

## 1853

Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Tradesmens Society at the Bull, flat Dinner, not well having Rheumatism. Elected to the Office of President by Ballot.

[January] Friday the 7<sup>th</sup> Attended the Building Society collected £170 or thereabouts. Printed the Directories & Reports for the Oddfellows 2000 Copies -

Jan. 31. Meeting of the Managers, Vict [Victoria] Building Society & prepare and pass Report for Annual Meeting.

Feb. 1. Meeting of St John's Female Fr<sup>d</sup> [Friendly] Society of which I am Clerk.

[February] 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Green Bank Lodge (summoned) Subject to let out Money. - Agreed to lend Robert Smalley the sum of £400 on legal Security, also agreed to revise & register the Lodge Laws. full attendance.

[February] 3<sup>rd</sup> Attended the Marriage of Mr Henry Hargreaves of Mellor, He married a Miss Ewart of Preston, a pleasant party, my Wife was also present.

[February] 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting (monthly) of Vict B B [Victoria Benefit Building] Society attended to receive Money as Manager with Mr Charles Whitworth and delivered out the Annual Report, same Night purchased 2 shares of Sam<sup>l</sup> Pemberton, 4/8 per share and transfer. -

[February] 5<sup>th</sup> Saturday, - Went to British Queen Lodge and advised them to register Laws &c. Home at Eleven, - There are few weeks in which I have not to attend Meetings as above.

[February] 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday (Parish Church) Attended with Wife also Sacrament.

[February] 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Short time Committee a request was made to pay the expences of a certain Meeting to be held for agitating the question of a restriction on the moving power, which was granted under certain Conditions.

In consequence of Aunt Carus not having made a Will, and my Mother not having mentioned it in her Will, my eldest Brother as Heir-at-Law takes possession of my Aunt's property - and also my Sister's Mary's share of our Grandfather's Property.

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~~At the end of this Book will be found a Copy of my Will made and signed on the Eighth Day of February 1853, and I solemnly adjure my Wife & Children as they shall answer it at the bar of Almighty God to carry the same into Effect. - Abrogated<sup>1</sup>~~

Feb. 15 Since the 6<sup>th</sup> Severe frost set in with a considerable fall of snow. This Morning it is particularly dense. -

[February] 21. The frost continue with unabated severity - The Reservoir at Rishton is entirely frozen over, and yesterday several hundred persons were upon it - The Reservoir covers Eleven Acres of Ground.

[February] 19 & 20 Soiree at Great Harwood., very good Meeting John Mercer in the Chair. - Mr Fort, of Read Hall, Henry Dean of Sabden, Myself & Tomlinson from Blackburn & Moore of Accrington, Ellis of ---- The Chairman addressed the Meeting - The Speeches were above the average. Slept at the Lomax Arms - Attended Church in the Morning dined with Mr Dobson. Harwood people hospitable.

[February] 22<sup>nd</sup> The frost broke up mildly - Mrs Geo Stones confined Baby Died The Petition against Mr Eccles prosecuted. -

[February] 26<sup>th</sup> Mr Eccles unseated for Bribery & Corruption<sup>2</sup> -

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<sup>1</sup> Annulled or cancelled: *OED* 'abrogate' v. 1.

<sup>2</sup> Eccles was disqualified after a parliamentary select committee found his agents guilty of bribery by paying several tenants of public houses to provide food and drink on or around polling day. The committee found that his agents acted without Eccles' knowledge (*Blackburn Standard*, 23 February and 2 March 1853).

[February] 28<sup>th</sup> Mr Montague Feilden came forward as a Candidate followed on the day after by Mr W. H Hornby. - W H H addresses the people from Brookhouse, Furthergate, Boton Station and Bank Top, and is well received.

March 14<sup>th</sup> Monday - The Shop and Premises of Mr Jas Parker Fleming Square, burn down, - Supposed to be the work of an incendiary - Terrible Calamity for poor Parker, damage £2000.

#### Blackburn Election

March 23. The Nomination, Candidates W. H Hornby, Montague Joseph Feilden, - Show of hands, favor of the former, but Mr Feilden had an immense number.

Poor Leonard Noblett died this Day aged 28 years

March 24 Election

March

1 <sup>st</sup> - (Major) -	Montague J Feilden	631	3:[?]
1853	W. H. Hornby -	<u>574</u>	
	Majority	57	

The Town was in a state of Riot all Day - Both Infantry and Cavalry paraded the Streets.<sup>3</sup>

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#### Perplexities of Will Making Feb. 7. 1853

My Great Grandfather Samuel Lomax, bought certain Property - to wit, Two Good Shops at the top of King Street and four Cottages in Freckleton Croft, commonly called the Cock Croft. - He died and made a Will thus, - He divided the whole with his Money into four parts, - and 1 part each to Ann his Wife, James his Son, and Peggy and Molly his two daughters - on Condition that if James took the Money he should not have the real Estate. - James took the Money and the property thus fell in thirds to my Gt [Great] Grandmother, and my Gt. Aunts, Mary Lomax & Peggy Carus. - So remaining until 1807 when Anne Lomax died leaving a Will, thus she divides her money to her two Daughters, Mary & Peggy - and after their death to James her Son. - This is the state of affairs in 1813. In 1814 James dies, provides for the share of his Mother Ann Lomax by his Will; in the same year Peggy dies without a Will, - and in the year 1818 Molly dies with a Will, in which she divides all her real & personal Estate to the Misses Elizabeth & Anne & their children, - 1<sup>st</sup> Question How is she heir or heiress of Peggy - her Brother being dead before her - but her Sister surviving.

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[1853]

March 29<sup>th</sup> Audited the Town's Books for the sixth time along with R<sup>d</sup> Townley found them right

[March] 28<sup>th</sup> Sworn in special Constables to quell the Riots. Our troop was stationed Penny Street, Lark Hill & Brookhouse, It consisted of the following Tradesmen

1 H Stowe, Captain	8 Tho <sup>s</sup> Forrest	15 Jno Parkinson
2 C. Tiplady	9 H <sup>y</sup> Slater	16 H <sup>y</sup> Simpson
3 John Sellers	10 E. Fowler	17 Tho Bamber
4 James Bradley	11 Robt Walker	18 George Ward
5 Henry King	12 James Sagar	19 T Dickenson
6 George Whewell	13 William Smith	20 J Umpleby
7 G P Hartley	14 W Irving	21 Dr Roiley

April 6<sup>th</sup> Old John Mercer the Clerk of Great Harwood Church died very suddenly this Morning of an Apoplectic Fit. - He was a Man highly respected by old parties. He died at

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<sup>3</sup> Tiplady seized Levi Crook during an attack on Hornby's canvassers at the Fleece Inn, Penny Street. A bludgeon was taken from Crook but, after being held for some time, the magistrates ordered Crook's release (*Blackburn Standard*, 30 March 1853).

Mr W. Birtwistles house, and had been teaching in the Mechanic's Institution. Truly in the midst of life we are in death.

April 19<sup>th</sup> Died Charles Vose, my Brother-in-Law aged 37 years. It was reported that he was bruised after the Election, but he had for some time been poorly. His affairs were nearly desperate. Buried at Parish Church.

May 16<sup>th</sup> Whit Monday, I attended as a Delegate from Blackburn to the AMC [Annual Moveable Committee] at Preston, with PPGM [Past Provincial Grand Master] William Lyon, - There was a very great procession of the Order in the Afternoon.

[May] 20<sup>th</sup> Business of the AMC being finished my Wife came to Preston and we took Train to Blackpool - There were three other Deputies went also - we staid at Mrs Aspinall's, and on the following day rode down to Fleetwood. Left Blackpool on the morning of Saturday the 22<sup>nd</sup>. and arrived safely home.

My finances May 26<sup>th</sup> 1853. 1 Year after paying off the Stock.

	Debts		Credits
To H <sup>y</sup> Kenyon	200:0:0	Houses	550:0:0
W & O [Widows & Orphans] Fund	100:0:0	Gas Shares	100:0:0
Sisters	50:0:0	B <sup>y</sup> [Building] Society	
Stock	380:0:0	Loan Society	15:0:0
Hearts of Oak	20:0:0	Railway	20:0:0
	<u>£750:0:0</u>		<u>£740:0:0</u>

NB - Of the above £380:0:0 - £40 belongs to me in right of inheritance by the death of my Mother. -

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Thursday the 17<sup>th</sup> of June 1853. Died William Eccles Senior, Esq<sup>re</sup> late M P for this Town, - It is supposed that the being unseated for Bribery & Corruption preyed much upon his mind, and in fact the Mode in which he allowed himself to be brought out would not, could not bear reflection.

On the same day died "William Thom" a violent Radical & Scotchman, - Thomas Hitchen P P G M [Past Provincial Grand Master] died the day before of long lingering consumption.

[June] 17<sup>th</sup> Captain Whitle of Whalley died.

Copy of a hand Bill in reference to the Death of William Eccles:-

To the reasonable and discerning Electors of Blackburn

Respected Friends,

My plain and unassuming Address of the 25<sup>th</sup> inst has been replied to by "An Independent Elector" in a long and scurrilous Address, characterised alike by unblushing effrontery & savage ferocity.

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June 23 - My 45<sup>th</sup> Birthday

(1853)

[June] 24<sup>th</sup>. Dr Dugdale unanimously elected Alderman.

[June] 25<sup>th</sup> Funeral of the late William Eccles, Esq<sup>re</sup> public procession to the Chapel Street Chapel. - Sermon afterwards - at St John's Church, and at Chapel Street

Monday June 27<sup>th</sup>. Quarterly District Committee at Pleasington where I gave an explanation of our Mission to the A.M.C. [Annual Moveable Conference] - a pleasant Meeting.

[June] 28<sup>th</sup> Went up to Mr Kenworth's it being rumoured that his Cook had fallen down dead, - James Houlker with us - The news too true - Suspicion of poison. Inquest called for Thursday nominated on Jury - but subsequently struck off - having seen the deceased

shortly after Death. - A Young Man named David Porter suspected of procuring the poison "Prussic Acid" Dr Maitland the physician & Mr Skaife.<sup>4</sup>

[June] 29<sup>th</sup> At the Economical & also the Provident Loan Society. - the quarterly Meeting - Dividend paid at the latter in the Chair at the P L S.

[June] 30<sup>th</sup> Attended the Hornby Testimonial Committee great blame to John Sagar for neglect - at the "King's Head"

July 1<sup>st</sup> Building Society - Monthly Meeting

[July] 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Audit of the District Books.

July 15<sup>th</sup> Mr Hopwood Senior the most remarkable Man of his day in Blackburn<sup>5</sup>

[July] 1[7] Died Eccles Shorrocks Esq<sup>re</sup> the King & Potentate of Over Darwen, - This Man by dint of perseverance rose from the position of a Weaver to a princely fortune.<sup>6</sup>

Died Sep<sup>r</sup>. 13<sup>th</sup>. Mrs Sarah Tiplady of Bury, Wife of my Brother John after a very long and singularly afflicting illness. -

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[1853]

The 8<sup>th</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> of Sept<sup>r</sup> will long be remembered in Blackburn as the days on which the Hornby Testimonials were given, It is almost impossible to furnish an outline of those festivities which occurred on the occasion but one may instance that there was a Presentation, Banquet, Ball & Grand Procession such as never was witnessed in the Town before.

The presents consisted of a Grand Candelabrum value £350 to Mr W H Hornby.

and to Mrs Hornby a beautiful folio family Bible value £35:0:0.

Mr Charles Boardman was Chairman of the Committee Mr W Peel - Vice & I was Vice Chairman at the Dinner, Mr J W Pemberton was Secretary throughout.<sup>7</sup>

Sep 27 to Oct 5<sup>th</sup> Took a tour with Mrs Tiplady, our first since Marriage in 1839, - Went first to Blackpool, got excellent lodgings at Miss Gaulton's, Talbot Road, - first day strolled on the Beach, - Wednesday the 28<sup>th</sup> very high wind - Tide low - walked to Bispham, my Wife telling of her old visits to these quarters; thence to Poulton to the Agricultural Show, met here with Mr Yeo who kindly gave me a Ticket for Dinner; Mr W. Patten in the chair. Mrs T stopt at Mr Yeo's lodgings & got Tea, We left at 6 o'clock for Blackpool. - Thursday went to Lytham & Kirkham, day wet & uncomfortable got home at 7 & to bed tired. Friday had a good warm bath with Mary at the South Shore, thence took Train to Fleetwood - Dined at the Victoria Hotel - good & cheap Dinner, after which took Tickets and went on board the "Cambria" to the Isle of Man at half past 2pm. The voyage was stormy - especially the last 20 miles - was on the Water seven hours - nearly all the passengers very sick - the vessel pitched tremendously - Mrs Tiplady a capital Sailor, stood the Gale equal to any party on board not

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<sup>4</sup> Hannah Harrison died after drinking prussic acid. Harrison was pregnant. Various witnesses gave evidence that Harrison was in a relationship with David Porter but no witness identified Porter as purchaser of the prussic acid. As a result, the jury found Harrison had died from taking prussic acid, but no further action was taken because of the lack of evidence of how she acquired the prussic acid. The *Preston Guardian* printed a letter alleging that the jury had been packed with Conservatives because Porter supported the Liberals, and that Tiplady had solicited to be on the jury. Tiplady had been appointed foreman before being removed after objections. (*Blackburn Standard*, 6 & 13 July 1853).

<sup>5</sup> Robert Hopwood, who died aged 79, was a cotton manufacturer, who rose from humble beginnings, moved to Blackburn after beginning in business in Clitheroe. The *Blackburn Standard* ran a lengthy eulogy to Hopwood praising his virtues (*Blackburn Standard*, 20 July 1853).

<sup>6</sup> Eccles Shorrocks died on Sunday 17 July 1853. He moved from Blackburn to Over Darwen in 1830 to establish a cotton mill. Later, he bought the Darwen Paper Works. Like Hopwood, the *Blackburn Standard* praised Shorrocks as 'one of those men of whom Lancashire is justly proud, who by industry, perseverance, and integrity, have raised themselves to eminence in the commercial world' (ibid.).

<sup>7</sup> The procession and the presentations to the Mr and Mrs Hornby were organised by the operative Conservatives of Blackburn to 'convey to the Radical faction a tangible proof that Conservatism is far from being defunct in Blackburn' (*Blackburn Standard*, 14 September 1853).

excepting the Crew. Landed at 1/2 past five pm at Douglas. - Next Day being fine we went to Castle Town per Coach, - very cheap - Sunday to St George's Church - heard a good discourse, Afternoon to Laxey, 7 Miles per Jaunting Car<sup>8</sup> - saw the Lead Mines and the largest Wheel in England 72 [feet] Diameter - met with James Tattersall at the Isle, - Monday the 3<sup>rd</sup> sailed back to Fleetwood, pleasant sail arrived and Blackpool per Rail at 8pm. - Tuesday remained in Bpool and had a Glorious Sea high Tide, strong Wind & a Swell with Breakers such as I had never witnessed. Wednesday returned home - left Mrs T there and on the following Sunday returned for her then both came home on Monday, much pleased with our tour. -

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[1853]

Amount in the Saving's Bank belonging the Family.

£52:16:5

Oct 19<sup>th</sup> 1853

Died Oct 13<sup>th</sup> 1853, Mrs Nightingale, aged 80 Years, - one of the excellent of the earth. -

Oct 20<sup>th</sup> A year has now elapsed since the death of my dear Mother - whose memory is worthy of being cherished with the most grateful remembrance. By her will I am ordered to pay my Sisters and Brothers their small Legacies.

I have therefore purchased Seven in the Victoria Benefit Building at a cost of £13 per share. The net Cash received by me being £329. Of this I immediately paid £100 to the Widow and Orphan's Fund and with the residue I shall pay the Legacies. - The money will have to be paid monthly interest & principal, £2:16:0

	£	s	d
The principal on the Stock	380 :	0 :	0
Interest for six months	7 :	13 :	4
	£387 :	13 :	4
	Deduct duty		
	Expenses		
	Nett Balance to		
	Divide in Nine £379: 10: 9		
Viz - James Lomax Tiplady	42 :	3 :	5
Angelina Blackshaw }			
Virginia Tiplady }	42 :	3 :	5
Selina Tiplady }			
Anne Tiplady	42 :	3 :	5
Charles Tiplady	42 :	3 :	5
Elizabeth Tiplady	42 :	3 :	5
Margaret Tiplady	42 :	3 :	5
Jane Tiplady	42 :	3 :	5
Priscilla Martin	42 :	3 :	5

The Business was transacted by Mr Leonard Wilkinson

Oct 22<sup>nd</sup> - This day with the rest of the District Officers, I went to the Brown Cow in Livesey where we opened a New Lodge - The number of members were 35. - propositions about 12. After the Business, which was lengthy - the Members had lunch, and I took the liberty of addressing them.

Mrs Sagar, (Watchmaker's) died suddenly.

<sup>8</sup> A light, two-wheeled, one-horse carriage that carried five or six people with a seat at the front for the driver: *OED* 'jaunting-car', n.

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Oct 24<sup>th</sup>. 1853 - This Day was remarkable for three things

1<sup>st</sup>. My Niece Priscilla & her Mother took their final leave of the Shop & concern, and invited myself and Thomas to Supper - with Wife, Sisters, & children

2<sup>nd</sup>. Thomas' Birthday - aged 20.

3<sup>rd</sup> Sisters, Niece, and Brother John presented me with a valuable gold Watch, in testimony of regard for my humble and faithful stewardship of their money. We were very comfortable & happy on the occasion.

Resolution - To do my utmost so as long as God spares me to help forward the welfare of my Sisters &c. - 2<sup>nd</sup> To lay by [sic] a Shilling per Week towards the Interest of their Money. 3<sup>rd</sup> To restrict my Expenses, except business require those to sixpence per Day. - 4<sup>th</sup> Always to remember with thankful this token of love

I hereby pray to be enabled to do these things.

Oct 28<sup>th</sup> Grand Masonic Demonstration & Banquet<sup>9</sup>

Oct 31<sup>st</sup>. Was led into a little Excess on Saturday by Mr K.<sup>10</sup> which I must henceforth avoid.

Yesterday (Oct 30<sup>th</sup>) went in Procession with the Mayor to the Church - a very fine Day and a goodly Company. - In the Afternoon visited Aunt Ratcliffe who lies at the point of death, - Had to Dinner & Tea Mrs William, Priscilla and Baby prior to their final departure to Atherstone. - In the Evening the fourth Quarterly Lecture of the Oddfellows was held. - at the Pump House, closed at 7 o'clock.

[October] Nine o'clock a m (31<sup>st</sup>.) - This Day also died my Mother's Sister Aunt Ratcliffe, aged 75 years. Between her and my mother, as the only children of the late James Lomax there existed a lasting friendship This is the third death in the family in the space of Two Months.

Nov 1. Municipal Election, very riotous and disgraceful proceedings - street fighting - stone throwing - Bludgeon attacks, and violence of every kind without check from the police. The Liberals won every seat in the Council and the Con: so disgusted that they will contest the point no longer

[November] 2<sup>nd</sup> Dreadful explosion of Boiler, Eagle Foundry. Eight lives lost. - Journey to Manchester & Bury, also Ashton - paid - Nieces their Legacy & Brother John.

[November] 4<sup>th</sup> Aunt Ratcliffe interred this Day - Uncle very calm & resigned. Meeting of Building Society.

[November] 5<sup>th</sup> Attended St Peter's Church Rev<sup>d</sup> T. Sharples preached - my uncle and family attended. In the Evening at Trinity Church, when Mr Robinson in a faithful & earnest Discourse from Job improved the commentary on the awful Calamity of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Inst. - A Good Congregation.

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<sup>9</sup> This was the annual meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge of the Eastern Division of Lancashire (*Blackburn Standard*, 2 November 1853).

<sup>10</sup> Possibly Mr Kenyon or Mr Kenworthy, both of whom Tiplady mentioned in earlier entries.

Nov 7<sup>th</sup> 1853

## A Careful Summary of my Week's Liabilities

Wages for Self and Family	1:10:0
David, Journeyman	1:1:0
George, (Binder)	18:0
Henry, Apprentice	7:6
John D <sup>o</sup> .	5:0
Son, Thomas, (& keep)	2:6
Robinson	2:6
Pemberton	2:0
Charles, William & Richard	1:10:0
Rent Taxes & Outlay	18:0
Interest of Money Borrowed	10:0
	<hr/>
	£7:6:6

Set off Rents, - £40}

Interest &amp;c 12} £52:0:0

I feel under the above responsibilities a heavy and constant depression, with a daily fear that I cannot often pay my Credit which I find the utmost difficulty in.

Now only think of the iniquity of paying Income Tax when I know that all my earnings & my servants are swallowed up in Education - but what is worse than this my Wife imagines we are saving a little, and asks how much less Interest I am paying.

[November] 7<sup>th</sup> Had an interview with Mr Pilkington respecting Grandfather's Estate & the best mode of ending the Trust.

Nov 6. Tho<sup>s</sup> Walsh, Sexton of St Peter's died. A few years he appeared one of the strongest & best built men in the Town. I thought he had the best Tenor voice I ever heard.

[November] 9<sup>th</sup> Tho<sup>s</sup> Dugdale Esq<sup>re</sup> elected Mayor - Aldermen John Polding, John Sparrow, W<sup>m</sup> Pilkington, R R Jackson, James Cunningham, and Robert Hopwood.

Dec<sup>r</sup> 2. Young Mr Hornby of Age, his Father W.H.H. sent a present of One hundred Guineas to the Stranger's Friend Society -

[December] 6<sup>th</sup> Went to Balderstone to see Richard - my Wife with me.

[December] 9<sup>th</sup> Old Mr Chew, post Office Whalley, died, aged 71, An Israelite indeed, in whom was no guile.

[1853/4]

The year 1853 ended with clear, sharp frosty atmosphere and on New Years Day 1854 (Sunday) the Reservoir at Rishton was completely covered, Hundreds being upon the Ice - The weather continued fine until 1/2 past 4 pm when a fall of snow commenced and continued all night, on Monday the 2<sup>nd</sup> though the wind was piercing cold there was little snow - the frost however was intense, on Tuesday Evening the atmosphere was wild and portended a very heavy fall of Snow nor were we deceived for on Wednesday Morning it had reached the depth of several - Canals Railway & Highways were all alike fastened & snowed up.