

## 1864

Jan 1<sup>st</sup> 1864 - The year commenced with a clear bright frost which lasted for Eight Days without rain or snow.

Thaw on the 10<sup>th</sup> [January] very mild - frost resumed 12<sup>th</sup>.

James Sagar Died - also Joseph Martland formerly Apprentice to W.H. Hornby - Both I am sorry to observe by habits of Intemperance - God grant us grace to restrain - 7<sup>th</sup> [January].

Took £20 to the Saving's Bank belonging St John's Female Friendly Society -

Feb 4<sup>th</sup> Letter from Son Richard, who intends coming home, in May this year, - health pretty good - a Salary of £300.0.0 per annum

[February] 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday, Richard's 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday, - We held a quiet festival in honour of the Event and thanked God for all his gracious dealings with him and us. - My Wife recovered from severe attack of Bronchitis.

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Shrove Tuesday 1864

[February] 9<sup>th</sup> The ever memorable day when I narrowly escaped death, but was mercifully preserved -

Hard frost from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Inst - Reservoir for the second time - clear & bright with little snow.

The most remarkable thing about this Winter's frost is that they occurred during the dark "Moon"<sup>1</sup>

[February] 12<sup>th</sup> Storm of Wind, Snow, Rain & Sleet - very cold.

Meeting of Water Works Co. Row with the Bury Shareholders about the creation of new shares.

Also this Day the following Memorandum -

I agree to sell to Mr William Stones, the three Houses in Mount Street, with all the Gas & other Fixtures therein, (Metres excluded) and to give possession of the same on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of May next for the sum of Seven Hundred Pounds, which sum has to be paid on the execution of a Conveyance.

Feb<sup>y</sup>. 12<sup>th</sup> 1864

As witness my hand the day above written

Charles Tiplady -

I agree to purchase on the terms above mentioned

William Stones -

March 10<sup>th</sup> 1864 The Annual Meeting of the O D Gas Company - a pleasant day with the Directors. Six per cent declared.

Mr Richard Walker, aged 80, - Mr William Bradley 87 - Mr William Moore, 67, and Mr Alexander Blundell - aged 60 years - all died within a few days of each other - They were all Men greatly respected, and well known in the Town.

[March] 16<sup>th</sup> Sale of James Boyles Shop in Salford also Richard Moor's, Bought by Dutton & Co for £5270 about £4000 of a Bargain to the Owners.

[March] 17<sup>th</sup> William Mitton, an humble but faithful old Servant of Mr Hopwood, died suddenly in the Street -

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<sup>1</sup> The period between the old and the new moon: *OED* 'dark' adj. I.1.c.

[March] 18<sup>th</sup> Died this Morning after a long and painful illness Miss Margaret Hartley, the daughter of the late Rev. W. Hartley of Balderstone, a fine young Woman and one of whom we thought very highly - Aged 21 yrs.

Fearful accident, by the bursting of Bradfield Reservoir on the Evening & Morn<sup>g</sup> of March 11<sup>th</sup> & 12. More than 200 people drowned.<sup>2</sup>

Good Friday. - (March 25<sup>th</sup>) Exceedingly fine & clear day. Vast Multitudes left the town for cheap Trips to the Sea Side & other places. - Parish Ch: Morning - After<sup>n</sup> home, Mr L Clarke of Preston visited us, - also Rev L. Preston.

Saturday very fine & throng - being Easter Eve.

Easter Sunday (27) cold - Morning fine but indications of change, snow in the Evening & very winterly - Rev P. Graham preached at Holy Trinity a magnificent Sermon, on the faith once delivered to the Saints

Easter Monday - wet, windy & as cold as need be. Died Dr Martland, - aged 69. Much respected, 45 years practice in the Town -

Easter Tuesday - Good Meeting of the St John's F Friendly Society - Mr Smith & Mr Wallace attended

Died Roger Pomfret - Rope Manuf<sup>r</sup> - Charles Whitworth cheese Factor - Mrs Cardwell Inn keeper Craven Heifer; -

April 2<sup>nd</sup> The New Workhouse inaugurated - Dinner to the Inmates. - Afterwards celebrated at the Old Bull by a Grand Dinner & Expensive Dinner -

April 14<sup>th</sup> 1864

I this day underwent the operation for braking [sic] the Stone in the Bladder, Dr Tho<sup>s</sup> Pickop officiated assisted by Dr Smith, - I was 2.40 min under the first operation some stones were ejected I afterwards submitted to two more operations of a very painful character, the Latter of which reduced me to the very point of death, and from the effects of which I did not recover untill the month of August undergoing in the meantime the most agonising pains & sufferings about the 10<sup>th</sup> of June I went with Mrs Tiplady to Lytham, where I sojourned 7 weeks

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part of the time I was with Mrs Harwood, late Nancy Procter, an old Servant of ours - afterwards at P Walmsley's where I did not like - then to Mr Knox's the Draper a good place - Lytham is a nice quiet place for an invalid - Upon the whole I recreated strength but July was hot, & brought on a fit of bile & loosening Mr Hastleton a Druggist there prescribed for me very successfully, I left Lytham Friday July 28<sup>th</sup> and came to the New House in St Alban's, which I like very well. -

Note I bought this House for £300 from Mr Backhouse. It was considered a Bargain.

On Tuesday the 2<sup>nd</sup> [August] my Son William, left home to meet his Brother Richard at Southampton, and on Friday the 5<sup>th</sup> Day of August, my dear Son Richard safely landed and visited home after an absence of 6 years & three months. He is grown a fine Manly young fellow, about the size of his Brother Charles and very like him in voice and other resemblances. - His arrival was the signal for a joyous Home festival, wh: was then particularly celebrated on Sunday the 7<sup>th</sup> when all my children dined with me and were very happy.

In the meantime I was gradually regaining lost strength and thro the mercy of God, and the kind attentive nursing of Mrs T am partly recovered (Aug 15<sup>th</sup>) our Marriage day. -

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<sup>2</sup> Bradfield Reservoir, owned by the Sheffield Waterworks, was in the Don Valley, about 7 miles north-west of Sheffield. At its meeting on 7 April the council passed a motion expressing sympathy and an appeal made to raise subscriptions for the victims. Tiplady informed the meeting that a penny subscription had commenced among the working men of Blackburn (*Blackburn Standard*, 16 March & 13 April 1864).

On Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> [August] Died in Anvil Street most suddenly Mr George Callis, my Brother-in-law of heart disease.

During the Months of Sept, Oct & November, I was shut out from the world & suffered dreadfully from an enlargement of the Liver and other Complaints which reduced me to the verge of the grave - so much so that I was given up by all - but ultimately by God's providence was gradually built up again - & on the 12<sup>th</sup> Day of November a change for improvement took place -

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During this season of great and severe sickness I was carefully nursed by my excellent Wife, who for months had watched over me with tender solicitude & unwearied diligence - My spiritual Advisers were Dr Rushton the vicar, and Dr Robinson of Holy Trinity and in their presence and Mrs Rushton took the Sacrament, as being as it were my last public service of the Church Dr Thomas Pickop visited me at times and prescribed and had I believe the concurrent assistance of many able men of the faculty, all of whom knew of my illness - These good Men have all gone Since to their eternal rests, and I yet remain an instance of the sparing Mercy of Almighty God.