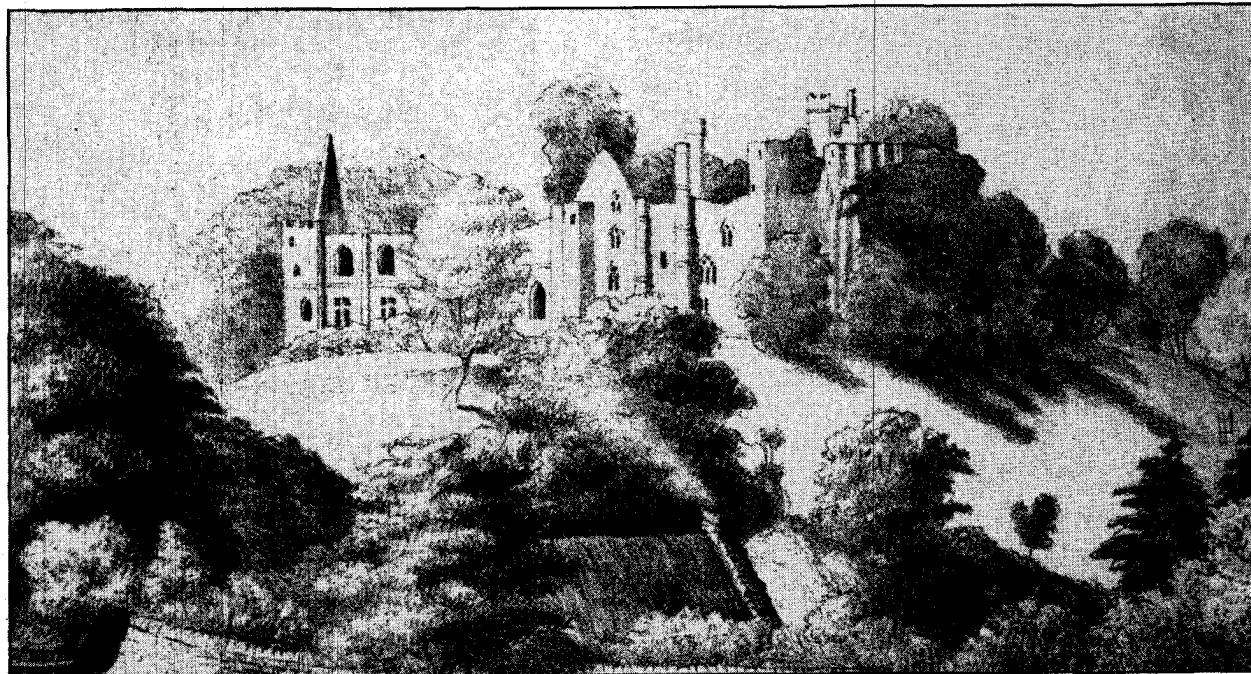


# DERBYSHIRE MISCELLANY



VIEW OF SOUTH WINFIELD MANOR HOUSE  
FROM THE VILLAGE.

The Local History Bulletin  
of the  
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## DERBYSHIRE MISCELLANY

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### CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Castles of South Derbyshire by Howard Usher	94
Parsonage houses in the Derby Deanery during the seventeenth century by Rosemary Lucas	95
Some notes on the Chaddesden and District Association for the Prevention of Crime by Peter Cholerton	101
The Childhood memories of William Hayes Coal Miner and Methodist Minister by Tim Warner	107

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## CASTLES OF SOUTH DERBYSHIRE

(by Howard Usher)

The proliferation of "Castle" field names in South Derbyshire is puzzling. Such names, if of Saxon origin, are thought to refer to the upstanding banks of an Iron Age hillfort (Maiden Castle, Dorset) or to the deserted remains of a stone built Roman building. The latter are sometimes evocatively described in field names as Crow Castle, Bat Castle or Crab Castle. A rock formation may also be reminiscent of a castle, as Castle Rock at Whitwick. A final possibility is that these field names carry the memory of an unlicensed, timber motte-and-bailey castle, erected by a local lord at the time of the anarchy of Stephen's reign. In the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle for the year 1137, the Peterborough monk wrote "... For every great man built him castle and held them against the king; and they filled the whole land with these castles.. and men said openly that Christ and his saints slept.." These castles are rarely documented, they were built without the king's licence and are called adulterine (illegal) castles. Most of these temporary structures were destroyed in 1154 when peace returned to England and will have left no traces except in the folk-memory of field names.

The motte-and-bailey castle built on the prominent hill at Castle Donington (Leics.) seems to be one of these adulterine castles. It was probably built by Eustace, Baron Halton about 1140 and survived the general destruction, perhaps because it was stone built rather than timber. In 1310 when it became a parcel of the Duchy of Lancaster, it was used only for herbage and an orchard and had no defensive role. The Duchy Special commission of 1564 noted that there was a dovecote in one of the towers and a decayed house where the Court Leet was held, and recommended that the castle was not to be continued (\*1) In spite of much urban building, the earthworks are still visible.

Another undocumented castle is represented today by the fine motte called Castle Knob at Castle Gresley. This may have been erected by William de Gresley in the same period.

Recently Martin Biddle has uncovered some evidence in his excavations at Repton in 1986-7 which may suggest a possible adulterine castle on the site of the later Repton Priory. Repton was held by Ranulph, Earl of Chester, from 1129 to 1153. Dr. Biddle notes that in 1895, J.H.Round suggested that it was Ranulph's ambition to "...reign at Lincoln as he reigned at Chester and to unite these strongholds by a chain of fortresses securing his dominion from sea to sea..." (\*2) Baron Halton owed allegiance to the Earl of Chester, so Donington should have been part of this chain.

Melbourne has its official castle licensed to Thomas of Lancaster in 1311, but two miles away, on the high land overlooking the Trent and adjoining Donington Park, the field names Castle Hill and Castle Pit have survived. Iron Age pottery has been picked up on the hill so a hillfort is a possibility. (\*3) There are no signs of banks but as the field has been ploughed since medieval times, such banks would have disappeared. The Wylne terrier of 1590 has "ij lands on castyll hill" (\*4) and it is "Le castyll hull" in the Duchy of Lancaster accounts for 1522.

At Mickleover, Castle Pit Close is the name of two fields marked on the 1846 survey, located in the south-west of the parish. (\*5). The name is "Castle Pit" in 1537 and a fine of 1227 refers to lands "next Castelweie." A new housing estate at Findern has preserved the name "Castle Hill" in one of the roads, and another long-lost castle is suggested by the name "The Castle Way" which is given to the Hilton road out of Willington. However, the lord of this area was The Abbot of Burton and these three castles do not fit in with the Earl of Chester's chain.

A castle which was on the Earl of Chester's land is revealed by the field name "Castle Close" at Calke. This may have originally been within the common pasture of Castle Donington at Derby Hills, but has now been incorporated in Calke Park and has been landscaped so that nothing is now visible. In a dispute over the ownership of this close, the opinion of Brian Knight, an old man aged 63, was sought. He told the inquiry: "There stooede a Castle called Cheristone castle wthin a close of Sr Henry called now Castle close the ruins remained and in his mothers time a roome remained where they drew leave for the steward and suitors to the Bowley courte but whether the Courte were kept in the Bowley or at the castle he knoes not that court was to governe Darbyhills... But who were the suitors he knows not he knoes not whether the castle belong to Dunnington it was not Frances of Tickenhal & no parte of Cawkecell..." (\*6) The document is not dated, but must be between 1622 and 1639 when Sir Henry Harpur held Calke. As he did not remember it but his mother did, the ruin must have been visible about 1550 and it survived like Donington because it was built of stone rather than wood. No other reference to this castle has been found.

Finally, I must mention Cope Castle in Derby and leave it to others who know the city to decide on its origins.

#### References

- (\*1) Farnham, G.F. & Thompson, A.H. "The Castle and Manor of Castle Donington". Transactions of Leicestershire Archaeological Society, 1926, p.49, 67.
  - (\*2) Biddle M. & Kjolbye-Biddle, B. "Repton 1986. An Interim Report".
  - (\*3) Manby, T.G. "Earl Iron Age Pottery from Melbourne, South Derbyshire". D.A.J. 83 (1963), p. 100
  - (\*4) Melbourne Muniment Room, X94. Box 52
  - (\*5) Derby Local History Library. 8279 MSS
  - (\*6) Melbourne Muniment Room, X94. Box 58, Bundle 2/10
- I am indebted to Philip Heath for pointing out this reference.

### PARSONAGE HOUSES IN THE DERBY DEANERY DURING THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY

(by Rosemary Lucas)

#### I. The Deanery Parsonages

The chance events of history had determined the wealth or otherwise of the benefices in the Derby deanery by the seventeenth century.

Clerical incomes in Derbyshire during the seventeenth century were well below the national average. (1) The 1649 Act "for the maintenance of preaching ministers and other pious uses" enacted that ministers in appropriated livings should receive £100 per annum. In 1650 only 41 per cent of the benefices in Derbyshire had incomes above £50 per annum, and only 12 per cent were worth £100 or more. This relative poverty was to be reflected in the parsonage houses and their contents.

Evidence concerning the nature of the deanery parsonages has been gathered from two primary sources:- the extant glebe terriers for the county which have been deposited at the Derbyshire Record Office in Matlock, and the inventories associated with the wills of some seventeenth (and early eighteenth) century deanery clergy deposited at the Lichfield Joint Record Office. The deanery has been taken as that defined by R.W. Rawlins (2) circa 1833. It was centred on Derby and contained 32 parishes with 22 associated chapelries.

The glebe terriers, stating the assets of a parish or chapelry, date from 1612 in Derbyshire. Where a parish had a parsonage house this was always the first item on the terrier.

In general, the writers of the seventeenth century terriers for the deanery parishes were content to state whether the parish had a parsonage or not, and of how many bays of building it consisted. A bay was not a standard size, although John Ward (Mickleover) (3) in 1699 stated that each of his four house bays was about 16 feet square, and each of his barn bays was about 14 feet square. Few details of houses were given, and building materials were rarely mentioned. However, the house at Kedleston was of "lath and plaster", and the house belonging to Chaddesden chapelry was of "mud and studs", the barn similarly. The outbuildings at Spondon were of plaster and wood with thatched roofs.

Generally there were some or most of the following associated with a house:- barns, stables, cowhouse, kitchen, coalhouse, fold yard, orchard, gardens and pigsty, but only exceptionally all of these. They do indicate self sufficiency in every day living, and how to an extent the parson was also a farmer, albeit with servants. The practice of identifying a kitchen separately from the house arose because these had often been later additions to the house. In medieval times cooking was done in the general living area of the "hall" in better houses, and in the "house place" of poorer houses.

The most prosperous rectory in the deanery by far was at Aston on Trent. This had a house of six bays, a tithe barn of seven bays and twelve other bays of stables and outhouses. (4) Comparatively wealthy Breadsall (5) had a house of five bays and a barn of seven bays plus stables and outhouses. By contrast Ilkeston had one of the smallest houses (6) with only two bays and a barn of one bay.

The position of a house was often given in the terrier. Richard Ward (Duffield) 1612 wrote that "there is a vicarage house standing at the west end of the church which butteth on the highway on the north .... and the garden and orchard and close do buttress the glebe land by west, east and south." (7) In 1676, Mark Hope of Kedleston wrote that he had "a house standing near unto the church on the north side, and an orchard and croft adjoining to it and butting up to the street on the north side." (8) (This house was demolished circa 1750 by Sir Nathaniel Curzon because it stood in the way of one of the wings of the new hall being built by Robert Adam.) The Morley house was situated on the south side of the chancel in 1632. (9)

Of the five ancient churches of Derby town, St. Werburghs, St. Peters and St. Alkmunds have extant glebe terriers from the seventeenth century. Thomas Ward (St. Peters) 1682 said that he had a "vicarage house of between four and five bays of building with a courtyard and one garden thereunto belonging." This house stood in St. Peter's Street. (10). St. Werburghs had a vicarage house of two bays with one small stable and a small backside "in the Friargates right over against the Friars." It did not appear to be occupied by the incumbent, but was rented out during the period from the earliest extant terrier in 1693 until the last extant terrier in 1853 (11).

The churchwardens signed the only extant 17th century terrier for St. Alkmunds in 1698. They did not mention any house, but plaintively wrote that "St. Alkmund is not endowed or hath any tithes or Easter dues belonging to it paid to the vicar or rector to our knowledge, but consists only on the gratuities and benevolences of the Parishioners." (12)

Indeed both St. Alkmunds and All Saints (later the cathedral) were in a parlous state with regard to housing and finance for their clergy during this period. (13) They had both been on the king's desmense from Saxon times, and were served jointly by a college of seven secular priests whose house was situated on the north side of All Saints. (The name is currently commemorated in College Place). This college survived the initial dissolution of the monasteries, but was dissolved by Edward VI, leaving both churches with no official clergy or clergy house. Mary I attempted to resolve this situation. She granted the patronage of both churches to Derby Corporation and endowed them, (14) stipulating that two clergy were to be appointed to all Saints, having a "mansion house" each and an income of 20 marks (£13.6.8.) between them. Similarly St. Alkmunds was to be provided with a "mansion house" and a stipend of 10 marks for a minister. These wishes were never fully carried out. Only one minister was ever appointed to all Saints, and he often served both churches. The endowment proved inadequate. The "mansion" was in All Saints churchyard, and a later terrier (1849) identified it as being in Amen Alley on the south side of All Saints.

Clergy had the freehold of their houses whilst they held the living, and so were responsible for maintaining and repairing them.

Arthur Francis (Elvaston) wrote complainingly when preparing the glebe terrier for 1682 that his house and barn had "been very chargeable to me in reparation," and that he had built at his own cost "an house of office of wood, brick and tile." (15) presumably a privy. More restrainedly William Marriot (Mickleover) wrote in 1635 that his vicarage house with a little garden, a stable, and other outhouses were now much repaired by himself. (16). Stephen Gronginet, curate of Sandiacre, complained bitterly in the 1698 terrier that he could have only "two rooms in the parsonage house or such house as the Impropriator shall appoint." He was still complaining in 1726! The patron, a prebend of Lichfield, had leased the living to a Mr. Charleton, who, as lay Impropriator, took all the great tithes and had possession of the parsonage house. To his impotent fury, Gronginet was refused a view of the lease, refused use of the house, and had to be content with only the small tithes, Easter dues and a salary of £20 per annum from the Impropriator. (17). However, he was at the same time vicar of Ockbrook where he had a parsonage house standing in the churchyard, but no associated glebe or tithes were mentioned.

## II. THE INTERIORS AND CONTENTS OF SEVENTEENTH CENTURY PARSONAGE HOUSES IN THE DERBY DEANERY

From the sheer opulence of the totally untypical rectory house at Aston on Trent to the humble simplicity of the vicarage at Crich, the parsonage houses of the deanery in the 17th century cover a great range of quality of building, reflecting the wealth or poverty of the associated living.

Information has been gained from the inventories associated with the wills of 12 incumbents of Derby deanery parishes during the 17th century. (18). It has been assumed that each man was living in his parsonage house unless there is evidence to the contrary.

Five houses, (Aston, All Saints, Mickleover, Mugginton, and Weston) were all based on a hall (19) as the principal room. Aston had no separate kitchen, the cooking was all done on the hall fire as had been common until the end of the 16th century.

The other four hall houses had a kitchen by the 17th century. By contrast three houses (Crich, the Derby house occupied by Thomas Cantrell of Elvaston, and Spondon) all had a "house place", i.e. a combined living room and kitchen on a humbler scale.

The "hall" houses generally had at least two parlours, (except Mugginton) which would have been contained in "wings" at one or both ends of the hall. The chambers were over these rooms and especially over the hall at Aston, All Saints and Weston suggesting that the hall had been "ceiled" over. However, Aston had a "gallery" which may have overlooked a hall still partly open to the rafters. The "house place" houses had only one parlour. That at Crich was obviously a simple "two up, two down" cottage, and that of Thomas Cantrell in Derby was similar but with an extra chamber over the built on brewhouse. Nine inventories indicate that there was a study in the house, while two give a valuation of books. Only Edward Holden (1706) of Weston had no recorded books or study.

The contents of rooms give an indication of the style and quality of life in the houses. All kitchens had a landiron to support the burning fire. Some had cob-irons, smaller than a landiron which supported the roasting spit in front of the fire. Some had a jack to turn the spit during roasting, and most had a dripping pan to collect the dripping fat from the roast. There were pot hooks to suspend iron or brass pots from an iron bar fixed above the fire. At Aston there was a "gallows tree", a hinged iron support which could be swung round to place suspended pots over the fire. There were tongs and fire shovels. The wealthier had kettles and cooking pots of brass, the poorer of iron. At Aston there was one great brass pot which alone weighed 65 lbs.

Six inventories mention "coals", (20) and one wood, as fuel. Two mention gorse, which could be for kindling or for heating bread ovens. Generally eating and drinking vessels were of pewter. Only at Aston was there the luxury of china and glassware. The only eating implements mentioned were silver spoons at Aston, Morley and Duffield, but others mention silver plate.

Food where mentioned, included corn, either in the barn when it had yet to be threshed, or stored indoors in a chamber as grain. There were peas and oats which could be dried and stored for man and beast. Some had apples stored from the orchards which every house in the countryside appeared to have. Many houses had cheese making equipment, and cheeses stored away in a cheese chamber. Cheese was one way of making the plentiful summer milk from the family cow last through the winter. Richard Ward (1612) Duffield had "salt meat", while John Porter (1636) Aston had two flitches of bacon and a tub of salt bacon. Everyone, even the town dwellers, kept a pig for meat, either fresh or to preserve. Dried and preserved food was essential for the winter in mainly self sufficient communities. Everyone had a cow too, which would give milk to drink, and to make butter and cheese. She would also produce a calf regularly. Richard Ward (1612) Duffield had poultry, and William Bennett, Morley had ten geese and poultry. These would give eggs, and could eventually be used as fresh meat.

The common drink was ale. Barley was a crop mentioned by all who farmed. All but two inventories mention a brewhouse, they all mention brewing equipment, and the wealthier houses had a malt mill. This suggests that most people made their ale from malted barley. At Aston there was a "hair line" to support coarse open fabric cloths made from horse hair which were used to hold drying malt over the kiln fire.

Many malted their own barley. This may account for brewhouses being "outhouses" - the risk of fire. Alternately possibly low temperature "bottom brewing" in a cool place was the norm.

Lighting was mainly by candle. Most had candlesticks of iron, pewter or brass, the wealthier had hanging and branched brass candlesticks (e.g. Aston). There was a sconce in the hall at Weston. Some few had lanterns. James Brecknock (1674) Spondon is recorded as only having a "cresset", a small iron vessel to hold grease or oil to be burned for a light (with a reed wick).

Furniture in halls and house places was essentially functional, frame tables, forms, join stools and chairs (i.e. those made by a joiner), "flagg" and "twiggen" (i.e. wicker) chairs. Sometimes a dresser or a cupboard.

Parlours, both sitting and dining were better furnished. Samuel Bold 1700 Breadsall had a "rushy" parlour and "boarded" parlour. This probably referred to the floor not the walls (8). Rushes on a beaten earth floor would still have been common, but several wealthier incumbents had carpets in their parlours which would presumably have been laid on wooden boards and not on cold, condensation prone earth floors. John Porter (1634) Aston had two tapestry carpets, three dornix, (a heavy damask cloth from Belgium) carpets, and three old green carpets all in his dining parlour. He also had a "great leather chair with two brass knobs, three "back stools" (chairs) with brass knobs, and four other leather chairs. He had embroidered cushions in green and blue, and curtains. There were two drawing tables, cupboards, a "little cabinet with bottles for hot water", screens, candlesticks. There were seventeen pictures on the walls, a brass clock and an hour glass. The room was obviously sumptuously appointed. Both his parlours had grates. No one else had such luxurious furnishings although parlours in the wealthier houses had grates. Samuel Willis 1685 All Saints was the only other to have pictures and hangings in his parlour, he also has a "pendulum" valued at the considerable sum of £10. Edward Holden of Weston was the only other to have a clock. Most parlours are only recorded as having tables and stools or chairs with loose cushions. Everard Poole (1674) Mugginton had a piece of panelling in his dining parlour. Second parlours often contained a bed or beds even when other furniture was present. James Brecknock (1674) Spondon had a bed in his only "little parlour".

Chambers were not necessarily for beds. Those used as bedrooms often had a main bed and a trundle bed which could be stored underneath. Thomas Hastir (1669) Mickleover, Everard Poole (1674) Mugginton and William Bennett Morley had "sealed", i.e. panelled bedsteads. At Aston in the great chamber there were two leather beds (i.e. the mattress support was leather). There too, apart from bedding, there were damask curtains and valances, six chairs wrought with Irish stitch, two needlework chairs, one of them silk, a red velvet chair, tapestry coverings, needlework cushions, orrage cushions (i.e. of lace of various patterns in gold and silver), two green carpets, a hanging brass candlestick, pictures on the walls, chests and cupboards, "tassles of yellow silk and gold", and brass fire irons at the grate. Again very sumptuous. No one else had anything approaching such luxury, but there were bed hangings at Duffield and Morley. Most chambers were modestly or simply furnished. Beds were of feather, flock or chaff according to wealth or to the status of the users in a household. Many inventories record flaxen or holland or harden (inferior coarse cloth) sheets. Richard Ward (1612) Duffield had 34 pairs of sheets, and Samuel Willis (1685) All Saints with eight children had 20 pairs of sheets.



Chambers were also used as stores for valuable produce. Corn was stored there in a dry place away from vermin, also wool or fleeces from the sheep, ready to be spun and woven. Some houses had spinning wheels. Cheese often had its own chamber.

Evidence for personal hygiene is scarce. There were chamber pots at Duffield and Morley and at Aston there were several "close stools". Nowhere are "privies" mentioned, but they may come under "outhouses" or "house of office". Inventories of linen at the more prosperous houses record towels, but only at Aston is there mention of "a basin and ewer of china ware, the ewer hath a silver cover".

It is possible that people made their own soap. At Aston there was a "letchell", a vessel for holding ashes for making lye for washing. Wood ash contains potash and is alkaline. If boiled with animal fat a soap can be made. Several houses had a "smoothing iron".

Only four incumbents appear to have been actively engaged in farming from their houses. Thomas England (1730) Crich had "husbandry gear" and a small amount of livestock and presumably farmed personally in the manner of a husbandman.

The relatively wealthy rectors at Breadsall, Morley and Weston also farmed, presumably with servants. They had ploughs, harrows, carts etc. William Bennet (1647) Morley appeared still to have been ploughing with oxen. He had four oxen and yokes for them. Samuel Bold (1700) Breadsall and Edward Holden (1706) Weston had several horses and collars and "horse gears" to join them suitably for ploughing. Others had sheep and some livestock, but there is no evidence of great farming activity. Tithes of corn, hay and other produce would be paid to rectors. All incumbents except Thomas Cantrell had a mare (or a horse) for travelling.

At only three rectories was there evidence of servants recorded. At wealthy Aston and Weston, and at Kedleston which was relatively poor.

#### NOTES:

1. Richard Clark, "A Good and Sufficient Maintenance", the Augmentation of Parish Livings in Derbyshire, 1645-1660, Derbyshire Archaeological Journal, CIII, 1983, pp 69-78
2. R.R. Rawlins, "The Churches and Chapels in the County of Derbyshire". (1988) Local Studies Library, Derby.
3. D.R.O. Glebe Terrier (Mickleover) 1698
4. D.R.O. Glebe Terrier (Aston on Trent) 1698
5. D.R.O. Glebe Terrier (Breadsall) 1698
6. D.R.O. Glebe Terrier (Ilkeston) 1698
7. D.R.O. Glebe Terrier (Duffield) 1612
8. D.R.O. Glebe Terrier (Kedleston) 1676
9. D.R.O. Glebe Terrier (Morley) 1632
10. D.R.O. Glebe Terrier (Derby, St. Peter) 1682
11. D.R.O. Glebe Terrier (Derby, St. Werburgh) 1693, 1726, 1737, 1828, 1853
12. D.R.O. Glebe Terrier (derby, St. Alkmunds) 1698
13. R.R. Rawlins, "Churches and Chapels in the County of Derbyshire," Vol. III c.1833, sections 5,6.
14. Ibid
15. D.R.O. Glebe Terrier (Elvaston) 1682
16. D.R.O. Glebe Terrier (Mickleover) 1635
17. D.R.O. Glebe Terrier (Sandiacre) 1698, 1705, 1719, 1726

18. In all 25 wills from the deanery were found at L.J.R.O. for the 17th century and early 19th century. Only 12 of these had inventories attached. The Civil War and the ejection of ministers for non-conformity probably affected the number of clerical wills available. Therefore, some inventories of the early 18th century have had to be used. Only 12 of these had inventories attached. The Civil War and the ejection of ministers for non-conformity probably affected the number of clerical wills available. Therefore some inventories of the early 18th century have had to be used.

The following inventories were consulted:-

Parish	Incumbent	Date	Value
Aston on Trent (rectory)	John Porter	1636	£628
Breadsall (rectory)	Samuel Bold (jun.)	1700	£225
Crich (vicarage)	Thomas England	1730	£41
Derby, All Saints (perpet.curacy)	Samuel Willis	1685	£666
Duffield (vicarage)	Richard Ward	1618	£51
Elvaston (vicarage)	Thomas Cantrell	1698	£44
Kedleston (rectory)	Mark Hope	1694	£41
Mickleover (vicarage)	Thomas Hastir	1699	£115
Morley (vicarage)	William Bennet	1647	£463
Mugginton (rectory)	Everard Poole	1674	£355
Spondon (vicarage)	James Brecknock (curate)	1674	£38
Weston on Trent (rectory)	Edward Holden	1706	£230

N.B. Thomas Cantrell was described in his inventory as "of the town of Derby" and so was not "resident" in the parsonage. His residence in Derby could be explained by an account by J.C. Cox in his "notes on the Churches of Derbyshire" vol. IV p. 154. He writes of a house "nigh to St. Peter's bridge end" whose letting was partly in the gift of the incumbent of Elvaston. Cantrell could have rented it himself. That the Thomas Cantrell of Elvaston and the Thomas Cantrell of Derby are one and the same person is "proved by two facts:- (a) T.C. of Derby died in 1698. A successor to T.C. of Elvaston was appointed in 1699. (b) T.C. of Derby, in his will, desired his books to be kept for his sons should they wish to enter the church, otherwise they were to be sold.

19. R. W. Brunskill, An Illustrated Handbook of Vernacular Architecture, 1978 pp 102-3
20. Readily brought from Morley and Denby areas.

**SOME NOTES ON THE CHADESDEN & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRIME**  
(by Peter Cholerton, 10th July 1983)

In the late 18th and early 19th centuries, maintenance of law and order in Derbyshire, as elsewhere, was proving to be a nuisance to the authorities; inhabitants of towns and villages wanted to sleep soundly in their beds at night, but strangely did not feel a corresponding desire to pay for the services of a regular law-keeping force. In fact the system by which the law was upheld had changed little since medieval times - each village having, in theory if not in practice, that unpaid official "the parish constable" (not to be confused with the later police functionary of the same name) who was nominally responsible for keeping law and order and also performing a myriad of other parochial duties; (1) this arrangement was at its very best, unwieldy to operate with new constables elected, usually at yearly intervals, on a rota basis thereby ensuring the villagers each took their fair share of performing these onerous duties, whilst at worst, it must have proved totally chaotic with some constables extremely anxious not to incur the wrath of their more influential but law-breaking neighbours.

Some Derbyshire villages saw a possible way out of this predicament and various local Associations for the Prosecution of Felons were created; (2) essentially each such association covered one or more adjacent parishes and invited the inhabitants to join upon payment of a small annual membership fee - the monies so gathered being used to finance rewards to individuals giving information which might lead to the apprehension and conviction of a villain, be he murderer or sheep-stealer!

The existence of some of these Derbyshire associations can now only be gleaned from contemporary newspaper cuttings and the like. Fortunately a Rule Book and Poster relating to the Chaddesden & District Association for the Prevention of Crime survives in the possession of Mr. G. Spencer, 30 Morley Lane, Stanley who has generously permitted them to be quoted in this article.

The origins of the Chaddesden Association are a matter for conjecture at the time of writing (1987) but may be linked in some way with an earlier Spondon society which placed the following advertisement in the Derby Mercury of Thursday October 8th, 1801 (3).

Spondon, Chaddesden, Locko, Ockbrook, and Borrowash  
ASSOCIATION,

FOR PROSECUTING FELONS, &C.

THE General Annual Meeting of this Association will be held on Thursday the 15th day of October instant, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, at the house of John Harrison, the sign of the Malt shovel, in Spondon, for the purpose of settling the Treasurer's Accounts, and to enter into a fresh Subscription for the present year. Such persons as are desirous of becoming Members of this Association, are requested to attend the meeting, and subscribe accordingly.

Spondon, Oct 5th, 1801

JOHN CADE,  
Treasurer

The governing rules of the Chaddesden Association are contained in a small, undated, printed Rule Book of four pages and are transcribed verbatim below:

RULES (4)

1. That this Association be called "the Chaddesden and District Association for the Prevention of Crime".
2. That an Entrance Fee of Two Shillings and Sixpence (2/6) be paid by each person on joining the Association.
3. That the affairs of the Association be managed by a Committee chosen from the Members, and elected yearly, at the Annual Dinner.
4. Five Members duly assembled shall constitute a quorum; and the acts of the major part of the quorum shall be deemed the acts of the whole Committee.
5. The Committee shall have power to supply any vacancy in their number, caused by death, removal, or refusal to act.
6. The Committee shall have the right of making calls to defray the expenses of the Association.

7. All calls shall be answered on the demand of the Secretary.
8. That inasmuch as some members (by reason of the greater extent of their property) are exposed to greater risk of depredations than others, it is agreed that all members shall contribute according to the number of shares set opposite to his name.
9. The money which shall be called for from time to time shall be paid to the Treasurer of the Association, to be applied and paid by him in such a manner as the Committee shall direct.
10. That every member shall be entitled to have every prosecution, for any offences which shall be committed on his person, or property within the limits of the Association (and which member shall be bound to prosecute) carried on at the expense of the Association, under the direction and control of the committee, and any member who shall free an offender from prosecution shall pay a fine of Ten Shillings to the Funds of the Association.
11. The Committee shall have full power to order (at the expense of the Association) any other prosecution for offences committed on persons (who are not members of the Association) or property of such persons, within the limits of the Association, in those instances where the persons are too poor to prosecute on their own behalf.
12. Each and every subscriber shall cease to be a member of this Association at the time he shall cease to be an inhabitant, or occupier of land within the limits of this Association. But any member leaving for an adjoining parish shall be allowed to continue his membership on giving notice to the Secretary that he wishes to do so.
13. Each and every subscriber shall be discharged from his engagements (contained in the Rules above) on his death, so as not to impose any obligation on his heirs or executors.
14. That any members wishing to withdraw from the Association must give three months' notice in writing to the Secretary of his intention of so doing, and any member being more than twelve months in arrears shall forfeit all claims upon this Association.
15. A Treasurer and Secretary shall be chosen every year at the Annual Meeting.
16. The Treasurer shall produce his accounts from time to time to the Committee, and at every Annual Meeting. On the election of a new Treasurer, the proceeding Treasurer, his heir, or executors shall pay to the succeeding Treasurer the balance of money in hand; and the same balance shall be settled and ascertained by the Committee, and the account so stated shall be paid, and such payment shall be a good discharge.
17. No account settled or allowed by the Committee shall afterwards be opened or questioned.
18. All calls made by the Committee shall be duly answered without any right to question the expediency or necessity of the same.
19. The charge for the Annual Dinner shall be Two Shillings and Sixpence for each member; and each and every member shall pay the said Two Shillings and Sixpence whether he be present at, or absent from, the Annual Dinner (5).

With the setting up of the Derbyshire County Police force in March 1857, many similar associations would have reached the end of their useful life and either folded up or sunk into oblivion (6). The Chaddesden Association, however, appears to have been flourishing in the opening years of this century, for the poster (Figure 1) may be dated to c.1903, and in addition to detailing rewards for information likely to lead to conviction, provides a record of the names and in some cases the addresses of the Association's ninety or so members (for greater clarity these details are shown separately at Appendix A); as can be seen from Appendix A, the bulk of the Association's members came from villages in the immediate neighbourhood of Chaddesden with solitary members in the more distant villages of Holbrook, Shipley, Milton and Church Broughton.

The poster gives the name of the Association's solicitor as one J.T. Wykes of Derby (7). However, recent enquiries made of Messrs. Wykes, Moulton & O'Donnell, Solicitors of Derby and the present day successors to Mr. Wykes, have unfortunately failed to reveal any more of the Association's history; because of this and the total absence of any recollection of the Association amongst the older inhabitants of Chaddesden, it must be assumed, for want of any evidence to the contrary, that the Chaddesden & District Association for the Prevention of Crime finally came to a halt about the time of the First World War and that all other records of its existence are now probably either lost or destroyed.

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APPENDIX A - A LIST OF THE ASSOCIATION'S MEMBERS AS DETAILED IN THE POSTER:

<u>CHADDESSEN:</u>	Arthur Evans Ebenezer Hunt William Jackson Charles Martin William Mayer	Thomas L. Smith Thomas Poyser Frank Rowland Thomas Cockayne Thomas Frith
<u>BREADSALL:</u>	James Ault William Anthony Thomas Bailey, Glebe Farm Herbert Bailey John Bricknall Walter Ford William Brassington	J. Stevens, Hill Top John Gelsthorpe Wm. Hollingsworth John Richardson Rev. A. J. Whitaker Joseph Walker
<u>STANLEY:</u>	Henry Hart Frank Hart Philip Hart Mark Hancock Ephraim Hartshorn Mrs. Elizabeth Kay Alexander Ogden	Joseph Potter, The Hall Joseph Sarson, Grange Samuel Woolley W.T. Booth, The Common William Kay, white Hart Inn William Walker, Manor Farm
<u>WEST HALLAM:</u>	G. E. Checkland, The Fm Thomas Daykin Mrs. Elliot C. & C. Heath	Richard Morris Colonel Newdegate George Spencer, Stanley Lodge Mrs. Beardsley, Punch Bowl
<u>SPONDON:</u>	Joseph Bostock William Barton C. W. Cooke George Cox	Ernest Pegg Fred Ward Charles Coxon Edward Smith, Dale Road

**FIGURE 1:- THE POSTER RELATING TO THE ASSOCIATION.**

**CHADDESSEN & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION**

**FOR THE  
PREVENTION OF CRIME.**

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**President — JOSEPH BOSTOCK, Esq., Spondon.**

**Solicitor — J. T. WYKES, Esq., 16, Wardwick, Derby.**

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**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN,**

**That we, the undersigned, being Members of the Chaddesden and District Association  
for the Prevention of Crime, hereby offer the following Rewards:—**

	£	s	d
<b>Murder, Highway Robbery, Burglary, or Wilfully Setting Fire to any Buildings or Effects</b>	5	5	0
<b>Stealing, Killing, or Maiming any Horse, Cattle, Sheep, or Pig</b>	5	5	0
<b>Breaking or Entering any Dwelling-House or Building (not amounting to Burglary), Stealing, or with intent to Steal thereout.</b>	3	3	0
<b>Stealing or Damaging any kind of Implement or Utensil of Husbandry, or Milking any Cow</b>	2	2	0
<b>Stealing any kind of Poultry</b>	1	1	0
<b>Sheep Worrying:— i.e., Giving information of the Owner of the Dog or Dogs caught Sheep Worrying</b>	1	1	0
<b>Stealing, Cutting, Breaking Down or Destroying any Tree, Hedge, Gate Post, Rail, Stile, Fleak, or any kind of Fence, or Trespassing upon Lands in the occupation of any Member of this Association</b>	0	10	6
<b>Robbing any Garden, Orchard, or Field</b>	0	10	6

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**(Here follows a list of Members — see Appendix A for details)**

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**Whoever (Police excepted) shall give such information as shall lead to the  
Apprehension and Conviction of any Person or Persons committing any of the above-  
named Offences, shall receive the specified Reward.**

**EBENEZER HUNT, Hon. Treasurer.  
EDWARD WILLETTS, Secretary.**

---

**FURNISS, HASKARD & CO., PRINTERS, DERWENT STREET BRIDGE, DERBY.**

SPONDON CONT.

Peter Coxon  
Richard Dedman  
William Dedman  
Samuel Green  
Arthur Pares  
William Peat

Matthew Stone, Barrow Wood  
Thomas Aulkland  
Henry Cooper  
John Rayner  
William Woolley

MORLEY

Edward Allsopp  
George Morris  
Richard Needham  
Arthur Skevington

Frank Topham  
Henry Beardsmore  
Walker Foulke  
Yates, Hays Farm

SMALLEY

Anthony Kerry  
George Harris, The Mill  
Christopher Shaw  
John Wright, The Green  
Thomas Parkins

Rev. T. W. Charlesworth  
John Darbyshire  
William Richardson, Willow Farm  
J. Thompson  
Wm. Walters, New Inn, Smalley Common

STANTON BY DALE:

C. W. Bown

DALE ABBEY:

Herbert Camp  
John Faulkner  
Joseph Harvey

John Soresby  
William Love

OCKBROOK:

Richard Bailey

William Winterton

HOLBROOK:

Sydney Vallis

SHIPLEY:

Andrew Adams, Middle House Farm

MILTON:

John Hill

CHURCH BROUGHTON:

Mrs. Harvey

REFERENCES

1. For a description of the functions of the parish constable, see W.E. Tate's classic work "the Parish Chest" (Phillimore & Co. Ltd., 1983)
2. Derby Local Studies Library contains several references to other similar societies in the general vicinity of Chaddesden as follows:-
  - a) The Littleover Association for the Prosecution of Felons (founded May 1788)
  - b) The Dale Abbey Association for the Prosecution of Felons (founded Dec. 1788)
  - c) The Allestree Association for the Prosecution of Felons (founded in 1789 or earlier).
  - d) The Aston, Weston, Shardlow & Wilne Association for the Prosecution of Felons (founded in 1795 or earlier)
  - e) The Duffield Association for Protection of Property & for Detecting & Prosecuting Offenders (founded in Nov. 1817)
3. Derby Local Studies Library

4. For two interesting examples of Rule Books relating to the Duffield Association, see Derby Local Studies Library nos. 15428 and 16045.
5. This convivial aspect of the association seems to be part of a similar theme running through this type of society e.g. the Dale Abbey Association has held its annual dinners variously at The Carpenter's Arms, Dale Abbey; the Stanhope Arms, Stanton by Dale and The Royal Oak, Ockbrook.
6. It is pleasing to note that at least one local society has survived down to modern times, this is the Dale Abbey Association for the Prosecution of Felons mentioned above.
7. The 1901 edition of the "Derby & District Directory" (W. J. Cook & Co.) lists all the Association's officials who are mentioned on the poster thus:-

CHADDESSEN:

Hunt, Ebenezer,

Farmer

Willetts, Edward

Assistant overseer, clerk to Parish Council, tax collector and secretary for the Chaddesden and District Association for the Prevention of Crime, Ivy House.

SPONDON

Bostock J.

Solicitor

WARDWICK, DERBY

Wykes, John T. B.A.

(1-2 Library  
Chambers)

Solicitor and commissioner for oaths;  
Solicitor for the Chaddesden & District  
Association for the Prevention of Crime.

Cook's Directory also lists Furniss, Haskard & Co., the printers of the poster, under the heading of "Derwent Street East."

**THE CHILDHOOD MEMORIES OF WILLIAM HAYES - COAL MINER AND METHODIST MINISTER**

(by Tim Warner, Department of Geography, University of Leicester, Leicester LE1 7RH)

INTRODUCTION - Biographical Note

William Hayes was born at Pinxton in south Derbyshire on 12th November, 1822 and died on 11th September, 1909 at Winfield, Kansas, in the U.S.A. From humble beginnings as the fifth child (third son) of thirteen siblings of John and Elizabeth Hayes (nee Wood), he rose, in later life, to become a highly respected Minister at the Methodist Church at Great Bend in Kansas.

The seeds of his religious leaning were sown early in life when a desire, primarily for literacy and education, led him to attend the Pinxton Wharf Sunday School. He continued educating himself as he sat at his post in the coal mines of Pinxton, learning to form words by the light of a guttering candle.

William came of a mining family. His father, John (1794-1865), and elder brothers, Thomas (b. 1815) and John (b. 1817) were all colliers at the period when William begins his manuscript. And later, his younger brother, Matthew (1824-1898), followed them into the mines. Matthew, (referred to in William's manuscript as Mathew), who in later life, himself became a celebrated Methodist preacher in Derbyshire (1), worked at Sleights No. 3 pit in Pinxton, as did their father, John (2). It is most likely that William also worked in Sleights No. 3 as, in his manuscript, he recalls gaining a promotion when Matthew came to work there, taking over his old job.



William entered the pit in 1830 at the tender age of eight. At that time, as he recounts, he was employed as a 'trapper'. Since this job required neither strength nor stamina - merely an ability in the employee to stay awake - it was invariably taken by small boys seeking their first position in the mines. Each 'trapper' was given charge of a heavy door across one of the mine headings. It was his job to open and close this door to allow the passage of miners and full trucks (or corves) of coal from the pit face to the up-shaft where they were hoisted to the surface. Conversely, the 'trapper' would also operate the door to allow empty corves to be drawn back to the coal face.

A system of such doors, or traps, throughout the mine was necessary to control the suction of air which ensured that all parts of the mine were adequately ventilated. Without this form of regulation the air in isolated or remote parts of the mine could easily become stagnant, allowing the build-up of dangerous gasses such as Methane ('fire damp') or Carbon Monoxide ('choke damp') which, either by explosion or suffocation, could prove lethal to miners working there. The job of 'trapper', therefore, although by no means arduous, was of considerable importance to the safe operation of the mine.

Later on in his mining career William, together with his brother Matthew, was to attain a degree of local notoriety when, in 1844, they organised striking miners in Pinxton. As a consequence, when coal production resumed, they were refused employment in Pinxton, and were obliged to move to Chesterfield.

Apart from the vivid description of his early life in the Pinxton pits, perhaps the most memorable piece of William's manuscript concerns his account of the first steam train to pass near the village. He appears to date this event at between 1830 and 1832, although, as has been pointed out (3) passenger steam trains were not seen in the area until c.1865. It cannot be doubted that William did witness the passage of an early train, but that writing, as he was, in his old age, he simply confused the exact sequence of events of his early youth (4). At whatever date he actually witnessed the train, today the anecdote provides a fascinating example of the wide-spread uncertainty and general prejudice that surrounded railways in their early days.

The precise date at which William wrote his manuscript is difficult to determine. In it, he states that he is recalling events which happened "all most 70 years ago". This puts the date of his writing at approximately between 1895 and 1900. At this time he was living in retirement in America, where he had emigrated in 1848. He had first settled in Greenville, Pennsylvania where, shortly after his arrival, he began working as an itinerant Methodist preacher, being admitted to the Erie Conference in 1851. Also in that year he married Marrilla Pierce of Greenville by whom he had seven children.

In c.1870 William and family moved to Iowa before finally settling in Kansas in 1876. Here he became pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church at Great Bend, and was admitted to the S.W. Kansas Conference in 1885. William officially retired from the ministry in 1890 at the age of 68 and moved to Winfield in Kansas where his unmarried daughter, Eleanor, was an English Instructor at South Western College.

It was at this time that he began to write his 'memoirs', and it is, perhaps, not surprising that after living in the states for over forty years, his literary style should be somewhat influenced by American culture. At times his phrasing is distinctly American, whilst colloquialisms such as 'side walk' and 'cucky' appear disconcertingly as he recalls his boyhood in Derbyshire. Throughout, his spelling remains largely phonetic - no doubt a legacy of 'learning his letters' at Sunday School, and thereafter having to teach himself how they went together to make words.

Disappointingly, the manuscript ends (somewhat abruptly) before William's emigration in 1848. It is thought that when writing the memoirs in retirement, his daughter, Eleanor, scorned his literary efforts and ultimately dissuaded him from continuing. Nevertheless, although only partially complete, William Hayes' memoirs do offer a charmingly honest insight into the pain and pleasure of early childhood in nineteenth century Derbyshire.

The manuscript, as presented below, is transcribed verbatim from William Hayes' hand-written original, preserving certain repetitions and omissions of words or phrases. William's spelling and, in the main, his punctuation, have also been respected, although in some instances, to ease reading, I have inserted extra full stops where they obviously belong and added the attendant capital letters.

#### MY FATHERS HOUSE IN 1822

It consisted of my father & mother & 4 children: John & Elizabeth Hayes; Thomas & John my two older brothers, Mary & Elizabeth my two oldest sisters. I being the fifth child was born on the 12th day of Novr. 1822 and by the grace of God was considered a proper Child; and on the 8th of the same month I receive christian baptism under the hands of the Rev. Mr. Williams Rector of the parish Ch of Pinxton near Alfreton Derbyshire England. As a child I was said to be small & delicate. Under the carefull nurseing of a fond mother, and affectionate Father, I grew or "grewed". My first reculections: was my association in the Family. My two brothers seemd large to me, But John took a great deal of pleasure with me. I would clime up onto his shoulders and then he would jump up and run away with me. this gave me a great deal of childish joy, he onced run into the garden with me on his shoulder and put me into the fork of an Apple tree and ran off & left me. My mother inquired of him what he had done with the child. he said he had stuck me up in the Apple tree. My mother ran to me as fast as she could and took me down. I am not shure but she administered a little rod discipline to her son for his rogeishness.

So I grewed till I got the use of my feet. I think I have a faint recollection of my first pair of shoes; I was proud of the shoes, but I did not like to keep them on my feet. I am not shure that I understood the use of them; But as soon as I was alowd I run out in the street I began to appreciate the use of my shuses.

About this time my two older Brothers Thomas & John began to work in the mines and their very funny stories interested me very much, insomuch tht I beged to go with them. I think I was about, between four & five years of age. My brother John had promised to take me with them, I took it all in earnest and I made up my mind to go with them the next morning. I awoke early and drest myself. My Brothers had already started but I put on my shoes and started after them. It was light but the sun had not risen yet. So I trudged along for perhaps a mile or more. I came to a place where a small stream of water crossed the road, and the mud was deep, and I stuck in the mud, I Cryed. A man in the field on my left had come to take up some horses that were feeding in the pasture, heard my cry and he came and lifted me out of the mud and set me onto the side walk and told me to go home, but I had lost one of my shoes in the mud, so he left me and I went back to hunt my shoe, and I stuck fast and the other shoe came off, and I cried & looked in the mud till almost midday. By this time my mother had aroused the village people and women & girls were out in all directions, I had worried and worked to find my shoes till I was tired out, & sat down on a dry spot in the road & fell asleep. One of our nabours girls found me and took me home, I cannot tell what did become of my shoes but I remember my mother cried and kissed and schoolded me all in the same breath.

I was now contented to stay at home, and I was taken to an old maid who taught children their letters. Now I must tell you of Granny Slater & Granny Goodall two old ladies who lived in our village. In the best of my recollection one of these old Ladies was one hundred and twenty five years old, and the other one was one hundred and fifteen. My father's house was about midway between the homes of these two old ladies so I must speak of them seprately. Granny Slater lived in an old stone building that had the honor of being one of the fortifide houses from whose ancient walls King Alfred shot his arrows at the troublesome Danes. Granny Slater in her person appearance was all as anciant as the hous in which she lived. She might have easly been taken for the old Lady, who set Alfred to tend the cakes. We little folks when we got together would frequently propose a visit to granny Slaters, to hear some stories. She had stories of Cats, &, monkiees, & wolves & bairs & of Giants. Some were a little scerie, but very fasinating. she had a way of bringing us to silance when we got a little too noisey. She had a ladder to go up to the garret above; and she'd cry Old Bess, and then, she would rool a hevvy ball of some kind over the floor - we would be still as death. then she would say. you go back Bess, the children are all quite now. We often discust the question as to what Old Bess realy was. but Granny Slater kept a profound seacret as far as we Children was concerned.

It was more fun for us to go and make a visit to Granny Goodalls, she kept allmost a housefull of Catts. and she had such funny names for them. I cant remember a half of them, there was tom & gin & pet & pimp & Paul & Sall and I dont know how many other names she had for them. There were so many young Catts that I suppose she could not find names for all of them. They were on the table & on the bed & in the windows & on the chairs & on the trees in the front yard and every where you looked you could see Catts. They ware all colours & sizeses, Granny Goodall was very generous with her Catts. She would give us all a cat that wanted one - but we had to catch our cats. She would would give us all & each a Cucky. So when we got through eating our cuckyes then the fun began. Granny would Call all the Catts into the front yard, calling them by name so we each of us made our choice & went for our Catts, and the Catts scampered of in all directions, some into the trees & some on to the house and all over the yard and among the Curren bushes & Gouseberry bushes, so we would only catch two or three of the old tame ones, and we let them all go before we got home.

I must tell you one more story of my childhood days. We children were very religious in those days. It was just at the time when Mr. John Wesleys local preachers was coming to our village preaching in the streets and under trees, and a great revivle of Religion was in progress in the village. The old Church Parson would not allow them to preach in the Church so they often preached out of doors and we children caut the inspiration and would have meetings. We caught some few words we had heard them sing so we sing them over & over again. It was in one of these meetings I preacht my first sermon. I began to say we must all be still for God is hear. God is Great, he could set one foot on big holly hill, and the other on little holly hill and lift his hand into the sky, or he could step over that bunch of pine tress and not tuch one of them. He could pull up any one of these trees by the roots and brake them as easy as that - at this point I took a small twig of the bush and broke it to show my heares how easy God could do it. Then we would close our meeting and pick flowes and take take them to granny Slater, who would appreciate them and tell us she would give some to black Bess.

About this time the very startling news was brought to our village that a man had made a machine that run on weels without a horse or oxen to pull it, and it would go so fast that a man on horseback could not keep up with it. Then the news came again that this wonder man had run his machine from Manchester to Liverpool in less two hours - 35 miles.

And next news was that he was going to run his machine from Liverpool to London. My mother said I hope in Gods mercy he will not come this way: But the boys said they hoped it would & it did; for a road was laid in a little over a years time between those two great cities, and the day was set for the wonderfull event to take place. It was to come close by Alfreton only three miles frome Pinxton where we lived. So when the day came, almost everybody went to see it, but my mother would not go and I staid at home with mother. I remember how ancious my mother was to see father and the boys come home. Some of us young boys went onto the topp of bigg holly hill to see it pass, but it was too far away, we could not see it. Father and the boys came home. They had seen it well. Mother said I'm glad to see you all back safe. John said, why mother, we are in more danger every day we go to pit than we wase in going to see that thing move along. It has rails to run on. Why says Thomas, they laid a track all the way. It has to go just where they want it to go. It might leap from the trak going at such a speed and then where would you be. Where would it go then. That quited the boys for a few minutes. They had not taken that thought into consideration; my mothers fore thought struck me that she was a wise and carefull woman. I allways respected her judgment ever after as long as she lived; she was allways kind and pacient with us children. I have no remembrance of ever receiving a slap from hand, or any other punishment. If punish had to be administred Father had to do it. My mother loved all her children I think I can say with an impacibel love. If she ever did shoe any differance, I belive I got the benifit. I was slenderly and delicately built and it was a question of debate in the family wether I should or not be taken into the mines. My mothe aposed it. John was in favour of sending me to school that pleased my mother.

Now there was a maiden lady in the village that taught a school for children but they were smal children what was called by the boys a baby school. I had learned my letters and could spell words of one silible such as boy dog cat and a few of two words, and I thought I was too big to go to babys school and a boy was called for to keep a door in the mine. My oldest Brother insisted upon my going, and I was willing to go. So I was provided with a suit of flanal cloths and taken the next morning into the mine or pit as it was comonly called.

#### My first day under Ground

I can never forget this day. It was in the spring of the year 1830. I kissed my mother & the baby and my younger Brother Mathew and in company with my two older Brothers John & Thomas we started for the pit. It was still dark when we reached the pit. The men and boys were let down down in a bunch. A bunch of chains were attached to the end of the roap, and each chain suplide with a hook, and we sat in the chain as one sits in a swing. So we were hoisted up off our feet and let down into the pit. The bottom was a large open space about twenty by fifty feet and ten or thirteen high. This space was dimly lighted with oillamps hung up on either side, rendering the place darkly visible. A gargon of voices, of men and boys receving their orders, appointments for the day. I was led to the boss by my Brother John, hear is a bran new trapper boy for you and I will warrent him a brave lad. Has he done sucking, said the boss. He is turned 8 yr. old, and been wanting to come to pit for the last four years. I have heard of him, hes the baby who ran away from home and was found by Pollie Winch in toolbarr lane. Hes the very lad. Well I hope you will make a brave Collier lad. and he gave me an appointment & told me if I fell asleep at my door, they would hang me. so my Brother cautioned me again & again as we tramp along way underground. At last we came to the door, and creeping into the hole in the side of the gateway, he puld the door open, then hit it a kick with his foot and the door went too with a bang. So with these, and meny other instructions he left me saying he would see me again at noon, when we will all come out to dinner. He left me a hole candel and told me I might burn as long as it would last.

I will say hear that this was one of the many public highways under ground or what may be called a gangway or carrtrack, so I was constantly seeing some one going in or coming out. I must confess I felt a little lonesome but I consoled myself by thinking I should see my brother John at noon. Now I had much time and nothing to do so I began to think a good deal, oh if I could only read to pass my time away. Well I thought I must learn to read. My father was a good reader. I would get him to teach me on Sundays. Boath my older brothers could read but I never knew how they learned. So I lay in my hole planning and thinking how I must learn to read. I found some nice pieceses of smothe slate and as I allready knew my letters and could spell a few words I began to make letters after this order ABC and so on. Now if BAD spells bad, what letters will it take to spell good. So I studed on that problem till I worked it out. I got God & gode. I was not satisfide with it, and after pusseling a long time I fgot two oo's in, and wrote JOHN WAS A GOOD BOY, and a call was made Come to dinner. So a half of the first day was gone. Nothing unpleasent accured. A crowd of men & boys came together a the stables attended by its usal accomement of noise. Trading dinners, or parts of dinners, with an acaimally uprore from the donky stable. But all seemed to be done in good nature. There was no complaints. No searious accedents had happend, no one had got hurt. After dinner a little fun & merriment over the new trapper boy: he had to be anicinated into the misteries of under ground life. The first was an explosion of sulpherous gass, that took place just as as I was lighting my Candle to go bak to my door; a loud burn and an awful sheet of flame burst overhead. Down Down was the I fell onto the floor hid my face with my. It was all over and a loud burst of laughter followed, which convinced me that it was done for my benifit. A mule was now reported to to be missing. It had been put through a door into a old drift that had worked out, and concequently the road had been taken up. Some one must go after the mule so it was pland for me to go after the mule. I instructed to trace the mule by the print of his feet marks on the floor. So with instructions and that I must not come back without the mule I started.

The mule name was black billie and the kicking mule, so on I went. The roof was broken in in places and looked dangerous. Pieces had broken and parcily blockd the way. Ha hear is a nother way to the left, then another to the right, but billie had kept street on. So I kept going. At last I heard billie pawing at a door, and soon I came up with him. Till now I had not thought of being frightened, so I felt eleated with the hope That I should soon be on my back with the mule. who billy I said so gently and was creeping to pass him when he thrust his nose against the door and pushed it open, and away he went. I got through safe with my light still burning. So I closed the door carefully as I had been charged to do and went on after the mule and caught up with him, and we came to a broad place. It been used for a swich. Now billy, I said to myself, I will get past you. So I ran to get ahead of him, and strage to tell that (he) ran two and as we came together at the narrow of the way Billie swichdd his tail and put out my light. I was now in total darkness. I could still hear billie stepping along. I for the first time became frightened. I was too frightened to cry. I got on to my knees. The tears run freely down my face, but I was too frightened to cry. I trembled with fear. My teeth chattered in my mouth. In this ageny of fright I broak the awfull silence with a loud cry: Oh Lord Jesus come and help me. In a moment I became calm and began to reason on my situation. I thought if I turn back and leave the mule I may take some by road and be more lost than I am now. I will stay with the mule and perhaps we are not far from the end of this road. My eyes pained me with making an effort to see the mule. My eye balls seemed too large for their sockets, but I had got possession of my self, and I rose up and started after the mule and in a few minutes I ran up against him. He had stopt, and seemed to be waiting for me. So I got hold of his tail and he started forward. I felt better in his company, but I wanted him to stop. I had got over my fright, so I could say who billie who. But billie keep going, and I was thankfull to have hold of his tail.

I never did know how far we did go, but billie came to a stop and stood still. So I took time to make acquaintance with him. I patted him & called him a good mule. I remembered he was called the kicking mule. But I will record her to his honor that he in all this furrey he never kick at me once. Now I began to think about getting turned about & how to do this and keep hold of precious tail was my chief concern. I was preswaded that he knew the way out and if I could keep hold of his tail he would he would bring me out allright. Now billies tail was just long enough to keep hold of it with my left hand and let me creep round and pat him on the face with my wright hand. I had said a great meny good words to him and thought as meny more, so in hope that we understood each other. I got him turned round and we started on our way outward. I began to feel allright. I thought I could allmost see my way out. But billie got in a hurry and was going faster than I wanted too. I cautioned him with a stiffeld cry: who billie who; but dont you think that rougish mule went off at a full gallop. He had to let go of his tail, precious as it was to me, for down I came my full length on the floor. I lost my cap in the struggle. Hear I am at this great distance from every body and in this awfull darkness. Oh God be mercifull to me and bring me out of this deep pit.

I cannot tell how long I lay on the floor, but my thoughts ran after billie in this way. If billie keeps the main track, he will come to the door, and he cannot push it open from this side, and he will have to wait till I come. So I comforted myself with this thought, and as soon as I felt rested a little, I got up onto my feet & pondered my way after him. To my very great suprise and joy in a very little while I ran up against him and got hold of his tail. I now think at this time all most 70 years ago that Billie was injoying a little mulish sport with me, all at my expense. So we started again on our way out as I hoped, for my misfortunes had so bewildered me that I did not know where we was going, in or out. But Billie was good. This time we trudged along at a slow pace when all of a sudden Billie stopt. I urged him but he refused to so. So I creept along side of him and felt ahead with my hand. And to my joy we was at the door. Now I concluded we were on our way out. I could make the rest of the way even if billie should run of and leave me. But his compeny was very precious to me. So I stood by him a long while and talked to him. I told him I was a little boy and it was my very first day underground. I did not know how I could ever get out of this pit and begd that he would let me keep hold of his tail. I talked to him a long while with my arms around his neck. I was in no hurry, for I was afraid when I would open the door he would run of and leave me. I got no answer but now & then a shake of the head. I interpreted it that he wanted me to stop my talking and open the door. So at last I did and billie shot through like a dart, and away he went as it was day light. I fixed the door as safe as I knew how and started after him in hope tht he might take the notion to wait for me somewhere. But it was the last I knew of him for that day. So I tramt on alone in the dark untill I met my brother John and a friend of his was coming to hunt me up. The miners had loosed for the day, a had gone up the shaft seemingly without any concern that a boy was lost. When I got home and told my mother my first days expearence as a pit lad she cryed and I said I should never go into it again. I thought, myself, I never would if I could help myself. I stayed home two or three and got rested up and then I started in again. My brother Thomas said it did not hurt me. I have to be broke to it like all the rest of the pit lads. So now I began to consider myself a confirmed pit lad. I did my little door tending with pleasure. I was favoured for a while with two candles per day so this aforded me some five or six hours of candle light and I pleased my mother by bringing home specimens of writing. And in a short I composed short sentences such as Bill Lane is a bad boy he. He says bad words. Black bill is as slick as a crow. Jack Shotle is as strong as a horse &c.

Some accedents accurd allmost every day but my place was tolerable free from danger as long as I kept awake and stuck to my hole. In venturing away from my door or falling asleep was shure to bring me into trouble. so I resorted to wipeing my face with a wet rag to keep the sleep off, and I was generally successfull.

My first expearence of an explosion of fire damp. Some cause I had placed myself on the floor with my back against the door. I had aloud my light to go out. I expearenced as it were a shortness of breath just for a moment and a wind struck my door with a force that bussted it open and through me twenty feet away. And then a sulpherous atmosphere followed that was allmost imposoble to breathe. Men and boys came on a run moveing with pain; some of them badly burned some but little. I escaped with a few brused spotts. It had spent itself before it reached me. I remember that one man died from its efects.

We all came out, but we went in again the next day. I found I had a bran new door. I must mention one one thing that frightened me worse than all the dangers to which I was exposed. That was profane swearing. To hear such dreadful oaths and cursing I trembled for fear that God would take vengeance on them and send them quick into hell.

I want to say that my drive to be able to read and write grew on me so that I was making letters and figurs all my spare time. But I was only alowed one candle per day. I would not light my candle or go in or out. I took advantage of others light to see my way in and out and used my candle to print my letters. I was about ten years of age when the first Sunday school was established in our village. so every Satuday night I was put into the bath tub and regenerated from head to foot, and put to bed with a promise that I should go to Sunday school the next day which was Sunday. I was awake quite early. It was delightfull morning in may. The sun was up and I was in a great hurry to be off to Sunday School. And I was greatfully supprised to find a bran new suit of clothes was was brought out for me. I can never forget the impression that suit of clothes made on my mind. They fit so complete. My mother said you have been a brave boy and you have earned that suit of clothes so you are heartily wellcome to ware them. From the crown of my head to the sole of my foot all was new. I gave my name to the seatary William Hayes, son of John & Elizabeth Hayes Pinxton. Well William you are a nice boy and I hope you will mak a good Scholer. Can you read. No Sir, but I can print my letters. Tom was a good boy, print that, and he gave me a slate and pencile. So I began TOM WAS A GOOD BOY. After a while he returned and took a look at my work. Well done. Who learned you to print your letters. I learned them at my door. What, were is your door. At no. 1 pit. What are you, a pit lad. Yes Sir. They call me a door trapper. And so you work in the mine do you. No, Sir, I dont work, I keep a door. Well dont you have to open it & shut it. Yes Sir but that is no work. Well well, I would think it was soom work to get to it, and to get away from it. How old are you. Ten years old Sir. Ah ten years old. How long have you been working in the mines. I have been keeping a door for two years. Well my boy I could wish you a better job. You be a good boy and learn to read & write & God will help you to a better place. Now it was time to close the school. The Gentleman gave a few kind words to the scholless, warned them against going bird nesting on Sunday and trspassing in the fields & woods & that we must all come again next Sabbath and bring each another schoolar with you & closed with song & prayer.

About this 1831 my younger brother Mathew Hayes was to be taken in into the mine to keep a door and I was to be advance to driving the mule. Consequently my wages had to be advanced: till now I received a penny pre hour or one shilling pre day. My Brother Mathew was a larger boy according to his age than myself, and allways to be the oldest. He was a very resolute boy and rather fond of trying his strength with so he had a fight allmost every day, a thing I was carefull to avoid. It was a game I never liked to play at, so when we were together and that was allways when circumstances would permit. I am sorry to say these fights often accured on Sunday as we were seperated from one another while in the mine. So when any boy would square his fist as mat would step in between us.

So mat did the fighting for both of us. Meny a time I had to tare a piece of my (-) to whipe the blood of mats face. One day, it was Satuday, Mat fell asleep at (h)is door and in the pit till everybody had out when he awok(e). All was still as death. Mat at once realized his situation. So he began to think. At first he made up his mind to try and sleep the time away till Monday morning. But a second thought was he could not sleep so long: then he remembered that a man was appointed to take charge of the stables nights. So if he could make his way to the stables he would have compeny through the night and could get out in the morning. So he examined his (-) found it was allright and started on his way in solid darkness. He said I remembered the story of my Wm. going after the mule in the dark. So I concluded I had to be brave & face the conditions. So I ploded along very lonely & sloely. After I had happely made my way down the incline plane to the maine gang way. I began to take courage as I thought I could not get lost. Now I thought I heard a noise like some one at work with a pick. I listned and concluded some one was shurely at work. Now I remembered that it was said of a certain man who was a powrfull miner that the Devil worked for him on Sundays. This thought of meeting the Devil in such a place frghtend me: but I knew so little of this person that I had to reason with myself as I could not remember of hearing my parents speak of him. I nealy did not know wether it was a man or goast. If it was a man he would shurely have some pity on a little lost boy, and if he was the Devil why would (he) want to harme a poor little colier lad. The(n) I remembered having seen a picture of him with two horns and a tail. After much consutation with with myself I ventured to approach on my hands and knees sloely. I could see but very dimly, but he had all the appearence of a man hard at work. I was now within ten feet of him but still I was not shure. I could not get away from him be wahat he might. Unintentionly I uttered a faint cry and buried my face in my hands. The man dropt his pick and lifting me up he said why cannie hemmy, what is thou doing hear hear, Ise shure I thought thou was the very Devel. So I told him (I'd) fallen asleep at my door and the men had all gone out and left me. So he comforted me with a few kind words and he was allmost ready to quit work and said he would take me out with him. And in a few minutes we ware on our way out.

My too oldest Brothers was waiting at the pit to to go down and hunt me up. So we all returned home. Mother had not retired (and) said she could not sleep, and her poor boy wandering about in that dark coal mine all alone. She said it was prepostress to think off.

We had meny expearancies that we never told to mother and those we told her we told them as a big joake and had a good laugh over them. Poor mother could not see any laughing matter in our Calamities, as she preferd to call them.

I beg leave to refer to a change that was brought about a great move. Some men from the Co. of Sunderland in the north of England were hiring men to go to Sunderland as they said to work in mines just opened. My Father was tricked into this scheme. He sec.d. a soficient amount of money to pay all our expenses of moving and a weeks pay in advance to begin work. This was a great move, one hundred miles away. Father my two older brothers and myself went in advance leaving mother & the two girls & brother Mathew to follow afterward. We roade in (a) large combessom old fashioned coach. As we were pinched for room I was cramd into the box under the drivers seat. I had it to myself so with so I wraped myself up with a couple of blankets and slept a good share of the time .....



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William Hayes manuscript was discovered by his Great Granddaughter, Mrs. Rose Eleanore Smith (nee Hayes) who still lives in the U.S.A. at Tucson, Arizona. since then, Mr. J.M.E. Hayes has followed up his family's Derbyshire connections and undertaken extensive research into his forbears through the Derbyshire Family History Society and has tirelessly provided me with the biographical information used in the introduction to this article. Mr. Hayes may be contacted at:

18 Heol Fair,

### Notes

1. Matthew Hayes' eminence as a preacher is recorded in Matthew Wheeler's biography of him, Life of Matthew Hayes, 'the Colliers Spurgeon', 1899. (Nottingham: Co-operative Printing Society).
2. Parliamentary Papers Session 1842, Vol. XVII, 'Children's Employment (Mines) Part 2: Reports from commissioners'. Evidence of John Michael Fellows, Esq., in 'Report on the mines and Collieries of Derbyshire' pp. 263-364. See case No. 304, p.331. (Shannon: Irish University Press, facsimilie reprint, 1968)
3. Derbyshire Times 28th September, 1984, p.5. Under the heading "Alfreton's First Train? No says Local Historian", Ray Wilkinson dates the first train through Alfreton (i.e. the closest line to Pinxton) as 1st May, 1865 - i.e. fully 17 years after William had emigrated to America.
4. Matthew Wheeler op.cit., Ch.18, pp.122-3. Wheeler states that William paid a brief visit to Great Britain (and Pinxton) towards the end of 1865 - the year in which the first train is known to have passed through the area.