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Jan 2 1861 We this day conveyed to his last resting place our venerable & esteemed uncle Ratcliffe. He was interred at St Peter's Church.

Very hard frost except on the 31st. & 1st - The Taps all frozen, and very bad printing Weather. -

Rivers, Reservoir, Canals, &c all fastened up with great thickness of ice. -

[January] 10th 11th & 12th Milder Weather - Wind south with a tendency to Thaw, - on the 11th Water pipe burst and flooded us

[January] 13th Sunday re-appearance of the Frost - went to White where I saw for the first time, solid Walls of Snow on either side of the Road, Church - Parish Mr Wescoe a Man of full of fine language - Eveng Dr Robinson Ye are bought with a price - a very profitable discourse.

This day John Proctor told me of Engagement at Hopwood. Business brisk - Money scarce - Charles entered his new place, and received his first week's wages Sat^y Jan 12th £2.0.0

The frost left us very quietly & gradually about the 20th since which time the Weather has been very mild.

The Misses Eltoft were here from Burnley (27th) M staid at Lawson's. -

[January] 28th Henry Ibbotson an old Schoolfellow died.

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Also that fine and most promising intellectual [sic] Child of B^f Charles Boardman's - Willie - aged 15 years -

James Higham died about the 24th aged 83 years -

Feb 3 Parish Morning - Hughes - The River of Life - Evening a most practical & sound discourse by the Revd Dr Robinson - The Imprisonment of Paul & Silas - and the conversion of the Jailor at Philippi. -

Feb 7. Letters from my Son, (his 18th Birthday) - In good health & spirit - praised by God. - Wrote to him.

Monday (11th) Died the Rev W^m Hartley of Balderstone, - 12th At Manchester with Mrs Tiplady.

[February] 14th Valentine Day - Troublous Times - Lock Out on the five per cent question commenced when a majority of the hands suspended work.¹

[February] 16th Rev W Hartley interred at Child's Wickam.

Reports of the great losses sustained by the Mayor T. Thwaites Esq., in Cotton Speculations -

[February] 17th Parish Morning - Rev A Reed for the Pastoral Aid Society - Good Gospel Sermon - Afternoon, walk with my Wife, & part ride to Whalley - Even^g at Trinity singing very good - & so to Bed early -

[February] 24th Opening of Organ at Ribchester - Went with Mrs T. fine day - full church - the Revd Vicar preached, I will sing with the spirit, and with the Understanding also - a very plain, useful & practical discourse. arrived home at 6. - Had a family prayer & to bed very early for I was tired.

March 1. The Common adage March Many Weathers was verified this day, - It began moderately mild & fine - towards noon a storm of Thunder & Lightning commenced & it

¹ Millowners proposed to reduce wages by 5 per cent during the depressed conditions of trade in the district (*Blackburn Standard*, 13 February 1861).

became so dark that we had to light a candle at dinner time, - then followed rain, hail & sleet, with uproarious wind - ending with Snow & sleet in the Evening - but starlight about 11 pm.

[March] 2nd & 3rd equally stormy - specially the night of the 2nd -

[March] 3rd Sunday - to Parish Church, Mr Wescoe, Examine yourselves, &c. a plain Gospel Sermon - Afternoon

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a little ride & walk - Mrs Tiplady very unwell in her back, - Evening to Trinity - Dr Robinson, - from 1 Cor 13 12 ver, For now we see through a glass darkly &c.

The Weather exceedingly boisterous, with Storms of Rain.

[March] 7th Masonic Quarterly Meeting at Bury, - Attended throug Meeting 102 present, Endeavoured to get old William Morris of Over Darwen on the Benevolent Fund, opposition from Bury (Hoyle) & Rochdale (Leach) We after much discussion got the 3rd place. - Dined at the Hare & Hounds - then home. Saw Brother John a few moments.

[March] 8th Friday at Darwen - Gas Meeting - preparing for the Annual Meeting.

[March] 10th Parish Church and Trinity.

Weather exceedingly stormy winds - with Snow & Sleet

[March] 14th Annual Meeting O. D. Gas Company - good and satisfactory Meeting.

[March] 15th At Over Darwen - Presentation to John Bell² -

Mr Harrison, of the New Inn died suddenly at Liverpool, aged 58.

[March] 24th At Parish & Trinity - Dr Robinson condemned in a powerful discourse the Vol of Essays & Reviews recently published by several dignitaries of the Church.³

Weather from the 23rd Moderate. - 25 heavy fog -

[March] 25 Died Robt Wilding Esq Surgeon 60 Age

Easter Tide 1861.

A great Throng of people attended the Commencement of Easter, The day was upon the whole fine but toward Night rain began, and ushered in one of the Most disagreeable Easter Days I ever witnessed - The churches were all very slenderly attended - On Monday April 1, the weather moderated and there was a good attendance at the fair -

Night Tradesman's Meeting - Nothing Important

Tuesday the 2nd [April] awfully wet - St John's F F [Female Friendly] Society anniversary - a pleasant Meeting & prosperous affairs

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Thursday the 4th [April] Council Meeting - several important matters discussed.⁴ -

Friday to Over Darwen Gas Meeting, very important business, deliberated on James Hawthorns Salary - Gas holder now complete.

Sunday Parish Ch: afternoon a walk to Lamb Row⁵ with Mrs T.

[April] 8th of April Letter from Richard he not very well

[April] 5. to 12th A Week of Splendid Weather - Today Magnificent delicious & sunny -

² A dinner held by the Freemasons of Over Darwen to present John Bell of the Perseverance Lodge of Blackburn an award for his service to that lodge (*Blackburn Standard*, 20 March 1861).

³ *Essays and Reviews* is considered to be the manifesto of modern Liberal Anglicanism. The book contained seven essays, each by a different author, only one of whom was a layman, now appears unremarkable but caused controversy and protest when published and for many years afterwards (Roger T. Beckwith, '*Essays and Reviews* (1860)', *Churchman*, No. 108 Vol. 1 (Spring, 1994), pp. 48-58).

⁴ Among the matters discussed were the formation of a sub-committee to prepare the council's response to the Blackburn Waterworks Company's bill and the purchase of land by the council to extend the park (*Blackburn Standard*, 10 April 1861).

⁵ On Whalley Road between Sabden and Whalley.

Note The first thorough fine week for 12 Months
Journey to Padiham (11th) with Mr Thompson. Looked through the Mill - Tea at Mrs Rich^d Thompson.

Monday April 8th "The Census" taken for 1861.

John Haydock (12th) & Oliver Walsh died.

Sat^y the 13th [April] Glorious Day -

Fourteen Days of successive fine days - dry, sunny and delicious.

[April] 17th Died George Clark, Corn Dealer, Butter Factor and Bacon & Ham Merchant - Respected.

[April] 21 Fine but cool - To Trinity Morn^g Dr Parr - "God is Love" -- when we receive Grace to Love God we approach the divine attributes - It is only sin that presents God a Being of Wrath, Terror & justice - Afternoon, Peter's, - Baker - (very drowsy) a good plain homely discourse -

A remarkably fine April - Good seed time -

[April] 27th Return of Winter - cold, blustery & frosty - Fall of snow.

[April] 28th Rather cold - parish in the Morning, Rev H Wescoe from Galatians - Evening Trinity - Dr Robinson on the character and offices of Melchizedek, King of Salem, as a Type of Christ in his position as King & Priest - A very learned & sound discourse. The singing also exceedingly good.

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The Weather in May cold & ungenial with blasting East & Nor East Winds & frost.

[May] 9th Holy Thursday on business at Manchester, with Mrs T. - then to Belle Vue for 2 or 3 hours - Day very fine & sunny, but cold Winds

[May] 11th A severe cold day with strong blustering Winds ending in the Evening & following day with Rain.

[May] 12th Rent Day, At St John's - Sermon "my Grace is sufficient for thee" by Rev W. Bateson of Woodhead - rather feeble delivery but very truthful & affectionate, - Evening Trinity Dr Robinson on the Ascension a very eloquent discourse. -

[May] 3rd Died Joseph Eccles, Esq. Mill Hill - Interred at Bⁿ Cemetery May 9th Aged 61 Years.

[May] 11th James Hoyle left Mount Street.

No Letters from my Son Richard this Month.

[May] 16th Thursday, The Grand Oratorio of the "Messiah" was given with magnificent Effect at the Town Hall, Blackburn - Conductor Mr J H Robinson a very full and fashionable attendance - Mrs Sunderland in famous voice, also Hinchcliffe & Miss Crossland, - Mr D. Towers lacks energy of execution but nevertheless sang creditably.

Whit=Sunday, May 19th very fine, - To Parish Church, Morning, afternoon with Mrs T. at Hoghton thence walked to Preston, and had Tea at Shelley's Arms⁶ - Home at 8.

Whit Monday (20) Exceedingly fine - vast Multitudes left the Town, School Children & others some to York, Lytham, Southport, Windermere &c.

The first Stone of the New Workhouse laid - Went in procession, and took part in the Ceremony. Afterw^{ds} dined at the Old Bull Inn, - A very pleasant affair. The Ceremony was Masonic T Clough officiating.⁷

Tuesday went to Leeds with Mrs to the Grand Installation of Earl de Grey & Ripon as PGM of West Yorkshire 1200 Masons present in the Town Hall Leeds. Went to St George's

⁶ The Shelley Arms was located at 31 Fishergate, Preston (*Pigot & Co.'s National Commercial Directory for 1828-9 etc* (London & Manchester, 1828), p. 439).

⁷ Thomas Clough was the chair of the Workhouse building committee. The ceremony was not fully masonic as the Provincial Grand Master refused to give permission (*Blackburn Standard*, 22 May 1861).

Church after the Inⁿ. Thence to the Grand Banquet under the Town Hall - In the Evening to the Royal Gardens (Tuesday) -

The Installation was on Wednesday the 22nd [May].

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Thursday 23rd [May] to Harrogate from Leeds, also to Knaresborough with Mrs T. spent a pleasant day - home to Leeds at 8 p.m. and so to Bed.

Staid at Mr John Field's, Railway Hotel, West Bar near the Post Office.

Friday Safely & happily home - Children - that is Fanny, Henry and Essy at Mrs Emmett's Lytham

Trinity Sunday - Sermon for the Girls' Charity School parish Church Rev John Smith, good homely discourse. Evening at Trinity Dr Robinson, - Afternoon a walk with Mrs Tiplady. Very fine

[May] 29th Glorious Spring - clear, bright, bracing sunny & most lovely weather. -

Note - A May Much to be remembered for we have had more Sun in it than during the whole of the Summer of 1860.

[May] 30th Council Meeting to adopt Petition to the Water Works Company - Explanations given - slender Meeting.⁸

Monday the 2nd of June - Rain - Parish Morning, the vicar on the good Providence of God - a plain homely & practical discourse - Evening - H Trinity Sermon by the Rev W. Ogden - Curate - the choice of Joshua - a very good Sermon -

Thursday the 6th [June] to Rochdale, at the P G Annual Meeting of Free Masons - a full attendance. Rochdale is a strangely built place - The River, by reason of constant use for Manuf^y purposes is woefully filthy - Left at 4 and came thro Burnley - & so home. In the same Carriage was Tho Parker.

[June] 7th Evening - a Letter from Mr Wilson of Brazils offering by Mr Watson the sum of £150 per annum for Richard's Services - No Letter from Richard - I fear he is ill - commit him to the care of God. -

[June] 9th Sunday - Trinity Rev J Smith a very useful and affectionate discourse - The Christian Inheritances

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Evening - same - Rev M Ogden - "Ye will not come unto me, that ye might have life" - An old sermon - but very earnestly delivered -

Friday the 14th [June] visited with Mrs Tiplady & my daughter Fanny, "The Great Eastern"⁹ - a very large ship lying at Liverpool. - There was a great throng of people say from 15000 to 20,000 -

This week was remarkably clear & brilliant weather but the wind was easterly which is unusual in June.

Sunday - June 16th Morning the vicar, - "And God said Let the earth bring forth grass" - a very nice discourse - and particularly seasonable - because the Wardens after remodelling the surface of the Church Yard, have sown it with grass which to springing very luxuriantly -

⁸ A special meeting of the Town Council to approve a petition to parliament against the Waterworks Bill. The mayor, 4 aldermen and 17 councillors attended (*Blackburn Standard*, 5 June 1861).

⁹ The Great Eastern was an iron steamship designed by Isambard Kingdom Brunel. It was, then, the largest ship in the world being nearly 700 feet long and 22,500 gross tonnage. Launched in 1858, Brunel had designed it for passenger and cargo trade between England and Ceylon but it was never used for that purpose. In June 1861, the Great Eastern was being used to transport troops to Quebec to reinforce Canada's defences during the American Civil War ('SS Great Eastern', *IKBrunel.org.uk.*, <http://www.ikbrunel.org.uk/ss-great-eastern> [accessed 20 July 2021]).

Evening - Wescoe - Subject The person character and works of the Devil - Down to Langho for a Walk - Singing very good - William assisted. -

Published in June, this year, Mr William Durham's Work entitled "Chronological Works" Blackburn, Lancashire.¹⁰

[June] 16th Death of Mrs Beddoes, - aged 35, of childbirth

Weather exceedingly clear from clouds - Wind E. & N.E.

[June] 19th Journey to Macclesfield to the funeral of Mrs Beddoes very sad & melancholy bereavement, six children - the youngest scarce a month old.

[June] 21st Went in the afternoon with Mrs Tiplady to Ashton Hall, the seat of the late Edward Pedder,¹¹ - A most beautiful residence, and furnished in a princely style of magnificence - but from what I could gather - the seat of profligacy pride and awful extravagance, ending in ruin. -

[June] 23rd My 53rd Birthday - in good health, and family all well, - For all the mercies of God I desired to be devoutly thankful. Morning at the Parish sermon by Mr Kershaw of Walton - There is joy in the presence of God &c a very earnest and affectionate discourse Evening - Trinity - Mr Ogden "And that Rock was Christ" - Mr O. has a husky voice His Sermons appear to me to be copied - ie not original - Dr R laboured under a severe cold.

[June] 26th Violent Thunder Storm. -

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[June] 29th Died Mr James Douglas, the oldest Bookseller in the Town, - The family have been connected with the Trade about 70 years - I am sorry to say Mr D died in poor circumstances, brought on, it is to be feared by improvident, - not to say, - dissolute habits - aged 61.

Sunday the 30th. [June] Sermon for the Society by the Rev Mr Wescoe, who gave an interesting and animated description of Society's proceedings - collection £15. William from Preston over. Came at 10.30 train [?]

In the afternoon walked with Mrs Tiplady to Langho and thence to Clitheroe - a beautiful day and a lovely walk - Tea at Mrs Fowler's. -

The Month of June is ended - perhaps in the Memory of the oldest inhabitant in the past, there has been no finer weather, - but in consequence of early frost there will be little or no fruit - The Ground Crops however promise well - and that is very material for a large working population

July 1st In the Evening the Tradesman's Society half yearly Meeting - nothing particular G W D. President

[July] 2nd Tuesday. St John's F Friendly Society, - good Meeting old James Haworth, a consequence of infirmity & age, declined his situation as visitor - Tho^s Beardsworth Shoemaker entered upon the same, paid £1 to James Haworth for his attendance.

[July] 3rd Attended the Revision Com^{tee} of the Burial Society a full number, and good discussion on the constitution of the Society - Important alterations carried¹² -

¹⁰ William Durham, *Chronological Notes of the Town and Parish of Blackburn, from A.D. 448 to A.D. 1860, with census of 1851 and 1861, also a table of Distances* (Blackburn, 1861) (*Blackburn Standard*, 19 June 1861).

¹¹ Ashton House, or Ashton Lodge, Preston was built in 1810. James Pedder, a banker in Preston bought it in 1819 and the family continued to live there until the death of Edward Pedder in 1861. It was sold to support the Pedder family business, Old Preston Bank ('Ashton Park History', *Visit Preston*, <https://www.visitpreston.com/welcome/preston-s-history/history-of-preston-s-parks/ashton-park-history> [accessed 26 January 2021]).

¹² The most significant proposed rule change was to introduce government of the Society by delegates elected by the membership. The special general meeting of the Society on 22 August rejected this (*Blackburn Standard*, 28 August 1861).

[July] 4th The Council Meeting, appointed on various Sub-Committees, & in the Evening at the Temple of Friendship Lodge the Mayor present. a pleasant Meeting had great liberty of speech.

[July] 5th At Over Darwen Gas Meeting - Business not very important. - Evening with Mr Holroyd to visit Slaughter Houses.

[July] 6th Saturday a Busy day in the Shop.

[July] 7th Sunday, To the Wesleyan Chapel twice - heard Revd G Harward a very deep and powerful expounder of God's Word. Evening Sermon eminently evangelical eloquent & convincing. Text Come unto me - May God me grace to profit by these discourses, Amen.

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The Weather in the first week of July very unsettled with several Thunder Storms - especially on Saturday & Sunday, - The Hay harvest interrupted thereby -

The Comet visible on clear Night, specially the 4th Inst Thursday

July 8th 1861, - paid Sisters £11 - and 13/- Expences - or rather allowance, on account of Jane Share -

	£	s	d
Debts owing by me Sisters	58	0	0
Aunt Callis	20	0	0
Building Club	78	0	0
	156	0	0

	£	s	d
Credits New Building	46	0	0
Gas Shares	114	0	0
Houses	550	0	0
Shop Goods &c	600	0	0
New Gas	15	0	0
	£ 1325	0	0
Cotton Comp ^y	30	0	0
	£ 1,355	0	0

July 8th 1861 Died very suddenly Mr Benjamin King, aged 64, just 1 Month after his Wife

BK in his youth was wild and did much abuse his Wife - but I heard that for the last three years he had been steady and remarkably affectionate to his partner, and is said he died in consequence of excessive grief at her death.

July 13th Died Mr Benjamin Brierly, Cotton Manufacturer long an imbecile at Lytham - so doth earthly vigour & wisdom pass away.

Sunday - (Wet) - Parish Morning Dr Rushton - Afternoon - St Michael's, Mr Smith, on the happiness of the redeemed - Evening Ogden, Trinity - Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might - This Gent Sermons are not original - This is one of Cooper's Sermons -

Monday, (Wet) Afternoon Whittle Springs - Bath¹³

¹³ John Heyes discovered in 1845 an alkaline spring at Whittle-le-Woods, near Chorley. He developed a spa around the spring including 2 baths and a tearoom (J. Jackson, *The Rise and Fall of Whittle Springs Brewery*, http://www.boydharris.co.uk/whittle_le_woods/wlw014.htm [accessed 20 July 2021]).

Friday (July 19th) Vestry Meeting to appoint Members of the Burial Board. Rev D
Rushton, Mr Beaty & Mr James Parkinson
Died at Accrington, Mr John Walmsley, Manuf^{er} Aged 68
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[July] 21st Sunday Unexpectedly received a Letter from my Son Richard in Brazils,
containing also a Photograph of a Locomotive "The Pequenoisa" - and stating him to be in
good health - for which Mercy we all humbly thank God.

At the parish Church Morning - Dr R. The Disobedient Prophet - good sermon -
Evening Trinity Dr Robinson - The obligation & blessing of the Christian Sabbath.

A very heavy Thunder Storm in the Evening - which continued about 2 hours. - The
Weather exceedingly unsettled.

Augst 7th To Lancaster on Jury - 8th 9th & 10th to Lancaster & Morecambe - Friday the
9th pannelled in the case of Murder at Church, - The verdict was Aggravated Manslaughter -
Foreman.¹⁴

[August] 11th Sunday, at Morecambe, - Church Morning - Afternoon - walked about
to Beare¹⁵ &c - This Morecambe is a surprisingly thriving place.

[August] 12th Monday Train to Hornby - thence to Kirby Lonsdale - rather wet home
at Night - saw Mr William Crenston, the cousin of my former wife's Mother - Home at Night.

[August] 14th Died Thomas Hart Esq. J.P. an old Friend and neighbour, a very
excellent Person.¹⁶

[August] 18th Sunday P Ch: Revd John Feilden preached an excellent Sermon on
behalf of the Church Miss^y Society, - Evening - Trinity - a Stranger - very earnest but full of
iteration, - "No man cared for my soul" A Missionary Sermon - A Stormy day all through.

[August] 17th Saturday S L [South Lancashire] Election, Turner 9700
Cheetham 8865
Majority for Turner 835¹⁷

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[August] 19th Funeral of the late T. Hart, Esq J.P. attended - at St John's Church -
There was a good attendance of the personal friends, relatives & some Gentry - with nearly
the whole Bench of Magistrates, several Clergy, Mr Skinner, and particularly Mr Pilkington
M.P.

The Bⁿ Standard Contained a remission of the Sentence on Marra & Walsh to 7
years.¹⁸

¹⁴ See f/n 262 below.

¹⁵ A district of Morecambe.

¹⁶ See f/n 4 above.

¹⁷ Poll was actually as follows: Turner - 9,714, Cheetham - 8898, majority for Turner - 816 (*Blackburn Standard*, 21 August 1861).

¹⁸ John Marra and Patrick Walsh, along with Edward Conner and Con Maher, were sentenced to penal servitude for life at Lancaster Assizes for the murder of John Riley and wounding, with intent to murder, of PC. Singleton at Oswaldtwistle. Tiplady was a signatory of a letter to the Home Secretary, along with other members of the jury, asking that the sentences on Marra and Walsh be commuted because the jury's unanimous intention had been to 'return a verdict involving different degrees of guilt as regards Marra and Walsh'. As a result Marra and Walsh's sentences were commuted to 7 years penal servitude (*Blackburn Standard*, 14 & 28 August 1861).

The Weather cleared up after a long period of Damp on the 27th of Aug - wh: is my Son's Charles 21st Birthday -

[August] 28th Grand Harvest Day.

Sep^{er} 15th To Mellor - Weather wild - Sleepy during Sermon could not keep awake.

[September] 14th Tremendous sensation at Preston, where Col. Clifton & Capt Hanham were shot by a private named Patrick Kafferty - They both died.¹⁹

Sep^r Died Mr Robt Ratcliffe, the Uncle of my Cousin Ratcliffe

[September] 28th Fine Day, Artillery Review at Cabin End²⁰ - good attendance.

Dinner to the New Mayor Baynes lost his Wig but kept his seat

[September] 29th St Michael's Day - Went with Mrs Tiplady to Bolton-by-Bolland - Parish Church in the Morning say [sic] an ancient Monument of to the Memory of Sir Ralph Pudsey, also one (modern) to the Memory Anthony Littledale,²¹ Sermon by the Rev J Budodon [?] of Clitheroe, subject The Brazen Serpent one of Coopers - well delivered. They sang a Hymn 13 verses long - at this place very common.

[September] 30th Died Mr Henry Shaw, Brewer the father of Hy Shaw. - Councillor.

Oct 2nd Died suddenly Mr Councillor Thomas Eccles of Wensley Fold - Domestic Troubles have brought habits of drinking - He died in a fit

[October] 6th Sunday by Myself Mrs T & Henry at Southport had a pleasant walk to Ribchester, and a nice ride with Mr Openshaw, Bury. To Church Morning & Evening - Dr Robinson - very impressive in the Evening - Day delicious quite as fair as Summer & as warm.

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Oct 13th Parish Church Morning -

The Weather from the 13th to the 20th beautifully fine and summer-like - Some days especially beautiful - In fact St Luke's little summer.

[October] 14th Tho^s Gillibrand Elected for St. Pauls by a majority of 29 over Mr Webster.²² - He afterwards went to Over Darwen & prospered greatly. A School fellow.

[October] 18th To Blackpool one day. St Luke, at Blackpool gloomy and cold.

[October] 19th At Preston in the Morning - Grand and most plentiful market. Day exceedingly fine.

[October] 20th At Trinity Ch. twice - Sermon by Dugan of Burnley. - very eloquent preacher, singing very good, and attendance overflowing

Nov 1. Annual Election of Councillors - The Conservatives again successful - Nine to Three

St Mary's Ward - retained Dugdale & returned Mr Duckworth - a close Contest²³

Sunday the 3rd [November] Re-opening of St John, In the Morning Mr Kelly who has wonderfully improved. The Work of Christ - and the work of his Disciples

¹⁹ In the *Blackburn Standard* the perpetrator was named as Patrick McCaffery. He shot Hanham and Crofton with a single shot at Fulwood Barracks and was sentenced to death at his trial at Liverpool Assizes (*Blackburn Standard*, 18 September & 25 December 1861).

²⁰ Part of Intack, a district in the east of Blackburn.

²¹ St. Peter and St. Paul, Bolton-by-Bowland, contains the tomb of Sir Ralph Pudsay which has a memorial showing him with his three wives and 25 children. The church also contains a memorial to Anthony Littledale who died in 1820 (Norman Bilsborough, *The Treasures of Lancashire* (Manchester, 1989), p. 86; 'Yorkshire-West Riding', *Gazetteer of Church Monument*, http://www.churchmonumentsgazetteer.co.uk/Yorks_W_Riding.html [accessed 29 January 2021]).

²² Gillibrand was elected in a by-election following the death of Councillor Thomas Eccles (see entry for 2 October 1861 above) (*Blackburn Standard*, 16 October 1861).

²³ Polling was Dugdale, 271, Duckworth, 254, Hirst 232 (*Blackburn Standard*, 6 November 1861).

[November] 14th Thursday, Elected, unanimously W M by 432 - an almost unprecedented honor. - in that Lodge

Nov 9th R. H. Hutchinson, Esq elected Mayor of Blackburn, - Gave £200 to the poor. - £10 to the Artillery Corps - £5 to the Widow & Orphans Fund, &c -

[November] 16th First fall of Snow (heavy) this Winter followed by a keen frost from the North and East

Times fearfully gloomy - Work scarce, - Cotton dear, Money bad to get, - yet the population seem healthy

[November] 14th This Day died a most excellent Lady Mrs Lonsdale, a Great Benefactor to the Poor in her 79th year. Truly the Memory of the Just is Blessed. - She descends to the Grave amid the regret of the whole Town - She was one of the original Committee of the Strangers' Friend Society. Established in 18 Better known as Miss Riley

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Nov 24 Frosty followed by Rain and Sleet

[November] 26th Resigned my situation as Trustee to the Weaver's Association²⁴

Up to Dec^r 16th Very Stormy Weather -

Several aged persons died - as Mr Thomas Walsh, Builder, Mr Laurence Hacking, Stone Mason, Mrs Briggs, - Mrs Lucas &c &c

[December] 15th Sunday received the Mournful Intelligence that the beloved Consort of her Majesty, Prince Albert died aged 42 years, - To the great Grief of the whole nation. He died on the 14th

[December] 23rd Monday. This Day was strictly observed as a Day of Mourning throughout the Kingdom on the occasion of the Interment of his late Royal Highness Prince Albert the husband of her Majesty Queen Victoria. There was a large procession of the Authorities & Gentry of the Town consisting of the Mayor & Corporation, the Rifle and Artillery Volunteers, the Clergy, Magistrates, Constables, Fire Brigade, Lamp Lighters, Pensioners, Post Men & a large concourse of Inhabitants - to the Parish Church where, solemn service was performed and a Lesson preached by the Ven. Archdeacon Rushton, D.D.

[December] 25th Fine & Frosty - Mrs Tiplady not well - Went in the afternoon to Whalley.

[December] 27th Festival of St John. Installed B N of the Lodge of Perseverance 432 & Br Thomas Clough P N a very happy tho' not numerous gathering. The Rev George Preston proposed as the Chaplain of the Lodge, - £3.3.0 given to the Poor. -

²⁴ The *Blackburn Standard* published a letter from Tiplady, dated 10 January 1862, criticising the Weavers' Association for not contributing a large sum to the General Relief Fund. The *Blackburn Standard* endorsed Tiplady's criticism in an editorial. A public dispute ensued between supporters of the Weavers' Association and Tiplady over the following weeks through the *Blackburn Standard* (*Blackburn Standard*, 15 January 1862).