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Jan 1. Friday Willie very poorly - Banquet of 336, did not attend - Audit of the Tradesman's Society very satisfactory. Building Society could not attend.

Great indignation Meeting held on the Market place by Messrs Brown, Crossley, Gregson & others respecting Emmetts deficiency - The Board condemned &c. - The Board could not help Alex^r running away with the Money. - (Jan 2.)¹

[January] 3rd Sunday - Morning at the Parish - Evening at Trinity -

[January] 4th Annual Meeting of the Tradesman's Society - slender but comfortable attendance. 20/- subscribed to the children of the late Nancy Walmsley. Broke up in good time. Willie recovering.

[January] 5th Female Friendly Society Meeting St John's

The Weather had continued beautiful & mild up to the 2nd Day of January - almost as warm a Summer. The flowers were in full Bloom. Daises, polyanthus, auriculas &c &c - but on the 3rd Sunday, the Wind veered one or two points S.E. bring up a keen blast for several hour, and still veering more Easterly until the Night of the 4th when the frost began the 1st Ice being upon that night - On the 5th the storm increased in force, the frost hardened - the cold was now intense - & so till the Wednesday the 6th wh: was a

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bitter day indeed, followed a Storm of Snow from the S.S.W. & back again to the S.E. - a complete Thaw.

Jan 7th. Joseph Callis returned from Canada.

[January] 10th Sunday Parish Church Morning - Sermon by the Rev^d John Leyland Feilden, Subject, "and that Rock was Christ". The Rev^d Gentleman gave a most magnificent discourse from the above Words, full of real Gospel Truth, - earnest, interesting, affectionate, eloquent and was listened to by a large Congregation with profit, all being greatly affected. -

Willie a little better.

Evening at Trinity - had Sisters in Law to Dinner

Joseph Callis having assigned his Estate over - W^m Forrest took the gains at a valuation, whereupon Joseph was ejected from Salford - denied Lodgings and became houseless & almost penniless - without Home, without business - separated from his Wife and children, bankrupt in purse - and in commercial character, for pity's sake my wife & self gave him Two Nights Lodgings on Saturday the 16th & Sunday the 17th January 1858.

[January] Sunday 24th At the parish Church. Sermon on Humility by Rev R H Hart. Afternoon with Fanny & Mother to Langho and Whalley. Evening at Trinity - Rev D. Chapman - sermon on all things working together for Good - a Calvinistic Sermon.

[January] Monday 25th Married, the Princess Royal to the Prince of Prussia, - not much rejoicing here - but great stirring in London. - Night my sons Charles & Richard fired several rounds in honor of the Event, I scolded because Charles used Ball - which I would not permit.

[January] Thursday 28 at Darwen - Night at Widow & Orphan's Annual Meeting - re-appointed Treasurer for the Ninth Year - Society very prosperous - Afterwards at (432) rather full Meeting - Mr G. P. Hartley instated.

John Hargreaves - returned to his Work Jan, 25th

¹ Alexander Emmett, secretary of the society, absconded with £133 7s 4d of its funds. The public meeting on 2 January passed a motion critical of the Society's management and sought to form a new management committee (*Blackburn Standard*, 23 December 1857; *Preston Chronicle*, 9 January 1858).

Tuesday & Wednesday Feb. 2 & 3 Sold to Mr William Stones the Shops at the Top of King Street for £485:0:0 he to take immediate possession and the forthcoming Rents. - Agreed T Ratcliffe Sen^r & Jun^r, Jno Ratcliffe - C Tiplady.

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The Accounts of the Burial Society having been re-audited were found to be correct with trifling difference of 3/10.² The public Mind is somewhat settled down.
The Weather for the most part frosty & very cold.

[February] 20th Died Mr Joseph Yates, cousin to Mr D. Thwaites of Eanam, - after a short but painful illness of 8 or 10 days. Aged 44 - Interred at Harwood. 21st Sunday at the parish Church, sermon by Mr Hart.

Died Jim Leaver a sad dissolute character. -

Edward Rycroft an industrious & hardworking Man - Flagger & Slater.

Feb. 21. Also to the great regret of his Flock & District, the Rev Tho^s Sharples, M.A. Incumbent of St Peter's Church the Rev Gent was highly respected as a consistent & faithful pastor, - and one whose merits & character will be long remembered. His end was eminently peaceful. In him I lose a sincere friend. Aged 50

Politics - Lord Palmerston being defeated on the Conspiracy for Murder Bill resigned³ - The Earl of Derby formed an administration - Feb. 20th & 22nd Not supposed to exist very long. -

Feb 24th Handel's Birthday - Supper of the Choral Society T. Clough presided. Very pleasant Meeting.

[February] 28th Sunday. In the Morning the Rev Dr Robinson preached a funeral Sermon in St Peter's Church improving the death of the Rev J. Sharples - There was a very crowded congregation - The Rev Gent preached a Most affecting discourse from the 17th Chap of John - 24th verse - It need scarcely be remarked that the vast concourse, including many from other Churches listened with devout attention - & the lamentations & tears - fully attested the deep esteem in which the late Rev Gent was held by his flock, & the inhabitants of Blackburn. -

February has been remarkably free from Rain or Snow for three full week east winds prevailed & very dry but freezing cold - & frosts - on the 28th indications of a change were apparent, and this Morning March 1st a heavy fall of snow took place.

The Burial Society stormy halted for the present.

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March 2nd. Died Thomas Parkinson, 61, after repeated warnings from taking liquor in excess. His brother died about 6 months since. -

During the first Week in March the Weather has been very stormy with frequent falls of Snow - especially on the 4th 5th & 7th with strong E & N E Winds -

[March] Sunday (7th) re-opening of the Wesleyan Chapel, when Rev Dr Hannah officiated. Subject "Christian Love" its peculiar characteristics - Afternoon, Mr Natrass

² The Philanthropic Burial Society's management committee, which included Tiplady, published the reports of the accountants and auditors. Although the auditors found a deficiency of 3s 10¹/₂d only, both reports criticised lax administration of the accounts (*Preston Chronicle*, 13 February 1858).

³ Palmerston introduced the Conspiracy to Murder Bill after the attempted murder of the French Emperor Napoleon by conspirators based in Britain. After strong French demands, the bill was introduced making conspiracy to commit murder outside of the jurisdiction a felony not a misdemeanour. Palmerston's political opponents considered this appeasement. Palmerston resigned after an amendment to the bill passed by 19 votes (David Steele, 'Temple, Henry John, third Viscount Palmerston (1784-1865)', *ODNB*; *Blackburn Standard*, 24 February 1858).

powerful & eloquent Sermon - The justice (severity) and goodness (mercy of God) - Collections were made on the occasion. Services impressive and profitable £52.0.0

Large quantities of Snow continues to fall day by day putting on the Earth the full appearance of the depth of Winter - previous to wh - say at the end of Feb^y. a Robin visited us - when I remember predicting very winterly weather. -

[March] 7th Old Ellen Barlow died aged 90 Years.

[March] 11th Annual Meeting of the Darwen Gas Company Jas Hawthorn poorly - the Business was mostly of a formal Character. - Appointment of a Manager deferred.

[March] 13th Rumour of Mr Catterall's Death - untrue.

[March] 14th Brock-Hollinshead died aged only 37 Years - lamented much by his family & a numerous circle of friends & of the fraternity.

[March] 16th Quarterly Meeting of the Burial Society - the old Board resigned in a Body - Whittle behaved badly to the Board - a regular Disputed Meeting - Great numbers nominated for the Board - all the old Board rejected except four - viz: Holden, Nuttal, Green and Tiplady - new Members, Pooley, Crossley, - Cutler, Akeroyde &c. &c.

After this a Motion was got up to re-elect the President and after that the Vice-President, the former of which elected unanimously & the latter rejected in favour a Stranger one Bradshaw Birtwistle the son of John Birtwistle of Ewood.⁴

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[March 19th] Friday Mr Hollinshead interred at St Peter's Church a large concourse of Inhabitants lined the way - and about 30 Free Masons attended the funeral in private costume. - The Brethren also attended Ch: on Sunday.

[March] Sunday (21) Dr Robinson improved the death of Mr Hollinshead, at Trinity Church @ Night - to a large Congregation who were most deeply affected.

The Weather for the most part beautiful as Summer. The Eclipse which happened on the 15th was not seen here by reason of the bad state of the Weather & so cloudy. The following amusing Letter was written by Jno Salisbury on that subject.

⁴ Whittle, who was one of the Society's auditors, moved a motion that none of the members of the old board should be eligible for re-election because they had resigned in extraordinary circumstances. Tiplady replied indignantly. Whittle responded by taunting Tiplady in an energetic speech. Finally, Townley, the chairman refused to put this motion, along with an amendment, to the meeting because he ruled that they were against the rules (*Preston Chronicle*, 20 March 1858).

"THE GRET ECLIPS."

Toth' Heddittur o'th BLEGBURN WEEKLY TIMES.

SIR,—I'm vara neer shure yoal ulleaw me u toothry words up u this gret eclips; for i con tell one thing, eawr Pegg's odenary good tempers hev bin eclips'd sin Monday; soa I sezs this mornin, "Wod ever's to de wi thee sin Mondu?"

Wey, hoo sezs—"Its them nasty *sky-rogifers*, un thir *eclips*' They shud u fixt fost u Aprul! Wodund ther u bin u foine lot u foos? Fost of o theaw sez, u gred big fiery 'konit' wur beawn to wiz thro'th cleawds, un bang ugeon'th 'earth,' wi id red hot 'tale,' and smash id up, just loike Long Cherley's dog wod u rat! Well! I durnd need to tell thu id wur o smuke! un id took mony u month ufore sum foaks get reawnd, eawt u feer."

Thads oer, un neaw cums'th gret "eclipse," th'appurs ur fill'd wi letters, wi jawbreykin words, un everi bodi is oer "heyd un'th yeers," wantin to see id. Plumers' shops ur rob'd u broken glass, Cockroft mold canduls ur used to smuke id, un o Mondu mornin is spent i gerrin reddy for'th gret eclips.

I wur just agate u my peice u glass wen Harry Qwden coms wi u barra full u coyls. "Eh," he sezs, "yoe dunod need to mey yur glass reddy, for i bin up Limbrick, un Abe Naypier sezs ids to bi pud off, uppo-keawnt u'th spell un norr match, ut Manchester, bitween'th Loynenders un'th Bradforders!" "Wod'th ecky does tu meon?" I sezs. "Theyl pud noan uth' eclips off, nod they!"

Us soon us mi glass wur reddy, i wur uv i splutter, un fro eleven to twelve u'clock, i vara neer broak my neck wi lookin thro my glass; but nu eclips cud i see, ur yer tel on, un wod's woss, ther wor no sun! "Tumms, i'll tel thu wod," sezs eawr Peggy, "Sun hed moar sens nor us! He cares nowt ubeawt treetin us wi his worm smoils, bud he's nod beawn to hev theawmonds u gopeys starein un grinin at him thro bits u smuked glass. But I wur determin'd I wodund be desaved, soa I pud on my Bennut, un went up ith'Perk to see if id cud be sin there." "Aye," I sez, "un theaw koom back in u bonni tantrum!" "Tantrum, tantrum!" hoo says, "wodund id mek ony body in u tantrum to bi med foos on i thad way? To think us I neer broken my fast sin mornin, and neaw its wely baggin toime, un theaw kun laff at mu! Bud theaw duzond need to laff, for I yerd'th London papur red, un id sezs us'th big wigs went eawt into u place cawd 'Temple Gerdins,' un stood squintin thro smuk'd glass, bud won thing ive gotten to say, un that is, I wish these *sky-rogifers* wud giv oer crackin thir juoks up u foak, un led us get on wi ur oan biznuss!"

Yours truli,

Thunder Alley, Wednesday.

TUMMUS CARTER.

Lady Day.⁵ Mr Bradshaw Sen^r. hung himself this Day. The cause "Drink & Poverty of Condition".

Old Sammy Briggs interred at the parish Church, aged 80. Tho^s Nightingale Aged 78 Years -

March 28th Afternoon with Wife & Fanny to Tockholes heard Rev^d W. Walling - first rate gospel Sermon thence home - good attendance - fine Day - tired when I got home - Saw the Rev^d Gilmour Robinson's Grave. -

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March 30th public Rumour with its thousand tongues has been busy with the doings of Mr H. R. Hargreaves a most respectable Sol^r. & the Son of our highly esteemed Coroner - along with a Miss Fair Confectioner, a crafty middle aged pus⁶ - who it is said has inveigled Henry into Marriage.⁷

⁵ 25th. March.

⁶ Puss: 'a dirty slut; contemptuous term for a woman' (Joseph Wright ed., *The English Dialect Dictionary Vol. IV. M-Q* (London, 1905), p. 653).

⁷ Henry Unsworth Hargreaves, solicitor, married Alice Fair on 7 March 1858 at St. Mary, Manchester.

April 3rd My Wife reproached me with having attended a Masonic Meeting the Evening but one before, whereupon I retorted rather angrily⁸ - which led to unpleasant words and a very unhappy Easter Day - why she should then seek to provoke me I know not - for of attending the said Meeting either led to profligacy, profanity or unpiety I would attend no more for ever.

[April] 4th Thomas here from Liverpool - well in health - and still at Turner & Dunnett. The weather rough - wet and tempestuous - quite a change from the end of March -
Easter Sunday

The Rev F W. Chapman delivered a good Sermon on the spiritual knowledge of Christ, and the power of his resurrection - He seems to me to have the "root of the matter in him". He dwelt most forcibly on the inconsistency & indeed impossibility of a Minister preaching the power of the resurrection without an intimate personal experience of the same in his own soul, to which I fully agreed for some of the Sermons now-a-days are little better than sounding brass or tinkling Cymbals - Words without feelings & declamations devoid of efficacy.

To bed & prayed heartily for a spirit of Meekness and for the forgiveness of my sins - unreservedly on God's Mercy & fell asleep in peace.

My Engagements are as under -

Director of the Over Darwen Gas Company
Member of the Board of Management Bⁿ P. Burial Society
Secretary of the Tradesman's Commercial Society
D^o of Masonic Lodge 432.
D^o of the Female Friendly Society
Manager of the Victoria B B^e. Society
D^o Provident Building Society
Annual Member of the Mechanic's Institution,
Treasurer of the Widow & Orphan's Fund,
Paymaster of St John's School Sick Society
Trustee of Green Bank Lodge I. O. F
D^o Weaver's Association
Agent to the Christian Knowledge Society
Member of the Blackburn Burial Board.

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April 5th

1858 Easter Monday - Cold - Blustering Stormy Day old William Monk died - aged 68 Years our oldest Tenant.

[April] 6th Easter Tuesday - the 24th Anniversary of the Female Friendly Society held good Meeting - very orderly clean, and healthy appearance of the Members enjoyed a good hearty Tea. Mr Hart not so fidgety Funds wonderfully increased £1016 - netted £70 during. Books all right.

Best of all the disturbance between Mary & Myself settled amicably - I would rather die than be drawn in to sin against - Through manifold Temptations from Women - & thro' infirmity of disposition I have yet - preserved my chastity - In fact I know no other.

April 9th First Meeting of the New Board - very full attendance - Mr Dugdale handed in a Protest against the Decision of the Quarterly Meeting - the Board by an un^s [unanimous]

⁸ On 1 April Tiplady attended a banquet of Masons to make a presentation to Thomas Clough. After dining, the members chose Tiplady as vice chairman (*Blackburn Standard*, 7 April 1858).

vote resolved not to disturb that decision some very important entered into - The Board acted in a very caustious [sic] dignified & business-like Manner all through the proceedings & concluded in harmony at 1/2 past Ten o'clock

[April] 18th Sunday - Excellent Sermon for the Girl's Charity parish Church by Rev J. C. Kershaw. £25 - Afternoon to visit Mrs Badger of Worsthorpe - very fine. Wife & Fanny with me. The only drawback is using the Rail on a Sunday which do not like -

[April] 15 to 22nd Serious consultations about Richard whose Master, Mr Wilson, is about to leave this part for South America, and R wants to go with him - The expence is great. Mr Hutchinson, Mr Townley, Mr Hart, Mr Brierley Surveyor, and many others think it a good opening. I pray for the best

[April] 21st William Whalley - late of Navigation Inn, died

[April] 24th Day of April 1858 Made final Terms for my Son Richard to go out with Mr Hugh Wilson, Surveyor, to the Brazils in South America, as Apprentice, for the term of three. I to pay £60 (outfit) passage & keep for the first year. - Messrs Wilson & Watson covenanting Wages for the second & third year, Mr Wilson to take the responsibility of watching over Richard - should

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sail on Monday, the 10th Day of May, 1858.

Richard bound Apprentice this Day, for three Years to Mr Hugh Wilson, - by Messrs L & W Wilkinson, Sol^{rs}. April 26th 1858.

Made conclusive Terms with Mr Wilson, and paid him £60 as per Agreement, - part of Richard's Luggage went this Day to Preston, per Rail & so on to Southampton May 4th 1858.

[May] All of us were fearfully alarmed this Morning (5th) by Charles having a sick or Epilepsy fit, he recovered shortly after.

[May] 6th Meeting at Darwen Setting of Gas Holder

[May] 7th of May - a Memorable Day in my Domestic Circulus⁹ Son Richard left us for Southampton & Brazils - His Mother & Myself took him to Manchester, and delivered up into the care of Mr Hugh Wilson. He was in cheerful spirits & seemed reconciled to his new position. I pray God to bless the undertaking - We have done all we could to fit him out respectable - and of his health be spared - I have good hopes he will be useful to Mr Wilson.

Night Meeting of the Board.

[May] On the 6th at Darwen, full Meeting - very important Setting of Gasholder - Estimates referred to a Sub-committee Hutchinson, Thompson, Walsh & Baron, - agreed, - after the Meeting Mr Baron took Thompson, Johnson & myself to his Hall, where we had a comfortable cup of Tea. - Most beautiful place.

[May] 7th With Mrs Tiplady at Belle Vue Gardens for 3 or 4 Hours, - Grand preparations making for the forthcoming Whitsuntide Holidays -

[May] 8th Night, Bay Horse, Disgusted with the conduct of J. B. - whom I consider a Man of violent measures.

[May] 19th Received first Letter from my Son Richard, dated 13th May - from Lisbon, whither they had safely arrived and all in good health & spirits.

It cost nearly £100 to fit him out pay his passage and keep for one year but all has been done for the best and Mother & Self earnestly pray God may bless the enterprize to his benefit.

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⁹ Latin for circle or ring: *OED* 'circulus' n.

[May] 24th Whit Monday - This Day may be considered the most important in the History of Blackburn, being the Grand Inauguration [sic] of the Laying of the Foundation Stone of the Blackburn Infirmary - The event was celebrated by way of Jubilee. First there was a Grand Procession in which joined all the leading Men of the Town the Corporate Body - the Gentry - the Ancient Order of Free Masons, - the Associated Societies - the Grammar Scholars, - the Sunday School Children of all Denominations, and a countless multitude of Spectators from all parts - The procession was headed by several first rate Bands of Music, Mr George Ellis taking the Lead, and Mr William Riley, the vocal parts.

After the Grand Masonic Ceremony, the different Societies adjourned for Refreshment to their respective Lodge Houses, - Then came the Balloon Ascent which was magnificent indeed - & rose with majestic Grandeur from the Market Place. After the Balloon, there were Balls, - Dinners & Amusements in the public park - The day was moderately fine. - and every one seem to enjoy the same wonderfully well. -

I walked with the Masons as Sec of Lodge 432

May 30 Died James Smith at Coroner's Hargreaves -

June 1st A Magnificent Day - 30th At Whalley with Mrs Tiplady - walked home, one of the pleasantest & most agreeable visits I ever had - Met John Baldwin at Whalley and walked to the top of Nab Hill

The Month of May this year realised in a higher degree my notions of Thompson's description of Spring¹⁰ than at any previous year - The Earth appears a perfect paradise, - and the Trees are full of beauty & bloom exceedingly

June 3rd Went to Haslingden - Prov G. Lodge Meeting - about 240 present - Walked in Procession, attended Church and Banquet, Sermon excellent - Dinner moderate singing good - John Nuttall was the first annuitant £20 from the Prov Fund¹¹ - Weather exceedingly wet in the Afternoon. Home at Ten - got a severe curtain Lecture though neither cross drunk nor disorderly - gave immense offence to Mrs T. by purchasing a White Neck Tie at Hⁿ. - Would not quarrel the consequence was that she got out of Bed & stopped down stairs until Two o'clock - What have I done to deserve perverseness equal to this -

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[June] 6th & 13th Out both Sundays with Mary & Fanny weather splendid - Incomparable

[June] 15th Second Letter from Richard, dated May 20th 1858. Cape St Vincent - Log for 10 Days.

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June 19 1858 Alex Emmett arrested - sad affair.

[June] 21 Brought up before T. Hart, D. Thwaites, John Sparrow, John Baynes and M. Hoole - Convicted and required to pay the amount deficient, or be imprisoned three months, a

¹⁰ A poem by Scottish poet James Thomson (1700-1748), first published in 1728 (James Sambrook, 'Thomson, James (1700-1748)', *ODNB*)

¹¹ At the annual provincial meeting of Freemasons James Nuttall was elected from four candidates to receive '£20 per annum during life' from 'the masonic, benevolent, and annuity fund for the province' (*Blackburn Standard*, 9 June 1858).

full Court, the officers and advocates of the Society prosecuted under the 18th & 19th Vic. c 63.¹²

Essy badly in the Measles, - Henry recovered therefrom.

[June] 23rd My fiftieth Birthday - for all God's sparing Mercies I would be thankful - Age hastens on apace - Even in my day - I seem to have outlived nearly all my youthful friends and schoolmates, - those who are left he scattered ere and there like a few ungleaned stems of corn

Temptation on account of + + Truly the flesh is weak, tho' the spirit is willing -

June 30. Had considered that A Emmett affair would have been finished but in consequence of some unfounded rumours that there had been complicity on some part of the Board, and the Blackburn Standard having made some Strong allusions thereto - an Indignation Board Meeting was held and a very severe, and I think to me unjust document promulgated as if I had some sinister end in screening Emmett, but I wish it to be distinctly understood & recorded that in all this matter I have acted uprightly and if Mr Townley had manifested any firmness the thing would have been ended long ago.¹³

July 2nd. Third Letter from my Son Richard at Bahia where he has safely arrived; the Letter is as follows: See Letters

[July] 9th At Gisburn Park with Mr & Mrs Baldwin very pleasant excursion and grand scenery - Wife also there.

[July] 11th At St Peter's Church - Morning Sermon by Mr Woodhouse on the Services of the Church, - In the Afternoon being very fine treated Mrs T and the Children to Ribchester Bridge - Son William stopped out all Night - but he was at Eatough's yet as we did not know, his Mother & self were very unhappy and had little sleep.

The Summer rich, fruitful and delightful, beyond any that ever I remember.

[July] 21st Meeting of Economical Loan Society all the Books delivered up to Me. Mark Knowles appointed Collector

[July] 23rd Public Vestry Meeting to elect Members of the [Burial] Board Dr Rushton, T. Clough, and Harral Johnson retired - also Mr Rutherford resigned - I was elected in his stead.

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Dr Rushton in the chair - 1st Motion by Mr Hart J.P. That Dr Rushton be reappointed carried unan^{ly} [unanimously].

2nd Motion by Mr Littlewood that Mr Beattie be in the room of Mr Clough - then by Mr Beattie that Mr S. Littlewood be in room of Mr Clough then by Mr Johnson that Mr Clough be re-elected - Mr Tiplady objected that Mr Clough's Engagements were so multifarious he could not attend.

¹² Emmett was arrested on a charge of embezzlement, for which the penalty could have been transportation, but, on the advice of the board of the Burial Society, he was tried under the Friendly Societies Act, 1855. Tiplady informed the court that the board had made its decision because of the 16 or 17 years service Emmett had provided for the Society. The court decided Emmett should be convicted for the sum of £133 7s 4d or, if he defaulted, imprisonment for 3 months with hard labour. Emmett was imprisoned (*Blackburn Standard*, 23 June 1858).

¹³ On 23 June 1858, the *Blackburn Standard* urged the members of the society 'to demand from their officers an explanation of the extraordinary facts which were disclosed by the proceedings of Monday, and the extraordinary circumstances attending the proceedings themselves'. In the following issue, it encouraged the members to act against the board. Then, it continued by accusing it of a lack of sincerity and of 'a disinclination to punish, evidently because there was something to conceal, which a real prosecution would have exposed'. Also, it published the complaint of some of the members. After a special meeting of the board of management, the committee published an advertisement refuting these accusations (*Blackburn Standard*, 23 June & 7 July 1858; *Preston Chronicle*, 3 July 1858).

Voting Mr Beattie elected 37 to 27.
 3rd Motion by Mr Cowburn That Mr Charles Tiplady be elected in room of Harral Johnson
 Amendment that Mr Johnson be re-elected by Mr Whittle
 Amendment 59 to 50. - Mr Johnson Elected.
 4th Motion That Mr Charles Tiplady be appointed in room of Mr Rutherford.

Carried Unanimously. -

Thanks to the chairman &c & meeting concluded.

The Amount stated to be collected by Mr Astley - 44.2.6

Cash paid Rich^d Hall 40.0.0}

7/- per Cent Collection 3.6.2}

Balance due to him 16.4} 44.2.6

Copied from Jno Astley's book

July 24th Went to Blackpool to see Wife & children the weather rough - sea very fine
 - found them all well, returned 26th.

[July] 31st published the list of voters once More - 1555 Names a week of heavy work
 and toil, - but got through with diligence & perseverance - Same Day again Visited
 Blackpool & staid 4 four days.

Monday August 2nd At Furness Abbey, with Mary where spent a most agreeable day -
 was sea sick on going -

[August] 5th Ed. Whittle tried & reprehended on two Counts out of 15 but not
 discharge.¹⁴

[August] 6th Fanny's Birthday - a fine big Girl - 12 years.

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[August] 7th At the laying of the first Stone of St Paul's Schools by Miss Feilden, took
 part in the Ceremony as one of the Masonic Brethren, a very fine Day.

[August] 8th Sunday. Had the great privilege of hearing two magnificent discourses by
 the Revd Gervase Smith at the Wesleyan Chapel. In the Morning from the Acts of the
 Apostles the "Gift of the Spirit" In the Evening, The Conduct of Pilate & the Jews on the trial
 & condemnation of our Saviour - The Sermons were specimens of highly intellectual
 Compositions rising sometime to eloquence of dazzling splendour - interspersed with copious
 selections from choirs works, and beautiful selections of poetry all delivered in a first rate
 Style of Manly dignified & fervid oratory. A most remarkable Man.

[August] 9th Died, in his 86th Year, Mr Giles Cunliffe, a Tenant & Neighbour of mine.
 Buried at Darwen.

[August] 15th Sunday, Our Wedding Day - the 19th Anniversary - Spent the Day at
 Burnley with Mrs T. pleasant day. Went to the Wesleyan Chapel with Maria Eltoft in the
 Morning and after Dinner to the Pendle Water, with her and Sister and also Mrs T. - Staid all
 Night, and on Monday took Train to Todmorden, where we spent a pleasant time - Arrived in
 Bⁿ at 9 o'clock p.m. - a most delightful visit, M a very smart interesting young Lady -

On my return, or at least a day or two afterwards was troubled with the bowel
 Complaint, but am better -

[August] 24th At Chew Mill, in the afternoon with Mary - but very unwell.

¹⁴ Edward Whittle, who was the secretary of the Power-loom Weavers' Association, was tried by delegates from
 several districts covered by the Association on charges related to a lock out at Great Harwood. Their verdict was
 that Whittle's 'conduct was highly reprehensible, especially in two cases, but not sufficiently so as to merit his
 discharge' (*Blackburn Standard*, 11 August 1858).

[August] 27th At Manchester & Belle Vue, did business with Mr Heywood - my wife was with me, we spent a very pleasant day after business - but the Train was long on the road returning.

[August] 29th Mrs Eltoft and her two Daughters, Sarah & Maria paid us a visit, - In the Morning to Church and in the Afternoon with Wife & children to Witton, - The weather, had threatened, but turned out delightfully fine - I had a long pleasant, and interesting walk with Maria, - and in the course of which this dear young Lady gave me her confidence, - but which I pledged faithfully not to divulge - and one great principle of Sharing being fidelity - I close in silence with this exception that her Mother & Sister with herself may be protected & blessed - Home to Tea. Thence sent them home by Train - E.L. very throng indeed. -

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Edward Whittle's Effigy burnt at Great Harwood - Sad misguided people.

August 28th Died Little Joseph Callis - the remaining Son of Joseph & Mary Callis, Salford.

After a season of almost unparalleled days sunny and lovely summer weather - there is a change to wet not but that water was much wanted, and has afforded a great relief both to commerce and agriculture - In Nine cases out of Ten Sept 1st has been ushered in with fine clear bright skies - This Morning is a drencher and only a continuance of wet from Sunday Evening.

[August] 31 Ellen our Servant left. Gone to Liverpool.

Sep^r 2nd Meeting at Over Darwen very comfortable business Meeting - At Night Anniversary of the Green Bank Lodge - was requested to preside, and the Company spent a very pleasant Night - Their kindness to me was really overpowering. - Brother John married - a person from Ramsbottom¹⁵ -

This Day died Tho^s Entwistle Swift the Solicitor & Clerk for the Blackburn County Court. - A Man whose character I am grieved to say will not bear honest investigation. -

Sep 5th Sunday Morning at Parish Church - Sermon by Rev R H Hart, a mystified discourse which few would understand, and still fewer profit by - on Justification by Faith - Afternoon at Cemetery - wet - Evening at Trinity Mr Haslewood - on Love to Christ - Extempore not much in his Discourse - I long for the sound, broad gospel Doctrines. Mrs T not well.

[September] On the 4th Letters from Bahia - Richard well, and apparently fully employed. - Mr Wilson also well -

Willie gone to Lytham to meet Thomas. -

Sep^r 7th Tremendously enraged by a violent outbreak of my Wife who after various ill natured remarks, reproached me with a desire to get rid of her for Younger Woman, and then alluded to my attempted liberty with Ellen, - I was of course conscience smitten, - but having persevered in a determination not to molest Ellen by word or act, and having religiously abstained from doing so, I was not prepared for this Reproach, and was dreadfully cut up in my mind. - I have considered since how she came by this information, and find it has sprung from Mrs Roebuck's - and I put it on record that it is the most impudent step Mrs Tiplady & Mrs Roebuck could have been guilty off [sic] - and this be the manner in which

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she treats her husband, - I am not surprised at his recklessness and folly.

All confidence now between self & Mary is extinguished and I see nothing but sullen strife, rebellion and domestic misery in the future.

¹⁵ John Margerison Tiplady married Betsey Murray in Bury.

Reconciliation after mutual explanations effected - A warning to me to avoid the slightest deviation from conjugal rectitude.

Have been earnestly solicited to stand for St Mary's Ward - Wife much against it - Do not feel was interest in the contest but something ought to be done to stop the extravagant waste of money. The Election took place on the 10th when the most vile system of lying & personation took place. The Election was gained by Mr Turnbull.¹⁶

Mrs Tiplady, like the rest of all good Wives, feels disappointed more than the husband, and so took on sadly at the above Event, and with one other circumstances seemed almost heartbroken, - In order to divert her, and recover her from this desponding state I took her to Studely Park¹⁷ on the 13th a most brilliant day we had - September resumed its wonted clear atmospheric, and for heat fineness and splendour was a one of the most glorious Days of the glorious days of 1858. and they were many. We left Bⁿ at 7-10 a.m. ran up to Skipton, thence to Leeds - Harrogate & Ripon - Ripon a fine old Town now City - with Cathedral &c all houses respectable & very, very clean, - In the centre of the agricultural District equi distant from York on one hand and Leeds & Bradford on the other it possesses the advantages of a quick communications to each place, - We arrived in nice time 12 o'clock took Omnibus 6^d each to the Park, and language would fail to give an adequate description of that most lovely spot. Suffice it to say that after walking amidst the gorgeous scenery of this beautiful park, we returned to Blackburn delighted with our day's cheap Trip. - The best of all was Mrs T. enjoyed the visit amazingly, and improved greatly in appetite and spirits.

[September] 12th Sunday Sermons at Parish Church for the School Rev^d Messrs Watson, Wrenford & Rushton

Afternoon Feniscowles - Mr Lambert Preston

Evening Trinity Rev D. F. Chapman, -

In all cases collections were made; - & to each place I attended.

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[September] Friday the 17th to Chadburn [sic] Downham & Worston with Wife, spent very agreeable day. Home to the Burial Society Meeting - which was not very agreeable.

[September] 19th Sunday - Parish Morning - Good plain Sermon by Dr Rushton, from Amos - Summer Fruit Evening at Trinity -

[September] Tuesday 21. Quarterly Meeting of the Burial Society - A scurrilous placard was printed and circulated to the Members as they entered - but I treated it with silent contempt, a Deal of Discussion on the subject of appointing a special General Meeting of the Society to select a Committee for revising the Rules - Agreed to. - The Meeting was quiet and orderly.¹⁸

[September] 22nd Died Richard Noblett, aged 32 Years.

At the Lodge in St John School Room - Not much business. -

¹⁶ The byelection took place after the death of the councillor, Mr. T. E. Swift. Turnbull, who had been a councillor for 3 years in St. John's ward, polled 215 votes, Tiplady 50. The *Blackburn Standard* accused Turnbull's supporters of working 'the corrupt machinery successfully' (*Blackburn Standard*, 15 September 1858).

¹⁷ Studley Park, including the ruins of Fountains Abbey, is near Ripon, North Yorkshire.

¹⁸ At the meeting, handbills were given to members raising five questions, the answers to which discredited some members of the board. The *Blackburn Standard's* report provided no details. A member did criticise the Society for becoming subservient to the Oddfellows. The Society held this meeting in the Oddfellows' Hall (*Blackburn Standard*, 29 September 1858).

[September] 23rd At the Masonic Lodge - Not much, except financial business - very wet night - slender attendance partly on account of Cushing's Grand American Circus¹⁹ being in the Town - I understand not near so good as previous visit - in fact - the Circus is divided -

Afterwards attending the Meeting of Managers for the Provident Building Society - appointed Auditors & other arrangements prior to the Annual Meeting -

Work very scarce - Home happy & free from strife, - Mary affectⁿ & free from recriminations.

Friday (Sep 24) Attended a Meeting of the Burial Board at the Cemetery - present Dr Rushton, - Messrs Beatty, Tiplady, Pickup and Johnson - (2 o'clock pm) held us nearly 4 hours. In the Evening Meeting of the Victoria Building Society at the Castle Inn from there to the Angel Lodge of Fidelity, 336, - with B^r John Ibbotson, Mr Robt Ibbotson was initiated. The B^{rs} received John and myself with great cordiality -

Sunday, Sep 26th At Tockholes - Charity Sermon Preacher Revd P Graham, - a well composed Lesson Mrs T with me - fine day - This Day Died from the Effects of falling into a Sewer, J B Eccles Baynes Monday the Inquest was held over him - consisting of Charles Tiplady, foreman &c "Accidental"

Tuesday - At Southport with Mrs Tiplady - very cheap also fine Day. There was a very heavy Train. -

[September] 30th The Comet brilliant & beautiful²⁰

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Oct 2nd At the Anniversary Meeting of the Newtown Lodge, Darwen - very good Meeting - was kindly received - Chairman of the Company - John Kenyon Vice Chairman, about 150 present, at Mrs L G. Smalley's Indulged in no excess. Was at great liberty of speech

[October 3] Sunday - Very Wet Weather - which continued with little Intermission throughout the week more particularly Tuesday, Thursday & Sunday. The Comet occasionally visible - the best view of it on Friday night

[October 4] Monday. the Quarterly Meeting of the Tradesman's, Question respecting the Investment of funds. - left to me²¹

[October 5] Tuesday at St John's Female Friendly Society - very rough weather collected £14:14:0 - afterward Victoria Building Society -

[October] Thursday - 7th Down to Whalley - wet & windy - a good show & numerous attendance - Dined at Edward Brewer's - got rather too much liquor during the day but home at 1/2 past Ten.

[October 8] Friday Meeting of the Burial Board - present Dr Rushton Main - Messrs Beatty, Tiplady, Pickup & Johnson subject revision of fees - adjourned to Monday at the Cemetery.

[October 9] Saturday the Confirmation - Great Dissatisfaction by the closing of the Church Doors - Many parents unable to obtain admission

¹⁹ Howe's and Cushing's Great United States Circus appeared in Blackburn for two performances, preceded by a grand procession. The circus came to Britain in April 1857 and had performed for the Royal Family (*Blackburn Standard*, 15 September 1858).

²⁰ Donati's Comet (C/1858 L1) was first observed by the Italian astronomer Giovanni Battista Donati on 2 June 1858. It was the brightest comet observed in the 19th century and was the first photographed (Stefan Hughes, *Catchers of the Light: The Forgotten Lives of the Men and Women who First Photographed the Heavens* (Ebook, 2012, p. 370).

²¹ Following this meeting, Tiplady wrote to Blackburn Town Council, as secretary of the Tradesmen's Benevolent Society, offering a loan of £1,500 for 3 or 5 years with an interest rate of 4 1/2 per cent. At the council meeting on 7 October, the Town Clerk referred the offer to the Finance Committee (*Blackburn Standard*, 13 October 1858).

[October] Sunday 10th Went with Frances to St Paul's to hear Mr Thomas Higham preach his first sermon - Text Proverbs "The path of the just is as the shining light - which shineth more & more unto the perfect" Diffuse & somewhat flowery Discourse - eloquent language - graceful and earnest delivery - semi calvinistic Doctrine - but well grounded on Scripture. The young Minister acquitted himself exceedingly well - & looked well in the pulpit - The Congregation was overflowing.

Domestic quietness been uninterrupted - Business Moderate - Health of self & family good - for all mercies God be praised - and all offences - we humbly pray forgiveness at the hands of a Merciful God.

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Oct 10th Sunday Morning - Parish Church, - Evening down to St Paul's & as before.

[October 11] Monday at the Cemetery with Dr Rushton, T H Pickup and J Beatty, sundry propositions agreed to and an inspection of the Grounds made Evening - Weekly Meeting afterwards to Mr Jno Ratcliffe, Richmond Terrace, where I spent a pleasant hour with Uncle, John, C Parkinson and Tho^s Brennand.

[October] Tuesday the 12th Afternoon, Preston with John Baldwin returned early, - Building Club Meeting.

[October] 13th

[October] 14th Loan Society awkward business, shameful neglect & scandalous attempt at robbery - thence to a very pleasant Meeting at the Angel, - Mrs Pemberton, being a farewell supper to Tho^s Ainsworth.²² -

[October] 15th. Provident Building Club - also down to Walton le Dale with my Wife, and spent a very pleasant hour or two.

[October] 16th Saturday - The Fair - very throng upon the Market Ground. -

[October] Sunday (17) Morning at St Michael's, heard Mr Abraham Haworth, - good matter - but very Calvinistic - and a close imitator in style, method, gesture, delivery, position, attitude & intonation of Mr Wheeler, in fine a complete copyist - but withal an earnest preacher, and a capital knowledge of the sacred Book. - Sermon somewhat long Subject Esau Birthright Heard him again in the Evening at Trinity - liked his subject well - "They shall be equal with the Angels" - a good Congregation

Note. Son Thomas from Liverpool here, - very well in health, also Joseph Callis - come to engage a situation with Mr Daniel Thwaites. -

Business fair - health of family good - praised be God for all mercies

Nov 9th Alderman Baynes appointed Mayor²³

Mr Cunningham addressed the Inhabitants on that appointment showing his disappointment²⁴

[November] 17th published My Annual Book Almanack for the 20th Time

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[November] Sunday 21st At Balderstone with Mrs Tiplady - fine frosty day.

Very dry and clear frost for many days.

²² The directors of The Blackburn Literary, Scientific and Mechanics' Institution held a supper for Thomas Ainsworth, late secretary to the Blackburn Railway Company, who was leaving to become secretary to the Waterford and Limerick Railway Company (*Blackburn Standard*, 20 October 1858).

²³ Baynes was elected mayor by defeating Alderman Cunningham by 19 votes to 14 (*Blackburn Standard*, 10 November 1858).

²⁴ On the day after the mayoral election, Cunningham published an address to the inhabitants of Blackburn which was followed on 25 November by a dinner in his honour by his supporters (*Preston Chronicle*, 27 November 1858).

Dec^r. 5th At Whalley with Mrs Tiplady
[December] 9 & 10th Grand Masonic Ball at Over Darwen good attendance, pleasant Company - but rather Expensive to me

Letters were received from a Mr Grattan Solicitor Chesterfield stating that a small Legacy of £90 was left by a Mrs Woodhead to the children of Mr Callis, & Miss Mary Callis - The following are some Registers requisite to establish the claims of the family

Marmaduke Callis, died Dec^r 23rd 1786, aged 55 Years He was vicar of²⁵

John Callis, - (Mrs Tiplady's Grandfather) born at Bridlington, Yorkshire, October 28th 1759

Mary Callis, his Wife (Miss Ashmore) born at Mansfield April 8th 1757.

Married (the said John Callis) at Nottingham February 11th 1779.

William their Son, (my Wife's Father) born at Walesby Nottinghamshire December 4th 1779

John, born at Nottingham (St Nicholas Parish) May 18th 1788, Trinity Sunday.

Mary, (afterwards Mrs Starkie) born at Nottingham St Mary's Parish, August 31st 1791

Dec^r 20 to 27th Christmas Week - One of the darkest dampest & most dreary seasons that I have remembered - Tho^s visited us - he is in health - and all the family except Fanny.

[December] 4th Friday Night my son William & Myself went to the Grand Oratorio at the Peel Institution at Accrington. The performance was good, and there was an overflowing attendance. - 200 Performers, the elite of the District. Mr Barnes conducted in a masterly manner. The Hall is a very beautiful place & well adapted for public festivals.

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Dec^r 31st 1858 - Repaid Mr Thomas Hart the sum of £30 borrowed on the 1st of May - with Interest 10/- which he charged at 3/- per cent.

Thus ends the eventful year 1858. - A year of unexampled Mercy to old England in which she entirely regained her warlike prestige, - re-conquered the rebellious Indians opened a satisfactory commercial Communication with China & Japan, - a year also in which her harvests were plenteous, her trade prosperous; and her people happy and contented, - and all this under the wise & merciful rule of an enlightened, talented, Conservative Statesman the Earl of Derby - Truly we may say that God hath appeared for us, and as Nations & individuals, we will cry out not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto thy Name be the Glory for thy Mercy endureth for Ever. -

Our family not settled - Mr Wilding delays. -

²⁵ In 1764 Marmaduke Callis was curate at Stillington and Sutton-on-the-Forest, Yorkshire where he was locum for the vicar, the novelist Laurence Sterne (Cressida Annesley, Philippa Hoskin, *Archbishop Drummond's Visitation Returns 1764 III: Yorkshire S-Y* (York, 2010), pp. 56, 62). In 1758 he had been curate at Bridlington then, in 1765, moved to Walesby in Nottinghamshire where he died (*Clergy of the Church of England Database*, 'Callis, Marmaduke (1758 - 1783)' <https://theclergydatabase.org.uk/jsp/search/index.jsp> [accessed 9 June 2020]).