

## 1870

The New Year commenced Wet and dull. -

Jan 4<sup>th</sup> Died Mr John Baldwin Ironmonger. He was interred at Gisburn on the 11<sup>th</sup>. About 50 Brethren of Freemans attended the Funeral - The day was very stormy and windy - The Hills were covered with Snow, and the road very slippy. John was carried to the Grave by Messrs Birtwistle, Eastwood, Shuttleworth, Ainsworth, Duerden, Lofthouse[?] Duckworth and Myself.

[January] 14<sup>th</sup> Friday Died aged 68 Years Mr Saward the ex-Town Clerk. He was a Man of considerable parts as a Lawyer, but extreme in his party views, and did not agree with the Corporation, who ultimately dismissed him without

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Notice - An Action was the result of a very expensive and irritating nature - by which he loss considerable sum of money - He was sold up about 3 months before his death, as I understood at the Suit of Ex Alderman Boyle.<sup>1</sup>

A Singular fatality occurred this Month in the family of Mr Bradshaw, Plumber and Glazier from Typhoid Fever, Himself, Wife and one Daughter died in the space of Ten Days and were interred at the Cemetery -

From the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> [January] There was hard dry frost, with sharp Winds - on Thursday the 27<sup>th</sup> [January] the Rishton Reservoir at the small end was fully covered with ice, and gave opportunity for skating but the large end was very unsafe and two young Gent Mr Walter Dean and Mr Barton Greenwood by venturing upon that part had a narrow escape from being drowned

On the [January] 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday immense numbers of persons wended their way to the same Reservoir where I saw at a distance of a Mile - In the Afternoon about 4 o'clock - the ice in one part gave way, and the following persons were unhappily drowned

Catherine Bleasdale 22.

Hannah Towers - 17,

Sarah Ann Townley -

James Smith 21.

This sad affair caused a great deal of excitement in the Town.

The above unfortunate persons were interred on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Inst at the Cemetery, There was a large concourse of people assembled, consistly [sic] of many School Scholars, Companions & friends of the deceased. It is said with respect to the Y W. [young woman] Hannah Towers that her Mother used every Means short of confinement to the House to persuade her not to go and that she promised not to get upon the Ice. - However the Company induced her to break her promise, and the Melancholy result was her death - - She seems to have a very large amount of general sympathy worked at the Brookhouse, and was a particularly active intelligent and handsome Girl. - She attended St. Michael's Church & School on the same Morning. Her father was drowned a few years since.

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About the 10<sup>th</sup> [February] Died John Abbott, late a Manufacturer hand loom - aged 76. He was several years an inmate of the Workhouse, and died in dotage. -

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<sup>1</sup> In July 1867, Henry Saward agreed to accept £350 from Blackburn Corporation and to return Corporation documents he held after a decision by the Master of Rolls on the action Saward had taken against the Mayor and Corporation. James Boyle took action against Saward, in November 1869, to recover a debt of £50 on money Saward had borrowed from Boyle (*Blackburn Standard*, 5 June & 24 July 1867; 24 November 1869).

From the 7<sup>th</sup> of Feb. the weather suddenly changed to hard Frost with a biting Wind from the North East and lasted all the Week - On the 14<sup>th</sup> Valentine's Day it was excessively cold.

Nothing of importance in the Town. Trade rather better but accounts hard to get in.

Sunday Feb. 20. - This day died my Eldest Brother James in his 70<sup>th</sup> Year - He had been in a feeble state for some months, in fact ever since the death of Sister Margaret. His conduct on the death of my Mother had caused an estrangement between the other Members of the Family - However of he believed himself justified I leave it to his conscience. He was interred at the Cemetery on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

Same day the Rev Joseph Welland, Missionary in India preached to overwhelming Congregation at the Trinity Church when Collections were made amounting to £ --- for the Warden's Expences.

March 8<sup>th</sup> Mr Councillor R<sup>d</sup> Webster, (Quaker) was interred this day at the Friends' Meeting House King Street. There was a Procession of the Mayor, Ald. & Councillors, and the Police together with about 40 Gentleman - The Hearse and Coaches tho' black - had no favors upon them. He was much respected.

[March] 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the O D Gas Company held this day. Mr T Bertwistle, Architect was elected Director & Mr C. Shorrock. - Mr Counsell Auditor - While there information was given that Mr Leonard Wilkinson Solicitor, died in his Office this Morning at 10 1/2 o'clock. The death of Mr Wilkinson will be found a very severe loss to the Conservative Cause in Blackburn. He was a Man of great Tact & Judgment, and highly respected by all Classes of the Community -

[March] 15 Monday - Took Essie to Manchester on her way to Spalding. The day was cold but very fine, there was hard frost until Evening. At 3 o'clock crossed over to Preston by Rail.

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to attend a Lecture in St Peter's School by Mr R Hutchinson - The attendance was very slender. The Lecture was first-rate, - Afterwards came home by Cab - At Samlesbury the Mare became restive & began to kick violently - the Shaft was broken, the traces damaged and were obliged to secure a return Cab to Blackburn, Mr Proctor was with us It was nearly one when I reached home.

April 7. At Accrington Agr<sup>l</sup> Show, very large concourse of people.

[April] 8<sup>th</sup> Died Mr W. Lonsdale Jun<sup>r</sup>. - 9 [April] Miss Starkie aged 82, Daughter of the late vicar. - and Miss Worswick aged 92 formerly Housekeeper to the late Dr Barlow, Surgeon.

[April] 15<sup>th</sup> Good Friday - attended the Parish Church - Sermon by the Vicar from Isaiah 53 c. v. 7 & 8. - Good discourse. In the Afternoon walked to Langho & went forward to Chadburn.

[April] 17<sup>th</sup> Easter Sunday - brilliant Weather, cloudless days - Mornng, Parish, Sermon by the Rev George Read, Com [communion]. - Evengs Trinity Rev W. Stones Col [collect<sup>2</sup>]. both on the Resurrection. Com in the Mornng at the Parish Church

[April] 18<sup>th</sup> Still very fine - to Blackpool - opening of the Promenade - Great rejoicings - Procession, Banquet &c<sup>3</sup> Left for Lytham at 2.30. Saw Mrs Carter Widow, & N. Horwood - thence back to Blackpool Home at 1/2 past Nine.

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<sup>2</sup> A prayer which varies according to the day, week or other period: *OED* 'collect' n. 3.

<sup>3</sup> After obtaining an Act of Parliament the Local Board of Health oversaw the construction of 2 miles of promenade, and sea defence, a drinking fountain in Talbot Square and a new entrance to the north pier (*Preston Chronicle*, 23 April 1870).

[April] 19<sup>th</sup> Died Mr Orlando Brothers, Manager of the B<sup>n</sup>. Gas Company after a long & severe illness aged 54 years - He was a very clever Gas Engineer and under his inspection the Gas Company's Works were largely extended - He was however given at times to take too much Liquor, & somewhat quarrelsome. He leaves 10 Orphans to lament his loss -

[April] 18<sup>th</sup> Died Mr James Garsden, Surveyor a Young Man of great promise (aged 37) but one from what cause I cannot tell, fell into a most reckless state got entangled in his business, dissolved Part<sup>p</sup> with Mr Hopwood, and after the death of his children, seemed to have lost all balance and control of action - and so came to the Grave.

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April 25<sup>th</sup> 1870. Foundations Stone of the Central National & Sunday Schools by the Right Rev Dr Frazer Bp of Manchester. A very large concourse assembled.

May 3<sup>rd</sup> Attended the Charity Committee Manchester and transacted business.

[May] 5<sup>th</sup> Provincial Grand Meeting of Masons - very splendid affair nearly 350 persons - The following Honours were conferred - P G S W R. H Hutchinson Esq. P G J Dr. R<sup>d</sup> Ratcliffe Esq. P. G R. W. Harrison Esq. P G M C Jas Spencer, Esq A. P G M C. Tho<sup>s</sup> Clarkson Esq - P. G Treasurer Charles Tiplady After the Meeting a Banquet took place in there

[May] 7<sup>th</sup> Visiting Rochdale laying Foundation Stone of a New Church by A H Royd Esq. - Masonic Procession a very grand affair

[May] 14<sup>th</sup> Died Mr John Sagar, aged 74. The oldest Tradesman in Church Street, having occupied the same shop for 45 years, a quietly unobtrusive Man, a good father and honest in his delivery. A plain, homely Churchman, not given to meddling nor to change - Weather now magnificent - Sunshine & Rain - with some wind.

[May] 20<sup>th</sup> Attended Meeting of Lodge 269. very pleasant gathering. B<sup>r</sup> H. Stowe delivered Wolsey valedictory Address in a very effective style.

[May] 22<sup>nd</sup> Parish Church Annual Sermons for the Schools The Rev Mr Doyle preached two admirable Sermons on the character of Jacob & Joseph. In the Afternoon old W Holt of Shire Brow was buried, aged 83 years. He was uncle to my Wife

June 5<sup>th</sup> Whit Sunday - Very fine - Attended the parish Church in the Morning. The Congregation was slender, Canon Birch officiated and preached a good Sermon on the Out pouring of the Spirit. At four in the Afternoon Mr Ratcliffe called, when Mrs Tiplady & I had a pleasant drive to Ribchester and home at Eight, - The Weather glorious

Whit Monday 1870

Perhaps of all Excursion Days this has been the prime for according to Railway official intelligence, there

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no fewer than 40,000 Persons left the Town beginning on Saturday & culminating on Monday the 6<sup>th</sup> of June. The Weather was cloudless & hot. At 3, 4, 5, & 6 o'clock the respective Trains left for Llandudno, Scaboro' Windermere, Liverpool, Blackpool & other places of Resort in the Summer Season - At 4.45, I left the Blackburn Station for Scaboro' in company with my Wife, my Two Daughters, Fanny & Essie, my Son Charles & his Wife, and Miss Polly Briggs, a visitor from Spalding. We had a pleasant run and reached the place at 9.50 or thereabouts and after a Cup of Coffee taken, went down to the Water - thence we had an hour's sail, - Essie, Fanny & Polly rather sick, but Mrs Tiplady, self and the rest quite well. There was a company of Artillery volunteers on the Castle Mount at Ball & Shell practice at a Bouy [sic] on the Water

The aim in some cases was very true and the effects brilliant - We had then a pleasant Walk to the North Marine Pier, but not many visitors appeared there. Returning to the Town we hired a Carriage & were taken a most delightful ride through what is designated "New Scarboro" - after which we had Tea, and so prepared to return home. The Shops, however were mostly closed in consequence of the holy-day; but we saw sufficient to convince us that this Town is remarkably for beauty, salubrity & attractive qualifications of every kind - The Street, Squares, and detached villas on the West & South parts are magnificent. The walks & drives very beautiful, and the views from different[?] exhibited a vast panorama of Nature & Art combined. We returned at 6 o'clock, but the Train being very heavy (35 carriages full laden) caused our journey home to be somewhat tedious, tho' very safe, and we arrived home at 1-10 - That being about 1 hour later than was expected - Mrs Tiplady stood the whole journey exceedingly well - but some of the young people suffered from fatigue. By the kindness of Mr Mitchell we had the privilege of riding first class both there and back - At Normanton there was some confusion, the time of stopping being very limited and the press of people great to obtain a little refreshment however by my Son's help we managed very well & came safely home for wh: Mercy God be thanked & after spending one of the happiest & I hope I may add one of the most innocent of our lives - and a day that will always hold a first place in our pleasant recollection.

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June 9<sup>th</sup> 1870 Died Charles Dickens, Esq the Eminent Novelist, aged 58 - Mr D began his career as a Writer in 1834 by the issue of Pickwick Papers which took immensely. These were followed by Nicholas Nickleby, Oliver Twist, Martin Chuzzlewit, Barnaby Rudge, Little Dorrit, Dombey & Son, and many others in all of wh: he portrayed the living World in Graphic Characters - His writing generally have taken their place among the Standard Works of this Country and have contributed in a large degree to the social, moral & intellectual reformation of this Age.

He was interred in Westminster Abbey - at the request of the Nation.

[June] 17<sup>th</sup> Boiler Explosion at Cotton & Slater's Shed whereby 2 persons were killed, a Man and a Woman.<sup>4</sup>

[June] 19<sup>th</sup> Went to Tockholes Church, being the Sermons for Sunday Schools. Mr Thompson took me in his Carriage - The Revd Ja<sup>s</sup> Taylor preached a good practical Sermon from Proverbs, - "Better is a poor Man who walketh in his uprightness than he who perverth his way though he be rich - The Masonic mustered in great force, - Choral Service was performed, and no doubt good Collections would be made. -

For further Memoranda see folio 200 at the End of this Book commencing June 23<sup>rd</sup> 1870.

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June 23<sup>rd</sup> 1870 - My 62<sup>nd</sup> Birthday - Weather brilliant, health good -

#### A Prayer

Almighty and ever living God, who art always more ready to hear than we are to pray, grant unto me the aid of thy blessed Spirit to call upon Thee in an acceptable Manner, Blessed by thy holy name for permitting to close one year & to enter upon another of my earthly

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<sup>4</sup> The boiler exploded at the mill in King's Street. The two who died were John Hutton, 50, who was firing-up the boiler and Julia Hughes, 15, who was the daughter of the company's bookkeeper. (*Preston Herald*, 18 June 1870).

pilgrimage in health of body and mind - & the full enjoyment of my reasoning powers - Pardon, for Jesus' sake, the multitude of Transgressions in thought, word & deed committed in a lifetime against Thee: the follies of youth, the wilfulness of Manhood, and the indecision of Age. From Thee nothing can be hidden - but even according to that promise that whosoever calleth upon Thee in name of Thy dear Son shall have pardon & eternal Life, so Said let it be. - Bless O God, my beloved Wife, and all my Children thro' many trails, difficulties and dangers we have lived happily together in this life for a long period of years - may that happiness continue until this life be ended & recommenced in Heaven. May all their sins be forgiven and should it please Thee first to remove us their parents from this scene of trial & probation continue thy providential care over them unto their lifes' end - And now for all thy Gifts & Mercies in Providence & Grace - accept the humble thanks of an unworthy Son - not looking to my unworthiness but to the great love of thy only Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

[June] 25<sup>th</sup> Saturday The Annual Procession of the Church Schools took place this Day. - The Weather was fine and the assembly Magnificent. The Bishop, the Clergy, Churchwardens, Mayor & Teachers walked in Procession. It is estimated there were not fewer than 15,000 persons - They assembled first in the Parish Churchyard and then after singing the 100<sup>th</sup> Psalm, proceeded to the Park where his Lordship delivered an Address - All passed off well.

July 3 Saturday - This Evening my Son William detected Betty Harrison in the act of robbing the Private Office. She was apprehended & on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> committed to Preston to take her trial for House breaking & robbery - She took about 35/- in Cash belonging the Sick Society and had a pound of Tea ready to carry off -

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Monday July 5. Son William & I had to appear before the Magistrates in the case of Betty Harrison who was committed for trial at the Sessions.

On this day Died Stephen Blair Esq Prov G M. E. Lancashire of Antient Free & Accepted Masons, - aged 66 years. He was interred at the Bolton Cemetery on the 9<sup>th</sup> when about 350 Brethren & 110 Work people attended the Funeral. He was a Man universally beloved, of a generous & social disposition and among his Brethren revered for all the characters of a great liberal & well disciplined mind - To Many charities he was a bountiful benefactor and had only very recently completed a Gift of 1000 Guineas to the Royal Masonic Institution for Orphan Boys. - I attended the funeral along with J. Procter WM Ja<sup>s</sup> Spencer W. M. R<sup>d</sup> Radcliffe P G S D. Amos Armistead, Robt Duckworth, John Clough, Thomas Sharples, John Cottam. Charles Aspden, Thomas Haworth, R. H. Hutchinson.

Captain Starkie of Huntroyde appointed P G Master in the room of the late Stephen Blair, Manchester Brethren not contested.

[July] 10<sup>th</sup> Sunday Morning Trinity very affecting Sermon on occasion of the sudden demise of Miss Hindle by the Rev W Stones - And God shall wipe away all tears &c. Afternoon Bamber Bridge, Sermon by the Rev Canon Parr - Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God & keep his Commandments for this is the whole duty of Man. The Sermon was instructive, practical & impressive and the Rev Gent<sup>n</sup> depicted in graphic language the Vanity of Merely earthly pursuits shewing that they all tended to one place "the grave" & strongly exhorted his hearers to secure that "repose" after this Life's toils were passed which endureth for ever. Evening - Sermon by the Rev J Taylor at the same Church, and God said "Let there be light". The Collection amounted to £55:17:0. There were many Masons from Blackburn to whom & to all Strangers Mr & Mrs Taylor exhibited great hospitality.

[July] 13<sup>th</sup> At Manchester, Took Miss Polly Brigs on her journey home to Spalding -  
[July] 21. Thursday. Attended the Annual Meeting of the Literary Club and responded  
to the Toast Town & Trade of Blackburn. A very pleasant Meeting. Some fair reading and  
recitations - The personification of Lord Dundreary<sup>5</sup> caused a deal of merriment.

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[July] 24<sup>th</sup> Weather excessively hot these few days. - Attended Trinity Morning &  
Evening. Rev Wilson Stones - Show Piety at Home - also E<sup>g</sup> The Righteous shall flourish as  
a Branch. Two good practical discourses.

List in for Three Wards - The Weather exceedingly hot all the time - Mary, Trinity,  
Johns.

A Emmett (28<sup>th</sup>) buried his only Son aged 20 Years He died on the 25<sup>th</sup>

[July] 29<sup>th</sup> Darwen Gas Meeting - No very particular business - except that it was  
arranged the Cashier should prepare a financial Statement for the Board with a view of  
paying an Intermediate Dividend.

August was ushered in with fine and dry weather which continued for several weeks -

On the 8<sup>th</sup> [August] I visited Buxton whither Mrs Tiplady had gone for the benefit of  
her Health - I found it much larger & handsomer than I expected to find it - and daily  
improving - The place was very full of visitors and lodgings were dear -

[August] 10<sup>th</sup> Visited Chatsworth the seat of the Duke of Devonshire - It is a very  
grand Manorial residence & would require a Book to describe its wonders & beauties - The  
Architecture - Paintings - Statuary - Marbles, Gardens, Park &c were all of them exceedingly  
rich & valuable. We spent a pleasant day - Saw Haddon Hall on the same day - an ancient  
Ruin.

[August] 11<sup>th</sup> Perambulated Buxton & Fairfield one Mile from Buxton, at which  
latter place a Grand Wedding took place - visited the School there

[August] 12<sup>th</sup> Visited Castleton - 12 Miles from Buxton & saw the Caves at Peak -  
also the old Ruins The Cave so far as I explored is wonderfully Grand -

[August] 13<sup>th</sup> Pooles Cavern - very strange & wonderful sight

[August] 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday Morning at Fairfield Church, plain & homely discourse.

Evening at St John's Church very throng - on the character of Ahab. This is a most beautiful  
Church the pulpit is of worked Marble - very grand.

[August] 15<sup>th</sup> At Chapel-le-Frith A very dry & fine - a small Market Town, with a  
fine old Church - but seems

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poor and lifeless place. - It is about 5 Miles from Buxton.

[August] 16<sup>th</sup> Left Buxton & returned home with my Wife. The visit I think has been  
beneficial to her.

21 Aug. Attended the Annual Sermons at Great Harwood in the Afternoon. The  
attendance was not so large as formerly - the singing wh: used to be first rate - sadly deficient  
Like in all human meditations I could see decay - The Town itself wonderfully improved, I  
noticed in going the new line of Railway was staked out.

29 August Monday. For some weeks Jo<sup>s</sup> Feilden Esq has lingered in a hopeless state -  
He died this Day - Mr Feilden has been Lord of the Manor 55 years having succeeded his  
Father in 1815. He was 77 years of Age.

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<sup>5</sup> Lord Dundreary was a character in Tom Taylor's play *Our American Cousin* (1858) made famous by the  
English actor, Edward Askew Sothern. Dundreary was a caricature of brainless English aristocrat, distinctive for  
his bushy whiskers ('Edward Askew Sothern', *LinkFang*, [https://en.linkfang.org/wiki/Edward\\_Askew\\_Sothern](https://en.linkfang.org/wiki/Edward_Askew_Sothern)  
[accessed 29 July 2021]).

Seps: 24<sup>th</sup> Attended the Consecration of Waverley Lodge No 1322 of Hurst, near Ashton-under-Lyne. A very imposing Ceremony. Mr R Callender was there and Dr Lees. - The Evening before I spent with R H Hutchinson Esq at Tenter House, very beautiful place, 3 miles from Rochdale.

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Tenders for Printing & Stationery Aug 29<sup>th</sup>.

	£	s	d
B. T. Barton	359	6	11 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Thomas Woods	211	13	0
Edward Wharton	348	9	8 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Charles Tiplady & Son	291	17	9 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>

The Tender of Thomas Woods accepted.

[September] 25 Jane Peel Confectioner was confined of a Girl this day & Father a married Man. Almond.

Attended St Michaels in the Morning Sermon by Mr Taylor of Bamber Bridge. - In the Afternoon Mr & Mrs R rode & took Fanny who was not well - Evening - Trinity -  
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After the equinoctial Gales which prevailed more or less in the early part of September the weather Settled & became exceedingly clear & pleasant extending to the day of October. In the last week of Sep<sup>er</sup> we were visited by a descent of myriads of small flies which filled the atmosphere for several days.

Oct 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday - Grand Demonstration of the Independent Order of Oddfellows - Procession, Tea Party & Ball. - The whole affair was a great success and being for the benefit of the Widows and Orphans' I trust there may be a surplus though the Expences will be heavy. I attended the Procession. The weather was fine - In the Evening the Bull was exceedingly throng -

Sep<sup>r</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> Joseph Feilden was interred there was a Procession of a large number of Tenants and respectable Inhabitants from the Hall to St Mark's Church, Witton  
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Nov 1. The Election passed off peaceably and resulted in the return of Eight Conservatives & four Liberals.

[November] 5<sup>th</sup> Birth of Charles Ernest at Bahia, Grandson.

[November] 9<sup>th</sup> T. H Pickup, Esq re-elected Mayor.

[November] 15<sup>th</sup> First fall of Snow. Cold Weather

[November] 26<sup>th</sup> Saturday - Dreadful Accident on the L & N. W Rails at Harrow near London, whereby Seven valuable Lives were sacrificed - four of whom belonged to Manchester, and Two to Bolton in Lancashire<sup>6</sup>

[December] 9<sup>th</sup> Dined with the P G Lodge at Manchester and was re-elected to the Office of P.G. Treasurer - Le G. N. Starkie was installed P G M see page opposite

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<sup>6</sup> The accident occurred when express train to Holyhead ran into an empty goods train near Harrow station. The dead were the engine driver, two people from Cheshire, two from Manchester and a husband and wife from Bolton (*London Evening Standard*, 28 November 1870).

Dec 13<sup>th</sup> Died very suddenly at Rock Ferry, Robt Spencer Esq. Agent to the Earl of Balcarres<sup>7</sup>, a Gentleman universally respected in Blackburn. -

After a long season of Wet, cold & disagreeable Weather a strong commenced on the Evening of the 16<sup>th</sup> and on the 18<sup>th</sup> it froze very keenly - Business in the Printing slack. Letter from my Son in America - all well. My second Grandson Born Nov 5 1870.

19<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> There was a continued flood of Rain all day & night - 20 variable - 21 Frost again set in with intensity - Christmas Eve a splendid Show of Butcher's Meat, Poultry, Geese, Game, Fruit &c &c.

[December] 25<sup>th</sup> Morning at Trinity Church good Sermon by Rev W. Stones "Thou shalt call his name

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Jesus" for he shall save his people from their sins - Aftern<sup>n</sup> visited the easterly Pond at Blow-up - The weather was remarkably fine and strong Frost

31<sup>st</sup> Dec. The Entire last week of the Year was one of hard Frost, & a little Snow on this last Day it was very keen, a good deal of Skating all over the Country with a few accidents

The Events of the Year 1870 are very important. At its beginning the political burden[?] was clear and perfectly calm & peaceful, - but in the month of July there suddenly broke out a furious War between France & Prussia, which has continued up to the present date - It is calculated that more than 250,000 Men have been slain and 30,000 Horses.<sup>8</sup> - I thank God for all his Mercies to myself & Family - & that the blessing of Peace still continue to our Land.

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<sup>7</sup> The Earl of Balcarres was of the Scottish peerage but in 1826 was also created Baron of Wigan with a seat at Haigh Hall near Wigan. Also, Balcarres owned Wigan Coal and Iron Company which included Haigh colliery ('James Lindsay, 7<sup>th</sup> Earl of Balcarres: Profile & Legacies Summary', *Centre for the Study of the Legacies of British Slavery*, <https://www.ucl.ac.uk/lbs/person/view/21571> [accessed 29 July 2021]).

<sup>8</sup> The Franco-Prussian War began in July 1870 when France declared war on Prussia, and its allies of other German states. Prussia surprised France by invading, subjecting the French army to several defeats which resulted in the collapse of Napoleon III empire. The Prussians continued by laying siege to Paris. After the French armies failed to break the siege of Paris, the French accepted Prussian terms and the war ended in January 1871 (Stephen Badsey, *Guide to the Franco-Prussian War 1870-1871* (Oxford, 2003), pp. 9-13).