

"DERBYSHIRE MISCELLANY"

THE LOCAL HISTORY BULLETIN
OF THE
DERBYSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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DERBYSHIRE MISCELLANY

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Editorial

The production of the Miscellany has depended for the last twelve years on the voluntary labours of a group of dedicated members. This issue is to be duplicated by an outside firm and in order to meet the increased cost it is hoped that sales will increase. Members could help greatly by recruiting new subscribers.

With great changes taking place in Derby recently it is vital to record facts about the old town. Information about the St. Alkmund's area will be welcomed. St. John's Church, Bridge Street, with its impressive cast iron windows still stands in an area of demolition and Mr. F.N. Fisher has written about its early days.

Two other articles deal with nineteenth century Derbyshire. Mr. Samuel Simpson's studies of the postal services are much appreciated. In this issue he gives some details about the removal of Derby Post Office from Queen Street to the Corn Market.

The school books studied by Mr. Robert Thornhill give a picture of a stern parent resembling Mr. Barrett of Wimpole Street. The books throw an interesting sidelight on teaching methods of the time.

Mr. E.B. Thomas's investigations have produced much information about the family and background of Philip Kinder, best known to us for his mid-seventeenth century notes on Derbyshire's history.

We are glad to have another article from Miss Nellie Kirkham, this time about the unique Lead-Ore Dish in the Moot Hall, Wirksworth.

Extracts from William Bamford's Diary and from J.A. Stevenson's Journal will be continued in the next issue when the Industrial Notes will also be resumed.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, BRIDGE STREET, DERBY

by

F. N. Fisher

With the spread of the suburbs of our old towns new churches are needed urgently, and as the central parts of these towns are given over increasingly to offices, shops and warehouses it will be the fate of some of our older churches to become redundant. This situation can well be seen in old cities such as London, York and Norwich and now it has arisen in Derby. The churches of St. Werburgh, St. Andrew and St. Anne all face demolition. The parish of St. Andrews will be united with that of Holy Trinity, and that of St. Anne's with St. John's in Bridge Street. St. Alkmund's has been demolished, but for a different reason, namely road widening, and in this case a new church is to be built further from the town centre.

A similar situation prevailed at the beginning of the last century. The rapid increase in the population necessitated more churches, and as it was a national problem the government passed the Church Building Act of 1818 which authorised the expenditure of one million pounds to that end. This sum was added to as the years went by, and in all, some 214 new churches were built - later to become known as Waterloo or Commissioner churches. In October 1818 the Office of Works Architects, John Nash, Sir John Soane and Robert Smirke, and the Commissioners of the "Million" agreed on a maximum of £20,000 per church.

At this time Derby had a population of nearly 20,000 in its five parishes. St. Werburgh's Parish with a population of 5,315 was the largest and this no doubt prompted Bishop Ryder of Lichfield to write to the then incumbent intimating that a new church should be built in the parish to accommodate 1200 people with 650 free sittings. A public meeting was accordingly held in the Guildhall on 29th January 1825. Many points of view were aired and it was agreed in principle that a new church should be built, provided that a further sum could be raised to pay for future repairs so that such a burden should not fall on the parishioners or ratepayers in general. This clause was not acceptable to the Bishop who felt that an application for a grant with this condition imposed would be unavailing. The vicar then called a meeting of churchmen and it was decided to go ahead with the building of a new church, the cost of which was to be met by subscriptions and with the help of a grant from the Commissioners.

A site in Bridge Street adjoining the Markeaton Brook was chosen and Francis Goodwin was appointed architect. Goodwin (1784-1835) was, in 1818, a clerk in the office of John Walters who was the architect of a church in Stepney then building and eligible for a grant from the "Million". He

wrote to Sir John Soane stating that although Walters was the appointed architect he, Goodwin, "....had the honour to make the design, and to superintend the Building hitherto.....". He went on to beg Soane to recommend him to other places building churches. The Commissioners, however, decided to allow the parishes concerned to make their own appointments. Undeterred, Goodwin then proceeded to ingratiate himself with the local authorities. On hearing that a church was to be built he sent them attractive designs and attempted to undercut his rivals. By these methods he soon had a long string of commissions which included churches in Birmingham, West Bromwich, Ashton-under-Lyne, Belper and Kidderminster. The Commissioners by now had decided that he, with other architects, had far too many church buildings to supervise effectively, and brought in a ruling that no architect should have more than six churches building at one time. Goodwin was forced to shed several appointments including Belper. This latter church was eventually built by Matthew Habershon who also designed the new Town Hall at Derby. Goodwin did not yield without a struggle and attempted to get other architects to use his designs, passing them as their own. Matters, however, did not go smoothly for him, and he had frequent troubles with these nominees and he was often at variance with the Commissioners.

Nevertheless Goodwin continued his architectural career and his commissions included, as well as many churches, the Town Hall at Manchester. He was, as we have seen, appointed architect to the new church of St. John's. The laying of the foundation stone in 1826 was an imposing ceremony and preceded by a grand procession from the Town Hall to the site.

The order of the procession was as follows:-

Six constables abreast
Parish clerk and beadles, four abreast
Firemen of St. Werburgh's, four abreast
Female children of the National Sunday School, six: abreast
Choristers, two abreast
Band of the Yeomanry Cavalry
Mace bearers
The Mayor and Corporation
Clerk of the Works
Bricklayers, with white aprons and trowels
Masons with levels and mallets
Contractor for the carpenters' and joiners' work, and his men
Contractor for the plumbers' and glaziers' work /with saws
Contractors for the plasterers' work
Contractors for the painters' work
Ironfounder, bearing the brass plate with the inscription
Contractor for the masons' work, bearing the silver trowel on a
/velvet cushion
Mr. Child, secretary of the committee, carrying glass vase
/with coins
Mr. Goodwin the architect, with plans of the church.

The Hon and Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of the Diocese
The Clergy in their gowns, four abreast
The chairman of the committee, Sir Robert Wilmot, Bart.
The committee, four abreast, with white wands
The subscribers, and gentlemen of the town and neighbourhood,
/four abreast.
Firemen, six abreast.

Bishop Ryder duly laid the foundation stone and it was he who, on 19th August 1828, consecrated the new church. The design is unusual with its four corner turrets - rather like an inverted stool. It has also been likened to King's College Chapel, Cambridge! These corner turrets were evidently a favourite motif of Goodwin's, as other churches by him, notably St. Philip's, Stepney, now demolished, and Holy Trinity, Bordersley, Birmingham, were likewise embellished. According to the illustration in Glover, II Part I, 492, the turrets on St. John's were originally capped by cupolas surmounted by crosses.

The total cost was between £7,500 and £8,000, towards which the Commissioners made a grant of £2,547. The contractor was Thomas Cooper. Messrs. Bridgart were the joiners, William Horsley did the plumbing and glazing, Messrs. Whitehead, Glover and Co. the ironwork, William Searle the plastering and Messrs. Welsh the painting. The whole work was under the direction of Thomas Mason.

The ceremony on 19th August 1828 must have indeed been impressive, for this was the first church built in Derby since the six churches mentioned in Domesday. At first it was a chapelry of St. Werburgh's, but it attained parochial status in 1870. In the following year, 1871, an enlarged vestry was built, and an apsidal chancel added to the east end. The church, generally speaking, is unaltered to this day.

Both before and during the building of St. John's, Goodwin was engaged on another building in Derby. This was the new gaol in Vernon Street, which was completed in 1828. His later career was full of achievement, although he was dogged by financial troubles to the end, no doubt accentuated by a large and ailing family. Two of his publications were "Domestic Architecture" and "Rural Architecture". His designs for the new Houses of Parliament was judged the best design, and he was engaged in preparing the plans when he died, on 30th August 1835. Despite his large practice he died a comparatively poor man, leaving under £1,000.

References

Bibliography - Derby Churches Old and New, C. J. Payne.
Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians, Vol.1.

THE POST OFFICE AT DERBY 1837-1839

by

Samuel Simpson

Housed in the Records room in the Headquarters building at the General Post Office, London, is a collection of letters and internal official correspondence relating to the Post Office at Derby, during its existence in the Corn Market between 1839 and 1869.

The documents not only cover an important period in local history, but shed light on the delicate negotiations between the Postal Authorities and the owners of the building to be constructed for use as a Post Office. Some extracts from this correspondence follow.

MEMORIAL OF MERCHANTS OF DERBY 31st MAY 1837

TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE EARL OF LICHFIELD, POSTMASTER GENERAL, etc.

The MEMORIAL of the undersigned Bankers, Merchants, Traders, and other Inhabitants of the Borough of Derby.

HUMBLY SHEWETH

THAT the residence of the Postmaster of this Borough, with the Office attached thereto, is situate at the northwardly end of the Queen Street, at a distance of fully a quarter of a mile from the Market Place, in and near to which are the Town Hall and Offices of the Municipal Authorities, the Banking Offices, the Offices of several of the leading Solicitors, and the Warehouses, shops and Countinghouses of many of the Principal wholesale and retail Tradesmen.

That the said Post Office is more than one third of a mile from the centre of the Town, and nearly a mile from several considerable manufactories situate at the southwardly and eastwardly sides of the Town, on which sides also the principal increase of buildings for manufacturing and other purposes is constantly taking place.

That the Canals and Wharfs, and the Warehouses attached thereto are situate at the southwardly and eastwardly sides of the Town; and that the stations which have been fixed upon for the "Derby and Birmingham", the "North Midland", and the "Midland Counties" Railways, are likewise at the eastwardly and southwestwardly sides of the Town, and remote from the present Post Office.

That the situation of the present Post Office is such as to require that His Majesty's Mails should pass through several narrow and crowded thoroughfares,

which is attended, especially on the days on which Markets and Fairs are held, with considerable danger to the safety, and lives of the persons frequenting the same, owing to the speed at which the coaches are necessarily driven; and several serious accidents have already occurred in consequence.

That a Company has recently been formed in Derby, under the title of "The Athenaeum Company" for the purpose of erecting an ATHENAEUM and making other public improvements; and that the said Company has purchased a site on which to erect the same, situate in the Corn Market: and further that the said Company is willing and desirous, if your Lordship's permission be obtained for the removal of the Post Office thereunto, to erect a building of a handsome architectural character, suitable for a Post Office, and for the residence of the Postmaster; and to let the same, on lease or otherwise, at a moderate rent.

That the said site is as nearly as possible in the centre of the Borough, very near to the Market Place, in the midst of the principal business parts, and in one of the widest streets of the Town, and close to the junction of three of the principal roads by which all coaches must necessarily pass in going through it; that it is directly opposite to an opening through which it is contemplated to carry a new street, to communicate by the shortest possible route, with the Railway Stations before referred to; and that it offers in all respects the most eligible situation for a Post Office, whether considered with reference to the present or future convenience of the Inhabitants, or to the facilities it affords for the access of all the Mail coaches, without their having occasion to pass through any of the crowded thoroughfares before mentioned, and as regards the Manchester Mail, saving a distance of about eight hundred yards.

That, for the reasons hereinbefore stated, your Memorialists respectfully petition your Lordship that you would be pleased to authorize and direct the removal of the Post Office to the building herein proposed to be erected, as soon as the same can be prepared for the reception of the Postmaster.

Wm. Leaper Newton, Mayor, Jos. Strutt, J.P. R. F. Forester, J.P.,
Wm. Jeffery Lockett, J.P., Geo Eyre, W. Eaton Mousley, Thomas Cox J.C.,
William Evans, J.P., Mousleigh Barber, Simpson & Frear, Frs. Jessopp, Aldn.,
J. Curzon, Cox Brothers Ltd., Thos. Bent J.P., Saml Fox Jun., Thos.
Bridgett & Co., Henry Mozley & Sons, Wright & Baker, W. Cox Sons & Co.,
J. & C. S. Peet, John Drewry, James Heygate M.D., Thos. Cooper J.C.,
The Derby and Derbyshire Bank, Robert Ronald, Man. Jn. Moss T.C., Radford
and Jessopp, Cranss Humpstone Haywood, Cox Haden & Pountain, Sandars &
Clarke, Gamble & Bridgen, Mozley & Flack, Simpson Turner & Co., Birch &
Eaton, John Bruckfield, J. Gamble, J. Bingham, John Wright T.C.,
Richard Dix, Henry Gisborne, John Sandars Aldin, Matw. Gamble, Thos.
Hackett, James Storer, Thos. Storer & Son, Weatherhead Walters & Co.
Thos. Darby & Sons, Turner & Shaw, Wm. Stevenson, Geo. Wallis, Richard
Boden, John Corden, W. & W. Pike, J. H. Wright, Jonathan Massey,

Elijah Massey, Charles Holbrooke, J. Gawthorne, Jos. Sale, T. Campbell, Charles M. Lowe, John Huish, Thomas Burroughs, Jas. Storer Jun. Thos. Harwood, Chas. Simpson, Robt. Bennett, Wm. Williamson, Edwd. Trufford, Wm. Bemrose, William Gibson, John Wright, S. W. Cox, S. G. Smith, G. H. R. Cox, Nicks. Heath, Thos. Cooper T.C., Wm. Taylor, Thomas Boden, Thos. Wilkins, H. J. Welch, J. Porter, Thomas Richardson, Robt. Pegg & Co., S. J. Wright Aldn., Robert Longdon T.C., George Hood T.C., John Adin, Sandars Haywood, Jn. Steer, Bakewell & Son, John Hackett & Son, Robt. Moseley, Bretnor & Swanwick, John H. Cock, T.C., Josh. Chadfield, J. Dunncliffe T.C., Frans. Severne, Thomas Tunnaley Jun., John Williamson, Williams & Co., J. Radford, William Sale, Whiston & Son, Saml. Lowe, Charles Etches & Sons, Wm. V. John Richardson, John & William Goodale, Robert Robinson, Thomas Briggs, Wm. Sloane, Nath. Holmes, Samuel Watson, H. Winter, William Gadsby, Peach & Moore, Herbt. & Alfd. Holmes, Dagley & Smith, Alfred Furniss, John & Thos. Robinson, Hall & Goodwin, Mason & Sons, John Bromley, Charles Dewe for Dewe & Fox, J. Gascoyne & Son, Ralph Frost, John Johnson Aldn., William M. Cooper, Jerh. Greatorex, Josh. Smith, Hunt & Son, Saml. Willder, Willm. Jerram, Thomas Goodwin T.C., William Cole, John Glover, George Fritche, Wm. Moore Wooler, Thos Wright T.C., James Daulby, Francis Sandars & Son, Geo Wild, Henry Mackenzie, J. Mason & Son, Thomas Earp, Thomas Eyre, Richard Bryer, for I. Mott W. Malin, Joseph Brookhouse, Wolstan Roberts, John Keeling & Son, Rowland A. Brearey, J. Goodale, Robt. Forman, H. D. Severne, Boden & Morley, James Hollingworth, Robert Bromley, Wm. Borough, Thos. W. Walton.

FROM G. J. KARSTADT TO THE POSTMASTER GENERAL.

Sheffield, 10th October 1837

Sir,

I beg leave to return the mrmorial to my Lord the Postmaster General from Derby proposing that the Post Office in that town may be removed to a new suite of buildings intended to be erected in the Corn Market, and in which it is proposed to provide a suitable accommodation for a Post Office and a residence for the Postmaster.

I inspected the site some time since, but deferred my Report in the hope that the arrangements for the proposed building might in the interim be so far advanced as to enable some definite terms to be proposed to the Postmaster, and which might at the same time be submitted to the Postmaster General's consideration; matters however do not appear to be yet in a state for that purpose, and it seems better therefore not further to delay the return of the Memorial.

It certainly appears to me that the proposed site is scarcely more central to the Town at large than the present Office, being I conceive quite as near the Southern extremity of the Town, as the present Office is near the

Northern. I think it right to say this much on the point, in anticipation of any objections which may possibly be made by the Manufacturers and others in the vicinity of the present Office, who no doubt would prefer its continuing where it is; in all other respects however the proposed site appears to me far preferable to the present. Its proximity to the Market Place, Corn Market, Public Buildings, proposed Railway Stations, and also the better access for Carriages are all in favour of the new Site, and the approval of it by so many of the principal Inhabitants as have signed the Memorial seems a strong sanction of the measure. On the other hand no dissent has yet been expressed although some months have elapsed since the plan was first announced.

The Postmaster is perfectly willing to conform to the arrangement if approved by the Postmaster General, but it is right to explain that as the house in which he now resides and where the Office has been for many years, is his own, the removal is not desirable to him, but rather a personal inconvenience and sacrifice, he does not however wish to urge this as any objection or obstacle, but he hopes it will be considered only reasonable that as the removal is not for his own purposes the proprietors of the proposed Buildings should bear him harmless in regard to any expence or loss which he may sustain by the removal, and also on the point of rent.

I submit also that some provision should be made that the Office, being once in the hands of the Company, a future Postmaster may not be compelled to take it on their own terms. I notice this as it is to be presumed that one of the objects of the Company in investing their money is to produce the best return they can for it, and there is no certainty that future proprietors may be so liberally disposed as the present.

I am Sir, Your most Obedient humble Servant,

G. J. Karstadt

T. P. BAINBRIGGE, POSTMASTER, DERBY TO G. J. KARSTADT, SHEFFIELD

Post Office, Derby, February 2nd 1838

My dear Sir,

I wish to ask you how you would advise me to act, with respect to my giving a final answer, to the Building Committee, as to fixing the Rent for the new Post Office. They tell me I must pay eighty pounds per annum. I offer to give them that Rent, providing they find me a coach house and stable, which I have in my present house, or I will give them sixty-five pounds a year, and find one myself; otherwise, I should be in a worse situation than I am at present, being minus that accommodation. Or I offer, whatever Rent I get for my own house to give them on their finding me a Gig house and Stable; surely this must be a fair offer? especially when it is taken into consideration the expense that will inevitably fall

upon me, in putting my present house in proper repair and order for a Tenant, besides the very probable loss of Rent in not being able to get a Tenant the moment I leave mine. But besides all this, they use what I consider very improper means to induce me to accept of their terms, by telling me that they would by all events, advise me to give the Rent, as if I decline, I make the Town my enemies, and by accepting, they would become my friends.

You must be perfectly aware, that without some private Income, it would be impossible for any future Postmaster to pay the Rent of eighty pounds a year, out of the Salary and Emoluments of this Office; therefore, in coming to any decision, as to terms, I must beg to throw myself upon the protection of my Lord, the Postmaster General, through your kindness, wishing entirely to leave the management of this business in your hands; otherwise I shall be obliged to submit to whatever conditions they chose to lay upon me, as I am not able of myself to cope with the Public in this matter.

I hear a general Meeting of the Proprietors of the New Buildings is to be held on Saturday the 10th Inst. prior to advertising for Contracts, therefore they will require a positive decision on my part, whether I will give the Rent or not, as otherwise they will turn the Office part of the Buildings for other purposes.

If I cannot see you, on or before that day, I hope you will allow me to tell the Meeting that I leave the whole matter of Rent entirely in your hands, promising to abide by any decision you may come to with them. I feel sure they would hear reason from you, which they would not from me. I only demand justice, and, (according to the Letter of my Lord, the Postmaster General) that I may be borne Harmless as to expense, or acceding to the wishes of the Public, in moving from my own present dwelling.

You will perceive, since my letter to you on this subject, I have advanced fifteen pounds per annum to my original offer of fifty, hoping by that concession to meet them half way, but to no effect.

They tell me the New Post Office will be worth one hundred a year and they consider they give me up twenty, by letting me have it for eighty.

I shall be very anxious to hear from you on this subject as soon as possible. Believe me, My dear Sir, Yours very Truly,

T. P. Bainbrigge, Postmaster.

G. J. Karstadt Esq.,
G.P.O., Sheffield

Copies of Resolutions passed at a General Meeting of the Athenaeum Society held at the Town Hall, Derby, February 10th, 1838.
(Joseph Strutt Esq. in the Chair)

"That the Building proposed to be erected for the Post Office would in all probability let for £120 a year for other purposes; but that in order

to secure the advantage of having the Post Office in that situation:-

"Resolve that it be offered to the present Post Master for £80 a year, and that not a less sum than £80 a year be accepted, and that Mr. Bainbrigge have until the 24th day of February to consider the same and give an answer to the Committee."

"Resolved that the Committee be authorised to contract with Mr. Cooper for the erection of the Buildings on the proposed plan with such alterations of details as they may think expedient; but that, as to the Building designed for a Post Office, if Mr. Bainbrigge shall not on or before the 26th day of February intimate his assent to take this £80 a year, the Building be appropriated to such other purposes as the Committee shall think fit."

J. N. Kahrs. Hon. Sec.

Post Office, Derby, Feby. 12th 1838

My dear Sir,

On Saturday I attended the General Meeting of the Proprietors of the Building Society, and tried, to the best of my ability to associate my cause, for a reduction of the Rent for the new Post Office, but self interest, being in the case, I had very unwilling hearers, and consequently very partial judges. I was told, as plain as words could speak, that if I allowed this opportunity to pass, I should repent it, that I should never be allowed to remain with the Office at my present dwelling, that not only the Town, but the Corporation would petition, till they obliged me to move, and then where would I get a house, either in the Market Place or Corn Market, at so moderate a Rent as eighty pounds a year. To support my arguments, I desired the Secretary to read to the Meeting the Secretary's letter of the 14th October, and yours of the 6th of this month, but they would not so much as notice either of them, by a single remark, but appeared more decided than ever in their determination not to lower the Rent, and to end the Business, came to a Resolution, that the new house and Post Office was to be offered to me at the Rent of Eighty Pounds a year, and allowing me, till the 24th of this month to return a positive answer. I called to their remembrance that there were other things to be settled, besides the Rent, and read them a copy of my first proposal to the Building Committee dated 17th Octr. (a copy of which I sent you) wherein I stated I should expect One Hundred Pounds to cover all my expences, and losses on moving, and to have the new Office fitted up, at the expence of the Town. This, they said, as a Society, they had nothing to do with; but if I would say I would give the full Rent required, they, as individuals of the Town, would do their utmost to raise me by subscription the Hundred Pounds; but as for fitting up the Office, I ought to do it myself out of that sum.

I now sollicite, my dear Sir, your advice and good offices in this

affair, hoping you will kindly interest my Lord the Postmaster General in my behalf.

I plainly perceive I must give the Rent they require, or I shall raise a hornets nest about me, and think myself fortunate they have limited the Rent to Eighty, for had it been even much higher, I feel sure for peace and quietness sake, I must ultimately given whatever they demanded; therefore, if it meets with your approval, I propose to return them an answer, that I will give them the Rent, providing the Town pay me one hundred pounds, to cover all my expenses in removing, and fifty pounds to enable me to fit up the new Office in a proper manner, or to fit it up themselves to my entire satisfaction.

Hoping to hear from you, prior to my giving my final answer to the Resolution, (as before alluded to).

I remain,

My dear Sir,

Yours very truly,

T. P. Bainbrigge,
POSTMASTER.

Would it be advisable to refer them to you for their answer?

G. J. Karstadt, Esq.,
G.P.O., Sheffield.

Sheffield, 13th Feby. 1838.

Sir,

Referring to the correspondence in October last respecting the proposed removal of the Post Office at Derby, a measure which his Lordship the Postmaster General was pleased to sanction on a memorial from the Town, I beg now to submit two letters I have received from the Postmaster on the subject, which altho. not strictly official will show better perhaps than in any other manner, the difficulty in which he is placed by the terms demanded for the new Premises which are to include a Residence. £80 per Annum is demanded and which the Postmaster is at length disposed to accede to, rather than incur the ill will of the Town; but he requires to be indemnified for his expenses in quitting his present house and removing to a new one; also that the new Office be fitted up for him or that he have an allowance for doing it himself; and this he conceives to be in accordance with his Lordship's opinion conveyed in your letter of the 14th of October last, that "it is only fair and just that the Postmaster should be protected from any loss or injury" on the occasion; a point which it appears the Committee are not disposed to come to any arrangement upon. I have hitherto conveyed to the Postmaster my impression that the terms should be a matter of private agreement, but under the present circumstances it seems necessary to request

your instructions as to what may be officially expected of him in this case.

I would venture further to notice that £80 per Annum would be a high rent for a Postmaster of Derby to pay, who had not a private income to assist, which a future Postmaster might not have.

I am Sir,
Your most obedient
faithful Servant,
G. J. Karstadt.

Lt. Colonel Maberly.

TREASURY TO THE POSTMASTER GENERAL

My Lord,

The Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury having had under consideration your Lordship's letter of the 1st Inst., enclosing copies of a correspondence on the Subject of a proposition made by the Athenaeum Society at Derby to provide suitable premises for the Office and residence of the Postmaster in a convenient part of the Town, where they are carrying on other public improvements.

I am commanded to acquaint your Lordship that previous to settling finally any arrangements respecting the Post Office at Derby, my Lords consider that the best mode should be adopted of obtaining the opinion of the Inhabitants, how far the removal to the proposed Site would contribute to the general convenience of the Place. That my Lords apprehend that as the Town Council of the Borough may be supposed best to represent the general Interest & opinions of the Town, a communication should be made to them, as in the case of Liverpool, and they should be requested to give their opinion as to the eligibility of the proposed removal, and My Lords are therefore pleased to request, that your Lordship will communicate with the Mayor of Derby accordingly. With respect to the case of the Postmaster, My Lords are not prepared to sanction the Principle, that a Postmaster who removes on account of the Superior Eligibility of other premises to those which he at present occupies, has a claim to compensation.

In the present case My Lords observe from the documents transmitted by your Lordship that the amount of £80 per annum is considered higher than would be paid for the House of a Postmaster at Derby, and on this ground as the Postmaster would, if the arrangement is carried into effect, be compelled for the Public Service to pay a higher Rent than would be necessary, My Lords would not object to an increase of the Salary of the Office if your Lordship should upon consideration be of opinion that the Postmaster's present Emoluments are not sufficient remuneration after the increased Rent has been paid.

My Lords have to request your Lordship's attention to this point, and desire to be favoured with your opinion together with the amount of Salary received by the Postmaster of Derby and such other information as may enable this Board to come to a decision on the Subject.

I am at the same time to add that My Lords consider that the house should be taken on a long Lease, and in such way, as may secure the Premises to any future Postmaster of Derby.

I am,
My Lord,
Your Lordship's
most obedt. Servt.

Treasury Chambers,
9th March, 1838.

Treasury Note March 9th 1838
To the Postmaster General,

In conformity with this direction I have taken upon me to write to the Mayor of Derby stating that is the wish of the Treasury to learn thro' the Town Council of the Town of Derby which Body their Lordships consider the best means assessing the sentiments of the Inhabitants, whether they then desire that the premises in question shall be enjoyed as a Post Office, in which case their Lordships will take the subject into consideration, and I have sent a copy of this letter to Mr. Karstadt confidentially, and directed him to furnish me with the necessary particulars respecting the Postmaster's salary, and to acquaint the Athenaeum Society that it is considered desirable to have an expression of the Statements of the Town on the removal of the Post Office, thro' the Town Council.

Note 19th March 1838
G. Karstadt, Esq.

Inform Mr. Karstadt that it is intended to give all the Postmasters compensation for the loss of pence on local letters, taking their former return of the amount as the guide for fixing that compensation; that I send him the Postmaster of Derby's return by which he will see that he makes the value of this perquisite £54. 15. 0 only, and I presume he, Mr. Karstadt, has been led into a mistake by including also the profit accruing from the pence of letters received at the General Post for places beyond the free delivery, and which are presumed to be still the perquisite of the Postmaster. Add that with respect to the removal of the Office it appears to me that £50 might fairly be taken as the Rent which any Postmaster of Derby might be expected to incur for a house and Office, and that of the difference between that Sum and the Rent demanded for the new Premises (80) be allowed, it would be a fair mode of meeting the present case, stipulating

that the fittings up of the new Office shall be undertaken by the Town Committee. As it seems to be the enclosed return, that the present Postmaster estimates this due of his Residence at £80 a year the plan proposed would be quite applicable to his case, and with respect to any further appointment, if it should at the time be found that the Salary would not admit of a further reduction than £50 for Rent, the difference could be made up in the shape of increased Salary, if it should be decided that the new Premises are to be engaged on the terms offered by the Society, which I think very desirable in order that we may secure a suitable Office in a fixed and permanent situation.

Barnsley; 14th March, 1838.

Sir,

I beg leave to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th Inst. on the proposition made by the Athenaeum Company at Derby to provide suitable Premises for the Office and Residence of the Postmaster in a convenient part of the Town, and I have in pursuance of your directions apprized the Company of the communication made to the Mayor of Derby, with the object of obtaining an expression of the sentiments of the Town upon the subject through the Town Council. As the measure has already been supported by a general Memorial from the Town, I conceive it is probable the Town Council will adopt it in their Official capacity.

With reference to the question as to the sufficiency or otherwise of the Official Income of the Postmaster of Derby to pay the proposed Rent of £80 per annum, I beg to enclose an abstract of the Return of Income and Disbursements made by him last year, and which I believe to be a perfectly fair statement. You will perceive that the Rent of the Office (as part of his house) is there charged £25 per annum, and with this deduction the net Income of the Office was then £263 per annum, of which however only £130 was Salary from the Revenue, the residue being made up of Perquisites of uncertain duration.

Since that period the portion consisting of Penny Letters, and amounting to £83 per annum has been taken into the Revenue, reducing the present net Income to £180 per annum. I believe it is proposed to grant compensation for the loss of this Perquisite, and the question of the sufficiency or insufficiency of the Income of the Office is so blended with that of the addition it may be decided to give as compensation, that it seems difficult to separate them, and it might be desirable to take the present opportunity of the Derby Salary being under consideration to settle both. I would therefore merely add that as in the forgoing estimate, the Office Rent is only charged as £25 per annum, the question would seem to be whether the present Income of the Office, including what it may be thought right to grant as Compensation for Perquisites, would bear the additional charge of £55 per annum required to make up the proposed rent of £80.

I would, however, venture further to notice that there is a peculiarity in the proposed arrangement, namely the providing a permanent and specific Residence for the Postmaster, and that of a rather superior Class, which may lead to difficulty under the present system in regard to Country Post Offices, from the uncertainty as to what may be the situation in life and circumstances of the Individual who may hold the Office, and from the Official remuneration not being generally sufficient to maintain a family independent of other pursuits, and which consequently Postmasters are allowed to follow.

In the case of the present Postmaster of Derby the difficulty is in a measure obviated by the fact of his having no other pursuit to interfere with his removal and his already inhabiting a house of the same superior class as that proposed to be built, and which, with the aid of his private income he is enabled to maintain. The inconvenience and probable loss to the present Postmaster is therefore principally in being required to quit a House which is his own, with the risk of not finding a tenant for it, and the positive Expense of removal and fitting up the new one, and it is against this principally that he seeks to be indemnified. A future Postmaster, however, may be in Trade, or have other occupations, which might render a change of Residence a great sacrifice, and possibly unnecessary should it happen that his actual Residence is in a suitable situation; or should he, on the other hand, be a person having no other pursuits, he would be placed in the occupation of a Residence, the expences of which, independently of Rent, he might find beyond his means if he had no private resources.

I beg most respectfully to notice these points, and it will be best judged by the Postmaster General and yourself whether they are of sufficient importance to weigh against the plan suggested of taking a long lease of the Premises, and consequently making it compulsory on a future Postmaster to occupy them. The only other case of this sort that has occurred in my District was at Sheffield, where a Company subscribed to erect a handsome and commodious Office in the High Street, with some adjoining Reading and Commercial Rooms, which, however, did not comprize a Residence. The terms which I arranged with the Partner and under which the Postmaster General was pleased to authorize the removal of the Office to the new Building, was that the present Postmaster was to have them at the same Rent which he paid for the Office he then occupied, which was £30 per annum, that he was to occupy them during his continuance in Office only, and that on his decease or removal the Surveyor of the District or new Postmaster should be secured in the occupation of them at the same Rent for twelve months, to afford time for the latter to settle terms with the Proprietors for his own occupation, or to make any other arrangements that might be desirable or necessary. An agreement to this effect was entered into and the Premises are now occupied on these terms.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient
and faithful Servant,
G. J. Karstadt.

TREASURY TO POSTMASTER GENERAL

Treasury Chambers,
6 June, 1838

My Lord,

I have laid before the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, your Lordship's letter of the 9th Ult., enclosing copy of a communication from the Mayor of Derby with copy of a Resolution of the Town Council signifying their approval of the proposed removal of the Post Office in that Town to the premises offered by the Athenaeum Society; and I have it in command from their Lordships to acquaint you that my Lords will not object to the arrangement proposed in your Lordship's letter of the 9th of March last for the removal of the Post Office at Derby from its present situation to the premises which have been offered by the Athenaeum Society at a rent of £80 per annum, or to the allowance proposed by your Lordship to be made to the present Post Master on account of such removal, viz. The difference between the rent of £80 per annum required by the Society for their premises, and the rent fairly chargeable on his present house, on the understanding that such allowance will come under consideration in case of a vacancy of the office, and not to be continued to his successor without the sanction of this Board.

I have the honour to be

My Lord,

Your Lordship's obedient Servant,
A. G. Speorman

My Lord,

With reference to your Lordship's Letter of the 4th Inst., requesting to be furnished with information connected with the removal of the Post Office at Derby, I have the honour to transmit Your Lordship the copy of a Resolution entered into by the Town Council at their Quarterly Meeting held on Saturday last.

"Unanimously Resolved that that part of the Town where the Public Improvements are now carrying on by the Athenaeum Society in Derby is the most convenient situation for their Office and Residence of the Postmaster and that when the Buildings are completed it is most desirable and eligible that the Post Office should be removed there".

I have the Honour to be, My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient & humble Servant,

B.T. Balguy, (Town Clerk & Coroner)
Derby, May 8th 1838.

NOTE

A. G. Spearman

6 June 1838

To the Postmaster General,

The Lords of the Treasury having approved the arrangement recommenced by your Lordship for the Derby Office, I propose, if you agree, to apprise Mr. Karstadt of their decision and to request him to communicate with the Athenaeum Society, and ascertain the longest period for which they will grant a lease of the premises in question on the proposed terms.

28th June, 1838

By Indenture of this date made between The Several Persons whose names and seals are thereunto subscribed and affixed (except Edward Strutt of Derby in the County of Derby Esq.: William Evans of Allestree in the same County Esq., Osborne Bateman of Derby aforesaid Esquire, Thomas Bent of the same place Esquire, M.D. and John Strutt of Belper in the said County of Derby Esquire) of the first part, and the said Edward Strutt, William Evans Osborne Bateman, Thomas Bent and John Strutt of the second part.

After Reciting that the said several persons parties to those Presents had agreed to form a Company or Society for the purpose of erecting an Athenaeum Hotel and other buildings in Derby aforesaid. Also reciting that by an Indenture of Release bearing date the 27th day of June, 1838. In consideration of the sum of £4500, paid by the said Edward Strutt, William Evans, Osborne Bateman, Thomas Bent, and John Strutt, Certain Hereditaments situate in the Cornmarket, Derby, were conveyed unto and to the use of the said Edward Strutt, William Evans Osborne Bateman, Thomas Bent and John Strutt, their heirs and assigns for ever.

And also reciting that the said sum of £4500 in the said in part recited Indenture of Release expressed to be paid by the said Edward Strutt, William Evans, Osborne Bateman, Thomas Bent and John Strutt, as the consideration money for the purchase of the said hereditament was paid out of the moneys of the said Society, and the Conveyance made to the said last named persons by the same Indenture was made to them as Trustees for the said parties to the now abstracting Indenture.

It was and is witnessed that the said several persons parties thereto Did Covenant and agree to and with each other (amongst other things) as follows (viz)

Clause 67

"That the said parties to these Presents of the second part, and the future Trustees of the Society respectively, and their respective heirs executors and administrators shall stand and be seized and possessed of the estate funds and property of the Society for the time being vested in them

respectively as Trustees for the said Society Upon Trust to convey lease mortgage charge assign transfer pay apply and dispose of the same and the rents issues and profits interest dividends and annual produce thereof respectively in such manner as the Committee or the General meetings of the Society (as the case may require) shall conformably to the duties and powers imposed on or given to them respectively by these Presents or by virtue hereof to be so imposed or given from time to time order or direct in which mortgages and charges respectively, full powers of Sale may be given And that upon the appointment of any new Trustee or Trustees, the Trust estates funds and property shall be conveyed assigned and transferred so as that the same may become vested in the Trustees for the time being and upon the Investment or Purchase in the names of the Trustees for the time being (whether upon the appointment of any new Trustee or Trustees or otherwise) of any estates funds or property of the Society the Committee shall so far as may appear to them as necessary or advisable cause to be prepared Deeds of Declaration of Trust of or concerning the same, and such Deeds shall from time to time be executed by the Trustees".

Clause 68

"That all Contracts Agreements Acts deeds Conveyance Charges Mortgages Leases and Assurances which shall be made or entered into or executed by the Trustees or Trustee for the time being of the Society either before or after the dissolution thereof shall be valid and effectual and binding and conclusive upon all the Proprietors and holders for the time being of any shares in the Capital of the Society and their respective executors and administrators and all persons claiming under them as fully and effectually as if they had been respectively parties to such Contracts Agreements Acts deeds Conveyance Mortgages Charges Leases and Assurances and that the receipt or receipts in writing of the Trustees or Trustee for the time being for the money to arise by means of any Sale or Sales or to be taken up by way of Mortgage or Charge or to proceed in any other manner from or in respect of the estates funds or property of the Society for the time being vested in such Trustees or Trustee or from any disposition thereof or dealing therewith shall effectually discharge the person or persons paying the same from such money and from being answerable for the misapplication or nonapplication thereof, and from being obliged to see the application thereof, or to inquire into the necessity or propriety of any Sale Mortgage or Charge Lease or any other Disposition or dealing or whether the same shall or maybe made by the authority and direction of the Society or of the Committee or otherwise under the directions or according to the provisions herein contained, or the true intent and meaning hereof, and no purchaser Mortgagee Lessee or other person taking such receipt or receipts shall be bound to ascertain that any person or persons appearing to be and acting as a Trustee shall or may have been duly appointed, or whether his Office shall have become vacant."

ATHENAEUM SOCIETY TO POSTMASTER GENERAL

Derby. April 23rd 1839

My Lord,

In answer to an enquiry made by Mr. Karstadt who was yesterday examining the new Post Office erected in Derby by the Athenaeum Society (who made a considerable sacrifice of their own interests for the Public convenience) I am instructed to inform your Lordship that the Committee are authorized by the Proprietors to let the Post Office (at eighty pounds a year) for a term of seven years or any shorter terms.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedt.

Servant

I. N. Kalors. Hon. Sec.

The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Lichfield

N. Kalors Esq. April 25 1839

For the Post Master General,

Your Lordship will recollect that the principal ground upon which the negotiation with the Proprietors of the Athenaeum was recommended and finally assented to by the Treasury, was that the Post Office being once fixed in a convenient and eligible Situation, it should not be subjected to change by the appointment of a new Post Master or any other cause, - and the condition distinctly laid down was, that the Premises here referred to, should only "be taken on a long lease in such a way as may secure them to any future Post Master of Derby"; see Mr. Baring's letter 9th March, 1838.

Under these circumstances I submit that Mr. Karstadt may be directed to explain that unless the Proprietors are disposed to grant a lease of the Premises in question for a term of not less than 30 years, Your Lordship does not feel Yourself justified in proceeding further in the matter. I presume it would not be at all expedient to enter into any arrangements of the nature contemplated for so short a period as 7 years, at the expiration of which the Public must either be left at the mercy of a private company as to future terms or subjected to the expence and inconvenience of further change.

If Your Lordship approve of this course I will acknowledge this communication and refer Mr. Kalors to Mr. Karstadt who has hitherto conducted the Negotiation.

26th April 1839.

Approved

Lichfield

27th April, 1839

Leicester, 26th April, 1839

Sir,

In reference to the correspondence last year respecting the New Post Office at Derby, I have since that period made various unsuccessful attempts to obtain an answer to the enquiry as to the longest period for which the Parties would grant a Lease for the Premises. When at Derby a few days since, I had an interview with Mr. Johnson, a Managing Member of the Committee on the Subject, who informed me that they had recently passed a Resolution on that point, and he promised me that it should be officially communicated in a few days. I understand they are not disposed to grant a Lease for a longer period than 7 years; the Premises are expected to be ready about Midsummer.

I am Sir,

Your most obedient
and Faithful Servant,
G. J. Karstadt

Sheffield,
9th May, 1839

Sir,

In obedience to your directions I apprized Mr. Kalors, the Honorary Secretary of the Athenaeum Society at Derby, that unless the Proprietors would be disposed to grant a lease for a term not less than 30 years, of the Premises intended for a Post Office, His Lordship the Post Master General would not feel justified in proceeding further in the matter, - and I beg leave now to transmit an answer from Mr. Kalors, assenting to the period, but requiring in that case a rent of £120 per Annum instead of £80 as originally proposed for 7 years.

I am,

Sir,

Your most obedient
faithful Servant,
G. J. Karstadt

Lt. Colonel Maberly

P.S. It is presumed the expense of the fittings must be borne by the Revenue.

G. Karstadt. Sheffield 9th May, 1839.

For the Post Master General,

I submit that copies of Mr. Kalor's letters of the 23rd Ult. & 7th Inst. should be forwarded to Treasury with a brief statement of circumstances as they now stand, explaining that we have not been able to obtain an answer

from the Proprietors of the Athenaeum Buildings to the question put to them in June last, until now; at the same time stating that the amount which Your Lordship considers the Postmaster of Derby might fairly be called upon to contribute in aid of Rent, should the Lords of the Treasury approve the terms now offered by this Company, would be £50 a year. I would also Point out that when the Premises in question were offered for £80 a year, they were represented as being really worth £120 a year, the Athenaeum Company having professed their readiness to make a sacrifice for the Public accommodation of the sum of £50 charged upon the Postmaster, reducing the expense to be incurred by the Post Office to £30 a year was considered a fair amount, taking the sacrifice offered by the Company on the one hand, and the difference between the Rent at present paid by the Postmaster, and that to which he would thus become subject on the other.

The Lords of the Treasury will decide whether the offer of the Company in either case, - viz. to receive £80 a year for a term of 7 years, or £130 a year for 30 years lease - shall be now accepted, and if the latter, the expense to fall upon the Revenue would be £70 a year. The Company assert that for the longer period the Premises are worth £150 a year.

13th May, 1839

Treasury

30th May, 1839

My Lord,

With reference to your Lordship's Report of the 25th Inst., on the subject of the removal of the Post Office at Derby, I am commanded by the Lords Commissioners of their Majesty's Treasury to authorise you to accept the offer of the Athenaeum Company for a Lease of their Premises for a Post Office at Derby at a Rent of One Hundred and Twenty Pounds a year for Thirty Years.

Their Lordships also concur with your Lordship that as the Removal of the Postmaster is directed for the Public Service, the expenses of the new fittings and of the Postmaster's removal from his present Residence must be borne by the Public.

I am, My Lords,

Your Lordship's very obedient Servant,
T. F. Baring

Treasury.

T. F. Baring Esq.

For the Postmaster General,

I propose with your Lordship's approbation to Apprise Mr. Karstadt of this decision, authorizing him to make the necessary communication to the Proprietors of the Athenaeum and to the Postmaster of Derby on the subject,

and informing him that the Postmaster will be called upon as part of this arrangement to contribute £50 a year towards the proposed Rent of £120, reducing the charge to fall upon the Revenue to £70 a year. Mr. Karstadt will of course, be directed to report further on the subject, as to the period of removal, expense of fittings, for which an estimate must be furnished, the preparation of the Lease, etc.

1st June, 1839

Approved

Lichfield.

2nd June, 1839

Derby. July 23rd 1839

Sir,

I am directed by the Committee of the Athenaeum Society to acknowledge Receipt of your letter of the 12th Inst. announcing the consent of the Lords of the Treasury to accept a lease of the Post Office for the term of thirty years at the annual rent of £130.

In reply to the other part of your letter I am instructed to inform you that on the report of the Contractor the Committee expect that the Building, completed as far as new houses usually are for occupation, the Post Office being also substantially fitted up at the expense of the Society, will be ready for the occupation of the Postmaster by about the end of August, and that instructions shall forthwith be given to the Secretary of the Society to prepare the Lease. To enable him to do so, I will thank you to inform me what party or parties the Lords of the Treasury will think fit to nominate as Lessees of the premises. You are most likely aware of the usual rule that a Lease is prepared by the Lessors Solicitor at the expense of the Lessees.

I am, Sir,

Your obedt. Servt.

J. N. Kahrs.

G. J. Karstadt Esq.,
Sheffield

Sheffield,
25th July, 1839

Sir,

I beg leave to enclose a letter I have just received from Mr. Kahrs, the Secretary to the Athenaeum Society at Derby, stating that the new Post Office in that Town is likely to be ready about the end of August, and enquiring what "party or parties" are to be nominated as Lessees of the Premises.

Mr. Kahrs also proposes that the Lease shall be prepared by their own Solicitor, which he states to be usual. I request you will have the goodness to enable me to answer Mr. Kahrs, and if his proposal be acceded to, that you will be pleased to furnish me with the name or names as requested. I submit that at all events it will be necessary that the Draft of the Lease should be considered by the Solicitor to the Department, and I defer any suggestion of detail until I am aware of the terms of the Lease the Society propose to grant.

I am, Sir,
Your most Obedient & Faithful
Servant,
G. J. Karstadt

Derby, 21st September, 1839

Sir,

I beg leave now to transmit the Draft of the proposed Lease for the new Post Office at Derby, as prepared by the Solicitor to the Athenaeum Company. As I conceived that some of the provisions might be questionable I have seen the Secretary and a managing Member of the Committee on the subject, with a view of obtaining explanations.

It appeared to me that the Clauses requiring the Tenant to insure the Premises, and also to undertake all external repairs, were not generally usual. The Gentlemen, however, whom I have referred to, assure me it is customary in long Leases like the present. It appeared to me also that the Clauses preventing any alteration of the Premises, and preventing any other occupation than the business of the Post Office being carried on in them, were too restrictive, and that the Postmaster General should at all events have the power of making any alteration which might become necessary for carrying on the Public Service, and also that it should rest with his Lordship to decide what other occupation might or might not be allowed on the Premises, as supposing a future Postmaster to be a professional Man, Mercant, etc., it might not perhaps be necessary to prevent his having an Office or Counting House in that part of the building constituting his Dwelling House. I believe the Committee will be disposed to agree to any amendment which the Postmaster General may deem requisite on these points, or on others which may occur to Mr. Peacock.

The premises, altho' professing to be ready at Michaelmas, are still (now within a week of that period) in a very unfinished state. I am assured, however, that they will be completely ready within a month, and of course that the Rent will only commence with the Occupation.

It certainly is very desirable that the Derby Post Office should be permanently fixed as soon as possible, not only as the reference to the New Penny Postage, but on account of the Town being the centre of 3 Railways,

two of which are now open. Owing however to the delay and uncertainty which has altered the preparation of the Premises, the Postmaster has been prevented from making any arrangement to get his present Office & Residence tenanted, and it does not at present appear how he is to be indemnified, in case of an immediate or very early removal.

It will also be necessary to decide in reference to the Taxes, Rates, repairs, painting, etc. stipulated to be borne by the Postmaster General, whether the Postmaster is to pay any share of it, or whether his contribution of £50 per annum, is to cover every thing. It is I believe understood that the upper part of the Premises will constitute the Postmaster's Dwelling House.

I have arranged with the Company to undertake the fittings of the Office, so that there will be no expense at first under that head, but only in keeping them in repair, and making any additions which may hereafter be necessary. These fittings, as far as I can judge, will be very good and complete. I think, however, it will be advisable that at a proper time a Professional Surveyor should inspect the whole Premises on the part of the Postmaster General.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient and faithful Servant,

G. J. Karstadt

NOTES

The Postmaster General

I have sent the Draft of the Lease of the Derby Post Office to Mr. Peacock for his Inspection report, and when it comes back, shall submit it for your approval. With respect to the other points submitted by Mr. Karstadt, it seems to me that £50 being considered a fair Rent for the Postmaster's house and Office, while he states at the request of the people of Derby calls upon him to take Premises of to the value of £120, the Postmaster ought to be called upon to pay that lower portion of the Taxes which £50 bears to £120 or 5/12ths. This, however, will be a subject of future decision.

September 23rd 1839.

NOTES

I have perused the Draft Lease of the intended New Post Office at Derby:-

With respect to the Lessors, it should be clearly ascertained that the Legal Estates is vested in them and that they have power to grant the Lease in question. Are they authorised to grant Leases by the Deed conveying the

Property to them?

(I don't think we should pay this.) The Covenant to pay Taxes includes the Land Tax. This is a Landlords Tax and without an express agreement the Lessee cannot be required to pay it.

(I think we should insure) The Covenant to insure from fire is one which a Lessee is not bound to enter into unless it be stipulated for when the Premises are taken. Was there any agreement or understanding on this point? If the Lessee Covenant to insure from fire and neglect to keep up the Insurance, it is a forfeiture of his Lease.

(Think we'll do this) The same observations apply to the Covenant to rebuild in case of fire.

The Covenant, to keep the Premises in repair is usual and proper, but if the Postmaster General is not to rebuild in case of fire, an exception of "Accidents by fire" should be introduced.

The Covenant to paint the outside of the Premises once in every two years and the inside once in every five years should I think be altered to once in three years and once in seven years.

Yes The Covenant not to alter the Elevation of the Building is reasonable and proper; but the Postmaster General should have full power to make such alterations in the interior of the house as he may from time to time consider necessary.

The Covenant at pages 10 and 11 that the House shall not be used for any purpose other than a Post Office and Postmaster's Residence seem objectionable, as a future Postmaster may practice some Profession or be in Trade.

The Earl of Lichfield will be the Lessee. The Postmaster General is not for this purpose, a Corporation sale consequently the words " " should remain.

M. B. Peacock.

26th September, 1839

For the Postmaster General

I have only now to submit that Mr. Peacock may receive Your Lordship's Authority to prepare the Lease for execution according to the conditions that have been agreed upon.

8th October, 1839

For Mr. Peacock's information and guidance. C.J.

Oct. 14th 1839

NOTES

Derby Post Office

For the Postmaster General

I submit that Mr. Peacock may be directed to correspond with the Solicitors to the Athenaeum Society at Derby as to the Covenants of the Lease for the Premises it is proposed to occupy as a Post Office in that Town.

It does not seem to me to be material to ascertain the Authority on which the Parties are entitled to grant the Lease, as we pay no premium and should only be liable to the loss of the money expended on the Premises and to the alteration of the fixtures.

With respect to ensuring the Building against fire and rebuilding in the case of accident I think the Post Office should take these liabilities, and as to the other points I entirely concur with Mr. Peacock.

Perhaps Mr. Peacock had better enquire as to the right of the Parties to grant the Lease tho' I do not think it expedient to expend any money in the investigation of the Title.

September 28th 1839.

Approved.
Lichfield

For Mr. Peacock's information and guidance.
Having written to the Solicitor of the Derby Athenaeum Society he has forwarded the enclosed reply which will probably be considered satisfactory.

If the Postmaster General approve, I will now alter and settle the Draft Lease accordingly.

M.B.P.
7th October 1839

Derby, 4th October 1839

Sir,

Your letter of the 2nd Inst. respecting the Draft of the Lease of Buildings here, from the Trustees of the Athenaeum Society to the Postmaster General, for the purposes of a Post Office and Postmaster's Residence, has been laid before the Committee of the above named Society, whose instructions I have received to answer it, as follows:-

1st The site of the Buildings in question, (with other property) is vested in the Lessors, in fee, by Indentures of Lease and Release, dated 27 and 28

of June 1838, being the Purchase Deeds or Conveyance, and by a Deed of Settlement entered in by the Members of the Society, for the government of themselves and their affairs, dated 28th June 1838, full power is given to lease, or otherwise dispose of the Property, in such manner, as the Committee or General Meetings of the Society shall order or direct, as will appear from the accompanying extracts from such Deed. The necessary Order has, I believe, been made, but I cannot state this as a fact, the Secretary, who has the custody of the Book of Proceedings, being from home. If not made, however, it will be made.

2nd The Land Tax has been redeemed.

3rd There is no objection to the proposed alteration in the Covenant to paint the outside once in 3 years, and the inside once in 7 years.

4th With respect to the Postmaster General BEING AUTHORISED to make such alterations in the Interior of the House as he may consider from time to time necessary; There is no objection to this alteration, adding, after the word "Necessary" "for carrying on the business of the Post Office" and the Lessee being bound to restore the Building to its present state, if required.

5th The Committee consent to the Covenants at P.10 and P.11 being altered as desired; all they require in this respect is, to secure a continuance of the Post Office in that Situation.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
Jessop

M. B. Peacock Esq.,
Solicitor,
General Post Office

Derby. 31st October, 1839

Athenaeum Trustees to Postmaster General

Sir,

Herewith I forward the Draft and Ingrossment of the Lease and Counterpart for comparison and on your returning them I will take the earliest opportunity of getting the Deeds executed.

I find on enquiring of the Secretary, who is just returned home, that the requisite order of a General Meeting to authorise the Grant of a Lease for a Term exceeding 14 years, has not yet been made, but as there will be occasion very shortly, to call a General Meeting on other accounts, I will undertake then to obtain it.

The building is now quite ready for the reception of the Postmaster who

is desirous of remove into it, but Mr. Karstadt, in a letter to him of the 28th inst. now before me, says, "I can do nothing as to taking possession of the new Post Office without orders to that effect which I have not yet received. I suppose the execution of the Lease is a necessary preliminary".

Now, what I have to propose and request is, that the Postmaster may be allowed to remove immediately, this letter being considered as an undertaking from me to get an order and the Lease executed at the next General Meeting of the Athenaeum Society. Should they not be satisfactory, a General Meeting shall be called on purpose immediately on hearing from you.

Of course, rent will be required only from the time of the particular entry, altho' the terms commence from Michaelmas last.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,
Jessopp

M. B. Peacock, Esq.

At a Meeting of the Athenaeum Society held
at the Royal Hotel in Derby on Tuesday the
19th day of November, 1839.

Edward Strutt Esquire in the Chair.

It was moved by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Stephen Gamble and resolved unanimously.

"The Committee and Trustees be authorised to grant a Lease to the Postmaster General of the Buildings designed as a Post Office and Postmaster's Residence, For a term of Thirty Years, from the 29th day of September last at the Rent of £120 a year, (to commence from the time of occupation,) and in the terms and Conditions of the Lease now produced by Mr. Jessopp and approved on behalf of the Postmaster General."

Edward Strutt,
Chairman

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S.S.

SCHOOL BOOKS

by

Robert Thornhill

It is not a usual practice for school exercise books to be preserved, but there appears to have been an exception in the case of the Wager family of Longstone, some members of which were pupils of Joseph Scott, schoolmaster at Great Longstone, Derbyshire, from 1837 to 1877.

In addition to being village schoolmaster "Mr. Scott receives into his family a limited number of young Gentlemen to be prepared for the Public Schools, Commerce or Agriculture". He achieved a great reputation and the success in later years of "Scott's pupils" was a testimony to his sound and practical tuition. Books which have been saved show how different subjects were dealt with.

There are in all 14 books which belonged to five sons and two daughters of William Wager's family of ten children. Half the books were neatly bound with stiff covers and belonged to the sons who were pupils of Joseph Scott, the remainder were thinner with paper covers, and belonged to the two daughters who attended schools at Bakewell and Bubnell Hall, near Baslow.

The children of William Wager of Great Longstone and their school books.

<u>Book</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Born</u>	<u>Date of books</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
-	Elizabeth	1825 Mar.16		
43	Thomas Torr	1827 Feb.23	Probably 1841-2	(1)
40	Jasper	1829 Feb.19	1844 Sept.22	
44	Edward	1830 Sept.10		(2)
41	Charles	1832 Dec.3	1847 Mar. 18	
42	Anthony Wm.	1835 May 7	1849 Mar.1	
45	Andrew	1838 Sept.27	1850 Apr.23	
46	"		1853 Jun.28	
47	Hannah	1841 Oct.11	1853 Apr.25 to June 21	(3)
48	Albert James	1843 Dec.5	1855 Oct.31 to Dec.6	(4)
49	Harriott	1848 Mar.20	1858 Aug.2 to Dec.16	(5)
50	"	"	1859 Sept.30 to 1860 Feb.17	
51	"	"	1860 Mar.2 to Oct.12	
52	"	"	1861 Nov.1 to 1862 Mar.8	(6)
53	"	"	1862 -	

- (1) No date in book but would be about same age as brothers when at school.
- (2) No name or date but probably Edward's book.
- (3) At Miss Wilkinson's, Bridge House, Bakewell.
- (4) No name but some evidence that this was Albert's book.

- (5) Pupil at Church View, Bakewell.
- (6) Address on last page of this, and in following book Bubnell Hall.

40 The earliest book has a fine printed engraving on the title page and in this was written - Jasper Wager, Steel Bank, Nr. Sheffield, Yorkshire. September 22nd 1844. The next page is headed - Counting Book 1845, then in beautiful penmanship follow questions on the area of fields, cost of grind stones etc. with calculations in full detail and in some cases accompanied by diagrams.

Across the title, and two other pages, in small writing is a long involved 'sermon' about Napoleon and at the end of the book some poems and odd verses. These had been written on a few blank pages at a later date, one poem was signed J. Wager and his signature also appeared in one of the "bird" decorations - a bird or part of one, with graceful sweeping wings was evidently a favourite form of decoration.

Jasper Wager became a wealthy man and considerable property owner in Great Longstone, in 1878 he purchased Mount Pleasant (now The Lodge) and owned property from there to The Homestead (now The Manor) where he lived. He was born 19th February 1829 so would be just over 15½ years old when he commenced the book. Inside the front cover his address is given as Longstone, near Bakewell with the date Dec. 19th 1844 so his final education may have been under Joseph Scott.

One of the short verses -

An address to a Fat Lady

All flesh is grass so doth the scripture say
And grass when cut and dried is turned to hay
So when old death to You, his sythe shall take
God help me, what a hay stack You will make.

41 "Land Surveying" was the title of the school book of Charles Wager of Great Longstone, he was born 3rd December 1832 and the book is dated March 18th 1847. Problems in half books relate to calculating the area of irregular shaped fields, also how to measure a mere or wood, the book was then used from the other end and under "artificers Work" were calculations of Bricklayers, Masons, Carpenters & Joiners work, also Roofing, Wainscoting, Plasterers Work and Painting all very useful for a future property owner.

It is not known what work Charles took up, there is a record that he died in London on June 3rd 1858.

42 Anthony W. Wager born 7th May 1835 was evidently of a more artistic nature judging by the decorations and diagrams in his school book entitled Mensuration and dated March 1st 1849. The book is greatly to the credit of both the 14 year old student and his schoolmaster, beneath the title is

"Continued" and it is hoped that his earlier school work has also been preserved.

Particular attention is drawn to the "bird" decorations and to the sketch of St. George and the Dragon on a page towards the end.

- 43 Thomas Torr Wager did not date his book, he was the eldest son of the family of ten and was born on 23rd February 1827 and like his brothers would probably be 14 or 15 years old when he did this work. The printed decoration on the title page includes a birds head and wings and may have inspired some of the other work, diagrams are simple and do not indicate any outstanding skill.

Subject headings are Involution, Cube Root, Mensuration and Land Surveying.

- 44 Another book in the collection is like the others, but unfortunately there is no name or date, bold and attractive headings include - Addition, Compound Sybtraction and Compound Multiplication whilst spaces have been left towards the end of the book for headings to be filled in.

- 45 Andrew Wager, who later lived at Hartington, was born 27th September 1838 and was only $11\frac{1}{2}$ years old when he started the first of two books. The neat inscription A Wager, Longstone, April 23rd 1850 on the title page, and subject headings - Discount, Compound Interest, Equation of Payments, Barter, Profit and Loss may have been the work of Joseph Scott, but the remainder indicates the knowledge gained by a 12 year old.

- 46 The second book of Andrew Wager is dated June 28th 1853 and dealt with Areas then Measurement of Solids. One of the later problems was to calculate the solidity of the tapered shaft of Pompey's Pillar. This was followed by a description of the massive column and that "some jolly sons of Neptune ascended the pillar and drank a bowl of punch upon the top amidst the shouts and acclamations of the natives who were astonished at this address and boldness of the British tars. This accomplished they descended by means of a rope which they contrived to draw over the top of the pillar by the assistance of a paper Kite...".

- 47 The first of the thin paper backed books is inscribed "Miss Wager, Miss Wilkinson's Bridge House, Bakewell, Apl.25 1853", and was evidently used to practice uniformity in writing. Sentences commencing with -

Avignon, a City in the South of France
Buda, a fortified Town in Hungary
Ceylon, a large island in the East Indies
Dominica, a British Island, West Indies
Example teaches more than Precept

appeared on separate pages, each line being repeated 14 times to fill the page, with Hannah Wager, Bridge House, Bakewell 1853 at the bottom of most.

48

The second book is dated 1855, the first two pages have been torn out and there is no indication as to who the writer was. It does, however, provide information as to Joseph Scott's character. The writing is in the form of letters from William Wager to his children, five of whom are named. Only part of the first letter has survived but what remains is of interest.

....knowledge of your Tutor added to his general character convince me that in studying to deserve his affection and friendship you will obtain it. I persuade myself therefore you will on your part omit nothing that may be conducive to the attainment of so desirable an object.

With a firm reliance that you will endeavour to merit the approbation of the good and wise, I subscribe myself.

Your affectionate Father
William Wager.

Longstone Octr 31st 1855

My Dear Thomas,

When you reflect that the advice and instruction you derive from Mr. Scott are calculated to make you become an useful and worthy member of society I feel a strong persuasion that your gratitude to him will be proportional to the benefits you will receive that in every word and action you will show the attention and respect due from the scholar to the master that you will show diligence and pay an explicit regard to his command.

Be assured that in pursuing your own welfare you add essentially to the happiness of

Your affectionate Father
William Wager

Longstone Nov 3rd 1855

My Dear Jasper,

You request to be informed how often I would wish you to write to which I answer that the receipt of your letters will at all times be a real pleasure to me but that I expect to experience this satisfaction at least once a month.

To be capable of carrying on an epistolary correspondence with ease and credit to yourself is one of the things I hope you will accomplish I will endeavour therefore in my next to give you a few hints which if duly attended to may facilitate your improvement in the important branch of your education.

Your affectionate Father
William Wager

Longstone Nov. 6th 1855

My Dear Harriott,

I promised in my last to give you a few hints for your improvement in letter writing. There are many treatises on this kind of composition but in my opinion they serve rather to perplex than to assist. The most concise and general rules I can give you are to let your language be natural and easy, to avoid all highflown farfetched expressions, all useless repetition, to your superiors write with a becoming confidence not assuming nor servile, to your equals with an engaging freedom, to your inferiors with an affability that may prevent them feeling their inferiority, to all with respect, in a word express your thoughts in writing as you would in speaking.

Your affectionate Father

William Wager

(Some mistakes were marked but no attention paid to punctuation)

Longstone Nov. 9th 1855

My Dear Hannah,

I thank you for your letter and the essay which accompanied it with the latter I am much pleased and more particularly so with the subject you could not have treated upon a nobler one than Mercy I flatter myself the sentiments you have expressed upon this exalted virtue are the genuine affection of your heart that you will never lose sight of this Godlike quality but remember that -

Mercy is twice blessed

It blessed him that gives and him that takes

Tis mighties in the mighty it becomes

The throned monarch better than his crown

His sceptre shows the force of temporal power

The attribute to awe and majesty

Wherein doth sit the dread and fear of Kings

But Mercy is above this sceptre sway

It is enthroned in the hearts of Kings

It is an attribute of God himself

And earthly power doth then show Gods likest

When Mercy seasons justice

Your affectionate Father

William Wager

Longstone Nov. 13th 1855

My Dear Son,

It is the remark of an excellent writer that Ingratitude is a crime so shameful that the man was never yet found who would acknowledge himself guilty of it. The observation is certainly founded in truth though we are shocked with daily instances of this detestable vice there is not a person but would enter his protest against the commission of it.

Ingratitude to our Creator is alas but too prevalent and here I am apprehensive very few indeed can totally acquit themselves. From his beneficent hands we receive accumulated benefits yet does anything happen contrary to our contracted ideas our blessings are forgotten we are restless

and impatient obtain that the possession of which would in all probability destroy the happiness we at present enjoy.

Humanity shudders at the ingratitude too frequently shown by children to their parents. And here did not the melancholy proofs continually present themselves we should scarcely think it possible that forgetting the ties of nature the thousand obligations due to the authors of their being children could for the numerous benefits they have received make them feel in return.

How sharper than a serpent's tooth is it
To have a thankless child.

Your conduct my son makes me hope this bitter anguish is not reserved for

Your affectionate Father
William Wager

Longstone Nov. 20th 1855

Dear Charles,

It is the wish of all mankind to be happy and yet how very few attain this blessing. This should appear strange since the road to happiness is direct and plain. It consists in the single word contentment. To the man possessing this frame of mind all nature wears a smiling aspect he is happy in himself and commutes a kind of happiness to all around. Did we estimate as we ought the blessings we enjoy abundant reason would be found for content.

Our circumstances are never reduced to so low an ebb but there will be some mixture of mercy and favour discovered we shall still see many in a more destitute situation than ourselves and it is ingratitude to God to be continually fretting at our disappointments and overlooking our advantages.

Men argue very absurdly when they say could we attain such a comfort we should be happy our wishes extend no further yet the object obtained they find themselves equally remote from happiness as before new wants will continually press forward and the mind will remain as dissatisfied as at her first setting out. It appears then from the above the only chance we have for happiness is to be perfectly contented in the situation in which Providence has placed us and that it is our duty to

Submit in this or any other sphere
Secure to be as blest as we can bear
Your affectionate Father
William Wager

Longstone Nov. 27th 1855

Dear Son,

The providence of God governs the world interests itself in the affairs of men and disposes of all events which happen to us. Tho the great Creator hath his dwelling on high yet he humbleth himself to behold the things what are done on earth. He clothes the lilies and the grass of the field. He feeds the fowls of the air Without Him not a sparrow falls to the ground.

He is with us when we go out when we come in and when we are on the way. Even the very hairs of our head are all numbered. In the affairs of men however there is much apparent disorder. But this is not a sufficient objection against the providence of God. For those parts in the moral world which have not an absolute may yet have a relative beauty in respect of some other parts concealed from us but open to his eye before whom past present and to come are set together in one point of view.

There is a Jewish tradition concerning Moses which will illustrate what I have said. That great prophet we are told was called up by a voice from heaven to the top of a mountain where in confer which / with the Supreme Being / he was permitted to propose to him some questions concerning his administration of the universe. In the midst of this Divine colloquy he was commanded to look down the plain below. At the foot of the mountain there issued out a clear spring of water at which a soldier alighted from his horse to drink. He was no sooner gone than a little boy came to the same place and finding a purse of Gold which the soldier had dropped took it up and went away with it.

Immediately after this came an infirm old man weary with age and travelling and having quenched his thirst sat down to rest himself by the side of the spring. The soldier missing his purse returns to search for it and demands it of the old man who affirms he has not seen it and appeals to heaven in witness of his innocence.

The soldier not believing his protestations kills him Moses fell on his face with horror and amazement when the Divine voice thus prevent his expostulation. Be not surprised Moses nor ask why the judge of the whole earth has suffered this thing to come to pass. The child is to occasion that the blood of the old man is spilt but know that the old man whom thou sawest was the murderer of that child's father.

Your affectionate Father
William Wager

The earlier books, where both name and date were given, were written by Jasper, Charles, Anthony and Andrew when about 12 to 15 years of age so it is possible to date Thomas Torr's book 1841 or 1842 and there is reason to suppose that the un-named book was Edwards. This leaves Albert unaccounted for and the supposed letters from William Wager may well have been written by him although composed by his master. No letter is addressed to him and he spent his life in Longstone and was 12 years old in 1855 when the letters were written.

With regard to the three daughters, there is no book which belonged to Elizabeth, the eldest member of the family, and just the one, already mentioned, which belonged to Hannah when she was $11\frac{1}{2}$ years old. She married her neighbour James Orr a well known farmer and land owner.

The youngest, and by no means the least important of the ten, was Harriett who married William Holmes of Pilsley, later she returned to Longstone to keep

house for her brother Jasper who left a good deal of property to her family and through them these and other records have been preserved.

49 Harriott attended school at Church View, Bakewell and her first book is dated August 2nd 1858 and was completed in December of the same year. It is in two parts "Chronology of the History of England" B.C.55 to A.D.1830 followed by "The Kings of England" 1066 to 1727.

50 Her next two books are in the form of letters written from Church View, Bakewell, in these reference is made to her teacher Miss Sousloff and White's Directory of 1857 lists Sousloff, Theresa having an academy in South Church Street.

The writing is neat and could be taken for that of an adult particularly as some letters end by being written across, a common practice with some Victorian letter writers.

Church View, Bakewell. Sept.30 1859

Dear Father,

I have the greatest pleasure in writing a weekly letter to you, the hope of an answer always increases the gratification, trusting you will be pleased, I will tell you about Sponge. It is a marine production; it was formerly supposed to be a vegetable, but the opinion now generally entertained is that it is a habitation constructed by a little worm...Sponge absorbs fluids rapidly, and yields them again when compressed. It was frequently saturated with myrrh and wine, and given to persons suffering the punishment of crucifixion...To this custom the sacred historian refers in the account of our Lords death...

I am dear Father

Your affectionate daughter
Harriett Wager

Church View, Bakewell. Oct. 14 1859

Dear Mother,

Not having forgotten how anxious you said you should feel, until you received a letter from me, I hasten to comply with your wish, I intend to tell you what I know about Hemp; it is obtained from an annual plant...It is cultivated in Norfolk and Suffolk and in Russia...It is next spun and then passes into the hands of the rope-maker or weaver...It is computed that the sails and cordage of a first rate man of war requires as much hemp for their construction, as would be the yearly produce of four hundred and twenty four acres of land.

With love I am dear Mother,

Your affectionate daughter
Harriett Wager

Church View, Bakewell, Oct.21 1859

Sir,

My eldest son being in his fourteenth year, and having at various times

evinced an inclination for the grocery business I am desirous of apprenticing him thereto at the earliest opportunity. I have therefore presumed to trouble you with this note, begging that the matter may be favoured with your kind notice, if you should be in want of a youth as I should esteem myself particularly fortunate in being enabled to place him with you.

I am, Sir,

Your very obedient Servant,
William Wager

Church View, Bakewell. Oct.27 1859

Dear Mother,

The kind request you made, that I should write to you after I had been a short time away, I have the most sincere pleasure in complying with.

I will describe the senses to you. The eyes are the organs of sight... A blind person was once questioned as to what notion he had of scarlet, he said he thought that it must be like the sound of a trumpet. It is obvious he had no correct idea of a quality discoverable by the sight, and he could only compare it with one that he had acquired through the medium of another sense.

Believe me ever,

Your affectionate Daughter
Harriett Wager

Letter in French follows to Mon cher Frere, dated November 10.

Church View, Bakewell. Nov.17 1859

Dear Father,

Miss Sousloff wishes us to describe the five Senses, in a former letter I wrote about Sight, I will now tell you about hearing. The ears are the organs of this sense. In many animals the ear has externally the form of a trumpet and is well adapted for gathering sound...In beasts of prey the trumpet part is inclined forward, easily to catch the sound of those they are pursuing. But animals whose chief means of protection is flight, have these organs turned backwards, that they may be readily apprized of the approach of their enemies...The ears are the medium through which all sensations of sound reach the mind; without them, we should be deprived of the advantages of verbal instruction, the pleasures of conversation, and the charms of music...The cat mews, the dog barks, the rook caws, the fly buzzes...Man speaks, laughs, cries, shouts, groans, whistles, sings.

With love I am dear Father

Your affectionate Daughter
Harriett Wager

Church View, Bakewell. Dec.14 1859

Dear Hannah,

Trusting it will please you to receive a letter from me. I will give you an account of the Senses I will tell you what to smell is. The nose is the organ of this sense...Heat promotes the escape of these particles, which

are of a volatile nature hence when the sun shines brightly, the flowers are most fragrant.

Believe me to be

Your affectionate Sister

Harriott Wager

Mademoiselle Wager presente sas compliments a Mademoiselle Sousloff...

Le 15 Decembre 1859

Church View, Bakewell. Feb.3 1860

Dear Miss Sousloff,

I was very glad to come to school again, I enjoyed the holidays very much. I am very sorry you have been so poorly, you have not enjoyed your holidays very much. I hope you will soon be better. Albert James took me with Hannah to Hartington Moor, Hannah went with Thomas to church but I did not, she did not think it very pretty, I should have liked to have gone, but I stayed to keep Albert James company. It was very cold there. I saw the hunters the day I came away there were some gentlemen from Bakewell. With love.

Believe me ever,

Your affectionate Pupil

Harriett Wager

Church View, Bakewell. Feb.10 1860

Dear Brother,

I am very happy to write to you again. It is a very long time since I did so; last half year I described several senses to you Taste is the only one I have omitted I will now endeavour to give you an account of what I have been reading about it...Many animals have some one of the senses in great perfection, but in none are they all found in the same degree as in man.

I am

Your affectionate Daughter

Harriett Wager

Church View, Bakewell. Feb.17 1860

Dear Sister,

It is with the greatest possible pleasure I write to inform you that I have had two Valentines. I think you know where one came from. I now know how to mix Bread. It is made of flour, yeast, and a little salt... Flour is frequently made of wheat. It is first threshed with a flail or a threshing machine...Yeast is the frothy substance which rises to the top of new beer...we pray for our daily bread. Rye, oats and barley are made into bread. With love to all.

I remain,

Your affectionate Sister

Harriett Wager

51

Bakewell. March 2nd 1860

Dear Father,

I think of telling you something about Sacred History it commences with the creation of the world...Adam and Eve...Flood or Deluge...the dove came back again with an olive leaf in her mouth, so Noah knew that the waters were abated. Trusting you are well, I am dear Father,

Your dutiful Daughter
Harriett Wager

Bakewell. March 9th 1860

Dear Mother,

Last week I had the pleasure of writing to my father about Sacred History; I will now continue the subject. When Noah came out of the ark he built an altar...in course of time people forgot God's promise and commenced building a tower intending it to reach to heaven... I remain,

Your affectionate Daughter
Harriett Wager

Church View, Bakewell. March 30th 1860

My dear Hannah,

I write to you hoping you will answer me very soon, I have not very much to tell you. I will endeavour to describe this week's Bible lessons. Joseph was the son of Jacob...made him a coat of many colours...the second time he thought that the sun, moon, and the eleven stars made obeisance to him. Hoping you will answer very soon,

Believe me ever,
Your affectionate Sister,
Harriett Wager

Church View, Bakewell. April 5th 1860

My dear Elizabeth,

As I have not had the pleasure of writing to you lately I think of doing so now, last week I wrote to Hannah. I purpose telling you something about the plagues God sent to punish the Egyptians...

Mademoiselle H. Wager presente bien ses compliments...Le 20 Avril 1860

April 27th 1860. Dear Thomas, I hope you will be glad to hear from me. I will give you some details of the reign of Edward the Third...

May 4th 1860. Dear Andrew, Miss Sousloff has desired us to describe the Art of Architecture...there are three sorts...the civil, the naval, and the military. The civil means building houses and churches, the naval means the building of ships, harbours, and even bridges...the building of houses consists of roofs, walls, and floors, doors for going in and out, windows to admit light, chimneys for fire in cold countries, stairs when there are

more than one floor. The principle parts of Bridges...the piers are the upright pillars between the openings, the arches are parts of the structure that connect the piers together...the parapet means the protecting walls on each side to prevent the passengers from falling into the water. I am dear Andrew...

May 10th 1860. Dear Albert James, Miss Sousloff wishes us all to write about Switzerland & William Tell who was born at Altorf...Albert 1st emperor of Germany appointed two wicked men as governors one named Gesbert fixed up a pole at Altorf, on which he placed his hat, that people who passed might bow to it as they did to him, William Tell went by and never bowed to it, some body told Gesler of him, and for a punishment he made William Tell shoot an apple off his son's head, he did so without hurting him. Gesler found another arrow and asked Tell what it was for; he said that he meant to kill him if he had missed his aim, he was arrested and conveyed to Lake Lucern, a storm arose, the helm was given to Tell, who ran the boat upon a rock, he escaped to the mountains, but afterwards killed Gesler; aroused his country men who established their inependence. Trusting you will be pleased with this epistle. I am dear Brother...

May 18th 1860. Dear Father, Miss Sousloff has been reading an account of John Bunyan, he was born in Bedfordshire 1628...his name will ever be remembered for his famous Allegory (which means in rhetoric a figurative manner of speech in which something other is entended than the words literally taken) which was called the Pilgrim's Progress, and is the delight of all classes of men, and will continue so as long as the world stands... Believe me dear Father...

May 25 1860. Dear Mother, I regret exceedingly that I have not yet given you an account of any of our Poets; I have selected John Milton...Paradise Lost...is a poem which for sublimety and purity has never been excelled, or indeed equalled...I hope I shall ere long acquire good taste and sense enough to appreciate the excellence of his poems, I am dear Mother...

June 1st 1860. Dear Father, In this week's letter I am going to write about a soldier who lived in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, I mean Sir Walter Raleigh...was one of Queen Elizabeth's greatest favourites. I have read that he brought potatoes from America. Believe me ever, Your affectionate Daughter...

Mrs. Wager will be obliged if Mrs. Cooper will inform her if the servant who is with her is leaving at Christmas, and if she can recommend her.

Great Longstone September 20th 1860

Mrs. Cooper has every reason to think that Anne Smith will suit Mrs. Wager, she is a good hard working girl, her reason for leaving is that she has been used to live at a farm house and prefers dairy work.

Longstone September 20th 1860

June 8th 1860. Dear Mother, I have just read a description of the plague of London. This great calamity broke out in May 1665...

June 14th 1860. Dear Mother, Last week I gave you a description of the plague now I will tell you about the fire of London. The former had hardly ceased, and the people who had fled returned to their habitations, before they were visited by this second calamity...

August 10th 1860. Dear Father, I will commence this half year's course of letters, with the biography of Sir Ralph Abercrombie, born in Stirlingshire. which is in the middle division of Scotland...

August 17th 1860. Dear Father, Biography is a very useful Study, it is the lives of eminent men. I will endeavour in this letter to give you a short account of several remarkable characters Peter the Great, one of the Emperors of Russia...Charles V King of Spain and Emperor of Germany...

Mademoiselle H. Wager presente bien... Bakewell Le 24 Aout

August 31st 1860. Dear Mother, Miss Sousloff wishes us every week to write a letter about some interesting subject. I will tell you about Marlborough...On the 13th of August 1706 was fought the great battle of Blenheim...

September 27th 1860. Dear Matilda, In the list of eminent men in our chatechism of British Biography is Friar Bacon, a celebrated monk... Believe me dear Matilda, Your affectionate Cousin, Harriett Wager.

October 5th 1860. Dear Mother, I now purpose writing about the fall of Troy and the building of Rome...Roman history will form the subject of many letters...

October 12th 1860. Dear Father, It is with pleasure I resume the subject of last week's letter. I must tell you that Roman history...I will tell you more about these boys in another letter. With love, I am dear Father,
Your dutiful Daughter, Harriett Wager.

This is the last of the letters from Church View, Bakewell, most have the letter M at the bottom, sometimes followed by "5 faults", indicating the teacher's checking.

52 A complete change of work, or instruction, is revealed by the final two books in which Orthographical exercise, Scripture exercise, Geographical exercise, and Historical exercise each occupy a page and, with slight variations, and one exception, are repeated throughout the books.

53 The first of the two books was commenced on November 1st 1861 and the pages are again initialled M, and at the end is another letter but this time written as from Bubnell Hall. Inside the cover of the final book is

Bubnell Hall Miss H. Wager /62; there certainly was a school at Bubnell Hall and it may have moved there from Church View, Bakewell.

Harriett was nearly 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ years old when she commenced the first of her five books and had reached the age of 14 when she wrote this letter -

Bubnell Hall. March 8th 1862

Dear Albert James,

It is with great pleasure I write to you and I have no doubt you will be glad to hear from me. I think you do not know much about Baslow, so I will tell you something, there are some very nice walks and we took one this week, Miss Morton, Lilley Duke and I went to the Stand on Shrove Tuesday, it is beautiful when you get to the top. I have no doubt you would enjoy it yourself. I do not like Baslow very much it is a larger place than Longstone but I like the latter better. I will now tell you about my studies I think I am getting on very well in my Music, writing, spelling, arithmetic and reading but I must leave you to judge as self praise is no recommendation. I am doing a beautiful piece of work the subject is "King Charles the First taking leave of his children". I was reading yesterday about the same and I quite enjoyed it. I shall tell you nothing more about it as I am sure you know all. I like school very much, a deal better than I used to do, to be sure I like home best. I must now conclude dear Albert with love to all and accept the same yourself.

Believe me ever to be,

Your loving Sister

Harriett Wager

Orthographical Exercises

bier - beer	And Jesus came and touched the bier...The general custom to give beer and cakes to those who carry a bier to the grave is much to be disapproved of.
bred - bread	Bread has often been called the staff of life...That horse is well bred...Yeast is put into bread to make it light.
blew - blue	The wind blew very hard. He blew his milk to cool it... The sky is of a blue colour. The wind blew the sails of the mill round.
pain - pane	The wound gives me great pain. This pane of glass is broken. The pain in my head is better. Do not inflict pain upon dumb animals.
sail - sale	The sails of a ship are made of canvas. There will be a sale at that house tomorrow...The masts of ships support the sails.
sent - scent - cent.	Have you sent John to town to buy some cauliflower seed? These flowers afford a very pleasant scent...a hundred cents make a dollar.
sell - cell	Jesus said unto him. Go and sell that thou hast...There is a dark cell under the building. Why do you sell your house?

followed by urn-earn, him-hymn, mare-mayor, mite-might, read-reed, ball-bawl,
mean-mien, need-knead, teem-team, levy-levee, wrest-rest,
clime-climb, minor-miner, horde-hoard.

Scripture Exercises

By whom was the destruction of Jerusalem foretold? By Christ.
Which disciple was most beloved by Jesus? John.
What histories does the book of Genesis contain? The histories of
the Creation, the Fall of Man, the Deluge, the lives of Abraham,
Lot, Isaac and Jacob, and concludes with the death of Joseph.

Geographical Exercises

What renders Manchester remarkable? Its cotton trade.
What is the principle city of Afghanistan? Cabul.
Repeat the course of the river Medway. It rises in Sussex, passes
through Tunbridge, Maidstone, Rochester and Chatham and falls
into the Thames.
Name of the mountains in Asiatic Russia? The Caucasus, Ural and Altaian.

Historical Exercises

How long did Edward the First reign? Thirty five years.
What order of knighthood was instituted in the reign of Edward the
Third? The order of the Garter.
Why were dwellings formerly always erected in the vicinity of some
castle? For their protection and prisons for all sorts of
criminals. To these seats of protection, artificers, victuallers
and shopkeepers, naturally resorted, and settled on some adjacent
spot, to furnish the lord and his attendants with all the necessaries
they might require. The farmers also, and the husbandmen, in
the neighbourhood, built their houses there, to be protected
against the numerous gangs of robbers that hid themselves in the
woods by day, and infested the open country by night.

These exerpts give a general idea of the tuition received by Harriett
Wager at Bubnell Hall school in 1862.

Wanted a complete set of Volumes 1 and 2 of the Miscellany (or
either set). Please write direct to Miss G.A. Whilton, Apple
Tree Cottage, 9 Sunny Hill, Milford, Derby.

Wanted a copy of Mark Fryar's History of Denby. Please write
direct to Mrs. J.M. Foden, 113 Street Lane, Denby, Derbyshire.

For Sale Map of the County of Derby, from Survey made 1824
and 1825 by C. & J. Greenwood. Published by Greenwood and
Co., February 24 1830. Linen backed, folded 30" x 25", a
fine copy - £6:10:0. Write to Editors in first instance.

PHILIP KINDER
THE AUTHOR OF THE "HISTORIE OF DARBY-SHIRE"

by

E. B. Thomas

Philip Kinder, or Philipp Kynder, 1597-(1665?), a miscellaneous writer and a man of many interests who led an eventful life, is known to Derbyshire readers from the quotations that have appeared in many books about the county, from Lysons onwards. He was descended, somewhat remotely, from a Derbyshire family and he lived for a number of years in Derbyshire. The familiar quotations are from his "Historie of Darby-shire" which for long existed only as part of a manuscript volume (1) in the Bodleian Library, and which was eventually printed in the Reliquary (2) from a transcription made by the Rev. W. G. Dimock Fletcher in 1881-2. Some years earlier J. J. Briggs of Derby had paid to have a transcription of the "Historie" made and this copy still exists in Derby Borough Library. The manuscript volume from which the "Historie" was extracted, together with a second manuscript book in which Kinder entered occasional notes (3), are the main sources for knowledge of his life.

The "Historie of Darby-shire" thus available to us is no more than a general introduction to an intended work - Kinder called it his "prolusion and Future Historie" - but it is a piece of writing of remarkable quality containing many gay extravagances together with a good deal of first-hand information. Kinder himself owned that "Here are many mistakes, and some I confess voluntarie.....I had rather be a little stained with learned errors than altogether misled with blind ignorance".(4)

It is not necessary here to summarise the ten sections of Kinder's introduction, but there are a few passages that invite particular comment. In his third section he lists the princely habitations and renowned persons of Derbyshire. The latter list includes a number of well-known persons indicated by initials or full names, but certain others are less easily identifiable. The "illustrious family of the Cavendishes who gave the Worlde a girdle in two Solar Revolutions"(5) refers to Thomas Cavendish the second circumnavigator of the globe, not a Derbyshire man but claimed by Kinder because a Cavendish.

"Ripley of Ripley, an other Hermes in his twelve Gates concerning the Philosophers stone"(6) is a reference that becomes clear from Fuller's Worthies. Ripley was the most widely read English writer on alchemy, but he was actually of Ripley in Yorkshire not Derbyshire. Kinder's remark that he "suffered death for making a Peare-tree fructifie in Winter" is of particular interest because it is not derived from Fuller.

In his sixth section Kinder provides interesting lists of the fish and

birds of Derbyshire. He mentioned two species of birds as being perhaps peculiar to the county, "the Siccasand a long slender bird something ruddie, and the Water-Ousell an Ousell like the Granby crow white in some parts, which may proceede from the inspection of snow"(7). The "Siccasand" can scarcely be identified from the description, but the Water-Ousell is of course the dipper, the bird so familiar in Dovedale even in recent times.

Kinder's seventh section contains his encomium of the virtues of the common sort of people in Derbyshire, and his account of their sports and their diet. The whole introduction is scattered with interesting notes on such diverse matters as prevailing winds, antimony ore, burning bracken at Melbourne for potash, production of earthenware at Ticknall, and the navigation of the Derwent by boats from Gainsborough. In the tenth and last section he expounds the methods by which he intends to assemble the complete work. For his purpose he proposed to divide the county into river valleys not the old-fashioned hundreds, and personally to examine church-records to trace pedigrees. He would also consult the Domesday Book at Westminster, and other documents in the Tower of London. He intended to use quotations from Manlove's rhymed work on mining customs and from Hobbes' poem on the Wonders of the Peak; and finally "ould wife's-tales and legends I shal sett downe including my conjectures of the truth or falsities"(8).

The Kinders of Kinder Head

The writer of the remarkable "Historie" was derived, somewhat remotely, as his genealogical tables (9) show, from the Kinders of Kinder Head. In the year 1420 Robert de Kinder had built a chapel at Hayfield on his own ground and at his own charge (10). This was possibly an extension to the original Hayfield church of St. Matthew which was demolished in 1814(11). From the fifteenth to the seventeenth century the successive generations of Kinders appear to have been people of substance, and their marriages were with such families as the Mellors of Glossop and the Hulmes of Lyme. The John Kinder of Kinder Head in Philip Kinder's time was perhaps still a considerable landowner, but it is likely that the importance of a holding in the remote moorland valley diminished thereafter. The will of John Kinder of Hillhouse (12) of 1748 left all his property to his oldest son John, except that the widow was to have £5 a year and "one chest and one bead in the Chamber over the parlor", while each of the sons was to receive £20 on attaining the age of 21. These provisions suggest a yeoman status and John Kinder describes himself in the document as a yeoman.

Today the site marked on maps as Kinder Head stands at the very edge of the Kinder reservoir, with nothing to indicate the former existence of a homestead except that the field-walls radiate from an empty enclosure.

The Kinders of Sneinton

Philip Kinder was the second son of William Kinder of Sneinton, then a separate town but long since engulfed in Nottingham. William Kinder

was removed by some five generations from the Kinders of Kinder Head, and his own grandfather had lived at Doncaster and there married into another armorial family, the Oxsprings. William Kinder is referred to in documents as "gentleman", and at Sneinton he appears to have enjoyed favour and standing with the powerful Pierrepont family. It is possible that he was their physician. A William Kinder graduated batchelor of phisic at Brasenose College, Oxford in 1563 (13). The compiler of the record, Anthony Wood, added a note which became perhaps the first printed comment on Philip Kinder. "In the next century following lived Ph. Kinder, a great pretender to phisic and astrology, as by some of his works in manuscript in the Ashmolean library it appears; but whether he was of this university of Oxon. I know not". The derogatory tone is not unusual in Wood's writings. It is likely that the William Kinder referred to by Wood was indeed Philip's father.

There is a record of the marriage of William Kinder of Sneinton, gentleman, to - Whitworth in 1591 (14) but this lady was not Philip's mother and William probably married again later in life to Katherine Dunn. The tables already cited show that Philip had one older and three younger brothers. Of the three younger, Henry, Clifton and Pierrepont, little is recorded. Clifton Kinder married Mary Allen of St. Mary's Nottingham in 1631 (15). Pierrepont, whose christian name is significant, and who was born in 1603, had his horoscope drawn by Philip (16). It was the oldest son, Robert, who continued the family line. He was at St. John's College, Cambridge; graduated; took holy orders, and was successively rector of Lamley and Cotgrave, both near Nottingham. His son William followed in his steps and also graduated from St. John's (17). In describing the Kinder arms Burke says that the family was of Ely, Co. Cambs. and Nottinghamshire (18), so that this branch of the family may have later become resident at Ely.

Besides his five sons, William Kinder of Sneinton had at least three daughters, Magdalen to whom Philip wrote a letter about a lost purse (19), Marie who married William Pare, tanner, in 1613 (20), and Katherine who was involved in her brother Philip's troubles as we shall see.

William Kinder of Sneinton died in 1623, as noted in Philip's tables, and Philip erected to him a handsome memorial tablet with a shield in which the choughs and columns of Kinder are quartered with the bells of Oxspring. This tablet was re-erected at the rebuilding of Sneinton church in the nineteenth century and may be seen in the present St. Stephens near the door in the north aisle.

Philip Kinder's Early Career

Philip Kinder was himself born at Sneinton in 1597, and his horoscope by himself is included in his note-book (21). He refers to Sneinton as his native town and speculated that the name might be a corruption of St. Anne's Town, it being near St. Anne's Well (22). In 1612 he became

a sizar at Pembroke Hall, Cambridge, and was a graduate in 1615-16, with a licence to practise medicine (23). At about this time he wrote a comedy in Latin entitled *Silvia* (24), and at age 19 he composed a theological discourse (25). By 1620 he was practising medicine at Leicester (26) and was addressing letters from his chambers at East Gate. In the same year Edmond Hastings wrote in Kinder's note-book, and signed, an undertaking to pay him an annuity, presumably in return for medical attention (27). This is the first record of Kinder's later important contacts with the Hastings family.

As a doctor Kinder was a disciple of the celebrated writer on medicine Paracelsus (28). In 1621 he was corresponding in Latin on medical matters with William Burton, a Cambridge medical doctor and Regius Professor (29), and with others. It is perhaps at this period that he wrote a Latin account of a duel in which one participant was Robert Sutton of Tong, who received wounds and was treated by Kinder (30).

At this time he was also in correspondence with Sir John Beaumont of Grace-Dieu (31), whose mother had been a Pierrepont, and who was not only the elder brother of the celebrated Francis Beaumont, of Beaumont and Fletcher fame, but was himself a serious and distinguished poet. Sir John died in 1623 (32) and a volume of his verse "*Bosworth Field...*" was published posthumously, prefaced by a number of elegiac verses by various hands, including tributes by Ben Jonson, Michael Drayton and, in Latin, Philip Kinder. Kinder's manuscript book contains a fanciful composition called "*The Ball*" (33) largely about the poets of antiquity and towards the end imagining Homer and Virgil entertained by Sir John Beaumont.

On the death of William Kinder of Sheinton in 1623 it is likely that Philip endeavoured to assume his father's role. He erected the memorial to his father and he may well have removed from Leicester to Sheinton. He was certainly in receipt of an annuity from the Pierreponts of £20 a year in 1629 (34).

At an unknown date he married Elizabeth Barkley of Warwickshire, whose parentage he duly recorded in his genealogical tables. On the evidence of the same tables the marriage was probably childless and there are no further references to Elizabeth in his manuscript notes.

In Nottingham in 1628 Kinder was corresponding with friends about a new enthusiasm. In a letter to a Mr. Dorrell at Retford he says "Such is the curiositie or rather violence of my nature, that if I see anything a novell to me; I can not sleepe in quietness, untill I have obtained it.... a vice I confess sufficiently blameable, espetically where it makes nothing to myne advantage or concernement" (35). Kinder was the very type of a seventeenth century intellectual and his hasty enthusiasms for new notions augured ill for his future relations with his patrons the Pierreponts, the head of that house, Robert, later Earl of Kingston, being a prudent and practical landowner. In 1628 the subject of Kinder's enthusiasm was a code

or sequence of number-symbols he devised, to facilitate translation from one language to another, which he called the Universall Character. One of his correspondents on this theme was William Beveridge of Barrow-on-Soar (36), the middle member of a sequence of three Beveridges, of three generations, successively vicars at Barrow (37), a scholarly man who tutored his own sons, one of whom became a celebrated theological writer and a bishop.

In astrology, a less intellectually disreputable subject in the seventeenth century than it is today, Kinder seems to have put a qualified trust. His views are expressed in a Latin letter to Lady Sarah Houghton written in 1629 (38). Kinder also put considerable labour into his manuscript *Terminalia* (39). In this work he prophetically paraphrased the writings of Esdras, John the Divine, Merlin Ambrose and St. Malachias the Primate to reveal respectively the histories of the world, the church, the realm of England and the papacy. He was particularly pleased with his interpretation of the apocryphal book of Esdras and with reference to the eagle of Esdras wrote "If I should have my wish I would desire this eagle engraved upon my tombe".

The Quarrel with the Pierreponts

About the year 1630 an event occurred which upset the basis of Kinder's career. Many years later he would write in *The Surfeit* that he would be "as afraid to lie in a great gentleman's house as in an inn.....for I had rather be observed, than observe the will of another". Perhaps on account of this attitude he somehow gave offence to the Pierreponts, Robert, the head of the house (the man who was later to enter the Civil War reluctantly on the King's side, to be taken prisoner, and to be accidentally shot by his own side when being carried away on a boat on the Trent (40)) and Henry, Robert's eldest son (41). Henry Pierrepont, Viscount Newark, later Marquis of Dorchester and himself a celebrated amateur in medicine, was a little man of violent temper who was several times during his life summoned for physical assaults. He was reputed to be a constant friend and an unforgiving enemy. About 1630, Henry Pierrepont and three of his servants attacked Kinder in the precincts of Westminster Abbey at the time of divine service, Kinder said with intent to murder him (42). The attack was said to have taken place in the cloister of St. Peter's, Westminster, and the site of the occurrence may have been due to the fact that Henry Pierrepont lived close at hand in Dean's Yard. Kinder was presumably rescued by bystanders and was instructed by the Attorney-General to bring an action at his own expense. Kinder claimed that it took him six years and an expenditure of £600 to bring home the action in the Star Chamber, and that Viscount Newark then received the royal pardon on the understanding that he had recompensed Kinder, which was not the case. In 1638-9 Kinder successfully petitioned that the Council should again call up Lord Newark. The Council was instructed to call together the interested parties and to take order for the petitioner's relief.

Meanwhile Philip's sister Katherine Kinder was also petitioning. She claimed that the Earl of Kingston had promised her the use of the house at

Sneinton she lived in, for life, but being displeased with her brother Philip had let it to one William England, who had compelled her to remove by pulling down the walls (43).

The further course of the dispute can only be inferred from a final letter written by Kinder to Henry Pierrepont, then Marquis of Dorchester, in 1654 (44). From this it appears that Kinder's annuity must have been temporarily revived, although it had again fallen vastly into arrears; that there had been a superficial reconciliation and renewal of undertakings between the parties, with meetings at Thoresby, Oxford and Worksop, and that Dorchester had promised to provide Kinder with a house and farm, to be made available at a convenient time; but that in eight years from about 1646 none of this had materialised. At the end of this letter Kinder virtually disowned the Pierrepont connection. "Lett me at last begg this, that I may live without further expectation of submitt to your Lordship's pleasure".

While the dispute was dragging its weary length, Kinder had continued to follow some more congenial pursuits. He provided a Latin epitaph for one John Duvall, who died in 1632, and this was "engraven upon a blew marble in St. Marie's chancel, Nottingham, nearr to the entrance of the vestrie"(45). It does not appear to have survived in that position.

He wrote an undated epitaph to Jane Curzon (46). In 1636 he provided prefatory verses for William Sampson's *Virtus Post Funera Vivit* (47).

In 1640 Kinder was at York, with the King's army assembled against Scotland. He made an elaborate record of the monuments in the minster which was unfortunately lost in the disturbances in Nottingham in 1643 (48), but he retained brief notes of the dimensions of the building and he also put down those of old St. Paul's.

The Hastings Family and the Civil War

It is not known in what capacity, or in whose service, Kinder was at York with the King's army, but it seems likely that he had already been in contact before the Civil War with the Hastings family of Ashby de la Zouch and Donington, whose head was the Earl of Huntingdon. When the war broke out the sixth Earl's brother, Henry Hastings, later Lord Loughborough, one of the most indomitable cavalier leaders, assembled a troop at Swarkeston to fight for the King. Philip Kinder provided himself with a pike, hastened to join the force, and went with it to Oxford (49). He was appointed by Hastings to be physician to the force and to be the general's aide and agent at the Oxford court where he was presently concerned with drawing up the patent for Hastings' barony. He claimed to have been the very last of the local volunteers to return from Oxford and join the garrison of the Ashby castle, and while there to have taken the lead in extinguishing a dangerous fire in the stables during the siege. Eventually he had to write to Lord Loughborough, recounting all these services, and explaining how he had been impoverished, and that he would have been better off as a common soldier at

3d. a day, and requesting leave to withdraw from the garrison.

It is unlikely that Loughborough, who was driven into exile on the collapse of the cavaliers, was of much assistance to Kinder who did, however, continue to live at an accessible distance from the Hastings headquarters. In the period 1650-4 Kinder was corresponding from a house at Aston-on-Trent, one of the letters he wrote being a familiar one to "Landlord George" on the subject of weather-lore (50).

The siege of Ashby had ended in 1646. In 1649 Kinder contributed a Latin monumental inscription and a short poem in English to the volume *Lacrymae Musarum*, a collection of elegies mourning the untimely death of young Henry Hastings, the Earl of Huntingdon's heir. The long list of contributors included local writers such as Sir Aston Cokayne, Charles Cotton, Bancroft and Kinder's friend John Joynes, and also national poets such as Herrick, Marvell and Dryden. It cannot be said that Kinder's English poem was very distinguished or that he had much talent for English verse.

In this period a number of Kinder's letters were addressed to people considered by him to be under obligation to pay him fees. Among others he wrote to Lady Sarah Houghton (51) in 1653 reminding her of an annuity for which she had given a signed undertaking but had ceased to pay him. He also wrote an undated letter to Lady Elizabeth of Huntingdon (52) who had still required him as a physician to be at beck and call but provided little reward in either money or consideration. He also requested the return of his theological discourse and of his "translation of Boetius". It is not clear whether Kinder had himself made the translation of Boethius; if so he was one of a long line of translators of the Roman philosopher that included King Alfred and Queen Elizabeth.

That there were more agreeable intervals in Kinder's period at Aston-on-Trent is clear from the copies of verses by his friends entered into his manuscript "Booke". A poem (53) addressed to S.B. by John Joynes, a local friend who had earlier translated one of Kinder's latin elegies into English (54) invited a small circle of companions to an evening gathering at an ale-house outside Donington Park.

"By the park gate where peasants wont to pace
From Donnington to Bradford's preaching place."

The poem refers to:-

Judicious Kynder, honest Bradford too".

Another poem of the same kind was addressed to P.K. by T.P.P. (55).

Kinder evidently employed his manuscript Booke to assemble copies of miscellaneous compositions and letters that he wished to preserve. Since he occasionally added a foot-note addressed to "whoever reads this" it is likely that he had half an eye on posterity.

Undated items of considerable interest include "My Creede" (56), which

incidentally offers contemporary comments on non-conformist movements of the time, and a "Chronology"(57), particularly interesting for his list of the poets of the 16th and 17th centuries deemed important.

The Author of The Surfeit

At this time Kinder achieved his one lengthy published work, "The Surfeit to A.B.C." printed for Edward Dod at the Gun in Ivy-Lane, 1656. The original edition is an extremely rare book but the text was reprinted in 1869 (58). Perhaps because it was printed in the Commonwealth days Kinder put no name to his work, though he did initial it P.K. near the end. A curious consequence was that on the strength of a surmise by Malone written into an Oxford copy the book was long attributed to one Philip King, and the error persists in some reference books even into this century.(59)

There is no lingering room to doubt Kinder's authorship of The Surfeit. Apart from the extreme similarity of the idiosyncratic style to that of the "Historie of Darby-shire", and apart from references in The Surfeit to Kinder's known special interests such as the Universall Character, Kinder himself in his manuscript volume repeatedly refers to the book as his (60), quoting an extract from it and writing down what he calls a "syllabe of names and sciences", i.e. a list of authors and subjects, mentioned in it.

The work itself, though doubtless eccentric, is one of much interest, charm and humour. Affecting to start from a mood of weariness due to a surfeit of men and books, Kinder discoursed at large on his reading and on any subject that chanced to interest him. There are many racy comments. He conceived the works of Andrews and Dr. Donne to be "as a voluntarie before a lesson to the lute, which is absolutely the best pleasing to the eare; but after finished absolutely forgotten, nothing to be remembered or respected". Jewish and Roman history, he said, gave only two men to be wondered at, David and Augustus. Vocal music "begat good company but bad husbandry". Of cathedral and instrumental music he remained wilfully ignorant for fear of impairing his delight in it. He claimed six languages, English, Latin, Hebrew, Greek, Spanish and Italian. As for the usefulness of his Universall Character, with its aid "the learner may read and write within two hours space any missive letters. This I dare promise for ten languages". The work could be so briefly expressed that for lack of volume "my name 'which I have ever studied in an honest way to preserve, and to transmit to posterity) would be lost". In philosophy he knew no universals except two notional ones, God and number. He makes near contemporary references to Ben Jonson and to "Shackespeer's merry wives of Windsor" and to numerous other books familiar in seventeenth century libraries. Of one celebrated work on the generation of animals he remarks that "had they kept it lockt up in the Latine vestery.....the piece had been incomparable".

By the time we come to the end of The Surfeit we are clear that a chequered career of nearly sixty years had not subdued Kinder's high spirits.

Kinder and John Selden

In 1658-60 Kinder was writing from a new address, a place called Wilston. Most likely this is an earlier form of the name of Wilson, near Melbourne. If it had really been Wilston in Bedfordshire it would have been not far from the Earl of Kent's seat at Wrest, where Selden had resided. Selden had however died in 1654. In the *Historie of Darby-shire* (61) Kinder claimed that Selden had been a good friend of his. The two men had discussed book production and were agreed that a good writer needed no help in the way of graphic illustrations. It is conceivable that Selden had given Kinder preliminary help towards the publication of *The Surfeit*, at a time when other potential patrons were under a cloud.

While at Wilston Kinder wrote a brief note on the medical power of sympathy (62), and addressed letters to Lady Sherley (63) and to Charles Cotton at Beresford Hall (64).

Kinder, Charles Cotton and the "Historie"

By 1661 Kinder had moved again and was at Walton, presumably Walton-on-Trent, where he was in receipt of letters from Charles Cotton (65). Kinder had by this time conceived the idea of his *Historie of Darby-shire*. Cotton thoroughly approved and was willing to subscribe towards the printing, but apparently there was need to enlist others as well. Cotton, notoriously, had financial problems of his own. For his part Kinder exercised on behalf of the Cottons his old proclivity for providing Latin epitaphs for the departed ones, as well as writing complimentary verses in which he compared Cotton as a poet with the classical masters (66). The epitaphs, to Charles Cotton the father and to Olive Cotton, were to be signed Carolus Cottinius.

A study of Kinder's *Historie* at once reveals that his first-hand observations are chiefly of the north-western part of the county, where he had presumably visited his cousins of Kinder Head, and the southern area, the Trent Valley, where he had himself resided. The manuscript of the *Historie* appears near the end of his "Booke" and is dated 1663. The plan he had set down for the complete work implied a severe undertaking for a man 66 years old, involving travelling round the Derbyshire villages and paying visits to London at a time, as it happened, when plague and fire were pending.

As usual he had time for other interests and interpolated among the pages of the *Historie* such items as logarithmic calculations for "sun-dialls" true for Nottingham or Derby (67), and an *ex tempore* method for calculating the hour by the measurement of a shadow (68).

The items in the Booke are not arranged altogether chronologically, and the latest date is far from the end. This (69) is a letter of 1665, addressed from Nottingham, to which he had perhaps at last returned, to Diana Damett of New Hall, Warwickshire. It is a letter of civilities with references to Diana's parents as old friends of Kinders.

New-hall, formerly a separate village near Sutton, has apparently lost its identity in the modern Sutton Coldfield. It has other Derbyshire associations, with the Sacheverells. Kinder's contact with the Danetts at New-hall suggests that his wife Elizabeth of whom little or nothing is revealed, might have come from that neighbourhood, she being of Warwickshire.

There are no dated items in Kinder's "Booke" after 1665, and since he was so diligent in recording there all the matters he had considered important it is unlikely that he survived long, leaving the blank pages still untouched, after his sixty-eighth year.

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DERBYSHIRE LEAD MINERS' DISH

by

Nellie Kirkham

The Derbyshire lead miners' Dish has been treated in much detail in Journals of the Derbyshire Archaeological Society, (1) but a few comments can be made with references to these articles and also to aspects which are not mentioned in them.

Briefly, for those unacquainted with the Dish, it was, and still is, the standard measure for the lead ore, but never for measuring smelted lead. No other measure was legal as the standard to be used for the Freeing Dish for a vein, for the duty of lot, for cope, for composition paid to soughers, for tithe, and for the sale of ore. The brass Dish (also called brazen or latten) (2) for the Kings Field of the Low Peak was made in 1512, and has always been kept chained in the Moot Hall, Wirksworth. Wooden Dishes, sometimes called Dish-hoppets, were made exactly the same size by the standard Dish being filled with seed which was then ladled out into the wooden Dish, or by being filled with water in the Liberty of Youlgreave. The Barmaster kept at least one wooden Dish, or, as some laws state, 'two able Dishes'. The 1665 Low Peak laws refer to a number of Dishes being kept. Probably, as with most of the laws through the centuries, there was variation in the number. By the wording of 1665, the Lord of the Field or the Farmer must 'provide and keep' Dishes for the measuring, i.e. they would be held by the Barmaster. But, in some places, there is mention of provision for miners with a small amount of ore being given permission to measure it and account to the Barmaster. A miner could have his own dish, which had to be brought to the Moot Hall twice a year at the Barmote Courts, so that it could be re-sized and branded. (3) The Barmaster informs me that at one time a quantity of lead ore was kept in the Moot Hall by which to check the wooden Dishes.

The Kings Field of the High Peak, and the Liberties, also had Dishes of their own of 14, 15, or 16 pints capacity. Tudor states that the Wirksworth standard Dish holds slightly less than 14 Winchester pints (gallon based) Henry VII, 1497.

A Dish for measuring the ore is mentioned in the Quo Warranto of 1288, but nothing is known of a standard sized one until 1512. In 1581 there is mention of Arthur Barker 'Barmaster of the Queen's Dish or Bowl'. As this is after 1512, the use of the word bowl sounds as if the Dish of the Kings Field of the High Peak was round in shape at that date.

But in the 1750's the Dish in the Liberty of Winster was 21 $\frac{1}{4}$ ins. long, 4 ins. deep, and 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ ins. wide. It is stated in the document that this was the Dish 'used north of the Wye, in the Kings Field, or Fee of the High Peak'. (5) A photograph of last century shows the Barmaster of Castleton Liberty with a round Dish. Dishes were used in the Liberties in early times. In a quitclaim of lands and rights in Youldgreave and Gratton of 1320, Henry Lord of Little Ireton mentions 'all profits of the same Lordship belonging as well below as above the earth with the Courts and with the Barmaster and Dishes and with all the forfeitures'. (6)

There is a bronze Dish of the same appearance in the Science Museum, London, (7) the inscription on it is the same, stating that it must 'remayne in the Moote Hall at Wyrkysworth hanging by a cheyne'. Its history is unknown. The label on this exhibit, which Tudor, writing in the 1930's, took to be correct, stated that it contained 14.047 Imperial pints. This is incorrect. In 1959, in the course of correspondence with me about this Dish, Mr. Fred Lebeter, Keeper of the Mining Department, Science Museum, consulted Dr. Davison, Assistant Keeper in charge of Weights and Measures Department, who measured the Science Museum Dish with water, proving that the label was incorrect and that it measured 14.047 Henry VII (Winchester) pints, and not Imperial pints. Tudor had queried the figure on the label, but was unable to get the Dish re-tested, so he concluded that it was too large to be a true standard Dish. He suggested that it might have been made officially, one Dish to be kept at Wirksworth, and the other to be held in reserve in state custody.

Tudor does not discuss the references to a Counterfeit Dish. As was stated in the Phil. and Mary Act, and in many other collections of laws, no one should 'keep any Dish or counterfeit measure in their houses, coes, or in any other place', and that 'everyone must buy and sell ore by the King's Dish', none other was to be used. These articles of the laws read as though they apply to the wooden measuring Dishes, but they might also be meant to point out that no standard Dish must ever be counterfeited.

In documents cases appear showing that a miner sometimes measured his ore in an illegal wooden Dish. Even as late as 1847 a miner measured a quantity of ore at Taddington with an unlawful Dish. The Barmaster forfeited the ore, and the miner was fined £5. He admitted that he had done wrong, and apologised to the Barmaster for the trouble which he had caused, referring to his action as 'a rebellion against the just rights of the Queen or leese'.

Tudor repeats the statement made by many earlier writers, that the first time that the ore was weighed as well as, or instead of, being measured, was in 1803 at Gregory Mine, Ashover. But it was weighed at Ashover at an earlier date, Overton ore was sold by measure of a 14 pint Dish until 1740, then afterwards it was sold by ton weight (20 cwt. 112 lb.). (8) The Barmaster informs me that the last time measurement with the Dish was made was when Glebe Mines started and produced ore, and that the weight of a Dish of ore at that time was 66 lb. dry weight and 88 lb. wet.

The measurements of wooden Dishes which were given in the Tudor articles were taken by the 1497 Winchester gallon measurement, not by the bushel, even though the sizing of the Dish in the Kings Field was, and is, by dry measure, not by liquid; therefore it appears as though dry measure was always the old measure. This is not of great importance, for by Henry VII gallon measure 14 pints = 469.76 cubic inches, while by Henry VII bushel measure 14 pints = 469.00 cubic inches. Rosewarne (9) is referred to by Tudor, and quoted by Stokes and others, giving 472 cubic inches by a Winchester dry measure for the standard Dish (which may be the 1497 or slightly differing later Winchester measures), but Tudor remarks that Rosewarne gives no indication of how this figure was arrived at. Tudor considered that it was impossible to compute the Wirksworth Dish from its linear dimensions because of irregularities of its interior surface, while, so far as he was aware, it had never been tested for capacity in the modern way. Mr. John Mort, the Barmaster, says that during the last sixty years the standard Dish at Wirksworth has not been measured for its capacity in cubic measure. Tudor refers to a work by Chisholm, the Warden of the Standard in 1877, without actually quoting him, but stating that the 'true results' are that the 'Standard is slightly below fourteen pints on the old Winchester basis', (10) although searching through this book I cannot find any reference specially applicable to the measuring of the Wirksworth Dish.

I have in my possession a wooden measuring Dish which belonged to the late Mr. D. Wild of Winster, who showed it to me a good while ago. When he died earlier this year, the Dish came into the sale of his goods, and with great kindness Mr. Brian Melland bought it in order to give it to me.

The ends of this Dish differ from those of the wooden Dish in Derby Museum (11) in that it has straight ends, while the ends of the Derby Dish protrude at the top like the standard Dish. Signs of gouging are almost absent. Unlike the Derby Dish, 'V R 1858' is on the side. Four very small holes have

been bored through each side, with signs that at one time four partitions had been fixed across the width of the Dish. Towards each end of the base a hole $5/8$ ths of an inch in diameter has been bored through it. These were a mystery which was solved in one glance by Mrs. Pat Lunn who said that the Dish had been used as a plantstand, and she had seen one used in similar fashion.

I took this Dish to the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures, Newcastle, Staffordshire. He measured it by precise modern methods, which took over an hour. The mean linear measurements came to 454.25 cubic inches, which were 13.564 Winchester (1497) gallon pints. When measured with pea gravel the Dish contained 13.607 Winchester pints, also gallon basis. The Inspector said that it was more accurate to measure it by the dry measure as wood could absorb a small amount of water. He measured it by Imperial pints and converted these into Winchester pints. I only had the gallon basis, not the bushel, with me, but, as stated above, the difference is too slight to be of importance. As a dry measure was used for sizing the Dish it appears to me to be a better one than the wet basis which was used for measuring the other Dishes. (12)

The Chief Inspector expressed surprise that, being wooden, it had kept its shape so accurately. There was only a very slight bulging along the interior of one side, but it was agreed that this could be due to the insertion of partitions when it was a plantstand. But in the old days well seasoned wood was used, not like the unseasoned wood so often used nowadays. Old timbering in mines lasts for a very long time. Also, before manufactured goods were common, handmade ones were well made, by those who did not want to have to re-make something within a short time.

Mr. Mort has provided an interesting description of measuring with the Dish in the earlier days of his office as Barmaster when he sized wooden Dishes by the Wirksworth standard Dish. Always a joiner was present 'to slice out a portion of the Dish being tested'. Dishes never required reducing in size, 'it has always been enlarging the capacity of the new dish'. In filling 'a new dish with the ore from the Brazen Dish no shovel was allowed to touch the wooden dish except whilst the pile of ore was on the floor. The shovel was as clean as a teaspoon' and the ore was "rammed in with the spade or shovel to fill up the corners of the dish. When it was nearly full a piece of wood was used across the top of the wooden dish, and the side portion of the ore in the dish was particularly looked at to see that there was no fall at the sides. If the wooden dish did not take all the ore from the Brazen Dish then the joiner present used his blade to scoop

out a portion of the ends of the wooden dish, until the latter held all the ore from the Brazen Dish".

He continues 'measuring the ore at a mine was a heavy task if there was much to measure, and, of course, the weight of the dish was taken, as the weight of the ore, as well as the amount of it in the Dish, was checked. If one was not there to watch, a few buckets of water could be thrown over the pile, which water quickly disappeared in the heap of ore. When it came to checking up the dishes and their weight, it could be seen that the odd dish had more water in it than the others, and there was the moment of foul language re what had been done - there was never any rough action because whoever was present knew the attitude of each other'. These occasions of measuring ore 'were a pleasure and were usually followed by a few Winchester Pints, or shall we say Derbyshire Pints, at the nearest Pub, or perhaps it would be better to say Imperial Pints. These were occasions of real pleasure in the mining field of the Peak.'

Brazen Dish, Moot Hall Wirksworth	Bronze Dish Science Museum	Wooden Dish Science Museum 'GR 1770'	Wooden Dish Derby Museum 'VR 1858'	Wooden Dish Given to me 'VR 1858'
(Hardy)	(Tudor)	(Tudor)	(Tudor)	(Weights and Measures Dept.)
<u>Inches</u>				
Length:	21 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 21 $\frac{5}{8}$	21 $\frac{3}{8}$ to 21 $\frac{1}{2}$	22 $\frac{5}{8}$	25
About 21 $\frac{1}{2}$	Bottom 20 $\frac{7}{8}$	Bottom 20 $\frac{13}{16}$ to 20 $\frac{21}{32}$	Bottom 24	
Width:				
5 $\frac{3}{8}$	5 to 5 $\frac{5}{16}$	5 $\frac{1}{16}$ to 5 $\frac{5}{16}$	5 $\frac{5}{16}$ to 6	6
Depth:				
4 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 $\frac{15}{16}$ to 4 $\frac{5}{16}$	3 $\frac{15}{16}$ to 4 $\frac{7}{10}$	3 $\frac{7}{16}$	3 $\frac{1}{16}$ to 3 $\frac{3}{16}$
<u>Winchester Pints</u>				
14	slightly below 14	14.047 (Davison)	13.92	13.84
<u>Cubic Ins.</u>				
.....
	472 (Rosewarne)	nearly 467	464.36	a) 13.564 by mean linear measurements b) 13.607 by pea granite filling
				a) 454.25 b) 456.58

NOTE: Tudor = from the Tudor articles
Hardy = Hardy and Houghton. The Miner's Guide 1810. p.26-27.

Notes

1. Tudor, T.L., Lead Miners' Standard Dish. Derbyshire Archaeological Society Journal LVIII (1937) pp 95-106. Tudor ibid. LIX (1938) pp 101-116. Tudor ibid. LX (1939) p.164. Eastwood, A. ibid. LXI (1940) pp 69-70.
 2. Brazen. Tudor ibid. LIX (1938) p.101. Brass. Rosewarne, J. Miner's Arithmetic (1836) p.7, also a number of other writers. Latten. Victoria County History, Derbyshire. II. p.336.
 3. Victoria ibid. II p.326.
 4. Rutland MSS.Vol.I. p.130. Historical MSS Commission.
 5. Mineralia. MSS copies of Deeds etc., Duke of Devonshire. MSS of Mr. Th. Mander deced. Jas. Mander 1790. Lent to me by Mr. J. Mort.
 6. Add. Mss. 6685. Old number 329-330. New number 165-166. British Museum.
 7. Tudor ibid. LIX (1938) p.110.
 8. Notes taken from contemporary documents, lent to me by Mr. F. Nixon, given to him by the late Dr. G.G. Hopkinson.
 9. Rosewarne, ibid. p.7.
 10. Chisholm, H.W., On the Science of Weighing and Measuring. (1877)
 11. Tudor, ibid. LVIII (1937) Illustration opposite p.41.
 12. 'Test by measurement, taking mean average of 6 measurements on each dimension. Volume = 454.25 cu.ins. correct to 2 dec. places. In terms of Winchester gallon = 13.564 pints corr. to 3 places. 2) Test using pea granite as material filling. Volume = 456.58 cu.ins. corr. to 2 dec. places. In terms of Winchester gallon = 13.607 pints corr. to 3 places. In both cases I have used the figures given by you, viz. 14 pints Winchester gallon basis 1497 = 469.76 cu.ins., as the conversion factor.' Letter from Mr. D. Hall, Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures, Newcastle, Staffs, to me July 7th 1967. I have taken my figures from the Tudor articles.
- N.B. In 1956 another wooden measuring Dish 'GR 1770' was given to Derby Museum, which appears to be smaller than their 1858 Dish. Nothing of its history is known.

With acknowledgements and thanks to the following

Mr. D. Hall, M.I.W.M.A., D.I.S.A.A., M.Inst.Pet., Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures, Newcastle, Staffordshire:
Mr. R.G. Hughes, A.M.A., Assistant Curator, Museum and Art Gallery, Derby: Mr. Fred Lebeter, Keeper, Science Museum, London: Mr. Brian Melland, N.A.: Mr. J. Mort, A.R.I.C.S., Barmaster: and Mr. F. Nixon, B.Sc., M.I.Mech.E., F.R.Ae.S..

Section News

17.6.67

On June 17 in ideal weather Mr. J.H. Bestall once again led members of the Section to explore the Hathersage area. The party met at the Church where the architectural features were studied. The ancient brasses of the Eyre family were examined and the churchyard which claims to have Little John's grave.

The nearby earthwork of Camp Green was visited. There is obscurity concerning its origin and identity but old writers attributed it to the Danes and the area is also known as Dane's Camp. It is now generally believed that this is an early medieval defence work probably dating from the twelfth century.

Proceeding to North Lees Hall the ruined Roman Catholic Chapel was first examined. Built in 1685 the chapel was demolished during the reign of William III. The ruined paper mill beyond stands on the Hooe Brook and produced handmade paper until the mid-nineteenth century.

North Lees Hall inspired the description of Thornfield Hall in "Jane Eyre". The party was able to visit the Hall which has a circular staircase and some fine moulded plaster work.

Finally a visit was made to the prehistoric fort of Carl Wark.

12.8.67

Unfortunately on August 12 the weather was very disappointing. However a large party led by Mrs. F. Nixon and including members of the Liverpool Industrial History Society studied the "cotton" village of Cromford in some detail.

Arkwright's first water-powered mill and the site of the original wheel and the sough leet were inspected. The party then looked at the ruins of the Ancient Bridge Chapel, and at the new Church of St. Mary built by the Arkwrights and completed in 1797. The vicar kindly met us in the church and talked about its history.

The terminus of the Cromford Canal, built 1793, with its old wharves was looked at and then the party moved on to inspect Cromford Sough mouth and the houses and School in North Street. Finally we visited Willersley Castle and the weir of Arkwright's Masson Mill on the opposite bank, built in 1783.

2.9.67

On Saturday September 2 Mrs. E.M. Dodd led a party along the route of the Ancient road between Oakamoor and Thorpe about which she had talked to members earlier in the year. This road was superseded by the turnpike road authorised in 1762.

The old road is in many places only a hollow across fields, in others it still runs between walls, little used except for field access. This was a most pleasant cross-country walk made particularly memorable and enjoyable by Mrs. Dodd's most thorough knowledge of both the roads.

7.10.67

The first talk of the winter session was given by Mr. Royston Torrington on "Canals and Derbyshire Canals in particular". The picture of the local canals, mostly now dead or doomed waterways, was depressing. However Mr. Torrington suggested that many canals could be made to pay their way by improved commercial and pleasure use. The canals are a national asset and besides utility they have a unique beauty. This was well illustrated by the many slides shown during the talk.

Notes and Queries

The Editors will be glad to receive notes or queries on any branch of local history in Derbyshire.

N.Q.133 Fernilee Gunpowder Mills

Mr. Brian Lamb of 19 Moss Vale Crescent, Stretford, Manchester, is trying to locate any information and/or photographs of these mills which are now drowned 50 feet below Fernilee Reservoir.

N.Q.134 St. Alkmund's Churchyard

Now that the area around St. Alkmund's Church has been flattened and every landmark vanished we are anxious to put on record any information about the houses and the people who lived in them. Old photographs could be copied for our records.

N.Q.135 Faith Wigley

I was very interested in Faith Wigley's Diary and, in the knowledge that Faith was the daughter of Rowland Durant, I made a visit to the Chesterfield Parish Church to examine the records concerning her. I am enclosing my findings together with some other information concerning the Watkinsons of Wirksworth.

Peter Watkinson (curate in Faith Wigley's will) later became Vicar of Wirksworth. He is on a branch of my family tree, which my sister and I have compiled, and in which we have a direct line as far back as 1460. (Fortunately for us in our research the males of the family remained in the Chesterfield area during the past 500 years.

My sister (Mrs. D.M. Nolan) and I are at present engaged in writing the family history, which revolves largely around

Brampton Moor (or Manor) House. This building, which is now used as a country club, was built by my ancestors John & Robert Watkinson at the end of the 16th century. In Glover's history there is reference to a manuscript book entitled "The History of the Watkinsons of Chesterfield". Despite many attempts we have been unable to trace this book, and I wonder if any of your readers have come across it during their researches.

From the Chesterfield Parish Church Registers (commenced 1558)

Durant

Faith Durant fil Roland Durant, Tapton Bapt: 20.Octobre.1566 (there is no further record of her in the Chesterfield Registers).

Watkinson

(this information is from varying sources)

Peter Watkinson (mentioned in Faith Wigley's will) was the son of Robert Watkinson of Chesterfield.

He was born in 1606 and married Elizabeth Heathcote in 1630. He was a leading member of the Wirksworth Presbyterian Class and was appointed Vicar of Kirk Ireton in 1647.

In 1658 he was also appointed Vicar of Wirksworth.

He had a son, Samuel, who married at Nottingham in 1655 and whose son Samuel (grandson of Peter) was Lord Mayor of Nottingham in 1700, 1708 and 1716. Peter also had two daughters, Elizabeth and Ann.

W.J. Watkinson - Chesterfield.

N.Q.136 Mapperley Coalfields

A friend showed me some old deeds last week. One of these was dated 33 Elizabeth and was a sale by Henry Gee of lands delphs and groves around Mapperley. There are some later deeds concerning the same lands until the late 18th century. I wondered if this might be of some little interest in dating the Mapperley coalfields. Henry Gee sold lands to Old Henry Wigley's son Thomas some fifteen years later and died in Wirksworth about 1619.

Derek Wigley.

N.Q.137 Nuns Green Derby

I think I can throw a little more light on the history of Nuns Green Derby (Miscellany, October 1966) as it has a connection with the cotton industry and two of the early firms mentioned in my "Early Factory Masters". John Ward, a Derby joiner had a small spinning factory containing four spinning frames (256 spindles) on the Green in 1787. (Derby Poll Book, 1775; Derby Mercury, 14 June 1787.) In 1798 a cotton mill on Nun's Green, probably

the same one, was owned by Fox and Pickford (Derby Mercury, 6 Sept. 1798). The senior partner was Edward Fox of Derby (born 1756) but I have not been able to connect him with the Old Derby family of that name. He is merely described as "gentleman" in the Contemporary MSS (D.P.L. Ms 5325). The other partner may have been James Pickford the Canal Carrier who ran flyboats from Derby at this time (Derby Mercury, 8 October 1801). The cotton spinning business lasted until after 1805 (Holden's Directory, 1805-07) but in 1807 the building was up for sale as a paint mill "lately occupied by Cox and Co." (Derby Mercury, 31 December 1807). What happened to the four-storey factory after that I cannot say.

Stanley D. Chapman.

Recent Publications

Life and History of Brassington Village, Derbyshire

It is some years since the excellent book on The Kings Mills at Castle Donington was published by a W.E.A. group. Now the class which met at Brassington from 1960 to 1964 under the guidance of Mr. G.T. Styles has published a splendid record of their work.

Brassington, which was a flourishing village at the time of the Norman Conquest had two manors both held by Henry de Ferrers in 1086. But the area had been inhabited long before this time as evidenced by the prehistoric tombs of Minninglow and the barrows of Galley Low, Slipper Low and Blackstone Low. Pre-historic implements are still turned up by the plough on Brassington Moor. There is a detailed map showing where finds have been made. There is evidence of a Roman Settlement around Rainster Rocks.

The work deals in some detail with enclosure awards and there is another clear sketch map of Brassington in 1808. There follows a careful analysis of Brassington at the time of the 1851 census when there were 729 inhabitants.

The church was originally a chapelry of Bradbourne and Brassington did not become an independent parish until 1866. The oldest parts of the Church, including the tower, are Norman and there is some decorated fourteenth century work. There was, however, major restoration around 1881.

The "Tudor House" in the village was a House of Industry until 1857. Here recently a Horn Book was discovered behind a skirting board and the two sides of this are illustrated.

The Cromford and High Peak Railway line ran through the parish as a single track worked with staff and ticket. Now this railway's working life is over.

Brassington had a long association with the Lead mining industry and there is a chapter about the local mines. A Roman pig of lead was ploughed up in 1946 near to the Brassington -Carsington boundary.

Turnpike roads and Education are dealt with and the history is given of the Congregational, Primitive Methodist and Wesleyan Churches in the village.

Finally there are Chapters on the parish today, on the parish council, the local charters and the social and sporting activities. Production is quarto duplicated with 62 pages, 3 maps and 2 pictures. Unfortunately there are no pictures of the village itself but we know from experience that these are difficult to reproduce from stencils. The price is 5/- plus postage 8d., obtainable from Mr. H. Brittain, Dale End, Brassington.

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North Midland Bibliography 1967, Vol.5, No.3

This latest edition of the Bibliography is again so full of useful information about publications in Derbyshire that it is hard to imagine how we managed without this record of local guides and parish guides and theses on the area. Notes of the latest acquisitions of the County Record Office are most useful. Copies of the bibliography can be seen through the public libraries. Items for inclusion in the next issue should reach the Editor, Mr. R.A.H. O'Neal, before December 29, at Derby and District College of Technology, Kedleston Road, Derby.

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Darley Abbey Church and Village by W.L. Chivers, price 6d. This four page guide, which is now in print again, contains useful information about the Abbey, the village, the Evans family and the Church. The guide is available at the Church and should be used by anyone wishing to study this interesting village.

A History of Combs Village by Mrs. M.A. Bellhouse. This book is now at the printers. It is a large and detailed work and the price will be about three guineas.

A History of Long Eaton Mr. F.P. Heath has informed us that the Long Eaton W.E.A. class has published some notes on the district. Price 2/6d.