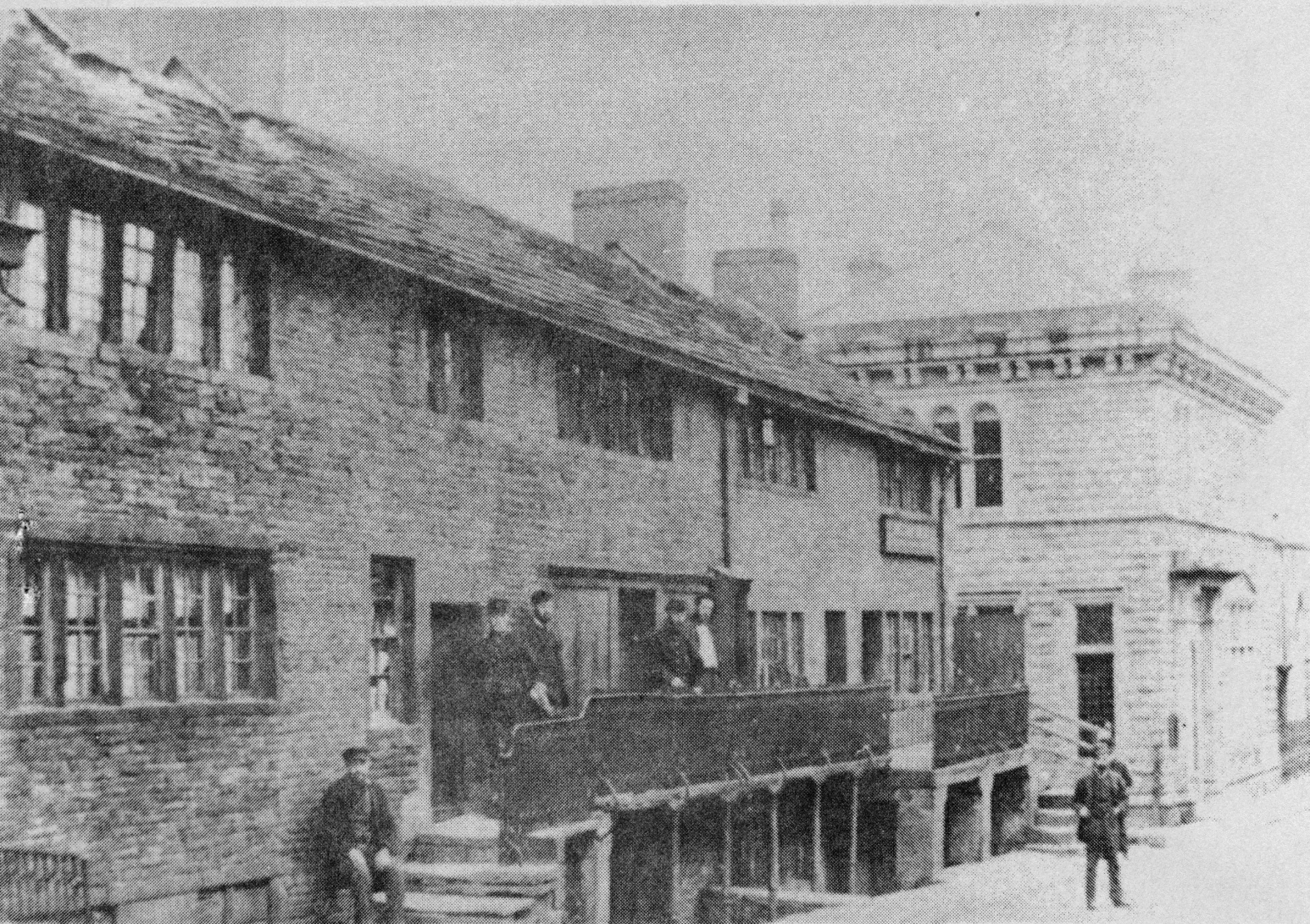


Saddleshworth Historical Society Bulletin

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BULLETIN
OF THE
SADDLEWORTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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BILL'S O' JACK'S: FURTHER EVIDENCE

The principle sources for the writings about the murder have been the contemporary newspapers. The double murder and its aftermath were widely reported in the various Manchester and Leeds newspapers. Edwin Butterworth of Oldham (1812-1848), the son of James Butterworth the poet and local historian, was a freelance correspondent for the Manchester newspapers and Edward Bains' "Leeds Mercury". His notebooks for the period 1829-44 survive in the Oldham Local Interest Centre. It is not clear whether Butterworth's account of the murder scene is first-hand, but he certainly attended the Inquest on Saturday, April 7, 1832. The "Manchester Guardian" for April 14 states:

"...The Inquest was held at the house of Mr. John Bottomley, the sign of King William the Fourth, at Road End. On the return of the Coroner and Jury from viewing the bodies, a young man of the name of Butterworth from Oldham and who occasionally furnishes information in the Newspapers at Manchester, entered the room..."

Butterworth appears to have been acting for the "Manchester Times" as portions of his notes appear verbatim in their report. In his notes Butterworth writes,

"The old man survived (his son) for 10 hours longer and stated that he and his son were attacked by Irishmen who finally left them for dead".

Also in his notes, but crossed out, are the observations that there were five Irishmen, and that the father, William Bradbury, was alone when the men entered. The "Manchester Times" includes all these and other details. However, at the inquest this account was contradicted. James Whitehead, a woollen weaver from Binn Green,

"...found the old man lying in bed, his clothes all bloody. On asking the aged victim the cause of what he saw, he answered but with apparent difficulty and in a voice almost unintelligible, "Pats, Pats", by which he understood him to mean that some Irishmen had attacked them".

Samuel Heggibottom, a surgeon from Uppermill, was sent for, and on arriving soon after

"...tried to get an answer from the old man but could not accomplish his wish - his words were unintelligible, and he merely muttered something".

The immediate suspects were different groups of Irishmen who had been seen in the district that night.

"In consequence of what has been adduced, suspicions have fallen on either the three or five Irishmen seen as the perpetrators of the deed, and the disappearance of two Emeralders who were working on the New Road to Huddersfield which passes thro' Greenfield has excited still stronger suspicions".

Several Irishmen were, over the following weeks, taken into custody on scanty evidence, but no charges were ever laid against anyone. Butterworth notes, somewhat despairingly,

"Rumour with her thousand tongues has spread around a multitude of unfounded assertions and in this mass of falsehood it is difficult and vain to cull out the truth; and though it is generally mixed up with error both are inseparable".

One contemporary account which does not appear to have been published is that of Matthew Marsh (1). Marsh knew both Bill o' Jack's and his son, Tom o' Bill's. He confirms that Tom Bradbury "was a wild sort of a man" spending a lot of time on the moors where "he made a living out of the game that he killed". He recounts a tale (most of it lost from the manuscript) of Tom's nearly beating a besom-maker to death on the moors. But although many had cause to hate Tom Bradbury, Matthew Marsh



recounts the cause of the murder as follows:-

"On the 13th August 1831, Tom o' Bill's was returning home at night from a stroll towards the Isle of Skye. At that time a new road from Greenfield to Holmfirth was being made, and the navvies who were Irish had built a house or a hut of sods in which to dwell...This formed a shelter at night for about 12 or 15 navvies engaged in the making of the new road. Tom o' Bill's who was partly drunk and thought he would have an act with the Irish as he returned home, so instead of quietly passing about his own business went and pushed the House of Sods over and nearly the whole mass of dirt and timber fell on the quiet and harmless sleepers. Some were slightly hurt but none badly injured or killed. Three or four of them got away and ran after Tom o' Bill's but were not able to catch him, though they said that they would murder him if they did. They knew that it was him who had pushed the hut over, and they vowed to murder him before they left England".

This account is indirectly supported by Butterworth, who notes:-

"An opinion is speedily gaining ground that the atrocious murders recently committed in Saddleworth were an act of revenge perpetrated by poachers or other unlawful visitors to the moors, with whom the younger of the murdered Bradburys always interfered when they took too much liberty with game, gathering bilberries or cutting fern for besoms".

Reference: (1) J. Brierley: The Annals of Saddleworth (Mss.). Hewkin Collection, Uppermill Library.

With acknowledgements to A. Burke for the loan of his Bill's o' Jack's file, and to J. Hunt for pointing out the Edwin Butterworth source.

N. Barrow

SADDLEWORTH MUSEUM EXHIBITION

Early Twentieth Century Delph: the photographs of C. Cottrell.
October 4 - November 12, 1978.

A set of glass negatives was recently discovered by Mr. Alan Dale when he moved into the chemist's shop once owned by Cottrell.

The exhibition comprises prints taken from the original negatives, and other photographs of Delph from the Museum collection. One of these is reproduced on our front cover and is now available from the Museum as a postcard-sized print, price 16p.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sir,

The Bell Inn, New Delph

Documentary facts and physical evidence make it clear that the original Bell Inn - formerly the New Inn - is the smaller, elegant building to the right of the archway in the complex of buildings on Huddersfield Road opposite to Delph Lodge. The Turnpike Act of 1792 provided for a new road bypassing Delph (now Huddersfield Road) and at a vestry meeting at St. Chad's, Saddleworth, held on the 16th November 1797, a further meeting was arranged "at the House of William Bell, the New Inn, in New Delph". This gives a four to five year period for the building of the New Inn which, owing to its important position on the new turnpike road, was given an imposing architectural appearance incorporating elements of the current neo-classical architectural style, i.e. elegant, simple proportions, a symmetrical front with a central classical doorcase with pilasters and pediment. This doorcase is similar to many other local examples, the nearest being across the road at Delph Lodge, and was no doubt inspired by one or more of the numerous builders' pattern books of that time. But in spite of this element of classical taste, the building is also an example of local building traditions, especially the use of water-shot masonry on all

four exterior walls. At the rear is a group of outbuildings/cottages mentioned in 1801 (see Bulletin Vol. 7, p.79). All the architectural features of this building are typical of the period from 1780 to 1820 and a date of c.1795 for the New Inn would be quite accurate.

William Bell died in 1837 (Saddleworth Registers) and was succeeded at the Bell Inn by Henry Hardiman when the premises were described in Pigot's Directory of 1838 as "the Bell Inn and Saddleworth Hotel, New Delph". This change in the name would suggest an enlargement/addition made to the old New Inn either shortly before William Bell died or immediately after when Henry Hardiman took over the tenancy. The Hotel could have been, and most probably was, the building to the left of the archway and is of quite a distinctive non-local style. There are tripartite windows with cyma strings over on the first and second floors and the two doorcases are pure 1830s. Also the masonry at the front is flush walled and the stone tooled, with rusticated quoins showing the original frontage width of this building, typical of the period 1820-1840 for this region. The side and rear walls are, however, water-shot, but this feature continued in Saddleworth until the 1840s. In the cellar of the building is a fair-sized room with stone shelves which would suggest a storage room for an hotel/inn supplying refreshments for travellers. Clearly the Inn was a success as a posting house.

The archway with rooms above was the last addition, linking together the two buildings. At the rear it can be clearly seen that it was built up from the south gable wall of the Bell Inn and that the rear arch wall is not bonded with the Bell Inn gable wall. It is only intermittently bonded at the rear to the Hotel and the long vertical joint in the masonry is very clear. This part of the complex is clearly an infill and was built to increase the accommodation of the assembly rooms on the first floor. Ammon Wrigley mentions some of the functions and activities carried on there in "Those were the Days", pp. 187-192. The archway is quite deep and at the rear are loading bays on the first and second floors.

All building activity came to an end shortly after 1851 when the branch rail line was opened between New Delph and Uppermill and the traffic on the Huddersfield/Austerlands Turnpike declined.

There is more to be said in detail about the Inn, but these notes will perhaps help to throw some light and understanding on the significance of the group of buildings known as the Bell Inn, New Delph.

Yours etc.

W. J. Smith

30 Penryn Ave.,
Alkrington,
Middleton,
Manchester. M24 1EQ.

Sir,

Woolroad Warehouse

Last weekend when in Saddleworth, I learned of the appeal for the restoration of the Woolroad Warehouse so I have pleasure in enclosing £10.

My father was born in Woolroad over a century ago and I know the building well. About the turn of the century, together with John James Hollingworth and others, he had ideas of using the canal in that region for pleasure purposes, but the idea was abortive.

I shall be pleased to learn of the progress of the appeal.

Yours etc.,

Leslie Hewkin.

Wykefield Cottage,
Ambleside,
Cumbria. LA22 OHY



WOOL ROAD WAREHOUSE.

Sir,

Joseph Thornton

My husband's family comes from Saddleworth, his grandfather, Joseph Thornton, being a school teacher before he migrated to New Zealand in the early 1900s. If anyone else is connected with the Thornton family, I would be very happy to correspond with them.

Yours etc.

(Mrs.) Jean Thornton

23 Duncan Ave.,
Sandringham,
Auckland, 3,
New Zealand.

Sir,

Tedlock Carts

As I stood watching the procession of rushcart bearers and Morris men coming up the Sound recently, I was reminded of my young days when we had our own tedlock cart. At Wakes time we borrowed a wheel barrow and packed it with ragwort - how it became tedlock I do not know. The tedlock made a carpet of yellow and into it we pushed any "real" flowers we could beg - asters, stocks, snapdragons. Any fruit we had was hung on the handles of the barrow.

We trundled the barrow round for neighbours to admire, and this is what we chanted -

This tedlock cart comes from
It cares for nobody nobbut its master,
And he isn't here. Hip Hip Hooray
Up to tknees in slutch and water gathering these tedlocks
When I should a-been at church. Hip Hip Hooray
It's noan o' yer common tedlock - it's a bit o' real stuff.
Just tak' a pattern off it. Hip Hip Hooray.

At the end of the chant we went to collect whatever we could collect, but only from immediate neighbours.

I wonder whether anybody else used to have a tedlock cart?

Yours etc.

Mrs. L. Ainscough

Rose Hill,
Delph,
Oldham.

MANOR RECORDS: SADDLEWORTH INCLOSURE - Part 2

30 and 31 August 1810

At a Meeting of the Committee appointed to attend the Commissioner and watch over the Interests of the Proprietors of the Manor of Saddleworth... held at the house of John Wrigley Innkeeper at Dobcross... for the purpose of making out and delivering in unto the said Commissioner a claim or claims in Writing on behalf of themselves and the rest of the Lords of the Manor of Saddleworth for and in respect of several Estates within the said Manor and for other purposes relating thereto. Mr. Henry Whitehead in the Chair. Joseph Lees, John Rooth, Joseph Harrop.

RESOLVED that the Claims already made by the Clerk of this Committee be delivered in to the said Commissioner.

RESOLVED that Mr. Mellor the Clerk to this Committee do and he is hereby requested as soon as possible to prepare a Book and make an Entry or Extract of all Claims delivered in to the said Commissioner since his first sitting, to receive claims for the use of the said Committee.

RESOLVED that this Meeting be adjourned subject to the call of Mr. Whitehead.

COPY OF THE CLAIM REFERRED TO IN THE ABOVE RESOLUTION

TO RALPH FLETCHER Esq. the Commissioner appointed under an Act of Parliament made and passed on the 50th Year of the Reign of his present Majesty King George the third intituled "An Act for inclosing Lands in the Parish of Saddleworth in the West Riding of the County of York". We whose names are hereunto subscribed being jointly and along with divers other persons Lords of the Manor of Saddleworth cum Quick... do hereby on behalf of ourselves and the rest of the said Lords claim to be entitled to several Allotments of the Commons Moors and Waste Grounds within the said Manor directed to be inclosed in and by the said Act, in respect of the several Hereditaments hereinafter mentioned that is to say

1st After certain Allotments mentioned in the said Act are first made WE CLAIM one tenth part in Value of the residue of the said Commons Moors and Waste Grounds to be allotted unto us and the rest of the said Lords in lieu and satisfaction for our Right of Soil upon such Commons Moors and Waste Grounds to which we are intituled as such Lords.

2nd For and in respect of the several Mines Minerals Water Water-courses within and upon such parts of the said Commons Moors and Waste Grounds as shall not be allotted to us, and also for and in respect of the several Encroachments made in the said Manor.

3rd For and in respect of the several Freehold Estates mentioned in the Schedule hereunder written and which were respectively Sold and conveyed by the Lord or Lords of the said Manor with a reserved

Right of Common of Pasture upon the said Commons so long as the same should lie open and unclosed, viz.

THE SCHEDULE ABOVE REFERRED TO

Owners	Occupiers	Estate where situate	Measure A. R. P.
Jn Wood	Rt. Byrom	<u>Lordsmere</u>	
		Waters	8 0 0
Jn Schofield	Jas Kenworthy	Packhorse	14 0 0
Jn & Jas Milns	Jonathan Carter	Causewayset	2 0 0
Thos Shaw	Jas Shaw & others	Dale	11 1 15
James Whitehead	himself	Sandbed	4 0 0
James Schofield	himself	do	1 2 0
do	Robert	Causeyset	10 0 0
Chas P.	Buckley		
Myddleton	Jn Kenworthy & ano.	Sandbed Gate	6 2 0
Linfit Lees	Isaac Hall & others	Delph	7 0 0
John Lees		do	1 0 0
Jn. & Wm.			
Greenwood	Wm. Greenwood	Delph Barn	12 0 0
John Roberts	Jn Hall & others	Hill End	15 0 0
Jn Roberts &	Jn Hall & Jn		
B. Whitehead	Wrigley	Midgreave	29 0 31
Edmund Wrigley	himself	Knowl	16 3 18
Ben Schofield	Thomas Broadbent	Coal Hill	3 0 0
do	William Lees	Standedge	30 0 0
John Bottomley	himself	do	5 1 9
Joseph			
Schofield	John Bentley	do	7 2 38
Mr. Ormrod	James Rhodes & others	do	14 2 8
Edmund Arm- itage	Sml Rhodes & others	Deanhead	26 0 0
Holdsworth	Broadbent & another	Bruncclough	14 0 0
Giles			
Broadbent	himself	Diggie Edge	4 0 0
George			
Broadbent	himself	Cote	10 0 0
do	Radcliffe & Abm Whitehead	Diggie	5 0 0
Joseph			
Broadbent,			
James Wrigley			
& Messrs.			
Bottomley	themselves	Ridge and Court	27 2 29
John Harrop	John Lowe & others	Diglee	20 2 0
John Rooth	Thomas Harker & ano.	do	15 0 0
Thomas Rhodes		do	15 3 13
James			
Broadbent	himself	do	10 0 0

Mr. Ormrod	William Broadbent Diglee		9	3	21
Messrs.	Zac Whitehead &				
Bottomley	Jn Broadbent &				
	ors.	do	25	0	0
Jonathan					
Wrigley	Jn & Sml Rhodes				
Canal Compy	& ors.	do	28	2	10
John Broadbent					
& Hezekiah					
Shepherd	themselves	Green	14	1	14
James Wood	himself	do	15	2	9
Ann Wood	herself &				
	others	Yew Tree	30	2	9
James Hobson	Jas. Bottomley				
	& ors.	Thurstons	50	0	0
do	Robert				
	Broadbent	Intack Head	5	0	0
Thos. & Jas.	themselves &				
Rhodes	others	Warrock Hill Foot	31	1	37
William	J. Lister &				
Rhodes	others	Aker	9	1	35
Elias W. & J.	themselves &				
Broadbent	others	Carhead & Car	34	2	19
Wm. Rhodes	Longden &				
& others	Knight	Lee & Warfs	9	0	3
Henry Preston	Jonathan Shaw	Bank Gaps	16	2	13
do	John Littlewood	Thornses	13	1	3
do	James Buckley	Sunfield	14	2	13
do	William Byrom	do	15	3	30
do	Geo. Platt &				
	others	do	7	2	17
do	John Byrom	Upper Barn	9	3	30
do	Canal Company	Long Lee & Little Lee	5	2	33
Mrs. Worthing-					
ton & Canal	Jas. Holden &				
Company	ors.	Holden Smithy	9	1	24
The					
Represent-					
atives of					
John Holden	themselves	do	9	3	22
William					
Whitehead	John Sykes	Ambroses & Nunnings	6	1	16
John					
Broadbent &	themselves &	Marslands & Mill			
John Rooth	ors.	Town	13	3	15
Thomas Platt	Jas Wood, Wm.				
	Rhodes & ors.	Woolroad	7	2	34
do	Jn Wrigley &				
	Edm. Schofield	do	6	0	0
Robert	John Platt &				
Winterbottom	ors.	Bridgehouse	10	3	35
The					
Representat-					
ives of John	himself & Jn.				
Lawton	Lawton	Coldhouse	5	3	5
Jas & Hy					
Winterbottom	themselves	Roundhill	9	0	37
Joshua					
Radcliffe	James Wilde	Longhouse	9	0	37

Joseph Lawton	John Winterbottom	Cousins	5	3	1
Henry Whitehead	John Wood	Tenter House	5	1	35
Thomas Harrop	Widow Platt & ors.	Platt Lane	10	0	0
William Hardman	Chas, Scanlan & ors.	do	10	0	0
Joseph Lawton	himself	Abels	3	2	4
do	do	Intacks	2	3	32
do	do	Garden, Top Kiln Ditch	0	1	6
Thomas Harrop	himself	Dobcross	16	0	0
do	do	Intack & Kiln Ditch	1	0	20
Hy & Wm Whitehead	Hy Whitehead & ors	Dobcross (Moor Green?)	23	3	35
Harrop & Co.	themselves & ors.	Walk Mill Farm	7	3	36
John & D. Harrop	Joseph Wrigley	Dobcross Walk Mill	1	0	11
Edmund Armitage	John Rooth & ors.	Brownhill	29	3	39
John Platt	Jas Platt & ors.	Butresses	13	1	6
James Buckley	himself & ors	Hollingreave	13	2	11
John Harrop	John Rooth	do	13	0	0
do	James Scholefield	do	13	0	0
do	Sml Scholefield & ors	do	13	0	0
James Wood		do	11	2	8
Jonathan Wrigley	himself	Ward Lane	9	1	25
do	Zac Whitehead	Leecross	8	0	38
Exors. of Thos Bradbury	Jas Bradbury & ors	Fairbanks	18	1	11
Joseph Platt, Jn. Buckley, Jas Bradbury & ors.	themselves & ors	Slades	104	0	0
Bowness Cleasby	John Wood	Hill Barn	15	3	6
The Representatives of Thomas Bradbury	James Bradbury	Rough	7	1	15
do	Thomas Bradbury	Runninghill	7	2	2
James Wrigley	himself	do	8	0	16
John Mallalieu	himself	Wickens	29	2	10
James Hall	himself & ors	Cloughbottom	10	0	0

George Mallalieu	Abraham Platt	Cloughbottom	10	1	19
John					
Winterbottom	John Holden	Sykes Cottage	0	2	1
Ralph Royle	Jas Royle & ors	Cloughbottom	19	2	3
James					
Broadbent	himself & ors	Clarks	28	0	32
John Buckley	himself	Bank Top	4	3	14
John					
Bottomley	himself	Saddleworth	3	2	28
The					
Representat-					
ives of					
J. Whitehead	Abel Buckley	Pob Green	8	0	0
Thomas					
Bradbury	himself	do	1	2	34
Robert					
Bradbury	Exors of J.				
	Buckley	Peters	5	3	19
J. Platt	Himself & ors	Primrose	11	0	15
Jn Radcliffe	Jn Radcliffe				
& Jn Platt	& ors	Birches	9	1	35
William					
Radcliffe	himself	Cross	10	0	31
John Radcliffe	himself & Wm				
	Radcliffe	do	9	0	0
John					
Winterbottom	himself	do	13	3	4
William	Edmund				
Radcliffe	Schofield	Knowl Top	6	3	36
John Radcliffe	James Radcliffe	do	7	0	0
William	Thomas Shaw &				
Radcliffe	ors	Rye Top	17	1	23
John	himself & ors	Knowl Top	9	1	37
Broadbent					
James &					
Henry					
Whitehead	Whitehead &				
& Mr. Brown	ors	do	6	1	27
John Radcliffe	Joseph White-				
	head	Saddleworth Fold	20	0	6
John Radcliffe	Sml Radcliffe				
	& ors	do	18	2	0
James Buckley	Needy Lees &				
	ors.	do	12	0	25
James					
Whitehead &					
Jn Platt	themselves	do	16	0	28
The	Joseph & Joshua				
Representat-	Wrigley & ors	do	17	1	28
ives of John					
Whitehead					
John Platt	Wm. Broadbent				
Junior	& ors	Abels	8	3	38
John Platt	himself & ors	Heathfields	8	3	26

Thomas Shaw	himself & ors	Uppermill	18	0	0
John Buckley	himself	do	25	2	11
James	Jn & Henry	Philips & Lees's	26	2	37
Mallalieu	Mallalieu				
J & Jas.					
Whitehead	themselves	Denn	4	0	14
James	Isaac Broadbent				
Mallalieu	& ors.	Dungebooth	6	0	11
James Buckley	himself	Bedlam	4	0	15
James					
Whitehead	himself & ors.	Shaws	25	0	36
James Harrop	himself & ors.	do	12	0	21
Philip					
Buckley	himself & ors.	do & Denshaw Bank	15	0	1
Thomas Shaw					
& James &					
William	John Wood &				
Radcliffe	ors	Ballgreave	27	2	36
John Shaw	Buckley				
	Bottomley	Carr Barn	14	0	0
Thomas Shaw	himself & ors.	Furlane	18	0	0
Samuel					
Bentley &	themselves &				
Ralph Bradbury	ors	Kinders	19	0	0
John Andrew	himself & ors.	Boarshurst	32	0	0
The Rep-					
resentatives					
of J.					
Schofield	James Shaw & ors.	Arthurs	14	3	3
John Andrew	Wm. Radcliffe				
	& ors.	Boarshurst	10	0	17
William					
Radcliffe	himself	do	7	0	32
Mr. Brook					
Jn Mallalieu					
Curate & Jas	themselves &				
Radcliffe	ors.	do Lower Farm	14	1	36
James	himself &				
Radcliffe	jph Wood	Boarshurst	8	0	17
John					
Buckley	Henry Hyde	Tunstead Clough	7	1	30
John &	themselves				
Thomas Shaw	& ors.	Hawkyard	29	0	9
do	themselves	Pinfold Hey	31	2	32
Thomas Shaw	himself	Shepherds Green	0	2	0
John Rhodes,					
Rawden Briggs					
& James	John Byrom &				
Buckley	ors.	Hollins	28	1	19
do	themselves	Greenfield House	152	2	11
The					
Representat-					
ives of					
Joshua Wrigley					
& James					
Buckley	themselves	Greenfield	20	0	0

Fanny			
Worthington			
& ors	Arthur Schofield	Kinder Intacks	6 2 1
John Shaw	Robert Bottomley	Binn Green	13 0 0
do	Buckley	Rye Earth &	
	Bottomley	Marled Top	4 0 0
Rhodes			
Briggs &	themselves &		
Buckley	B. Bradbury	Greenfield	37 2 12
John Howard	himself & ors	Slackhead	12 0 0
Rhodes			
Briggs &		Bradburys	37 2 30
Buckley	Nat Bottomley		
John Clegg	& ors	Fearnlee	24 0 0
S. & Jn			
Schofield	John Bottomley	Nook	10 0 0
B.			
Winter-			
bottom	John Shaw & ors.	Fearnlee	27 0 0
The			
Representat-			
ives of John	John Radcliffe		
Mellor	& ors.	Mullock Hill	12 0 38
Thomas Shaw	himself	Tang Mill	1 0 0
Thomas Shaw	Henry		
& ors	Winterbottom		
	& ors.	New Intack	8 3 38
John Rooth			
& ors.		Back o' th' Lee	221 0 0
Thomas			
Broadbent		Diggie Edge	5 0 0
	Total for Lordsmere		2,472 3 32

Shaw Mere

John			
Harrop			
Thomas			
Heyring			
Representat-			
ives of			
James Lees	William Bell		
& ors	& ors.	Gatehead	47 3 33
Alice			
Broadbent	herself	Knott Hill Lane	2 2 39
Representat-			
ives of James			
Lees, Jonah			
Ainley John			
Harrop Jas	James Mill &		
Harrop & ors.	ors.	Stones	43 2 29
J. & B.	Isaac Seville		
Winterbottom	& ors.	Knarr	27 0 8

Shaw & Schofield	John Buckley & ors.	Hill Top	24	0	0
Abraham Lees	himself	Knar Barn	18	0	34
The Representat- ives of John Lees	James Seville	Thurston Clough	13	3	33
James Buckley	James Beswick	do	20	0	0
J. Greaves	himself & ors.	do	20	0	0
George Wright	Gamaliel Buckley	Greaves	12	0	0
Jn. & Jph Greaves	Jph Radcliffe, R. Cooper & ors.	Wallhill	30	0	0
Gartside & Hazzlegreave	themselves & ors	do	19	2	24
Henry Buckley	himself & ors.	do	40	0	0
George Wright	James Mallalieu	New Inn	15	0	0
Edmund Buckley	himself & ors.	Upperhouse	20	0	0
Mr. Cooke	John Winter- bottom, & Dan & Jas Lees	Wall Hill Barn	40	0	0
James & Jph Lees	Hugh Whittaker	Burnt Edge Bent	39	0	0
James Harrop, Reps. of Geo. Harrop & William & Edward Smith & J.	themselves & ors.	Tame Water	43	3	39
Gartside Geo. Buckley Harrop	Edm. Hall, Mr. Fox & ors.	do	33	1	3
Lees's & Harrop	Geo Buckley & ors.	Wadehill	29	0	0
J. Brooke	himself & ors.	do & Ladcastle	38	0	0
John Harrop	Jn. Rhodes & ors.	Wadehill	22	2	5
Harrop & Buckley John	Jas Rhodes & ors.	Brow	12	2	6
Whitehead Thomas	James Shaw	Mow Walls	5	0	0
Harrop James	Robert White- head	Warmton Brow	11	2	6
Whitehead Edmund	himself	Mincha Croft	0	3	17
Schofield Edward Brown	Hugh Shaw & ors.	Halls	44	0	35
The Representat- ives of P. Buckley dec. & J. Buckley	themselves	Frenches	15	0	18

Plat Shaw & Co.	themselves	French Mill	1	2	6
William Buckley, Reps. of Jn. Buckley & Henry Buckley	themselves	Shaw Hall Barn	33	3	32
Samuel Radcliffe	himself	French Top	0	2	0
John Whitehead,	Jn. Whitehead				
Francis & Ammon Platt,	Jn. Kenworthy				
Jn Kenworthy,	Sml. Buckley				
Sml Buckley & Mr. Bellas	& ors.	Shaw Hall	68	0	23
Thomas Hewett Esq.	Robert Whitehead	Mans	24	2	24
Joseph	Jas Scholefield				
Harrop	& ors.	Gibbs	22	0	5
do	Jn. & Sml.				
	Scholefield	Welly Hole	26	0	2
do	Jas Wright & S. Byrom	Smart Road	7	0	0
James Bradbury	himself	Hole House	8	0	0
Edmund Radcliffe	Jn Scholefield	Bank	10	0	36
do	Jas Scholefield	do	10	0	12
Exors. Jn Whitehead	Jn Scholefield	Lanehead	17	3	21
Henry Hyde	Rd Beaumont & ano.	do	20	0	0
Mr. Dacre	himself & ors.	do	19	0	23
The Representat- ives of J. Whitehead	Timothy Winterbottom	Noon Sun	4	1	26
Mellor & Roberts	Robert Hadfield	Lanehead	34	0	34
Ben Winterbottom	himself & ors.	Green Mans	16	0	0
The Representat- ives of John Platt	George Hurst & ors.	Whitelee	20	0	0
William Hardman	John Scholefield	Heybottom	3	2	25
do	George Buckley	Wadehill Rough	3	0	16
Gartside & Hazzlegrave	Thomas Buckley	Heights	10	0	0
Total for Shawmere			1,071	0	20

And we do hereby on behalf of ourselves and the rest of the said Lords reserve to ourselves power to alter correct and add to this our Claim or to deliver any new or other Claim at any subsequent sitting or sittings of the said Commissioner. Dated this 31st day of August 1810.

To be continued.

HEATHFIELDS, UPPERMILL

Part 2

After the death of John Platt senior on the 29th August 1839, at the age of 88, his son-in-law William Kenworthy Schofield moved to Heathfields House. In 1843 he was described as a "woolstapler and cloth finisher", and by this time (probably in partnership with Ammon Platt) he was working Damhead Mill and the Old Factory as finishing works besides the dyehouse below Abels and the scribbling mill at Heathfields. Ammon Platt, the surviving son of John Platt senior, was described as a "gentleman" in a deed of 1847.

In December 1846 Schofield's estate at Heathfields was valued at £5,496. It included 18 acres of land, his dwelling house, three storeys high, together with kitchen, wash house, barn, shippin, stable etc., and three cottages in the occupation of Charles Taylor, William Buckley and John Wood. In addition there was the dyehouse, a warehouse, his quarter share in Heathfields Mill, and adjacent to the mill a stove (for drying wool and cloth) and a willy house. Schofield also owned a quarter share in the water rights (White Brook) and a similar share in the "water privilege to Dam Head Mill".

In 1849 he purchased the Old Factory together with the buildings on the opposite side of what is now Smithy Lane, Uppermill, all of which he was occupying at the time, for £400 from the Mortgagees, the Armitages of Farnley. The mill was subsequently occupied by Messrs. Cooke and Standfast as Schofield's tenants.

Two years later, on 7th August 1851, when the Armitages were auctioning off the estates they owned through mortgages by Abraham and Samuel Rhodes of Deanhead, the executors of the late Abraham Rhodes (see Part 1 of this article), Schofield acquired Damhead Mill for £630.

Ammon Platt died on November 23, 1851, and by his will which was dated 3 June 1851 he bequeathed his estates at Hollingrove, Butterhouse and Rogue Hole to his niece, Sarah, the wife of William Kenworthy Schofield. Platt's three-quarter share in the mill at Heathfields was mortgaged to John Bradbury of Ryefields at the time.

On May 1 1852, Schofield mortgaged all his estates to John Lees of Spring Hill, Oldham, cotton spinner, for £3,200. They comprised the Abels estate and dyehouse in the occupation of Mr. Thornton, the Old Factory occupied by Cooke and Standfast, and Damhead Mill, the

Heathfields estate and share in the mill there and land near Saddleworth Fold all in his own occupation. Lees rebuilt the old mill at Damhead and began spinning cotton there, but the rest of the estate was reconveyed to Schofield on 31 December 1853.

A valuation of the Heathfields estate made on June 20 1853 makes interesting reading, and it is quoted in full below:

Hanging Acres formerly 3 closes of land now two closes containing 4a 3r 2p lying on the road side leading from Upper Mill to Saddleworth Church: a good sound pasture part bone dusted with good fences and a fine spring of water £ 500

The Bent Meadow containing 4a 3r 39p, a fine meadow in first rate order, 2 considerable streams of water pass through it and a valuable spring of soft water rises in it. The whole of this land is very desirable building land lying up to the road side leading from Upper Mill to Saddleworth Church and adjoining the Village of Upper Mill which is the most thriving one in Saddleworth. £1,000

The Mansion or principle dwelling house with the Barn, Cowhouse, stable, cottages, dye house, stove, large warehouse, share of the mill with a water power and wheel furnishing 10 hp. reservoir, yard and gardens covering 1a 2r 3p forming one of the most desirable residences and premises in Saddleworth. £1,500

The Nearer Field, the Further Field and the Rails, 3 closes of land lying together in the front of the Dwelling House, superior Meadow and pasture land in high cultivation bounded the whole length on one side by the road leading from Upper Mill to Saddleworth Church, the whole most eligible for building upon, containing 5a 2r 0p. formerly 7a 1r 2lp, the difference of 1a 3r 2lp having lately been sold off it. £ 820

A small plot of freehold land with buildings now used as a pressing and making up shop erected thereon situate at the Old Dam Head and exchanged for Chiefs arising out of land being formerly a part of Heathfield Estate. £ 200

Total £4,020

Signed John Ousey

A letter accompanied this valuation and was addressed to Nathan Howard, Esq., of Stamford Street, Ashton-under-lyne. It read as follows:

"Herewith my Valuation...£4,020 for it by Auction at the present time, and I think that a considerable addition to its present value will be brought about by the introduction of the cotton and other businesses into the neighbourhood. The water which flows through the Estate is an item to which my attention has been directed and I consider and am confident it will become a very valuable portion of the Estate.

John Ousey".

The Bent Meadow mentioned in the valuation was later known as the Well Meadow, and was not built upon until recent times. The pressing and making up shop at Damhead is still in existence as the row of cottages known as Village Green, Uppermill.

On October 17 1855 Ammon Platt's former three-quarter share in Heathfields Mill was conveyed to Schofield for £415 by the executors of the mortgagee John Bradbury of Ryefields (Samuel Wolfenden of Macclesfield banker, James Rhodes of Diglee, grocer, John Edward Platt of Court, cloth dresser, and Thomas Wood of Woolroad, agent). Heathfields Mill was still used for scribbling, and the sale included "the yard or fold belonging to the said mill formerly in the occupation of James Wood but now of W. K. Schofield...".

William Kenworthy Schofield died on 11 December 1867 at the age of 68, and his wife Sarah continued running the mills until her death at the age of 83 on 7 September 1887.

On the 30 January 1869 there was a valuation "of the Heathfields Estate belonging to the Representatives of the late Mr. W. K. Schofield deceased" by Henry Blackburn, licensed valuer of Uppermill. It read as follows,

Large dwelling house, garden, two barns, stables, shippon and other outbuildings	£1,500
Four cottages	£ 550
Woollen carding and slubbing mill with water privilege and wool stove	£ 800
15 acres of rich meadow and pasture land, 5 or 6 acres of which is valuable building land well supplied with pure spring water	£1,200
Total	£4,050

On the 18 November 1903, there was a valuation of all the estates of the late Sarah Schofield, and this amounted to £6,138-13-4. The estates included the following:

- The Old Factory with the land, buildings and cottage including land rented by the Urban District Council.
- The Chief Rents payable by J. T. Heap, the Misses Shaw.
- The land between Pickhill Lane and the railway, tenanted by W. Radcliffe.
- The Heathfields House and gardens and two cottages adjoining thereto, in lease to Mr. A. Rhodes.
- The Heathfields Dye Works let to S. Robinson.
- The Heathfields Mill let to H. N. Rhodes.
- The two cottages at Abels.
- The land on the Heathfields and Abels properties including the fields nearer Saddleworth Church in the occupation of Mr. W. Radcliffe.
- The U.D.C. have a tip on a part of this land.

The Spring Head Farm in the occupation of Mr. C. Holroyd.

Beneath the valuation was the comment, "some of the buildings on the estate are in need of repair".

Finally, the estates of the late Mrs. S. Schofield were sold by auction at the Commercial Hotel, Uppermill, on October 30, 1919. The catalogue read as follows:

Lot 1 Freehold woollen finishing mill called Old Factory let to Messrs. Buckley & Co. Ltd., together with filter beds and dams of spring water and a cottage adjoining in the occupation of Mrs. Bardsley. The mill buildings are stone and grey slated, four storeys, containing a ground floor divided into two rooms, first floor 41 feet by 32 feet, second floor ditto, top room. Engine house 18 feet by 11 feet containing steam engine by J. Walmsley, Bury; two storey building adjoining and communicating containing Lancashire Boiler by Galloway Bros. 20 feet by 7 feet, 80lbs. pressure with drying room over boiler. Pressing room two storeys, 36 feet, by 18 feet 6 inches. Square chimney 50 feet high. 3 closets. 4 filtering pits, 5 feet deep. Mill lease terminates October 31 1919. Rent £60. Cottage yearly rent 5/-. Let for life. (This lot included the buildings on the opposite side of Smithy Lane.

Lot 2 Freehold plot of land in Smithy Lane in the occupation of Saddleworth U.D.C. and a stone building erected thereon now used as a store by James Shaw and containing 511 square yards, rent £2-5-0.

Lot 3 Freehold mill known as Heathfield Mill formerly occupied by H. N. Rhodes, now unlet, together with a dam of spring water and land containing 1 acre 213 square yards. The mill building is stone and grey slated and contains four storeys (ground floor two rooms), 42 feet by 26 feet. Two small buildings adjoining, both one storey, 35 feet by 18 feet and 17 feet by 18 feet. Power is by water wheel 25 feet diameter.

Lot 4 Freehold mill known as Heathfield Dye Works let to Messrs. Herbert & Co., together with filter beds and dam of spring water, containing 3,257 square yards. The building is stone and grey slated, and consists of dyeing room 80 feet, room over the office and store room 20 feet by 16 feet, chimney stack 50 feet high. The boiler house is 35 feet by 23 feet, containing a boiler by The Marsden Boiler Co.; four filtering pits 5 feet deep. The lease terminates Feb. 1 1920; rent £75.

Lot 5 Heathfields House, garden and grounds, and domestic offices, coach house, stable and harness room, in the occupation of Mr. Winterbottom as yearly tenant; also a detached shippon and barn in the occupation of the Saddleworth U.D.C. The house contains porch, entrance hall, 3 entertaining rooms, kitchen and pantries, 7 bedrooms, bathroom and 3 very good cellars. Also two cottages adjoining occupied by Messrs. Wood and Gledhill as weekly tenants. The site contains 1a 4,372 sq. yards, rent £47-8-0. Excellent supply of spring water.

Lots 6-9 Freehold plots of building land on Church Road of various sizes and rentals.

Lot 10 Two freehold dwelling houses at Abels with barn etc. and 1,497 sq. yds., in the occupation of J. Hinchliffe and Miss Bottomley; rent £15-12-0.

Lot 11 Two freehold plots of land on Church Road. (These were the fields above Saddleworth Fold).

Lot 12 White Spring Head Farm and land containing 2a 423 sq. yards, let to Mr. Callagan; rent £5-4-0.

Lot 1 was taken by J. Bradbury and Co. for £3,000. Saddleworth U.D.C. purchased Lots 2, 6, 7 and 11 for £1,205. Lot 3 was bought by H. N. Rhodes of Myrtle Villa for £395, and he also acquired Lot 12 for £235. Lot 4 was purchased by William and Fred Allott of Uppermill for £920, and Lot 5 by Charles Edward Kenworthy of Pickhill for £1,100. Finally, Lot 10 was disposed of to J. A. Calligan of White Spring Head Farm for £335.

To be concluded.

Bernard Barnes.

OLD SADDLEWORTH

This is part of the work being carried out on a Gazetteer of Saddleworth by the Historical Society. As more of this work is completed details will be published in future editions of the Bulletin. The information given below has been extracted from record cards held by the Society, which are available for reference.

PROSPECTON (See V. 1 No. 4 1972, p. 19)

Further details

- 1832 The Poll List includes James Platt of Prospecton. Joseph Thornton in "New Saddleworth Sketches" writes "James Platt was born and brought up at Buckstones. He had three sons and one daughter. Sidney and Lawrence went to South Africa and the eldest son, Owen became an accountant. The daughter also went to South Africa. James Platt built Prospecton. He was Clerk to the Board, acted as Relieving Officer, and was a schoolmaster and poet".
- 1843 Slater's Directory includes James Platt of Prospecton, Guardian of the Poor.
- 1846-7 James Platt of Prospecton contributed £10 towards the building of the tower at Saddleworth Church (plaque in Church).
- 1851 The Census includes the following about Prospecton: occupier James Platt, guardian of the poor and insurance agent, with two males and three females and one servant.
- 1852 The Saddleworth Church Rate Book lists James Platt owner of Prospecton, occupiers Thomas Bradbury, Sarah Buckley, Owen Platt and James Platt.
- 1864 James Platt died Mar. 26 aged 74. His first wife Betty died suddenly in her chair while in the act of dining on the 14th June 1838 aged 55. Ann his widow, died 19 Sept. 1889 aged 85 (Gravestone). Ammon Wrigley writes in "Saddleworth Chronological Notes" pp 62-3: "up to 1853 he was Guardian of the Poor, and during his term of office it was the custom for Saddleworth women to go to the Workhouse to be confined of an illegitimate child. Mr. Platt said it was wrong for children to have a pauper

birthplace and refused women who were not in poor circumstances. In 1865 "Selections from the Writings of James Platt", 393 pages of essays, dialogues etc. was issued in book form at Huddersfield. He wrote the epitaph that is on the Bill's o' Jack's gravestone".

1885 The Poll List includes Owen Platt of Prospecton.

RYEFIELDS

Grid Reference: SE 001065

Location: Northern slopes of the valley of Pickhill Brook, Uppermill, 675 feet above sea level. A long drive leads down from the house to the main road near Saddleworth Arches, and there is also access from Brownhill Lane near Butterhouse.

Description: An early nineteenth century weaver's house, later added to and subdivided into cottages, and subsequently refronted and made into one house again. See "Saddleworth Heritage" by B. Barnes, Saddleworth, 1975, pp 57-59.

History: In the eighteenth century the land formed part of the holding of a farm at Hollingreave, occupied by Abel Buckley in the 1790s.

1823 Nov 21. Indenture whereby John Bradbury of Runninghill clothier purchased "parcels of land near Hollingreave called Upper Ryefield (formerly divided into two), Lower Ryefield (formerly divided into two), which Upper and Lower Ryefields are now joined together and form one close called Ryefield, Lower Meadow (formerly divided into two) and Upper Meadow, containing 12 acres 1 rood 39 perches, now or late in the occupation of Thomas Garratt". The house was built soon after this date.

1825 Baines' Directory lists John and John Bradbury of Ryefields, woollen manufacturers. On July 3 1825 Phebe daughter of Ralph Bradbury clothier and Mary his wife of Ryefields was christened. (Mss. Registers).

1832 John Bradbury was appointed by the Vestry to collect subscriptions for the Galleries being built in Saddleworth Church. (Registers).

1841 The Census includes the following under Ryefields: John Bradbury aged 75, clothier lived with John his son (age 45) a clothier, and his daughters Mary (35) a woollen weaver and Sarah (30) a woollen spinner. Ralph Bradbury (aged 45) lived with his wife Mary (42), his daughter Sarah (17) a woollen weaver Phebe (15) a woollen spinner, and his other children, Ann (12) Jonathan (10), James (7) Samuel (4), and David (11 months). Ralph was also described as a clothier.

1841 July 20. John Bradbury of Ryefields died aged 75. Sarah his wife had died 28 Sept. 1839 aged 71 (Gravestone).

1846-7 John Bradbury contributed £10 to the building of the tower at Saddleworth Church (plaque in Church). 1847-50 he was a Warden of Saddleworth Church.

1852 Slater's Directory includes John Bradbury of Ryefields, woollen Manufacturer and merchant. The 1852 Church Rate Book lists John Bradbury as the owner of Ryefields, and the occupiers as John, Sarah and Simon Bradbury. John Bradbury also owned Butterhouse and a farm at Hollingreave.

- 1864 Thomas Wood of Ryefields was a Warden of Saddleworth Church (Registers).
- 1866 Feb. 22. Ralph Bradbury of Ryefields died aged 71 and Mary his wife died 25 Feb. 1858 aged 61. Ralph was the son of John and Sarah Bradbury of Runninghill and was christened Oct. 5 1794 (Registers). He was John Bradbury senior's brother.
- 1871 The Census included the following: Thomas Wood, merchant aged 51, his wife Mary (35), three daughters and four sons, and his father James Wood, aged 72. Also living at Ryefields was John Adamson, Independent Minister, Dobcross, aged 45, his wife Margaret, a son and three daughters.
- 1875 Worrall's Directory lists Mr. John James Hirst of Ryefields.
- 1880 Worrall's Directory includes Mr. John T. Bradbury and Mr. John T. Wood, both of Ryefields House. In 1886 John Taylor Bradbury was a Warden of Saddleworth Church. He was one of the Bradburys of Giles and Alexandra Mills, Uppermill.
- Footnote: two gravestones near the entrance to the lower yard at Saddleworth Church include the following information:
Ann Wood grand-daughter of John and Sarah Bradbury and wife of Thomas Wood of Ryefields died 22 Aug. 1860 aged 34. Also Sarah daughter of John and Sarah died 31 Aug. 1870 aged 64. Also Henry Herbert son of Thomas and Mary died July 30 1871 aged 1 year. Also George Frederic son of Thomas and Ann died Apr. 9 1886 aged 30. Also the above Thomas Wood died Sept. 14 1891 aged 72. Also his wife Mary died Feb. 8 1906 aged 70.
Esther wife of John Bradbury of Runninghill died Mar. 30 1829 aged 27. John Bradbury of Ryefields died Sept. 18 1854 aged 63. Also Jane their daughter and wife of John Edward Platt of Higher Brownhill died Oct. 1 1857 aged 29. Also Betty widow of John Bradbury died 9 April 1860 aged 45. Also Eliza Burrows Fielding daughter of John and Betty died 11 July 1876 aged 30. Also Charles James second son of John Bradbury of Ryefields died March 13 1888 aged 44. Also Caroline widow of John Charles Bradbury died Jan 23 1924 aged 84.

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 turn-pike 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.
