

1851

[85]

1851

At a public Meeting held as before stated a Committee was appointed to advise with Mr Ainsworth as to the best mode of effecting & carry out a Resolution for a Corporation.

Present - Mr Hornby - Chairman, Messrs. T. Dugdale, W. Hoole, Ja^s Parkinson, Tho^s Ainsworth, R H Hutchinson, R R Jackson, Charles Tiplady, Geo Dewhurst, Christ^f Parkinson, Dan^l Thwaites, Ja^s Boyle; - Jno Livesey and Mr Ainsworth, Solicitors.

1st Meeting - Dec^r 2nd^l. all present

1st Motion - That Mr Hornby, be chairman.

2nd - D^o - That the petition as altered be adopted.

3rd - D^o - Advertised in the Blackburn Standard.

4th - D^o - A Plan of the Town be provided for the inspection of the Committee with a vice² to divide the Town into Wards.

5th - D^o - That the Committee adjourn until Monday, when Mr Ainsworth have prepared Minutes of the present Meeting for confirmation.

Adjourned.

The Petition was inserted in the London Gazette, Feb. 3, and to come before the Queen in council, March 10th 1851.

[86]

1851

Week's Work

Sunday Feb. 2. Morning parish church. Dr Boudrey Afternoon Trinity Mr Robinson on the prayer Book Church bad hearing place - Evening at home & at my Mother's, to bed early - with prayer -

[February 3] Monday. Besides usual work - Meeting at the Op Con [Operative Conservative] Association, in the Evening - requested to be the President for the ensuing year - agreed - Meeting cold, formal, slender.

[February] Tuesday - 4th. At John's School - Monthly Meeting female friendly Society - Took £23-15-9 - cold-stormy night - called Angel.

[February 5] Wednesday - Victoria Burial³ Society, - Meeting of the of the [sic] Managers - preparatory to the 2nd Monthly Meeting

Thursday Feb 6th. Trade Protection Society Annual Meeting at St Leger. slender, only nine present viz: Sturdy, Brooks, Fowler, Tiplady, Hirst, Pickop, Roylance, Duckworth, and Barlow. Report agreed.

[February 7] Friday. Second Monthly Meeting, Vic: Building Society Took £107 - very busy. Thompson, myself, W. Stones & Whitworth officiated.

[February 8] Saturday, At the Shop tolerably busy - closed at 1/2 Ten

Feb 19th 1851 Daughter Esther christened at the parish Church. Sponsors Uncle Ratcliffe, and two Miss Elltofts of Burnley.⁴ - Monk officiated read the service very rapidly.

Mrs Vose had one christened same time, "Mary Elizabeth"

¹ This meeting was held in 1850.

² Advice: *OED* 'vice' n.4.

³ Tiplady made a mistake; it was the Victoria Building Society.

⁴ Sarah Ann, born 1825, and Maria, born 1828, were daughters of Sarah who was born in Keighley, Yorkshire, c.1793. Sarah was a widow and was a grocer in Burnley. Her daughters were dressmakers but, later in life, assisted their mother in the grocery business. Whether they were related to either Charles or his wife, or if they were friends, is unclear.

March the 6th Went to Great Harwood, and assisted Mr Dobson with some School Club Rules, dined with him a pleasant Day, and invigorating, Returned at 3pm same Evening went to Over Darwen, Gas Meeting when a Dividend of £7 per Cent was recommended
[March] 7th Sale of shares at the Victoria Building Society 14 shares at £16:10 per share.

March 27 &c Auditing the Town's Books

[87]

[1851]

[March] 29th Capt Warburton held a "Court of Enquiry" in relation to the Incorporation of the Town. - There was a tolerable attendance - It was very satisfactorily arranged that the Town be divided into six Wards. viz:

- 1 - St Mary's Ward
- 2 - St John's D^o.
- 3 - Trinity D^o.
- 4 - Park D^o.
- 5 - St Peter's D^o.
- 6 - St Paul's D^o.

April 2nd Mrs Thomas Hart died at Lytham suddenly.

[April] 16th. On a jury at the Workhouse, enquiring into the death of Tho^s Holden, who was found in the Railway Tunnel at Eanam, long enquiry - 8 hours - Verdict Accidental D^{rs} Pickop & Wilding were exam^d. It was said by rumour that the former had neglected the Man. - It did not turn so no evidence - tho' some of the jury thought the man's thigh should have been set earlier.

May 1st The Great Exhibition at London - opened.⁵

This Day I appeared against a Travelling Flying Stationer, named G Blain, who was convicted of selling Goods without a Hawker's Licence. - Fine £10:0:0 Done in self Defence.⁶

Same Day an Oratorio at St Paul's Church, Conductor Mr Jopson - A large, but not very efficient Orchestra.

June 4th 1851 Attended a Meeting of the Directors of the East Lancashire Company - on Saturday the 7th of June on the subject of the Blackburn and Darwen Railway. - Arrangement were made whereby I went to support Mr Allsop & Hall to oppose an Amalgamation with the L. & Y. Comp^y [Lancashire & Yorkshire Company]. - We had a free pass. I was in Company with Mr Thwaites.

[88]

1851

Journey to York, Leeds & Harrogate

May 13,14 & 15. Having a strong desire to visit York, I took the advantage of a cheap Trip (11/6 2nd Class there & back) - from Blackburn, on Tuesday the 13th. There was a great Race to take place that Day between the "Flying Dutchman" and "Votiguer" for 1000 Guineas.⁷ - I cared little for the Race but thought it would add something to my experience by going the journey.

⁵ The Great Exhibition in Hyde Park, London, ran from 1 May to 15 October 1851.

⁶ George Blain of Liverpool was fined for selling items of stationery in Blackburn without a hawker's licence. The prosecution was on behalf of Blackburn Guardian Society for the Protection of Trade with evidence from Blackburn and Manchester presented by Tiplady (*Blackburn Standard*, 7 May 1851).

⁷ This was re-match between the two horses, which was billed as "the match of the century", was after Votiguer had beaten the Flying Dutchman in the Doncaster Cup in 1850 ('Votiguer', *Thoroughbred Heritage* <https://www.tbheritage.com/Portraits/Votiguer.html> [accessed 3 December 2020]).

We started from Bⁿ at half past 8 with about 12 Carriages (E. L. [East Lancashire] Line) and had a pleasant Trip up to Colne. The Morning was delightfully fine with occasional cloudiness. - At Colne about 13 other Carriages joined the Train, and thus we proceeded up to Skipton, - Mr W Hirst pawnbroker was in the same Carriage with myself and we agreed to stop at the same place. - We went on from Skipton at 10 a.m. taking up passengers all the way until we reached Shipley, Keighley & Bingley and about 30 or 35 more Carriages well laden, were added to the Train making about 60 in the whole. - We had here a stoppage of ³/₄ of an hour and it was thought at one time we could not well proceed without more strength - However with 2 powerful Locomotives in front and one in the rear - we went on at a easy pace to Leeds, where we stopped about 10 Minutes, and the line being very level from Leeds to York, one Engine was detached from us; At Leeds the clouds threatened Rain, and there was a shower or two - The place itself seemed enveloped in smoke, and presented an unpleasant appearance so far as we could discern from the position in which we viewed it. - From hence we passed onward through a most delightful country to York, where we arrived at half past one - p.m. - We secured lodgings at the Golden Fleece Pavement, kept by a Widow Lady named "Young" and under all circumstances were made as comfortable as we expected. Though I cared little for the Races, yet as I was in York I went and witnessed the exciting spectacle between "Voltiguer" & the "Flying Dutchman" the latter winning by about a length. After races went to the Cathedral or Minster, had a splendid view from the Tower, clear view of 50 Miles - very fine, not so much as a Cloud - Then went to the Railway Station to see the Multitudes return home, Vast numbers of Trains and people to all parts viz: London, Liverpool, Birmingham, Newcastle, Scotland &c &c - In the Evening slept with W Hirst. On the following day went to the Museum very striking curiosities. York contains 28 Churches - Left at 2 o'clock, went from there to Harrogate, which I had got view of - Weather still fine - Tasting warm water - horribly bad, like rotten eggs. Left at noon, came up to Leeds, where Mr Hirst left me & came home, - I stopped at Robt Whalley and had a snack there - then left and came up to Skipton & Colne, where I met with Mr R. Hutchinson & Jno Ratcliffe coming home. Arrived safely home.

[89]

1851

Sep^r 12th Went with Mrs Tiplady & Fanny to Ribchester a most pleasant & delightful day. Mr Brodie kindly took us in his white-chapel⁸ - visited the Church and also Stydd Church gathered a few nice nuts for the Children

Oct 9th Went with Uncle Ratcliffe to see the Queen to Liverpool very wet day - uncomfortable - Saw the Queen at the Exchange very throng - Prince Albert & the young Princess & Prince were with them - On the following day to Manchester with Mary, very fine - a splendid Illumination none equal to it in London.⁹ - The crowd immense - A very nice treat indeed

The Library - We left the Library under the following circumstances. We were under Notice to quit in November but I could not prevail upon the Committee to allow me to sell the Books for £60, until the 29th of October. - On that day however Mr Hoole agreed & I went with him to pay the Rent for 3 half-years viz £28:10:0 and it was agreed the Books &c should be cleared out by the 12th November, but Mr Boardman should then have liberty to Let the Rooms - Accordingly Mr Johnson who bought the Books got them out expeditiously by the 1st Nov^r & I sold the shelving &c to Mr Sandford per valuation giving him instructions to clear all out immediately so that Mr John Boardman could have possession. - He did so & on the 6th Nov Mr Bⁿ. [Boardman] came to me in the Evening & we had some conversation

⁸ A light two-wheeled spring cart: *OED* 'Whitechapel cart' n. I.6.

⁹ In honour of the visit of the Queen to Manchester (*Blackburn Standard*, 18 October 1851).

respecting the Removal. I told him what I had done, and he said all was right, but he thought he had better have some Notices fixed up on the House showing that he had Rooms to Let, I said he ought to have and he ordered me to print some copies off, as follows "Two Rooms, for Offices, To Let. Enquire within". He requested me to send a Servant to affix one Notice upon the outside, wh: Notice remained up for 7 days, & was up on the 13th November. On the morning of that day he came to me & said Sandford had not given him the Key, and he should now look upon the Library for another years Rent - I told him I did not know but that he had had possession a Week, - On going to Sandford he produced the Key - went with Myself & Mr Boardman, he unlocked the Door & all three went in to the Room, it was empty - all our Property was gone. - He said the Gas should be secured & the Windows Mended, I promised this, & left him then in possession of the Room. - Mr James Woodfall the same day completed the repairs in the Windows & the Gas Piping. - Nov. 20 1851.

May 13th 1852. He has not claimed the half-years Rent either verbally or by Letter on the 12th.

He died shortly after -

[90]

[1851]

Nov^r 25th Died this day after a severe illness Elizabeth the Daughter of my late B^f William aged 18 years. Interred at the parish Church Cemetery.

Dec^r. 16th Attended a Meeting of the Burial Society & was re-appointed on the Board by 61 Votes.

[December] 18th Inspected Property belonging to Mr W R Wood at Witton. – Benjⁿ Riley at Lark Hill. – George Baron & T C Wolstenholme at Daisy Fields with Mr Stones & Mr Ibbotson – Fee 2/6 each Lot

Dec 28 29th &c

Sunday Morn^g Parish Church – Afnoon Trinity Church and Evening, St John, Children at Home.

Monday, Annual Meeting of Oddfellows Society, held at the Golden Ball, appointed DGM¹⁰ of the District, and as before Treasurer, - pass Word "Perseverance has Accomplished" New Bye Laws passed, W D appointed C. S.¹¹ for 12 months.

Tuesday The Annual Meeting of the Society for P^g [Promoting] of Xtian [Christian] Knowledge, held in the Parish Church, Dr Whittaker Vicar in the Chair – the usual yearly business was transacted, 10700 Books were reported to have been sold. – I was present as the Agent

Wednesday, the Annual meeting of the Provident Loan Society. Mr Cartwright in the Chair. – A Dividend of 25 per cent was declared. I was appointed auditor.¹²

¹⁰ Deputy Grand Master - Deputy Chairman.

¹¹ William Durham was appointed Corresponding Secretary (*Blackburn Standard*, 3 January 1852).

¹² According to the report in the *Preston Chronicle* this meeting occurred on Wednesday 28 January 1852 (*Preston Chronicle*, 31 January 1852).