

## 1840

1840. - Mrs. T. is enceinte. So there will be no more quarrelling on that score I hope.  
Feb 13<sup>th</sup> Mrs. C. Vose, visited my wife the first time this night since our Marriage.  
Thomas has had the Measles, and I think a touch of the Scarlet fever, from the effects of which he recovers but slowly.

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1840

March 19. Married, Mr. Lutener to Miss Duckworth, - Revd. H<sup>y</sup> Haworth to Miss Parkinson. -

[March?] 8<sup>th</sup> Met unexpectedly this Day Miss B Alston at Mr H's [Hart's?] Wensley Fold - where self and wife were taking Tea. She looked particularly foolish & nonplussed, I was tolerably self-possessed and after a few moments felt no embarrassment - She left early.

Throughout the Spring my wife enjoyed tolerable health and advanced in pregnancy - I am to say that we have had few or no words lately.

Augt 2<sup>nd</sup> I took the opportunity to address the Scholars on the dreadful wickedness attempted by several Children employed in Messrs. Turner's Mill, in setting the Mill purposely on fire - I may here observe that about 2 months ago - Mr. Livesey's Mill was totally destroyed, and strong suspicions were attached to a Person working therein but no sufficient Evidence could be advanced to criminate him.<sup>1</sup>

[August] 9<sup>th</sup> I taught the first Class Subject Morning the Sickness of Hezekiah the King and his Recovery. - Afnoon [Afternoon] - The Disobedient Prophet - The Boys were very attentive, and I was well pleased with them. At noon I spoke to the Scholars on the Death of three Scholars belonging the Sick Society viz: Ralph Shorrocks, Maria Lawe, and Joseph Eastwood.

Married - John Barnes, a Teacher - previously; D Tomlinson. The Rev. John Price this day preached two most excellent Sermons on behalf of the Schools - Morn<sup>g</sup> Matt. [Matthew] - Afnoon Isiah 40 - Affectionate, earnest, and simple. -

W<sup>m</sup> Holden, a Teacher of the School, raised, or would have raised a disturbance because the School was not so clean as it ought to have been, - The conduct on several occasions has been very reprehensible.

I am thankful to observe that Thomas has enjoyed moderate health through the Summer, I have not seen any appearance of the Erysipelas for three months

Aug 9<sup>th</sup> I visited some of the Sick Scholars viz Mary Blackshaw, Jane Neild, and H Eastwood, and on the following visited also Henry Barnes, who died on the following Day. -

[August] 15<sup>th</sup>. My Wedding Day:- We were visited by my old friend W<sup>m</sup>. Molyneaux from Liverpool likewise by Charles Callis from the same place. - His Mother gave him a neat Reference Bible in which I printed a Label with the Inscription of this verse

Thy word shall lead my heart to prayer  
And guide my feet in paths of truth,  
Protect me from each dangerous snare,  
Console in age - advise in youth,  
All unbelieving doubts removes  
And teach my soul & her[?] God Behoves

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<sup>1</sup> Two fires occurred at W and T Turner's Mill, Bank Top, the first, on 22 July 1840, caused damage estimated at £100, the second, on 28 July, did little damage; the fire at Messrs. Livesey and Rodgett's mill was on 27 May. William Stirzaker, aged 11, William Counsell and Thomas Clayton, both aged 13, were sentenced to 3 years hard labour for the fire at Turner's mill. James Stirzaker, William's elder brother, was accused of causing the fire at Livesey's mill but was discharged for lack of evidence (*Blackburn Standard*, 29 July, 12 August, 2 September 1840).

Aug 25 & 26<sup>th</sup> Journey to Clitheroe, Berry's Sale - Appointed to value Stock in Trade, Types, Bindings Materials, Shops Furniture, &c &c - with Mr. L. Dobson of Preston Agreed well together. Types £123 odd the whole about 210£ - Charged for Valuing £4.10 per Day - 1<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> Days.

The Type was taken @ 2 thirds original value - all under two years usage - Mr. Walsh Employer

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1840

Aug 27<sup>th</sup> about 10 before Eleven Evening my Son CL [Charles Lomax] was born and for safe delivery of my Wife I return my humble & sincere thanks to Almighty God.

License Day - Sept<sup>r</sup> 5 Mrs C.T. [Charles Tiplady] doing very well, - Child also well. He will be called 'Charles Lomax' - Registered Sept 5 No 4 Register No 9. Blackburn Union Joseph Fairbrother Register.

Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> Brother John Married at Bury to Miss Edmundson by Rev. Bentflower Parish Church.

[September] 19<sup>th</sup> The Child being very ill, we had him privately baptised by the Rev<sup>d</sup> J Porter - His illness was caused by being unable to suckle the breast.

[September] 20 Mem<sup>m</sup> [Memorandum] The Teachers of Thunder Alley Sunday School presented a small token of respect to William Holden under great & unexpected difficulty arising from non employment. I presented the same, this Evening in the presence of the Teachers.

Nov 15<sup>th</sup> Our little Son was christened at St John's Church the Day, Sponsors, Brother James, Charles Vose and Mrs Vose. He got a severe cold in the Church porch.

Rev J. Porter presented us with "Ven's Whole Duty of Man"<sup>2</sup>

Dec<sup>r</sup> 25. Attended School this Day, Meeting of Teachers in the Evening - Mr. Hart absent, I think purposely - Very good Meeting. Rev. J. Porter presided and delivered an Address and called upon me to speak - I spoke perhaps half an hour - I was well received. Mentioned Mr. Hart,<sup>3</sup> & his deserveings - & suggested the propriety of a token of respect - exceedingly well taken T. Oddie said it had been thought of three years. - Meeting highly gratifying broke up at Nine. - Good Singing very.

[December] 26 Tho<sup>s</sup> Hart surprised me by hinting that I had [flattered?] his Brother, the night before - I resented - On Monday he resigned the Treasurership, - I asked a reason & wrote him a Letter respecting his conduct - He retaliated by a scurrilous Note. - Both Letters Preserved.

His note ran thus:

Considerable heart burning have arisen in consequence of Tho<sup>s</sup> Hart taking the above in the very improper light he has done. - On the 28<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> I received in conjunction with his Brother the following:-

"Blackburn Decr 28<sup>th</sup> 1840

"Having fully made up my mind to discontinue being the Treasurer of the Children's Sick Society, connected with the Thunder Alley Sunday School, I beg to inform the Superintendent of that School that I shall no longer consider myself the Treasurer after the 31<sup>st</sup> inst.

Yours T. Hart"

"To the Superintendent of the Thunder Alley Sunday School"

And immediately wrote him the following:-

"Monday, Dec<sup>r</sup> 28, 1840

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<sup>2</sup> *The Complete Duty of Man; or, a System of Doctrinal and Practical Christianity* by Henry Venn (1725-97) was published c.1763.

<sup>3</sup> Here Tiplady referred to William Hart (1797-1865), the elder brother of Thomas Hart. Like Thomas he was a rope and twine manufacturer and lived at Spring Hill, Blackburn.

Sir

"Immediately on the receipt of your note I took it and opened it in the presence of your Brother, and have to inform you that the contents produced feelings of surprise and regret As the note was delivered to me, I feel called upon, to seek at your hands, a reason for the unexpected withdrawal of your Service as Treasurer of the Society - seeing that on Christmas Day not the slightest intimation

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was given of your determination. - The School will of course wonder what has transpired to cause this sudden and unexpected event, and will no doubt require, or at least expect their Super<sup>t</sup> to inform them"

"There will be a Meeting of the Committee this Evening, and if you will favor us with a line, it shall be faithfully laid before them"

"Before I draw this disagreeable duty to a close I can but express my surprise and indignation at the manner in which you accosted me on Saturday Morning, as tho' I had said a single word more in praise of your Brother than what was strictly true, and wh., by the manner in which it was received, I am fully convinced was the sentiment of the entire assembly who heard me. - I think I mentioned that the propriety of giving your Brother a present for his Services had been in gestation three years. - This I learnt only when I sat down, so that what I said respecting that matter you may set down to my origination and I am proud of the feeling, - and more than this, - I should have felt equal pride & pleasure in proposing the same for yourself. - You said that you had been neglected on former occasions, observe me the fault was never mine, - nor can you say but that I always have been ready, if not the very first to acknowledge your services not merely to that Society - but to any with which you are connected. - Why then should there exist in your bosom the smallest particle of envy towards Your Brother. It is neither natural nor christian - neither does it accord with that character of honour and probity w<sup>h</sup> you deservedly bear among men. - I shall speak plainly - Thomas, if these be the last words I ever utter to you, - there are not two Brothers more highly thought of & respected than you & W<sup>m</sup> neither are there two men in Blackburn to whom I am under more lasting & grateful obligations. - But it is plainly evident that there is an Enemy, mind me, I say there is an Enemy somewhere, who sows dissension between you. - I have been as a Deaf Man. I have Listened to many things both now & heretofore - Things which if I had turned over, would have caused a downright quarrel but God Almighty is my witness, & I thank him heartily that I can say, my hand on my bosom, my conscience bearing me evidence that I have always endeavoured to make peace between you, & to rejoice when I saw it established.

"That this may ever remain so, until the time that you & he together with, I hope myself, shall meet in that place where all worldly differences cease.

In the earnest prayer of

Your most obedt Servt.

Charles Tiplady"

I would observe that previously to sending the above, I read it to Mr. H. [Hart] who tho' he would have no hand in sending it approved generally of the contents: one alteration only did he suggest viz. that there was an Enemy who attempted to sow dissention &c - but I could acquiesce. - The day following I called to see if Thomas had any thing to say in reply when he told me he had been advised to take no notice of it - It appears, however, that he reconsidered the matter and wrote an Answer as will be seen. The Teachers were told that night that he had retired but gave no reason. Mr. Butler was proposed & unanimously chosen his successor. I was not present at the Meeting.

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In the course of three or four Days he sent this reply:-

"Tuesday Dec<sup>r</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> 1841[sic]

Sir/

"Had your dictating, insolent, unfriendly, and unkind Letter not abounded with observations entirely untrue, uncalled for, and far from Christian-like, I should have decreed it my duty to have treated it with silent contempt.

"You profess to make peace, but if I know common manner & commonsense, I am quite sure that every impartial person who would take the trouble to read your observations & insinuations to me would immediately conclude you are not the man you wish to be thought in that respect.

"There are so many inconsistent remarks of doing & undoing in your Letter that it would be most difficult to come at the real sentiment of Your meaning. In some parts you represent me as most highly esteemed among men, & a man of honour, &c &c, and in other part you charge me with entertaining feelings, wh: I should consider almost degrading to the Lower beings in the infernal world. - What consistency is there in such remarks as these, I would ask. Before I conclude I must tell you that you are quite at liberty, Charles, to heap upon me whatever ordure your unkind heart may please to vent. I have no doubt I shall be able to bear it. Your's T. Hart

"As you perhaps may make some remarks if you do not receive a few lines from me, tho' I had yesterday concluded not to notice your Letter at all. I have considered to do so today. - I beg to say that I shall not receive any more notes from you on the present subject, but if you have any wish to see me personally, I have no objections to meet you." T.H  
(copied Whit Monday May 31 1841)

Some of the Teachers thro misrepresentation wished to put aside the intended inscription to Mr H but afterwards re-considered the matter, and allowed the Subscription to proceed. £8 was collected in the School.

The piece of Plate is a Castor<sup>4</sup> with seven glasses, wrought in solid silver, with shields for the inscription - value £14.0.0.

I will leave the above correspondence to the impartial decision of every unbiased mind - being satisfied that the charge of dictating insolence, unfriendliness and unkindness is wholly unsupported. I am at a loss to discover any untruth or inconsistency in Telling a Man that by acting in a certain manner he lays himself open to the charge of envy - & thereby discredits his own fair name. That Mr. T. Hart thus acted and spoke, I cannot consistently with the facts deny & when he could plainly tell me that he was as deserving of a testimonial as his Brother - and that it was an insult to profess such a thing for his brother in his presence & that I had insulted him by thus doing. I will leave it to common manners & common sence of the meanest individual to judge what feelings there predominate in his mind. Nor will it be sufficient to clear him to plead that he was labouring under excited feelings - because the fact itself transpiring that either by himself or else by an Enemy a feeling of envy had taken strong possession of his heart, & had led him so far to divide from honourable course, as to throw up his office without notice and without just cause. - But I will dwell no longer on the theme, it is [illegible] my conscience acquits me of intentional wrong or offence

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<sup>4</sup> Originally a small vessel with a perforated top used to sprinkle sugar, or the like, extended to vessels that contained condiments: *OED* 'castor', n.2, 2.