

# DERBYSHIRE MISCELLANY



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# DERBYSHIRE MISCELLANY

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## BANK HALL, CHAPEL-EN-LE FRITH

(by H. Eric Lumb,

Mike Gregg,

Bank Hall, Chapel-en-le-Frith, stands at an altitude of 1150 feet beneath Castle Naze at the northern end of Combs Moss. Hidden by trees there is no public view of the frontage and the side view, from the footpath that leads from Long Lane up towards Castle Naze, is of semi-dereliction with grounds overgrown and a large plain structure, Grade II listed, but now under threat.

As residents of houses which were once part of the Bank Hall estate the writers have film taken in the 1930s and 1940s showing Bank Hall functioning as a smart country house. After the Second World War it was turned to various uses including flats for retired army officers, a nursing home, a special school and a homeless hostel. It is currently semi-abandoned.



Bank Hall

The Hall and estate buildings which exist today are largely the work of Henry Constantine Renshaw, a Salford flax spinner, who bought the estate in 1864 and lived there until his death in 1894. Renshaw, whose initials are preserved on one of the gates to the Hall, largely rebuilt the Hall into its present guise, laid out the grounds and built the adjacent farm, lodge and Garden Cottage (now Top Lodge).

The most famous resident of Bank Hall was Squire [Samuel] Frith, a name well known in Chapel. But why is his name well known and who was he? The sources tell us that '*His father amassed a considerable fortune in the carrying trade*'; '*Squire Frith was a typical specimen of the old-fashioned rollicking, hunting, drinking squire*'<sup>1</sup> and that '*Some curious tales used to be told of [the Frith's] love affairs, gambling etc. of sacks of golden guineas brought from The Chamber [at Peak Forest] on the backs of ponies*'.<sup>2</sup>

Bank Hall is not as old as many of the other halls surrounding Chapel, but it appears that Squire Frith's personality and wealth made Bank Hall into a well known county seat. Samuel inherited from his father in 1766, when he was thirteen, and lived until 1828 when he was seventy five. He was undoubtedly wealthy, enlarging the family estates, and his brother's gravestone records that Samuel Frith was a JP, deputy lieutenant for the county, high sheriff of Derbyshire in 1781 at the age of twenty-eight and colonel of the Bowden Chapel volunteers, formed in response to Napoleonic invasion threats. His local prominence was also enhanced by his fox hunting prowess, commemorated both in song and a picture of him with his hounds which hung latterly until the 1970s in a local pub, the Roebuck, in the Market Place.

This paper gathers what is known about Bank Hall and the Friths. The main local historians are Henry Kirke who gives no references or factual basis for his comments but was widely published; William Bunting who doesn't often give references but does say in an earlier book that he '*state[s] as fact only what he has good reason to believe to be fact*'<sup>3</sup> and Marguerite Bellhouse<sup>4</sup> who has collected from many sources but sometimes appears to state as fact what may only be supposition. We were helped immeasurably by the gift to one of the authors of a collection of original documents and deeds relating to the Hall and the Friths. Whilst these will not give a full picture of all the history of the Hall they do throw more light on some aspects, confirming what otherwise might be supposition, and therefore extracts are given in the appendix.

The authors can be contacted at [candmgregg@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:candmgregg@hotmail.co.uk) and we would be both grateful for and pleased to supply further information. Our researches will continue.

### **Brownes and Gaskills**

Perhaps the earliest reference to Bank Hall is a lease of 1605 from the Leghs of a neighbourship in the herbage of '*little Rissh*'.<sup>5</sup> Whether or not that is so the Brownes of Marsh Hall, situated below Bank Hall, who seem to have been a substantial Chapel-en-le-Frith family, are recorded as paying tithe for Bank in 1614 at the same amount as for their main residence of Marsh Hall<sup>6</sup> and in 1618 Nicholas Browne the Elder is recorded as living at Little Ridge alias Bank.<sup>7</sup>

Our story starts in 1683, towards the end of the reign of Charles II. Following the death of Randle Browne, the head of the family, Bank Hall, also known as Ridge (confusingly as Ridge Hall is nearby) was sold by the Brownes to John Gaskill a yeoman and Peter Gaskill a tanner, both of [Lyme] Hanley.<sup>8</sup>

The Gaskills were a large clan and their relationships difficult to unravel. Other Gaskills acquired property in Chapel<sup>9</sup> at this time and at Ingerlsey in Rainow.<sup>10</sup>

John Gaskill sold his interest in Bank Hall to Peter in 1684.<sup>11</sup> Peter may have been the same Peter who was left a tannery at Hagg by his father<sup>12</sup> and is likely to have been the man who married Anne Booth in November 1684.<sup>13</sup> Anne is likely to have been from the family of the Booths of Charlesworth.

Peter and his wife had, at Bank Hall, a property of about thirty five acres.<sup>14</sup> Little else is known of him but he died in or before 1718, his heirs being his four daughters.

### **The Friths**

In 1670 John Frith, a husbandman of Peak Forest, together with Jeffry Hollingshead, acquired the lease of Chamber in the Forest, with one hundred and seventy acres of land, from the Duke of Devonshire.<sup>15</sup> He rapidly rose in status as by 1684 he was described as a yeoman when he sold his interest in property at Malcalfe (present day Malcoff) to his son Samuel who was described as a husbandman.<sup>16</sup>

Samuel himself also rose in status. By 1703 he is described as a yeoman when he took a joint tenancy of Chamber and almost two hundred acres and in 1713 he describes himself as bailiff of the Devonshire estate at Peak Forest.<sup>17</sup> In 1701 he was able to settle Bagshaw Hall on his eldest son John following his marriage to Joan Kirke<sup>18</sup> and by 1714 he held the tenancy of Chamber outright, leased another Peak Forest farm<sup>19</sup> and held a third of Castleton Close which totalled six hundred acres and a quarter of Oxlowe,<sup>20</sup> all from the Devonshires.

Samuel died in 1715, leaving monetary legacies of over £500 to his children and the nether parlour in the Chamber to his still surviving father.<sup>21</sup> His second son, Jasper, a tallow chandler, stepped into his father's

position as bailiff of Peak Forest and continued to receive the £17 salary.<sup>22</sup> That Samuel's third son, another Samuel, was left Chamber suggests that, like John at Bagshaw, Jasper may have already received some lands from his father. If he had, that property could have been at Meadow. Jasper Frith acquired Bank Hall in 1718, early in the reign of George I, when he married Ann Gaskill, the second of Peter Gaskill's four daughters.<sup>23</sup> Bank Hall was settled in trust until Jasper paid the other three daughters for their shares and Jasper's property at Meadow, Wormhill was settled on Ann Gaskill.<sup>24</sup> A safety clause was included in the agreement that, should Ann die within six years then Bank Hall was to revert to her sisters and Jasper would be paid for any improvements he had carried out, such as building, sowing or liming.

What is clear is that Jasper was buying and selling land. In 1724, by which time he was called a gentleman, he bought formerly enclosed common land at Peaslows; in 1730 he sold land in Cowdale and Kingsterndale and bought land near Coal Pit Hole, Sparrowpit, (which was added to in 1760 and 1781);<sup>25</sup> in 1745 he leased Salts Farm in Tideswell<sup>26</sup> and seventy five acres of other land in Peak Forest in 1747.<sup>27</sup> His son John, at the age of twenty one in 1747 leased lands formerly occupied by the Vernons in Peak Forest for £40<sup>28</sup> at the same time as taking a joint lease with his father on twenty one acres.<sup>29</sup> Jasper was also involved in church affairs at Chapel<sup>31</sup> where he was churchwarden in 1732/3 when the church was rebuilt.<sup>31</sup>

What is noticeable is the cooperation between the three brothers. When Jasper came to Bank Hall in 1718 his elder brother John was at Bagshaw and his younger brother Samuel was at Chamber. In 1722 Jasper and Samuel jointly leased over forty acres of pasture at Flagg.<sup>32</sup> In 1736 John, Jasper and Samuel took a joint lease of the six hundred acres of Castleton Close at a rent of £175 (of which their father had had a third share of in 1714).<sup>33</sup> In 1748 Jasper leased lands to his brother Samuel, we assume to secure a mortgage which included Bank Hall, now of eighty acres, and a further seventy three acres which comprised of sixteen acres of common on Peaslows awarded to Bank Hall on enclosure and a further twelve acres purchased, a small parcel at Stony Ford Clough, thirty six acres at Rushop (Coal Pit Hole) and seven acres adjoining Dove Holes Lime Kilns.<sup>34</sup>

Individually the brothers also added to their holdings. In 1736 the lease at Chamber was renewed to Samuel at a rent of £90. It was described as having two barns, a stable, brewhouse and calfhous and it appears that the holding was expanded to include smaller farms including another barn, two beashouses and a sheep pen together with twenty eight acres; a further forty two acres; a barn and five acres and a house and thirty six acres.<sup>35</sup> A year later, in 1737, Samuel added another twenty acres in Blating Dale<sup>36</sup> and Fearney Slack in 1743<sup>37</sup> whilst John Frith of Bagshaw was assigned Enoch Vernon's holding at Peak Forest in 1755 when the rent was thirty months in arrears.<sup>38</sup>

As well as expanding their agricultural holdings the Friths invested in lead mining. Coal Pit Hole lead mine was most productive in the period 1755 to 1764. John Frith, Jasper's son, is recorded as owning a share in 1754<sup>39</sup> and the Friths were principal owners of the mine from the 1760s until the 1780s making a good deal of money.<sup>40</sup> Elsewhere Jasper had a twelfth share in Chance Mine at Burbage, '*Jasper Frith and Partners*' mined lead at Bennit Part Dirtlow Rake in 1753 and '*Jasper Frith and Company*' at Lords Knowl in 1763.<sup>41</sup>

When Jasper Frith died in 1765<sup>42</sup> he had considerable agricultural and mining interests to pass on to his family. Whilst he may have had a daughter, visited by Dr Clegg in 1742,<sup>43</sup> she had evidently not survived as John Frith is recorded as his only child.<sup>44</sup> John, who had married Jane Wood in 1749,<sup>45</sup> survived his father by only a few months and died aged 39 in 1766<sup>46</sup> leaving his wife, who lived for at least another thirty years,<sup>47</sup> and a young family of four daughters<sup>48</sup> and two boys, Samuel and John. Because the eldest, Samuel, later to be known as 'Squire' Frith was only thirteen at the time, his uncle Samuel of Chamber was made his guardian.<sup>49</sup>

### **Samuel (Squire) Frith**

In 1773, during the reign of George III, and the year before Samuel attained his majority, his guardian, his uncle Samuel, died childless and left his extensive leasehold properties at Chamber and Peak Forest to young Samuel<sup>50</sup> who, in on attaining his majority in 1774, was also possessed of his grandfather Jasper's lead mines and freehold lands at Bank Hall. Not surprisingly Samuel enjoyed social prominence becoming high sheriff of Derbyshire when he was twenty-eight in 1781. At the age of thirty three he became treasurer and master for life of the United Society (a local friendly society).<sup>51</sup> Two years later he had an epic day fox hunting which was remembered both in song and a painting he commissioned.<sup>52</sup> He was also a JP, deputy lieutenant for Derbyshire and commander of the local volunteer force<sup>53</sup> and the trustee of certain charities of which the Charity Commissioners found that his record keeping was not the best.<sup>54</sup>



Peak Forest was the area of much of the Friths land. In 1775 the total value of rents of the Devonshire's Peak Forest estate was £1394. The largest tenants were Needhams paying £200; Hartleys paying £292 and Friths £557 or forty percent of the total.<sup>55</sup> Samuel held 453 acres, John 120 and together they held the pastures of 742 acres.<sup>56</sup>

The rents paid by the Friths in 1775 had doubled from those at the inception of the leases in 1748. Arthur Young wrote, in 1771, that the Duke of Devonshire raised rents which drove agricultural improvement as his tenants needed to become more efficient in order to pay the increased rents. Young noted that *'round Tideswell for many miles there has been worked as great improvements as in any part of England: all this country was black ling but a few years ago, and common land. It is now all inclosed by act of parliament'*. He describes the liming of the land which cleared the heather and was then used for pasture. *'These improvements are also carried on all the way to Castleton and around that town. In the road from Tideswell by Elden Hole are very many large closes of good grass, gained in this manner from the moors; all of which are full of very large herds of cows fattening'*.<sup>57</sup> In this description he is almost certainly referring to some of the Frith lands at Peak Forest. Certainly Jasper and Samuel had planned to cultivate and improve their lands at Flagg.<sup>58</sup>

Samuel quickly added to his landholdings at Bank Hall buying adjacent farms: Down Lee in 1775, Upper and Lower Owlgreave in 1776,<sup>59</sup> land at the Bole Hills above the Hall in 1787<sup>60</sup> and Castle Naze in 1790.<sup>61</sup> By 1804 he also owned another one hundred and forty acres of meadow<sup>62</sup> and by 1806 held the Kings Arms public house in Chapel, Bolt Edge, Hordern and a smithy at Lower Crossings.<sup>63</sup> He exchanged his land at Flagg for forty acres adjacent to Bank Hall in 1814.<sup>64</sup>

Elsewhere Samuel reduced his holdings. Thirty four acres at Whiteside (Rushop) were sold in 1827<sup>65</sup> and the family lands around Peak Forest seem to have diminished by 1823 as compared to 1775 but were still substantial and continued to include Chamber together with Loads Knowl, Old Stud Close and Sheep Pasture altogether totalling some four hundred acres.<sup>66</sup>

Samuel continued to engage in lead mining throughout his life. In 1787 he worked veins on Loads Knowl where he had eighty stowes and Barmoor Great Vein (both near the present A6/A623 junction) where he had thirty.<sup>67</sup> He is also recorded mining at Fearney Slack in 1806<sup>68</sup> and opened the New Portaway mine in 1826.

Whatever building was at Bank Hall in 1683, and a map of 1675<sup>69</sup> depicts a stylised farm house similar to many others in the locality, it is unlikely to have been the Hall pictured for the first time by Hutchinson in 1809 and described as Samuel's elegant seat.<sup>70</sup> That picture shows a substantial Georgian building which, if not entirely new, must have been significantly improved or rebuilt. In the foreground several cows are depicted and it is tempting to believe that these could be some of the Devon cows which Farey records as being owned by Samuel in 1817.<sup>71</sup> At a later date (1861) we have an estate map showing the Hall close to the farm so possibly the farm (now demolished) was the original Bank Hall?

Squire Frith never married but, at the age of seventy two he fathered an illegitimate daughter who was brought up in Penistone.<sup>72</sup> Consequently when he died in 1828 his lands passed to his brother John, then aged about sixty five.

### **John Frith and the Websters**

John must be responsible for the bridge above Downlee, now in some disrepair, which carries a date stone of 1830 and the initials JF. John Frith's will of 1837 records further properties owned by the family including Shireoaks, Upper Fold Farm near Hayfield, lands at Dove Holes and Cracken Edge slate quarry,<sup>73</sup> presumably the slate quarry recorded by Farey in 1817 which was noted to be close to the Peak Forest railway. His will records that several properties should be sold to discharge all his debts and legacies, the first suggestion that the family wealth was reducing.

John himself had two sons but neither succeeded to their father's property. The legitimate heir, John, died in 1831 aged thirty five and an illegitimate son, Nathan Woodroffe, schoolmaster of Bamford at the time of his father's death, had been born in 1810.<sup>74</sup> Bank Hall therefore passed to a nephew, Godfrey Webster, the son of John's sister Martha who had married Paul Webster of Chesterfield in 1783.<sup>75</sup>

Godfrey put his mark on his new estates by remodelling field boundaries and probably rebuilding the Hall in the latest style as in 1857, two years after his death, White describes the house as *'a handsome stone residence in the*

*Italianate style, the seat and property of Mrs Hannah Webster*. We can also see from maps that the shape of the Hall has changed from a building of two wings in 1847<sup>76</sup> to more of a square shape in 1861.<sup>77</sup> However something had by now gone awry with the Frith Webster finances as presumably these schemes are the reason that Godfrey took out a mortgage of £2,500 in 1845.<sup>78</sup>

On Godfrey's death Castle Naze was left to his daughter.<sup>79</sup> Godfrey's wife Hannah died in 1860 and the Hall passed to her son Samuel Frith Webster who took out another mortgage, his father's still outstanding, of £1,400 in 1861.<sup>80</sup>

### **Businessmen purchase a country seat**

Both of Godfrey's mortgages were outstanding, and in default, when in April 1864 Samuel Frith Webster signed an agreement for the sale of the Bank Hall estate, comprising the Hall and farm, Downlee and Owlgreave, altogether comprising 240 acres. The purchaser, Henry Constantine Renshaw was to get immediate possession of the Hall, but not title until completion<sup>81</sup> which happened in October.<sup>82</sup>

It is possible that Renshaw's interest was stimulated by the opening of the Buxton extension of the Stockport, Disley and Whaley Bridge Railway in 1863 with a station below Bank Hall. The railway boom was instrumental in the rapid growth of Buxton at this time as a fashionable resort.<sup>83</sup>

Henry Renshaw, the new owner, was a flax spinner from Broughton in Salford whose company, William Renshaw and Co. owned the large new Broughton Flax Mill.<sup>84</sup> He purchased a country seat, buying the fishing rights to Combs Reservoir<sup>85</sup> and pulled down the greater part of the Hall and rebuilt it in an improved and enlarged form.<sup>86</sup> Estate maps suggest that he added the bay windows on the front and sides and '*squared off*' the footprint. This rebuilding, together with the moving of the farm to its present location and the building of Bank Hall Lodge and Top Lodge, cost a great deal of money. Renshaw needed to mortgage the estate for £10,000 to allow him to carry out these works which included commissioning W.E. Nesfield, one of the most prestigious architects of the day, to design the dining room and furnishings at the Hall and Bank Hall Lodge.<sup>87</sup>

Renshaw was related to the great Wimbledon champions the twins William and Ernest Renshaw who were his nephews.<sup>88</sup> William was the most successful man ever to play at Wimbledon and he and brother won sixteen All England titles between them.

Renshaw died in 1894. The Bank Hall estate was put up for auction<sup>89</sup> but failed to sell immediately, eventually being purchased in 1897 by Charles Joseph Wills.<sup>90</sup> Wills was a civil engineer who was responsible for building the Barton swing aqueduct over the Manchester Ship Canal as well as various rail lines and as a partner in Price Wills and Reeves built Immingham and Bombay docks. Wills may not have had quite the numbers of staff that Renshaw had evidently employed or to have lived at the Hall for any length of time. Renshaw's butlers had lived at Lodge but Raymond Unwin was renting the Lodge by 1897 and in 1908 James Grimble Groves is recorded as living at the Hall,<sup>91</sup> presumably renting from Wills whose business interests in London may have caused him to move away from the area.

At some time during the first world war and up until 1919 the Hall was used as a prison camp for German soldiers.<sup>92</sup> Local farmers, such as the Virtues at Rushup, collected prisoners on a daily basis and used them for additional labour on their farms.<sup>93</sup>

Whilst still used as a POW camp the Bank Hall estate was purchased from Wills by Reginald Scott in May 1918.<sup>94</sup> Scott, who lived below the Hall at Whitestones in 1916,<sup>95</sup> made money in the war from the steel wire made by his company which was used for anti-submarine defences.<sup>96</sup> He sold his company and first purchased Combs Moss and the White Hall estate, and Allstone Lee,<sup>97</sup> a nearby farm. He appears to have lived the life of a country gentleman, keen on shooting and keeping a pack of beagles.

During the second world war the Hall was again used to help in the war effort, this time as a school. Westcliffe School for girls, from Essex, arrived in June 1940<sup>98</sup> and the pupils were put the same use as German soldiers in the previous war, the girls helping on local farms.<sup>99</sup> In the following year Chethams School of Music from Manchester took over use of the Hall.<sup>100</sup>

Reginald Scott died in 1947 and his wife in 1951. The estate was left to their two surviving sons, one of whom lived in the Hall and the other in the Lodge.<sup>101</sup> In 1953 the Scotts sold the Hall and at about this time the farms on the estate were sold to tenants.<sup>102</sup> Since that time the Hall has followed a typical path of many halls, being used as flats, a nursing home and a school but is now again a private residence. The Armstrong and Caldicott panels in the dining room, installed by Renshaw, were taken out and sold at auction in 1980.<sup>103</sup>

## Conclusion

The Frith's appear to have been a family that acquired wealth fairly quickly. John Frith was a husbandman when he jointly acquired the lease on the substantial Chamber property in 1670. Fifty years later his grandsons were ensconced at Bagshaw and Bank and described as gentlemen.

The Friths undoubtedly benefited from the enclosure of the commons and improved their lands and the agricultural output from it. They were involved in lead mining and quarrying and invested in property. It seems likely that lead mining, especially at Coal Pit Hole, produced profits in the second half of the eighteenth century but we have no evidence that later ventures either produced profits or losses.

By the 1830s there seem to have been some reversal of fortunes. From 1766 to 1828 Squire Frith held his estates without interruption. With his death, and those of his brother John in 1837 and his nephew Godfrey in 1855, reductions in family wealth occurred. Legacies totalling £3,500, Cracken Edge quarry and Castle Naze farm were all passed out of the direct line. Also the Peak Forest leases were not renewed, they are last recorded in 1828. By 1837 John referred to the need to sell properties on his death and although the Websters rebuilt the Hall they needed mortgages to allow them to do this.

We have found no evidence to support the oft-repeated suggestion that the Frith's made money in the carrying trade, nor of their gambling. Suggestions of their love affairs presumably relate to the two illegitimate children of Squire Frith and his brother John and the source of the tale of sacks of gold coming from Peak Forest could have derived from their duties in collecting rents for the Devonshire Peak Forest estate or the wealth derived from the family lands and mines there.

Bank Hall, after being sold by the Frith family in the 1860s, continued until 1940 as a country seat for a new breed of gentleman originating from the towns. Since then, in common with many large country houses, it has had several uses.

## Appendix 1

### Extracts from Bank Hall papers

**1. 31 October 1683, Bigland and Browne to Gaskills:** between Edward Bigland, Thomas Browne of Marsh Hall, gentleman and John Gaskill of Hanley, Prestbury, Cheshire, yeoman and Peter Gaskill of Hanley, tanner. For £300 paid to Bigland and £190 paid to Browne by John and Peter Gaskill, Bigland, by the direction and appointment of Browne, releases to John and Peter Gaskill the Ridge or Bank Hall and Browne warrants against anyone claiming by from or under him or his father, Randle Browne or his grandfather, Nicholas Browne.

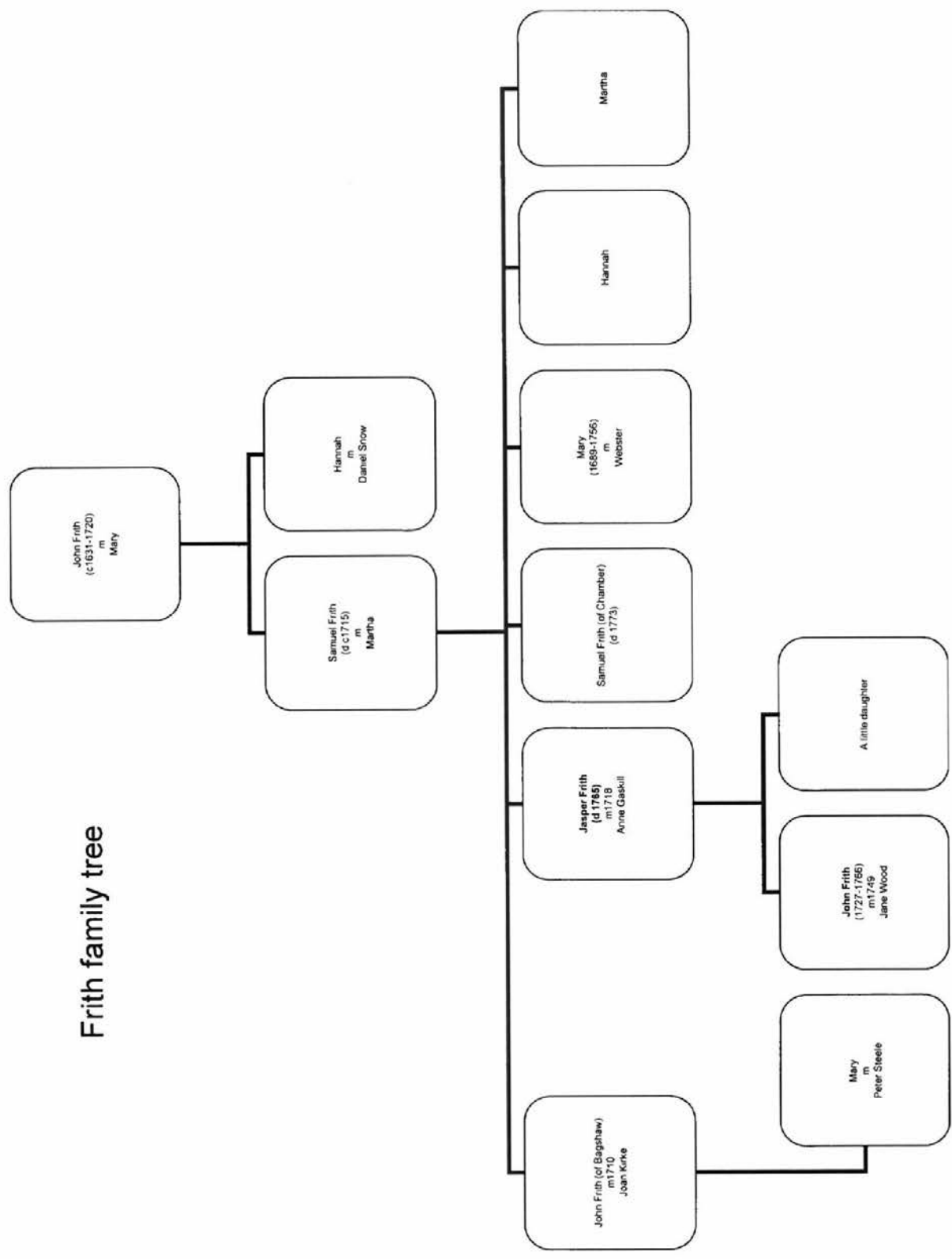
**2. 26 March 1684, John Gaskill to Peter Gaskill:** John Gaskill sells all his interest in the Ridge or Bank Hall to Peter Gaskill for £260.

**3. 16 September 1684, John Frith to Samuel Frith:** John Frith of Peak Forest, yeoman, sells to Samuel Frith his son and heir apparent, husbandman for £60 his moiety being one half of the buildings and lands at or near the messuage of Thomas Barber of Malcalfe, yeoman.

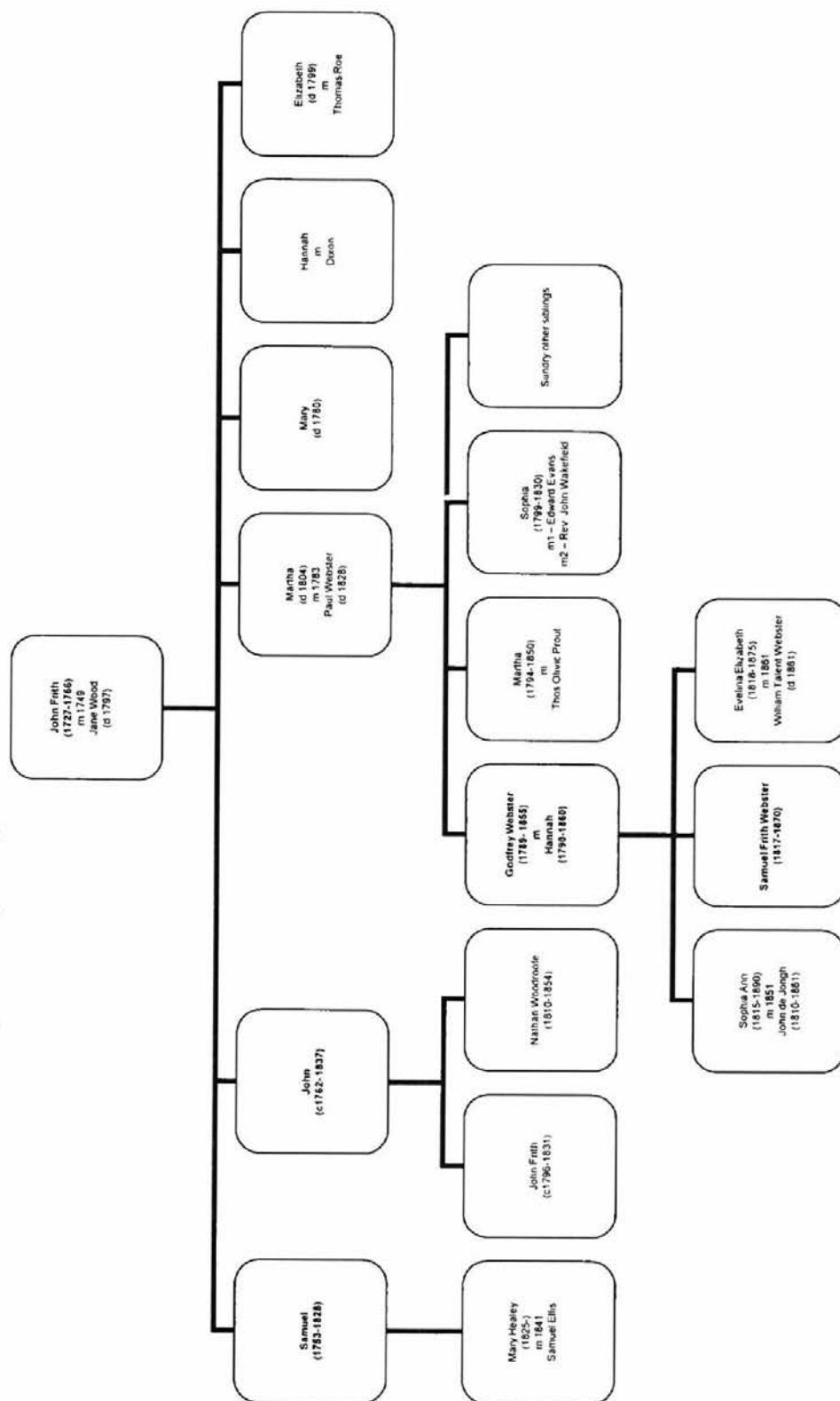
**4. 2 May 1710, Samuel Frith settlement on marriage of John Frith:** Between Samuel Frith of Peak Forest, yeoman and John Frith son and heir apparent; Anne Kirke widow and relict of Henry Kirke of Martinside yeoman deceased and Joan Kirke youngest and third daughter of Henry and Anne; Arnold Kirke of Martinside son and heir of Henry Kirke and brother of Joan and Richard Broadhurst of ?Sooker in Prestbury; Thomas Kirke of Spire Hollins yeoman and Jasper Frith second son of Samuel Frith. A marriage is shortly to be had between John Frith and Joan Kirke. A messuage in Hanley is conveyed pursuant to a marriage agreement made by Henry Kirke in his lifetime with Samuel Frith as marriage portion for Joan and for the provision of Joan and £150 to be paid to Samuel Frith.



# Frith family tree



## Frith family tree (cont)



Samuel Frith sells to Arnold Kirke and Richard Broadhurst the messuage at Bagshaw now in the possession of Samuel Frith to the use of Samuel Frith until the marriage and to John Frith during his life. Then to be held by Thomas Kirke and Jasper Frith to the use of John and Joan's children. Samuel Frith promises within eighteen months to surrender copyhold land called the Greenhead croft enjoyed with the said messuage and land in Bagshaw to the same uses. Henry Kirke bequeathed to Joan a messuage in Hanley to hold after the decease of Anne for the duration of the lease. Anne and Joan sold it to Arnold Kirke and Richard Broadhurst for 99 years upon trust that they allow John Frith during his life or the life of Anne and Joan and after his death for Joan Kirke for her provision and maintenance which together with the yearly sum of £5 to be paid to her during her life out of the lands at Bagshaw is agreed to be her dower.

If John Frith doesn't pay to Samuel Frith £150 within three years of the marriage Jasper Frith and Thomas Kirke are to sell the property to raise the sum. And if John survives Joan and they leave a child and he then remarries he has to pay that child £150 on reaching the age of 21 (or split if several children).

**5. 14 October 1714, Will of Samuel Frith:** Samuel Frith of the Chamber in the Peak Forest, yeoman being indisposed in health. Leaves an annuity to his father out of the profits of Chamber farm according to a contract in writing and the nether parlour in the Chamber house for life and small monetary amounts to his son John Frith, Joan Frith his daughter-in-law; Mary Frith his grandchild; Hannah Snow his sister. To son Jasper Frith £90; to daughter Mary Frith £150 in a year; to daughter Hannah Frith £150 in two and a half years and to daughter Martha Frith £150 in five years. To Martha his wife and Samuel his son, with the desire that they keep house together, Chamber house and farm; one third of Castleton Close and one quarter of Oxlowe all of which are held under the Duke of Devonshire, and the residue. Once all the legacies are paid then Samuel gets the interest in Castleton Close and Oxlowe absolutely and two thirds of Chamber house and farm and the residue whilst Martha gets one third for life and then to Samuel.

If Samuel dies without issue then John and Jasper Frith (Samuel's other sons) shall receive the farms and tenements bequeathed to him.<sup>104</sup> Samuel has already paid £50 to Jasper so his legacy is to be £40.

**6. 3 February 1718, Gaskill daughters to Jasper Frith:** Mary Gaskill for £175 paid by Jasper Frith in lieu of her share of her late father's messuage and Ann Gaskell in consideration of a marriage intended to be shortly had between her and Jasper and of a settlement made by Jasper of a messuage at a place called the Meadow to Ann and her issue. And Elizabeth and Amy Gaskell for £200 apiece hereby secured in lieu of their shares of the said messuage have sold to Henry Booth, Samuel Frith and Thomas Gaskill the messuage at Bank known by the name of Bank Hall to hold upon trust.

They will make annual payments of £10 to Elizabeth Gaskill in discharge of the interest of her £200 portion until she marries or dies; and similarly for Amy Gaskill and that their portions of £200 will be paid within six months of their marriage or deaths provided that if Jasper Frith pay Elizabeth Gaskill and Amy Gaskill their £200 apiece and interest then the authority given to Henry Booth, Samuel Frith and Thomas Gaskill shall cease and immediately after the marriage between Jasper Frith and Ann Gaskell the premises shall be appointed to the use of Jasper Frith and his heirs for ever subject only that if the marriage between Jasper Frith and Ann Gaskell take effect and that Ann happen to die within six years without issue living at her death then and if Mary Gaskill Elizabeth Gaskill and Amy Gaskill her sisters or any of them within twelve months pay to Jasper Frith all sums of money as he shall then have paid to Mary Gaskill Elizabeth Gaskill and Amy Gaskill and also all he has laid out in improvements either by building fencing limeing or otherwise upon the lands and premises and not have raised and received back by and out of the profits or produce then the trustees will be seized of the premises to the use of Mary, Ann and Elizabeth.

**7. 29 September 1724, Cowper and Frith:** Between Thomas Cowper of Over Owlgreave yeoman and Jasper Frith of Bank Hall gent. For the purpose of transferring title Cowper grants common land (now enclosed) at Peasleys or Peasleys Common of twelve acres set out allotted and meered as Cowper's share of the common belonging to his Over Owlgreave estate; a large piece of land allotted to Mr Bradshaw of Brampton now in the possession of Jasper Frith, and a piece of common allotted to Mr Barber of Edensor.

**8. 27 April 1748, Jasper Frith to Samuel Frith - lease of Bank:** Between Jasper Frith of Bank in Combs Edge gent and Samuel Frith of Chamber in the Forest gent.

Jasper Frith has granted all that messuage where Jasper now lives at Bank with all lands estimated at eighty acres and the parcel of enclosed land upon Peasley in Chapel known as Green Tongue otherwise Bank piece and the parcel of enclosed land on Peasley heretofore in the possession of Thomas Cooper of Owlgreave but now in the possession of Robert Doyle; and the parcel of land at Stony Ford Clough in the possession of Thomas Bower of the Ford; and also the cottage and several parcels of ground adjoining called a Neighbourship at Rushop of thirty six acres, also the close at Upper End in the parish of Tideswell and adjoining to Dove Holes Lime Kilns.

To Samuel Frith for one year to the intent that he may be able to accept and take a grant and release of the reversion and inheritance.

**9. 31 January 1787, Bellott to Frith - Bole Hills:** Between Anthony Bellott of Ollerenshaw, yeoman, and Samuel Frith esquire. In consideration of £111 Bellott granted all the parcel of inclosed land called the Bolehill otherwise Bullhill being on the south west side of and above Bank Hall of eight acres formerly part of the commons meered and set forth for the king's part and was purchased by Anthony Bellott of Castle Naze yeoman deceased from Thomas Eyre of Grays Inn.

**10. 15 March 1813, Land at Flagg:** Between Thomas Roe of Battersea, gent (administrator of the estate of Elizabeth his late wife one of the six children of John Frith late of Bank Hall who died intestate and was the only child of Jasper Frith); Richard Roe of Manchester, only child of Elizabeth Roe, grandson of Jane Frith, deceased, widow and relict of John Frith, and one of the nephews of Mary Frith spinster, deceased, another of the six children of John Frith and Jane Frith; Hannah Dixon of Manchester, widow, another of the six children; Paul Webster of Derby, colour merchant, administrator of the estate of Martha, his wife, deceased, another of the six children; John Frith of Manchester, gent, another of the six children.

Samuel Frith of Bank Hall, the oldest son and heir of John Frith and also grandson and heir of Jasper Frith also nephew and heir and devisee and surviving executor of Samuel Frith, late of Peak Forest, yeoman, deceased, and also the administrator of the said Jasper Frith left unadministered by Samuel Frith his late brother, deceased and which said Samuel Frith party hereto is the administrator of the estate of John Frith his late father left unadministered by Jane Frith and is also the administrator of the estate of Jane Frith and the administrator of the estate of Mary Frith left unadministered by the said Jane Frith her mother.

By indenture of demise 2 October 1722 between Henry Eyre of Rowta, Esq. and Jasper Frith and Samuel Frith deceased, Henry let to Jasper and Samuel land at Flagg known as Flagg pastures which was set out as part of the Kings part upon the division of the commons of Chelmorton and Flagg, one half to Samuel and one half to Jasper for £23 per annum. Jasper Frith, having survived his wife, died intestate about September 1765 leaving John Frith deceased his only child who died on or about January 1766 intestate leaving the said Jane Frith his widow and the said Samuel Frith party hereto Elizabeth Roe (then Frith) Mary Frith (since deceased) Hannah Dixon (then Frith) Martha Webster (then Frith) and John Frith party hereto him surviving.

Letters of administration of the estate of Jasper Frith made on or about 19 April 1766 to Samuel Frith deceased the guardian of Samuel Frith, Elizabeth Frith, Mary Frith, Hannah Frith, Martha Frith and John Frith then minors for the use during the minority of the minors. Letters of administration of the estate of John Frith granted 19 April 1766 to Jane Frith his widow; Samuel Frith deceased and the late Jane Frith duly administered the estates of the intestates.

Samuel Frith became possessed of lands by indenture of 2 October 1722 for the residue of the term or under some assurance that it should be held for the long term by way of compensation for the money laid out by him and his family in the cultivation and improvement agreed with Anne Countess Dowager Massareene. He was entitled to the freehold and bought it by deed of 2 and 3 September 1777.

Letters of administration of the estate of Jasper Frith left unadministered by Samuel Frith have lately been granted to Samuel Frith. Letters of administration of the estate of John Frith left unadministered by Jane Frith have lately been granted to Samuel Frith. Elizabeth Roe died 1779 leaving Thomas Roe and Richard Roe her only son and letters of administration have recently been granted to Thomas Roe. Mary Frith died October 1780 leaving Jane Frith (her mother), Samuel Frith, Hannah Dixon then Frith, Martha Webster then Frith and John Frith surviving and also Richard Roe her nephew and letters of administration were granted to Jane Frith and since the decease of Jane to Samuel Frith. Jane Frith died 1797 leaving Samuel Frith, Hannah Dixon, Martha



Webster and John Frith her surviving children and Richard Roe her grandson and letters of administration were recently granted to Samuel Frith. Martha Webster died 1804 leaving Paul Webster her husband and letters of administration were recently granted to him.

Samuel Frith recently contracted for the sale of the land referred to in the indenture of 2 October 1722 and the five parties release and discharge all the estate comprised in the indenture.

**11. 22 October 1814, Exchange of land at Chapel and Flagg:** Between Rev Thomas Gisborne and Thomas Gisborne the younger and Samuel Frith. By an indenture and by a common recovery and by indentures of lease and release dated 27 February 1813 between Christopher Heath of Duffield gent and the two Gisbornes, the lands hereafter described were appointed to the Gisbornes. And by indenture of lease and release of 2 and 3 September 1777 between Anne Countess Dowager of Massareene in Ireland and Samuel Frith the land and hereditaments described were conveyed to Samuel Frith.

The Gisbornes and Samuel Frith have agreed an exchange of their respective parcels of land and the Gisbornes in consideration of the exchange and of ten shillings paid by Samuel Frith to the Gisbornes and reserved to them by the indenture of 5 November 1808 convey the parcels of land and hereditaments comprised in the sale of 5 November 1808 to Samuel Frith in exchange as afterwards mentioned all the Far Heys, Near Heys, etc totalling 41 acres. And Samuel conveys a parcel of land now inclosed part of Near Flagg Pasture also a piece of land now inclosed part of ten Acre Close and the Upper Pasture also the Nether Pasture in the township of Flagg in total 43a 2r 9p.

**12. 1 November 1837,<sup>105</sup> Transcript of John Frith's will:**

*John Frith of Bank Hall, gentleman the devisee of Samuel Frith of the same place give to my great niece Sophia Anne Webster the Hordern Field in Chapel en le Frith; to my illegitimate son Nathan Woodroffe of Bamford near Hope schoolmaster my farm at the Dove Holes and the slate quarries at Cracken Edge in Chinley; to George Withington of Broughton, Manchester, nephew of my late wife the sum of five hundred pounds; to my niece Martha Prout the sum of one hundred pounds.*

*All the residue I give to my nephew Godfrey Webster and my personal estate.*

*It is my will that Godfrey sell my farms or estates called the Shireoaks and Upper Fold Farms and also the Kings Arms Public House<sup>106</sup> and with the money arising therefrom discharge all my debts and legacies. Proved 14th May 1838 by Godfrey Webster the sole executor*

**13. 3 August 1842, Declaration of John Rayner:**

*John Rayner of Snowdenhill in Hunshelf in the parish of Penistone, farmer, declares he well knew Susannah Heley formerly of Marsh Green, spinster deceased, who was the sister of his present wife and that Susannah Heley had an illegitimate daughter named Mary Heley born 16 June 1825 and that Mary Heley was brought to his house at the age of one month and lived there until her marriage.*

*Mary Heley attained the age of 21 on 16 June last and that on 15 September last she married Samuel Ellis of Penistone*

Attached is Mary Heley's marriage certificate (15 September 1845) giving her father as Samuel Frith and the father of Samuel Ellis, solicitor's clerk, as Joseph P Hague.

**14. 25 August 1855, Copy will of Godfrey Webster:** Personal effects and real estate left to his wife Hannah for her life. All then passed to his son Samuel Frith Webster except Castle Naze which was left to daughter Evelina Elizabeth and £1000 to daughter Sophia Anne de Jongh..

**15. 21 September 1861, SF Webster – mortgage for £1400:** Between Samuel Frith Webster of Bank Hall, gent, and George Bowring of Manchester, surgeon.

Godfrey Webster late of Bank Hall, gent deceased, being entitled at the date of his will 25 August 1855 and at his decease (30 September 1855) granted all his estate to his wife Hannah (since deceased) for her life and after her decease all except Castle Naze to his son Samuel Frith Webster (SFW). Godfrey appointed his son and wife as executors and they proved the will on 9 November 1856. Hannah died 11 August 1860.

In consideration of £1400 paid to SFW by George Bowring, SFW conveys to Bowring the Bank Hall Estate paying interest at 5%.

**16. 1864 proposition and agreement:** Mr Webster's proposition to let Bank Hall, gardens and 6 acres of land at £80 p.a. in its present state or at £100 p.a. in thorough repair, or to sell the whole estate at a valuation of about £11,000.

[handwritten] Memorandum of agreement made 23 April 1864 between S.F. Webster and H.C. Renshaw of Mount House, Higher Broughton, Manchester whereby Renshaw will buy the Bank Hall estate for £10,550.

Memorandum of agreement of 27 April 1864. Renshaw agrees to buy the 240a Bank Hall estate in the occupation of S.F. Webster, Jonathan Potter, Francis Hallam, Hekiah Handforth, John Bonsall and George Turner for £10,550. Possession of the house and grounds of 17a to be given to Renshaw on signing but he will not get title until completion.

**17. 7 October 1864, S.F. Webster and his mortgagees to H.C. Renshaw:** Indenture between Thomas Vernon Mellor of Ideridgehay near Wirksworth, clerk in holy orders, and Nathan Hubbersty of Eastwell Hall in Leicestershire, clerk in holy orders; George Bowring of Manchester, surgeon; Samuel Frith Webster; Henry Constantine Renshaw of Broughton. By a mortgage of 8 August 1845 between Godfrey Webster and Hannah his wife and Thomas Vernon Mellor and Nathan Hubbersty, Higher Owlgreave and Lower Owlgreave were mortgaged for £2500 at 4%. Default was made. Godfrey made his will on 25 August 1855 leaving all his estate to his wife Hannah for life and after her death all except the Castle Naze estate to his son Samuel Frith Webster. Godfrey died 13 September 1855. Hannah died 11 August 1860. By mortgage dated 21 September 1861 between SFW and George Bowring Bank Hall estate was mortgaged for £1400 @5%. Default was made.

S.F. Webster has agreed with H.C. Renshaw for the sale for £10,500 of all the lands on the attached schedules (Mellor and Hubbersty are owed £1800 and Bowring £1400).

Out of the £10,500 Renshaw pays £1800 to Mellor and Hubbersty, £1400 to Bowring and £7,300 to S.F. Webster. S.F. Webster grants the mansion house called Bank Hall also the farm of Down Lee also the two farms of Higher Owlgreave and Lower Owlgreave.

**18. 1 January 1866, Mortgage to Higgins and Broadhurst:** Between H.C. Renshaw of Bank Hall on the one part and George Higgins of Red Hill, Anglesea and Richard Broadhurst of Broughton, merchant of the other part.

Renshaw has pulled down the greater part of the mansion house and is now rebuilding it in an improved and enlarged form at a considerable expense and he has requested Higgins and Broadhurst to lend him £10,000 which they have agreed to do on joint account with interest at 4.5%.

**19. Photocopy of a manuscript:** Paul and Martha Webster married 22 April 1783 at Chapel-en-le-Frith. Godfrey born at Aston 29 June 1789 died at Bank Hall (which descended to him on the death of his uncle John) aged 66 1855 buried in the churchyard Sept 12. Martha born 8 November 1794 married to Tho Olivie Prout of St Agnes died Dec 18 1850. Sophia born 26 January 1799 and died 18 May 1830. Married first to Edward ?Evans of Yeldersley then to Rev John Wakefield. Paul the father died 22 August 1828 at West Newington and buried in West Hackney. Hannah the widow of Godfrey Webster died 8 August 1860 aged 76 at Bank Hall buried in Chapel churchyard. Sophia eldest daughter born July 27 1815 and married John de Jongh of Chapel second son of Francis de Jongh of Alsace 2 Oct 1851. Samuel Frith only son of the above Godfrey born Jan 11

1817 and died 10 July 1870. Elizabeth the younger daughter of Godfrey born 11 Sept 1818 and married William Talent Webster of the Isle of Man 8 August 1861. Died at Douglas 17 June 1875.

**20. 1895 Sale particulars:** [Extracts in Bellhouse 2006 not repeated here] The dining room wall panels by T Armstrong and Randolph Caldecott can be purchased separately. Owlgreave is listed as one farm of 103a.

**21. 1919-21, Correspondence re footpaths:** 19 November 1919 T.C. Talent-Bateman to Secretary of War stating that Bank Hall was taken over by the War Office a few years ago as an internment place and camp for German prisoners of war. The camp was broken up and the prisoners removed a few weeks ago. During the internment period the roads and paths through the estate were closed. He asks that the paths now be re-opened.

**22. 8 August 1951, Sale of Down Lea:** Sale to Peter Barlow of Down Lea of 34 acres by the executors of Reginald Scott for £2,850.

**23. 11 November 1954, Sale of Owlgreave:** Sale to A.P. Barratt of Owlgreave of 103 acres by Michael Scott for £4,750.

**24. 1957 Abstract of title of Asher Locker to Bank Hall:** 10 May 1918 Charles Joseph Wills of Westcott House, Dorking sold to Reginald Scott of Whitestones, Chapel for £12,500. Wills had purchased Bank Hall, Owlgreave and Downlea on 13 April 1897. At that time Bank Hall Lodge was in the occupation of W.H. Collett; Top Lodge in the occupation of Dr John English Harburn as a monthly tenant and Bank Hall Farm of 86a in occupation of Henry Oswald Earle Martin as a yearly tenant.

Reginald Scott made a will on 30 November 1923 and appointed the public trustee as his executor. He died at Bank Hall 22 December 1947. His will left his estate to his wife Flora for life and then to his sons equally. Flora died 4 March 1951 in Blackpool.

David Scott took Bank Hall Lodge and grounds valued at £3,000 and Michael took Bank Hall at £12,350. On 6 October 1953 Michael Scott sold to Asher Locker.

**25. 1861 Abstract of title of S.F. Webster to Bank Hall Estate:** Refers to document 8 above, noting that the release cannot be found. Refers to the will of Samuel Frith of Chamber of 6 November 1773 (noting that this abstract of title only relates to certain property and that the original will at Lichfield is dilapidated and cannot be fully deciphered) by which he left to Samuel Frith, son of his late nephew John Frith, all his property in Brownside and Chinley and the residue of his estate not otherwise disposed of.

**26. 1864 Abstract of title of S.F. Webster to Bank Hall and other estates:**

**Bank Hall and Bank** 24 August 1861 – declaration of Adam Fox of Martinside refers to the exchange of lands referred to in document 11 and notes that the Heys had formerly formed part of the Ridge estate and that Samuel Frith divided the Heys into several fields.

**Downlee Estate** 30 and 31 October 1775 – lease and release between Robert Bagshaw of Catherine Hall, Cambridge, gentleman and Samuel Frith. By indentures of lease and release of 18 and 19 December 1772 between Robert Bagshaw, then of Tideswell, and Geo Taylor of Barmer within Peake Forest, yeoman, that Bagshaw sold to Taylor the messuage of Down Lee then in the occupation of Robert Lomas together with fields called the Green Field, Green Field end, Bell Lane, Great Hob Hill, Little Hob Hill, Harry Croft, the Hole, the Wood, Down Lee field and three other crofts.

21 and 22 June 1826 – Ellen Bagshaw, widow and relict of Robert Bagshaw of Rainow, yeoman, sells her dower to Samuel Frith for £50.

**The Owlgreaves** 21 December 1751 – indenture between Robert Holdgate of Chapel, yeoman, and Hannah his wife and Francis Vernon of Fernleigh, yeoman and Edward Vernon of Smalldale, yeoman. Robert and Hannah agreed to take £300 on trust and Robert took the £300 secured by a mortgage on the cottage or tenement called Upper Owlgreaves (in Robert's possession) with related pieces of land.

22 and 23 October 1776 – Joseph Holdgate of Smalldale, yeoman, eldest son and devisee of Robert Holdgate deceased and Margaret Holdgate of Oldgreave, spinster one of daughters and devisees on the one part; Edward

Vernon; Samuel Frith and Jno Gee of Chapel, clerk. Samuel Frith has contracted with Joseph and Margaret Holdgate to purchase the cottages at Oldgreave for £1,375 in total, including settling the mortgage.

**The Lower Owlgreaves** By indenture of lease and release of 3 and 4 April 1776 between Josiah Bradbury of Lower Owlgreaves, yeoman and Martha his wife and Samuel Frith. In consideration of £1,000 Bradbury sold to Frith the messuage at Lower Owlgreave subject to the life estate of Mary Cooper of a chamber of part of the outbuildings called Ralphs Chambers and a small garden called the Lower Garden

#### **Appendix 2 – Bank Hall Lodge**

Bank Hall Lodge was built at the time that H.C. Renshaw rebuilt Bank Hall, in about 1873.<sup>107</sup> Built of rough finished stone and a slate roof the house has black and white half timbered gables, part tile clad and part with decorated plasterwork. There is a fine brick chimney stack and distinctive<sup>108</sup> Nesfield castellated gutterheads. It was already being described as picturesque in 1895. Within the grounds are the remains of a water driven saw-mill and many fine trees, including a wellingtonia.



Bank Hall Lodge (© Adrian Shaw. Source English Heritage, NMR)

The architect was W.E. Nesfield, who, besides designing many larger houses, was also responsible for lodges at Broadlands, Kew and Regent's Park.<sup>109</sup>

Nesfield was, for a time in partnership with Norman Shaw, and also with his father, W.A. Nesfield, the landscape architect whose works include Kew Gardens.

In the 1881 and 1891 censuses the Lodge was occupied by Renshaw's butlers<sup>110</sup> but, following his death, it was let out.

One of the first tenants, from 1896 to 1904, was Raymond Unwin, the architect, who, with his brother-in-law Barry Parker, established a practice in Buxton. They were responsible for England's first garden city,



Letchworth, before Unwin moved on to be the architect of Hampstead Garden City. Unwin was a major influence on town planning and housing design in Britain and later became President of the RIBA.

The Lodge was extended by the Scotts in the 1950s with the building of a housekeepers annex and an extension to the living room.

## References

1. Henry Kirke, *Chapel-en-le-Frith, The Capital of the Peak*, nd but c1903, p42.
2. Wm. Braylesford Bunting, *Chapel-en-le-Frith, its history and its people*, 1940, p175. Republished in computer format by Robert P. Marchington, 2000, at [www.marchington.org](http://www.marchington.org).
3. Wm. Braylesford Bunting, *The parish church of St Thomas a Becket, Chapel-en-le-Frith, 1225-1925*, 1925, p vi. Republished in computer format by Robert P. Marchington, 2003, at [www.marchington.org](http://www.marchington.org).
4. Marguerite A. Life Bellhouse, *The Story of Combs my Village*, 1968. Privately copied and republished 2006.
5. Derbyshire Record Office (DRO), D5236/5/59.
6. Bellhouse, p31.
7. Bellhouse, p31.
8. Appendix 1, item 1.
9. In 1697 a Francis Gaskell of Hanley purchased Ollerenshaw Hall (Bunting, p107). [n.b. the spelling of Gaskell and Gaskell varies in the documents in Appendix 1]. A family of Gaskell siblings lived on the Marsh Hall estate in the early eighteenth century (Richard Clift, pers. comm.); in 1709 Alice Gaskell and Edmund Cherry were in possession of Bridgefield (Bunting 1940, p172).
10. Rainow History Group, *Rainow Caught in Time*, 2006, p86.
11. Appendix 1, item 2.
12. Will of William Gaskill, 1673, at [www.disley-net/disley-wills.html](http://www.disley-net/disley-wills.html). Possibly Peter Gaskill is also the man referred to by Henry Kirke of Eaves in 1705 as his nephew in *Extract of so much of the 17th report of the Commissioners of Charities as relates to Chapel-en-le-Frith*, 1835.
13. The International Genealogical Index has a Petrus Gaskill marrying Anna Booth in November 1684 in Glossop and Peter Gaskell, son of John, marrying Anne Booth, daughter of John in Taxal on 27 November 1684.
14. Estimated from field names in a deed of 10 September 1684 as compared to field names in nineteenth century valuations of the estate.
15. Chatsworth Collection, Hardwick Papers (H) 266/23.
16. Appendix 1, item 3.
17. Chatsworth, H 263/33.
18. Appendix 1, item 4.
19. Chatsworth, H 263/33.
20. Appendix 1, item 5.
21. Appendix 1, item 5.
22. Chatsworth Collection, Peak Forest accounts for 1714 and 1715.
23. Appendix 1, item 6.
24. Elizabeth, like Mary, only signed the indenture by a mark and never married; Amy, who like Ann could sign, married Nicholas Cresswell of Blackbrook, ironmonger, on 7 October 1733.
25. Deeds in possession of Steve Jodrell.
26. Chatsworth, H 58/6.
27. Chatsworth, H 203/9.
28. Chatsworth, H 203/8.
29. Chatsworth, H 203/11.
30. Bellhouse, p39; Bunting, 1940, p54.
31. Bunting, 1925, pp 89,133.
32. Appendix 1, item 10..
33. Chatsworth, H 296/25.
34. Appendix 1, item 8. If this document was indeed a sale of lands they reverted to Jasper's grandson Samuel in 1766 on the death of his uncle Samuel.
35. Chatsworth, H 296/26.
36. Chatsworth, H 296/7.
37. Chatsworth, H 296/24.

38. Chatsworth, H 202/13.
39. Chris Heathcote, 'The History of Coalpithole Vein in Peak Forest and Chapel-en-le-Frith Liberties, Derbyshire, 1705-1880' in *Mining History: The Bulletin of the Peak District Mines Historical Society*. Vol 16, No 5. The mine is noted as a small-medium operation by J.H. Riuewerts, *Lead Mining in Derbyshire*, 2007.
40. Chris Heathcote, pers. com.
41. Chris Heathcote, pers. com.
42. Appendix 1, item 10.
43. Vanessa S Doe (ed.) *The Diary of James Clegg of Chapel-en-le-Frith 1708-55, Part 2*, 1979, p467.
44. Appendix 1, item 10.
45. Handwritten extract from 1749 Chapel parish register made in 1827, in possession of the authors.
46. Appendix 1, item 10.
47. Appendix 1, item 10.
48. Martha, who died in 1804 having married Paul Webster in 1783; Mary who died in 1780; Hannah who married into the Dixon family and Elizabeth who died in 1779 having married Thomas Roe in 1773.
49. Appendix 1, item 10.
50. Appendix 1, item 25.
51. Bunting 1940, p260.
52. Sotheby's, *Sporting and Marine Paintings, Drawings and Sculpture*. New York, Friday June 3, 1994.
53. Derbyshire Family History Society, *The Memorial Inscriptions of the parish church of St Thomas Becket Chapel-en-le-Frith*, 1989.
54. *Extract of so much of the 17th report of the Commissioners of Charities as relates to Chapel-en-le-Frith*, 1835.
55. Chatsworth Collection, AS/1275.
56. AS/1272. Some of the lands included Chamber; a large sheep pasture on Loads; Upper barn; Wainhurst Farm; Lomas's Farm; Beatingdale; Ferny Slack; Oxlow Pasture; Prongle; Benty Piece; Holehose; Checkham Barn; the Great Pasture; Open Casteleton Close; Snelslow; Middle Hill; Rushup pasture.
57. Arthur Young, *The Farmers Tour through the East of England*, p214, on <http://books.google.co.uk>.
58. Appendix 1, item 10.
59. Appendix 1, item 26.
60. Appendix 1, item 9.
61. Bunting, 1940, p167
62. Bellhouse, p71.
63. <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~dusk/chapel-ratebook/combs-edge>.
64. Appendix 1, item 11.
65. Deed of 9 October 1827 in possession of Steve Jodrell.
66. Chatsworth Collection, Map 3025.
67. Chris Heathcote, 'A History and Gazetteer of the Mines in the Liberty of Peak Forest, Derbyshire. 1605-1878' in *Mining History: The Bulletin of the Peak District Mines Historical Society*, Vol 14, No 5.
68. Chris Heathcote, pers. com.
69. DRO D239/E5466.
70. *Hutchinson's Tour through the High Peak of Derbyshire*, 1809.
71. John Farey, *General view of the agriculture of Derbyshire*, Vol III, 1817, p15.
72. Appendix 1, item 13.
73. Appendix 1, item 12.
74. His mother was Jane Woodroofe, born in 1791. DRO D1038A/PO81 appears to be a receipt for maintenance. Nathan's son, John Frith Woodroofe emigrated to USA in 1870. Gill Woodroofe Green, pers. comm.
75. Appendix 1, item 19.
76. Chapel Tithe map 1847, DRO 2360/183a.
77. Estate map attached to Appendix 1, item 15.
78. Appendix 1, item 17.
79. Appendix 1, item 14.
80. Appendix 1, item 15.
81. Appendix 1, item 16.
82. Appendix 1, item 17.

83. Mike Langham, *Buxton :A People's History*, 2001, p55.
84. T Bergin et al., *Salford: A City and its' past*.
85. Bellhouse, p93.
86. Appendix 1, item 18. One of the initial mortgagors, and both the mortgagors by 1881, were Broadhursts. Renshaw's wife was a Broadhurst.
87. Bulkeley Cresswell, 'William Eden Nesfield 1835-88: An Impression', *Architectural Review*, Part 2 1897; RIBA Journal, Vol 10, 1903, pp396-400; RIBA Library, Drawing PB292/13.
88. Emily Reed, pers. comm.
89. Appendix 1, item 20.
90. Appendix 1, item 24.
91. Kelly's *Post Office Directory of Derbyshire*, 1908. Groves was a Tory MP for South Salford 1900-1906 and was chairman of the Manchester brewers Groves and Whitnall (*Manchester and Salford at the close of the Nineteenth Century*).
92. Appendix 1, item 21.
93. Alan Virtue, *Memoirs of a Derbyshire Hill Farmer*, 1976, p50.
94. Appendix 1, item 24.
95. Kelly's *Post Office Directory of Derbyshire*, 1916.
96. Richard Scott, pers. comm. The company was presumably Frederick W Scott, Atlas Steel Wire Rope Works of Reddish - *Stockport Advertiser History of Stockport*.
97. Richard Scott, pers. comm.
98. Geraldine Locke in *Westcliff High School Old Girls Association Newsletter 2005/6*.
99. Virtue, 1976, p89.
100. *Manchester Evening News*, 9 August 2003.
101. Appendix 1, item 24.
102. Appendix 1, items 22 and 23.
103. *Country Life*, 6 November 1980.
104. Samuel did die without issue on 6 November 1773.
105. Extracted from the District Registry of Her Majesty's Court of Probate at Lichfield.
106. In Chapel-en-le-Frith.
107. It has since been extended by a garage, with rooms above added in 1951 and an extension to the lounge in 1955.
108. Andrew Saint, 'William Eden Nesfield', in *A Deuce of An Uproar: William Eden Nesfield's letters to the rector of Radwinter in Essex*, 1988, p17.
109. Berkeley Creswell, 'William Eden Nesfield 1835-1888 an Impression', in *Architectural Review*, Part 2, 1897, p23-32.
110. 1881 – George William Elder; 1891 – Edward Berridge.

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## THE DIARY OF JOSEPH HUTSBY: PART 4

### OCTOBER 1844 - JANUARY 1845

(continued from Vol. 18, Part 3, Spring 2008)

Joseph was a miner and preacher. His diaries cover the period 1843 to 1846 when he was a colliery official at Loscoe, probably at Loscoe Colliery close to the village centre. (Extracted from introduction to Part 1.)

**1844**

#### **Thursday October 24th**

Self went to the Collry at half after 5 in the morning. Was told by William Hutsby and John Allen they had heard a report in the soft coal like that of a shoot, and seen a smoak out of the pit top. Self went to the pit top, and presently heard a man and supposed it to be Oliver Wardle saying "*Come on, my dear lads, we are almost at the bottom*". Self called to the Whimsey man to let the rope down, who did so, and when the men in the bottom heard me at the top they called to be turned up, saying they was almost burnt to death. Turned three of them up; Oliver Wardle, Jedidiah Allen and George Whightman.

Self and Josiah Slater went down in search of them. Found Daniel Fletcher at the bottom who said he had left the other men laying down on the road. While we was getting him ready to go up, the other men came. Inquiring of them who they had left, said "*Reuben Flint*". Directly we heard him coming, who said there was no body left up date. Self and Slater brought the men up, gave them oil, sent them home, sent for the Doctor.

Self and Slater went down the pit and through it. Found the door broak, came up, and another one made. Went to see 7 of the men. Self and 2 looks over and set the door up at night. Left orders for the water to be hourled down the engine pit all night.

#### **Friday October 25th**

Turned at hard. Cleaned the roads in soft, self in soft, made the fire at 8 in the morning: at Collry till 10. Went to Derby, called at Street Lane, saw Josiah Pauvery, found him burnt very bad. Gave him the wages for the week, told the wife to come to Loscoe on the next Saturday.

#### **Saturday October 26th**

Turned at hard, dirt at soft. Self started a club on the Collry. Paid the men as usual.

#### **Monday October 28th**

Turned at both pits. Self at Collry till 5. Mr Griffin went to see the men.

#### **Tuesday October 29th**

Lay still at both pits. Self and wife went to see the men, gave James Bower 5s when I saw him first time. Gave Oliver Wardle 1s. Found them both very bad.

#### **Wednesday October 30th**

Turned at both pits. Self at Collry till 5.

#### **Thursday October 31st**

Turned at hard, dirt at soft. Self in soft, at Collry till 4.

#### **Friday November 1st**

Turned at both pits, self at Collry till 5.

#### **Saturday November 2nd**

Turned at both pits, self at Collry till 7. Paid the men as usual.

#### **Monday November 4th**

Turned at both pits, self at Collry till 12. Went to see the men, took some apples and persimmons. Gave James Bower 2s 6d and Oliver Wardle 1s.

#### **Tuesday November 5th**

Turned at both pits, self at Collry till 4, Reuben Flint died.



**Wednesday November 6th**

Turned at both pits, self at Collry till 11. Very poorly.

**Thursday November 7th**

Turned at both pits, self at Collry till 5.

**Friday November 8th**

Turned at both pits ½ day, self at collry till 5. Mr Griffin went to see the men.

**Saturday November 9th**

Turned at hard alday. Lay still at soft. firey. John Oland came this morning to the Collry, wanted a coffin made for Oliver Wardle while he was yet alive. Mr and myself refused, and at two o'clock he died. Self sent the joiner to mesure him for a coffin. Had it made. Self at Collry till 7. Paid the men as usual. Reuben Flint was berryed. Self and wife was to go to the funeral. Could no go self. Give Frances Flint 2s 6d to pay for some ale at funeral.

**Sunday November 10th**

Self and wife went to see Josiah Paufrey. Give him 2s 6d. George Allen died at 2 o'clock today. Reported that his Mother poisoned him.

**Monday November 11th**

Turned at both pits. Self and wife went to Oliver Wardle's funeral. The inquest set over the body of George Allen, and Wardle. Mr Devenport opened George Allen, found he had died through neglect on the part of his mother. The Crouner gave her severe reprimand. Mr Griffin sent the joiner to mesure him for a coffin and make it. Self give Wardle's widow 16s to burry him with and 2s out of the money the Millhay Colliers collected, which was 12s 7d. Also give Dan Fletcher 1s 6d, Jedidiah Allen 1s 6d and 6s Club men; James Bower 2s.

**Tuesday November 12th**

Laystill at hard, turned at soft alday. Self at Collry till 4.

**Wednesday November 13th**

Turned alday at both pits. Self at Collry till 4.

**Thursday November 14th**

Turned at hard ½ day, alday at soft. Self went to Newstead, saw Colonal Wildman and his steward. Bought some poles of them.

**Friday November 15th**

Laystill at both pits, self in soft.

**Saturday November 16th**

Turned at both pits. Paid men as usual which was £36 5s 7½d.

**Sunday November 17th**

Went Ilkiston, preached twice.

**Monday November 18th**

Turned ½ day at both pits. Self went Newstead for a load of poles. Brought 102 feet, paid 32 0s 0d. Gave the steward 1 s 0d to spend. Got home in good time. Garratt got drunk at Limby, called again and got some more. Mr said he should go no more. Took half of the ale off.

**Tuesday November 19th**

Turned alday at hard, ½ day at soft. Self dialled the hard in bottom.

**Wednesday November 20th**

Turned ½ day at half, ¾ at soft. Self in hard, dialled the top.

**Thursday November 21st**

Turned alday at hard, laystill at soft. Self in hard. Discharged William Slater.

**Friday November 22nd**

Turned alday at hard ½ day soft. Self in hard.

**Saturday November 23rd**

Turned alday at both pits. Self paid men as usual. £35 10s 6d.

**Monday November 25th**

Turned ½ day at hard. Lay still at soft. Whimsy boiler bursted. Repaired it at 12 o'clock.

**Tuesday November 26th**

Turned at each pit ½ day. Whimsy boiler bursted. Turned the men up at engine pit. Comenced riveting 2 plates on and several rivets in various parts. John stayed with them all night. Mr Griffin sent him a bottle of gin.

**Wednesday November 27th**

Laystill at both pits. Repairing Whimsy boiler. Finished at 9. Leading ash timber from Mr Wooley, Loscoe, 480 feet.

**Thursday November 28th**

Turned alday at both pits. Self at Collry till 5.

**Friday November 29th**

Turned alday at both pits. Self at Collry till 4. John Erenshaw came today, and took the rooffe off the pig coat and made a coal house of it. Repaired the Nessesary rooffe.

**Saturday November 30th**

Turned alday at both pits, self at Collry till 7. Paid the men as usual, which was [sic].

**Monday December 2nd**

Turned ½ day at hard, alday at soft. Self at Collry till 2. Beged a door off Mr Griffin for the coal house, self put it up.

**Tuesday December 3rd**

Turned alday at both pits. Self at Collry till 2.

**Wednesday December 4th**

Turned alday at each pit. Self at Collry till 4.

**Thursday December 5th**

Turned alday at each pit. Self at Collry till 2. Mr B. Pellaton from Mayerhay came in search of a nage for his father. Self recommended Mr Joseph Hicking's horse.

**Friday December 6th**

Turned at both pits alday. Self at Collry till 4. Turned the tinker poney up tonight.

**Saturday December 7th**

Turned alday at each pit. Self paid the men as usual which was £50 19s 8d. Self and wife to Claycross, took the child. Whould of left her had he not paid us. But he paid the money which was £3 6s 6d up to December 9th. Brought the child back. He said he should pay 3s 6d per week till she was one year old and then 3s.

**Monday December 9th**

Turned alday at soft, ½ day at hard. Self in soft. At Collry till 3.

**Tuesday December 10th**

Turned alday at hard, ½ day at soft. Self in soft, at Collry till 4.

**Wednesday December 11th**

Turned alday at each pit. Self at Collry till 5. Mr Griffin said I had better go and look some larch poles out at Newstead on the 12th.

**Thursday December 12th**

Turned ½ day at each pit. Self and Joseph Hicking went to Newstead about some larch poles. Could not load us till next Monday but one.

**Friday December 13th**

Turned alday at hard, ½ day at soft. Self in soft, at Collry till 4.

**Saturday December 14th**

Turned at soft alday, ½ day at hard. The hammer men's time up today. Self let them bargain again at 6½p per ton for three months. Was to give them a new hammer. Paid the men as usual which was £48 13s 5d.

**Monday December 16th**

Laystill at hard, turned ½ day at soft. The hammer men at hard lay off worke. Self at Collry till 4. Sould Jos Wilkiston an ass £1 15s 0d.

**Tuesday December 17th**

Turned at both pits alday. Let the hammering at hard for 1s 7d per wagon, the Gob not to counted. Had the masson at work at the Ciching.

**Wednesday December 18th**

Turned alday at each pit. Self at Collry till 3.

**Thursday December 19th**

Turned ½ day at hard, alday at soft. Self at Collry till one. Went to Ripley with wife.

**Friday December 20th**

Turned alday at hard, ½ at soft. Self at Collry till 3.

**Saturday December 21st**

Turned alday at hard. Cleared the Lodge at night. Self paid the men as usual. £40 18s 6d.

**Monday December 23rd**

Turned ½ day at hard. Laystill at soft. Self went Newstead for load of poles, paid 32 3s 0d. Bought 126 feet. Good luck. At home in good time.

**Tuesday December 24th**

Turned alday at hard. ½ at soft. Self at collry till 3.

**Wednesday December 25th**

Laystill at both pits.

**Thursday December 26th**

Turned ½ day at hard. Laystill at Soft. Self at Collry till 11. Went and bought new suit of pilot cloth at Godber's, Eastwood, £2 6s 0d.

**Friday December 27th**

Turned ½ day at each pit. Self at Collry till 3.

**Saturday December 28th**

Turned at soft ½ day, ¼ at hard. Self in till 8 at night. repairing a fall. Paid the men as usual, which was £35 7s 6d.

**Monday December 30th**

Turned alday at hard, ½ day at soft. Self at Collry till 3.

**Tuesday December 31st**

Turned ½ at each pit. Self at Collry till 4.

**1845****Wednesday January 1st**

Turned at each pit ½ day. Self at Collry till 4.

**Thursday January 2nd**

Turned ½ day at each pit. Self in soft at Collry till 3.

**Friday January 3rd**

Turned ½ day at each pit. Self at Collry till 3.

**Saturday January 4th**

Turned ½ day at each pit. Self at Collry till 3. Paid the men as usual, which was £41 10s 5 ½d.

**Monday January 6th**

Turned ½ day at each pit. Self at Collry till 3.

**Tuesday January 7th**

Turned alday at hard, ½ day at soft.

**Wednesday January 8th**

Turned alday at hard ½ at soft. Self at Collry till 4.

**Thursday January 9th**

Turned alday at hard, ½ at soft, self at Collry till 4.

**Friday January 10th**

Turned ½ day at each pit. Self went to Derby, paid Mr Davies £1 19s 0d for repairs of 6 lamps at 6s 6d each.

**Saturday January 11th**

Lay still at both pits. The crank pin broke that works the top lift at engine. Put a new one in. Started at 3 o'clock. Paid the men as usual £46 5s 6½d.

**Monday January 13th**

Turned alday at hard ½ day at soft. Self went to Alfreton, ordered 2 doz of shovels.

**Tuesday January 14th**

Turned alday at each pit. Self in hard, at Collry till 3.

**Wednesday January 15th**

Turned alday hard ½ day at soft. Self in soft, at Collry till 4.

**Thursday January 16th**

Turned alday at hard, ½ day at soft. Self at Collry till 3.

**Friday January 17th**

Turned ½ day at each pit, self at Collry till 4.

**Saturday January 18th**

Turned alday at hard, ½ day at soft. Self at Collry till 3. Paid the men as usual £46 8 5½d.

**Monday January 20th**

Turned alday at hard, ½ day at soft. Self at Collry till 3. Went and paid my club three nights 3s 7d.

**Tuesday January 21st**

Laystill at hard. Repaired the bottom, put two oak bars up. Turned ½ day at soft. Self in hard till 2.

**Wednesday January 22nd**

Turned alday at hard, ½ day at soft. Put a scaffold in the soft coal shaft at the Clodcoal or Derby house coal. Started a head.

**Thursday January 23rd**

Laystill at both pits. Raised the hard coal pit top, and at night sent a man in the head at soft.

**Friday January 24th**

Turned at hard ½ day. Laystill at soft. Self went and the Clodcoal found to be good gettable coal being sloum haling 4 ins thick.

	feet	ins
Coal		3
Bat		1
Good coal	2	5
Coal		10
	3	11
And above that fire clay	3	
The Ell Coal	2	
Clod		4
Coal		6
	2	10
With a sloum	4	
Prime Coal Bind		
Rooffe Black		

**Saturday January 25th**

Turned ½ day at each pit. Self paid the men as usual which was £41 8s 0d.



**Monday January 27th**

Turned at hard ½ day. Laystill at soft. Self at Collry till 4.

**Tuesday January 28th**

Turned ½ day at each pit. self in hard, at Collry till 2.

**Wednesday January 29th**

Turned ½ day at each pit. Self at Collry till 4.

**Thursday January 30th**

Turned ½ day at hard. Laystill at soft. Self went to Claycross. Called at Alfreton. bought a lock and key, gave 6d.

**Friday January 31st**

Turned ½ day at each pit. Self and wife went to Derby. brought the whether glass from Mr Davies, paid 6s 6d. Ed Stanley went with us. Bought a cart, £2 0s 0d. Mr D told me T Goodwin had wanted a Bill of the Dial.

## **THE OLD HARROW INN, MARKET PLACE, ILKESTON**

### **VALUABLE PUBLIC HOUSE, WITH WINE VAULTS, 4 CELLARS, BREWHOUSE, STABLES, PIGGERIES, 3 SHOPS, LARGE GARDEN, YARD, &c.**

To be SOLD by AUCTION by Mr. FREDR. PALING, at the OLD HARROW INN, Market-place, Ilkeston, on THURSDAY, the 26th day of September, 1872, at Three for Four o'clock in the Afternoon precisely, in one Lot, subject to such conditions as shall be produced at the time of the Sale.

All that old and good accustomed Copyhold PUBLIC HOUSE and WINE VAULTS, known by the sign of the OLD HARROW INN, situate in the Market-place, and at the corner of Bath-street, Ilkeston, having a frontage to the Market-place of 5 feet, and a frontage to Bath-street of 191 feet 6 inches, including the four cellars, inn, vaults and shops.

Also, all those THREE spacious SHOPS and premises adjoining the vaults, and situate in Bath-street, which have a frontage in the said street of 44 feet, and are well tenanted at very low rents.

Also, all the large YARD and outbuildings, containing by admeasurement about 1730 square yards, including site of buildings, from which is derived a good annual income from theatres, menageries, and other exhibitions.

Also, all that large GARDEN, containing by admeasurement 1272 yards, well stocked with choice fruit tress, with greenhouse, &c. There is in the centre of the property a large well, with an exhaustible supply of pure water, with a force pump.

The whole of the property, occupying an area of 3800 yards, more or less, stands upon the best site in the busiest and most important thoroughfare in the town.

Ilkeston is one of the oldest chartered market towns in England; is ten miles distant from Derby and eight from Nottingham, and about fifteen minutes walk from the Midland Railway Station on the Erewash Valley Line, and is the great metropolis of the celebrated Derbyshire collieries, ironstone-pits, and iron furnaces. Several extensive ironworks are now being erected in the parish and neighbourhood, and there is an extensive trade carried on in the town and parish by the manufacturers of lace, hosiery, gloves, &c, &c.

This property has great and apparent advantages over all others ever brought into the market for sale in this thriving, increasing, and highly important town and neighbourhood, either for public or private business premises, such as maltsters, brewers, wine and spirit merchants, bankers, manufacturers, ale and porter dealers, and others. All the property is well built, has large rooms for business operations, and good cellars for storage in the rock. The property may be viewed and plans seen at the Inn. Plans and particulars may also be held at the Offices of the AUCTIONEER, South-street, Ilkeston and at his Nottingham Office, Punch Bowl Inn, Peck Lane on Saturdays; ...

*Derby Mercury, 4 September 1872.*