

1859

Jan 9th Attended the parish Church, most excellent Sermon on behalf of the Society by the Rev J. R. Feilden, a Collection amounting to

In the Evening the Rev D. F. Chapman, a worthy young Clergyman, took his leave of the Holy Trinity Church, & removed to Preston, - There was an overwhelming Congregation present, who were deeply affected at parting with so excellent a pastor - His Text was appropriately taken from Rev. 3. v 20. "Behold, I stand at the Door and knock, - if any Man will open the door, I will come in and sup with him, and he with with [sic] me"

The whole of January was stormy, wet, dull and dark weather - but no frost. On the night of the 25th The colour pole, & Horse were blown down from the Tower of the parish Church

About the 18th or 20th I received Letter from M.¹ of a private nature - alluding to a delicate question she expresses much thankfulness for sympathy -

[January] 27th Mrs Tiplady at Blackpool.

[January] 31st Died Mr James, Banker, highly respected.

Cash in the Bank £2147 - Mr Wilding

[162]

[1859]

Feb 16th Died William Charnley, Sheriffs Officer a Man of wild & ungovernable habits - aged 49 - I should think he has been injured thereby. -

Henry Halton an old School fellow died. -

March 3rd Still very wet, - Visited Accrington & Burnley, paid some accounts.

Grand Masonic Ball - did not attend.

Also Masonic Provincial at Accrington wh: I did attend. Did not see M at Burnley.

[March] 10th The Annual Meeting of the Over Darwen Gas Works. Present Messrs. Shorrock, Hutchinson, Baron, Tiplady, Thompson, Whalley, Gibson & Johnson. A Dividend of £6 per Cent was declared - Certain recommendations from the Auditors were considered & ordered to be carried out.

Deaths: John Feilden Esq. Mollington, 90.

" Mr Dewsbury Draper,

" " Byers Grocer, suddenly -

[March] Tuesday the 15th R Townley, deficient £174.0.0²

Thursday March 24th Died Adam Wilkinson, Secretary to the Widow & Orphan's Society, much respected.

Meeting @ Darwen to receive contracts &c - That for the New Gasholder, deferred on account of the stupidity of Seth Harwood Joiner.

Mrs Wilson wife of the Surveyor, dearly unwell - Sister Jane also unwell.

Friday, Vestry Meeting of the Burial Board, Revision of the Fees &c - a Stormy argument in favor of the Cemetery being opened on a Sunday, - Compromise 1 to 4 Winter - 1 to 8 Summer. -

A Very Wet Spring.

¹ M was probably Maria Eltoft, daughter of Mrs Eltoft, from Burnley (see entries for 15 and 29 August 1857).

² Tiplady referred to the quarterly meeting of the Philanthropic Burial Society during which Benjamin Barton, as Treasurer, gave a report on the accounts. An item in the report showed that he held £174 11s 9¹/₂d. After the former Treasurer, Emmett, had absconded with some of the Society's funds, the board of management had taken over monetary affairs from the Treasurer. The Board agreed to give the Treasurer time to repay the money. An amendment was proposed to the motion proposing acceptance of the accounts but was defeated after several speeches from Board members, including one from Tiplady (*Blackburn Standard*, 23 March 1859).

March 31. Went to Bacup to assist in the valuation of a Printers Stock in Trade - along with Mr Vickerman of Bury we agreed tolerably well together - Value £371 - Mrs Harris - taker - Mr Bentley Solicitor -

Stopped at the Green Man - the Weather exceedingly cold but dry. On the following day returned home, The fee of £7.10.0 for 1 1/2 Days was charge & cheerfully paid.

[163]

1859

[March] 31st & April 1st Ministry defeated. Majority, 39.³ - Parliament to be dissolved. -

April 3 to 5 Unwell - and on Tuesday had a severe Inflammation of the Kidney & Bowels with sickness - continuing mostly for a week -

April 6th Mrs Hugh Wilson died, aged 33 Years. Same day Letter from Son Richard - well but busy

April 11th Died by taken an overdose of Laudanum Mr J. B. Chadwick late Overseer of this Town, aged 57 years. - A Man whom I had known long but of very untidy habits. Buried at the Cemetery.

[April] 12th Recovered from my illness - for which I desire to be deeply thankful to Almighty God. -

Was appointed Chairman of St Mary & District or Ward - 330 Voters -

The Election of 1859. Saturday April 30th A Severe Contest.

Hornby 832 - of which 600 were plumpers

Pilkington 750

Murrough 567

A turbulent week ending with the Death of my sister Jane, who died at Manchester on the Evening of Saturday the 7th of May. - On the 6th I received Letters from my Son Richard in S America who continues well. -

The weather, - I am afflicted with a bilious attack caused I think by railway Travelling & being unhinged in my mind

June 5th Mr Wilson of Bahia visited the Town and made arrangements for his children he looks well gave a good Report of Richard & on the 8th left Blackburn again for S America Abel Haworth, a Collector - killed, June 5th

[164]

The Weather fine & sunny with showers

Whitsuntide 1859

On Saturday June 11th 1859 commenced the Whitsuntide holiday in this Town & Neighbourhood. Cheap trips by Rails to Liverpool Southport, Lytham, Blackpool & all the Sea Coast were originated and on this Day but particularly on Monday an immense number of people left Bⁿ for the above places. Among the rest Myself and Wife with the entire family went to Liverpool and spent a very happy day. -

Received Letters from Richard July 5th all well, thanks be to God.

³ The Disraeli government was defeated over its Electoral Reform Bill.

Weather in July exceedingly hot & fine - also drier than usual.

| Great Heat | July | Ther: | Rain |
|------------|------|-------|------|
| | 6 | 80.1 | 0 |
| | 7 | 79.0 | 0 |
| | 8 | 78.0 | 0 |
| | 9 | 77.9 | 0 |
| | 10 | 81.4 | 0 |
| | 11 | 82.8 | 0 |
| | 12 | 89.2 | 0 |

[June] 13 to 18th Excessively hot and dry -

[June] 16th Sent little Henry & Frances to Blackpool.

[June] 17th At the Wesleyan Chapel morning & Evening the Revd John Bedford preached two excellent Sermons for the chapel Trustees - At Tea with Mr John Baldwin with my Wife

[July] 14 Uncle Ratcliffe 76 - very infirm & feeble.

Same day died at Preston John Addison Esq^{tc} the Judge of the County Court, a Man universally esteemed by the profession, and by the poor

July 24th Went to Clitheroe & Waddington - a very hot and fine day - but I think it had a bad effect upon my health - as I was on the following day attacked with R^m [Rheumatism] of a very painful and violent character.

[165]

July 25 to 31st Dreadful attack of sciatica quite laid up with bad pain night & day - 30th The List finished 1668 Names & 1 Star.

Little Essy has been six weeks with her Brother Thomas at Bootle near Liverpool

August 7. very wet Day - St Peter's Sermons Rev R T Wheeler preached - Evening Service very throng.

My Rheumatism painful, but somewhat better.

August 8th 1859. Monday

This is the "day of days" in our Family Epoch, for on this Day, Mr Wilding brought the Family Affairs to a final close, at 3 o'clock pm When after a multitude of explanations, calculations and arithmetical Divisions - each party Entitled by Mr Lomax's Will took his or her portion.

Mine was as follows -

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Top of King Street | 15.6.6 |
| Union Street &c | 91.6.4 |
| From Mary's share | 3} |
| | 11.10.0} |
| | £118.9.10 |
| Bill for assisting Kaney | <u>2.0.0</u> |
| | <u>£120.9.10</u> |

And now I thank God most heartily that I have lived to see this affairs finally closed.

[166]

[1859]

August 9th 1859. In the presence of my Wife Mr Thomas Ratcliffe, Sen^r being also in the House I paid to my Sisters Anne, Elizabeth and Margaret, separately & respectively the sum of £40.5.2 each being Money lent upon my Stock in Trade and interest thereon up to the said Ninth Day of August

Amount belonging Mary as Administrator £105.3.1

| | |
|--|----------------|
| paid Brother James his Share | 11.13.0 |
| D ^o John | 11.13.0 |
| D ^o Jane (William's) | 11.13.0 |
| D ^o Elizabeth | 11.13.0 |
| D ^o Self | 11.13.0 |
| D ^o Anne | 11.13.0 |
| D ^o Lomax's Children | 11.13.0 |
| D ^o Margaret | 11.13.0 |
| D ^o Sister's Janes 3 Legatees | 11.13.0 |
| Expences | <u>6.1</u> |
| £ | <u>105.3.1</u> |

These amounts were all paid by me.

[167]

1859

Aug^t 9th & 11th. Went to Accrington with Mrs Tiplady - My Rhu^m better.
[August] 11th At the Lodge very pleasant and happy Meeting.

My financial affairs

| | |
|------------------|----------------|
| Owing to Sisters | 78.0.0 |
| Aunt Callis | 20.0.0 |
| Building Club | <u>150.0.0</u> |
| £ | <u>248.0.0</u> |

| | |
|------------|-----------------|
| Houses | 500.0.0 |
| Gas | 96.0.0 |
| Shop Goods | <u>600.0.0</u> |
| £ | <u>1196.0.0</u> |

Aug 24th Agricultural Show at Blackburn, N. Lanc: very good and successful Show.
Same day (Wed.) Went to Blackpool, Mrs T had gone the day before
Sunday at S Shore -

29, 30 & 31 Aug particularly rough at Blackpool high tides, much rain, stormy winds.

No stirring out.

Sep 1. Finer, Journey to Lytham pr [per] Coach - very pleasant.

[September] 2nd Voyage & journey to Furness - and Dalton - fine day, nice sail. -

[September] 3rd In Blackpool, from I returned at night Rh. bad.

Tuesday Sep. 6 My Son Thomas married Eliz^h the daughter of James Forrest, Farmer, Revidge Fold.

Sep 16th Moderately fine - Afternoon to Miss Badger's with Mary - not many Nuts but a fine Afⁿ upon the whole home at 1/4 past 8. -

Length of Great Eastern⁴ - 692 feet - Breadth 830 ft. Depth 58 feet. Tonnage 28,000.

[168]

[1859]

Sept 27th After much rain - a fine day. Mrs Tiplady and children went to Southport [September] 30th to Manchester with Mrs T. to pay certain small legacies of my late Sister Mary - very wet all day. Did some other Business & home early & to bed very tired

Oct 9. To Ribchester Bridge with Mrs T. very tired fine day. -

[October] 13th Darwen Gas (Special)

[October] 18th St Luke's Day - delightful visit to Burnley with Mrs T. got Tea with Mrs E & Daughters. - May the Almighty bless & preserve them.

[October] 21st First frost of the Season. Ice observed.

[October] 22nd The first signs of Winter appeared this Morning in a slight fall of Snow.

My Mind was exercised much in thinking about M. but was very calm, & rational.

Little Henry unwell. - Strongly tempted.

Ought not to have omitted that Letters from Son Richard & Mr Wilson on the 4th containing the joyful intelligence of their health and prosperity for wh: I humbly offer thanks to God.

[October] 23rd Sunday a very rough winterly day - Snow & sleet all day - Twice to Church P. & Ty [Parish & Trinity]. My Son Thomas & his Wife visited us from Liverpool.

"A Sabbath well spent

Brings a week of content

And strength for the toil of the morrow

But a Sabbath profan'd

Whate'er may be gained

Is the certain forerunner of Sorrow"

The above is the maxim of old judge Hale.⁵

[October] 25th St Crispin - a Crisp frost this Morning Hoar - Ice & settled clear frost - very early and apparently like to continue.

Dahlias all Slain & withered.

[169]

1859]

David sick Hic Dolorenes, absent all Week -

[October] 25th Died William Briggs, Solicitor, aged 57. He had long been in a poor state of health.

[October] 26th & 27th Rough boisterous winds - especially in the Irish Channel. The Royal Charter lost with nearly all hands -and a most precious cargo just in sight of home. She made the passage home in 65 days - computed to be the swiftest that this Line of Steamers has ever attained - But the race is not always to the swift - nor the battle to the strong.⁶

[October] 27th At the Mechanics Institute - Annual Meeting took the 3rd Resolution and was well received had great Liberty of Speech - whereas the Mayor who is proverbially a

⁴ Iron steamship designed by Isambard Kingdom Brunel.

⁵ Sir Mathew Hale (1609-1776) was a barrister, judge and writer who was a justice in the court of common pleas under Cromwell and appointed by Charles II chief justice of the King's bench. Hale was remembered as a virtuous lawyer and incorruptible judge with his reputation enhanced by Gilbert Burnet's *The Life and Death of Sir Matthew Hale* published in 1682. Burnet's book became a classic. Hale wrote this verse for his grandchildren (Alan Cromartie, 'Hale, Sir Mathew (1609-1676)', *ODNB*; John Baxter Pike, *The Poor Man's Day; or, The Sabbath etc.* (London, 1848[?]), p. 22).

⁶ The Royal Charter was a clipper belonging to the Eagle line that sailed between Liverpool and Melbourne, Australia. She had sailed from Melbourne in 59 days when she sank near Anglesey (*Blackburn Standard*, 2 November 1859).

fluent speaker was at a loss for expression - Captain Jackson made a few judicious & pertinent remarks Mr I Lloyd was flowery - noisy - & impassioned as usual The Institution appears to be really prospering.⁷ -

Same Night at the Oddfellows Hall, to receive the subscriptions of the Widow & Orphan's - Commended the intelligence that I had received £4.0.0 from the Harmonic Society.

Also at the Conservative Registration Society - where some one I found had nominated me for St Mary's Ward which I declined. Then home and happily to my repose. - The mercies of God are great.

[October] 30. Sunday at the parish - Good sermon by Dr Rushton on the Three Hebrew Children - In the Evening at St John's - Mr Chapman preached an eloquent discourse from St Peter "What shall be the end of them who obey not the Gospel of God".

[October] 31. Very hard frost - with a probability of a hard Winter. We had a very throng week up stairs. The Lads did their duty well & I rewarded them for it. David to work.

Weather suddenly changed to rain increasing in the Evening to a Storm, with Thunder early on the Morning of the First Nov^r - which presented as uncomfortable a prospect for a Municipal Election as could possibly be.

[170]

[1859]

Nov. 5. Excessively stormy Weather - In the Evening received a Letter from my Son Richard, who appears to have been sick but is recovered - In a foreign Land far from his Father's House - O Lord preserve & succour him in thy Mercy.

Sunday Nov 6th. In the Morning at the Parish Ch. heard Mr Wrenford, on the obligation of the Christian Sabbath -

In the Evening at the Wesleyan Chapel, being the Miss^y [Missionary] Meeting when the Rev John Rhodes preached from these words 2 Cor 8. v 9 For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich. The Sermon was throughout a magnificent display of pulpit eloquence - argumentative, sound, scriptural & highly devotional - The preacher in debating upon the richness of the Redeemer portrayed in glowing language his existence with the Eternal before all world - his power as the Creator & Governor of all things, - his Divinity, - as having power to lay down his life & resume it &c He showed contrasted this with his poverty - becoming subject to Law for our sakes, living, suffering, dying the just for the unjust, and concluding with an earnest appeal to his hearers to accept the riches which Christ had then wrought out for us. The whole subject was handled in a masterly Manner and left on my mind a strong conviction of the wonderful condescension of our Saviour in the redemption of the World. O, God give me such faith in thy blessed Son that I may attain to His righteousness.

Nov 1. The Municipal Elections transpired.

Ellis Duckworth returned for St Mary's Ward.

Tho^s Lewis & T. Walmsley, Trinity Ward

J. C. Forrest & J. Ratcliffe, St Peter's "

W^m Stones & H. Pemberton, St John's

[November] 9th James Cunningham Esq. elected Mayor, by an almost unanimous vote.

Aldermen. Turnbull, Sparrow, Wilding, Hopwood, Cunningham and Rutherford.

Weather again settled down to a keen hard frost with a rising Barometer.

Work plentiful and good - Health of self and family good, for which praised be God.

⁷ According to the annual report the society had 585 members (*Blackburn Standard*, 2 November 1859).

[171]

[1859]

Nov^r 13th The Mayor attended Church, There was a large concourse of people - A Sermon was preached in the P Church to a large congregation and a Collection made towards the Infirmary amounting to £41.0.0

[November] 17th At Manchester with Mrs T. on various business particularly getting New Debentures for the £1,500 belonging the Tradesman's Society

Sunday Parish - Wrenford - On the forgiveness of Injuries - Till Seventy-times seven. Evening Trinity - Welland - There remained a rest for the people of God - a good Sermon.

Mrs Tiplady had a fall wh: might have been of the most serious consequences -

Letter from Pannel's Attorney at Liverpool threatening prosecution for £22:19:0. This to an old Customer - Journey to Liverpool (Nov 21) - paid the Money - did not see him.

[November] 22nd William's 18th Birthday - an health young Man - quick but peculiar in temper. -

Weather - dismal - damp, dark & foggy -

Died (Dec 2nd 1859) Mr Moses Sharples late Cotton Manufacturer, - A person celebrated in the Warden's Bills - as "Little Moses" - So passeth this World away.

[December] 4th Dreadful rough Morning - heard Mr Skinner in the Morning - O Lord, revive thy Work - a very eloquent & lucid discourse delivered with much earnestness & devotion.

[December] 5th The Election for St Mary's Ward when Mr Dean was defeated - and Mr John Dugdale elected by a majority of 53. -

[December] 7th Letters from Richard to self & Uncle. My Son in good health - & writing very cheerfully.

[December] 9th Mr Alsop from Bahia called - he had seen Richard before starting home

[172]

[1859]

[December] 10th Mrs Tiplady's Birthday (49) - Verily the world passeth away, and we hurry onward to the Grave. So teach us to remember our days that we may apply our heart unto wisdom.

[December] 11th The Ink is scarcely dry - when I have to record the death of Mrs. Riding of the Castle Inn, a house of frequent resort by the Conservative party.

Parish in the Morning (Hughes) He must increase, a good sermon - Evening St John's - Mr Robinson, on the Second Coming of Christ -

[December] 13th Very severe Frost. -

[December] 14

D°

[December] 15

D°

exceedingly sharp -

[December] 16

D°

D°

[December] 17 Saturday Morning - The Water frozen in the Tumbler glass at the bedside -

Still very severe indeed but no Snow. Rishton Reservoir one Mass of Ice - Thousands of skaters &c - [December] 18 & 19th

[December] 18th At the parish Church - Afternoon & Evening home - very cold also Rheumatic.

[December] 19th Very hard frost. - 20 - Snow & very cold

Essy's Ninth Birthday.

[December] 21st Tendency to Thaw.

Uncle Ratcliffe dangerously sick - now 76 years old & feeble & infirm

[December] 22 & 23 Relapse into very hard frost - Mr Watson called, and brought from my Son Richard a Bottle of preserved Snakes of various kind - Mr W. gave a promising Account of my Son's health, & spoke encouragingly of his habits & industry.

Christmas Day (Sunday) - At the Parish Church Morning & Evening - There was nothing particular in the Services. A very wet Christmas

[December] 26th While all the world around seem given up to holiday festivity & jig - there are some heartless⁸ which destitute of these feelings - for as I came down to the Shop, I met, worn out with

[173]

[1859]

watching, anxiety & weeping - poor Mr Isaac Lloyd whose Wife had just departed this Life - He seemed in a dreadful state of trouble may God Almighty support & comfort him.

The frost is between thawing & freezing -

[December] 26th Thawing - Journey to Darwen, - thence to Tockholes round the hill side up to Sandford & Haydock Mill - where I met them & their workpeople - at Supper, in the Victoria Inn, - a large party - & very happy Meeting - proposed Army & Navy also the Workpeople - The Chairman & our next Merry Meeting plenty of good singing by Grime, Haworth, Duxbury & others - and perhaps as clean neat & pretty a set of Factory hands as ever sat down to supper. Home at 12 - Got 2 fingers nipped accidentally by a Coach Door in Pickup Brow.

Another year of life is gone
My mortal race is hastening on
To that tremendous doom

Where hopes and fears & toils & cares
That Made life's scenes of smiles & tears
Will sink into the Tomb.

1859

⁸ Dejected, disheartened: *OED* 'heartless', adj. (and n.) 1.b.