

Saddleshworth Historical Society Bulletin

A COPY
OF THE
COMMISSIONER'S AWARD,
FOR
INCLOSING COMMONS AND WASTE GROUNDS
In the parish of Saddleshworth,
IN THE WEST RIDING OF THE COUNTY OF YORK;
TOGETHER
WITH AN INDEX SHEWING THE OWNERS OF THE ALLOTMENTS AT
THE PRESENT TIME;
AND ALSO AN ACCOMPANYING MAP OR PLAN OF THE SAID COMMONS.

BY THOMAS HESSLEGRAVE,
LAND SURVEYOR, DOBCROSS, SADDLEWORTH.

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Volume 10 Number 4

Winter 1980

BULLETIN
OF THE
SADDLEWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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SADDLEWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 1980

Extracts from the Chairman's Report

As usual the Treasurer will make his own report after mine. I do not mind preparing a narrative about the activities of the Society, but I prefer to leave the finances to the expert, and Mr. K. Booth is an expert in this field. We have only to look at the amount of money that is making interest for us to realise that this is the case.

May I first record the pleasure with which the Society learned this year of Rev. C.C.W. Airne's appointment as a Canon of Manchester Cathedral. Our heartiest congratulations go to him. I am sure he will enjoy this new role.

My thanks to our Secretary, Mrs. B. Booth, to Mr. D. Chadderton, our Vice-Chairman, and to all the other officials of the Society who have made my own job so easy. The Committee has met monthly, with an average attendance rate of 95%. The meetings last about two hours, but it isn't always possible to discuss fully in that time the many items of business that arise. We are fortunate to have such an industrious and conscientious Committee.

The membership stands at 284. 35 of last year's members did not re-enrol, but our Membership Secretaries, Mr. & Mrs. Broadbent, enlisted 40 new ones. Thanks to the efforts of our Secretary and our Publicity Officer, Mr. G. Parry, the membership are well informed of the Society's activities with the printed programme and the regular newsletters.

This year Mr. Gordon Parry has retired from the headship of the Adult Education Centre - perhaps a significant step in the Society's history. This Centre has been our home since the Society's formation 14 years ago; during all that time he has been its head and we have had all the facilities the Centre could provide and all the assistance he personally could give. Fortunately, we still have him as a Society member and so we can rely on his participation.

We affiliated the Society to the Northern Mill Engine Society of which Mr. John Buckley is Vice-Chairman, and to the Greater Manchester Archaeological Group. Our representatives there are Mr. K. Booth and Mr. B. Barnes. We are now affiliated to 11 organisations. The lectern which Mrs. Esther Shaw Lawn of California bought for the Society has been regularly used this year. There were nine lectures: all except two were given by members. We had a display stand at the Rotary Club Medieval Fair and at the Tameside Canal Festival. For a long time we have been talking about having an easily portable and quickly assembled display stand for such occasions, and enquiries are now being made with this in view.

In June a most instructive excursion was organised by Mr. S. Broadbent to the open air industrial museums at Blists Hill and Coalbrookdale. During September we had a very enjoyable outing to the Lake District, visiting the Maritime Museum and sailing round Lake Coniston on the gondola. The weather was pretty bad but everyone enjoyed the day. Mr. D. Chadderton organised a walk last month along the Newhey - Marsden packhorse trail. Only six members turned up for this. It rained most of the day - heavily. We were drenched, but there were no complaints.

The next issue of the Bulletin completes Volume 10 and ten years of successful editing by Mr. Bernard Barnes. In that period he has given us 40 Bulletins. How much time and effort has this cost him? The

interesting articles, features and correspondence, the well-documented research, the professional manner in which the archaeological reports are presented. Look at the last Bulletin as an example: the report of the flint adze found recently in Oldham is not everyone's idea of bedtime reading, but it isn't meant to be. It is meant to inform the archaeological world of this important local find and that is precisely what it does with painstaking thoroughness and the scholarship which distinguishes our Bulletins. Mr. Barnes has to encourage people to provide material for them: older members will know what a considerable amount he provides himself. He has to decide what to include in the issue, to determine the layout, the illustrations (Mr. Julian Hunt provides considerable help with these and with the cover), and then the typing which is done by Mrs. B. Butterworth. So to the printing and collating. Mr. Parry spend a whole day on the printing of the last one while the collating and stapling took two members a further half day. This gave us 350 Bulletins. What does Mr. Barnes do with these? He passes them to member distributors and to distribution points, the Museum for example. He posts a lot, he distributes to many subscribers by hand, and then he has to account for them - 350 at 25p a copy - and to think about the next issue and about those hundreds of unsold past issues upstairs, as well as the 6,000 Local Interest Trails in stock. He hasn't produced any new trails this year, but he believes there is need for one on Delph village and for one on Dobcross. This of course is not the end of his commitment to the Society. He has written a book, "Passage through Time", which will be ready shortly. Mr. John Cook has designed the cover which incorporates a picture specially drawn by Mr. Ellis Shaw. Mrs. B. Booth has done the photography and Mr. K. Booth has produced the finished maps from Mr. Barnes' outlines. We are grateful to the many people who have ordered copies in advance of publication.

The Industrial Archaeology Section are still working on the Wool Road Warehouse restoration. They have pulled down the smithy so they now have enough slates to complete the roof. Then they will have to make the doors and refurbish the interior. They have also had to liaise with British Waterways about the disposal of the rubble, to negotiate suitable insurance and to apply for grants. Mr. Harvey Griffiths raised £246 for the project with a house party in his home in May. Mrs. N. Buckley raised over £170 with two "Good-as-New" sales in Uppermill. Mr. Buckley is very grateful to those people who helped, particularly the working parties, but more volunteers are needed for week-end work at the warehouse if we are to finish it during the coming year.

The Archaeology Section, although not strong in numbers, organised a very full programme again this year. In addition to lectures and discussions, they arranged visits to Piercebridge, Skipton, Blackstone Edge, Melandra and Sheffield Museum. They have established useful friendly contacts with many archaeological groups. During their visit to the Friends of Craven Museum at Skipton, Miss C. Shaw of Delph had a discussion with Mr. Butterfield about Saddleworth bakestones, and on her return sent him a specimen. This started him on some research in that area and as a result (I quote from his letter to Miss Shaw) ".....it started me thinking about local sites and I started to check them out before writing, and it seems to have paid off as I think that I have found a small drying kiln and working site for bakestones on the Cowling Moors, something which I would have certainly missed if not for our discussions on that night" How many other discoveries are initiated by such discussions? Mr. Booth asked me to thank Dr. W.P.B. Stonehouse and Mr. Alec Schofield for organising all the Archaeological Section's activities again this year.

Mr. D. Chadderton has considerable business commitments. This did

not prevent him from involvement in a large area of the Society's activities. He has attended meetings of the Museum Management Committee. His Social Committee organised the Tea Dance which raised £256 for the Museum, and was also responsible for the very enjoyable Viking Evening last week at the Civic Hall. As our representative on the Conservation Area Advisory Committee he tried to obtain a protection order for Ladhill Bridge, Greenfield. He had the support of the Parish Council, the Oldham M.B.C. and the Civic Trust, but the Department of the Environment turned the application down. He successfully pressed for grey stone slates to be used for re-roofing the cottages, 1 - 5 Thorpe Lane. The Society also supported in writing the Parish Council's action in reproaching the Water Authority for allowing Ashway Gap to fall into such a ruinous state, and recommended that the tower be stabilised if possible and retained as a ruin. Mr. Chadderton has also acted as a prime mover for the opening of the canal in Saddleworth. He has corresponded with interested parties to get their approval of the project, attended most of the monthly meetings with the Huddersfield Canal Society to thrash out details. During the summer the Huddersfield Canal Society have had an electrically powered boat running to Dungebooth Lock from the Museum, and next year, reports Mr. Chadderton, a big effort is being made to re-open the lock. Mr. Sumner of the Liverpool Road Society is project director. The lock gates, costing £7,000, have been promised, and a working party is being organised for March/April next year. Mr. Chadderton has also formed a Transport Section of our Society, the first venture being the walk along the pack-horse route I referred to earlier.

Rev. Canon Airne reports that the archives are catalogued and available to reference at the Old School, Lee Street, although little used so far. He hopes that members are not inhibited by having to approach him for access. Perhaps when the Museum archives room has been fitted out more use will be made of them.

The Society has continued its working association with the Museum under our Museum Officer, Mr. Neil Barrow. He reports that there have been more than 10,000 visitors so far this year and that over £700 of publications have been sold. When the Museum is fully functional no doubt these figures will be increased considerably and the full potential of the building will be exploited. Mr. Tony Burke's Tuesday evening working parties, which include Society members, have continued all this year, and he supplemented these with two working week-ends. The upstairs extension was opened as a result of one, and the veteran vehicle room was tiled during the other week-end. If more Society members would join these working parties it would expedite completion of the outstanding jobs. Rev. Canon Airne has in fact assembled an archives team who have been cataloguing the Museum archives. Much of the Museum manning has been done by our members, and we have a strong representation on the Museum Management Committee. I must mention the work done by Mr. John Buckley on the Dobcross Loom. Although he is responsible for the work at the Wool Road Warehouse, he has found time to organise the removal of this heavy loom from Bradbury's, Stonebottom Mill, to the Museum, stripping it down to get it inside and its reassembly in the Museum - this in addition to his other commitments. When the loom is again complete it will form part of a large exhibition in the Museum on the influence of the textile industry on Saddleworth. Mr. Barnes is also helping this project. The Archaeology Section will be arranging the Prehistoric and Roman Section of the Museum. Mr. Richard Hotchkis raised some money for the Museum by his successful participation in the sponsored beer-barrel rolling race at Diggle this summer. There is a lot of work still to be done and a lot of money to be raised: as Mr. Barrow comments: "The Museum offers tremendous scope for those actively interested in the history of Saddleworth".

If I tend to give the impression that most of the work is done by the executive committee and other organised groups in the Society, you must forgive me. This is not the case. Mr. Julian Hunt, for example, provided a lot of information for the Society; Mr. Alan Petford is negotiating at present to obtain for us an interesting Saddleworth Enclosure book; Mrs. Anne Parry is continuing her research on the Saddleworth/America Connection and would welcome any relevant items of information you may have. Individual members help in various ways - delivering Bulletins, preparing refreshments at meetings, all making the running of the Society so much easier.

The Society must remain vigilant if we are to fulfil our role in the community. We had a report that the horse trough outside the Clarence Hotel, Greenfield, had been taken away by the brewery. Mr. S. Broadbent followed this up immediately: he got in touch with the brewery and obtained their agreement to reinstate it when a suitable site had been decided upon. He liaised with the Bridleways Association and is currently seeking the views of the Tame Valley Wardens and the Civic Trust before proceeding. Earlier in the year we protested to the Postal Authorities who had replaced a Victorian letterbox at Oak View Mill with a modern one. This protest has not yet been resolved.

Next year in prospect looks promising with the publication of Mr. Barnes' book and the celebration of the Society's 15th year. How great it would be if we could top off these events with the opening of the Wool Road Warehouse and the completion of the Museum. These are both possible objectives and would provide a stimulating target for your new Committee.

John Murray

THE FIRST TEN YEARS

With this issue the Saddleworth Historical Society Bulletin completes its tenth year of publication. Although there have been some changes in format since the first number saw the light of day in March, 1971, overall its style and layout have altered little. It has been editorial policy to attempt to maintain the academic nature of the publication, and to resist the temptation to include items of "news" or articles merely describing Society activities, the feeling being that these could be catered for by a separate newsletter. Maybe there are members who disagree with this, but the readership of the Bulletin now extends to many outside the bounds of Society membership, including many libraries and other centres of learning. A balance, too, has to be struck constantly between the various interests of the Historical Society: there are some who would wish more Archaeology to be included, others whose interests lie in Social and Economic History; heraldry, family history, sources, political history, and so on, all claim a part. But the Editor can only include what he receives, and a constant requirement for articles and other material for publication is always pressing. One might feel justified in the course taken so far if the plaudits that were earned from "The Local Historian" are anything to go by. In the August, 1977, issue of that journal (Vol. 12, pp. 343-348), three "amateur publications" were singled out as coming "very near the ideal", one of these being the Saddleworth Historical Society's Bulletin.

Throughout most of its history so far, the Bulletin has been produced

entirely by members of the Society. The first few volumes were typed, duplicated, collated and bound at the Secondary School in Uppermill under the guidance of Mr. Gordon Parry. The desire to include illustrations and an attractive cover constantly led a search for other methods of reproduction, such as offset-litho printing. Eventually, in 1977, Mr. Julian Hunt of the Local Interest Centre in Oldham took the production of the Bulletin under his wing, and its appearance took a startling change for the better insofar as the inclusion of pictorial items was concerned. But since the beginning of 1980, Society members have once again been entirely responsible for the quarterly publication, being fortunate to be able to use printing facilities at the Adult Education Centre in Oldham. Throughout nearly all this time, the typing and layout of the copy prior to reproduction has been most efficiently carried out by Mrs. Barbara Butterworth.

The number of copies printed has varied over the years. An initial run of 250 was decided upon for the first volume, but this rose to 300 for Volume Two and 450 for Volume Three. This lasted till Volume Six but since that time the number has settled down at 350. Approximately 27 non-members of the Society subscribe to the Bulletin, including several libraries and learned societies. Between 45 and 50 copies are distributed by post - a not inconsiderable item when one considers the rising cost of postage and envelopes. Some of these go to Canada, the U.S.A. and France. Distribution to members in Saddleworth and Oldham is, as Mr. Murray has mentioned above, undertaken by a hard core of four or five of the Committee. A good number of copies are also sold in local shops as well as in the Museum and the Local Interest Centre in Oldham.

The activities of the publishing side of the Society has expanded since 1971. Six Local Interest Trails have now been published. At first these were produced in the same way as the early Bulletins, and many hundreds of these were sold. Since 1973, however, they have been designed and printed in a new format by Revell & George of Manchester, the first two Trails having been reprinted already. Again, as with the Bulletins, the Trails are sold in local shops as well as in the Museum and the Local Interest Centre, but a great number are also disposed of by the Tame Valley Wardens and by the Pennine Park Centre in Hebden Bridge. The first of the Society's occasional publications or monographs, Colonel G.B. Howcroft's "George Shaw of St. Chad's", was published in 1972, and was soon sold out. However, it has taken eight years to produce the second, "Passage through Time", and this will be published early in the new year. It is hoped that a greater number of these larger ventures will be forthcoming during the next ten years.

Finally, the Editor would like to place on record his gratitude for the complete freedom of control that he has been allowed by the Committee, and for the help that he has received both from them and from many other members of the Society.

The Editor

MILES SCHOFIELD OF OLDHAM

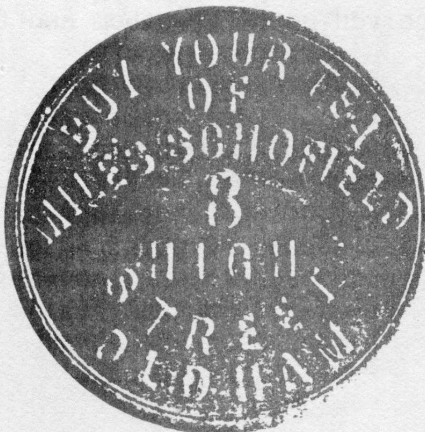
There are many references in the Parish Registers of St. Chad, Saddleworth, to the name Schofield under its numerous spelling variations, and the family already occupied lands here in the reign of Henry VIII. A John and Edmund Scholfield of Castylshaw (Castleshaw) are mentioned in a deed of 1544 where the king conveys to Arthur Ashton of Rochdale, Co. Lancaster, for the sum of £36l. 7s. 4d., certain lands in Saddleworth called Heldebrighthope (Friarmere), lately belonging to the Abbey of Rupe, alias Roche, Co. York.

The Christian name Miles was regularly used by various branches of the family for several generations, and a Miles Scholefyeld, the son of Miles was christened at St. Chad's on 21st January, 1613/14. However, the Miles Schofield with whom we are concerned was the son of James and Martha Schofield; he was born at Blakehaynook (Bleak Hey Nook) near Castleshaw, and his christening took place at St. Chad's on 4th January, 1801. Miles had at least one sister, Sarah (christened 24th January, 1796) and one brother, William (christened 15th July, 1798).

By the year 1838 he had moved from Saddleworth to Oldham and was trading as a boot and shoe maker and leather cutter in High Street, and according to Slater's 1843 Directory he also had premises at Market Place. The local historian, Edwin Butterworth (Oldham Reports) in an entry for July 1838 discusses, under the heading "Intended Court of Requests", a meeting held at the Oldham Arms Hotel "to take into consideration the propriety of applying to Parliament, for the recovery of small debts at Oldham Mr. John Wild proposed the commencement of a subscription fund for defraying the cost of taking proceedings to obtain the Act, and was seconded by Mr. Miles Schofield". A footnote to this entry gives Miles Schofield's address as Royton Street and his trade as grocer.

The 1841 Census informs us that he was married to Ruth, whose age is given as 45, and he had a daughter named Ann who was stated to be 13 years of age. Some time between 1841 and 1851 his wife apparently died, and by the latter year he was married again, this time to Frances Euphemia who was some 18 years his junior. The 1851 Census gives her place of birth as Grassington, Yorkshire, and the couple are stated to have a daughter Maria Todd Schofield, aged 7 months, who was born in Oldham. A servant Hannah Maria Schofield, aged 22 (born at Chesterfield, Derbys.), who was living with them, was perhaps an adopted child or in some other way related.

The latter Census gives Miles Schofield's trade as shoe dealer, and we know from the "unofficial farthing" (see figure below) which he issued,



that he was also trading at No. 8 High Street, Oldham, as a tea dealer. This "farthing" is one of several similar pieces issued by various traders in Oldham and other parts of the country, probably during shortages of regal farthings, two of which occurred during the years 1845-6 and 1851-2 (Bell 1975).

From Oldham, Miles Schofield moved to Nantwich in Cheshire, probably between 1857 and 1864, in which year he first appears in a Cheshire directory. He is listed as a leather cutter, trading in High Street, Nantwich, and he apparently continued in business there until his death on 19th January, 1873.

The property in High Street, Oldham, occupied by Miles Schofield, was situated between the Angel Wine Lodge (now Yates's) and the Swan Hotel, 10, High Street, which closed in June 1914 and became a recruiting office during the 1914-1918 war. Following his removal to Nantwich, No. 8 High Street, Oldham, was occupied in turn by a grocer, hosier and tobacconist. High Street was widened in the early 1920's and much rebuilding took place, the Wine Lodge or Boots now occupying the site of Miles Schofield's former premises.

The writer would be delighted to hear from any descendants of Miles Schofield and would be most interested to know if any photographs of him survive.

Thanks are also due to Mr. Harry Horton of the Manchester Central Library for checking the Cheshire directories on my behalf.

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- Bell, R.C. (1975) Unofficial Farthings 1820-1870.
Butterworth, Edwin (1829-1843) Oldham Reports, unpublished Mss. in the
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Oldham).
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Morris & Co. (1864) Commercial Directory and Gazetteer of Cheshire.
Parish Records of St. Chad, Saddleworth - baptisms 1800-1824. (Micro-film
copy in Local Interest Centre, Oldham).
Pigot, James & son (1838) General, classified and street directory of
Manchester and Salford
Radcliffe, J. (ed.) (1891) The Parish Registers of St. Chad, Saddleworth
..... from 1751 to 1800.
Slater, Isaac (1843) A directory of Manchester and Salford
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Lancashire.

Leonard Kidd

SADDLEWORTH RECORDS

Part 3

Documents relating to the Saddleworth Enclosure Act of 1810.

The recent discovery of the Enclosure Commissioner's Minute Book for Saddleworth has prompted us to calendar all the official documents produced in connection with the Saddleworth Enclosure Act of 1810 which are known to exist at present. It is very probable that further material will come to light in the future, and so this calendar should be regarded as no more than an interim measure.

A glance at the calendar will show that the documentary evidence of Parliamentary Enclosure in Saddleworth is remarkably rich. In addition, when it is recalled that the Minute Book of the Lords of the Manor enables us to trace the origins of the decision to apply for the Act, and that the records of a manorial sub-committee provide us with a running commentary on the operation of the Act until 1815, then it is clear that we have the materials to construct an exceptionally complete picture of Parliamentary Enclosure in Saddleworth (1).

The acquisition of the Commissioner's Minute Book by the Historical Society through the generosity of Mr. John Hindle of Darwen is a piece of good fortune beyond expectation, for less than ten such books are known to survive in the whole of the West Riding (2). Not only is the Minute Book a remarkable survival, it is an extremely illuminating document. It enables us to examine the Commissioner's actions in detail during the 34 years that elapsed between the passing of the Act and the publication of the Award. It appears that the sheer complexity of the business and the extent of the area involved, well over 7,000 acres, were the principle reasons behind this long gap of 34 years (3). Indeed, far from the Commissioner being idle during this time, over 400 meetings were required before the Award could be published. By the fortunate survival of a bundle of original claims submitted to the Commissioner it is possible to reconstruct in some detail that important first meeting in 1810 at the King's Head, Dobcross, when the anxious suppliants crowded in to deliver their claims to be considered in the dividing up of the Commons. Turn the pages of the Commissioner's Minute Book and the sober prose of the clerk creates little vignettes which capture for a moment something of the reality of what it was like to be involved in early nineteenth century enclosure. Take, for instance, the entry for 7th August, 1812:

"The Commissioner and his attendants then perambulated the Boundary taking the Summit Ridge from which the Rainwater descends on each side - as far as Swillars Hill --

The same day met on the Moors with two Shepherds of the name of Turton -- whose sheep the Saddleworth Gentlemen drove out of the Saddleworth Boundary -- and the same Gentlemen also prostrated some part of the walls of a sheepfold in Holm Clough --"

or this entry for 2nd June, 1814:

"The Commissioner attended at Dobcross and afterwards went to Boarshurst Green and set out part of that Green as a part of the School Allotment and another part of said Green in part of William Radcliffe's Allotment.

He directed James Radcliffe to pull down part of a wall he has

erected and which encroaches upon the Road set out on Foulrakes Green, adjourned to 29th day of June".

Since the documents in the calendar are deposited in a variety of places it seemed most useful to list them chronologically and to indicate in each case where the document may be found.

1. Draft of a Bill to Enclose Lands in Saddleworth. Manuscript. Undated. Saddleworth Historical Archives, Document 69.

Presumably this is a draft Bill for the 1810 Act for although it is broadly similar to the printed Act it differed in a number of ways. There are blank spaces left for the insertion of the acreage of the Commons to be enclosed. Quite a number of clauses in the printed Act are omitted in this draft, for instance those concerning the Public School at Boarshurst and some of the Huddersfield Canal clauses. There are three pages of additional clauses at the end but few of these appear in the printed Act, and, indeed, throughout the draft there are a number of clauses which do not appear in the printed version: against several such clauses there is a pencil annotation directing its deletion. Other pencil notes read, "See Printed Act", which is probably a reference to the General Enclosure Act of 1801, and "See Kelsale Act p.2" and "See Kington Act p.3", both suggesting that comparison with other Acts was being made in the process of drafting the Bill. As the Bill was presented in the Commons on 19th March, 1810, this draft must have been compiled some time immediately prior to this date (4).

2. Office Copy of Parliament Roll of Saddleworth Inclosure Act 1810. Manuscript. Saddleworth Historical Society Archives, Document 70.

This is a copy of the Act as passed and entered on the Statute Book, (it received the royal assent on 2nd June, 1810) and it is endorsed "Examined with the original Record in the Parliament Office this 19th day of December 1812 by us Daniel Prestwich of Ashton-under-line, George Gartside of Ashton-under-line, William Gibbon of Ashton-under-line".

3. An Act for Inclosing Lands in the Parish of Saddleworth in the West Riding of the County of York. 50. George III. 1810. Printed copies. Several printed copies of the Act exist in the archives of Saddleworth Museum and the Saddleworth Historical Society.
4. Saddleworth Inclosure: Memorandum of Proceedings under and by Virtue of an Act of Parliament made and passed in the fiftieth year of the reign of King George the third intituled "An Act for Inclosing Lands in the Parish of Saddleworth in the West Riding of the County of York". Manuscript. 1810-1834. Saddleworth Historical Society Archives.

The Commissioner's Minute Book covers all the proceedings from the Commissioner being sworn in on 22nd June, 1810, until the whole business was concluded by the publication of the Award on 8th March, 1834. Ralph Fletcher (5) of Bolton-le-Moors was the Commissioner from the beginning until his death in 1832 and he was succeeded by Joseph Shaw of Woodhouse, Saddleworth, who finished off the work and published the Award (6).

5. Claims delivered to the Enclosure Commissioner. Manuscript. 11th and 12th July, 1810. Saddleworth Historical Society Archives, Document 75/1-34.

We read in the Commissioner's Minute Book that on 24th June Ralph

Fig.1. The Claim of James Wrigley of Stone Rake. Saddleworth Historical Society Archives, Document 75/15.

This claim shows the standard form followed more or less by the

I James Wrigley of Stone Rake within Saddleworth in the
county of York ~~do hereby~~ do hereby claim an allotment
or allotments of the commons moors and waste grounds lying
and being in the Parish of Saddleworth and intended to be
inclosed under and by virtue of an Inclosure Act of Parliament
lately passed Intituled an act—~~for~~
Inclosing Lands in the Parish of Saddleworth
in the West Riding of the County of York

And which claim is for and in respect of all that freehold
messuage Dwellinghouse or Tenement situate standing and being
at or called Harrop Ridge in Saddleworth aforesaid together with
the Barn Lane and also the outchasing with
the appurtenances And also of all those closes Lands and Grounds
lying and being ^{at or} near to Harrop Ridge aforesaid commonly
called or known by the several names of the half Hey meadows
the Great Field the Stone pit field, the Great Wood, the Little
Wood and the Trough hay brough containing by Estimation
nine acres Intituled inclosure or thereabouts all which said
messuage Dwellinghouse or Tenement closes Land and Ground
with the appurtenances are now in the Tenure or Occupation
of Benjamin Wrigley his assigns or undertenances Dated the
Eleventh Day of July in the year of our Lord one
-thousand eight hundred and ten. James Wrigley.

majority of claimants. In this case the main text has clearly been written out before and spaces left for the relevant details.

Fig.2.

Sir
our claim is at the Bottom of upper wood
in Greenfield a place called Wrigley Key and
Wrigley Lodge, and for turf upon -
Broadstone hill at top of Slades

Saddleworth Fold Joseph Wrigley
July 11 1810 Joshua Wrigley

15
Our claim is in the Bottoms of upper wood a place
called Wrigley Key and Wrigley Lodge, and
for turf on Broadstone hill at top of
Slades

11 July 1810 James Whitehead
Saddleworth Fold

Fletcher had a notice placed on the main door of Saddleworth Church to the effect that he would hold his first meeting for the purpose of putting the Act into effect on 11th July "at the House of John Wrigley, Innkeeper in Dobcross at eleven of the clock in the forenoon" when "all persons having any claims which may affect the boundaries of the lands or having or claiming right of Common thereon shall and may and they are hereby required by themselves their Agents or Tenants respectively to give and deliver unto me the said Commissioner an Account in Writing of such Claims respectively". According to the Minute Book 59 claims were made on the 11th and five on the following day. 30 of the original pieces of paper making these claims survive for the 11th and all survive for the 12th. Most claimants followed a fairly standard form which is illustrated in Fig. 1, although as is shown by Fig. 2 some presented their claim in the boldest terms. An examination of the individual slips of paper shows that not everyone wrote their own claim themselves: many are written in the same hand and often on paper with the same watermark, merely being signed by the claimant. This suggests several scribes at work in Dobcross or perhaps, as in the case of the Saddleworth Fold claims illustrated in Fig. 2, neighbours getting together to have their claims written out.

Almost all the 34 documents have a pencilled number on the front, and since with but a few exceptions this is the order in which they were transcribed into the Commissioner's Minute Book, they have been listed according to these numbers below. They are preceded by 26 claims made on the 11th for which the originals are missing; all are transcribed word for word in the Minute Book unless otherwise stated.

Number in Pencil	Historical Soc.Number.	Name of Claimant.	Property, Manor Shares, Common Right in respect of which the claim is made.
1.	75/3	Edward Brown	33 Manor Shares
2.	75/5		the Carr and a Dole of Hollins situate and being near to a place called Milner Coat in Greenfield.
3.	75/4		lands and tenements at Halls.
4.	75/6	Hugo Worthington, Altrincham	lands and tenements at Whitelee Old and New Tame.
5.	75/7		Kinder Intacks.
6.	75/8	Joseph Lees	12 Manor Shares
7.	75/9	John Harrop, Dobcross	45 Manor Shares.
8.	75/10		The maracasses or meadows at Woolroad, lands and tenements at Dobcross, and 2 tenements at Walk Mill.
9.	75/14a	John Shaw, Furlane	lands and tenements at Carr Barn.
10.	75/13	Benjamin Winterbottom, Fernlee	lands and tenements at Whiteleigh alias Greenmans, common at Kinder Intacks and lands and tenements at Fernlee.
11.	75/11a	James Buckley, Hollingreave	tenements, lands and mill at Thornsclough.
12.	75/11b		lands and tenements at Hollingreave and a portion of Back o' th' Lee, uninclosed.
13.	75/15	James Wrigley, Stone Rake	lands and tenements at Harrop Ridge.

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|-----|-------|---|--|
| 14. | 75/16 | James Broadbent, Diglee | 14 Manor Shares, lands and tenements at Tunstead and Diglee. |
| 15. | 75/17 | James Whitehead, Saddleworth Fold | Wrigley hey and Wrigley Lodge and for turf on Broadstone hill at top of Slades. |
| 16. | 75/18 | Henry Buckley, Wallhill | lands at Wallhill, right of Turbary, Stone Gravel and Common Pasture on all Sir John Ramsden's Common Lands. |
| 17. | 75/2 | Philip Buckley, Shaws | lands and tenements at Shaws. |
| 18. | 75/19 | Thomas Shaw, Sheppards Green | lands and tenements at Sheppards Green, New Intake Farm, Hawkyard Farm, $\frac{1}{2}$ Pinfold Hey, sheep walks for 300 sheep, 2 cows, 2 stirks, 1 horse, geese, etc., Turvery, Stone, on the Commons and 4 Manor Shares. |
| 19. | 75/12 | Executors of James Buckley, Peters | Turbary of the Commons of Saddleworth. |
| 20. | 75/20 | Zachariah Whitehead, Lee Cross | lands and tenements at Lee Cross, New Intake and Diglee, Right for 8 cows, 1 horse, Sheep Walks, Turvery and Stone on the Commons. |
| 21. | 75/21 | George Broadbent, Harrop Cote | Right of 5 cows, 1 horse, Turvery and Stone on the Commons and lands and tenements at Harrop Cote and Diglee Farm. |
| 22. | 75/22 | James Hall, Cloughbottom | land and tenements at Cloughbottom. |
| 23. | 75/23 | Ann Wood, Yewtree | land and tenements at Yewtree. |
| 24. | 75/24 | James, Abraham and John Bottomley, Thurstones | land and tenements at Harrop Ridge. (N.B. numbers 24 and 25 are entered in reverse order in the Minute Book). |
| 25. | 75/25 | | land and tenements at Diggle, Diggle Edge and Diglee and 1/12th of Back o' th' Lee. |
| 26. | 75/26 | Robert Broadbent, Intack Head | lands and tenements at Intack head. |
| 27. | 75/27 | Giles Broadbent, Diggle Edge | lands and tenements at Diggle Edge and rights of stone and turf. |
| 28. | 75/28 | John, James and Joseph Bradbury, Runninghill Head | lands and tenements at Runninghill Head. |
| 29. | 75/29 | William Radcliffe, Boarshurst | Birchinhey meadow and Birchinhey Wood. |
| 30. | 75/1 | Claim of the Lords of the Manor | Incomplete, contains no schedule of claims. This claim was not entered in the Minute Book on 11th July but is to be found entered together with the missing schedule on 31st August, 1810, p.77. |

Claims made on 12th July:

These are entered in the Minute Book in the following order: 75/32, 75/33, 75/14b, 75/34, 75/30.

31.	75/14b	John Shaw, Furlane	land and tenements at Binn Green and Carr Barn.
32.	75/34	William Shaw, Grasscroft	11 Manor Shares.
33.	75/32	Thomas Harrop, Dobcross	16 Manor Shares.
34.	75/33		lands and tenements at Mowalls and Dobcross.
35.	75/30	John Radcliffe, Cross	4 beastgates at Overwoods and all the hollinges to the said four beastgates belonging.

The following claim has no pencil number and is not exactly transcribed anywhere in the Minute Book, but the substance of it appears early on in the list of claims submitted on the 11th July, p.6.

75/31	Joseph and Joshua Wrigley, Saddleworth Fold	Wrigley Hey and Wrigley Lodge and turf upon Broadstone Hill at top of Slades.
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6. Conditions of Sale of Lot 51. Printed Form. 7th - 9th November, 1810. Saddleworth Museum Archives. (Fig.3)

The Enclosure Act directed "that the said Commissioner and his Successors shall set out the whole of the Commons Moors and Waste Grounds called and known by the name of Platt Hill or Harrop Edge, and the Waste up to Wimberlee Lane in Lots to be sold for the purpose of and towards defraying the Charges and Expences of applying for and passing this Act, and all Costs Charges and Expences of Surveying admeasuring planning valuing dividing setting out and allotting the whole of the said Commons Moors and Waste Grounds and of preparing enrolling and depositing the Award of the said Commissioner or his Successors, and all other necessary Charges and Expences arising and occurring in carrying this Act into execution, and shall expose the said Lots to public Sale, by Auction, or otherwise" This document is an example of the printed "conditions of sale" which were then filled in as the circumstances required and given to the purchaser. This Lot 51 was called Knowl Brow and measured 3 acres and 33 perches; it was bought by James Scholefield of Blakehey Nook for £77-15-0.

7. Copy of Award, Roads, Watering Places, Stone Quarries, Harrop Edge, Huddersfield Canal, Poor and School Allotments. Manuscript. Undated. Saddleworth Historical Society Archives, Document 74.

This is a draft of the first part of the Award obviously made before Ralph Fletcher's death in 1832 as his name appears at the beginning. Clearly it was not finished at the time of his death as there are spaces left for various clauses which have been filled in in red ink. Throughout there are corrections of wording and names, all the work of Joseph Shaw who has crossed out Fletcher's name where it occurs and substituted his own.

8. Copy of Award from Lot 1 to Lot 117. Manuscript. Undated. Saddleworth Historical Society Archives, Document 72.

This is a draft of the second part of the Award. Again there are many corrections in red ink, including the deletion of Joel Hawkyard's name. Hawkyard was the Surveyor to the Commissioners until his death in

Fig.3.

Conditions produced For Sale by Auction,

At the House of Mr. JOHN WRIGLEY, Innkeeper, at Dobcross, in Saddleworth, in the County of York, on the 7th. 8th. and 9th Days of November, 1810. at three o'clock in the afternoon of each of the said days. By order of RALPH FLETCHER, Esquire, the Commissioner appointed under an Act of Parliament, passed in the 50th. Year of the Reign of his present Majesty, intituled "AN ACT for inclosing Lands in the Parish of Saddleworth, in the West Riding of the County of York," in pursuance of the said Act, and also another Act of Parliament, intituled "An Act for consolidating in one Act certain Provisions usually inserted in Acts of Inclosure, and for facilitating the mode of proving the several Acts usually required on the passing of such Acts."

About three Hundred Acres of Land, Statute Measure, in Lots, (being part of the Lands authorized to be inclosed by Virtue of the Act first above mentioned) called by the name of PLATT-HILL or HARROP-EDGE, and the WASTE up to WIMBER-LEE-LANE, in Saddleworth aforesaid, through and over which runs the Turnpike-Road, leading from Manchester to Huddersfield.

Lot, 51, *th* Parcel of waste Land lying between Platt Hill or Harrop Edge aforesaid and Wimblerley Lane adjoining the North westerly side of the old Highgate Road there, and called or known by the name of the Broad Brow (marked in the plan 18) containing by Admeasurement 300 or 33 or thereabouts

Conditions.

1st. That the above mentioned Lot is put up to Sale at the Sum of £10 per Acre, and no Person to advance less than £10 per Acre at each bidding, and the highest Bidder at the Expiration of the time to be fixed by the Auctioneer, shall be the Purchaser, unless some other Person shall advance more within the Time to be fixed, in which case the Sale shall continue open for such further time as shall be again fixed by the said Auctioneer, and so progressively from bidding to bidding until the time so to be fixed shall elapse without any advance or bidding, and then the highest Bidder shall be deemed the Purchaser, who shall immediately upon the Close of the Sale pay down to the said RALPH FLETCHER, (or give Security by promissory Note with Sureties to his Satisfaction if required for Payment upon Demand of) a Deposit at and after the Rate of TEN per Cent of the Purchase Money as earnest and in Part of the Purchase.

2nd. That the Residue of such Purchase Money, shall be paid by the Purchaser to the said RALPH FLETCHER, at the House of the said John Wrigley, on the *fourth* day of *July* next.

3rd. That the Purchaser shall take the Common mentioned in this Lot at the *same* bidding, and pay for the same, whether the Measure shall be more or less than the quantity above specified.

4th. That the Purchaser shall pay the Expense of his or her Purchase Deed or Deeds, and of such attested Copies or Abstracts as may be necessary or required by him or her, or for, or on, his or her behalf, and all charges attending the completing of his or her Purchase, (except a printed Copy of the first above mentioned Act.)

1831, so that the mention of his name proves that this section had been drawn up before the end of 1832.

9. Copy of Award Mill Falls and Back o' th' Lee. Manuscript. Dated 8th March, 1834. Saddleworth Historical Archives, Document 73.

A draft of the third part of the award in the same hand as the other drafts, therefore presumably of the same date, finished off at the end by Joseph Shaw and dated 8th March, 1834, the day on which the Award was made.

10. Saddleworth Award Index. Manuscript. Undated. Saddleworth Historical Archives, Document 71.

In the same style as items 7, 8 and 9, and with the same corrections in red ink, probably therefore produced by Fletcher and awarded by Shaw.

11. The Commissioner's Award for Inclosing Commons and Waste Grounds in the Parish of Saddleworth in the West Riding of the County of York. Manuscript. 8th March, 1834. West Riding Registry of Deeds, Wakefield, B.44 and F.p.209.

The final Award and Plan, deposited at the Register Office at Wakefield 20th October 1835. A copy was also enrolled with the Clerk of the Peace for the West Riding at Wakefield in Book F, p.209, and this is now also at the Registry of Deeds.

12. A Copy of the Commissioner's Award for Inclosing Commons and Waste Grounds in the Parish of Saddleworth, Together with an index shewing the owners of the allotments at the present time and also an accompanying map or plan of the said commons, by Thomas Hesslegrave, Land Surveyor, Dobcross, Saddleworth. Delph, printed by John Brook, Bookseller.

Several copies of the printed Award and Map exist in the Saddleworth Museum Archives and a copy of the Award in the Hewkin Collection, Uppermill Library.

Notes

1. These two books are in the Saddleworth Museum Archives. Edited extracts from them appeared in the Bulletin, Vol. 5, 1975 - Vol.9, 1979.
2. W.S. Rodgers, "West Riding Commissioners of Enclosure 1729-1850", Yorkshire Archaeological Journal, 40, 1962, 405 and Appendix B, 418-419.
3. The area enclosed by the Saddleworth Act was estimated in the Award at 7,676 acres. This is a greater area than that enclosed by any of the Lancashire Enclosure Acts except that for the parish of Cartmel, which was estimated in the Award at 12,760 acres, the next largest area being 3,395 acres enclosed by the Drawden and Colne Act. The majority of Acts covered much smaller areas so that it seems that the Saddleworth Act dealt with an unusually large area. Figures from A Handlist of Lancashire Enclosure Acts and Awards, Lancashire County Record Office, Preston, Publication No. 1.
4. Journals of the House of Commons, Vol.55, 1810.
5. Ralph Fletcher of Bolton was Commissioner in at least 11 other Enclosures, including both Denshaw Moor and Oldham.
6. Joseph Shaw was a Guardian of the Poor and a professional surveyor (see

Saddleworth Historical Society Bulletin, Vol. 9, p.7 and p.10, reference 28).

A.J. Petford

THE WORKING CLASS OF SADDLEWORTH
IN THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

Part 3

The Radical Reform Movement in Saddleworth

Saddleworth may have had a long reform and even republican tradition if John Knight, who became one of the leading Lancashire Radicals up to his death in 1838, acquired his politics at home. He was a small manufacturer at Stonebreaks who would have been 26 years of age at the time of the French Revolution - five years later he was imprisoned as a "determined Jacobin" after fighting between republicans and loyalist Church and King gangs at Royton. In 1801 during the widespread unrest of that year of shortages and inflation, exceeding even 1795 in severity, he appears as a member of the Lancashire county executive of the United Englishmen - an avowedly republican and pro-French radical group (1). An anonymous letter to Lord Eldon made the obviously exaggerated claim that there were 30,000 sworn United Englishmen in Saddleworth and even more in Cheshire, Derbyshire and Lancashire. Even so the area was suspected of being a centre of disaffection and the parish authorities of Quick issued a placard in May, 1801, calling on people to inform on any seditious language or activities, and warning them from attending, even out of curiosity, any seditious gatherings on the commons of Saddleworth. This alarm was occasioned by a meeting on the 3rd of that month at Buckton Castle which Saddleworth reformers probably attended and which was dispersed by troops (2).

Reform agitation amongst both the middle and working classes grew apace with the development of the factory system, the war's disruption of trade and the increasing burdens of taxation. Hangings, transportations, infiltration and treachery drove many politically conscious workers to abandon their Luddite oath and seek more gradualistic legal methods for the alleviation of immediate distress and the attainment of democratic liberties. When peace brought no improvement, other workers saw the cause of their sufferings to be not war but "the measures of Government". The working class Political Unions and the Hampden Clubs founded by Major Cartwright became the main vehicle of this mass movement.

Saddleworth would have been an unlikely exception amongst the towns, villages and hamlets of the West Riding and Lancashire if it lacked such societies, and details of their activities may be revealed by a study of the Manchester press. They were operating here by late 1816 at least, since on 29th January a petition from the township of Quick was read in the Commons demanding radical reform and stating that "until their sacred rights of election shall be restored, no free parliament can have existence". The circumstances of the reading of this petition illustrates the contempt of the majority of M.P.'s for popular wishes and their hostile attitude towards reform. So little attention was paid that the radical

M.P. Cochrane complained that he could not hear a word of it because of the noise, to which the Attorney General replied that "he himself had heard it distinctly and he could state without difficulty that it was from the beginning to the end of it a contrived, deliberate and determined libel on the House and its privileges" (3). Such prejudices were only a thinly disguised horror of working class political activities which, however innocuous, were considered potentially revolutionary. By 1818 the spread of Political Union societies and agrarian-socialist Spencean lubs, in an atmosphere of growing alarmist reports, led to re-enactments of the Seditious Meetings Act and the Habeas Corpus Suspension Act. Samuel Bamford, the radical Middleton hand-loom weaver, describes how, under constant fear of arrest, the reformers carried on their meetings. Many, frustrated by reliance on legal methods which had produced hundreds of petitions only for them to be left lying on the table of the House of Commons and now unable even to organise openly, turned towards the Ultra-radicals who affirmed that fundamental change could be brought about by a revolutionary change of government.

Rumblings of an impending insurrection came from magistrates in various parts of the country, but the Home Office was fully informed. One of the main organisers of the Ultra-radical societies was one of their agents, Oliver! Colonel Fletcher wrote from Saddleworth at the end of May that he anticipated a general strike amongst weavers in the areas to the east of Manchester, and that the friendly society funds were being broken up to support it. Although he suspected that it might be related to the reports from Nottinghamshire of a revolutionary plot, he did not expect that the majority of weavers knew what was going on (4). The government in fact knew more than some of the intended participants - the rising was to take place around the night of 9-10th June. Men from the villages around Pentridge in Derbyshire arose, and so did some from the Holme Valley, but the confusion and suspicion sown by Oliver deterred others. It is not known if Ultra-radicals in Saddleworth were party to these preparations or whether, like their Lancashire brethren, they were aware of provocations managed by government agents and so did not become involved.

The following year, with a relaxation of government repression following revelations about their use of secret agents and arbitrary arrests, strikes amongst Lancashire cotton-workers, colliers and others provided a fertile seedbed for the revival of radical reform. Morris, a Manchester magistrate, reported to the Home Secretary on 29th July:

"Messrs. Drummond, Baguley, Ogden, Knight and in short all the men who disturbed the public peace last year have been most active for several months past in disseminating amongst the lower orders at meetings convened for the purpose in the different lesser townships in the neighbourhood the most poisonous and alarming sentiments with respect to the government of the country and have continually inculcated the idea of a general rising"

Fletcher claimed towards the end of the strike wave that the weavers particularly had come under the influence of the "designing Jacobins". Political Unions proliferated once again, and increasing unemployment and wage cutting of the depression of early 1819 added "fuel to the latent sparks of discontent". Already by February the magistrates were convinced that large public meetings "can have but one conclusion viz. some serious public disturbances throughout the County". This attitude and the horror created by manifestations of working class strength during the strikes of the preceding year throughout Lancashire were to be the main factor in the tragic events of 16th August, 1819 (5).

The Radicals' Lancashire campaign which received impetus from the

charismatic support of Henry "Orator" Hunt also included Saddleworth. At one moorland meeting Bamford gave encouragement to the formation of Female Reform societies by insisting on the right of the women present to vote on the resolutions. Working people of both sexes shared the general enthusiasm of their Lancashire brothers and sisters and thousands marched under the black banner of the Lees, Mossley and Saddleworth Union, with its sinister slogan "Equal Representation or Death", to the great meeting in St. Peter's Fields, Manchester. The contingents marched in order, detachments having practised drill on Saddleworth Moor and other places, much to the concern of the Manchester magistrates. Bamford later claimed that this had been merely to give an impression of discipline, but reports of the firing of guns, the use of dummy weapons and military manoeuvres show that the local participants had more practical ends in view. On Hunt's request they came unarmed on this occasion to a field of meeting and found themselves unprepared for the field of battle.

The story of Peterloo has been often and masterly told - not least by Bamford who was present and later imprisoned as one of the organisers: what needs reiteration is the fact that there was nothing accidental about the attack on the rally. It resulted from a long campaign by the loyalist magistrates and press against the reformers which had virtually declared open season on Hunt and his working class supporters. The attempt to arrest Hunt after the beginning of the meeting was a direct provocation and a brutal assertion of authority intended to cow the radicals. It is no defence of the magistrates to claim that they "panicked", or of the yeomanry that they were "inexperienced". They had taken it upon themselves to uphold the corrupt and oppressive system of government which the workers had cause to complain about - and uphold it they did. About 500 men, women and children were injured by the flashing sabres, plunging horses and fleeing crowds. One of the dozen fatally wounded was William Dawson of Saddleworth who while carrying a cap of liberty on a pole was felled by a sabre (6).

On their return, the angry radicals of Bamford's township, Middleton, began the manufacture of home-made weapons, many in Saddleworth probably doing so too, but they were not used. The leadership was thrown into disarray by the massacre, and Hunt and others had to give sureties to appear at the assizes charged with convening an unlawful assembly. At the beginning of the following year, "Doctor" Joseph Healy, the leader of the Lees-Saddleworth-Mossley contingent, walked with witnesses from the area to York, after the trial was reconvened there from Lancaster. The case against him focused on the threatening design of the Union's banner with its clasped hands and heart, which even Bamford admitted was "one of the most sepulchral looking objects that could be contrived".

The widespread desire of workers to avenge the massacre and frustration of hope of reform by further reactionary legislation led to an attempted coup in London - the so-called Cato Street Conspiracy - and to armed outbreaks in the Glasgow region, Huddersfield and Barnsley. In this atmosphere, "The Mercury" refused to print a letter from Dr. Healy to the "Friends of Reform", publicly thanking those of Leeds, Halifax, Huddersfield and Bradford for their assistance to himself and the witnesses en route to York, on the grounds that it would not mitigate his sentence (7). Healy, Bamford, John Knight, Joseph Johnson and Hunt were found guilty - Hunt receiving the longest sentence of two and a half years' imprisonment. Meanwhile the Manchester magistrates were not only absolved but were commended.

Demands for reform abated as economic conditions improved and agitation for the repeal of the combination laws gained the attention of

organised workers, who saw opportunities for betterment solely through trade union pressure to increase their share of the growing wealth. Unions became legal in 1824, but they were nipped in the bud by the frost of a catastrophic collapse of the previous two years' speculation which occurred in December, 1825. Marx noted the historical significance of this:

"..... modern industry itself was only just emerging from the age of childhood, as is shown by the fact that with the crisis of 1825 it for the first opens the periodic cycle of its modern life" (8).

Such periodic cycles also entail periodic suffering for the working class, which tempers their organisations and refines consciousness of the social, economic and political source of their distress.

To be continued

References

1. Foster J. (1974) "Class Struggle and the Industrial Revolution", London.
2. Harvey (1978) "Britain in the Early Nineteenth Century", London, 87; Thompson E.P. (1965) "The Making of the English Working Class", London, 518; Poster (Dobcross 23 May 1801) in Manchester Central Library.
3. Parliamentary Debates, XXXV Jan. 1817.
4. Aspinall A. (1949) "The Early English Trade Unions", London, 213.
5. Aspinall A. op. cit. 223-303.
6. Bamford S. (1967) "Passages in the Life of a Radical", London; Read D. (1958) "Peterloo: The Massacre and its Background", Manchester; Walmsley P. (1969) "Peterloo: the case reopened", Manchester; Marlow J. (1969) "The Peterloo Massacre", London.
7. Leeds Mercury, 15 April, 1820.
8. Marx K. "Capital, Vol. 1", Afterword to 2nd Edtn.

A.J. Brooke

DISAPPEARING LANDMARKS (Continued)

Following the short item in the Autumn number of this Bulletin (pp. 44-45) concerning the demolition of mill chimneys in Saddleworth, another notable example has disappeared. On Wednesday, 10th December, 1980, the chimney at Damhead Mill, Uppermill, was demolished. This fine, octagonal stone chimney had the datestone 1850 upon it. 1850 was the year in which the old water-powered Damhead Mill was demolished and a new steam-powered mill erected for cloth finishing (see Saddleworth Historical Society Bulletin, 9, 1979, 79).

Bernard Barnes

OLD SADDLEWORTH

This is part of the work being carried out on a Gazetteer of Saddleworth by the Historical Society. As more of this work is carried out details will be published in future editions of the Bulletin.

Particular thanks are due here to Mr. & Mrs. E. Radcliffe of Tamewater House, Dobcross for making the deeds of their house available for inspection.

TAMEWATER HOUSE

Grid Reference: SD 98730649

Location: Between Wall Hill Road (a turnpike road of the 1790's) and the old track to Tamewater, Brook Lane; 615 feet above sea level, on the northern slopes of Wall Hill Clough just before its confluence with the River Tame.

Description: A two storey house with a Victorian frontage and extensive cellars. Originally a three storey house with mullion windows (these can be seen at the rear), the ground floor (former kitchens etc.) now forming the cellar, relating to the time prior to the construction of Wall Hill Road when Brook Lane was the main highway. The cellars have filled-in mullion windows. On the glass of the front door is engraved BH (Ben Hirst).

History: 1799 24 and 25 Apr. Indenture of lease and release between 1) John Harrop the younger of Dobcross, merchant, 2) James Harrop of Tamewater, drysalter (trustee of John), 3) George Buckley of Tamewater, clothier. Buckley acquired from Harrop for £300 the messuage and garden etc. called Tamewater now or late in the occupation of Lawrence Fox, James Lawton and John Wrigley, together with the following closes: Kiln Meadow, Bank, Backside, Maghey, Intakes, Holmes, Calf Croft, Road Loughton and Rough Croft by the New Road Side, containing together 22 acres.

1808 17 June. Award concerning action at law commenced by 1) John Harrop of Dobcross, merchant, James Lees of Clarksfield, merchant, Joseph Lees of Clarksfield, merchant, and Thomas Harrop of Dobcross, merchant, against 2) George Buckley of Tamewater, cotton spinner; reference was made to the fact that each party had bound themselves responsible to the other for the sum of £500 on 29 Jan. 1808. It was alleged that George Buckley had diverted the spring of water called the School Spring out of its ancient course through the field called the Intake from where it used to flow into a trough on the southern side of the brook at the bottom of Kiln Lane near Tamewater House near the turnpike road there. It was further alleged that Buckley had removed the ancient fall of water on Wall Hill Brook from the lower to the higher side of the culvert under the turnpike road near Kiln Lane in such a way that it was inaccessible, and that he was interfering with the flow of the water in the brook by using it on his land. All this affected the flow of water into the River Tame above the weir belonging to Harrops' and Lees' Walk Mill. Buckley was also alleged to have interfered with other springs and to have damaged walls. In turn he complained that James Harrop should repair and widen "the ancient horse way

- between Tamewater and Knarr near Tamewater Mill" which had become very narrow.
- 1808 27 Aug. Deed referred to George Buckley of Tamewater (only son and heir of Thomas Buckley late of Tamewater, drysalter deceased) and Ann his wife. Buckley owned land containing 22 acres and tenement at Tamewater, together with a quarter share in the water mill called Delph Rasping Mill and the stove near the said mill and the dwellinghouse, all in the occupation of Edmund Buckley, and a quarter share in Short Mill occupied by Robert Mellor.
- 1809 19 and 20 May. Indenture of mortgage between 1) George Buckley, 2) Richard Rhodes Milnes of Fryston, John Leatham of Pontefract, James Jackson of Doncaster, Thomas William Tew of Bawtry, Edward Trueman of Pontefract and William Leatham of Wakefield, bankers and co-partners, concerning house at Tamewater and 22 acres.
- 1811 26 Nov. George Buckley declared bankrupt.
- 1812 18 March. Public auction at the New Inn, New Delph, by order of Robert Shaw of Delph, cotton spinner, and Richard Bookbank of Woolroad, wharfinger (assignees of George Buckley); James Harrop of Tamewater, drysalter, became purchaser of premises for £1,702.
- 1812 12 June. Indenture between 1) Lawrence Fox of Tamewater. schoolmaster, and Hannah his wife (late widow of Thomas Buckley of Tamewater, drysalter), 2) the assignees of George Buckley concerning the release of an annuity of £10 payable during the life of Hannah Fox from certain premises.
- 18 June. Indenture between 1) the assignees of George Buckley, 2) the mortgagees of the Tamewater premises, 3) James Harrop of Tamewater, concerning the release of "all that plot of land formerly part of the Close called the Bank with the messuage, garden etc. erected thereon at Tamewater now in the tenure of George Buckley, together with that other plot of land formerly part of the close called the Intake with two several messuages, barn, stable, etc. at Streethouse near Tamewater in the tenure of Abraham Bollott and Robert Taylor", and the following fields - Kiln Meadow (now divided into two and called Bank Meadow and Backside), Intakes (now divided into three and called Intake Meadow, Brow Intake and Plantation), and Bank, containing 10 acres 3 roods 15 perches, all in the tenure of George Buckley, together with water rights and the right to convey water down the closes called the Road Meadow, the Plantation at the Bottom of the Garden (formerly part of the Road Meadow) and the Calf Croft to the river (the goit to be at least four feet deep and five feet broad). (Subject to an Indenture dated 21 Nov. 1781 whereby Thomas Buckley of Tamewater, drysalter, leased to William Rhodes of Tamewater a plot of land at Streethouse for 200 years, rent 15s.
- 1821 14 Dec. James Harrop of Tamewater, drysalter, died intestate leaving Joseph Harrop his eldest son and heir and three other sons, Booth, John and James.
- 1823 4 March. Indenture of release between 1) Joseph Harrop of Tamewater, drysalter, and Sarah his wife, 2) James Harrop son of James Harrop, 3) Edward Brown concerning closes at Tamewater - Lower Barn Field, Wood Meadow, Clod, Further Field End, Nearer Field End, Lower Stonesfield, Lower Stonesfield Wood, Back Meadow and Backside, all in the occupation of the said James, Joseph and John Harrop, together with the stable and shippon and dyehouse in the Lower Barn Field and liberty for

- James, Booth and John Harrop to use the "overplus water" out of the trough in the yard behind the barn (running out of the Husteads Estate).
- 1838 28 Nov. Will of Joseph Harrop of Tamewater, drysalter. His wife Sarah was bequeathed all his freehold messuages, his mill etc. in Saddleworth, his leasehold estates, and all his household goods, stock in trade, machinery, etc.
- 1852 14 July. Joseph Harrop of Tamewater died aged 63.
- 1857 2 Feb. Indenture between 1) Sarah Harrop widow, and 2) John Hirst woollen manufacturer (details as 1823 deed).
- 1859 16 Nov. Will of Sarah Harrop. She bequeathed her estates to her trustees, Richard Redfern of Oldham and Walter Garstang. She died 20 Nov. 1859 and probate was granted 5 Dec. 1859.
- 1860 Conveyance of estate and water rights by 1) Eliza Harrop of London, spinster (daughter of Joseph and Sarah Harrop), to 2) Mary Harrop (sister in law of Sarah), widow, Ann Harrop and Mary Harrop (daughters of Samuel Harrop), spinsters, all of Dobcross.
- 1862 Indenture between 1) Mary, Ann and Mary Harrop, 2) Ben Hirst of Tamewater, woollen manufacturer and bachelor, concerning messuage and coach house, wash house and servants' house over, at Tamewater, together with the garden etc., all formerly in the occupation of George Buckley, then of Joseph Harrop and Sarah and then of R.B. Pellow, but now unoccupied (including the cottage at the lower end of the garden). A gravestone in Saddleworth Churchyard reads: Anne Martin, wife of Ben Hirst of Tamewater, born 4 June 1834, died 13th June 1866. Florence Hirst their daughter born 12th March, 1865, who died 28th October, 1866. Also the above Ben Hirst born 10th November, 1828, died 10th November, 1906.
1907. 11 June. Indenture between 1) the trustees in the will of Ben Hirst (will made 16 Feb. 1906), 2) Harold Robert Carr of 8 Belmont Street, Huddersfield, manufacturer, concerning the sale for £805 of messuage and coach house, wash house and servants' house over, etc. (including the cottage at the lower end of the garden). Ben Hirst's executors were his brother Joshua, Arthur Buckley of Bank Street, Manchester, and his daughter Annie Ethel Campbell of Southport.

B.B.

The Society would welcome any further information on the hamlets and houses mentioned here, and also on any other property of possible interest in Saddleworth. The Gazetteer will also encompass turnpike roads, canals, bridge, railways, etc.

Information should be sent to the Editor of the Bulletin:

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Enquiries about membership of the Society should be sent to the Membership Secretary:

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