

Saddleworth Historical Society Bulletin



Volume 19 Number 3 Autumn 1989

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Cover illustration: The Saddleworth balloon accident of 1852 -
see article on page 14.

Extracts from the Journal of

JOHN NIELD

Born 23 Feb. 1834

In Oldham, Lancashire, England.

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I, John Nield, was born at No. 13 Greengate Street, Oldham, Lancashire, England, 23rd day of February A.D. 1834.

My parents were hard working and honest people. They succeeded in giving me a little learning in the common branches of education and raising me in love and fear of the Lord for which I feel very thankful. Thank God for the general good health all my days. Can say that through the period of 18 years 6 months and 5 days I have not lost one day's labour neither have I ever lacked bread.

My father, Luke Nield, was the son of John Nield, the son of William Nield son of Isaac Nield (should be "Jonathan"). My mother, Martha Wild was the daughter of Benjamin Wild. My father was born 1796, Oct. 30 and began to work in a cotton mill at 5 years of age. In the year 1842 (or 1843) he first heard the gospel and same year became a Latter Day Saint and in a short time was ordained a Priest and began to preach, which brought much persecution as well as joy and peace.

He named several cases of the healing power of God in his journal. A few cases which came under my own observation I will mention here. My mother was baptised the same year 1842 (or 1843) previous to which she had complained much of pains in one leg. It got worse and became inflamed, swelled and was so painful that it made her scream to have anything to touch it. Was really a very bad leg. At her request father anointed it with concentrated oil in the name of the Lord Jesus, laid his hands upon and rebuked the disease and before his hands were removed she said "It is gone." From that time the leg became perfectly well. About the time my sister Alice, not in the church, in fact too young for that, was healed by the same means, of a sort of fit which drew her eyes badly and her head about half around, began to mend at once, slept well and next morning was perfectly well.

The same year I was sick and the only sickness I can remember in the 18 years named above. I had a fever of some kind and was very poorly indeed and could not bear up; not then baptized. Father asked me if I had read in the New Testament of Jesus Christ and his apostles doing good and healing the sick, etc. and if I believed that the same power was on the earth now. I remembered the cases just named and answered "I do Believe." He said "So do I" and laid his hands upon me in the name of Jesus Christ and I was healed perfectly the same hour. After that if ever I became sick, after using simple means, if not cured I have had the same faith to be healed by the said ordinance means, I retain the same faith yet and have never been under the hands of a doctor to this time now 1888. Thank and praise the Lord for ever.

The same may be said of our family who have obeyed the Gospel with the slight exception of the deafness of my brother Joseph N. Nield who has been hard of hearing as long as I can remember and still remains so, for which I cannot account. He has been administered to and as far as I can remember with benefit, but seems to get about the same again.

My sister, Rebecca, who never joined the Church, had sickness and disasters in proportion. Let this suffice here. I know the power of God is here and that these gifts and others are with his people. I enjoy several of them myself.

My father baptised Joseph, Alice and myself. All were confirmed about the time of the baptism. Joseph M. Nield, November 18, 1844.
Alice Nield, January 23, 1844. John Nield, June 21, 1847.

On July 18, 1852 I was ordained to the office of Priest by my father and under the hands of his counsellors, Joseph and John Whitehead. From this time till 1854 I continued to bear testimony to the people that God had restored the New and Everlasting Gospel and had raised up a prophet and seer in the person of Joseph Smith. When I left old England I can say that during the two years that I remained in England and after my ordination to the priesthood I attended an average of 5 meetings a week, and 2 for music and self improvement or rather mutual improvement. Working, however, in a cotton warehouse, packing goods for market ten hours each day. These same religious meetings furnished many sweet morsels to my soul which I never can forget. Testimonies, singing and speaking in tongues and prophizing, were the rule amongst the saints in Oldham.

I shall just name a few out of the very very many which concern me personally.

Will just name here however that for many years and until my emigration I was a member of the choir and played the violin in the same. In conjunction with my boy companion, John Wild, conducted the Latter Saint Sunday School for two years, in which we were successful. I may say that, that making allowances for the daily labour named, a little for theatre going, sightseeing and a little for courting the girls, my whole time was put in at these meetings, at home and abroad. My whole soul was in the Lord's work, but of course, making due allowance for nonsense and blunders sometimes common to poor mortals.

October 3rd 1852 I preached the Gospel to a good sized congregation in the Hall of Science, Oldham, Sunday November 14th, 1852, I preached at Shaw Crompton, Sunday November 21, 1852, in a meeting at Oldham, James Holt prophesies on my head as follows and more. That I should be much blessed of the Lord, should preach the Gospel to many nations; should nearly lay down my life but that I should triumph. February 20th, 1853, preached on the first principles of the gospel. Sunday, March 13, attended a wedding at Oldham Parish Church the first in my life. Parties Edward Dalton and Betty Bolton. Saturday, March 19, 1853, visited the Queen's Park near Manchester. March 20th hunting up genealogies with my father. March 25th attended a Festival at Shaw. Recited "Ship on Fire" and "Cooky-Moor Snake." Also sang two or three songs.

Friday, April 1st Pres. Sesfious came to our council meeting and imparted much good instruction. The subject of our family's emigration was named for the first time.

Sunday, April 10th at the urgent request of Pres. James Gledhill the Oldham choir attended the Haywood Branch. Myself and John Wild preached at night and all together we had a good time. Wednesday, April 20th at a meeting at Oldham I said to Sister Alice "Be of good cheer. The Lord is pleased with thee,

listen to and obey thy parents and others who have the right to council thee and thou shall be blessed indeed in this life. In Jesus name Amen." I barely sat down when Bro. Albert Oakes arose and confirmed upon my head the things I have written before adding that I should be an instrument in the hands of God of bringing many thousands to a knowledge of the truth; that although his head should become grey with age and he should be laid under the sod, that I should still remember his words at this time to me.

Friday, June 3rd, some friends called in, I played the violin and we had a little dance.

Sunday, June 5th, 1853, I preached at Oldham. Preaching in 6 places in said town this day by the Saints.

Sunday, June 19th, 1853, at a meeting in Temperance Hall many testimonies were born, mine among the rest. The following on my head by Bro. S. Blackburn, travelling Elder; "Oh Thou Son of God, thou shalt become great and mighty in this generation. Thou shalt bring many souls to knowledge of the truth, and not only thee but thy seed also, for the Lord will bless thee and thy partner in life and he will multiply thee and make thee fruitful. Thou shalt be mighty in testimony, thou shalt be exalted in the priesthood and thou shalt lay thy hands upon the heads of many women and bless them in the name of the Lord. Never the less thou shalt be tried and proved. Oh dear Bro. John, be thou faithful for many temptations will be laid in thy way; but thou shall overcome if faithful never fear. Thou shalt be locked up in prisons for the Gospels sake, yet over come. Amen."

Truly such predictions as these are calculated to stimulate one to dilligence, never the less I know that much depends upon myself. I am sure the Lord will perform his part. Can I do mine.

I must not forget to state that I married Miss Sarah Broadbent on the 3rd day of May at Prestwick Church.

By these things the reader will infer that the Saints were blessed and so they were. Some of the gifts were manifested all the time, thank the Lord.

About this time I attended Manchester Conference. The branches numbered members as follows including officers: Manchester 878; Tottington 241; Ratcliff 348; Wigan 144; Stayley Bridge 219; Oldham 263; all in good standing. Orson Pratt President.

Next day friend Wild and myself took a bath in the canal and I instructed him in the art of swimming.

July 17th, 1853, I attended the wedding of Thomas Broadbent and Elizabeth Gledhill at Oldham Church. Friend Wild and myself had a good time with them the next day. Nov. 20th I was at a meeting at Oldham at which we had quite an out pouring of the spirit of the Lord. It was said that angels administered to us although we did not see them. I shall record one more prophecy given upon me by Bro. Blackburn. I could give many upon myself and others but let this suffice. "Oh thou chosen vessel of the Lord, from before the foundation of the world. Be thou faithful before the Lord thy God and he will bless thee with many blessings, and thou shalt be gathered to the land of Zion and thou shalt be a blessing unto thy parents, and when they become old in years and their hair is grey with age they will bless thee in the name of the Lord, and on the foundation which they have laid thou shalt build an holy edifice unto the name of the Lord of hosts and the enemy shalt not have power over thee and thou shalt live to see the saviour come and shalt never taste death only by translation as Elija if thou are humble and faithful. Amen."

All I fear is that I may not live near enough to God to be worthy of such blessings. At this time I feel to do all the good I can and injure no one. I will here insert a few verses of poetry I received from the above Elder Blackburn on the 16th of Nov. 1853.

1. Then here's to thee my bonny lad
Be faithful to thy calling,
Thou shalt receive a great reward
While the wicked they are falling.
2. For the Lord has surely called thee
In this last dispensation
To preach the Gospel so free
To crooked and perverse generation.
3. Thy spirit once reside
Yes in the heavens above,
May thou in the truth abide
And gain thy brothers and sisters love.
4. And for it is the greatest gem
That men and women can enjoy,
And it shall keep thee when
Troubles and trials do thee annoy.
5. Thou be faithful dear brother
While you remain on earth
And many truths you shall discover
Before the earth receives its second birth.
6. Oft in thy company I have been
When happy I did feel
Oh Lord preserve him from sin
My brother, even John Nield.

I sent him the following response, Nov. 18th 1853.

1. Cheer thee Brother Blackburn
Let not thine heart despair
The Lord who's here to help thee
Will save thee never fear.
2. That is if thou are faithful
To the covnets thou has made
For thy blessings are conditional
Yet be not thou afraid.
3. Although many now wish thee harm
And would thy spirit grieve
There's many here that love thee
And thee they would believe.
4. And from these Babylon shores
They'd have thee haste away
That this may be thy happy lot
I ever wish and pray.

November 20th 1853 my brother Joseph M. Nield married Jane Standerling a member of the Rochdale Branch. They were married at Rochdale Church.

Nov. 30th a dark gloomy day, I read the "Milenial Star" and "History of the Mormans" by Chambers Bros. of Edinburgh; is quite favourable.

Dec. 4th attended a good meeting at Oldham; the Saints so alive to bear testimonies that Pres. Luke Nield had to request a chance for Elder Tyler to speak although he was from Salt Lake City. Who said that if ones eyes were but quickened by the spirit a little more we would see angels, for they were in our mist.

At marriage, my wife and self had emigration in view and agreed to save up something each till we had enough to emigrate with. About this time we had 10 pounds (\$50.00) clear, and we never lost sight of the object.

Elder D.B. Dilly visited Oldham. He was from Salt Lake City and succeeded Elder P. Seaflous as Pres. of Manchester Conference. Sunday Dec. 18th I received a present in the shape of an ostrich's egg, size of a young child's head, sent to me from South America by my old time workmate Wm. Kerr now a sailor. Dec. 25th or late 24th went with the choir to sing and play and sing Christmas hymns. Had a good time. Wed. Jan. 4th 1854 very stormy weather at Oldham snowing all day and the wind blowing furiously. Snow drifted 6 to 9 feet high and in the places came to the second storey of the houses, schools and factories closed early so people could get home. Railroad cars detained with passengers all night and many persons were lost.

Jan. 16th 1854. Last night I dreamed that I was in Utah. Saw Bro. Ed. Standerling at work at a grist mill in the mountains. Saw many Indians and knew the people to be in trouble. Two years later I found the same old mill of my dreams in the American Fork Canyon. Questioned Bro. Standerling and found that he was at work and all as I have named, at the time of my dream.

Mon. 23rd Brother Joseph and wife came to dine at our house. (Father's).

Feb. 13th Brothers Dilly and Brown, elders from Salt Lake came to our house, held meetings in the Hall and had a good time indeed.

Our first child was blessed by its Grandfather, Luke Nield, and named Orson William. I will just remark that my wife and I had taken the child and named it before going to the meeting. I deem this a privilege of a father and I acted on it.

Feb. 15th held an argument on Mormonism with Thos. Lees and Ed. Wrigley of Green Banks Mills. Although they are men of education and older than I, I was not daunted in the least and think I came off in flying colours. They said I must meet their Minister.

I will here insert some lines that I composed on the birth of my little son and which I had forgotten till now.

Thou art welcome sweet infant to our humble abode
We greet thee with joy and hail thee with love.
To see thee come here it gives us delight
Since from the realms of the Just, thy spirits taken flight.

We look on thy innocence with great admiration
And wish thee success through this perverse generation
That from thy infantile moments to years of manhood
Thou mayst be blessed and live to do good.

What thou mayst be mighty, most noble and brave
In saving fallen men from vile death and the grave
And in spreading the Gospel from nation to nation
And prove unto some an eternal salvation.

That the holy priesthood may be conferred upon thee
Thou mayst be prepared, thy Saviour to see
And ever be faithful, both pure and just
And many blessings receive when the wicked are thrust

Into outer darkness the cells of the damned
All who neglect the work of command
Of Jesus the Saviour, the just and the free
Who told them repent and baptized be.

Feb. 18th 1854 I was packing some things to be ready to emigrate. Joseph's wife helped me. Last night in council meeting Bro. Albert Oakes predicted in the name of Jesus that I should be gathered to Zion this season, and there receive an ordination I cannot receive here and that I shall be sent forth to preach the Gospel. My wife's breasts were very bad indeed, gathered uncommon I think they may break.

Sunday Feb. 19th I preached my farewell sermon, of course my subject, "The Gathering". The great sermon of our lives is that of the emigration of my father and family. That is to our friends. They think we are foolish.

Mar. 4th 1854 I got out a place card and programme for a concert for the benefit of the choir. My wife's breast still bad.

Feb. 23rd 1854 is my birthday. I am 20 years old. My wife's breasts still getting worse; promises to have it lanced if it does not break tomorrow. Breast burst and discharged freely.

Feb. 26th was in conversation with two lady friends, namely, Fanny and Elizabeth Schofield at Millbottom and are relatives of my wife. They are members of the Protestant Church. I bore a faithful testimony to them. They did not gainsay but seemed to think that the religion of their father would save them. We agreed to disagree and I left then. Same day attended a meeting and was ordained to the office of an Elder.

Same day, Feb. 26th my father preached his farewell. Testimonial read and presented to him.

Sunday 12th March left Oldham and arrived at Liverpool to sail in the R.C. Johnston on the 15th but were disappointed as the vessel had been sold to the government to go out to the Crimea with soldiers and supplies. A law suit was had; we were detained for one month and then sailed in the ship "Marshfield" on the 8th April 1854. My wife's breasts were bad; had gathered again and broke so often she had 14 sores in the two breasts but she soon got well.

Our baby died when 2500 miles from Liverpool. This was hard to bear. On the water about seven weeks. Had our share of sea sickness, saw some mean actions on the part of some but tried to mind our own business and let others alone.

May 29th in New Orleans which I call a dirty looking place. June 8th got to quarantine Island, 5 miles below St. Louis. Here sickness got started among us and many died of the cholera. Stayed in St. Louis 3 days, were well treated by some Oldham friends. Glegg family and others. Started up in Missouri and on the 17th of June landed near Kansas City. I am sorry to say my dear mother took the cholera and died on the 25th of June 1854. We were very very sorry indeed to lose her but feel to trust in the Lord. She is laid within 11 miles of the Temple site in Jackson County. Moved some 11 miles on to the prairie but did not get a fair start till the 23rd of July, the latest company ever started across the plains to this time. Got into Salt Lake City on the 24th of October. Some 8 months from home. Oct. 25th I started for Lehi on foot 35 miles. Found James Taylor and family and other Oldham friends who treated us kindly. Bro. Taylor brought his team for the folks and all got to Lehi on the 29th.

Nov. 12th had the privilege of trying to fiddle once more and was pleased. I soon went to work on a threshing machine, digging potatoes and other jobs. Got James Taylor's team and wagon on shares and so began to haul wood for winter fuel. Joined the Lehi dramatic assoc. Got some chickens. Built a pen. Jan. 2nd 1855 I played the part of Goddles in the "Bottle" and Sam in "Raising the Wind." After getting wood I spent most of my time for two months reading, writing and playing my violin and with Dramatics and many meetings and so passed the winter with our friends. Now tried to get work to do but people are afraid of the grasshoppers and will not hire much. Sunday Jan 21st heard George Albert Smith of the 12 Apostles preach. Was pleased. The Dramatic Assn. played "All's not Gold and Glitters" and "Irish Tutor." Rehearsed "The Honeymoon." Sold my rifle for 200 lbs. of flour and 6 bu. potatoes and felt myself rich. Concluded to quit paying rent and commenced a cellar on Ed. Standerling's lot. Played in "The Rough Diamond."

Feb. 13th my father married a widow named Mrs. Ann Weeks. Took up some land and began to fence it. Played the part of Jimmie Twitcher in the "Golden Farmer." Got into my cellar on March 12th 1855.

Was now in my own home with no rent to pay for the first time. This was just 12 months from the time of leaving home at Oldham. We fixed things up the best we could and by that time I had made some crude furniture; chairs, table, etc. amongst which was a bed with but one leg; this by placing both ends in the wall, but if you would want to fix one of the kind you should wait on me for further instructions. These were the times in which to do for yourselves or it went undone. Took part in the plays "The Jacobites" and "Boots of the Swan" and soon after "Speed the Plough."

April 12th Mr. Wen. M. Stett came to our house and did some plowing for me. I took the lead in the play "Foul Pry." "Irish Tutor" was also played. Took part of Dick Devlish in priest craft "In Dungeon."

Sunday May 6th, grasshoppers rampant. Taking everything green. Looks bad for us. This day I read some in "Aristotles Masterpiece" and played on the violin.

Sunday May 20th I spoke in public meeting for the first time in Lehi. Told what I thought of Lehi and its inhabitants. Thos. Taylor was selected Pres. of Lehi Dramatic Assn. I was made Secretary in place of James Harwood.

I realise that I am of great disadvantage about making a living in this country in having no team, wagon or cow. I depend almost wholly on what I can do with spade and axe.

Lorenzo Hatch 1st Coun. to Bishop Dan. O. Evans talked today about the poor and said they must be fed. He said "We will fast one day in two weeks or in one week for them if needed. In fact we must live together if we live, and if we fail we must sink together." I believe him to be a very good man, have worked for him and find him so.

Monday May 21st took some womans finery and offered to trade for a cow. Believe I shall get one from the family of Joseph Skeem a High Priest.

Monday July 30th attended Assn. Party. Supper and dance. Had a good time. It is evident that the people will suffer for bread before the harvest. In fact begin to feel it now. I have been two days without bread. Have lived on boiled wheat thickened with a little flour now for some time. Sometimes greens and a little milk. It is hard times sure but I try to not complain and all the time looking for better times and this helps me. Hope in me is large.

I raised about 10 bu. of wheat. The hoppers got the rest. Cut it with a scythe and threshed it with a flail.

6th Oct. 1855 William H. Stott and my sister Alice Nield were married by Pres. Young in Salt Lake City.

18 Oct. was drilling with Nauvoo Legion.

28th Oct. Parley P. Pratt preached: Subject, Repentance.

Oct. 30th started for Salt Lake City with Thos. Taylor's team and 20 bu. potatoes for thithing; intending to bring back Bro. Edward Broadbent (brother of my wife) and his wife but they had gone north.

About this time Bro. Skeems agreed to take the things I offered for a cow and let me have a young cow with her first calf, a heifer. I may say here however that he tried to go back on his word on account of a quarrel with his wife and he said that she should not have the clothing I had sold him. Well to make a long story short it came to a Bishops trial. After one hearing Skeems seeing that his family would witness against him came to me for a compromise and so I got a cow and calf after much ado.

Father came to me and said that he was not comfortable at home and feared that he and his wife must part. I told him my cabin was open for him. This is not the first time that Bro. Andrews has come in the nick of time and relieved us. I feel under obligations. He feels the same to us as we have helped him many times. His family is still back in England.

Once again, July 7th, we had not a thing to eat. My wife took the last cent we had in the world and bought from Sister Collett 25 cents worth of barley bran. We made mush, begged some milk and afterwards did a good days work on the Fort wall. About this time a Bro. Brown whose daughter the Bishops son had married got so weak from starvation he could not walk without crutches. Bishop said this is enough, we must have beef. He called for volunteers to furnish beefs as needed to be paid for after harvest, if we have any. No volunteers. Bishop called on men to drive up a good beef when needed, take marks and brand and keep a record, etc. no matter who owned the animal. This worked well. We had many volunteers now. Murdock, Hatch, Brown, Willis and others. From this time on we had beef a plenty. Good for the old Bishop, the poor mans friend. God bless him forever.

July 15th David Butters offered me work to do. I told him yes if he would give me bread but not otherwise.

July 18th 1856. Sunlight has burst upon us. Barley is about ripe. Potatoes, cabbage, etc. come in. The cry for bread is fainter. Thank God. Amen. Amen. About this time reformation was started at head quarters and come down through all the wards of the Church. Faults acknowledged and confessions made, restitution made. The people became humble and got down to good works in earnest and the blessing of the Lord accompanied. Rebaptisms were general.

I was one of 16 teachers called by Bishop Evans in Lehi. Each one to have charge of a block. Our mission was to wake up ourselves, get the spirit of the Lord and keep it, set our families in order with ourselves and then preach repentance and reformation to the people. Which we did and no mistake and the good work went on so that by the time of the Johnston Army in 1857 was started to Utah the people were almost a unit. Bro. J.N. Grant exhausted himself in the work of the reformation and died of that in Dec. 1856.

Dec. 21st I rebaptised 16 persons. I also reconfirmed Charles Barnes and Gyron Brown. About this time I was one of sixty that went from Lehi to work on the Cottonwood Canal calculating to float down the rock for the temple.

Attended April Conference in 1857. Much good instruction given by Brigham, Heber and the twelve. About this time I got a letter from my borthor Joseph, still back in England. He informed me that an old friend, James Holt was Pres. of the Oldham Branch and urged me to write Holt a letter suitable to read in the Branch. I did so, but soon got a letter from Holt informing me that himself and about 30 others had left the Church on account of the way the tithing and donations were extracted from the people, etc. (We reproduced the plays "The Golden Farmer" and "Rough Diamond.")

June 4th I went to hunt Sister Taylor's cows and found them up what is called Dry Creek but now carrying a rolling stream. This circumstance had a successful and rather laughable termination. I will here give it for fun and too it might be a benefit to someone. Well the oxen were on the wrong side of the creek to suit me and to go back to Taylors and up the other side would cause me 10 to 12 miles travel so I beat about to find some place to cross over as even should I go to Town and back the oxen might cross over while I was gone. Water was cold and swift and deep. Went up and down to find a good place to cross. Concluded to construct a crude bridge by bending down some saplings and piling on brush. I had as I thought about made safe when terrible to contemplate my bridge was swept away by the current and all my hopes blasted. Well something must be done. I looked at the cattle on the other side of the creek, oh for a steady old ox. Nothing on my side but some young stock and some cows and most of them as wild as deer. I started some of them across. The water came up over their backs and they had to swim. Quite out of the question for me to swim such a stream and too cold. Went to work on another bridge but soon gave it up again. I cornered one of the old cows to cross at another place. She didn't want to go but I induced her to try it. In she plunged at the moment I had an inspiration. No sooner felt than acted on. I grabbed the tail and in I went quicker than I can tell it I was on the dry land on the other side that I wanted. Blessed cow, wet clothing, happy man laughing, jumping and shouting for joy. If someone had been at hand it is a question if I had not been put down as a lunatic. As it was, I went home rejoicing, told my wife about it and she helped me to another laugh and that is all, only I will say should anyone who reads this have need of a cow's tail for the same purpose just remember how I crossed Dry Creek and hold fast.

4th June 1857. That evening I was ordained an Apostle of the Seventies and a member of the 44th quorum by Wm. Hyde and under the hands of all the Presidency of the said quorum. Same day Sister Collett died. She was a good woman and helped many of the poor in Lehi during the scarcity of food. Bros. Thos. Taylor and I had never been on right terms since a little fuss we had had but we were both called to the same quorum of Seventies and I could hold out no longer. I inscribed to him the following lines of poetry:

Although no poet, nor to rhyme so much inclined
Yet I will for once just try, that plan to ease my mind.
In the first place believe me I am glad
We again feel, act and speak by the spirit led.
Which blessing for some time now past
We both have mutually spurned.
When I think upon the cause that led to such a state
I do confess I'm much ashamed and do the thing most hate.
Pride in you, yet more in me, it is not small indeed
What the good folks do call spunk, why we have got the seed
Which like flint and steel, when in contact, brought in such as you and me
Fire will start and brightly burn, that I can plainly see,
From this out I say I'll try and govern that bright spark
Just keep it up within right bounds and covered in the dark
Till it is justly called forth by some good righteous cause
To light upon some guilty dog among our Zion foes.
But you're my friend, I count you such as I have always done
And I have thought and still do think that you're not adverse to me.
My spirit seemed to link with yours, years now long ago
I thought yours was of noble birth from which mine spring also,
I looked upon you as my brother, a sight I would yet claim
And as you once esteemed me I want you to do the same
Now can it be, Oh do say yes, nor let the "no" have sound
For if you do twill seem too harsh, I'll turn it right around
Transpose it by a yea and think it genuine
And act upon it all the same and you shall still be mine.
Maybe you'll think I am a fool. This but a whim or start
Well, think it comical or romantic - still 'tis from the heart.

Lehi July 4th 1857
John Nield.

The next day I received the following in response:

Dear friend I thank thee for thy warm confession
Mine may not be good, but truth is my profession,
Thy friendship true I am pleased and happy to enjoy,
And hope and pray that thought again may ere our peace annoy.
To say we're proud and tempered very high and fine tis true
And rightly bent, by it much wholesome good may do,
But when by Satan's lures we're led in mist to vent our pleasures
Good friends we'll then abuse and surely that is mean,
Yet so it is, well as you say so I'm determined that I
To govern number one will most assuredly try
Now let us leave this scene, that I may here confess
I love you too, and may that love increase nor ere grow less
Is the true prayer of every truly noble soul, I know
And may they fall who any other seed would sow.

Thy confidence I'm proud to have: take mine and be my friend
And I'll be thine, I hope to prove 'til life and time shall end
And while eternities shall roll or immortality endure
May Israel's God be our friend, and may our acts like his be pure,
If an honest wish will do thee good, may all that's good be thine,
May health and strength and peace and love around thy pathway shine,

May thy posterity be numerous and increase fill thy soul
May thy portion be with saints and Gods which endless ages roll.

Excuse my first attempt, dear friend, but believe it honest,
just and true.

If there are faults I'll know you'll bend and place them as I
would for you.

Lehi July 7th 1857

Thomas Taylor.

About this time Heber C. Kimball said that the flour had been increased in the box and the wheat in the bin. That last fall careful estimate had been made and we find now in July that there is more bread stuff in the valley than there was in the fall. This is done by the power of God. Let the saints rejoice. "I believe it." He said the saints were prompt in helping the late emigrants in last fall with men, teams, wagons and provisions, or the saints would have perished in the snow. The above was a reward.

Brother Brigham said that the devil was never more mad than at the present time at this reformation among the saints and the unity of this people. Let him rage and the saints rejoice. Amen.

July 19th, my wife's birthday, twenty-four years old. The day is beautiful and we are all well. July 23, Fine day. I helped to hoist the liberty pole. July 24, we celebrated pioneer day. We had a good time. Firing of cannon, music procession, a fine programme at the bowery. I played the fiddle at a dance for the first time. This 24th Brother A.O. Smoot arrived from the East and reported that they refused to deliver our mail to him at Independence Missouri. A fuss is sure to come. 2500 troops are started out here. They will come and raise what they call a "standard of liberty" and expect that enough will rally to them from amongst us to whip out the rest.

Our military forces were called out to drill and ordered to be on hand for service at any time with wagon and four horses to each ten men, with arms, ammunition and provisions, this being done a good deal of excitement was raised with some; but the people generally were calm and collected and were ready to defend our liberties to the death if necessary. Orders come for all to move from the North and go South to at least as far as Provo. I got a chance to start for Fillmore and did so. Went but a few miles and because of a broken wagon returned to find my company gone to Echo Canyon. I was sorry indeed. So I was determined to help keep up supplies and help the families. I spent a miserable winter. Well, particulars of the Utah War are so well known I need not say more here. Suffice it to say that in the Spring of 1858 I moved to Fillmore. Found that my father had been called and started on a mission to the White Mountains.

I had a good fat steer at this time, that is, before leaving Lehi. I sold him for fifteen dollars in money and a pair of boots. Went to Salt Lake to spend money on clothing. Very scarce. We now found the want of those we had sold. The people were bad off for clothing, wagons, teams, iron and nails, etc.

The army brought all these things, employed the people and so gave them money to buy up the army supplies when they left. Salvation came to the people through this army movement. Thank the Lord.

I shall now proceed to state a few facts from memory as I have not been writing in my journal after getting to Fillmore. Father returned from his mission. He had been among the Indians, helped to establish a farm for them but the water failed and had to come away. Orson Pratt and family were in Fillmore this summer, also George Q. Cannon, editor of the Desert News. That paper was published in Fillmore until the folks all returned to their homes up north.

I worked at farming on shares and also making adobies working very hard in Fillmore for a year and a half. I joined the choir and helped to organise and run a Dramatic Assn. with Dutson, Kelly, Gooper, Powell and others. In the winter of 1859 Brother William Hudson, an old neighbour of Lehi, but now moved to San Pete, came with his team to move us to that county where we could have land and water for labour. We concluded to go with him, so packed up and went, making my father a present of a small adobe house I had built in Fillmore, which he sold for two hundred dollars when he left there to come to San Pete some time after.

We got into Moroni, San Pete County on Christmas morning and found Brother Hudson's family well and expecting us. We stopped there until early Spring of 1860, and then moved up to Spring City. Hudson and I worked in the canyon in the winter, waist deep in snow and terrible cold, sleeping in a hay stack at night. I had no coat to wear that winter. I got a city lot and 25 acres of farming land and a hay lot with water rights, still no team or wagon. I herded stock until May and then went into the dobe yard and made over 50,000 adobes. This summer I earned the first team I ever owned, in the shape of yoke and oxen, paying ninety dollars in adobes to Samuel Aiken, the school teacher. I was proud of the oxen and soon bought an old wagon to match. I got along well here in 1860 to 1861.

In the fall James Harwood came out with goods to sell for Thomas Taylor. Sold what he could and then proposed to leave the remainder with me on commission at twelve and one half percent. I took them into my log cabin and so became a store keeper. In a short time Thomas Taler had brought more goods and John Schofield as a partner for me, so one could attend business at home and the other haul grain to Lehi or Camp Floyd where Taylor was doing business now. We carried on this for some time, found that twelve and a half percent would not do. Settled up and Schofield went out. I tried it alone, paying Taylor a price at Lehi and Salt Lake City and fixing my own profits. Our trade was eggs, butter, grain, etc.

No money then, or but little in circulation. Went along till Taylor went on his mission, I think in 1864. I had thousands of bushels of grain on hand, it being the year of high water, we could not get out with it. Brigades all gone from Salt Creek and other places all the way to Lehi. Many barrels of butter I got to the Jordan River but could go no further. The Jordan was three miles from Lehi. The butter melted and ran out of the barrels. What little was saved was soap grease. Well, I came out 600 dollars in debt. This I paid off in three years, raising wheat at 75 cents per bushel. Kept in business till we were broken up by the Indians, and had to move away having lost a good deal of stock by their raids on use and some men killed. By this time Taylor had returned from his mission to England. We moved back to Spring Town after the Indians settled and became quiet. The railroad came through, goods were brought in cheap and co-operations commenced. I was glad to sell at fifteen percent below cost to me. Result I was way behind again.

In settling up with Taylor I turned over my team, wagon, cattle, sheep, house, lot and farm, retaining a log house, my growing crops and household goods. Says I "Now you have it all." He replied that I knew what President Young had said in relation to men paying their debts. Says I "Yes take it." Throwing in my coat off my back. Says he "I did not mean you to do that." I said "You said it virtually." He promptly returned to me some farming utensils and other things to the amount of \$50. I got me a city lot, moved my log cabin, got some land and with the crops I raised I made a new start in the world.

In July 1869 my father died leaving me a yoke of oxen and an old wagon. His estate of five hundred dollars which after all expenses were paid the principal part was used for the emigration of Brother Joseph N. Nield and part of his family, wife and little boy. When they came in I went to Lehi and brought them to Meadow Millard County, to which place I had moved in October 1870. Worked here at farming and common labour mostly.

Early in 1871 they were in need of a school teacher. I concluded to try for it although I had no training in this line. I obtained the place and found that I was a little ahead of my school in learning and concluded I could and would hold my own at least. I did so. Studied the books and got along fine. Liked the business, was encouraged to continue by R.L. Cambell, Territorial Superintendent, and after him T.C. Gallister. I would have gone to the University for a term at least but found no encouragement from the Meadow School Trustees, James Fisher, James Dumeau and E.A. Beckstrand. They were not ready to bring the school to the first class, they wanted to work down so I dropped out and they hired a woman. I have taught some since then but their actions prevented me from posting up on the system and making teaching a profession.

Well, all right, all's well that ends well.

To be continued...

EARLY AIR TRAVEL OVER SADDLEWORTH

The early days of flight occasionally brought a touch of novelty and drama to Saddleworth. This was reflected in newspapers, which caught the local mood of wonder at the new form of transportation. Extracts from some of the articles that resulted are reproduced here and record the impression made by four different types of flight:

"A lamentable aeronautic accident occurred on the evening of the 2nd inst., near Oldham, which was attended with loss of life. It appears that Mr. James Goulston was engaged to ascend at Bellevue Gardens, near Manchester. In consequence of the heavy rains he was recommended by the proprietor of the Gardens to defer his trip, but many of the spectators expressing an opinion that the affair was a hoax...Mr. Goulston said he would make the ascent.... With only two bags of ballast Mr. Goulston slowly rose from the ground, and almost immediately passing into a dense cloud was lost to the spectators in the Gardens; and almost at the same instant there was a heavy fall of rain. The balloon took a north-easterly direction and passed over Gorton, then over Lees, and passing the boundary between Lancashire and Yorkshire, it passed over Springhead, and then on to Stone Breaks.... about eight miles north-east from Bellevue Gardens.

The balloon was not seen after leaving the Gardens until it reached Springhead, which place and Lees it passed over at a very low altitude. A man standing at his door at Springhead saw the balloon (and) perceived Mr. Goulston in the car, standing up and pulling a string...It was at that time raining heavily. The balloon had passed Springhead, when the grapnel, which was hanging out, struck one of the stone walls, and the consequent jerk threw the aeronaut out of the 'car'; he was caught by the netting, which entangled his feet, and he hung head downwards. The balloon in the meantime passed across a field.... On coming to the next wall the head of the unfortunate aeronaut must have dashed against it, for there were marks of blood on the stones, a portion of the wall being also knocked down. The balloon then passed over a quarry, and was driven against the corner of a house, where the aeronaut doubtless received his fatal blow. The balloon then swung round, but was arrested by some men who had just come up, or it would probably have crossed the Mill-brook valley. The feet of the aeronaut were completely entangled in the cording by which the car was fastened - the unfortunate man gave one gasp after he was taken from the car, but no other sign of life" ('Illustrated London News' 12th June, 1852 - the relevant extract, with illustration, is in the Saddleworth Museum Archives, ref. H/HOW/38).

An aeronautical incident seventy five years later had more of comedy than tragedy in it, and provided some entertainment for the people of Diggle.

"It appears that one of the fleet of aeroplanes which passed through Saddleworth recently came in contact with Diggle Hill (sic) and was brought down, and when it reached the ground it completely turned over. The pilot was uninjured. There was fog at the time....The occasion was so unique that quite a small crowd assembled at the site'. ('Oldham Standard', 28th May 1927).

The paper is irritatingly lacking in details of this incident. Elsewhere in the district in the first part of this century, any appearance of an aircraft could attract as much, or greater interest. In 1910, for example, people in the Delph area were fascinated by the unexpected debut of a new contraption:

"Some considerable interest was aroused last weekend by the report that a biplane was to perform airy evolution from a point in the district known as

Coatman's (sic) Heights.... as a matter of fact some kindred machine termed a "Glider" was found occupying a cartshed there....attempts to get it to glide were made on Saturday (4th June) but though it rose a few feet its lack of correct balance in build caused the machine to drop heavily into a field from where the trial took place. The glider, said to have been constructed by a member of the Oldham Aero Club, is rectangular shaped, in the main portion, which measures 19 x 5 feet, or thereabouts. A box-shaped tail completes the machine. The component parts are of bamboo, wire and canvas...." ('Mossley and Saddleworth Reporter' 11th June 1910).

A more impressive and famous aerial visitor drew eyes skyward nine years later:

"The magnificent airship R33 passed over Saddleworth, between Uppermill and Delph on Monday afternoon (7th July). The airship was flying so low that its features were easily distinguishable. It sailed over Lydgate in the direction of Oldham". ('Mossley and Saddleworth Reporter', 12th July 1919).

If readers have any knowledge of similar happenings the Editor would be interested in hearing from them.

MICHAEL FOX.

CHRONICLES OF YE SHAW'S OF SHAWE HALL AND
YE RADCLIFFE'S OF RADCLIFFE TOWER BY
GEORGE SHAW OF ST. CHAD'S, UPPERMILL.

The Society archives have received a valuable accession by the gift of a photocopy of a manuscript book compiled by George Shaw of St. Chad's, Uppermill, entitled "Chronicles of Ye Shawe's of Shawe Hall and Ye Radcliffe's of Radcliffe Tower." George Shaw, 1810 - 1876, is well known as an architect and antiquarian who developed a great interest in the history of his family, recording the fruits of his researches in a volume which has passed down, generation by generation, as a family heirloom. The present custodian of the work is Captain W.W.F. Chatterton Dickson, R.N., who recently visited the Archives Room, and has generously donated a photocopy to us and one to Uppermill Library. His gift is gratefully acknowledged by the Society.

The book is very well illustrated, containing two hundred sketches by George Shaw. These illustrate buildings, coats of arms and relics. Many of the buildings are as he saw them, some are copies of old drawings, and at least one, Shaw Hall, from his imagination.

The subject of the book is, as the title states, the history of the two ancient families from which the author was a descendant. The first chapter is concerned with the origins of the family of Shaw and the house first built and occupied by one of its members, which became Shaw Hall. The family remained there until the early 16th century, when it established itself on other farms in Saddleworth. At some period the estate became one of the holdings of the Radcliffe's of Ordsall and later Foxdenton, and during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I, a Captain Robert Radcliffe became the tenant. (1) His descendants later moved to Saddleworth Fold and various other farms, including Stonebreaks. It was the marriage, in 1809, of the heiress of Stonebreaks to Giles Shaw of Uppermill which made George Shaw, their son, heir to the traditions of both families. The life of Captain Robert Radcliffe of Shaw Hall is recorded in some detail, along with the old ballad in which he is the supposed hero, "Captain Radcliffe and the Spanish Lady".

The book continues with pedigrees of the families of Radcliffe and Andrew of Alt and Lowside, and other ancestors of George Shaw. These are supported by deeds and relics of the 'gallant Captain'. The author then traces the family of Radcliffe through its many branches. Beginning with the Radcliffe's of Radcliffe Tower, the houses in which they lived are described in detail. In this section we find the Ballad of "Fair Ellen of Radcliffe".

The next section deals with the family of Shaw of Uppermill and Furlane, and those of Hyde of Tintwistle, Hollingworth of Hollingworth, and Buckley of Grotton Head, from which George Shaw traced his descent. Here again we find pedigrees and detailed descriptions of the houses in which they lived.

The book is a valuable work in which George Shaw's interest in antiquarian research and architecture, coupled with the romantic streak in his nature, makes fascinating reading. (2)

Note 1.

The tradition, accepted by George Shaw, that Capt. Robert Radcliffe was the third son of Sir William Radcliffe of Foxdenton, is contested by Charles Hampson in his "Family of Radcliffe" 1940. He contends that there

is no record of Robert's birth and that the only recorded son of Sir William was called Walter. William Radcliffe of Mellor had a third son called Robert who was kin to Sir Alexander Radcliffe of Foxdenton, and who also being a soldier during the reign of Elizabeth 1, may well have been Robert's patron and given him the tenancy of Shaw Hall. Amongst Captain Robert's relics, described by George Shaw, was a seal showing a shield of four quarterings, Radcliffe, Legh, Arderne and Sandbach. Hampson says that this corresponds "to the plaster-work shield still in Ordsall Hall, but with a crescent for difference. This was the mark of the cadency of the Mellor line and the silver seal would seem definitely to establish the identity of Captain Robert Radcliffe as the third son, not of William of Foxdenton, but of William of Mellor." As the Radcliffe's of Mellor were a cadet branch of the Radcliffe's of Ordsall, Hampson's theory does not deny George Shaw's claim to be descended from the latter but suggests another route. It must be pointed out, however, that Hampson makes a careless error with regard to the parentage of George Shaw's mother. "The eventual heir to the estate was Elizabeth, daughter of a John Radcliffe who died about 1828, and his second wife, Ann Hyde of Tintwistle Hall." John Radcliffe of Stonebreaks died in 1840 and Mally Andrew was his only wife. Ann Hyde of Tintwistle was the second wife of Thomas Shaw of Furlane. (See J. Radcliffe "Saddleworth Church Registers" Vol. 2. p. 311: Christening 25th February 1791 - Hannah d. of Thomas Shaw, Yeoman, and Ann his wife, Furlane. Radcliffe notes:- Hannah d. of Thomas Shaw and Anne (Hyde, Tintwistle) died 5 Dec. 1860 aged 69 years L Y.) Thomas and Anne Shaw both died in 1818. See gravestone inscription, George Shaw's Chronicles p. 145.

Note 2.

Students will find it helpful to study these Chronicles alongside the considerable collection of George Shaw material made by the late A.J. Howcroft and donated to the Society by Col. G.B. Howcroft. This material is to be found in the Society Archives, reference H/HOW/GS. Other sources of information are to be found in the Hewkin Collection, Uppermill Library, and in the Manchester Central Library, which holds parts of George Shaw's Diaries, reference MS 927.2.5.16. These consist of four volumes covering 1829, 1831, 1832 - June 1833, 1834 - August 1835, 1848 July to August. For this latter information I am indebted to Mr. Neil Barrow.

C.C.W.A.

SOME ASPECTS OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE WOOLLEN AND COTTON INDUSTRIES
IN SADDLEWORTH

Saddleworth is often assumed to have been predominantly a bastion of the woollen industry, but from the late eighteenth century cotton has also been an important part of the local economy. The main areas in which cotton processes have been carried on are those on the western fringe of Saddleworth. Elsewhere in the district cotton gained the occasional footholds, some significant, but it has always remained subservient to wool.

The cause of this relative domination of cotton manufacture by that of wool, and the confinement of much of the cotton industry to specific parts of the district, revolve around the influence of the large cotton industrial towns of Oldham and Mossley on Saddleworth's western border. However, it is not the purpose here to analyse these factors, a task which has been adequately done elsewhere (1); the aim is to provide some indication and quantification of just how marked the concentration of cotton processes in certain parts of Saddleworth was when contrasted with the rest of the district where wool predominated. A brief comparative look at the census returns for a selection of hamlets and villages in various parts of the district will provide the raw material.

Figure 2 gives a comparison between two Saddleworth hamlets in the census years of 1841 and 1881 - Tamewater, on the southern outskirts of Dobcross in the valley of the River Tame, and Top o' th' Meadows, on the eastern slopes of Strinesdale in the upper Medlock valley, just to the east of Oldham. Both settlements have been chosen for their similarity in size and their relative isolation from other hamlets and villages. It is immediately evident from the diagram that Tamewater's inhabitants relied heavily on wool as the source of their employment in the mid and late nineteenth century, In 1841, 70% of its working population (i.e. 21 out of 30) gained their living in this way, 62% (33 out of 53) doing so in 1881. Cotton is of virtually no consequence, no one being recorded in 1841 as having worked with it and only one person in 1881.

The position is reversed when Top o' th' Meadows is studied. Here exactly 50% of the working proportion of its inhabitants (i.e. 10 out of 20) were employed in the cotton industry in 1841, the figure for forty years later being very similar at 54% (20 out of 37). Where cotton was inconsequential at Tamewater, wool was of minute importance at Top o' th' Meadows, only one person being recorded as working in a process involving it in 1841 and 1881 taken together.

These marked variations are particularly striking when it is remembered that the two hamlets are less than three miles apart. Neither are the contrasts they represent untypical of the period. The census returns indicate, for example, that in 1843, 80% of the employed population of Woodbrook hamlet worked in the cotton industry, compared to a mere 4% in woollen activities; the same year, the large hamlet of Saddleworth Fold a few miles to the east above Uppermill had 92% of its working inhabitants gaining their living from wool, not a single person deriving employment from cotton.

When larger communities are studied a similar picture emerges. Fig. 1 emphasises this, particularly in the case of 1841, when 56% of the working inhabitants of Uppermill (215 out of 381) were in the woollen industry against a mere 3% (12 out of 381) in cotton activities; in the same year the village of Austerlands a few miles to the west between Woodbrook and Strinesdale,

Fig.1. Comparison of relative importance of woollen and cotton industrial employment in Austerlands and Uppermill villages.
(Source: Census Enumerators Returns).

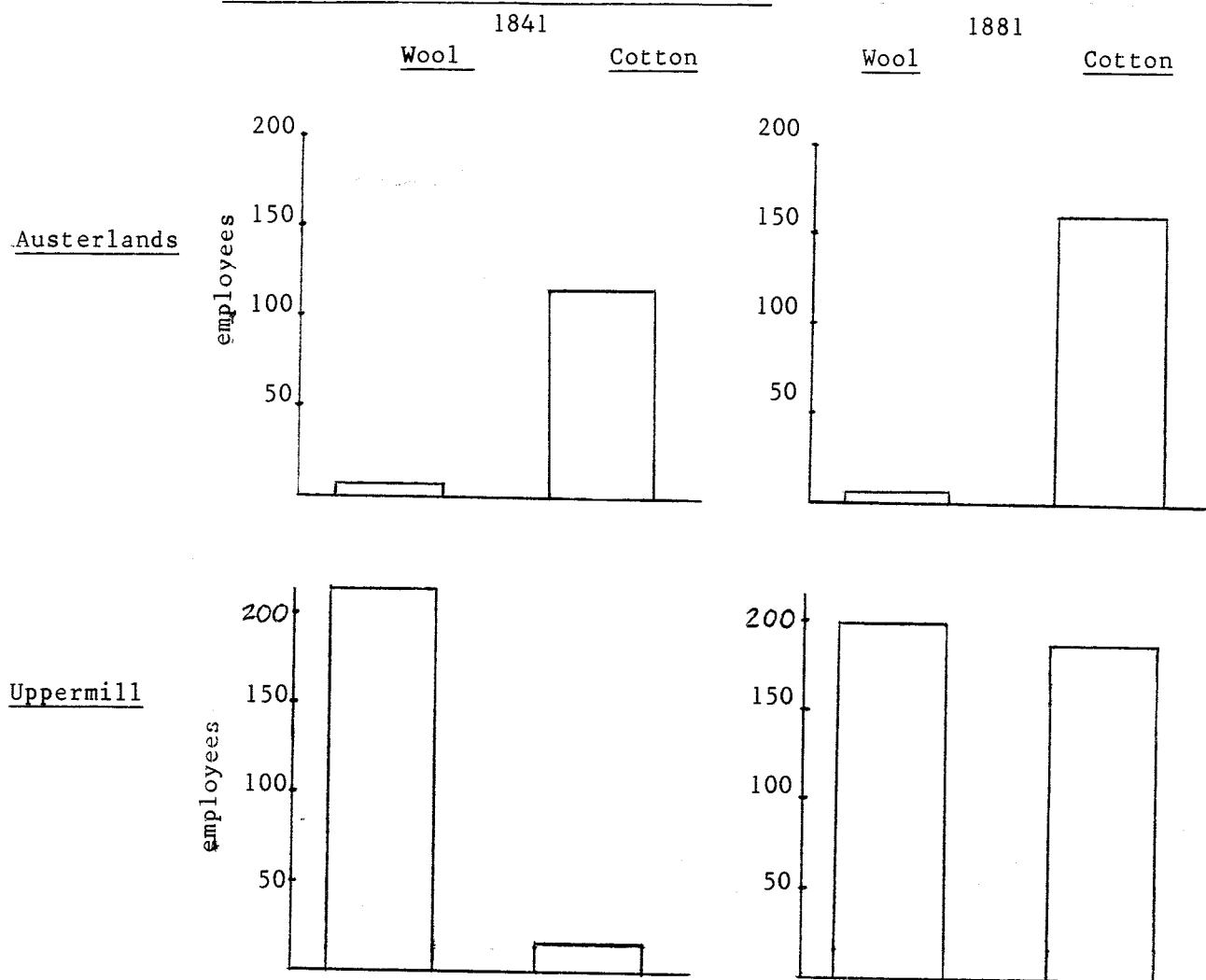
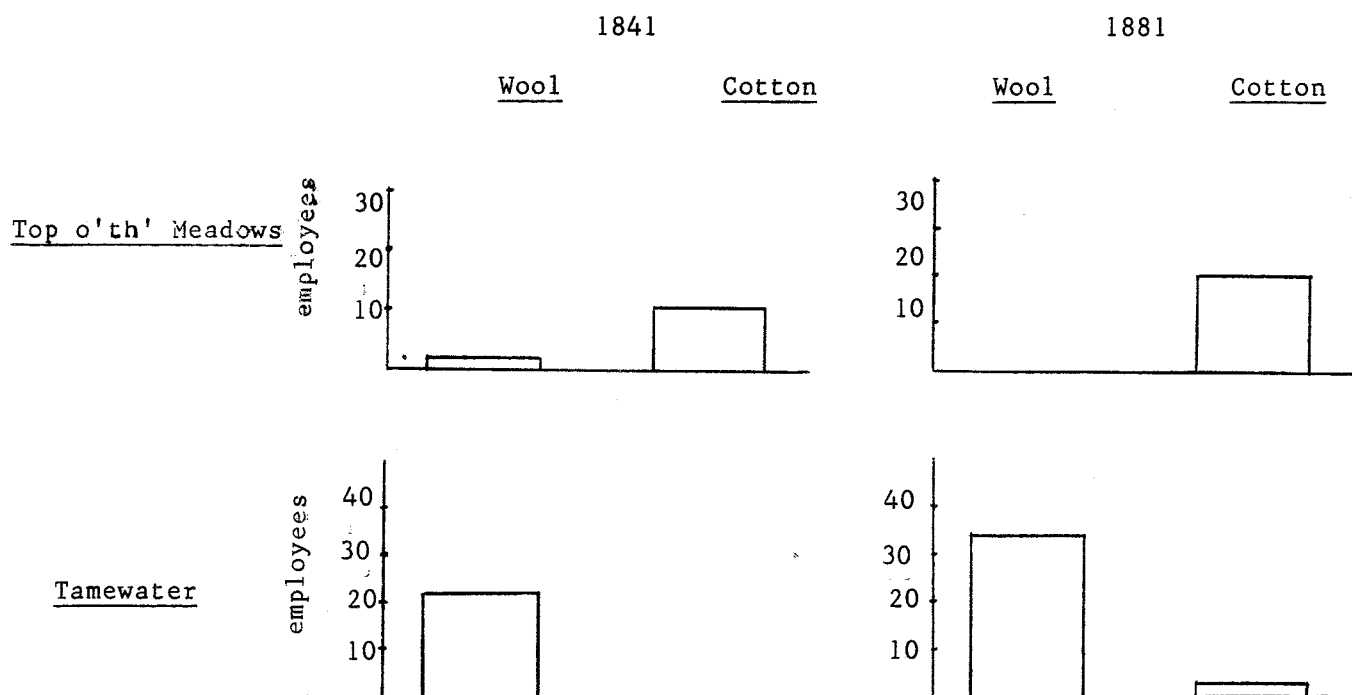


Fig.2. Comparison of relative importance of woollen and cotton industrial employment in Top o' th' Meadows and Tamewater hamlets.
(Source: Census Enumerator Returns).



was demonstrating the converse, 66% of its population (113 out of 172) deriving a living from cotton with only 2% (3 out of 172) doing so from wool.

Villages elsewhere in Saddleworth seem to have reflected this general division of the district into large areas dominated by woollen industrial activities and a mainly cotton orientated western fringe. This is despite the incursion of the cotton industry into Greenfield, Delph and other locations from the late eighteenth century; the piecemeal nature of this and the tendency of mills to revert to wool, acted together to preserve the supremacy of wool over the intruder.

The case of Uppermill illustrates some of the features of this process. Continuing the comparison with Austerlands village, in 1881 the relative proportions and extent of cotton and woollen industrial employment in the latter were almost identical to those of 1841. In Uppermill, however, the same forty years have witnessed a definite shift towards cotton. By 1881 the numbers in Uppermill working with wool have actually declined and only account for 27% of the workforce (199 out of 745 people in employment). Conversely, cotton has gained considerably in importance, having grown to almost equal wool as a significant provider of employment (185 workers out of 745 i.e. 25%). (2)

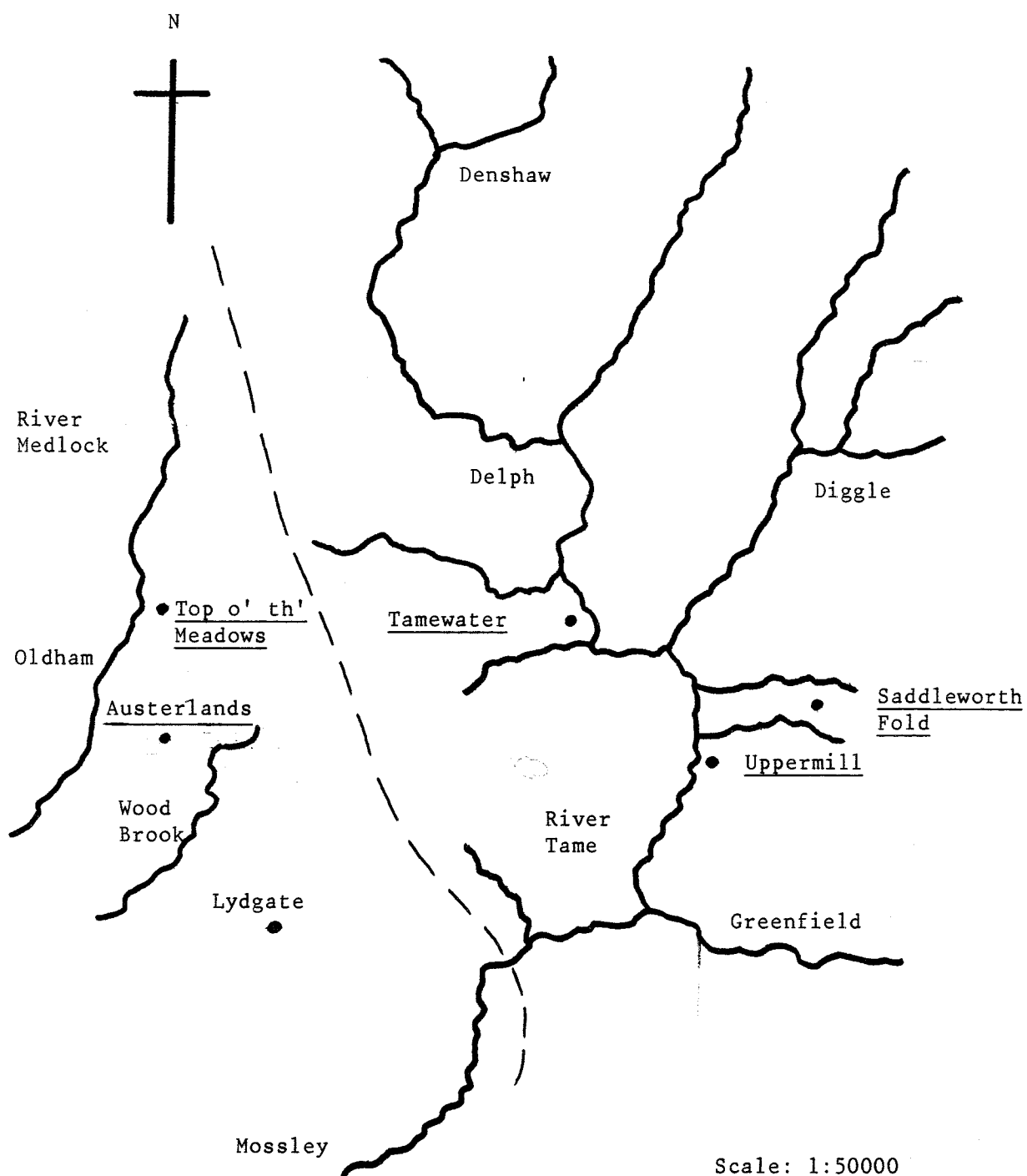
Wool is still the principal source of employment in Uppermill by 1881 and has a much greater presence than in Austerlands, but its reduced importance does point to the fact that a simple division between a cotton dominated western fringe of Saddleworth and a preponderantly woollen manufacturing zone covering the rest of the district can be drawn too readily.

This brief article has only scraped the surface of the available data to sketch the outlines of the distribution and division of Saddleworth's textile industry in the last century. However, even on such a flimsy basis, it is evident that the geographical distribution of woollen and cotton activities was characterised by marked but localised concentration of the last mentioned, clustering in those parts of the district closest to the Lancashire cotton manufacturing towns of Oldham and Mossley. The economic structure of late eighteenth and nineteenth century Saddleworth was partly shaped by this sharp demarcation in its woollen and cotton industries.

MICHAEL FOX.

Reference

- (1) S.H.S. Bulletin, Vol. 9. pp. 45 - 52; article by Bernard Barnes on the early cotton industry in Saddleworth.
- (2) 'Uppermill in the Nineteenth Century' - S.H.S. Bulletin, Vol.18. pp 10 - 22.



Saddleworth - The area to the west of the dotted line roughly corresponds with that part of the district in which cotton outweighed wool as the prime industrial material.

Places underlined are referred to in the text.

EARLY MOTOR VEHICLES IN SADDLEWORTH

The following details were culled from the Oldham Local Interest Centre and provide some insight into the first motor vehicles on Saddleworth's roads. The great variety of makes and types is interesting, as are some of the detailed aspects of certain vehicles; note, for example, how some have detachable bodies, allowing them to double as lorries and charabancs. Clearly, these records represent only a selection of all vehicles registered, but the increasingly rapid advance of the motor car and lorry in the district as the century progressed comes across clearly.

<u>Regist-</u> <u>ration</u>	<u>To whom registered</u>	<u>Vehicle details</u>	<u>Date</u> <u>registered</u>
BU 5	George Arthur Schofield Westfield, Greenfield.	6 HP DAIMLER 16 cwt. Tonneau body painted brown - picked out in yellow + yellow wheels.	18/12/1903
BU 6	"	12 HP MARSHALL 16 cwt. Tonneau body painted red - picked out in black.	18/12/1903
BU 16	John Taylor Brownhill, Dobcross.	5 HP HUMBERETTE 4 cwt. 2 seater painted green.	22/ 1/1904
BU 20	"	8 HP WOLSELEY 15 cwt. Tonneau body painted green.	3/ 3/1904
BU 29	Ernest Radcliffe Robinson Brownhill Bridge, Dobcross.	6 HP ROTHWELL 10 cwt. 2 seater painted green.	20/ 6/1904
BU 36	John Taylor Brownhill, Dobcross.	28 HP DAIMLER 21½ cwt. Tonneau body painted green.	17/10/1904
BU 40	Greenfield Mill Co. Greenfield.	8 HP GREGORY 8 cwt. 2 seater - 1 cylinder - painted black.	6/ 2/1905
BU 42	George Henry Wild Bankside House, Uppermill.	4½ HP BRADBURY 3 cwt. Tri-car with forward carriage.	18/ 2/1905
BU 51	Ernest Radcliffe Robinson Brownhill Bridge, Dobcross.	10/12 HP ROTHWELL 15 cwt. Tonneau body red and black lines.	11/ 8/1905
BU 58	John Murgatroyd Stoneswood, Delph.	24 HP ROTHWELL 25 cwt. Motor Brougham - painted dark green and black.	15/ 7/1906
BU 61	John Taylor Brownhill, Dobcross.	10-12 HP COVENTRY HUMBER 18 cwt. Laundette - painted dark green.	27/ 7/1906
BU 65	Butterley Bros. Heather Bank, Greenfield.	10 HP TURNER MIESSE 19½ cwt. STEAM CAR - Tonneau and body dark blue.	28/ 3/1906
BU 36	John Taylor Brownhill, Dobcross.	28 HP DAIMLER 2½ cwt. Nottingham side entrance Painted green.	17/ 4/1906

<u>Regist-</u> <u>ration</u>	<u>To whom registered</u>	<u>Vehicle details</u>	<u>Date</u> <u>registered</u>
BU 71	John Murgatroyd Stoneswood, Delph.	20 HP ROTHWELL 25 cwt. Side entrance 5 seater painted dark green.	15/ 5/1906
BU 72	Charles Fredk. Roberts Linfitts, Delph.	5 HP STEAM CAR 13 cwt. 2 wheeler - dark green.	17/ 5/1906
BU 79	John Murgatroyd Stoneswood, Delph.	60 HP NAPIER 6 cyl. 30 cwt. Green, green lined and silver fittings.	4/ 7/1906
BU 120	Ernest Radcliffe Robinson Parkside, Greenfield.	15 HP ROTHWELL 18½ cwt. Side entrance - Tonneau painted dark green.	11/11/1907
BU 146	Albert Henry Mallalieu Rose Hill, Delph.	16-20 HP "ARGYLL" MOTOR CAR 19 cwt. Dark green and white line.	19/ 6/1908
BU 147	Emily Bradbury The Grange, Uppermill..	20 - 25 HP ROTHWELL Dark green and white lines.	19/ 6/1908
BU 229	Ernest J. Butterworth "Friarwood", Delph.	15 HP TALBOT Motor Car 10 cwt. Green.	7/ 6/1904
BU 282	John Edward Buckley "The Sycamores", Greenfield.	18 - 22 HP BELSIZE 22 cwt. Painted blue, gold lines.	1/ 5/1911
BU 323	Edmund J. Butterworth "Friarswood", Delph.	20 HP Ford 12 cwt. 2 seater painted dark blue.	7/ 2/1912
BU 345	"	9 - 11 HP HUMBER 15 cwt. Dark green,	10/ 5/1912
BU 347	Walter Foster Higher Croft, Oldham Road, Grasscroft.	10 - 12 HP BELSIZE 14 cwt. Motor Car - touring body painted green.	19/ 9/1912
BU 384	Elizabeth Milne "Bow Greave"Uppermill.	25 HP TALBOT Motor Car - Cabriolet painted dark blue.	6/12/1912
BU 392	Herbert Townsend Railway Hotel, Greenfield.	20 HP FORD 14 cwt. Motor car - 4 seater painted green (For use as a public conveyance).	31/ 1/1913
BU 426	Springhead Carriage Co.Ltd. Springhead.	14 - 16 HP BELSIZE Motor car - Laundette painted dark blue (For use as public conveyance).	4/ 6/1913
BU 433	Alfred Davenport "Bank Top", Uppermill.	20 HP FORD 12 cwt. Motor Car - 2 seater painted dark green.	3/ 6/1913

<u>Regist- ration</u>	<u>To whom registered</u>	<u>Vehicle details</u>	<u>Date registered</u>
BU 544	Elizabeth Milne "Bow Greave", Uppermill.	12 - 16 HP SUNBEAM 20 cwt. Motor car - 2 seater painted grey.	18/ 5/1914
BU 642	Tom Rothwell Stoneswood, Delph.	20 HP ROTHWELL Motor Car 27 cwt. Laundelette body.	17/ 5/1915
BU 749	Annie Lowndes Junction Hotel, Denshaw.	15 - 20 HP FORD 14 cwt. 5 seater, painted blue (for use as a public conveyance).	1/ 6/1916
BU 783	Brooke Hanson & Son Model Farm, Delph.	20 HP FORD VAN 14/15 cwt. blue-black van (for trade purposes).	18/11/1916
BU 789	William Clegg Garrett The Bridge, Delph.	20 HP FORD VAN Blue black van, white top (for trade use)	16/ 1/1917
BU 795	Bradbury & Co. Flannel Manufacturers, Uppermill, Nr. Oldham.	15/20 HP STUDEBAKER 16 cwt. Lorry body painted blue (for trade use)	2/ 1/1917
BU 638	Taylor Bradbury "Westfield" Grasscroft, Greenfield.	20 HP OVERLAND 18 cwt. Motor Car 5 seater - painted black.	14/ 5/1915
BU 809	Greenfield Mill Co. Ltd. Greenfield.	20 HP FORD 14 cwt. Van body, black. (For trade use) Transferred to Ministry of Munitions 14/8/1918.	15/ 2/1917
BU 282	Mr. S. & F.S. Buckley Motor Haulage Contractory, The Sycamores, Greenfield.	18/22 HP BELSIZE 22 cwt. Motor Car painted blue, gold line (for trade and public conveyance use).	1/ 3/1911, 30/ 1/1920
BU 120	James Butterworth & Son Pianoforte Warehouse, Greenfield.	15 HP ROTHWELL 18½ cwt. Detachable lorry body (For trade and public conveyance use).	11/11/1907
BU 836	Mr. S. & F.S. Buckley The Sycamores, Greenfield.	20 HP FORD 15 cwt. Touring body painted black. (for trade and public conveyance use).	12/11/1917 11/10/1919
BU 851	H. Williamson High St. Mills, Uppermill.	25 HP OVERLAND - LORRY 25 cwt. Lorry body painted blue.	30/ 1/1918
BU 1518	Charles Radcliffe Fair View, Grasscroft, Nr. Oldham.	20 HP FORD 14 cwt. Touring body painted black.	5/ 6/1920

BU 1519	William Thompson New House Estate, Scouthead.	17.9 HP OVERLAND 5 seater, black.	18 cwt.	28/ 6/1920
BU 1538	Thomas Potter High Grove, Greenfield.	16 HP SUNBEAM 5 Seater, Grey.	25 cwt.	12/ 6/1920
BU 1049	Birtwhistle & Mason Lawton Terrace, Delph.	20 HP FORD 5 seater, dark blue. (for use as a public conveyance).	14 cwt..	17 8/1919
BU 1646	George Reuben Gaunt Bradbury Beech Lawn, Uppermill.	20 HP CHEVROLET 4 seater touring, grey.	18 cwt.	17/ 8/1920
BU 1022	John H. Broadbent Broadlea, Kinders, Greenfield.	18 HP OVERLAND 5 seater, black.	16 cwt.	17/ 8/1920
BU 1697	James Butterworth & Co. Road End Garage, Greenfield.	10 - 12 HP DARRACQ Transport Lorry, dark red & black.	17 cwt.	23/ 9/1920
BU 996	Harold Carr Tamewater House, Dobcross.	20 HP FORD 5 seater touring body, dark blue.	14 cwt.	31/ 5/1919

PETER FOX.

Reference - Oldham Local Studies Library 'Register of Motor Cars',
CBO 3, 1/5/5 - 1/5/7.

LETTER

Dear Editor,

Maurice Dennett, Hon. Archivist of the Museum, would be very pleased to hear from anyone who has any idea of the whereabouts of a bound volume of the 'Mossley & Saddleworth Reporter' covering the period 4th May, 1895 to 19th March, 1898. This is missing from the cupboard in the Archive Room.

Many thanks.

Sincerely,

(MAURICE DENNETT)

Enquiries about membership of the Saddleworth Historical Society should be sent to:

Mrs. E. Broadbent,
30 Beechfield,
GRASSCROFT,
Oldham,
OL4 4EL.

The Editor of the Bulletin is:

Michael Fox,
4 West Mount,
Shaw Hall Bank Road,
GREENFIELD,
Oldham,
OL3 7LF.

(Saddleworth (0457) 870378)

Contributions

The "Bulletin" aims to reflect and encourage interest in all aspects of Saddleworth's history. As such it relies on a regular supply of material in the form of articles, reviews and letters, from members and others interested in the history of the area. Fresh material is constantly required and should be sent to the Editor, who is always pleased to discuss ideas for articles with anyone thinking of contributing. Articles need not be confined to subjects within Saddleworth's borders, but should have some connection with the district.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Would Mr. K.W. Lawton please get in touch with the editor who is keen to accept his kind offer of contributing material for the "Bulletin".

SADDLEWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 1989 -

O ! why be sad though winds are wild,
And skies are foul with rain,
The sun will shine upon the hills,
And springtime come again.

Ammon Wrigley.

It was with great sadness that we heard of the deaths of Miss Alice Henthorn and Lt. Col. G.B. Howcroft. Miss Henthorn who died during August was a very supportive member of the Society attending lectures, many of our outings and social activities with her sister Helen.

Lt. Col. Gilbert Burdett Howcroft, a greatly respected founder-member of our Society, died peacefully at home on the 12th of October aged 96 years. He was the author of the Society's first book "George Shaw of St. Chad's", and a Trustee of the Saddleworth Museum.

Trained as an architect, he took his Masters degree in 1914. Very shortly after the outbreak of war he joined the 1/7th West Riding Regiment (shortly to be the Duke of Wellington's Regiment). During 3 years of active service in France he was severely wounded and awarded the M.C. In the course of a long and most distinguished career further honours were to follow - the C.B.E., T.D., and J.P.

Some years ago his valuable collection of archive material was presented to the Society.

In 1938 he became Brevet Lt. Col. in the 7th Duke of Wellington's Regiment. During World War 2 he served as O.C. on troopships sailing round the Cape of Good Hope deploying troops to North Africa and the Far East.

In 1984 he was persuaded to publish his memoirs of The First World War, as Remembered by a Yorkshire Territorial.

G.B. Howcroft was one of the very last survivors of that band of golden lads who left their towns and villages nearly three-quarters of a century ago to face the rigours of trench warfare.

Lecture Programme.

Tuesday 12th December, 89.
Saddleworth Museum. 7.30 p.m.

Annual General Meeting & Members' Slide Evening.

This year the Members' Slide Evening is combined with the AGM and members who feel they have a slide show from their last historic holiday are encouraged to contact Mr. Jack Hindle on 87-4200.

Monday 12th February, 1990
Saddleworth Museum, 7.30 p.m.

Sources for Saddleworth History:
The Society's & Museum Archives.
Rev. Canon C.C.W. Airne &
Mr. Maurice Dennett.

Change of lecture date 'The Vanished Mills of Saddleworth' by Michael Fox
will now take place on Tuesday the 3rd April, 1989.

Music at the Gallery.

Saturday 16th December, 1989.

Dave Donohoe's Jazz Band.

Archaeology Group.

On Thursday the 12th October, 1989, members enjoyed a talk on Israel by Mrs. Beryl Lynch which included some Archaeological sites well off the beaten track. The November meeting was presented by Mr. Noel Grant who gave a lecture on his researches of local Roman Roads.

The next Archaeological Section lecture is to be held at the Museum on Thursday the 14th of December, 89, at 8.0 p.m., instead of the Cross Keys Inn, Uppermill. Mr. Norman Redhead will outline his new position as Sites & Monuments Records Officer for the Greater Manchester Archives Unit.

W.E.A. Course at Saddleworth School.

'The History of Transport in Saddleworth'. Starting 8th January, 1990 at 7.15 p.m. Lecturer - Mr. Michael Fox. 10 Meetings. Enrol at the first lecture. Further details ring 061-633-3205.

On the 15th of November, 1989, the Saddleworth Authors Michael and Peter Fox presented the launch of their latest book 'Bygone Saddleworth', in the Museum Gallery. This can be obtained from the Museum Shop and other local bookshops at a price of £5.75.

The Bernard Barnes Essay Competition.

Another reminder that the Society propose to award a prize of £50 for the best essay on any aspect of Saddleworth history submitted by a student who is receiving full-time education and who will be below 19 years of age on the 31st August, 1989. Entries are now being received by : Mr. Neil Barrow, Carr Farm Cottage, Diggle, Saddleworth. The closing date is 31st December, 89.

The second of the Society's Summer trips took place on the 16th of September, 1989. Forty-four members and friends enjoyed the delights of Brimham Rocks, the grandeur of Fountains Abbey and the splendour of Studley Royal. Tea was taken at the Hornblower Inn in Ripon. The day still held one more treat - a special blow by the town's official Hornblower. He may not have been Bix Beiderbecke, but he was resplendent in tricorne hat, fine grey coat and a handsome black beard. The Murrays had pulled it off again.

Membership Section.

We have eight new members to welcome into the Society in this issue of the Bulletin.

Mr. A. Broadbent, Cumbria. Mr. T.A. Hawkyard, Stevenage, Herts.
Professor & Mrs. A.I. Ogus, Dobcross. Mrs. S.E. Forshaw, Shaw.
Mr. A. Hargreaves and Miss Richards, Grasscroft.
Mrs. J. Bryant, Bournemouth.

Mr. T. Hawkyard is on the genealogical trail and would welcome information concerning the Hawkyards. Other family connections are Dyson in Uppermill late 18th century, Whitehead (Ridge, Diggle and prior to 1860 in Marsden). Settle (Delph pre 1900 and Broadbent, Diggle circa 1850. Greaser (Meltham circa 1820) Lastly France in the Meltham area. Full address: 183 Ripon Road, St. Nicholas, Stevenage, Herts.

Your Committee have decided to dispense with the issue of Membership Cards as a token of subscriptions, the issue of the Bulletin being adequate proof of payment. This also dispenses of an admin task and we trust you are in agreement.

Referring to subscriptions for 1989 we unfortunately find still a number outstanding even after two reminders. Personal letters will be forwarded in due course, your co-operation will assist the finances of the Society and its publication duties in the field of local history.

Mrs. Lois Leech who with her late husband were active members of the Archaeological Section and Colin Harding's W.E.A. Roman Classes for several years will be leaving shortly to emigrate to Australia joining her daughter and husband. We wish her well in her adventure and hope that she enjoys many years happiness in the Antipodes.

J. Hindle.
November, 89.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

OF SADDLEWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY IS TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY
12th DECEMBER, 1989 AT THE MUSEUM, 7.30 p.m.

Nominations are invited for the post of :-

Chairman	_____
Vice Chairman	_____
Secretary	_____
Treasurer	_____
Committee Members	_____

If you wish to nominate anyone to one of these posts, please obtain his/her consent beforehand. Forward your nominations to the Secretary, Mr. Neil Barrow, Carr Farm Cottage, Diggle, Oldham. OL3 5ND to reach him before the 9th of December, 1989.