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THE LEVENSHOYE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



LEYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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To promote an interest in History generally and that
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AT

PROSPECT HOUSE, SANDY LANE, LEYLAND

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EDITORIAL

As we come to the close of our 25th Anniversary year our thoughts turn, perhaps not unnaturally, to all that has happened in Leyland since the foundation of the Leyland Historical Society in 1968. In many ways it has seen the end of both the 'Old Village', and the new Town that developed in the years immediately after the Second World War.

The old village - the area around the Parish Church and the Cross - a thriving mix of shops and houses, which became in the 1970's and '80's a scene of dereliction, is still, in part, a wasteland. The industries that were responsible for the rapid growth of Leyland in the latter decades of the 19th century - Cotton and Rubber; and the Leyland Motors and Paint Works of the present century have now, largely, gone. Modern industrial estates are now sited more on the edge of town and this is all to the good, leaving the central areas - for so long the site of the old works - open for residential development, much of which is well under way.

We can only hope that by our 50th Anniversary in 2018, Leyland - if not the 'Garden of Lancashire' as it used to be - has become a 'green and pleasant land' once more and not the scene of desolation that it is, in part, to-day.

In this valedictory editorial I would like to thank the contributors, the typist, Mrs. J. Cooper, the print-room staff of the South Ribble Borough Council and all members of the Society concerned with the production of the last six issues of the 'Lairland Chronicle' during my term as Editor.

Thanks are also due to the staffs of the Lancashire Record Office and the Leyland, Chorley and Preston Libraries for their kind assistance in the past twelve months. Also to the Chorley Guardian for their permission to use extracts from the Chorley Guardian and Leyland Advertiser from the years 1914 - 1919.

The deadline for the next issue is the September 1994 meeting at Prospect House.

W. E. WARING

NOTE

Any opinions expressed in the contents of this journal are those of the individual contributor and do not necessarily represent the views of the Society.

ANNE HULTON of HULTON IN THE PARK

HULTON



FFARINGTON



STARKIE



The year 1682 was to prove momentous in the life of Anne Hulton, the youngest daughter of William Hulton of Hulton in the Park near Bolton. Her older sister, Margaret, had died unmarried two years previously, leaving Anne the only girl in a family of five boys. The loss of their eldest daughter must have made Anne especially precious to her parents and her subsequent wilful behaviour would, therefore, have come as a particular blow.

William Hulton, Anne's father and the owner of the Hulton estates, was at this time a wealthy and influential man of fiftyseven. He was not so rigid a nonconformist as his immediate forebears, whose frigid philosophy had made them refuse to establish their claim to a coat of arms. Indeed William had attended at the 1664 Visitation of Norroy, King of Arms, to justify his right to bear arms and to register the Hulton pedigree. Nevertheless he was, at the same time, a close friend and follower of Henry Newcome the founder of Nonconformity in Manchester. Consciousness of social position allied with strong religious convictions would indicate a man of authority, a father who, however loving, would expect total obedience from his children. Such indeed was the case.

A marriage was arranged for Anne, then aged eighteen, with young William ffarington who had been heir to the Worden estates here in Leyland and elsewhere, since his older brother's death in 1679. The ffaringtons were known of course to have Jacobite tendencies, whereas the Hultons had always found it paid to keep a foot in both camps. Again the ffaringtons were not followers of Nonconformity but neither had they leanings towards Roman Catholicism. All in all, everything appeared very satisfactory. William and Anne both came from well-respected gentry families and they both had money. As the historian G.M. Trevelyan remarks in his English Social History; "In upper and middle class circles at this time husbands were often found for girls, on the principle of frank barter". Certainly mutual attraction came well down in the list of priorities. Negotiations between the two families being completed, a marriage licence was drawn up between the two young people dated the 10th September 1682.

They had all reckoned without Anne Hulton. A girl of spirit, if naive, her inclinations lay elsewhere and within two days of the above date she had eloped "out of the scullery window at Hulton"(1) and married John Starkie of Huntroyde. The marriage is referred to by Oliver Heywood(2), a nonconformist minister and well-known preacher of that time. In his Register of Northowram Chapel (No. 45) Heywood writes;

"Mr. Starkey stole away Mr. Hulton of the Park's daughter (was to marry Mr. Farington that week) married about 12 oclock in the night at Dr. Low's(3) in Bolton. September 1682"

and again his Autobiography;

"Mr. Starkey of Huntroyde stole away Mr. Hulton of the Park's daughter a rant"(4)

The fact that Heywood recorded the event on two separate occasions suggests the degree to which local people were scandalised by the elopement.

Yet, on the face of it, John Starkey must have seemed a good match to an impressionable girl. He was young, twenty-four, well connected and Huntroyde, the ancestral home of the Starkey family which he inherited as the eldest son, was a mansion set in beautiful if remote parkland near Whalley. John, however, seems to have been a somewhat irresponsible youth and had perhaps been rejected as a suitor by Anne's father for that very reason. John Starkey, senior, had died when his son was only twelve at the most and the boy had been brought up by his mother Alice, the daughter and heiress of Alexander Norris of Hall-i'th'-Wood, Bolton. Although he matriculated at Corpus Christi College Oxford in September 1676 John failed to proceed with his degree and returned to Bolton where he settled at Hall-i'th'-Wood. Derek Mills in his "Short History of Hall-i'th'-Wood" suggests this was "perhaps to distance himself from his mother" who was still residing at Huntroyde with the remainder of her family. After their runaway wedding John and Anne, temporarily out of favour with both families, found it prudent to remain at Hall-i'th'-Wood and it was there that their first child Anne was born. The baby was baptised at Bolton in July 1683 but as her name does not appear on either the Starkey or Hulton pedigree it looks as if, sadly, she did not survive very long. Whether or not this event was responsible for a reconciliation between Alice and her son we do not know but John and his family then returned to Huntroyde and Alice moved to Hall-i'th'-Wood. She died there in December 1683 and was buried at Bolton, being described as "Mistress Alice Starkie of Tonge".

Poor Anne Hulton having married in haste now lived to repent at leisure. Amongst the Hulton family correspondence in the Lancashire Record Office there is a short series of letters from Anne Starkey (Hulton) to her brother Henry who was heir to the Hulton estates. Henry was within a year of his sister's age and was obviously regarded very much as a confidant at a time when parental anger made Anne wary of approaching her father directly. Over the fourteen years of her marriage to John Starkie, Anne and her father became reconciled and she obviously visited Hulton in the Park from time to time. Nevertheless Henry always appears to act as go between and Anne is nervous of doing anything that might displease her father. The letters tell their own story of loneliness gradually giving way to disillusionment. I found ten in all and all but three are dated. It will be noticed that the first letter selected has no date. Its content however confirms it as being much earlier than its position in the catalogue would suggest, and I feel this could well be true of the other two undated letters.

Spelling was very flexible in the seventeenth century but on the whole I have reproduced the following extracts from Anne's letters more or less exactly as written, including the punctuation, or rather the lack of it! The number in the margin refers to the number of the letter in the catalogue.

- No.58 Dear Brother, Undated
- I writ to you a week ago but I believe you never received it. I must desire you to do a thing for me and let nobody know it. I was so ashamed of it I could not name it last timeit is to buy me one Deanchurch cake and send it to Mrs. Norensis(5). Mr. Starkie is gone that way but he never remembers anythingI would very gladly see some of you here or any of the neighbours, Mary Dobil or old nurs. They would easily walk hither on a day
- No.17 Dear Brother, April 16th 1690
- We were much joyd to see my brother Nedy come (this was Anne's youngest brother) and cannot think of parting with him thus soon. We earnestly beg my father would give him leave to stay till the week after Easter and I hope to come along with him. If this had not been a wet day we could not have kept him, he is so afraid of displeasing my father
- No.18 Dear Brother, April 24th 1690
- I doubt it is not possible for me to come to Hilton(6) so soon as I come back out of Yorkshire because they will not let the horses be rid so soon after their putting to grass. I cannot prevail with my brother Nedy to go with us and am partly afraid of my father being angry and therefore thought it best for him to goe (home) tomorrow. I hope my father will please to let him come againe the sooner
- No.26 Dear Brother, Sept. 28th 1690
- My thanks to you and my father for lending me James thus long (James was a blind musician). He has taught me a great deal. I find in the long nights he must goe sometimes to the Alehouse and it is the custom hereabout when people are in drink to break viols. I doubt it will be some trouble for me and therefore beg my father will send for him when he has a hors. I would not be thus bold but I find myself in this condition. I have been as healthful thus far as ever I was in my life if I avoid fretting but that brings fainting fits(7).Molly Doughty is here and tells me what joy she is in about going to live in the coach house (at Hulton). I would come live with you too if it would not ruin my children.
- A.S.
- No.27 Dear Brother, September 30th
- When I wrote last I was in a great pet that Mr. Starkie kept James alnight at Padiham fair(8) but now that I have considered better on it I like his music very much and if my Father does send for him I must have him again at Christmas because Mr. Starkie will have somebody and I would rather have James than another. I hope to see you all at Hulton the first week

in November. Mr. Starkie takes hounds to Hall i'th Woods and has promised I shall goe along with him. I would gladly see my brother Frank here whilst we have James that we may see him dance. yo' very loving sister Anne.
P.S. Franky shall practise his playing and dancing if my father will please to let him come.

There is a gap of four years now between this last letter and the next to have survived. The change in tone and content is very striking.

No.47 Dear Brother,

March 24th 1694

.....when I was at Hilton you may remember that I was telling you of Mr. Starkie's being jealous of blind James and my father advised me to part with him which accordingly I did presently after I came home, but now I am in a worse condition than ever I was in for he abuses me with the dirty fellows in the house and sends them into the chamber where the children and I are in bed. He finds blows does not alter me and therefore he will try this method thinking to grievue me to death and that way to get rid of me. He talks openly to all company he meets with that I lye with the servants in my house, he has nobody else to tell me of because I never look out of doors and that he is seldom or never at home. If it were not for my children's sake I would never come in his sight so long as I lived. I have sent to my brother Nic(holas) to talk to Mr. Starkie to hear what is his reason to lead me the life he does and if I could tell any fault I make him I would amend it but if there be none only that he is weary of my company there is no reason but he should allow me something to keep the children and myself and let us leave him within a month or six weeks. I design to let you hear from me againA.S.

From the tone of Anne's next letter (dated some three months later) it sounds as if her father has stepped into the situation to help his daughter. Significantly however she is still resident at Huntroyde and one wonders if this was the result of parental pressure or some reconciliation between Anne and her husband. Separation was of course a possibility in the seventeenth century provided you had somewhere to go. Divorce, on the other hand, was almost unknown and involved Church Courts and a special Act of Parliament. Indeed, according to Trevelyan, there were only six cases of divorce in the twelve years of Queen Anne's reign 1702 - 1714.

No.49 Dear Brother,

June 14th 1694

Going into Yorkshire Saturday was sevenight prevented me from sending for the children till now. Piers and I was one night at Batley to see little Mary but finding her indeed much improved we left her behind us for the t'other half year. Dear brother will you please to give humble thanks to my father. I may fill up this letter and all my others with thanks for his great kindness to me and mine. I hope he will pleas to give the two girls leave to come home on Fryday. My ant Copley (her mother's sister) is in great expectation of seeing some of you at Batley. Pray take Huntroyde in your way it is much the better road though something about

All subsequent correspondence is missing from the collection so we do not know whether Anne remained with her husband and soldiered on for the sake of the children. It seems likely. In any case John Starkie died some two years later. Widowhood, in Anne's circumstances, must have been infinitely preferable to all that had gone before.

Anne did however marry again - a certain Alexander Hall of Grizzlehurst and Little Mitton and by him had a son William. We do not know the date of this second marriage but she was left a widow again in 1716 when she was fifty two. One can only hope that her second marriage brought her some of the happiness that was so sadly lacking in the first. She did at least have the satisfaction of seeing all her five remaining children reach adulthood and although the date of her death is not recorded she was still writing to brother Henry in 1737 at the age of seventy four.

And what of William ffarington jilted so many years before? He married, within two years, Elizabeth Swettenham of Somerford Booths in Cheshire. They lived for some time at Charnock or Leyland Hall - the house we today call Old Hall - until William succeeded to the Worden estates on his father's death in 1691, Like all the ffaringtons of this time William was a staunch supporter of the Jacobite cause - indeed he was later known as "Greencoat ffarington" because he invariably dressed in that Jacobite colour. He became first mayor of the "Mock Corporation of Walton Le Dale" a gentlemen's club founded in 1701 that met at the Unicorn Inn at Walton Le Dale and possessed officials with similar names to those appointed by the Borough Corporation. The club was initially strongly (if harmlessly) Jacobite but in the process of time it became more of a social gathering. William eventually became High Sheriff of Lancashire in 1714 and died on the last day of his office. He was fifty three.

Sadly there were no children of his marriage to Elizabeth so following William's death the Worden estates passed to his cousin (another William ffarington) who lived at Shaw Hall. The two cousins had always been on the friendliest of terms and frequently met to discuss family business at Rose Whittles, a tavern on the Wigan road. They had undoubtedly agreed all concerns between them as to the disposition of the estates well in advance of William of Worden's death.

In closing I must add that there is a strange twist to this tale, for if William ffarington had, after all, married Anne Hulton all those years before the main branch of the ffarington family would most likely have continued and the Shaw Hall cousin would not have inherited. I say this with some confidence for, as we have seen, Anne had no fewer than five children from her two marriages and although William ffarington "died without issue" he is named in the Parochial Records of St. Mary the Virgin Blackburn Bastardy Bonds April 4th 1695 as father of the child of a certain Jane Cunliffe. It is fairly safe to assume, therefore, that a marriage between Anne and William would have produced an heir to the Worden Estates and Old Worden Hall would have continued as the main residence of the ffarington family in Leylandand all this because Anne Hulton preferred another!

NOTES

- (1) Susan Maria ffarington's description of the event.
- (2) Oliver Heywood was actually related to the Hultons through his grandmother.
- (3) There is a further reference to this Dr. Low (sometimes spelt Loe) in Anne's letters where she tells her brother she may well consult the physician regarding the health of her daughter Alice.
- (4) 'A rant' - 'a boisterous revel' according to The New Standard Dictionary (Fink and Wagnall published 1913). A term peculiar to the north of England and Scotland, now obsolete.

- (5) This must be Mrs. Norris, John Starkey's grandmother. As she died in 1689, this letter must precede that date despite its late position in the catalogue. It has been suggested that a Deanchurch cake was perhaps similar to an Eccles cake in form and content. Dean Church is in the parish of Dean adjacent to Hulton.
- (6) Hulton and Hilton and sometimes Hylton are all variant spellings of the same name.
- (7) It reads as if Anne was pregnant at this time. We do not know the birthdates of her children, except the first baby baptised in Bolton. She had four subsequent children to John Starkey; Piers was the eldest, then John and then two daughters, Alice and Mary. Piers inherited Huntroyde but died with no issue. John went into the Exchequer. Alice married Horatio Townsend and Mary married Peter Worthington of Westhoughton. William (Anne's son by her second marriage) married Elizabeth the daughter of a certain Thomas Whitaker of Simondstone and had three children.
- (8) Padiham is about one mile north west of Huntroyde.
- (9) Anne's brother in law, Nicholas Starkie, who was a barrister in Preston.

REFERENCES

Victoria County History of Lancashire Volumes 5 and 6.

Lancashire Record Office PR.1558/2/2 Bastardy Bonds. Parochial Records of St. Mary the Virgin Blackburn.

The History of the ffaringtons of Farington and Worden by S.M. ffarington.

Starkie/Hilton Correspondence DDHu.48/1-50 and 50-100.

History of Preston. Hardwick Chapter V P.252.

English Social History. G.M. Trevelyan Longmans Green P.517.

A Short History of Hall-i'th'-Wood circa 1483 to the Present. Derek R.Mills.

My grateful thanks to the following: Mr. George Bolton, Mrs. Marie Mitchell and Mr. Derek Mills.

ELIZABETH SHORROCK



LAST YEAR'S QUERY ANSWERED

Members Brian and Noelle Greenhalgh have identified the cottages on the post-card shown on page 42 of last year's 'Chronicle'.

The cottages are not, in fact, in Leyland but in Croston; they still stand almost opposite 'The Crown' on Station Road.

HISTORIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Members will know that each year a handsome oak shield is presented to the contributor whose article is judged to be the best of those in the "LAILAND CHRONICLE", the Society's Journal, for that year. The actual award is nowadays made at the Society's December meeting.

Once again that time has come around and it may be appropriate to say a few words about the award and its method of adjudication. It was first made for the articles in the journal(s) for the year 1973, that is some five years after the Society was founded. It was, for obvious reasons, necessary to ask someone outside the Society to perform the judging and the happy choice was made of Dr. J.G. Marshall, an eminent historian on the staff of Lancaster University.

From its foundation Dr. Marshall has been a good friend of the Leyland Society and I am privileged to pay this tribute to him. He was firstly associated with the History Department at the University and more latterly was the Director of the University's Centre for North-West Regional Studies. He is now Reader Emeritus for the Centre. Dr. Marshall has many publications to his credit on the subject of the history of the North-West and has played an active part in many Local History affairs. He is a life member of the Leyland Historical Society.

He has made eighteen adjudications of the annual issues of our journal since 1973. His choice is always accompanied by comments on the runners-up and valuable observations on the way he feels our writings should be directed. For personal reasons he now wishes to be relieved of the task of making the adjudications and with regret we must respect this decision. We shall miss him.

His final award for the issue for 1992 was made for the article "Eagle and Child Re-visited" thus, deservedly, our Editor, Mr. W.E. Waring, is:-

Historian of the Year 1992.

GEORGE BOLTON (President)



THE BERRY FAMILY OF LEYLAND

At the September meeting this year we were visited by Mr. and Mrs. Roger Berry of Chichester, West Sussex. Mr. Berry is a descendant of the Berry family who were both doctors and millowners in Leyland in the 19th and 20th centuries.

They lived at several houses in Leyland in this time, principally at Townfield House and Prospect House in Sandy Lane and later at Lostock Grove, Seven Stars.

At the meeting Mr. Berry appealed for any information that might be of help in his research on the Berry family of Leyland. The Editor will be pleased to pass on information from any member.

JUNCTION 28 and the WHITE CANONS

Almost exactly 800 years ago, Gerald de Clayton, Lord of the Manor of Clayton(le-Woods), Master Sergeant of Leyland Hundred and Seneschal to Albert Bussel Lord of Leyland, was of a mind to donate something to charity.

His chosen recipients were the Premonstratensian (White) Canons of Cockersand Abbey, newly dedicated to Saint Mary and confirmed and ratified by Richard I and Pope Clement III (1187-1191) respectively, on the wild and inhospitable shores of Morecambe Bay. As was common in the period the gift consisted of portions of Gerald's land in Clayton, given in frankalmoign or free alms, thus escaping taxation by the King. In effect what was given was the tenants rent arising from the land rather than the land itself in spite of the wording of the accompanying grant. In return the Canons would pray in perpetuity (or at least until the Dissolution of the Abbey) for the souls of Gerald and his family.

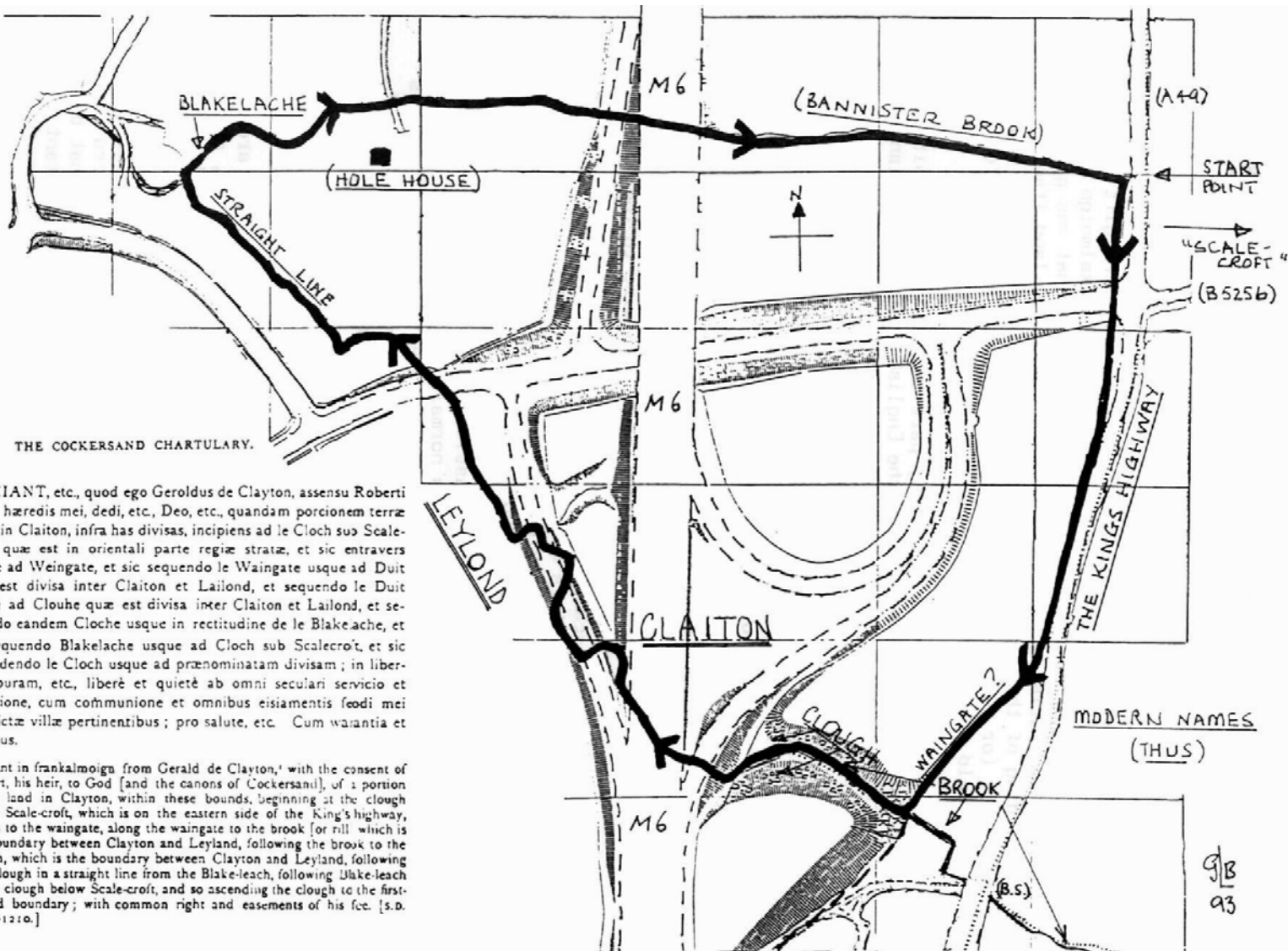
Why Cockersand?, a small and poor Abbey part of a small Order, with never more than 500 canons in the whole of the English Premonstratensian Order compared with the thousands in other Orders such as the Benedictines. This puzzled the writer for some time until it was realised that the de Claytons (formerly de Hicklings) hailed from Leicestershire near to Croxton Abbey the main Premonstratensian Abbey, which like Gerald himself had connections with King John. Incidentally these canons wore the white habit, observed the rule of Augustine but followed Cistercian practices.

The actual charter confirming Gerald's donation together with two allied donations by his son Robert (Gerald died in 1213) happily have survived and have been printed in Latin and English by the Chetham Society (Ref.1). The phraseology is quaint and to modern eyes, imprecise to the point of exasperation as I have long tried to relate them to present topography. In an era without large scale maps, no latitude or longitude and no National Grid References, our ancestors used the traditional method of making a "perambulatio", a survey or walking of the bounds, followed by a "descriptio" which is what has survived. I found the two later charters nearly impossible to decode so I concentrated on the first which incidentally is the most important. I used later evidence to assist in the identification. One helpful fact is that perambulation was normally carried out in a clockwise direction and back to the starting point. The features used as markers included rivers and streams (which in any case often denoted important boundaries), hills, valleys and roads or tracks. In some charters marked trees were used (not very permanent!)

IDENTIFICATION OF THE LOCATION

It soon became apparent that we were dealing with quite a small area of land, much less than at first thought. Not surprisingly it was, as the context indicated, on the very edge of Clayton adjacent to the land of the township of Leyland.

Even without the massive changes wrought by recent motorway construction it is apparent that in 800 years subtle changes will have occurred in land levels and water drainage. In the latter case it is probable that because of the contours the paths of streams will have been fairly constant without meandering, although their volumes may have changed and of course many of them are now culverted even if their course is unaltered.



THE COCKERSAND CHARTULARY.

SCIANT, etc., quod ego Geroldus de Clayton, assensu Roberti hæredis mei, dedi, etc., Deo, etc., quandam porcionem terræ meæ in Claiton, infra has divisas, incipiens ad le Cloch sub Scalecroft, quæ est in orientali parte regiæ stratzæ, et sic entravers usque ad Weingate, et sic sequendo le Waingate usque ad Duit quæ est divisa inter Claiton et Lailond, et sequendo le Duit usque ad Clouhe quæ est divisa inter Claiton et Lailond, et sequendo eandem Cloche usque in recitudine de le Blakeache, et sic sequendo Blakelache usque ad Cloch sub Scalecroft, et sic ascendendo le Cloch usque ad prænominatam divisam; in liberam, puram, etc., liberè et quietè ab omni seculari servicio et exactione, cum communione et omnibus eisiamenis feodi mei prædictæ villæ pertinentibus; pro salute, etc. Cum warantia et testibus.

Grant in frankalmoin from Gerald de Clayton, with the consent of Robert, his heir, to God [and the canons of Cockersand], of a portion of his land in Clayton, within these bounds, beginning at the clough below Scale-croft, which is on the eastern side of the King's highway, across to the waingate, along the waingate to the brook [or mill which is the boundary between Clayton and Leyland, following the brook to the clough, which is the boundary between Clayton and Leyland, following that clough in a straight line from the Blake-leach, following Blake-leach to the clough below Scale-croft, and so ascending the clough to the first-named boundary; with common right and easements of his fee. [s.d. 1190-1210.]

The annotated sketch which accompanies this essay illustrates my suggested identification of the location of Gerald de Clayton's first donation to God and the Canons of Cockersand Abbey some 800 years ago. The approximately triangular piece of land is of some 50 statute acres in area and is centred on grid reference NGR SD 553224 and it is a remarkable coincidence that the entire structure of Junction 28 of the M6 motorway lies exactly within and occupies most of, the land in question. The sketch of course cannot show the contours, a study of which is essential to understanding the grant.

COMMENTS ON FEATURES OF THE DESCRIPTION (In clockwise order)

SCALECROFT: Now unidentifiable, the name (Scandinavian) suggests a group of huts.

KINGS HIGHWAY: At that period would not be a made road but rather a paved single file pack way with the bushes cut back for security. It may well be that for part of the way the Kings Highway and the Waingate were immediately contiguous, such was often the case.

WAINGATE: A local cart track. There is a residual footpath at the point shown which continues on to meet Bent Lane and obviously went on to the centre of Leyland. The narrow triangle of land S.E. of this feature and abutting on to Wigan Road was always in separate ownership from the rest of the land, suggesting an ancient boundary.

BROOK: An interesting feature. Now known as Bow Brook there is good reason to believe that it was, highly significantly, known as Werden (or Worden) Brook. Even more significantly, there is mention of a Werdenebroc in the second of the two slightly later charters to which I have referred. At a point just before the line of the brook passes under Wigan Road its name changes to Bryning Brook, noted at least as early as 1690. The whole of the length of this brook has always been the boundary between Leyland and Clayton, exactly as mentioned in the charter.

CLOUGH: OE.Cloh- a ravine. The Latin writing Canons had some trouble with this word as it is spelled variously as Clouhe, Cloch and Cloche. Still a noticeable feature.

STRAIGHT LINE: The brook is not named in this charter only as the boundary between Clayton and Leyland, which makes it a bit repetitious, finally it comes "in a straight line (in rectitudine) from the Blake-lache"

BLAKE-LEACH: or Blacklache (giving rise to the surname Blackledge), a dark boggy place. I take this to be the insignificant stream, culverted before its junction with Bow Brook, which rises just besides the Western edge of the Wigan Road. Surprisingly its official name is Bannister Brook and its waters combined with those of Bow Brook continue on through Leyland, still carrying the name, Bannister Brook. The charter follows this stream to the east back to the starting point.

THE OCCUPIERS OF THE LAND

I submit that the strongest evidence for the validity of my identification of the boundaries of the grant is that the piece of land enclosed by them remained as a unitary entity from its inception until comparatively recent times and its occupation and ownership can be traced in a logical sequence throughout its history.

Having been granted the land, the Cockersand Canons probably took little interest in it apart from drawing the rent. Exactly how this was achieved is unknown but they kept a careful record of the rents drawn from this and all their other lands spread over the County. A few early rentals (Ref.2) have survived and I quote the form of the relevant entry, ignoring all others.

ALII TENENTES LIBERI INFRA LAYLANDSCHIRE

A.D. 1451. Henricus Wirdyn tz j ten' in Clayton r. xij d.

Which I interpret as:-

OTHER FREE TENANTS IN LEYLAND HUNDRED

A.D. 1451. Henry Werden holds 1 tenement in Clayton and renders 12 pence (per annum)

We see immediately that the land was at this early date at least, held by a member of the Worden (Werden) family and to anticipate, it remained in continuous occupation by the same family until 1780. As no earlier rental survived we can only speculate about the date when the first Worden occupied the land.

Similar rentals exist for 1461, 1501 and 1537 and also there is a separate Bursars rent roll for 1501 (Ref.3). The editor of the translation of the latter makes the comment "In the Hundred of Leyland the ancient landowners were connected with the house (Cockersand) by the payment of a small quit rent indicating a remote antiquity". In many documents on the subject of this land and its Worden occupiers the mention of their antiquity is a recurring theme.

The date of the last rental 1537 has an ominous ring to it, for in 1536 the Commissioners for the suppression of monasteries came to view the abbey, and although they gave it a good report, in 1539 the Abbot and 22 White Canons voluntarily surrendered the abbey. It appears as though the Clayton rent had been collected via their house at Hutton and it is not clear what happened to it when that estate was sold. In any case in 1539 12 pence would have very little value and may have been ignored.

From other sources the genealogy of the Worden family is well attested and it is clear that they held their land by some unusual mechanism. In 1600 the list of freeholders in Leyland Hundred (Ref.4) contains the name "William Wearden of Clayton - Gentleman" so it looks like "just staying put" had had its reward in that they were regarded as freeholders rather than tenants.

The occupiers after 1780, when the Wordens disappear from the record, can be traced easily but add little to the story. They do however provide estate and similar plans which have assisted in confirming the boundaries of the land.

THE HOUSE ON THE SITE

Early documents merely refer to this as a messuage, but in 1690 Dr. Richard Kuerden refers to it as "an ancient fabric belonging to Worden of the Sand Hole". By 1781 it had become "Wordens o'th Hoyle" and a little later "Werdens-oth-Hole". Finally from 1834 it had taken the name "Hole House". The early structure was replaced in the early 19th century by a more modern farm house which some few years ago was demolished when the land was sold for dwelling house development.

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1. Chartulary of Cockersand Abbey. Chetham Society Vol.II Pt.1 1898
2. Ibid. Vol.III Pt.3 1909
3. F.R. Raines "Rentale de Cokersand" Bursars Rent Roll 1501
Chetham Soc. Misc, Vol.III Vol.57 1862
4. Record Soc. L&C Misc,I Vol.12 1885
5. Lancashire Record Office. Tithe Award for Clayton, various rentals,
indentures and estate plans.

G.L. BOLTON

THE SOUTH-EAST VIEW OF COCKERSAND ABBY IN THE COUNTY OF LANCASTER



*THIS Abbey of Cokersand in Lancashire was founded by Richard Butler brother of Robert Butler a King of Scotland, who gave all the
pasture ground of Cokersand in perpetual Alms for the Building of an Abbey. This Foundation was confirmed by King John, King Henry
with the reserve of 10000 lb. for the Donation with the gift of 1000 lb. de Lancastr. John de Lancastr Earl of Lancastr & Constable of Chester, who
were confirmed by King Rich^d 2nd Anno. Reg. 7. A controversy which happened between the Prior of Lancastr and this Abbey, and Don^t re-
solved till it was determined by the Pops Authority; That the Prior should have two thirds of the Corn Tithes of Lancastr and the
Abbey but one. The present Owners are the Duke of Devonshire. 27th Decem^r 1717. John Van Sandt del.*

CHORLEY GUARDIAN AND LEYLAND ADVERTISER - SATURDAY 22ND NOVEMBER 1919

Church Extension: St. Mary's Church, Leyland, which is being enlarged and renovated will be closed for a month during which time Services are to be conducted in the Towngate schoolroom. A number of handsome subscriptions have been received in aid of the enlargement fund.

THE GOLDEN AGE OF THE LEYLAND WEAVERS 1800-1810

"The Weaving is a trade Boys that never can fail,
As long as folks need clothes to keep one another hail,
So let us all be merry and drink this good ale,
And drink to the health of the Weavers"

The first decade of the nineteenth century in Leyland was marked by industrial expansion without precedent in the village. A population of 2,088 revealed by the first national census of 1801 expanded to 2,646 ten years later, a growth rate of almost 30%. Between 1811 and 1821 the population increased by 20%, yet very rapid growth at the turn of the century slowed markedly after 1831, and by 1851 the village's population was still only a little over 3,600. This pattern of boom followed by a slow and relative decline is directly related to developments in the local handloom weaving trade. Much has been written of the hard times experienced by the weavers after 1830, but a close study of the surviving early copies of the Preston Journal (1807-1812) preserved in the Harris Reference Library, indicates that even the apparently golden age of the handloom weavers was in fact a period of very mixed fortunes, and frequently extreme poverty, for many local people.

The two principal rows of weavers' houses in Leyland were built on roughly parallel strips in the Lower Town-field. A 'certain society' was formed sometime between 1794 and 1802 to erect weavers' shops with cottages above on the medieval field strip behind the Bay Horse Inn, so that the cautious owner of one of the Fox Lane houses could obtain insurance cover, and the houses insurance badge, on March 3rd 1803. The date of the formation of the Bradshaw Street Society is known more precisely, it was established in 1806. The properties quickly became valuable assets, as the weaving trade with its sources of cheap factory produced yarn, expanded very rapidly:

"To be sold by Private Contract, at the house of Mrs. Collinson, Bamber Bridge, two Shares in the Club Houses, called Commercial Buildings, on the 2nd day of September, at six o'clock in the evening" (22/8/1811).

Warehouses were especially valuable, and in November 1808 a warehouse in the Osbaldeston property in 'Central Leyland' with its garden, was offered for let.

In addition to these purpose-built industrial premises, disused farm outbuildings were quickly converted into loomshops: "SALE OF LEYLAND LANDS at Mr. George Bretherton's Sign of the Bay Horse (1) Mrs. Langs house in Leyland Lane (2) A Dwelling House called 'Nelsons' next door to above with convenience for a weaving shop for 5 pairs of looms (3) Two cottages called Pole Cottages with weaving shops, adjoining the above lots. Moss Piece. Further details from Mr. Pollard at Leyland" (3/3/1810). On Leyland's industrial watercourse, the Bannister Brook, the bleaching industry was well established at Northbrook and Shruggs. In January 1809 the works at Shruggs was advertised to let, complete with 'Spring Water', and 8 h.p. steam engine - perhaps the first in Leyland.

Working long hours in the gloomy, damp and cramped cellars (the Fox Lane loom shops probably held 4 working looms) must have been unpleasant.

"LEYLAND, NOV. 17TH 1808, RUNAWAY -

The following girls, Apprentices to J. FROST, of Leyland, Weaver, Elizabeth (or Betty) Sumner, aged 18, light complexion, seamed on the neck by the Evil, had on a blue striped Bed-gown, light coloured skirt, and blue apron.

Ellen Tomlinson, aged 15, black hair, brown complexion, had on a blue striped Bed-gown, striped petticoat, and blue apron. Ann Bradshaw, aged 14, dark complexion, buff bedgown, striped petticoat, and blue apron. THIS IS TO GIVE NOTICE that the above Apprentices having left their home without any just cause whatsoever; and whoever encourages or harbours any of them, without their Master's consent, will be prosecuted, as the law in such cases directs."

Working conditions at this time were extremely severe; in January 1809 the Preston Journal reported the death of a Preston boy decapitated by the Machinery. In 1808 the watchman at the Bannister Hall Print Works at Higher Walton, had an arm blown off by his exploding blunderbus, "As he fired it off at the usual hour." Fires were very common, "On Tuesday morning, about 2 o'clock, a large cotton factory at Moon Mill, near the town, belonging to Messrs Salisbury, was discovered to be on fire, and in the course of a few hours was burnt to the ground, notwithstanding every exertion that could be made to save it." (23/2/1811).

Rapid industrial expansion was accompanied by great financial instability, due in part to the consequences of the war with France. The threat of invasion was a real one. In February 1810 'A Master of the Band and A Drum Major' were required by the Leyland and Ormskirk Militia, and at the end of April its recruits were ordered into training. Fluctuating access to world markets caused great dislocation even within well founded firms who depended on exports. As early as the 1780's woven cloth from Leyland and Clayton Green was being exported to the West Indies and orders were placed for slaves clothing from William Pollard in 1787, 1789 and 1790. Horrockses of Preston, whose warehouse was probably the largest in Leyland, were very badly affected. The company made losses in 1800, 1804, 1807, 1808 and 1811. To put this into context, the firm was to make a loss in only 4 years of the next half century (1826, 1842-1843-1847).

Many concerns ended in bankruptcy, most spectacularly with the collapse of John Watson and Sons in November 1807. Between February and May of that year alone, 9 local firms crashed. On the 23rd of March 1809 the bankruptcy of Robert Brindle of Leyland was announced, "Bleacher, Dealer and Chapman". In March 1811 Miles and Robert Ainscow of Clayton-le-Woods failed, followed by George Dewhurst of Clayton in February 1812.

The decade of Leyland's most spectacular growth was marked, therefore, by years of severe hardship. 1807 was a very bad year. By February 1808 a Preston Charitable Fund had dispensed over £500 in weekly relief, issuing tickets to buy oatmeal at the reduced price of 1/- for 9 lb (shop price 1/- for 5½lb), and allowing each person ½lb per day. One year later the Preston Relief Committee was established, Samuel Horrocks contributed 50 gns, T.B. Addison 5 gns, and Mr. Calvert (of Walton) 3 gns. By contrast in 1810 Horrockses recorded a clear profit of over £31,000, to be followed by losses in 1811, and by early summer 1812 conditions were again extremely depressed. Wages were reported to have fallen to 7/- per week, and the Relief Committee reported that, "By the praiseworthy exertions of the Committee of Gentlemen appointed for the management of the Charitable Fund in this town, some 100's of the distressed inhabitants have already received ample relief, and no less than 68 loads of oatmeal, 60 loads of potatoes, and 1 cwt of rice, have been sold to them at very reduced prices within the last fortnight. It is doing justice to those poor persons to say, that they receive this bounty of their benefactors with great gratitude." (9/5/1812).

Such violent swings of the trade cycle rocked the foundations of society, manifested through lock-outs, strikes, and general lawlessness. In May 1810 during an industrial dispute the spinning firms simply advertised for a new workforce: "WANTED. A quantity of sober, steady MEN, to learn the business of MULE SPINNING, who will receive during the time of learning, or until they find themselves competent work by the piece, ONE GUINEA weekly clear to themselves. CONSTANT employment will also be given to any number of children above 9 years of age. N.B. A tolerable good spinner can with ease earn from 30 to 40 shillings per week, clear." In addition to the Preston firms the offer was signed by Bashall and Pearson of Cuerden Green, James Wright of Penwortham, William Sharrock of Roach Bridge, George Clayton of Lostock, and R. and D. Salisbury of Walton. In 1812 frequent Luddite riots were nervously reported. At Stockport, "The rioters were led by 2 men dressed in women's clothes who were called General Ludd's Wives" (20/4/1812).

Crime became a serious problem locally, and punishments could be severe. Robert Livesey was sent to sea for stealing a bushell of oats from Walton Hall, but at the Preston Quarter Sessions of 1810 seven years transportation was the order of the day. Among the list of wrongdoers Edward and Ann Hunt of Walton-le-Dale were charged with stealing 14d in copper from Robert Anderson. Fortunately for this writer Ann was imprisoned for 1 hour and Edward for 1 day!

The organised theft of cotton goods from the local bleaching grounds became a major problem. In February 1811, 3 men were committed to Lancaster Castle charged with having taken 44 pieces of calico from the print-croft of Messrs Clayton at Bamber Bridge. On the 30th of March the following year William Rowbottom pleaded guilty to having stolen 2 pieces of calico from the bleaching grounds of Robert Brindle at Leyland, and Bella Janson with a similar theft from Charles Swainson's Works at Walton. Rowbottom was fined 1/- with 2 years hard labour in the House of Correction at Preston, and Janson was sentenced to 14 years transportation.

Clearly the positive economic and social developments of those years, still apparent in the Fox Lane row of weavers houses - surely the finest example of their type anywhere - emerged from a period of rapid change, acute instability, and suffering for a large section of society. But to one side of these troubles, the ways of a much older more rural Leyland also continued, "There is now living in Leyland a man of the name of Thomas Bretherton, aged 80, who has for the last 60 years, including this, 1811, led the field amongst the shearers, and appears to perform the work with all the vigour of his younger fellow labourers. His wife Alice, aged 79, is also in a remarkable good state of health; they have been married 56 years" (5/10/1811)

REFERENCES

Excerpts are from the bound volume of the Preston Journal, in the Harris Reference Library. Many thanks are due to Mr. T. Shaw, Librarian.

The Horrockses statistics are from the Company ledgers in the Lancashire Record Office. Ref: D.D.Ho 1/.

D. HUNT



STREET NAMES AND TERRACES

-Avenues for further Research-

In last year's 'Chronicle' I outlined several subjects for possible investigation - as far as I know no project other than the current First World War research is in hand.

Several enquiries in the course of the last twelve months have made me realise that a study of the street names and terraces of Leyland would be a most worthwhile project, not only from the interest and origin of the names themselves but as a matter of recording where certain terraces are located and where other streets and terraces used to be as many have been demolished in recent years.

Who now would know where Manchester Terrace was located? It seems to have escaped most of the Directories but I know because I lived there for some 23 years, moving in 1936 from Mayfield Road to No. 2 Manchester Terrace as a boy of seven! It was the row of shops between the Public Hall and the Conservative Club - all now demolished - and numbered 1, 2, 3 and 4 which, in the early 1930's, had become 45, 43, 41 and 39 Towngate: note the reverse order. Towngate in the late 19th century was numbered consecutively, not in the modern 'left - odd, right - even' manner. Not only that, it was not numbered from the centre out - as is the convention now - but from the far end of Towngate towards the Cross. The Census of 1881 shows that No. 1 Towngate was the old Seven Stars public house - now demolished - and No. 2 was the Ship Inn.

When writing the article for last year's 'Chronicle' on the Rev. Richard Whiteside, I found that his family home at the time of his death in China in 1923 was No. 50 Turpin Green Lane, Leyland. Walking the length of Turpin Green Lane revealed that now there is no such number. Enquiries at the time did not produce the answer but examination of Ordnance Survey Maps seemed to show that no demolitions had taken place when the Canberra Road junction with Turpin Green Lane had been made just before World War Two - so where were the missing numbers? Information from several members of the Society finally gave me the clue that, like Towngate, Turpin Green Lane had been numbered consecutively and not 'odds and evens'. The chance find of a 'Voters List of Leyland in 1918' in Chorley Library enabled me to establish that Richard Whiteside's family home that was No. 50 in 1923 is the house that is now numbered 16, Turpin Green Lane.

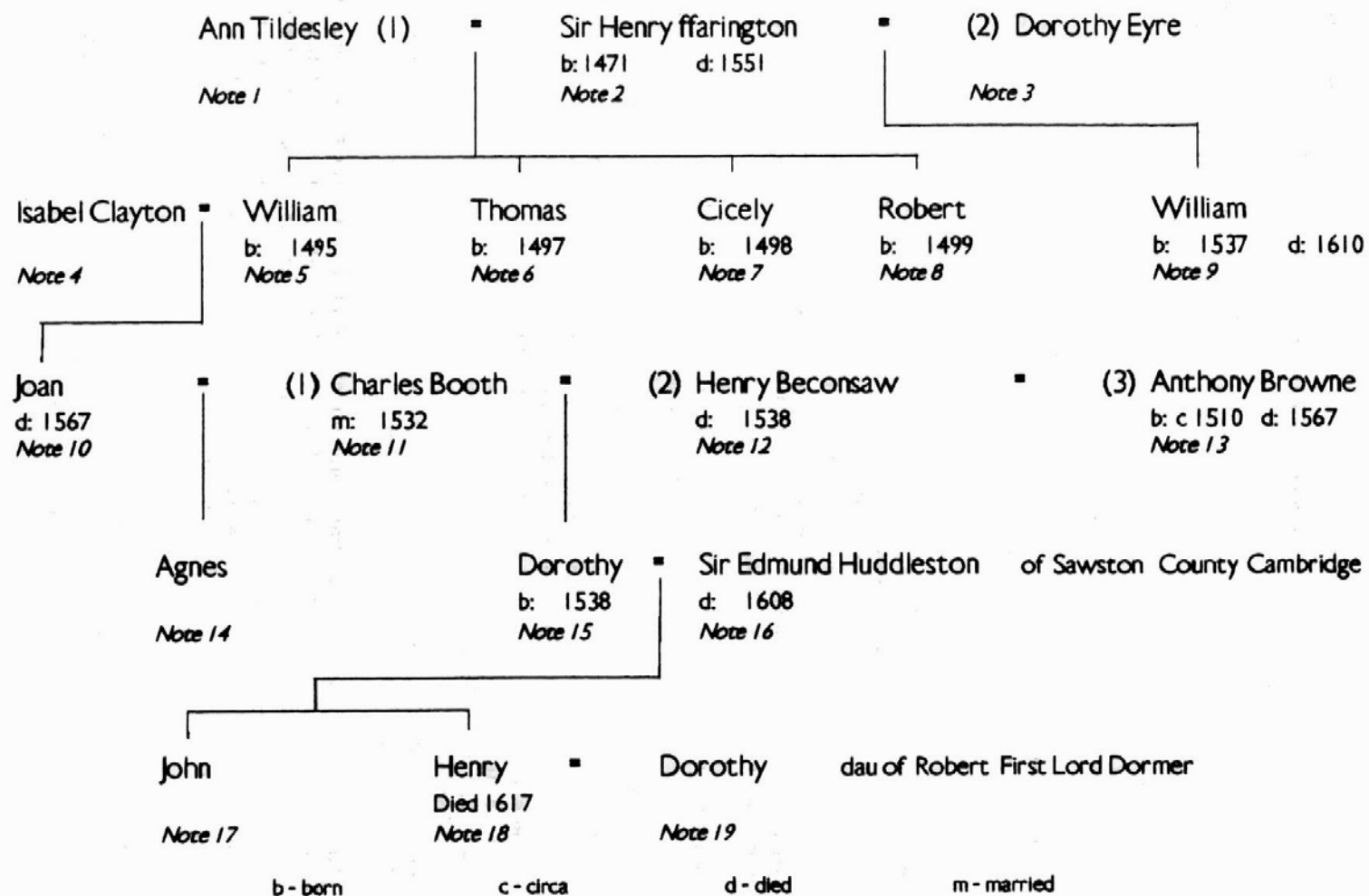
Turpin Green Lane itself has many short terraces but most of their names have disappeared in the course of restoration work over the years. Many terrace names in Leyland, however, survive; some are simply engraved in stone and mounted centrally on the terrace, others are quite ornate and the terra-cotta plaque on Wellington View, Hough Lane, commemorating Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee is something of a work of art.

Research of this nature could be a leisurely and pleasant pursuit, but would provide useful and important information. The scrutiny could perhaps be extended to include house names and features of the houses and terraces under investigation. So often, possibly due to familiarity and the increasing use of the motor-car instead of 'Shanks Pony', we do not 'take in' the details of our surroundings. Whilst a certain amount of interviewing of 'old inhabitants' will be required in the case of terraces that no longer show their name, much of the necessary information is there to be seen on a simple perambulation of Leyland armed only with a note-book and pencil.

W.E. WARING



A Pedigree of the East ffarington of Farington



NOTES ON THE PEDIGREE OF FARINGTON

The pedigree opposite and the following notes are intended as an aid to the later article 'Lower Farington Hall'. The pedigree is sketchy in certain respects, from the sources consulted it has proved impossible to establish certain dates; but hopefully it will help in understanding the complicated story of the last years of the Farington family at Farington.

- 1) Ann, the first wife of Sir Henry Farington, was the daughter of Sir Alexander Radcliffe of Ordsall, and widow of Sir Thomas Tildesley of Tildesley and Wardley.
- 2) Sir Henry Farington, the last Farington of Farington.
- 3) Dorothy, his second wife, was the daughter of Humphrey Okeover of Okeover, Co. Staffs., Esquire, and widow of Sir Arthur Eyre.
- 4) Isabel, wife of William (1495 - c.1527), was the daughter of John Clayton of Clayton (le-Woods), Esquire, and co-heiress of Clayton with her sister Ellen. After the death of William, Isabel married Nicholas Butler by whom she had two daughters, Elizabeth and Ellen. She is also said to have made a third marriage to John Orrell of Preston, Esquire.
- 5) William, eldest son and heir of Sir William, was born at Tildesley in 1495. He is believed to have died c. 1527.
- 6) Thomas, second son of Sir Henry, was born at Leyland in 1497. Married to Cicely, daughter of Thomas Radcliffe of Winmarleigh, he died before his father without a male heir.
- 7) Cicely, Sir Henry Farington's only daughter, was born at Wardley in 1498 and married Robert Charnock of Charnock.
- 8) Robert, Sir Henry's youngest son, was born at Wardley in 1499. Rector of North Meols, he left the priesthood just before the Reformation and married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Thomas Southworth of Samlesbury.
- 9) William, son of Sir Henry and Dorothy Okeover, was left Worden by the will of his father and, as the first Farington to live there, he is looked upon as the head of the house of Farington of Worden.
- 10) Joan (Jane or Jannet), daughter of William and Isabel, seems to have made a very early marriage to Charles Booth and, if the dates are correct, she had been widowed twice by the age of twenty-three with a daughter from each marriage. She had no children by her marriage to Sir Anthony Browne. Her will is dated 21 OCT 1567 and was proved 6 JAN 1568.
- 11) Charles Booth was of Hackensall, presumably what would now be called Preesall.
- 12) Henry Beconsaw (or Beconsall) of Beconsall died before the birth of his daughter Dorothy.
- 13) Anthony Browne (c. 1510-1567), son of Sir Wiston Browne of Abbesroding and Langenhoo in Essex, and Elizabeth Mordaunt, daughter of William Mordaunt of Turvey in Bedfordshire; third husband of Joan Farington. A man of many parts he was knighted in 1566 dying in the following year when he was described as of 'Abbesroding and Southwolde in Essex.'

14) Agnes Booth married a Sir William Mordaunt. The connection between this Sir William and the William Mordaunt, father of Elizabeth Browne (mother of Anthony Browne) has not been established, but Susan Maria Ffarington in her 'History' implies that they were of the same family.

15 & 16) Lady Dorothy and her husband Sir Edmund Huddleston figure largely in many of the Deeds of the 'Farington of Worden' muniments in the Lancashire Record Office (LRO) at Preston, Ref: DDF. The Huddleston family also deposited Deeds of Leyland and Farington at the L.R.O. under the reference: DDX 102.

17) John, the eldest son and heir of Sir Edmund, died before his father.

18 & 19) Henry married Dorothy, daughter of Robert, first Lord Dormer and Elizabeth Browne, daughter of Sir Anthony Browne, Viscount Montague (1526-1592). It is interesting to find both Sir Anthony Brownes appear in the pedigree - a source of no little confusion as, although not exactly the same age, they were contemporary figures in the 1550's and 1560's.

The involvement of Sir Edmund and Lady Dorothy Huddleston in the affairs of Leyland and Farington and the details of the branch of their family that lived at Farington Hall are too complex to be attempted in these brief notes, but the people in the pedigree read like the 'Dramatis Personae' of a Shakespearian play. It is a story that has everything: a disinherited male line, an attempt to restore the rightful heir, accusations of forgery, incarceration in the Fleet prison, law-suits and even mob violence which culminated in the loss by the Farington family of their Manor of Farington and their moiety of the Manor of Leyland.

The following article by member Ken Flemming gives an insight into these turbulent years.

SOURCES

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Thanks to Mr. Frank Harrison for the pedigree sheet.

W.E. WARING

CHORLEY WEEKLY NEWS - SATURDAY 27TH FEBRUARY 1915

The members of the Leyland Voluntary Training Corps on Saturday afternoon last had rifle shooting under the May Festival Ground grandstand under the instruction of Mr. Butterworth of the Rifle Club. On Sunday afternoon the Corps took part in physical drill on the Festival field. Ex-Sgt. Sheridan was in command and there was a good muster on both occasions.

LOWER FARINGTON HALL

The Hall was the first home of the main branch of the Farington family and was to remain so for at least 370 years. The house at the junction of Hall Lane and Mill Lane has now entirely gone, apart from a small amount of rubble and what may be some stone foundations. There was a moated Manor House and "Great Barne" on this site, known as the Manor of Farington from at least 1279 and many generations of the family lived here. Moated homes were a common feature to the minor landowners and lesser gentry of the time, remaining fashionable right up to the mid Tudor period. Various reasons for the construction of the moats are given: protection, drainage, water supply, prestige and even ornamental. The moat at Farington covered a rectangular area of approximately 200 sq. ft. with the ditch averaging 27 feet in width. The moat has long been filled in but traces of it can still be made out to-day. In 1977 excavations were carried out on the site which found that the original builders had dug down past the clay level into the underlying sand in order to make the moat sufficiently deep and then had to line the bed and sides with the clay, much like the modern day canal builders. During this survey it was also revealed that the house on the site had been rebuilt between the 17th and 18th centuries and had incorporated into it some of the timbers from a larger and earlier building. The farmhouse was last owned by a family called Forshaw, the grandfather having bought the farm from the previous owners, a family named Wright in about 1920.

Susan Maria Farington says of it in 1876,

"It has passed through I know not how many different hands, and it has been on sale once at least in my father's lifetime; (William Farington. 1766-1837). He was not in pocket to buy it, though he knew it well, for he had long had the privilege of shooting over it from the lady who then owned it. The so-called Hall is now a commonplace farm house with no antiquity about it, and nothing but the moat remains to indicate its former consequence."

There are no plans or drawings of the Hall available to us; it is very unlikely if any ever existed. But we are extremely fortunate there remains a contemporary description of the house and estate, which is contained in a document, dated 10 June 1541, and it is this which allows us a fascinating glimpse of what the Lower Hall must have looked like.

The site contained a "Kechin and Bruhowse, bultyng howse, Killne and turffhowse; the Yatehowse both under and above standing on the south of the court at Farington, the garden with the Chamber over the North side of the Hall called the Laydyeshowse, now new built, containing a closet, an entry a ster with a double draught and 2 new chambers over and under with a double chimney and 2 galers; the old parlour with the chamber over it on the east part of the great parlour with the draughts therunto which is now enlarged at the east end and the west end towards the great parlour to the baywindows over and under with the great stair and a new draught with 2 little closets over and under the south side of the said old parlour with 2 double chimneys: In one pipe all the waterhowse chamber, the milkhowse with the blind loft over it which is now new built with a milkhowse under and 2 chambers over it with 2 chimneys in one pipe, a closet with a stair to the entry of the said chambers and closet with a draft on the south side of the little Yatehowse; and all the houses and the flaxhowses together with the orchard and gardens on the east and north of the hall and parlour. All the cooks garden and the chapel at Farington the Duffhowse the watermill called Farington corne milne and the Hall Greene with the north end of the Great Barne."

It can be seen by 1541 that the Manor of Farington had grown into a large household, contained its own chapel and employed a large number of servants and was locally a very important Hall. A typical Tudor manor house was built in an H or E shape, which may have been the case at Farington, or on the hollow square plan. This gave the house an enclosed and inward looking central courtyard. The buildings, no matter which plan was used, were usually but one room thick with all rooms interconnecting. In the hollow square type of house the main windows faced the courtyard, whilst the exterior walls had smaller irregularly set windows which projected squarely from the wall. The "Kechin and Bruhowse, bultyng howse, milkhovse and Duffhovse" were often in a separate but adjoining building to the main house. These probably stood to the south of the court together with the Killne and turffhovse; brick had become an important Tudor building material and it seems the Farington estate produced its own. It is likely the main Yatehouse or entrance was also to the south and a smaller one near the "Laydyeshovse" at the north side. Great bay windows which often rose the full height of the house was one of the most noticeable external features of a great manor house together with boldly protruding chimney stacks. "The great parlour" at Farington which would be used as a withdrawing room contained these bay windows. "The old parlour with the chamber over it on the east part of the great parlour" was a private family room, used frequently for dining although it would be a long way from the kitchen. The chamber over this "which is now enlarged at the east end and the west end" would be used as a bedroom and reception room and occupied by the master of the house, who at this time was Sir Henry Farington; he is described as

"a quarrelsome neighbour and somewhat of a Great Mogul who with his nibblings at the law managed to outwit himself, and alienate his precious heritage of Farington both from the rightful heir and any other blood relation of the name. Whether he was over zealous in his duty, magnified his office unduly, or had a great appetite for bickering, or found the tenants of the Manor very contumacious we cannot say, but he seems to have lived a life of perpetual lawsuits on the King's behalf and on his own."

Over the north side of the hall was the "Laydyeshovse", we are told it is new built at this time undoubtedly for Sir Henry Farington's second wife, Dorothy Okeover. There is some confusion regarding Dorothy ever living at Leyland after her marriage, which had taken place four years earlier, it may be the case that she was simply waiting for these new quarters to be completed at Farington before moving permanently to her new home. The quarters contained a closet, simply a small room, an entry and staircase, two new chambers or large rooms, with a double chimney and two galers? It had been found fireplaces no longer needed to be placed on an outside wall but could be built into an interior wall which made more possible; it can be seen at Farington, quite a number of rooms including the bedrooms contained them. The family may have lived on the upper floor of the hall where it would have been drier and warmer. Beyond the old parlour or family room there would be one or two smaller rooms, one would be used for the tenants to pay their rent, air grievances, have disputes settled and also, here, accounts of estate or household affairs would be rendered. The other small room was used by the lady of the house, Dorothy Okeover, here she would see to the servants and the countless tasks involved in the running of the household; such things as baking, brewing, distilling and organising the food and menus. The chapel which was kept up for more than 130 years would have been located off one of these two small rooms and would probably have been "worshipfully arrayed" with some form of tapestry and painted cloths, it contained an altar with a crucifix and was consecrated. In the Will of Sir William Farington there is listed amongst the heirlooms at the Hall some chapel furniture, which included "a Boke, a bell, a Chaleys, a rede Vestment, a gilte Crucifix and an image of the Trinity." Some of

which may have originated from Evesham Abbey or the Priory at Penwortham, the Hall is sometimes described as the "Lower Hall in Penwortham".

By this time fresh water could also be delivered to the house via "a conduct of water delivrid in leade pipes" and it seems Farington may have had something similar: "In one pipe all the waterhowse chamber". The estate also contained an orchard and cooks garden as well as a more formal garden and "greene". There had also been a large watermill close to the site of the Hall, "Farington corne milne", in operation for a considerable number of years. It had been rebuilt in 1382 when the Abbot received a complaint that the rebuilding had obstructed a road.

In 1450 Lancashire was an obscure, remote, backward part of the country and was relatively poor compared with the other counties, and it was to remain this way until the end of the Tudor times. Leyland therefore can be similarly described being small and, probably even at this time, under developed with the majority of the population working the farmland, which was largely mosslands. Lower Farington then, located in a quiet situation remote from the parish church of St. Andrew, would be difficult and uncomfortable to reach, particularly for the aged or infirm and particularly in winter, over what must have been very poor roads; in reality they would be nothing more than cart tracks. It is not surprising that Margaret ffaryngton, Vowess, the mother of Sir William Farington, was granted a licence on 26th September, 1461 from the Abbot of Evesham "to have a oratory within her home and to have masses celebrated by a fit chaplain in her presence and before her servants". This oratory at Farington was the domestic chapel located at the Manor House where the saying of mass, reading of sermons and divine service could be performed without the consent of the Crown, but a Bishop's licence had to be obtained for a private chapel. This was always granted sparingly by the Abbot out of regard to parochial communion, rather than from fear or rivalry, or from opposition to the parish church. It would have been built entirely at the expense of the family resident upon the property even though it was probably also used by the neighbouring population. By which means they had some of the ministrations of religion as well as the Farington family. Some even had special permission for a bell, there are several instances of this in Lancashire. There is no evidence that there was a large bell attached to the chapel at Farington, but there was certainly what was probably a small hand bell amongst the chapel furniture which would have been used to summon the household at the time of prayer and may also have been rung outside of the hall to attract the local population. The priest who in 1488 is named as James Smith would have led a very lowly life for the most part, he probably had the use of one small room, probably away from the main house with little light, no fire place, and an open chimney, with turf burning on the hearth. A bench or a stool, a wooden bedstead and a mattress of straw, would comprise the furniture and household comforts for himself. He probably prepared his own food which would consist of salted meat once or twice a week, "beans to boil, and oatmeal for porridge, with 'haberdine', ling, red-herrings, cheese, oatcake and apples, would be ordinary food, whilst eggs, coarse barley-bread and fresh fish would be amongst the luxuries of the table," his only possession a plate and spoon.

The habit or costume in Lancashire of a priest was a coarse frieze cassock with a leather girdle, thick clogs and, if any, a felt hat! The cassock was very rarely changed with a great deal of indifference shown by the priests as to the colour. Sometimes he carried a dagger and it is said they were not over scrupulous in its use. They were sometimes accused of being addicted to the "alehouse, to dicing, carding, hunting, bowling, hawking and bibbing, which are not clerical recreations, but probably the

ordinary pursuits and amusements of the educated classes of the age as well as being ignorant and superstitious", "lanterns without lights". We know from the records that the priests at Leyland were not always of the peasant class and, in fact, some were the younger sons of the Farington family. They, like the peasants, were compelled to occupy and cultivate their bits of glebe to eke out a scanty and precarious subsistence.

The parent church in former times loved, in all things, to "have the pre-eminence" and therefore the priest at the Lower Hall would often be required to aid the Vicar of the parish church who would "command" the incumbent to close his chapel on the festival days of Christmas, Easter and Whitsunday, and repair to the mother church to assist him and his curate, he would in some cases also exact an oath of obedience from the priest of the private chapel.

The family had now grown quite large and Henry Farington, who had succeeded in 1501 at the age of 30 from William, bought a second home in 1534 from the Anderton family which much later became known as "Old Worden Hall". Sir Henry at the time of his second marriage in 1537 and despite having bought "Old Worden Hall" three years earlier continued to live at Lower Farington. William, the eldest son of Sir Henry by his first marriage to Ann Radcliffe, died before his father leaving an only child, Joan Farington. Thomas, the second son, had also died without male issue. He had up to this time been on good terms with his third son and rightful heir Robert Farington. Robert was by an earlier Will to have all the lands at Leyland and Worden etc., but Robert's fortunes changed dramatically and unexpectedly, with the birth of a son, William, to Sir Henry by Dorothy Okeover his second wife, in 1537. Sir Henry was aged 66 at the time and it must have come as a shock to Robert that there was now a further heir apparent. Robert who had been educated at Cambridge and instituted to the Rectory of North Meols by Sir Henry, who had also purchased the presentation for him, had clearly now become out of favour with his father, for in a Will of 1549 he was to have no part of Sir Henry's goods because he had been "promoted during his life", and after seven years and after receiving a pension from the rectory Robert had given up his clerical life and married Elizabeth Southworth of Samlesbury. As he is said to have been in holy orders this marriage could not have been valid by any law. Sir Henry seems to have been so deeply offended by these actions that he disinherited Robert in favour of William, who inherited Old Worden Hall and became the first of a long line of the Farington family to live there. But in the process Lower Farington estate was lost to the family for good via the female line of Joan Farington.

It seems Sir Henry was also greatly influenced to cheat Robert of his rightful inheritance by a Lawyer or "Barrister" of the time, Sir Antony Browne, some of who's affairs are recorded as "the evil dealings of that formidable person"; and to settle the Hall and estate in favour of Joan Farington. Sir Henry's granddaughter had by this time become Joan Browne, wife to Sir Antony Browne. He is described in various ways; amongst other things, and perhaps unjustly, a Justice of the Common Pleas!

Susan Maria Farington states in 1876:

"from that evil day to this Farington has been in alien hands and we have not had a possession in the township from which we take our name as the cradle of our race. We had it for about 370 years when it went away in 1575."

Robert Farington who was forty years of age at the time and, probably living at Samlesbury Hall with his wife Elizabeth, left John his eldest son at Lower Farington, where John continued to live until they were both prosecuted for retaining possession of the Hall and lands against the will of Sir Henry. Both were later committed to the Fleet Prison for forgery.

It seems Sir Antony Browne did not benefit long from his persuasive dealings with old Sir Henry for he died soon after Joan his wife had succeeded to Farington. The Hall and lands then descended to Joan's daughter, Dorothy Huddleston, wife to Sir Edmund Huddleston. But this was not quite the end for it seems the estate was not given up by the Faringtons very easily and without a fight, other than in law. For what may have amounted to a pitched battle involving more than a hundred men took place in October 1575, when information was asked:

"to be given to the Justices of the Pease att Preston against William Farrington, esq. and above fourscore and ten persons who entered with force into the lands of Edmund Huddleston, esq. in Leilande."

The final straw came five years later when Elizabeth, the widow of Robert Farington who had died soon after 1598 also claimed against the settlement but finally lost the Hall on the 20 June 1580 when a document of

"Exemplification of a decree was issued in the Duchy Chamber confirming the barring of the dower of Elizabeth, widow of Robert Farington of Farington, esq; in favour of Anthony Browne, esq; Justice of the Common Pleas and Joan, his wife."

PRIME SOURCES

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The County Record Office, Preston

DDF Farington of Worden, No. 498 and others.

DDX 102 Huddleston Family Papers, No. 50

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Susan Maria Farington. 1876

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KEN FLEMING



THE ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND

- Its Local Origins -

Between 1801 and 1861 the population of the ancient market town of Chorley, fast becoming a centre of flourishing industry, increased more than threefold from 4,513 to 15,013.

Under these conditions there was a growing demand in Chorley and elsewhere for the services of banks. This is reflected in the annual report for 1868 for the Manchester and Salford Bank which records that "having been invited to Chorley by a requisition numerous signed and very suitable premises having been secured, a branch will shortly be opened at that place."

By April 30th of the same year, the people who signed that requisition were opening accounts at their new branch of the Manchester and Salford Bank. The branch was situated in one of Chorley's oldest coaching inns known as the Black Bull Inn. The bar fittings were replaced and the cellars took on a new look as safes and documents were filed and stored. The cost of the building was £1,050 when finally purchased in 1873, though the conversion seemed to have been a long term problem with numerous extras in the Charges in Trade account for work done, though the entry dated 30th November 1869 could suggest another reason "J. Eccles for beer given to workmen during alterations £1. 8s 6d." The exterior remained unchanged while the interior was reshaped, though the rambling cellars were cold and airy with stone floor and three inches of crumbling plaster on the walls. The ideal conditions for storing barrels.

From the impersonal ledger book which dates back to the opening date, the opening balance in the cash account was £2,000 while the first credit on 1st May 1868 was for £1. 16s 1d. The Errors in Cash account first entry on 31st October 1868 states "By cash found inside of counter supposed to belong to £50 bag of coin - 1s."

The Manager, Mr. Wolfenden, lived on the premises, being allowed £10 per quarter for a servants board and wages. His own expenses for visits to the Head Office in Manchester being 6s 9d, the fairly high price being before the railways managed to bring low prices into force.

The old building just managed to survive for its centenary in 1968, for three weeks later the bulldozers moved in and while the staff moved to temporary premises across the road, the present branch was built on the original site. This opened to the public on 17th August 1970 just in time to change from Williams Deacons to Williams & Glyn's on 25th September 1970.

LEYLAND BRANCH

When Leyland Branch opened its doors in February 1938 with two staff, Manager and Clerk, they probably never guessed that fifty years later, there would be fourteen staff at the Branch which has extended into the adjoining property.

The Branch could be said to have the market sewn up back in 1938 when the dressmakers of McKittricks was being converted into a bank. Their oldest surviving customer, Mr. John Thacker, having opened a newsagency nearly two years previously, remembers going into the branch on the opening day in order to get a paper order and ended up opening an account. Someone had already opened an account, so he became their second customer. Mr. Thacker was presented with a gift for his loyalty to the branch over the years.

The branch has continued to expand, the customers having to queue outside when the small banking hall becomes too packed, so when the next-door premises were purchased in 1986, the customers knew relief was at hand.

So, after much rebuilding and re-organisation, the new improved branch is now able to receive customers.

A MOVING EXPERIENCE

When Richard Baxendale & Sons (known as Baxis) decided to move their operations to Bamber Bridge from Chorley in 1962, a small sub-branch was established at 148 Station Road. The building had previously been owned by a George Bateman who had conducted a grocers business in the front of the building whilst operating a small fleet of Rolls Royces at the rear; he also being a funeral director and wedding car hirer. This would explain the freezing temperatures, even in summer, in the strongroom at the back of the building.

Since then the number of staff has gradually increased until with the staff now totalling twelve and the branch being extended in all directions, it was decided to make the move into newly built premises across the road at 175/177 Station Road. So on 5th December, after a hectic move culminating in a long weekend getting the new branch ready, the office was opened to the customers, who, after years of queuing in the street, could now use the large open plan office. The new branch is in a shopping development built on the site of one of the old employers of the area, namely the Corn Mill belonging to Ingham & Tipping Ltd. The branch continues to maintain the accounts of Richard Baxendale & Sons, famous for the Baxi fires, as they have since it opened; though now the firm is one of the largest worker-owned businesses in the country.

The above first appeared in the Staff Magazine.

PETER HOUGHTON



CHORLEY WEEKLY NEWS - SATURDAY 4TH JULY 1914

The new Leyland vicarage, which is now in course of erection, is to cost about £2,500 exclusive of Architects' fees. The contractors are Messrs Marland Bros., Leyland; Architect Mr. George Hubbard, Fenchurch Street, London. The vicarage will include a large room to be used for meetings of the parishioners. The cost of the building will be deducted from the income of the living by yearly instalments. A few donations have been given.

CHORLEY GUARDIAN AND LEYLAND ADVERTISER - SATURDAY 18TH FEBRUARY 1893

Leyland: The Churchyard Extension. Preparations are now being made with a view of enlarging the burial ground attached to the Leyland Parish Church, which is to extend from the old ground on to the south side of the avenue. The extension will be almost an acre in area. (The avenue referred to is the line of trees that formed the southern boundary of the ancient churchyard: Editor).

1994 - THE BICENTENARY OF JOSEPH LIVESEY (1794-1884)

March 1994 marks the bicentenary of the birth of Joseph Livesey of Walton-le-Dale. Though the general details of his life are well known and readily available, a freshly researched biography of the districts most celebrated social reformer has long been overdue. Indeed, through his own very extensive writings, his newspapers, and the detailed coverage of his activities by the contemporary Victorian press, his life and times are potentially better recorded than anyone else's. Concentration on his role in the national temperance movement has tended to obscure his involvement in local issues where his contribution was perhaps more significant.

To the local historian his writings are one of the region's most interesting sources for the nineteenth century. His output was amazing, particularly since writing and publishing formed only one part of his business concerns. His principal newspaper interests were as follows:

- 1831 - 3 The Moral Reformer.
- 1834 - 8 The Preston Temperance Advocate.
- 1838 - 9 The Moral Reformer (Revived).
- 1841 - 6 The Struggle (A paper advocating abolition of the Corn Laws).
- 1844 - 59 The Preston Guardian.
- 1851 - 2 The Teetotal Progressionist.
- 1867 - 9 The Staunch Teetotaler.

Livesey took a direct personal interest in the 'improvement' of the poor, undertaking much work for the various poverty relief committees which were such a feature of social policy at the time. Although these efforts reached a peak during the Lancashire cotton famine, his 'social work' was a prominent feature of his reports in the Moral Reformer of the early 1830's. This added both detail and insight to his writings, for as his obituary in the Preston Chronicle later reported (6th September 1884) "Visiting a city, say Edinburgh, he would look about in the street for an idler of the operative class, and say to him 'My good man, do you want to earn half a crown easily? If so, then take me into the worst, the very worst, streets, alleys, or weinds, in this place.' With his guide he went from flat to flat, and found out the most miserable people, talked kindly with them, thus gaining their confidence, and then he would get their history, and end with some advice as to religion and morals - including of course Teetotalism."

Livesey's autobiography and nearly all of his published works are readily available on the open shelves of the Harris Reference Library. Clearly a search of them must add much to our knowledge and understanding of mid-Victorian life and society, but also, and more to the point here, might also yield material directly relevant to the story of Leyland and district, as the following extracts would tend to indicate:

A LANDLADY'S WISH (Preston Temperance Advocate, April 1835)

"What is to do yonder?" said a landlady at Clayton, as the people were returning from a temperance meeting. "There has been a temperance meeting." said one of the party. "The devil temperance them!" was her reply. So much for the good wishes of the landladies.

PROGRESS AT MR. BASHALL'S FACTORY (Preston Temperance Advocate. January 1837)

The Spinners and other hands at Bashall's factory having resolved to become sober persons, went in a body to the Walton-le-Dale temperance meeting, last Monday night, when 34 of them signed the tee-total pledge. They are

all enthusiastic in the cause, and have agreed among themselves to drag through the Lostock (a small river which runs by the factory) any one of their comrades who violates his pledge.

GRAND NEWS FROM LEYLAND (Preston Temperance Advocate January 1837)

We continue to hold our meetings every Monday night, but the place is far too small for those who wish to attend. Many scores of old drunkards are now enjoying the heart-cheering effects of sobriety. Our wakes were held last week, but I never remember them passing over so quietly before. We have now 5 or 6 tee-total constables, who are a terror to evil doers. We have on our books 600 members, and perhaps there may be 150 out of that number who are not consistent.

PROGRESS OF THE PRESTON MOVEMENT(British Temperance Advocate and Journal September 16th 1839)

We can say there is scarcely a family within 10 or 12 miles round who have not had the principles and advantages of the Temperance Society set before them.

FURTHER READING

'History of Preston' (1992) P. 198-204

Blackhurst, Ada (1979) 'Joseph Livesey (1794-1884)'



D. HUNT

CHORLEY WEEKLY NEWS - SATURDAY 4TH JULY 1914

Considerable interest was caused in Leyland and Euxton on Saturday, when the well-known pedestrian, Professor Poplin, undertook to cover forty miles in eight hours, and in the last five miles carry a 22 lb. pack on his back. He completed his task successfully thus showing the stamina of one who is over 65 years of age.

CHORLEY GUARDIAN AND LEYLAND ADVERTISER - SATURDAY 24TH MAY 1919

Property Sale: On Thursday, Mr. John Critchley sold by auction the block of property known as the Old Wesleyan Chapel, situate at the north side of Golden Hill and facing Chapel Brow, Leyland. The premises are freehold but subject to a perpetual yearly rent charge of £5. The lot was disposed of for £1,150. Messrs Rawsthorn, Ambler and Booth were the acting Solicitors

CHORLEY WEEKLY NEWS - SATURDAY 4TH JULY 1914

Leyland: Visitors from South Wales. A party of about 250 persons connected with the boot and shoe trade visited the Wood-Milne Co's Works, Leyland, on Wednesday last. After viewing the works, under the direction of Mr. Abbot, the party spent the rest of the day at Blackpool. (The Wood-Milne Rubber Company are believed to have claimed to be the world's first manufacturer of rubber heels for boots and shoes. Does any member know if there is any substance to this claim? Editor).

BREHERTON - "TH 'EDGE O' LEET"

In all the parishes south of the Ribble the ancient township of Bretherton personifies the continuity from the past to the present and much of the medieval landscape has been preserved.

The village seems to have evolved along two highways; North and South Rows or Roads. South Row encroached onto the moss to the south which itself was part of the vast Martin Mere. Tracks or meanygates led off from South Row to assist in the drainage and reclamation of the moss and an area known locally as Bretherton Eyes. Farmsteads complete with their long orchards stretched south from South Row. North Row, a quarter of a mile north of South Row, was constructed to exploit the reclamation of the mosses lying south of Much and Little Hoole.

A short walk of about three miles to encompass the land below South Row including Bretherton Eyes starts at the Blue Anchor public house. Ask permission to park there and sample some of the good food after the walk.

Start by walking back into the village. Soon a junction appears to the right called Marl Cop. Possibly the name originates from Marl which was decayed chalky soil used as a fertiliser from the Iron Age to the 19th century. Pits that were dug to extract the marl can still be seen scattered around the modern landscape, now recognisable as fish-ponds.

Ignore Marl Cop and continue down South Row. Just after the buildings end on the left look for a gate and stile. Cross the field half right to another stile and a short stretch of track ends at a surfaced lane called South View, then left down a lane. Where the lane bends left - this is now Sarah Lane, going off towards Croston - look for a stile on the right. Follow path across fields to enter enclosed length of track that separates the bottom of the orchards belonging to the farms on South Row from the outlying fields. Follow this to its end then left down a very narrow surfaced lane - this is obviously an access track onto the moss that has been modernised - and follow this to crossroads. To the right leads to Bank Hall and Tarleton, to the left is Back Lane leading to Croston. Our way leads straight on down Broad Meadow Lane leading down onto the moss and Bretherton Eyes.

BREHERTON IN HISTORY

The word 'eyes' is old English meaning 'River or Island' or, 'Land by Water'. As mentioned earlier, Bretherton is an ancient settlement and was assessed as two ploughlands. It was a member of the fee of Penwortham and appears to have been given by the Bussels to Richard le Boteler of Amounderness: the Bussels held the castle that guarded the important fording point on the Ribble at Penwortham.

Bretherton - the name is derived from "The valley and the tun belonging to the brothers or brother." In the latter case the first element is the Old Norse "Broear".

Richard le Boteler, as Lord of Bretherton, made grants to Cockersands Abbey. He granted the canons 16 acres of his demesne there in Siverthesargh with exit for the men who should settle upon the land c. 1200. He also gave to God and St. Cuthbert a "land" between Arapul and Hortepul in alms; one side extended to the water, the other to waingate and the halfland to which

Carrbutts extended. Adam Banastre and Adam his son were witness to this document. He possibly gave a further grant to Richard, son of Roger, Lord of Woodplumpton whose heirs are found to have held Bretherton by knights' service. These mesne lordships however soon disappeared from view.

In 1358 Sir Nicholas le Boteler claimed wardship and as late as 1555 Bank was said to be held of the heirs of Richard le Boteler. Thus in 1242 - Richard Banastre, Walter de Hoole, Richard de Thorp, William de Brexes, Thomas de Gerston and Simon de Poou, were stated to hold the twelfth part of a knights fee in Bretherton. These six tenements were, in time, consolidated into two each described as a moiety of the Manor and held by different branches of the Banastre family. One moiety belonged to the Banastre of Bank and the other to Sir Thomas Banastre, K.G. The Banastres held the manor for a long time but eventually it passed to Sir Gilbert Gerard through marriage; he was Master of the Rolls in the time of Elizabeth 1st. The Heskeths were also involved until 1880 when Sir Thomas Hesketh sold to Lord Lilford who lived at Bank Hall.

BACK TO THE WALK

Continue south down Broadmeadow Lane; this soon becomes a rough track with a hedge on the right, then the track ends. Continue down the hedge, following this to the right and eventually coming out on Eyes Lane. Follow lane to the left and soon come to Red Bridge over the broad River Douglas where the track continues to Sollom and the canal. Sollom - a strange word - is derived from Old Norse 'Sol-Hleian' - sunny slope.

From Red Bridge the confluence of the River Yarrow can be seen just to the south with Croston Finney - another moss - further south. The Douglas is now a straighter and a tamed version of its former self and must have been an important drainage channel in the vast unclaimed mosses.

Retrace your steps from Red Bridge 100 yards and look for a path through a large field to the north. Follow path to a footbridge and then continue to the right following a hedge and ditch north. At the top skirt an enclosed paddock and look for some gates. By turning right through these a short stretch of track brings you back to Eyes Lane. To the left are the lodge gates for the now ruined Bank Hall, here turn right and at a right hand bend leave the lane and enter a small field following the left hand boundary hedge for a few hundred yards until a footbridge is found. Cross this then follow a right hand hedge around the large field and at the top a gap allows you to walk to the right back onto Broadmeadow Lane. Retrace steps through the crossroads. At the top of the narrow lane don't turn right but go straight on through one of the orchards and down the drive of 173 South Row coming onto the road opposite the church of St. John the Baptist.

Right turn to walk back through the village. On the left is Bretherton School, now a private house. The inscription above the door gives an account of its founder - James Fletcher, a London merchant who was born in Bretherton: the inscription reads:- "This free schoole was erected and built at the proper costs: and charges of James Fletcher of London marchant: and at the request of Mistris Jane Fletcher his wife who was borne in this town June the Fourteenth: ANNO DONI: 1653".

Continue along South Row back to the Blue Anchor. Whilst sitting in the pub you might wonder on the title of this article - "Th 'Edge O' Leet".

In the old days, from Banks - one of the villages on the coast near Southport - the shrimpers would travel on the old tracks and lanes to the markets of Wigan and Chorley in order to sell their catch. If they were on schedule their horse-drawn carts would be passing through Bretherton as dawn was breaking. If they had not reached the village by daybreak they would arrive at their destination too late to secure a stall. Therefore, Bretherton, to them, was associated with that certain time between night and day when darkness gives way to illumination and so they called the place "Th 'Edge O' Leet" - The Edge of Light.

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GRAHAM THOMAS



SCOTLAND 1993 - GWEN BUCKLEY

On holiday in Scotland I visited Culross Palace, Culross, Fife. It is reputed to be the most elaborately decorated small mansion in Scotland, now in the care of the Scottish National Trust and in process of restoration.

It was the home of Sir George Bruce, a royal favourite, who was a merchant exporting coal and salt and importing 'Pentile' from Holland which he used on the roof of his mansion. The building is painted on the outside a deep orange colour. The dye was produced from local stone and was very expensive, so only the rich had this deep colour; other people's houses varied according to how much dye they could afford to buy. Inside, the rooms are small and wood panelled with pictures painted on both walls and ceilings.

A REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Two examples of work by a local artist have recently come to light. The artist in question, Sam Bamber, is believed to have been one-armed and is said to have painted many pictures of Leyland in the years before and after the First World War.

If any member has knowledge of this artist and his work the Society would be pleased to have any information as a matter of record.

MR. HENRY SPURRIER

- Oldest Leyland Employees to Honour His 70th Birthday -

The Lancashire Daily Post Monday, January 10, 1938.

"Here is a romantic story of a captain of industry, Mr. Henry Spurrier, Sen., the first and only Managing Director of Leyland Motors Ltd., the greatest heavy motor lorry makers in the world."

To-morrow, Mr. Spurrier will celebrate his 70th birthday, and honour is to be accorded to him by 700 oldest employees of the firm.

These men are those who have had over 20 years' service with the firm, giving an aggregate of 18,200 years. They will have a supper of Lancashire hot-pot in the inspection shop at Leyland, which has been cleared for the event. There is a number of men whose services date back to 1896, and the oldest is Mr. E. Hamer, foreman in the fire engine department at the Chorley works, who will hand to Mr. Spurrier a wireless set which is to be fitted in his yacht Ranger, which is now lying at Hamble, in the Solent, and vellum book with a cover in the form of a wireless programme, and bearing the signatures of these old employees.

The event has been organised by a Committee of workpeople, and among the company will be a number of pensioners of the firm and the designer of the first wagon ever turned out at Leyland, Mr. A. Marsden.

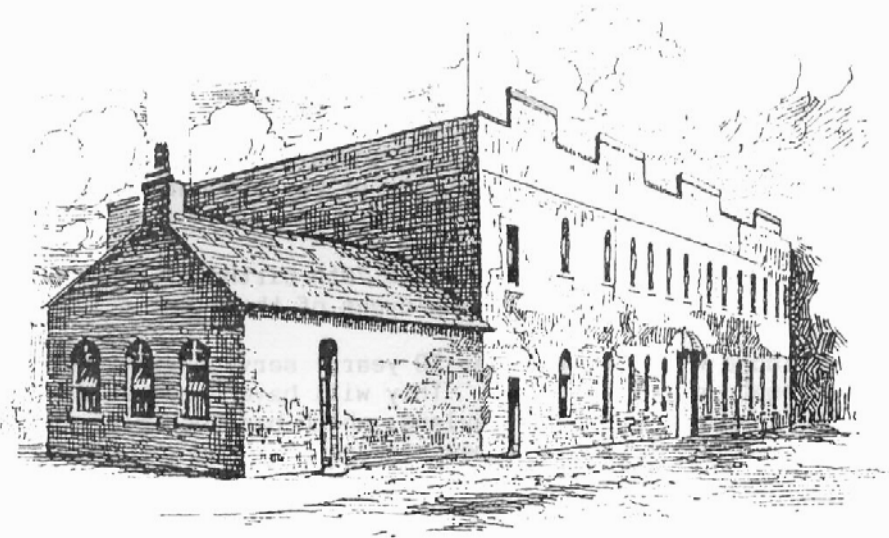
Mr. Spurrier became associated with Leyland Motors 42 years ago when there were about 20 men on the pay roll, as against the present 6,000 workpeople. Since then he has seen many changes. At that time Mr. James Sumner was Works Manager and Mr. Marsden was the one and only draughtsman.

Experiments in a Forge

Mr. Spurrier recalls the early struggles before the formation of the Lancashire Steam Motor Company, the forerunner of the present firm, and how Mr. Sumner, as early as 1885, had been experimenting in a small forge at Leyland with steam power. His first products were a steam tricycle and a steam cart for carrying coal. These vehicles had to operate under the restrictions laid down by the Traction Engine Act which ordered the use of a man with red flag to warn people of the "terrible monsters" proceeding along the roads.

This Act daunted Mr. Sumner, who disgustedly gave up his project and turned his hand to the manufacture of steam lawn mowers which he carried out until 1896. The engine and boiler of one of these lawn mowers was successfully incorporated in 1895 in a three-wheeled car for the late Mr. Theodore Carr, the well-known Carlisle biscuit manufacturer. When Mr. Spurrier joined the firm in 1896 Mr. Carr ordered a new model, and this was fitted with a condenser tube invented and made by Mr. Row, father of the present day Works Manager at Leyland Motors, Chorley.

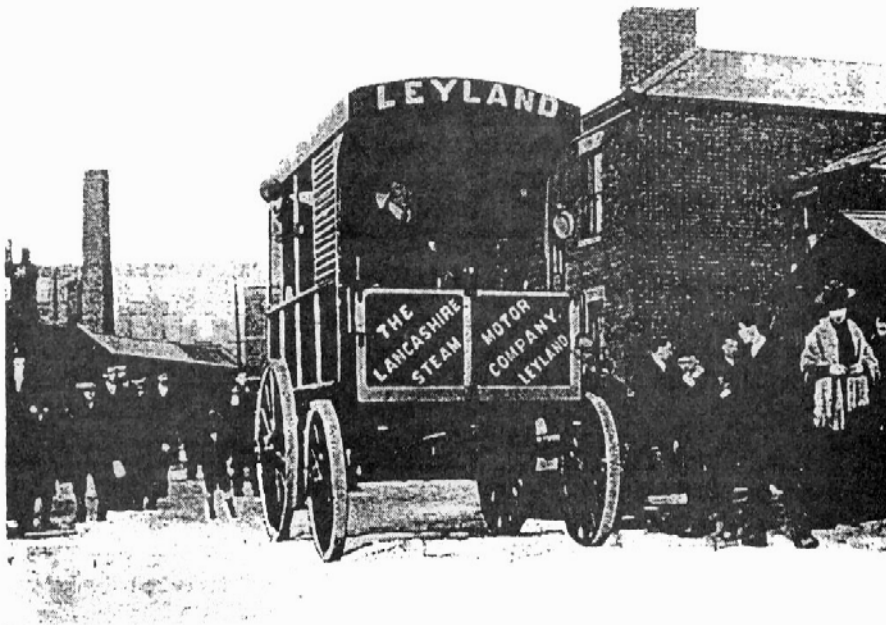
Mr. Spurrier, his father, known as "Henry the First", and Mr. Sumner, formed the Lancashire Steam Motor Company in 1896, and in 1903 this company became a Limited Company with Mr. Spurrier as the only Managing Director, and his father its Chairman.



Leyland's Herbert St. Works, before the present headquarters site was occupied in 1902.

The above illustration is taken from the book 'The First Fifty Years', reprinted from a series of articles published in "The Leyland Journal" in May, July, September and November 1946.

The picture below appeared in the original article in the Lancashire Daily Post.



Leyland's first steam waggon, with Mr. Henry Spurrier (Henry the Second) at the tiller, leaves the works.

Adventurous Career

Before that Mr. Spurrier had had a fairly adventurous career. Educated at Uppingham, he served two years' apprenticeship as a machine tool maker before he was seized with wanderlust and sought his fortune in Canada at the age of 19. Four years were spent on a cattle ranch at High River, Alberta, and then he came back to the old country to establish an engineering concern at Tutbury, Staffordshire. Here he specialised in engines and implements for farm purposes. In 1894 he went to Florida as a draughtsman for the Florida Central and Peninsular Railway.

After becoming established at Leyland, it was not long before the firm achieved its first outstanding success - the winning of the first prize at trials organised by the Royal Agricultural Society.

Mr. Spurrier and Mr. Sumner drove the vehicle alternately, and theirs was the only one to arrive. During the journey they had some exciting adventures at Congleton, Cheshire. In full view of a large crowd, the vehicle had to be turned in the street. It was a difficult operation which was successfully accomplished, but later it collided with a drinking fountain, and was brought to a stop.

After some delicate manoeuvres, and narrowly missing a shop window, the vehicle at last made its way out of Congleton. "The compensating gear seized", said Mr. Spurrier, "and because of the cobbled streets and iron tyres it was practically impossible to steer. I had the honour of showing that machine to King Edward the VII, then Prince of Wales, at the Manchester Royal Show that year", he added. Mr. Spurrier has a proud boast that he has driven every Leyland model since then.

Tomorrow he and his old employees will no doubt find pleasure in chatting about old times, and the flow of reminiscence will be unchecked. In spite of his years, Mr. Spurrier enjoys fairly good health, and takes a great interest in the works.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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The cutting of this article was presented by member Robert Harrison.

CHORLEY GUARDIAN AND LEYLAND ADVERTISER - SATURDAY 17TH MAY 1919

Huts for Workers: The management of the Leyland Motors Ltd., are making every effort to cope with the demand for housing in Leyland especially as it affects the firm's own employees. There are now in course of erection on the Sandy Lane side of Hough Lane and on land in the occupation of the firm, four huts in which it is proposed to accommodate 150 men. The huts have previously been in use in Cheshire, but were dismantled, and are now being re-erected. The middle portion of each will be used as a reading and sitting room, and the land adjoining is to be tastefully cultivated. Regarding the proposed scheme of housing in connection with the firm, preliminary arrangements with a view to going further into the matter are proceeding, and following the recent ballot of the employees a committee has been formed. The U.D.C. are also taking steps to ascertain the true extent of the demands for housing in the township.



BEECHFIELD - A HOUSE IN LEYLAND

- The Morrells and the Middletons -

Beech Villa - as Beechfield was then known - was built on Church Road, Leyland, in 1855 by John Morrell, Land Agent to the Farington family of Worden. In 1837 at the time of the Tithe Award this estate was known as Shuttleworth's and was owned by Thomas James Baldwin, a Major on the 'Retired List' in the Honourable East India Company's Bengal Army. The property appears to have descended to him from his uncle, the Reverend Nicholas Rigbye Baldwin, Vicar of Leyland 1809-1824, but the origin of this piece of land is unclear and may have been an ancient freeholding.

Shuttleworth House itself stood on Church Road by what is now Beechfield Road, the entrance to the Mayfield estate; a surprising choice of location tucked away in the north-western corner of an estate of some eleven acres. John Morrell built his imposing house in a more central position on the land, leaving Shuttleworth House still standing in its roadside location; he later built a Lodge centrally on his frontage on Church Road. Beechfield and the Lodge still stand but Shuttleworth House itself was demolished in the 1960's.

The Tithe Award of 1837 shows the Morrell family living in the Lodge on Whittaker Lane - later to be enclosed in the park at Worden - but by 1841 they were living at Clough House on Worden Lane where they appear to have stayed until Beech Villa was built in 1855. Two gravestones in St. Andrew's churchyard enable one to identify members of the family and the Leyland baptismal register shows that all seven of John and Ann Morrell's children were christened at Leyland in the years 1832-1850.

John Morrell died in 1881 aged 78 and his widow Ann in Hereford in 1889 aged 84. It seems that their surviving son James Conyers Morrell and his wife, who are believed to have been living in Southport, returned to Leyland to live in Beech Villa with their two young sons, Clayton Conyers and Ralph D'Albini; a third son, Roger Conyers, was born in 1883.

Little is known of James Conyers Morrell but the Parish Magazines of St. Andrew, Leyland, record many instances of the families' involvement in the life of both the parish and the village. Sadly, his wife, Blanche Louise, died suddenly in Eastertide 1909 and the vicar, the Reverend Leyland Baldwin, penned the following eulogy in the May magazine:-

Mrs. Conyers Morrell

"Leyland is the poorer, and not only Leyland, but the artistic world and a wide circle of friends by the death of our dear friend and benefactor, our Lady Bountiful, as I loved to call her, B. de M. Morrell. We laid her peacefully to rest in God's Acre on Thursday last, April 22nd, after only a short illness: at Church on Easter-day, at rest from her labours the following week.

Mrs. Conyers Morrell was no mere dilettante in the flowery paths of art, she was an indefatigable worker herself, editor of the "Home Art Work" an authority on every subject connected with tapestry ancient and modern, embroidery, lace, bead work, basket making, &c., &c. She was an accomplished bookbinder, and an artist of far more than ordinary ability: her illustrations to Canon Bill's "Four Seasons at the Lakes" published by Marcus Ward soon after her marriage, long adorned many a drawing-room table, and are admirable

for the careful observation of nature. But far more than this, she loved her brother-man, she loved her sister-woman; large-hearted, broad-minded, her aim was to give pleasure all round; specially to the young. She had no trace of that blemish which makes some well-meaning people such bores; when she came to Leyland, she took us as she found us, and made the best of us, and with her genial smile, made us feel all the better for having been with her, but she made no perceptible effort to set us right.

Her Christianity was not reproofs, rebukes, or even exhortations but a 'life led', and so as our last 'requiem', played on the organ presented to the Church by her husband and his father, our organist gave us not the weird dirge over defeated Saul the suicide, not the hopeless wail of Chopin's funeral march, but Mendellsohn's Song of Victory 'Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the Kingdom of their Father.'

May our Lady of the Sunshine rest in peace, and light perpetual shine upon her!"

The family gravestone records her death: 'Blanche Louise de Montmorency (nee Daubeny) wife of James Conyers Morrell of Beechfield, Leyland. Died April 20th 1909 in the 63rd year of her age.'

Of the three sons, Clayton Conyers became a Doctor of Medicine, dying in 1976 at Mudeford House, Mudeford, Christchurch, Hants., aged 97 years. His brother Roger Conyers, ordained in the Church of England, was Vicar of St. Thomas', Agar Town (later a part of Camden Town) from 1914 to 1948. A one-time Mayor of St. Pancras (1926/7) he died in 1977 aged 94. Their brother Ralph D'Albini, however, was not destined to enjoy their longevity.

Ralph D'Albini Morrell

His interests from an early age seem to have inclined to the military; he was one of the founders of the St. Andrew's Company of the Church Lads Brigade and its first Commanding Officer. One of the summer activities of the Brigade was the 'Saturday Marches' and a description of the Easter 1909 march appeared in the Parish Magazine on the facing page to that of his Mother's obituary:-

Church Lads' Brigade - St. Andrew's Company, Leyland. 2625.

"On Easter Eve, April 10th, 55 Members of this Company, under Captain Morrell, marched to Southport, the weather being all that could be desired. Leaving the Schools at 7.30 in the morning, with fifes and drums playing, the route taken was by Bretherton, Tarleton and Mere Brow, and from thence across Marton Mere to Moss Lane, at the end of which, a well earned haversack dinner was eagerly devoured, liquids being supplied by the Captain's brother, the Rev. R.C. Morrell, who, together with the Vicar of Leyland, the Rev. Leyland Baldwin, accompanied the lads on cycles.

Dinner finished, the remaining two miles to Lord Street, Southport, were undertaken, the lads after their 15 miles march unanimously refusing the tramcar which was at their disposal. The Company was on the road for six hours, the halts massed together amounted to 1½ hours, leaving 4½ hours for the actual march of 17 miles odd. The lads were dismissed on arrival and met again at 5 o'clock at the premises of Mr. Peter Rimmer, where at a charge of only 9d. per head they were supplied with a well loaded table.

At 8.30 a large crowd collected at the corner of London Street to watch the lads fall in and march, with their band, the short distance to the Station where they entrained for home, the Vicar and Capt. Morrell sharing expenses. Changing at Preston, the band again led the way through the Station, even playing up and down the stairs of the bridge. Leyland was reached shortly after 10 o'clock, and the Company marched to the Cross.

The outing was described by the lads as 'champion', the Lancashire expression equivalent to 'A.1'. The Fair on the sands at Southport and the Lake seemed to be the principal attractions, and C.L.B. was very much in evidence, even among the huge crowds collected there for the holiday.

Further Saturday afternoon marches are being arranged for the coming of Summer, and judged by last year, they are much appreciated by the lads."

R. D'A. Morrell, Captain

The following year Ralph was commissioned in the 4th Battalion (Territorial Force) of the King's Own (Royal Lancaster Regiment), and shortly after this time the Morrells seem to have left Leyland. The start of the Great War in 1914 saw James Conyers Morrell living in London with his son, the Rev. Roger Conyers, who had been appointed Vicar of St. Thomas, Agar Town, earlier that year, and his other two sons both serving with commissions in the Army: Ralph in the 4th King's Own and Clayton, as a doctor, presumably in the Royal Army Medical Corps.

January 1916 saw the 1/4th Battalion of the King's Own in the 164th Infantry Brigade, a part of the re-formed 55th (West Lancashire) Division. Up until that time the North Lancashire Brigade - of which the 4th King's Own was a part - had been in France attached to the 51st (Highland) Division.

July 1916 saw the 55th Division on the Somme. On July 30th they took over the line opposite Guillemont - the 164th Infantry Brigade and a part of the 165th, were chosen to attack the village which had been a thorn in the side of the British for some time. The official record describes the attack which was part of a greater offensive:-

The Battle for Guillemont: August 8th, 1916

"The attack took place at 4.20a.m., as arranged, and at 5.20a.m. a report was received to the effect that British troops were in Guillemont Station. A little later it became known that the centre had been unable to advance and the artillery barrage had to be brought back. The 1/4th Royal Lancasters had found a belt of the enemy's wire about 200 yards from their jumping off place - probably put out by the enemy during the night. They made a gallant attempt to cut their way through, but suffered so heavily from rifle and machine gun fire both from their front and from their right flank, that they were compelled to return to their trenches."

(Ref. "The Story of the 55th (West Lancashire) Division", Rev. J.O. Coop, Senior Chaplain of the Division, 1919).

It was in this attack that Ralph Morrell was killed. The Chorley Guardian and Leyland Advertiser of Saturday, 19th August, 1916 reported his death:-

Capt. Ralph D'Albini Morrell was the second son of Mr. James Conyers and Mrs. Conyers Morrell nee Daubeny.

He was educated at St. Edward's School, Oxford, and received his commission six years ago. He fell on August 8th aged 35.

His Commanding Officer writes 'He was leading his Company to the assault. He was very popular and well liked by all officers and men of his Battalion and will be greatly missed. His last words were - "Tell the Commanding Officer I died doing my duty for King and Country."'

The family gravestone records that he was buried on the field of battle. A Memorial Service was held at the Parish Church on the evening of Thursday, August 31st, 1916 for Ralph Morrell and five other young men of Leyland.

* * * *

The Morrell family were followed at Beechfield by the Middleton family of Adlington who owned the Springfield Mill at Heath Charnock. Little is known about this family or their time at Beechfield except for the report of the death in the Great War of their son Arthur Claud, and the exploits of his younger brother, Archibald, in the Royal Flying Corps.

Arthur Claud Middleton had been educated at the Old College, Windermere; also, in Germany and at the Manchester School of Technology. He then joined his father in the family concern.

At the outbreak of war he immediately enlisted and was commissioned in the 8th (Territorial Force) Battalion, The Lancashire Fusiliers. His Battalion Commander was a local man Lt. Col. James Albert Fallows of Minden, Moss Lane, Leyland; Commercial Manager and a Departmental Director of the Leyland and Birmingham Rubber Company.

The Chorley Guardian of June 19th, 1915 reported that Claud had been wounded in May at the Dardanelles and had been brought back to Egypt where he was in hospital in Alexandria. He rejoined his battalion but was wounded again on June 7th, 1915: it was some two weeks later that his family received the news at Beechfield that Claud had, in fact, died later on the day that he was wounded. His Commanding Officer, Lt. Col. Fallows, was killed on the same day.

Claud's brother, Capt. J.A. Middleton, Royal Field Artillery, attached to the Royal Flying Corps, was awarded the Military Cross in April 1918. The official record states: "On one occasion he made two successive attacks on an enemy aerodrome and despite a mist and the intense activity of hostile aircraft, dropped his bombs obtaining two direct hits on the hangars.

On a later occasion, during a gale, he made two journeys to bomb enemy rest billets, obtaining several direct hits on his objective and attacking hostile transport on the roads with machine gun fire.

He has at all times shown great courage and skill and has set an example which has been of great value to his squadron." This was dated May 4th at which time Capt. Middleton was in hospital in London.

Just when the Middletons left Beechfield is not known, but by the mid 1920's the occupier was Mr. John Pilkington, the owner of Earnshaw Bridge Mill, who lived there until the 1950's when he moved to Baldwin Croft. About this time Beechfield estate was bought by Leyland Motors Ltd. who also bought the adjacent field, the 'Paddocks' - later known as Mayfield. In the late 1980's both Beechfield and Mayfield were sold by Leyland DAF, as the 'Motors' had become, and are now almost entirely built on, but Beechfield House and Lodge survive as a reminder of the old estates origin and former glory.

"A large part of the above article is based on research currently taking place on the men of Leyland and Farington (St. Ambrose) who fell in the

Great War. Perhaps it would be appropriate at this point to report on how the research is progressing. Some 80% of the men whose names are on the memorials in Leyland have now been identified. Although progress has been slower than was anticipated, hopefully research will be completed early in the New Year when thoughts can turn to how best to produce a record of this sad period in our history."

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The Staffs of the Lancashire Record Office and the Leyland and Chorley Libraries for their kind assistance.

W.E. WARING

CHORLEY WEEKLY NEWS - SATURDAY 29TH AUGUST 1914

Leyland: The Crisis and Rifle Shooting. Through the generosity of the Leyland Rifle Club, the Beechfield range has been thrown open to the public who wish to practice rifle shooting for the present crisis on Tuesday and Thursday evening from 6.30 until dusk, and on Saturday afternoon from 1.30 to 5.30. The public have free use of the range and rifles and can purchase ammunition at five shots a penny. Arrangements are also being made for those who desire to take a course of military drill on Saturday afternoons. The range has recently been enlarged, and it is hoped to have the new pavilion erected before next season.

CHORLEY WEEKLY NEWS - SATURDAY 2ND JANUARY 1915

The rifle shooting at Leyland is steadily progressing, an indoor range having been made under the Grandstand on the May Festival Ground for 25 yard range shooting. A large number of the local young men make good use of this new attraction.



SOCIETY AFFAIRS

The 25th Anniversary Annual General Meeting was held at Prospect House on Monday, 5th July, 1993. To a good attendance the Chairman, Mr. Seguss, outlined briefly the beginnings of the Society in 1968 and, how, despite all the changes in Leyland in the last 25 years with the loss of the old Leyland Motors as a major employer and the demolition of the old town centre with no sign yet of its re-development, the Leyland Historical Society is still going strong as it completes its first 25 years.

In the financial report our Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Gardner, was able to report a successful year. A surplus for the year of £74.19 and the rent for Prospect House remaining at its present level for the next twelve months meant that no increase was proposed in the annual subscription. Mr. Cumpstey was thanked for auditing the report.

Having completed his second term as Chairman Alf Seguss stood down and his place in the Chair was taken by Peter Houghton whose place as Vice-Chairman was filled by Brian Greenhalgh: these were the only changes in the affairs of the Society. Alf Seguss was thanked for his sterling work for the Society in his terms as Chairman. After sandwiches and cakes the meeting concluded with slides of 'Leyland, 25 years ago' by Mr. Waring.

The annual outing to Alston Hall took place on Sunday, March 28th this year and, as always, was pronounced a 'reet good do'. After a pleasant meal our old friend Dr. Alan Crosby regaled us with his lecture 'Crime in the 17th Century.'

The Society this year took part in three main activities: the Leyland Festival; the Local History Fair at Manchester; and the August Exhibition at the South Ribble Museum. A display on differing themes; news, sport, radio, T.V. etc., all relating to the year of our foundation, 1968, was done single-handedly by member Peter Houghton - a magnificent effort, and which formed the basis of the displays in the above activities.

Leyland Festival Day, Saturday June 5th, 1993, dawned bright and sunny once again and continued so throughout. The complete '1968' display was on show in the Arts and Craft marquee on Worden Park. There was hardly a quiet moment and the members staffing the stand were kept busy right through until evening.

The 150th Anniversary of the Chetham Society was celebrated with a 'Local History Fair' in Manchester Town Hall on Saturday and Sunday, 26/27th June, 1993. The Leyland Historical Society was one of 85 Lancashire Societies who took part in the celebration that attracted no less than 3,000 people. Our stand was located in the Lord Mayor's Parlour - a wonderful and historic setting for a memorable event.

The '1968' display; previous work of the Society; and photographs of 'Leyland in the Past' formed the Leyland Historical Society's 25th Anniversary Exhibition at the South Ribble Museum and Exhibition Centre in August. Thanks are due to the Custodian, David Hunt, for this well presented exhibition and to all members of the Society who gave their time and effort in this 25th Anniversary year.

EDITOR



LOST AND FOUND - OR DEEDS AND MISDEEDS

- An Unfinished Romance of Leyland -

"When found, make a note of," says Captain Cuttle, so let us chronicle this. More than fifty years ago, in the days of the old Vicar, the deeds connected with the Leyland Grammar School were missing. Hue and cry was made in all likely and unlikely quarters. From the lengthy Parish Chest there was no voice. Cuerden was ransacked in vain. Lathom House, then the seat of Lord Skelmersdale, an old trustee, had nothing to disclose. The scent grew cold, and the deeds were lost, and time rolled on, and the old Vicar died; and then one fine day in the sixties Miss Ffarington, turning over the Worden archives, suddenly dropt upon them, lying so peacefully, all unconscious of the hubbub that had been raised over their disappearance. She, remembering the bygone quest, lost no day in sending them by a safe and speedy messenger to our old friend, John Eccles, Esq., of Well-field, then the senior trustee, and the deeds were found.

And time rolled on, and the trustees, once a hearty band, dropped like ripened fruit into their graves, and Mr. Eccles himself died, and his widow died, and forgetfulness, like a pall, seemed to be settling upon Leyland, and the late Vicar, who thought himself the last trustee, died, and the deeds were lost.

Again a hue and cry, and inquiry from men of a later day, and when each likely covert seemed to be drawn blank, Miss Ffarington, recalling the find of years ago, suggested a search among the papers of the late Mr. Eccles. The scent was again taken up, and the missing documents run to earth in the strong boxes of Messrs Buck and Dickson, solicitors, Preston. Once more found, the sole surviving trustees, T.T. Townley-Parker, Esq., of Cuerden, was appraised thereof, and the papers are now in his possession.

Twelve new trustees are now to be appointed.

* * * * *

This interesting item is taken from the Leyland St. Andrew's Parish Magazine of September 1892 and is, quite clearly, from the pen of the Vicar, the Rev. Leyland Baldwin. The 'old Vicar' referred to is his father, the Rev. Gardner Baldwin (1792-1852), and the 'late Vicar' is his brother, the Rev. Thomas Rigbye Baldwin (1822-1891) - the last three of the seven Baldwin Vicars of Leyland.

Now, one hundred and one years later the Deeds of the old Leyland Grammar School are missing once again. Just how many times since 1892 they have surfaced only to sink again into the depths is not known, but perhaps they will reappear once again and the present incumbent of that venerable establishment will cry 'Eureka'!

Perhaps instead of 'awaiting events', we could do as Captain Cuttle would have done when faced with an intractable problem: "Thereupon the Captain put his iron hook between his teeth, as if it were a hand; and with an air of wisdom and profundity that was the very concentration and sublimation of all philosophical reflection and grave inquiry, applied himself to the consideration of the subject in its various branches." 'Dombey and Son', Charles Dickens.

Certainly, we could do worse than adopt the Captain's motto:-

"When found, make a note of"

EDITOR