

Saddleworth Historical Society Bulletin



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THE SADDLEWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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OUTRAM'S IRON AQUEDUCT AT STALYBRIDGE ON THE HUDDERSFIELD NARROW CANAL

(Grid Reference SJ 954983)

By 1799 two major sections of the Huddersfield Canal had been completed, the Ashton to Woolroad stretch and the Marsden to Huddersfield stretch. Standedge tunnel was not to be completed for a further ten years, but the Canal Company was intent on starting trade on the two halves of the canal, using wagons to carry goods over the intervening barrier of hills.

In August 1799, these intentions were thwarted by the occurrence of "unprecedented" floods in the Tame Valley, and part of the stone aqueduct which carried the canal across the river at Stalybridge was washed away.

This damage coincided with one of the frequent periods in the Canal Company's history when cash was scarce. Repairs to the canal were estimated at £6,500 (1), and every economy possible had to be made. More cash was raised by means of a second Act of Parliament, passed in 1800, but it was probably the shortage of money which influenced the Canal Company to consider a cheaper replacement aqueduct made of cast iron.

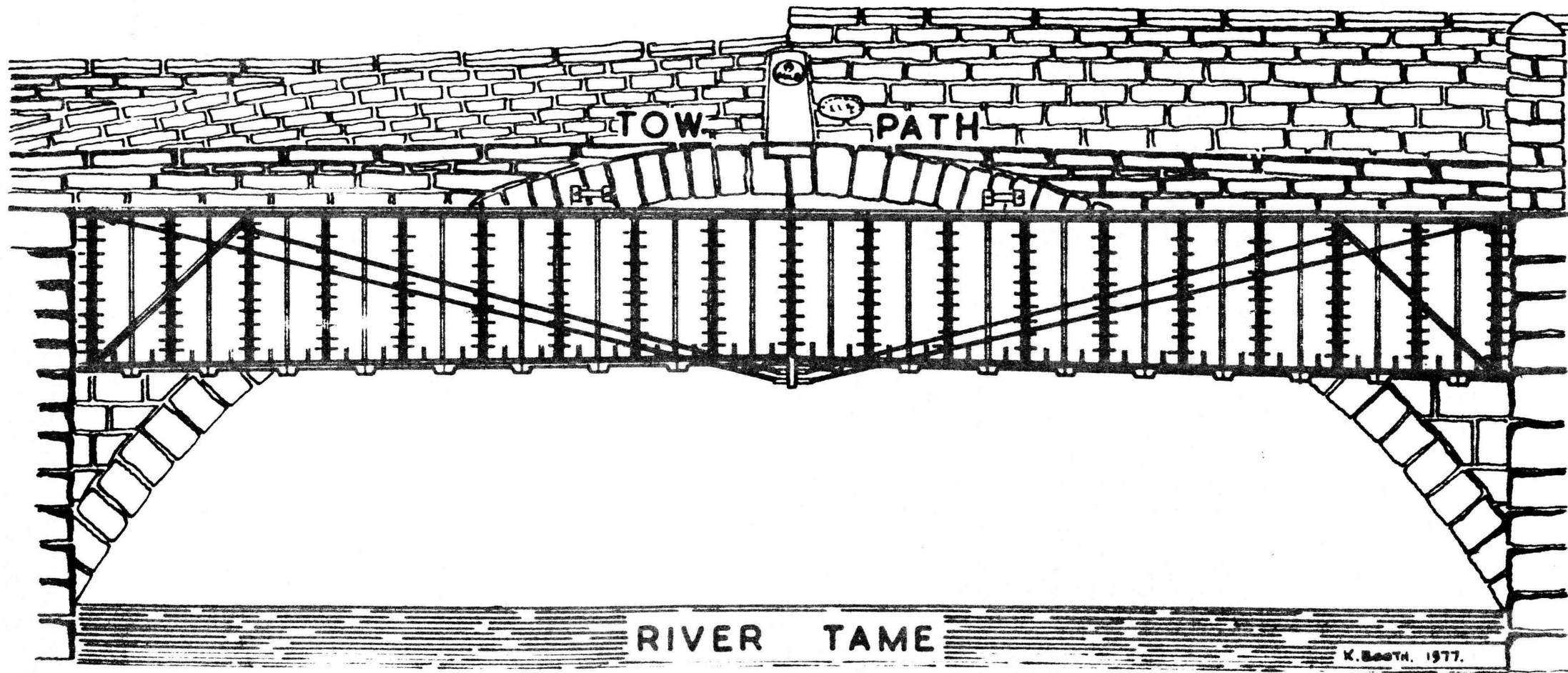
Cast iron, as a bridge and aqueduct material, had already been successfully used in several structures - the Ironbridge and the Longden-on-Tern aqueduct being well-known examples. Benjamin Outram, the engineer to the Huddersfield Canal Company, was the joint owner, with William Jessop, of the Butterley Ironworks in Derbyshire. Outram also had the distinction of being the first engineer to erect an iron canal aqueduct (at "The Holmes" on the Derby Canal, regrettably a structure now demolished) (2), and in 1799 he was in an ideal position to recommend a cast iron aqueduct at Stalybridge.

It is interesting to note that the Iron bridge (1779) across the River Severn became noted for withstanding subsequent severe floods which washed masonry bridges away, and that the Longden-on-Tern aqueduct (1795) had been built to replace an earlier masonry aqueduct which had also been destroyed by floods. The longer, clear spans of the cast iron structures gave much less impedance to flood waters than masonry structures. This capability must have influenced the Canal Company in their acceptance of Outram's proposal for the Stalybridge replacement aqueduct.

The Stalybridge aqueduct is unusual in a number of respects, and it is worth drawing attention to some of its features in detail.

The trough is constructed of cast iron flanged segments to form a rigid, open-topped box trough of approximately six feet in depth, ten feet width and 61 ft. 6 ins. in length. The trough itself is slightly tapered in cross section: i.e. the trough is a few inches wider at water level than at its base. This taper was possibly introduced to

THE HUDDERSFIELD NARROW CANAL



OUTRAM'S CAST IRON AQUEDUCT - STALYBRIDGE



take account of ice formation in winter: the expansion thrust on the sides of the trough would be relieved by slight upwards displacement of the ice.

The towpath is carried across the river on an independent stone arch of 56 ft. span. The towpath wall incorporates a standard canal milestone indicating "19 miles" (from Huddersfield), and the unusual change of height of the wall at the midpoint of the arch is thought to be connected with the Lancashire-Cheshire boundary which passes down the centre of the river.

At some later date, perhaps in the 1870s, when the canal was owned by the London and North Western Railway, the trough has been strengthened with tie bars. A cast iron beam has been fixed under the centre of the aqueduct trough. The downstream end of the beam is supported by a vertical tie bar fixed at its upper end to the edge of the masonry towpath arch. The upstream end of the beam is held by four diagonal tie bars running back to separate fixing points on the upper parts of the segments near each abutment (Fig. 1).

The cast iron segments making up the sides of the trough are approximately 6 ft. by 3 ft. in size, and the side flanges are provided with triangular gussets. The bottom flanges are reinforced with a mid-feather and unusually shaped gussets (Fig. 2), whilst the narrower top flanges have an integrally cast beading.

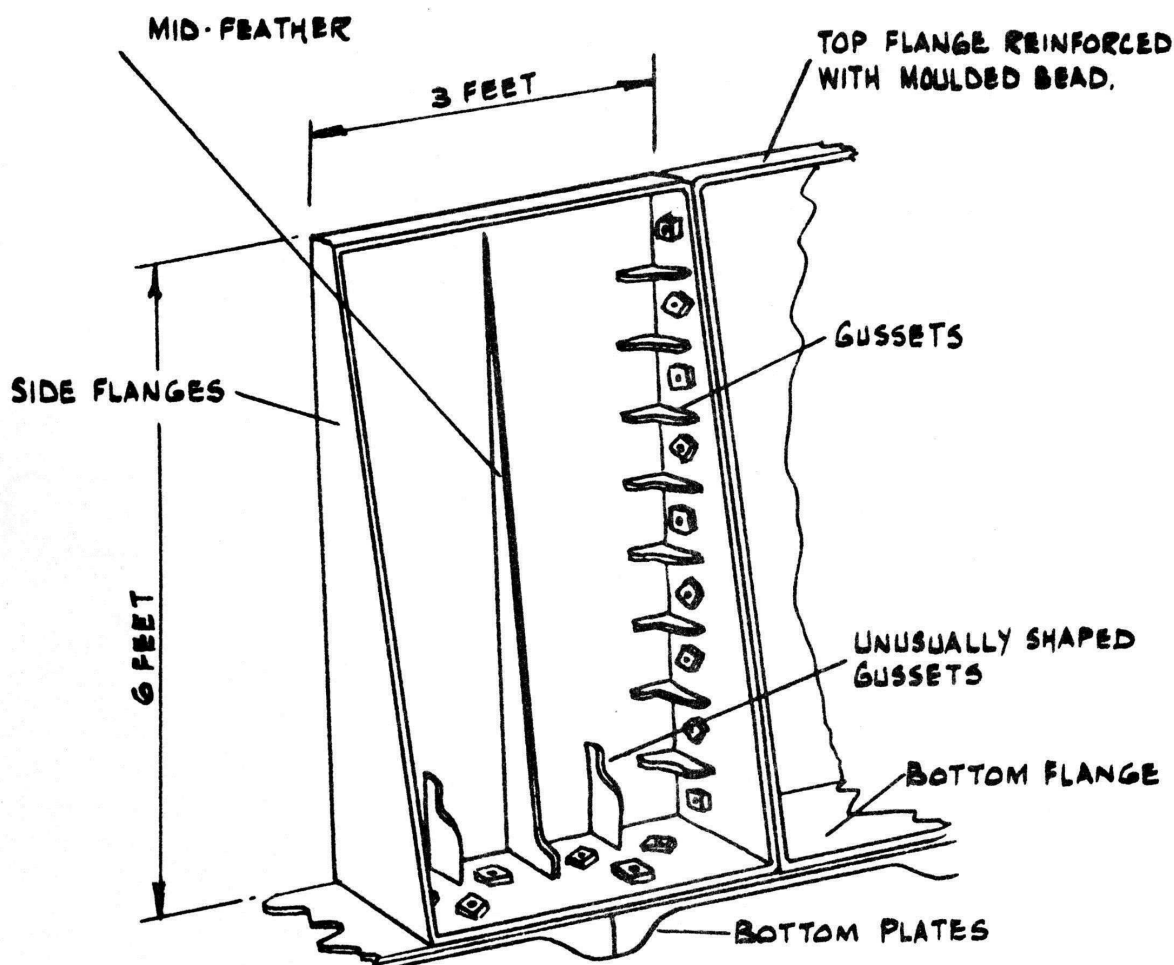


Figure 2

The segments which form the bottom of the trough are larger castings (10ft. by 3 ft.), and are again flanged and gusseted.

None of the segments is identical, and each one would have required a separate mould in the foundry. The segments making up the sides of the aqueduct near the centre have nine gussets in the vertical flanges, while the segments near the abutments have ten. This draws one's attention to the fact that the aqueduct is shallower at the centre of the span than at the abutments. This design is presumably intended to give the structure greater rigidity and resistance to sagging.

The positions of the bolted joints between the bottom segments are ingeniously arranged to be half way between the positions of the bolted joints on the side segments, thus allowing through bolting of the bottom of the trough to the sides (Fig. 2). The joints between the segments appear to be sealed with a putty-like material.

In common with the other aqueducts on the Huddersfield Canal, the Stalybridge aqueduct has drainage doors, and small windlasses are provided for raising the cover plates. Fittings for the stop planks are bolted internally to the side segments at two positions on the aqueduct. All the nuts and bolts are square-headed and appear to be original.

The aqueduct, although opened early in 1801, is still in reasonable condition and is watertight. It would still be usable if the canal were to be reopened for navigation. Slight settlement of the north-west abutment has occurred, allowing on occasions some canal water to spill into the river. Some inward bowing of the sides is evident, but it is difficult to tell whether this is a design feature or whether it has resulted from the upwards pull of the later tie bar reinforcement.

It is not known at present whether the aqueduct is listed as an Industrial Monument, but it is obviously a most important structure, representing early civil engineering use of cast iron. The design, pattern making and the casting of the segments warrants further research, as do the problems and methods used of transporting and erecting the aqueduct. No records of the building of the aqueduct have been found by the author in local libraries, and he or the Editor would be pleased to learn of any written source material about this interesting structure.

References

1. C. Hadfield and G. Biddle, "The Canals of North West England" V. 2, Chapter XII, David & Charles, 1970.
2. R. Harries, "Canals and their Architecture", Hugh Evelyn Ltd., 1969, p. 92.

David Chadderton
(Fieldwork by Barbara Booth, Ken Booth and David Chadderton).

LOCAL INTEREST TRAILS

A further two Interest Trails have recently been published by the

Society in the new format. These are:-

No. 1. Delph, Heights and Grange, a completely revised and enlarged edition of the trail first published in 1973.

No. 6. Denshaw Area, an entirely new trail.

The "Oldham Evening Chronicle" for July 21, carried a review of the first of these, describing the text as "informative and entertaining, leaving one with a sense of surprise at the early date the Industrial Revolution hit Saddleworth", while Stanley Broadbent's sketches "are just enough to draw attention to the richness of the Saddleworth stone architecture".

Price 20p (30p including postage, etc.) from the Editor or the Museum in Uppermill.

THE REVEREND JOHN HEGINBOTTOM, M.A. (Oxon), (1695-1771), CURATE OF
SADDLEWORTH, 1721-1771

(The following is reprinted from "The Higginbottom Family Bulletin", Nos. 12-14 1973, by kind permission of the Editor, Frank Higenbottam, B.A., F.L.A., 17 Glenside Avenue, Canterbury, Kent).

Part 2: Pedigree of the Heginbottoms of Hyde, Cheshire, and of Saddleworth.

The ancestry and kin of the Rev. John Heginbottom are here established for the first time and an effort has been made to establish the persons named Heginbottom among the progeny of William Heginbottom of Wellhead, son of the Rev. John Heginbottom.

All baptisms, marriages and burials at St. Chad's, Saddleworth, unless otherwise stated.

JOHN HEGINBOTTOM of Hyde in Stockport, Cheshire, yeoman, banns for marriage with Elizabeth Shepley (bur. Stockport 15 Feb. 1687/8 as of Hyde) pub. at St. Mary's, Stockport, 13, 20 and 27 Jan. 1655/6; bur. Stockport 18 Sept. 1686 (Will dat. 16 Sept. 1686, pr. Chester 26 May 1687, with inventory dat. 9 Oct. 1686), having had issue.

1. RALPH, of whom presently.

2. William, in father's will, under 21 at 16 Sept. 1686

1. Mary, in father's will, under 21 at 16 Sept. 1686

2. Jane, in father's will, under 21 at 16 Sept. 1686

3. Alice, in father's will, alive 16 Sept. 1686

4. Elizabeth, not in father's will 1686; mar. Salford 11 June 1672 Raynald Tetlow of Godley in par. of Mottram.

The elder son,

RALPH HEGINBOTTOM, of Hyde, yeoman, in father's will, under 21 at 16 Sept. 1686, mar. 5 Feb. 1694/5 at Manchester Collegiate Church (now the Cathedral) Susannah Lees of par. of Manchester (bur. Stockport 4 Sept. 1720) and bur. Stockport 23 Aug. 1729 (Will dated 16 Aug. 1729 proved Chester 22 Nov. 1729. He signs Higinbotham), having had issue

1. JOHN, of whom presently.

2. Joseph, of Hyde in Stockport, yeoman, left £150 at 21 in father's will dated 16 Aug. 1729, mar. 22 Feb. 1736/7 Margaret Lowe of Houghton, parish of Manchester, spr.

1. Susannah, b. 12 Sept. 1698 (Stockport reg.), left £150 at 21 in father's will dated 16 Aug. 1729, as wife of John Blomeley of Openshaw in Manchester.
2. Elizabeth, left five shillings in father's will dated 16 Aug. 1729, as wife of Thomas Waterhouse (mar. Stockport 8 Sept. 1726).
3. Margaret, left £30 in father's will dated 16th Aug. 1729,
The elder son,
The Rev. JOHN HEGINBOTTOM, M.A. (Oxon.), Minister of St. Chad's, Saddleworth, 1721-1771, b. 19 Jan. 1695/6 (Saddleworth register vol. 2) "at, or near, Mottram in Longdendale, Ches., educ. at Manchester Grammar Sch. and proceeded to Brasenose Coll., Oxford" (Canon F. R. Raines's MSS. xxxviiA, p. 22, Chetham's Lib., Manchester); mar. Martha (-) (bur. 21 Dec. 1770 aged 73, M.I.); in father's will dated 16 Aug. 1729 as my son John Higginbotham in Saddleworth, Minister, left housing and land in Hyde on payment of £300; Will dated 14 Dec. 1770, proved Chester 30 May 1771. He signs Heginbottom. d. at Platt Lane, Dobcross, and bur. 21 Jan. 1771 in 76th year, near chancel door, St. Chad's, Saddleworth, M.I., having had issue,
 1. JOHN, of whom presently.
 2. William, b. 5 and bap. 15 Feb. 1720/1, bur. 23 Feb. 1721/3.
 3. James, of Quick in Saddleworth, clothier, b. 11 and bap. 23 Aug. 1724, mar. 29 Dec. 1743 at Manchester Collegiate Church, Mary Breadbury of Saddleworth, by lic., and d. 30 May 1767, having had issue,
John, bap. 12 June 1746, parents of Wood in Saddleworth.
Mally, bap. 17 and bur. 26 Feb. 1744/5, parents of Quick in Saddleworth.
4. Samuel, of Dobcross, schoolmaster, b. 28 Jan. and bap. 6 Feb. 1725/6, mar. (no date or place) Mary (-) (bur. 10 Dec. 1798 in 66th yr.); jt. exor. of father's will 1771; will dated 7 May 1804, proved Chester 27 Sept. 1804, and bur. 20 May 1804, in 80th year, having had issue,
 - 1a. John, of Delph-Slack in Saddleworth, bap. 23 Dec. 1754, mar. 30 Dec. 1779 Sarah Buckley (d. 26 Jan. 1837 in 78th yr. bur. Friarmere) of New Tame; jt. exor. of father's will 1804, and d. late of Denshaw 20 May 1834 in 81st year, having had issue,
Radclif, bur. 23 Nov. 1780.
 - 2a. James, of Dobcross, clothier, bap. 17 Oct. 1756, mar. by lic. 31 Oct. 1782 Mary Schofield; jt. exor. of father's will 1804, and d. ---having had issue,
 - 1b. Thomas, bap. 22 Sept. 1783
 - 2b. James, bap. 13 Dec. 1789 at Dobcross Chapel (This chapel originated only two years before). Bur. 23 Oct. 1790.
 - 3b. John, bap. 19 Feb. 1794
 - 1b. Matty, bap. 17 Feb. 1788.
 - 2b. Letty (? Matty), bur. 29 Oct. 1792.
 - 3a. Joseph, bap. 23 Sept. 1758, bur. 23 May 1795.
 - 4a. Samuel, bap. 19 Aug. 1762, mar. by lic., 6 June 1793 Esther Lawton, spr. and bur. 19 May 1798 as S. H. jr. of Stones; Admon. as late of Stones, clothier, granted 30 May 1798 to Esther, widow, relict.
 - 5a. Ralph, bap. 23 May 1769, and bur. 14 July 1791 in 25th yr.
 - 1a. Lucy, bap. 27 Dec. 1760 and bur. 8 Nov. 1761.
 - 2a. Lucy, bap. 25 Sept. 1764, mar. by lic. 21 July 1785 John

Horsfield (or Horsfold), bach. (jt. exor. of father-in-law Samuel's will 1804).

3a. Ann, bap. 8 Feb. 1766 and bur. 11 Mar. 1769.

5. William, of Saddleworth, clothier, b. 11 and bap. 23 April 1727, mar. 26 Feb. 1748/9 Martha Shaw (d. 1 Jan. 1811 in 81st year, bur. St.

Thomas's, Friarmere), of Grotton-head, spr.; jt. exor. of father's will 1771, and d. 8 Dec. 1817 aged 90, bur. St. Thomas's, having had issue,

1a. William, of Oxhey, clothier, and clerk to Saddleworth Chapel 38 years, bap. 5 Oct. 1751, mar. firstly, 29 Dec. 1774 Hannah Buckley of New Tame ("an agreeable young lady with £1,000 fortune" - Prescott's Journal 31 Dec. 1774; d. 18 June 1792 in 35th yr., bur. Friarmere); having had issue,

1b. William, of Oxhey, mar. 2 Sept. 1799 Alice Wrigley (d. 20 Dec. 1847 in 69th yr.); jt. exor. of father's will 1828, and jt. exor. of brother John's will 1839, and d. 28 May 1856 in 81st yr., bur. St. Thomas's,

2b. John, of Oxhey, clothier, jt. exor. of father's will 1828; will dated 28 Apr. 1839, pr. Chester 7 Oct. 1839, and d. 19 May 1839 having had issue,

1c. William, jt. exor. of father's will 1839.

1c. Hannah, in father's will 1839 as wife of James Shaw.

2c. Peggy, left one shilling in father's will 1839.

He married secondly, 26 May 1796 Betty Shaw (d. 3 Nov. 1804 in 59th yr.), bur. St. Thomas's, having probably by her had issue,

3b. Radcliffe, in father's will 1828.

1b. Betty, dead by 1828, mar. (-) Platt, by whom she had issue (mentioned but no numbers or names in her father's will 1828).

2b. Matty, in father's will 1828 as wife of (John) Milnes (witness of will of Matty's brother John Heginbottom 1839).

He married thirdly, Mally, dau. of James Wrigley (d. before 13 Feb. 1828) of Hey in Saddleworth; Will dated 13 Feb. 1828 pr. Chester 13 Mar. 1829, and d. 13 Oct. 1828 in 78th yr., bur. St. Thomas's having by her had issue,

4b. Joseph, grandson of James Wrigley, and jt. exor. as of Lockwoodhey, of will of sister-in-law Mary Heginbottom 1839.

5b. Thomas, grandson of James Wrigley, mar. Mary (-) (her will as of Hey, par. of Saddleworth, widow, dat. 18 Nov. 1838, proved Chester 20 May 1839, and d. 17 Dec. 1838) and d. before 13 Feb. 1828, having had issue,

1c. Betty, in grandfather William Heginbottom's will 1828 and in mother's will 1838 as under 21.

2c. Hannah, not in grandfather William Heginbottom's will 1828 and in mother's will 1838 as under 21.

2a. John, bap. 24 Mar. 1754.

3a James, bap. 11 June 1758, mar. 27 Dec. 1780 Ann Shaw (d. 17 Aug. 1832 in 70th yr.) of Thorston-Clough, spr.; will as of Horest, Saddleworth, cotton spinner, dat. 29 Apr. 1825, pr. Chester 31 Oct. 1825, and d. 3 May 1825 in 67th yr., and bur. St. Thomas's, having had issue.

- 1b. William, jt. exor. of father's will 1825
- 2b. Ralph, in father's will, alive 29 Apr. 1825
- 3b. John, in father's will, alive 29 Apr. 1825
- 4b. Joseph, in father's will, alive 29 Apr. 1825
- 5b. Thomas, in father's will, alive 29 Apr. 1825
- 6b. James, jt. exor. of father's will 1825
- 1b. Betty, in father's will 1825 as Betty Shaw
- 2b. Sarah, in father's will, alive 29 Apr. 1825
- 3b. Hannah, in father's will, alive 29 Apr. 1825.

4a. Joseph, of Wellhead in Saddleworth, bap. between 10 and 15 March 1767, mar. 15 Sept. 1793 Malley (or Mally) Mills (d. 1 Nov. 1838 in 68th year.) of Brimmy Croft, and d. 20 Jan. 1849 in 82nd yr., bur. St. Thomas's.

1a. Elizabeth, bap. 1 Oct. 1749, mar. 10 Jan. 1771 Abraham (or Abram) Whitehead (d. 18 Jan. 1819 in 74th yr.) of Jumpsles, nr. Halifax, late of Lower Barn, clothier, and d. 4 May 1826 in 77th yr., bur. St. Thomas's.

2a. Matty, bap. 14 Mar. 1756, mar. 22 Oct. 1772 John Broadbent of Broadhead, clothier. (Their son was John Broadbent "the poet" - "Saddleworth Sketches", p. 83).

3a. Hannah, bap. 5th Oct. 1760, mar. 30 Mar. 1780 James Whitehead (d. 28 Mar. 1808 in 58th yr.) of Denshaw, clothier, and d. 6 July 1840 in 81st yr., bur. St. Thomas's.

4a. Peggy bap. 20 Sept. 1762.

5a. Lucy, bap. 16 Dec. 1764, mar. 11 July 1783 James Mallalieu (or Mallalieu) of Tame.

6a. Sarah, bap. at Friarmere 26 Mar. 1769, and bur. 4 June 1769.

6. Thomas, of Saddleworth, clothier, b. 19 Mar. and bap. 19 Apr. 1730, mar. firstly Anne (-) (bur. between 20 and 22 May 1763), having by her had issue,

1a. John, bap. 31 Mar. 1757, parents of Quick.

1a. Lucy, bap. 23 Mar. 1755, parents of Grotton.

2a. Elizabeth, bap. 8 Aug. 1759, parents of Hole-house.

3a. Peggy, bap. 3 Nov. 1761, mar. 27 June 1782 Joseph Broadbent of Delph.

He married secondly, 8 Aug. 1773 as Thomas Heginbotham or Heginbottom, par. of Manchester, hatter, Hannah Mellor of Delph, widow, having by her had issue,

2a. John, bap. 25 Nov. 1777 as s. of Thomas Heginbottom, hatter, and Hannah his wife, (of) Delph.

4a. Sarah, bap. 2 Nov. 1775, as dau. of Thomas Heginbottom, hatter and Hannah his wife, (of) Delph.

5a. Mary, bap. 2 Nov. 1775, as dau. of Thomas Heginbottom, hatter, and Hannah, his wife, (of) Delph.

1. Elizabeth, b. 11 and bap. 17 Mar. 1722/3, bur. 5 Jan. 1744/5 aet. suae. 22, M.I.

2. Peggy, b. 24 June and bap. 25 July 1728, and bur. 12 Feb. 1761.

3. Susannah, b. 31 Mar. and bap. 20 Apr. 1731, mar. 15 June 1761 Joseph Milns (or Milnes) of Wood, clothier (d. 23 Jan. 1806 in 82nd yr.); in father's will 1771, and d. 25 Jan. 1812 in 82nd yr., bur. St. Thomas's, having had issue,

James, bap. 14 May 1761, s. of Susannah Heginbottom, spr. by Joseph Milnes, clothier of Wood.

4. Matty, b. 11 and bap. 24 Aug. 1732.

5. Hannah, b. 18 and bap. 25 May 1735, mar. 30 Oct. 1755 by lic. James Bottomley, clothier.

6. Lucy, b. 4 and bap. 11 May 1738, bur. 10 Sept. 1751, aet. suae. 14, M.I.

The eldest son,
JOHN HEGINBOTTOM, of Lane End, Hyde, b. 15 and bap. 25 Jan. 1718/19,
jt. exor. of father's will 1771.

Compiled by Frank Higenbottam.

Sources

Heginbottom Wills proved at Chester (Lancashire Record Office).
Canon F. R. Raines's MSS. in Chetham's Library, Manchester.
The Parish Registers of St. Chad, Saddleworth, 2 vols.
Saddleworth Sketches, by Joseph Bradbury.
History of the Chapelry and Church of Saddleworth, by A. J. Howcroft.
New Saddleworth Sketches, by Joseph Thornton.

MANOR RECORDS

Part 10: 1800 - 1802

23rd August 1800

At a Meeting of the Committee of the Proprietors appointed to settle and agree with such Freeholders as have a right of Common upon the Moors or Waste Lands within the Manor of Saddleworth...at the House of Elizabeth Whitehead of Shaw-hall...called by Mr. John Radcliffe the Treasurer. Mr. John Harrop in the Chair (4 other Committee members present).

RESOLVED that Mr. John Radcliffe of Cross be allowed the sum of £15-3-6 in Account as a Compensation for his right of Common on which has been sold and disposed of or shall hereafter be sold or disposed of for the purpose of reimbursing the said proprietors...on account of his Antient Deeds of his Estate at Saddleworth Fold.

RESOLVED that Mr. Radcliffe the Treasurer do cause the £1,000 Stock in the 3% Consols to be sold out as soon as conveniently may be.

RESOLVED that Mr. Mellor of Ashton under line shall have that part of the Upperwood called the Letter Y at and for the price or Sum of £32, being the same part of the Upperwood which was sometime ago sold to John Broadbent and Giles Shaw, and at the same price.

RESOLVED that the said Mr. Mellor shall have the Briggs Cottage with the appurtenances at and for the price or sum of £13-6-0.

15th Nov. 1800

At a Meeting of the Proprietors of the Manor of Saddleworth held this day at the House of Widow Whitehead of Shawhall within the said Manor called by the Treasurer. Mr. John Harrop in the Chair (27 other freeholders present).

RESOLVED that Messrs. Henry Whitehead of Shaws, Henry Whitehead of Dobcross and Thomas Shaw of Uppermill do view a slip of Waste Land inclosed by Joseph Platt of Primrose and ascertain what the said Joseph Platt shall pay for the same and that they view the said slip of land on the 26th Inst. at 1 O'clock at Noon.

RESOLVED that Mr. John Broadbent of Tunstead shall have a parcel of Common on or near Yarnshill already inclosed by him at and for the price of £6-13-3.

RESOLVED that Mr. Thomas Shaw of Shepherds Green be requested to pull down or prostrate a Fence which Joseph Wrigley of Saddleworth Fold has set to inclose a parcel of Common or Waste Land near Parsonage on Wednesday the 26th Instant in the Afternoon. And the said Thomas Shaw does now promise and undertake to do the same.

RESOLVED that Mr. Radcliffe the Treasurer retain the Dividends of such of the Proprietors of the said Manor as shall neglect to refuse or execute the several Deeds already prepared respecting several parcels of Common or Waste Land already sold and contracted for within the said Manor betwixt now and the next meeting.

RESOLVED that Mr. Radcliffe order no Deeds Stamped before he has actually received Money from the respective persons who shall require the same.

RESOLVED that Mr. John Radcliffe the Treasurer discharge the Present Reckoning.

4th May 1801

At a meeting of the Proprietors...at the House of Josiah Lawton of Dobcross for the purpose of considering what Measures are to be adopted to bring the Manor Concern to a final conclusion. Mr. John Harrop in the Chair (32 other freeholders present).

RESOLVED that whereas by the Treasurer's Accounts this Day exhibited there appears to be more Money owing by the Concern than he will be able to pay by upwards of £73 which it is most reasonable to provide for by a Rate on the Proprietors in proportion to their Interest, that each and every one of the sd. proprietors shall pay to the Treasurer forthwith the sum of 2/- on every share which he is entitled to by virtue of the Title Deed now prepared for him, and upon payment thereof he shall receive the same Title Deed the whole of which Title Deeds are now ready for Delivery.

RESOLVED that if Isaac Scholefield does not pay the Treasurer the Commoning for which he has a Deed made on or before the 1st day of August next an Action shall be brought against him to recover the money.

RESOLVED that no Interest shall be paid on any Debts which appear to this Meeting owing by this Concern.

RESOLVED that James Bradbury of Boarshurst shall have the Deed now prepared for the Common he bought on Standedge.

RESOLVED that Joseph Platt Junr. of Primrose shall pay 9 Guineas for the Waste Land he has inclosed more than mentioned in his Deed.

RESOLVED that Robert Winterbottom shall have £1-14-0 allowed him for damage done to his fences by the Freeholders previous to their being agreed with, and that John Holden shall have 7/6 for like Reasons.

RESOLVED that after all the Money is received & part that is owing to and by this Concern if that be sufficient Money the Treasurer shall order the Fence to be made to inclose the Waste belonging to the Parsonage Estate.

RESOLVED that the Accounts presented to this Meeting by the Treasurer are approved of as being just and accurate and that the general statement be signed by the Chairman on behalf of the meeting.

RESOLVED that this Meeting be adjourned Sine Die subject to the call of the Treasurer.

8th July 1802

At a Meeting of the Proprietors of the Manor of Saddleworth pursuant to Notice from the Treasurer held at the King's Head Inn, Dobcross, to take into consideration several things in relation to the Manor Concern and particularly to Determine what must be done with those Title Deeds that are not taken up by the Claimants, whether they shall any longer be pursued for them or be declared forfeited and consequently be destroyed. Mr. John Harrop in the Chair.

RESOLVED that Isaac Scholefield on behalf of himself and others concerned with him on the purchase of a Lot of Commoning near Kinder Intakes be wrote to that the Proprietors of the Manor of Saddleworth have agreed to take one Acre from the second Lot and allow it to the Rev. Mr. Cooke as a Compensation for his Freehold Right and to deduct as much money from the sd. Isaac Scholefield & Co's purchase as the sd. Acre amounts to after the Rate the whole cost.

RESOLVED that the Title Deeds not taken up by the Claimants shall not be destroyed before the 1st day of Aug. next and that they be informed thereof by letter in order that they may have an opportunity to take them up before they are destroyed which must certainly be done if not taken up in time.

RESOLVED that Mr. John Radcliffe shall be & hereby is appointed to treat with any person or persons for Stone within this Manor for Bridges or other purposes for the best price that can be got for such Stone applying the money for the use of the Proprietors of the sd. Manor, provided the person purchasing such Stone give sufficient security for maintaining the Roads in as good repair as they find them.

The foregoing resolutions were signed by (then follow 26 signatures).

To be continued.

SADDLEWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY BULLETIN

In "The Local Historian" (V. 12, August 1977, pp. 343-348) Robin Chaplin reviewed local society bulletins and journals published in 1976.

He comments that "the most cheerful thing is that this is all essentially amateur work. About a third have Rural Community Council backing of some sort; something like another sixth have some sort of local authority backing - usually through a library or museum; nearly all the remaining half are genuine do-it-yourself publishing, and so far from seeming amateurish, show, if anything, more imagination and sense of style than the more official publications". Later he mentions some of those "that took his fancy", and goes on to say that "some in A4 size were exceptionally well designed and laid out to make the maximum use of the more spacious format. Here I think particularly of these from Farnham, Hornsey, Pinner, Saddleworth and Sussex".

Having given "a kind of identikit picture of what a model local history bulletin might contain" Mr. Chaplin lists three publications that come very near the ideal. One of these is the S.H.S. Bulletin, "a splendid illustration of what interest and variety can be put into a journal serving a far smaller area and population than the first two. It is extremely well edited and produced - on a shoe string by the look of it, but with real style".

Finally, in a short descriptive catalogue of local society bulletins etc., Mr. Chaplin comments that the S.H.S. Bulletin has "short, readable articles of high quality, notes and queries, transcripts of source material, reminiscences; a very well planned and valuable publication".

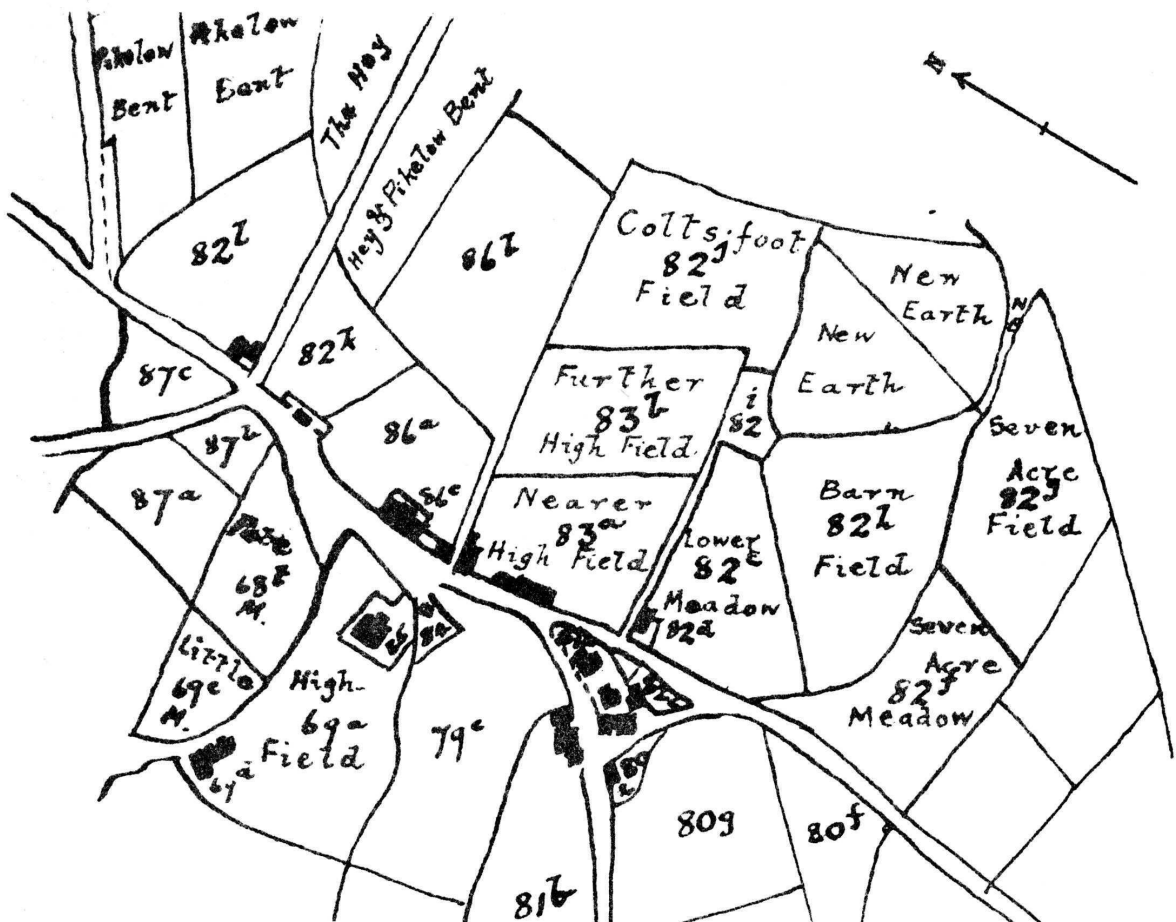
FURTHER THOUGHTS ON THE BUCKLEYS OF LYDGATE

Articles in the Spring and Summer issues of the Bulletin, by Messrs. Airne and Smith, have sought to establish the whereabouts of the Buckley homestead at Lydgate. New discoveries at Wakefield Registry of Deeds have not only put their conclusions beyond doubt, but have also added much to our knowledge of this important Lydgate family.

The earliest registration of their property at Wakefield seems to be a lease of the 4th July 1720, from William Farrer of Ewood to John Buckley of Brownhill, concerning the "farmhouse with appurtenances situate lying and being at Lidyate...lately heretofore in the tenure and occupation of Edmund Buckley deceased late father to him the said John Buckley party to these presents and now in the occupation of the said John Buckley or under-tenants". There is no mention of the rental or the term, but the wording suggests a renewal of a previous lease.

Had this been a lease for three lives (a common form at this time) the lives being perhaps those of John Buckley, his wife Ann and his son Edmund, it would have run until the death of Edmund Buckley in 1789. The next registration at Wakefield is, however, that of indentures of lease and release, dated the 26th and 27th August 1784, from the Lord

of the Manor, James Farrer, to Joseph Brook of Huddersfield, bookseller, concerning "all that messuage or tenement situate standing and being at Lydiate...now or late in the tenure holding or occupation of Edmund Buckley". Some of the fields listed as part of the 13 acre holding, the Seven Acre Meadow, the Little Seven Acre, the Lower Seven Acre, the Further Seven Acre and the Lower Meadow, can be identified on the 1822 map of Saddleworth.



Lydgate, 1822

That James Farrer should sell the Buckleys' holding at this time is not surprising as the sale of the whole manor was only seven years away. What does require explanation is why a wealthy family like the Buckleys should allow an outsider to buy their land rather than purchase the freehold themselves. The answer is probably that the Buckleys had other plans, for in the 1750s, they began to style themselves "Innkeepers" rather than "Yeomen" or "Clothiers". The 1765 Stockport to Doctor Lane Head turnpike, which joined the old road to Mossley just North of their house, must have brought extra trade, but left it and neighbouring Upper Lydiate hemmed in on a narrow triangle of land between the two roads. If we look closely at the White Hart, the inn the Buckleys subsequently built on higher ground near to Lydgate crossroads, it is apparent that the site of their old home would not have been suitable for rebuilding on this scale.

When built in 1789, the White Hart must have been the largest and most fashionable house in Lydgate. It was of three storeys, with large rooms either side of a central passage and stairway, and while to the rear were the traditional weavers' lights, smart double windows of the latest pattern were used on the front. The gable on the North end was made of local brick, suggesting that the adjoining cottage, probably built for a relative, was part of the original plan.



The White Hart Inn

We next hear of the Buckleys' old home when, on the bankruptcy of Joseph Brook, his Lydgate property was auctioned at the Bull's Head, Mossley, on the 19th July 1810. John Bostock of Lydgate, shopkeeper, was the purchaser and the conveyance, dated the 4th February 1812, was also registered at Wakefield. Bearing in mind Mr. W. J. Smith's verdict that the Mill House was built over the North wall of the Buckley house, it is reassuring to find reference to "all that partition wall dividing the said messuage or dwellinghouse hereinbefore mentioned from a certain other messuage or dwellinghouse purchased by John Mayall...". Cross-checking, we find that an indenture of the same date was registered, conveying Upper Lidiate to John Mayall of Earnshaw Head, and reserving the partition wall to John Bostock. Not only does this prove that the rebuilding was completed before 1812, but references in both conveyances to a common tenant, one Joseph Woolley, explains how Upper Lidiate came to incorporate the front wall of the Buckley house without offending the occupier.

Joseph Woolley was the son of John Woolley of Crowshawbent and joint tenant with his father of a water-powered scribbling, carding and

slubbing mill at Lane. Baines's directory of 1825 lists him as a grocer at Lydgate, suggesting that he had put Upper Lidiate to commercial use. His grave, alongside that of his father in Saddleworth churchyard, shows that he died in Manchester in 1844, aged 86. He would certainly have had the wealth to build the Mill House and is more likely to have been the instigator than the absentee landlord, Joseph Brook.

As it happened, the Buckleys were not in Lydgate to witness the destruction of their old home. Whether the income of the White Hart failed to meet the out-goings, or whether the family realised their capital to invest in the ill-fated Huddersfield Canal, they had removed to Stalybridge and the men were in the employ of the Canal Company. That one of the next generation made a fortune is the reason Lydgate remembers the Buckleys, and we next see them, in the shape of Edmund Buckley of Manchester, buying back all the old property and a lot more besides.

The opportunity to purchase the remains of his birthplace came when the Bostock estate came on the market in 1844. Edmund Buckley saw to it that his conveyance was also registered at Wakefield. Dated 1st August 1844, it not only describes the old family home, but also the adjoining piece of land with the "cottage erected thereon then used as a warehouse and in the occupation of the said Mrs. Bostock". Here we have an early reference to Moston Cottage and we can see that the Rev. Airne was not far out in his article, stating that Edmund Buckley must have been born at Moston Cottage or one of the cottages which formerly adjoined it.

Sources

Wakefield Registry of Deeds 1720 RR 470 600
1784 CP 480 700
1812 FR 565 606
1812 FW 83 96
1844 OU 697 680

Higson Mss. Vol. 26, Pt. 1, pp. 122-3
Pt. 3, pp. 126-7

J. M. Hunt

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 completed details will be published in future editions of the Bulletin. The information given below has been extracted from Record Cards which are held by the Society, and which are available for reference.

DAISY HILL (The Old Workhouse)

Grid Reference: SD 978072

Location:

Knarr Barn Lane, Delph, 900 feet above sea level.

- Description: Double gabled, two storey stone house, one gable older than the other. Old part, though latered, has some recessed flat mullions. Other gable has sash windows, with porch.
- History: 1798 Dec. 26. Benjamin Wrigley and his wife appointed Governor and Governess of the Workhouse at £30 per annum for their wages.
- 1799 March. Building of workhouse decided upon - in Knarr Barn Lane.
- 1812 It was resolved that this building was too small to serve as a workhouse and that a larger one should be erected at Runninghill, to serve as a Workhouse or House of Industry for the Reception of the Poor of the Parish. Built 1814-15.
- 1816 May. "Old Workhouse in Karr Barn Lane to be sold by auction at the House of James Lawton, the Swann Inn in Delph, on Tuesday the 6th Day of June next. Yearly ground rent 2d."
- 1851 According to the Census the house was still known as Old Workhouse and it was occupied by Betty Wood, a widow, and her two daughters who were both cotton power-loom weavers.
- 1871 By this time the house was known as Daisy Hill, according to the Census. Four families lived here: John Taylor, a woollen slubber, with one male and two females; James Lawton, a flannel weaver, with two males and three females, four of whom were also flannel weavers; Dan Baxter, a woollen teaser, with two males and one female; and Benjamin Schofield, a woollen weaver, with one male and three females, one of whom was a shawl twister.

DOVESTONE WOOD

Grid Reference: SE 017036

Location: On spur between Chew Brook and Greenfield Broom, 740 feet above sea level.

Description: Now submerged beneath Dovestone Reservoir.

- History: 1758 May 14. Anne, daughter of Timothy Brayshaw clothier and Joanna his wife of Dovestone-wood, christened. This is the only reference in the printed Church Registers. Further details may be included under Greenfield.
- 1777 The occupier of the Dovestone Wood estate (together with Greenfield) 52 acres 2 roods 11 perches was Randall Judson. Rent £24-1-0. (Farrer Estate List).
- 1825-6 Registers refer to William Bottomley clothier and Betty his wife of Dovestone Wood.
- 1827 Registers include reference to John Schofield clothier and Mary his wife of Dovestone Wood.
- 1835 The Church Rate Book lists the owner of Dovestone Wood as James Bottomley (of Greenfield Mill); the occupiers were William Bottomley, Samuel Kershaw, John Samuel Fogg, and John Worth.
- 1857 Ralph Schofield of Dovestone Wood, overlooker, one of the first three trustees of Greenfield Co-op. Society.

- 1871 The Census lists two families living here: those of Ralph Schofield, farm servant, and Edwin Bottomley, woollen spinner.
- 1885 The Poll List included Ralph Schofield of Dovestone Wood.

MINSEY CROFT (also known as Minsey Cottage) Grid Reference: SD 991062

Location: Ladcastle Road, Dobcross, between Mowwalls and Ladcastle.

Description: A. J. Howcroft in "Saddleworth Place Names", Oldham 1930, p. 16, gives the name to mean "small home field", applying to a small field which formerly contained two or three houses now cleared away. Not on 1820-21 map.

History: 1728 May 26. Joseph son of Thomas Kenworthy labourer and Mary his wife of Minsey-croft, christened (Registers).

- 1729 James Shaw sojourner in Saddleworth married Mary Lawton of Minsey-croft (Registers).
- 1737 Apr. 11. Martha wife of John Kenworthy of Minsey's buried (Registers).
- 1737 Nov. 16. John Kenworthy and Mary Butterworth both of Saddleworth married at Manchester Collegiate Church by licence. May 7 1738 Mary daughter of John Kenworthy clothier of Minsey's and Mary his wife christened (Registers).
- 1741 July 9. Hannah daughter of John Hinchcliffe labourer and Elizabeth his wife of Minsey-croft buried (Registers).
- 1742 Sept. 19. James son of William Kenworthy clothier and Mary his wife of Minsey-croft christened (Registers).
- 1742 Dec. 21. John Kenworthy clothier of Minsey's buried (Registers).
- 1746 Apr. 6 James son of James Bentley clothier and Margaret his wife of Minsey-croft christened. Their daughter Margaret was christened May 7 1749 (described "of Minsey's") (Registers).
- 1749 May 7. Hannah daughter of John Pilling clothier and Hannah his wife of Minsey's christened (Registers).
- 1753 Sept. 16. Joseph son of Benjamin Brierley clothier and Martha his wife of Minsey-croft christened (Registers).
- 1756 Jan. 4. Joseph son of John Whitehead clothier and Anne his wife of Minsey's christened and buried Jan. 21. Another son Joseph christened Mar. 6 1757. June 7 1767 their son Benjamin christened. Nov. 16 1770 their son James buried (Registers).
- 1759 July 10. Betty daughter of Thomas Platt clothier and Sarah his wife of Minsey's christened (Registers).
- 1761 May 17. Abraham son of Abraham Wood clothier and Hannah his wife of Minsey-croft christened. Jan 3 1762 their daughter Betty buried. Jan. 16 1763 their son John buried. Feb. 26 1764 their son James christened (Registers).
- 1764 Apr. 29. Alice daughter of Robert Wood clothier and

- 1768 Mary his wife of Minseycroft christened (Registers).
Aug. 28. John son of Jonathan Pilling and Esther his
wife of Minsey-croft christened. Dec. 2 1770 their
daughter Esther christened (Registers).
- 1770 Benjamin Brearley of Minsey Croft was a Warden of
Saddleworth Church (Registers).
- 1773 Feb. 10. Anna Wood, widow of Mincy Croft buried aged
80. Died of dropsy (Registers).
- 1775 May 29. Mary daughter of Sarah Wood spinster of Minsy
Croft christened (Registers).
- 1777 The Farrer Estate List included as tenant of Minsey
Croft Benjamin Brearley, 3 roods 17 perches, rent
£2-2-6.
- 1779 Feb. 8 . Matthew Hirst of Hustead widower married
Hannah Hawkyard widow of Minsey-croft (Registers).
- 1781 Feb. 26. William Riley of Minshaw-croft mason married
Elizabeth Whitehead of Den (Registers).
- 1783 Feb. 26. William son of William Hully clothier and
Sarah his wife of Mincy-croft christened. On July 28
of the same year their son Squire was buried and their
son William on Aug. 3 (Registers).
- 1783 Dec. 28. William Shaw of Minceycroft clothier buried
(Registers).
- 1786 Mar. 26. James son of John Key clothier and Mary his
wife of Minscroft christened (Registers).
- 1786 Oct. 27. Noah son of John Rhodes clothier and Ann his
wife of Minseycroft christened. May 19 1789 their
daughter Sarah christened (Registers).
- 1787 Feb. 27. Joseph son of William Haigh clothier and Betty
his wife of Mincey-croft christened, and buried Oct. 5
1787. Their daughter Mally christened Aug. 15 1788.
William Haigh of Mincy Croft buried Dec. 28 1790
(Registers).
- 1790 Dec. 12 James son of John Tennant cropper and Mary his
wife of Minse Croft christened (Registers).
- 1792 Oct. 7. Penelope daughter of John and Sarah Broadbent
of Mincy Croft christened (Registers).
- 1796 Mar. 13. Joseph son of James and Betty Wood of Minsy
Croft christened (Registers).
- 1810 The Saddleworth Enclosure Records indicate that the owner
of Minsey Croft was Edmund Schofield, and the occupier
of 3 roods 17 perches Henry Brierley.
- 1835 According to the Church Rate Book only the land was occ-
upied, by Thomas Garratt, while the owners were the
executors of Edmund Schofield.

The Society would welcome any further information on the houses and hamlets mentioned here, and also on any other property of possible interest in Saddleworth. The Gazetteer will also encompass turnpike roads, canals, railways, bridges, etc. Information should be sent to the Editor of the Bulletin: Mr. B. Barnes, 7 Elsted Road, Greenfield, Oldham. OL3 7LL. Enquiries about membership of the Society should be sent to the Subscriptions Secretary: Mr. S. Broadbent, 45 Beechfield, Grasscroft, Oldham.
