. Another method used a separate lever, known as the Goat's Foot Lever. A most beautifully conceived piece of apparatus, this is one of those objects where rightness of design automatically produces beauty of form. Ultimately, more powerful winding devices were used, some using the principle of multiple pulleys and others using the power of the screw in various forms.

The bolt, or quarrel, was a short, weighty object, having three flights of goose feathers, and its power and range were vastly superior to those of the longbow. The stock of the crossbow was frequently elaborately inlaid and ornamented in a manner which appears to have persisted in hand firearms down to the present day.

Now it is evident that in the field the crossbow would be cumbersome, slow in re-loading, and requiring the use of a separate piece of apparatus to re-load. These disadvantages would not be so detrimental in the defence of a castle, and thus we find the re-stringing rack at Haddon. The following extracts appear to confirm this suggestion:

From an Inventory of Stores at Berwick Castle, 1298.

".....seven crowbows with winches with old cords, and four of them are out of order for want of cords. Six crossbows for two feet, one of which wants two cords and one nut, and seven new "costes" varnished as it appears, etc., eight crossbows for one foot, all in order excepting four nuts, one "teller" with a winch, and one for one foot; .....189 wings of geese for feathering crossbow bolts..... Four score bolts for crossbows of one foot, and iron for the heads of guards for crossbows of one foot, and five hundred bolts for crossbows of two feet, and three hundred bolts for crossbows with winches....."

And from an Inventory of Arms at Skipton Castle.

"Item, in Cross Bowes at Skipton.  
Sir W. Ingleby had II and II racks.  
Edm. Eltoftes, Esquyer, I and I racke.  
William Farrande, I and II racks.  
Remaining in Skipton Castle II and ..... rack."

The crossbow had other uses; it was a popular sporting weapon - it is said that Queen Elizabeth I was a tolerably good shot, and it was popular with assassins who were prone to carry specially small ones. In each of the last two uses the quietness of the crossbow was an important factor.

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WOOLLEY THE CODNOR CLOCKMAKER

by G. H. Large

Since an appeal was made for information about the famous clockmaker a large number of suggestions and contributions have been received from a wide area. Everyone who has helped in any way may rest assured that the contribution has been appreciated.

The first apparent inconsistency is in the spelling of the clockmaker's name. On clocks it is usually spelt WOLLEY but in records of the family in registers and in books and papers the form WOOLLEY is used. The man himself, who was responsible for the spelling WOLLEY on clocks, signed his last will and testament "James Woolley". The further back in time the more often WOLLEY is found but in the later years it was always WOOLLEY.

There is a further confusion with regard to the death of the clockmaker. Bailey in "Annals of Nottinghamshire" said that the Codnor clockmaker Woolley died about 1770. It was found that a Jonathan Woolley died in 1769, which suggested that this might be the Clockmaker. Mr. Edwin Walker of Eyam wrote to say he had a clock made by John Woolley of Codnor, and suggested that there might have been two clockmakers. Mr. Bestwick of Ilkeston, who is an Antiquarian Horologist, possessed an old Woolley movement with the inscription "James Wolley, Codnor Fecit". That ruled out "Jonathan" but "John" still had to be explained.

An enquiry was sent to the District Probate Registrar regarding the possibility of tracing a will made by James Woolley. There seemed little hope, but the letter was passed to the Lichfield Joint Record Office with the surprising news that the will of James Woolley had been traced, and a copy could be obtained. Perusal of this copy, which is quoted later, proved that there were at least two clockmakers, James and John, who were uncle and nephew. This James Woolley died "a very old man" in 1786, so that the date of death, about 1770,

quoted by Bailey would appear to be an error. There could hardly have been two clockmakers of the same name and almost contemporary, but as will be pointed out later, the birth of James Woolley must have been about or before 1700, but not later than that date.

The London Guildhall Librarian has given two items of information: "Woolley at Codnor, died when old in 1786" and "A manuscript collection of press extracts includes one from the Nottingham Journal of 2 December 1786 recording the death of Woolley on Codnor Common". This would mean of course that his house was on Codnor Common. This was just before the Common was enclosed, and all the land from Codnor Gate to Codnor Breach where the streets now are was Common Land. An entry in the Heanor Parish Register reads: "James Woolley of Codnor, Buried November ye 25th 1786", so that the date of James' death seems to have been established.

A copy of the Will of John Woolley was also traced, and as his six children were under twenty-one it is reasonable to assume that he would be a comparatively young man, probably the son of a younger brother. The death of John Woolley is given as "March 19th 1795, John Woolley Coppice aged 57". There still exists the Coppice Farm, which in all probability was bequeathed by James to his nephew. The street in Codnor now called Mill Lane was formerly Coppice Lane.

James Woolley had left a considerable portion of his estate to "My Nephew John Woolley, Clockmaker", and after every mention of "the said John Woolley" was added "Clockmaker" as if the older man was proud of the younger. John survived his uncle by only nine years, having had only a comparatively short period of clockmaking. James had worked practically night and day, while John, having had the benefit of the considerable experience of James and lacking the old man's urge to acquire wealth, would be able to concentrate on making good clocks. James made clocks for money; John as heir to a wealthy uncle had no need to make profit his sole aim. So the possession of a clock made by John is a rare occurrence.

The name Woolley has been well known in the Codnor district for generations. Men of that name have been prominent as landowners and farmers; a doctor and a Justice of the Peace have borne the name, but James was the only one to achieve a national reputation. According to Yeatman's Feudal History of Derby, a sum of money was paid to the Sheriff of Nottingham in 1186 for "the farm of Henry de Wulvulega" - this name would appear to be an early form of Wolley or Woolley.



The earliest mention of a Woolley clock is in a press cutting, supplied by Mr. Bestwick, giving an extract from the diary of a Lincolnshire farmer:

"1724 July 10th Bot at Derby Market from Wolley of Codnor, square oak clock. Paid £4. 10s. He wanted £5".

This gives the market value of his clock in the early years of his career, and his practice of taking his clocks to Market.

No record has been found of the date of James Woolley's birth, but it may be about 1700 at the latest. When the Commission was secured to make a clock for the new Nottingham Exchange (1726) he must obviously have finished his apprentice years, and been recognised as an expert at his work.

The most widely known facts about James Woolley are those recorded by J. Blackner in his book "The History of Nottingham" published in 1815. These facts were repeated later by Bailey in "Annals of Nottinghamshire". "The Exchange Hall or as some call it the New 'Change was built in 1724 at a cost of £2,400. In the centre of the front is one large niche and two small ones. Above the niches is a clock accompanied by a bell, which, independent of giving the hour, is used as an alarm bell, whenever the Magistrates see it necessary to call the posse comitatus to their aid. The clock was made by one Woolley of Codnor, Derbyshire". There follows the story of Young Woolley being apprehended for shooting game on the estate of Andrew Horne Esq. of Butterley. This is quoted later.

Woolley's conviction occurred at the time when the tightened Game Laws of the Restoration period were in force. From Norman times the interests of all classes were subjected to the Royal demand for deer to hunt. Changes of time demanded sacrifices by yeomen and farmers in order that squires should hunt and shoot partridge. In 1671 a law was passed that prevented all freeholders of under one hundred pounds a year from killing game - even on their own land.

To revert to the Exchange Clock, the accounts do not quite coincide as we shall see. Mr. F. Fisher has sent the following extract from Hones Every Day Book Vol.II, 1827:

"Once in his life Woolley was convicted of liberality. He had at great labour and expense of time made, what he considered, a clock of considerable value; and, as it was probably too large for common purposes, he presented it to the Corporation of Nottingham, for the Exchange. In return he was made a freeman of the town. They could not have conferred on him a greater favour; the honour mattered not - but election dinners were things which powerfully appealed through his

stomach to his heart. The first he attended was productive of a ludicrous incident. His shabby and vagrant appearance nearly excluded him from the scene of good-eating, and even when the burgesses sat down to table, no-one seemed disposed to accommodate the miserly old gentleman with a seat. The chairs were quickly filled; having no time to lose, he crept under the table and thrusting up his head forced himself violently into one, but not before he had received some heavy blows on the bare skull."

Mr. Bestwick has a press cutting upholding the idea that the clock was given in exchange for honour received - "invited him (Woolley) to all the banquets which apparently appealed to Woolley's economical nature. This clock was incorporated in the Nottingham exchange and was in regular use until 1881". This is a period of nearly 160 years.

The following was received from the Nottingham Evening News office: "In the Borough records of Nottingham dated Monday May 9th 1726 it is stated 'that James Woolley, Clockmaker, shall be employed to make a clock to be set up in the New Hall at the Shambles End and that Mr. Mayor do make such agreement with him as he shall think fit, the said Woolley having proposed to give some part of the clock to this Corporation'." That Woolley was enrolled as a Burgess of Nottingham gratis, 16th August 1728 is on record (confirmed by the Thoroton Society).

Besides making this clock, James Woolley had an earlier connection with the city. It is accepted that he was apprenticed to John Wyld of Nottingham and this is confirmed by one of his last acts, for in his will he left small legacies to three grandchildren of John Wild, Clockmaker, late of Nottingham. (See D.A.J. Vol 20?)

James became a legendary figure during his lifetime. The doings of the eccentric clockmaker would be talked about at Fairs and Markets, and anywhere else when men met to talk. The following extract from Hone's Every Day Book Vol.II 1827 p.596 has been supplied by Mr. Francis Fisher:

The Loscoe Miser    For the Every Day Book

About sixty years ago, at Loscoe, a small village in Derbyshire, lived James Woolley, notorious for three things, the very good clocks he made, his eccentric system of farming, and the very great care he took of his money. He was, like Elwes and Dancer, an old bachelor, and for the same reason, it was a favourite maxim with him, and ever upon his lips, that 'fine wives and fine gardens are mighty expensive things'. He consequently kept at a very respectable distance from both. He had indeed an unconquerable dread of anything

'fine' or that approached in any way that awful and ghost-like term 'expensive'.

It would seem that Woolley's avaricious bias was not, as is generally the case, his first ruling passion, though a phrenologist might entertain a different opinion. "When young" says Blackner in his history of Nottinghamshire, "he was partial to shooting; but being detected at his sport upon the estate of the depraved William Andrew Horne Esq. of Butterley (who was executed the 11th of December 1759 at Nottingham, for the murder of a child) and compelled by him to pay the penalty, he made a vow never to cease from labour, except when nature compelled him, till he had obtained sufficient property to justify him in following his favourite sport without dreading the frowns of his haughty neighbour. He accordingly fell to work, and continued at it until he was weary, when he rested, and 'to it again' - a plan which he pursued without any regard to night or day. He denied himself the use of an ordinary bed, and of every other comfort, as well as necessary, except of the meanest kind. But when he had acquired property to qualify him for a gun, he had lost all relish for the sport; and he continued to labour at clockmaking, except when he found an opportunity of trafficking in land, until he had amassed a considerable fortune, which he bequeathed to one of his relations. I believe he died about 1770".

It must have been a singular spectacle to any one except Woolley's neighbours, who were the daily observers of his habits, to have seen a man worth upwards of 20,000£ up at five in the morning, brushing away with his bare feet the dew as he fetched up his cows from the pasture, his shoes and stockings carefully held under his arm to prevent them from being injured by the wet; though, by the way, a glance at them would have satisfied any one they had little to fear from the dew or anything else. A penny loaf boiled in a small piece of linen, made him an excellent pudding; this with a halfpennyworth of small beer from the village alchouse was his more than ordinary dinner, and rarely sported unless on holy-days, or when he had a friend or tenant to share the luxury.

The most prominent incident in his history, was a ploughing scheme of his own invention. He had long lamented that he kept horses at a great expense for the purposes of husbandry. To have kept a saddle horse would have been extravagant - and at last fancying he could do without them, they were sold, and the money carefully laid by. This was a triumph - a noble saving! The winter passed away, and his hay and cornstacks stood undiminished; ploughing time however arrived, and his new plan must be carried into effect. The plough was drawn from its inglorious resting place, and a score men were summoned from the village to supply the place of horses. At the

breakfast table he was not without fears of a famine - he could starve himself, but a score of brawny villagers, hungry, and anticipating a hard day's work, would eat, and drink too, and must be satisfied. They soon proceeded to the field, where a long continued drought made the ground almost impenetrable; the day became excessively hot, and the men tugged and pulled to little purpose; they again ate heartily and drank more good ale than the old man had patience to think of; and difficult as it was, to force the share through the unyielding sward, it was still more difficult to refrain from laughing out at the grotesque figure their group presented. They made wry faces, and more wry furrows, and spoiled with their feet that they had not ploughed amiss. But this was not all. Had a balloon been sent up from the field it could scarcely have drawn together more intruders; he tried, but in vain, to keep them off; they thronged upon him from all quarters; his gates were all set open or thrown off their hinges; and the fences broken down in every direction. Woolley perceived his error; the men, the rope traces, and the plough were sent home in a hurry, and with some blustering, and many oaths, the trespassers were got rid of. The fences were mended, and the gates replaced, and having to his heart's content gratified his whim, he returned to the old-fashioned custom of ploughing with horses, until in his brain's fertility he could discover something better and less 'expensive'.

There is no indication of the author's name.

The Will of James Woolley, Clockmaker

IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN, I, James Woolley of Codnor in the Parish of Heanor, and County of Derby, Gentleman, being weak in Body but of sound and perfect Mind and Memory (Blessed be Almighty God for the same) do this thirteenth day of November one thousand seven hundred and eighty six, make and publish this my last Will and Testament in Manner and Form following. And first I give devise and bequeath to my nephew Samuel Woolley his heirs assigns for ever all that farm or estate situate lying and being in Loscoe in the Parish of Heanor and County of Derby with all the Appurtenances thereunto belonging now or late in the occupation of Widow Barber or her undertenants to hold to him the said Samuel Woolley his heirs and assigns for ever. Also I give to my aforesaid Nephew Samuel Woolley that other Farm or Estate situate in Loscoe aforesaid with all the Appurtenances thereunto belonging now or late in the occupation of George Taylor or his under tenants to hold for ever. LIKEWISE I further give and bequeath to my said nephew Samuel Woolley all that Farm or Estate situate in Codnor with all the Appurtenances thereunto belonging now or late in the possession of him the said Samuel Woolley or his under tenants, to hold the same to him his heirs and assigns for ever.

ALSO I give devise and bequeath to my nephew John Woolley, Clockmaker, all that Farm or Estate situate lying and being at Hucknor Torket, in the County of Nottingham with all the appurtenances thereunto belonging, now or late in the occupation of William Needham or his under tenant to hold to him the said John Woolley, Clockmaker his Heirs and assigns for ever. ALSO I give devise and bequeath to my said Nephew John Woolley, Clockmaker all that Farm and Estate situate and lying at Nether Birchwood in the Parish of Alfretton in the County of Derby with all the Appurtenances thereunto belonging, with all the Tythes of the said Farm or Estate now or late in the occupation of my Nephew Samuel Woolley of Codnor or his undertenant to hold unto him the said John Woolley, Clockmaker, his heirs and assigns for ever. ALSO I give devise and bequeath unto my aforesaid Nephew John Woolley, Clockmaker, all that Farm or Estate situate lying and being at Ripley in the Parish of Pentrich in the County of Derby with all the Appurtenances thereunto belonging, now or late in the occupation of James Sandam or his under tenants, to hold unto him the aforesaid John Woolley, Clockmaker, his heirs and assigns for ever. ALSO I give devise and bequeath to my Nephew John Woolley, Clockmaker, aforesaid all those Messuages, Dwelling Houses or Tenements with all those several Closes, Pieces or Parcels of land belonging to the same now or late in the several occupations of Myself James Woolley, Thomas Pymm, Joseph Wheeldon and Widow Burgin situate lying and being at Codnor in the Parish of Heanor and County of Derby aforesaid to hold to him the said John Woolley, Clockmaker his Heirs and Assigns for ever. ALSO I give devise and Bequeath to my aforesaid Nephew John Woolley, Clockmaker all my Chief or Fee Farm Land lying at Codnor, Langley and Loscoe together with all my Tythes at Stoney Ford in the Liberty of Codnor in the Parish of Heanor and County of Derby to hold unto him the said John Woolley his Heirs and Assigns for ever.

ALSO I give and Bequeath unto my Nephew Joseph Woolley of Ripley the sum of Forty Pounds.

ALSO I give and Bequeath unto my two Nephews John and George Woolley both of Ripley Ten Pounds each.

ALSO I give and Bequeath unto my Neice Mary Fletcher wife of John Fletcher near Ripley the sum of Five Pounds.

ALSO I give and bequeath unto my Neice Elizabeth Cater wife of Master Samuel Cater the sum of Five Pounds.

ALSO I give and Bequeath unto my Neice Mary Wood wife of Abadiah Wood the sum of Five Pounds.

ALSO I give and bequeath unto the three Sons of my Sister Ann Hatfield the sum of Ten Pounds each.

ALSO I give and bequeath unto the Four Daughters of my said Sister Ann Hatfield the sum of Five Pounds each.

ALSO I give and bequeath unto the two children of John Wyld, Watchmaker, Deceased, and Grandchildren of the late John Wyld, Clockmaker of Nottingham the sum of Five Pounds each.

ALSO I give and bequeath to the Trustees of the General Hospital near Nottingham, the Sum of Sixty Pounds to be applied for the use and Benefit of the said laudable Charity.

AND LASTLY as to the Last Residue of my Goods and Chattles and personal Estate I give to my two Nephews Samuel and John Woolley, Clockmaker, to be equally divided betwixt them Share and Share alike.

And now I do hereby appoint joint and sole Executors of this my last Will and Testament hereby revoking all former wills made by me at time heretofore made IN WITNESS whereof I have hereunto set my Hand and Seal the Day and Year first above Written.

Signed Sealed Published and Declared  
by the said James Woolley Testator  
as and for his last Will and Testament )  
in the presence of us who have subscribed ) James Woolley  
our Names as Witnesses hereto in )  
the Presence of the said Testator )

John Stirland  
Thomas Briggs  
Francis Skerritt Junr.

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SOME LATE 17th CENTURY LONDON TRADESMEN'S ACCOUNTS

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by Francis Fisher

CONCLUDED

A final extract may be made from a communication of April 16th 1698. The seedsman's bill which accompanies it must of its kind be nearly unique for its comprehensive detail and the information it affords on the variety of seeds available.

continued

London 16th Ap<sup>l</sup> 1698

Hon<sup>d</sup> Madam,

Since my Father rec<sup>d</sup> your letter I paid Mr. Fuller the Seedsman his bill, there was 6s 6d more due to him for clove Julyflowers lately sent, which was added to his bill, and he has taken seven pounds in full of all. I have likewise paid Mr. Fox his lady day quarter and by Nath Warriloe did send a pott of six pounds of best new Anchoves put up in a basket last Munday, which I hope is delivered before this comes to hand....

	s.	d.
New anchoves 6 lb at 16d p pd. & basket <sup>se</sup>	8	9

Bought of Edward Fuller at Strand Bridge, Dec<sup>br</sup> 18th, 1697

Egg pease $\frac{1}{2}$ peck	2	6
Pickle pease $\frac{1}{2}$ peck	3	0
White Rose pease 1 quart	2	0
Rouncewell pease 3 quarts	1	6
Cucumber seeds	2	6
Short cucumber	2	0
Mellon seeds	2	6
for a box & cord	2	6
Feb. 21		
Onion seeds $\frac{1}{2}$ lb	6	0
Leek seed 1 oz	1	0
Choice Carrott seeds 1 lb	6	0
Red Carrott 1 lb	4	0
Parsnep seeds		8
Turnep seeds 1 lb	1	4
Skerritt $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. 3d Scorzonera 2 oz. 2s.	2	3
Shallotts 1 lb	1	0
Radish 1 lb	2	0
Cabbage Lettuce 4 ozs	2	0
Lap Lettuce $\frac{1}{2}$ lb	2	6
Curled Endive	1	0
Selleree 1 oz. 6d ffennell 2d.		8
Hartshorn 1 oz	1	0
Small Indian Cresses 1 oz	2	6
Garden Cresses $\frac{1}{2}$ lb	1	4
Purslane 2 oz	1	0
Parsley seeds	1	0
Corn Sallatt 4 oz	1	4
Dutch Asparagrass 8 oz	2	6
Best Collyflower 1 oz	5	0

continued

	s.	d.
English Cabbage 2 oz	1	0
Dutch Savoy 4 oz	2	0
Dutch Cabbage 4 oz	2	0
Prickly Cucumber 1 oz	1	6
Burnett 2 oz		8
Clary 1 oz		6
Thyme 2 oz	1	0
Winter Savory 2 oz	1	0
Sweet Marjoram 1 oz	1	0
Barns Hotspurs 1 peck	4	0
Short Hotspurs 1 qt		6
Windsor Beans 1 peck	2	0
White Kidney Beans 2 quarts	3	0
Liver collourd Kidney Beans 1 qt	1	6
Carduus 2 oz		8
Scurvygrass 2 oz	1	0
Angelico 1 oz		4
Stock Julyflower		6
Wallflower		6
Double Larkswheel 1 oz	1	0
Rose Larkswheel $\frac{1}{2}$ oz	1	6
African Marygold	1	0
London Pride	1	0
Sunflower		6
Canterbury Bells 2 oz	1	6
Belvedere	1	0
Princes ffeather		6
Double Hollyhock		6
Monkshood		6
Polyanthus	1	0
a pair of garden shears	3	6
for 6 matts	4	6
Borrage $\frac{1}{2}$ oz		6
Buglos 2 oz		8
Rosemary seeds		6
ffrench Sorrell 2 oz		8
Hyslop 2 oz		8
Marygold 2 oz		8
for 2 Baggs	1	3
for 200 asparagrass plants	4	0
March 28 1698		
for 100 Artichoke Plants	10	0
Carduus 4 oz	1	4
Parsley seeds 4 oz		8
White beet 4 oz	1	4

continued



Tarragon plants	s.	d.
Rue Plants	1	6
Best Collyflower $\frac{1}{2}$ oz	1	6
Red Beet 2 ozs	2	6
Goats Rue plants 1s 6d a box 1/-	1	0
	2	6

Endorsed Mad<sup>me</sup> Pole's Bill

### NOTES AND QUERIES

Information regarding any query should be sent to the Editor, who will also be glad to receive for publication notes or queries on any branch of local history in Derbyshire.

#### N.Q.99 Sawley Soke Association

"At a special general meeting of the subscribers of the said Association, held on Tuesday the second instant, at the White Lion Inn, in Sawley, in the county of Derby, it was unanimously ordered and agreed that if any person will give information of the offender or offenders, who wilfully and maliciously stabbed the cows, and committed other misdemeanours, in autumn, 1800, belonging to and being the property of Mr. William Howton, Mrs. Grace Parkinson, Mr. Edward Thompson, Mr. Thomas Smith, and Mr. Thomas Sheldon; also, a hovel set fire to, belonging to Messrs. Hancock and Wakefield - and five sheep killed, four belonging to Mr. Wm. Howton, and one belonging to Mr. Edward Smith, all in the hamlet of Sawley aforesaid:- And for a discovery of the offender or offenders, who committed the said offences, the following rewards will be given, on a legal conviction:

Three guineas upon each depredation, to be paid by Mr. Parkinson, Long Eaton, Treasurer to the said Association; and over and above the Association reward, ten guineas for each cow that was stabbed belonging to Mr. Wm. Howton, Mrs. Grace Parkinson, Mr. Edward Thompson, and Mr. Thomas Smith; also a further reward of ten guineas, on discovery of the hovel being burned - half to be paid by messrs. Hancock and Wakefield, and the other half by Mr. Wm. Frearson, Wilsthorp; likewise a reward of five guineas, on discovery of killing the sheep belonging to Mr. Edward Smith. - And if more than one were concerned, if any one will impeach his accomplice or accomplices, all endeavours will be made for a free pardon and the above rewards.

Sawley, Feb. 3rd 1802."

This advertisement appeared in the "Nottingham Journal" for 13th February, 1802. Associations for the prosecution of felons were a fairly common institution in the nineteenth century and some of them have survived until the present time. No references have been found to this one at Sawley and it would be interesting to know whether it still exists or whether anything further is known about it.

R. A. H. O'Neal.

N.Q.100    Green Lane Silk Mill

To be Sold by Auction by Mr. C. Finney

"At the house of Mr. John Webster, the King's Arms Tavern, Derby, in Derby on Wednesday the 17th day of March next, between the hours of 4 and 6 in the afternoon, by the order of Mr. John Bromley and Mr. Thomas Smith, the assignees of the estate and effects of Thomas Smith, of Derby aforesaid, worsted-spinner, dealer and chapman, a bankrupt -

A large and commodious SILK-MILL situate in the Green Lane, in Derby, in the possession of the said Thomas Smith, the bankrupt, being five stories high, and extending in front 62 feet, with a dwelling-house adjoining thereto, and occupied therewith, and about 570 square yards of garden ground, lying behind the said mill.

The mill contains 1338 swifts, with 4 Dutch twisting mills compleat, and is now worked by a steam engine of three horse-power.

Also a building at the southwardly end of the silk mill, extending in front 53½ feet, with about 481 square yards of garden-ground adjoining the same, which at a small expence may be converted into three dwelling houses.

Also two frames, constructed for spinning worsted yarn, containing 144 spindles, with roving drawing frame and breaker, two cast-metal comb posts, ten pair of combs, with various other articles used in manufacturing worsted yarn.

For further particulars apply to the assignees; or to Mr. Simpson, attorney-at-law, Derby.

Derby, 22nd Feb. 1802."

The above advertisement appeared in the "Nottingham Guardian" for 6th March 1802. None of the usual books mentions any silk mill in Green Lane nor any other sort of mill which might be this premises. It appears to have been a fairly substantial place according to the description and any further information about it would be welcome.

R. A. H. O'Neal

N.Q.101    The Toll House at Shardlow

This Toll House has now been demolished and the stone recording the tolls has been erected on the site described in N.Q.67 Feb.1959. A most accomplished job has been made of it.

H. R. Window

N.Q.102    The Wilmot Almshouses

It is my sad duty to record the demolition of the Wilmot Almshouses at Chaddesden.

H. R. Window

N.Q.103    Castles and Cannon

I read with interest Mr. Hayhurst's article on Cannons, and look forward to his writings on Crossbows. Does he know that B. H. St. J. O'Neil's book Castles and Cannon (OUP 1960) contains a list on page XIX of Civil War Guns and their Ranges, both at point blank range and elevated?

H. R. Window

N.Q.104    Herbert Spencer (see N.Q.98)

There is remarkably little known about Herbert Spencer's life in Derby, but what there is has been mostly set out in Sketches of Old Derby by John Keys. (London Bemrose and Sons 1895) p.80-82. The language is somewhat flowery, but it does give some interesting bits which may not be found elsewhere.

R. A. H. O'Neal

N.Q.105    Latin for Local History by E. A. Gooder published by Longmans, Green & Co. Ltd.    Price 21/-d.

This book, designed originally for Extra-Mural students of local history who had no Latin, is a self-teaching manual and guide to the mediaeval Latin found in historical records. It aims at giving an understanding of the types of documents that the local historian will wish to consult - deeds and charters, Court Rolls, Accounts, Bishops' Registers, etc. The grammatical explanations are kept simple and illustrated with extracts from actual documents. Practice pieces are given at the end of each chapter. The book has an extremely useful word-list which contains not only classical words still encountered in local records, but also a mediaeval vocabulary.

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

1962

In my letter of twelve months ago I made a plea to members for a broadening of co-operation in the working of our Section, and I am pleased to note that during the past year progress has been made to this end, and we now find a larger proportion of members contributing, in various ways, to our activities.

Some of us may feel chary of stepping "where Angels fear to tread" but I would instance my short note on "Cannon" which was published in our Bulletin and which ended with a query; surely a peculiar way in which to conclude an article, and yet that article has produced much valued discussion and correspondence, which all tends to the attainment of our objectives.

Our Meetings, for various reasons, have not been so numerous as we would have wished, but have been very well supported and have provided considerable interest and enjoyment. I am grateful to our Officers, to all who have contributed to our activities and to the publication of the Bulletin, and I look forward to a continuance of our association during the coming year.

Rennie Hayhurst

SECTION NEWS

The Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting was held on October 7th, 1961 at the Adult Education Centre, Becket Street, Derby, by kind permission of Mr. C. E. Middleton and Derby Education Committee.

As has been the pattern of the last two years, business was discussed first. The Secretary was re-elected and Mrs. Nixon proposed Mr. J. H. Bompas-Smith as assistant secretary, which proposal was carried.

The question of an assistant editor was also raised, and after some discussion Mrs. Webb agreed to act in this position.

With the conclusion of business, members were conducted to the Reference Library where the resources of the Local Collection of Derbyshire Material was displayed. Mr. Livesey explained the facilities available, and our thanks are due both to him and to Mr. E. Bletcher, the Borough Librarian.

After tea, Mr. H. J. Wain gave an interesting talk on the Cedar of Lebanon at Bretby Park which was planted in 1577 and felled in 1954.

Mr. R. Thornhill, who with Bakewell Historical Society Members had entertained us at Bakewell in September, gave a talk on the Mill at Bakewell and exhibited many excellent large photographs.

Mr. R. Hayhurst gave a lightning sketch of the History of Bookplates, illustrated by examples from his own collection.

The Meeting was concluded with thanks to everyone who had helped the Section during the year.

February 3rd, 1962 Old Duffield

On this date, at Bridge Chapel House, Lt. Cdr. H. S. Bromby gave a talk, illustrated by many coloured slides, on Duffield. The amount of information and number of illustrations collected in eighteen months was quite remarkable. The meeting was very well attended, and was a great success. We are most grateful to Commander Bromby for his valuable contribution to the Local History of the County.

H. R. Window  
Honorary Secretary

William Francis died 26 Nov. 1819 aged 70. Mary his wife died 28th Dec. 1830 aged 59. George Francis died 27 Dec. 1817 aged 72.  
In Memory of Thomas Shorthose who died Feb 16, 1821 aged 74. Sarah his wife died July 26, 1790 aged 28.  
John Kirkham died 6 Oct, 1826 aged 48, Ann wife of do. died 24 June, 1817 aged 35. Harriett daughter of do. died 25 Nov. 1826 aged 19.  
William Kirkham died March 12th, 1792 aged 45. Ruth his wife died Dec. 19, 1804 aged 63. Ann their daur died June 16, 1793 aged 22, also of three of their children who died in their infancy.  
Mary Kirkham died Dec 24, 1847 aged 74. John Kirkham died May 20, 1789 aged 49. Ann his wife died April 9th 1801, aged 67. Mary their daur died Nov 8, 1832 aged 21.  
George Allen died April 16, 1765 aged 57; Sarah his wife died May 30, 1748 aged 34.  
James Riding died Dec 17, 1817 aged 21. William Riding died Aug 26, 1819 aged 21. Ann Riding died June 1, 1807 aged 7. Abel Riding died March 21, 1810 aged 18 weeks.  
William Syddon born at Crowshay House, Backenford (?) Co. Devon 2 Oct 1757 died at Willington Co. Derby 17 Jan, 1843 aged 85.  
Edward Hunt died March 18, 1763 aged 68. Ruth his wife died Oct 31st 1773 aged 80.  
Hannah daughter of John and Mary Etherley died March 6, 1797 aged 23.  
Jane wife of William Haynes died Feb 18, 1847 aged 33, George Haynes died Jan 30, 1843 aged 2, Charles Haynes died Nov. 30, 1850 aged 7 years.  
Mary Ledward died 22 June 1853 aged 84, the faithful and respected housekeeper to the Rev. John Leigh, rector of this parish. A grateful master for her fidelity causes this stone to be erected. Words are useless when her character has left her memory behind her.  
Mary wife of Job Haywood died Nov. 21, 1821 aged 34.  
John Bradbury died 19 March 1821 aged 83, Sarah his wife died 22nd Oct 1829 aged 90.  
William Batkin died 21 Aug 1816 aged 74. Ann his wife died May 13, 1838 aged 86.  
Thomas Hodgkinson died 21 Jan 1828 aged 64. Elizab. his daughter died 15 Sep 1805 infant. Elizabeth his wife died April 15, 1846 aged 81.  
John Chawner late of Burton on Trent died Oct 21, 1845 aged 47.  
Luke Ashby died June 6, 1818 aged 61. Frances his w. died 21 Dec 1838 aged 70. Thomas their son died May 19, 1799 aged 4. Sarah their daughter died Mar 29, 1811 aged 19. William their son died 23 Sep 1814 aged 21. Frances their daughter died 6 Aug 1817 aged 18. (Verses omitted here).  
William Lakin died 20 April 1810 aged 67. Frances his wife died Oct. 16, 1801 aged 66.  
Thomas Woodward died Oct. 15, 1824 aged 62.  
Elizabeth wife of John Trowell died Jan 8, 1843 aged 48.  
William Beardmore died Oct. 13, 1817 aged 62, Mary his wife died Dec. 11, 1836 aged 91.

William Lowe died July 18 1839 aged 55. Ann 3d daur. of John and Ann Lowe died Nov 30, 1851 aged 59. Ann relict of John Lowe died 24 July 1828 aged 78. Edward son of John and Ann Lowe died 22 July 1809 aged 20. John Lowe died 4 Dec 1804 aged 53 also John his son by Ann his wife died July 1776 aged 9 months, also John their 2d son died Aug 24th 1786 aged 9, and Hannah their daughter. William Batkin died April 13, 1786 aged 80, Mary his wife died May 18, 1784 aged 86. Mary their daughter died May 1, 1769 aged 28. John Brown who died at Amington Hall Co. Warwick 13 Nov 1823 aged 71. Mary his wife died 2 June 1831 aged 72. Thomas Hulland died Nov 30, 1842 aged 74. Frances his wife died 9 May 1836 aged 65, William their son died Sep 21, 1839 aged 29. Frances their daughter died June 20, 1819 aged 8 years. John Hulland died May 5, 1792 aged 57. Sarah his wife died July 8, 1822 aged 80. John Smedley died Aug. 1, 1851 aged 47. Thomas Smedley died Feb. 17, 1838 aged 70. John Smedley died Oct 24, 1795 aged 75. Elizabeth his wife died Dec 22, 1804 aged 81. Elizabeth their daughter died July 11, 1780 aged 25. Edward their son died Jan 30, 1797 aged 31. Anne wife of Thomas Smedley died March 10, 1805 aged 28.

This concluded Glover's notes for Egginton, but it may be of interest to record that the reply of the Churchwardens to Glover's printed enquiry for information is preserved; some of the questions answered are:- Extent and population of the parish: 2291a. 2r. 31p. population about 300. Main occupation of inhabitants: Agriculture. Wages of agricultural labour? From 9/- to 10/- per week according to season. What proportion of commons and waste land in the parish? None. Are the farms large or small? But of middling size. How many freeholders or copyholders? About 7 freeholders. How many inns or alehouses? One. Has anything been done or about to be undertaken of a nature to improve or alter the character of the place? No. Schools? A Sunday School supported by subscription.

ELMTON Post town Chesterfield. Elmtion parish and constabulary contains the townships of Elmtion and Creswell. It forms the eastern boundary of the Scarsdale hundred in the northern division of the county on the Nottinghamshire border. Elmtion township, a small village pleasantly situated in an open district 9 miles E. by N. from Chesterfield. Creswell is a township and scattered village 10 miles E.N.E. from Chesterfield. Both in the Eckington polling district and in the Worksop Poor Law Union. The parish contains 2970 acres of land principally limestone with a portion of strong clay forming a fine agricultural district, having a bold undulating surface producing good corn. Of the estimated or rateable value of £2294. Annual value of real property assessed to the property tax in 1843 £2048. Expended on the relief of the poor in 1852 £99. The Feast is held on the first Sunday after St. Peter's Day.

Elmton has an unenclosed common on the north, where at the extremity is a romantic rocky ravine designated Markland Grip, and much admired by Dr. Spencer Hall in his 'Rural Rides'. The Duke of Portland is lord of the manor and principal owner.

Creswell Crag, a singular and beautiful assembly of rocks near the N.E. extremity of the township, and on the verge of Nottinghamshire, 3 miles S.W. from Worksop. Lying out of the way of good roads and almost inaccessible for carriages, they are not often visited by tourists, though remarkably curious and consisting of lofty precipitous rocks torn by some convulsion of nature into a thousand romantic shapes and presenting a miniature representation of the more majestic scenery of the Wye, the Derwent and the Dove. Here is a corn water mill, besides which there are a water and a wind mill in the township. The Commons situated at the N. end of the village were enclosed in 1849. Population in 1801: 261. In 1811: 282. In 1821: 353. In 1831: 340. In 1841: 433. In 1851: 80 houses, 244 m. 191 fem. total 435. At the Norman survey there were at Helmetune a church and a priest. The manor at Domesday survey belonged to Walter Deincourt, and it continued in that family till the death of Lord Deincourt in 1422. Ralph Lord Cromwell, who married one of his sisters and co-heirs, died seized of it in 1454. His sister and heir brought it to Sir William Lovell. On the attainder of William Lord Lovell in 1485 it was granted to Sir John Savage. Sir Francis Rodes became possessed of this manor in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and it was until 1854 the estate of William Hatfield de Rodes, Esq. of Barlborough Castle (sic) who was lord of the manors of Elmton and Creswell and owner of 2200 acres. This gentleman married 15 April 1858 Mary Catherine the eldest daughter of the Hon. and Rev. Alfred Curzon, Rector of Kedleston, and sister of the present Alfred Nathaniel Holden Curzon, 4th Baron of Scarsdale. Mr. Rodes served the office of High Sheriff in 1857.

It is said that the Manor of Whitwell extends into Creswell, which part was given to Welbeck Abbey by Ralph Cordi. In 1854 Mr. Rodes sold the manor and estate to the late Duke of Portland.

The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a modern stone edifice with nave, chancel and low square tower, the roof of which is tiled and carried to form a gable just above the apex of the roof. The living is a vicarage valued in the King's Books at £5. 1s., now £120 per annum. Has been augmented with £200 benefactions, £400 from Queen Anne's Bounty, and £300 Parliamentary grant. The church will seat 110 persons, 20 sittings free. The Duke of Portland is patron and improprator, and the Rev. William Senior Salmon M.A. of Shire Oaks, incumbent appointed in 1842. The vicarage is a small ancient building a little north of the church and is occupied as a cottage. The vicarial tithe composition amounting to £20 p.a. is paid out of the church rate. The church was given to Thurgarton Priory in Nottinghamshire by Ralph Deincourt the founder. temp Edw. III. In the chancel is a slab with a cross fleury



engraved on it and this inscription in text hand: ORATE PRO AIA ROBERTI BERBE.

The late Rev. Francis Foxlow of Staveley left a sum of money for a new vicarage house to be erected, but on account of the incumbent not residing here it has never taken place. Here is 1a. 1r. 3p. of glebe and the tithes are paid by a rent charge amounting to about £75.

Elmton Park now in the occupation of John Brown Esq. is a large and commodious residence situated one mile E. from the village, and was built by the late Rev. Cornelius Heathcote Reaston Rodes of Barlborough Hall. The Park formerly belonged to Thurgarton Priory, Nottinghamshire, and consisted of the farm now occupied by Mr. Brown, the boundaries of which are still visible. The present occupier has made great alterations and improvements in the house and farm; the latter is in a high state of cultivation, and considered one of the best in the county.

Whaley Hall, one mile S.E. from Elmton is a good substantial farm residence, the property of the Duke of Portland, and occupied by Mr. Heaton Adam. Frithwood, one mile N.E. is a good substantial farm house in the occupation of Messrs. Edward and John Wilson.

According to tradition there was formerly a Roman station or encampment on the site now called Sandhill. When the commons were enclosed several ancient spear heads, some of which were of flint, were found here, also several old coins, all of which are now in the possession of John Brown Esq.

Here is a parochial school recently built that will accommodate above 400 children of both sexes. It is open to the inhabitants of the surrounding villiages who are disposed to send their children to receive instruction. Considering the miserable state of education both at Elmton and the surrounding neighbourhood the inhabitants will be glad to avail themselves of this great accommodation afforded to their children.

Post Office receiving house at Paul Rodgers: letters despatched to Chesterfield at 4.30 p.m.

This village was formerly celebrated for its elm trees which surrounded the churchyard and grounds, and it is most probable that from this the name Elmton arose. Some of the finest elm trees which were ever known to exist have grown in the village. The trees which surrounded the churchyard have been cut down by the present incumbent.

Creswell is a hamlet and scattered village, being about a mile in length, it is situated 2 miles N.E. from Elmton and 10 miles E.N.E.

from Chesterfield. The land is principally on limestone, producing good corn. The Duke of Portland is the principal owner and lord of the manor, which is freehold, besides several smaller owners. The house now occupied by Mr. James Aldam is supposed formerly to have been a Roman Catholic chapel. It is in the Elizabethan style of architecture; several additions and improvements have been made to it during the time Mr. Aldam has occupied it, and during the repairs an old Constable's bill was found here dated the time of Cromwell, also a silver coin of a date before the birth of Christ, which was sold during the Exhibition at London in 1851.

Charities: William Wilkson (see Bolsover) the yearly sum of 5s is received by the churchwardens and distributed to the poor. Rev. Francis Gisborne in 1817 left £5. 10s per annum which is paid to the incumbent to purchase coarse woollen cloth and flannel to be distributed to the poor.

There are 20 Electors, viz., 7 freeholders and 13 occupiers. John Fielding Junior, George Foulds, Isaac Hancock, William Hatfield de Rodes Esq., Timothy Roper, William Seaston, Wm. Shead and the Rev. Wm. Senior Salmen. The occupiers are George and Heaton Aldam of Whalley Hall, John Armstrong of Palterton, John Brown, Park Farm, Robert Butcher, Chas. Fowler, Oxcroft, George and John Jackson, Elmton, Thos Milner, Joseph West, Edward and John Wilson, Frithwood.

Elmton, July 11, 1854. Presentation of Plate to Mr. Brown by the tenants and farmers of William Hatfield de Rodes Esq., at Elmton and Creswell.

Jedidiah Buxton with the most uncultivated understanding and could neither read nor write, yet possessed the most wonderful powers of calculation and a singularly retentive memory, aided by which alone he solved the most difficult problems in the midst of laborious employment and the most numerous assemblies. Many specimens of his extraordinary arithmetical performances are recorded, amongst other instances we are told that he measured most accurately the extensive manor of Elmton by striding over the land, and brought Sir John Rodes the contents not only in acres, roods and perches, but in square inches and afterwards for his own amusement reduced this to square hair's breadths. Jedidiah Buxton was born on 20 March 1707 and buried in the churchyard of his native place March 5, 1777. There is an engraved portrait of him taken from a drawing made by Miss Hartley in January 1764, at which period according to his own calculation he had existed 1,792,230,823 seconds. It is said that his father was the parish schoolmaster and his grandfather the Vicar of Elmton, but when a child evinced the most excessive stupidity and unwillingness to learn anything.

ELTON Post town Matlock Bath. A township constabulary and chapelry in the parish of Youlgreave, in the Southern Division of the county, in the Wapentake of Wirksworth, in the Matlock Polling District, in the Bakewell Poor Law Union and in the Deanery of Derby, is a small village situate on the summit of a bleak eminence  $1\frac{3}{4}$  miles W. from Winster. Contains 1408 acres of land of the rateable value in 1852 of £1275. Qy £1717. (Probably Glover was doubtful of this figure.) Population 1861 - 116 houses and 491 inhabitants, chiefly employed in agriculture and mining. Sir William George Hylton Jolliffe, Bart. and William Pole Thornhill, Esq., M.P. are lords of the manor and principal owners and 75 other freeholders, besides six £50 renters, total 83 electors.

The manor of Elton. 37 & 38 Henry III. William Bardolf had a grant of free warren in Eleton and Ekelbroke. (Chart. Rot.). 11 Edw. I Thomas Foljambe was seizes of Elton manor extend (I.P.M.) 15 Edw. II Thomas Foljambe held Eltone unam messuag' 6 bovat terr 3 acr' prati and reddit &c. ibm and Eltone 18 bovat terr (Exch. Roll) 13 Ric. II William Bardolf de Wyrmyngrye chiv held Elton in le Peck unum feed (Exch Roll).

3 Hen. IV. The heirs of James Foljambe (a minor) had half a knight's fee in Elton. (M.S. E Goodwin). (Does Glover mean the Egerton MSS.?) 3 Hen. V. Fine between Philip Leche, kt., William Pyrton, clerk and others comp. and Edward Foljambe.

The manor was held by the Bardolfs, as lord paramount, by the rental of a pair of gilt spurs; from whom it passed to the Tibetots; afterwards to the Stevensons, from one of whose coheirresses a moiety was carried to the late Hylton Jolliffe, Esq., M.P. and Bache Thornhill, Esq., purchased from the other. It pays a quit or clief rent of 15s. 4d.

In 1805 an act for enclosing lands in the township of Elton and Winster bank pasture about 100 acres, in the parish of Youlgreave.

The freeholders are Batteson George Hoole & William; Boam John and George; Briddon Robert; Bridge Benjamin; Brittlebank Benjamin; Dakin Thomas; John, Joseph; Stephen Samuel sen; Dale George; Rev. William Dyke; Foxlow Samuel; Garratt Rev. John Fisher; Gould John Edge; Gregory Charles and Thomas; Hadfield Joseph, John, Luke; Hardy William; Holmes Richard; Joule James and Robert; Knowles George; Lee George; Longdon Samuel; Lygo Joseph; Marsden Thomas; Marshall Charles; Mason Charles; Mountney Richard; Pett Daniel; Roberts Thomas; Roose Jonathan; Sheldon Thomas Barker and Sheldon Ashmore William; George and Robert; Smith George, Henry Samuel, Cornelius Samuel and William; Staley George and John; Stone Benjamin, John, John junr, William, William jun., Samuel, George, John (minor) Benjamin, and George Jun; Thompson John; Thornhill William Pole, Esq., M.P. Wain William and Joseph; Walwin Josiah; Watts Henry; Webster James, John Thomas & William; Wheatcroft John, Worstley Charles Carill Esq.; Wright Peter and Yates Benjamin.