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THE LEYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY



THE LEYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Founded 1968

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To promote an interest in History generally  
and of the Leyland area in particular.

MEETINGS

Held on the first Monday of each month.

(Sept. to June inclusive) at 7-30 pm.

in THE METHODIST SCHOOL

CANBERRA RD. LEYLAND.

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THE LAYLAND CHRONICLE

CONTENTS.

1. Editorial - News and Comment.
2. The River Lostock.
3. Places of Historical Interest.
4. The Ampleforth Organ.
5. Library List. - Additions.
6. Wanderings of ones Mind.
7. Regiments of Lancashire.
8. Skipton Castle - Surrender terms.
9. A Look at Mawdesley.
10. The battle of Preston. - 1715.
11. Acknowledgements.

1973

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Leyland Historical Society

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THE ROYAL ORDNANCE SURVEY.

## EDITORIAL

I would first of all, on behalf of all our members, like to thank Mr. Francis Knight for his long and invaluable service as Editor and Librarian.

As his successor I hope I will be able to maintain his high standards in both Editing "The Lailand Chronicle" and in distributing library books.

In order to keep tags on the Society's library books I will be very pleased if the members with books already on loan would contact me.

Finally, will you continue to give support to our publication "The Lailand Chronicle" by sending your articles and letters to

THE EDITOR,  
D.F. WHITE,  
106 Ryden Avenue,  
LEYLAND.  
I R 5 2 Z L.

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## NEWS AND COMMENT.

The 1973/4 season of the L.H.S. promises to be a most enlightening one, with excellent speakers on many varied and interesting topics. The Society looks forward to your continued support.

## COMING EVENTS.

On Friday 16th November the Society will hold its annual Jumble Sale at Prospect House, Sandy Lane. If you have any jumble or if you would like to help will you please contact our Social Secretaries.

The Society's annual Dinner and Dance will take place on Wednesday 20th February 1974. If you are interested in coming to this Social occasion will you please contact our Social Secretaries-

Mrs. Barnes  
Tel. Leyland  
21033

or

Mrs. Deacon  
Tel. Leyland  
21369

More information later.  
(3)

## LOSTOCK THE RIVER THAT ENCIRCLES LEYLAND.

By J.N. Banister.

### LEYLAND'S RIVER. THE LOSTOCK

The river Lostock rises in Withnell Hills, which is to the extreme east of what was once the parish of Leyland. It runs through a picturesque wooded valley from here to Whittle-le-Woods. A good view of the valley is obtained by walking along the path of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, with which it runs parallel. At Whittle it passes under the M49 at Shaw Hill Bridge. It then turns in a northerly direction to Clayton Bottoms. At the bridge it is a fine country scene. This lovely dale with the Lostock flowing sweetly along towards Cuerden Park, is well worth viewing at any season of the year.

It then passes through Cuerden Park, which it leaves at Bamber Bridge, then along to Lostock Hall winding round to Fowler lane, Mill lane, and on to Earnshaw Bridge. It skirts Wilkington's mill, through the fields to the west of Leyland lane, then along the bottom of Cowling lane across Dunkirk lane, by Dunkirk Hall across Slater lane by Lostock Grove. Then through the fields past the Sewafe Works to Ulnes Walton Bridge, and on to Croston where it forms the confluence with the river Yarrow. Here it marks the boundary of Croston and Bretherton. It runs around Leyland on the East North and West.

Tracing a river from Source to sea is an intriguing and interesting experience. The most satisfactory way to do this is on foot. Seek out the footpaths, and wherever possible keep in touch with the banks of the river.

At the point where it forms the boundary of Croston and Bretherton you can see the meeting of the two rivers, the Lostock and the Yarrow. A little farther along they join the river Douglas, which flows into the Ribble at Hesketh Bank. From Croston to Hesketh Bank you can see the meeting of four rivers. The Lostock, Yarrow, Douglas, and the Ribble.

### Interesting features

The catchment area for the Lostock is in the Brindle and Wheelton districts. From Mr. Duckworth of the Lancashire River Board I was informed that it covers an area of 16,160. acres, and that the river is fifteen miles long. When standing at the point where the Yarrow and the Lostock meet, I saw a dead sheep float up stream for about 300 yards, so I asked how far the Lostock was tidal. At ordinary tides it effects the Lostock at the point where it joins the Yarrow. At high tides the effect is felt much farther up, and may be noticed in the Ulnes Walton District.

The name Lostock was given in 1212. The name does not appear to be a river name. It was probably derived from the Lostock Hall which stood upon its banks. The stock may denote a stockaded place. It is possible that at one period the river was navigable. It may have been able to take the sailing craft during the time of the Scandivian invasion, which came on the West coast from Ireland. There are quite a number of names in the district which suggest that there were settlers in this area. Ulnes Walton from Ulf de Walton

To be continued.

PLACES OF HISTORICAL INTEREST WITHIN EASY REACH OF LEYLAND

<u>HALLS</u>		
	Smith hills Hall	Bolton
	Holker Hall	Cark
	Fletcher moss	Didsbury
	Heaton Hall	Irestwich
	speke Hall	Liverpool
	Crook Hall	Shevington
	Rufford Hall (old)	Rufford
	Rufford Hall (new)	Rufford
	Harrock Hall	Heskin
	Heskin Hall	Heskin
	Buckshaw Hall	Eurton
	Listley Hall	Chorley
	Mawdsley Hall	Mawdsley
	Hall i'th Wood	Bolton

CHURCHES

Standish  
Chorley Parish  
Eccleston  
Brindle  
Croston  
Tenworthan

Please notify the Secretary Mr. E. Mason if you are interested in arrangements for a visit to any of the above.

## THE AMPLEFORTH ORGAN

Submitted by B. Morris, by kind permission of Father Boniface Hunt St. Mary's Leyland.

### INTRODUCTION.

In the old St. Mary's Church in Worden Lane Leyland, there was an old and very interesting organ which gave good service from about 1875 till 1964, when this church was closed.

After much research, Father Boniface Hunt of St. Mary's has written a history of this organ, and I have recently had the pleasure of reading this in the Ampleforth Journal. As I believed that this would be of interest to our members, I have permission from Fr. Boniface Hunt to use the following extracts from the Journal.

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Ampleforth is indeed fortunate in its organs. The large and very fine Walker organ in the Abbey is nationally famous, whilst Gilling Castle Chapel is well served by a delightful chamber organ. Now Junior House has acquired a really distinctive and historic organ which replaces the old harmonium which had given good service for many years.

This "new" organ is no stranger here, for it was the first instrument to be brought to Ampleforth by the community. It was built in 1815, and is inscribed "James Davis, 14, Francis Street, Bedford Square, London." Another famous organ builder, J.W. Walker, moved to 27, Francis Street, from Museum Street, in 1838. Francis Street is now Torrington Place.

James Davis was in London as early as 1793, when he built the organ for Wymondham Abbey, Norfolk. He was working for Longman and Broderip, whose workshop was the Harp and Crown, 26, Cheapside. They made a great variety of musical instruments, including "piano Fortes in Connodes, Sideboards and dressing tables for convenience of small rooms"

They were taken over by Clementi in 1798. Whittle, in his history of the Borough of Preston (published in 1837), includes the Davis Bros. among his local celebrities (vol. 11. pp.245-6) James and David Davis - these two gentlemen were born at the first cottage which presents itself as you enter Graves-town from Preston. They afterwards became celebrated organ builders in London, and built the organs at Brindle, St. George's and St. John's in Preston.

The first organ built by the Davis's as self taught geniuses may be seen in this cottage, and a beautiful drawing of Cupid and Venus, in india ink done by the celebrated Lonsdale the painter.



James, the eldest son of John Davis, built a mansion in Essex, called to this day Graves-town Lodge

David the brother was equally celebrated as an organ builder and the following notice appeared in the papers of the day "died on the 9th January 1822. D. Davis, Esq. of the house of Clementi & Co. London. He was a native of Graves-town, near Ashton-upon-Ribble. He lived highly respected, and died, much regretted by his numerous friends both in town and country."

This organ, built by James Davis, remained at Ampleforth for 50 years. In 1865 the college authorities decided that a larger instrument was necessary for their new church, and the late Mr. Ainscough of Preston was commissioned to take it down, and remove it to the youthful mission of Leyland. He thoroughly overhauled it and added a few stops

Though it was removed from the Abbey Church in 1865, it did not reach Leyland till 1875 or the late 1870's, when it was purchased by subscriptions. Fr. Trocter was then parish priest. Between 1882 and 1891, his successor, Fr. Bulbeck wrote: "It was removed to Leyland and set up by Mr. Ainscough, of Preston in 1875." In January 1940, Fr. Anselm Parker wrote in the Log Book: "Its life is on the wane and periodically it is asserted that its last breath is near, but it still gives satisfactory results."

After the closure of St. Mary's church in Worden Lane, the organ remained there for some years, slowly deteriorating, and was for a time the home of a pair of blackbirds. In 1971 it was finally decided to commission Walker, to renovate and restore the instrument and re-erect it in the Junior House Chapel, Ampleforth.

The instrument originally had a folding keyboard and sliding doors.

Some time during its life, probably in the 1870's it had a very mediocre pedal stop added and various other minor modifications were carried out. These have now been removed and the instrument is now seen in as near as possible a condition as can be contrived to that of 1815. For the first time in its life it has an electric blower and a humidifier, though the old blowing handle remains.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY LIBRARY

The following books are freely available to Members of this Society - on request to our Librarian.

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<u>TITLE</u>	<u>AUTHOR</u>
1. A Survey of English Economic History 55 B.C. to 1939	- M.W. Thomas.
2. Portrait of Lancashire.	- Jessica Lofthouse.
3. The Official Charter Brochure	- Raymond Hewett.
4. William Yates Map of Lancashire 1786 (2 Copies)	- J.B. Hartley.
5. Old Worsted Mill at Dolphinholme.	- Mr. F.I. Hall. J.I.
6. Fylde Folk/Moss or Sand.	- Kathleen Eyre.
7. A Star Chamber Case A. Shetton v Blundell 1624-1631.	- Frank Tyrer. M.A., BSc.
8. The City of London Corcoration Year Book 1953.	- Alexander Publications
9. Transactions of the Lancashire and Cheshire Historic Society vols. 119, 120, 121, 122, 123.	-
10. The Age of Elegance 1812-1822.	- Arthur Bryant.
11. The Minute Book of Leyland Naturalists Society 1909.	-
12. The Minute Book of Leyland and District Floral and Horticultural Society 1909.	-
13. The Records of a Lancashire Family (From XII to XX Century)	- R. Cunliffe Shaw.
14. The Vikings and their Origins.	- David Wilson.
15. Concise History of the British Empire.	- Gerald R. Graham.
16. Roman Art and Architecture.	- Mortimer Wheeler.
17. The Connoisseur's Handbook of Antique Collecting.	- (Smith and Sons)

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>AUTHOR.</u>
18. The Stuarts (Nesbets History)	- M.B. Synge F.R. Hist. Society.
19. Smaller History of Rome.	- Sir W.M. Smith.
20. Gods Graves and Scholars. (The Story of Archeology)	- C.W. Ceran.
21. Happy Wanderer. (Round about Clitheroe)	- Jessica Lofthouse
22. A History of England.	- Keith Fieling
23. History Today	- Bracken Publications.
24. A Guide to Turton Tower.	- Reginald Dart.
25. Robespierre and the French Revolution	- J.M. Thompson.
26. Civil War in England.	- Jack Lendsey.
27. The Traditions of Lancashire (Two Volumes)	- John Roby. M.R.S.L.
28. Lancashire - The first Industrial Society.	- C. Aspin.
29. Euxton and District Floral and Horticultural Society. Schedule of Prizes - Annual Show 1932.	-
30. A Book of Memories - Leyland Congregational Church Jubilee Services (1877-1927)	-
31. The Story of Leyland Congregational Church and Centenary Programme (1846-1946)	- Rev. H. Townley.
32. Bygone Ireston.	- George C. Miller.
33. Keeps at Old Ireston.	- George C. Miller.
34. Leyland Cricket Club Record Books 1877-1900.	- Thomas Kirby and John Stanning.
35. Historical Map of England and Wales	- Bartholomew.
36. The Half-Timber House.	- Allen. W. Jackson.
37. The Jubilee of County Councils 1889-1939.	- Evans Brothers.
38. And Then still more Tanks (War Effort by L.M. Ltd.)	- Leyland Motors Ltd.
39. Outlines of British History.	- Carpenter & Green. M.

ADDITIONS TO LIBRARY LIST

The History of Farington	- Rev. Christopher Townson.
The Groundwork of British History (1603-1783)	- Warner and Marten.
A Short Social & Political History of Britain	- Robert. L. Mackie.
Lewis's Topographical Dictionary of England (A to C.)	- Samuel Lewis.
The Court Guide. Lancashire.	- Deacon
Ordnance Survey Map 1913 Lreston, Blackpool area.	-
Maidstone, Official Charter Brochure 1549-1949.	-
Romans in Lancashire	- D.C.L. Shotton.

## WANDERINGS OF ONE'S MIND!

By Mr. Arthur Jones.

Just take a close look at the scroll map on the cover of "Lairland Chronicle", below LEY of Leyland is the word "Works" indicating the former Bleach Works. About  $\frac{1}{2}$ " below this appears a strange word "Haeremai". Some years ago I was reading the 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " Ordnance Survey Map SD52 (Scale 1:25 000) and spotted the name at Map Reference SD537219. I was puzzled by this and couldn't let it rest there but had to find out more.

The word is really two Maori words "Haere mai" meaning "Welcome! It could be unique in so far as it is most probably the only Maori word(s) to appear on a British map! I understand that a Mr. Allen, who was the Manager at the Bleach Works renamed his house "Haeremai" around 1928. His wife was a New Zealander and it is possible he had also been out there - hence the Maori name. If any reader has further information, for example, how long the house bore the name, I would be pleased to hear from them.

"Haeremai" has reverted to its former name "The Warren". A warren is "ground occupied by rabbits." THOMSON & WORDEN wrote a book called "The Rabbit" published by Collins in 1956. In the book there are a number of references to MEUSES & SMEUSES. A MEUSE is a hole in a hedge or a wall. Look this word up in "Webster's 3rd. New International Dictionary" At the same time look up SMOOT. A combination of SMOOT & MEUSE probably gave us SMEUSE: " a tunnel which, by means of a hanging door, can permit unobstructed passage, passage in one direction only or prevent passage." A RABBIT SMEUSE is a form of trap for catching rabbits alive. A trap is a form of enclosure and a MEUSE probably leads into an area enclosed by a hedge or wall.

The co-author of the book mentioned above you will note was called WORDEN and his name could also mean "an enclosure". DEN certainly points that way. Although again it might mean WEIR-VALLEY (WER-DENU) - an old river name. i.e. WORDEN BROOK. If the former is true, and who knows, perhaps Mr. Worden could change his name to Mr. Smeuse? Worden Hall and Park could become SmeuseHall and Park! Entry of course would have to be through THE MEUSE GATE! Enough of these wanderings, how did it all start? Oh yes, with the map on the front cover.

Why don't you pick on an odd or interesting, word or name, and play the game yourself? The Editor, I am sure would like to see the results for possible publication, even if it appears to be a load of nonsense to you.

## LANCASHIRE REGIMENTS.

### THE LOYAL REGIMENT (NORTH LANCASHIRE)

By D.F. White.  
The Editor.

47th Foot raised as Mordaunts Regiment 1741 became the Lancashire Regiment in 1782.

81st Regiment raised in 1793. Linked in 1881.

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In January 1741, Colonel John Mordaunt was authorised to raise a Regiment of Foot "by beat of drum or otherwise." The first action of the newly formed regiment was against the Young Pretender, at the Battle of Prestonpans in 1745. At the Battle of Quebec in 1759 the regiment occupied the position of honour in the centre of General Wolfe's Line, and was afterwards known as "Wolfe's Own". In memory of the General's death the regiment wore a black line in the lace and epaulettes of the uniform. To this day, black is worn on the gold lace of the officers' Mess Dress and Quebec Day is one of the Regimental days. The regiment returned to America in 1770 and fought at the Battle of Bunkers Hill. Under the 1782 reforms the regiment was given the title of The Lancashire Regiment.

The Loyal element in the title came from the 81st. It was raised at Lincoln when the militia of that County volunteered as a body to serve as a regular regiment at the start of the war against revolutionary France in 1793. The regiment was given the title The Loyal Lincoln Volunteers in recognition of its patriotism. The Regiment won its first battle honour "Maida" in 1806; this was the first time British troops fought and defeated Napoleon's troops in Europe.

The two regiments were joined in 1881 as the Loyal North Lancashire, and until 1963, the Regimental Collar Badge was the arms of the City of Lincoln to show its connection with the old Loyal Lincoln Militia.

In the South African War 1899-1902, the regiment was the only British Infantry Regiment to take part in the defence of the diamond mines at Kimberley, for which it gained the unique Battle Honour "Defence of Kimberley." In World War One the regiment gained another unique battle honour "Kilimanjaro".

The Loyal Regiment (North Lancashire) became part of the Queen's Lancashire Regiment in 1970. The museum is in Fulwood Barracks, Preston. The Regimental Chapel is in St. John's Church and the South African War Memorial is in Avenham Park. The World War Memorials are in Queens Park and the Parish Church, Bolton, and in Corfe Castle Church on the Isle of Purbeck.

BATTLE HONOURS

Louisburg, Quebec 1759, Maida, Corunna, Tarifa, Kitteria, St. Sebastion, Nive Peninsula, Lva, Alma, Inkernan, Sevastopol, Ali Masjid, Afghanistan 1878-9, Defence of Kimberley, South Africa 1899-1902.

Mons, Aisne 1914-18 Ypres 1914-17-18, Somme 1916 ' 18, Lys, Hindenburg Line, Suvla, Gaza, Bagdad, Kilimanjaro.

Dunkirk 1940, Djebel Kesskiss, Gueriat El Hatch Ridge, Africa 1943, Anzio, Eiesole, Monte Grande, Italy 1944-5, Jahore and Singapore Island.

SKIPTON CASTLE

The Terms of Surrender and Delivery of Skipton Castle

December 21st., 1645,

after it had withstood a 3 years siege by the Parliamentary Forces in the civil War.

ARTICLES

agreed upon

Between Coll. RICHARD THORNETON, Commander-in-Chiefe of the forces before Skipton Castle, on the one party, and Sir JOHN MALLORY, Knight, Col. and Governour of Skipton Castle, on the other party

about

The Surrender and Delivery of the said Castle with the Cannon, Ammunition, Goods and provisions belonging thereto, in manner after specified, to the said Coll. for the use of King and Parliament the 21st day of December,

1645.

Articles agreed upon for the surrendering of Skipton Castle to the service of the Parliament, December 21, 1645.

That Sir John Mallory with all the rest of the Officers, Gentlemen, and Soulders, shall march out betwixt this and Tuesday next before twelve of the clocke, surrendering the Castle, with all the Armes, Ordnance, and Ammunition without any prejudice done to them, with all the goods and provisions whatsoever in the said Castle, not to be purloyned or imbezzled, and whosoever shall be found offending after the sealing of these Articles for the misdisposing of goods, shall be given up to Justice and treble satisfaction to be given for the goods so conveyed by the said party if he be worth it, if not, then to be made good by the Governour.

2.- That all prisoners now in the Castle, of what quality or condition soever, shall be set at liberty upon the sealing of these Articles.

3.- That after the signing of these Articles two such Officers as Coll. Thornton shall appoint shall be admitted to go into the Castle and see the evidence houses lockt up and sealed, and have an account of all spare Armes and Ammunitions, and such a guard at such a time as Col. Thornton shall appoint to goe in.

4.- That the Governour, Officers, and Soulders of Horse and Foot with their Horses and proper Armes as to horse and foot, that march out accordingly to the Honour of a Souldier, (viz.) with Colours flying Trumpets sounding, Drums beating, Matches lighted on both ends, and Bullets in their moutnes, every Trooper and every Foot Souldier three charges of powder, and the Officers of Commission to march with their wearing apparell that is properly their owne in their Portmantles, and not have anything taken from them, and that the Common Souldiers shall not march away with any Bag or Baggage.



5.- That all Gentlemen not in the condition of a Souldier have their horses and swords, and be allowed to march to the King or his Garrisons or their own homes, and be protected. in either condition as they shall make choyce of.

6.- That all Officers and Souldiers of Horse and Foot, Gentlemen, Townesmen, or other persons whatever belonging to this Garrison, shall have liberty, conduct and protection to go to his Majesty, or such of his Garrisons as shall be agreed of.

7.- That all Officers, Souldiers Gentlemen Townesmen or others, desiring to goe and live at home, shall have free leave there to remain under protection of the Parliament.

8.- That all Souldiers or other persons that are sick or hurt, and not able to goe to their homes or other places where they desire, shall have leave to stay here in Skipton, and shall be allowed necessary accomodation untill it please God they shall recover, and then to have Passes upon their desires to goe to their homes or to such of his Majestie's next Garrisons they shall make choyce of.

9.- That all women and Children within this Garrison be suffered to go with or to such as they shall desire to their own habitations.

10- That all the hangings and other goods given in by Inventory to be the Countess of Pembroke shall be there secured by themselves and not made sale of untill the Lady of Pembroke bee made acquainted therewith but to be prized with the rest.

11.- That all the evidences and writings whatever belonging to the Countess of Pembroke or the Countesse of Corke in any of the Evidence Houses of this Castle, shall not be looked into by any, untill both the Countesses be acquainted therewith, and for that end that two Moneths time for notice to be given them, and the Kayes to be delivered to Col. Thornton, who is interested with them in the meantime.

12.- That all possible care be taken to preserve the Woods and Parks belonging to both the Ladies.

13.- That those that intend to march to his Majesty or any of his Garrisons march but six miles a day, and free Quarter during all their March, and that sufficient Convoy be allowed them, and may conduct them to Nottingham, and from thence to one of these foure Garrisons as shall be there named by them to the Commander in Chiefe of the Convoy, viz., Banbury, Worcester, Hereford or Litchfield.

14.- That if any persons belonging to this Garrison shall misdemean themselves in the march, it shall not extend further than the parties offending, upon whom Justice shall be done according to the fault committed.

15.- That if any Officers or Souldiers shall be necessitsted to buy horses, or anything else in their march, shall have liberty for that purpose, and after payment enjoyment thereof during the protection of the Convoy.

These Articles are agreed of us who were appointed to treat for the rendition of Skipton Castle, in the behalf of Sir John Mallery, Govenour of Skipton.

FERDINANDO LEIGH.

FRAN. COBB.

JOHN TELLEST.

MICAH TOMSON.

## A Look at Mawdesley-with Bisphan.

By Rev. G.E. Stephens  
M.A.F.S.A. (Sect)

Ancient crosses dotted our countryside in bygone days.

Many of them owe their origin to being boundary crosses; whilst others were built on roadways to, and in the vicinity of our older Churches. In this latter instance, they served as "stations" i.e. places where funeral processions would halt for a rest on the last journey of the departed one to his, or her, final resting-place within the Churchyard of the Parish.

In many instances, following the Reformation, only the bases remained - the Crosses being broken as a protest against popery. The bases however, were still used as "stations" for funeral processions, for old habits tended to linger on.

Near our ancient Churches, in numerous instances, the village Cross stocks and pump, were located. The most important area of any community - even where stocks and crosses are absent - still lingers on in such names as "Town Gate", "Town Road" or "Town Green". This imposing title was bestowed upon centres of small communities - even the smallest villages. Thus at Mawdesley we have "Town Gate" (locally called "the city", for this ancient reason).

Did Mawdesley have such a Cross? An antiquarian of former years, a certain Henry Taylor, Esq. wrote of such a Cross at Mawdesley. "After much trouble and some digging (March 1st, 1899), I found the pedestal of this Cross at Hurst Green -  $1\frac{3}{4}$  miles east from Rufford Church, and 2 miles south of Croston. An old inhabitant tells how he remembers a portion of the Cross standing in the socket. The site is at the top of a steep brow. He told that the pedestal had been moved, about 50 yards from its original position and was given to understand that this was a "hob" cross". Thus speaks Henry Taylor, Esq. Can anyone throw any light on the above record?

"Dob" and "Hob" - it seems - are the names of many crosses. In East Lancashire, it is recorded, that the fairies were supposed to leap from one hob stone to another - which could - in some instances - mean a jump of several miles.

The Rev. W.T. Bulpit who did much valuable antiquarian research in this part of Lancashire, stated that "dob" and "hob" are believed to be the male and female form of the word "goblin". Could our local "Ell Hob" have its origin in this explanation?

If such a cross existed at Mawdesley, it would be a resting-place for parishioners, on their way to bury at Croston - The Mother Church. Croston has its ancient Cross still standing - from which it derives its name i.e. the town of the Cross.

People from Mawdesley - after resting at their own Cross - would next halt at the cross at Croston - the final "station" or resting-place before burial in the Churchyard there. More latterly some of these crosses became used as "preaching" crosses and are associated with the evangelical revival of the 18th century.

Mawdesley, as a place, is not to be found on Saxton's map of Lancashire dated 1577. Bispham, Rufford and Croston are there recorded, but not Mawdesley.

Mawdesley probably came into being as a community some time later about the latter part of the 17th century, i.e. 1650-1690 when tenant farmers began to farm the arca. This is borne out by the fact that many of the farmsteads herabouts carry a date between 1660-1695.

Mawdesley Hall has a late 17th century date above its main fireplace, but this fireplace represents a later reconstruction. The central portion of this Hall - a daub-and-wattle construction - has an earlier ancestry, comparable at least with Finch House in Mawdesley, and Rufford Hall.

Unquestionably Mawdesley Hall, "Towngate" and its associated buildings, the Black Bull, and the daub-and-wattle house opposite, mark the beginnings of the first village of Mawdesley - some distance, though this is, from Hurst Green where our local Cross is supposed to have existed. Herein lies a mystery that cries out to be solved. How Maud came into the picture is another matter for speculation. She was probably the daughter of one of the local gentlefolk who - for some reason - was connected with a "leah" - that is "a clearing or a meadow" herabouts.

Originally the land in this part of Lancashire was first bestowed by William the Conqueror on his faithful warrior - Roger of Toitou. He in turn - following the feudal system - distributed his lands amongst barons loyal to himself and the King. Mawdesley and Bispham thus went to Roger of Montbegen, Lord of Hornby. This Lord - in turn - gave Mawdesley and Bispham to John Malherbe, Lord of Croston. Eventually, the land around here, seems to have finally been divided amongst the Derbys (the Bispham part of the parish) - the Heskiths (the western part of our parish) and the southern parts of our parish, falling to the de Traffords of Croston and the Brethertons of Eccleston.

Farming was the basic industry of the area but, in Mawdesley, a new, novel industry sprang up, for which Mawdesley has achieved renown i.e. that of basket-making. The willows from which the baskets were made, flourished - like the arable crops - in the rich local soil composed of boulder-clay, mixed with the wind-blown Hillhouse sand.

The population, in Mawdesley especially, began to increase, so that in 1840, there was every justification for Mawdesley to have a Church of its own. As far as the ages of Churches go - 1840 is quite recent,

Nevertheless Mawdesley has a lovely village Church. The first burial in the Churchyard is dated 1840, records however go back much earlier than the Church. Churchwardens, Constables and Overseers of the Poor records go back to 1607.

Mawdesley's population must have continued to grow; for in 1875, the Church was enlarged, and the Chancel and Rector's Vestry added. This increase in local population, no doubt, coincided with the increased industrialisation of the neighbouring villages of Ecclestone and Croston.

Regarding education, the Mawdesley National and Sunday School (now the Legion Institute) bears the date 1844.

In 1894, the Church moved its school to the present premises in Hurst Green.

Prior to the first National School (now the Institute) there seems to have been an earlier school on that side of New Street roughly opposite to the entrance to Hurst Green. Before that, it is hard to be dogmatic about the history of education in those parts.

"Dominie House" in High Street - i.e. between the Rectory and Jay Bank could have had its origins as a school. The Latin word for schoolmaster is 'dominus'. In Scotland, he still rejoices in this title. It is not a stone's throw from "Dominie House" to School Lane. No doubt, in accordance with the customs of the times there would probably be Danes' Schools, run by "gentle ladies of good character and full of godly knowledge".

One of the earliest graves in the Churchyard commemorates such a one who lived to the ripe old age of 90½

As a prehistoric and Roman historian, all that I have been saying sounds very modern to me. I recall that our first parishioners were Mesolithic (Middle Stone Age) people who inhabited our parish - the Sandpit in Blacknoor Road - somewhere between 6,000 and 4,000 B.C. Neolithic and Bronze Age people followed - mainly hunting parties. A Bronze Age perforated stone axe (now in Rufford Museum) was found at Back-House Farm, Mawdesley, and much more recently, a Bronze Age barbed-and tanged flint arrowhead was found on land belonging to Mr. D. Cowley of Blacknoor.

The Romans do not seem to have passed this way, but in their times this was marshy country, so their route north avoided this region taking a more westerly course e.g. Wilderspool, Newton-le-Willows, Wigan, Walton-le-Dale (and all stations north") and so to Hadrian's Wall.

In primeval times, sometimes the area was land covered with dense forests (The bog-oaks which farmers still plough-up, testify to these periods). Then, the land alternatively sank, or the waters rose, whichever you prefer, and the land became inundated with Meres, of which Martin Mere is the most locally famous.

## THE BATTLE OF PRESTON, 1715.

### THE JACOBITE RISING.

By J.E.W. WHITE.

In August 1715 the Jacobites (supporters of James VII of Scotland, the old Pretender) rose in rebellion against George I. The Earl of Mar, raised the standard of the Stuarts in Scotland, while other Jacobite supporters in the border counties quickly followed suit. The English Jacobites led by Thomas Forster M.P. for Northumberland joined up with the Scottish Jacobites under Lord Kenmuir. They were soon reinforced by Highlanders at Kelso.

The combined army then advanced upon the English Border, taking Longtown, then moving south through Penrith, Appleby, Kendal, Kirby Lonsdale and then to Lancaster, where they acquired food, ammunition, and six cannon from a ship anchored in the River Lune. The Jacobites then moved south through Garstang and into Preston. Whereupon the Jacobite flag was raised.

The Jacobites after two days of merrymaking were then ready to march on Manchester, but found themselves confronted by General Wills and a Government army of about 2,100 men, consisting of 5 regiments of Dragoons, one regiment of Cavalry, one regiment of Infantry and 600 militia.

Thrown into temporary confusion, the Jacobites soon rallied, and erected barricades in the streets around Preston. Their six cannon being mounted in Church Gate (Church Street), Tithebarn street, Friargate and Fishergate. Forster, the Jacobite General, placed his head-quarters in the Mitre Inn. General Wills in the meantime had positioned his troops around the town having secured the strategically important Ribble Bridge (London Road).

At approximately 2 o'clock on the afternoon of the 12th November 1715, General Wills attacked the South East part of the town at the Church Gate barricade. The attack was repulsed with heavy loss to the Government troops. The North and North West of the town was also attacked, but after heavy fighting these attacks were also repulsed. After further attacks later in the afternoon the Jacobites abandoned some of their outer positions. The Jacobite cannon having little or no effect on the battle owing to inaccuracy. By evening and after further attacks the battle died down.

Shortly, sharp skirmishing broke out, but Preston was by now completely surrounded owing to the arrival of General Carpenter and 2½ thousand Government troops and Militia. The Jacobites had been severely hit by the desertion of over half of their army. They attempted a course of escape but were eventually forced to

surrender. After several hours of negotiations the surrender was carried out the following morning on the 14th November.

The Government losses had been heavy, nearly 300 killed and wounded. The rebel losses however out of a force of about 4,000 had only 42 men killed and wounded. 1,500 prisoners were taken by the Government forces and about 40 of them were executed, eight of them being hanged, drawn and quartered and 4 officers were shot. The other prisoners were deported to the West Indies. General Forster although captured, escaped to France.



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