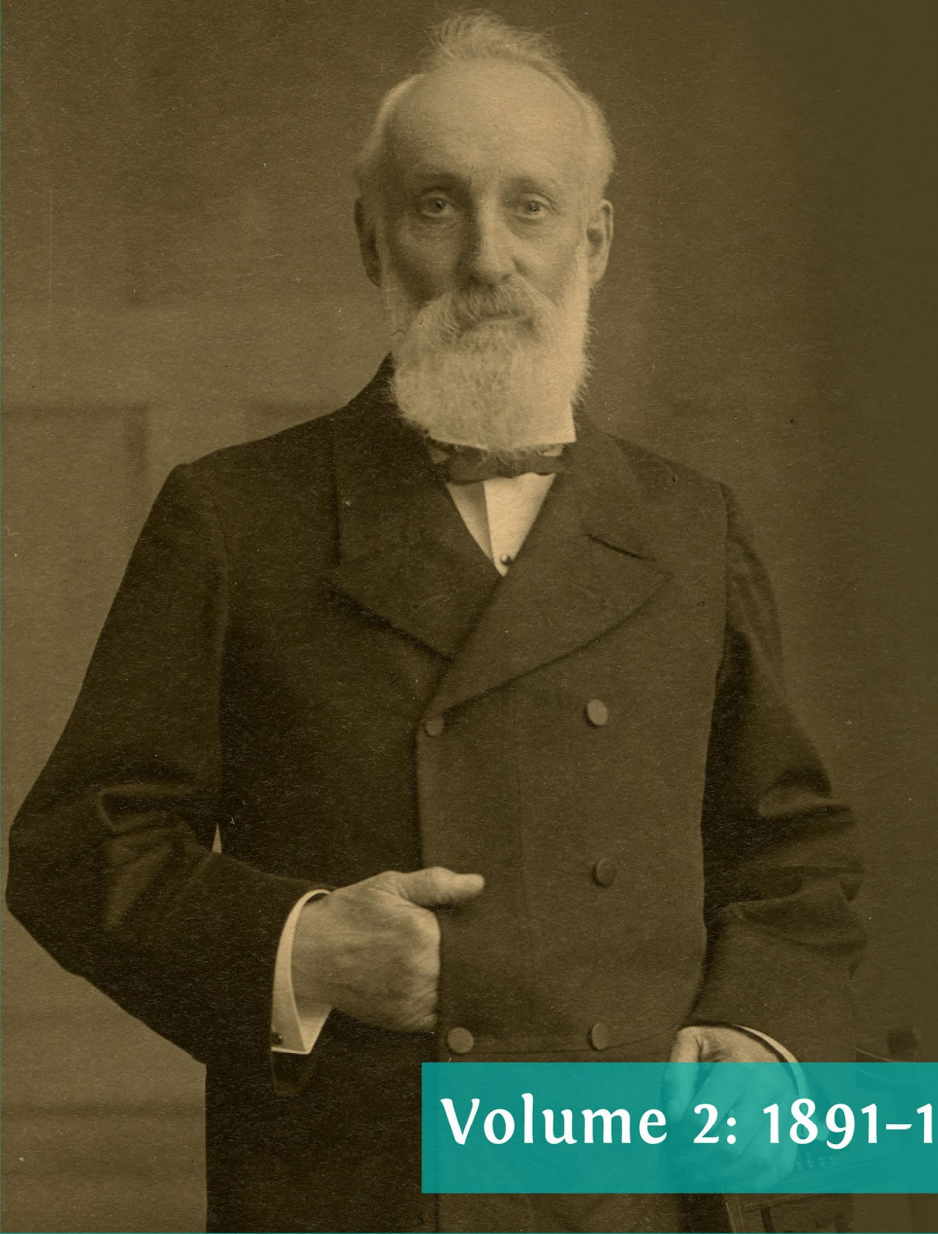
THE DIARIES OF ANTHONY HEWITSON, PROVINCIAL JOURNALIST



Volume 2: 1891–1912

Edited by Andrew Hobbs

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Fig. 1. Unknown photographer, carte de visite of Anthony Hewitson, date unknown, courtesy of Martin Duesbury, CC BY.

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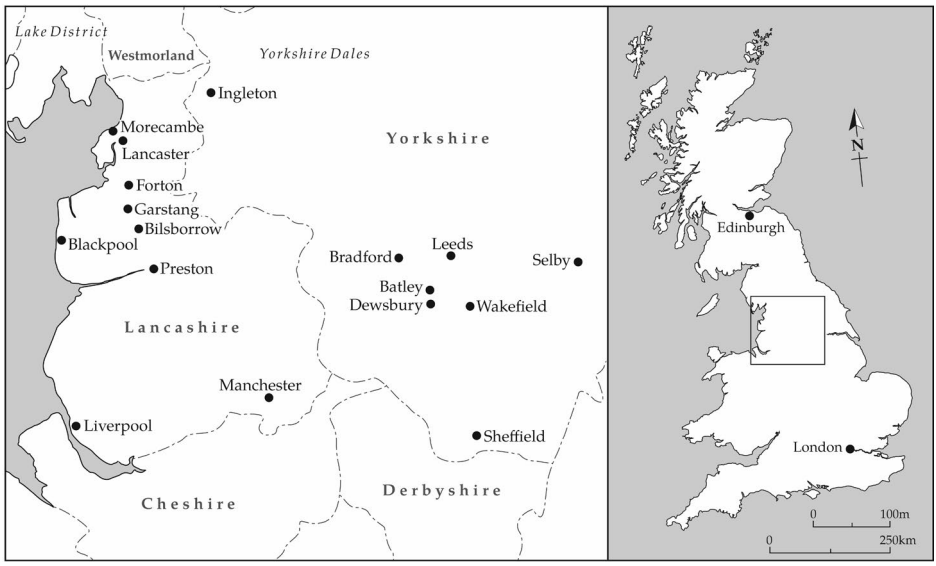


Fig. 2. David Watt Archaeological Illustration, Map of Northern England, CC BY (attribution).

Introduction

In the first volume of Anthony Hewitson's diaries (1865–87), he advanced from chief reporter on a major bi-weekly newspaper, the *Preston Guardian,* to owning and editing his own small weekly paper, the *Preston Chronicle.* His diaries recorded day-to-day reporting and the public life and gossip of Preston, the town where he had settled with his wife Margaret. By the end of volume 1 they had seven surviving children (four had died in infancy). This second volume (1891–1912) covers a similar timespan but there are fewer surviving diaries: five, plus fragments from two other years, compared to twelve years in vol. 1. In this volume, we see Hewitson, now semi-retired after selling the *Preston Chronicle*, continue with his antiquarian and topographical writing, whilst purchasing another weekly paper, the *Wakefield Herald* in 1896, probably as a job-creation scheme for his three sons. They ran this paper with some oversight from their father until he sold it in 1911. By 1906 if not before, all his children had left home, and in his final years he and Margaret spent their winters in suburban Preston and their summers at Morecambe, a Lancashire seaside resort 25 miles north of Preston, close to Lancaster, where the Hewitsons had many relatives.

The years for which no diaries survive were eventful. In 1893 Hewitson launched a new paper, the weekly *Lancaster Standard* for the Liberal-Unionists of Lancaster, a small town and Parliamentary constituency in North Lancashire (see map, fig. 2).[1] He left the paper the following year, perhaps because he was not temperamentally suited to answering to a committee (or to anyone). In the same year he left that paper, he moved to Dewsbury in Yorkshire to run two newspapers in Dewsbury and Batley. In 1899 Hewitson's second son Horace

1 Many years of the *Lancaster Standard* (*LS* hereafter) and the *Wakefield Herald* (*WH* hereafter) have been digitised and are available in the *British Newspaper Archive*.

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created a scandal in Wakefield, involving the suspicious suicide of his former landlord, a life insurance policy and a marriage in New York to his former landlady, freshly widowed. The Hewitsons' eldest child, Florence, became estranged from them: she did not attend the wedding of her younger sister Rosaline in 1898, and the last mention of her in the diaries is in 1906, when she travelled from London to Wakefield to ask for money; the meeting was held in a newspaper office rather than at anyone's home. In 1899 Hewitson's youngest son, Llewellyn, married his first cousin Lily; in 1904 or 1905 he abandoned her and their three sons and went to America, causing a family rift between Hewitson and his brother William, Lily's father. Hewitson's daughter Mabel was admitted to an asylum in 1909 and spent the rest of her life there. None of these events are mentioned or explained in the surviving diaries, and we know that Hewitson wrote diaries for other years which have not survived, or survive only in fragmentary form (1898 and 1900). Were some diaries weeded or destroyed to hide these difficult family episodes?[2]

Nevertheless, the diaries that survive are significant for what they tell us about the continuation of political alignments and subsidies of local newspapers into the 1890s, changes in journalism such as the rise of sports reporting, historical writing in the local press and the middle-class experience of ageing and retirement.

By the 1880s, the commercial prospects were shrinking for a small independent weekly such as Hewitson's *Preston Chronicle*, in a local newspaper market increasingly dominated by larger, wealthier newspaper groups. Hewitson was also losing touch with his readers. In the 1880s he became active in the Ratepayers' and Property Owners' Association of Preston and the 'Party of Caution', supporting a slate of councillors who failed to be elected in the 1888 municipal elections, both organisations involved in an unsuccessful rearguard action against the council-funded development of Preston Dock.[3] The development had strong public support. Hewitson was also in a minority in his disdain for the new spectator sport of association football (soccer), epitomised in his refusal to acknowledge the astounding feat by Preston North End FC of going a whole season without defeat in the newly created Football League and the FA Cup knock-out competition; only when a quarter

2 Vol. 1, xxii.
3 *PH* 3 November 1888, p. 4.

of the town's population turned out to welcome the triumphant team home in April 1889 did the *Chronicle* report their success.[4]

Hewitson's distance from these two major developments in the life of the town were one reason for the decline of the *Chronicle*. Another was that his newspaper had not kept pace with journalism's rapid changes in the 1880s. In the 1870s Hewitson had been in advance of most local newspapers, with his cheeky, gossipy address, mocking councillors, offering pen-portraits of local public figures or 'reviewing' each church and chapel, including the waistline of the vicar and the singing of the choir. But in the 1880s, when other newspapers were dropping their cover prices and 'magazinising' their contents to attract working-class readers, Hewitson's *Chronicle* made few concessions beyond serial fiction and a smattering of illustrations.[5] His 1882 *Newspaper Press Directory* advertisement described the *Chronicle* as 'an excellent Middle-class and Family Journal' when rival newspapers were increasing their appeal to the expanding market of the working-class reader. For all these reasons, the sales of the *Preston Chronicle* were probably declining, prompting Hewitson to dispose of the paper in 1890.

Hewitson's diaries give some insight into the experience of ageing and retirement in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In nineteenth-century Britain old age was thought to start around fifty for women, sixty for men; Hewitson sold the *Chronicle* in 1890, when he was fifty-four, on the cusp of middle age and old age.[6] But he remained active, healthy and independent almost until his death at seventy-six. He took on editing four more newspapers, before handing over the running of the *Wakefield Herald* to Ethelbert, his eldest and most dependable son. He continued to write books and substantial series of newspaper articles until his last months, in 1912. His afternoon naps increased and his walks decreased (although at the age of seventy he did a five-hour walk up Ingleborough, the second-highest mountain in the Yorkshire Dales, 2,372 ft above sea level), but there is no sign of failing mental powers in the diaries. Hewitson is an example of those 'with wealth,

4 Andrew Hobbs, *A Fleet Street in Every Town: The Provincial Press in England, 1855-1900* (Cambridge, UK: Open Book, 2018), pp. 343–44, https://doi.org/10.11647/obp.0152

5 John Tulloch, 'The Eternal Recurrence of New Journalism', In *Tabloid Tales: Global Debates over Media Standards*, edited by Colin Sparks and John Tulloch (Oxford: Rowman & Littlefield, 2000), pp. 131–46 (p. 139).

6 Kay Heath, *Aging by the Book: The Emergence of Midlife in Victorian Britain* (New York: SUNY Press, 2009), p. 11, https://doi.org/10.1515/9780791477267

status or power [who] could be recognised as old yet still command, and know themselves to command, authority, within the family and/or in public life'.[7] He retained ownership of the *Wakefield Herald* until he was seventy-four, rather than passing it to Ethelbert. The money he had saved from his newspapers and rents enabled him and Margaret to live at home with the help of a servant, until death – a comfortable middle-class old age far removed from one in the workhouse, or as an unwelcome guest in the home of a daughter or son.[8]

Nevertheless, the diaries show Hewitson gradually moving from doing to observing and reminiscing (often from a shelter on the seafront at Bare, Morecambe), from the centre of life to the margins. His attitudes remained reactionary in many respects, and the diaries must be read in the light of these prejudices; so, for example, the absence of women antiquarians in them is no guide to their presence or absence in Lancashire (in fact we know there were many women members of historical and antiquarian societies of the time). He still used the 'n-word' (7 August 1911) and thought that modern children were 'disrespectful and disobedient' (8 October 1911; this description could certainly be applied to some of his adult offspring). He began to feel like a survivor:

> Only saw two or three persons in Preston & Fulwood whom I knew. How things & people have changed since time when I used to know everybody worth knowing or sufficiently important enough to be known in both P[reston] & F[ulwood]. (2 August 1911)

And, recalling his time on the *Preston Guardian* in the 1850s, he writes: 'I am the last alive now of all the newspaper proprietors, editors & reporters who were then in Preston' (10 February 1912). He showed detached interest in the new world of the telephone, the motor car, the flying machine and the cinematograph. The diaries for 1891 and 1896 list fewer devotional books amongst his Sunday reading, but these return from 1906 onwards; this may show greater religiosity as he becomes aware of his mortality, although he always went to church. In his last years he began to prepare for death, making a new will, 'simpler and not so prolix' (19 August 1911) and explaining his property affairs to

7 Pat Thane, *Old Age in English History: Past Experiences, Present Issues* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2023), p. 270, https://doi.org/10.1093/oso/9780198203827.001.0001.

8 Naomi Tadmor, 'Roundtable: Old age and the Victorians: "Degrees of Privilege"', *Journal of Victorian Culture* 16 (2011): 118–23, https://doi.org/10.1080/13555502.2011.554684

Ethelbert (26 July 1912), three months before he died.

We can learn more about Hewitson's character and career by comparison with another turn-of-the-century provincial journalist's diary, only the third to come to light.[9] This is the diary of Alfred George Gardiner (1865–1946), held by the library of the London School of Economics.[10] The diary, written in Pitman shorthand, covers the years 1886 to 1903, and takes up 50 pages of a notebook which also includes English, French and Latin quotations (some of them also in shorthand, suggesting that Gardiner's use of shorthand for his diary may have been for speed as well as privacy). Born in Chelmsford, Essex, Gardiner began his diary at the age of twenty-one, when he was chief reporter of the bi-weekly *Bournemouth Directory*; a few months later, in October 1886, he moved on to a new evening paper nearly 300 miles to the north, the Gladstonian Liberal *Northern Daily Telegraph,* initially as Burnley district reporter then at the head office in Blackburn, only ten miles from Hewitson's home in Preston (they would almost certainly have met on reporting assignments).[11] Gardiner stayed in Blackburn for sixteen years, before he was plucked from provincial obscurity to take up an editorship once held by Charles Dickens, on the major London morning paper, the Liberal *Daily News.* The last entry, on 31 December 1903, begins: 'This has been my annus mirabilis. At the beginning I was the editor of a country weekly paper. Today I am the editor of the *Daily News*. The change appears incredible'. In the eyes of his biographer, Stephen Koss, it was this prestigious job, and not his provincial beginnings, which made him worthy of study.[12] Koss does not mention the diary and some factual errors could have been corrected by reference to the diary.

A full transcript of the Gardiner diary would total less than 20,000 words, compared to the 226,000 words of Hewitson's diaries.[13] For the

9 The second is the brief 1864 prison diary of James Brown, editor of the *Isle of Man Times*: Robert Fyson, *The Struggle for Manx Democracy* (Douglas, Isle of Man: Culture Vannin, 2016), pp. 126–44, discussed in vol. 1, pp. xvi–xvii.

10 Notebook including diary, LSE special collections, GARDINER 3/1. Thanks to Dr Stephen Tate for alerting me to it.

11 Some years of the *Northern Daily Telegraph* are available online in the *British Newspaper Archive.*

12 Stephen Koss, *Fleet Street Radical: A. G. Gardiner and the Daily News* (Allen Lane, 1973). Koss refers to the notebook containing the diary, and the shorthand can be read by anyone familiar with the widely used Pitman system.

13 I have transcribed 14,000 words of Gardiner's diary and intend to write more on this valuable source elsewhere.

first two years, Gardiner made frequent short entries (eighty-three in the last six months of 1886, 114 in 1887 and fifty-four in 1888). In February 1889 his first child was born, and it may be no coincidence that diary-keeping became much more sporadic from then on, with five entries that year, none from 1890 to 1893, and after that sometimes only a single summary of the year, sometimes three, four, nine or twelve entries per year. Whilst it is similar to Hewitson's in its record of daily reporting assignments, leisure activities and reading, it is more revealing about the intersection of business and politics in the provincial press, giving sales figures and details of local political newspaper rivalries.

Gardiner and Hewitson were similar in many ways, although they were of different generations: in 1891 Gardiner was twenty-six, Hewitson fifty-five. They came from similar social backgrounds: their fathers were both craftsmen (Gardiner's a cabinet-maker, Hewitson's a stonemason), although Gardiner's father was an alcoholic, perhaps the reason for his youthful teetotalism. They both left school around the age of fourteen but became well-read enough to give literary lectures in adulthood (there are overlaps in their reading—Emerson, Froude, Walter Scott and other biographies—but generational differences, with Carlyle absent from Gardiner's reading; instead he read more novels), and both enjoyed the theatre. They both moved around the country pursuing rapid promotions in their early years, and they both had good relationships with their colleagues on other papers, and attracted patronage, Hewitson from William Livesey, the editor of the *Preston Guardian* in the late 1850s, and Gardiner from Thomas Ritzema, publisher of the Middlesbrough *North Eastern Daily Gazette* and the Blackburn *Northern Daily Telegraph.* However, Livesey went into semi-retirement, withdrawing from his journalistic networks, so could give advice but little more, whilst Ritzema remained active in the world of Liberal newspapers, eventually becoming part-owner of the *Daily News* and hence was able to recommend Gardiner as editor. Hewitson seemed to have few favours to call in when he went asking editors to give his sons a job (at the Lancaster *Guardian* and *Observer* for Llewellyn in 1891, the *Manchester Guardian* and London *Echo* for Ethelbert in 1896, and the *Blackpool Herald* for Horace in 1896 – only the latter was successful).

Both Gardiner and Hewitson married young, at twenty-two. They both appear to have experienced depression in their late twenties and early thirties (Gardiner writes of his 'wretched nervous system which

makes me miserable in the present and fearful of the future', 8 January 1899), although Gardiner did not enjoy Hewitson's good physical health, suffering instead from a serious and repeated chest condition. They both record family matters, including the births and deaths of children and other relatives, and seem fond of their children, Gardiner perhaps more so, recording the funny things they say, and musing over their different personalities, although in his early thirties Gardiner takes cycling holidays with male colleagues, leaving his wife and family behind. Gardiner asked for a weekly wage of two pounds and five shillings when applying to the Blackburn paper in 1886, showing how well paid Hewitson had been thirty years before, when he was chief reporter of the *Preston Guardian* on three pounds a week. Gardiner dabbled in stocks and shares, to his regret.

The differences between the diaries are revealing. Hewitson wrote in longhand, often explaining things as though to another reader, and bequeathed his diaries to his son, perhaps in the hope they would be published. Gardiner wrote in shorthand and there is no evidence he wanted them to be published; this could potentially make them a more honest record, although any diary is an exercise in self-presentation, however private. Gardiner does seem less concerned to come across as knowing or sophisticated, and is more open about enjoying new experiences, for example he writes on 22 November 1887: 'Blackburn Rovers and West Bromwich Albion. Finest game of football I have ever witnessed.' The next day, 23 November, he writes: 'Scenes From Clerical Life [sic] the most beautiful and touching book that I have ever read.' He says this about most of the books he reads in his early twenties.

While Hewitson attended church regularly and read devotional books on Sundays, sometimes discussing his theological beliefs in his diary, it is not clear whether Gardiner had any religious faith; he attended church twice each Sunday in his twenties, but probably only to report the sermons, and mentions reading only one religious book, F. W. Farrar's life of St Paul. Gardiner gives occasional summaries of international news, but this may be related to his shares in international mining companies; Hewitson never mentions news beyond the United Kingdom. Sense of place was important to Hewitson, as seen in his nostalgia for Ingleton where he grew up, and in his writings on local history and topography; this is entirely absent from Gardiner's diary. A lengthy article celebrating the golden wedding anniversary of the

Hewitsons in 1908 concludes that 'Mr Hewitson has created for himself a name which will continue to be recalled so long as the town's histories are read, and historical, critical, antiquarian, and topographically descriptive works are consulted'.[14] The list of historical and topographical publications at the end of this volume shows this to be a fair assessment.

In contrast, Gardiner's leisure pursuits, particularly sport, were closer to those of Hewitson's sons, reminding us of their age difference (Hewitson's involvement in sport may also have been limited by his blindness in one eye). Gardiner was keen on cricket and football from his youth, and was lucky to move to East Lancashire just as football began to explode as a hugely popular spectator phenomenon, and attended matches most weekends in this heartland of late Victorian soccer. He defended football in print (in sharp contrast to Hewitson's condemnation of it), and took up cycling in 1899, writing a 'Cyclist's Sketchbook' in the *Northern Weekly Telegraph* under the pseudonym of 'Argus'. He was also a keen chess player, recording his victories and defeats, including a move-by-move account of one match.

Gardiner had wider horizons than Hewitson and was more open about what he wanted to achieve, writing on 1 January 1895: 'I have the ambition to achieve something, to write or do some thing that shall raise me above the dead lethargy of the masses.' Hewitson never spelled out his ambitions, beyond wanting to provide for his family and himself. A comparison of the two journalists' careers brings out the differences in their talents and personalities: Hewitson went from printer to reporter, to editor/manager and chief reporter, then after he was fired (probably for moonlighting during working hours), running his own papers. He republished some of his newspaper writing as books, specialising in local history and topography. Gardiner trained as a reporter from the beginning, progressing to chief reporter of a bi-weekly then reporter on a more prestigious evening paper, assistant sub-editor, assistant editor, then editor of a sister weekly paper, before editing a national morning newspaper. Here he was lauded for his political analysis and biographical acuity, producing biographies and collections of essays, and a series of articles in weighty journals. Hewitson was far ahead of his time in his proactive reporting, finding and creating stories, causing

14 'Fifty years. Mr and Mrs Hewitson's golden wedding', *Preston Guardian* (*PG* hereafter) 19 September 1908, p. 11. The article mentions Margaret Hewitson briefly, before becoming a detailed biographical sketch of Anthony.

scandals and sensations, as in his character sketches of local councillors and clergymen. Gardiner was more a columnist and leader-writer, with a deeper level of analysis and a wider viewpoint. He too wrote character sketches of councillors and other Blackburn figures, but they were more serious and analytical than Hewitson's.[15]

Crucially, Gardiner was more biddable and loyal than Hewitson, both to his employer and his party. Hewitson always seemed to believe that he knew better, and had little respect for the owner of the *Preston Guardian,* George Toulmin, despite Toulmin's ability as a journalist and publisher; Hewitson behaved like a freelance, selling stories to other papers, often during working hours, even when he was an employee. Gardiner got on well with his publisher, Ritzema (perhaps because they were both teetotallers), socialising with him and having chats about his career progression; as part of a network of newspapers with overlapping ownership, Gardiner was able to increase his income by writing for another paper within the group (the Middlesbrough *Daily Gazette*), and there is no mention of freelancing or moonlighting. Hewitson was a Liberal activist in his younger days, but did not follow party discipline, promoting his own parliamentary candidate and splitting the Liberal vote in one case. Gardiner was fully committed to the Liberal electoral project entwined with his newspaper's business aims. His campaigns aimed to improve local life: 'My letters on the technical school and its poor results have created a big sensation in educational circles' (8 December 1898), whilst Hewitson was more interested in scandal, such as the secret marriage of the vicar of Preston to a woman less than half his age. Gardiner's self-image in his diary is humbler and less arrogant than Hewitson; his career suggests that he was more willing to submit to authority, and more committed to the ideal of journalism in pursuit of a better society. Hewitson was more hot-headed, less of a team player than Gardiner, more prickly, peevish and Pooterish than Gardiner (Hewitson is triumphant when someone buys him a drink, is put out when his complimentary *Preston Guardian* calendar is given to someone else, and baffled by an examiner failing to recognise his daughter's talent in her piano exam).[16] Hewitson operated like a small businessman, with an eye to a commercial opportunity. On these terms, he was successful.

15 Koss, *Fleet Street Radical*, p. 24.

16 Charles Pooter is the comically self-important diarist in George and Weedon Grossmith, *The Diary of a Nobody* (Ware: Wordsworth Editions, 1994).

Editing method

The same method as for vol. 1 has been followed (see vol. 1, p. xlv), with one exception: to reduce the number of cross-references, life dates of each individual mentioned are given at first mention only; they can be found by word-searching an electronic edition. People frequently mentioned are marked with an asterisk in the text, with brief biographies on page 337.

Key to abbreviations

LEP/LDP	*Lancashire Evening/Daily Post*
LG	*Lancaster Guardian*
LS	*Lancaster Standard*
PC	*Preston Chronicle*
PG	*Preston Guardian*
PH	*Preston Herald*
PTC	Anthony Hewitson, *Preston Town Council, or, Portraits of Local Legislators, Together with a List of All the Mayors, Aldermen and Councillors Elected for the Borough of Preston, between 1835 and 1870* (Preston: Preston Chronicle, 1870), https://play.google.com/books/reader?id=ft4yAQAAMAAJ
WE	*Wakefield Express*
WH	*Wakefield Herald*

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THE DIARIES

1891

Since Hewitson's previous surviving diary, for 1887 (see vol. 1), he had continued to own and edit the *Preston Chronicle*, but in September 1890 he sold the *Chronicle* to two other Preston journalists, Frank Coupe from the *Preston Herald,* and Charles Cooper from the *Preston Guardian* and *Lancashire Evening Post*.[1] Three years later they sold it to the *Preston Guardian,* owned by Hewitson's old rivals, the Toulmins, who closed the *Chronicle.* Reporting on Hewitson's sale of the *Chronicle,* a trade newspaper, *The Journalist*, explained that 'the former proprietor, Mr. A Hewitson, has, it is said, made sufficient money out of the paper, and by linage and other means, to enable him to retire to some place in the country'.[2] Hewitson was 54. He retained his shop on Preston's main street, Fishergate, as a stationer's, run by his wife Margaret Hewitson and their middle son, Horace.[3]

He and his family continued to rent Brookhouse, Bilsborrow, a large, detached rural villa seven miles north of Preston (fig. 3). His father, also called Anthony, died in 1889. In August 1890, a month before the *Chronicle* was sold, Hewitson's eldest son, Ethelbert, aged twenty-four, emigrated to New York, described on the passenger list as a reporter.[4] Hewitson

1 Frank Coupe (1847-1930) was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia and began as a printer's apprentice on the *Preston Guardian* before becoming a sports writer for the *Preston Herald*. After the *Preston Chronicle* was subsumed into the *Preston Guardian* in 1893, he worked in the Preston office of the Blackburn-based *Northern Daily Telegraph* until retirement. A lifelong Conservative and Churchman, and a founder member of the National Union of Journalists' local branch; Charles Cooper (b. 1849); Hewitson's ban on trade union membership amongst his *Chronicle* printers may have softened, judging by his son Ethelbert's attendance on behalf of the paper at Preston Typographical Society's annual dinner and ball in 1889 (*PC* 16 Feb 1889, p.6).

2 *The Journalist*, 20 September 1890, p.10.

3 Margaret Hewitson née Wilson (1838-1916); Horace Hallam Hewitson (1867-1949); see family tree, vol. 1, pp. 612–13.

4 Ethelbert Hewitson (1865-1936); leaving Liverpool on 4 August 1890, on board the *Alaska.* His address is given as care of his uncle, Rev J Finch, in Hoboken, New Jersey, at the front of the 1891 diary.

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was still involved in many organisations, including the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society (he was a member from its foundation in 1883 until his death), and the Garstang and District Agricultural Society; he served as a parish overseer for the Poor Law Guardians, as governor of Bilsborrow school, and was an honorary member of a local friendly society, the Loyal 'Royal Bowbearers' Lodge of Oddfellows, Manchester Unity.[5] Two of his sons, presumably the eldest, Ethelbert and Horace, had worked as reporters on the *Chronicle*.[6] His sons were keen sportsmen, with Horace helping to found Garstang Cricket Club in 1888, while he and his brothers Ethelbert and Llewellyn were all members of Preston Amateur Swimming Club in 1889 and 1890.[7] By 1891 Horace was reporting for the *Preston Herald*, and about to take over his parents' stationery shop, but his younger brother Llewellyn was not working, although described as a newspaper reporter by April, when the census was taken.[8]



Fig. 3. Edwin Beattie, 1899, Brookhouse, Bilsborrow, north of Preston, Hewitson's home 1885–91 from *Northward* p. 36, public domain.

5 *Transactions of the Lancashire & Cheshire Antiquarian Society*; *PG* 15 June 1889, p. 2; *PC* 23 March 1889, p. 6.
6 Vol. 1, p. 636.
7 Llewellyn Hewitson (1873-1964); *PH* 2 June 1888, p. 3; *LEP* 12 Sept 1889 p. 4; *PC* 13 Sept 1890, p. 8.
8 *PC* 22 November 1890.

[Charles Letts's improved Diary, octavo, 3 days to a page] [9]

[on 1st Memoranda page:]

Diary of A Hewitson, Brook House, nr Garstang

God-bless, protect, guide & guard me & mine during this year, & to Thee be all the praise

A.H.

[on 2nd Memoranda page, in pencil:]

Jan 12. R & L first lesson in music in new quarter.

[on Addresses page:]

Ethelbert Hewitson
c/o Rev J Finch
311 Garden-st[ree]t
Hoboken
New Jersey
U.S.A.

Mr Seymour F Frasick
c/o Pope Man[u]f[acturin]g Co.
Boston
U.S.A.

[On page with pre-printed title 'Memorandum of Things Lent, &c']

Date	Article	To whom Lent	When Returned
Speakers & chairman's guide		Mr Marks	Returned Jan 15/91

9 Lancashire Archives, DP512/1/12.

January

Thursday 1 January 1891 Rose about 8.20. My wife, son H[orace], & daughter M[abel], who had been at Preston all last night – selling New Year cards &c till about 11 – home per train ~~due at Brock at 8.25~~ which was specially stopped for her at Brock shortly after 11 in forenoon. Easy & quiet day. In aft[ernoo]n by the fire side with my wife & daughters M[abel], R[osaline] & L[etitia]. At night playing cards with them and son L[lewellyn].[10]

Friday 2 January 1891 Had a walk in forenoon down Myerscough Hall lane a short way & then up Bilsborrow lane as far as the Wesleyan chapel. The chapel keeper (Catterall) invited me to look in. Inspected the chapel which I had not been in since its restoration some months ago. Found it neatly & comfortably re-pewed, cleaned &c, & old, grim, godless-looking gallery on south side removed. Home through the fields. In aft[ernoo] n had a walk up Bilsborrow lane & round by Lidgett [Lydiate] lane – about 3 ½ miles round, very slippy through frost though heavy thaw going on. At night finished Serjeant Robinson's Reminiscences which I began on New Y[ea]r's Eve – exceedingly interesting.[11]

Saturday 3 January 1891 At noon to Preston per conveyance. Thaw going on, Preston dull & as usual in a footballish mood. Called at Railway Station & got the "Croker Papers." Home at 7 – 2 hours on the way owing to fog & slippy road.[12]

Sunday 4 January 1891 In house – through coldness of the weather – all day. In evening read a little in Stanley's life of Dr Arnold – a very good but very dry book for the ordinary reader.[13]

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10 Mabel Hewitson (1874-1922); Rosaline Hewitson (1876-1965); Letitia Hewitson (1879-1962); see family tree, vol. 1, pp. 612-13.

11 Catterall unidentified; Benjamin Coulson Robinson, *Bench and Bar: Reminiscences of One of the Last of an Ancient Race* (London: Hurst & Blackett, 1889), https://www.google.co.uk/books/edition/Bench_and_Bar/TDc0AQAAMAAJ

12 John Wilson Croker, *The Croker Papers: The Correspondence and Diaries of the Late Right Honourable John Wilson Croker*, ed. by Louis J. Jennings (London: John Murray, 1885), Vol 1: http://archive.org/details/crokerpaperscorr01crokuoft. Vol. 2: http://archive.org/details/crokerpaperscorr02crokuoft, Vol 3: http://archive.org/details/crokerpaperscorr03crokiala

13 Arthur Penrhyn Stanley, *Life and Correspondence of Thomas Arnold*, 2 vols (London: Ward, Lock, 1844), https://archive.org/details/lifecorresponden01stanuoft

Monday 5 January 1891 To Preston in aft[ernoo]n, per 1.23 train. Paid poor rates for shop & printing works up to time of my leaving the latter.[14] The rates are about 3/2 in the pound, and with the Corporation impost make the total present rates of Preston equal to about 5/8 in the pound. Too heavy. Vicar Harrison's daughter buried to-day.[15]

Tuesday 6 January 1891 Again to Preston per train: it is too cold for driving per carriage in the highway. Preston Great Horse Fair began to-day and will continue till Thursday evening. Numerous animals in the town – both human & quadrupedal. Several horses shown in the main street, which is contrary to the municipal order. I & my wife walked to 21 East View -- to look at some furniture on sale. R. Macnab, a young barrister, accompanied us just for the walk.[16]

Wednesday 7 January 1891 To Preston per 10.23 forenoon train. To J Clarke's,* sol[icito]r, putting several persons in the County Court for debts. In aft[ernoo]n whilst entering "the Orchard," saw Ben Treasure auctioneer selling or trying to sell horses. He had one in his "ring" – highest bid for it £2-10-0! A large number of roughish horses in the Covered Market.[17]

Thursday 8 January 1891 Got to Preston by train this morning early – about 9. Had a gas stove (price 25/-) ~~put~~ fixed in the shop for son H[orace]; also had paperers, and a joiner at work. The stove well worth fixing, cost me about 35/-. Old Mr Abbott, solicitor (Plant & Abbott) interred today. He was originally intended for a priest, & did not qualify as a lawyer till he was about 45 y[ea]rs of age. A dry, hoarse, queer old stick & often with John Gardner,* of Forton.[18]

Friday 9 January 1891 At home all day. Cold weather. Nothing particular in news. My wife unwell – bronchial attack. A good many people out

14 Local tax levied by the Poor Law Guardians, to support those in poverty.

15 Mary Ann Dora Harrison (1870-91), second daughter of Rev. John Denby Harrison MA (c.1841-1905), vicar of St Lawrence, Barton (*LDP,* 5 October 1905, p. 4).

16 Robert Allan McNab (1866-1932); the furniture belonged to Rev. George Henry Turner, minister of Orchard St United Methodist church, Preston.

17 James Clarke (1844-1915), with offices in Lune St; also solicitor to the Preston Board of Guardians (*PH* 20 January 1915, p.3); Ben Treasure (1831-95), auctioneer and valuer.

18 Horace was taking over the stationery shop at 18A Fishergate, Preston. William Abbott (1815-91) of Preston, Roman Catholic and a staunch Conservative, senior partner of Plant, Abbott and Plants, solicitors; John Gardner (c. 1821-91) of The Hill, Forton, former owner of Marsh Lane cotton mill, Preston.

of sorts through the severity of the weather. Ice still on the canal. This winter the [River] Ribble has, I learn, been sufficiently frozen to enable skaters to go on it as far as Ribchester from Preston. It is about a dozen y[ea]rs since the ice was strong enough for this purpose. On the whole – & so far – this has been an exceptionally severe winter.

Saturday 10 January 1891 At noon drove to Preston. Travelling bad – snow trodden hard & slippy & ice on each side. Footballing agitation in Preston – as usual.[19]

Sunday 11 January 1891 With my wife – upstairs – she being unwell, the greater part of the day. Read a little in "Ignorant Essays" by R Dowling.[20] Original, breezy, but in some respects too sweeping.

Monday 12 January 1891 To Preston by 10.23 morning train. Foggy weather. Got – in exchange for two of my own v[olume]s -- copy, in 3 vols – of Letters of Charles Dickens. Throng[21] for some time with my son Horace, ordering goods with & for him. He starts to-day on his own a/c [account] with my shop, 18a Fishergate, Preston, as printer & stationer. My wife somewhat better.

Tuesday 13 January 1891 At noon today went with my son L[lewellyn] to sale of implements, cattle &c at Cross House Farm up in Claughton. My cart put into it. A large company; high prices for cattle – specially "young things." Stirks and such like from about £7 to £11 each. I bought a calf about four months old – price £4-3-6. Sold my cart. For £7. Kelsall, Bilsborough [sic], the auctioneer. The calf I bought was born in Oct 1890.[22]

Wednesday 14 January 1891 Son L[lewellyn] & boy John fetched the calf this forenoon. It is a very fine one – red with a white patch on face.[23]

Thursday 15 January 1891 To Preston ~~with my wife~~ per 10.23 forenoon train. At 2 my wife came to Preston. Went to sale of furniture &c by T Dewhurst,* successor of H.C. Walton, at sale rooms, Fishergate. We

19 The 'agitation' may have been Preston fans catching trains to see their team play Everton FC in Liverpool, or crowds waiting outside newspaper offices in Fishergate for telegraphed news of the game.

20 Richard Dowling, *Ignorant Essays* (London: Ward & Downey, 1887), https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/53169

21 Busy.

22 Young calves.

23 John Bridgen (b. 1873, see 9 September 1891), from Whitehaven.

bought a quantity of things. Met in room with John Davies [sic] of Lancaster, an old Lancastrian friend of mine whom I had not seen for upwards of 30 y[ea]rs. In evening went to see corpse of W Singleton. He was most stupidly removed from the Infirmary last Sat by his drunken little wife & another woman & taken to a dog-hole of a place in Paradise or Little Paradise St[ree]t. He died on Monday & owing to the rambling out proclivities of his wife his body could not be got at for a coffin till this forenoon. Body removed to his old place in Grimshaw St[ree]t. He looked very crazy[?] & was "like himself." In evening at railway station had a chat with Rev J (I think it is J) Wayman, congregational minister of Blackpool. He has been there about 22 years. In a fortnight – so he told me – he will sever his connection there. He told me he had an invitation from the Kentish Town Congregational Church London, & that it was probable he should accept it. Wayman, whom I have known for at least 22 y[ea]rs, is a smart, cute, energetic fellow – a good speaker & fond of a good story. I told him one or two funny things during our chat (Jno Addison, deputy C[ounty] Court judge & the cobbler with his £30 in silver in one pocket & who ought, so JA thought, to have had his lapstone in the other to balance him, the candidate who canvassed on Sundays & justified his action on scriptural grounds, saying he was trying to make his election sure. J Addison with the Ribble Navigation Company, annual round[?], dined at Fleetwood, & s[ai]d that one of their toasts sh[oul]d be not only the port but the port and sherry of Fleetwood; Massey the old Congregational minister at Forton. Wayman when I said I was going to live at Forton Bank said "Well then, I suppose we may call you a Forton-ate man."[24]

Friday 16 January 1891 At home all day – very cold.

Saturday 17 January 1891 To Preston per conveyance at noon. One of shoes of horse – after being repaired at Roebuck – came off & got lost

24 Thomas Dewhurst (c. 1845-1916), 'a kindly, decent, semi-bumptious person' (18 October 1896); Henry Crane Walton (c. 1821-91), auctioneer, French consul, occasional contributor to the *Preston Guardian* (*PG*, 28 February 1891, p. 5); John Davis (1836-1911), retired photographer, Fellow of the Royal Photographic Society, worked at Lancaster County Asylum for 14 years before setting up as photographer; 'originally a factory operative, afterwards an asylum attendant, then a photographer & art dealer in New-st[ree]t, Lancaster' (25 Nov 1911; *LG*, 2 Dec 1911);William Singleton, former beerseller who opened Preston's first Turkish bath in Grimshaw Street (see vol. 1, p. 626); James Wayman (1840-99), minister of Blackpool's Victoria St congregational chapel, involved in Blackpool Victoria FC and in founding the Liberal *Blackpool Times* (est. 1877); John Addison (1791-1859), brother of the Recorder of Preston, Thomas Batty Addison.

before I reached Broughton. Got one tinkered up at Broughton smithy – cost 9d. Preston dull as usual. Had a short talk with Adam Leigh.* At night found I had lost lamp stem. Lad at home had not fixed it properly. What Devils for carelessness lads are.[25]

Sunday 18 January 1891 Very keen frost. In aft[ernoo]n hundreds passed on canal opposite our house. Never saw so much skating. – young middle aged men, lads, girls &c, all skating. Some of the men had come miles. During day my son Horace skated to & from Bay Horse & almost to and from Preston. Son L[lewellyn] skating & daughters M[abel], R[osaline], Letty. Very good skater is Letty. I & my wife went upon canal bank in aft[ernoo]n to look on. A very varied, inspiriting & occasionally ludicrous scene. At night read several pages in Dowling's "Ignorant Essays".

Monday 19 January 1891 To Preston sprung cart hunting, &c.

Tuesday 20 January 1891 In aft[ernoo]n by train to Broughton & thence walked to Swillbrook in Woodplumpton to see Mrs Birley (late Mrs Fyles [sic] of Lytham) about a sprung cart. Not in. Went in to Jno. Threlfall's Black Leach – brother-in-law – not in. Got tea there. At 5 proceeded to Swillbrook – saw Mr & Mrs Birley. Wanted £15 for sprung cart – a very good one, nearly new, which they s[ai]d had cost £27. Had a glass of sherry. Mr & Mrs Birley chatty. I said I would let them know whether I w[oul]d buy the cart. Fixed in canal in ice, opposite Swillbrook, were a dozen large boats. I believe all had been fast here for nearly 5 weeks. Ice cutting boat after frost – machinery broken down. Walked home – rainy, dirty tramp.[26]

Wednesday 21 January 1891 At home all day. A thaw set in. Hope it will go on.

Thursday 22 January 1891 To Preston, with my wife, per 10.23 forenoon train. Bought a spring cart for £8 from Durham, furniture broker Fylde Road, opposite Ship Inn. Also a fender & fire irons for £2.12.6d. In aft[ernoo]n to sale of glass &c at Dewhurst's* rooms. Not much.[27]

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25 Adam Leigh (1817-92) of Westleigh House, Lea, owner with his son John (see 3 September 1911) of Brookhouse Mill, one of the biggest employers in Preston, 'a steady, respectable, wealthy man, & a special earth worm' (11 April 1891, *PH*, 23 November 1892, p. 2).

26 Jessie Macblane Birley (c. 1849-1938, formerly Fildes, née Mackie) married to Edmund William Birley (1854-1940) of Swillbrook House; John Threlfall (1831-1913).

27 John T. Durham (c. 1853-1935), second-hand furniture dealer.

Friday 23 January 1891 Heavy thaw, which set in on Tuesday, still going on. Two butchers (Grimes's & Winn's sons) from Preston called & one of them offered me £19 for a fat cow, a stirk, and a splendid wye calf. I told him I w[oul]d see all the butchers of Preston & the district in - . "Well," I said "in Paradise" (I meant hell), before I w[oul]d take such a price. Fortunately Grimes's son agreed to take the cow on Feb 4 at the market price then prevailing so much per lb. At night reading papers & finished "Ignorant Essays". [28]

Saturday 24 January 1891 To Preston at noon in trap, with daughters R[osaline] & L[etitia]. Preston in a dull state. Streets dirty. Only activity apparently in the direction of football playing. Adam Leigh* called at shop, & I had a short talk with him.

Sunday 25 January 1891 In aft[ernoo]n had a short walk (& a smoke) through Cornthwaite's fields round by Pot House Chapel. A fine day for time of y[ea]r. In evening finished ~~Dowling's "Ignorant Essays" &~~ reading a work on ~~"Lesson~~ "The Lesson of the Revolution" by Balsillie & began reading a vol[ume] by Purnell entitled "Dust and Diamonds".[29]

Monday 26 January 1891 To Preston, in aft[ernoo]n, with my wife, per conveyance. Nothing special. Home at night.

Tuesday 27 January 1891 In forenoon ~~with my~~ saw the ice on canal being broken up by a ~~steam~~ boat which was propelled by steam and assisted along by five horses. To Preston with my wife per 10.23 train. At 1 pm to Lea Road station & walked thence (with my wife) to Lea Hall Farm where a sale was announced to take place. Advert said the farm was about 20 minutes' walk from the station; but it is nearer 40, by the fields. I bought a chestnut mare, called "Beauty" for 44 guineas. A beautiful stepper and a fine animal altogether. Many people present at the sale which included horses, implements &c. Farm a very large one – the tenant being an elderly man named Richardson, farming from the Cockerham district. Four or five daughters & two of their sons living with Richardson who is leaving this farm. Drove "Beauty" to Brook House, calling at Preston on the way. George Mason, farmer, Barton, who was at the sale rode with us as far as

28 Peter Grime had a butcher's shop on Avenham Lane; J Winn had one in the Shambles, Lancaster Rd. Wye means female.

29 David Balsillie, *The Lesson of the Revolution* (Edinburgh: A. & C. Black, 1890); Thomas Purnell, *Dust and Diamonds* (London: Ward & Downey, 1888), https://www.google.co.uk/books/edition/Dust_and_Diamonds/IJF97WsI8kMC

Myerscough Cottage – a place owned & occupied for many years by Mr T Parkinson, who died the other week. It is now to let. This Parkinson is the person who once lent me the original of the Tyldesley Diary (he was, by some means, the owner of it) which, edited by Joe Gillow and myself was published in the Preston Chronicle.[30].

Wednesday 28 January 1891 To Preston this morning. Son L[lewellyn] took back to Lea Hall Farm the trap I borrowed & which "Beauty" brought us home by last evening. A cabman at Cattle Market hailed me & praised the new mare I had bought. Paid Durham £8 for spring cart and £2.12.6 for fender and fire irons (Durham is a furniture broker in Fylde-road, Preston. In aft[ernoo]n I and my wife went to a furniture sale at J.B. Jones and Sons, Church-st[ree]t & bought £5 or £6 worth of things. Alex Tullis (Cooper & Tullis, contractors, Preston) died today. He was a good-hearted, decent fellow.[31]

Thursday 29 January 1891 At home doing nothing very extraordinary.

Saturday 30 January 1891 [Hewitson has written wrong date]

Wrote to son Bertie. Drove Beauty to Preston – daughters R[osaline] & L[etty] with me. Horse seemed at first rather too spirited – bad to harness and reared af[terwar]ds. But became relatively all right. Preston dull. Had a very short chat with Adam Leigh* about a piece of plate presented this week to H.C. Walton. Arkwright, second hand bookseller, Lune St[reet], asked me some weeks ago ~~to~~ or suggested propriety of my agitation for subscriptions for this thing. I declined. He ~~then~~ soon afterwards went to Birmingham & bought a piece of ~~place~~ plate, then a circular for subscriptions was sent out by Cedric Houghton, a lawyer who is, I believe often with Arkwright or at his shop. Fancy appealing for subscriptions for a piece of plate after the piece has been privately purchased! Cost about £20. Has Arkwright or anybody else made any "plunder" out of this transaction?[32]

[No entry on Saturday 31st]

30 John Richardson (c. 1838), farmer; George Mason (c. 1838-1909), Beesley's Farm, Barton; Thomas Parkinson (1805-90); Tyldesley Diary: vol. 1, p. xxi; Joseph Gillow junior (1850–1921): vol. 1, fn. 60, p. 215.

31 Jabez B. Jones (1836-91), auctioneer and estate agent (see vol. 1, p. 621); Alexander Tullis (1819-91), senior partner of building firm Cooper and Tullis, who built Preston's town hall, public library and railway station (*PG*, 31 January 1891).

32 John Arkwright (c. 1845-1915), antique dealer, bookseller and antiquarian (*LEP* 29 October 1915, p.4); Cedric Houghton (c. 1842-1910), solicitor, who gave his collection of pottery and china to the Harris Art Gallery, Preston.

February

Sunday 1 February 1891 To Barton Church this forenoon on foot with daughter L[etty] – Son L[lewellyn] going on his bicycle. Fair congregation; singing bad; sermon by Vicar Harrison, moderate. After service spoke to C.R. Jacson about school bills & schoolmaster. In aft[ernoo]n my wife & son H[orace] & daughter R[osaline] drove as far as Bay Horse, passing Forton Bank [fig. 4] which my wife said did not seem to be in such good form. I reading Purnell's "Dust & Diamonds". About 5 pm there drove up, in a hansom, Mr Thos. Tomlinson, corn merchant &c Lancaster-rd, Preston, along with son of Joe Brown (of the Pole-st[ree]t Brewery). Brown's son is in Tomlinson's service. They looked at my horse "Charlie" & eventually Tomlinson agreed to buy him for £25. T & B had each two glasses of brandy. They left about 7pm.[33]

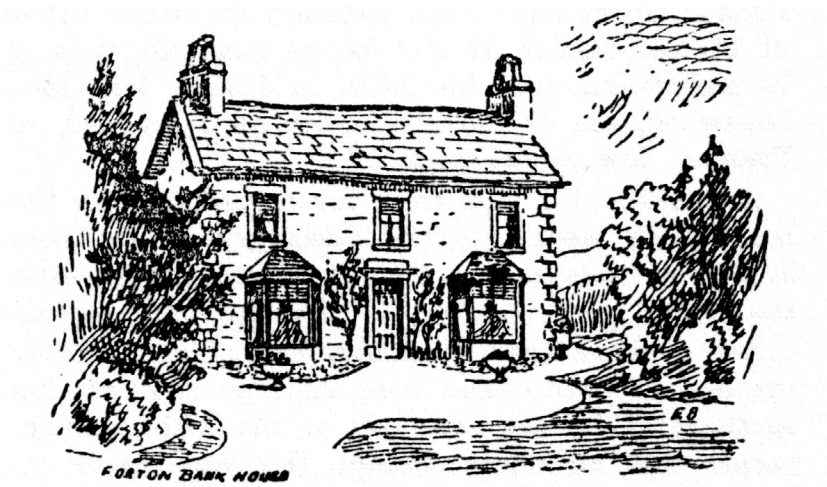


Fig. 4. Edwin Beattie, 1899, Forton Bank, south of Lancaster, Hewitson's home 1891–94, from *Northward* p. 83, public domain.

33 Charles Roger Jacson (1817-93), director of Horrocks, Jacson & Co, cotton manufacturers, of Barton Hall, former Preston mayor and alderman and active public figure, a 'thin, elongated, semi-silvery haired, languid-looking gentleman' (*PTC*); Thomas Tomlinson (b. c. 1844); Richard Brown (c. 1864-1917), corn merchant, son of Joseph Brown (c. 1832-1901) of the Matthew Brown brewing family.

Monday 2 February 1891 I at home all day; my wife to M[an]chester, buying val[entine]s for son H[orace].[34] At night I had a read in Purnell's "Dust & Diamonds". My wife returned at night.

Tuesday 3 February 1891 To Preston, after dinner in conveyance, son L[lewellyn] with me. "Beauty" – our new horse – went well. Preston, as usual, dull.

Wednesday 4 February 1891 In aft[ernoo]n walked over to see Mr Bennett, near Catterall House & ~~got~~ got him to come & look at cow stirk "Nutty" & the calf, with the view of buying them. Had a talk with Mrs ~~Cotter~~ Jackson of Catterall House, who was raking up leaves & burning them on one side of place, in front. She was pretty full of complaints. Passed down to Bennett's. Found he was not in. Asked his wife to send him on. Returned and on way met W. Banks, cattle jobber, who asked me price of cow. S[ai]d I could not tell him till Bennett had first had a chance. In evening Bennett came on horseback & I agreed to sell him the cow (fat), the stirk about 15 months old, & the calf about 5 months old for £30. Delivery on Friday.[35]

Thursday 5 February 1891 To Preston, with my wife & daughter M[abel], per conveyance. Returned at 2.30 pm. At 3.30 to a meeting of Governors of Bilsborrow School. C.R. Jacson in chair. Lasted about 2 hours.

Friday 6 February 1891 This forenoon Bennett sent a lad for the cow &c. Received £30 (3 £10 notes) & gave back 2/6 "for luck". In aft[ernoo]n chopped some wood. Received a letter from son E[thelbert].

Saturday 7 February 1891 After dinner to Preston with my wife & daughters M[abel], R[osaline] & L[etty]. I did not observe anything particular – out of the usual course of dullness & daftness &c &c – in the town.

Sunday 8 February 1891 Wanted to go to church but a slight rain set in. At noon Mr T Tomlinson of Preston, who bought my horse "Charlie" (along with young Brown) called on their way to the Old Holly. Gave each a glass of whiskey. They came per conveyance, drawn by "Charlie". In evening I read a little in "The Letters of Charles Dickens".

34 Stock for the stationery shop.

35 William Grange Bennett (c. 1856-1907) of Catterall House Farm, farmer; Jane Jackson (c. 1836-1907), widow; William Banks (c. 1849-1911), cattle dealer, lodging at the White Bull.

Monday 9 February 1891 This morning to Manchester taking with me new set of harness, which I purchased a few weeks ago & which, being too small, for "Beauty" the person I bought from (Mr Kilbourn of Bilston) will exchange same for another set – he having a sale in Manchester at Ellis's, 37, Corporation-st[ree]t, today & to-morrow. Got a fresh set; ~~could~~ called at Jno. Heywood's, Deansgate, about some printing &c. On going to railway station, to catch 4.5 pm train, was stopped by a son of ~~RA~~ late Robert Ward, draper, Friargate, Preston. This son was, up to recently, a porter at Preston, Central Station, but as I understood him, he had quarrelled with his wife & given up – perhaps lost – his place. He asked me for "something": I gave him a shilling & lectured him for leaving his situation through a quarrel with his wife. Left Manchester by 4.5 train. Got home about 5.40.[36]

Tuesday 10 February 1891 At home till about noon: then drove to Preston, with my wife, shopping &c. At night collided with one of Harding & Co's vans, (mainly owing to the van being without lights), in Lancaster-r[oa]d, where Walker-street crosses.[37] Part of one of my shafts broken. Got a fresh trap at Harding & Co's, who will mend mine & so home.

Wednesday 11 February 1891 Went to Lancaster per 10.5 forenoon train from Brock to see Mr Law[rence] Holden,* respecting establishment of a new Conservative (and Liberal Unionist) paper at Lancaster. Saw Mr H at his home, in High-st[ree]t – the house which Dr Langshaw formerly occupied, & at which, so Mr H said, Professor Whewell had often visited; also met Mr Diggens,* of the Albert Asylum here. I gave them a rough estimate of probable cost of plant, &c for a new paper. Af[terwards] had a glass of champagne, a walk through part of town, calling on J. Allen the owner of Forton Bank, and then had lunch with Mr Holden.* In aft[ernoo]n went by tram car to Morecambe & by rail back. Morecambe dull & cold. Home per train which arrived at Brock about 5.30pm.[38]

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36 Robert Ward (b. 1829).

37 Furniture removers of Lune St, Preston.

38 Lawrence Holden (c. 1826-1910), county coroner, registrar of Lancaster county court, Conservative; this paper was first discussed on 13 May 1887, and again on 24 May and 6 June 1887 (see vol. 1); Dr JP Langshaw (c. 1814-96), general practitioner and Lancaster gaol surgeon; William Whewell (1794-1866), born in Lancaster, polymath, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge 1841-66; James Diggens (1835-1906), 'autocratic, ginger-looking, & dignified' (31 October 1891 entry), secretary of the Royal Albert Asylum (a charitable institution for the training of 'feeble-

Thursday 12 February 1891 In forenoon drove to Preston with my wife & daughter L[etty], who at 1.45pm proceeded, via Bradford, to Sheffield, where my wife's sister Ellen (Mrs Hall) resides, to stay a few days with her. Back home, with son L[lewellyn] in evening. Horse ill – got cold – & sent to Garstang for Mr Breakell V.S. [veterinary surgeon][39]

Friday 13 February 1891 Engaged mostly in tidying up front – leaves, &c. Servant girl Martha came per noon train to-day. Wages at rate of £15 per y[ea]r.[40]

Saturday 14 February 1891 Per 10.23 forenoon train to Preston. Town dull. Called at J Clarke's,* solicitor, & gave instructions for a local lawyer & parson to be pitched into by County Court summons, for money owing to me. Home per pm train & read papers &c for an hour or two.

Sunday 15 February 1891 Walked to Barton church. Road dirty, but weather beautiful. Sun shining, throstles singing, larks wheeling up melodiously. At church good singing – impressive, & the sermon not quite so dull and uninteresting. In afternoon had a read & a short sleep; then a walk to old field, up Bilsborrow lane & through Cornthwaite's field home. On the way heard & saw my sons H[orace] & L[lewellyn] &c playing at football; but pretended to take no notice. I don't see much – if any—harm in the moderate play of even football on Sunday. It is only muscular exercise in agreeable competition.

Monday 16 February 1891 Delving flower beds in front. At night reading Dickens's Letters.

Tuesday 17 February 1891 A throng hard day cleaning up kitchen garden – leaves, potato tops &c. At night reading ~~par~~ tail end of Waterton's Natural History Essays – combative, honest, instructive.[41]

Wednesday 18 February 1891 Bad in my back: have worked too hard in the garden, &c. In aft[ernoo]n to Preston in conveyance. Fine weather. Near Prospect House, Broughton, saw old Barnaby of the village,

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minded' children) and founder member of Lancaster Liberal Unionist Association; John Allen (1853-1908), Lancaster wine merchant, former councillor interested in education, member of the Lancashire Rifle Volunteers.

39 Ellen Hall née Wilson (1846-1928); George Breakell (c. 1836-1921).

40 Martha Billington (b. 1873), from Woodplumpton.

41 Charles Waterton, *Essays on Natural History, Chiefly Ornithology: With an Autobiography of the Author* (London: Longman, 1838), https://www.google.co.uk/books/edition/Essays_on_Natural_History_Chiefly_Ornith/qT8DAAAAQAAJ?hl=en

ineffectually trying to button up his breeches: he had got a drop too much. A very decent sort of fellow.[42] At Preston collected an a/c [account], ordered a book (Forster's Life of Goldsmith), & bought one (Grammont Memoirs).[43] At night, after getting home, finished Waterton's Natural History Essays, & had a go at the "Letters of Charles Dickens."

Thursday 19 February 1891 Back still bad. Weather bright & balmy. In aft[ernoo]n had a walk up Bilsborrow-lane and through Cornthwaite's fields near Pot House Chapel. Delightful. Birds singing. Wrote some letters & began one to son E[thelbert]. After tea, till near bed time, reading Letters of Charles Dickens – Excellent – smart – fine.

Friday 20 February 1891 In house nearly all day. In evening reading Letters of Charles Dickens. My back still bad. I think the weather – dry, cold, North-East-windish – has had about as much to do with making my back bad as the garden work of Monday & Tuesday. Dickens's Letters very good. A fine, hearty, clear-eyed, right-minded man.

Saturday 21 February 1891 In early aft[ernoo]n to Preston. At 5pm my wife & daughter L[etty] returned from Sheffield. My wife – like myself – does not care for Sheffield. It is a smudgy, messy hill-&-hole place. Home at 8.30.

Sunday 22 February 1891 Stayed in house all day nursing my back which is mending. Read newspapers, & Dickens's Letters. Cold but fairly fine outside.

Monday 23 February 1891 Went per 10.5 morning train with my wife to Bay Horse, then walked up to Forton Bank & on way met John Gardner,* who invited us to call at his house on the hill. At Forton Bank saw Tindall, the receding tenant. Told him I would not have his cooking stove or Venetian blinds. Af[terwar]ds first called for a few minutes at J. Gardner's* house – a well-finished but too exposed house. It is cocked on a hill. Walked to Bay H[orse], train to Brock. Dinner. Drove over to Preston – I, my wife, & son L[lewellyn]. Beautiful weather. Had a look in at Shaw's picture exhibition. Good. Shaw, a Prestonian, & son-in-law of John Gardner.*[44]

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42 May refer to a type rather than an individual, a lovable old lower-class man; Hewitson is probably being ironic in describing him as 'decent'.

43 John Forster, *The Life and Times of Oliver Goldsmith* (London: Ward, Lock, 1848), https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=mdp.39015016424270&seq=17; Anthony Hamilton, *Memoirs of Count Grammont, Containing the Amorous History of the English Court under the Reign of Charles II*, ed. Henry Vizetelly, vol. 1 (London: Nimmo, 1885), http://archive.org/details/memoirsofcountgr01hami

44 Henry Tindal, unidentified; the exhibition was in the studio of Charles Edward

Tuesday 24 February 1891 At home – reading & tidying-up the front ground.

Wednesday 25 February 1891 Ditto

Thursday 26 February 1891 At 11.15 this morning drove my wife to Barton church, in conveyance, to see marriage of Roger Bateson, of Matshead Paper Mill to Dorothy Kelsall, youngest daughter of Mr Kelsall, late of Lower House Farm, Bilsborrow. They had b[ee]n courting for six or eight years, & people said it was quite time they got married. While my wife was at church I walked horse on, in carriage, to Broughton, where I had a glass of ale at the Shuttleworth Arms inn, & then returned, picking up my wife near Barton church, & so home. A queer wedding. The partners started from different houses & after the ceremony Roger & wife rode on to Preston at once – thence to London for honeymoon – whilst his side drove home & her side to their home. In afternoon I, my wife, & son L[lewellyn] drove over to Forton Bank – son Horace following on his bicycle. We gave some instructions about painting front windows & then returned.[45]

Friday 27 February 1891 Making out bills, for "long-winded" person, till 3.15pm. Then to a meeting of governors of Bilsborrow School, at the school. I had a "storm" with the master (H Bramwell) on a/c [account] of his calling the children names & for being impertinent. After the meeting went with two of the governors (Rawcliffe of Myerscough Lodge and Jas. Blezard, joiner, Myerscough), to the Green Man Inn, where we treated one another. I left at about 6: R & B still there.[46]

Saturday 28 February 1891 At noon I, my wife, & children, to Preston. Had a talk with John Walmsley, joiner & builder, met T. Abbot Peters, of the Hermitage ("St John's College" – oh my!) Grimsargh & had a short chat. He is a cute, discreet, far-seeing, but uneducated man – "principal" of a "college". Home – after losing & then getting replaced one of the horse's shoes – at night.[47]

Shaw (1853-1908), Avenham St. Some of his paintings were exhibited at the Royal Academy and he did many of the illustrations in Hewitson's *History of Preston* (obituary, *PH* 15 August 1908).

45 Roger Kenyon Bateson (1863-1924), paper manufacturer; Dorothy Kelsall (1866-1953).

46 Henry Bramwell (1856-1910), schoolmaster; Richard Rawcliffe (1845-1917), farmer; James Blezard (c. 1828-95), wheelwright, joiner; treating: buying drinks for each other.

47 John Walmsley (b. 1833); Rev. Thomas Abbott Peters (1834-1909); see vol. 1, p. 625.

March

Sunday 1 March 1891 In forenoon reading Letters of Charles Dickens. In aft[ernoo]n had a walk up Bilsborrow Lane & round by Lidgette [Lydiate] lane, Matshead & so home. At night finished vol 2 of Dickens' Letters.

Monday 2 March 1891 This forenoon drove over to Preston with my wife & son L[lewellyn]. To Clarke,* solicitors, office. Bothering about a/cs [accounts]. Signed two agreements – Electric Light Co & Coupe & Cooper.[48] Back home by about 7.30. Fine weather.

Tuesday 3 March 1891 At 9.40 this morning to Bilsborrow school – annual inspection by H.M.I.s (Mr Bostock & Assistant Parke [sic]). Met there C.R. Jacson, Parson Harrison and J. Blezard (governors) Miss Salisbury & Mrs (Quaker) Mason of Anderton Fold. Inspection seemed to go on very nicely & other governors signed some of the forms. Assistant Parke [sic] examined some of the children very well, specially in geography; his illustrations being particularly good in respect to capes, isthmuses &c. Left school about 11.45. In aft[ernoo]n tidying up.[49]

Wednesday 4 March 1891 Working at home – in garden, &c.

Thursday 5 March 1891 Had one of our pigs killed this forenoon – pig-sticker being C[?] Reynolds, from Claughton. Pig heavier than I had expected. In aft[ernoo]n tidying up &c.[50]

Friday 6 March 1891 Sent son L[lewellyn] & boy John with pig, -- to Simpson, Friargate. Price 4 3/4d per lb. Total sum for pig being about £5.2. To-day my uncle Stephen Moore (who died on Tuesday, after being bedfast for a considerable time at my mother's, Lancaster) was interred at Tatham above Hornby. He was in his 86th year.[51]

48 Coupe and Cooper: purchasers of *Preston Chronicle*, see fn 3 above.

49 HMI, Her Majesty's Inspectors of schools Daniel Bostock (c. 1854-1901) and John Hanton Park (c. 1859-1939), sub- inspectors; Sarah Jane Salisbury of Myerscough Hall (c. 1844-1922); Margaret Mason (1842-96) née Handley.

50 Cuthbert Reynolds, farmer.

51 Robert Shaw Simpson (c. 1846-1920), grocer, 146 Friargate; Stephen Moore (1805-91), agricultural labourer.

Saturday 7 March 1891 To Preston with my wife &c. In afternoon had a chat with Adam Leigh,* of Lea, James Whitehead of Brindle &c in W. France's, Fishergate – a gossiping shoe-maker's shop. One part of conversation related to H.C. Walton, who was interred on Friday, Feb 27 in Penwortham church yard – Bradley's portrait &c of him.[52]

Sunday 8 March 1891 This forenoon, I, my son L[lewellyn] & daughters R[osaline] & L[etty] walked to St Lawrence's church, Barton. Fairish congregation. Singing pretty good. Sermon very orthodox & very so-so in its composition. In aft[ernoo]n finished 3rd and last vol of Charles Dickens's Letters. A nice day, but cold.

Monday 9 March 1891 Weather being very cold, I & my wife went to Preston by 1.25pm train this aft[ernoo]n. Extremely cold wind from N.W. Affairs dull, as usual, at Preston. Home per 8pm train.

Tuesday 10 March 1891 During to-day did some painting – part of iron seat in front, &c. Weather still very cold, but dry & sun shining brightly at times.

Wednesday 11 March 1891 Finished painting iron seat & painted wire flower stand on lawn. Fine day, but cold.

Thursday 12 March 1891 Every morning this week hoar frost on roofs and ground. Had a walk during forenoon. Spoke to a man in road opposite Brook House who was throng with telegraph posts &c. Posts are being supplanted by new ones. He told me that the posts being pulled down had been up 20 years, that there were 41 wires in them & that there would be soon 42. Went to Lancaster per 1.15pm train to meet a committee of the Conservatives and Liberal Unionists of the Lancaster division respecting projected new newspaper. The meeting at Messrs Holden* & Whelon solicitors top of Church st[ree]t. Rev C.T. Royds in chair & amongst those present Sir T. Storey, Captain Foster, Hornby Castle, and Mr C. Blades. I gave them considerable information & they were very affable & thanked me. Af[terward]s had a walk through Skerton as far as Housman's old chapel, near the corn mill. Dirty, dull, long street, but better than it used to be 34 years ago when I was last in

52 James Whitehead (1824-96), Conservative coal merchant and mine owner; Will France (c. 1828-98), Hewitson's friend (see vol. 1, p. 618); no information on 'Bradley's portrait' can be found.

it; dirty children; dogs, &c. Found Housman's little chapel transformed into a basket & skip making place. Housman whom I once or twice heard preach here, was a bulky, one-armed, well-educated, eccentric, common-sense man – a very lucid, interesting, original preacher. I walked back to Holden & Whelon's office; then bought some tobacco & a pipe, sauntered round the Castle Terrace into the churchyard. Saw the Lake hills – snow-capped; Ingleborough also white; other eminences ditto. After a smoke went into the Parish Church. Nobody therein except a sort of cleaning-up, silent woman. Had a look round at the mural tablets, monuments, & the chancel screen. (Tablets Heysham MP Higgin; Hanslow, John Pritt &c). Home per 4.54pm train.[53]

Friday 13 March 1891 At home, painting churn, chopping wood, & reading Geo Dolby's "Charles Dickens as I knew him." In the evening br[other]-in-law John Wilson of Lancaster called. Brought Lancaster Observer of today and noted in it a long article about my mother's brother, Stephen Moore, written by my brother W[illiam].[54]

Saturday 14 March 1891 To Preston at noon. Nothing very special in the town. Preston has been deteriorating in everything except football for some years; & even in football its once famous North End club seems now to be rapidly deteriorating. Home about 7.30pm.

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53 Rev. Charles Twemlow Royds (1838-1900), lord of the manor and rector of Heysham, landowner, chairman of Lancaster Board of Guardians and of the Lancashire county magistrates, chairman of Lancaster Conservatives (*LS* 16 March 1900, p.8); Sir Thomas Storey (1825-98), 'precise, fluid, venerable looking' (see 31 October 1891), philanthropist, his oilcloth (linoleum) factory was a major employer; William Henry Foster (1848?-1908), owner of the Black Dyke worsted mills near Bradford, lieutenant-colonel in the West Riding militia; Hewitson has probably remembered wrongly: Rev. Robert Housman (1759-1838), great grandfather of the poet AE Housman, Evangelical Anglican, built St Anne's chapel in Moor Lane (now Duke's Playhouse) in 1796, but this is not in Skerton, and Housman died when Hewitson was two years old; St Mary's church had a tablet commemorating William Heysham junior, MP for Lancaster 1716-27, and a tablet in the south aisle gives a brief genealogy of the Higgin family: [Rygbye], [Kellett] 'Cross Fleury', *Time-Honoured Lancaster: Historic Notes on the Ancient Borough of Lancaster* (Lancaster: Eaton & Bulfield, 1891), p. 9, https://archive.org/details/timehonouredlanc00fleu/page/n11/mode/2up; I have been unable to trace any Hanslow memorials; John Pritt (c. 1799-1856), landlord of the King's Arms, Lancaster councillor.

54 George Dolby, *Charles Dickens as I Knew Him: The Story of the Reading Tours in Great Britain and America (1866-1870)* (London: T. F. Unwin, 1885), https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=njp.32101013964448&seq=7; John Wilson (1834-1909), tailor; William Hewitson (1847-1930) wrote historical articles for the *Lancaster Observer.*

Sunday 15 March 1891 At home all day except for about one hour in the evening – from 6 to 7 – when I had a walk up Bilsborrow lane, round & down by Lidget [Lydiate] lane. Had a read in Geo Dolby's "Dickens as I knew him."

Monday 16 March 1891 Bothering about at home – "titivating" things &c.

Tuesday 17 March 1891 At noon I, my wife & son L[lewellyn] drove over to Forton Bank – I to meet there Allen (landlord) & Tindal (the withdrawing tenant). Had a sort of half-satisfactory, semi-unsatisfactory meeting. Painting, Venetian blinds, &c &c. Subsequently we walked up to Shire's head old church, in the yard of which my old friend John Gardner,* of the Hill, Forton, was buried at noon to-day. The church, rebuilt in 1805, is now disused and going to decay. A plain building – with two small bells in oblong turrets above west gable. Saw, but could not make out, inscriptions, weather-aged letters on each bell. A quiet, cosy, serenely-compact little graveyard. Saw John's grave – filled up & flower-covered, so soon! Excellent view – Wyresdale, sea, ships. Got home about 5pm. (See my C & C – Garstang).[55]

Wednesday 18 March 1891 Drove at noon to Great Eccleston. Sale by auction there at Wyre House, Raikes, of furniture of late Rev Bamber, a retired Baptist minister. A small, poorish house. Things, on the whole, "went for their value". Books – about 400 vols – the cheapest. I bought 22 vols, mainly Bohn's series, for 20/-.[56]

Thursday 19 March 1891 Utilising myself at home, for my house's good. At night to annual meeting of ratepayers, of Bilsborrow held at Roe Buck Inn. I occupied chair. At end of meeting I raised & carried on successfully a discussion on the system of rationally reforming the pay of Assistant-Overseers for revising jury and voters' lists. The a-o's get too much. I resigned my position as overseer & one of governors of Bilsborrow school, owing to my near removal to Forton Bank. Latter part of meeting taken

55 Gardner: see 8 January 1891; C&C: Hewitson, Anthony. *Our Country Churches and Chapels : Antiquarian, Historical, Ecclesiastical and Critical Sketches*. A. Hewitson Chronicle Office, 1872. https://www.google.co.uk/books/edition/Our_country_churches_chapels_antiquarian/NA4HAAAAQAAJ.

56 John Bamber (1813?-81), former minister of Inskip Baptist Chapel; the auction was prompted by the death of his wife Margaret (d. 1891); Bohn's Libraries were a series of cheap editions of standard works and translations.

up by a discussion as to payment of Assistant-overseers for revising jury and voters' lists (See report from Preston Herald, enclosed here [article missing]). Set off for home – all of us – at 10 o'c[loc]k.[57]

Friday 20 March 1891 Gardening &c &c. In evening, per 5.35 train to Bay Horse, then on to Forton Bank; saw Tindall; -- went into Hollins Lane and engaged an old man to help in planting gooseberry trees, raspberry roots, and rose trees. Then back, and after a short chat with Tindal, set off on foot with intent[io]n of going home by train from Scorton. Altered my mind; called at Old Holly, had a glass of whiskey; then walked on Garstang-road for about a mile & met son L[lewellyn] & boy John with a cart load of plants, &c to set tomorrow. Walked on with them to Forton Bank, where after unloading, we drove home in the cart (a spring cart) which had brought the plants. A fine, though coldish night. Horse ran merrily; we reached home about 10.

Saturday 21 March 1891 In aft[ernoo]n drove to Preston with my wife & daughters M[abel] & R[osaline]; daughter L[etty] going by train. Main street of Preston very noisy & thronging with conveyances – a football match on North End ground.

Sunday 22 March 1891 Walked, in forenoon, with daughters R[osaline] & L[etty] & son L[lewellyn] to Barton church. Funeral sermon pertaining to old Mr Curwen, the late clerk and sexton here, for 53 y[ea]rs. He died on Friday March 13, aged about 88. Good sermon which I got, afterwards, from the preacher (the vicar – Harrison) to give to my son Horace for use in Preston Herald – a paper he reports for. On leaving church had a conversation with Mr C.R. Jacson about my speech on Thursday night at ratepayers' meeting, about the schoolmaster, the Batesons (Matshead) - especially Roger, &c. In aft[ernoo]n had a read in Forster's Life of Dickens. In evening had a walk round by Lidget [Lydiate]-lane.[58]

Monday 23 March 1891 To Forton Bank by 10.5 morning train to Bay Horse. Saw Tindal & made him an offer for the V. blinds. In aft[ernoo]n I ~~and my wife by train~~ to Preston, per conveyance, along with son L[lewellyn]. My wife ill – bronchitis.

57 See 1 June and 4 September 1891.

58 Richard Curwen (1803?-91); sermon report in *PH* 25 March 1891, p. 3; John Forster, *The Life of Charles Dickens* (London: Chapman & Hall, 1872-74), https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/25851

Tuesday 24 March 1891 At home painting &c.

Wednesday 25 March 1891 D[itt]o

Thursday 26 March 1891 D[itt]o. To Preston also.

Friday 27 March 1891 Easy day. In aft[ernoo]n went out twice to watch a football match – Brock v Preston! (a small Preston club). My sons H[orace] & L[lewellyn] were playing with the Brock lot who were not properly made [?] up & at a disadvantage. Result – Preston 2 goals; Brock 1. Weather fine, but cold.

Saturday 28 March 1891 Chopping wood & painting tub, &c in forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n I & my daughters M[abel] & R[osaline] & son L[lewellyn] to Preston – daughter L[etty] there on train. Very cold. A considerable no. of strangers in Preston. Had a talk with Adam Leigh.* Clayton, the butcher, told me a story about Adam one day threatening to strike his son & son telling him to start[?] &c.[59]

Sunday 29 March 1891 In forenoon I & my daughter L[etty] walked to Barton church. Moderate congregation; service ditto; sermon, ditto. In aft[ernoo]n & evening finished vol 1 of Forster's Life of Dickens.

Monday 30 March 1891 Painting tubs and lawn mower. Weather very cold. Morning frosty.

Tuesday 31 March 1891 In forenoon to Bay Horse; had a glass of beer at Bay Horse Inn; some noisy, drunken navvies in the place – one dazed & trembling & drinking ale. Walked up to Forton Bank. Tindals in the throes of moving. Tindal somewhat boozy. Had a look from field in rear. Good views. Paid T. for V. blinds, rack, foot wood in green house rent from April 2 to May 12 – total £12 -5-0. To Lancaster, then through to Preston. The 1.7 train had left Bay Horse when I got there; not another to Brock till after 5 (beautiful accommodation!) so had to take a train to Lancaster at 1.20 and return (wanting to go to Preston) by the [indecipherable] after 2. It ran to Preston from Lancaster in about 27 ½ minutes. To a sale of pots and drapery – my wife there. Home per 8pm train. Cold, but fine.

59 Probably Councillor Thomas Dent Clayton (1831?-96) of Fishergate.

April

Wednesday 1 April 1891 At work about the house, weather cold.

Thursday 2 April 1891 Sent a vanful (Harding's) of furniture to Forton Bank. Also a cartful of ditto to ditto. In the evening I & my wife with daughter L[etty] drove over to F.B. to arrange a few articles.

Friday 3 April 1891 Drove over at noon to Forton Bank & saw Mr Allen the landlord, about painting, papering, & white-washing &c. He was free; but underlying his manner there is a certain cautious stinginess as to expense. Told him that Tindal had given him a badish name & had been ferritting out his history during the past 25 y[ea]rs. Allen smiled, and said he did not think that Tindal was quite right – meaning that he was touched with insanity. If Tindal had heard this I suspect he would have rejoined that if either of the two were touched with mental weakness it was Allen. A promised to do several things & then left us. I & my wife & daughters M[abel], R[osaline] & L[etty] stayed all night at F[orton] B[ank].

Saturday 4 April 1891 In forenoon walked down to Bay Horse & saw Mr Smith, joiner there, about some work – lock repairs, pump mending, bookcase making, &c. At Bay H[orse] station was joined by my wife & daughters. They had to hurry, & in getting to station train came up 2 ½ minutes too soon. I found fault: told the station master it was "too bad" to cause people to hurry to catch a train which came in too soon & then had to wait in the standing train till night time for starting. My wife rode on to Preston; I & my daughters got off at Brock, I in aft[ernoo]n drove over to Preston.[60]

Sunday 5 April 1891 At home in the house all day. Read newspaper & numerous pages of Dolby's "Charles Dickens as I knew him."

Monday 6 April 1891 To Scorton by 10.5 forenoon train. Walked to Forton Bank; met Smith, joiner, there, by appointment, & told him what I wanted doing & what he had to do for Mr Allen.

60 Either Alexander Smith (1832-1908), farmer and joiner, or his son Thomas Smith (b. 1861), joiner, of Potter Brook, Bay Horse.

Tuesday 7 April 1891 Nothing very particular.

Wednesday 8 April 1891 At noon to Forton Bank. Dug about 50 holes for raspberry canes, &c. Whilst waiting for son L[lewellyn] & John with cart containing raspberries &c, I walked up into the fields behind the house. Fine view; Fleetwood; Piel Castle; Barrow, Cumberland hills – trimmed with snow -- &c &c. On a very clear day – eventide – I fancy the south-western view in particular will be very delightful & I hope to have many opportunities of gratifying my wishes & expectations as to the scenery all round. Afterwards I & son L[lewellyn] set rasp[berrie]s, gooseberry trees & four apple trees – young ones. As we returned, at night, Garstang looked quaint – numerous shops lighted up & outside in streets, dark. Numerous stalls massed around market Cross ready for spreading out on Market Day – Thursday.

Thursday 9 April 1891 Stayed at home working about the place. Sons H[orace] & L[lewellyn] called at Forton Bank, & cleaned the chimneys, by shooting up them.

Friday 10 April 1891 This morning had a letter from son E[thelbert], in America. He said that his uncle Finch's house in Hoboken, where his clothes were located, had been broken into by thieves during their absence at chapel on Sunday evening, March 29; that his (E's) clothes had been stolen, nearly all, worth at N. York prices between £30 and £40; & that aunt Alice's* gold watch, bracelet, &c had been similarly operated upon.

Saturday 11 April 1891 To Preston at noon. Town very dull. Preston is a damned dull, spiritless, degenerated town now-a-days. God and his grace have, I fear, left it for a long time, as a punishment for its base, bigoted, temporising, selfish spirit. Had a short talk with Adam Leigh,* who is a steady, respectable, wealthy man, & a special earth worm. On returning at night, the horse bolted, at White-horse village through a train – steam, sparks, wild light from open furnace door, noise &c frighted the horse & it broke forth for about 400 yards as if it meant to outrun the train. It is a wonder some very serious accident has not happened at this place through the trains. We came out of this infernal ordeal safely, & this I attribute to the special Providence of God.[61]

61 White Horse village was at the northern end of Barton.

Sunday 12 April 1891 Walked to Churchtown church in forenoon. After passing the Horns Inn, near the church, encountered Geo Singleton lately come to Kirkland Hall, from St Michaels. He invited me to a seat in his pew, to go to his house to dinner, & to inspect a library there which belonged to old Cole Butler [sic]. I sat in his pew, & said I would go to his house next Sunday. The parson (young Pedder) is a fearfully bad reader – he murdered the lessons, killed the Litany & broke all the commandments in the "Communion." On returning Harry Gilbertson & wife (in a gig) passed me. They had been to church and were returning to their mysterious home in Claughton. Gig a borrowed one, with creaking wheel, from W Butler's, Green Man Inn, where Harry I believe has a fling at drinking every now and then. In aft[ernoo]n I finished Dolby's book and commenced reading one on "Psychological Inquiry" by Sir C Brodie.[62]

Monday 13 April 1891 At home working about.

Tuesday 14 April 1891 To Forton Bank.

Wednesday 15 April 1891 At 1.15pm today old John Stephenson, gardener, came to Brookhouse. He & I bothered about – taking down wire netting, &c – till 4 o'c[loc]k, then per 4.15 train to Scorton and thence we walked to Forton. I have engaged him for a month, at 5/- per week, including board & lodgings. In the evening we planted some trees in the front. I returned per spring cart to Brookhouse. A fine night.

Thursday 16 April 1891 Working at Brookhouse &c &c.

Friday 17 April 1891 Same more or less. During day to Forton Bank.

Saturday 18 April 1891 Drove over to Preston at noon. My wife & daughters M[abel], R[osaline] & L[etty] there all last night – Smith's

62 George Singleton (1840?-1922), cotton merchant, manufacturer, shire horse expert; for Kirkland Hall, see Anthony Hewitson, *Northward: Historic, Topographic, Residential, and Scenic Gleanings, &c. between Preston and Lancaster* (Wakefield: S.R. Publishers, 1969), pp. 42-44; Thomas Butler-Cole (c. 1785-1864); John Wilson Pedder (c. 1853-1933); Harry Gilbertson (1857-92), Preston solicitor; William Butler senior (b. 1825), farmer and landlord of the Green Man, Brock; Benjamin C Brodie, *Psychological Inquiries: In a Series of Essays, Intended to Illustrate the Mutual Relations of the Physical Organization and the Mental Faculties*. Longman, Brown, Green, and Longmans, 1856. http://archive.org/details/b28067678.

finishing up (ball, dancing class) in Guild Hall. Preston dark & spiritless. Home at night & thence to Forton Bank.[63]

Sunday 19 April 1891 Up at 6.30 this morning; walked to Scorton; charming morning – air fine, sun shining, skylarks singing, &c. After breakfast, at Brookhouse walked to Churchtown Church; was late; service & sermon about as usual; at conclusion went to Kirkland Hall, with Geo Singleton (late of St Michaels) & his wife. Last Sunday I agreed to go there today & have dinner. Singleton has rented Kirkland Hall & about 60 acres of land from a Rev Clarke of Ray, or Wray, Windermere – the successor to the property here – at a remarkably cheap rate. Had dinner – plain & substantial; then G.S showed me through the house – a gigantic many-roomed, huge barracks of a place, containing much substantial & not a little peculiar furniture &c belonging to the estate – to pass down as heirlooms. GS's furniture (to be augmented) looked very small. During our exploration saw two or three spring gins -- old barbarities to check poachers. Library contains large no. of old, big, strangely-bound books. Curious wall paper in library – run-a-way marriage scenes being depicted on it. Breakell, junior, V.S [veterinary surgeon] of Garstang called. Afterwards Albert Simpson of Elmhurst, Garstang, called. Much talk – a lot of it about Grizedale Water Works – Fylde Water Company's Extension Bill. Albert's a most persistent talker & curious enough a tremendous stammerer. Home at night, walked, about 8 o'cl[oc]k.[64]

Monday 20 April 1891 This forenoon I & my wife drove over to Preston. Left carriage for repairs, at Hull's (J Walmsley's successor).[65] In evening home in fresh[?] (borrowed) carriage.

Tuesday 21 April 1891 To Scorton. I & my wife per 10.5 morning train from Brock to furniture sale, at "The Priory" – late Holden's. I walked on, after inspecting furniture, to Forton Bank, returning in about an hour to my wife at Scorton. A large gathering at sale. We bought a few things including kitchen dresser for which I paid £2-2-0. Afterwards I & my wife to Lancaster, per train about 4.30 for some floor cloth for

63 The 'annual academy ball' of Messrs HS Smith & Sons, dance teacher (*PG*, 18 April 1891, p. 5).

64 Eleanor Singleton (c. 1853-1908) née Parkinson; Henry Clarke (c. 1834-1914), former vicar of Wray; Arthur Breakell (c. 1854-1934), veterinary surgeon, freemason, antiquarian; Albert Simpson (1838-1924), see vol. 1, p. 532.

65 Hull's coach works, 72 Friargate.

two bedrooms at Forton Bank. Got some cheap. Returned to Brock at night.

Wednesday 22 April 1891 Per 1.5p.m. train to Scorton, son Horace & boy John following per spring cart for the things purchased yesterday. A beautiful day. Things in question carted to Forton Bank, where another van load of furniture had to day gone from Brock.

Thursday 23 April 1891 Working, painting dresser &c. Weather still very cold; nothing growing; farmers complaining of deficiency of grass, &c.

Friday 24 April 1891 In aft[ernoo]n to Forton Bank where I & my son L[lewellyn] fixed up & put in due form a small hen cabin in the Orchard.

Saturday 25 April 1891 To Preston about noon. Exchanged borrowed conveyance for my own, which has been only moderately re-done-up, to my annoyance. Tom Harding called with a cab at our shop & I & my wife rode with him to Black-a-Moor's Head, Lancaster-road, for the purpose of seeing a new carriage Hardings & co have made for Dan Ashcroft.[66] The new cart was not there. Home early.[67]

Sunday 26 April 1891 At about 9.45 I & my wife & daughter all drove over to Forton Bank, which we have now taken possession of. In aft[ernoo]n skimmed through Rev. Mr B. Nightingale's History of Nonconformity in Preston & North Lancashire, &c. In several parts he quotes from my books on Town and Country Churches.[68]

Monday 27 April 1891 Another (3rd) van load of furniture went today from Brook house to Forton Bank; also two loads, per cart.

Tuesday 28 April 1891 I to Preston at noon. At one pm sale of our surplus furniture commenced. Mr Jno Kelsall was the auctioneer. The total sum realised was a little over £31. To Forton Bank at night.

Wednesday 29 April 1891 To Brook House helping to clear up.

Thursday 30 April 1891 Ditto

66 Daniel Ashcroft (1833-1901), auctioneer, horse dealer, landlord of the Black-a-Moor's Head, Lancaster Rd, despite being a lifelong teetotaller.

67 Tom Harding (b. 1852), manager of a carriage and cab company on Fishergate Hill.

68 Benjamin Nightingale, *Lancashire Nonconformity: Or, Sketches, Historical & Descriptive of the Congregational and Old Presbyterian Churches in the County* (J. Heywood, 1890), http://archive.org/details/lancashirenoncon01nigh

May

Friday 1 May 1891 To Preston per 10.5 morning train. Saw the May Day procession of horses, &c in Preston. A very good demonstration.

Saturday 2 May 1891 At home all day.

Sunday 3 May 1891 Forton Bank. Arranging and re-arranging books & pictures in dining-library room. In aft[ernoo]n had a short walk into field at rear of house. Pretty view.

Monday 4 – Wednesday 6 May 1891 [no entries]

Thursday 7 May 1891 At home helping to fix up furniture &c. What a very delightful occupation removing is to be sure! So delightful that I do not think I will ever remove again.

Friday 8 May 1891 To Preston.

Saturday 9 May 1891 To Lancaster, & saw Bell (Observer office) & Milner (Guardian office) about my son L[lewellyn] & reporting. Ordered a suit for L[lewellyn] from J[ohn] Wilson. Price £2-10-0 cash.[69]

Sunday 10 May 1891 This forenoon, for first time, to Shireshead (Forton) new church – only a minute's walk from our house. A plain, neat little church. Small congregation. Service mediocre & conducted by Rev Martin,* who has been curate here for about two years. At close of sermon – a clear, thoughtful production – the Vicar (Bickerdike) made his appearance from the vestry. He is an invalid – heart disease – & sat there during service. When he appeared the offertory collection was on the point of commencing. He was on the scene at a specific time as if just to "collar the Crowns." He is a very good reader. The curate is a calm, thoughtful, somewhat chestnut-haired, clearly moulded

69 Thomas Bell (1841-1907), owner-editor of the *Lancaster Observer;* born in Preston, apprenticed as printer to Laurence Clarke of the *Preston Pilot*, became editor and manager of the *Ormskirk Advertiser* until he bought the *Lancaster Observer* in 1876. William Hewitson wrote his obituary in the *Observer* (*Morecambe Guardian* 21 July 1928, p. 5); Francis Anthony Milner (1858-1942) succeeded his father and grandfather (founder of the *Lancaster Guardian*) as editor in 1887 (*LG,* 8 May 1942, p. 5.

(in features) man. Mr Rothwell of Foxholes, ~~son of~~ – a fine-featured, calm young man but lacking fire & vitality – son of Talbot Rothwell, an eccentric person now dead – officiated as a collector and his colleague was a man in light, tight, ridiculous trousers, who had been in military service. The latter had good features & somewhat Dundrearyish moustache & whiskers. These two are the churchwardens. The sermon was a good one – superior in composition, broad & clear in spirit – and was preached by Mr Martin the curate, who was formerly second master at a or the Commercial School, in (I think) Manchester, who graduated at Trinity College, Dublin & who came here (his first clerical place) about two years ago. He is going to leave in June next. Has sent in his resignation.[70]

Monday 11 – Friday 15 May 1891 During the week, from Monday to Friday, chiefly engaged in or about the house. On Friday to Lancaster & saw Mr L Holden* about the proposed new paper. He said there would have to be one; but I doubt this.

Saturday 16 May 1891 Drove over to Lancaster, with my wife &c about noon. Put up with difficulty at King's Arms hotel. Town very full of strange people – Whitsuntide hiring in the agricultural domain chiefly. Wages high – young men servants from £8 to £10 for the half year & females about the same. Paid 1/- for merely putting up the horse. Too much.[71]

Sunday 17 May 1891 To church this forenoon, with my wife & son L[lewellyn] & daughters R and L. ~~Good sermon by the curate.~~ Congregation small, singing bad; sermon by the curate (Mr Martin*) good. In aft[ernoo]n I & my son L[lewellyn] had a walk – to a hill in east

70 St James Shireshead opened 1889; Rev William Martin (c. 1864-1936), subsequently curate at Billinge and Hindley near Wigan, then vicar of All Saints', Hindley; John Bickerdike (1816-92) had been vicar of Shireshead since 1879; Francis Talbot Rothwell (1850-1907); William Talbot Rothwell (1806-75; see Hewitson's *Northward*, pp. 98–99); Lord Dundreary was the chief character in Tom Taylor's play *Our American Cousin* (1858), https://www.gutenberg.org/files/3158/3158-h/3158-h.htm, 'the personification of a good-natured, indolent, blundering, empty-headed swell' (*Brewer's*); the second churchwarden was Mr Charnley (see 12 July 1891).

71 A hiring fair, when agricultural workers and farmers bargained over live-in farm work for the next six months (see vol. 1, 12 November 1887).

side of the railway, & about half a mile south east of Hollins-lane village, from which we had a splendid view: we could see from it the chimneys of Preston, St Walburges spire there, the chimneys of Lancaster, the Albert Asylum tower, Kirkham, Blackpool, Fleetwood, Morecambe Bay, Piel castle, some of the west Cumberland hills &c &c. Then we went to Shireshead, old school & peeped in. It was a strong little stone building, but deserted – empty, with benches & other school furniture &c in it but shut up and going to decay. Afterwards we had a look at the empty going-to-decay church close by; also at the two bells in the belfry examining the raised letters in the same through our opera glass. The bells are modern and small. We also had a look at John Gardner's* grave, over which, since I last saw it, there had been placed a memorial wreath, very pretty, from the workpeople of Mr Bretherton, Marsh-lane, Preston, Mr J.G. being the owner of the mill there. Then, on returning, we had a climb up a field, near Hollins lane bridge from the summit of which field we had a very good view – nearly as good as that from the hill we first visited. Then to the field behind our house where we looked about for a short time.

Monday 18 May 1891 My wife not so well. In aft[ernoo]n my daughter F[lorence] from Carlisle & her husband came. At night saw four electric lights at Blackpool, from field behind our house.[72]

Tuesday 19 May 1891 In forenoon had a walk with my daughter F[lorence]'s husband – to the hills & field which I & son L[lewellyn] visited on Sunday. Good views. After dinner, I, my wife, daughters F[lorence], M[abel], R[osaline] & L[etty] & son L[lewellyn] went to the sports at Lancaster, in Giant Axe field. Many persons present. The programme was made up chiefly of foot & bicycle races.

Wednesday 20 May 1891 Working in garden &c. In the evening Mr Martin,* curate at Shireshead church, called, by invitation, & stayed

72 Florence Barker, née Hewitson (1863-1944); her husband was George Ellis Barker (1862–1907) of Carlisle, tobacconist, son of a hotel keeper; the lights were probably from the 'Royal Palace Gardens (late Raikes Hall) ... the Crystal Palace of the North ... the only place of Public Amusement in Town that has the Electric Light installed' (*Blackpool Herald* 22 May 1891, p. 1).

between 3 & 4 hours. Had some whiskey together & smoked a pipe or two of tobacco, & had a most pleasant time, talking on all sorts of subjects. He is very intelligent & very free minded & liberal in his views on theological matters.

Thursday 21 May 1891 In forenoon I, my wife &c drove over to Garstang Market. Whilst there I had a chat & a glass at the Royal Oak with Will (Councillor) Hale* of Preston. In the evening I & my wife went by train, to Lancaster, to a meeting of Conservatives & Liberal Unionists, in the Palatine Hall, the main object being to back up the present Government & support Sir Thos Storey as a fit person to be the next parliamentary representative of the Lancaster Division in place of Mr Jas Williamson. One Rentoul, an Irish barrister & MP, was the ablest speaker. Home per train which left Lancaster about 11.10 at night.[73]

Friday 22 May 1891 Mowing the lawn &c. Sent Mr Martin* Darwin's Origin of Species. Throng all day in front mowing.

Saturday 23 May 1891 At noon drove over to Lancaster with my daughters F[lorence] & M[abel]; son Llewellyn riding on bicycle. A large no. of people, as if on hiring business, in the town.

Sunday 24 May 1891 To church in the forenoon. Good congregation – rather swellish in its chief aspects. Sermon, by curate Martin,* excellent.

Monday 25 May 1891 Working about.

Tuesday 26 May 1891 Same. Rev Peter Webster, minister of Congregational chapel here, called & we had a long chat on religious & other matters. I told him that I had tried all denominations – or tested them – & found most freedom in the Church of England. Lent him Serjeant Robinson's Reminiscences.[74]

73 William Hale (1830-1911), Conservative councillor, retired pig and provision dealer, 'full of fun and mischief ... quick-witted, but his repartee was of the bludgeon character' (*LDP*, 28 December 1918, p. 3); James Williamson junior (1842-1930), Liberal MP for Lancaster; Storey and Williamson were Lancaster's two main employers; James Alexander Rentoul (1845–1919), MP for East Down.

74 Peter Webster (1830-1913).

Wednesday 27 May 1891 Old John Stevenson, the gardener, returned at noon today. We did not want him. He had borrowed some money from son H[orace] & I suppose returned to make it up.[75]

Thursday 28 May 1891 I & my wife drove over to Garstang this forenoon. Slow market. Butter 10d per lb. Had a talk with Archdeacon Hornby's coachman who, after 19 years service, is leaving.[76]

Friday 29 May 1891 Working in and about the house.

Saturday 30 May 1891 At 10.30 this forenoon I & my wife & son L[lewellyn] & daughter F[lorence] drove to Lancaster. Town busy. Looked about. Had a talk with Warren, reporter for Lancaster Observer. Listened to a quack in the market place. Mr Shaw of the Island, Winmarleigh spoke to me about horse-breeding. Wood (Rev. L.C.) of Singleton waved[?] & spoke. Home at about 3pm.[77]

Sunday 31 May 1891 In forenoon to Church, with my wife, son L[lewellyn], & daughters M[abel] & L[etty]. Thin attendance. Excellent sermon by the curate (Mr Martin). In the aft[ernoo]n I & my wife & daughters F[lorence] & L[etty] drove to Cocker Sand Abbey. Beautiful weather. Abbey building nearly all gone; only a few insignificant remains. Drove back by the sands. Sons H[orace] & L[lewellyn] whom we met at the Abbey returned with us – they having done the outward journey on foot.

75 See 15 April 1891, when the name is spelled Stephenson.

76 William Dawson (b. 1849), coachman for William Hornby (1810-99) of St Michael's-on-Wyre, first archdeacon of Lancaster.

77 WH Warren (1832-94) had reported for the *Observer* since 1861 (*LG*, 30 June 1894, p. 5); Thomas Shaw (c. 1824-93), horse breeder and farmer; Leonard Charles Wood (1819-1911), agriculturist and vicar of Singleton since 1843.

June

Monday 1 June 1891 To Garstang to object at workhouse, before the auditor to an item for parliamentary revision in the statement for last year, of Mr Crane, assistant overseer for Bilsborrow. Mr T Banks, one of the present overseers, & my colleague when I was overseer accompanied me. The auditor, on the certificate of the Revising Barrister allowed the item, but sanctioned our intention to appeal to the Local Gov[ernmen]t B[oar]d.[78] Walked on to G & C [Garstang and Catterall] station and thence to Preston, where I met my wife and daughter F[lorence]. Home per 8pm train.

Tuesday 2 June 1891 At home all day.

Wednesday 3 June 1891 Same.

Thursday 4 June 1891 At about 10.30 this forenoon to Garstang. Went with T. Banks to Nobles' office; thence to a field near the church where there was a medley of circus stuff (Ginnett's) – tents, waggons, horses, many-coloured, paltry-looking harnesses – a swearing negro. Afterwards met Councillor W. Hale* of Preston & with him had three glasses of ale. Home about 2pm leaving daughters F[lorence] & L[etty] & son L[lewellyn] to see the circus.

Friday 5 June 1891 Working in greenhouse, &c.

Saturday 6 June 1891 At about 10.20 this forenoon to Lancaster, with daughters F[lorence] (who in evening went home to Carlisle), M[abel] & R[osaline] & son L[lewellyn]. The town rather dull. Saw two or three times, in Market st[ree]t, a woman driving two horses in a carriage & afterwards one in a dog cart. I understand she is the wife of a curate at Caton, called Cranston or Crawshaw; that though the mother of half a dozen children she has a passion for horses & horse dealing; & that she sells more horse harnesses in a week than all the saddlers in Lancaster

78 See 19 March and 4 September 1891.

put together. She is a smart, bold, handsomish woman. She lives in Lancaster. Home about 6pm.[79]

Sunday 7 June 1891 This forenoon I went to the Independent Chapel down the lane on the south-west side of my house – 5 minutes walk from it. Small orderly congreg[atio]n, fairly good choir. Mr Webster the minister, conducted the service & preached a very orthodox sermon in a dry, clear, Scotchified way. The last time before this, I was at this same chapel was about 17 years ago, when the then minister, named Mr Massey, preached – pitching heavily into the congregation for wanting to starve him out, which they ultimately succeeded in doing.[80]

Monday 8 June 1891 [no entry]

Tuesday 9 June 1891 Working in garden &c. Weather still cold. The wind has in the main been blowing East & North east for about 7 weeks.

Wednesday 10 June 1891 This aft[ernoo]n old John Stephenson left. We did not want him any longer. He is too old – mainly a worker of his tongue.

Thursday 11 June 1891 To Garstang with my wife this forenoon. We did not unyoke the horse – were home in about 2 hours. In aft[ernoo]n in greenhouse &c. At about 5.30 to vicarage – I & wife. A horrid [?] tea, company – Mounsey [?] &c. After[war]ds a meeting in vestry to hear a missionary lecture.

Friday 12 June 1891 Gardening, greenhouse, &c all day.

Saturday 13 June 1891 To Lancaster with my wife & daughter L[etty]. Son L[lewellyn] followed on bicycle. My brother Peter[81] turned up with my son Horace at night.

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79 Probably Mrs Jeannie Cranfield (nee Jane Whitwell, 1845-1913), wife of Rev Robert Lloyd Cranfield, curate of St Paul's, and mother of two daughters. She had stables in a field off Carr House Lane, and did some horse dealing (*LG*, 24 March 1894, p. 10).

80 Vol. 1, 13 October 1872.

81 Peter Hewitson (1843-1908).

Sunday 14 June 1891 To church with son L[lewellyn] & daughters R[osaline] & L[etty] in forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n had a walk with my daughter L[etty] & brother P[eter] – to the fields commanding good views. At night nearly all of us to a "service of Song" at the Independent chapel. A lot of people there. Singing for a country place good.

Monday 15 June 1891 This forenoon to Lancaster – I & my wife. We took with us daughters M[abel], R[osaline] & L[etty] – for school, at Mrs Paitson's, Regent Villa, Lindow. In afternoon my wife went with them to the school. For the lot for a year a full course, without extras, £100. In the evening the curate (Mr W Martin*) called & he & I had two whiskies each & some tobacco. We talked about religion, education, &c &c. On Sunday he read his own banns of marriage – he is going to be married to Miss Cotterill, across the way.[82]

Tuesday 16 June 1891 A short walk in fields behind our house before breakfast. In forenoon examined my son L[lewellyn] in his shorthand. In aft[ernoo]n constructed a speech for Rev T.A. Peters of "St John's College," Grimsargh.

Wednesday 17 June 1891 Gardening.

Thursday 18 June 1891 Working about in garden, greenhouse, &c.

Friday 19 June 1891 In aft[ernoo]n, I, my wife & my son L[lewellyn] drove to Lancaster & thence per tram car – on top – to Morecambe. Found the place flat for the time of the year. We walked about for a time; then had a rest on the new promenade; aft[erwar]ds had tea; &

82 Jane E Paitson (c. 1835-1913), widow, principal of a 'boarding and day school for young ladies, Lindow, Lancaster ... Masters for English, Pianoforte and Violin. Physical Training under an experienced Sergeant. Marked success in the Public Examinations speaks for the thoroughness of the teaching.' (*Lancaster Observer,* 15 May 1896, p. 5); 'the effect of boarding-school education on girls was socially important; there the less wealthy mixed with the daughters of the very rich merchants and manufacturers, and learned their attitudes (which included despising domestic chores). They were not given an education of the intellect, or any training useful to them if they needed to earn a living' (Joan Perkin, *Women and Marriage in Nineteenth-Century England* (Routledge, 1989), p. 251; Florence Cotterell (1857-1922).

about 5.40pm returned, per tram, to Lancaster. On the way into & out of Morecambe noticed a good many new houses & houses in course of erection, on the east side. Got home about 8 o'clock.

Saturday 20 June 1891 At about 10 this forenoon drove to Lancaster with my wife & my son L[lewellyn]. Soon after arriving ascertained that my daughter Letty was unwell. I & wife went up to the school (Mrs Paitson's) & found that L[etty] had been very sick the previous day but was now considerably better. We decided to take her home over the weekend, & called for her about 2.15pm. Town busy – presence of Yeomanry Cavalry augmenting the fuss.

Sunday 21 June 1891 In forenoon I, my sons H[orace] & L[lewellyn] & daughter L[etty] to church. Good congregation; fairish sermon. In aft[ernoo]n I my wife & daughter L[etty] had about an hour and a half's sit upon the hill, in field behind the house. Beautiful, warm weather. My wife reading paper; daughter reading in a book; & I reading Sir E Arnold's "Light of Asia."[83] Heard the organ music in church below – swelling & beating very exquisitely.

Monday 22 June 1891 Greenhouse work in forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n I, my wife & daughter L[etty] had a drive to Pilling, by way of Cockerham & round by the coast. Weather alternatively cold & very hot. Saw many clipped sheep with lambs on the marsh or coastland. In the offing a big, three-masted ship at anchor; beyond a big steam ship going out, apparently from Fleetwood. Nice new stone church at Pilling. Had a bottle of ale at the Ship Inn; then home ~~by~~ on route we came by.

Tuesday 23 June 1891 In forenoon greenhousing, &c. In aft[ernoo]n I & my wife took daughter Letty back to Mrs Paitson's school. Letty quiet but considerably better. Returned very early.

Wednesday 24 June 1891 Greenhouse &c work.

83 Sir Edwin Arnold, *The Light of Asia: Or, The Great Renunciation* (Trübner, 1885), biography of the Buddha in verse; https://www.google.co.uk/books/edition/The_Light_of_Asia/nW4QAAAAYAAJ

Thursday 25 June 1891 To Garstang in forenoon, per carriage – my wife & the Misses Gardner of the Hill, Forton along with me. Garstang dull & dry. Spoke to Mr J Clarke,* solicitor, Preston & Mr T Miller, Woodplumpton; & on leaving waved to Squire Brockholes of Claughton Hall. Got home about 2pm.[84]

Friday 26 June 1891 Weeding, &c. in afternoon.

Saturday 27 June 1891 To Lancaster – I, my wife, (son L[lewellyn] on bicycle) & the Misses Gardners of the Hill, Forton. Spoke to L Holden* – no allusion to the proposed newspaper. Returned about 3pm.

Sunday 28 June 1891 In forenoon I & my sons H[orace] & L[lewellyn] to Shireshead church. Good sermon by Martin* who preached (as a favour) for last time here to-day. In aft[ernoo]n reading Sir E Arnold's "Light of Asia."

Monday 29 June 1891 Who should turn up at Forton Bank this morning but Edward Wilson, of Ashton-under-Lyne – a brother of my wife. He & his brother John are having a dispute about some law charges and he (E) wanted me to make on his behalf & for his interest, a suggestion to John. I declined. Edward is a curiosity. Old Vicar Bickerdike called in aft[ernoo]n: I was out with EW.[85]

Tuesday 30 June 1891 Drove my wife to Castle Station, Lancaster, to catch an excursion train to Carlisle (due to leave station mentioned[?] at 8.30). Son L[lewellyn] with me. My wife going to pay a short visit to daughter Florence. On returning home had a talk & a walk with E Wilson & at noon, went with him to Scorton station, from which he left at about 1.26pm for Lancaster, thence returning & to Preston & so home. During the greater part of his stay with me he talked about nothing except money & religion! Such an idiotic, grasping, canting jumble as I never before encountered.

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84 Harriet A Gardner (b. c. 1857); Fanny P Gardner (b. c. 1858); Thomas Miller (1829-1901), land agent, of Woodplumpton House; William Joseph Fitzherbert-Brockholes (1851-1924).

85 Edward Wilson (b. 1851), plumber and glazier, of Ashton-under-Lyne.

July

Wednesday 1 July 1891 In greenhouse & garden. In evening finished reading Arnold's "Light of Asia," and then proceeded to Bay Horse railway station to meet my wife, who arrived there about 8.40. Drove home with her & son L[lewellyn].

Thursday 2 July 1891 Working in greenhouse & garden all day. Some time today Curate (Rev W Martin*) late of Shireshead, was married at Southport to Miss F Cotterill [sic] of Southport and Shireshead.

Friday 3 July 1891 Weather fine: atmosphere very clear. In aft[ernoo]n for a few moments viewed about on the hill behind the house. Could see Fleetwood, Blackpool, Piel Castle, Barrow-in-Furness, &c; & on the other side, with the aid of a field glass, St Walburge's spire & two or three tall chimneys in Preston. From about 3pm to 9 throng, with son L[lewellyn], cutting grass (mowing) in the orchard. Rough awkward grass – hard work.

Saturday 4 July 1891 Walked to Scorton station & proceeded thence, per 10.10 forenoon train, to Preston – to see Mr Clarke,* solicitor, with the view of nobbling a person who has been pirating, for newspaper work, some of my History of Preston, also to buy some butcher's meat, grocers &c & to see "Rev" TA Peters regarding a printing job for my son Horace. Home per 5.30pm train. Mr Richardson, farmer, Ellel, cut grass.[86]

Sunday 5 July 1891 This forenoon I and my son L[lewellyn] to Church. Moderate congregation. A strange cleric read & preached. He has come for a month – on his holidays – to take duty. A tall, yellow-haired, awkward-looking young fellow read the lessons. Sermon a good one. The old vicar also took part in the service. The sermon extempore – I suppose an old one, well off by heart – was above the average of curately productions. In the aft[ernoo]n read a portion of the Rev. Haweis' "Light of the World."[87] Good. Style, spirit, & erudition very commendable.

Monday 6 July 1891 A wet day. Could do no thing in hay field. Occupied considerable time in greenhouse.

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86 Hewitson published his history of Preston in 1883; probably Harling Richardson (c. 1858-1930).

87 H. R. (Hugh Reginald) Haweis, *Christ and Christianity: The Light of the Ages* (*Asia, Africa, Europe*) (Charles Burnet, 1887).

Tuesday 7 July 1891 Strewing grass for a while this forenoon. At about one pm I & my wife & son L[lewellyn] went by carriage to Lancaster to witness the entry of the High Sheriff (Colonel Foster of Hornby Castle appointed in place of Mr Preston, Ellel Grange, deceased). Waited in Market St with son L[lewellyn], a long time. Numerous people doing same, shook hand with Mr Brockholes, of Claughton, who was in company with Mr Hugh Hornby, St Michaels. They are members of the County Council & are very frequently together. I called them "Damon and Pithias". At about 4 o clock the High Sheriff's procession appeared – men on horseback, men & women in carriages (farmers, their wives, daughters, tradesmen, &c &c &c), then the High Sheriff in a grand carriage, & afterwards numerous ladies & gentlemen in carriages. They had come from Hornby Castle, down Lunesdale. In February, 1845, I (along with my grandfather, Thomas Moore of Ingleton) saw Pudsey Dawson proceed down Lunesdale as High Sheriff to Lancaster. Pudsey then resided at Hornby Castle. The demonstration was a fine one, but not as good as that to-day in honour of Colonel Foster.[88]

Wednesday 8 July 1891 Hay making.

Thursday 9 July 1891 Ditto & to Garstang.

Friday 10 July 1891 Hay making. Finished the field & got the hay in stack by 9.50pm.

Saturday 11 July 1891 To Lancaster this forenoon with my wife. Nothing particular. Brought home children for the weekend.

Sunday 12 July 1891 This forenoon to church with sons H[orace] & L[lewellyn] & daughters R[osaline] & L[etty]. The curate who preached last Sunday preached again – moderate sermon. Organ-playing bad – according to my taste. The "people's warden" (Charnley, an old soldier) in a new suit. We call him "Breeches" on a/c [account] of the damned narrow, short, washed-up trousers he has this forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n read in a book entitled "Summer in the Country" – a charming, chatty book.[89]

88 George Theophilus Robert Preston (1834-91), landowner, Gladstonian Liberal, victim of a flu epidemic (*Lancaster Gazette*, 16 May 1891, p. 5); Hugh Phipps Hornby (1849-1944), barrister, county councillor; Damon and Pythias were loyal friends, according to the Greek myth; Pudsey Dawson (1779?-1859).

89 Edward Charnley (1828-1902), 'army pensioner' in the 1891 census; Robert Aris Willmott, *A Journal of Summer Time in the Country* (London: John W. Parker, 1849).

Monday 13 July 1891 At about 10 this forenoon took children (daughters M[abel], R[osaline] & L[etty]) back to Mrs Paitson's school, Lancaster, my wife with me. Afterwards to dinner at a restaurant connected with Coffee Tavern Co, Market st[ree]t, then to Stonewell for tram car to Morecambe. Called at Bleasdale's pot shop, & ascertained that two of my old Lancaster acquaintances in about 1856-7 (John Bleasdale and John Hewertson) were both dead. To Morecambe; tide up; many visitors; went on pier; infernally poor music; looked at camera obscura; Rushton accountant, home. [90]

Tuesday 14 July 1891 In garden &c.

Wednesday 15 July 1891 To Preston per 8.18 morning train from Scorton, with son H[orace]. Read proof of Rev T.A. Peters's pamphlet. In aft[ernoo]n had a Turkish bath, at Harrison's, Lark Hill way. Tales [?] – Dawson, late chemist, &c. In eve[nin]g, on getting back to shop found old Serjeant [sic] Wrigley there. He was formerly in the County Constabulary office. I first became acquainted with him about 30 years ago – at that office. At 7.45, as I was leaving the shop he told me a story. Wrigley, who is about 79 years of age, said that at one Sunday night, many years ago, some working men, probably factory operatives, were going through a street near Hawkins's mill lodge, on the northern side of Preston; that they heard a man in a house, praying in a very loud voice; & that one of them exclaimed to his companions, "By gum, that bugger (meaning the man who was praying) must have done something sadly wrong, or he would never be making a noise like that." I home per 8pm train along with son H[orace].[91]

Thursday 16 July 1891 In greenhouse and garden greater part of day.

Friday 17 July 1891 Same

Saturday 18 July 1891 A wet morning but cleared up about 10. Shortly afterwards I & my wife, taking with us the two Miss Gardners to Lancaster in carriage. Marketing &c, at Lancaster the tradespeople of which town in many instances, are an independent, indifferent, hard-faced, high-charging lot. Miss G said her brother Bob had been to Preston but not the house at Forton – though he is an executor & was at

90 John Bleasdale (c. 1832-85), china dealer; probably John Winder Hewertson (c. 1835-72), timber dealer; Thomas Rushton, accountant, 45 Fishergate, Preston.

91 J Harrison, Albyn Bank St, Lark Hill; Thomas A Dawson (c. 1828-91); James Robinson Wrigley (1814-97).

sea when his father was interred. My wife gave her to understand that he had been perhaps to Preston on private business, it being reported that a daughter of Parkinson, printer, has just been confined and that he (Bob) is said to be the father of it. Home about 2.45.[92]

Sunday 19 July 1891 In forenoon I & my sons H[orace] & L[lewellyn] to church. The clergyman who has officiated for the past two Sundays gone. Two elderly clergymen, age from perhaps 65 to 70 assisted at service; the Vicar taking a small part – certainly taking charge of the money bags as usual. One of the assistant clergymen was the Vicar's brother who preached very well. In aft[ernoo]n read Willmott's "Summer Time in the Country."

Monday 20 July 1891 Working in garden and greenhouse.

Tuesday 21 July 1891 Same

Wednesday 22 July 1891 D[itt]o

Thursday 2 July 1891 Martha the servant left to day at noon. She had got too fast & foolish & fond of courting. I & my wife rode by carriage to Garstang, thence to Brock; called at Roebuck Inn and had refreshments. On returning stopped at Cornthwaites, next door to Brook house. Walls – yard &c of B[rook] house mended, but the grounds in front in a very lost weedy grass-grown neglected state. The place is still empty – it has been empty ever since we left in April last. Home through Garstang.[93]

Friday 24 July 1891 Had a day of whitewashing yard, &c.

Saturday 25 July 1891 To Preston by 7.18 morning train from Scorton & remained in & about Horace's shop till night – all due to H[orace]'s wrong-headedness. Home with H[orace] per 10pm train. Preston dull.

Sunday 26 July 1891 This forenoon to church (Shireshead) with son L[lewellyn]. An old, genial, earnest, fat, red-faced minister (one of the two strange ones present last Sunday) conducted service & preached a very good sermon on the importance of prayer. In the aft[ernoo]n I &

92 Marketing: going to the market; Robert Gardner (b. 1862); probably Elizabeth Ellen Parkinson (b. 1870), daughter of James Parkinson (b. 1841), printer and stationer; Elizabeth, described as 'authoress' in the 1901 census, married Rev Samuel Macnaughton in 1892; there is no trace of a child born in 1891.

93 Richard J. Cornthwaite (b. 1846), his wife Elizabeth (b. 1848) and family, of Brook House Farm.

my wife drove to Pilling via Cockerham. Tide up. Air fresh and strong. Great no. of sheep (about 450) & several cows in the marsh. In the evening , on returning, had a walk. The old gentleman who preached today is Archdeacon Wright – a colonial archd[eaco]n I believe – & residing somewhere in Herts or Hampshire.[94]

Monday 27 July 1891 Working in greenhouse, garden &c.

Tuesday 28 July 1891 D[itt]o, chiefly garden.

Wednesday 29 July 1891 Working in garden till noon. Then to Bay Horse station with my wife & per train (1.25pm) to Lancaster for my daughters M[abel], R[osaline] & L[etty]. Returned per 4.54 train. In evening Polly Thompson from the Vicarage – she looks after Mr Bickerdike, the vicar – called & gossipped [sic] with us for about three quarters of an hour. My three daughters [entry ends here][95]

Thursday 30 July 1891 At about 10.45 in carriage, with my wife, to Garstang. Saw Tom Banks butcher – giving him a reply I had written for him, to a letter from Assistant Sec[retary] Local Gov[ernmen]t B[oar]d respecting charge for registration work by Crane, Assistant Overseer for Bilsborrow. Saw T[om] B[anks] at Golden Ball Garstang. Had a glass of stout at his expense. Brian Dodgson of Catterall in same room & cheerful. P[ai]d Breakell vet 5 12/- and Drs Chapman & Harrison £1-1-0 for daughter F[lorence]. In afternoon to Brock, my wife having to see Mrs Butler there (Mat's wife) about some dresses. Home aft[erwar]ds. Rainy.[96]

Friday 31 July 1891 Cleaning up front ground &c. In afternoon my wife's brother (John Wilson) from Lancaster & his wife & two children drove over. Had a walk to Shireshead old church &c with John. They stayed till nearly 10pm & then home.

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94 Henry Press Wright (d. 1892), army chaplain for 25 years, including as senior chaplain to Lord Raglan's army throughout the Crimean War, worked in Vancouver, 1861-65 as first archdeacon of British Columbia, then as senior chaplain of the Royal Garrison Church, Portsmouth, 1865-77, returned to Canada, then in 1880 became rector of St John the Baptist in Greatham, north of Portsmouth: *History in Portsmouth,* 'People in Portsmouth: Henry Press Wright', http://historyinportsmouth.co.uk/people/wright.htm

95 Mary Thompson (b. 1858) is recorded in the 1891 census as a visitor at the vicarage, and 'living on her own means', rather than a servant.

96 Brian Dodgson (c. 1829-1913), tenant farmer; William Chapman (d. 1908) and James Harrison (c. 1857-1935) shared a medical practice; Agnes Butler (c. 1855), dressmaker, wife of Mathew Butler (c. 1851-93), cattle dealer.

August

Saturday 1 August 1891 At about 10.30 this forenoon drove to Lancaster with my wife & daughter L[etty]. In afternoon, at 2.30 attended a meeting of executive committee of the Lancaster Division Liberal Unionist Association at the office, Church St[ree]t. I have been appointed member of this Ass[ociatio]n. Alderman Chas Blaids [sic] in chair and amongst those present Sir Thomas Storey (the Liberal Unionist candidate for the Lancaster division at next parl[iament]ary election), Mr Diggens* (manager, Albert Asylum), Mr Maxsted, solicitor &c. Business receiving reports &c. In reply to questions I expressed reprehensible opinion of the newspapers supposed to be specially on the side of Sir T in this division. Home in evening.[97]

Sunday 2 August 1891 This forenoon to church with son L[lewellyn] & daughter L[etty]. Moderate congregation; singing bad; organ playing damned bad; sermon very good – preacher being same old rose-looking, rotund gentleman who preached last Sunday (Archdeacon Wright* from the south of England). In aft[ernoo]n sleeping and reading Willmott's "Summer time in the Country". In evening had a walk with my wife & daughters M[abel], R[osaline] & L[etty] up to Shireshead old church & round back by high field westward.

Monday 3 August 1891 Gardening & greenhousing.

Tuesday 4 August 1891 Same chiefly.

Wednesday 5 August 1891 To Preston, from Scorton per 1.13pm train. Did several jobs & arranged with Mr Paine, proprietor of the Preston Herald to let my son L[lewellyn] go to him, on trial for 3 months, in his reporting department – to commence on Sept 1 next. In evening had a chat with W. France, Reuben Pemberton, carriage maker. Home per 8pm train.[98]

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97 Charles Blades (1818-93), 'roseate faced, firm & silver-haired' timber merchant, four times mayor of Lancaster; Diggens: see 11 February 1891; George William Maxsted (1819-98), former Liberal Party agent, 'huge, grave, dry-witted' (for both descriptions, see 31 October 1891); Maxsted claimed to have known the poet Tennyson (*LS*, 16 December 1898).

98 William Paine (1842?-1906), owner of the *Maidstone and Kentish Journal*, former owner of the *Surrey Advertiser,* had bought the *Preston Herald* in 1890, provoking a mass exodus of reporting staff (*The Journalist*, 20 September 1890, p. 10); Reuben Pemberton (c. 1838-1908).

Thursday 6 August 1891 In garden, &c.

Friday 7 August 1891 Up with my wife, early, set off to Lancaster, per carriage about 7 & at 8.10 proceeded by train from Green Ayre station to Ingleton. Brother in law J.W.[99] & his wife with us. Got to Ingleton about 9.30. Saw cousin T Moore; had dinner; then walked up Swillabottom & beyond Pecca Falls, had tea at Coffee Tavern; home per 6.35pm train. Found out at Clapham that through the block-headed misrepresentation of an Ingleton porter we had missed train to Lancaster – none for about 2 ½ hours, so we took the down train in direction of Barrow, crossed over to Carnforth by the Wennington junction (pretty country – Melling, Lune, Arkholme, Borwick) and caught train there due at Lancaster at 8.18pm. On reaching Lancaster went to our "putting up" place, got horse into trap & reached home about 10 o'clock.[100]

Saturday 8 August 1891 To Lancaster about 11 this forenoon. Did some shopping &c with my wife. Rain in aft[ernoo]n, rain all way home.

Sunday 9 August 1891 To church this forenoon. Wet kept several away: a congregation of only 19! Very bad singing & organ playing. Sermon by Archdeacon Wright*. In aft[ernoo]n and evening finished reading Willmott's "Summer Time in the Country." A book full of critical literary matter, poetry, &c. Well illustrated.

Monday 10 August 1891 In garden &c.

Tuesday 11 August 1891 Ditto. In the evening at about 7.45, I my wife & daughter L[etty] went to Spout House – a farm occupied by Mr Escolme, about 10 minutes walk. We went to pay a bill – 10/- for mowing my meadow, 2 acres; but to our astonishment they were in bed. He got up, came down stairs and settled the bill at 5 minutes past 8. I should think he & his wife & family had gone to bed about 7.30! I expressed surprise at their going to bed so early & he said they had nothing to do and that this was their custom.[101]

99 Probably John Wilson.

100 Thomas Moore (1821-95), man of many parts, including chorister, musician, photographer, rate collector, sign-writer; from 1877 local correspondent for *Lancaster Observer* and later for Skipton newspapers (*Lancaster Observer* 20 September 1895).

101 John Escolme (c. 1833-1908) and Elizabeth Escolme (c. 1836-1918).

Wednesday 12 August 1891 Drove over to Lancaster this forenoon, with my wife. Went, on arriving, to farmers' weekly auction mart for cattle with a grandson of "Bos Bland" who is a butcher in Penny-st[ree]t, and who agreed to help me in selecting half a dozen lambs, to be put into my meadow. Found none to suit & so agreed to wait for another week or two. Afterwards took a seat in the auction building, next to Bland's father – old Bos's son – whom I knew when he was a rough-headed lad. Found him very cheerful & chatty. He told me that for about 2 years prior to his marriage he did nothing but drink day & night; that about a week before his marriage whilst in a public house he had a sort of fit – bled profusely from the mouth & nostrils, & in recovering "never felt better in his life," that he was now in easy circumstances & had handed over his business to his eldest son, about 26 years of age. Stayed in auction room watching proceedings about 2 hours. Home after dinner.[102]

Thursday 13 August 1891 My 55th birthday. The children made me a present of a pair of slippers & wished me many happy returns of the day.

Friday 14 August 1891 To Lancaster County Court – subpoenad as a witness in case John Wilson & Edward Wilson – the executors of my father in law* – Edward was sued for about £8-10 being half of Holden* & Whelon's bill for services in connection with balance sheet of the estate, & which Edward agreed to pay. The case did not come on till about 6.45pm – what a long weary waiting! – I was not called upon to give evidence. The judge's verdict went against Edward. The case lasted about a quarter of an hour. Home per 8.18pm train from Lancaster.[103]

Saturday 15 August 1891 Drove to Lancaster, with my wife & daughter M[abel]. Nothing very particular except the large number of strangers in the streets.

Sunday 16 August 1891 In forenoon to church. Large congregation – taking into a/c [account] the size of the building; sermon by Archdeacon

102 'Bos' Bland was probably James Bland (1816), his son William Bland (c. 1834-94) and grandson James Bland (c. 1866-1913).

103 Holden and Whelon, solicitors.

Wright*. In aft[ernoo]n had a sleep and read in Haweis' "Light of the World;" in evening a walk, at night, very clear atmosphere – from hill behind our house saw: could see with naked eye, lights at Barrow & the alternating light of the light-house on Walney Island.

Monday 17 August 1891 I, my wife, son L[lewellyn], & daughters M[abel], R[osaline] & L[etty] to Lancaster, thence about 9 per train, on "circular" Windermere tour round by Grange &c & up the lake on steam boat. Great no. of excursionists – far too many to be comfortable. Went to Ambleside; walked to Rydal Mount – Wordsworth place. On a board, on gate, south-west side, there was painted "no admittance." A pretty place. Afterwards all of us except my wife walked on to Nab Cottage where Hartley Coleridge lived and died. Rain. Back by train round by Oxenholme. Home at about 9.25.

Tuesday 18 August 1891 In greenhouse &c &c.

Wednesday 19 August 1891 Painting plant tubs, putting on door latch &c. In evening whilst on hill behind house, met with [entry stops here]

Thursday 20 August 1891 To Garstang (market day) with my wife. Did some shopping, &c. Met with Councillor W[illia]m Hale* of Preston. Had two glasses with him, on two different occasions, at the Royal Oak. He is a plucky, independent fellow; but too noisy & self-glorifying. Home by 2pm.

Friday 21 August 1891 Took down hay stack in field – it was made too big – too flat – rain had got in; spread top part in field to dry; had the bottom part cut into blocks & carted off & then put in loft over stable. We could have got the whole in but rain fell just about time the spread-out lot was dry so we had to put it in big cock. John Wilson, his wife, & one of children, from Lancaster, called in the evening.[104]

Saturday 22 August 1891 Drove to Lancaster at about 10.30 this forenoon, with my wife & daughter L[etty]. At 2.45 in aft[ernoo]n went to Ingleton, by rail, to draw a small rent for land & barn. Got it; had a glass with cousin T Moore; left by 4.45 train, & landed at

104 Haycock: conical heap of hay.

Lancaster at 5.45. Found on arriving that my wife & L[lewellyn] had gone to Morecambe; waited for them about three hours. Got home at about 10 o['clo]ck.[105]

Sunday 23 August 1891 I, sons H[orace] & L[lewellyn] & daughters R[osaline] & L[etty] to church this forenoon. Moderate congregation. Music greatly improved – Miss Vose ['ause' written above] playing the organ. Sermon a very thoughtful one by Archdeacon Wright*. In aft[ernoo]n read a little Howeis's "Light of the World" & slept somewhat. In evening had a walk.[106]

Monday 24 August 1891 This morning Mr R[ichar]d Hall, contractor, Forton, called on me for a subscription towards Lancaster Agricultural Soc[iet]y. Gave him 10/-. He presented me with two admission tickets to the show.[107]

Tuesday 25 August 1891 A very wet day. Most extraordinary wet August this has been. In & about the house all day.

Wednesday 26 August 1891 I, my wife, & son L[lewellyn] to Lancaster Agricultural Show, held in Giant Axe field. A poorish show, but good attendance of visitors. I & my wife on grandstand – 1/- each. Much interested in the "turn out" parade, & especially the hurdle jumping. A female (young girl) from Southport won 1st prize for jumping. Great crush on leaving ground – only small gate open till nearly last, when after bulk had squeezed out, the big central gate was opened! Had tea at Jno [John] Wilson's. To a flower show in Covered Market aft[erwar]ds. Left for home about 8.40pm.

Thursday 27 August 1891 At home all day.

Friday 28 August 1891 Bothering with some hay which has been nearly spoiled. After getting it spread, rain came. The hay will be only fit for horse bedding. In the evening called on Mr Bee who has come

105 Hewitson had either inherited or bought the land and barn he rented out in Ingleton.

106 Amy Vause (b. 1870), school teacher.

107 Richard Hall (1827-1904), Oddfellow, Conservative, Poor Law Guardian; see 12 September 1891.

to late John Gardner's* place near by – the Hill. Bee an unmannerly "beggar on horse back." His wife better behaved but only a kind of soft toss-pot.[108]

Saturday 29 August 1891 To Lancaster directly after dinner. At 2.30 attended a meeting of the Executive of the Liberal Union Assoc[iatio]n of the Lancaster division. The mayor of Lancaster (Alderman Chas Blades) in chair & amongst those present Mr Dawson, Aldcliffe Hall; Mr Diggens,* & Mr Maxstead [sic], sol[icito]r. Business nothing extra.[109]

Sunday 30 August 1891 Went to church this forenoon, with sons H[orace] and L[lewellyn] & daughters R[osaline] & L[etty]. Good congregation. Sermon by Archdeacon Wright*, poor for three parts, & good at end. In afternoon read Haweis's "Light of the World" & slept somewhat. In the evening Archdeacon Wright called & chatted for about an hour. I lent him three vols. He wanted to know something about Furness Abbey & one of the vols (vol 2 Baines's Lancashire) was for reference. He was very cheerful. Don't care for his wife. She is a sort of smart-dressing, jewel-displaying madam. He told me that for about 8 hours a day he was busy translating a work by Thomas a Kempis.[110]

Monday 31 August 1891 This morning I went to Preston with my son L[lewellyn] who commenced – on trial for three months, in reporting department of the Herald – at about 11 o'clock. Home by 12.50 noon train. In aft[ernoo]n in garden &c &c.[111]

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108 John Bee (b. 1860), coal agent of Preston and Priscilla Bee (1861-1908), see 22 December 1891; beggar on horseback: a person whose new-found wealth has made them arrogant; toss pot: fool or drunkard.

109 Edward Bousfield Dawson (1831-1916), barrister, magistrate, landowner, lord of the manor of Aldcliffe, pioneer in the use of concrete for houses and farm buildings, Congregationalist, teetotaller: Bellis, Robert, 'Aldcliffe', Regional History Centre, Lancaster University, n.d. https://www.lancaster.ac.uk/media/lancaster-university/content-assets/documents/rhc/Aldcliffetranscript.pdf; Diggens: see 11 February 1891.

110 Thomas à Kempis, *Meditations on the Life of Christ*, ed. Samuel Kettlewell and Henry Press Wright (London: Parker & Co, 1892); Marian Lucy Wright (1830-1917), née Fisher, widow of Frederick Livingston Cole.

111 Llewellyn was 18, and had been taught shorthand by his father; his brother Horace already did some reporting for this paper (22 March 1891); see 5 August 1891 and 23 November 1891, the latter entry suggesting the trial was unsuccessful.

September

Tuesday 1 September 1891 Very windy & wild this afternoon. Much fruit blown off trees. Most extraordinary weather. August I believe unexampled for 30 years in wetness.

Wednesday 2 September 1891 Working amongst the old spoiled hay – for bedding or littering purposes this forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n at 4, I & my wife to Lancaster for our carriage, which has been repainted at Mr Gilchrist's, Meeting House Lane. Got home again about 6.30. Helped servant boy to get in the old weather-beaten hay; at 9.30 sons H[orace] & L[lewellyn] turned up & helped; got it in about 10.30. Dark. Hard to finish with lamp light.[112]

Thursday 3 September 1891 To Garstang Agricultural Show this aft[ernoo]n with my wife. Three daughters met us there: they had been to Threlfall's Woodplumpton. Many persons at show. Horses the main feature. In one class of the "Turn outs" we showed our mare "Beauty." She did not get a prize; but I believe it was a very narrow shave for the 2nd, and she looked well. Afterwards I, my wife & daughters R[osaline] & L[etty] to tea at Mr Westhead's, Bowgreave. He is from Preston – a son of Mr Westhead, furniture dealer, & has taken a house temporarily here. Walked to station; then to Bay H[orse] and walked home.[113]

Friday 4 September 1891 Early in aft[ernoo]n to Preston, to write out with son H[orace] for papers particulars of correspondence &c between T Banks, myself, Crane assistant overseer of Bilsborrow. The appeal I & T Banks made against Crane's charge for registration work has been successful. Such work, the Local Govt Board says, is included in his ordinary duties & has to be done without any extra or special charge.[114]

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112 William Gilchrist (1822-1912), carriage builder; councillor, Congregationalist, Freemason, involved at national level in the campaign to reduce the carriage tax.

113 Margaret Hewitson's late sister Jane Wilson (1848-90) had married John Threlfall and had three children; William Westhead (1848-1915), son of John Westhead (1817-1898).

114 The report appeared in the *Preston Herald* (5 September 1891, p. 5) and in other

Saturday 5 September 1891 In forenoon I, my wife & daughter Mabel, to Lancaster. Town fairly brisk. Home pretty soon.

Sunday 6 September 1891 To church this forenoon with my son L[lewellyn] & daughter L[etty]. Weather very wet. Only about 12 persons, including children present. Archdeacon Wright* preached a tolerably good sermon. In aft[ernoo]n I began reading Sir Walter Scott's Journal. Very interesting.[115]

Monday 7 September 1891 At home gardening &c.

Tuesday 8 September 1891 Ditto.

Wednesday 9 September 1891 Drove over to Lancaster with my wife & servant boy John Bridgen. On arriving I went to Farmers' Auction Mart behind Prince William Henry Inn, at top of Penny St[ree]t. Saw Bland, butcher about some lambs. He said I should be in time if I went away and returned at 1.30. Did so. Then after wait of about 2 ½ hours he managed to buy for me 8 gimmer lambs – 4 at 22/9 each, and 4 at 23/- each.[116] My boy John drove them home, I & my wife returned by conveyance. Put the lambs into my little meadow near the little church.

Thursday 10 September 1891 Sons H[orace] & L[lewellyn] & daughters M[abel] and L[etty] to Goosnargh Agricultural Show with our horse "Beauty" to compete in one of the "turn out" classes. "No go" – horse dealers competing & they took the prizes. These dealers, who have only a floating, speculative value in horses ought to compete by themselves in a special class.

Friday 11 September 1891 Throng in front ground, garden, &c.

Saturday 12 September 1891 In forenoon, I, my wife & daughter L[etty] drove to Lancaster. Somewhat quiet; weather being very fine

papers.

115 Walter Scott, *The Journal of Sir Walter Scott: From the Original Manuscript at Abbotsford*, ed. David Douglas (Edinburgh: David Douglas, 1890), https://archive.org/details/journalofsirwalt02scot/

116 Gimmer: a female lamb that will be kept for breeding rather than being sold for slaughter.

& hot just now, many farmers would, I suppose, be busy in their grain fields. About 2pm met with Mr Hall, contractor, Cockerham lane, who shook hands & asked me to a glass. Went to Bear & Staff, Penny St[ree]t, upstairs & we, along with a couple of friends or relatives of his, had two glasses each. We conversed about early railway trains, the inconvenient manner in which intermediate trains are run in the Lancaster & Preston railway, &c. Mr Hall is a roseate-faced, bulky, plain, English looking Church & Tory man & is, evidently, a "jolly good fellow." Home afterwards.

Sunday 13 September 1891 This forenoon to church, along with my daughter L[etty]. Fairly good congregation; sermon by Archdeacon Wright.* In aft[ernoo]n read a little in Sir Walter Scott's Journal, and slept a little. Afterwards had a walk with my wife to summit of field at rear of our house & sat under a tree. Heard the organ and the singing in the church – very impressive. Stayed here till our three daughters (M[abel], R[osaline] & L[etty]) who had been to church came for us, & then into house for tea. Read more of Sir W[alter] S[cott]'s journal in the evening.

Monday 14 September 1891 Nearly all forenoon reading Sir W Scott's journal. In afternoon had a spell at potato digging in the garden – and had another read & in the vinery & whilst there one of my daughters came running to me and said "The old archdeacon has come and is at the door" – meaning Archdeacon Wright.* Went to him & we both walked into the dining room. He returned me one of the books I lent him. We had a conversation about the Church of England, a short discussion on the Athanasian Creed, & a talk about my visit to Thomas Carlyle many years ago. Lent the Archdeacon a vol of my writing giving a sketch of my visit to T.C.[117]

Tuesday 15 September 1891 I, my wife & daughter L[etty] to Lancaster, to meet a young American – a youth named Lincoln Burrows, brother of Miss H Burrows of Brooklyn, to whom my son E[thelbert] is "engaged." He arrived by train at about 3.30pm from Glasgow. Showed him through Lancaster Castle; then he rode home

117 For Athanasian Creed, see vol. 1, 17 April 1881; for the Carlyle visit, see 3 October 1872, vol. 1.

with us. A nice, intelligent, courteous youth. He has been touring on the continent with an American professor named Curtis & some pupil friends, for a few weeks.[118]

Wednesday 16 September 1891 This morning showed young Burrows about a little – took him for views to the hill across railway opposite our house and to the eminence in pasture behind the house. To Preston with him per 1.10pm train from Scorton. At Preston showed him the Free Library, the Guild Hall, the Newsham art gallery & the new Free Library building. At about 3.40 he left per train for Liverpool. I accompanied him to the railway station at Preston. He leaves L[iver]pool this evening per Inman and International SS "City of New York." I home per 5.30 train. [119]

Thursday 17 September 1891 In garden, &c.

Friday 18 September 1891 Ditto.

Saturday 19 September 1891 It is 33 years today since I & my wife were married at Wharton [sic] church near Carnforth. To Lancaster with my wife & daughter R[osaline]. A slowish sort of day. Home early. My wife & daughters busy with flowers &c for church – harvest festival. I weeding, &c.

Sunday 20 September 1891 I, my wife, sons H[orace] & L[lewellyn] & daughter L[etty] to church this forenoon. Place, internally, nicely decorated. We did our share. Sermon by Archdeacon Wright.* In aft[ernoo]n I read Sir W Scott's journal & slept. My wife & daughters M[abel], R[osaline] and L[etty] to church in aft[ernoo]n. In evening Archdeacon Wright called returning to me the remaining vols I had lent him. We talked on political, social, and o[the]r matters. He has been an army chaplain, holds a medal of honour (Crimean War), has a pension of £100 a y[ea]r. (See Clerical Directory for this y[ea]r). He

118 Lincoln Burrows (1877-1952), brother of Hattie M Burrows (b. 1875), aged 16 by the time of this 'engagement', which came to nothing.

119 Art collector Richard Newsham (1798-1883) left his collection to Preston Corporation, who displayed some of the paintings in the town hall; work had begun on the Harris art gallery, museum and library, in the market square, opened in 1893.

stayed talking very agreeably & sensibly for about an hour & a half. In course of his talk he said he had travelled with Lady Franklin (widow of Sir John) in California or San Francisco. He said that on Tuesday he & his wife would leave Shireshead vicarage & proceed (I suppose, en route home, Greatham, Hants) to Norfolk. The handbill announcing the harvest thanksgiving services described him as a "K.G." (Knight of the Garter!!) & as the rector of Greated! Both ridiculous mistakes – specially the "K.G." He shook hands on leaving. Afterwards read sundry pages of Sir W Scott's journal.[120]

Monday 21 September 1891 I & my wife by train to Lancaster to see Mrs Paitson as to school terms for our daughters M[abel], R[osaline] & L[etty]. Geo B[arker] – son-in-law from Carlisle – came today.

Tuesday 22 September 1891 This afternoon I and G[eorge] B[arker] walked to Lancaster. Road good; weather fine. Transacted some business, including the buying of a tank of paraffin oil, at 6 ½ d per gallon – cask, worth 3/- given in – so that the oil only cost me about 6d per gallon. Home by train. Children to school today.

Wednesday 23 September 1891 At noon by train to Preston. Bought some herbs – Valerian & skullcap; in evening saw Mr Thom [Thorn?], the Income Tax man, in Guild-hall street. He says my return for last year was wrong, that I was not entitled to an abatement and that I shall have to pay £3 extra. Had a long talk with him on other matters besides income tax – politics, local government reform, &c. He is a shrewd, cautious, courteous, determined man. Home per 8pm train.[121]

Thursday 24 September 1891 At home peddling about the whole day.

Friday 25 September 1891 Immediately after dinner drove with my wife & George Barker to Lancaster; thence by train to Morecambe, where we spent the afternoon – at Summer Gardens (gardens all going to seed and weed), on the pier, in a museum, &, in a street at

120 Lady Jane Franklin (1791-1875), widow of Rear-Admiral Sir John Franklin (1786-1847), naval commander and explorer who died on a voyage to find the North West Passage.

121 Thom unidentified.

eastern end, in churchyard, &c. On returning to Lancaster, Geo Barker proceeded home to Carlisle by 6.30 pm train & I and my wife drove home.[122]

Saturday 26 September 1891 Went to Lancaster at noon. Our three daughters (M[abel, R[osaline] & L[etty]) who went back to school on Tuesday last were brought out by Ma.[?] to get measured for jackets. They were with us sometime & were very loath to leave us. Bless them. Got home about 5.30.

Sunday 27 September 1891 In aft[ernoo]n to church, by myself. A pretty good congregation. Organ-playing bad. A pompously dull sermon (I nearly fell asleep during its delivery) by Canon Dart, followed by a collection on behalf of some mission work. In evening I had a long read in Sir W Scott's journal.[123]

Monday 28 September 1891 Plucking damsons during greater part of day in our orchard.

Tuesday 29 September 1891 Wet in forenoon and did nothing very needful. In aft[ernoo]n wrote two or three letters & Dutch hoed the front. At night had a long read in Sir W Scott's journal. A very interesting excellent production, showing Sir W to have been a fine, honest, noble fellow. – courageous.

Wednesday 30 September 1891 Plucking damsons in orchard &c. Many blown. Fruit this summer has "caught it" through wind, &c. A very plentiful crop in first instance, but awfully mauled by the wind & rain.

122 The Summer Gardens, opened in 1878, covered 30 acres with conservatories, bowling greens, lawn tennis, ornamental walks, terraces, croquet grounds, a race course, a dance platform and a boating lake; it failed to attract enough visitors and had continual financial problems.

123 Rev John Dart (1836-1910), diocesan organising secretary of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, 1885-95. He became warden of a training college in Colombo, Sri Lanka, at 24, and worked in Nova Scotia, Canada, 1876-85.

October

Thursday 1 October 1891 Damson plucking, &c.

Friday 2 October 1891 Wet. Miscellaneous work. At night had a read in Sir W Scott's Journal.

Saturday 3 October 1891 At 11.15 I & my wife drove to Lancaster. Fine day. A good deal of strangers in the town. At 2pm to a meeting of the Liberal Unionist executive comm[itt]ee in Church St. Heard reports from Sec (Owen) and hon sec (Mr Diggens*). I & six others appointed as delegation to attend L.U. conference in Manchester, some time next March. Home at 5.[124]

Sunday 4 October 1891 To church this forenoon with sons H[orace] & L[lewellyn] . The new curate (Rev Lloyd Evans) [name written in pencil] from Norwood, near London) preached for first time this forenoon. He was very nervous during service & considerably so during sermon. Good matter in sermon. He is a tall, sandy-complexioned, slightly-stooping, spectacled, young man – perhaps about 28 years of age. A courteous, mild, anxious sort of manner. I think I shall like him. In aft[ernoo]n whilst trying to go asleep in my armchair in library, heard a knock at door & on going forward Mr Richard Hall, contractor, there. He said he wanted to look at my conservatory. Asked him in. He stayed tea [sic] & we had a long agreeable chat; but he did not see the conservatory at all. Soon after Mr H[all] came, Owen, sec of Lancaster Liberal Unionists called; then he went to church & returned & had tea with us. A decent little fellow.[125]

Monday 5 October 1891 Plucking damsons in orchard all day with John the servant. Windy & we rocked about in the tree tops. My wife throng preserving (boiling) damsons.

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124 Benjamin Owen (c. 1845-1929), former headmaster, now full-time political agent (*Nelson Leader* 8 February 1929, p. 8).

125 Charles Walter Lloyd Evans (c. 1867-1936), studied at St Edmund Hall, Oxford, became curate at Heaton Norris, Netherseale and Edgbaston, vicar of Blackfordby, Smisby, then Milborne St Andrews with Dewlish (*Crockford's* 1936).

Tuesday 6 October 1891 In afternoon ~~while gardening – earthing up some celery,~~ the new curate called. I chatted with him for almost a quarter of an hour, & as I wanted to get some letters &c ready for the post, I desired him to call in the evening – any time after 6.30. He came about 6.35, & stayed about two hours, chatting and smoking. Found him to be an Oxford educated man and well up in theology, &c with a liberal, sensible creed. But he was rather slovenly about his stockings – they wanted gathering up.

Wednesday 7 October 1891 In garden, greenhouse, &c during forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n whilst throng earthing up some celery Mr Welch (one of the Welch brothers, sharebrokers, Lancaster) who has come to live at Forton Lodge called. I was "all in my glory" – i.e. dirty hands, old clothes, &c. He was very pleasant, conversing in books, local matters & relatives & remained about ¾ of an hour. He invited me to call & see him & said his wife intended calling upon my wife. During his stay, my daughter Florence from Carlisle came.[126]

Thursday 8 October 1891 In forenoon transplanting some strawberry plants. In aft[ernoo]n in greenhouse. After our finish went at 5pm to Lancaster; swimming gala at baths; sons H[orace] & L[lewellyn] competitors; they did not win anything; L[lewellyn] too heavily handicapped. Finished Sir W Scott's Journal this night.[127]

Friday 9 October 1891 At 8 this morning had an out in gig, with Mr Richard Hall, contractor, Forton, to Abbeystead, up in Wyresdale, where he has some work on hand. Passed on one side of Dolphinholme – once very prosperous place, in yarn manufacturing, but now decayed and virtually dead; & so on to Abbeystead. Wildish, romantic country. I ~~learnt from Mr Hall the following~~ whilst at Abbeystead (where there is a compensation reservoir belonging to the corporation of Lancaster – a reservoir like a small lake – & at the northern end of which there is a small structure, specially erected for that corporation to transact

126 William Gibbons Welch (1849-1929), keen Churchman, active in public life; Catharine Welch, née Johnson (c. 1856-94).

127 Third annual gala of Lancaster Amateur Swimming Club at the corporation baths, Cable St.

business in & I suppose to sup more gin or whiskey than water) we looked in at the school, a small building near the road & containing on a stone over the door, inside, an inscription showing that the place was put up or benefited by one Cawthorne, ancestor of JF Cawthorne, MP for Lancaster. We also went up to the large fine stone building about a quarter of a mile eastward erected & occasionally occupied by the Earl of Sefton. It is a large, substantial, rather castle-like edifice commanding a beautiful view of the vale & reservoir below & with well-trimmed grounds about it. This building was erected about half a dozen years ago. The Earl of Sefton & a shooting party were, we were told, coming on the following day. We stayed in the locality about an hour and a half. As we came back we looked at Wyresdale church, a small plain building to which, on the tower, is being added a small spire & at the east end of which building some pointing is being done, Earl Sefton defraying out of his own pocket work equal in value to £110. On way back passed in a glen a small building once occupied as a blacksmith's shop; but now quite empty. "They nearly [following entries on 3 pasted-in pages] starved him to death, & he had to leave," said Mr Hall. Near the building was a small wooden structure & a water wheel; on the opposite side – a stream running between – another wooden structure; but all abandoned. A joiner or timber man of some kind had, Mr H said, put them up, thinking that by getting water or wheel power for nothing, he would be able to make money. But he sunk money in the enterprise & lost it & had to go away – business quite inadequate to keep the place going. On nearing Dolphinholme we passed at a corner opposite the end of a road leading to Ellel Crag, a fairly large-sized house. "There," said Mr H[all], "a man once lived who in the busy days of Dolphinholme used to employ seven shoemakers; but when business got bad at the mill, he had to stop or clear out." Formerly Dolphinholme was a throng little manufacturing village, but it is now a very dull, dead-alive, deserted sort of place. I gleaned from Mr H the following: that in the balmy days of Dolphinholme there were employed at the yarn or worsted mill there 1400 hands – 700 working at day time and 700 at night; that the firm who were proprietors or masters of the mills were also the bankers for many of the residents – took deposits of money from them & allowing so much percent as interest thereon; that owing to increased trade competition, or

improved manufacturing processes, or difficulties with work people, or through all these things combined, the firm eventually failed – the result being loss of work to all or many of the operatives and loss of money to those who had deposited with them; that not so very long ago a large quantity of property here – chiefly cottage property – was offered for sale, & purchased by a shopkeeper or a person keeping a shop here for about £500 (the property would perhaps be equal to three-fourths of the village; that a lot of the old buildings in the vale southward, belong to Mr Ormerod [sic], of Scorton, who is gradually removing the materials thereof or permitting them to be removed for utilisation in other parts of the same district, or in districts adjoining. On our further return, and on passing Foxholes, Mr H referred to the late Mr Talbot Rothwell – to his eccentricity, perversity, kindness and stupidity. He was a tremendous hater & equally warm in his friendships. Had lots of old guns, spears &c. As we passed into Hollins lane – north end – Mr H said that when this lane was the coach road there was a public house at Hollins Hill – a spot near southern end of the lane; that in the old days there were numerous handloom weavers in Hollins lane who could afford to drink three days a week; & that they would not associate or drink with farmers whom they considered an inferior lot. How times have altered. Reverting to the Abbeystead property of the Earl of Sefton, I may add that it was purchased with fell or moor property beyond or about by the Earl from Henry Garnett Esq, of Wyreside, near Dolphinholme, whose father bought it, in 1836, from executors of Mr JF Cawthorne, once MP for Lancaster – a man who had not, I believe, a very good reputation, & was ultimately "over head and ears" in debt; anyhow, much troubled by demands for money, and who kept one or more women – so report says – in a house bearing a date stone in front (date 1677) opposite the present school, which was built or endowed in 1674. JF Cawthorne, who lived at Wyreside was first elected MP for Lancaster on Nov 1, 1806, and represented it till 1818, when he resigned – he was in reality defeated. In 1820 he was again elected MP for Lancaster & continued one of its representatives till his death on March 1st 1831, at the age of 78, at his residence in London.[128]

128 John Fenton-Cawthorne (1753-1831), Tory MP for Lancaster for four terms in the early nineteenth century; William Philip Molyneux, 4th Earl of Sefton (1835-97) of Croxteth Hall and Sefton House, London, had the grand Abbeystead House built

Saturday 10 October 1891 I, my wife & daughter Florence to Lancaster soon after dinner.[129] Many strangers in the town. A fair going on. Returned about 7.

Sunday 11 October 1891 To church this forenoon with sons H[orace] & L[lewellyn]. The new curate preached. Not so nervous as last Sunday. Sermon a good one – broad and vital. In the aft[ernoo]n I read in Haweis's "Light of the Ages" – finished it, & also slept a little. In evening commenced Haweis's "Story of the Four."[130]

Monday 12 October 1891 Bothering & working in & about the place. In the evening read about 30 pages of [end of pasted-in pages] of [sic] Robert Louis Stevenson's "Virginiabus Puerisque". Daughter F[lorence] went home (Carlisle) today.[131]

Tuesday 13 October 1891 This morning to Preston by train from Scorton. Returned by 12.50 noon train. Great storm of wind in afternoon. (PS: on reaching Scorton station in morning, saw Mr Cross Ormerod [sic], who is the squire of the place now, seated in his carriage near the bridge. He did not get out until the train by which he had to travel was quite near the station, & then he leisurely walked up by the side way to the platform and got into a 1st class compartment, the train being kept waiting for him – after its time – whilst he went through this performance. My son L[lewellyn] told me that Mr Ormerod [sic] did this sort of thing nearly every morning)

Wednesday 14 October 1891 At home in an odds and ends doing way.

Thursday 15 October 1891 To Garstang, I & my wife, per conveyance, this forenoon. Paid Hartley, ironmonger, for some grates & oil; had a chat

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in 1886; Col. J. Cross Ormrod (c. 1836-95) of Wyresdale Park and Halliwell Lodge, Bolton, where he owned cotton millls; see *Northward,* pp. 103–05 for the history of Dolphinholme; Conservative, Churchman, keen supporter of the Volunteer militia (*LS* 14 June 1895); Henry Garnett (1814-97) of Wyreside, former High Sheriff of Lancashire, Sheriff of Lancaster and Deputy-Lieutenant of Lancashire, Conservative.

129 Dinner is the name given to the midday meal in northern England.

130 H. R. Haweis, *Christ and Christianity: The Story of the Four* (*Evangelists*) (London: Charles Burnet, 1886), https://www.google.co.uk/books/edition/Christ_and_Christianity_The_story_of_the/1eMkAAAAYAAJ?hl=en

131 Robert Louis Stevenson, *Virginibus Puerisque: And Other Papers* (London: C. Kegan Paul, 1881), https://archive.org/details/buspuerisstevvirginirich

with him and Dunderdale, coal agent of Lancaster. Saw & shook hands with John Cornthwaite, of Bilsborrow, went into the Royal Oak with & at the request of Councillor W Hale* of Preston, & had two bottles of beer with him; also part of a third by the treat of an old friend – John Milner, farmer &c of Treals [sic]. Garstang fairly busy & I suppose, as usual, fairly "on the job" for "swipes" at all its public houses. Home by about 1.30pm.[132]

Friday 16 October 1891 Miscellaneous at home. At night the curate called. We talked & smoked & had some whiskey.

Saturday 17 October 1891 To Lancaster, I & my wife, about noon. Got horse re-shod by Nicholson; charge 4/-. We had dinner at a sort of restaurant at top of Market st. Af[terwar]ds saw little B Owen, Sec of the Liberal Unionist Assoc[iatio]n. Home, with daughters M[abel], R[osaline] & L[etty] about 5pm.[133]

Sunday 18 October 1891 This forenoon I, my sons H[orace] & L[lewellyn] & daughters R[osaline] & L[etty] to church. The curate took the whole service himself and was either very flustered or nervous. I report this for he is a very nice, intelligent well-read man in private conversation. In aft[ernoo]n read "Review of Reviews". After tea I and my wife to Mr Richard Hall's, Cockerham lane. We stayed about 2 ½ hours. Pleasant converse, but an unpleasant journey home, owing to wind and rain.[134]

Monday 19 October 1891 At about 10 this forenoon my wife left with our three daughters for Bay Horse station – thence to Lancaster to resume school duties. The arrangement with their schoolmistress (Mrs Paitson) is that they have to come home – over a weekend – once a month. I set them about half way. Letty as she turned the corner & passed out of sight at the point leading out of the main road waved her little handkerchief;

132 Swipes: poor-quality weak beer; Joseph Hartley (1839-1905), Conservative, Freemason, Oddfellow (*LS*, 15 December 1905, p. 2); James Dunderdale (1839-c. 1918); John Milner (1839-1913) of Whitehall Farm, Treales, Kirkham.

133 Joseph Nicholson (b. 1842) of Sulyard St, Lancaster.

134 *Review of Reviews* (1890-1936), monthly, sixpence, digest of material from reviews, magazines and journals, edited by WT Stead.

Rose previously showed symptoms of crying; Mabel in a rather doleful humour. They took back as many apples (in a box) as they could well carry.

Tuesday 20 October 1891 Got our horse "Beauty" clipped today, by an elderly, drink-loving, large-sized fellow at Bay Horse smithy. Price 5/-. He did the work in about 4 hours.

Wednesday 21 October 1891 In vinery, in aft[ernoo]n, pruning. In evening I & my wife drove to Lancaster. There we went to a meeting in the Palatine Hall, addressed by Sir T. Storey and Mr T.W. Russell, MP for South Tyrone. Russell spoke on behalf of the interests of Sir T's candidature, though ostensibly on behalf of the present government. A very large & somewhat noisy meeting. I proposed a vote of thanks to Russell for his speech, & Mr Lawrence Holden,* solicitor, seconded the motion. Meeting noisy whilst I was up, but I stuck to my guns. It was noisier afterwards – "drumming" Mr Holden & others. Home with my wife by carriage.[135]

Thursday 22 October 1891 At home all day.

Friday 23 October 1891 To Lancaster, at noon, with my wife. About 1.25 to reception of Sir T and Lady Storey, at the Storey Institute, top of Market St[ree]t. This building for instruction in science, Art, Literature, & Technical matters has been erected at cost of Sir T Storey & presented to Lancaster, at a cost of many thousands of pounds. I & my wife were duly "introduced". At about 2.30 the opening proceedings were commenced. Sir T Storey detailed the origins and object of the institute in a rather prosy speech. Lord Hartington delivered, as chairman, a long and heavy yet practical speech and declared the Institute open. Amongst the other speakers were Professor Frankland, the able chemist – a Lancaster man, living there from 5 to 21 years old. A neat, florid-faced man, pleasant and kindly and unpretentious in manner; and Sir T Turner, of Edinburgh Medical University – the head of it I think, with a salary of £5,000 a year. A heavy set, grey, half farmer, half country blacksmith looking man, but very able & sensible; a Lancaster man; made an excellent speech.

135 Thomas Wallace Russell (1841–1920).

In course of his speech Professor Frankland alluded to his old days at Lancaster Grammar School, and said that then when prizes were given, they were not won by competition over it, but "raffled for" and that he was "pretty successful" at that. In course of Sir T Turner's speech the virtue of the millstone grit on which Lancaster stands was associated with the ability of Lancastrians, or sundry able men who had sprung from the place. In the evening I went to the Mayor's (Ald. C Blades) banquet in the Town Hall. About 250 present. Very sumptuous and excellent. I sat between Richard Bond and Mr H Diggens.* A capital banquet – plenty to eat & drink – & everybody, ancient as well as young ones, seemed to do full justice to it. The banquet was over about 8.30. I afterwards saw finale of some fireworks, in Giant Axe Field, had a glass of whiskey, & then drove home with my wife.[136]

Saturday 24 October 1891 Very bad attack of lumbago. It had been coming in or floating about all week; was considerate in allowing me to be present at Wednesday night's meeting, the opening ceremony &c on Friday and the Mayor's Banquet; & now came on in very full force – probably aggravated by last evening's solids & fluids. The attack accompanied by much nervous or mental prostration. Did not get up till 2pm. Read papers, &c.

Sunday 25 October 1891 Still bad. This evening wife & son H[orace] to Preston, whence at about midnight they went by an excursion train to London, to buy Xmas goods.

Monday 26 October 1891 Rose about 10 in forenoon. Somewhat better. Walked to post office in Hollins lane for stamps. In aft[ernoo]n wrote four letters. In the evening Miss Vause called, expecting to see my wife. She stayed chatting for perhaps an hour & a half.

Tuesday 27 October 1891 Not quite so well. In aft[ernoo]n wrote to my son Bertie, Richmond, Staten Island, New York. At 7 in evening the curate

136 Richard Bond (1820-1902), borough accountant, 1858-82, insurance agent, involved in many local causes; Annie Williamson Storey, née Blades (1830-1909); Spencer Compton Cavendish (1833-1908), Marquess of Hartington until he became 8th Duke of Devonshire in December 1891, leader of the Liberal Unionist party; Edward Frankland (1825-99), distinguished chemist; Sir William Turner (1832-1916), dean of the medical faculty of the University of Edinburgh.

(Mr Evans) called & we walked together to the Board School, in order to hear a lecture & see some dissolving views. The lecturer was Mr Joseph Howes, a paid radical spouter. The audience was large, considering the district. Subject of lecture – the Irish question. Views chiefly related to Irish tenant evictions. A very one-sided affair, calculated to mislead & prejudice people's minds. A paid lecturer is not to be relied on. He has to make out a case.[137]

Wednesday 28 October 1891 This forenoon at about 9.30 my wife turned up from London – very tired, having had only one night's rest in bed since leaving home. The train she went by started at midnight & that she returned by set off at nearly midnight. Reading Hon E Lawless's History of Ireland: "Story of Nations" series.[138]

Thursday 29 October 1891 At noon I & my wife to Garstang. She made a few purchases. I had a talk with W Banks, butcher & one of overseers for Bilsborrow, at the Golden Ball. Had a glass of sherry. Wrote a letter (for W.B. to copy) to Local Government Board respecting financial duties of overseers. Had a talk with Mr Breakell senr. Home about 1.30. At night reading Ireland.

Friday 30 October 1891 Nothing very wonderful.

Saturday 31 October 1891 Directly after dinner I & my wife to Lancaster, in conveyance. At 2pm I attended meeting of executive comm[it]ee of Liberal Unionist Asso[ciatio]n. Amongst those present were Sir Thos Storey (precise, fluid, venerable looking) Alderman Chas Blades (roseate faced, firm & silver-haired) Mr Maxted, solicitor (huge, grave, dry-witted) and Mr Diggens* (autocratic, ginger-looking, & dignified). Business largely financial. Home about 4.30.

137 Joseph Charles Howes (c. 1846-1915), lecturer and election agent for the National Reform Union, wrote memoir, *Twenty Five Years' Fight with the Tories* (Leeds: Petty & Sons, 1907), https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?title=File:Twenty-five_years%27_fight_with_the_Tories_(IA_twentyfiveyearsf00howeiala).pdf

138 Emily Lawless and Arthur Bronson, *The Story of Ireland* (London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1889), https://archive.org/details/storyofirelandwi00lawluoft

November

Sunday 1 November 1891 In morning I & son L[lewellyn] to church. Moderate attendance. Curate Evans preached. In aft[ernoo]n read Haweis's "Story of the Four" and slept. In evening I & my wife to Alderman Vause's below Forton Lodge. Very comfortable man. Fast nosy, high-tempered wife. Ugly-faced but nice mannered daughter. Had a glass of whiskey. Went with Vause to Scorton station, he going to Bolton to be ready, as a presiding alderman in one of polling booths next morning. Then back to his house. Afterwards home.[139]

Monday 2 November 1891 Started about 11 this forenoon for Preston, per my carriage; my wife accompanying. Got rent for Mitre Inn and £15 towards £17-10 of half-yearly rent for warehouse in Cannon St[ree]t. Town very quiet considering the municipal elections going on – contests in nearly every ward. At about 9.20pm started for home, reaching there at about 11.45.

Tuesday 3 November 1891 Working at home. In evening read Hon Emily Lawless's "Ireland".

Wednesday 4 November 1891 Ditto. In evening reading Lawless's "Ireland."

Thursday 5 November 1891 To Garstang with my wife. Market day. Had a bottle of beer with Councillor Wm Hale,* of Preston, at Royal Oak. He was crowing at result of municipal elections in Preston. Old members (Conservatives) thrown out & substituted by "Independents"; I said I had advocated the return of such men – non-political ones – 20 y[ea]rs ago, and that (seeing the Ribble mess had been done) the change was too late. But the new members will check expenditure on that dismal failure. Was much amused by a rough-looking, bronze-faced woman selling herring, &c near the Market Cross. As to the herring she said "They've backs like farmers' sons, & bellies like landlords, & shine like cats' eyes under a bed." Home about 12.30. Gardening in afternoon, reading & looking at bonfires at night. Wrote a par for son L[lewellyn] about the bonfires. From field summit across railway, opposite our

139 James Vause (1828-1902) of Moor House, Forton, magistrate, alderman in Bolton, where he had a plumbing business; Jane Vause, née Cooper (c. 1832-1907).

house could see bonfires in Cabus, Winmarleigh, Pilling, Cockerham, Thurnham, Glasson, Ellel & Lower Wyresdale.[140]

Friday 6 November 1891 In garden, greenhouse &c.

Saturday 7 November 1891 My wife to Preston – son Horace not well. I to Lancaster, per 10.25 forenoon train. Returned per 12.28 train. In aft[ernoo]n read a considerable part of "Strand magazine" – perhaps 30 pages.[141]

Sunday 8 November 1891 At home in forenoon. Son L[lewellyn] to church. In afternoon I went to Forton Congregational or Independent chapel. Small congregation; good singing; very excellent sermon by a strange person to me. An "exchange" clergyman I fancy.

Monday 9 November 1891 Nothing very extra.

Tuesday 10 November 1891 To Manchester this forenoon as one of a deputation from the Lancaster Liberal Union Association to general conference of representatives of Liberal Union Association of the kingdom. The conference was held in the afternoon, in a handsome concert hall near St Peter's church. Large number of representatives. The deputation from Lancaster consisted of Sir Thomas Storey, Alderman Chas Blades, myself, Mr Berry, B Owen (Sec) &c. Sir Henry James MP occupied the chair. He is a fresh-featured, keen & earnest-looking, clean & pink featured-man, apparently intense, determined & passionate. He spoke for about 20 minutes & made a good speech in defence of Liberal Unionism & in condemnation of the Gladstonian Irish policy. Afterwards the chief speaker was the Duke of Argyle [sic] – a man apparently about 72 years of age – somewhat hulky [sic] in form, seemed rather lame on one leg; fresh-featured, clean-cut earnest face, deepish-set, determined eyes, determined mouth, very fine full forehead, grey hair – nearly white, a band of it crossing the crown of the head in a transverse wave. Precise, energetic, [indecipherable], eloquent, learned. He made a very admirable speech – full of authority, reason, facts & fire. At 7.30 I left Manchester for Preston. An hour consumed in reaching Wigan – 15 miles – where I changed for the train due out at 9. It

140 Bonfires are still lit on 5 November to celebrate the defeat of the 1605 Gunpowder Plot against King James I.

141 *Strand Magazine* (1891-1950), monthly, sixpence, featuring Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes stories, launched in December 1890.

was 12 minutes late, but it made up much time, for it covered the distance between Wigan & Preston – about 16 miles – in something like 17 minutes. From Preston to Garstang per 9.35 train. Son Horace with me. We walked from Garstang & Catterall station to Garstang, & were then met by son L[lewellyn] with horse & conveyance. Got home about 11.15.[142]

Wednesday 11 November 1891 At home all day.

Thursday 12 November 1891 At noon to Garstang with my wife. Made some purchases & returned in about an hour.

Friday 13 November 1891 Working in house, making a new hen-cote &c.

Saturday 14 November 1891 My wife to Lancaster at noon. I could not go – horse rather lame. At 4 went with boy John to meet my wife & our three girls – Mabel, Rose & Letty, this being their monthly week end at home. They all duly arrived & were well and pleased to see me. Reading newspapers &c.

Sunday 15 November 1891 This forenoon to church with my wife, son L[lewellyn] & daughter L[etty]. Mr Evans – the new curate – conducted service & preached. He sermonises extempore & jerks & doubles & triplicates his words very much. Matter good; style very damnable. In afternoon reading "Review of Reviews." Miss Vause to tea. Mrs Vause her mother came later. They stayed till about 10. I & son H[orace] set them home.

Monday 16 November 1891 I & my wife took back to Lancaster to school, our three girls, M[abel], R[osaline] & L[etty]. Bless them. Stayed in Lancaster till about 4.30pm then home. Curate at night for about an hour and a half.

Tuesday 17 November 1891 Nothing very particular.

Wednesday 18 November 1891 Something similar.

Thursday 19 November 1891 Drove over to Garstang with my wife. A moderately attended market. Owing to extra competition butchers' meat & fresh fish considerably lower in price. Best parts of mutton (legs, &c)

142 James William Berry (1856-1901), auctioneer and accountant, Freemason; Henry James (1828-1911), lawyer, served in two Gladstone ministries but broke with him over Irish Home Rule; George John Douglas Campbell, 8th Duke of Argyll (1823-1900), polymath and Liberal statesman.

from 3d to 4d per lb lower than they were last Thursday. An extra supply of carcass from one or more local farmers & the presence of a seller of New Zealand frozen mutton were, I believe, the cause of this. A new importation of fish from Morecambe was the cause of the diminution in the price of fish. After staying in Garstang about an hour & a quarter, we returned home. To Brookhouse in the evening -- picture rods, &c.

Friday 20 November 1891 Nothing very wonderful. Have got a pair of gold-framed eye glasses from Cartwright, optician, of Preston; price £3, less 20 per cent discount. I think they will suit very well. I got them yesterday, per son Horace.

Saturday 21 November 1891 At home all day. My wife marketing at Lancaster or Preston – I have forgotten which.

Sunday 22 November 1891 To church this forenoon with son L[lewellyn]. There was a pretty good congregation. The curate (Evans) read greater part of his sermon. I suggested this when he was last at my house, I told of the way in which, by his extempore plan, he duplicated, triplicated & quadrupled his remarks, & said that if he would read his sermons for a time he would balance himself or would have a better chance of doing so. In aft[ernoo]n read a little, & had a walk with servant boy John to Corless Hill. My wife went to church.

Monday 23 November 1891 At noon today I and my wife to Lancaster. Had an interview with Milners (the Guardian office) about taking my son L[lewellyn]. No opening. The Milners seemed very mild, timid, economical, unenterprising people. Home in afternoon. Cold.[143]

Tuesday 24 November 1891 Nothing special.

Wednesday 25 November 1891 Early this morning John Swarbrick, for 17 years master at Brock railway station, died; would have been 50 years of age on Xmas day. A son of old Mr Swarbrick of Myerscough Mill. Cause of death – chest disease or consumption. His first connection with railways was as porter & then occasional guard at Lancaster. He was a quiet, cautious, heavy-spirited, stupidly red-faced man; but attentive and civil – much better than indexed by his curious, bucolic face. He & I got on well together with any conversation or business we had.[144]

143 See 9 May 1891. The *Lancaster Guardian* continued long after rival newspapers closed.
144 Son of William Swarbrick (c. 1813-80).

Thursday 26 November 1891 At 11.30 this forenoon I & my wife drove over to Garstang. A dullish market. Saw Mr JJ Jackson, my successor as tenant of Brook House, Bilsborrow. He paid me £3-10-0 for the picture rods, & window rollers and 72 raspberry plants there. Had a bottle of beer – I & my wife – at the Horns Inn a small old inn, on right side of road leading to the church, and formerly having over the door a gigantic pair of horns something like Irish elk horns. They gradually decayed away. I have seen them many a time. Home at about 1.15.[145]

Friday 27 November 1891 At home till evening. Ground covered with snow. Roads frosty & slippy. To Lancaster, I & my wife, per 6.1pm train, to see a comedy entitled "The Late Lamented" at the Athenaeum in St Leonard Gate. For this evening the performances was announced to be under the patronage & presence of Mr Smith, the newly elected mayor of Lancaster. A wretched audience – a very "beggarly array of empty benches" – & a nice reflection upon the Lancastrians who have been "received" & "refreshed" by the new mayor. His worship – a dark-complexioned, long-featured, thin-faced, sharp, wiry-looking sort of man – perhaps 40 years of age – though with spectacles & a rather bald head as he has might by some be reckoned older. I & my wife stayed all night at the Bear and Staff inn, Penny Street, in a queer substantial old bedroom.[146]

Saturday 28 November 1891 Breakfast at 9. My wife attended to certain things for children &c. Dinner at 1. To a meeting of the Liberal Unionist executive at 2. Alderman C Blades in chair. Sir T Storey, Mr EB Dawson, Mr Maxsted, & Mr Diggens* amongst those present. A good deal of routine in the business. Home at about 4pm.

Sunday 29 November 1891 Home in forenoon. Had a read & a walk in aft[ernoo]n – walk around by Hollins Hill, the old church &c. Met Mr Welch, of Forton Lodge, who was also having a walk. At night read part of Mr Stead's collection of "Real Ghost Stories."[147]

Monday 30 November 1891 At home, nothing special. My wife to Preston & returned at night – I meeting her with horse and conveyance.

145 Possibly John James Jackson (1861), a farm manager from Bleasdale.
146 William Smith (1839-1913), flour miller, company director, Gladstonian Liberal.
147 WT Stead's collection of tales from readers was a special Christmas edition of the *Review of Reviews*, https://archive.org/details/realghoststories00stearich/page/n5

December

Tuesday 1 December 1891 Home all day.

Wednesday 2 December 1891 Same

Thursday 3 December 1891 To Garstang with wife at noon. Slack market owing to Brockholes Arms Fat Cattle Show & Sale. Returned about 1.30. At about 3.30 I & my wife gave Mr Bickerdike, the vicar of Shireshead a call – at vicarage close by. A queer old place. He received us very kindly in his study. Miscellaneous conversation. His library is of moderate proportions containing much old theology. Saw nothing in it worth more than old waste paper except reprints and proceedings of British Association – perhaps 30 vols. He told us he had been a member of this Association since (I think) 1844. On leaving the vicarage, we went to see the Rev. Mr. Webster, minister of Forton Independent Chapel. He living in Wallace lane – north-west end. Found him & his wife very cheerful and chatty. We talked about the Earl Russel [sic] scandal, Civilisation, Professor Wilson, the Ettrick Shepherd, &c. Mr Webster told us he had to go – to work – to a prayer meeting this evening at Dolphinholme. He attends one every Thursday & conducts service there every Sunday evening – a service attended by Independents and (owing to there being no other place of worship open on the Sunday evening) Wesleyans, church people & Quakers. Home up Wallace-lane.[148]

Friday 4 December 1891 After dinner walked to Winmarleigh to get particulars of coursing match, going on today. On the way passed Lord Winmarleigh's residence – a large Gothic building erected some years ago; brick with stone facings; central spire; strong, heavy; stands on a gentle eminence. Lord Winmarleigh, now nearing 90, is very ill. He had a stroke last Saturday. The coursing I found going on in a field about half a mile south of Lord Winmarleigh's residence. Perhaps 100 persons present. I saw a few heats run. Exciting. The hares were plentiful, strong & generally escaped. Some betting men were present. Crossed west & east [sic] by Patten Arms to Old Holly in Cabus,

148 Peter Webster, see 26 May 1891; John Francis Stanley Russell, 2nd Earl Russell (1865-1931), elder brother of philosopher Bertrand Russell, grandson of John Russell (twice prime minister), was defending a divorce case brought by his wife, Mabel Edith Scott, on the grounds of cruelty, and involving allegations of youthful homosexuality; John Wilson (1785-1854), principal writer for *Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine;* 'the Ettrick Shepherd' was the nickname of James Hogg (1770-1835), another *Blackwood's* writer.

prepared a short report for sons H[orace] & L[lewellyn] at Preston, for papers, despatched it from Scorton station; then went to see Mr Swarbrick, in Scorton village, about some shoes for my wife – he is a shoemaker & then walked home. Total walking this aft[ernoo]n about 11 miles. At night read the papers &c[149]

Saturday 5 December 1891 At home all day. My wife at Preston, helping son Horace with Xmas cards.

Sunday 6 December 1891 To church with son L[lewellyn] in forenoon. Pretty fair attendance. Singing bad; sermon (by Evans the new curate) worse. Seeing that he cannot preach well extempore why does not the dunce write out his sermons & read them. In the aft[ernoo]n reading Haweis's "Picture of Jesus" & sleeping. In the evening I & my wife walked on to Mr. Vause's & spent a very pleasant evening.[150]

Monday 7 December 1891 Drove my wife to Scorton station for 10.10 morning train to Preston. She is going to stop all the week – Xmas card business. I at home. At night reading "The Business of Life" by the man (an army chaplain) who wrote "How to be Happy Though Married".[151]

Tuesday 8 December 1891 In aft[ernoo]n I and servant lad to Lancaster, to make some household purchases &c

Wednesday 9 December 1891 Posted some letters &c at Galgate – walked. Whilst there called on Isaac Foxcroft who is staying with his son-in-law, Ralph Parkinson. I had not seen Isaac for about 18 years. First became acquainted with him nearly 40 years ago at Lancaster & Caton. He was teetotaller and attended one or two discussion classes I was connected with. He always spoke well at our discussions.[152]

149 John Wilson-Patten, 1st Baron Winmarleigh (1802-92), former Conservative minister; William Swarbrick (c. 1851-1925).

150 H. R. Haweis, *The Picture of Jesus* (*the Master*) (London: Charles Burnet & Co, 1886), http://hdl.handle.net/2027/yale.39002085400241

151 E. J. Hardy, *The Business of Life* (London: T Fisher Unwin, 1891), https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=oxu1.601908657&seq=7; E. J. Hardy, *How to Be Happy Though Married: Being a Handbook to Marriage* (London: T Fisher Unwin, 1885), https://www.google.co.uk/books/edition/How_to_be_Happy_Though_Married/FRfzb0vrUbkC

152 Isaac Foxcroft (1821-1906), involved with Lancaster Co-operative Society, worked as a waste water inspector for Lancaster Corporation; Ralph Parkinson (1849-1927), silk dresser.

Thursday 10 December 1891 To Garstang with servant boy John. Call at Wrightson's, stationer for some papers, & at Cartmell's for some skirts for our girls at school – skirts for their ball, on Friday next. Home soon. In evening reading and writing.

Friday 11 December 1891 At home all day. At night reading &c

Saturday 12 December 1891 At home all day. Meant to have gone to a concert at Forton school, but rain, wind, &c, &c, prevented me. At 10.15 pm drove to Forton station for my wife due per train at 10.35. Flood in road, near station, horse belly deep. All went right. Home properly.

Sunday 13 December 1891 In afternoon I & my son L[lewellyn] to church. The service was of the ordinary kind, conducted by Curate Evans. A christening – the baby small & dark complexioned and quiet when sprinkled. A decent, reasonable sort of baby. No sermon. Good. At night talking and laughing with my wife & sons L[lewellyn] & H[orace] & boy John.

Monday 14 December 1891 This forenoon, by request, Isaac Foxcroft, at present staying with a daughter at Galgate, paid me a visit & staid the whole day. We talked over many old matters said or done in old times when I first knew him – now nearly 40 years ago – at Lancaster & Caton. We smoked & had a few "drops" together, & a very short walk in the afternoon. In the evening Curate Evans came across from the vicarage & had a talk, a pipe & a glass of whiskey with us. Soon after 8pm I set Isaac to Bay Horse station; the curate accompanying us, & returning to our home.

Tuesday 15 December 1891 At home all day. In evening went down by train to Lancaster to see daughter M[abel] (reported to be not so well yesterday, but I found her right) & to see about some lamp oil. Whilst there I got my hair cut and ~~whiskey~~ and beard and moustache trimmed at a shop at Horse Shoe Corner – price 6d. Home per 8.18 pm train. Had a talk with ~~the~~ a neighbouring farmer about farm rents, farm labourers' wages &c

Wednesday 16 December 1891 At home all day.

Thursday 17 December 1891 At noon to Garstang with servant boy John. Affairs only slow in Garstang. Had two glasses of sherry, at Golden

Ball, with Tom Banks. Returned early. In aft[ernoo]n wrote out a short speech for myself as Chairman of Liberal Unionist meeting to be held in Forton Board School. Went to the meeting at 7.20 pm. The proceedings began about 8. Through defective announcing arrangements not many persons present. Mr B Owen of Lancaster delivered a lecture on "The Coming General Election".

Friday 18 December 1891 In evening I & my wife drove to Lancaster, put up at King's Arms, & in a large room of that hotel, looked in at a ball – a ball attended by pupils of the class of Miss Harding; my three daughters (M[abel], R[osaline] & L[etty]) being there with the boarders from Mrs Paitson's school. Very nice. Ball over at about 9.30. Got home about 11pm.[153]

Saturday 19 December 1891 Drove my wife in conveyance to Scorton station for 10.10 forenooon train to Preston. At 2.19 pm went by train from Bay Horse to Lancaster for my three daughters – Xmas holidays. The boy John followed with spring cart for their boxes & a barrel of paraffine [sic] oil. Bought oil from Mr Watson, landlord of Bay Horse, China Lane; nearly 43 gallons; price 6½d per gal. I and daughters home by train.[154]

Sunday 20 December 1891 Son L[lewellyn], daughter L[etty] & self to church this forenoon. Fairly good congregation. Vicar Bickerdyke preached a very scholarly, orthodoxly, dry-as-dust sermon. In aft[ernoo]n read a little, slept a little & walked out a little. In the evening Alderman Vause of Bolton (he lives in Forton) Mrs Vause & Miss Vause, their daughter called & stayed till about 10. We talked & had some whiskey & (by mistake) some brandy as well. A pleasant evening.

Monday 21 December 1891 Took my wife per conveyance to Scorton station for Preston; daughter M[abel] with her. Xmas card business; I not well – very nervous; I think this was due to the brandy I had by mistake last night. Our horse "Beauty" not well. On returning home I proceeded on foot to Garstang for Mr Breakell V.S [veterinary surgeon]. In aft[ernoo]n he & his son came and found the horse suffering a little

153 Isabella Harding (b. 1865) of Ulverston, described as a 'professor of dancing' in the census, taught 'dancing, deportment and physical culture' (*LS*, 28 February 1896, p. 1).

154 Joseph Watson (b. 1854), assistant lodging-house keeper.

from conjested [sic] liver. Gave it a ball and ordered it to be put on hay & bran; some powders sent later on to be put in the bran.[155]

Tuesday 22 December 1891 Ought to have said in yesterday's entry that Bee who came to late John Gardner's* house "The Hill", Forton, left in the morning. He & wife have cleared out & gone to Southport. They said that the house was not healthy and the water bad. I suspect that the real cause of their short stay here – they took the place for 5 years & have been in it only about 4 months – is its isolation and exposed situation. Nothing very special today. At home all day.

Wednesday 23 December 1891 At home. Very cold. Pruned fruit trees in garden in aft[ernoo]n. Mr B Owen of Lancaster called. He told me he had arranged for a Liberal Unionist meeting at Cockerham.

Thursday 24 December 1891 Went to Lancaster, per train, this forenoon. Market day there today. Attended to a few matters & returned by noon train. Frosty & foggy.

Friday 25 December 1891 Very frosty. At 9 went to Bay Horse station to meet my wife, from Preston. Train very late. Mail train which should have passed through at 3.30 this morning, north, did not go through till about 9.30. My wife with daughter M[abel] arrived about 9.45. We walked up home. Had dinner together & spent evening with my wife & children playing cards.

Saturday 26 December 1891 At home. In forenoon had a walk round by Wallace Lane. Thaw set in. In evening card-playing as last evening.

Sunday 27 December 1891 This forenoon I & my daughter L[etty] to church. A good congregation – numerically. Curate Evans read prayers & Lessons. The Vicar – John – Mr Bickerdike preached. The sermon was elaborate – divided, subdivided and intensely dry. In the afternoon I read sundry pages of Haweis' "Picture of Jesus" & slept somewhat.

Monday 28 December 1891 At 9.55 this forenoon I drove my wife to Scorton station, in conveyance. Morning cold. In evening played at draughts with my daughter L[etty]. Afterwards played with my son

155 Ball: horse pill.

H[orace], who licked me. When they had gone to bed read some pages of Alphonse Daudet's Literary Recollections.[156]

Tuesday 29 December 1891 In course of day helped boy John to tidy up the greenhouse. I also did some pruning in the garden. In the evening read newspaper – children playing draughts. Later read & completed Daudet's "Recollections". Very smart artistic, able sketches. I like his literary style.

Wednesday 30 December 1891 Nothing very particular. In the evening read Baron Hubert's Tour Round the World & played a game of draughts.[157]

Thursday 31 December 1891 To Garstang this forenoon (after taking daughter L[etty] to Scorton station for Preston to Mama). Boy John with me. Did not stay very long at G[arstang] – perhaps 1½ hours. In afternoon I & daughters M[abel] & R[osaline] addressed some New Yr cards. Afterwards – at 3.30 – I walked down to Cockerham, to the Xmas Horse Sale at the Manor Inn. A good entry of animals; pretty fair no. of people present; highest price realised 61 guineas; many animals unsold. Armistead of Lancaster, auctioneer – a Jack of Spades looking man. In the evening at 7, I & my daughters M[abel] & R[osaline] went to a New Years Eve service at the little church. Congregation, all told, about nine. Night coldish and very dark. Service short ~~about~~ but I enjoyed it. Curate Evans conducted main portion of service and delivered a short address. Altogether service & sermon – the whole proceedings – lasted about 40 minutes. Read and played &c afterwards till about 11 – then to bed.[158]

I thank God for all his blessings, mercies, grace and protection this year to me and mine. AH

156 Alphonse Daudet, *Recollections of a Literary Man*, trans. Laura Ensor (London: Routledge, 1889), https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=uc2.ark:/13960/t3dz07186&seq=7

157 Probably Joseph Alexander graf von Hübner, *A Ramble Round the World, 1871*, trans. Mary Elizabeth Herbert (London: Macmillan, 1874), https://archive.org/details/rambleroundworld02hbiala/page/n5/mode/2up

158 Thomas Armistead (1853) auctioneer, valuer, manure agent and farmer, had auction rooms in Cable St, Lancaster.

1896

No diaries survive for the years 1892–95, although we know that Hewitson kept one at least for 1895, as the 24 October 1906 entry mentions 'my diaries for the nineties – 1895–1900'. In Lancaster, Hewitson continued to campaign for Sir Thomas Storey, the Liberal-Unionist candidate.[1] The Lancaster Conservatives tried to buy the neutral *Lancaster Observer* (1860–1944) and turn it into a Tory paper, but its owner Thomas Bell refused.[2] On 4 March 1892 the Gladstonian Liberal MP James Williamson launched his own newspaper, the *Lancaster Times* (1892–97), which may have helped to keep his seat in the general election four months later, when he defeated Storey by 4,755 votes to 4,075. On 7 April 1893 the Conservatives and Liberal-Unionists responded with the *Lancaster Standard* (1893–1909), first planned in 1887, with Hewitson as editor and managing director of the Lancaster Printing and Publishing Co Ltd, and the new Conservative agent (replacing Benjamin Owen), James Bottomley, as company secretary.[3] There were now five weeklies in this small town of 60,000, with the Conservative *Gazette* (1801–94) and Liberal *Guardian* (1837–), although the *Gazette,* where Hewitson served his time as a printing apprentice, closed in 1894, its death probably hastened by the arrival

1 In 1886 the Liberal party had split over the policy of their leader, William Gladstone, to grant 'home rule' or limited autonomy to Ireland, with those against forming a new party, the Liberal Unionists; this breakaway party formed an alliance with the Conservatives, eventually merging with them in 1912.

2 *LS* 6 December 1907, p. 5.

3 Philip J. Gooderson, *Lord Linoleum: Lord Ashton, Lancaster and the Rise of the British Oilcloth and Linoleum Industry* (Keele: Keele University Press, 1996), p. 186; Kathryn Rix, *Parties, Agents and Electoral Culture in England, 1880-1910* (Woodbridge, Suffolk: Boydell & Brewer/Royal Historical Society, 2016), pp. 74, 76, https://doi.org/10.1515/9781782049074

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of Hewitson's *Standard*.[4] The new paper later claimed that there was an 'extraordinary scene witnessed in New-street through large crowd of people endeavouring to obtain copies of new journal'.[5]

The *Standard* reads as a typical local weekly of the 1890s, although Hewitson's chatty style makes it less staid than Lancaster's three established papers, and similar to Williamson's more lively *Times.* The fourth issue (28 April 1893) carried an advertisement which would have had significance for Hewitson, the sale of his old paper the *Preston Chronicle*.[6] In the 5 May 1893 issue Hewitson began a series of reminiscences of his Ingleton childhood, 'The Story of my village; or fifty years ago', by 'Ingle'.[7] The paper gave publicity to its company chairman, Col. William Foster, who was lined up as the Conservative-Unionist candidate. The *Standard* lost money in its first year (it may have run at a loss throughout its life), not unusual for a new paper.[8]

Hewitson made his second trip to the United States in 1893, to see his son Ethelbert and sister Alice, and left the editing of the paper temporarily in the hands of his old friend William Livesey.[9] By April 1894 Hewitson had left the *Standard*, after only a year, replaced by Ernest Phillips, a reporter from the *Sheffield Daily Telegraph*.[10] We do not know why Hewitson left, but a man of strong character, accustomed

4 'Fifty years of Lancaster journalism: Some reflections: Five newspapers "gone out"', *Lancaster Observer,* 3 June 1910, p. 7.

5 *LS,* 29 December 1893, p. 6.

6 *LS,* 28 April 1893, p. 4.

7 See Hewitson's annotated copies of these articles for names of characters he anonymised in print, Lancashire Archives, DP/512/3/3; the articles were later compiled and reprinted: Anthony Hewitson, *The Story of My Village: Ingleton, 1840-50*, ed. John Bentley (Ingleton: Ingleton Publications, 1982).

8 Report of first annual general meeting of the Lancaster Printing and Publishing Co Ltd, in uncatalogued folder of material on Lancaster newspapers, Lancaster Library; *LS,* 7 December 1894, p. 5.

9 William Livesey (1816-1909); *PH,* 18 December 1909, p. 2.

10 *LS* 6 April 1894, p.5, marriage announcement, *LS* 13 April 1894, p. 8. Phillips (c. 1870-1956), co-author with Robert Haig Dunbar of *How to Become a Journalist: A Practical Guide to Newspaper Work* (London: S. Low, Marston & co., ltd, 1895), http://archive.org/details/howtobecomejourn00philiala, continued as editor of the *Standard* until 1908, then, after a brief spell as a Conservative agent in Kent, became editor of the *Doncaster Chronicle* (*East Kent Gazette,* 19 September 1908, p. 5; *South* Yorkshire *Times,* 8 September 1956, p. 15).

to having complete control of a newspaper, probably struggled with management by committee.

Meanwhile, his sons Horace and Llewellyn became competitive cyclists in their spare time, one daughter, Letty, passed her piano exams, while another, Rose, became local secretary of the Primrose League, the Conservative women's organisation. Horace, besides his Preston stationery shop and occasional reporting, taught shorthand at a school, St John's College, Grimsargh, run by his father's friend, Rev. TA Peters.[11]

In July 1894, three months after Hewitson left the *Lancaster Standard*, he bought into three Yorkshire newspapers, the *Dewsbury District News* (1891–95), *Batley Examiner* (1891–95) and *Wakefield Herald* (1835–1913), in a partnership with Charles William Carr.[12] The partnership announcement explained that Hewitson 'now joins in giving personal attention to every detail of the business relating to Dewsbury, Batley, and the other parts of the Heavy Woollen District, MR CARR being thus left more at liberty to undertake the oversight of matters appertaining to Wakefield and Neighbourhood.' The partnership included a Wakefield general printing and stationery business. Hewitson was 58, Carr 34. The latter had inherited all three papers, all supporting the Conservative Unionists, from his father, Esau Carr, in 1891. Carr senior died shortly after launching the Batley and Dewsbury papers in January 1891, with most editorial and advertising shared between the two titles, making them almost indistinguishable. The front page of the *Batley Examiner* says that the paper is 'published under the auspices of the Conservative and Liberal Unionist Leaders of the Dewsbury, Morley and Spen Valley Parliamentary Electoral Divisions', suggesting that the papers may have been subsidised. The publishing addresses were 6 Northgate, Dewsbury and Commercial St, Batley.

In the absence of diaries for 1894 or 1895, there are only glimpses of work and family life in those years. The Hewitsons rented a house in Dewsbury from summer or autumn 1894, giving up Forton Bank

11 Correspondence, *Lancaster Gazette,* 30 July 1892; *LS,* 16 June 1893, p. 8; *LS,* 21 July 1893, p. 6; *LS,* 20 April 1894, p. 8; *LS,* 30 August 1893, p. 2.

12 *WH,* 7 July 1894, p. 5; Charles William Carr (c. 1860-1937), printer, newspaper publisher.

in September of that year, suggesting some commitment to this new life in Yorkshire.[13] Hewitson's mother Alice died in September 1894. The family took part in political life in their new home, for example being part of the platform party at a Unionist meeting in Batley in November 1894, and in April 1895 Hewitson's oldest son, Ethelbert, returned from almost five years of newspaper work in the United States.[14]

Hewitson followed the same editorial and management methods as in Preston. In January 1895 the rival *Batley Reporter* accused him of 'vulgar and cruel sensationalism', gleefully publishing correspondence between Hewitson and the family of a bankrupt local company. Mr FS Clay complained of 'contemptible embellishments' in the report published by Hewitson's *Dewsbury District News,* with headings such as 'Champion Wriggling in a Tight Corner' and 'Cashier Joseph Allott Faced the Music'. Hewitson had apologised privately, saying that he had not had time to check all copy and that the reporter had been reprimanded, but refused to apologise publicly.[15] In May 1895 Hewitson and his partner Carr appeared before a Wakefield council committee, where the printers' union, the Typographical Association, accused them of not running a 'fair house', with unfair hours, more (cheaper) apprentices than agreements allowed, and low pay.[16] However, like most newspapers of the time, the *Wakefield Herald* included a column on work, wages, disputes and other labour issues, despite its Conservative leanings and Hewitson's disapproval of trade unions.[17]

In October 1895, the Batley and Dewsbury papers for which

13 Memo re Forton Bank, Nathaniel Hewitson portfolio, Harris reference library, Preston; address, 'Holmleigh, Dewsbury', on letter re Preston Institute for the Blind, 1 October 1895 to *Preston Guardian,* Lancashire Archives DP/512/3/3.

14 Obituary, *Lancaster Observer,* 14 September 1894; *Batley News* 23 November 1894; passenger list, *Carthaginian* from Philadelphia to Glasgow, arriving 19 April 1895.

15 *Batley Reporter,* 12 January 1895, p. 8.

16 *Wakefield Free Press,* 18 May 1895, p. 3; for Hewitson's attitude to trade unions, see vol. 1, p. 247.

17 For a summary of this type of column, see Andrew Hobbs, 'Information Put to Work: Provincial Newspapers as Publishers of Specialist Business and Work Information', in *Work and the Nineteenth-Century Press: Living Work for Living People*, ed. by Andrew King (Routledge, 2023), pp. 18–43 (p. 30), https://doi.org/10.4324/b23105-2

Hewitson was responsible were sold, three months after a general election in which Conservative or Unionist candidates lost in all three local constituencies; the sale provides further evidence for a political motivation behind their creation. They were bought by Frederick Haden Purchas, who amalgamated them with other papers for those districts.[18] Hewitson was now working more closely with his partner Carr, on the *Wakefield Herald*. Wakefield was the county town for the West Riding of Yorkshire and a cathedral city, although its population was only 23,315 in 1891, rising to 43,588 in 1911. It was relatively wealthy, as a centre for the mining and woollen industries, and its Friday corn market was the largest in northern England. It had a large Nonconformist population and was divided between Conservatives and Liberals, but was represented by Conservative MPs from 1895 to 1910.[19] At the turn of the century Wakefield had four or five rival newspapers, all weekly: the *Wakefield Herald* (1835–1913), the *Wakefield Express* (1852–), the *Wakefield Free Press* (1860–1902), the *Wakefield Echo* (1876–1906) and the free *Wakefield Advertiser* (1897–1925).

By the end of 1895, if not earlier, the working relationship between Hewitson and Carr had broken down. As he began his 1896 diary, he and Margaret were still living in Moorlands Rd, Dewsbury, 20 miles west of Wakefield, with Ethelbert, Horace (both sons had probably been assisting Hewitson with newspaper work), Mabel, Rosaline and Letty. Llewellyn was working in Selby, fifty miles to the east.

18 Announcement, *Dewsbury District News*, 26 Oct 1895; the *Dewsbury District News*, *Batley Examiner* and *Dewsbury & Batley Chronicle* were amalgamated with the *Batley News*.

19 Kate Taylor, *The Making of Wakefield 1801-1900* (Barnsley: Wharncliffe Books, 2008); J. W. Walker, *Wakefield, Its History and People, Vol II* (Wakefield: S. R. Publishers, 1966).

[Heane's small Scribbling Diary, octavo, 3 days to a page][20]

'A Hewitson's Diary'
God bless, protect, & prosper me & mine this year.
A.H.

20 DP512/1/13, Lancashire Archives.

January

Wednesday 1 January 1896 My wife let in New Year, just after the clock had struck 12. I kissed her, & then wished her & son E[thelbert] a happy new year. Af[terwar]ds went to neighbour Bailey's where my daughters R[osaline] & L[etty] were, & wished all a new year. To Wakefield during day – proof reading. At night to neighbour Bailey's, he was giving his usual New Year's party to old folk. Found about half a dozen old 'uns, including Mr Bailey's mother who is about 84 years old & very hearty & alert. The average age of five of the old uns was, I think 78. My wife was present. Spent a very cheerful, merry night from 7 to about 11. The ancients were full of anecdote & laughter.[21]

Thursday 2 January 1896 This forenoon to Wakefield & stayed there till about 5pm. In evening read a little in Thackeray's "Vanity Fair."[22]

Friday 3 January 1896 To Wakefield this forenoon & remained there, chiefly proof reading, till 10.20pm. In course of day, finished a leading article which I began yesterday respecting South African affairs.[23]

Saturday 4 January 1896 Per 9.18 morning express from Dewsbury to Manchester. Af[terwar]ds per 11.5 train to Preston. Saw Mr H Davies my arbitrator, respecting my case & Carr's. In af[ternoo]n called at W France's & got measured for a pair of boots. Called at Robinson's bookseller & learnt from Miss R that old Rob[inso]n had gone to see a football match! Saw a Dewsbury deputat[ion]n go to Free Library. Mr Chadwick, solicitor, one of the party. Object – information re Dewsbury Free Library. Got back home about 9.25pm.[24]

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21 Fred Bailey (1858-1940), grocer, organist and music teacher.

22 Hewitson rarely read novels. *Vanity Fair* was first published in monthly episodes in 1847-48.

23 Hewitson's largely descriptive leader said that the British government was not responsible for the Jameson Raid which had happened a few days earlier.

24 Possibly Henry Davies (1841-1908), chartered accountant. Arbitration was a voluntary process to resolve many kinds of disputes: Francis Calvert Boorman and Rhiannon Markless, *Arbitration and Mediation in Nineteenth-Century England* (Oxford: Holo Books The Arbitration Press, 2024); probably Ellen Robinson (b. 1855), daughter of Henry Robinson (1828-1904); probably Samuel Joseph Chadwick (c. 1843-1918), solicitor, chairman of Free Library Committee, active in Yorkshire Archaeological Society, keen local historian, a founder of Wheelwright's Grammar School, Dewsbury, due to shared interests with Hewitson, but could be

Sunday 5 January 1896 At home all day. In af[ternoo]n & evening reading Buckle's "Civilisation." [25]

Monday 6 January 1896 At home in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n I & son H[orace] to Wakefield to get some particulars from the office books as to amount of ac[count]s.

Tuesday 7 January 1896 To ~~Wakefield~~ Thornhill station this forenoon with Mr Chadwick my solicitor; waited till train from West arrived – my arbitrator (Mr H ~~Chadwick~~ Davies, of Preston) being in it; & with him we proceeded to Wakefield. The arbitration, in respect of dissolution of my partnership with Carr, commenced at the Bull hotel Wakefield about 11.30. Mr Beaumont, of Wakefield, acting as solicitor for Carr & Mr Macredie of Sheffield his arbitrator. At about 1.30 they had lunch; resumed business about 2; adjournment sine die, shortly before 3pm. At the office Mr Davies scarified Carr tremendously.[26]

Wednesday 8 January 1896 Per 10.8 train to Wakefield. Reading proofs till almost 5pm. At night read sundry pages of Thackeray's "Vanity Fair." Carr & I don't speak now.

Thursday 9 January 1896 Same

Friday 10 January 1896 Proof reading &c at Wakefield.

Saturday 11 January 1896 At home all day. Reading papers &c.

Sunday 12 January 1896 Home all day. In af[ternoo]n & evening reading Thackeray's "Vanity Fair" – finished it. An excellent ably worked out novel.

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his brother, Thomas Lang Chadwick (1848-1918), solicitor, Registrar of Dewsbury County Court, conductor of Dewsbury Choral Society, whose 'excess of zeal for golf led to his death' (*Yorkshire Evening Post*, 17 September 1918, p. 4); Dewsbury's public library opened in June 1896; this may have been a fact-finding visit.

25 Henry Thomas Buckle published two of a planned 14 volumes of his *History of Civilisation in England* in 1857 and 1861 (London: John W. Parker, 1857, 1861), https://archive.org/details/in.ernet.dli.2015.533689 and https://archive.org/details/in.ernet.dli.2015.45576

26 Herbert Beaumont (1851-1917), solicitor, of Hatfeild Hall, active in Poor Law matters locally and nationally; Andrew Macredie (c. 1840-1927), accountant; sine die: without fixing a date.

Monday 13 January 1896 To Wakefield this forenoon & met there Walter Davies, son of Mr H Davies, Preston, who (along with Macredie's son of Sheffield) had come over to check some of the books &c at the Herald office. At night read a few pages of Buckle's Hist[ory] of Civilisation.[27]

Tuesday 14 January 1896 This af[ternoo]n per 1.32 train to Manchester where at the Guardian office I had an interview with Mr Axon & Mr Cash (former literary critic, & latter chief of reporting department) respecting my son E[thelbert], who requires a journalistic situation. They received me very ~~definitely~~ kindly; but I didn't get much actual or practical consolation from either. Returned per train which reaches Dewsbury a few minutes after 6 o'clock. Inquiry into Lancaster election petition commences to-day.[28]

Wednesday 15 January 1896 Reading proofs at Wakefield office. At night read several pages of a very interesting little work bearing the title of the Haunts & Homes of Carlyle. To-day had a letter from my old friend Mr W[illia]m Livesey of Poulton-le-Fylde.[29]

Thursday 16 January 1896 Ditto as to Wakefield. Dull weather; but very open for the time of the year. Heard a man say yesterday that it was very probable we should have a mild winter – hardly any winter at all; his reason or "sign" for this being the striking absence of hawes last Autumn & up to present. I have heard, in former years, the crop of hawes named as a criterion of the character of the ensuing winter – plenty indicating a hard one, scarcity a mild, open one.[30]

Friday 17 January 1896 Proof reading at Wakefield all day, more or less. Home per 10.30pm train.

Saturday 18 January 1896 My son H[orace] to Goole at noon to inquire about a situation at one of local newspaper offices: on returning got

27 Walter Davies (1868-1945), accountant; Andrew William Macredie (1870-1952), accountant.

28 William Edward Armytage Axon (1846-1913), prolific author on Manchester history and folklore; James Cash (c. 1840-1909).

29 Livesey: see vol. 1, p. 623; Henry Charles Shelley, *The Homes and Haunts of Thomas Carlyle* (London: Westminster Gazette, 1895) https://www.google.co.uk/books/edition/The_Homes_and_Haunts_of_Thomas_Carlyle/4uYdAQAAMAAJ

30 Hawthorn berries.

off at Selby & stayed over weekend with his brother L[lewellyn]. My son E[thelbert] to London per noon train to see about a situation as shorthand writer at an office in Fleet St[ree]t or the Strand. In af[ternoo]n I read papers, also numerous pages in Buckle's Hist[ory] of Civilisation.

Sunday 19 January 1896 All day in house – home. In af[ternoo]n & evening read numerous pages of Buckle's Hist[ory] of Civilisation.

Monday 20 January 1896 At home nearly all day. Son H[orace] returned from Selby at noon. He left his brother L[lewellyn] all right.

Tuesday 21 January 1896 About 1 ½ hours at Wakefield to-day. Read a few proofs at office there.

Wednesday 22 January 1896 At Wakefield to-day from about 10.30 forenoon to 5 in af[ternoo]n. Proofreading chiefly. Do not now speak to Carr – that blessed partner – at all. I feel morally sure that ultimately either the devil will run him to earth & then fly away with him, or that he will be found dead in some street or ditch bottom.

Thursday 23 January 1896 At the Wakefield office ~~about same length of time as yesterday.~~ My wife ill with neuralgia in face & head. Weather bad – damp, muggy, &c. Home per noon train. Back again per 2.29pm train; & returned per 5.16 train.

Friday 24 January 1896 Still Wakefield. There per 10.8 morning train & returned per 10.30 night train. No one except myself in the compartment.

Saturday 25 January 1896 Home nearly all day. Nothing special in Dewsbury. In af[ternoo]n & evening read newspapers, &c.

Sunday 26 January 1896 My son E[thelbert] got home from London about 5.30 this morning. He has not succeeded in getting a place; but he has, through the introduction of an old friend & early newspaper pupil of mine at Preston & now editor of "England" (Tom Aspden*) got a good promise of something early at the office of the London Evening Echo. I at home all day. In af[ternoo]n & evening reading Buckle.[31]

31 *England, the Union, and the Primrose Chronicle* (1880-98), weekly Conservative magazine; Thomas Aspden (1844-1902) from Walton-le-Dale near Preston was probably trained by Hewitson on the *Preston Herald*; he went from reporter on that

Monday 27 January 1896 At home all day.

Tuesday 28 January 1896 For a short time to purgatory (Wakefield office); then home. Another change at home. This af[ternoo]n my son E[thelbert] left per 4.19 train for Plymouth – to a place there as shorthand & typewriter (office of the Mayor of Plymouth). My son will only stop at this office until such time as he can get a reportership on a newspaper.[32]

Wednesday 29 January 1896 Again to the centre of delectability (the Wakefield office). Stayed there about 5 ½ hours & then home. Weather very mild for the time of year.

Thursday 30 January 1896 At same centre for same time

Friday 31 January 1896 Left Dewsbury per 9.27 train this morning for Lytham, Blackpool &c. Mr B Hepworth with me as far as Bury. He is a sharp nice young fellow, with considerable foreign travelling experience. At Lytham called on Mr Tho[ma]s Fair, agent for the Clifton estate. Af[terwar]ds had lunch with him at his house. He was very sociable & chatty. It is about 37 years since I first became acquainted with him. He was at that time a rifle volunteer & I used to call upon him at his office in Winckley St[ree]t for news. In course of our conversation he told me that some time back the present young Squire Clifton (now somewhere in California) incurred pecuniary obligations, chiefly in connection with Lord Thurlow equal to about £60,000 & that this money had to be paid out of the Clifton estate. At about 2pm I went by train to B[lack]pool, & there saw Mr Banks solicitor, & Mr Mather architect. Subsequently to Preston. At night to Theatre Royal. Stayed all night at a restaurant, &c.[33]

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paper in 1865 to editor by 1871; *The Echo* (1868-1905), London's first halfpenny daily evening paper.

32 Hewitson writes Plymouth here, and on 29 February and 14 March, but Portsmouth on 24 and 29 February.

33 Benjamin Hepworth (1840-1920), estate agent, of Heckmondwike, member of Dewsbury Board of Guardians, became chairman, also chairman of Heckmondwike District Council; Thomas Fair (c.1836-1914) of Clifton Hall, agent for the Clifton estate; John Talbot Clifton (1868-1928), who became a traveller and hunter, after Eton and Cambridge; he once dined on mammoth recovered frozen from the Arctic permafrost; Thomas John Hovell-Thurlow-Cumming-Bruce, 5th Baron Thurlow (1838-1916), Liberal politician, serving under Gladstone; probably Richard Banks (1849-1915); Richard Butcher Mather (1851-1933), Roman Catholic.

February

Saturday 1 February 1896 Had an interview with Walter Davies re arbitration (self & C[arr]). Then met my wife at the station. Looked about – house-hunting. In the evening we went to Mr W. Livesey's, Poulton le Fylde.

Sunday 2 February 1896 This forenoon Mr, Mrs & Miss Livesey,* along with myself & my wife went to Poulton independent Chapel. Small attend[an]ce; fairly good service. Good sermon. In af[ternoo]n Mr Livesey & I had a walk towards Skippool. At night we again all went to the Chapel.[34]

Monday 3 February 1896 Had a walk with Mr & Mrs Livesey – my own wife accompanying. In af[ternoo]n to Preston when we again went a house-hunting – in Bank Parade. At night we were at W France's, Fishergate, for about 4 hours. A "jolly" night.

Tuesday 4 February 1896 This forenoon agreed with Mr John Hamilton, draper &c Cheapside to become tenant of his house, No 8, Bank Parade, for a period of five years at £35 per year, tenancy to commence on 1st of May next. Left Preston per 6.15pm train, we reached Dewsbury about 9.5. All well.[35]

Wednesday 5 February 1896 At & about home during forenoon. In af[ternoo]n to Wakefield office. At night Mr Smelt, of Hanging Heaton, landlord of the house we occupied, called, & I paid him the quarter's rent -- £10.[36]

Thursday 6 February 1896 In forenoon at & about home. In af[ternoo] n to Wakefield.

Friday 7 February 1896 Ditto. Returned from Wakefield per 10.35pm train. Son H[orace] met me at Dewsbury station.

Saturday 8 February 1896 At one this morning accompanied my son H[orace] to G[reat] N[orthern] station. He left for London by excursion train, which moved out of Dewsbury station at 1.28. He has taken a post

34 Mary Jane Livesey (b. 1841); Jane Livesey, née Allen (1821-99).
35 Probably John Crook Hamilton (1846-1924), Liberal councillor, magistrate.
36 George William Smelt (1856-1917), head of Mill Lane Council School, Hanging Heaton.

as canvasser & assistant reporter (on trial for a month) on a paper at Aldershot, about 33 miles from London. On returning from station I went to bed. Up about 10. Down town, paid two coal bills, bought two papers, & then back home. Reading papers in af[ternoo]n. At night read numerous pages in Buckle's "History of Civilisation."

Sunday 9 February 1896 All day at home. In af[ternoo]n & evening read some of Buckle's Hist[ory] of Civ[ilisation].

Monday 10 February 1896 All day at home.

Tuesday 11 February 1896 This forenoon per 9.27 L[ancashire] & Y[orkshire] train to Blackpool. Arrived there about 1.30pm. At about 2.40 had an interview with Mr F Andrews, manager of the Blackpool Herald for a situation for my son H[orace] as canvasser & collector. Andrews, a thin-faced, sharp, shrewd & rather deaf man, apparently about 38 years of age asked me a good many questions respecting my son. In the course of our talk I ascertained that he knew Nicholas Chadwick formerly a reporter at Darwen, & Ernest King, at present & for many years a newspaper proprietor at Middletown, Connecticut USA & formerly owner of the Blackburn Times. I left Andrews with the understanding that he w[oul]d do what he could for my son. Got to Preston shortly before 6; had tea; some chat with E Foster, chemist; left Preston for Dewsbury per 8 o'clock train. Between Preston & Dewsbury the train stopped at about 27 stations! I got home about 11.45.[37]

Wednesday 12 February 1896 To Wakefield office for a short time. Purgatory.

Thursday 13 February 1896 Same

Friday 14 February 1896 Got a letter this morning from Andrews, Blackpool Herald, in favour of son H[orace] going to work in connection with that paper. Telegraphed to him & af[terwar]ds sent a letter directing H[orace] to be at the B[lack]pool Herald office on Monday morning. To Wakefield by 1.2pm train & stayed there till about 7.35.

37 Frank Andrews (1856-1918); Nicholas Chadwick (1834-1906), worked on newspapers in Blackburn, Rochdale, Darwen, Halifax, the Isle of Man, among others (*Heywood Advertiser* 23 November 1906, p. 4); Ernest King (c. 1827-1900), former owner-editor of the *Blackburn Times*, worked on papers in Preston, London, Brisbane, Bolton and around the US; Edward Foster (c. 1825-1901).

Saturday 15 February 1896 At home nearly all day. In af[ternoo]n & evening read newspapers, &c.

Sunday 16 February 1896 All day at home. In af[ternoo]n & part of evening read some pages of Buckle's History of Civilisation.

Monday 17 February 1896 Preparing for removal to Preston. Had a letter from son H[orace], stating that he got to Blackpool yesterday af[ternoo]n.

Tuesday 18 February 1896 Another letter from son H[orace] stating that he had started work in connec[tio]n with the B[lack]pool Herald. To-day wrote out & handed over to Mr Chadwick's legal representative at Dewsb[ur]y cheque for £94 odd – my share of Macredie & Davies expenses as arbitrators – the sum including my share of valuation charges (self & Carr). Excessive amount.

Wednesday 19 February 1896 Helping with furniture packing, &c. In af[ternoo]n to a furniture sale – sold a dinner set we do not want to take with us to Preston for £2.

Thursday 20 February 1896 To-day the arbitrators (Macredie & Davies) award came. My share £1302 – a dead money loss of £400, or with cost of arbitration about £550. To purgatory (Wakefield Herald office) for about 1 ½ hour.[38]

Friday 21 February 1896 In af[ternoo]n to Wakefield for a few hours.

Saturday 22 February 1896 Down into Dewsbury with my wife & daughter L[etty] this forenoon. In af[ternoo]n I & my wife to Mr & Mrs Hall's, Upperthorpe, Sheffield. Mrs H[all] is my wife's sister.[39]

Sunday 23 February 1896 I, my wife & Mr & Mrs Hall, &c had a long walk this forenoon to Endcliffe park & back. Long, narrow, glen-like. In af[ternoo]n I & Mr Hall went to the Picture Gallery (Mappin's). Many persons present; very orderly. Excellent collection of pictures. Stayed in Mr Hall's house all the evening.

38 This figure is difficult to interpret without knowing what proportion of the Wakefield business was owned by Hewitson; neither does it consider the Batley and Dewsbury papers.

39 Frederick W Hall (1841-1919).

Monday 24 February 1896 This morning I & Mr Hall* visited the Museum adjoining Picture Gallery. Very interesting. Fine collec[tio]n of miscellaneous articles, &c. Af[terwar]ds we inspected much of the interior of Sheffield new Town Hall, which has to be opened in May next [sic]. Large, roomy, considerable marble work – apparently a very commodious, useful building. In the af[ternoo]n walked about with my wife, her sister & Hall. Inspected an exhibition of paintings in Cutlers' Hall & looked in at great banquet room there. Tea up at Mr Halls. Left Sheffield for Dewsbury per 8pm train. There rode in same compartment as myself from Sheffield to Rotherham a couple of very brutish, bad & odd spoken fellows. One of them referring to a boxer said "He's the scientificist boxer in the bleeding world." On getting home 10.15 found there my son Bertie, from Portsmouth – having taken the post of sub-editor & reporter at the Consett Chronicle office. (Consett is about 15 miles N[orth] W[est] of Durham city).

Tuesday 25 February 1896 Learnt this forenoon that Carr had declined to take up the financial conditions of the arbitrators' award; so the Herald news & jobbing establishment will have to be offered for sale by private [sic] as a "going concern." In af[ternoo]n to Wakefield; saw Sec[retary] Conservative Registra[tio]n Associa[tio]n suggesting possibility of the Cons[ervative] party buying Herald &c. Home per 5.16pm train. Son Bertie left for Consett per 12.33 noon train to-day.[40]

Wednesday 26 February 1896 During part of day in the before-named "purgatory." At night reading.

Thursday 27 February 1896 Same

Friday 28 February 1896 Same. Had a row with Carr at Wakefield this af[ternoo]n. Called him "a damned scamp", "a damned insect," a "donkey" & a "lunatic."

Saturday 29 February 1896 Got a letter from son Bertie this morning complaining of the hardness of his new place at Consett & stating that he was going back at once to the place he had left at Portsmouth. By post this morning there also came a postcard mailed by Bertie at about 10.30 last night at Normanton station, on his way to Plymouth. This evening my wife returned from Sheffield.

40 Possibly William Webster (c. 1857-1926); see 20 June 1896.

March

Sunday 1 March 1896 Home all day. In af[ternoo]n & evening reading part of Buckle's "Hist[ory] of Civilisation" – also sleeping somewhat.

Monday 2 March 1896 This forenoon to Wakefield ("purgatory"); back at noon. In af[ternoo]n peddling about. At night reading.

Tuesday 3 March 1896 To "purgatory" after dinner, read some proofs, had some talk with Squire jobbing room foreman. Back early. In evening read for a time in Literary Anecdotes.[41]

Wednesday 4 March 1896 Ditto "purgatory".

Thursday 5 March 1896 Same – proof reading, &c. I & my wife had a fearful row with that blessed fellow Carr, at the Wakefield office this forenoon.

Friday 6 March 1896 Proof-reading, &c, at Wakefield.

Saturday 7 March 1896 At home more or less all day. Reading papers, &c in evening.

Sunday 8 March 1896 All day at home. In evening read a few pages of Buckle's History of Civilisation.

Monday 9 March 1896 At Wakefield office for some hours to-day.

Tuesday 10 March 1896 Same

Wednesday 11 March 1896 Same

Thursday 12 March 1896 Same

Friday 13 March 1896 Same

Saturday 14 March 1896 Left Dewsbury for Preston & Blackpool per 9.27 train this forenoon. Called at office of H Davies, accountant,

41 Probably Thomas Arthur Squire (b. 1871), in charge of the general printing department, separate from the newspaper printing; possibly John Nichols, *Literary Anecdotes of the Eighteenth Century* (London: Nichols, Son & Bentley, 1812), http://www.archive.org/stream/literaryanecdot02bentgoog#page/n13/mode/1up

&c, Winckley St[ree]t, re Wakefield business. Then some dinner. Af[terwar]ds per 2.15 train to Blackpool. Sons H[orace] & B[ertie] met me. (B[ertie] here temporarily – left Plymouth last Saturday). Went to their lodgings, 23 George St[ree]t, & had something to eat. Then had a look through the Blackpool Herald office, where son H[orace] is engaged as adv[ertisemen]t clerk, canvasser &c &c. In evening I & sons E[thelbert] & H[orace] to Poulton, to see my old friend Mr W Livesey, with whom (by appointment) we had a long talk about the Wakefield Herald business. Returned to Blackpool before 10 o'clock. I got lodgings for the night at the Waverley (or Trevelyan) Temperance Hotel, Talbot road, sons went to their George st[ree]t lodgings. At the Temperance Hotel sat up talking till after 12 o'c[loc]k in smoke room with two very respectable men – apparently commercial travellers. One of them very intelligent – could talk about Dr Johnson, Confucius, Thomas Carlyle, Volney, &c.

Sunday 15 March 1896 At 8.50 to sons' lodgings. Breakfast. In forenoon went out for a walk, but had to return early, on account of rain. Dinner. In af[ternoo]n weather very fine & we had a walk on the promenade & the sands as far as the South Pier. Many persons out on promenade. Returned to tea. Then sons set me to Talbot road station, from which I left per train at 5.15 for Dewsbury. On the way the train I rode in stopped at 37 stations! & reached Dewsbury at 10.15 – five hours to Dewsbury, a distance of about 73 miles. Fine, rapid travelling this! Better employ tortoises to pull the carriages.

Monday 16 March 1896 Over at Wakefield for a few hours.

Tuesday 17 March 1896 Ditto for several hours proof reading, &c.

Wednesday 18 March 1896 Same

Thursday 19 March 1896 Same

Friday 20 March 1896 Same

Saturday 21 March 1896 At home nearly all day. Reading papers, &c in af[ternoo]n & evening. Son Bertie turned up from Blackpool about 8 in the evening.

Sunday 22 March 1896 All day at home. In forenoon & part of af[ternoo]n reading in Lardner's Museum of Science & Art. In the evening looking through the Tyldesley Diary.[42]

Monday 23 March 1896 Meeting at Wakefield to open the tenders re Wakefield Herald. Rode with my solicitor (Mr Chadwick) from Thornhill to Wakefield where we met Walter Davies (son of Mr H[enr]y D[avies]) who had come at my request, to attend the meeting. Only two tenders – one from myself, for £4000 & the other from A Whitworth, Huddersfield, for about £2,700. Neither accepted. It was decided to offer the paper, jobbing office, type, machinery &c for sale by auction as a going concern on April 14th.

Tuesday 24 March 1896 To Wakefield per 8.42 morning train, & remained there – proof reading, &c till about 5pm.

Wednesday 25 March 1896 Same

Thursday 26 March 1896 Same

Friday 27 March 1896 To Wakefield per 8.42 morning train. Proof-reading, &c. In af[ternoo]n saw Mr Walker (Messrs Milthorp's, Vicarage St[ree]t) respecting sale of the Herald. He said a person eager for it had been making inquiries. Gave him (Walker) a few particulars. Home per 8.30 night train. On getting near home met sons E[thelbert] & L[lewellyn], who had just started out of house to meet me. Son L[lewellyn], from Selby, has come to stay over the weekend. He looks better – taller somewhat & more manly. We talked until about 10.45.[43]

Saturday 28 March 1896 Left Dewsbury (per L&Y) for Preston & Blackpool per 9.27 train this morning. Sons E[thelbert] & L[lewellyn] set me to the station. Hills white with snow or sleet in some parts. Cold. Reached Preston about 12.40. Had an interview with Mr Jas Clarke,* solicitor, as to money for purchasing Wakefield Herald – if necessary. To Blackpool per 5.5 train. There rode in same compartment as myself,

42 Dionysius Lardner, *The Museum of Science & Art* (London: Walton & Maberly, 1854), https://archive.org/details/museumofsciencea03lardrich/page/n3; for Tyldesley Diary, see vol. 1, 3 January 1872.

43 George Walker (1849-1908), manager of G & F Milthorp, printers' valuers and ink makers.

as far as Salwick, a farmer & cattle dealer, named Morpeth [sic], a son of Harry Morpeth [sic], of Camp House, near Hornby. I made myself known to him by saying that an uncle of mine (Will Moore) was a servant man with his father for many years. "Yes," he replied, "for about four & twenty years – one of the best servants in England: his sort have died out – they can't be found now-a-days." He then told me that occasionally my uncle W[ill] got "too much to sup" & that Mrs Morpeth [sic] used to say "I know what ails him – I'll soon cure him," & then she would fry him some fine bacon collops which he would attack vigorously & thus be "brought round" or be put in the way of "coming round." Morpeth [sic] told me he had a farm at Salwick, & had lived there 14 years. I reached Blackpool soon after 6 o'clock, & walked right to no 23, George St[ree]t, Blackpool, the lodgings of my son Horace. Found him in. Had tea; wrote home; did not go out; to bed about 10.45; slept with my son.[44]

Sunday 29 March 1896 Up about 9. Breakfast. About 10.30 I & son H[orace] to the Promenade. Beautiful morning. High tide – about 30ft but no wind behind it, so the water kept within bounds. After dinner, to Talbot r[oa]d station; son H[orace] "setting" me thither. Left for Dewsbury per 1.35pm train. Reached Dewsbury about 6.30. Stopped on the way at between 30 & 40 stations. Sons E[thelbert] & L[lewellyn] met me. After tea we & my wife talked over affairs till about 10.45. To bed about 11.20. [P.S. The train I travelled in from Blackpool to Preston ran on the new length through Poulton new station, about ¼ of a mile nearer Poulton town than the old station; this length being opened for regular traffic for the first time to-day. My old friend W[illia]m Livesey purchased the first ticket at the booking office of the new station.]

[pasted opposite: Newspaper cutting dated 29 March 1896, 'Poulton New Railway Station. Opening the New Line. The First Issue of Tickets.']

Monday 30 March 1896 At Wakefield to-day. Son L[lewellyn] returned to Selby this morning.

Tuesday 31 March 1896 Same.

44 Probably William Morphet (1838-97) of Salwick Hall, son of Henry Morphet (1809-91); William Moore (1800-72).

April

Wednesday 1 April 1896 Same, & stayed working at the Wakefield office till about 8.25pm. This was actually Friday for our newspaper purposes, as we shall publish the Herald (Wakefield) in the morning, instead of on Saturday morning, on account of Easter.

Thursday 2 April 1896 At home more or less all day. During the evening read a few pages in Buckle's History of Civilisation.

Friday 3 April 1896 At home

Saturday 4 April 1896 Same

Sunday 5 April 1896 Same

Monday 6 April 1896 Same

Tuesday 7 April 1896 To Wakefield & working at the office there, in front of the little devil called C.W. Carr.

Wednesday 8 April 1896 Ditto.

Thursday 9-Monday 13 April 1896 [No entries]

Tuesday 14 April 1896 To-day I bought the Wakefield & West Riding Herald at a sale by auction: it was put up, along with the job printing department connected with it, as a going concern. Carr, my scampish partner, drove matters to this pass, obviously for the purpose of squeezing me out with about a quarter of the money I had put into the business & of getting the whole concern into his own hands. I bought the entire lot for £3250. So Carr will have to "get out". Of the sum named £625 ['Qy £1083' added in pencil in margin] will have to be deducted as my share. And then half of the book debts are mine. My brother William, editor of the Bury Times, bid for me at the sale.

Wednesday 15-Friday 17 April 1896 [No entry]

Saturday 18 April 1896 I went to Preston & thence to son Horace at Blackpool to-day. Borrowed money, on mortgage, to pay for Wakefield newspaper &c to-day at the office of Mr James Clarke,* solicitor, Lune St[ree]t, Preston. The whole sum borrowed is £4,500. [at foot of page in pencil: '(Repaid £900 of this money on Jan[uar]y 2nd 1897.)']

Sunday 19 April 1896 Returned from Blackpool per noon train, reaching Dewsbury at about 6.30pm.

Monday 20 April 1896 Began tenancy of house, 22 Garden Street, Wakefield. £16 per year. To-day paid for the Wakefield Herald newspaper & jobbing office type, plant, machinery &c, £3250 – deducting my share £625. Also to-day bought the book debts of the same concern – all the bad ones to be thrown out, 25 per cent to be deducted from the good ones, & Carr's share of such debts (one half) to be paid in six months. Interest to be paid in such share to be at the rate of 4 per cent per annum. Partnership dissolved to-day.

Tuesday 21 April 1896 W Harding & Co, Preston, began moving our furniture from Dewsbury to 8 Bank Parade, Preston to-day.

Wednesday 22 April 1896 I at work at Wakefield office with son E[thelbert].

Thursday 23 April 1896 Same

Friday 24 April 1896 Same

Saturday 25 April 1896 Brought out the Wakefield Herald to-day under our own imprint – A Hewitson & Sons. At 4.15pm proceeded by train to Preston. Reached there about 8.

Sunday 26 April 1896 Engaged nearly all day with son H[orace] putting up books in the cases at 8, Bank Parade.

Monday 27 April 1896 Engaged in similar work. J Wilson commenced work at our office to-day.[45]

Tuesday 28 April 1896 Same for some hours. In aft[ernoon] to a sale of type &c at Wilcocks' shop, Glover's court. Bought three or four lots. Returned to Wakefield with Mr Walker (employed at Messrs Milthorp's).

Wednesday 29 April 1896 Office work all day. Writing at night.

Thursday 30 April 1896 Same

45 Probably Margaret Hewitson's brother Joseph R Wilson (b. 1855), who had served his printing apprenticeship under Hewitson on the *Preston Chronicle* and became foreman there.

May

Friday 1 May 1896 Same

Saturday 2 May 1896 At 3.30 this af[ternoo]n to Preston. Train a good one – did not stop between Wakefield & Manchester. Had to wait ¾ of an hour at Manchester, then on stopping at Bolton & Chorley, & reaching Preston about 6.6pm.

Sunday 3 May 1896 I & son H[orace] put up numerous pictures.

Monday 4 May 1896 Attended to several matters in Preston. At 6.15 left for Wakefield, arriving there about 9.30. Son E[thelbert] met me, & complained about foreman's (J[oseph] W[ilson]'s) drunken doings – drunk on Sat[urda]y & Sunday nights; & he turned up drunk to-night.

Tuesday 5 May 1896 Threatened the foreman in question that if he did not mend his ways he would have to clear out. Office work all day.

Wednesday 6 May 1896 Office work. At night writing leading article matter.

Thursday 7 May 1896 Office work. In evening I, son E[thelbert], & daughter M[abel] had a walk into the Park on south side of Wakefield. Grounds in pretty good order. We walked up to summit of the surmounting mound; but owing to the haziness of the atmosphere the surrounding view was not good. Very cold. Home by way of Denby Dale road.

Friday 8 May 1896 Same as to office. At work till 10pm. Son E[thelbert] took charge af[terwar]ds.

Saturday 9 May 1896 To Preston per 1.40pm train. Fine weather. Reached Preston about 4.30. Baldwin paid me rent of Mitre. About 10 son H[orace] from B[lack]pool, & daughter L[etty] who had been with him there since Wednesday, turned up. He has finished at B[lack]pool & commences in connection with adv[ertisemen]t & money Departments &c at our office in Wakefield (Herald) on Monday morning. He has done the work very well at B[lack]pool (Herald office there), & will I have no doubt work well for us, in our new enterprise at Wakefield.[46]

46 Henry Baldwin (b. c. 1852), who ran and rented from Hewitson the Mitre Inn, Fishergate, until 1899.

Sunday 10 May 1896 In house, 8, Bank Parade, Preston all day. Son H[orace] to Wakefield this af[ternoo]n.

Monday 11 May 1896 Attending to various matters. Paid J Clarke,* solicitor, Lune St[ree]t, Preston his bill (nearly £50). In af[ternoo]n went to Ald[erman] W H Woods tobacco factory, Derby St[ree]t, at his request. Inspected the general establishment preliminary to writing an article containing a description of it. A large & extraordinary place. Left Preston per 6.15 train for Wakefield; a beautiful evening; country generally looking charming. Got to Wakefield about 9.15. Son H[orace] to London to collect a/cs [accounts] this morning.[47]

Tuesday 12 May 1896 Early to office; attended to letters & sub-editing; commenced an article (biographic) respecting Ald[erman] W H Woods & finished it at night.

Wednesday 13 May 1896 Office, &c. To-day wrote an article descriptive of Ald[erman] W.H. Woods' tobacco factory. This article & the one written yesterday are for a serial volume to be published at (I think) Bristol.

Thursday 14 May 1896 Posted articles to Ald[erman] Woods this morning. Sub-editing & editing all day. Wrote some notes for the Herald newspaper at night.

Friday 15 May 1896 Sub-editing, editing, &c all day, till about 11 at night. Son H[orace] returned from London about 5 o'c[loc]k. He has had moderate success.

Saturday 16 May 1896 To office about 9. Attending to various matters af[terwar]ds. Son H[orace] paid wages. In af[ternoo]n at 3.30 left Wakefield for Preston. Arrived at Preston about 6.10. On way home met Shorrock, formerly hosier, &c, Church St[ree]t. He looked ill – kidneys & liver bad – & he s[ai]d his wife was very much troubled with rheumatism. After tea, I, my wife & daughters R[osaline] & L[etty] went "up street" -- into Fishergate , to Church St[ree]t, &c &c, & then home.[48]

Sunday 17 May 1896 In af[ternoo]n I & my wife & daughters R[osaline] & L[etty] had a walk in Avenham & Miller Parks. Roads & seats too crowded to be comfortable.

47 William Henry Woods (1845-1924), former mayor of Preston, Conservative.
48 Probably Joshua Shorrock (1828-97).

Monday 18 May 1896 In forenoon, jobbing about. Returned to Wakefield per 6.15 train from Preston. Fields, trees, &c on the route very fresh & beautiful. But the ground is getting too dry. Last Winter & this Spring, have been remarkably dry. Got to Wakefield about 9.20.

Tuesday 19 May 1896 At office & about sub-editing, &c.

Wednesday 20 May 1896 Ditto

Thursday 21 May 1896 Same

Friday 22 May 1896 Same from 7.50 in morning till 12 at night.

Saturday 23 May 1896 Son L[lewellyn] came to Wakefield to-day, from Selby to stay. At 3.45 this af[ternoo]n by train to Preston. Many Whitsuntide holiday people travelling. Trains late. My daughter M[abel] with me. Was met at Preston station by my daughters R[osaline] & L[etty] & my brother Will's wife from Bury. Found my wife all right. At about 9.15pm my bro[ther] Will's wife returned.[49]

Sunday 24 May 1896 At home in forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n we had a short walk to end of Avenham Park – east end. Had a chat there with Harry Pritt, artist, who told several good & some rather rough stories. Also had a chat with Miss Stanley, daughter of the late Mr & Mrs Stanley, milliner, &c, Fishergate. In the evening I & my wife, called on W France, Fishergate, & had a chat. Daughters R[osaline] & L[etty] joined us.[50]

Monday 25 May 1896 Saw procession of Roman C[atholic] Guilds this forenoon; very large, respectable & artistically effective. In af[ternoo]n saw procession of Church of England Sunday School scholars. An immense, well ordered procession. The Catholics, even in such a Catholic town as Preston, will have a job to get ahead of, or up to, the Protestants. I wish Catholics to have civil rights & privileges equal to Protestants; but I hope the former will never again get into the ascendant in this country. To Wakefield per 6.15pm train.

Tuesday 26 May 1896 At office working all forenoon. In af[ternoo]n at home – holiday. In evening I & my daughter R[osaline] to the Park, where

49 Emily Hewitson née Lister (1847-1929).

50 Henry Pritt (c. 1815-1901), litho artist, collector, 'Government drawing inspector' (*PG*, 2 November 1901, p. 10); probably Jane Elizabeth Stanley (1846-1928), daughter of Thomas Stanley (b. 1810) and Ann Stanley (b. 1810).

we listened to music, saw some variety entertainment, then round to the top & heard the famous Black Dike [sic] Band play several selections, & af[terwar]ds saw a display of fireworks. A large number of people present; but not so many, I understand, as yesterday. Got back to the house about 10.

Wednesday 27 May 1896 Son L[lewellyn] bad with lumbago, in bed all day.

Thursday 28 May 1896 All day hard at work – from about 8 in morning till 7 at night. Son L[lewellyn] considerably better. How one so young – not yet 22 – sh[oul]d be troubled with lumbago is a mystery to me.

Friday 29 May 1896 Sub-editing, editing, &c from about 8 in morning till 10.30 at night. Son L[lewellyn] has done some work to-day. He is nearly better. "Soon down, soon up," verily.

Saturday 30 May 1896 Office, shopping, with daugh[te]r R[osaline] &c in forenoon. Left Wakefield at about 3.40 per train; no stop between W[akefield] & Manchester; stopped at Manchester for ¾ of an hour; no stop between M[anchester] & Preston which latter place I reached about 6.40. Mary Sheard of Mirfield called at our house, 8, Bank Parade, on her way home from Blackpool. She is staying over the week end with us. In course of evening I called at Free Library & had a chat with Bramwell*, the chief librarian.[51]

Sunday 31 May 1896 Home in forenoon; in af[ternoo]n we all had a walk into the Parks. I had a talk with E Bush*. At 3.30 I left & proceeded per 3.45 train to Park Avenue, Garstang Rd. Went to house of Ald[erman] W.H. Woods, 9 Park Avenue, by invitation. Had tea with Mr & Mrs W[oods] & family. In evening he & I had a walk in Moor Park; grounds in good order; rhododendrons delightful; shrubs & trees full & pleasant to the eye. Returned to Mr Woods's house, had a chat, a smoke, & a drop of usquebaugh. Dr Holden, fat & oily-looking, called; & at about 10 I left & walked home.[52]

51 Possibly Mary Sheard (b. 1844), widow of Henry Sheard (b. 1840), sexton, of Mount Pleasant, Bracken Hill, Mirfield; William Storey Bramwell (1834-1917), 'staunch Conservative, devoted Churchman' (*PH,* 24 March 1917, p. 3); 'little Bramwell ... is a sharp, active, well-informed, industrious man, & very fond of a good story' (23 February 1906 entry); wrote a memoir, *Reminiscences of a Public Librarian, a Retrospective View* (Preston: Ambler, 1916).

52 Edwin Bush (1861-1918), architect, designed Miller Arcade and Empire Theatre, Preston; Hewitson took a train to Deepdale Rd station; Ida Louisa Woods (1852-1905), née Millican of Bampton; usquebaugh is whiskey; Dr John Holden (1842-98)

June

Monday 1 June 1896 Attended to various matters this forenoon. In af[ternoo]n called upon Ald[erman] Woods at his tobacco factory, Derby St[ree]t. Revised my MS [manuscript] description of the works; had a cigar, a glass of '47 port & then withdrew. In the evening returned by train to Wakefield. Mary Sheard with me as far as Mirfield – her home. I got to Wakefield at about 9.20. Son H[orace] & daughter R[osaline] met me at the station.

Tues 2 June 1896 Office work – sub-editing &c &c. To Leeds on business.

Wednesday 3 June 1896 Same as to office

Thursday 4 June 1896 Sub-editing, editing &c all day. At noon to-day there was a thunderstorm & heavy rain. This is the first break in the weather this year.

Friday 5 June 1896 Nothing special. I at work all day, from noon till 10.40 at night.

Saturday 6 June 1896 This forenoon Ald[erman] Sherwood called at office & complained about non-insertion of a letter &c &c But he had overlooked the letter & I found it for him. Then he made further complaints & blustered & threatened more like a fool than a sensible man. I promised to put matters right, toned him down & he shook hands & withdrew. In af[ternoo]n I went to Preston. In evening called on Ald[erman] Woods &c. [53]

Sunday 7 June 1896 In forenoon I & wife went into garden & examined it. In af[ternoo]n I, my wife, daughter L[etty] &c to cemetery. Just as we got there shower of rain, followed by several more. In an interval of fairness we hurried into cemetery, looked at graves of our children & my wife's father & mother &c which we found in nice order. Af[terwar]ds sheltered at lodge of Philip Thorpe,[sic] the Nonconformist sexton who has been

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of nearby Garstang Rd, medical officer for Board of Guardians, Poor Law Guardian, town councillor, alderman and former mayor.

53 Benjamin Sherwood (c. 1849-1926), owner of Wakefield Opera House, former ironfounder; the letter concerned a report on the non-attendance of Lord Milton, Wakefield MP, at a charity concert.

here for about 30 years. Then home. In evening W France & his wife called & I had a walk into R Veevers', Frenchwood estate. Subsequently a smoke, a glass, some supper &c.[54]

Monday 8 June 1896 Doing some odd jobs in town; in af[ternoo]n gardening – weeding; at 6.15 per train to Wakefield. Outside scenery, on each side of route, very pleasant – I mean in the rural parts. Reached Wakefield about 9.16. Horace & Rosie at station to meet me. Found everything right at the house & office. Thunderstorms about Wakefield this evening.

Tues 9 June 1896 Office work – sub-editing, &c &c – all day. Nothing particular going on in Wakefield. Daughter Rosie & I had a walk up into St John's, Wakefield this evening. A select, clean, tree-ornamented, opulent-looking region, containing, I should say, the usual number of conceited, stuck-up contemptibly starchy people found in nice-seeming places.[55]

Wednesday 10 June 1896 Weather nice. Office work, sub-editing, & the like. Nothing special. At work till about 9.30 pm.

Thursday 11 June 1896 Office work &c same. Weather getting hot.

Friday 12 June 1896 Ditto. Working till about 11.30pm.

Saturday 13 June 1896 In forenoon at office. In af[ternoo]n per 3.22 express to Manchester, thence per 5.15 train to Preston, where I arrived about 6.10. Then to home, tea, & "up street" with my wife. Called at W H Woods, tobacco store; looked in at W France's & whilst there in came W J Parkinson, formerly of Myerscough House. He is neither so pale nor seedy looking as he was some time ago. Poor devil! What a change from living at a big, grand place like that he had in Myerscough & being a L[iver]pool merchant, ~~to lodging at~~ to occupying a small house in Clarendon St[ree]t, Preston & getting a small salary as butter inspector for the County Agricultural Soc[iet]y &c. But he is doing his work assiduously & will, I hope, by & by, get either a better salary or a superior post.[56]

54 Philip Thorp (c. 1830-1905), master stonemason who moved to Preston for parish church rebuilding, Particular Baptist, Liberal; architect Richard Veevers (c. 1822-1902) and other developers built terraced streets and other houses in southern Preston, above the Ribble, from the late 1880s.

55 Hewitson's former business partner Carr lived in St John's Square.

56 William James Parkinson (c. 1843-1915), 'a blunt, John Bull sensible fellow' (26

Sunday 14 June 1896 In garden, I & my wife, looking about for a while, this forenoon. In af[ternoo]n I read some pages of Buckles Hist[ory] of Civilisation. In evening I & my wife walked up to 20 East View to see Alderman Hibbert & Mrs Hibbert; but we ascertained that they had gone to London for some out & other purposes; so we crossed over to Stephenson Terrace, opposite, & had a chat with Councillor Hale.* Then home.[57]

Monday 15 June 1896 Doing some private business up street this forenoon. In af[ternoo]n assisting with odds & ends in house. Returned per 6.15 train from Preston. On the way saw for first time in the wooded hollow, northward, nearly opposite ~~& Portsmouth~~ Holme station, a spacious-looking fine old hall – Elizabethan & very broad windows &c Asked a man in same compartment as myself what hall it was; but he c[oul]d not remember its name.* Arrived at Wakefield about 9.30. Son H[orace] & daughter R[osaline] waiting for me at the station. So home.

* I have since found out that this building is Holme Hall (see Baines's, Lancs).

Tues 16 June 1896 Sub-editing &c all day. Heavy thunderstorm at noon.

Wednesday 17 June 1896 Somewhat similarly occupied.

Thursday 18 June 1896 Battle of Waterloo day. How changed the times. Formerly – at Preston – John Cooper treated on this day old Waterloo & Peninsular veterans; there was also a banquet &c. Now nothing at all. I sub-editing &c all day.[58]

Friday 19 June 1896 Sub-editing &c. Nothing very special. At work till about 11 pm.

Saturday 20 June 1896 To office about 10.30. Af[terwar]ds saw Webster the city conservative agent. In af[ternoo]n per 3.20 train – nearly half an hour late – to Manchester & thence to Preston. Got home about 6.30. After tea, up street; stayed about 1½ hours at W France's. To-day Tom Parkinson (brother of W J) died. I remember being at his wedding – a

September 1896), see also vol. 1, p. 624.

57 James Hibbert (1831-1903), architect, former mayor, see vol. 1, p. 621; Anna Harriette Hibbert (1833-1908), born in Paris.

58 John Cooper (1808-73), generous friend, see vol. 1, pp. 617–18.

smart, tip-top affair, at Sephton [Sefton], near L[iver]pool – in or about 1874. I went at W J's request to write a description of it, & this appeared in the Preston Chronicle. Tom I believe has died poor. Dear, dear, what mutations & ups & downs in this life![59]

Sunday 21 June 1896 Nothing particular in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n, read sundry pages of Buckle's Hist[ory] of Civ[ilisation]. In evening I & my wife went to Ald[erman] J Hibbert's, East View. Stayed about 2 hours. Hibbert very agreeable, but he is aging – much of his old fire has gone or been damped down. Mrs Hibbert looks very old – shrunk in, face withered, hair a sort of yellow-grey. Spent a very pleasant time with them. Af[terwar]ds we called at W France's, Fishergate, & stayed at his house about an hour. So home.

Monday 22 June 1896 Attending to property & domestic matters. In forenoon had a pint of bottled stout at the Mitre Hotel. In af[ternoo]n busy cutting hedge on west side of garden. Returned per 6.15 pm train to Wakefield.

Tues 23 June 1896 Office this morning early. Towards noon my old friend W Livesey called on me at the office. He, his wife &c are staying with a Miss Lythgoe at Manningham, nr Bradford. We had a talk. Then he went to dinner at the house of his nephew, Mr Lee, worsted spinner of Wakefield. W[illiam] L[ivesey] is a Unionist, or moderate Conservative in politics; his nephew is a Radical. So when W[illiam] L[ivesey] came into my Conservative office he carried in his hand the L[iver]pool Courier (Conservative) & when he went out to his Radical nephew's he put down this paper & took the Leeds Mercury (Radical) in his hand. He asked me for a paper & preferred when I showed him it the Leeds Mercury. In af[ternoo]n he returned; we had a further talk & then at about 4.12 I set him to the station, whence he proceeded to Bradford per 4.16 train.[60]

Wednesday 24 June 1896 Working at office. At night to the Opera House with my daughter Rose. The play was "Faust". It was only moderately done. The Opera House is a new & fairly nice building. Lord Milton MP

59 John Thomas Parker Parkinson (c. 1845-96).

60 Mr Lee could be one of many family members involved in George Lee & Sons, Providence Mill, Westgate, Wakefield; Miss Lythgoe unidentified.

for Wakefield was married to-day at St Paul's Cathedral to Lady Maud Dundas younger daughter of the Earl of Zetland. My son E[thelbert] is up in London reporting the marriage.[61]

Thursday 25 June 1896 Office work

Friday 26 June 1896 Same.

Saturday 27 June 1896 Office in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n I & my daughter R[osaline] to Preston per 3.22 train, via Manchester. Arrived at Preston at about 6.20. During evening called on Mr E H Booth, Tower House & had a chat with him & at his request af[terwar]ds saw Alderman Jas Burrows [sic] as to a window light affair they have got to law about. I went as peacemaker. Had a glass of whiskey & a very social chat with Mr Burrows. Got to know what would have to be done by Mr Booth to effect a settlement of the case, & shall tell him.[62]

Sunday 28 June 1896 House forenoon; af[ternoo]n in garden; at night I & my wife called on E H Booth,* Tower House & stayed with him & Mrs Booth upwards of an hour.[63]

Monday 29 June 1896 This morning per 8.8 train I & my daughter M[abel] to Wakefield. At 11.5 I proceeded to Doncaster to join new corridor train from King's Cross, London, to Waverley station, Edinburgh – an invitation. Had an hour to wait at Doncaster, so walked into the town – busy & clean – & after looking about a little went into St George's church. A beautiful, ornate, gothic structure; fine, large stained glass windows; one very badly damaged through a gas explosion which occurred in church some months ago. Returned to station. New train came up at 12.38. Six very large, splendid cars & two smaller ones. Only officials, reporters & such like on train. Fine & most interest [sic] ride; carriages ran very smoothly & evenly. Had lunch "on board" – free. Scenery very interesting: - grey, high, long, centrally towered Selby Abbey; York, quaint, quiet, with its fine

61 The 27 June issue of the *Herald* devoted ten columns to the wedding, and gave portraits of the couple free in an 'art supplement'.Lord Milton was a Conservative-Unionist.

62 Edwin Henry Booth (1828-99), founder of the grocery business, near neighbour. Hewitson ghost-wrote and published his pseudonymous autobiography, *Shadow and sheen: the life story of Alec Gordon, written by Himself* (Wakefield: Hewitson, 1897); James Burrow (1824-1913), councillor, former mayor, gunsmith.

63 Susannah Booth, née Phillips (1830-1902).

three towered Minster; Durham with its picturesquely located cathedral & castle; Newcastle, murky, busy, vast – bridges striking especially as we approached & went over the high-level one; Berwick with red, pretty-looking roofs with its bridges – one low down, crossing the Tweed & for town use, the other a very long, many-arched sweeping one - quarter circle – for railway purposes; Dunbar, with its rocky coast & grey sea; Edinburgh with its spires & eminences & mountainous background – all very attractive. All of the party duly arrived at Edinburgh at 6pm – 5 mins before time. Af[terwar]ds "put up" at the Waterloo Hotel, Princes-st[ree]t. Had dinner there; then went to see the new train with two sleeping saloons (new) attached, leave at 10 for London. A splendid train – all lighted with double gas jets – one in each compartment. A few reporters returned with it. Then I went to top of Calton Hill – weird, romantic. Princes Street lighted with electric light most brilliant & beautiful. Returned to Waterloo Hotel, went into smoke room, had a few glasses & much talk with several reporters. A young man, quiet & neat & comely looking, on getting up to leave the room came to me, mentioned my name & then made himself known as G F Phillip Bussey, 17 North R[oa]d, Clapham Park, London, S.W, representative of "Westminster Gazette" & a son of my old friend Bernard Bussey, a nephew of my still older or equally old friend George Bussey. Harry Bussey (Geo's brother) is now, G.F.P.B. said reporting on the staff of London Standard. Next forenoon I went to Comely Bank & had a look at No 21 Comely Bank – the house in which T Carlyle & his wife spent their first two married years. A small-sized neat clean house, with a little railed in front garden, same as all the other houses in the row of which it forms a part. Then I went per open conveyance, along with a number of other people whom I did not know, to Dalmeny – about 10 miles off; saw the new Forth bridge – a gigantic & wonderful structure. Back to Edinburgh by train. Some lunch. Left Edinburgh per 2.20 pm train; arrived at Doncaster about 7.30. Reached our house in Wakefield about 8.30. Found everything right. The out a very enjoyable one. The route particularly interesting.[64]

64 G F Phillip Bussey unidentified; Bernard Bussey (1844-1908) had been a *Lancaster Guardian* reporter in the 1860s; probably George Thomas Moir Bussey (1830-92); Harry Findlater Bussey (1833-1919) had been chief reporter of the *Preston Guardian* 1857-59; Hewitson admired the writer Thomas Carlyle (1795-1881).

July

Wednesday 1-Friday 3 July 1896 Doing office work principally. Wrote a column descriptive of trip.

Saturday 4 July 1896 Office in forenoon. At 1.40 my son H[orace] to home at Preston; at about 3.30 I to Preston home per train. All right. At night called with my wife at W France's.

Sunday 5 July 1896 House forenoon. Garden part of af[ternoo]n & ev[enin]g. At about 8.20 Mr Westhead, junior (furniture dealer's son, Friargate) called & stayed about 2 hours. His wife who came with him (she is a daughter of late Geo Smith, cotton spinner, Lord St[ree]t mill) came with him, but left early.[65]

Monday 6 July 1896 In garden, weeding, &c. In evening had a Turkish bath on Lark Hill. Not so well.

Tuesday 7 July 1896 Gardening, at about 10.30 took my two daughters R[osaline] & L[etty] to get their teeth attended to at Wilkinson's, dentist, Mill Bank. Why are young people's teeth so much more given to decay now than they were 40 or 50 years ago? In af[ternoo]n gardening. To Wakefield per 6.15 train. My wife & daughters R[osaline] & L[etty] set me to the station. Found all right at the Wakefield end.

Wednesday 8 July 1896 Office work – hard – all day.

Thursday 9 July 1896 Same. At night had a Turkish bath at a place in Southgate – a clean, efficient place worked by a man who was, I am told, once at Smedley's Hydro, Matlock.

Friday 10 July 1896 Office work all day from 8 in morning till 11 at night.

Saturday 11 July 1896 In morning office, bank &c. In af[ternoo]n per 3.20 train, to Manchester & thence to Preston. On the way finished the book "Personal characteristics from French history" by Ferdinand Rothschild MP – a most readable, interesting, instructive work – & began one "An Ethical Movement" by WL Sheldon, Lecturer of Ethical Society of St Louis. At Preston station my daughters met me. On reaching home found there my old friend W[illia]m Livesey, from Poulton-le-Fylde, who has come to

65 William Westhead (1849-1915); Annie Westhead, née Smith (1860-1943); George Smith (1827-c. 1874).

give a lecture at St Saviour's to-morrow, on Temperance & Physiology. He is staying at S[aint] S[aviour]'s vicarage. Had a walk in Park with him. Af[terwar]ds I & my wife up street to pay a bill & attend to other matters.[66]

Sunday 12 July 1896 At home all day. In af[ternoo]n Mr W Livesey (this is his 80th birthday) called & had tea with us, after giving a lecture on Temperance in St Saviour's school room. He is very hale & hearty considering his years – full of talk, much being about his late father Joseph Livesey, one of the old Teetotal pioneers. I set him to the railway station at night, he being somewhat anxious to get to his home at Poulton-le-Fylde.

Monday 13 July 1896 Attending to odds & ends. At 10.30 went out, & saw a wrecked train a little on north side of the Central station. It was one of the racing trains from London to Scotland, & ran off the rails at part named. An awful smash – carriages broken to pieces. One person, a sailor, killed & several injured. It is a wonder all in the train were not killed. In af[ternoo]n I, my wife & daughters R[osaline] & L[etty] had a drive round by Inglewhite & down Bilsborrow lane & so by Roebuck village through Barton & home. We got a quantity of ferns for our garden. Saw the new church at Barton: the "rearing" colour was flying.[67]

Tuesday 14 July 1896 Doing little odd jobs. In af[ternoo]n I & my wife set the ferns gathered yesterday in our garden. I left for Wakefield per 6.15pm train. Was considerably delayed, through missing my train connection at Todmorden. Got to Wakefield about 10.30. Son H[orace] & daughter M[abel] met me. Found all right.

Wednesday 15 July 1896 Working in the office hard, all day.

Thursday 16 July 1896 Same. Nothing very particular going on. Weather keeps hot.

Friday 17 July 1896 Office work all day from about 8.30 in morning till nearly 11 at night.

Saturday 18 July 1896 Office in morning, making out cheques in payment of bills, &c. Heavy expenses at beginning of our career – things to buy

66 Ferdinand Rothschild, *Personal Characteristics from French History* (London: Macmillan, 1896), https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=uc2.ark:/13960/t3416w66t&seq=9; Walter Lorenzo Sheldon, *An Ethical Movement. A Volume of Lectures* (London: Macmillan & Co, 1896), http://hdl.handle.net/2027/hvd.32044048285068

67 A builders' tradition, in which a flag is raised on the highest part of a building once completed.

&c &c. The damned scamp Carr had let everything run down & get out of order. To Preston via Manchester per train due out of Wakefield at 3.22pm. Arrived at Preston about 6.15. Met Rev TA Peters of the college, Grimsargh, at Victoria Hotel, had a whiskey with him & stayed an hour. I wanted to see him about an ad[vertisemen]t. He is a decent sort of fellow, but is getting an awfully red face. At night I & my wife went up street.

Sunday 19 July 1896 Revising MS [manuscript] of EH Booth's* life. In evening I & my wife went to Alderman Hibbert's & stayed about 2 ½ hours. Conversation on art, literature, &c &c.

Monday 20 July 1896 Up street, on some house &c business. Weather hot. In af[ternoo]n did some gardening. In evening reading a little, & then went on to W France's to await return of my wife who has been to Ashton-on Ribble, with Mrs F on a small gossiping mission.

Tuesday 21 July 1896 At noon to-day to Grimsargh by train – a primitive sort of ride; & thence walked to Rev T.A. Peters's ("St John's College," formerly called "The Hermitage") to inquire about an advertisement for our Wakefield paper. Rev T.A. P[eters] at L[iver]pool – will be back to-night; so decided to meet him at Preston station on his way home. Returned to Grimsargh station & just after reaching it, up came Cookson, Rev T.A. P[eters]'s sec[retary], & gave me an adv[ertisemen]t. Got back home about 2 o'c[loc]k. Dinner. In af[ternoo]n did some gardening. Weather very hot. Left per 6.3pm train via Bolton for Wakefield. My daughter L[etty] set me to the station. On reaching Wakefield was met by son H[orace] & daughter M[abel]. Found all fairly right.[68]

Wednesday 22 July 1896 Office work all day.

Thursday 23 July 1896 Same. Very dull in job printing department. But then this is the flattest time of the year, & will be till end of August when the holidaying will be over. So we must make the best of matters. Have done ever so well – excellently in newspaper department – so far. I thank God for His help. Walter Phelps, printer's auctioneer, Birmingham, gave me a call, & we had a long chat.[69]

Friday 24 July 1896 Office work all day. A little rain fell to-day. Finished work about 10.45pm.

68 WG Cookson, otherwise unidentified.
69 Walter Phelps (1843-98) of Hawkes and Phelps, Moor Lane, Birmingham.

Saturday 25 July 1896 Office in forenoon. To Kirkgate station about 3. The 3.22 train (express) nearly ¾ of an hour late. Left about 4; reached Manchester soon after 5; & at 5.19 – 4 minutes late – started for Preston, where I arrived about 6.17. Daughter L[etty] at station to meet me. On getting home found that my wife had been ill of bronchitis, but considerably better now. Tea. Then up street with daughter R[osaline]. Got various things. Called at W France's & had a long chat. W Huntington, tailor, Fishergate, & W.J. Parkinson (late of Myerscough House) dropped in, & we had a chat. Then I & daughter home.[70]

Sunday 26 July 1896 At home all day. In af[ternoo]n Mr E.H. Booth,* Avenham Tower, called, & we had a long chat. He is a shrewd, intelligent, agreeable man, with a strong steady eye on "the main chance." In the evening W France & his wife called, had a chat, & supper, &c. T.D. Clayton, butcher, Preston, died to-day. Age 65 – a decent fellow.[71]

Monday 27 July 1896 Nothing very special. In af[ternoo]n called at Free Library & borrowed copy (2 vols) of Sir Walter Scott's letters.[72]

Tuesday 28 July 1896 Gardening, &c. In af[ternoo]n I & my wife had a short walk in Park (Avenham) & a sit in it. Weather fairly nice. My wife not so well. To-day got her some Bovril, & some sole (fish). Went back to Wakefield per 6.15pm train from Preston. Miss Ayrton, an elderly lady, in my charge to Wakefield, where she has a brother &c, with whom she purposes staying a few days. At Wakefield station she was met by her brother, Mr Ayrton, formerly butcher at Preston. He & his wife have for some time been living at the "Wine Lodge" on Little Westgate, of which their son is manager. My son H[orace] & daughter M[abel] met me at the station.[73]

Wednesday 29 July 1896 Office work – hard – all day.

Thursday 30 July 1896 Same

Friday 31 July 1896 Office all day – chiefly proof reading. Finished work about 10.30pm.

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70 William Huntington (1832-1915), tailor and draper, 'a well-dressed kindly-hearted man, with a weakness for shallow-pated agnosticism' (26 September 1896).

71 Thomas Dent Clayton (1831-96).

72 Walter Scott, *Familiar Letters of Sir Walter Scott*, ed. David Douglas (Edinburgh: Douglas, 1894), vol. 1: http://hdl.handle.net/2027/hvd.32044086800729; vol. 2: http://hdl.handle.net/2027/hvd.32044090307950

73 Sarah Ayrton (b. 1832), sister of John Ayrton (1828-1913) and sister-in-law of Alice Ayrton (b. 1832), née Wade; their son Charles William Ernest Ayrton (1869-97) died in Wakefield the following year.

August

Saturday 1 August 1896 Office in forenoon. Robbs, a jobbing printer, leaves to-day. Son H[orace] gave him notice. R is not up to very much as a printer. Arranged as to his successor. Made arrangements with reporters as to certain work. In af[ternoo]n to Preston via Manchester. Train very late; but I was in plenty of time to get my connecting train to Preston. Many people going to Blackpool. In evening I & my wife up street. Called at W France's. Met WJ Parkinson (late proprietor Myerscough House) there. We had a long talk. He gave me some of his experiences in New Zealand (after being "sold up" at Myerscough. He had to do draining work, & be a farm servant – milk cows, &c &c – in New Zealand & did not stop there long. What a change from being at his fine residence in Myerscough. He is now an adulteration inspector (butter) in Lanc[ashir]e.[74]

Sunday 2 August 1896 In forenoon in house. In af[ternoo]n read a little of Buckle's Hist[ory] of Civilisation. In evening I & my wife had a short walk in the Parks. Met Councillor W Thompson & his wife – he sharp, bombastic & patronisingly conceited, she good looking, well-dressed but mentally only so & so. Af[terwar]ds I & my wife to Mr EH Booth's,* where we had a long chat & supper. Home about 11.[75]

Monday 3 August 1896 This forenoon I, my wife, daughter M[abel] & GC to Blackpool. Vast number of visitors – trippers &c &c. Every place throng – every public place I mean. Went on to the pier; saw amongst the great crowd there many Jews & Jewesses. After dinner had a ride in a bus round by Marton. Then on to Pier again (North pier); then tea; & in evening went for a short time to the Empire Theatre. Got home about 11; train being very late. Af[terwar]ds went to W France's to see if my daughters R[osaline] & L[etty] were there; they having been off with FF & a number of other young people on a picnic to Whitewell, through the Trough of Bowland, then by Scorton & home again. Daughters landed soon after I arrived at WF's & were taken home by FF. I home soon after. Dutton's funeral to-day.[76]

74 Possibly Charles Robbs (b. 1876) from Hull.

75 William Thompson (1836-1904), retired corn merchant, alderman and magistrate, 'a man of marked individuality ... chock full of local lore and reminiscence', according to his *Lancashire Daily Post* obituary; Betsy Thompson (1843-1901), née Sergeant.

76 GC is probably George Clarkson (c. 1870-1935), engineer fitter, Mabel's future husband; FF is probably Frederick William France (1860-1915), son of Hewitson's friend Will

Tuesday 4 August 1896 Gardening &c. Collected some rent in af[ternoo]n. In evening I & daughters M[abel] & L[etty] to Wakefield. Got there all right about 9.25pm.

Wednesday 5 August 1896 All day at office sub-editing, &c. To Leeds for a short time.

Thursday 6 August 1896 Sub-editing, &c. In evening I took my daughter M[abel] to the Opera House. Badly attended, good company. A comic piece.

Friday 7 August 1896 Office work all day. Finished about 10.45pm.

Saturday 8 August 1896 Office in forenoon. Business very quiet this week; but then this is usually a quiet time for inland business – people go off holidaying. In af[ternoo]n to Preston. Left Wakefield about 4.10pm; arrived at Preston about 6.15. Daughter R[osaline] met me. In evening we went up street.

Sunday 9 August 1896 During forenoon I looked round garden. In af[ternoo]n Mr EH Booth* called & we had a long, pleasant talk. In evening I & my wife had a walk.

Monday 10 August 1896 Attending to a few odds & ends. In the afternoon I, my wife & daughter R[osaline] to Southport, per West Lancashire Railway – fare there & back 1/- each. Southport – in front – very much improved since I was last there, about 16 years ago. Then an awful expanse of sand in front; now an artificial lake, about one mile long – immediately in front of promenade. Large number of visitors. Very clean & dry the streets &c. Had a ride to end of pier – a long affair indeed; af[terwar]ds tea; then had a look at the shops; then a walk on the promenade. Lots of persons – including many females, young & old, anyhow in the fading or withering state, riding back & forward on bicycles. Home per 8.15pm train, being very favourably impressed with Southport.

Tuesday 11 August 1896 Gardening, &c, in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n, early, per train to Manchester on business. Left Manchester – very throng

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France; the funeral of James Dutton (c. 1821-96), slate manufacturer, teetotaller and Wesleyan, of Runcorn, Cheshire, took place on 11 August; Hewitson could have recorded the wrong date, but he had no obvious connection with this Dutton.

& hot & dingy – per 5.10 train. Reached Wakefield about 6.40. Found all well at home.

Wednesday 12 August 1896 At office all day. Not so well. Must have caught cold, yesterday or the day before.

Thursday 13 August 1896 This is my 60th birthday. Was born Aug 13/36. I thank God for all His goodness, mercies, & grace; & may He long continue same to me & may I worthily receive & use the same. My wife & daughter R[osaline] sent me a congratulatory letter; a couple of pairs of cuffs & three neck ties, as a gift from son H[orace]; a pair of cuff studs from son L[lewellyn]; a tie from daughters M[abel] & L[etty] along with a little note wishing me many happy returns of the day. I hard at work all day. At night ~~had a short walk with daughter M[abel]~~ doing some office writing.

Friday 14 August 1896 Office work – sub-editing & reading proofs, &c – all day till nearly 11 o'clock at night.

Saturday 15 August 1896 In forenoon from about 10.50 to 1.30 at office. In af[ternoo]n per train to Preston. During way read sundry pages of JY Nelson's "Fifty years on the trail." At Preston station saw Mrs Kirkby & her huge foreign semi-Chinese looking husband. She like a straw by the side of a milestone or blast furnace tower. At night I, my wife, & daughter R[osaline] up street. Town throng.[77]

Sunday 16 August 1896 In house in forenoon. Af[ternoo]n reading. In evening I & my wife had a walk to Penwortham church, to have a look at Mr John Cooper's grave. When we got there found gate locked. Determined that I would not go all that way for nothing I climbed over the iron railing & went to Mr Cooper's grave. Noticed that his wife is not interred in same vault, but at some place which if I remember rightly looked like "Brookwood." I & my wife walked back (on the way meeting F Hollins & his wife) to bottom of Fishergate Hill & then rode in tram car to a point opposite W France's. Got out & stayed for a while at WF's.[78]

77 John Young Nelson, *Fifty Years on the Trail: A True Story of Western Life* (London: Chatto & Windus, 1890), http://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.31822033833252; Mrs Kirkby and husband unidentified.

78 Frank Hollins (1843-1924), chairman of one of the biggest cotton spinners and

Monday 17 August 1896 Nothing very particular. Called on Mr EH Booth* in af[ternoo]n & got his order to print a small book, as per estimate, containing an account of his life.[79]

Tuesday 18 August 1896 Up street giving notice of appeal about assessment of house. In af[ternoo]n digging up weed [sic] in garden. Back to Wakefield per 6.15pm train from Preston. Son H[orace] & daughters M[abel] & L[etty] met me at W[ake]field station.

Wednesday 19 August 1896 Office. In forenoon to Leeds on some printing business. In af[ternoo]n reading proofs. At night preparing "copy."

Thursday 20 August 1896 Office work – sub-editing, editing, proof-reading all day. I writing at night.

Friday 21 August 1896 Same, more or less. Working till about 10.45pm. Business very quiet. This is the slack time of the year.

Saturday 22 August 1896 In forenoon office. In af[ternoo]n to station to catch 3.22 train to Manchester. It was 1 ¼ hours late. Owing to this I missed my train connection for Preston at Manchester & had to wait about 1 ¼ hour for another train. As we came from Wakefield to Manchester, noticed colours flying & streets decorated & an assemblage of people, including military, in a field south-west of Todmorden. All gay & rejoicing, Todmorden having received its charter of incorporation & celebrating the event to-day. The foundation stones of a free library laid to-day in Todmorden. Did not reach my home at Preston until about 8.40pm. Found my wife in bed, unwell – bronchitis again! Got her some articles for her relief.

Sunday 23 August 1896 Home all day. In af[ternoo]n Mr EH Booth* called & we had a long chat on all sorts of subjects. At night Mr & Mrs Bramwell* our neighbours came in, & stayed for a time. They were very nice & chatty. My wife was up. She is improving.[80]

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manufacturers in the world, Horrockses, Crewdson & Co., and Dora Hollins, née Cox (c. 1854-1934).

79 See 27 June 1896.

80 John James Bramwell (d. 1920), Conservative agent for the Fylde parliamentary division, secretary of the Winckley Club, member of Preston Scientific Society, keen

Monday 24 August 1896 Up street, gardening, &c.

Tuesday 25 August 1896 About same. To Wakefield at night.

Wednesday 26 August 1896 Office work at Wakefield.

Thursday 27 August 1896 Same.

Friday 28 August 1896 Same. Telephone put up in office to-day; rent of it, £10 per year.[81]

Saturday 29 August 1896 Office in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n to Preston. Train about an hour late at Wakefield. Whilst waiting at station up came my brother Will's wife,[82] from Barnsley where she had been a week with her parents. She was on her way home via Wakefield. I travelled in same compartment from Wakefield to Bury where she got out, her home being at Bury. At Bolton I had to wait about half an hour. Got to Preston at 7.50. Son H[orace], over from Wakefield, met me. Stayed in house nearly all the night.

Sunday 30 August 1896 In house all day. In evening W France & his wife called & stayed about 2 ½ hours; he & I talking, smoking &c.

Monday 31 August 1896 In af[ternoo]n I & my wife up street. Met Mrs Joe Foster, Broughton. She is an old swaggering creature – says "money is no object" &c &c; talks about cooks &c &c. In evening went into garden & stayed for about 2 hours, watching a young fellow pull up weed [sic] & delve.[83]

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bowler; Ellen Bramwell, née Watson (c. 1835-1915).

81 The number was Wakefield 103. Telephones became more useful in 1896, after the Post Office opened its own national network of cables in 1895, and earlier in 1896 it bought the cable network of the National Telephone Company, making calls beyond local areas much easier. The first phone book covering the whole of Britain was published in 1896, containing 81,000 numbers.

82 Emily Hewitson née Lister (1847-1929).

83 Mrs Foster unidentified.

September

Tuesday 1 September 1896 Up street two or three times. Sent cheque to treasurer of Lancs & Cheshire Antiquarian Society for subscription (10/6) for current year. To Wakefield per 6.15pm train. Days shortening. The fine evening view I used to have of the hills, meadows, the woods, Holme Hill &c, &c, now virtually gone. Landed at Wakefield at about 9.30. Horace & daughters M[abel] & L[etty] met me.

Wednesday 2 September 1896 At office nearly all day, sub-editing &c

Thursday 3 September 1896 Same. Writing notes at house at night.

Friday 4 September 1896 Office, editing, sub-editing &c. Finished work at about 11 o'c[loc]k.

Saturday 5 September 1896 In forenoon got a cheque cashed at London & Midland Bank. In af[ternoo]n to Preston per 3.22 train (very late) from Wakefield via Manchester. Son L[lewellyn] & daughter Letty with me. Got to Preston about 6.15. We (after tea) went up street. Shops, Arkwright, Orchard &c.

Sunday 6 September 1896 All day in house. Reading a little in af[ternoo]n. Then came Mr E H Booth* & we had a long miscellaneous chat. At night I & my wife to his house. Had supper. Af[terwar]ds Mr Booth showed me some of his paintings. One over the library mantel piece, representing Jesus Christ, a very large & good work of art. He said that Mr Rossi, a painter, had some time ago offered to get him a customer for it, for £4,000 but he declined to part with it for that sum & now regretted that he had not sold it.

Monday 7 September 1896 Ordinary miscellaneous work. Did a little sub-editing of Mr Booth's little book "Shadow & Sheen".

Tuesday 8 September 1896 Somewhat similarly occupied.

Wednesday 9 September 1896 Ditto & proof-reading for Wakefield Herald – proofs sent over to me.

Thursday 10 September 1896 Ditto Ditto

Friday 11 September 1896 To-day had a chat with four octogenarians – H[enr]y Pritt, artist; Paul Butler, corn merchant; Mr Greaves, for many years organist at Preston Parish Church; & Mr Green, long connected with one or more of the railway companies at Preston. A very cheerful lot – fond of an old anecdote or good story, & all "as fause [sic] as foxes"!![84]

Friday 11 September 1896 Same more or less. I am trying to get my sons to work the paper more by their own efforts, & not to ride on my back so fully & regularly. They are pretty good at work, but need more self-reliance.[85]

Saturday 12 September 1896 I & my wife left Preston for an outing to Scarborough per 11.5 forenoon train. At Wakefield son H[orace] & daughter L[etty] met us & had a chat with us for a few minutes. Af[terwar]ds on the route, passed York with its grey venerable minster towers. Much grain apparently spoiling through the wet weather. Beautiful pastoral & wooded district about Castle Howard. Malton a long old, quaint town. About 4pm reached Scarborough – a place standing high in the back & sloping gradually to the bay in front. Many shops, some being very good ones. Got lodgings, had tea, & then to a theatre.

Sunday 13 September 1896 In forenoon we had a walk in front of the beach. In af[ternoo]n to the Spa – a handsome structure fronted with a stone terrace immediately adjoining & facing the water. A great number of people paraded on the terrace – all sorts & all ages & displaying the most varied & fashionable dress, specially the females. As a rule females, young & old, are insane on the question of dress. At night we went to a sacred concert in the Aquarium. Singers &c the "Brescian Family". Good[86]

84 Paul Butler (1813-97) of Bairstow St; Jeremiah John Greaves (b. 1814); Green unidentified.

85 Hewitson has made two entries dated the same day, by mistake.

86 The Brescian Family 'orchestra and singers' were in reality the Hayward family, a successful light opera ensemble.

Monday 14 September 1896 At 10.15 this forenoon we went per steamboat to Whitby. A rugged, water-beaten coast. Got to Whitby in about 2 hours. Had to be taken from steamer up the harbour in a small row boat. Water too shallow for the steamer. Dredging neglected & harbour walls decaying. On getting into the town – a quaint red-roofed old place standing on each side of the harbour & the river Esk, went up a fearful lot of steps & then had a peep into the old church & the Abbey a little higher up. Church strong, heavy, old & cramped internally – anyhow, it had a jammed-up, hugger-mugger, circumscribed look. The Abbey greatly in ruins, but some fine walls & windows still standing. Its position – very high & exposed. Walls terribly weather-beaten; but from what I was told by the female "Keeper" living at a cottage hard by it stands the storms & wear of the weather excellently. Got back to Scarborough per same boat, about 5 pm. (PS on leaving Whitby Abbey & church went into Grape-st[ree]t, near the bridge, & saw a house therein at which Captain Cook was either born or resided for a time. A three-storey, good-looking house for the position. A stone in front bore three initial letters & the date 1688). At night to a concert &c in the Aquarium.

Tuesday 15 September 1896 Had a walk on the Esplanade – lofty, breezy, & commands an excellent view of Scarboro [sic] & the bay. At night to the Londesborough Theatre, & there saw Mr Irving's son take a part "Svengalli" in "Trilby". His acting good, but painful – somewhat over-done. Didn't care for the play; no intelligible moral. A sort of weird, mesmeric, psychological affair.[87]

Wednesday 16 September 1896 On the Esplanade in the forenoon. In af[ternoo]n down to the beach. In the evening to an entertainment.

Thursday 17 September 1896 We had a ride, this forenoon, in an open carriage, to & through New Scarboro & then through the town to North Scarboro, where we saw the old castle &c & the pier. In evening to the Spa Theatre where we saw enacted a capital piece called "Shamus O'Brien". Large company – about 60 performers.[88]

87 Sensational and very popular play, adapted from the George du Maurier novel (1894); Laurence Irving (1871-1914).

88 Romantic comic opera by Charles Villiers Stanford, set during the Irish Rebellion of 1798.

Friday 18 September 1896 This morning per 8.45 train to Wakefield. On the way had a peep at Kirkham Abbey ruins. Reached Wakefield about 11 o'c[loc]k. In af[ternoo]n reading proofs, &c at the office, & ditto till about 11 at night.[89]

Saturday 19 September 1896 Our wedding day anniversary. We were married on September 19th 1858 at Warton Church, near Carnforth.

Sunday 20 September 1896 In house all day. Read amongst other things the autobiography & sundry lectures of Lola Montez, the dancer, &c, &c.[90]

Monday 21 September 1896 Office in forenoon. At noon to Manchester, to Linotype Co's office, for a type mould, &c.[91]

Tuesday 22 September 1896 This forenoon bought some type &c at Milthorp's, Wakefield. At about 11 I & jobbing foreman (Coates) to Leeds to buy some type &c. Wet. Leeds looked dirty, throng; & dingily confused. My wife who has been staying at Wakefield house since Friday returned to Preston this af[ternoo]n. I set her off – K[irk]gate station.[92]

Wednesday 23 September 1896 Office work – proof reading, &c

Thursday 24 September 1896 Same & some Note writing at night.[93]

89 Kirkham Priory, north-east of York, ruined Augustinian priory dating from the 1120s.

90 Lola Montez and Charles Chauncey Burr, *Lectures of Lola Montez* (*Countess of Landsfeld*) *Including Her Autobiography* (New York: Rudd & Carleton, 1858), http://archive.org/details/lecturesoflolmon00burrrich

91 The Linotype mechanised typesetting machine, invented in 1886, revolutionised printing.

92 Probably James Knowlson Coates (1843-1908).

93 'Passing Notes', *WH*, 26 September 1896, p. 5, a series of short comments on current affairs, including a spiritual retreat of diocesan clergy (for); a farmers' relief fund (against); the success of the Conservative agent in the revision of voting lists; changes in Wakefield's shopfronts and streets; the Bishop of Wakefield's condemnation of the massacre of Armenian Christians (for); Gladstone's pronouncements on the same region (against); government funding of Church schools, and Queen Victoria's approaching diamond jubilee.

Friday 25 September 1896 Proof reading, sub-editing, & office supervision. A new machine man did his work very badly to-night. Best newspaper for adverts (upwards of £50 worth) we have ever had, & worst printed, very vexed.

Saturday 26 September 1896 This forenoon discharged the new machine man & re-engaged the old one (Glover). To Preston per 3.22 pm train. My wife met me at Preston station. After tea up street – called at J Hamilton's, & W France's. At latter's had a chat with W J Parkinson & W Huntington. The former is a blunt, John Bull sensible fellow; Huntington is a well-dressed kindly-hearted man, with a weakness for shallow-pated agnosticism.[94]

Sunday 27 September 1896 Home all day. Did some reading & some sleeping. Weather very bad.

Monday 28 September 1896 Per 9 morning train to Manchester. Went to Linotype Co's place, Hulme-st[ree]t, & made certain arrangements re linotype operators. Reached Wakefield about noon. Dinner – office. In af[ternoo]n to East Ardsley & engaged a linotype operator named Masterson.[95]

Tuesday 29 September 1896 Office. At about 11 to Leeds, with foreman Coates, & bought some type at Pallisters.

Wednesday 30 September 1896 Office. Sub editing, proof reading, &c

94 Probably Matthew Glover (b. 1836), printer; Hamilton was the landlord of Hewitson's house in Bank Parade, Preston (see 4 February 1896).

95 Ernest Masterson (b. 1875).

October

Thursday 1 October 1896 Same

Friday 2 October 1896 Same

Saturday 3 October 1896 Office, &c

Sunday 4 October 1896 In forenoon to office. In af[ternoo]n & evening occupied my time in reading.

Monday 5 October 1896 Office work

Tuesday 6 October 1896 D[itt]o

Wednesday 7 October 1896 D[itt]o

Thursday 8 October 1896 D[itt]o

Friday 9 October 1896 Office work all day till about 11.45pm.

Saturday 10 October 1896 [No entry]

Sunday 11 October 1896 At 9.50 to office, to read register papers. Very cold & I got cold. In af[ternoo]n read sundry pages of a very curious work called Vol 1 of "The Hat Crusade" compiled by the late Samuel Fox & the present Pickard -- of Flushing near Falmouth. To office for a short time. During evening had another go at "The Hat Crusade" book.[96]

Monday 12 October 1896 Register proof reading, &c. Have a bad cold.

Tuesday 13 October 1896 Same. At night accidentally upset my whiskey "night cap" & had to resort to some ale. Slept badly.

Wednesday 14 October 1896 Much noise this morning – "American devil" whistling, cows bellowing at cattle market &c. Sub-editing, editing, & proof reading. At night spent about three quarters of an hour at the Conservative club – in the reading room. Hardly anybody there. After reading I had a talk with the club keeper, a nice, agreeable man.[97]

96 Hewitson was probably proof-reading the electoral register, a printing job; Samuel Fox and Edward Pickard, *The Hat Crusade*, 3 vols (Pickard, 1896), https://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/103371699.

97 An American devil was a steam whistle or siren, used to signal the start and end

Thursday 15 October 1896 Office work – sub editing, editing, proof reading.

Friday 16 October 1896 To-day the sons of the arbitrators came (Walter Davies, Preston, & young Macredie, of Sheffield) to finally go through the books as to debts, contra a/cs [accounts] &c, I propose making the little devil Carr "sit up" if he does not return or pay for certain furniture & blocks &c he stole from the office before we purchased the Herald concern.[98]

Saturday 17 October 1896 Office this forenoon. In af[ternoo]n to Preston. My daughters R[osaline] & L[etty] met me at the station & the weather being wet, they had at once to put up two new umbrellas I had bought for them. At night I had a Turkish bath at a place in St George's r[oa]d. The proprietor knew me, through my going, years ago, to W Singleton's bath in Grimshaw S[ree]t. Two Russian Poles came while I was in. One of them very chatty & said that Poland was a beautiful country, but much tyrannised over by Russia & Austria. He praised England for its liberty.[99]

Sunday 18 October 1896 At home all day. In evening Mr EH Booth* called, & we had a long chat on all sorts of subjects. About 8 o'c[loc]k I & my wife went, by arrangement, to W France's, Fishergate, where we met Mr Thos Dewhurst,* auctioneer, & his wife. TD is a kindly, decent, semi-bumptious person. He is a JP & Town Councillor!! His wife is a large, stately, commanding, white-haired person. Stayed at WF's till late & so home.[100]

Monday 19 October 1896 Up street pretty early. Attended to some odd matters. In af[ternoo]n cleaned up part of the garden.

Tuesday 20 October 1896 Not so well. Stayed in bed till about 10. Then, after breakfast, called upon Mr EH Booth,* Tower House, & had a talk with him on business, social, humorous & other subjects for two hours. In af[ternoo]n up street. Reading a little at night.

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of work shifts at factories; Wakefield's cattle market was held every Wednesday, its corn market every Friday; the club steward was Geoffrey Stubbs (1848-1914).

98 A contra account included payments in kind.

99 Thomas Hambleton (1857-1938) from Doncaster; Poland was at that time partitioned by Russia, Austria and Germany.

100 Elizabeth Jane Dewhurst, née Alexander (1846-1917).

Wednesday 21 October 1896 Prepared some editorial & other matter for my Wakefield paper. To-night finished 3rd & last vol of Buckle's History of Civilisation. A very able work – the result of immense reading clearly. Footnotes most numerous – so numerous as to become a considerable bore, bugbear & torment – anyhow, a very heavy task in their perusal.

Thursday 22 October 1896 To-day did some work for the Wakefield paper.

Friday 23 October 1896 Ditto. At night I & my wife went to alderman Jas Hibbert's, East View. He has not been well – gout, &c. Found him better than I expected. We had a talk on various subjects, several pipes of tobacco, & I had the weakest glass of whiskey I ever drank in my life. Home about 10.

Saturday 24 October 1896 In forenoon up street with my wife. Ditto af[ternoo]n. Had a talk with Edward Edelston about old times – the high old smoking & talking performances at Mrs Welch's Temperance hotel, Lune S[ree]t, by John Thompson, Thos Edelston, John Park, Joe Dearden, Jack Wright, &c &c. In af[ternoo]n a funny sight – a drunken fiddler on Bank Parade. He leant against one of the iron rails, nodded as if going to sleep, then pulled out of his pocket a full bottle of whisky, never opened, with capsule on, & tried to drink it! But he couldn't well drink through the cork. He rolled across & asked us to uncork the bottle; but we declined; & so he rambled & rolled about for a while, & at length disappeared somewhere.[101]

Sunday 25 October 1896 All day at home.

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101 Edward Edelston (c. 1834-1916), yarn agent, temperance campaigner; Jennette Welch (1824-1901); John Thompson, journalist (see vol. 1, p. 16); Thomas Edelston (1830-99), brother of Edward, Liberal, solicitor (see vol. 1, 16 October 1872); probably John Park (b. 1800), bookseller of Pedder St; Joseph Dearden (1811-75), Corporation beadle, teetotal campaigner of national repute ('Reminiscences of the old cockpit, 23: Joseph Dearden', *PG*, 18 January 1890, p. 9), Wright unidentified. A report in the rival *Wakefield Express* paper on this day described how a reporter on Hewitson's *Herald* had been given information by the Wakefield and District Cricket Union, on the understanding that they would pass it on to other newspapers, but they had not. In a possible dig at the Hewitsons as outsiders, the *Express* commented that 'people who resort to such tactics will not in this way commend themselves to fair minded Yorkshiremen' (*WE*, 24 October 1896, p. 5).

Monday 26 October 1896 To-day planted about 25 young rose trees in garden.

Tuesday 27 October 1896 Wet. Not so well. Got a sort of influenza cold. Read newspapers, &c.

Wednesday 28 October 1896 This af[ternoo]n had a Turkish bath, at the Lark Hill place. Proprietor told me that since my last bath there he had made himself a bankrupt; this being his story – that a while ago he went to see a married relative at Chorley; that he was induced to stay all night at this relative's house; that next day, on getting back to his home at Preston, his wife "carried on" heavily, found much fault, went over to Chorley, pitched into the wife of the relative referred to, said she was "no better than she ought to be" &c; that a writ for slander or defamation was af[terwar]ds issued against his (bath man's) wife – he being made a co-defendant; that judgment was allowed to go against them by default – damages one farthing, costs about £50; that rather than meet this verdict, he made himself a bankrupt – some friends buying-in the bath fixtures &c for him – & the Chorley "relative" had to pay the costs himself. John Metcalfe (hot water man) was at the bath. He is going to marry the landlady of the Bull Hotel. Was he trying to brace himself up for the occasion? He is, I should say, 50 years old, at least.[102]

Thursday 29 October 1896 Prepared & sent off copy &c to Wakefield. At night, I, my wife, & daughters R[osaline] & L[etty] to Theatre Royal, where we saw the Comic opera "The Gondoliers" performed by some local amateurs. Biggish house, Parts well taken.

Friday 30 October 1896 Got copy &c ready & despatched it to Wakefield. During the af[ternoo]n I & my wife looked in at the Harris Free Library (museum part) & while there Mr & Mrs Fitzherbert Brockholes, of Claughton Hall, came in, shook hands, & were very pleasant.

Saturday 31 October 1896 Up town this forenoon; called at H Davies's re Wakefield business. Again up town in af[ternoo]n. At night read considerably in Blackwood's Magazine &c.

102 John Metcalf (b. 1846) and Ellen Williams (b. 1854) née Nash were married in June 1897.

November

Sunday 1 November 1896 Disinfected drains, &c with a solution of permanganate of potash. Whilst lifting an article in cellar, to do some disinfecting, strained my back & felt my old enemy "lumbago." Tightened my back belt. At night had my back rubbed with an embrocation.

Monday 2 November 1896 Bad in my back. In house all day.

Tuesday 3 November 1896 Same. Read a little. Wrote some Literary Notices for W[akefield] Herald.[103]

Wednesday 4 November 1896 Mainly same. Weather frosty. Did a little writing for W[akefield] Herald.

Thursday 5 November 1896 Reading proofs, &c.

Friday 6 November 1896 Revising MS [manuscript] & took it to station for 11.5 forenoon train to W[akefield]. Frosty weather. My lumbago is getting better. Read, in evening, Carlyle's first lecture on "Heroes."[104]

Saturday 7 November 1896 Lumbago practically gone. Wet, miserable day. In af[ternoo]n my son H[orace] came from Wakefield. Met him at the railway station. All right.

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103 This single column (*WH* 7 November 1896, p. 3) included summaries and appraisals of magazines (*Cornhill, Blackwood's* –'first-rate' – *The Century, St Nicholas, Macmillan's, Pearson's*), partworks (*The Church of England, Electricity, The Young Ladies' Journal*) and books (*A Book of Old English Ballads* by Hamilton Wright Mabie and George Wharton Edwards [Macmillan, 1896], https://www.google.co.uk/books/edition/A_Book_of_Old_English_Ballads/Vf0vAAAAYAAJ, *The Sealskin Cloak* by Rolf Boldrewood [Macmillan, 1896], https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=uc1.$b112611&seq=7, a cheap edition of Frederick Marryat's *The Phantom Ship* [Macmillan, 1896], http://archive.org/details/phantomship00marruoft), *Round the Year: A Series of Short Nature-Studies* by Louis Compton Miall [Macmillan, 1896], https://www.google.co.uk/books/edition/Round_the_Year/EO04AAAAMAAJ and *Photograms of '96* [Dawbarn & Ward, 1896], a large volume of photographs selected from *Photogram Magazine*). If one multiplies the number of weekly newspapers carrying such reviews by their frequency of publication, it may be that nineteenth-century literary reviewing was an activity undertaken mainly by local newspapers, rather than in the 'New Grub Street' of Gissing's London.

104 Thomas Carlyle, *On Heroes, Hero-Worship, and the Heroic in History* (London: Chapman and Hall, 1840), https://ia601608.us.archive.org/28/items/thomascarlyleson00carl/thomascarlyleson00carl.pdf

Sunday 8 November 1896 In af[ternoo]n read one of Edwald's [sic] "Stories from the State Papers," & another after tea. In evening had a few games at draughts with my wife.[105]

Monday 9 November 1896 ~~Did some gardening this af[ternoo]n.~~ Writing Literary Notices. At night – from about 7 to 10 – I & my wife at Mr EH Booth's.* Found Mrs B by herself; had a pleasant talk with her; & at about 9 Mr B came in, & the conversation was very pleasantly kept up for about an hour.

Tuesday 10 November 1896 Nothing very special. Son H[orace] returned to Wakefield this forenoon per 9 train from Preston. At night read a little. Did some gardening this af[ternoo]n.

Wednesday 11 November 1896 In house main part of day. Not so well. Weather not congenial, though for the country or Kingdom generally it will no doubt be all right. Had a walk down North road for purpose of getting a gardener to do some work in our garden.

Thursday 12 November 1896 Sub-editing, &c, during portion of day.

Friday 13 November 1896 Sub-editing till 10.30 forenoon, & then took a parcel to station for 11.5 train to Wakefield. Remainder of day easy.

Saturday 14 November 1896 This forenoon called on Chitson, plumber; Hamilton, landlord of house; T Dewhurst,* auctioneer; J Clarke,* sol[icito]r, &c. In the evening daughter M[abel] arrived from Wakefield. Up street for a short time at night.[106]

Sunday 15 November 1896 Walked in procession of Mayor of Preston (Alderman H Davies) to Parish Church from Town Hall, this forenoon. Large congregation; a plain – rather too plain – straightforward sermon, by a Canon, from some place in Cheshire, who had a loud, harsh, unpleasant voice. After service returned, in procession, to Town Hall, stayed there a few minutes, had a little refreshment; left; at France's for a short time; then home to dinner. In af[ternoo]n read a little; at night

105 Alex Charles Ewald, *Stories from the State Papers* (London: Chatto & Windus, 1882), http://archive.org/details/storiesfromstate02ewal

106 Charles Chitson (1825-1905) of Frenchwood St.

W France & his wife came, & stayed awhile. W. Duesbury also called, & I had a very serious chat with him.[107]

Monday 16 November 1896 I & daughter R[osaline] to Wakefield, per 11.5 forenoon train from Preston. Cold, dull travelling. On passing Holme station I pointed out to R the fine old Hall in the valley – Holme Hall. Were met at Wakefield station, which we reached about 1.30pm, by son H[orace] & errand boy – latter for luggage. At office in af[ternoo]n.

Tuesday 17 November 1896 All day, except meal times, at office, reading proofs, &c.

Wednesday 18 November 1896 About same. Daughter R[osaline] not well; has caught cold.

Thursday 19 November 1896 Same

Friday 20 November 1896 Ditto

Saturday 21 November 1896 At office in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n reading papers & part of Rudyard Kipling's Soldier Stories. Old Rayne finished & left to-day.[108]

Sunday 22 November 1896 In forenoon & af[ternoo]n helping my daughter R[osaline], who though mending is weak. In evening read Kipling's Soldiers' Stories, &c. These stories are very rough.

Monday 23 November 1896 Office & sub-editing.

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107 Rev. Canon Arthur Phidias Holme (c. 1835-1909) of Great Budworth, Cheshire, whose horse and favourite dog were destroyed, at his request, a month after his death (*Manchester Evening News,* 24 April 1909, p. 4); Walter Hubert Duesbury (b. c. 1871), who may have asked permission to marry Hewitson's daughter Rosaline, then aged 20; they wed on 31 October 1898.

108 Rudyard Kipling, *Soldier Stories* (London: Macmillan, 1896), https://www.google.co.uk/books/edition/Soldier_Stories/usceAAAAMAAJ; probably John Rayne (1816-97), book keeper for Isaac Briggs & Sons, worsted manufacturers; his son was a reporter on the *Wakefield Express* (*WE,* 10 April 1897, p. 8), and his son-in-law and grandson were both compositors.

Tuesday 24 November 1896 D[itt]o & d[itt]o. A man named Owen, from Carnarvon, whom we engaged as news & jobbing hand & maker-up of the paper, & to whom we advanced £1, turned up this evening very drunk. He said he would be at the office at 8 next morning. A bad beginning. Man evidently unreliable.[109]

Wednesday 25 November 1896 D[itt]o d[itt]o. Owen did not turn up. A good job, I believe. He would no doubt whatever, if he had started work, have got drunk again & perhaps have put us in a serious corner with respect to the paper.

Thursday 26 November 1896 Same.

Friday 27 November 1896 Same. Coates, the jobbing hand, with assistance, made-up the paper.

Saturday 28 November 1896 Home – Preston – per train from Wakefield about 3.25. My wife & daughter L[etty] met me at Preston station. A cold, fine evening. Talked, read papers, &c after tea. Shortly after 8 Mr EH Booth* called, & stopped chatting till nearly 10.

Sunday 29 November 1896 In house all day. Reading in af[ternoo]n & evening.

Monday 30 November 1896 Up street, called on Davies, accountant, paid poor rate for house, on new assessment of £29. ~~At night Mr E H Booth called & we had a long, miscellaneous chat.~~

109 Owen unidentified.

December

Tuesday 1 December 1896 Odds & ends. At night Mr E H Booth* called & we had a long, miscellaneous chat.

Wednesday 2 December 1896 This evening "Rev" T A Peters, of St John's College, Grimsargh, called on me, by appointment, & I assisted him in revising an advertisement, a departmental prospectus, &c., which we have to print for him. He is a very decent fellow, but his nose is getting too big & too red. At 6.30 I, my wife, & daughters M[abel] & L[etty] to Mr Booth's* to tea. Stayed a good while. Conversation, &c, &c.

Thursday 3 December 1896 To-day sold my old printing premises, 21, Cannon-st[ree]t, Preston, to Mr Thomas Dewhurst,* auctioneer &c, Preston, for £937-10.0 or £137-10-0 more than I paid for them about 13 years ago. These premises or a portion of them, formed the original Preston Mechanics Institution, & here the late Professor Tyndal[l], while attending an experimental lecture by the late Dr Corless, of Preston, received his "first scientific impulse". So the Professor said in "The Forum". Singular to say, I still own a building, near top of Cannon-st[ree]t – the fish & game shop of Mrs Bramwell forming the base of it, in which Professor Tyndal[l] learned to dance. This was in or about 1842, when Tyndal[l] was on the Ordnance Survey staff at Preston.[110]

Friday 4 December 1896 Sub-editing, as I have done occasionally during the week, for our Wakefield newspaper. Sent off two parcels to Wakefield per train, & telephoned to the office in the af[ternoo]n. My daughters M[abel] & L[etty] to the Charities Ball this evening; mother &c accompanying them to the ball room – Public Hall.

110 John Tyndall (1820-93), scientist: see vol. 1, 10 February 1881; Tyndall gave an address, 'My schools and schoolmasters', at the Birkbeck Institution in October 1884, which was widely reported; William Corless (1811-64) delivered two lectures at the Institution for the Diffusion of Knowledge in November and December 1842; Alice Bramwell (1841-1915).

Saturday 5 December 1896 Jobbing about. In af[ternoo]n up street. Met son H[orace] from Wakefield who arrived at 4.20 per train. Reading at night

Sunday 6 December 1896 In house all day. At night, after reading or finishing Neopolitan & Camorra stories, had a game of draughts with my wife. Soon after 8 o'c[loc]k, Mr E H Booth* called, & had an hour's chat with us. Wet day.

Monday 7 December 1896 A very wet day. Nothing special. Wrote about ½ col[umn] of Literary Notices for W[akefield] Herald.

Tuesday 8 December 1896 Odds & ends. Nothing in particular.

Wednesday 9 December 1896 This af[ternoo]n got from Starr Bowkett Building Soc[iet]y, Preston, deeds of 21 Cannon-st[ree]t, Preston & took them to Mr. T. Dewhurst,* for conveyance purposes. I don't – after experience – reckon much of the Starr Bowkett Building Soc[iet]y principle. They profess to let you have, on appropriation, so much money without interest. But this is all fudge. They get the interest by an indirect method. At night proof-reading.[111]

Thursday 10 December 1896 Reading proofs & sub-editing. In evening went to see "Rev" T. A. Peters, "St John's College", Grimsargh, on printing business. By train to Grimsargh station. William, or rather "Will". Blackhurst, solicitor, of Preston, rode in same compartment to Grimsargh, where he has for some years resided. He is 70 years old, is wonderfully sharp, & equally smutty, for his years. On Preston station platform, waiting for a Blackpool train, we saw – Humber (Tom Humber, I think he is called), barrister. Blackhurst talked a lot about him – s[ai]d he was 6 months older than H[umber], that they were lads together, & that a little while ago H[umber] dined him twice, very furiously, & tried to "screw" him with wine, &c., but c[oul]d not. Found Mr Peters very free. He showed me some excellent carved old oak furniture. Had a glass & a pipe with him. After business back home about 8.30. Wet.[112]

111 Building societies operating on the Starr Bowkett model charged subscription fees rather than interest.

112 William Blackhurst (1826-1904), solicitor; see vol. 1, 16 January 1884; Thomas

Friday 11 December 1896 ~~To day had a chat with four octogenarians. H J Pritt, artist; Paul Butler, corn merchant; Mr Greaves, for many years organist at Preston Parish Church; & Mr Green, long connected with one or more of the railway companies Goods Department, I think at Preston.~~ Proof reading, sub-editing, up street – tax business – &c. In af[ternoo]n Sub-editing, then up street. At night I, my wife & daughters M[abel] & L[etty] played at whist for a while.

Saturday 12 December 1896 This forenoon I & my wife up street; she to market, I to W. France's with a pair of boots to mend. A young sandy-moustached, spectacled man (Dr Cookson) in shop. He has taken late Dr Kerr's practice in Moor-lane. Procter's son, of Dolphinholme called at shop, which I was in, & bought a pair of leggings. In af[ternoo]n reading newspaper. At night reading & af[terwar]ds played cards with my wife & two daughters M[abel] & L[etty].[113]

Sunday 13 December 1896 In house all day. Read some pages of Dr Jessopp's "Arcady – For Better for Worse". Evening had a game at draughts with my wife. About 8 Mr Booth* called & stayed chatting for about an hour.[114]

Monday 14 December 1896 In house, up street, read some of Jessopp's "Arcady".

Tuesday 15 December 1896 Ditto. Finished Jessopp's "Arcady" A good, sensible readable book.

Wednesday 16 December 1896 Up street. Rev. T. A. Peters, Grimsargh, called, & asked me to put a preface & a conclusion to an address on "Duty" which he has to deliver to his students to-morrow evening. Wrote same for him & posted ditto. At night proof reading. My daughters M[abel] &

Humber (1827-1900), whose estate was worth £143,579 when he died.

113 Joseph Cookson (1868-1925), who later lived at Moss Cottage, Fylde Rd; Arthur Thomas Henry Kerr (d. 1896), surgeon; probably Richard Procter (1856-1919), son of Matthew Procter (1832-1914), both grocers.

114 Augustus Jessopp, *Arcady, for Better for Worse: A Study of Rural Life in England* (London: TF Unwin, 1887), http://archive.org/details/arcadyforbetter00jessgoog

L[etty] to a ball given by their dancing mistress (Miss Woolley) in Bull Hotel Assembly Room.[115]

Thursday 17 December 1896 An earthquake was felt this morning. My two daughters after they had come from ball & had been in bed a while felt it. The shock was, as it was reported during the day, felt by numerous people. Sub-editing, proof reading, &c

Friday 18 December 1896 Sub-editing. In evening had a play at cards with my wife & two daughters. To-day read a few pages of Pepys' Diary.

Saturday 19 December 1896 To Butter Market in morning with my wife. In af[ternoo]n read newspaper & some pages of Pepys' Diary. At night card playing with my wife & daughters M[abel] & L[etty].[116]

Sunday 20 December 1896 All day at home. At night played at draughts with my wife.

Monday 21 December 1896 Got up a leading article on Christmas for W. Herald & despatched it per post at night. Read a little in Pepys' diary.

Tuesday 22 December 1896 Proof reading &c.

Wednesday 23 December 1896 Same a little while. In af[ternoo]n out shopping with my wife. Ascertained that my daughter Letty had passed her Senior Trin[ity] Col[lege] Examination in pianoforte playing. Mr Adkins, her teacher, informed us of this. We thought she might have passed with honours, she being very well up in her music; but perhaps she was nervous, or the examiner was very exacting.[117]

Thursday 24 December 1896 Bothering about more or less all day. In evening my sons E[thelbert], H[orace] & L[lewellyn], & daughter R[osaline], from Wakefield came for Christmas. All well.

115 Alice Eliza Woolley (1868-1939), still giving dancing classes in 1926 (*LDP,* 1 October 1926, p. 1).

116 The butter market was held outside the Public Hall on Lune St, Preston.

117 James Edward Adkins FRCO (1868-1939), parish church organist 1890-1929.

Friday 25 (Christmas Day) December 1896 This morning had a walk, after breakfast round Avenham & Miller Parks; af[terwar]ds I & sons E[thelbert] & L[lewellyn] had a walk over Penwortham Holm[e] down as far as the Ribble "new diversion", then up to Penwortham Church, inspecting amongst others the tombstones over graves of my old friend John Cooper, of the Oaks, Penwortham (towards south-west corner), John Horrocks, founder or father of Preston Cotton trade (south-east side of & near the church), & William Whelon, once a great man at Lancaster, who died in a sad way in the Wyre estuary, off Fleetwood, about 33 years ago (near east end of church). Then home to dinner – roast beef, ducks, chicken, plum pudding &c. Nine of us sat down – I, my wife, sons E[thelbert], H[orace] & L[lewellyn], daughters M[abel], R[osaline] & L[etty] & George Clarkson. In af[ternoo]n a little reading & sleep; at night we all played at cards & spent the time pleasantly.[118]

Saturday 26 December 1896 This forenoon I, son E[thelbert] & G[eorge] C[larkson] had a walk for about a mile over tramway bridge, towards ~~Penwortham side~~ Bamber Bridge, in af[ternoo]n went into Orchard; at night I & sons E[thelbert] & L[lewellyn] played at dominos & cards.

Sunday 27 December 1896 Had a walk this forenoon with sons E[thelbert] & L[lewellyn] by the Ribble side (north side) as far as Walton bridge. When a short distance from bridge pointed out to them the site of its immediate predecessor, 80 or 100 yards lower down the river; also showed them the route or course of the old road, on north side, which communicated with this same bridge, & ~~do~~ down the brow of which to or upon, or over the bridge, the back of the Royalist forces was broken by the Parliamentary troops in August 1648. Home by way of Frenchwood (now much built on) & Oxford-st[ree]t. In af[ternoo]n reading; at night Mr Booth* called & we had a long talk.

118 William Whelon (d. 1865), secretary of the Little North-Western Railway, former mayor, was found drowned, hours after he was dismissed for suspected fraud.

Monday 28 December 1896 Went to station with sons H[orace] & L[lewellyn] who left for Wakefield per 8.8 morning train. Clarkson off to Rotherham per same train. Son E[thelbert] & daughter M[abel] left for Wakefield by 9 train.

Tuesday 29 December 1896 Nothing extra.

Wednesday 30 December 1896 Sub-editing, reading proofs, &c. Called at Paul Butler's Bairstow-st[ree]t, to inquire how he was. He has been in failing health for a considerable time, & a few weeks ago had a paralytic seizure. He is upwards of 80 years of age. For about 20 years he was on the Preston Town Council. He retired a few years ago. I printed his first municipal election address – the work was done on a Sunday! At that time Paul was a sort of second-rate "pillar of the church" in connection with the Methodist Free Church in the Orchard, Preston. Ever since I have known Paul I have found him a quiet, decent, proper-going man – in later years fond of a gossip & not averse to a glass of whiskey. In reply to my inquiry to-day, the servant who came to the door s[ai]d that he was unable to get out of bed.[119]

Thursday 31 December 1896 Working for W. Herald – sub-editing, &c. In evening my wife had a party of female friends to tea &c. I busy all evening about a parcel from W. Herald. It turned up by post about 10 pm. From 10.45 to 11.57 I & my wife throng reading proofs. Then I went out of front door, remained on step till ~~12~~ the Town Hall clock struck 12, then said a short prayer, or made one, then "let in the New Year," shook hands with my wife, wishing her a Happy New Year, & giving her a kiss. Af[terwar]ds proof reading for a while. Had subsequently a smoke & a glass; & then to bed.[120]

(I thank God for all his goodness & kindness to me & mine during the past year).

119 Paul Butler (1812-97), corn miller and merchant, Liberal councillor, his was the first business in Preston to install a telephone, in 1881 (*LDP,* 14 March 1947, p. 3).

120 This is the only mention of Margaret Hewitson assisting with editorial work.

1898 (fragment)

Hewitson continued to keep a diary, but only one page survives from 1898, tipped into the back of the 1906 diary, containing six entries from late October and early November.[1] His three sons continued to produce the *Wakefield Herald* (fig. 5), which seems to have been profitable (advertising takes up almost half of each week's eight pages); a pencilled note against the 18 April 1896 entry says that on 2 January 1897 Hewitson had repaid £900 of the £4,500 he had borrowed to take full control of the paper. He still sub-edited and proof-read material from his home in Preston, usually on a Friday. He continued his grudge against former business partner Charles William Carr, issuing a county court summons against him over a disputed shilling. In court, in January 1897, Horace said of Carr, 'I wouldn't trust him as far as I could throw him'.[2] Carr purchased a rival paper, the *Wakefield Echo* (est. 1876), around this time, running it as a politically neutral paper, until 1905.

There was the usual bickering between rival newspapers. In April 1897 the *Wakefield Express* gleefully reported that Hewitson's *Herald* (mocked as the 'Wakefield Trumpeter') had dismissed a reporter for selling stories based on confidential council committee minutes to other papers.[3] In the same month, the *Express* reported with obvious enjoyment that the Poor Law Guardians were unhappy with the quality of Hewitson's printing of their minutes—one Guardian, Mr Muirhead, describing it as 'abominable'. Hewitson fired a letter back, threatening to sue if Muirhead did not apologise; the chairman described this reply from Hewitson as 'a very insulting and ungentlemanly letter'.[4]

Three of his children were married in 1898: Horace, aged thirty, Mabel,

1 Tipped into 1906 diary, DP512/1/14, Lancashire Archives.
2 *Wakefield Free Press*, 16 January 1897.
3 *WE*, 24 April 1897, p. 2.
4 *WE*, 1 May 1897, p. 2.

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twenty-three, both in January, and Rosaline, twenty-one, in October. Horace's wife, Elizabeth Ellen Harrison, died seven months after their wedding, in August 1898, of cholera at the age of twenty-seven.[5]

Hewitson's interest in local history and topography did not extend to Wakefield: he continued his membership of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society, but did not join equivalent Yorkshire societies, and his library contained only half a dozen books of Yorkshire history. Neither did he involve himself in public life in Wakefield, as he had done to some extent in Dewsbury. A further sign of Hewitson's commitment to Preston rather than Wakefield was his election as a Preston Conservative councillor in a by-election for Christ Church ward, in April 1898.[6] Hewitson only had six months on the council before he had to stand for re-election in November. He could be described as part of the 'shopocracy' who began to replace mill owners and other captains of industry as councillors at the end of the century, 'men of lesser ability and imagination', who tended to challenge 'any improvement plans that would increase the rates payable.'[7]



Fig. 5. Edwin J Walker, Photograph of *Wakefield Herald* office, Westgate, Wakefield, during Queen Victoria's diamond jubilee in 1897; the three young men on the step are probably (from left) Horace, Llewellyn and Ethelbert Hewitson, courtesy of Martin Duesbury, CC BY.

5 *WE*, 27 August 1898, p. 8.
6 *LS*, 22 April 1898, p. 5.
7 David Daniels, 'The Watch Committee and the Committee System in Manchester and Salford', *Transactions of the Lancashire & Cheshire Antiquarian Society*, 115 (2024), 14–35 (p. 17).

October

Wednesday 26 October 1898 Proof-reading, sub-editing & canvassing for votes.

Thursday 27 October 1898 Proof-reading & sub-editing.

Friday 28 October 1898 Same, & in late aft[ernoo]n canvassing a little. Election speech tonight in C[hrist] C[hurch] school.

Saturday 29 October 1898 Up street in forenoon, canvassing in aft[ernoo]n. My wife's sister E[llen] H[all] & niece E[vy] H[all] & Walter Duesbury's brother Arthur arrived to-day for the wedding on Monday.[8]

Sunday 30 October 1898 In house all day till night when I went with a letter to General Post. (The reference in Friday's item to election meeting, means that I & D Ashcroft addressed a meeting of the burgesses of Christ Church Ward in Bow-lane school. Moderate attendance. At conclusion a "fit & proper" resolution in our favour was passed. Subsequently I, A.D. [sic] Aldermen Roper, & Walmsley, & Clegg, Councillors Foster & Craven to Alderman Clegg's, close by, & had some whiskey & a smoke.)[9]

Monday 31 October 1898 Very wet morning. Went to Allsup's engineering & ship-building works, Strand-road at 9.30 & saw the Manager as to using his legitimate influence with the men on our behalf at election to-morrow. At 11.30 to the Parish Church where my daughter Rosaline was married to Walter Duesbury by Canon Rawdon, the Vicar. The marriage party consisted of myself & my wife; Mr Arthur Duesbury

8 Evangaline Hall (1873-1949); Arthur Edward Duesbury (1867-1934), paint and varnish manufacturer.

9 Daniel Ashcroft (1833-1901), auctioneer, horse dealer, Hewitson's fellow sitting Conservative councillor, also up for re-election; William Bryham Roper (c.1838-1908), actuary for Preston Savings Bank, active in public life, Conservative; Benjamin Walmsley (1837-1904), Conservative, who once assaulted Hewitson with a copy of his own paper (vol. 1, 5 January 1884); James Clegg (c. 1828-99), confectioner, who had served as a Conservative Christ Church councillor since 1877; his election as alderman in 1898 had created the by-election which Hewitson won; James Yates Foster (1856-1941), Conservative, head of a newspaper machine engineering firm; James Craven (c. 1851-1920), Conservative, solicitor.

(best man for his brother, his sister Ada a bridesmaid, my son Ethelbert best man for his sister, my daughter Letty, a bridesmaid; my son Horace; my brother William & his wife; my wife's sister Ellen & her daughter, Evy. The weather seemed to specially favour us. For it became dry and bright just before our going to church, a band of sunshine streamed down & all was fair for us on the back journey. Had lunch, all of us with the addition of RB [Robert Blackmore?]. Toasts, speeches, &c. At 2.30pm Walter & Rose went off north on their honeymoon. We, left at home lot I mean, spent aft[ernoo]n & evening in singing, playing &c &c. Son H[orace] returned at about 5.15 to Wakefield; Walter's brother Arthur returned about 6.30 to Dudley; brother W[illiam] & his wife returned to Bury about 9pm.[10]

Tuesday 1 November 1898 Municipal election day. The great bulk, if not indeed all the respectable and intelligent and really sensible people in Christ Church ward voted for me, and many of them would do so in respect to D Ashcroft. But Ashcroft, my colleague, was "in bad odour" – a great feeling against him as to his supposed jobbery in respect to buying horses for the Corporation, ill treatment of the widow of a Corporation carter, and objectionable line of action towards Preston cattle dealers – the great mass of it, in my opinion, unwarranted) & these things coupled with the fact that the Conservative organisation was very bad in the most populous part of ...[11]

[end of fragment]

10 Ada Alice Jane Duesbury (1875-1950); probably Robert Blackmore (b. 1874), who married Letty Hewitson the following year. His grandson, Robert Hewitson Blackmore, sold these diaries to Lancashire Archives in 2006. The wedding card is tipped into the front of the 1906 diary. The diary entry about the wedding may have been the reason for keeping this single page of the 1898 diary.

11 Hewitson and his running mate Ashcroft were defeated by two Independent councillors who opposed spending on the new dock development scheme (Hewitson had been vehemently against the scheme in the past, but was now associated with it through the party he represented: *LDP,* 28 October 1898, p. 2). Hewitson polled 595 votes, Ashcroft 434, defeated by Thomas Houghton, a pub landlord of Bow Lane (817 votes) and Edwin James Andrew, an architect (815), *LDP,* 2 November 1898, p. 4.

1900 (fragment)

Another fragment, two loose sheets from the 1900 diary, is also tipped in to the back of the 1906 diary, covering seven days in August and seven in December.[1] We will probably never know why these pages survived and the rest did not. However, if there was ever an 1899 volume, the actions of Horace and Llewellyn might explain its destruction.

Llewellyn, aged twenty-five, the youngest of the three brothers, married his first cousin Lily Hewitson, who was two years older, in early 1899, and they set up home in Wakefield. Family tradition says that her father, William Hewitson, was unhappy about the marriage. A less controversial wedding took place in July 1899, when Letitia, aged twenty, married Robert Blackmore, twenty-five, an electrical engineer, in Preston.

Meanwhile, back in Wakefield, Horace, now a widower, had been lodging with the Bloomfield family in Quebec St since late 1898. The household comprised William Edward Bloomfield, employed as a scripture reader at Wakefield cathedral, his wife Alice Elizabeth, née Christmas, their daughter Mary, and Mrs Bloomfield's sister. In October 1899, three weeks after Horace moved out, Mrs Bloomfield was woken by her husband's heavy breathing; his hands were crossed on his chest, with the bedclothes pulled up to his neck, a revolver lay on the quilt nearby, and he was bleeding from a head wound. This was what she told the inquest the next day, where the jury gave a verdict of suicide. Three weeks later, on 21 October, after cashing in her husband's life insurance policy, Mrs Bloomfield, along with her former

1 Tipped into 1906 diary, DP512/1/14, Lancashire Archives.

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lodger Horace, her sister and her daughter, set sail on the *Campania* under assumed names, from Liverpool to New York, where she and Horace were married.[2]

These events created a huge scandal in Wakefield, and Horace never returned to his job as commercial manager of the *Wakefield Herald*. Presumably he was replaced, as there is no discernible change in the amount of advertising after he left. However, the scandal would not have helped the business reputation of the *Herald*.

Hewitson still sub-edited, proof-read and made occasional contributions to the *Herald*, but as his sons took on more of the work, he withdrew, down to one day a week editing and proof-reading by 1900. Instead, his main literary activity in 1899 and 1900 was the writing of a weekly series of articles in the *Preston Guardian* from March 1899 to February 1900, 'Northward: Historic, Topographic, Residential, and Scenic Gleanings, &c, between Preston and Lancaster'. This popular series was republished as a book in 1900. It is a detailed collection of descriptions, history and myth, in Hewitson's irreverent style, about each village, hamlet and almost every field along a 20-mile route between the two towns. It became Hewitson's most popular book, and was reprinted in 1969, 1993 and 2003. In every place he mentions, it is possible to find someone today who knows by heart Hewitson's opinion of their village.

2 *Yorkshire Post*, 9 October 1899; *Sheffield Independent*, 30 October 1899, p. 4; *WE* 28 October 1899 (see story copied into *Yarmouth Mercury*, 4 November 1899, p. 6, including Horace's letter defending his conduct); *Wakefield Free Press*, 28 October 1899, p. 5.

August

Thursday **16 August 1900** Miscellaneous

Friday 17 August 1900 Sub-editing, &c

Saturday 18 August 1900 Up street two or three times & called at Con[servative] Club news room.

Sunday 19 August 1900 Home all day. Read 1st & 2nd Epistles of St Peter & some pages of Geo Saintsbury's Life of John Dryden. Had a game at cards with my wife at night.[3]

Monday 20 August 1900 Preston annual holiday began to-day. A stupid unnecessary affair, seeing that they come shortly after the August Bank Holiday. Far too many holidays have got into our present English life. Work, not holidaying, was the thing that first made England. More work – good work – should be our motto.

Tuesday 21 August 1900 Miscellaneous

Wednesday **22 August 1900** To Wakefield, to look after affairs &c at office during absence of son E[thelbert] on his holiday. At night to Theatre. Moderately good melodrama entitled "The Span of Life."

3 George Saintsbury, *Dryden* (London: Macmillan, 1881), http://hdl.handle.net/2027/coo1.ark:/13960/t6737b12v

December

Thursday 13 December 1900 This aft[ernoo]n I & my wife to the Mayor (Alderman Roper) & Mayoress's "At Home," in the Guild Hall.[4] A large – very large – gathering; all in at the thing "to see and be seen." Music; light refreshments. Sociable company, on the whole. Nobody in particular there. All the old, first-class lot appear to have died off. ~~At night~~ We left at 4.45pm. At night to distribution of prizes (by Sir Geo Kekewich, Sec of Education Department, London) to Harris Institute students. A great audience. Couldn't hear Sir George's speech – he didn't talk loud enough. Fletcher, rector of Tarleton, made a good, clear, smiling, sensible speech. A large lot of singers in the rear of platform and they sang well to organ accompaniments.[5]

Friday 14 December 1900 Sub-editing; Con[servative] Club news room; reading at home; called at Mrs Shorrocks's at night for my wife.[6]

Saturday 15 December 1900 Ordinary

Sunday 16 December 1900 In aft[ernoo]n read a portion of Genesis. ~~At night to Fulwoo~~

Monday 17 December 1900 This evening to Fulwood – to W[illiam] L[ivesey]'s and daughter Rose's.

Tuesday 18 December 1900 Did a little cleaning and clearing up in the garden. In the evening as I was passing two men in Friargate I heard one of them (dressed in a black mackintosh on which were painted a lot of letters about waterproof & rubber goods, as supplied by the London Rubber Co Ltd) deliver himself thuswise: "I'm tired of this bloody job; I wish I had my old one – sitting as Father Christmas back again." (Last Xmas he sat in a shop window in Fishergate, dressed up as old Father Christmas.)

Wednesday 19 December 1900 Cleaning up portions of garden. ~~In evening up street & whilst passing two men in Friargate~~ At 8pm went per tram car to Ashton-on-Ribble for my wife who had gone in aft[ernoo]n to tea at Mrs Brown's (widow of W Brown, lithographer &c, Preston) in Powis-road. After some inquiry found the house. We talked & played cards & I had a little brandy & water – this being the only spirit in the house. Got home about 11 o'cl[oc]k.[7]

[end of fragment]

4 A room in the town hall.
5 Sir George William Kekewich (1841-1921); Rev. Robert Crompton Fletcher (1850-1916), county alderman.
6 Shorrock, unidentified.
7 Margaret Ann Brown (1839-1917) née Andrew, William Brown (b. 1836), engraver.

1906

The next surviving volume is for 1906. In the intervening years, Anthony and Margaret Hewitson moved from Bank Parade, Preston, to rent 7 Queen's Rd, Fulwood, Preston, presumably to be near their daughter Rosaline, who lived at no. 2. Ethelbert and Llewellyn remained in Wakefield, running the *Wakefield Herald;* their sisters Mabel and Letty had also been living in Wakefield until the former moved to Manchester, the latter to Stalybridge. Florence was in London, doing pioneering work as a veterinary nurse, and Horace was in Manchester.

Hewitson, now semi-retired, indulged his interests in literature and history; he was chairman of the Preston Scientific Society's literary section, and contributed historical articles to the *Preston Guardian*.[1] These included extracts from a crown court clerk's book of sentences at Lancaster assizes, 1736–1822 (27 April–22 June 1901), which seems to have been in private hands; Hewitson's selections are the only trace of this document in the public domain, one example of the value of antiquarian and historical writing in the local press. His annotated extracts from the Preston Court Leet records, administrative records dating back to the seventeenth century (16 November 1901–19 September 1903) were revised and republished in book form in 1905, subsidised by Preston Corporation. In the preface to the book version, Hewitson thanks, among others, James Tait (1863–44), Professor of Ancient and Medieval History at the Victoria University, Manchester, for checking his notes. Such co-operation between local antiquarians like Hewitson and 'professional' historians in the relatively new world of university history departments was not unusual. In 1905 Hewitson began work on a complete edition of the diary of Thomas Bellingham (c. 1646–1721), an officer under William III who had lived for a time in Preston. This

1 *PG*, 12 January 1901.

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involved visiting Sir Henry Bellingham, descendant and owner of the diary, at Castlebellingham, County Louth, Ireland. Hewitson was still a member of the Lancashire & Cheshire Antiquarian Society, but rarely published the results of his research in their annual *Transactions*, or in other scholarly journals – perhaps because they did not pay, unlike the *Preston Guardian*.

Hewitson continued to do a little sub-editing for the *Wakefield Herald*, leaving the day-to-day management of the paper to his sons Ethelbert and Llewellyn. Both sons were described as 'newspaper proprietors' in the 1902 *Wakefield Express* trade directory, but their paper, the *Herald*, still carried their father's name in its imprint: 'Anthony Hewitson & Sons'. We do not know why the younger Hewitsons did not buy their father out of the business – perhaps because they could not afford to, their father did not want them to, or they did not trust the paper's long-term prospects. The trend in the local newspaper industry was for consolidation, and the *Herald* was being left behind by Wakefield's most popular paper, the Liberal *Express*, which claimed that around the turn of the century, its 10,000 weekly sale was three times more than any other paper published in the city.[2] Another rival, the *Wakefield Free Press*, had closed in 1902.

Ethelbert was the last to marry, at the age of thirty-nine, to Ann Elizabeth Thornton in Wakefield, on 19 September 1904, his parents' forty-sixth wedding anniversary.[3] Horace had little to do with Wakefield after the scandal surrounding the death of his wife's first husband in 1899, and by the 1901 Census they were living in Cowley, Oxford, where he was working as an advertising manager. By 1906 they were in Manchester. It seems that his wife Alice did not get on with her parents in law, and Horace visited without her. In 1904 or 1905, Llewellyn brought more shame on his family when he left his wife (and first cousin) Lilian and three young sons, and his job in the family business, and sailed to America.

2 *WE* centenary supplement, 15 March 1952.
3 Ann Elizabeth Thornton (1869-1924).

[Heane's Three Days Diary][4]

[In grandson's writing] Diary of Anthony Hewitson property of Robert Hewitson Blackmore 14 Florizel St Burwood Vic

His Grandson

[In Hewitson's writing] ~~May~~ Nov 3rd (ref Bertie)

[In grandson's writing] Diary of Anthony Hewitson 7 Queens Road Fulwood Preston Lancs

Now the property of his grandson Robert Hewitson Blackmore 14 Florizel St Burwood Vic

[In Hewitson's writing]

A Hewitson's Diary

Almighty God, Father of us all, bless, guide & guard me and mine this coming year all the time. Amen

4 DP512/1/14, Lancashire Archives.

January

Monday 1 January 1906 In forenoon walked to Preston, attended to a few matters there (nearly all the shops closed) and then walked home again. In aft[ernoo]n revising my transcript of B[ellingham] Diary and notes to it.[5]

Tuesday 2 January 1906 Same as to B[ellingham] Diary.

Wednesday 3 January 1906 Finished revising B[ellingham] D[iary] & notes.

Thursday 4 January 1906 To Preston in forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n I and my wife had a walk up Garstang road, across by Duck-lane into Cadley & so home. At night I went to a meeting in Garstang rd Congregational chapel in favour of Mr Harold Cox, the Liberal candidate for representation of Preston. He is a barrister, a good, calm, clear speaker. He seems to be about 48 years of age. Going grey, quiet, earnest, rather tired looking. Meeting unanimously in favour of him with an exception or two. Later I played cards with my wife.[6]

Friday 5 January 1906 Miscellaneous in forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n to Preston. Town moderately throng. Called at the Free Library. Cards at night with my wife.

Saturday 6 January 1906 In aft[ernoo]n to Preston. Town busy. Called at Free Library; had a chat with Bramwell*, the chief librarian; he showed me some very nice second hand works he had got. Asked him to get one of them for me. He agreed to do so. At night reading newspapers &c.

Sunday 7 January 1906 Read in aft[ernoo]n portions of book of Jeremiah, Puritan Gems, & Leigh Hunt's autobiography, &c[7]

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5 Thomas Bellingham, *Diary of Thomas Bellingham, an Officer under William III*, ed. by Anthony Hewitson (Preston: G. Toulmin & sons, 1908), http://archive.org/details/diaryofthomasbel00belluoft

6 Harold Cox (1859-1936), former president of the Cambridge Union, worked as a farm labourer for a year to understand the problems of agricultural employment, started an unsuccessful farm commune, taught at universities, journalist for *Daily Graphic* and *Westminster Gazette*, member of the Fabian Society.

7 See 25 June 1911 for Hewitson's description of *Puritan Gems*; Leigh Hunt, *The Autobiography of Leigh Hunt* (London: Smith, Elder, 1850), http://archive.org/

Monday 8 January 1906 In a miscellaneous way. Did a little arranging for probably another series of Records & Reminiscences; but I can't move in respect to the B[ellingham] Diary till the general election, which begins on Friday next is over.[8]

Tuesday 9 January 1906 About the same.

Wednesday 10 January 1906 Similar.

Thursday 11 January 1906 Nothing special. At night daughter R[osaline] & her husband came in and we played at whist for about an hour and a half.

Friday 12 January 1906 Miscellaneous.

Saturday 13 January 1906 Same. In aft[ernoo]n to Preston for a short time. Town, in chief parts, appeared to be very throng. At night reading papers, &c.

Sunday 14 January 1906 Result of elections at Manchester made known here this forenoon. Mr Balfour ex-Prime Minister (Conservative Minister) and all or nearly all the C[onservative] U[nionist] candidates defeated – In aft[ernoo]n & evening read parts of Jeremiah, Puritan Gems & Autobio[graphy] of L[eigh] Hunt.[9]

Monday 15 January 1906 Everybody talking about the Con-Unionist smash-up at Manchester on Saturday. Election for borough of Preston to-day. Coit (Labour candidate) and Harold Cox (Liberal) defeated by great majorities, the two Conservatives – Sir W E M Tomlinson who has been M.P. for Preston for about 20 years & Kerr who has been member for about three years. Great surprise at result (I voted for T. & K.)[10]

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details/autobiographyofl5001hunt

8 'Local Records and Reminiscences', second series; *PG*, 5 January-30 March 1907, 13 parts.

9 Arthur James Balfour (1848-1930).

10 Hewitson's wording is ambiguous, and he has wrongly used the name of the Wakefield Labour candidate, Dr Stanton Coit; the results were John Thomas Macpherson (Labour Representation Committee) 10,181, Harold Cox (Liberal) 8,538, John Kerr (Conservative) 7,303, William Edward Murray Tomlinson (Conservative) 6,856.

Tuesday 16 January 1906 Various. Sent £13 in dollars to L[lewellyn] at Alliston, Ontario, Canada, per registered letter which will go by the White Star liner "Arabic" – from Liverpool to-morrow.[11]

Wednesday 17 January 1906 Same. Re-wrote part of introduction to B[ellingham] Diary, in accordance with some information from Postmistress (Horner) of Bellingham, Nicholson's Annals of Kendal, &c.

Thursday 18 January 1906 In and about house all day. Storm of wind, snow, &c in aft[ernoo]n. Blackpool & Lancaster divisions elections. I am in former division & voted for Ashley, the Conservative.[12]

Friday 19 January 1906 Miscellaneous. To Preston in aft[ernoo]n. Blackpool & Lancaster division election results – Conservative elected for former & Liberal (Helme) for the latter.

Saturday 20 January 1906 In aft[ernoo]n to Preston. Chief street throng. At night reading for a while, later playing, with my wife, at whist, in daughter Rose's.

Sunday 21 January 1906 Various in forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n read two or three chapters in book of Jeremiah. At night played whist with my wife & daughter Rose & her husband.

Monday 22 January 1906 Considerably varied. In the course of my reading I perused portion of "Puritan Gems".

Tuesday 23 January 1906 Miscellaneous.

Wednesday 24 January 1906 Same

Thursday 25 January 1906 Same. Results of General Election have so far gone tremendously against the Conservative-Unionists and Fiscal Reformers headed by Joseph Chamberlain. My old friend John Noblet of 3 St Mark's-r[oa]d, and formerly of Plumpton Brook Inn, Lawson-st[ree]t, Preston, died to-day at the age of 79.[13]

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11 The money was probably to pay for Llewellyn's fare home, see 27 February 1906.

12 Wilfrid William Ashley (1867-1939), grandson of the Earl of Shaftesbury; Fulwood was part of the North Lancashire Blackpool electoral division at this time.

13 Hewitson's interview with John Noblet (1826-1906) formed an extended obituary

Friday 26 January 1906 At noon did some sub-editing for Wakefield H[erald]. Did a little arranging of items for my second series of Local Records & Reminiscences. At night I & my wife played at cards for about half an hour.

Saturday 27 January 1906 To Preston in forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n set my wife to railway station where she took the 3 o clock train for Wakefield – to my son Bertie's, to look after the youngster during the removal from Moor Leigh, Sandal, to a house in Wakefield. At night I read papers, &c

Sunday 28 January 1906 Read in aft[ernoo]n portion of book of Jeremiah & some "Puritan Gems". Later read some of Leigh Hunt's autobiography. Looked in at daughter Rose's.

Monday 29 January 1906 Various – arranging notes respecting second series of Records & Reminiscences. To Preston. Called at Beattie's artistic studio – a small dim crib in one of the rooms of an opaque shanty occupied by Brooksby, a tailor, near Mount Pleasant, on west side of Corporation-street. Finished L[eigh] Hunt's autobiography. An excellent production.[14]

Tuesday 30 January 1906 Various. At night Beattie, artist, gave me a call by appointment. Arranged with him for an estimate for some view work in connection with B[ellingham] Diary. He had a pipe, some "refreshment" and stayed about an hour and a half.

Wednesday 31 January 1906 Nothing very particular. Arranging notes re Records & Reminiscences.

(*PG*, 3 February 1906) with portrait.

14 Edwin Robert Beattie (1845-1917), photographer, illustrator and artist, who did many illustrations of old buildings for the *Preston Guardian*. He produced the pen-and-ink drawings for Hewitson's *Northward* and may have taken some of the photographs for the Bellingham diary.

February

Thursday 1 February 1906 Partly same. Weather cold – wind in north. Kitchen chimney smokes.

Friday 2 February 1906 About ditto, including some sub-editing for Wakefield Herald.

Saturday 3 February 1906 In aft[ernoo]n met my wife at railway station – back from son Bertie's at Wakefield. In evening we read papers &c. Later played at cards.

Sunday February 1906 Odds & ends in forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n read chapters in book of Jeremiah, some pages of "Puritan Gems", &c. Also a few pages of Swift's Journal to Stella.[15]

Monday 5 February 1906 Miscellaneous.

Tuesday 6 February 1906 Same. At night I & my wife played at cards at daughter Rose's – whist.

Wednesday 7 February 1906 Various.

Thursday 8 February 1906 Stormy. In aft[ernoo]n & night very stormy – wind, snow, &c. From about 8 to 10 at night daughter R[ose] & her husband came & played at whist.

Friday 9 February 1906 Sub-editing at noon for W[akefield] Herald. Af[terwar]ds to Preston r[ail]way station. New boots – one too tight. What a devil of a torment tight boots are – shoes also. This aft[ernoo]n E[thelbert], H[orace] [next words in shorthand:] brother Peter's daughter came [shorthand ends] + she has been in America. Pert & afterwards found her to be a great puller of the "long bow".[16]

Saturday 10 February 1906 Mixed duties. In aft[ernoo]n brother Peter's wife, Lancaster, turned up with one of her daughters & stayed a while.

15 Jonathan Swift, *The Journal to Stella*, ed. by George A. Aitken (London: Methuen, 1901), https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=mdp.39015011577882&seq=9

16 Peter Hewitson (1842-1908); to pull the long bow: to exaggerate.

She says brother Peter is very ill of diabetes & that his eye sight is going. Reading &c[17]

Sunday 11 February 1906 Multiform work in forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n & evening read some chapters of Jeremiah, a few pages of Puritan Gems, a sermon by George Dawson, &c. Later played at whist.

Monday 12 February 1906 Sent to-day (registered & insured) MS [manuscript] of Bellingham Diary transcript, annotated, to Sir H[enr]y Bellingham of The Castle, Castlebellingham, Co Louth, along with an estimate as to illustrating & printing, in book form, the same.[18]

Tuesday 13 February 1906 Miscellaneous.

Wednesday 14 February 1906 Same. Looking over & annotating extracts from a book of a/cs [accounts] kept in connection with Lea Hall Demesne, near Preston, for the years 1693-1703.

Thursday 15 February 1906 Partly same. At night called on W[illia]m Livesey and found him very chatty & cheerful and, for his age, remarkably well.

Friday 16 February 1906 At noon sub-edited notes for W[akefield] Herald. Railway station. Free Library. Home. Reading.

Saturday 17 February 1906 Son H[orace] & his son Anthony – a fine lad of four years – came from their home in Manchester, stayed some hours, and then returned – I going with them to the railway station. Later home. Reading.

Sunday 18 February 1906 Reading – 3 chapt[er]s of book of Jeremiah, some P[uritan] Gems, a sermon by George Dawson, &c

Monday 19 February 1906 Nothing very particular.

17 Mary Ann Hewitson née Hunter (1848-1914).

18 There is no evidence that Sir Henry contributed financially to Hewitson's publication of the diary; this may be one reason for the two-year delay in publishing it.

Tuesday 20 February 1906 Began transcribing notes for second series of Local Records & Reminiscences.

Wednesday 21 February 1906 Some more note transcribing for R[ecords] & R[eminiscences].

Thursday 22 February 1906 Partly same.

Friday 23 February 1906 At noon sub-editing. Later – railway station, Free Library, home. Reading papers, &c at night. (When at Free Lib met little Bramwell*, the chief Librarian. He is a sharp, active, well-informed, industrious man, & very fond of a good story.)

Saturday 24 February 1906 Writing R[ecords] & R[eminiscences]. To Preston at night. Met Hamerton, artist for Preston Guardian, &c. A distant relative of Philip Gilbert Hamerton, art writer &c . He showed me a number of his sketches – in his "den" in the Guardian office. Free, kindly fellow. He told me he was a native of Hellifield in Yorks. Hellifield Peel is an old residence or stronghold of the Hamiltons [In ballpoint, not Hewitson's writing] should be Hamertons?[19]

Sunday 25 February 1906 Usual reading. At night played at whist in daughter Rose's.

Monday 26 February 1906 Miscellaneous. Getting a little forward with R[ecords] & R[eminiscences] copy.

Tuesday 27 February 1906 Same. At night son L[lewellyn] turned up. Had a telegram from Son H[orace] to say he had arrived at his house in Manchester, so Mother went over for him & returned with him at night. He seems low, and down-hearted. We must & will try to get matters put right.[20]

Wednesday 28 February 1906 Miscellaneous, including a little R[ecords] & R[eminiscences] work.

19 Hamerton (sp?) unidentified; Philip Gilbert Hamerton (1834-94), artist, critic, author.

20 Putting matters right could mean, among other things, reconciling Llewellyn to his wife and three sons, now living in Bury.

March

Thursday 1 March 1906 Same

Friday 2 March 1906 Sub-editing, telephoning &c. The telephoning, &c relating to L[lewellyn]'s affairs.

Saturday 3 March 1906 In aft[ernoo]n doing some R[ecords] & R[eminiscences] work. At night to Preston for a short while. Later played at cards. Then read a little.

Sunday 4 March 1906 ~~Read in af[ternoo]n & night some chapters of Jeremiah, two or three pages of P Gems, a prayer & a L a sermon or two by Geo Dawson, & sundry pages of Swift's Journal to Stella &c~~

Monday 5 March 1906 Working at second series of Records & Reminiscences. At night spent about an hour & a half with Mr W Livesey at his house. He seemed well & hearty. He is nearly 90. I told him, in course of our talk, that very recently I had read of a man aged 90, living in the south of England having just got married to a woman of about 60, so that he (W.L) must keep up his heart, as there was still some hope or prospect for him & afterwards his housekeeper, Mrs Mercer, who is about 60, said to me "on the quiet" in the hall passage, & jokingly, of course, "So there's some chance for me yet." I replied "You've got the course to yourself" & then, amid some laughter I withdrew.[21]

Tuesday 6 March 1906 Amongst other things working on Records & Rem[iniscence]s.

Wednesday 7 March 1906 About same.

Thursday 8 March 1906 Somewhat similar.

Friday 9 March 1906 Similar & sub-editing.

Saturday 10 March 1906 To Preston ~~at~~ in latter part of forenoon. Saw & had talks with T. H. Myres, Will Huntington (late proprietor of Garth & Dodgsons tailors establishment, Fishergate), and William Smith (late partner in firm of Smith Brothers, hatters, Marketplace, Preston).

21 Mercer unidentified.

The latter is between 80 & 90, & looks exceedingly well, stout, good in colour, active. Home later. Writing R[ecords] & R[eminiscences] matter in aft[ernoo]n. At night reading papers &c.[22]

Sunday 11 March 1906 A lot of reading in aft[ernoo]n & evening – chapters in Jeremiah, some pages of "Puritan Gems", three sermons by Geo. Dawson, a lot

Monday 12 March 1906 Working a few hours at R[ecords] & R[eminiscences]

Tuesday 13 March 1906 Same. Letter from Canon Maddison, of Lincoln, whom I met last year at the Castle, Castlebellingham. Sir Henry B[ellingham], he tells me, has sent him my MS [manuscript] introduction, with transcript & notes (Bellingham Diary). I got the main facts for introduction, from the leading authorities – Burke, &c. Canon M[addison] says they are seriously inaccurate & is willing to undertake the work of correction. Wrote a suitable reply to him.[23]

Wednesday 14 March 1906 In course of the day did some R[ecords] & R[eminiscences] work.

Thursday 15 March 1906 This morning got another letter from Canon M[addison], who is willing to write an introduction, based on reliable data, including the genealogy of the Bellingham family, in which he seems to be remarkably "well up". Replied accepting his offer with thanks & applying a nice little lot of "warm water" to his back.

Friday 16 March 1906 Sub-editing at noon. Unwell – very bad cold. My wife unwell. We each had a warm bath at night.

Saturday 17 March 1906 A little better. Did a little work, re R[ecords] & R[eminiscences]. Later, reading, &c.

Sunday 18 March 1906 Son L[lewellyn] went to Threlfall's, Blackleach, Woodplumpton, this aft[ernoo]n. My reading – last two or three chapters of Isaiah, Sermons by Geo Dawson, Puritan Gems, &c

22 Thomas Harrison Myres (1841-1926), architect, antiquarian, popular lecturer; William H Smith (b. 1846).

23 Arthur Roland Maddison (1843-1912), Lincoln Cathedral librarian, antiquary and genealogist.

Monday 19 March 1906 Amongst other things writing or adding to my "Records & Reminiscences".

Tuesday 20 March 1906 Same – partly.

Wednesday 21 March 1906 Ditto

Thursday 22 March 1906 Ditto. In aft[ernoo]n I & my wife were in Moor Park for a short time.

Friday 23 March 1906 Sub-editing at noon; r[ailway] station; home; writing R[ecords] & R[eminiscences].

Saturday 24 March 1906 Brother P[eter]'s wife and daughter N[ellie] here for a time. T[hrelfall]'s daughter A. from Woodplumpton called. To Preston at night for a short time. Reading newspapers.[24]

Sunday 25 March 1906 Reading about same as on Sunday last, with exception of scripture. At night called at daughter R[osaline]'s. Mother there, too.

Monday 26 March 1906 Amongst other work doing some R[ecords] & R[eminiscences] writing. Joe Threlfall called this evening & s[ai]d he & [my] son L[lewellyn] were going to N W Canada on April 5.[25]

Tuesday 27 March 1906 Same as to work.

Wednesday 28 March 1906 Similar. Weather cold – wind n. & n.e. & e.

Thursday 29 March 1906 About same.

Friday 30 March 1906 Sub-editing at noon. R[ail]way station. Finished writing second series of Local Records & Reminiscences, in evening. Later to W. Livesey's for about an hour. He was very cheerful & apparently very well in health.

Saturday 31 March 1906 Miscellaneous, including some annotating of Lea Hall Demesne A/c [Account] Book for 1693-1703. At night to Preston for a short time. Son H[orace] here from about 2 to 8 pm.

24 Nellie Hewitson (1886-1946); Annie Threlfall (b. 1878).
25 Joseph W Threlfall (1880-1949) lived the rest of his life in Canada.

April

Sunday 1 April 1906 In aft[ernoo]n and evening read portion of J[eremiah]'s Lamentations, some P[uritan] Gems, and sundry pages of Geo Dawson's sermons.

Monday 2 April 1906 Amongst other work transcribing and annotating Josias Gervis's a/c [account] book as Steward for Sir C Hoghton, bar[one]t, at Lea Hall for 1693 to 1703 [indecipherable] inclusive.[26]

Tuesday 3 April 1906 Same

Wednesday 4 April 1906 Same. Son L[lewellyn] and nephew J[oe] W T[hrelfall], with latter's father from Woodplumpton, called. L[lewellyn] and J[oe] W T[hrelfall] on way to Manchester for Canada by ship canal steamer (They did not sail)

Thursday 5 April 1906 Unsatisfactory telegram from son H[orace] re L[lewellyn]. My wife and daughter R[osaline] to Manchester where they found that no arrangements at all had been made for Canada. They with L[lewellyn] and J[oe] W T[hrelfall] returned at night. Did some transcribing and annotating – J[osias] G[ervis]'s a/c [account] book.

Friday 6 April 1906 Made arrangements for L[lewellyn] and J[oe] W T[hrelfall] to go to Winnipeg via New York – to sail from L[iver]pool on Tuesday next. Finished J[osias] G[ervis]'s a/c [account] book.

Saturday 7 April 1906 In course of day began revising my R[ecords] & R[eminiscences] copy for Preston Guardian.

Sunday 8 April 1906 Read considerably in aft[ernoo]n and evening – ~~First two chapters of~~ End of J[eremiah]'s Lamentations, first chapter of Ezekiel, some P[uritan] Gems, and several pages of G[eorge] Dawson's sermons, &c.

Monday 9 April 1906 Finished revising MS [manuscript] of R[ecords] & R[eminiscences] and J[osias] G[ervis]'s diary and in aft[ernoo]n delivered the same to Jno Toulmin's son in Guardian printing office.

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26 This was published a year later as 'Hoghton Property in Lea, &c. The steward's account book for 1693-1703. Extracts with notes', *PG*, 13-27 April 1907, 3 parts. In his introduction, Hewitson says that the book 'is now in the possession of a local gentleman'; his extracts are the only trace of this document.

Tuesday 10 April 1906 This forenoon I and Walter D[uesbury] (my son in law) accompanied my son L[lewellyn] and Joe Threlfall, my nephew in law, to Liverpool. We saw them leave the great landing stage on board the great steamship "Carronia" of the Cunard line for New York en route for Winnipeg. The ship left at 4.45pm. They have through tickets to Winnipeg. A large number of passengers, specially 2nd and 3rd – the latter seeming to be a thrifty, industrious lot in the main, and apparently for Canada. Walter and I returned per 5.10 train.[27]

Wednesday 11 April 1906 Miscellaneous. Nothing very particular.

Thursday 12 April 1906 Got to-night a picture post card from son L[lewellyn] – posted on board the "Carronia" at Queenstown.[28]

Friday 13 April 1906 Daughter L[etty] and her husband R[obert] B[lackmore] and their two sons Bobbie & Bertie [sic] arrived per their motor car from Stalybridge about 2.15 this aft[ernoo]n, for Easter.

Saturday 14 April 1906 To Preston about noon. In aft[ernoo]n I, my wife and daughters R[ose] & L[etty] and their husbands and children had a walk in Moor Park. At night read papers.

Sunday 15 April 1906 Read in aft[ernoo]n portion of Ezekiel, some P[uritan] Gems, and finished sermons by Geo. Dawson.

Monday 16 April 1906 Son-in-law R[obert] B[lackmore] back, per motor car, to Stalybridge just after dinner. At about 2.40pm I, my wife, daughters R[ose] & L[etty] and their children to Preston per tram; thence walked to Avenham Park to see the crowd of egg-rollers, &c. About 40,000 children and young people, with parents, &c, in the Park – rolling eggs and oranges, playing with skipping ropes, &c. A wonderful sight. Weather fine. On returning I called with grandsons Billy D[uesbury] and Bobby B[lackmore] at Free Library and took them through the Picture Gallery and Museum. Then home.

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27 Llewellyn appears to have sailed under the name of 'W Dewsbury', a slight variant on the name of the brother-in-law who waved him off. It was the last time he saw his father, returning to England only in 1915, after Hewitson's death and a year before Margaret Hewitson's death. Llewellyn appears in the record as a journalist in East Lancashire 1916-20; by 1964, the year of his death, he was living in a Church Army hostel in Leeds.

28 Queenstown is now known as Cobh, near Cork, on the south coast of Ireland.

Tuesday 17 April 1906 Miscellaneous. At night called on W[illiam] Livesey and found him quite well.

Wednesday 18 April 1906 Same as to Miscellaneous. Played at cards at night with my wife and daughter L[etty].

Thursday 19 April 1906 For a time in aft[ernoo]n in Moor Park, with my wife, daughters R[ose] & L[etty] and their children. Very fine weather. Lake being cleaned out – water nearly all out. Boys wading in puddle catching fish. Played at cards at night for a short time.

Friday 20 April 1906 At noon sub-editing. Later to railway station. Then had a walk in Fulwood with my wife, daughters, &c. In course of night reading Swift's Journal to Stella, &c.

Saturday 21 April 1906 This aft[ernoo]n daughter L[etty] and her two children (Bobby and Bertie) returned home, Stalybridge, which they would reach about 5.30. I to Preston for a short time at night. Later to my wife at daughter R[ose]'s. Then home.

Sunday 22 April 1906 In aft[ernoo]n and evening read part of Ezekiel, some P[uritan] Gems, and sundry pages of Swift's Journal to Stella. At night called at daughter R[ose]'s where my wife was.

Monday 23 April 1906 Walked to Ashton-on-Ribble to see an old man called Geo[rge] Fish respecting a place in Preston which used to be called "New England". After some inquiries got to his house, 2, Elton-st[ree]t. He was out – had gone to Walton, so arranged to call next day.[29]

Tuesday 24 April 1906 This forenoon to Ashton. Saw Fish; he c[oul]d not tell me where "New England" was, but said an old man named Saul, who occupied a small shanty for iron odds and ends in Lancaster-road, opposite the Congregational Chapel might give me some information on the subject. In aft[ernoo]n went to Saul's place. Found Fish there. We talked over the matter and came to the conclusion that the probability was "New England" must have been in or near some part of Ribbleton-lane. Later called on Dr R.C. Brown, Winckley Square, and had a chat

29 George Fish (1828-1908).

with him about the late T.H. Carr, &c. Dr B[rown] has some very curious laughable stories. One he told me was this – that the late Dr Shaw of Kirkham was sent for to see a man very ill who lived in the district. He went, and on seeing the man said to his wife "He's dead," whereupon the man, who had heard this, said "Nay I isn't", when his wife rejoined "Will ta howd thee noise, Thomas; surely, t'Doctor should know." Snow on Fairsnape hill to-day. Called on W[illiam] Livesey.[30]

Wednesday 25 April 1906 Miscellaneous.

Thursday 26 April 1906 In aft[ernoo]n I and H.W. Clemesha*, solicitor, and historically inclined went to Ribbleton, and made inquiries as to the locale of the fight there on Aug 17th 1648, between the Parliamentary and Royalist forces. Could glean nothing very definite – the key point worth remembering being a conjecture or tradition to the effect that the fight began in the road near Gammull-lane end and was continued along Ribbleton-lane to Preston.[31]

Friday 27 April 1906 Sub-editing; station; &c.

Saturday 28 April 1906 To Preston in aft[ernoo]n. Saw Mr Bush* about Hill's bill for shop or cellar alterations in front of Mitre. On returning found son H[orace] and one of his children had come over from Manchester. They returned in the evening. Reading.[32]

Sunday 29 April 1906 Usual reading in aft[ernoo]n and evening – Scriptures, P[uritan] Gems, &c (some of Swift's Journal to S[tella]. being in the &c).

Monday 30 April 1906 Nothing in particular.

30 Probably William Saul (1829-1911), ironmonger; Dr R Charles Brown (1836–1925); Thomas Hargreaves Carr (c. 1819-1905), secretary of Preston and Wyre Railway, director of the Clifton Arms Hotel, Blackpool and involved in the Fleetwood Estate Company; Thomas Shaw (1815-93), keen hare courser.

31 Henry Wordsworth Clemesha (1873-1926); for details of this battle see Michael Braddick, *God's Fury, England's Fire: A New History of the English Civil Wars* (Penguin, 2009); Richard Brooks, *Cassell's Battlefields of Britain and Ireland* (Cassell Reference, 2005); Stephen Bull and Mike Seed, *Bloody Preston: Battle of Preston, 1648* (Carnegie Publishing Ltd, 1998).

32 Probably George Hill (1831-1908), joiner, builder.

May

Tuesday 1 May 1906 Doing a little work in connection with projected articles – to be ultimately turned into a pamphlet on "Round About Preston – Walks & Rides."[33]

Wednesday 2 May 1906 Miscellaneous. At night read some pages of Swift's Journal to S[tella] & played at cards, ~~at night~~ with my wife, for a short time.

Thursday 3 May 1906 Same. (Trimmed up front little garden in course of the day).

Friday 4 May 1906 Normal Friday work – sub-editing, &c. At night read a little of Swift's Journal, & afterwards played at cards with my wife.

Saturday 5 May 1906 In forenoon to shop in Ripon=s[tree]t for two copies of P[reston] Guardian. In aft[ernoo]n to Howarth's confectioner's shop, up Victoria rd. At night to Preston. – At Free Library saw & had a chat with Hammerton [sic], the P[reston] Guardian artist. Invited him to give me a call at home & arranged for next Wednesday evening. Reading.

Sunday 6 May 1906 Read in aft[ernoo]n & evening two or three chapt[er]s in Ezekiel, some P[uritan] Gems, & sundry pages of Swift's J[ournal] to S[tella]. At night to daughter Rose's, where Mother had gone.

Monday 7 May 1906 Sundry work. To Preston in aft[ernoo]n & paid Geo[rge] Hill's amended bill for alterations at shop 18a Fishergate, last year. Amount nearing £64. Afterwards saw P. Crook, landlord of the Mitre Hotel. Like all other tenants everywhere else he with considerable alacrity drew my attention to ~~certain~~ defects at the place requiring attention. I promised that they should be put right.

Tuesday 8 May 1906 A wet day. In house. To W[illiam] Livesey's for a short time at night.

Wednesday 9 May 1906 At night, by appointment, Mr Hammerton, a young man (26 y[ear]rs old) who is the ~~artist~~ chief artist for the Preston Guardian called on me. We had a long & pleasant conversation on various subjects, including interesting places & buildings in Bilsborrow & Forton.

33 This series on scenic and historic walks 'roundabout Preston', was published in the *Preston Guardian* from 3 June 1911 onwards; it was never published as a pamphlet.

He had two whiskies, two cigars, & some cake, & went away much pleased with his visit. He is a very intelligent fellow & a good black & white artist.

Thursday 10 May 1906 Miscellaneous. In aft[ernoo]n I had a walk through greater portion of Moor Park & through ~~part~~ part of Fulwood, with my wife. At night we went to Mr. T. A. Peters's, the Priory, Lower Bank rd, Fulwood, & spent nearly two & a half [~~spe~~] hours very pleasantly – talking, &c, &c. There is a good deal of gas & gingerbread & a very fair quantity of propriety & right feeling commingled with a good deal of respectable ignorance & semi-pious kindness in Peters. Altogether, as this world goes, not a bad fellow at all. He is upwards of 70, & dyes his hair raven black. I once told him he was like St Paul because he "died [dyed] daily."

Friday 11 May 1906 Sub-editing; to Preston in aft[ernoo]n. At night finished Swift's Journal to Stella, & began reading his "Tale of a Tub."[34]

Saturday 12 May 1906 I & my wife had a short saunter into Moor Park in the aft[ernoo]n. In evening I to Preston & on returning I joined my wife at W[illiam] Livesey's where we stayed about an hour. Then home. Reading papers, &c.

Sunday 13 May 1906 My reading included some chapters of Ezekiel – very weird, curious, symbolical matter – several Puritan Gems, & a few pages of Swift's Tale of a Tub – strong, rough stuff, but ably conceived & written.

Monday 14 May 1906 Mother to Son H[orace]'s, Manchester this forenoon. His eldest girl (Maggie) very ill in [sic] measles. I trimmed up garden ground, front & back; also read numerous pages of A. C. Benson's work on the life & works of Walter Pater, the art critic, University lecturer, &c., published in new series of Macmillan & Co's English Men of Letters.[35]

Tuesday 15 May 1906 Had another delve into Benson's Pater & wrote a critique of it for Wakefield Herald, which I posted at night.[36]

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34 Jonathan Swift, A Tale Of A Tub (Dent, 1909), http://archive.org/details/in.ernet.dli.2015.40202

35 Arthur Christopher Benson, *Walter Pater* (London: Macmillan, 1906), http://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=mdp.39015000542087; Walter Horatio Pater (1839-94), essayist, critic and novelist, influenced the aesthetic movement, including its leading proponent, Oscar Wilde.

36 Hewitson pronounced it 'excellent' in his largely descriptive review ('Literary Notice', *WH* 19 May 1906, p.3).

Wednesday 16 May 1906 Miscellaneous. To Preston, Free Library. Ordnance map. At night I & my wife called at daughter Rose's.[37]

Thursday 17 May 1906 Had a walk with my wife in Moor Park, which in the tree & flower departments looks very beautiful; the rhododendrons, specially the white flowering ones, ~~looking quite~~ being quite charming.

Friday 18 May 1906 Sub-editing &c -- in aft[ernoo]n took copy to the railway station, in an envelope, for Wakefield. Blew up a railway clerk in parcel office, on account of his bad manners & impertinence. Railway clerks & post office clerks have wonderful notions of their own importance & superiority. They are mostly monkeys & important jackanapses [sic].

Saturday 19 May 1906 My wife to see daughter Letty at Stalybridge this aft[ernoo]n. I set her to the station. Train 1.55. Later I called at Free Library. Ordnance maps. Then home. At night reading papers &c.

Sunday 20 May 1906 Odds & ends in forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n ~~& evening~~ read part of book of Ezekiel & a few pages of the "Pilgrim's Progress". In evening – from 7.50 to 9.20 – had a walk up Garstang=road as far as 3[r]d milestone just past Prospect House, in Broughton. Weather pleasant; the general aspect genial & verdant. On returning ~~read~~ finished Swift's Tale of a Tub.

Monday 21 May 1906 In aft[ernoo]n to Preston & thence had a walk below Frenchwood by the Ribble side to Walton Bridge. Notice that the n.w. end of bridge battlement had been repaired & that the brow leading up into London-road had undergone a substantial & excellent lowering. Up Swillbrook-lane, across by Frenchwood – at rear of Frenchwood House & over the tree-crowned part, opposite Bank Parade, which has lately been opened out for the public by footway &c

Tuesday 22 May 1906 Had a book on geology of the English Lake District (Postlethwaite the author) lent to me this evening by W. A. Beardwood, 4 Brackenbury=rd. My wife returned about 10.20 pm from Stalybridge, with grandson Bobbie B[lackmore].[38]

37 The most recent Ordnance Survey map of Preston was the half-inch to the mile sheet 22, published in 1905, https://maps.nls.uk/view/255269452

38 William Allen Beardwood (1854-1917), coal agent, Fulwood councillor; John Postlethwaite, *The Geology of the English Lake District, with Notes on the Minerals* (Keswick: T. Bakewell, 1897).

Wednesday 23 May 1906 Miscellaneous, reading, &c

Thursday 24 May 1906 This aft[ernoo]n walked with grandson B[obbie] B[lackmore] down to the Dock, via Ashton. On the way met one of the late Mr Smith's sons of Cadley Bank who chatted & was very nice & later passed a nod to W. Galloway of the Willows who was in a carriage. Only a very few vessels in the Dock. Went on board two new ones built at Preston & quite recently launched – one for Brazil (the largest ever built at Preston) and the other for service on the river Amazon.[39]

Friday 25 May 1906 Sub-editing. Preston railway station in aft[ernoo]n. Very wet. In evening returned to Beardwood his book, which I had duly read, on Lakeland geology. A very instructive, interesting little work.

Saturday 26 May 1906 At 6.30 pm called by arrangement on Mr James Burrow, 116 Fishergate, Preston, & had a very pleasant chat with him, on all sorts of subjects – himself in particular – till about 8.45; then home. Reading, &c

Sunday 27 May 1906 Reading as usual – Bible, P[ilgrim's] Progress, Swift, &c

Monday 28 May 1906 Miscellaneous.

Tuesday 29 May 1906 At night called on W[illiam] Livesey, & found him remarkably well – but then he concentrates his attention upon himself so strongly & is looked after so well by servants that he sh[oul]d live to be 100 years old. I once told him that if my father had been so well cared for he would have lived to be 1,000.

Wednesday 30 May 1906 This af[ternoo]n to Preston with grandson B[obbie] B[lackmore]. Mr Bramwell*, the chief librarian, was very kind & courteous, as he usually is. He showed us through a portion of the Picture Gallery & the Museum & then accompanied us to the main roof (outside) of the building, from which we had a fine, all-round view near & in the distance for 12 or 15 miles.

Thursday 31 May 1906 Miscellaneous.

39 Either John James Smith (b. 1855), hatter, or Charles Smith (b. 1871), tobacconist, sons of John James Smith (b. 1826); William Wilding Galloway (1854-1936), son of George Galloway (see vol. 1, p. 618).

June

Friday 1 June 1906 A case of promptitude. Last night I sent a/c [account] for half year's rent of stable, field &c ~~to~~ rear Bank Hall, Ingleton, to Mr Walker of the Three Horse Shoes, Ingleton, the tenant, & the money came at noon, or very early in the aft[ernoo]n, and I returned receipt for it by post at night, & he w[oul]d get it next morning.[40]

Saturday 2 June 1906 Daughter M[abel] & two of her children, from Manchester, came to-day about 1.30 pm. My wife to Lancaster per 3.13 pm train. Returned home about 9.30.

Sunday 3 June 1906 Read some scripture, P[ilgrim's] Progress, new Testament criticism, &c.

Sunday 4 June 1906 Not so well. A bad cold. In aft[ernoo]n went to Turkish Bath on Lark Hill, Preston; but it was closed. Saw portions of Church of England school procession (the Orangemen &c walked in the morning & late [sic] the R[oman] Catholic Guilds). The Orchard &c, like a combination of Bedlam & Pandemonium – shows, go-rounds ~~&~~, swings, & all sorts of things. (In the morning my brother Peter, from Lancaster, with his wife, called & had some light refreshments. They were going to see a daughter, &c, at Kirkham. He has been off work for some time – diabetes.)

Tuesday 5 June 1906 Miscellaneous.

Wednesday 6 June 1906 Had a Turkish Bath this aft[ernoo]n, from about 3 to 6 ocl[oc]k. Felt improved by it. A man from Chorley (no bath there) & a clerk from Messrs W. Banks & Co, solicitors, Preston, had a bath at same time as myself.

Thursday 7 June 1906 To Preston. Various. At night had a short walk up Garstang-rd, Fulwood Urban District C[ounci]l applying some liquid by way of allaying the dust nuisance carried largely by bicycles & motor cars.

40 John Walker (c. 1864-1911); Hewitson must have bought this property in his mother's home village, where he grew up.

Friday 8 June 1906 At noon sub-editing. To Preston later. Met my wife & grandson B[obbie] B[lackmore] in Fishergate. They returned before I did.

Saturday 9 June 1906 To Preston in forenoon for a short time for newspapers, &c. In the af[ternoo]n daughter L[etty] came, & in evening she took back son Bobbie to home at Stalybridge. Weather very fine – hot. At night read papers.

Sunday 10 June 1906 Engaged variously. In aft[ernoo]n read some chapters of Ezekiel, a portion of P[ilgrim's] Progress, a little of select works of Dean Swift &c. S[wift] is a fine, sensible writer, but a bit – perhaps a good bit too coarse.

Monday 11 June 1906 Nothing very special. At night paid another visit to Mr Jas. Burrow, gunsmith, Fishergate, & got some additional particulars for his biography – about two columns – which I shall on certain conditions & at the proper time offer to one or other or both of the local newspapers.

Tuesday 12 June 1906 At noon to-day called at the Preston Guardian office & saw Mr Francis, the editor, respecting my second series of Records, &c which were handed in about nine weeks ago, after having been previously accepted by John Toulmin one of the proprietors. He said they would be inserted somewhat later in the year. I told him (Francis) very plainly that I didn't want to foist on them any copy of mine. Francis is a nice, mild, thin=faced, physically weak young man. In his writings he uses too many "stock arrangements" &c. He requires more fire and power, & originality. To-day I began preparing biography of Mr J Burrow.[41]

Wednesday 13 June 1906 Doing some work on J[ames B[urrow]'s biography. Daughter M[abel] & her children returned home this evening.

Thursday 14 June 1906 Working on J[ames B[urrow]'s biog[raphy] for a while. In aft[ernoo]n to Moor Park, & read some pages of Dean

41 Arthur Francis (c. 1871-1913), editor of the *Lancashire Daily Post* and *Preston Guardian*, active Liberal, Methodist and member of the Institute of Journalists.

Swift's works. In evening on park with my wife & son H[orace]'s two children – M & M. Later I called on W. Livesey. Found him all right. An old, nice dispositioned man named Fish, from Ashton-on-Ribble, with him. Fish is a Teetotaller, & for a wonder, nice in style & free, considerably, from the very damnable self-conceit & dictatorialism of many Teetotallers.[42]

Friday 15 June 1906 Sub-editing, doing some B[urrow] biography, &c. Daughter R[osaline] & her two children, with Miss Duesbury, her sister-in-law, to Morecambe this aft[ernoo]n for a fortnight.

Saturday 16 June 1906 Doing a little B[urrow] biog[raphy]. In evening to Preston. Later reading papers, &c

Sunday 17 June 1906 Nothing particular in forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n read portion of Ezekiel, some P[ilgrim's] Progress & a few pages of Benvenuto Cellini's autobiography. Not so well – achy, sleepy, loss of appetite, &c. Think it must be a mild attack of influenza, or as the Borwick lad would have said "hen flew out of the window". (Father Geo[rge] Gillow's story)[43]

Monday 18 June 1906 Not so well. Miscellaneous work, but not so much of it.

Tuesday 19 June 1906 About same.

Wednesday 20 June 1906 Same. In aft[ernoo]n had a long lie down on sofa in front room & felt af[terwar]ds somewhat better.

Thursday 21 June 1906 A nap from 2 to 3 pm. Then had a walk in Moor Park with my wife &c. Long talk with a little, everlastingly walking retired Kirkham grocer – a sort of fifth-rate knowall, but on the whole a creditable sort of fellow. In the evening in the Park again.

Friday 22 June 1906 At noon sub-editing. In aft[ernoo]n to r[ailway] station. Hair cut &c Cannon-st[ree]t. ~~At ni~~ In evening with my wife, &c, in ~~[Mill]~~ Moor Park. Fine weather. A good deal better.

42 Possibly George Fish (see 23 April 1906).

43 Benvenuto Cellini, *The Autobiography of Benvenuto Cellini*, trans. Thomas Roscoe (London: George Newnes, 1904), https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/4028; probably George Joseph Gillow (1815-94).

Saturday 23 June 1906 In aft[ernoo]n I, my wife, &c to Moor Park from about 2.30 to 4, when we were driven off by rain, though much less came than I expected. At night for a short time to Preston.

Sunday 24 June 1906 Reading in aft[ernoo]n included portions of Ezekiel, P[ilgrim's] Progress & Celini's [sic] autobiography. In Moor Park in aft[ernoo]n.

Monday 25 June 1906 Tidied up front garden & cut grass in back d[itt]o.

Tuesday 26 June 1906 Son Horace called (he is having his holiday in Woodplumpton). He took with him Bloomfield's girl & his daughter M.[44]

Wednesday 27 June 1906 Miscellaneous.

Thursday 28 June 1906 Same. I & my wife in Moor Park in aft[ernoo]n. On way were overtaken by Tom Brewer, husband of the late Mrs. Brewer who was a member of the Preston Board of Guardians & took great interest in the welfare of poor children. She was a smart, go-ahead woman: Tom her husband is a steady-going, decent sort of fellow, but rather too simple in some respects. He served his apprenticeship on the Preston Guardian, & when I went to the office of that paper in 1858 he was the "printers' devil" there. We had a very long talk with him in the Park.[45]

Friday 29 June 1906 Sub-editing at noon. Station. Daughter R[ose] & family returned from Morecambe this aft[ernoo]n. In evening I & my wife in M[oor] Park.

Saturday 30 June 1906 In aft[ernoo]n I went into Moor Park & watched some cricket playing. After tea to Preston for a short time. Later I & my wife went to see Alderman W[illia]m Hale* & his wife at a house they have temporarily taken near the Barracks – called Abbeyford. W[illiam] H[ale] had a paralytic stroke some months ago; he is now much better. A rough-spun, candid, straight forward fellow. Mrs H[ale] recently had an apoplectic fit; she is now much better. He is now 76; she is 74 years of age.[46]

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44 Mary Margaret Hewitson (b. 1895), formerly Bloomfield, and Margaret Wilson Hewitson (1900-78).

45 Thomas Brewer (1843–1912, see vol. 1 p. 16); Margaret Brewer (1845-1904), former head of Holy Trinity and St Thomas's schools, member of Preston Education Committee.

46 Mary Hale (1833-1908), née Brennand.

July

Sunday 1 July 1906 Reading aft[ernoo]n portions of Ezekiel – finished the book - & first chapter of Daniel, some pages of P[ilgrim's] Progress, Ben[venuto] Cellini's memoirs &c

Monday 2 July 1906 Miscellaneous – nothing very particular.

Tuesday 3 July 1906 Same

Wednesday 4 July 1906 Same. Moor Park in af[ternoo]n with my wife.

Thursday 5 July 1906 Same. Moor Park in evening. A band of music in centre.

Friday 6 July 1906 Various – I sub-editing, &c, &c.

Saturday 7 July 1906 I & my wife to Ingleton via Hellifield this morning. Took lodgings at Mrs. Hodgsons, Seed Hill Farm. Son E[thelbert] & his wife & child joined us in the evening.[47]

Sunday 8 July 1906 Son E[thelbert] & I to site of supposed Roman Camp above Yarlsber. A circular ridge with a moat-like depression – very plain on n.e side. In evening we went to Lennie Wood above Meal Bank. Good view all round. Afterwards got more [?] to n.w & had a fine view of Swillabottom.

Monday 9 July 1906 In aft[ernoo]n I & son E[thelbert] to Hunt's Cross, above Thornton Hall. ~~From summit~~ On way, between the Hall and the summit of H[unt]'s C[ross], roused up many rabbits. Saw two sparrow hawks. From summit a fine, all-round, splendid view. On returning inspected ruins &c of Thornton old hall, & line of an old pack horse road about a quarter of a mile west of same.

Tuesday 10 July 1906 I & son E[thelbert] to site of old pit works – Hunter's – at Winning, & thence to a spot about half a mile eastward, where boring for coal has for some time been going on. Man in charge was very reticent as to the result so far. Near, on north side, looked at remains of Barker's coal getting & brickmaking exploits. Everything now

47 Isabella Hodgson (1833-1907), née Grime.

going to rust, decay and ruin. Son E[thelbert] returned to Wakefield this evening.[48]

Wednesday 11 July 1906 ~~I~~My wife, daughter, R[ose], &c, out & about in forenoon. I & grandson W[illiam] Duesbury round the waterfalls at same time. In aft[ernoo]n I, my wife, &c, looking about easily. Weather very fine.[49]

Thursday 12 July 1906 We went in aft[ernoo]n to look at Halsteads & Thornton Church. Former a ~~very~~ fine old mansion, with cut trees &c, in front; the latter nearly all rebuilt. What purports to be a Norman arch - perhaps it is only an imitation one – on the n. side of the [~~indecipherable~~] nave. Plain, neat interior. Remnants of stocks at road corner, n.w of the church.[50]

Friday 13 July 1906 Very wet, unpleasant weather all day.

Saturday 14 July 1906 Somewhat fine. Son E[thelbert] came again in evening. After tea a walk. A number of people came in from Burnley, the annual holidays of which begin to-day. One of the party –a man – at Mrs Hodgson's – a Burnley man – "muzzed" or nearly drunk.

Sunday 15 July 1906 ~~A walk~~ I & son E[thelbert] to the church in forenoon. Thin congregation; moderately good service; a mild, orthodox, sleep-promoting sermon by Mr Turner, the Vicar. In aft[ernoo]n we all had a walk eastward. In evening we went as far as the cemetery & looked about – read gravestone inscriptions, &c. A plain, rather neat cemetery.[51]

Monday 16 July 1906 Wet. Indulged in ~~a~~ very little outside matters. Had a walk with son E[thelbert] down to new road, over the bridge, round by Halsteads, & so back to Ingleton.

Tuesday 17 July 1906 We all in af[ternoo]n went down towards Wilson Wood. Fine & mild weather. On returning saw Dick Atkinson, ~~at~~ in

48 James Barker (c. 1854-1915), owner of Ingleton Colliery.
49 Probably Frederick William Anthony Duesbury (1900-68).
50 St Oswald, Thornton-in-Lonsdale, does indeed have part of a Norman arcade between the nave and north aisle.
51 James Turner (c. 1854-1942).

front of his house at the Bank end. Previously had seen & talked with Mr Leach, a retired local draper, &c. Dick in course of our talk said he had never known Ingleton so flat at this time of year as now, & never knew so many cottages to let as now. Son E[thelbert] returned. Cards at night.[52]

Wednesday 18 July 1906 At 10.20 this forenoon I & my Grandson W[illia]m Duesbury started from Seed Hill farm, Ingleton, for Ingleborough, on foot. Grandson is only six years old. We halted at Crinabottom for some refreshment – a glass of lemonade each. Rested about half a dozen times on the way up, after leaving Crinabottom. Reached the summit of the mountain at 12.40 noon. Outlook hazy – in the distance. A pile of stones on summit – north-west, not far from the side. Sheep grazing on the summit, and black, quick flying swifts skimming ~~along~~ over it at an altitude of 15 or 20 yards. By arrangement with my wife, daughter R[ose], &c I ~~would~~ made a sign – waved an umbrella with a handkerchief tied to the end of it, & afterwards raised grandson on to a small wall at n. w. edge, & subsequently ~~afterwards~~ walked along the north edge. My wife, R[ose], &c were at this time in a field behind the Ingleboro hotel, Ingleton at a point commanding a view of the summit of the mountain, and (as I learnt on getting back) they saw us, by the aid of a field glass. After passing along the north edge, we walked on the east side to the south part of the top, which is flat with a sloping grade to the south. Then we returned to the stone pile, stayed there & about for a short time, & next began the descent at 1.~~20~~ 40 pm, meeting close to the top, as we started, ~~about half~~ about half-a-dozen persons who had come up, presumably from Ingleton. We had some refreshments at Crinabottom, and reached our lodgings, at Ingleton, about ~~3.20~~ 3.20.

Thursday 19 July 1906 Walking, sitting & looking about Ingleton chiefly.

Friday 20 July 1906 Same

Saturday 21 July 1906 Same

52 Richard Atkinson (c. 1848-1915), retired contractor; Samuel Leach (1842-1910).

Sunday 22 July 1906 I & son E[thelbert] to Ingleton church this forenoon. After the service my son E[thelbert]'s daughter Margaret was christened, also my daughter Rose's children (William & Molly) by Vicar Turner. Molly was a bit rough & in her movements struck the Baptismal service book & sent it into some water, in a basin, in the font. I could hardly restrain myself from laughing right out. Another child belonging to some people from a distance, I believe, was baptised at same time. Our lot gave the church clerk or sexton half a crown & put half a sovereign into the poor box.[53]

Monday 23 July 1906 Looking about as well as we could. Weather not so good.

Tuesday 24 July 1906 In aft[ernoo]n I, my wife, daughter Rose & her two children to Bentham, in a small four wheeled carriage, in charge of Tom Hodgson of Seed Hill farm. Called on Jno Wilson's lot – a disconsolate, queer, melancholy house. Wife & daughter had a glass of lemonade and af[terwar]ds a glass of ale at the Royal Oak inn. We went to Bentham by way of Pemberton houses and Lamber End – on the east side of the town - & returned by way of Four Stones ~~on~~ Inn (or an inn with some such name) & Wilson Wood.[54]

Wednesday 25 July 1906 ~~Gazing about, walking &c.~~ To Preston & back. Went home & found everything right. Tidied up front[?]. Back pretty early.

Thursday 26 July 1906 ~~Same~~. Gazing about.

Friday 27 July 1906 Same

Saturday 28 July 1906 Same more or less.

Sunday 29 July 1906 I & son E[thelbert] to Ingleton church. Sermon, a good one, by the Rev. E. D. Banister, Vicar of St. George's church, Preston, who has some relative or relatives (on the wife's side) at Ingleton, & is for a month or so ~~tak~~ doing duty for Vicar Turner, who has gone away on his holidays.[55]

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53 Molly Duesbury (b. 1905).

54 Thomas Hodgson (b. 1871); John Wilson (1834-1909), brother of Mrs Margaret Hewitson.

55 Edmund Dawson Banister (1842-1910), previously vicar of Goosnargh.

Monday 30 July 1906 This forenoon, about 10.30, I, my wife, son E[thelbert] & his wife & child, daughter Rose and her husband & two children (Billy & Molly) started for Dent, in a big four-wheeled conveyance, drawn by two horses, hired at the Wheat Sheaf Inn, Ingleton from which place the driver was also supplied. We went up Chapel-le-Dale & by Gearstones Inn, turning near Newby Head inn for Dentdale. The dale very pretty. Got to Dent – putting up at the Sun Inn – about one p.m. Ordered ~~some~~ dinner. Looked about – mainly up Flintergill, passing old Tommy Middleton's house on the west side. (Tommy used to pop in at the Sun Inn every forenoon for a "drop", in my early days, when I used to walk over from Ingleton to Dent with my grandfather, "Owd Tommy Moor", who owned the Sun which was kept by his eldest son Peter for numerous years). After dinner we all went into the church. One of the mural tablets, on the north side, refers to members of the Sill family, the last of which was Miss Ann, who died in 1835. My maternal grandmother (nee Dorothy Harling) inherited from this lady a little fortune - £1,800 or £2,000 I believe. The father (my great grandfather) of this Dorothy was William Harling, who died on November 11th, 1810, aged 82, & was buried ~~on~~ at north-east corner of Dent Church. Dorothy died at Ingleton, on April 18th, ~~aged 1841~~ 1841, aged 68; her husband, Thomas Moor, died February 25th 1854, aged 83. Both are interred in one grave at north-east corner of Dent Church. We returned from Dent by way of Gawthorpe [Gawthrop] & Barbon. At Cowan Bridge saw the building which the Bronte sisters were at as scholars. There is a tablet at one end of the building recording this fact. Got to Ingleton about 7.30.[56]

Tuesday 31 July 1906 Looking about, walking, sitting, reading &c

56 Thomas Middleton (1785-1860), farmer; Thomas Moore (1771-1854); Peter Moore (1798-1865); Ann Sill (1766-1835; see vol. 1, p. xix); Dorothy Harling (1773-1841); Clergy Daughters' School, Cowan Bridge.

August

Wednesday 1 August 1906 Same

Thursday 2 August 1906 About the same. In the evening I had a stroll round by Storrs Hall school, & up the Storrs. Atmosphere clear; view beautiful.

Friday 3 August 1906 Walking about. In aft[ernoo]n we all had a beautiful round by Storrs Hall & down the Storrs to Beezley Grange, & so to our lodgings at Seed Hill farm.

Saturday 4 August 1906 Home. Left Ingleton per ~~10~~ 10 forenoon train. Left son E[thelbert]'s wife & child at Clapham junction, whence – after waiting a long time – we proceeded to Lancaster, which we found all bright with decorations & busy with visitors. The annual show of Royal Lancashire Agricultural Society was opened in a field on west side of the town – on Scale Hall Farm – on Thursday, & will be continued till Monday evening. We got home about one o'clock at noon, & found everything right. Later I collected some rent, &c

Sunday 5 August 1906 Reading in aft[ernoo]n; three or four chapters of book of Daniel.

Monday 6 August 1906 This forenoon I & my wife to daughter Mabel's in Manchester. In aft[ernoo]n to see my daughter Letty at Heath Bank, Mill Brook near Stalybridge. They have left the house at Thompson Cross, Stalybridge & gone to live there. We rode on electric tram cars all the way, with the excep[tio]n of about 100 yards, from Manchester to Letty's house. Found all well. A nice situation – hills all about. In the evening returned & called again at Mabel's, in Manchester. Left Manchester by 9.10 train & got home (Fulwood) about 10.30.

Tuesday 7 August 1906 Mixed. Nothing particular.

Wednesday 8 August 1906 Same

Thursday 9 August 1906 Same. In the evening I & my wife went into Moor Park & stayed about three q[uarte]rs of an hour. Later she to

daughter R[ose]'s & I to W[illia]m Livesey's. Had a comfortable chat with W L who is now in his 91st year.

Friday 10 August 1906 In aft[ernoo]n I had a round by Walton-le-Dale – through the village, along Hennel lane, at rear of Walton Hall, & into the old tramway route to Preston. Made various observations, en route for an article – one of a series I intend writing as to pleasant walks round-about Preston. ~~In the evening I &~~

[This entry is edged by blue crayon and contains the word Walks in AH's handwriting]

Saturday 11 August 1906 In af[ternoo]n to Preston – newspapers. In evening I & my wife in Moor Park for a time: then home – reading, &c

Sunday 12 August 1906 Various in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n & evening read four chap[ter]s of book of Daniel & sundry pages of J E Carpenter's "The First Three Gospels". At night with my wife at daughter Rose's.[57]

Monday 13 August 1906 My 70th [ringed with blue crayon] birthday. I thank God for all His help, & blessings, & grace & trust Him in the future for a continuance thereof.

Tuesday 14 August 1906 This forenoon to Wakefield in response to a letter from son E[thelbert] respecting Harry W., our advertisement canvasser &c. Reached son E[thelbert]'s about 1.45 pm. Dinner, office in af[ternoo]n & part of evening.

Wednesday 15 August 1906 Office more or less all day. Going into H[arry] W's case & making arrangements for his future work, remuneration &c. At night to the Theatre (free dress circle seat). The play was "The Walls of Jericho" – a slash at the "Smart Set".[58]

Thursday 16 August 1906 [Blue crayon cross on this entry] Office. At noon saw a young man who did not reflect very much credit on the Cathedral of Wakefield. He had a fairly good suit of clothes on but his boots or shoes were very badly down at the heels! In course of aft[ernoo]n to the Conservative

57 Joseph Estlin Carpenter, *The First Three Gospels: Their Origin and Relations* (London: Sunday School Association, 1890), https://www.google.co.uk/books/edition/The_First_Three_Gospels/1vE2AAAAMAAJ

58 'The Walls of Jericho' by Alfred Sutro, performed by Arthur Bourchier's principal company at the Opera House.

club (old vicarage). It seems as a club to be going to pieces – nearly done. Afterwards I & my son E[thelbert] to the Vicars Croft, a little east of the Cathedral. Bones of about 1,000 persons removed from south side of Cathedral, when Westgate [indecipherable] was widened & put here. Teeth & odd bones visible still on surface. Went to look at the old disused Puritan or Non-conformist burial ground, down Westgate – on north side of Ossett-road over the little bridge. A dreary small enclosure containing numerous gravestones, &c in need of rectifying – crooked, falling, broken.[59]

Friday 17 August 1906 [Blue crayon cross on this entry] At the office more or less all day from about 9.20 in morning to 10pm.

Saturday 18 August 1906 Home at noon from Wakefield, per 12.32 train. Reached my home at Fulwood about 4 pm. All right. Moor Park, reading, &c.

Sunday 19 August 1906 Read in aft[ernoo]n three last chapters of book of Daniel & some pages of Carpenter's "The ~~Three~~ First Three Gospels".

Monday 20 August 1906 In aft[ernoo]n read W. Hazlitts essay on "The character of Cobbett" & part of another of his essays on "Paradox and Common Sense". In evening to Preston for two clothes line hooks. Had a walk afterwards down Friargate up Lune-st & Fishergate to Lancaster road end; thence home by tramcar.[60]

Tuesday 21 August 1906 Odds & Ends. Read some more pages of Hazlitts essays or Table Talk.

Wednesday 22 August 1906 Partly same.

Thursday 23 August 1906 Same as to Odds & Ends. In aft[ernoo]n I & my wife & daughter R[ose] & her two children to Moor Park. East Wind. Got a sheltered place & stayed in the park about an hour & a half. In evening read some more of Hazlitt.

59 The old vicarage which housed the Conservative Club is one of Wakefield's oldest buildings, built in the 1660s and with parts thought to date back to the 1300s. In 1905 a Consistory Court had approved the removal of the remains to Vicar's Croft, to allow Kirkgate (not Westgate) to be widened for trams.

60 William Hazlitt, *Table-Talk: Or, Original Essays* (London: John Warren, 1821), http://books.google.com/books?vid=BL:A0017612862

Friday 24 August 1906 At noon sub-editing. In aft[ernoo]n to railway station with a news parcel for Wakefield H[erald]. Grandson Willie Duesbury with me. On returning we looked in at Free Library Museum & Art Gallery. Men hammering & making noises – picture, &c fixing. Saw some barricading & ascertained that dry rot had got into a portion of the roof.

Saturday 25 August 1906 Reading Hazlitt, &c in aft[ernoo]n. In evening to Preston. Had a very small whiskey at Bull Hotel with Alderman W. H. Woods at his invitation. Councillors Tom Houghton & Ord came in & were very chatty. Af[terwar]ds home – reading papers, &c[61]

Sunday 26 August 1906 Read, in aft[ernoo]n, 9 chapters of book of Hosea, & sundry pages of Carpenter's "First Three Gospels" – the latter mainly in the evening.

Monday 27 August 1906 Trimmed hedge & grass in front of the house. In aft[ernoo]n had a walk in Moor Park with my wife. Weather fine.

Tuesday 28 August 1906 Cut grass at the back of the house this forenoon. Early in af[ternoo]n there drove up in a carriage & rung at the house door a beaming, roseate-faced, well dressed lady whom I asked into the drawing room. She said she was the wife of Alfred Thomas Whittle, Moorgarth Hall, Ingleton, Yorks, & wanted to know if I could supply reliable particulars of the Whittle armorial bearings, or coat of arms. I promised, for a nominal sum & expenses, to do my best to get the said particulars. Her husband, she said, was a nephew of Peter Whittle, who wrote a History of Preston, &c. The arms were I gathered, wanted for carriage &c purposes. Af[terwar]ds I & my wife to Moor Park.[62]

Wednesday 29 August 1906 Miscellaneous, including some search re the Whittle coat of arms. Moor Park in af[ternoo]n. In evening called at the Priory (Peters's)

Thursday 30 August 1906 Various, including search work re Whittle Arms. Moor Park. Very hot weather – 91 in shade.

Friday 31 August 1906 Same. Very hot.

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61 William Edward Ord (1862-1924), wholesale leather merchant, Liberal councillor, keen cyclist, chairman of Preston North End FC, Freemason.

62 Emma Jane Whittle (dates unknown), wife of Alfred Thomas Whittle (c. 1834-1913), who spent most of his life in the cotton industry of northern Gujarat, India.

September

Saturday 1 September 1906 Same, less Moor Park. In evening to Preston, but did not stay long. Streets throng. Hot day, very. At night reading.

Sunday 2 September 1906 Various in forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n finished reading book of Hosea (5 chapt[er]s being the quantity) and then read the book of Joel (3 chapt[er]s); subsequently reading numerous pages of Carpenter's "First Three Gospels".

Monday 3 September 1906 Miscellaneous. In aft[ernoo]n had a walk with my wife in Moor Park. Met J Ayrton & his wife – formerly in butchering line at Preston, later in charge of the Wine Lodge, Wakefield, & now living in Brackenbury road, Preston. At night read some of W Hazlitt's "Table Talk".

Tuesday 4 September 1906 Same.

Wednesday 5 September 1906 This aft[ernoo]n Ja[me]s Wilson* my wife's brother, of Slyne-road, Skerton, Lancaster, put in an appearance at our house. He staid all night.[63]

Thursday 6 September 1906 My wife's 68th birthday. Between 10 & 11 this forenoon I, my wife, & her brother J[ames] W[ilson],* by train to Lea Road station. My wife from there in conveyance to Jno. Threlfall's, Little Black Leach, Woodplumpton (he married my wife's sister Jane). I & J[ames] W[ilson] walked from L[ea] Rd. station to Threlfalls. Fine weather; delightful walk – done slowly – of 3 miles. After dinner we went a mushrooming: found very few. Later looked about the Orchard, &c. Tea. Again looking about. About 7 ocl[oc]k by conveyance, all of us to L[ea] Rd. station. Got home about 8.30.

Friday 7 September 1906 Pottering about for a time; then sub-editing; in aft[ernoo]n to railway station; J[ames] W[ilson]* accompanying me. Afterwards to the Art Gallery & Museum, at Free Library. Then home.

Saturday 8 September 1906 In aft[ernoo]n had a walk in Moor Park with J[ames] W[ilson].* We went as far as the swimming bath, sauntered about the Lake &c. Between 6 & 7 J[ames] W[ilson] to Blackpool. Daughter Letty, from Stalybridge here this aft[ernoo]n. At night I set her to railway station on her return. Got some newspapers. Home. Reading.

63 James Wilson (1844-1912), retired excise officer.

Sunday 9 September 1906 Read, in af[ternoo]n, the whole of the book of Amos & sundry pages of Carpenter's "First Three Gospels" & Hazlitt's "Table Talk".

Monday 10 September 1906 Miscellaneous. Read some pages of Hazlitt's Table Talk.

Tuesday 11 September 1906 Same

Wednesday 12 September 1906 In aft[ernoo]n by train to Lea Road; walked thence to Bartle; read Daily Mail for a time, up a lane, on south side of Bartle Hall; then to the Birley ~~Arms~~ Arms inn, to be in readiness for the proceedings in connection with the intended sale of bro[ther]-in-law John Threlfall's property at Black Leach, Woodplumpton. About 2.50 saw Mr Preston, Birley's agent, in front of the inn; af[terwar]ds J Threlfall came to us and we went into the inn & af[terwar]ds with others, had respectively a glass of refreshment. Subsequently to large room up stairs. Goodly company. Hothersall, auctioneer; J. Forshaw (Forshaw & Parker, Preston) solicitor with his son. Bidding for the property commenced at £1600 & went on till it stopped at £1750- £150 below the reserve; so it was withdrawn. Area of the property about 20 statute acres with good house &c &c. I walked back to Lea Rd station, & by train to Preston, reaching home in Fulwood, about 5.30. At night was for a time with W[illia]m Livesey at his house.[64]

Thursday 13 September 1906 Nothing particular. In evening read Hazlitt's "Table Talk."

Friday 14 September 1906 Partly the same. To Preston in aft[ernoo]n. Did the reading at night.[65]

Saturday 15 September 1906 In evening to Preston. Town only moderately throng. After buying a paper walked down Fishergate & looked in at Robinson's book shop, top of Mount-st. Then home. Read papers, &c

Sunday 16 September 1906 In af[ternoo]n – read books of Obadiah & Jonah & two chapters of Micah; also some pages of the Pilgrim's Progress

64 Probably Thomas Preston (1841-1912) of Crow Trees Cottage, Lower Bartle; Edward Gregory Hothersall (1848-1930) of the Cattle Market Hotel; John Forshaw (1838-1921), alderman, Conservative; his son John Horrocks Forshaw (b. 1876).

65 Reading: probably proof-reading *Wakefield Herald* material, Hewitson's usual Friday task.

& later several pages of Carpenter's "First Three Gospels". At night for a short time at daughter Rose's, No 2, Queen's=road – four doors from my own. My wife there. We have called there nearly every Sunday night since she & Walter were married – ~~now~~ now about eight years ago. And this was our last Sunday night there, as they are leaving for Bradford, & have a sale of the bulk of their furniture on Thursday next.

Monday 17 September 1906 Miscellaneous. In aft[ernoo]n I went to Moor Park.

Tuesday 18 September 1906 Somewhat similar.

Wednesday 19 September 1906 About the same. Have nothing very special on hand.

Thursday 20 September 1906 This aft[ernoo]n sale of son in law Walter & daughter R[ose]'s furniture – chief portion. Fine weather. W. O Jones (J.B. Jones & Sons) auctioneer. During the sale I to Moor Park and read a lot of Hazlitt's Table Talk. The sale realised about £125 [this entry marked in blue crayon][66]

Friday 21 September 1906 Nothing very particular.

Saturday 22 September 1906 In aft[ernoo]n to Wakefield. Son E[thelbert] met me at Kirkgate station. Staid at his place. To office & looked about the city at night for a short time.

Sunday 23 September 1906 In the forenoon I and son E[thelbert] had a walk to Wrenthorpe & round by "Prophet Wroe's Mansion", passing on the way the house old "Judge Milton" (a claimant of the property, from America) lived in & had a printing office for some time, and that in which he died. The "Mansion" grounds closed, as usual – padlocks on the entrance gates. An old woman told us the Mansion was in the care of a woman & a girl. In three of the upper windows there were looking glasses and the old woman said that if Mr Currie (the sole surviving trustee of Ashton-u[nder]-Lyne) saw them he would soon have them out.[67]

66 William Owen Jones (1856-1944) of Watling Street Road.

67 A mansion, Melbourne House, in Carr Gate, built in 1857 by the leader of the Christian Israelite sect, John Wroe (1782-63); in 1906 it was still owned by Wroe's descendants; Daniel Milton, an American self-styled messiah believed that the house was church property, and published a newspaper, the *Revelator;* Currie has not been identified; the Christian Israelites may have forbidden mirrors.

Monday 24 September 1906 In aft[ernoo]n I & son E. saw Mr Stewart, leader of the Wakefield Conservative party, & I submitted certain proposals &c to him as to purchase of the Wakefield Herald concern by some of the Conservatives for party purposes primarily. He promised to have them weighed over by himself & others. I home per 7.58 pm train. Got home about 10.30.[68]

Tuesday 25 September 1906 Various in forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n I, my wife, daughter R[ose] & her two children to Moor Park, where we staid for some time. Previously I had been to Preston, on some business.

Wednesday 26 September 1906 To Preston in the af[ternoo]n. Chiefly with Mr T H Myres, architect, &c, discussing the letters ~~of a~~ on a font, formerly, it is supposed in Penwortham Church = date 1667; initials (as I conjecture) ER – last part of R broken. Later we went to the Free Library and then to the Guardian office, searching files of Preston papers regarding rebuilding of Penwortham ch[urc]h in 1856 & fire in it in early part of 1857. Subsequently we went, at T. H. M[yres]'s request to the Exchange hotel, in Fox-st[ree]t – he having a pint of ale & I a glass of whiskey. He paid. Home af[terwar]ds. Then to W[illiam] Livesey's for some time.

Thursday 27 September 1906 Miscellaneous in morning. In aft[ernoo]n to Moor Park with my wife & daughter R[ose] & her two children. We stayed in the Park about 2 hours. Very fine, warm weather. At night, for a short time, I, my wife, & R[ose] played at cards.

Friday 28 September 1906 Same in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n I to Preston – for a little while. On returning went into Moor Park & there met my wife, daughter R[ose], & the children. In the Park about an hour & a half. Fine weather. Cards at night.

Saturday 29 September 1906 Moor Park in af[ternoo]n with my wife, d[aughte]r R[ose] & her two children. Very fine weather. In Park about two hours. At night to Preston for a short time. Chief streets very throng. On returning home read papers, &c

Sunday 30 September 1906 In af[ternoo]n read Bible – Finished Micah & went through Nahum & Habakkuk. Af[terwar]ds finished Carpenter's "First Three Gospels."

68 William Henry Stewart (b. 1842) of Sandal Magna, former alderman, solicitor, deputy steward of the manor of Wakefield.

October

Monday 1 October 1906 Daughter Rose with her two children (Willie & Molly) and the servant B. left this forenoon for their new home in Bradford; Walter (husband) having preceded them several days.

Tuesday 2 October 1906 Various

Wednesday 3 October 1906 Same. To Preston. Called at Free Library & took out Mitchell's "Birds of Lancashire". I know Mitchell. He is now or used to be in the paper line & ~~can~~ was a resident or native of Clitheroe. A very interesting book.[69]

Thursday 4 October 1906 Various. In latter part of day read portions of "Birds of Lancashire".

Friday 5 October 1906 Somewhat similar.

Saturday 6 October 1906 I & my wife to Lancaster this aft[ernoo]n per 3.13 train – a very fast one; in some parts going more than a mile a minute. My wife's brother ~~Joh~~ (Jim Wilson)* met us at the Castle station, Lancaster, & we proceeded with him to his home, in Alexandra Terrace, Slyne-rd, Skerton. After tea he & I went to Lancaster, & returned about 10 ocl[oc]k.

Sunday 7 October 1906 J[im] W[ilson] & I had a walk this forenoon through Barleycop-lane & away, s.w. by Cross Hill, & then back again. An immense lot of blackberries in the hedges – never saw such a quantity before. The very fine summer we have had has brought them out; but I apprehend the season is now too far gone for their full ripening.

Monday 8 October 1906 In forenoon I, my wife, & J[im] W[ilson] & his wife to Morecambe, per tram car. Stayed about an hour & a half. Place dull. Many houses to let – as there have been for a long time. Morecambe is over built east & west. Got back to J[im] W[ilson]'s about 1.45 pm. Dinner. In evening to Lancaster for about two hours.

Tuesday 9 October 1906 This forenoon I & J[im] W[ilson] had a walk on the main road to Slyne village, where we had a glass of beer each,

69 Frederick Shaw Mitchell et al., *The Birds of Lancashire* (London: Gurney & Jackson, 1892), https://archive.org/details/birdsoflancashir00mitc/page/n9/mode/2up; Mitchell (c. 1851-1929) emigrated to Canada after his family's Clitheroe paper mill was found to have polluted the River Ribble.

in an old hostelry, over the front door of which was the date 1747. In aft[ernoo]n I, my wife, J[im] W[ilson]& his wife to Lancaster; rambled about – amongst other places J[im] & I walked through were Chancery lane & Anchor-lane.[70] Back to Skerton; tea; home at night; & found everything there all right.

Wednesday 10 October 1906 In forenoon in house. In af[ternoo]n same. Played cards at night with my wife. Walter Duesbury my son=in=law ~~cam~~ dropped in to stay all night.

Thursday 11 October 1906 Out in aft[ernoo]n for a paper (The Mirror - ½d) & some of Horniman's tea. Got paper easily: had some trouble in getting the tea. Called at one place where Brooke Bond & Co's tea was labelled on sale & preferring it to none asked for a quarter of a pound. A little rough headed man said they only sold it in pennyworths so I came out. Eventually got some of Horniman's in Garstang-road. Cards at night with my wife & W[alter] D[uesbury] who stayed all night.

Friday 12 October 1906 Sub-editing at noon. To railway station in aft[ernoo]n. On returning met Major Little, Head Constable of Preston, & had a chat with him. In our talk he told me that when serving in the West Indies, in connection with the British army, he was one day on board ~~the~~ a war vessel – the Alabama – a notorious blockade runner in the Civil War between the North & Southern States. – This aft[ernoo]n settled, along with H. W. Clemesha* who was jointly responsible, my Court Leet book a/c [account] with the Corporation. Then home. At night reading, &c.[71]

Saturday 13 October 1906 In forenoon to Preston – groceries, house agent, news agent &c, called on; then home. In af[ternoo]n read papers; at night same. A servant – temporary I apprehend – named Rebecca came to-day to us. We will try her & see what she is like.

Sunday 14 October 1906 Doing different little jobs in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n & evening read books of Zephaniah, Haggai, & three

70 Hewitson had served his printing apprenticeship in Anchor Lane, at the office of the *Lancaster Gazette* (vol. 1, p. 6).

71 The preface of Hewitson's *Court Leet Records* mentions 'the decision of the Corporation of Preston to defray out of the municipal treasury the major part of the necessary expense' of publication.

chapters of Zechariah; also portions of Law's "Call", Bunyan's P[ilgrim's] P[rogress] and Trelawneys & Shelly [sic] & Byron Records.[72]

Monday 15 October 1906 Went to see Billington, paper hanger &c, 40 Pedder-st[ree]t, to see why he had not begun work (papering, painting, &c) at our house. He said it was due to a misunderstanding, & he began the job in the aft[ernoo]n. – This aft[ernoo]n sale of John Threlfall's stock, hay, furniture, &c at Blackleach, Woodplumpton. This is the break-up of his regular home.[73]

Tuesday 16 October 1906 A good deal of chaos in our house through the operations of the paper hanger, &c, & it will increase till he has finished. To Preston in aft[ernoo]n. Called at auctioneer Reed's, Fishergate & paid for photo - large framed one – of the laying of Preston Dock corner stone by the Prince of Wales (now King) in 1885. I commissioned Reed to buy it, as it contains a good portrait of myself. R was trying to sell some engravings this aft[ernoo]n. Fearfully slow business. Saw Guardian office artist. Home.[74]

Wednesday 17 October 1906 Odds & ends. In af[ternoo]n to Preston. Called at Free Library; got out the autobiography of Chichele Plowden, one of the London police court magistrates. Home. At night read some pages of the book.[75]

Thursday 18 October 1906 The man Billington – a fat, stuttering, decent fellow – finished his work of whitewashing, papering, & painting this af[ternoo]n & we paid him. At night – by request –I went to keep W[illia]m Livesey company whilst his daughter & housekeeper were at the ordination of Dyson, the new pastor of Garstang-road Congregational Chapel. Remained with W[illiam] L[ivesey] chatting on all sorts of subjects for 3 hours.[76]

Friday 19 October 1906 To Preston in af[ternoo]n. – called at Halewood's, bookseller, Friargate; af[terwar]ds H. W. Clemesha*, Free Library art gallery &c. At night reading Plowden's auto[biography] & af[terwar]ds played at cards with my wife.[77]

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72 Edward John Trelawny, *Records of Shelley, Byron, and the Author* (London: Pickering and Chatto, 1887), http://archive.org/details/recordsofshelle00trel

73 Joseph Henry Billington (b. 1844).

74 Edward James Reed (1862-1932) of Grosvenor Place, Ashton; see photo, vol. 1, p. 516.

75 Alfred Chichele Plowden, *Grain Or Chaff?: The Autobiography of a Police Magistrate* (London: T. F. Unwin, 1903), http://archive.org/details/grainorchaffaut00plowgoog

76 James Dyson (b. 1877).

77 William Halewood (1840-1931) or Alfred Halewood (1871-1937).

Saturday 20 October 1906 Preston in the aft[ernoo]n. Got some newspapers. Called on Halewood, bookseller, who paid me for some copies of "Northward" & "Preston Court Leet Records". Read a good deal of Plowden's autobiography at night.

Sunday 21 October 1906 A few odds & ends attended to in forenoon. Aft[ernoo]n – Read 10 chapt[er]s of Zechariah, & the book of Malachi. Have now read through the Bible – every word - & had previously read through the New Testament. Finished A.C. Plowden's book of reminiscences. Between 9 & 10 played cards with my wife.

Monday 22 October 1906 To Preston. Returned Plowden's book to the Free Library. Gave a copy of Preston C[our]t Leet Records to T. H. Myres, who was much pleased with it. Left two copies on sale or return with Miss Robinson, book-seller, Fishergate, & left two, for H. W. Clemesha* on same terms at Platt Bros. Bank House. Reading &c.

Tuesday 23 October 1906 In course of day to Preston. Read some of Trelawney's Shelley & Byron. ~~At night re.~~

Wednesday 24 October 1906 Searching some of my diaries for the nineties – 1895-1900 & found what I wanted on nearly the last page. To Preston in the af[ternoo]n. Walked both ways, & part of the way returned through Moor Park. Weather favourable. Later read newspapers & a few pages of Trelawney's Shelley & Byron. Played cards for a short time with my wife.

Thursday 25 October 1906 To Preston for papers in forenoon. Met W[illia]m Blackburn, formerly a grocer in Church-st[ree]t. He is about 75 y[ear]rs of age & for his age looks very hale & hearty. Home. In af[ternoo]n I & my wife in Moor Park for about an hour & a half. Very fine, bright, genial day. At night read papers, some pages of Trelawney's Shelley & Byron, & played cards with my wife.[78]

Friday 26 October 1906 Cold day – east wind; just the reverse of yesterday. Read some pages of Trelawney's Shelley & Byron. At night called on W[illiam] Livesey – from about 7.30 to 8.50. He seemed very well & we had some pleasant, amusing conversation – anecdotes, personal & otherwise, & miscellaneous observations. Later, at home, read papers, &c, & played at cards with my wife.

78 William Blackburn (c. 1832-1914).

Saturday 27 October 1906 Went to Preston in af[ternoo]n; nothing particular. In evening read newspapers. Subsequently called on Chris. Hargreaves, who lives in Watling-st[ree]t road, Fulwood. We had a long chat on various subjects. Had a glass of whiskey. His wife a quiet sensible person. Home; to bed about 11.30.[79]

Sunday 28 October 1906 Variously occupied in forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n – finished Trelawney's Shelley & Byron; also read some pages of Theodore Parker's Discourse on Matters Pertaining to Religion (I first read this about or in 1860). Bunyan's P[ilgrim's] P[rogress], Law's Call, &c. Between 9 & 10 played at cards with my wife.[80]

Monday 29 October 1906 Nothing particular in forenoon. ~~In af[ternoo]n~~ To Preston – a few odds & ends. Read a little of Lant Carpenter's "Energy in Nature" &c. About 5.30 pm son-in-law W[alter] D[uesbury] came. Later, about 9 he joined me & my wife at a little card playing. He stayed all night.[81]

Tuesday 30 October 1906 Son-in-law W[alter] D[uesbury] to his business duties – Preston & Chorley. I to Preston in the forenoon. Called on H. W. Clemesha* respecting the present address of his ~~son~~ uncle Will, whom I first became acquainted with when he was serving his time with Lawrence Dobson at the Chronicle office – in the shop department. – Read some of Carpenter's E[nergy] in N[ature]. Son-in-law returned about 6 pm & stayed all night. Wife & I had a little card playing.[82]

Wednesday 31 October 1906 Miscellaneous. To Preston. Called at Free Library, &c. In evening read part of Roper's Life of Sir Thomas More. Later played at cards with my wife.[83]

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79 Christopher Hargreaves (1829-1908), cabinet maker and furniture dealer, Poor Law Guardian; Helen Hargreaves, née Walton(?) (1839-1923).

80 Theodore Parker, *A Discourse of Matters Pertaining to Religion* (Boston, MA: Horace R. Fuller, 1870), http://archive.org/details/discourseofmatt1870park; William Law, *A Serious Call to a Holy Life* (London: J Paramore, 1784), http://archive.org/details/bim_eighteenth-century_a-serious-call-to-a-holy_law-william_1784

81 William Lant Carpenter, *Energy in Nature: The Forces of Nature and Their Mutual Relations* (London: Cassell, 1883), https://wellcomecollection.org/works/fxt44bkz/items?canvas=7

82 William Clemesha (1842-1919).

83 William Roper, *The Life of Sir Thomas More* (London: Burns & Oates, 1905) http://archive.org/details/lifeofsirthomasm00ropeuoft

November

Thursday 1 November 1906 To Manchester per 12.20 noon train. Son H[orace] met me at Victoria station by arrangement. We went to daughter M[abel]'s – Roseberry Street, Moss Side. Found everything clean & the five children lively & healthy. Returned to Preston per 5.15 train. Read a little at night & played for a short time at cards.

Friday 2 November 1906 Saw Mr E. Bush,* architect, Preston, in forenoon about contractor's bill re work at the Mitre Hotel, Fishergate which has become very expensive and unsatisfactory property. In aft[ernoo]n compiling matter in respect to some projected articles on Walks around Preston. At night read papers & played at cards for about half an hour.

Saturday 3 November 1906 Met daughter L[etty], from Stalybridge, at station, by train due at 11.10. Train 1½ minutes before time. Little son Bertie –a fine sharp lad about 2 y[ea]rs & 8 months old with her. Home after getting some papers. My wife, d[aughte]r L[etty], & grandson Bertie followed. House in aft[ernoo]n & night. Read papers, &c, and between 9 & 10 we played at cards – whist with a dummy.

Sunday 4 November 1906 Various in forenoon. ~~In af[ternoo]n~~. Read a chapter of Law's "Call", &c. In af[ternoo]n read sundry pages of Pilgrim's Progress. A Prayer from George Dawson's "Prayers" & a chapter in Theo Parkers Discourse on Religious Matters. At night looked at some views of Lake District scenery, Londonderry, &c. Cards.

Monday 5 November 1906 Daughter L[etty] & son Bertie back home this aft[ernoo]n per 3.12 train. Read this af[ternoo]n – finished Roper's life of Sir T[homas] More and read 37 pages of Anne Manning's "The Household of Sir Thomas More". Out for a paper – into Plungington-road – in the early evening. Much racket by noise-loving children & youths with crackers, fire-fizzing things, &c. At night read papers. Later cards with my wife.[84]

84 Anne Manning, *The Household of Sir Thomas More* (London: John C Nimmo, 1896),

Tuesday 6 November 1906 Miscellaneous. P. Crook, Mitre, called. Rent.

Wednesday 7 November 1906 Miscellaneous. Some work re articles on Walks about Preston. Cards with my wife for about half an hour at night.

Thursday 8 November 1906 Same. Got Vol 2 of life of Professor Adam Sedgwick from Free Library. Cards.[85]

Friday 9 November 1906 To Preston in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n some work on Walks about Preston. Cards at night.

Saturday 10 November 1906 In af[ternoo]n to Preston. Called at Deacon William's [sic] Bank & got some money. In aft[ernoo]n later, cleaned up front garden – leaves, &c. At about 6 o clock to Turkish bath, on Lark Hill. Stayed there something like an hour & a half. Only myself in bath. On returning saw, in Church st[ree]t, at his sister's greengrocery door, John Morgan, once a student at Stonyhurst College. He learnt reporting under me af[terwar]ds, at Chronicle Office. He is now a haggard, broken-down, seedy-looking ~~failu~~ person. Drink &c. I reading at night.[86]

Sunday 11 November 1906 Joined procession in forenoon from Town Hall to Parish Church of new Mayor (Will Ord, leather dealer, &c, Friargate, son of Tom Ord, of Satterthwaite & Ord - a decent man ordinarily, but occasionally went on a spree & carried on in Back lane, &c, like a prize medal devil. – The procession a large & very demonstrative one. – The new Mayor (W[ill] O[rd]) will, I think, get through his duties all right. He is physically very large & red-faced, genial, & I should say a very decided stranger to books, but very well versed in the laws of foot-ball. – In aft[ernoo]n I finished Bunyan's P[ilgrim's] P[rogress]. – The copy was given to me 55 years ago by the late T. Johnson, solicitor, Lancaster,

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https://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/45187, historical novel; the defeat of the 1605 'Gunpowder Plot' against King James is celebrated with fireworks and bonfires.

85 John Willis Clark and Thomas McKenny Hughes, *The Life and Letters of the Reverend Adam Sedgwick* (Cambridge University Press, 1890), https://archive.org/details/lifelettersofrev01clarrich; Sedgwick was a native of Dent, near where Hewitson grew up; see 21 November 1906.

86 Stonyhurst College near Clitheroe is a prestigious Catholic public school; for Morgan see vol. 1, 11 March 1872, 29 June 1881.

& not until now have I read it through! Other reading Theo. Parker, Anne Mannings Sir T[homas] M[ore]'s Household, &c. At night some card playing with my wife.[87]

Monday 12 November 1906 Walked to Penwortham. – Looked at site of St Mary's well – well now done away with & all or main portion of water apparently drained into a cattle trough, about 25 yards south of original position; looked at base of stone cross, on side of road to the church; at the Priory, the church, John Cooper's grave, John ~~Horrockse~~ Horrocks's grave, W. Whelons grave (Whelon was once a "big gun" at Lancaster – Mayor, &c, & came to an untimely end – grave, with a very small memorial stone not far from n.w. corner of chancel); went on Castle Hill, returned by way of lane at rear ~~of~~ & s.side of The Oaks – the residence & property of my old friend the late John Cooper. It has been empty about four years.

Tuesday 13 November 1906 Miscellaneous.

Wednesday 14 November 1906 Same. To Preston. Finished Anne Manning's "The Household of Sir Thomas More" to-night. A very quaint, well-written, interesting historical story - fiction based a good deal on fact.

Thursday 15 November 1906 A damp, muggy day. In af[ternoo]n read papers & did some preparation work re Walks about Preston. In evening chimney smoked. Read a description of Messrs Cadbury's "Bourneville" in Worcester [sic], lent to me by W Livesey who enclosed note herewith. (see opposite page [note missing]) Very interesting, excellent place – according to the descriptions & the illustrations – is "Bourneville". Between 9 & 10 played at cards with my wife.[88]

Friday 16 November 1906 Muggy, cold, & wet day. To Preston for a short time at night – called on grocer, examined some ordnance survey maps at Free Library, &c. The Free Library tonight – Reference Department –

87 Thomas Ord (c. 1823-71); Thomas Johnson (c. 1818-92), mentor of the young Hewitson in Lancaster, see vol. 1, p. 621.

88 Bournville (Hewitson misspelled it) near Birmingham, a 'model' village built for workers at the Cadbury chocolate factory.

looked more like a school than anything else – a lot of lads apparently doing school lessons. No place this for a pack of lads to be doing lesson work in. My wife not well – a bronchial attack.

Saturday 17 November 1906 This forenoon to Preston. Called at one or two shops, a property agents' office, newspaper office, &c. Reading newspapers in af[ternoo]n. In evening read sundry pages of W. Chambers's ~~Remarkable~~ "Stories of Remarkable Persons". Had a game or two at cards with my wife.[89]

Sunday 18 November 1906 Naught-particular in forenoon. My reading in af[ternoo]n & evening consisted of pages of Law's "Call", Parker's Religious Discourses, & T.P's Weekly. At night from about 9.30 to 10, cards.[90]

Monday 19 November 1906 Some work in connection with "Walks about Preston" this forenoon. In the aft[ernoo]n to Preston: called on Dr R. C. Brown, Winckley Square – an old friend – respecting my wife's breast: called at Edwin Bush's,* Fishergate; regarding my shop 181 Fishergate got my hair cut & beard trimmed in Cannon-st[ree]t & then home. At night read paper, &c. Cards later.

Tuesday 20 November 1906 Amongst what I did to-day was a little work in connection with my projected articles on "Walks". ~~Cards for~~ Read some of W. Chambers' "Remarkable Persons". Cards for a short time at night.

Wednesday 21 November 1906 Doing some "Walks" work. In evening to Preston Free Library. Got out Vol 1 of Life of Professor Adam Sedgwick, the famous geologist. Mainly interested in him because he was a native of Dent about which & its district he writes very interestingly. I used to go with my grandfather (Thomas Moore of Ingleton) to Dent – to stay at the Sun Inn, his property, &

89 William Chambers, *Stories of Remarkable Persons* (Edinburgh: W. & R. Chambers, 1878), https://www.google.co.uk/books/edition/Stories_of_Remarkable_Persons/y2wBAAAAQAAJ

90 *T.P.'s Weekly* (1902-16), middlebrow literary paper published by Radical MP Thomas Power O'Connor.

kept by his eldest son, Peter. A bit of card-playing at night. To-day Isaac Foxcroft died, aged 85 years, at Penny's Old Men's Hospital, Lancaster. I first knew him in connection with a debating class, at Lancaster, about 1856. He was a shrewd, thoughtful, agnostical sort of fellow – quite wonderful for a working man. He was a ~~Read some pages of Chambers Remarkable Persons. Not so well – flatulence or indigestion~~ cotton operative of the better order, I think. His father was an old soldier or sailor – I think the latter, under Nelson or one of the other great commanders. Knew Isaac at Caton, Lancaster, Preston & Galgate. When at last place I had him once or twice at Forton Bank – in, I think, latter part of 1891. – R.I.P.[91]

Thursday 22 November 1906 Work on "Walks". Read some pages of Chambers "Remarkable Persons. Not so well - flatulence, indigestion.

Friday 23 November 1906 Early this morning – about 5 ocl[oc]k – took a seidlitz powder. In aft[ernoo]n to Preston. Read papers. Not very much, though a little better at night. An attack of indigestion after tea. Played at cards for half an hour with my wife.

Saturday 24 November 1906 Had a bad night – last night stomach out of order. Took another seidlitz powder about 6 this morning. In aft[ernoo]n son H[orace] & his son A[nthony] came from their home in Manchester for half a day – with trip ticket. They stayed till about 7.40 when I set them, per tram, to Preston. Papers. 10 oclock home. Read a little.

Sunday 25 November 1906 Wrote, &c, to son Bertie. Read portions of Law's "Call" and Parker's Religious Discourses. Examined Diary for 1891 – how interesting yet full of change. Troubled with flatulence myself & my wife somewhat similar. Foggy, doleful-looking day. By & by we shall be having clear & better weather.

Monday 26 November 1906 Nothing very particular. At night from about 7.30 to 9 at W[illia]m Livesey's. Reveley, lawyer, husband of one of W[illiam] L[ivesey]'s nieces there. A very strong Tory, & I coincided

91 See 9 and 14 December 1891.

very keenly with some of his views. W[alter] Duesbury, my son in l[aw], came this evening. He stayed all night.[92]

Tuesday 27 November 1906 To Preston this forenoon & saw Utton Bros, Cannon-st[ree]t, about my shop, 18a, Fishergate, the tenancy of which (though on a lease by B.U.D. Co Ltd for 5½ years I can exercise veto upon. Won't sanction a measly[?] temporary or monthly tenant. In aft[ernoo]n had a walk, to see base of an old stone cross to railway bridge in Lightfoot House Lane, Broughton. Walked altogether to-day about 6½ miles, Son in l[aw] W[alter] D[uesbury] here tonight.[93]

Wednesday 28 November 1906 Some data arranging – "Walks". Read two or three articles ~~in~~ or chapters in Chambers' "Remarkable Persons". At 7 in evening went to fetch my wife who had gone to tea at Will (Alderman) Hale's,* Fulwood, not far from the Barracks, on east side. Found her playing at cards with Mrs Hale, & Mr. & Mrs Bramwell*. W[ill] H[ale] & I had a long talk about the Ribble improvement (?) works. No improvement at all as to channel, near Preston. An expensive – abominably expensive – bungle & mistake.

Thursday 29 November 1906 To Preston Free Library, in af[ternoo]n. Returned Vol 1 of Life of Professor Adam Sedgwick. Spent some time amongst Ordnance maps in Reference department. Then looked at last weekly issue of "Notes & Queries", & nearly fell asleep. After tea read papers & some pages of Chambers' "Remarkable Persons". Cards – my wife plays much better than formerly.[94]

Friday 30 November 1906 Odds & ends in morning. Went to Preston in aft[ernoo]n & amongst other places, ~~[indecipherable]~~ called at Free Library. Too dark to see pictures properly in middle room. Went into Reference department. In evening son-in-law Walter Duesbury, who went to a Cricket Club supper. I read papers &c. From about half past nine to ten cards with my wife.

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92 Mary Selina Reveley née Livesey (1856), daughter of Newton Livesey; Thomas Reveley (1855-1933), solicitor, expert angler.

93 Burton United Distillers; Utton Brothers were estate agents.

94 Launched in 1849, *Notes & Queries* consists mostly of questions and answers about folklore, literature and history, written largely by readers.

December

Saturday 1 December 1906 To Preston (miscellaneous) in aft[ernoo]n. My old friend James Berry, of Grimsargh, near Preston, died to-day, in his 72nd year. I knew his grandfather very well – Paul Berry, the old clerk and sexton at Ingleton Parish Church. He lived in "Paul Fold" near S.E corner of Ingleton bridge, below the Church.[95]

Sunday 2 December 1906 Rose about 9.30. Breakfast; letters, &c. Read in aft[ernoo]n & evening chapter in Law's "Call", a portion of St Matthew (Chap[ter] 2), sundry pages of Parker's "Discourses" and upwards of 120 pages of T Cooper's "God, the Soul, and a Future State." From 9.30 to 10 played at cards with my wife.[96]

Monday 3 December 1906 To Preston in aft[ernoo]n. Called at Free Library. Got out Sir F Treve's "The Other Side of the Lantern" and at night I read numerous pages of it. Well written. A description of a journey round the World via Suez Canal, Japan, California, &c. Cards later.[97]

Tuesday 4 December 1906 Got to-day a small, plain book case, so as to "house" a lot of books now on Library floor. Ordered it yesterday from Hill, joiner &c, Cannon-st[ree]t, Preston; price 8/-. At night read a fairish lot of "The Other side of the Lantern". Between 9 & 10 cards.[98]

Wednesday 5 December 1906 Put up new small bookcase and filled it with books. Read papers & some pages of Treve's book. Cards as usual.

Thursday 6 December 1906 Saw Mr Bush,* architect, at his office, in Preston. Called on Hill & paid for book case. Free Library. Home. Doing a little "Walks" work. Read papers and part of Treve's book. Cards.

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95 James Berry (1835-1906), of the huge Horrockses, Crewdson & Co cotton combine, Poor Law Guardian; Paul Berry (c. 1762-1851), see annotated bound copy of 'The story of my village; or fifty years ago' by Ingle [Anthony Hewitson], Lancashire Archives DP/512/3/3, p. 20.

96 Thomas Cooper, *God, the Soul, and a Future State* (London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1873), https://www.google.co.uk/books/edition/God_the_Soul_and_a_Future_State/egkDAAAAQAAJ

97 Frederick Treves, *The Other Side of the Lantern : An Account of a Commonplace Tour Round the World* (London: Cassell, 1906), https://archive.org/details/b24751340; Treves was a surgeon and friend of the 'Elephant Man' Joseph Merrick.

98 Either George Hill (1831-1908) or Thomas Hill (1852-1924), both of Glover's Court near Cannon St.

Friday 7 December 1906 Fastening, clipping & trimming ivy in front of house. To Preston. Only slow look in business for time of year. Read papers and some of Treve's book. Glanced at T.P.'s weekly, cards. Smoke &c as usual.

Saturday 8 December 1906 To Preston. Paid Fulwood rates to JJ Sandham, collector, at Overseer's Buildings. JJS is now a big, broad-shouldered, hairy faced, lumpy-looking fellow. I used to know him when he was a child running about in petticoats. Read papers in aft[ernoo]n. At night to Preston for about an hour. Home. Read some of Sir F Treve's book. Cards in customary way.[99]

Sunday 9 December 1906 Reading included sundry pages of Law's "Call", Parker's "Discourses" & Treve's "The Other Side of the Lantern." At night, for a short time cards -- my wife licking me as she generally does.

Monday 10 December 1906 Seeing to wood for fire lighting. To Preston. Ground hard with frost. Bought copy of Lockhart's Life of Scott, Home. Read a good deal of Treves' book to-day. Called on T.A. Peters. At night, for about an hour and a half, at W Livesey's. He was in very good form.[100]

Tuesday 11 December 1906 Nothing very special. Did a little work re "Walks." Read some of Treve's "The Other Side of the Lantern." Cards as previously.

Wednesday 12 December 1906 In aft[ernoo]n my wife to tea at the Priory (T.A. Peters') with Mrs Peters. At night, about 7.30, owing to the inclemency of the weather, I went on for my wife and stayed about an hour and a half – chatting, smoking & animating same with a "drop of whiskey." Mr P had also bacca & usquebaugh.[101]

Thursday 13 December 1906 Did a little "Walks" work, read Treves' book and played at cards.

99 John James Sandham (1860–1933); Hewitson had been friendly with his father, Robert (vol. 1, 23 July, 23 August, 29 August 1874).

100 There are many editions, this was the most recent: John Gibson Lockhart, *The Life of Sir Walter Scott*, ed. John McGavin Sloan (London: Hutchinson and Co, 1904), https://archive.org/details/lifeofsirwalters00hutt

101 Bacca: tobacco.

Friday 14 December 1906 To Preston in aft[ernoo]n. Town somewhat dull – seemingly very dull for the season of the year. At night read papers and from 9.30 to 10 played at cards with my wife.

Saturday 15 December 1906 My wife went to Wakefield (son E[thelbert]'s) per 1.20pm train – a wretchedly slow one. I set her to the station. In aft[ernoo]n, on returning home, had a walk up Lower Bank-rd & across into Moor Park going through it west. Snow on ground; ice on Serpentine water; a lot of young fellows footballing. After tea read papers and a lot of Treves' book. Servant R[ebecca] off, deceptively, to-night.

Sunday 16 December 1906 Rose at 9.30. Muggy damp morning. Breakfast; dinner, &c. Later read 2 chapters of St Matthew, a portion of Law's "Call", several pages of Parker's "Discourses" a Collect & prayer by Geo Dawson, part of W Chambers's "Remarkable Persons" & T.P's Weekly.

Monday 17 December 1906 Attended to various necessary home matters. To Preston in aft[ernoo]n. Dirty walking. To railway station inquiring about Xmas & New Year trains to Yorkshire. No change. Afterwards to Free Library – Reference department & read in Notes & Queries. Home. At night read paper & finished both Chambers' "Remarkable Persons" (very good & interesting), & Treves' "The Other Side of the Lantern (very well & ably written, but overcharged with details making reading somewhat tedious**.** Letter from & to daughter Rose.

Tuesday 18 December 1906 To Preston in aft[ernoo]n. Later did a little "Walks" work. At night read papers & some of W Chambers's "Stories of Old Families."[102]

Wednesday 19 December 1906 Again to Preston in aft[ernoo]n. My specs. require new sides; left them at Cartwrights, Fishergate – to be ready for me shortly before 8 o'clock. Home. A little work on "Walks." At night to Preston. Got my specs. Went (by special invitation from the President – Mr T.H. Myres – to a lecture in Scientific Society's room, on Races of Europe, by his nephew, a son of the late Rev Myres formerly of St Paul's church, Preston. Able lecture, but not so well delivered. Afterwards spoke

102 William Chambers, *Stories of Old Families* (Edinburgh: W & R Chambers, 1878), https://hdl.handle.net/2027/nyp.33433081848065?urlappend=%3Bseq=13

to lecturer – told him I had not seen him since he was 3 months old. (See my article – Preston Churches & Chapels – St Paul's.)[103]

Thursday 20 December 1906 To Preston this forenoon & sent a Xmas present to son H[orace] & daughter M[abel]. Later in day did a little work on the "Walks" job. At night read a lot in W Chambers's "Stories of Old Families." Like his "Remarkable Persons", very instructive & interesting. Beats fiction hollow.

Friday 21 December 1906 Saw one of Utton Bros, property agents, Cannon-st[ree]t, Preston – in response to a letter from them – as to a person at Manchester who is after shop 18a, Fishergate. Gave my sanction, subject to certain conditions for the Burton United Distillers Ltd people to sub-let the premises. A walk through Cadley in aft[ernoo]n. Some work on "Walks." Read a good deal in "Stories of Old Families" after seeing W[illia]m Livesey at his house from about 7.30 to 8.55. He was moderately well.

Saturday 22 December 1906 Nothing particular this forenoon. To Preston in aft[ernoo]n for a little while. The town getting throng for Xmas. At night read papers and wrote to my wife who is still at son Bertie's. I have written three or four times this week & she has only written to me once; son B[ertie] writing another. She does not care about letter writing. Frosty night.

Sunday 23 December 1906 My reading to-day – after attending to necessary physical matters – included portions of Scripture, Law's "Call", Parker's "Discourses," Geo Dawson's "Prayers", T.P's Weekly & W Chambers Stories of Old Families. (In aft[ernoo]n had a walk up Garstang-road round into Cadley Lane, at Black Bull, Broughton, & so home.)

Monday 24 December 1906 Got some cards for Christmas & New Year greetings – inside printed. Also an illustrated calendar, &c. This in aft[ernoo]n. In the evening got them ready for post & posted them along with one or two letters. Subsequently read newspaper & sundry pages of Chambers's Stories of Old Families. Stayed up till shortly after 12 to let in Xmas day & thanked God for the birth of Christ.

103 John Linton Myres (1869-1954), archaeologist, fellow of Christ Church, Oxford, son of Rev. William Miles Myres (1838-1901).

Tuesday 25 December 1906 Made & got my Xmas dinner alone; my wife being at son Bertie's Wakefield, in anticipation of his wife's accouchement. Dinner consisted of some boiled ham, mashed potatoes, piece of pie, apple & a glass & a half of port wine. In aft[ernoo]n I went to Preston Cemetery, to look at graves of my children, my wife's parents, &c. On returning & after tea, I went to Preston for a short time. Sleet. A show open near Orchard. About 100 youths sliding in the market place. Home. Read a newspaper and some pages of Chambers Stories of Old Families.[104]

Wednesday 26 December 1906 Great fall of snow – from about 6 to 9 or 10 inches deep all about, and in drifts here and there perhaps a yard deep. In aft[ernoo]n to Preston. Bulk of the shops shut. Rev T.A. Peters called in the evening about 6.30 & stayed till 7.40. Had a smoke & some whiskey; I had some later. Gale blowing from the north chiefly, causing puffs of smoke to come down our kitchen chimney, notwithstanding the fact that on Monday a new ring cowl was put on top of chimney, in place of a patent chimney pot.

Thursday 27 December 1906 To Preston in forenoon. Called at Williams Deacon's Ltd Bank, Fishergate, top of Lune-st[ree]t & deposited some money. Then called at Clarke, Son & Walsh's, solicitors, Lune-st[ree]t & paid fire insurance premium on Mitre &c property. Then home to dinner. Afterwards to Preston again & called at C[larke], S[on] & W[alsh]'s re fire insurance policy. At night a schoolmaster from Underbarrow near Kendal called on me respecting Samuel Rhodes, an old Kendalian & a native of Walton near Preston. I once wrote something in Preston Guardian about S[amuel] R[hodes], & schoolmaster wanted to see it for Miss Rhodes of Kendal.[105]

Friday 28 December 1906 Miscellaneous. In evening had a walk up Garstang-rd as far as second milestone – near the Orphanage. Later read some of W Chambers's Stories of Old Families. Snow and frost. Some tremendous snow fall this week.

104 Accouchement: giving birth.

105 Samuel Rhodes (1803-75), mayor of Kendal, Liberal, anti-Corn Law campaigner; William Waddington (1864-1943), Preston-born schoolmaster of Underbarrow; Miss Rhodes unidentified.

Saturday 29 December 1906 To my wife at Wakefield (at son Bertie's) per 3pm train from Preston. Found all in order.

Sunday 30 December 1906 Morning spent rather indifferently. In aft[ernoo]n went with my son Bertie to West Parade Wesleyan Chapel, Wakefield, to a service of the Christian Brotherhood established there. They have promised an adv[er]t for the Herald weekly if we will give them a weekly par[agraph]; so Bertie attends. The service was a religious one, like a short Nonconformist chapel service. About 50 present.[106]

Monday 31 December 1906 Went down to the Herald office in forenoon & looked about giving some orders as to keeping the rooms, the machinery &c in proper state. At night I, my wife & son Bertie with my daughter F[lorence] from London, for a while (meeting place at H[erald] office). She wants some pecuniary help. Will see about it. Played at cards later, at Bertie's, with my wife and his wife. Stayed up to see the New Year in. As soon as the Town Hall clock had struck 12, I kissed my wife & wished her a Happy New Year & shook hands with my son Ethelbert (Bertie) and wished him also a Happy New Year.

I thank Almighty God for all the help, blessings and kindness He has vouchsafed to me and mine during this year.

[pencil notes]:

cf April 13 off Ingleton visit July 7th off Canon Maddison Mar 13th

106 A quarter of a column is given to Bertie's report of the service (*WH* 5 January 1907, p.8).

1911

After 1906 there is another gap until the next volume, for 1911. The Hewitsons still rented a house in Queens Road, Fulwood, a northern suburb of Preston, a few doors away from their old friend William Livesey. They also rented a house for summer twenty-five miles north-west of Preston at 7, The Avenue, Bare, a small village rapidly becoming swallowed by its neighbour, the seaside resort of Morecambe.

Hewitson, now seventy-four, continued to write historical and topographical articles and books; the diaries of Thomas Bellingham, which he had edited by early 1906, were revised and published in 1908. A few days later the Hewitsons celebrated fifty years of marriage (fig. 6).[1] He published selected transcriptions from another Preston diary, that of local landowner Lawrence Rawstorne of Hutton for 1687–89, in 1909, in the *Preston Guardian*.

As the 1911 diary begins, he is in the process of selling the *Wakefield Herald* to Charles Furniss Wardley of Buxton, who had recently sold three Derbyshire newspapers, the *Buxton Advertiser, High Peak News* and *Matlock Guardian* and a printing and publishing company for £11,600.[2] There were now only three newspapers in Wakefield: the dominant *Express*, Hewitson's ailing *Herald*, and a free newspaper, the *Advertiser*, run by Hewitson's former business partner, CW Carr. Wakefield's population had nearly doubled in the previous ten years, but only the *Express* appeared to benefit from this growth; it had more capital, a larger staff, and was probably better managed than the *Herald*. Ethelbert, Hewitson's eldest son, had been running the *Herald*, with some oversight by his father.

1 'Fifty years. Mr and Mrs Hewitson's golden wedding', *PG*, Sept 19 1908, p. 11.

2 Anthea and Neil Darlington, 'St Paul's church, Kersal Moor' churchyard trail leaflet (St Paul's Committee of the Parochial Church Council/SPAC, 2011), https://storage.victoriansociety.org.uk/source/St_Pauls_Churchyard-rev4.pdf?_t=1519402435; Charles Furniss Wardley (1856-1924).

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Horace and family were settled in Blackpool, where he worked in a newspaper's commercial department; Letitia was in Stalybridge, Rosaline in West Bowling, Bradford. Hewitson had less contact with his other three children: he appears to have become estranged from his eldest daughter Florence, who was still in London, working as a veterinary nurse; she had married her second husband, Frederick Bell, in 1907, about six months after her first husband, George Barker died (they may have been separated). Mabel had been admitted to the Whittingham county asylum east of Preston in September 1909, while nothing had been heard of Llewellyn for four years, until a letter from California (6 February 1911).[3]



Fig. 6. Davis & Sons, Lancaster, Anthony and Margaret Hewitson on their golden wedding anniversary, 1908, courtesy of Rob Blackmore, CC BY.

3 Admission order for Mabel Clarkson, 16 September 1909, Lancashire Archives: HRW12/1/13970.

[Home Diary and Note Book for 1911
Boots Cash Chemists][4]

[Inside front cover in pencil]

Wfd Herald sold & paid for March 11th, 1911

Diary of Anthony Hewitson, 7, Queen's-road, Fulwood, Preston, & 7, The Avenue, Bare, Morecambe, also 33 Prince's Crescent, Bare

[In ballpoint:]

Now the property of his grandson Robert Hewitson Blackmore 14 Florizel St Burwood Vic]

[These dates marked or ringed in pencil on calendar page:]

Monday 24th April
Monday 19th June
Monday 3rd July plus "15/5" in margin
Mondays 14th and 21st August
Monday 16th October]

[On Memoranda page:]

God protect, guide, and bless me and mine during this year.

A.H.

4 Lancashire Archives DP512/1/15.

January

Sunday 1 January 1911 In house (Bertie's) at Wakefield all day with my wife, &c. Took some of Eade's Gout & Rheumatic Pills, to cure, if possible, the pain & swelling (goutish) in my left foot. Read a little.

Monday 2 January 1911 Took two of Eade's pills this morning. Considerable relief came later.

Tuesday 3 January 1911 Improvement going on – due to Eade's pills, in my opinion. Read papers &c. To-day Mr Wardley, the new proprietor of the W[akefield] Herald & one of his sons took up their positions at the office.

Wednesday 4 January 1911 About 10 this forenoon a representative of the landlords of the Herald Office & its curtilage called. I & Mr Wardley met him. He went through the office & surveyed the hoarding outside. In the evening I & my wife to daughter Rose's, West Bowling, Bradford.[5]

Thursday 5 January 1911 In af[ternoo]n, my wife & daughter R[ose], with two of the children to a pantomime at Bradford. At about 4pm I went to Wakefield re W[akefield] H[erald]. Got some information, required by Gee & Co, London. Had tea at son Bertie's. He took down information in question & posted it same night. I returned to West Bowling per 7.50 train – to Bradford & then back to W[est] Bowling.[6]

Friday 6 January 1911 In Rose's house all day. Read papers, smoked, played with little Harry, &c.

Saturday 7 January 1911 Between 11 & 12 to Bradford. Telephoned to Wakefield, to son Bertie. To Preston I & my wife in af[ternoo]n. Narrowly caught the train at W[est] Bowling. Got to Preston about 3.45. To our house in Fulwood, later. Found everything there all right.

5 The building was owned by the Great Northern Railway Company, whose station was next door on Westgate; the newspaper office had originally been a Georgian house, Pemberton House, built about 1752 for cloth manufacturer Pemberton Milnes.

6 Gee & Co, solicitors (7 February 1911).

Sunday 8 January 1911 Did no reading to-day beyond a bit in the Weekly Despatch [sic]. During part of afternoon & the whole of the evening & night, till about 10.30 throng selecting and tabulating things (mainly autographs of scientific, literary, & other persons) to be put on view in connection with the Literary section's exhibition at the Scientific Society's rooms, off Fishergate, Preston this coming week.

Monday 9 January 1911 To Preston in af[ternoo]n. Called on Dr R C Brown, Winckley-square respecting some articles he had promised for the Literary section exhibition. He was very cheerful & chatty, showed me some curios, &c, & promised to send a parcel to the Scientific Society's room in course of af[ternoo]n. I afterwards called at that room & left with Mr Dilworth Abbatt, chairman of Literary section a parcel of my own consisting of autograph letters & curios. At night read papers & some pages of F[roude]'s Hist[ory] of E[ngland].[7]

Tuesday 10 January 1911 In forenoon to Preston. Called at W[illiams] D[eacon]'s bank, at Tax Collector's office, Fox st[ree]t at Bush's,* & at Surveyor of Tax's office, Market st[ree]t. (Mr Gardner, Stanley Terrace, told me Jas Burrow, gunsmith was over 86 yrs old). In af[ternoo]n to Preston – meal. At night in house.[8]

Wednesday 11 January 1911 Nearly the whole of the day in the house. Wrote to son E[thelbert]. In af[ternoo]n & part of evening examined a collection of old songs & ballads (in vol. form) got together by T.W.H. Crosland. Read papers in evening.[9]

Thursday 12 January 1911 In the house nearly the whole day. Wrote two letters to son Bertie. Read newspapers. A cold, dullish day. Nothing

7 Dilworth Abbatt (c. 1862-1942), Quaker shoemaker with a shop on Friargate, at the sign of the golden boot; James Anthony Froude, *History of England from the Fall of Wolsey to the Death of Elizabeth* (London, 12 vols.: John W. Parker, 1856-70), https://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/006065881

8 James Gardner (1837-1912), retired sewing machine agent.

9 Thomas William Hodgson Crosland, *English Songs and Ballads* (London: G. Richards, 1902), http://archive.org/details/englishsongsandb00crosuoft

fresh. Have to philosophise – reflect, hope, &c. Am getting off some lines by James Shirley, the old poet & dramatist.[10]

Friday 13 January 1911 A rather nice day. Walked to Preston in af[ternoo]n, with Mr Knowles, property agent, who lives in Fulwood. Called at the Guardian office for a calendar for 1911. Said they had sent it twice to our house but no one in, & that they had given it to another person. Promised to try & get me one. Town fairly throng. At night I & my wife to Mr Bramwell's*, Higher Bank road, Fulwood. Cards – whist.[11]

Saturday 14 January 1911 A muggy, cold day. In house. Miscellaneous. Am waiting for completion of purchase of the W[akefield] Herald; Wardley, the new proprietor, having had hold now since the 2nd inst. I think there will be a finish in this coming week. Son Bertie finished with Wardley to-day. In ~~evening~~ af[ternoo]n & evening read papers; also got through sundry pages of Froude's Hist[ory] of E[ngland] which is a very prolix & I think over-detailed work. But it should be excellent for reference purposes.

Sunday 15 January 1911 Did not get up (bed) till about 10.15. Miscellaneous. In af[ternoo]n & evening read the Weekly Dispatch (Robt. Blatchfords article on conscription specially), two of Geo. Dawson's prayers, & a chapter of Luke's Gospel. Between 9 & 10 played at cards with my wife.[12]

Monday 16 January 1911 At noon to Bare. Found everything right in the house of ours, in the Avenue. On front for a short time – cold, foggy, & very few people visible. Took tram as far as the Tower; looked at a house formerly to let; but now taken! Another to let in same part – just below the Tower & on the front. Ascertained later rent was £50 a year & rates (about 10/- in pound) in addition. Had a chat with Miller, manager at F Simpson's shop, Euston-rd. He is a son of Mr Thomas

10 James Shirley (c. 1596-1666), author of *'Tis Pity She's a Whore.*
11 William Knowles (1854-1924), estate agent with an office in Fox St.
12 *Weekly Dispatch* (1801-1961), published by Harmsworths in London; Blatchford also edited *The Clarion*, a socialist paper, and was writing in favour of conscription.

Miller, Woodplumpton – a friend of mine who died some years ago. To Preston per 4.10 train. Got to P[reston] about 4.50. Home after. At night read F[roude]'s H[istory] of E[ngland], &c.

Tuesday 17 January 1911 A slight return of the rheumatic gout in my left foot. Took some of Eade's pills & felt an improvement by evening.

Wednesday 18 January 1911 In the house all forenoon. In af[ternoo]n to Preston. Got my shoes mended at Dilworth Abbatt's, in Friargate. Af[terwar]ds got some worsted & bronchial plaisters for my wife; also called for Livesey framed picture (family) at Smalley's, Lune-st[ree]t. At night read papers & some of F[roude]'s Hist[ory] of E[ngland].

Thursday 19 January 1911 All day nearly in the house. My rheumatic gout cleared away, apparently entirely, & I trust it will never return. In af[ternoo]n Mrs Banister called & gave me a tax paper to see after; a wrong paper – it makes a claim in respect to some unoccupied rooms in Cannon-st[ree]t, Preston. Mrs B had tea & stayed till about 9.30.[13]

Friday 20 January 1911 To Preston in forenoon. Called at Tax office, Fox-st[ree]t. Town fairly busy. Bought for 6d a shilling book ~~of~~ of remedies but I did not expect them to be – what they were – of the homeopathic order. Read papers, &c.

Saturday 21 January 1911 In house till after tea, & then to Pickup's shop, opposite the Bowling Green. At night a postal official came to ask me about the sons & daughters of George Beaumont who used to be a druggist in Friargate, Preston. Information wanted by a person in Canada who has written to the Preston Postmaster. Geo Beaumont was in Friargate in the sixties & seventies of last century. I knew him. He liked snuff & ale, but on the whole a decent sort of fellow. I told the postal person I would make an inquiry to elicit, if possible, the information referred to. – Read paper & part of F[roude]'s Hist[ory] of E[ngland].[14]

13 Banister unidentified.
14 George Godfrey Beaumont (b. 1813), chemist, warden of St George's parish church.

Sunday 22 January 1911 Wrote to Gee & Wardley re W[akefield] H[erald] Am very sick of this matter – this delay of settlement. In af[ternoo]n read paper. Af[terwar]ds read one of Geo Dawson's prayers, a chapter of Luke's Gospel & numerous pages of Froude's Hist[ory] of E[ngland]. Cards between 9 & 10.

Monday 23 January 1911 Wrote to G[reat] N[orthern] R[ailway] Property Surveyor re the W[akefield] H[erald] place. Made out some cheques – clear-up W[akefield] H[erald] a/cs [accounts] – the last lot. Wrote to son E[thelbert]. In aft[ernoo]n called at "the Chestnuts", Lower Bank Road, Fulwood, to see Geo. Swarbrick. Neither he nor his wife within, & servant c[oul]d not say when they would be back. In evening Mr. Bilsborough (postal official, Preston) called about Geo. B[eaumont]. We had a long, pleasant chat. Papers. Cards.[15]

Tuesday 24 January 1911 Odds & ends in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n to Preston. Whilst there met & had an agreeable chat with Mr Geo. Oakey, solicitor, Mr John (late Alderman) Forshaw, solicitor, &c. In evening read papers & a little of Froude's Hist[ory] of E[ngland]. Between 9 & 10 card playing with my wife.[16]

Wednesday 25 January 1911 In the house nearly the whole day. Read papers, & had a nap, in the af[ternoo]n. In evening finished Vol 9 of Froude's Hist[ory] of Eng[land], & began vol 10.

Thursday 26 January 1911 Had a walk in af[ternoo]n up Garstang road, through lane into Cadley, & so back again. Windy. A wildly-magnificent sunset. Read papers in evening. (In early part of aft[ernoo]n read some of F[roude]'s H[istory] of E[ngland]). Between 9.30 & 10 cards.

Friday 27 January 1911 Went to Preston in aft[ernoo]n. Attended to some household requirements. On the way back bought two

15 George Swarbrick (1837-1927), draper; Elizabeth Swarbrick (1834-1917); the servant was Margaret Myers (b. 1881) from Liverpool; William Bilsborough (dates unknown), of Avenham Lane sub-post office.

16 George Oakey (1854-1935), solicitor, councillor, Freemason, Oddfellow, fond of curling and bowls.

incandescent gas mantles (7½d.) & some whole-ground flour. At night Mr & Mrs Bramwell* called & we had a long play at cards (whist).

Saturday 28 January 1911 I & my wife to Preston in the af[ternoo]n. Town, in centre, fairly throng – Many men – bulk of the younger sort – rushing on foot & on wheels to a foot ball match on North End ground. Far too much time is wasted by the young men of this country in going to Football matches & watching same like so many fascinated heathens. Too much money is also spent in connection with foot ball -- admission money, gambling or betting & the like. At night read papers. Cards from 9.30 to 10.[17]

Sunday 29 January 1911 Up rather late. Miscellaneous in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n & evening read portions of the Weekly Despatch [sic], Geo. Dawson's prayers, St Luke's Gospel & about 10 pages of Rabelais – the last just for a little mental change or relaxation. Between 9 & 10 cards for something like half an hour.[18]

Monday 30 January 1911 Revised some of W. H. Clemesha's* type written History of Preston.[19] He asked me to look over it. Towards Preston – for tea & soda water – in af[ternoo]n. Coldish – east wind in exposed places. Read papers & a little of F[roude]'s His[tory] of E[ngland]. Frosty-looking sky at night.

Tuesday 31 January 1911 Nearly all day in house. Read papers & a few pages of F[roude]'s Hist[ory] of E[ngland]. Nothing particular. Weather frosty.

17 Preston beat Bristol City 4-0.

18 François Rabelais, *The Works of Rabelais, Faithfully Translated from the French with Variorum Notes, and Numerous Illustrations by Gustave Doré* (London: Chatto & Windus, 1873), http://archive.org/details/worksofrabelaisf00rabeuoft

19 Henry Wordsworth Clemesha, *A History of Preston in Amounderness* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 1912), https://prestonhistory.com/preston-history-library/clemeshas-history-of-preston/

February

Wednesday 1 February 1911 In af[ternoo]n to Preston. Called at H. W Clemesha's* & af[terwar]ds at E Bush's.* In Fishergate met & chatted with Geo. Oakey, solicitor, Mr. Relph, County Court official, Lancaster, Jack Whittle auctioneer, Jack Humber, once Mayor of Preston, but now somewhat in the shade & Lomax, coal agent, &c. At night revised some of Clemesha's* H[istory] of P[reston] matter[20]

Thursday 2 February 1911 A muggy, cold day. Didn't go out. Read papers. Revised some of Clemesha's* matter. Cards from about 9.30 to 10.pm.

Friday 3 February 1911 In af[ternoo]n to Preston. Paid coal bill & ordered another lot. Bought some note paper & envelopes. Called at Bank corner of Winckley-st[ree]t, to see Mr. Rideal, the Manager. He was not there. Fishergate throngish. At night I & my wife to Mr. Bramwell's,* Higher Bank-rd, Fulwood. Cards for about two hours. We got home about 10.30.[21]

Saturday 4 February 1911 Letter of a hopeful character from Wakefield (W[ardley]). Wife to market in forenoon at Preston. In af[ternoo]n I had a walk up Garstang-rd & in by Black Bull lane down through Cadley & so home. During greater part of way a very intelligent man, who lives in Fulwood, named Sharples (son, I think, of a Preston heald maker, in Derby-st[ree]t), accompanied me. He used to be a smart swellish fellow, doing outs on horse back on a Saturday af[ternoo]n. He is now in humble circumstances. At night I revised some of Clemesha's* H[istory] of P[reston] matter and read papers.[22]

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20 Alfred Thomas Relph (c. 1854-1917), chief clerk of Lancaster County Court, Freemason, Conservative; John Whittle (b. 1864), also publisher of the weekly *Preston Argus* newspaper; John Humber (c. 1859–1924), owner of Bushell St cotton mill, Conservative; Henry Lomax (1857-1928), colliery agent of Fishergate Hill.

21 William Butterworth Rideal (1855-c. 1928), Preston branch manager of the Lancashire and Yorkshire bank, magistrate.

22 Richard Sharples (1841-1921), former heald maker (part of a weaving loom). On this day the *Wakefield Herald* printers were admitted into the local branch of their trade union, the Typographical Association, now they were no longer employed by the anti-union Hewitsons (*WH*, 4 February 1911, p. 5).

Sunday 5 February 1911 All day in house. My reading included one of Geo. Dawson's prayers, a long chapter in Luke's Gospel & portions of the Weekly Dispatch. At night I & my wife played at cards for about half an hour. (My reading included some of F[roude]'s Hist[ory] of E[ngland]).

Monday 6 February 1911 To Preston in af[ternoo]n. Called on Mr H. W. Clemesha* with some revised matter. Aft[erwar]ds called at Mr Bush's,* Fishergate. Fishergate throng. After tea read papers &c. Heard, by a letter to son E[thelbert], of my son L[lewellyn]. It's about 4 years since we heard of him. He gives his address as – Post Office, Anderson, Shasta Co., California.[23]

Tuesday 7 February 1911 Wrote a strong letter to Wardley in forenoon. Telegraphed to Gee & Co, Sol[icito]rs, London. In aft[ernoo]n went to Preston. Called on Mr Bush* respecting part of my Cannon-st[ree]t property. Called likewise at Frame's & Robinson's (excursion, &c places) in Fishergate about London & California. In the evening my son H[orace] from Blackpool called & stayed about three hours.

Wednesday 8 February 1911 Variously occupied in forenoon. In afternoon I & my wife went to Woodlands (All Saints' Vicarage) Garstang-rd, residence of late Rev A. Urquhart and had a look at the furniture, &c., to be sold by auction tomorrow & on Friday. Nothing very special. Among the books a lot of theological stuff. Had a short walk afterwards whilst my wife paid a visit to Miss Livesey.* After tea read papers & a little of Froude's H[istory] of E[ngland]. Later, cards.[24]

Thursday 9 February 1911 Out a little in the aft[ernoo]n – Cadley way – with my wife. Read papers, smoked a little tobacco, &c.

Friday 10 February 1911 Letter re W[akefield] H[erald], showing W[ardley] to be a damned money grubbing, haggling, barging, mean muck rake. I have met his previous tricks successfully and shall break

23 Shasta county is in the northern Sacramento valley in northern California.

24 Miss Livesey was now living on Park Terrace, Garstang Rd, a few minutes' walk away; Alexander Urquhart (1858-1910), vicar of All Saints, Preston.

up this right enough. In the meantime a lawyer's bill running up, which must now be stopped – if possible. Read papers; out twice, on household matters; a short play at cards between 9 & 10.

Saturday 11 February 1911 To Preston, ~~in afn~~. My wife, ~~there~~ in forenoon – marketing. In af[ternoo]n son Bertie from Wakefield came by request, & we had an important talk respecting Wakefield Herald matters. He returned per 7.12 pm train. I set him to the railway station. On returning home wrote an important letter to Gee & Co, London.

Sunday 12 February 1911 In af[ternoo]n I & my wife had a walk up Garstang road, for about half a mile. On returning had a talk with Beardwood, coal agent. After tea read one of Dawson's prayers, two chapters of Luke's Gospel, & some pages of Froude's Hist[ory] of E[ngland]. ~~Wrote~~ Signed deed of assignment re W[akefield] Herald. Mr & Mrs Cowell, neighbours, were with us chatting, &c, for about 2 hours.[25]

Monday 13 February 1911 I & my wife to Preston in aft[ernoo]n. Called on R. Seed, T. Reveley, & E. Bush.* Got out of Free Library D Masson's "Memories of London in the Forties" & read some of it at home.[26]

Tuesday 14 February 1911 St. Valentine's day – virtually gone out or abandoned as a lovers' anniversary or valentine sending day. Sent a telegram to son Bertie respecting W[akefield] H[erald]. A wet day, & in house main part of it. Read papers & some of Masson's Memories of London. Played at cards with my wife for a little while.

Wednesday 15 February 1911 To Preston in aft[ernoo]n. Had a little business there. Nothing very particular. Returning (in car) had some conversation with Alderman W. H. Wood. He pitched heavily into Dr. Rigg & Alderman Hamilton on certain points pertaining to municipal art, & literary matters; and I coincided with what he said. Finished Masson's "Memories" – a very interesting, informative book.[27]

25 Charles Cowell (b. 1859), clerk in a cotton mill, and Charlotte Cowell (1861-1935) of 6 Queen's Rd.

26 Richard Seed (1853-1920), printer, Guildhall St, left £13,578 in his will; David Masson, *Memories of London in the 'Forties*, edited by Flora Masson (Edinburgh: Blackwood, 1908), https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=hvd.32044081202723&seq=9

27 Car: tram; John Rigg (c. 1856-1930), had lived in China with his family 1888-1900.

Thursday 16 February 1911 At noon to Bare, per train. Found everything right at our house in the Avenue. Set fire in kitchen & front room. Weather wet & windy. Returned per 4.13 train. At night read papers, &c

Friday 17 February 1911 Went to the Surveyor of Tax's office, Preston, in af[ternoo]n., to enquire about an overcharge in the assessment of my income. They have put on something for Wakefield, though I don't derive a farthing's worth of income from that – to me – wretchedly unfortunate place. In evening read papers & a little of Froude's History of England.[28]

Saturday 18 February 1911 Wet, windy, cold. In the house all day, with exception of a few minutes, in which I took a cheque which I had signed as one of W[illia]m Livesey's ex[ecut]ors, to little Reveley the lawyer – 3rd ex[ecut]or. Read papers. Dull. Drowsy.[29]

Sunday 19 February 1911 Got up, from bed, rather late. A cold, windy day, & we remained indoors. Read, in af[ternoo]n & evening, part of the Weekly Dispatch – an article by Robert Blatchford, &c – two prayers by George Dawson, two chapters of Luke's gospel, & a few pages of Froude's Hist[ory] of E[ngland] Cards between 9 & 10.

Monday 20 February 1911 Weather cold. Miscellaneous in forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n walked to Williamson's, chemist shop, Garstang road, Preston, for a syphon of soda water. Returned through Moor Park which looked green but naked or deserted. Saw only three or four persons in it. Rain. I hurried home. Read papers. At night a niece (J W's daughter to second wife) called.[30]

Tuesday 21 February 1911 To Preston in aft[ernoo]n. Paid gas bill. Called at Free Library – returned Masson's book on London. Had a chat with Bramwell*, the Librarian, who showed me a group of his own family portraits. Read papers at night.

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28 This may mean that any profits were kept by Ethelbert Hewitson, who had run the paper, although it was owned by Hewitson senior.

29 Hewitson's old friend William Livesey had died in 1909.

30 Niece unidentified: JW could be James Wilson (1844-1912) or Joseph Wilson (b. 1855), brothers of Margaret Hewitson.

Wednesday 22 February 1911 Occupied miscellaneously in forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n had a walk up Garstang-road & across, by cinder lane, into Cadley. A wild, clearish sky. Strong wind. Not many people out. After tea read paper & a good deal of Froude's Hist[ory] of E[ngland].

Thursday 23 February 1911 Weather cold, rainy, & windy. In house all day. Read papers. Cards at night for a short time.

Friday 24 February 1911 About the same.

Saturday 25 February 1911 To Preston in the af[ternoo]n. Walked there. Town in chief streets moderately busy. Saw two women drunk – a young, fairly dressed one periodically singing in Lune-street (she seemed very happy), and an elderly, frowsey one, in Lancaster-road, standing near a drink shop door & feeling for a bottle which she found in her pocket. No drunken men did I see. Read papers after tea.

Sunday 26 February 1911 Cold, windy, cheerless. In aft[ernoo]n read a little & had a nap. In evening read; my reading altogether including portions of the Weekly Dispatch, one of Geo. Dawson's prayers, a chapter of Luke's Gospel, & a little of Froude's H[istory] of E[ngland]. Cards later.

Monday 27 February 1911 Nothing particular in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n to Preston. Called on young Clarke (Clarke & Son, solicitors re W[ardley] at W[akefield] H[erald] office. Af[terwar]ds met & had a short chat with Alfred Clemesha, tea man, &c, son of old Quaker Clemesha. Home. Tea. Papers. Cards, &c[31]

Tuesday 28 February 1911 To Preston in forenoon. Paid for advertising 46, Cannon-st[ree]t (house part) in D[aily] Post. Called on Bush* – engaged. Went to Tax Office (damn those taxes-income, &c). Row with an official. On going to tram place shook hands with W. P Park – a decent little man. In af[ternoo]n read paper. After tea same; also read numerous pages of F[roude]'s Hist[ory] of E[ngland].[32]

31 Thomas Henry Clarke (1872-1940), son of James Clarke; Alfred Clemesha (c. 1845-1925), tea and coffee merchant, Friargate, Liberal, son of William Clemesha (1810-78).

32 William Philip Park (1840-1923), former leader of Preston Conservatives, alderman, magistrate, chairman of Preston Savings Bank.

March

Wednesday 1 March 1911 In house in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n I & my wife had a walk up Lower Bank-rd, Fulwood; met Geo. Swarbrick of the Chestnuts (late shop keeper – baby linen in Friargate, Preston. We went to look at new house Reveley is going to & af[terwar]ds looked through Swarbrick's garden. After tea read paper & Froude's Hist[ory] of E[ngland].

Thursday 2 March 1911 I and my wife to Wakefield this forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n I & son Bertie to Herald office where we had an interview with Mr Wardley & settled all matters in dispute. Stayed at Bertie's.[33]

Friday 3 March 1911 Reading at Bertie's. In aft[ernoo]n my wife & son's wife & child to West Bowling, on a flying visit to daughter Rose. They returned about 9.45. In af[ternoo]n I strolled down into Wakefield – went to Bertie's office in King-st[ree]t, &c[34]

Saturday 4 March 1911 We returned home, from Wakefield, this af[ternoo]n – a round about way, via Halifax. What a hill-&-hole of a place Halifax is. Found everything right at home. Read papers, &c.

Sunday March 1911 Out of bed rather late this morning. In aft[ernoo]n I & my wife had a walk up Garstang road & then across, by cinder lane, into Cadley. A lot of people out, having a walk. On way up Garstang-rd met Mr Nicholas Cockshutt, late solicitor, of Preston, & now a barrister. He put up as a conservative candidate, at general election in December last, for, I think, Oldham, & greatly reduced the majority of the Liberal candidate – a previous member for that borough. We had a momentary chat about this contest and "Nickie" (we have always known N Cockshutt by this nick-name) expressed himself as hopeful of victory at the next election at Oldham. – Wife and I walked back home by Cadley or Black Bull - lane. Read after tea two of Geo. Dawson's prayers, two

33 Wardley continued the *Herald* until June 1913, when it was sold to the *Wakefield Express*, who closed it and incorporated its name with their own. Their tribute to Wardley makes a pointed if unspoken contrast with the Hewitsons: 'a good deal of sympathy is felt for Mr Wardley in his unsuccessful endeavour to revivify what had for years been a moribund concern. Our relations with the "Herald's" last proprietor have been everything that could have been desired. Mr Wardley has evinced a true professional spirit, and maintained a high standard of professional probity and honour' (*WE* 24 June 1913).

34 Ethelbert advertised himself as the *Yorkshire Post* representative for Wakefield and District, working from 6, King St (*WE* 24 June and 7 October 1911).

chapters of Luke's gospel, numerous pages of Froude's H[istory] of E[ngland] &c- Cards between 9 & 10.[35]

Monday 6 March 1911 To Preston in aft[ernoo]n. Paid paper ~~bil~~ a/c. Ordered Daily Dispatch in place of Daily Mail. At night niece (one of Jos. Wilson's daughters) called. (My wife went to see daughter Mabel this aft[ernoo]n).[36]

Tuesday 7 March 1911 Received from Gee & Co., sol[icito]rs, London, cheque for balance of purchase price – Wakefield Herald concern – and took it, in forenoon, to Clarke & Son, Sol[icito]rs, Lune-st., Preston, who gave me an acknowledgement stamped for it, & will take out of it balance of mortgage money & interest (about £1,017) & give me balance of cheque and my deeds on Sat. next. The balance due to me will be about £295. In af[ternoo]n wrote some letters. In evening Clemesha* brought me some more of his copy of History of Preston to revise. Later I wrote to sister Alice in Texas, U.S.A. & to friend J. C. Wilsdon in same state, & posted same, &c. Read – a few pages of Froude's Hist[ory] of E[ngland][37]

Wednesday 8 March 1911 In aft[ernoo]n & part of the evening revised H. W. Clemesha's* copy. Later read papers. Cards.

Thursday 9 March 1911 Went to Bare at noon. Found our house in the Avenue there all right. Opened some windows, &c., for airing purposes, trimmed front & back ground – cut rose trees, &c. Walked to front. Some houses are going to be built at the east end. Home to Fulwood per 5.8 train. Read papers, &c. Cold night.

Friday 10 March 1911 Walked up to the Harris Orphanage this forenoon & saw Mrs Jolly, the Governor's wife, about a domestic female servant. She recommended one. In aft[ernoo]n rewrote portions of introductions to some contemplated articles for the Preston Guardian on Walks, Scenery, &c, &c roundabout Preston & Parish Church book extracts. In the evening Mr H. W. Clemesha* called & I gave him the M.S. [manuscript] I had revised. Later Mr & Mrs Bramwell* came & we played for a while at whist.[38]

35 Cockshutt (c. 1864-1938), a Roman Catholic, had been defeated by 5,373 votes to 4,850 in Rochdale (not Oldham).

36 *Daily Dispatch* (1900-55), a national newspaper published from Manchester, launched two days before the northern edition of the *Daily Mail*.

37 Alice Finch née Hewitson (1852-1931) of Winnsboro. James C Wilsdon (1836-1917) of Gainesville, Texas was a former Preston printer and newsagent who emigrated in the 1860s.

38 Catherine Jane Jolly (1849-1918) née Parkinson; these series of articles were

Saturday 11 March 1911 Paid balance of mortgage money on my Mitre hotel, &c, property to Messrs Jas. Clarke & Son, solicitors, Lune street, Preston, & took the deeds home. They have been under mortgage since about 1895, & this is a happy release for which I sincerely thank God. In af[ternoo]n went for an incandescent gas mantle. After tea read papers. Between 9 & 10 a short spell of card-playing.

Sunday 12 March 1911 Mainly a wet day, and did not stir out except in the evening to the post office (Nooklands). – Read article by Robt Blatchford in the Weekly Dispatch; two of Dawson's prayers; two chapt[er]s of St.Luke; one chapter of Renan's Life of Jesus – a book I read many years ago. Cards for about half an hour between 9 & 10.[39]

Monday 13 March 1911 In af[ternoo]n revised some m.s [manuscript] which may be printed in the P[reston] Guardian. It refers to Preston Parish Church matters. In the evening – from about 7.30 to 10 – read Froude's Hist[ory] of E[ngland]. My wife at Miss L[ivesey]'s for a while. Reveleys moved to-day, to end of Lower Bank-road, Fulwood – a sort of nowhere.

Tuesday 14 March 1911 To Preston in af[ternoo]n. Shoemaker's. Paid for newspapers. Called at Reed's auction room. Got & paid for last year's vol. of "The Antiquary". (I have this from the beginning).[40] On returning read papers, &c. Mr T Reveley, Sol[icito]r, called at night about a key for a box belonging to W. Livesey's estate.

Wednesday 15 March 1911 In af[ternoo]n to Preston. On returning called for my shoes, also some meal and "standard" flour. In evening read papers. Had a short game at cards between 9 & 10.

Thursday 16 March 1911 Called on Mr Jim Taylor, one of the principal reporters at the Guardian office, Preston, in af[ternoo]n about some articles I am about to contribute to the paper – extracts from Preston Parish Church books &c. Had a long, pleasant chat with J.T.[41]

Friday 17 March 1911 Miscellaneous in forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n transcribed notes about Preston Parish Church for P[reston] Guardian.

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published in the *Preston Guardian* in June and July 1911, while 'Preston Parish Church: Gleanings from Quaint Records', appeared 6 January-24 February 1912.

39 See vol. 1, 24 November 1872.

40 First published December 1879.

41 James Taylor (c. 1856-1924) had worked for the *Preston Guardian* since the 1870s, after reporting for the *Oldham Chronicle* and in Accrington.

My wife not so well – bronchitis. Did not come down stairs till about 4.30 pm. Read papers. Transcribed a little after tea.

Saturday 18 March 1911 My wife unwell. I went to Preston this forenoon – got some Bovril & fresh eggs. In afternoon & part of evening transcribing Parish Church notes.

Sunday 19 March 1911 My wife has been unwell – very – all night. Have done as well as I could for her. Somewhat better in aft[ernoo]n. A cold east wind. This for some days. Read to-day an article in W[eekly] Despatch [sic] by Robt. Blatchford, a prayer by Geo. Dawson, & a chapter of Luke's Gospel.

Monday 20 March 1911 My wife mending. I virtually remained in the house the whole day. In af[ternoo]n & part of evening wrote or transcribed & wrote notes where required of Parish Ch[urc]h articles. Cold east wind.

Tuesday 21 March 1911 In forenoon paid property tax (about £14) at Tax Collector's office, in Fox-st[ree]t, Preston. Then went to Surveyor of Taxes office in Market-st[ree]t, & got a reclaim form. Called at Coward Bros. Home. Dinner. Filled up re-claim form. Want back about £11. Afterwards transcribing P[arish] C[hurch] notes, & got reclaim posted at night to the Surveyor of T[axes].[42]

Wednesday 22 March 1911 Miscellaneous in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n & evening transcribing Parish Ch[urc]h notes.

Thursday 23 March 1911 Same. Omitted. Should have been in last Saturday's entry – On the forenoon of that day, there called on me, a tall, top-coated young man, who turned out to be a son of the Rev. A. B. Beaven, late Headmaster of Preston Grammar School. He told me he was a teacher in Aberdeen. He said he thought of writing something about the battle field, on Ribbleton Moor (Cromwell & the Royalists in 1648), but knew very little about it. I told him I knew very little, but had in view an article on the subject. So he said if that were going to be the case he would refrain from doing anything. But how could he? He knew nothing about it worth mentioning beyond what has already appeared in print.[43]

42 Coward Bros were grocers in the Market Place, Preston.

43 Rev. Alfred Beaven Beaven (c. 1847-1924; see vol. 1, 13 September and 14 October 1887); he had four sons.

Friday 24 March 1911 Somewhat similar

Saturday 25 March 1911 Got up rather late. Had to watch fire in bedroom every now & then – owing to my wife's bronchial attack – and this tired me & made me sleepy at a late hour. In af[ternoo]n to Preston for certain domestic requisites, &c. Later transcribed some Parish Church notes, bring[ing] up my copy for printers, now, equal to 4 columns. About another column to prepare. Read papers.

Sunday 26 March 1911 My wife fairly well in forenoon; not up to the mark later. I read to-day two of Geo. Dawson's prayers, a chapter of Luke's Gospel, a bit of the Weekly Dispatch, & some pages of Froude's Hist[ory] of Eng[land]. Played at cards a very short time.

Monday 27 March 1911 In af[ternoo]n & evening working on transcript of gleanings Preston Parish Ch[urch] & practically finished them.

Tuesday 28 March 1911 Nothing very particular.

Wednesday 29 March 1911 To Preston in forenoon. Had a chat with John Toulmin of the Guardian office &c. Called at Parish Church beadles house St Johns Place. Af[terwar]ds went to look at some old Volunteer colours (in the Free Library building), given at one time early in 19th century by Nicholas Grimshaw to be hung in the Parish Church. Four. Two very far worn[?]. Had a chat with Dr C. R.[sic] Brown & the Librarian Mr Bramwell.* Revised P[arish] C[hurch] Gleanings.[44]

Thursday 30 March 1911 Nothing very particular to-day. Finished revision of P[arish] Ch[urc]h Gleanings. To Bare per noon train. Found everything right at our cottage in The Avenue. Set two fires, opened windows, &c for a while. Back per 5-8 train.

Friday 31 March 1911 Revised & re-wrote part of the introduction to the Rambles -- Roundabout Preston", which said Rambles I have next week, all being favourable, to do, by walking, &c., again.

44 John Toulmin (1842-1927), son of Hewitson's former employer and commercial rival, George Toulmin, magistrate, superintendent of Mill Hill Ragged School; Nicholas Grimshaw (c. 1758-1838), five times mayor of Preston, commanded the Royal Preston Volunteers at the turn of the nineteenth century.

April

Saturday 1 April 1911 To Preston in forenoon. Milder weather. Town, in main parts, throng. Attended to a few home matters & then back. Read papers, &c in af[ternoo]n & evening.

Sunday 2 April 1911 Weather warmer. Read last chap[ter] of Luke's Gospel, two of Geo. Dawson's prayers, & some pages of Froude's Hist[ory] of E[ngland]. At night called on Mr J. Bramwell,* Higher Bank rd., Fulwood, and arranged with him as to our visit to their house for cards & respecting my walks "Roundabout Preston". He agreed to accompany me.

Monday 3 April 1911 Called at Surveyor of Taxes' office respecting my reclaim. In aft[ernoo]n I & Mr Bramwell* went through Penwortham – going along old tramway, under the railway arches to Penwortham mill; then round by Middleforth Green & up Marshall's brow & on to Nutter's Platt, and af[terwar]ds round by Bank Top, along Back Lane down to Cop lane, then across the fields to lane behind the Oaks, & so on, down Penwortham Hill, along bottom road, crossing Penwortham bridge, where we took tram car & thence to our homes in Fulwood.

Tuesday 4 April 1911 In af[ternoo]n I & Mr Bramwell* round by Ashton, Lea, Cottam, & Cadley. Fine but cold. On way – in Ashton – went into the Haslam Park – not quite finished. The park keeper dead, & buried this afternoon. He had but recently come from the Deepdale enclosure, of which he had charge. At night maps, papers, &c.[45]

Wednesday 5 April 1911 Cold. Too cold for Mr. B[ramwell] to accompany me this aft[ernoo]n, so I sallied forth single-handed. Car to Preston, then along Manchester-rd (old Water-st) to Frenchwood as far as top of old cinder lane. Houses every where here now. Back on New Street behind Frenchwood. Called on Tom H. Myres. A little shopping, then home. Did some "Roundabout" work after tea.

Thursday 6 April 1911 Very cold. In house practically the whole day. In af[ternoo]n & part of the evening preparing my "Roundabout" notes for transcription. Read papers, &c

45 Thomas Lambert (c. 1855-1911).

Friday 7 April 1911 Miscellaneous in forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n prepared some "Roundabout Preston" notes. Read papers, &c. H W Clemesha* called & we talked about local history (his chiefly) & politics.

Saturday 8 April 1911 To Preston about 11.20 in forenoon. Attended to some domestic matters. Town, in chief parts, throng. A good many people from surrounding country places knocking & standing about. Did a little "Roundabout" work in the af[ternoo]n. Read papers after tea.

Sunday 9 April 1911 My wife, who was not so well yesterday, somewhat better. In the af[ternoo]n we had a short walk. Met Miss Parker & had a chat with her. She is one of the daughters of Alderman Robt Parker, of Preston, a friend of mine, who died in 1866. She was very nice – no pride. Was coming from Sunday school class in connection with St. Thomas's Ch[urc]h. Her uncle, the late Mr Rich[ard] Calvert of Walton-le-Dale, left her & her sister about £20,000. – In evening I read two of Geo Dawson's prayers, the First chapter of John's Gospel, an article in Weekly Despatch [sic] by R[obert] B[latchford] & some of Froudes Hist[ory] of E[ngland].[46]

Monday 10 April 1911 In house all day. Cold – east wind. Preparing notes for "Roundabout Preston in the aft[ernoo]n. At night – after 8 – looked at papers, &c

Tuesday 11 April 1911 To Ribbleton in af[ternoo]n – by tram car to the Bowling Green Inn, then walked up Farington lane and Pope lane to higher side of Ribbleton Hall; then down field in front of the Hall: af[terwar]ds ~~to Gamull-lane; then~~ to Grange farm, Gamull-lane &c & later home. Prepared some notes after tea, & looked at papers.

Wednesday 12 April 1911 Went in af[ternoo]n, round by Greyfriars, Uplands Hall & Light foot lane, to Garstang road, near Prior's Lea, Broughton, & thence home, in Fulwood. The Rev. S. Collinson, vicar of Broughton, turned up near Prior's Lea, & we walked & chatted for about half a mile towards Preston. We mainly condemned modern mildness

46 Elizabeth (b. 1854) or Alice (b. 1857), living on Garstang Rd, daughters of Robert Parker (1820-66), solicitor and alderman. They were bequeathed £5,000 each (*LDP,* 28 October 1904, p. 4) by Richard Calvert (c. 1825-1904).

in & uniformity in education & the excessive love of ease & pleasure in all directions. On getting home I made some notes, before & after tea, in connection with the Roundabout sketches.[47]

Thursday 13 April 1911 Out for some fish for dinner in forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n I, accompanied by Mr J. Bramwell,* went round by Killingsough Farm, Midgery lane, the Cromwell Mound, Broughton Tower, Sharoe Green & lane south back home again. Warm but hazy. After tea prepared some "Roundabout" notes.

Friday 14 April 1911 (Good Friday) I & my wife had a short walk in Moor Park, in the af[ternoo]n. Many people of various classes, and a good lot of children, in & about the Park. Bowling season opened to-day. A considerable number on Withy Trees inn green & the Conservative Working Men's club green off the Serpentine Walk, north side of Moor Park. After tea I prepared some more notes for "Round about".

Saturday 15 April 1911 My wife to market at Preston this forenoon. At 1.20 this afternoon Miss Caldecutt, matron of the Howard Home, Kendal, came by arrangement with Gertrude Morland, one of her girls, 16 years old, to be a domestic servant with us. Wages to begin with at rate of £8 per year, paid monthly. I hope all will go on satisfactorily. In the aft[ernoo]n, between 3 & 5, I was at Preston. Town very throng. On returning, a great crowd of men ~~not~~ coming from a football match – Park Avenue black with ~~the~~ multitude of football spectators on way home. The idiots! Wasting money & time.[48]

Sunday 16 April 1911 Had a walk with my wife, &c, in Moor Park in the af[ternoo]n. Fine weather. Many persons moving about. – Read to-day one of Geo. Dawson's prayers, two chapt[er]s of John's Gospel, Renan's Introduction to his "Gospels", an article by Robt Blatchford, & several pages of Froude's H[istory] of E[ngland].

Monday 17 April 1911 In house much of the day preparing "Roundabout" notes. In af[ternoo]n my wife & servant girl to Avenham Park to see the Easter Monday display – many thousands of children, &c egg & orange

47 Samuel Edward Collinson (18-1923), expert on Ribchester antiquities, member of Preston Scientific Society.

48 Emily Caldecutt (b. 1868); Gertrude Morland unidentified.

rolling and playing in various ways. I had a short stroll in Moor Park after tea. Then some more note work.

Tuesday 18 April 1911 Miscellaneous. In af[ternoo]n. to Preston. Called at the Guardian office; bought two small books – Dr John Kerr's "Memories," and Oscar Wilde's "De profundis". Called at Drug store; also dropped in at Edwin Bush's* &c. A little note preparing after tea. About 7 o'clock I & my wife to Mr J. J. Bramwell's.* Talk; whist, &c.[49]

Wednesday 19 April 1911 Preparing Notes for "Roundabout". Finished them, and shall soon start transcribing. Read papers.

Thursday 20 April 1911 To Preston in forenoon. Called at the Guardian office & saw the foreman Austin who said he had sent on to my house two proofs of "Gleanings" matter. In af[ternoo]n read these proofs, &c & posted them at night.[50]

Friday 21 April 1911 Tied up or rather corded our box for Bare – to be called for by railway van man. Went to Preston; paid coal bill & rent a/c [account] for half y[ea]r ending May 1st. of course & post-dated the cheque. On returning had dinner. Later went to the clock & watchmaker's. Then, on getting back wrote four or five slips of "Roundabout" – an addition to three or four other slips.[51]

Saturday 22 April 1911 We moved off for our Summer & early Autumn change to Bare – I somewhat before my wife & the servant. We are rather later this year than last. Weather windy, showery and cold. At night read papers.

Sunday 23 April 1911 Got some gout in left foot. Wettish, coldish day. Read Oscar Wilde's "De Profundis" – a sad, eccentric, honest work.

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49 John Kerr, *Memories Grave and Gay: Forty Years of School Inspection* (Edinburgh: Blackwood, 1902), https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=uc1.b5190019&seq=9; Oscar Wilde, *De Profundis* (London: Methuen, 1905), https://www.gutenberg.org/files/921/921-h/921-h.htm.

50 Robert Austin (1861-1939), overseer of the news printing department, Oddfellow, Sunday School superintendent, board member of Preston Industrial Co-operative Society.

51 A post-dated cheque was marked with a date in the future, before which it could not be cashed; slips: small pieces of copy paper, allowing a team of compositors to set type for the same item simultaneously.

Also read one of Geo. Dawson's prayers, a chapter of John's gospel and some pages of Dr John Kerr's "Memories". Between 8 & 9 took a seidlitz powder, after having my feet in hot water charged with common soda for three q[uarter]rs of an hour.

Monday 24 April 1911 Wet. Working at "Roundabout". In af[ternoo]n I & my wife went to look at two houses (for sale by auction) in Prince's Crescent, Bare (Nos 27 & 33). Couldn't get in to inspect them. 33 seemed the larger & at night went to sale at Coulthurst's place, Morecambe, & bid up to £395 for it. The bid was not accepted. None of the property offered for sale was sold.[52]

Tuesday 25 April 1911 Letter from Coulthurst this morning saying that my offer of £395 w[oul]d be accepted. I replied to the effect that my offer was not accepted when the property was put up for sale & that I could do nothing further till I had inspected the house (No 33).

Wednesday 26 April 1911 Mainly occupied in writing "Roundabout".

Thursday 27 April 1911 Same. Weather wet and cold.

Friday 28 April 1911 Engaged greater part of the day in transcribing my "Roundabout" Notes. Went to Morecambe for a short time in the evening.

Saturday 29 April 1911 Same as to transcribing notes. My wife to Lancaster this forenoon, a marketing. Read papers a little at night time.

Sunday 30 April 1911 Wrote two letters in forenoon. In the afternoon I & my wife had a walk; but we did not go far, as rain was threatened. Cold. My reading to-day – some Puritan Gems, a chapter of John's gospel, a few explanatory ~~tex~~ paragraphs in Dummelow's One Vol, Bible Commentary, an article in the Weekly Dispatch by Robert Blatchford & a few pages of Sydney Smith's Lectures on Moral Philosophy.[53]

52 Morecambe Corporation had only recently taken responsibility for maintenance of Prince's Crescent, after 'residents of Bare made a Unilateral Declaration of Independence in 1910, elected their own mayor for a day and made the Bare Institute their town hall': Roger Bingham, *Lost Resort? The Flow and Ebb of Morecambe* (Milnthorpe: Cicerone Press, 1991), p. 120.

53 John Roberts Dummelow, *A Commentary on the Holy Bible: Complete in One Volume, with General Articles* (London: Macmillan, 1909), https://archive.org/details/commentaryonholy00dumm; Sydney Smith, *Elementary Sketches of Moral Philosophy, Delivered at the Royal Institution in the Years 1804, 1805 and 1806* (London: Longman,

May

Monday 1 May 1911 Wrote a good deal of "Roundabout". In aft[ernoo]n Willie Wilson* & old Mr Breaks called. Latter who has worked for Williamson & Son Lancaster for many years got hurt at work last Feb. He has had 5/-d per week allowed ~~from~~ by firm (apart from club money) & wants more. I dictated a letter (for him to copy) to Lord Ashton asking for an interview, so as to get more if possible. More "Roundabout" writing later. Read papers.[54]

Tuesday 2 May 1911 Working very hard all day on "Roundabout" papers, & finished about 8pm**.** Afterwards read papers.

Wednesday 3 May 1911 Revised the MS [manuscript] of "Roundabout". Took me about 7 hours. Will take it to Preston Guardian office on Saturday. At night read papers & a chapter of Dr J Kerr's reminiscences. Terribly wet day.

Thursday 4 May 1911 Hurried to catch 10.18 forenoon train to Preston. Found this was not the trip day, so walked back quietly. At intervals read papers &c. In evening I & my wife had a short walk on front. Later read papers & a little of Dr J Kerr's reminiscences. Rent, &c

Friday 5 May 1911 Nothing particular. In aft[ernoo]n I was out on front for two hours. At night read papers, &c

Saturday 6 May 1911 To Preston per 10.18 forenoon train. Did some business for my wife. Called at W[illiams] D[eacon]'s bank with a cheque. Guardian Office; Mr John Forshaw, soli[cito]r – had a long talk with him about his house (Hurst Grange, Penwortham) about Green Watson, sol[icito]r, &c; Free Library. Dinner at White Horse restaurant. Then to our house in Fulwood, & attended to various things there. Back to Bare per 6.48 pm train. (Whilst at Fulwood had tea with Miss Livesey,* who is coming for a short time to Bare).[55]

Sunday 7 May 1911 In forenoon various. In af[ternoo]n I & my wife in house reading & talking. In evening we had a walk on promenade. Sat for

1850), https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=miun.afx9629.0001.001&seq=5

54 William Henry Wilson (1867-1936), nephew, tailor and woollen draper, of West Rd, Lancaster, son of John and Mary Wilson (John was Margaret Hewitson's brother); Henry Hargreaves Breaks (1836-1915), warehouseman, the same age as Hewitson.

55 Robert Green Watson, see vol. 1, 14 December 1865.

a time at east end shelter, then went to that westward. Mr Duff* at it. We had a long chat. He wanted me to go to his house across the road & have a drop of whiskey. I refused, with thanks. My reading to-day – Some Puritan Gems, a chapter of John's Gospel, some of Dr Kerr's reminiscences, a short newspaper article, some letters in the volume "Do We Believe?" &c[56]

Monday 8 May 1911 Variety in forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n I walked through the fields to Morecambe. Air [indecipherable] saw on the promenade road funeral cortege – Young Snow's funeral. Killed himself with wildness. Died at Dog & Partridge hotel Bare. – After tea I & my wife (preceded by Mr A Coulthurst, auctioneer) went to look through house 33, Prince's Crescent, Bare – on sale. Decided to buy it for £395, and paid £40 to Coulthurst as deposit. Later my wife & I had a short stroll on promenade. On returning had a chat with old Winn about farms & farming. Read papers, &c[57]

Tuesday 9 May 1911 In forenoon purchased some fish for dinner. In aft[ernoo]n on promenade for about an hour. My wife & maid to Morecambe in evening. Reading – newspapers & numerous pages of Dr Kerr's reminiscences.

Wednesday 10 May 1911 Weather very warm, but tempered by a breeze. In aft[ernoo]n I & my wife to the front. Same in evening. A fine sunset. Read papers. We are thinking of removing to the house I have bought – 33, Princes Crescent.

Thursday 11 May 1911 In forenoon on promenade. To Morecambe in early af[ternoo]n, to see Mr Gorton, Bare-lane. Could not find him. Miss Caldicutt [sic], of Kendal, called with a friend & had tea (friend being Mrs Houghton). Transferred my tenancy of 7, The Avenue, Bare, to Mr T Wilson, of Whalley, entry on or before May 24 – one year; rent £12; rates extra. Sold him tenant's fixtures for £5-10-0.[58]

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56 William Duff (1842-1919), retired manager of Morecambe Gas Company, Conservative, Freemason, dog lover; William Leonard Courtney, *Do We Believe? A Record of a Great Correspondence in "The Daily Telegraph," October, November, December, 1904, Etc* (London: Hodder & Stoughton, 1905).

57 George FV Snow (c. 1869-1911) of Bare, gentleman; Alcimus Coulthurst (c. 1860-1929), councillor, Poor Law Guardian, Methodist, involved in Morecambe Musical Festival; they bought a substantial three-storey terraced house; Joseph Winn (1837-1911), born near Kirkby Lonsdale, retired farmer.

58 Arthur William Gorton (c. 1858-1946), printer, councillor, chairman of the education committee, Liberal, Methodist; Miss Caldecutt was probably checking on the Hewitsons' maid Gertrude, see 15 April 1911; probably Elizabeth Houghton (1844-1932), widowed owner of a shoe shop, of Thornleigh, Kendal; Thomas Wilson (b.

Friday 12 May 1911 Walked round by Bare Lane station to Mr A W Gorton's, near L[ondon] N[orth] W[estern] bridge, Morecambe. Not at home. Found him near the fish market, Morecambe, told him I had sub-let my Avenue house to a very respectable man, named Wilson, living at Whalley. He gave his consent or approval as agent for the property. In our talk he told me he served his apprenticeship with George Bingham, who started the Morecambe Visitor paper & afterwards owned the paper himself for about two years. I told him Bingham was at the time my foreman on Preston Chronicle having come from Sheffield. Home, Dinner; then back to Morecambe for some paint. On returning painted a large domestic article. Read papers at night.[59]

Saturday 13 May 1911 Painted our domestic safe &c. In af[ternoo]n read papers. In evening I & my wife on promenade. Later, in house, read papers & part of Kerr's reminiscences.

Sunday 14 May 1911 Mixed. In evening to the Promenade, I & my wife, Mr W Duff* & Mr & Mrs H Wood* came & we had a wonderful chat. Read to-day some P[uritan] Gems, part of a chapter of John's Gospel, & some of Dr Kerr's reminiscences. (W Wilson,* Lancaster called in af[ternoo]n).[60]

Monday 15 May 1911 To Preston & Fulwood per 10.18 forenoon train. Increased & divided my fire ins[uran]ce policy – on house 33 Prince's Crescent, Bare, & whole of my furniture, equally - £300 on each. Returned to Bare about 6.20. (Took up rose trees at Fulwood house & brought them to Bare. They are my property.

Tuesday 16 May 1911 To Morecambe – about letter slit for door of new house &c. In evening went to see Knight, jobbing gardener, about our place, - rose trees &c. Took down & bossed and tied some framed pictures. Man Ellis to begin whiting, colouring, &c in morning.[61]

Wednesday 17 May 1911 Bare old post office has been closed owing to age & infirmity of the Post Mistress – a widow woman named Fearnley, upwards of 80 years of age. She was removed to some place near

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1862), hay and straw dealer.

59 George Bingham (1823-95), who was a tobacconist at the time of his death, left his estate of £320 to Gorton.

60 Henry Wood (1845-1930), bookbinder, councillor, creator of Happy Mount Park, originally from Shipley in Yorkshire; Sophia Wood, née Hollingworth (1844-1927).

61 Daniel Knight (1845-1918); Walter Ellis (b. 1866).

Bradford last week. Her husband used to be the only letter carrier in this district. Pillar letter box put up to-day in corner of wall, just below the Dog & Partridge hotel. To-day I have been busy helping to remove odds & ends of furniture, to 33 Prince's Crescent.[62]

Thursday 18 May 1911 Gouty foot bad – too much walking to & from the house on Crescent yesterday. Had to stop in our old house all day.

Friday 19 May 1911 Limped about, to & from Crescent, & there did what I could to help in removal. Knight tidied up the little front garden at Crescent house.

Saturday 20 May 1911 Somewhat same, but not so lame. Old Jas. Johnson, at grocer's shop - (his shop, I suppose) died at midnight. Age 82. Tidying up.[63]

Sunday 21 May 1911 All upset in house. Getting ready for final portion of "shifting" – removing – to Prince's Crescent.

Monday 22 May 1911 Remainder of furniture, &c removed to-day from 7 The Avenue to 33 Prince's Crescent, Bare. Weather very favourable for removing. Old Mr. Johnson buried this aft[ernoo]n in Morecambe Parish Ch[urc]h yard.

Tuesday 23 May 1911 Putting things in order at house, 33 Princes Crescent – after being at Morecambe on Business, &c

Wednesday 24 May 1911 To-day Mr Thos. Wilson succeeded me as tenant of 7 The Avenue, Bare. I am responsible to landlord's agent (Coun. Gorton, Morecambe) till April 30 1912. Rent £12 per year. Wilson has to pay this amount, or pro rata, to me.

Thursday 25 May 1911 To Morecambe in forenoon. Bought an inverted incandescent lamp – the second – from Mr Edmondson. Bothering in house with fixing pictures &c[64]

Friday 26 May 1911 In forenoon to Morecambe for inverted lamp accessory. Band playing merrily on band stand, near flag staff. A pretty

62 Grace Fearnley (1826-1913).
63 James Johnson (1830-1911).
64 Alfred Edmondson (1869-1915), ironmonger, Queen St, Morecambe.

large number of people on front. In af[ternoo]n & evening arranging odds & ends in house. Read papers afterwards.

Saturday 27 May 1911 This morning my wife to the Howard Orphan Home, Kendal to arrange about a servant for daughter Letty. I did a few odd jobs, then on Promenade for about half an hour, then to dinner. In af[ternoo]n read papers & had a nap. In evening I & my wife on promenade for a short time. Weather fine. Many visitors knocking about.

Sunday 28 May 1911 House in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n I & my wife took a tram trip to the Battery (west end), sat in front, fell slightly asleep, stayed about an hour, & then returned home per car – outside, same as we went. Weather very warm – indeed hot. After tea we went to Wilson's, 7 The Avenue, with a latch key. Stayed there about ¾ of an hour & then went & sat on front. Little Councillor Wood,* his wife, & Mrs Plews came & sat with us and afterwards Mr & Mrs Wilson, with whom we walked to east end shelter. Returned in about half an hour. Read but little- a few "Puritan Gems".[65]

Monday 29 May 1911 Miscellaneous. Out on front a little in afternoon. At night read part of Victor Hugo's "Napoleon the Little".[66]

Tuesday 30 May 1911 In forenoon & af[ternoo]n miscellaneous. In evening I & my wife to Morecambe. Had a long sit & chat with Mr & Mrs Davis (J Davis's* son, photographer, Lancaster). Read a little of Hugo's N[apoleon] the L[ittle].[67]

Wednesday 31 May 1911 To Morecambe – to Mr Bannister, solic[ito]r, Northumberland-st-and paid him, on behalf of the Liverpool Bank Ltd £355, per cheque, being the remainder of the purchase money for house 33, Prince's Crescent, Bare. At noon to Preston. Called at Bank, Guardian office, &c – then to Fulwood house. Weather fearfully hot. Back to Bare per 5.30 train.[68]

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65 Emma Plews (1840-1928) from Leeds, widow of a marine engineer; Mary Elizabeth Wilson (b. 1866).

66 Victor Hugo, *Napoleon the Little* (London: Vizetelly, 1852), https://www.gutenberg.org/files/20580/20580-h/20580-h.htm

67 Probably Thomas Storey Davis (c. 1860-1915, son of John Davis snr [see 15 January 1891]), and Isabella Maria Davis, née Jeakins [1865-1915]). The Hewitsons' golden wedding photograph (Fig. 6) was taken by Davis & Sons, Lancaster.

68 Frederick Bannister (c. 1858-1929), keen swimmer and sportsman, a founder of Morecambe Golf Club, bachelor.

June

Thursday 1 June 1911 Bothering about in house in Crescent. In aft[ernoo]n I & my wife on front – east end – for upwards of two hours. Very fine & air very pure. Mr Booth, from the Avenue (late of Halifax) came & we had a long chat. Some men experimenting on the beach in connection with coal dust & explosions. I believe the experiments which have been going on here for a long time, are of a Government or official character.[69]

Friday 2 June 1911 Mainly bothering about in the house. A man called & asked our ages. Told him. He said the information was for a treat to all old people in Morecambe, of 70 & upwards, in connection with the forthcoming Coronation proceedings. Shall not go to the treat if it is intended to be of a mere charitable kind.

Saturday 3 June 1911 My wife to Lancaster this forenoon – a marketing. Received conveyance of 33, Prince's Crescent from Mr F. Bannister solicitor, Morecambe & sent him a cheque for his bill. Joiner's man finished blinds &c, & in aft[ernoo]n paid for the work. In the evening I & my wife to Morecambe. Many visitors on promenade – rather a common looking lot, but orderly. Working people evidently, & on the whole (everybody can't be swellishly dressed) a creditable set. My first instalment of Roundabout papers appeared in P. Guardian to-day. Excellently illustrated.

Sunday 4 June 1911 In forenoon in house. In aft I & my wife on promenade about an hour & a half & in evening on it for about two hours. A large number of visitors &c – some sitting, many walking to & fro. Very dusty & disagreeable between higher part of Bare & Morecambe through the movements of trams, motors, &c. Read to-day two chapters of John's Gospel, some P[uritan] G[em]s, & a little of V. Hugo's N[apoleon] the Little.

Monday 5 June 1911 Great number of visitors on promenade & on cars. General holiday. In aft[ernoo]n I & my wife on front. In evening same near central shelter. Had a long talk with Mr Judson, 8, The Avenue, & aft[erwar]ds with Mr W. Duff* to whose house – opposite – we went &

69 Possibly Joseph Booth (1877-1935), a Halifax draper; the experiments may have been part of Home Office research aimed at reducing the risk of explosions in mines: Coal Dust Experiments (Committee Of Experts) Hansard, Volume 25: debated on Wednesday 3 May 1911: https://hansard.parliament.uk/commons/1911-05-03/debates/a9c2c168-9634-4f79-96d4-30e8729a83fb/CoalDustExperiments(CommitteeOfExperts)

had a good chat & a glass of whiskey. Beautiful sunset – sky beyond the N.W. mountains amber & purple & golden.[70]

Tuesday 6 June 1911 Very fine day. A fair number on front. Farmers, &c, are complaining of the droughty weather. My wife at Lancaster in afternoon: I on front, reading Hugo's N[apoleon] the L[ittle] & napping. In evening I & wife on front.

Wednesday 7 June 1911 To Morecambe in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n on front. Mr Wood* & I had a long chat. My wife on front, but I did not see her there. In evening we walked down to Central shelter & stayed about an hour. A cousin (son of uncle John Hewitson) came to me & chatted. I met him on previous evening. He seems respectable & very intelligent. W. Wilson* came, & he went, with me & my wife to our house for a time.[71]

Thursday 8 June 1911 Out on front in aft[ernoo]n. Had a chat with Mr Wood* & Mr Lonsdale. Mr Hey, late of 35 P[rince's] Crescent, called. He now lives at West End. In evening I & my wife on promenade. Weather still warm & dry.[72]

Friday 9 June 1911 Colder, but dry. Painters here: they have to paint front & back of our house. In afternoon read papers & part of Hugo's "Napoleon the Little." In evening – from about 7 to nearly 9 – I & my wife on front. Had a chat with Mr Noar & Mr Wood.* Tide coming in very quietly.[73]

Saturday 10 June 1911 At noon to Preston. Got half year's rent from J.F. Gardner, 46 Cannon st[ree]t shop. He says it does not pay – business "shot" – and that he will have to leave the place. When he gives proper notice I must look out for another tenant. Called at our house in Fulwood, & found everything right there. Returned to Bare per 4pm train (Preston

70 John Judson (1841-1921), bachelor, retired architect, from Keighley.

71 Either John Robert Hewitson (1862-1943), commercial traveller, or Lawrence Hewitson (1866-1914), labourer at an iron foundry, all of Lancaster, sons of John Hewitson (1815-90).

72 Probably Thomas Lonsdale (b. 1853), retired draper, of Parks Terrace, Bare; possibly Fred Hey from Thornton near Bradford, worked for Jonas Hey & Son, quarry owners (*Morecambe Guardian*, 25 March 1922, p. 9).

73 James Noar (1854-c. 1936), clerk to the education authority, born in Canada. His maid, Jessie Walmsley (1895-1935), went on to play for the Dick Kerr ladies' football team in Preston, touring the USA in 1922: Barbara L Meredith, 'The Dick, Kerr Ladies' team tour to the USA in 1922: previewing the 1921 census', *Manchester & Lancashire Family History Society blog* (2 August 2021), https://mlfhs.uk/blog/1921-census-dick-kerr-ladies-part-2

rather quiet). In evening I & my wife to front & there had a chat with Mr & Mrs Noare [sic].[74] Weather coldish.

Sunday 11 June 1911 House in forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n I & my wife to front – west or central end. Numerous visitors. Had a chat with Mr W[ood?]. Weather nice – medium. Service in a small chapel of ease (St Christopher's) opposite. Congregation dwindled down very much – primarily through the sermon-vapouring of an inexperienced youth or young man. In evening I & my wife to front – east end shelter. A great mess of orange peel under the seats. Place dirty & disorderly. Many visitors. Afterwards at other shelter. With Mr D[uff?] & Mr W[ood]. Read to-day: some P[uritan] Gems, 2 ch[a]p[ter]s of John's Gospel, a little of Hugo's N[apoleon] the L[ittle], &c.

Monday 12 June 1911 Out a little in forenoon. Colder, but dry. There will be a water famine in some parts before very long if this dry weather continues. In the afternoon I & my wife to Morecambe. After attending to certain matters we went on promenade & sat there about ¾ of an hour. House in evening. Read part of Hugo's N[apoleon] the L[ittle]. Cold – as if a change were coming.

Tuesday 13 June 1911 To Midland railway station, Morecambe in forenoon, to inquire about trips to Ingleton. Learned that there are trips every day – fare 1/9. In aft[ernoo]n I & my wife on front. Duff* came with his two jealous barking dogs. At night I & my wife to Central Pier to the entertainment – a play called "Money." Poor house. Bad hearing.[75]

Wednesday 14 June 1911 Got a cheque cashed at one of the branch banks in Morecambe (same branch as I got a cheque cashed at yesterday). Town not so busy. In af[ternoo]n I & my wife on promenade. Cold. Looked at some houses being built in lane side north of the Elms hotel – the lane between hotel & prom shelter. In evening we were on the front. Duff.* Home about 9.10. Read some of Hugo's N[apoleon] the L[ittle]. Finished Dr Kerr's Reminiscences.[76]

Thursday 15 June 1911 A very fine day. Rain badly wanted by farmers. In forenoon I was on front for a while. Bathing pool emptied & cleaned a little

74 Mary Ann Noar (1850-c. 1956) née Gill.
75 'Money' by Edward Bulwer-Lytton, presented by the Doughty-Leslie Company https://archive.org/details/moneycomedyinfiv00lytt. 'Poor house': small audience.
76 Houses being built are on Elms Rd.

at front or north end. Bed of pool softy[sic] & very dirty. Front dirty & foul as a drain. A flagged or concrete bed essential. In aft[ernoo]n my wife to Morecambe: I to front mainly chatting with old Mr Winn, & chiefly talking about Kirkby Lonsdale, Tatham Fells, & Ingleton old coal pit. In evening I & my wife to front for about an hour. Coldish.

Friday 16 June 1911 On front in af[ternoo]n & evening. Colder. Not many persons visible. Read some of Hugo's N[apoleon] the L[ittle].

Saturday 17 June 1911 In forenoon I, my wife, &c, to Lancaster. Town not so very busy – for a Saturday. Saw a shop to let or empty in Cheapside & two to let in Church st[ree]t near Cheapside corner. Lancaster seems to be in a very depressed state in respect to general business. Called at the Observer & the L[ancashire] D[aily] Post office. In afternoon my son Horace (from Blackpool) came for the week end. At night we went on front. Some welcome rain to-day.

Sunday 18 June 1911 I, my wife & son H[orace] to promenade in aft[ernoo]n. Rather cold. Son H[orace] went back home (Blackpool) per 6.43 pm train from Bare-lane station. I & my wife in house all the night. Read to-day some Puritan Gems, a chapter of John's Gospel & a little of Hugo's "Napoleon the Little."

Monday 19 June 1911 Out a little on front in aft[ernoo]n – & evening. Cold. Read papers & some pages of Hugo's N[apoleon] the L[ittle]. Very graphic & forceful respecting the French Tribune.

Tuesday 20 June 1911 In aft[ernoo]n, for about an hour, I & my wife on front – in shelter opposite the little mission church. Hardly anybody out that we knew. Cold streak in the wind. In house all evening. Read papers.

Wednesday 21 June 1911 A wild, coldish day. Half to two-thirds gale from s.w. I in house nearly the whole day – big toe of left foot inclined to rheumatic gout. Outlook not good, so far as weather goes, for tomorrow's celebrations of King George V's Coronation.

[In Hewitson's writing above date, two blue crosses above:] Coronation Day – King George V

Thursday 22 June 1911 Wet & windy early morning. Weather improved later. Great doings at Morecambe. Procession at noon of the school children and that wonderful body called the Morecambe Corporation. I &

my wife to a service in the Winter Gardens, at which were present nearly "every-body" – school children, mayor & C[orporation], tradesmen, general inhabitants, &c. Altogether 7,000 or 8,000 present. All went off well. In evening I & my wife to a free entertainment to all above 65 y[ea]rs old in the great room of W[inter] Gardens. We didn't care to go to the free tea at 4.30. Saw about half a dozen celebration bonfires across the Bay, &c, after the entertainment. But the night was unfavourable.

Friday 23 June 1911 In forenoon went to look at field, on south side of the Elms hotel, Bare, in which sports &c – in celebration of the Coronation have to take place in aft[ernoo]n. Had a lively chat with H. Wood* (Councillor) & Mr Fell who married a daughter of Billy Bell, watchmaker, &c of Lancaster. In aft[ernoo]n I & my wife to the sports, which had been preceded by distribution of medals (in the Parks ground) given by Mr Hallam, & a procession of lively Morris dancers (juveniles) from, I think, Lancaster. Sports fairly good. Music by a band from Lancaster. We had some tea about 5 o'clock, in a tent. Afterwards sports, band playing, &c, resumed. Some rain; but on the whole, a pleasant, successful affair. A glorious sun-set.[77]

Saturday 24 June 1911 A cold, windy, & very wet day. My wife to Lancaster in forenoon, a marketing. Met her at station on return. In house nearly the entire day – reading papers, &c, &c

Sunday 25 June 1911 Cold & windy. In aft[ernoo]n I & my wife had a walk, but did not go far, the weather being unpleasant. Read some Puritan Gems & a chapter of John's Gospel. The Puritan Gems are in a book of this name – extracts from the sermons or writings of the Rev T. Watson, one of the ejected ministers in 1662. It was given to me – this book – on May 2nd, 1853, by Mr Thos. Johnson, solicitor, of Lancaster.[78]

Monday 26 June 1911 In forenoon to Morecambe for some distemper (colouring) powder. At noon to Preston, where I got a little dinner, called at W[illiams] D[eacon]'s bank and Gas office. Then to our house in Fulwood. Found everything fairly satisfactory. Later to Preston &

77 John James Fell (1856-1928), retired pharmacist, of Stone Leigh, Bare; Eliza Jane Fell née Bell (1859-1912), daughter of William Bell (b. 1831); Richard Thomas Roe Walton Hallam (1853-1914) of The Parks, Bare, solicitor.

78 Johnson: See 11 November 1906.

saw Jas Taylor at Guardian office respecting my "Roundabout" articles. Returned to Bare. ~~Read~~ Wrote two letters & read paper.

Tuesday 27 June 1911 Nearly the whole day in house. Wrote an addition to my Roundabout papers based on information supplied to me by Mr. W. W. Galloway of the Willows, Ashton-on-Ribble. Helped in distempering walls of a bedroom. Read papers & several pages of Hugo's "Napoleon the Little". Miss M. J. Livesey* came from Fulwood this evening to apartments on the Avenue, Bare. Got revise from P[reston] Guardian. Read & returned it.[79]

Wednesday 28 June 1911 A big tide at noon. In af[ternoo]n went to Morecambe to inquire about a Bath chair for Miss Livesey* & to purchase a tin of wall distemper from Cross, opposite L[ondon &] N[orth] W[estern] station. Cross belongs to a Lancaster Family – plasterers, &c in King-st[ree]t at s.e. corner of Common Garden-st[ree]t. We had a long chat about old election times – the old bribery times at Lancaster. In evening I & my wife called on Miss Livesey. Afterwards I went on Promenade, & had a chat with Mr Fell, & a son of Tom Townley, hatter, Market-st[reet], Lancaster. Son is in hat line, same shop. I knew his father when I was serving my apprenticeship at the Lancaster Gazette offices - 1850-1857. At that time Townley's place was one of the best hat establishments in the town. It was also a "gossiping shop".[80]

Thursday 29 June 1911 Nothing particular. In house greater part of the day. Read papers, put new fastener to cellar grate, &c. Miss L[ivesey] & her maid called in afternoon.[81]

Friday 30 June 1911 In aft[ernoo]n I, my wife, Miss Livesey* & her maid Sarah to Morecambe. Got a dividend warrant for £16-17-6 cashed for Miss L[ivesey]. Stayed about an hour in Morecambe, mainly on front. Coldish. Punch & Judy. Numerous visitors. At night W. H. Wilson* (nephew) from Lancaster called & paid his half year's interest.

79 William James Cross (1856-1923), builder's merchant; revise proof: corrected proof copy of article, which Hewitson proof-read (i.e. checked and corrected).
80 Walter William Townley (1859-1947), son of Thomas Dean Townley (1818-90).
81 Maid, Sarah, unidentified.

July

Saturday 1 July 1911 My wife, this forenoon, to Lancaster for household requirements. In af[ternoo]n we went to the shelter opposite St. Christopher's. Weather coldish, & showery. A considerable number of visitors up from Morecambe; the bulk, presumably from Bolton & Nelson – working class people, orderly & on very good terms with one another. A nice tide. Lake mountains, &c., pretty clear. In evening we called on Miss Livesey.*

Sunday 2 July 1911 Clear, bright day. But cold. In af[ternoo]n I & my wife to Promenade. Many visitors knocking about. Cross bay scenery clear & picturesque as well as – in some parts – very fine & imposing. All the visitors very orderly. On returning home we met Mrs Winn, from the front. She seemed very depressed, & shocked us with the news that Mr Winn, her husband died very suddenly at 9 o'clock on Saturday night. This is the Mr Winn I had a long chat with on June 15. He was a very decent, straightforward old man with a rather keen sense of humour. Read to-day some Puritan Gems, three chapters of John's gospel & sundry pages of Hugo's N[apoleon] the L[ittle].[82]

Monday 3 July 1911 Out for a short time in front, in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n I & my wife on front. Letter from son B[ertie], Wakefield. In evening I went again to front. Cold. Had a chat with Duff.*

Tuesday 4 July 1911 In af[ternoo]n and evening on front for a short time. Cold. Read a few leaves of Hugo's N[apoleon] the L[ittle]. Called on my wife about 8.30 at Miss Livesey's* apartments where she had been having tea.

Wednesday 5 July 1911 House in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n on front. Numerous visitors moving about. Weather for a time alternately warm & cold; then at 4.15, it became warm – much warmer than before – and continued so during the remainder of the day. In the evening I & my wife on the front. Fine sunset. Duff.* (To-day read part of "Broad Grins", by George Colman the younger.[83]

82 Elizabeth Ann Winn (1851-1924).

83 George Colman, *Broad Grins* (London: T. Cadell, Jun. and W. Davies, 1802), https://www.gutenberg.org/cache/epub/25426/pg25426-images.html.

Thursday 6 July 1911 In forenoon, house. In af[ternoo]n to shelter opposite St. C[hristopher]'s church. Chatted nearly the whole time – about an hour & a half – with Mr Judson – a decent, much-travelled man – who lives on the Avenue. In evening on front. Had a talk with Mr Elliott, - (It is 54 years to-day since I finished my 7 years' apprenticeship with Mr G. C. Clarke on the Lancaster Gazette).[84]

Friday 7 July 1911 I & my wife to Central Shelter, on front, in aft[ernoo]n. She had a "nap". Two silent young women crocheting. In evening my wife went to see Miss L[ivesey]; I on promenade. A beautiful sun set. Sun went down behind the hills at rear of Ulverston. Did a little front garden tittivating to-day. Read several pages of Hugo's N[apoleon] the L[ittle]. (Lancaster Mail, the successor to the L. Standard, ceased to-day. Last issue to-day.)[85]

Saturday 8 July 1911 My wife to Lancaster in forenoon. Early in af[ternoo]n we planted some astors [sic] in the little front garden. I to Lancaster per 2.53 af[ternoo]n train. Very full & had to ride in the guard's van, with about 20 other persons. Called on Mr Jas Ellershaw, King-st[ree]t. Had a chat with him for about three q[uarter]rs of an hour. He is feeble – heart bad. I af[terwar]ds went to the public baths in Cable-st[ree]t, & had a nice warm bath. Back to Bare about 6.5. In evening on the front. Duff.*[86]

Sunday 9 July 1911 In forenoon called on Miss L[ivesey], my wife wishing to know how she was going on, in the temporary absence of her maid. In af[ternoo]n we (I & wife) on front; in evening same. Had a chat with Mr Noar. Duff* came & in one part of his talk was personally pert & I had to check him. Read some P[uritan] Gems, a chapter of John's Gospel & finished Hugo's "Napoleon the Little" – a very severe effervescing attack on this particular man, the coup d'etat, &c

Monday 10 July 1911 In forenoon I to front for a short time. In af[ternoo] n I, my wife, & Miss L[ivesey] to the West End. In evening I on front.

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84 Possibly Alfred Elliott (b. 1872), auctioneer, from Bradford, or William Elliott (b. 1849), ironmonger.

85 *Lancaster Mail* (1909-11), which started a few weeks after the closure of the *Standard* under a new owner, Gordon Steel, but also supporting the Unionist party (*Manchester Courier,* 4 November 1909, p. 9). The title of the newspaper lived on for some years thanks to a schools football trophy given annually in its name.

86 James Ellershaw (1837-1912), draper, warden of St John's church.

Read to-day a portion of H. Grey's Epitome of the Principal Greek & Latin authors.[87]

Tuesday 11 July 1911 Out in forenoon; called on Miss L[ivesey] for my wife; had a chat with Duff* on the front. In evening I on front. Read some of Grey's Epitome. My wife at Miss L[ivesey]'s. Very fine weather.

Wednesday 12 July 1911 My wife to Morecambe in forenoon. At noon I went to Preston. Called at hair dresser's, at Bush's,* & at Guardian office. Read two proofs of part of my Roundabout papers at G[uardian] Office. Had a chat with Mehew, the chief reporter. Af[terwar]ds went to our Fulwood house. Found everything right there. Watered plants, &c. On returning to Preston called on F. J. Gardner, tenant of shop 46 Cannon-st[ree]t. Back to Bare per ~~5.26~~ 5.26 train. In evening I & my wife on Promenade.[88]

Thursday 13 July 1911 On front in forenoon. Same in af[ternoo]n & read portion of Grey's Epitome. Mr Wood* & Mr Lonsdale came up & we had a chat. In evening again on front. On returning met Mr Jones & went to his house (on front) where I had a talk & a smoke. Weather hot.[89]

Friday 14 July 1911 This forenoon to Morecambe, per car. Got some health salts for my wife. A great number of visitors on front. Band playing. Noticed sundry young women go into a public house, facing the front – evidently for drink. Walked back to Bare. Weather very warm. In the af[ternoo]n on promenade with my wife, &c. Mr Wood* came up & we had a lively chat. Many persons, including young women, in the bathing pool. Don't care for the mixture of the males & females in one & the same pool. In house, reading papers, &c., nearly the whole evening.

Saturday 15 July 1911 My wife to Lancaster in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n we were on the front. In evening, after watering the flowers, &c, in front little garden, I went to the shelter opposite St C[hristopher]'s chapel-of-

87 Henry Grey, *The Classics for the Million, an Epitome, in English, of the Works of the Principal Greek and Latin Authors* (London: Griffith & Farran, 1881), https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=hvd.hwxr4f&seq=7

88 Frederick James Mehew (c. 1870-1937), active with the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children (NSPCC): *LDP,* 13 September 1937, p. 5.

89 Possibly Samuel William Jones (1858-1916), confectioner.

ease. A long & tiresome discussion between Wilson, of 7, The Avenue & a man from Seabourne-rd., about milk & cattle food. Coldish. Bay clear.

Sunday 16 July 1911 Did not go to front & had no walk to-day. Weather cold. In af[ternoo]n read & nodded. In evening I & my wife (she not so well) sat in dining room, watching people pass. A great lot did so, including ordinary residents, visitors, encampment volunteers or "Territorials", also sundry bits of minxes (fast young lasses who ought to have been at home or some place of worship.) Read to-day some P[uritan] Gems, three chapters of John's gospel, & parts of the "Yorkshire Weekly Post".[90]

Monday 17 July 1911 Showery, windy, cold. In af[ternoo]n my wife to Miss Livesey* & I to the Promenade. Read part of Y[orkshire] W[eekly] Post. On Prom, for a short time in evening. After going to bed we were rung up, & on going to front door there stood a well dressed man who wanted to know if Mr Attwood (or some such named person) lived here. Replied "No: this is my house & my property" & then shut the door & went back to bed.

Tuesday 18 July 1911 This forenoon Miss L[ivesey] left her apartment in the Avenue, Bare, & went to fresh ones (Tattersall's) in Beech-st. In af[ternoo]n I & my wife to the Promenade. Windy. Shelter. Duff* came. A long chat. At 4.30 back to house. Tea. All the evening in the house.

Wednesday 19 July 1911 House in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n I & my wife on Promenade. In evening I on front & my wife with Miss L. Willie Wilson* here for a short time.

Thursday 20 July 1911 In house – after reading "Roundabout" proofs for P[reston] G[uardian] – all morning. In af[ternoo]n I & my wife, for a short time, on Promenade. In evening she to Miss L[ivesey] & I to Prom. Mr Townley, hatter of Lancaster came & I had a chat with him. He complains of business & general depression at Lancaster.

90 The *Yorkshire Weekly Post* was a mixture of magazine and newspaper, a spin-off from the *Yorkshire Post* targeted at working-class readers; many morning newspapers published similar popular weeklies: Graham Law, 'Weekly News Miscellany', in *Dictionary of Nineteenth Century Journalism*, edited by Laurel Brake and Marysa Demoor (online edition, C19: The Nineteenth Century Index. ProQuest, 2009).

Friday 21 July 1911 I to Morecambe in forenoon. Place (in front) very throng with visitors – apparently a Darwenish sort.[91] In af[ternoo]n I & my wife on front for about an hour & a half. In evening mainly in house. Strong wind. Low tide. Coldish.

Saturday 22 July 1911 In af[ternoo]n we went on Promenade, numerous visitors. In bathing pool 14 young men knocking about & amongst very near spectators were 20 females – mainly young ones! Females here have a great hankering after the sight of young men in the bathing pool. In the evening we went to Morecambe which on front and in principal streets was throng with visitors.

Sunday 23 July 1911 Wet part of morning: fine afterwards. In af[ternoo]n & evening on the promenade. Many persons walking to & fro, riding on tram cars, &c. Very considerable number of females in white or very light dresses – showing off with usual & pardonable weakness. Had a talk with Councillor H. Wood* about improvements Bare is entitled to. Reading – A few Puritan Gems, last two chapt[er]s of John's gospel & some paragraphs, &c in the Yorkshire Weekly Post. Murdoch, late editor of Natural History department of this paper, died last Sunday, near Mauchline, in his 70th year. A pleasant, well informed, excellent writer.[92]

Monday 24 July 1911 Nothing particular. Out a little. In evening read part of C. Bronte's "Shirley".

Tuesday 25 July 1911 Out a little on front, in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n on front. Atmosphere clear. Good views across the bay. Territorial men (from Derbyshire) practising at targets about 5 miles on sands in the bay. I read amid considerable drowsiness, part of "Shirley". My wife at Morecambe. In evening again on front & joined later by my wife, &c. Mild. Good tide.

Wednesday 26 July 1911 In forenoon cut grass & trimmed up the earth in little front garden. Nearly all af[ternoo]n in the house. After tea on

91 From Darwen, south of Blackburn.

92 Hewitson is probably noting the revealing translucence of the white dresses; Graham W Murdoch (d. 1911), Fellow of the Royal Zoological Society: *Aberdeen Press & Journal*, 19 July 1911, p. 7.

promenade; read paper & part of "Shirley". On the whole a fine day. (Put up a few pictures in two bed rooms in the afternoon).

Thursday 27 July 1911 A pretty big tide shortly before noon. Went on Promenade to look at it. Two good male swimmers in the water. In aft[ernoo]n read paper & dozed. In evening out on front for about an hour. Warm temperature. Only a few on front. Later saw some ostensibly love stricken Territorial men. Love! Eh?

Friday 28 July 1911 In house all forenoon. On the front – reading & dozing in aft[ernoo]n. I & my wife on promenade & in central shelter in evening, for some time. Whilst on prom., talking to Mr & Mrs Wood,* a woman drew attention to something above. Looked up & saw a flying machine at a great height, passing over, & going due south. Couldn't see the person in charge of it. This would be about 8.15. The machine flew very evenly & quickly. Air calm. This has so far, I think, been the hottest day at Bare this year.[93]

Saturday 29 July 1911 This af[ternoo]n my daughter Rosaline, from W. Bowling, Bradford, with her three children (Willie, Molly and Harry) came to stay with us a little while. In evening we went on Promenade.

Sunday 30 July 1911 Went out on to front with three grandchildren. Afterwards to Territorial camp (Leeds artillery) & heard the chaplain preach a short sermon to a number of the men &c chiefly on the vital importance of obedience to superiors. A lot of visitors present. Encampment field on south side of The Elms hotel. Returned through village. Pigs, poultry &c. In af[ternoo]n & evening I, my wife, daughter R[osaline] & children on Promenade. Reading – first chapt[er] of the Acts of the Apostles, some P[uritan] Gems, &c. Hot, showery, &c.

Monday 31 July 1911 In forenoon on prom with grand-children. John Davis,* Lancaster, came up, & we had a long miscellaneous chat. I first knew him between 50 & 60 years ago. On prom in af[ternoo]n & evening, I, wife, &c, &c. Met Mr & Mrs Holmes, Preston [indecipherable].[94]

93 This was probably James Valentine, taking part in the *Daily Mail*'s 1,010-mile Round Britain Race, competing for a £10,000 Prize. The race had already been won by Frenchman Andre Beaumont, but Valentine was competing for third prize, on his way from Carlisle to Manchester in a Deperdussin Type B aircraft, passing over Millom, 20 miles NW of Morecambe, at 8pm (*Millom Gazette,* 4 August 1911, p.4).

94 Holmes unidentified.

August

Tuesday 1 August 1911 On the front two or three times. To Morecambe in forenoon & got a note from Councillor Gorton (the agent) releasing me from the tenancy of 7, The Avenue, Bare, & accepting as my successor Mr T Wilson. Miss Livesey* returned to her home, in Fulwood, this aft[ernoo]n.

Wednesday 2 August 1911 At noon I went to Preston, where I had some dinner & thence to our house in Fulwood where I found everything right. Only saw two or three persons in Preston & Fulwood whom I knew. How things & people have changed since time when I used to know everybody worth knowing or sufficiently important enough to be known in both P[reston] & F[ulwood]. Back to Bare in early evening. Tea. Then I, my wife & daughter R[osaline] to a variety entertainment at the Central Pier. Pretty good. On the Prom. afterwards.

Thursday 3 August 1911 In aft[ernoo]n I, my wife, daughter R[osaline], & grandson Billy to Morecambe. Whilst there ~~[was]~~ went on & made an inspection of the warship "Repulse", which has been brought into the old harbour to be broken up. She is a huge, strong, steel or iron made ship. Pretty large number of people on front. Read papers in evening. Coldish.

Friday 4 August 1911 Out, on front, in forenoon with the three g[rand] children. In afternoon ditto. The children rambled about – were very active – but, on the whole, behaved well. In the evening we all went to the front. Fine sun-set. Low tide. Moderate number of people on front. Read papers in house.

Saturday 5 August 1911 A very wet day till about 5 pm., after which there was a rush of people on to the promenade. A greater number of people (visitors) at Morecambe than ever before at this time of the year. Son-in-law, Walter Duesbury came between 5 & 6pm. He will stay till Tuesday.

Sunday 6 August 1911 An exceedingly rainy forenoon. In af[ternoo]n I with son-in-law W[alter] D[uesbury] & the three children went on the promenade. Very throng with visitors – Bank holidays, &c. Have never

before seen more than about half as many on the promenade. In the evening we all went on the prom. Had a long chat with Mr C. who was wheeling his blind son – 21 years old – who has been blind for 18 years. A great number of people again on the Prom. Reading to-day: A chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, some Puritan Gems & portions of two Sunday newspapers (Weekly Dispatch & the Sunday Chronicle).[95]

Monday 7 August 1911 On front a little while in forenoon. In the af[ternoo]n we all went to the West End. A seething mass of people there – on prom., on beach, &c. Never saw such a number here before. Shows, donkey & pony riding, nigger minstrels, &c., all in full swing. Walter, Rose & children had a sail: we (I & my wife) home. In evening we went on front.

Tuesday 8 August 1911 To front in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n same, & walked to & from the shelter opposite the Grand Hotel. Weather very hot – hotter, I think, than on any previous day this year. In evening had a chat with Mr Jones & his bro[ther]-in-l[aw] – a smallish man, schoolmaster at Scotforth – a quiet, fairly intelligent man, for a schoolmaster. Af[terwar]ds met & briefly chatted with Wilson & wife & Wood* & wife; then re-joined my wife, son-in-law & daughter R[osaline] on prom. Very fine, warm night.[96]

Wednesday 9 August 1911 Had a long chat, on the Promenade, with John Davis,* of Lancaster, about old people, or by-gone people, & places, &c at & about Lancaster – in the forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n we were all on the Promenade. A considerable number of persons there. Very beautiful weather – not too hot. Coldish in the evening. Read to-day part of "Shirley".

Thursday 10 August 1911 To the front, with g[rand]children, in forenoon. A nice tide. Furness fells and the Lake mountains very clear & making altogether a charming picture. John Davis* & I had a good chat about old times & people. In the af[ternoo]n & evening I was on front. My wife & daughter R[osaline] over at Lancaster this af[ternoo]n & evening. A delightful day, in respect to weather.

95 Mr C unidentified; *Sunday Chronicle* (1885-1955), published by Hulton, Manchester.
96 Probably the Wilsons who had taken on Hewitson's rented house in the Avenue.

Friday 11 August 1911 Had a long, miscellaneous chat on the Promenade with John Davis,* in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n we were all on the front. Fine but gusty & dusty. A lot of persons – both sexes, the females being very strong, by nerve or "cheek", in the bathing pool. In the evening some sheet-lightning. At house a greater part of time.

Saturday 12 August 1911 Weather fine & warm. This has been the finest, sunniest summer I can remember. In af[ternoo]n Matron of Howard Orphan Home, Kendal, called with Mrs Houghton. Between 5.45 & 6.30 I was on Promenade. Had a long chat with Mr Lonsdale on Literary, scientific, & religious subjects. Son-in-law W[alter] D[uesbury] came to-day. Between 9.30 & 11 we played at whist.

Sunday 13 August 1911 This is my 75th birthday. Thank God for all His blessings, grace, & protection. I don't wish to be considered a pietist of the canting kind, so I stop with this. ~~Remain~~ In the house virtually all day. My wife not so well. Read several P[uritan] Gems, a chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, & a little Sunday newspaper matter. Hot weather. Prom, &c moderately throng with visitors. In the main I think the great bulk of visitors seen at Bare came from Central Morecambe & the West End.

Monday 14 August 1911 This forenoon I went to the front with grandson Harry D[uesbury]. My wife & daughter R[osaline] at noon to Preston, Grimsargh (for M[abel]) &c. I & the children stayed in the house the whole of the af[ternoo]n & evening, owing to the great heat. In af[ternoo]n I read a classical work about Xenophon, Plato & Aristotle. My wife & daughter returned about 9 pm. W[alter] D[uesbury] went away, on a journey, this morning.[97]

Tuesday 15 August 1911 With the three g[rand]children on front. Weather very hot. Artillery practice (Territorials from Staffordshire: others, from Leeds, &c., did same but have now gone.) In af[ternoo]n – we were all on front. Fine tide – nice breese [sic], &c. In evening out again with children, my wife & daughter R[osaline] to Morecambe.

97 'M' is probably Hewitson's daughter Mabel, who was in Whittingham County Asylum near Grimsargh.

Wednesday 16 August 1911 On front two or three times. Considerable number of visitors visible. Many looking on at top end, west side of bathing pool, &c The majority looking at the bathers were females. Big guns practiced [sic] thunderingly to-day. Read a little in book on Greek classics, &c.

Thursday 17 August 1911 I & my son-in-law W. Duesbury to Morecambe this forenoon in tram ~~care~~ car – re luggage in advance. Councillor Wood* walked back with us. All of us at a sale of furniture (18 & 32 Beach-st[ree]t, Bare) this af[ternoo]n. We bought a few things.

Friday 18 August 1911 Daughter R[osaline] & children returned to Bradford this af[ternoo]n – some time. Owing to big railway strike it was impossible to say when the train would start or when it would arrive. All confusion. Front of Midland station was crowded with waiting, disappointed, expecting people. Saw a char-a-banc leave Morecambe, with a load of passengers, by the main road, for Preston. Fare, 5/- each.[98]

Saturday 19 August 1911 Made another will – simpler and not so prolix. When I get some one to act as ex[ecut]or with my wife I will sign it. In house nearly the whole day. Read papers. Everybody talking about the great strike. Got a p[ost]-card this af[ternoo]n stating that daughter R[osaline] & her children left Morecambe about 3.30 yesterday; & they arrived home in the evening.[99]

Sunday 20 August 1911 In af[ternoo]n read several "Puritan Gems" & a chapter of the Acts of the Apostles. Had a small sleep afterwards. In the evening I & my wife had a walk on the front. Met Duff* who told us he had been at Oxford, Stratford-on-Avon, &c. Had a long chat with him. Little Councillor Wood* came up & sat & talked. Later his wife (in a state of finery) out of the little Church -- St C[hristopher's]. News to-day of settlement of the great strike late last night.

98 The government sent troops and police to break the two-day national strike over pay and conditions, leading to the deaths of two strikers in Llanelli and two in Liverpool: Sam Davies, '"Crisis? What Crisis?": The National Rail Strike of 1911 and the State Response', *Historical Studies in Industrial Relations*, 33 (2012), 97–125, https://doi.org/10.3828/hsir.2012.33.6

99 Neither Florence nor Llewellyn are mentioned in this will; Mabel was bequeathed an income of 10/- a week if mentally capable. Ethelbert later named his house in Broughton near Preston 'Villa Atticus' in honour of his father's pen name.

Monday 21 August 1911 In house nearly all day. We sent the servant Gertie to her relations, at Holme, near Burton, to-day. She didn't want to go. We sent her in accordance with instructions from the Home she came from near Kendal. Read papers. A wildly magnificent sunset – making windows look as if on fire.

Tuesday 22 August 1911 For about an hour I & my wife on promenade in af[ternoo]n. Fewer persons visible. Fear of the big strike preventing them from getting home in proper time &c seems to have driven many away. In the evening we went to Morecambe & looked about. The visitorial mass very palpably reduced through, I suspect, the above mentioned cause. Met Mrs. Plews, widow of D. Plews, marine engineer. Encountered Duff,* &c

Wednesday 23 August 1911 I & my wife to Morecambe in the af[ternoo]n – I paying rates & gas & water bills. Number of persons on front very considerably reduced. In the evening we were on front, at Bare, for upwards of an hour. Nothing special.

Thursday 24 August 1911 Wet in forenoon. Temperature considerably lower. I & my wife sat in front room, in aft[ernoo]n – reading & dozeing [sic]. In the evening we were on the front – at the shelter opposite the little church (St C[hristopher]'s) & at shelter at east end. In former had some pleasant talk with an elderly man about old times, travel, &c – old railway times, ~~Scotch~~ English, Scotch & Continental scenery, &c

Friday 25 August 1911 In & about the house in forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n I & my wife to the front. Sat on a seat opposite Park-street. Young Mr Garlick* (who is recovering from his paralytic seizure) came up, with a copy of Mrs Brownings verses (one vol.) in his hand. We had a very long chat on poetry & Indian matters, &c, &c. At night I & my wife to the Central pier principally to see & hear Vesta Tilly. We occupied reserved seats in front. V[esta] T[illy] took character pieces; but she did not by any means realise my expectations – figure too small & thin, songs, &c too namby-pamby, fantastic, & [~~brain~~] shallow. But the general audience (second house) applauded her very much. On leaving missed last car & had to walk to home at Bare.[100]

100 George Garlick (1886-1926); the 1911 and 1921 censuses describe him as a professor

Saturday 26 August 1911 I & my wife to our Fulwood home this af[ternoo]n. Train, from Lancaster about half an hour late.

Sunday 27 August 1911 Bothering about the house in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n wrote a letter to Mr James Livesey, &c. Read a chapter in Acts of the Apostles, some Puritan Gems, & part of Froude's History of England, also had a considerable dip in Miss Harriet Martineau's Guide to the Lakes. For a short time went to Miss Livesey's* where my wife had gone.[101]

Monday 28 August 1911 In forenoon to Preston. Called on Wm Brown lithographer &c., who agreed to be my executor along with my wife. Signed new will at his office and had my signature duly witnessed. Later call on Mr T Reveley (sol[icito]r) – not in - & on R. Seed, Lune-st[ree]t., re Miss Livesey's* affairs.[102]

Tuesday 29 August 1911 About 11 in forenoon rode with Alderman W. H Woods to Preston in his excellent motor car. Subsequently I & R Seed had a long interview with Mr Reveley respecting Miss Livesey's* affairs. Miss L[ivesey]'s servant Sara gone to Lowick to see her mother who seems to be dying, according to a letter received this morning. I back to Bare per 8.2 pm train – a slow thing. My wife staying with Miss Livesey.

Wednesday 30 August 1911 A very fine day. To the front in forenoon & af[ternoo]n. In the evening to Bare lane station, to meet my wife; but she did not turn up. Later in house read paper & part of a chapter in "Classics for the Million" on Aristotle.

Thursday 31 August 1911 To Morecambe in forenoon, to get a small cheque cashed. In af[ternoo]n on front. A fair number of rough-looking persons there; but all well behaved. – My old friend W[illia]m Hale,* Fulwood, died this morning aged 81.

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of philosophy, at Aligarh University, North West Province, India, 'invalided home'; Vesta Tilley (1864-1952), real name Matilda Alice Powles, was a music hall star and the most famous male impersonator of her era, known for songs such as 'Burlington Bertie' and 'The Piccadilly Johnny with the Little Glass Eye'.

101 James Livesey (1833–1925), Miss Livesey's brother, see vol. 1, 11 April 1874; Harriet Martineau, *A Complete Guide to the English Lakes* (Windermere: John Garnett, 1855), http://archive.org/details/completeguidetoe1855mart

102 William Brown (b. 1873), of Bushell Place, with business premises in Glover's Court.

September

Friday 1 September 1911 Nothing particular in forenoon beyond writing a letter of condolence to Mr Hale's* family & sending my a/c [account] for 9 col[umn]s of matter, "Pleasant Walks," which appeared in the Preston Guardian in June & July last. In the aft[ernoo]n on front. In the evening my wife returned.

Saturday 2 September 1911 I & my wife on front in forenoon, afternoon, & evening. Visitors are thinning down very considerably. In the evening the mountains in Lakeland looked beautiful – clear in outline, pale purple in colour & altogether very charming. As the evening wore on the temperature decreased considerably. Read papers.

Sunday 3 September 1911 We were on the front in the af[ternoo]n. A pretty large number of people – visitors mainly & the great majority from Central & West End parts of Morecambe – were knocking about. Many females in light & white dresses. In the evening I & my wife went to the service in "The little church by the sea." A large congregation: females preponderating numerically. Rev AV Bland read the prayers: his voice was husky. Rev Bishop Troughton preached an earnest, but mediocre sermon. On returning home read part of Tuttle's "Christ Idea in History" & Dr Doran's "Table Traits."[103]

Monday 4 September 1911 Nothing particular to-day. Showery in early part. Had a short walk in the evening. Promenade thinned down of its visitors. Read paper, &c, at night.

Tuesday 5 September 1911 For about an hour on the front in the afternoon, I & my wife. Partly throng. In the evening to Morecambe which was considerably throng on the front.

Wednesday 6 September 1911 This is the anniversary of my wife's birth day. She attains her 73rd year to-day & taking everything into

103 Albert Victor Bland (1877-1937); William Troughton (1845-1917); Hudson Tuttle, *The Career of the Christ-Idea in History* (Boston MA: Adams, 1870), http://hdl.handle.net/2027/nnc1.cu53300106; John Doran, *Table Traits: With Something on Them* (Dublin: Hodges & Smith, 1854), http://books.google.co.uk/books?vid=BL:A0018751543

account is very well, and active for which I am thankful. "Praise God from whom all blessings flow." We were on the front a little while in the aft[ernoo]n also on front in the evening. Little Wilson & his wife – our successors in the Avenue – who we met & they looked in at our house in Prince's Crescent.

Thursday 7 September 1911 In aft[ernoo]n I & my wife on the front. Had a talk with Councillor Wood* & his wife. In the evening we were again on the front. Had a long walking chat with the cousin of Mrs Wood (Miss -) on social & political subjects, &c.

Friday 8 September 1911 I & my wife this morning, per 9.18 train to Bay Horse station, & thence per conveyance – a sort of wagonette to Crookhey Hall, Cockerham – third day's sale by auction of surplus furniture, &c. Colonel Bird built the hall & lived at for many years, & died in it ~~two or th~~ about two years ago. His widow is said to be out of her mind & is living under supervision at Hay Carr. I only made one purchase at the sale – a book entitled "Lancashire Leaders," published privately at 3 guineas per copy. I only paid 3/- [5 written above figure 3] for it. My wife & I walked back very leisurely in the warm sunshine along the pleasant Cockerham road. We called at the late Richard Hall's & had, after a ramble in the fields, &c, tea. Then we walked on to Bay Horse station & soon after 5 o'cl[oc]k proceeded by train to Bare.[104]

Saturday 9 September 1911 My wife at Lancaster in the forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n we were on the front &c for about 2 hours. Mrs Wood, &c. All evening in & about house reading chiefly.

Sunday 10 September 1911 In house in forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n I & my wife on front for about an hour. A considerable number of visitors visible. In house the whole of the evening. Read some P[uritan] Gems, a chapt[er] of Acts of the Apostles, and a few pages of Sydney Smith's lectures on Moral philosophy.

104 Charles Henry Bird (c. 1840-1909); Isobel Eveleigh Bird, née Wyndham (d. 1924); Ernest Gaskell, *Lancashire Leaders: Social & Political* (London: Queenhithe, 1907).

Monday 11 September 1911 Nothing very particular. Out on front in the evening for a short time. Visitors shrinking numerically.

Tuesday 12 September 1911 I & my wife to Ingleton per 10.12 morning train from Morecambe Midland station. Reached Ingleton at about 11.20. Called at Three Horse Shoes hotel & saw young Walker (father recently dead) respecting continuation of tenancy of field, &c. Made an agreeable arrangement. Af[terwar]ds went to Hodgson's Seed Hill farm, where we were hospitably treated. Then we went down to Mr Geo Walling's (GW is the village schoolmaster). Had tea there. Returned to Morecambe per 6.35pm train. A very wet day. Got to Bare about 9.15.[105]

Wednesday 13 September 1911 This morning my wife to son Horace's, Blackpool – for the day. At noon I to Preston & thence to our house at Fulwood. Found everything right at the house. Called at Miss Livesey's,* Park Terrace, with her watch. Sold six copies of "Northward" to Mr Halewood & got paid for them. Had a talk with Mr J Leigh, of West Leigh, Lea, W Phizackerley & Coward, barber, Lune-st. In evening met my wife at Central Station & we returned to Bare per 8.2 train – a slow service, very.[106]

Thursday 14 September 1911 Nothing particular. In course of the day I & my wife on front for a short time.

Friday 15 September 1911 Same. Weather rather cold – indeed much colder than we have had it since last Spring.

Saturday 16 September 1911 Son E[thelbert] & his wife & child came from Wakefield this evening for a short stay. Between 8 & 9 he & I to the front, &c for a little while. Mildish evening.

Sunday 17 September 1911 In forenoon I, son E[thelbert] & his little daughter on front & round into Teddy-lane, north-east of the Elms hotel.

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105 John Walker (see 1 June 1906) had three sons; George Walling (d. 1931).

106 John Leigh (d. 1929), mill owner, son of Adam Leigh* (see 17 January 1891), involved in Preston Gas Company, Preston Savings Bank (*LDP,* 10 September 1929, p. 8); Phizackerley [sp?] unidentified; Robert Wilson Coward (1840-1937).

We met many people (visitors) & there were many in a field S.E. of the Elms along with a pretty fair number of "Territorials" (connected with encampment from Bradford) attending a military or drum-head religious service. We were all in the house in aft[ernoo]n & evening. Between 8 & 10 played a rubber of whist.

Monday 18 September 1911 Out very little. Read papers. In evening I & son E[thelbert] to the Bare-lane r[ailwa]y station to inquire about a train in morning to Carnforth. On returning played a short time at whist. Child ill – chest bad; camphor, &c; sick; much better; to bed.

Tuesday 19 September 1911 Anniversary of my 53rd wedding day. At noon I, my wife, son E[thelbert] & his wife & daughter went by train to Carnforth & thence walked through the fields to Warton parish church, where the marriage took place, Rev T Dean, vicar, officiating. Church restored: it looks very plain, clean & substantial. All dead now who were guests, &c at our wedding except about three. (On this day, 7 years ago my son E[thelbert] was married at Wakefield). We looked through the church, some parts of which are very old, & stood on the sanctuary steps at part where we were married. Warton very quiet. Returned per 3.26 train. Son E[thelbert], &c back to Wakefield per 5.33 train. Cards &c.

Wednesday 20 September 1911 Wet & cold at the beginning: finer later. In af[ternoo]n I & my wife had a stroll & a rest on the front. Sent off cheque for my Fulwood rates. In the house all the night. Cards &c.

Thursday 21 September 1911 On front, I & my wife in aft[ernoo]n for about two hours. A fair number of visitors in evidence. Somewhat better sort. Weather fine but coldish. Distant hills &c, clear. In evening we went to an entertainment in pavilion of the Central Pier – Reg Bolton, a humourist, supported by his "Fashion Plates." Musical, comical entertainment & very good – well gone through.[107]

Friday 22 September 1911 Same in af[ternoo]n, but not quite so long out. In evening read Yorkshire Weekly Post, Daily Dispatch, & Lancaster

107 Reg. Bolton (d. 1954).

Guardian. The first very readable – replete with interest & information. Letter from Kellett Rygbie respecting the Tyldesley Diary.[108]

Saturday 23 September 1911 Wet & cold nearly the whole day. My wife to Lancaster market in the forenoon. I met her, on return, at Bare lane station. In house af[ternoo]n & all evening, reading, &c.

Sunday 24 September 1911 In house during forenoon. I & my wife went on front in aft[ernoo]n. Had a conversation with Mrs Burton, wife of a retired exciseman, & a chat with little Wilson who succeeded me as tenant of 7, The Avenue, Bare. Afterwards to Central shelter for about half an hour, the weather being fine & bright; & then back to our Crescent house. In evening to the little Wesleyan chapel in Margaret-st[ree]t. New organ opened to-day. A lay man from Lancaster named Edmondson preached in the morning, & in the evening (the chief cause of our going to this place of worship) the Rev AV Bland of the Free Church of England, on front. Excellent sermon. Read to-day some Puritan Gems, a chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, part of Sunday Chronicle & the Y[orkshire] Weekly Post & a few pages of "Classics for the Million."[109]

Monday 25 September 1911 Miscellaneous in forenoon. Aft[ernoo]n & evening very wet; so stayed in house. Read papers & part of "Classics for the Million." Cards between 9 & 10.

Tuesday 26 September 1911 A very fine day. In af[ternoo]n I to front; afterwards I & my wife. Had a chat with young Garlick* – the infirm young man. In evening I & my wife to the Tower. Internally a fine, large place. Cinematograph pictures, &c.

Wednesday 27 September 1911 Frank Milner, editor, &c Lancaster Guardian called on me this forenoon for some particulars of old Mr

108 Robert Edward Kellet Rigbye (b. 1853), 'litterateur, editor and proprietor of *Cross Fleury's Journal*' (1911 census) who wrote under the pseudonym 'Cross Fleury', was a Lancaster journalist and fellow historian, author of *Time-Honoured Lancaster*, the standard history of the city for decades. He had published a magazine, *Cross Fleury's Journal*, from Preston about ten years earlier, and was an admirer of Hewitson.

109 Edmondson unidentified; Sarah Ann Burton (b. 1848), married to George Burton (b. 1847).

Quarme, who was editor of the Lancaster Gazette during greater part of my apprenticeship at the office of that paper. I gave FM some particulars & for more referred him to my "Northward," a copy of which he possesses. At noon I went to Preston & thence to Fulwood house. Dinner. Two tons of coal (ordered) came about 2.30. Back to Bare per 4.30 train. Wrote to son E[thelbert]. Read papers. Cards, &c.[110]

Thursday 28 September 1911 Windy & cold. In af[ternoo]n I & my wife walked down & up the Avenue. On returning a heavy shower. Great change on front (which we were on before going to the Avenue). Very few persons visible. A great riddance of motor car & motorcycle people – maniacs, in numerous cases, or related thereto. In house after tea. Read papers & part of "Classics for the Million" – some extracts from a Roman poetical scientist or close observer of nature. Cards for a short time afterwards.

Friday 29 September 1911 Cold & windy & showery. I & my wife on front a short time in aft[ernoo]n. In lane at east end met Mrs Howarth, widow of a brother of E Howarth (dead) who for a time was a draper in Fishergate, Preston, & sister of the Wesleyan Wildings of Preston. We had a chat. In the evening I & my wife to Morecambe. Cold & hardly anybody stirring outside. To an auction room. Home about 9.50.

Saturday 30 September 1911 Cold & windy. My wife to Lancaster (market) in forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n we had a short walk. In evening she for about two hours to Morecambe. I read paper & part of "Classics for the Million" (J Caesar & Cicero).

110 Charles Edward Quarme (1795-1879), editor of *Preston Pilot* 1824-34, owner of *Lancaster Gazette* 1834-48 (*Morecambe Guardian*, 26 May 1928, p. 11).

October

Sunday 1 October 1911 Fine day. In aft[ernoo]n we were on front – central shelter – for a good while. In evening we walked to "the little Church by the Sea"; but on ascertaining that "Bishop" Troughton - a kindly, well-meaning duffer – and not his assistant (Rev A. V. Bland – an excellent preacher) would deliver the sermon, we turned back, met Mr W Duff,* & afterwards had a long chat with him, &c in central shelter. Read to-day – part of the Sunday Chronicle, some Puritan Gems, two chapt[er]s of Acts, & a few pages of Sydney Smith's lectures on the principles of Moral Philosophy.

Monday 2 October 1911 In af[ternoo]n W Wilson,* Lancaster & Mr & Mrs Tyson, Hest Bank, called. I & my wife in house all day nearly. Reading, cards.[111]

Tuesday 3 October 1911 Odds & ends, as usual, in forenoon. In the af[ternoo]n I & my wife walked to Morecambe. Town very bare of visitors. A great transformation from throngness & variety to quietude & cold, dull monotony on the front. In the evening read papers, &c & played at cards.

Wednesday 4 October 1911 In the af[ternoo]n we went to Lancaster – first to W Wilson's* (nephew) & then to Jas Wilson's* (bro[ther]-in-l[aw]). Latter not well – indigestion or something else. We returned per 8.56 train. Read paper &c. Coldish.

Thursday 5 October 1911 In forenoon cleaning up front garden – cutting grass, weeding, delving &c. In af[ternoo]n reading papers &c. In the evening I & my wife had a short stroll on front – very quiet, hardly a soul visible. Later, at home, ~~a game~~ played cards.

Friday 6 October 1911 My wife to Morecambe in the af[ternoo]n. I on front mainly during her absence. Fine but rather cold. In the evening I & my wife to Morecambe – to a miscellaneous sale by auction. Town quiet & gloomy. Returned per 9.15 car. Read a little in the house.

111 Robert Tyson (b. 1850), retired farmer; Emma Elizabeth Tyson (c. 1849-1919).

Saturday 7 October 1911 A very fine, warm day. My wife to Lancaster in forenoon. I went to the station to meet her: weather warm as in midsummer. In the af[ternoo]n we were for about two hours on the front. Mild. Sunshine. Had a long talk with an ex-schoolmaster from Bury, who lives in Beach st[ree]t, Bare. Read papers after tea.

Sunday 8 October 1911 In the af[ternoo]n I & my wife on the front; the weather very fine & warm. Met Mr & Mrs Wood* & had a talk with them on several subjects. In the evening I & wife to harvest festival service in the little Wesleyan Chapel, Margaret-st[ree]t, Bare. A good attendance. Place pretty full but not so nicely decorated as it might have been. A good sermon by an elderly minister who has just come to the Morecambe circuit. One of the best points in it – if not the best – was condemnation of the disrespectful & disobedient spirit of many of the present day children. On returning to our house I read some Puritan Gems, a chapt[er] of the Acts of the Apostles & some pages of Sydney Smith's lectures on Moral Philosophy – sane & excellent.

Monday 9 October 1911 Last night's Wesleyan preacher was the Rev. Geo. Denton. To-day, in the af[ternoo]n, I had a short stroll on front. My wife out on a small shopping errand. After tea I read papers & sundry pages of "Classics for the Million".[112]

Tuesday 10 October 1911 Various in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n my wife to Lancaster, to a dressmaker. I to the front. Met & had a talk with Mr Hey & Mr Booth – former of West End, formerly of No 35 Prince's Cres., Bare, & the latter of Bare. On leaving them walked to the Central Shelter, opposite St Christopher's little church, & had a chat with Mr Garlick* & Mr Duff.* After tea read papers & part of "Classics for the Million". Cards.[113]

Wednesday 11 October 1911 At about 12.12 my wife to Preston, & thence to our house in Fulwood. I went on front in af[ternoo]n for about 2½

112 George Denton (c. 1843-1914), previously in Liverpool.

113 Probably John Booth (1840), gentleman, living in Park St, Bare, originally from Bingley, Yorkshire (see 18 August 1912).

hours. Had a nice chat with Mr Garlick* who is a well read & mentally smart young man. A very fine day & numerous people on the front. After tea I read papers & portion of "Classics for the Million". My wife got back about 7.30 pm. Between 9 & 10 we played at cards.

Thursday 12 October 1911 Doing different duties indoors in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n bro[ther] in law Jas Wilson* & his wife, of Lancaster came. We all had a walk & a sit on the front. Tea. Later whist. They nearly lost their home train – thinking there was one between 10 & 11 whereas the last left here about 9.45. Weather very fine.

Friday 13 October 1911 Weather beautiful – sunshining, warm. People say they never remember a finer or as fine an October in respect to the weather. In the af[ternoo]n I & my wife on the front for about two hours. In the evening we went to Morecambe and bought some bulbs for planting at our Bare place & at Fulwood.

Saturday 14 October 1911 I & my wife to Lancaster this forenoon. A large number of people – the bulk, I suspect, from country places – in the Market & the chief streets. Called at the "Observer" office & got paid for two copies of "Northward". Town is evidently in a state of depression. Saw shops to let which I had never seen unlet before. Back by 12.36 train. In af[ternoo]n we had a stroll & a rest on the front. After tea to Mr & Mrs Jones's, on the front. Cards. Supper. A pipe. A chat. Home about 10.20.

Sunday 15 October 1911 Weather rather cold. In house both forenoon & af[ternoo]n. In the evening I & my wife to the "little Church by the Sea". A moderate congregation in number. Expected Rev A V Bland w[ould]d be the preacher; but he had been detained in London. Service conducted by "Bishop" Troughton who also preached; his sermon being better than we have usually heard -- from him. Reading to-day: - parts of the Sunday Chronicle, some P[uritan] Gems, two chapt[er]s of Acts of the Apostles & parts of a pamphlet in favour of Agnosticism, by G. C. Griffith-Jones.[114]

114 George Chetwynd Griffith-Jones, *The Excellent Religion: An Essay on the Relations Existing between Agnosticism, the Polar Theory of Being, and the Higher Theism* (London:

Monday 16 October 1911 On front in af[ternoo]n for about an hour & a half; my wife being at Morecambe. Cold. After tea read papers. Beautiful day.

Tuesday 17 October 1911 Another beautiful day. To the front I & my wife in the af[ternoo]n. Had a chat with young Mr Garlick,* &c., on literature, spiritual subjects, & other somewhat recondite or contentious matters. In the evening read newspapers. Cards for about half an hour.

Wednesday 18 October 1911 Finished, this forenoon, cleaning surface of grass plot at back of house. In af[ternoo]n I & my wife to the West End. Old omnibus from east end to Grand hotel; workmen having commenced this day or yesterday to take up the single tram line between those two places – to be superseded by double lines. [~~At the~~] Resumed tram at G[rand] Hotel. At West End called at Mr Hey's, 4, Carlton-rd. Not in: met him near Alhambra. Walked on Sandylands front. Back at Bare, about 5.30. (Weather very mild & a fair number of people on promenade). After tea to see Miss & Mr Geo. Garlick,* in Margaret-st[ree]t. Played at whist, & got slightly trained in "Bridge". No stakes.[115]

Thursday 19 October 1911 Wet nearly all day, & I in the house nearly the whole time. Read papers & finished a mysterious, ably written pamphlet by Griffiths Jones on "The Excellent Religion" – an agnostic, unsatisfying production. Played a little at cards between 9 & 10 pm.

Friday 20 October 1911 A pretty fine day. In the af[ternoo]n my wife to Morecambe: I to the front. Lent Mr Geo. Garlick* (whom I met in central shelter) a copy of the Bellingham Diary, & he lent me a volume of verses &c by Robert Browning. In the evening my wife again to Morecambe. I read papers & a lot of Browning.[116]

Watts, nd), http://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.a0000072223

115 Hewitson refers to Garlick's aunt as Miss Garlick, in fact her name is Elizabeth Bates (b. 1856).

116 Hewitson's edition of the diaries of Bellingham, 'an officer under William III' and a bon vivant around Preston in the late seventeenth century.

Saturday 21 October 1911 This forenoon my wife a-marketing to Lancaster. In af[ternoo]n we read papers &c. In the evening I to Morecambe. On returning telegraphed to Mr Jas Livesey, 4, Whitehall Court, London re M[ary] J[ane Livesey].* Finished reading Browning's Pippa Passes. Nice but complex & mysterious & one is inclined to wonder, when finishing, what it all means. Cards, &c.

Sunday 22 October 1911 In forenoon various. In af[ternoo]n had a nap & a read in S[unday] Chron[icle]. In evening read some Puritan Gems, two chapt[er]s of Acts of the Apostles & substantial portion of Rev. Sydney Smith's lectures on Political Economy. – Weather broken, & we are preparing to return to our winter quarters – 7, Queen's-rd, Fulwood, Preston.

Monday 23 October 1911 Coldish. Finished clearing up the top rubbish, &c in back ground. Read papers, &c. Played cards for a short time between 9 & 10.

Tuesday 24 October 1911 Out in af[ternoo]n on front. Had a chat with Mr. H. Wood* & Mr Scott – the latter having bought a new house in lane north of the Elms leading to the front for £500. – On returning Mr Hall, councillor, [~~for~~] of Torrisholme (Morecambe Corp[o]r[atio]n) called & asked me to fill in a nomination for him; his period of service being up on 31st inst. Hall is a sound, decent fellow & I willingly complied with his request. My wife to-day bought some furniture for our house at Bare – to help to make it complete. Read papers after tea: a little carding later.[117]

Wednesday 25 October 1911 In af[ternoo]n my wife to West End & I to Central Morecambe, which place was very quiet – half day holiday & "season" over. On returning I fell in with Mr G. Garlick.* In the evening read "Classics for Million" & papers & played at cards.

Thursday 26 October 1911 Wet all day. Packing, &c – making ready for going back to Fulwood to-morrow during winter. In the evening called on Mr. Garlick;* gave him back his copy of Browning's poems & he

117 Probably William Scott (b. 1868); the road was known as Elms Lane.

handed to me my copy of the Bellingham Diary. A chat. Returned. Read papers. Cards.

Friday 27 October 1911 At noon to-day left Bare for our winter quarters, 7 Queen's-rd, Fulwood. My wife followed. We have had a fine time at Bare, on the whole, so far as relates to weather. Found everything right at our Fulwood house. Read papers.

Saturday 28 October 1911 To Preston in forenoon. Got amended fire insurance policy from Messrs Clark [sic] & Son, sol[icitor]s, Lune-st[ree]t. Saw Mr. Bush* respecting notice to leave given by J F Gardner – shop 46 Cannon-st[ree]t. In evening read papers.

Sunday 29 October 1911 A wild, cold, wet day. Miscellaneous in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n read part of S[unday] Chronicle & had a nap. In the evening read Puritan Gems, a chapter of Acts of the Apostles, & sundry pages of Froude's History of England. Vol 10. I shall some day, I hope, get to the end of this ably got up but most prolix, long-winded historical production. This is not a work to read. It is a very elaborate, laboriously written history for reference purposes.

Monday 30 October 1911 I to Preston in af[ternoo]n. Called at one or two shops, & looked in at the Guardian office. Saw Jim Taylor, reporter, &c., in his "den". Robert Peake, my old apprentice, & for many years chief agricultural reporter for the P[reston] Guardian, looked in & we had a short, cheerful chat. After tea, hunting about for an evening paper. A short read in F[roude]'s Hist[ory] of E[ngland]. Cards.[118]

Tuesday 31 October 1911 In & about the house greater part of the day. Nothing very particular. After tea read paper & portion of Froude's Hist[ory] of E[ngland]. Between 9 & 10 played for a little while at cards with my wife.

118 Robert John Peake (1854–1916, see vol. 1, 1 June 1874).

November

Wednesday 1 November 1911 To Preston in forenoon. Paid half y[ea]rs rent of our Fulwood house (£9); also paid premium (extra) on my Bare house & furniture &c to Mr. Joseph Haslam (Clarke & Sons chief clerk) who agreed to be one of my executors. I shall include him in a codicil. In af[ternoo]n miscellaneous. In evening read paper, perused some pages of F[roude]'s H[istory] of E[ngland], & played cards, &c.

Thursday 2 November 1911 Cleaned up the front "garden" a little. Nothing special. Read part of W Pilkington's "Then & Now" – local reminiscences. Several interesting things in this pamphlet; but it also contains some very bad blunders & is in part much too marked by self-conceit. Read paper & played a little at cards. Wet.[119]

Friday 3 November 1911 Finished tidying up little front garden in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n wet. Read a little & had a "nap." After tea read papers, finished Froude's Vol 10 Hist[ory] of E[ngland] & read part of Edwin Waugh's Sketches in Lakeland, &c. Cards – a little.[120]

Saturday 4 November 1911 Wet & wild. In af[ternoo]n H.W. Clemesha* called, & asked me to revise a map of Preston based on Dr Kuerden's Description of the town (circ 1682) which has been prepared for his (H.W.C[lemesha]'s) History of Preston. He told me that the Manchester University (late Owen's Col[lege]) people were bearing the expense of its printing & publication. Last spring I revised the chief parts of the M.S.[manuscript] for H.W.C[lemesha]. – After tea read papers. Later had a game at cards.

Sunday 5 November 1911 Very wild day: a gale from the west. In the af[ternoo]n & evening read following – some P[uritan] Gems, two of Geo. Dawson's prayers, two chapters of Acts of the Ap[ostles], & about 30 pages of Froude's Hist[ory] of E[ngland], Vol 11. Later cards for a short time.

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119 William Pilkington, *Then and Now: The Illustrated Story of Preston's Progress for Seventy Years (1841-1911)* (Pilkington, 1911).

120 Edwin Waugh, *Rambles in the Lake Country and Its Borders* (Manchester: John Heywood, 1864), https://www.google.co.uk/books/edition/Rambles_in_the_Lake_Country_and_Its_Bord/rPgGAAAAQAAJ?hl=en

Monday 6 November 1911 Storm considerably subsided, but still the weather roughish, & I & my wife were mainly in house all day. In the evening I read papers & a little of Froude's Hist[ory] of E[ngland]. Played cards for about half an hour. (This evening H.W. Clemesha* called & together we carefully examined his map, before referred to. I pointed out some errors, &c

Tuesday 7 November 1911 Walked to Preston in af[ternoo]n. Called at three or four places, including the Free Library. In evening read papers & part of Edwin Waugh's volume about Over Sands, &c places. For half an hour cards.

Wednesday 8 November 1911 Engaged for a considerable time planting rose trees & bulbs in the front garden – my wife helping. In the evening we went to Mr Bramwell's,* Higher Bank-rd, Fulwood, where we had a pleasant talk, played two rubbers at whist, & had some supper.

Thursday 9 November 1911 Busy for a few hours cleaning up the back ground, docking the ferns, &c. Hardish work. – Read papers later & had a short play with my wife at cards. Weather dampish.

Friday 10 November 1911 Went to Preston in aft[ernoo]n (after doing some extra work at the back, for bulbs, &c). Ordered pair of shoes for my wife and pair of boots for myself at Dilworth Abbatt's in Friargate. He's a Quaker & showed me two old certificates signed by certain persons called Abbatt (temp. 1742-1746). At night read papers & played at cards.

Saturday 11 November 1911 In house well nigh every bit of to-day. My wife to Miss Livesey's* at noon, by request, & stayed there till about 8.30pm. In the meantime I wrote a long letter to J.C. Wilsdon, of Gain[e]s-ville, Texas, read papers, & had a long indulgence in Waugh's Sketches of Oversands scenes, places & incidents. Very readable, these sketches. Between 9.30 & 10 played at cards.

Sunday 12 November 1911 Thought of going to join procession from Preston Town Hall to the Parish Church of the new Mayor (Councillor Bob Simpson, provision merchant), but altered my mind – didn't join it. In af[ternoo]n read S[unday] Chron[icle] & had a nap. In evening read

some P[uritan] Gems, a chapt[er] of the A[cts] of the Ap[ostles], & some pages of F[roude]'s Hist[ory] of E[ngland]. Cards later.[121]

Monday 13 November 1911 Various in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n to Preston. Got my hair cut & beard, &c trimmed. Bad in my back – a sort of lumbago or rheumatism. Read the papers.

Tuesday 14 November 1911 Somewhat better. Remitted to Wakefield a few pounds (final balance) in connection with book debts. Adieu. Thank God for freedom. In af[ternoo]n I slipped up to Preston – to see Hodgson, painter, &c &c, Church-st[ree]t about silvering two glass panels for our chiffonier. He could not re-silver the old ones – quicksilver had eaten into the glass. So I ordered two new ones. After tea read papers & Waugh's Rambles in Lake Country.[122]

Wednesday 15 November 1911 Bought an inverted, incandescent gas lamp at Preston this aft[ernoo]n. Town, centrally, fairly busy. But there are far too many shops to let. At night Mr & Mrs Bramwell,* Higher Bank-road, came & we had a good play at whist.

Thursday 16 November 1911 At noon to Bare. Found our house on the Crescent all right with exception of two small roof leaks, & some dripping at cellar grid. Got Mr Wilding to see to the leaks. Bare quiet. Tram line doubling work going on well. Went to Morecambe for some picked shrimps. Town very dull & dismal looking. Back to Fulwood per 5.5. train to Preston. After tea read papers. A wildish night.[123]

Friday 17 November 1911 Various in forenoon. In the af[ternoo]n went to Preston – an errand for my wife. Read in evening, some papers & a little of Froude's H[istory] of E[ngland]. Short play at cards.

Saturday 18 November 1911 My wife, as usual when here, to market at Preston, this forenoon. In af[ternoo]n she went across to keep Miss Livesey* company in absence of the housekeeper. I to Preston in af[ternoo]n. Left pair new boots to stretch at Dilworth Abbatt's, Friargate. Read papers & a few pages of Froude's Hist[ory] of E[ngland]. Not so very well to-day. My wife same. Think the weather which has been very wet & wild has had something to do with the cause of our indisposition. But we are both above

121 Robert Shaw Simpson (c. 1846-1920), Freemason, Conservative.
122 John Roland Hodgson (b. 1855), glass merchant, Church St; chiffonier: tall, narrow chest of drawers with mirror on top.
123 Probably Alfred Altham Wilding (b. 1867).

three score & ten years old, so can't expect such very robust health. We are, however, hopeful, & trust we shall always look "on the bright side."

Sunday 19 November 1911 Cold & dull weather. In house all day. Read portion of Sunday Chronicle, two of Geo. Dawson's prayers, a chapter of the Acts of the Apostles, about 30 pages of Froude's Hist[ory] of E[ngland] and sundry pages of Waugh's "Rambles in the Lake Country." For a little while between 9.30 & 10 I & my wife at cards.

Monday 20 November 1911 Odds & ends in house during forenoon. In the aft[ernoo]n, while my wife was at Preston I went to Mr Bramwell's,* Higher Bank road, Fulwood, & arranged that I & my wife sh[oul]d go to theirs on Wed. instead of Tues. evening. After tea read papers & a good lot of Waugh's Rambles. Played a little at cards later.

Tuesday 21 November 1911 Same in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n my wife to Preston – to visit Mrs S. Wilding, Ribblesdale Place. I had a walk up Garstang-road, & then crossed by Duck lane into Cadley. Many sheep in adjoining fields – waiting for the market, I suppose. Crossed the railway, passed down by where old Hatch mill stood, up by the Troy laundry & so home. In the evening read papers & a good lot of Waugh's "Rambles."[124]

Wednesday 22 November 1911 About same in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n I to Preston for a lamp (an inverted incandescent) & my new boots which I had returned for additional stretching. In evening my wife not so well & we had to cancel our engagement to-night at Mr B[ramwell]'s. Got my wife some Bovril & a spoonful of brandy in it. Did her good. Read numerous pages of Waugh's "Rambles."

Thursday 23 November 1911 In the house all day or the greater part of it. East wind, & my wife not so well. In the evening read portion of Waugh's "Rambles." Very interesting & informative. (Went briefly to Preston in aft[ernoo]n).

Friday 24 November 1911 Cold. Much in the house. Bothered or pottered about. Read papers.

Saturday 25 November 1911 In forenoon, owing to my wife not being so well & to east wind I went to Preston a marketing. Eggs 5 for 1/-. I got 11 for 2/-. In the aft[ernoo]n we had a walk. Called on Mrs Thorpe (Philip's

124 Jane Wilding née Charnley (1852-1916), wife of Samuel Booth Wilding (1845-1927), retired plumber and decorator.

widow), who recently swallowed some rubbing liniment for syrup of violets &c. She is now better. – About noon to-day I received a letter from Lancaster, stating that my old friend John Davis* died suddenly yesterday. He is about 6 months my senior. Have known him intimately since about 1854. My wife has known him for about same time. I last saw & talked with him this last summer on the Promenade at Bare. He was originally a factory operative, afterwards an asylum attendant, then a photographer & art dealer in New-st[ree]t, Lancaster – retiring a few years ago. – In evening papers &c.

Sunday 26 November 1911 Stayed in house all day. Read one of G. Dawson's prayers, two chapters of Acts, part of the Sunday Chronicle, and conclusion of Waugh's Rambles (Supplementary notes).

Monday 27 November 1911 I & my wife to Lancaster per 12.30 noon train to attend the service in Sulyard-st[ree]t Wesleyan chapel Lancaster, in connection with funeral of John Davis.* This chapel, which I was never in before, stands on site of the old chapel, which I visited nearly 60 years ago, when one Marsden, an earnest eccentric man, was conducting a sort of mission. – The funeral service was a very good one. A short address on merits of J.D. was included in it. About 30 persons, apart from the mourners, were present. I rode with cortege to the Cemetery & was present at interment. Aft[erwar]ds to deceased's residence, Meadowside, where was my wife. Had tea. Left about 5.50. We called on Mr Jas. Ellershaw, King-st[reet]. Bedfast. Subsequently called [indecipherable] Jas Wilson's,* & nephew Willie W[ilson*]. To Preston per 8.41 train.

Tuesday 28 November 1911 Went with my wife, in af[ternoo]n, to see daughter M[abel] at W[hittingham]. Not well. In evening read papers & portion of Froude's Hist[ory] of E[ngland].

Wednesday 29 November 1911 Walked a little way into Preston this aft[ernoo]n for a household requisite. Town muggy-looking & rather inactive. Business of a general character dull. – There are now more shops to let in Fishergate & Friargate than I have ever before seen. – Read papers in the evening.

Thursday 30 November 1911 Various in forenoon. Called at Mr Bramwell's* in aft[ernoo]n. Read papers & numerous pages of Froude's H[istory] of E[ngland] – a very well written, laboriously got up, but terribly long-winded work.

December

Friday 1 December 1911 To Preston in forenoon & got from J. F. [sic] Gardner half y[ea]rs rent for shop 46, Cannon-st[ree]t, which he proposes leaving at end of this next half year. Says he has lost £200 since going to the place. Don't believe him. In evening, while my wife was at Miss Livesey's* I read many pages of Froude's History.[125]

Saturday 2 December 1911 After dinner to Preston. Got a Lancaster Guardian paper, looked about a short time, & then returned home. In the evening we went to Mr J. J. Bramwell's,* Higher Bank-road, and had a rubber at whist. Rain whilst we were in the house. Had a little supper. Heard of the wedding, privately at Blackpool, of barrister Mansfield's son & daughter of Tom Fletcher of Fulwood. Home about 10.20.[126]

Sunday 3 December 1911 House, various, in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n I & my wife had a walk up Garstang-road, crossing into Black Bull lane, Cadley at John Atherton's place. This was the original John, iron foundry &c. The gate posts of all the fields he owned in Cadley are big blocks of white limestone. Got back home about 4.20. In evening read S[unday] Ch[ronicle]; two of Geo Dawson's prayers, & three chapt[er]s of Acts of the Apostles. A little card playing between 9 & 10.[127]

Monday 4 December 1911 In forenoon to Preston. Saw F. J. Gardner, tenant of 46 Cannon-st[ree]t (shop) as to next half year's rent. Af[terwar]ds had a chat with Jim Taylor, reporter, Guardian office about antiquarian matters, &c. In house af[ternoo]n & evening. Read papers, &c

Tuesday 5 December 1911 Naught particular. In house till about 1.50 pm. Af[terwar]ds to Preston & there got Ingleton property rent for half y[ea]r cheque cashed. Read papers in the evening. A dull day.

Wednesday 6 December 1911 Went to Preston in aft[ernoo]n. Got some household requisites (my wife being somewhat on the gossip, &c, at Miss Livesey's*). Called at Free Library & looked through the last issue

125 Francis Joseph Gardner (1857-1928), fishmonger.

126 Edward Thornton Mansfield (1879-1951), son of barrister Thomas Edward Mansfield (1856-1921), customs supervisor in the Gold Coast (Ghana), became district commissioner of Togoland (Ghana); Alice Berta Fletcher (1882-1964).

127 John Atherton (1833–1896).

of "The Athenaeum" paper in a somewhat sleepy, easy manner. In the evening read a lot of Froude's H[istory] of E[ngland].[128]

Thursday 7 December 1911 I & my wife went this af[ternoo]n to an "At Home" of the Mayor of Preston (R Simpson) in the Town Hall. A large muster, but the great majority only an ordinary sort – a common lot compared with people who used to come here. We conversed mainly with Mr Jas. Clarke,* solicitor, & his wife. At night read papers.[129]

Friday 8 December 1911 Went to Preston in af[ternoo]n & got a dividend warrant cashed for Miss Livesey.* She is very kind in her way, but not fit to handle money – so indifferent, so forgetful, so come-day-go-day in style. Read papers after tea.

Saturday 9 December 1911 This af[ternoo]n my son Horace & one of his daughters (Maggie) came for the weekend from their home at Blackpool. In the evening he & I went to Preston but only stayed a short time in the town, the central parts of which seemed very throng – in the parapets anyway – with people. Certain of the shops or stores, too, were busy. But there are still a pitiful number of shops &c to be let.

Sunday 10 December 1911 Wet & cold. In house the whole day with the exception of about 10 minutes. Son Horace & his daughter returned to Blackpool per 6.10 pm train from Preston. My reading to-day included a prayer from Geo. Dawson's lot, two chapters of Acts of the Ap[ostles] & several pages of F[roude]'s H[istory] of E[ngland]. Cards between 9 & 10 with my wife.

Monday 11 December 1911 In forenoon did various little jobs. In af[ternoo]n nothing particular. In evening read papers & portions of Miss Martineau's Guide to the Lake District & Froude's H[istory] of E[ngland].

Tuesday 12 December 1911 To Preston in af[ternoo]n. On the way saw a man about 65 leaning against a wall, short of breath (I haven't too

128 *The Athenaeum* (1828-1921), literary magazine.

129 Most of the urban elite had moved out of the dirty towns into cleaner suburbs or the surrounding countryside by the early twentieth century, leaving civic life behind at the same time: Simon Gunn, *The Public Culture of the Victorian Middle Class: Ritual and Authority in the English Industrial City, 1840-1914* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 2000), p. 194.

much), and an old man looking hale who was 90 years old a fortnight ago. Bought some distemper colour in Preston & afterwards went to the Art Gallery in Free Library. Newsham bequest pictures have got scattered about too much. Amongst the local portraits there ought to be one of the architect of the building (James Hibbert) and one of the donor of the Newsham Collection (Richard Newsham).

Wednesday 13 December 1911 Went in af[ternoo]n to Miss Livesey's,* Park Terrace, Garstang road, and took two branches from an elderberry tree in her back yard so as to prevent a window & some slates from being damaged by their swaying about in rough weather. Mrs R – a cheeky, domineering &c &c &c woman called whilst I was in the house. Read papers &c in the evening.[130]

Thursday 14 December 1911 My wife to Bare at noon. In af[ternoo]n I had a walk up Garstang-rd & through Cadley – over railway bridge and round by Old Hatch Corn Mill. My wife back about 6.30 & later for a time at Miss Livesey's. I read papers & Froude's History.

Friday 15 December 1911 A wet, dull, miserable day in respect to weather. Between 1.15 & 1.20 pm gas had to be lighted, owing to the dark, overcast, rain-laden sky. Did not go out for more than five minutes. Read papers, &c. Cards a little.

Saturday 16 December 1911 Wet, dirty day. My wife remained in house till about 11 o'clock, & then to some special work. I to Preston with my wife, in the evening. Town busy. About post office all life & movement & bright with roundabouts. Read papers at night.

Sunday 17 December 1911 Weather unfavourable for a walk, so we stayed in the house all day. In the evening J.W[ilson]'s daughter C called with her "intended" young man – a printer, quite sly looking who has never had a regular or constant situation since he finished his apprenticeship, in or about L[iver]pool – Read to-day one of G Dawson's prayers, two chapt[er]s of Acts of the Apostles & some newspaper matter.[131]

130 Mrs R unidentified.

131 Probably Claretta Wilson (1882-1970), daughter of Joseph Wilson, and Austin O'Malley (1879-1929).

Monday 18 December 1911 Went to Preston in af[ternoo]n & bought an incandescent gas mantle. Town centrally, pretty throng. From about 7.30 to 11 pm we had our neighbours Mr & Mrs Cowell for a rubber at whist & a little supper & gossip. They are very nice, decent people.

Tuesday 19 December 1911 In house virtually all day. Wet & cold. Read papers & a portion of Froude's Hist[ory] of Eng[land]. At night Mr Richard Seed and his wife called & stayed about an hour. Miss L[ivesey]'s affairs, &c. Sent off some Xmas cards.

Wednesday 20 December 1911 Considerably wet. In & about the house the whole day. Despatched remainder of Xmas cards. After tea read perhaps 30 pages of Froude's Hist[ory] of E[ngland]. My wife across at Miss L[ivesey]'s. Nothing very particular to-day.

Thursday 21 December 1911 Bothering about, miscellaneously, in the forenoon. In af[ternoo]n had a walk to newsagents in Brackenbury-st[ree]t. My chest not so good – I haven't the same long-windedness as formerly. Weather damp & muggy. In evening read papers & perused many pages of Froude's Hist[ory] of E[ngland].

Friday 22 December 1911 Bothered about & made some preparations for our going off to-morrow.

Saturday 23 December 1911 In af[ternoo]n I & my wife to daughter Letty's, Oakleigh, Thompson Cross, Stalybridge, in accordance with invitation from her husband Rob[er]t Blackmore. We reached their house about 5 pm. After tea, we chatted, &c (I saw for the first time on my arrival, their little daughter Winifred Mary, who will be a year old on Xmas day). Weather dampish.

Sunday 24 December 1911 In the forenoon I & grandson Bobby walked down to the electric generating station – his father being the engineer-in-chief. Bobby was able to show me round – in & out. In the course of our outside rambling Bobby took me to the general car shed. Many cars in it, & here saw the remnants of the car which ran away near Mossley a few weeks ago with such disastrous results – including some persons killed & several injured. The car was smashed to pieces, only the iron base &

wheels being unbroken. We all came back through the centre part of the town. Spent af[ternoo]n & evening in doing nothing in particular – just resting, &c.[132]

Monday 25 December 1911 Little grandson Bobby & I walked this forenoon to the burial ground attached to St Paul's Church. We went up to poor little Bertie Blackmore's grave & tidied it up a bit – took some grass off bottom & sides. Later Bobby & I to the generating station. After dinner a rest. At night I, my wife, & Letty & her husband played at whist.

Tuesday 26 December 1911 In forenoon I & grandson Bobby with one of his boy mates went to the top of the park & round the lower lake. Weather favourable. This will be a pretty park in summer. I & my wife left for Fulwood in the af[ternoo]n- I reached home about 6 p.m. Tea, newspapers, cards.

Wednesday 27 December 1911 Damp, unpleasant weather. Read papers, &c. Had a turkey for dinner – gift of J. L. Out of doors but little – chiefly to the post office.[133]

Thursday 28 December 1911 In & about the house – mainly in – all day. Dull & damp weather. Read to-day newspapers (Great Lock out of N. &. N E Lancashire cotton weavers the main thing), and sundry pages of a new edition of Fitzgerald's translation of the "Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam" – Whist.[134]

Friday 29 December 1911 To Preston in the aft[ernoo]n. Called at the Guardian office with two proofs of Extracts from Old Preston Parish church. Vestry books (some Records of the Twenty-four Men).

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132 Six people died and four were injured when a tram jumped the tracks in Mossley on 19 October 1911, careering downhill and off a railway bridge onto the line below.

133 JL is probably James Livesey.

134 On December 22 the Lancashire Cotton Spinners and Manufacturers Association had responded to strikes at two cotton mills with an industry-wide lockout, which lasted four weeks, affecting 160,000 weavers. Their trade union, the Weavers' Amalgamation, was calling for a 'closed shop', i.e. the requirement that all employees should be union members; *The Rubáiyát of Omar Khayyám*, translated by Edward FitzGerald (London: Siegle, Hill & Co, nd), https://www.gutenberg.org/files/246/246-h/246-h.htm

Saturday 30 December 1911 To W[illiams] D[eacon]'s Bank, Preston in forenoon. Af[terwar]ds called on & had a good chat with Mr Jas Burrow, gunsmith, ex-Mayor and alderman. He is 88 years of age, seemed in very good health, and talked freely & merrily – telling anecdotes about old Prestonians & with such relish. He said that recently old Mr Wykeham Clifton of Lytham called at the shop & shouted pleasantly upstairs to him, & that lately Major Stanley, MP., brother of Lord Derby gave him a call. In Mr. B's sitting room, so he said, the directors of the Lostock Hall mill Co. hold a monthly meeting. – In aft[ernoo]n I finished the "Rubaiyat" & read several newspapers subsequently.[135]

Sunday 31 December 1911 We got up rather late, but taking everything into a/c [account] quite early enough. Received cheque from W[illie Wilson*] at Lancaster for interest. In aft[ernoo]n & evening read a prayer from Geo. Dawson's collection (or rather his prayers, published after his death), a chapter in Acts of the Apostles, and finished vol.11 of Froude's History. Sat up late.

Good bye old year

[In blue crayon, not Hewitson's writing:]

No prayer?

[Final memorandum page, not Hewitson's writing, possibly by Robert Blackmore:]

Cf Dec 23rd etc
visit to us at Stalybridge
September 12th Ingleton visit
July 28th (flying machine!

[Inside back cover, in shorthand:]

From May 1 to May 29
4 columns[?] for 3/1 12/4
2 – 14 - 0

135 Captain Augustus Wykeham Clifton (c. 1829-1915) of Warton Hall; Sir George Frederick Stanley (1872-1938), Conservative MP for Preston, brother of Edward George Villiers Stanley, 17th Earl of Derby (1865-1948).

1912

Home Diary and Note Book for 1912[1]

[inside front cover:]

Diary of Anthony Hewitson, 7, Queen's Road, Fulwood, Preston, & 33 Prince's Crescent, Bare, Morecambe

[added in another pen – Lancashire England. Now the property of his Grandson Robert Hewitson Blackmore, 14 Florizel St, Burwood, Vic]

1 Lancashire Archives, DP512/1/16.

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[Before first entry:]
God Bless this year, all through, to me & mine. A.H.

January

Monday 1 January 1912 I let in the new year, a few minutes after 12 had struck. Kissed my wife & wished her a Happy New Year. At noon took pair of boots to sole & heel (price 3/9). Later read papers & played at whist for a short time with my wife.

Tuesday 2 January 1912 Miscellaneous in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n I & my wife to Preston. I called at D.W.'s [Williams Deacon's] Bank, at Guardian office, & Mr Heane's stationer & afterwards I & my wife looked through the dwelling rooms above our shop property 46, Cannon-st[ree]t which we found in good order. In evening read papers.[2]

Wednesday 3 January 1912 Like so many previous days – rainy & muggy. Put a chain fastener on front door – worked by mistake for nearly an hour on the job. Got back my boots – soled and heeled. In evening – after posting some cheques in payment of ac[count]s – read newspapers. My wife for about 2 hours at Miss Livesey's* in evening. Miss L is a weak creature, mentally & bodily & is to be pitied.

Thursday 4 January 1912 To Preston in af[ternoo]n. Paid Fire Insurance premium at Messrs Clarke & Sons office. Policies at their office. Called at Free Library & had a long chat with little Mr. Bramwell,* the librarian. He is a very decent, obliging official. At night read papers & a few pages of Froude's History (Vol 12 – the last).

Friday 5 January 1912 A wet, dull day. In the house, I & my wife, all day. Read, in evening newspapers & part of Froude's History of E[ngland] Vol 12. Between 9.35 & 10.05 cards, with my wife.

Saturday 6 January 1912 The same, if not worse, as to the weather. My wife in forenoon to Preston, marketing or shopping. I was out not more than ten minutes in the whole day. Much talk and a great lot of writing

2 William Strickland Heane (1858-1932), printer and stationer.

in the newspapers about the lockout of thousands of cotton operatives. Af[ternoo]n & evening read newspapers.

Sunday 7 January 1912 A fine, bright, cold day. Mosaic [sic] sort of work in forenoon. In the af[ternoo]n nothing particular. – Read to-day two of Geo[rge] Dawson's prayers (in a volume of his collected prayers), two chapters of St Paul's Epistle to the Romans, & a little of Froude's Hist[ory] of E[ngland]. – A pretty clear, star-light night, indicative of frost (For some reason the public lamps in Fulwood, with one or two exceptions, were not lighted this evening).

Monday 8 January 1912 Frost & sleet this morning. In af[ternoo]n I went to Preston. Called at the Guardian newspaper office, &c. Many people – the bulk young & many presumably off work through the cotton lock-out – were in Fishergate. Weather cold, sleety, & most uncomfortable. In evening I read papers.

Tuesday 9 January 1912 Sent a telegram in forenoon to son E[thelbert] at his printed telephone address (404) in Wakefield. Got a note shortly afterwards saying it c[oul]d not be delivered owing to insufficiency of address. So re-addressed it to his home. Read papers. Cards between 9 & 10.

Wednesday 10 January 1912 Went to Preston in the afternoon. Fishergate very crowded, evidently by locked-out cotton operatives chiefly. In the evening I read part of Froude's History but being sleepily inclined, did not get on very well with it.

Thursday 11 January 1912 At noon to Bare. Found our house, in Prince's Crescent all right. Made a fire, watered the plants, wound up the clocks and tidied up the little front garden. Af[terwar]ds to the Promenade. Met Mr Wood*, &c, & chatted. At Bare lane station, while waiting for 5.5 pm train had a long chat with the station-master – a big good-looking, decent man. Got to my Fulwood home about 6.20. After tea wrote a note to son E[thelbert] & read papers.[3]

3 Station master David Mould (c. 1866-1954).

Friday 12 January 1912 A miscellaneous sort of day. Did nothing very particular. Read papers which are full of statements, views, opinions, & imaginings about the cotton trade lock-out in Lancashire, and speculations about coal trade strikes which seem imminent. Dipped into Anderson's translation of Brillat-Savarin's "Physiologie du Goût".[4]

Saturday 13 January 1912 My wife to Wakefield per 1.20 p.m. train – a slow, sleepy train, taking about 3½ hours in which to do the 59 miles' journey. She has gone to son Bertie's. An increase of family there very shortly. ~~On~~ I set my wife to the station, & on my return called at the Free Library, staying at it about half an hour. Many people – strangers – on the tram cars, going to Deepdale to see a football game played. What an insane craze there is, apparently everywhere in this country to see football playing. I think it is mainly due to a gambling spirit. – After tea read newspapers, & numerous pages of Froude's History.

Sunday 14 January 1912 Out of bed about 9.15 morning. Attended to the requirements of the "inner man": acted as my own cook general excellently. Did not go out except to post a newspaper for daughter M[abel]. Read some of Geo. Dawson's admirable ~~plan~~ prayers, two chapters of Epistle to the Romans, & 77 pages of Froude's History of E[ngland]. A wet day – almost incessantly raining from morning till night.

Monday 15 January 1912 In the af[ternoo]n I went to Preston Cemetery & looked at the graves of my four daughters, my father [in law] & mother [in law] & sister in law (Wilson), my old friend Wm Livesey, &c. These in the Nonconformist portion. The number of persons now buried in this cemetery is greater than the number of persons at present living in Preston. ~~After tea~~ Called at Free Library on my return took out Radclyffe Dugmore's big volume "Camera Adventures in the African Wilds". Ran through its illustrations in the evening & afterwards read a portion of Froude's Hist[ory] of E[ngland].[5]

4 Jean-Anthelme Brillat-Savarin, *Gastronomy as a Fine Art: A Translation of the 'Physiologie Du Goût' of Brillat-Savarin*, trans. Robert E. Anderson (London: Chatto and Windus, 1899), https://wellcomecollection.org/works/r7gsbnbg/items

5 Arthur Radclyffe Dugmore, *Camera Adventures in the African Wilds: Being an Account of a Four Months' Expedition in British East Africa* (London: Heinemann, 1910), https://archive.org/details/cameraadventures00dugm

Tuesday 16 January 1912 Miscellaneous in forenoon. Went to Preston in af[ternoo]n. Rode up in car with the Mayor (Councillor Simpson) who was very free & chatty, & Mr Knowles, property agent, Preston – Fishergate very throng – mainly with locked out operatives. Returned to Free Library Dugmore's book. For about an hour & a half in the evening I had the company of Mr Knowles.

Wednesday 17 January 1912 Snow alternated with sleet all day. Letter from son Bertie saying that Mother arrived at Wakefield all right on Sat. evening. I in the house nearly the whole day. Deciphered two old deeds relating to a gallery in Preston Parish Ch[urch], dated 1683. Read papers & numerous pages of Froude's History.

Thursday 18 January 1912 In house all day – snow, &c. Made some researches for name purposes in connection with old Preston Parish Church gallery deeds. Read papers & a quantity of Froude's History.

Friday 19 January 1912 In the af[ternoo]n I went to Preston. Fishergate crowded with people – young, upgrown, middle aged, &c – all apparently of the cotton lock-out order, & all hanging about for news as to result of to-day's conference between representatives of masters & operatives in Manchester. All seemed to be anxious for a settlement & the opinion prevailed that the difficulty had been settled; but this result did not come about till later. In evening I made some researches in elucidation of part of my introduction & notes re the old church gallery matter. Later read papers & some of Froude's History.

Saturday 20 January 1912 Miscellaneously occupied in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n read, amid a strong pressure for napping, several of Froude's History pages. In evening to Preston. Bought two papers, &c. Town fairly throng – in streets; but not so many cotton operatives visible – the settlement effected yesterday having eased them. On returning home read papers, &c.

Sunday 21 January 1912 Had a walk in the aft[ernoo]n up Garstang-rd, across into Cadley & round by site of old Hatch mill & so home. Sun shone very nicely during latter half of my walk. Several people

out. Roads dirty. Wrote letter to my wife at Wakefield. Read two of Geo Dawson's prayers, two chapters of Ep[istle] to Romans, & sundry pages of Froude's History.

Monday 22 January 1912 In af[ternoo]n had a walk – partly or mainly same as yesterday. Sun shone pleasantly. On returning commenced transcript work &c on old church gallery deeds, & nearly finished same by 9.40. Supper. Read a few pages of Froude's history – now nearly finished.

Tuesday 23 January 1912 Finished the old gallery "copy" which will go to the P[reston] Guardian. At night finished the last vol. of Froude's History. Conclusion very good & equally courageous. But if the general work had been considerably condensed it would, I think have been better.

Wednesday 24 January 1912 Odds & ends in forenoon, as usual. Went to Preston in aft[ernoo]n; called at the Guardian office where I had a chat with Jim Taylor, reporter & chief antiquarian writer for the paper, & gave him, for insertion in P.G. my old gallery copy. At night wrote to my wife & read papers.

Thursday 25 January 1912 Same in forenoon, with the addition of a journey to a provision shop at bottom of Lancaster-rd, Preston. In af[ternoo]n to Preston. Called at the Free Library to secure accuracy of position for one of my 'P[arish] Church gleanings (report of portraits of Nicholas & Mrs Grimshaw's portraits and the old Volunteer Colours. Then to Guardian office. Subsequently to Free Library again & took out volume "The World of Life," by Alfred Russel Wallace. Home. Tea. Later read papers & part of Wallace's book.[6]

Friday 26 January 1912 In the house – lonely – nearly the whole day. At night read papers & part of Wallace's book.

6 Alfred Russel Wallace, *The World of Life: A Manifestation of Creative Power, Directive Mind and Ultimate Purpose* (London: Chapman and Hall, 1910), http://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/001491747

Saturday 27 January 1912 In the house till about 3.30pm; then to Preston & met my wife from Wakefield, having previously received a telegram that she had left there by 1.50pm train. It was due at Preston (and arrived very punctually) at 4.38. She did a little shopping & then home. Read papers in the evening. (Son Bertie's wife gave birth to a daughter last Tuesday – Jan 23).[7]

Sunday 28 January 1912 Variety in forenoon. Frosty & very cold, so we did not go out for our usual Sunday walk. In aft[ernoo]n and evening read two of G. Dawson's prayers, two chapters of Paul's epistle to the Romans, & part of Wallace's "World of Life."

Monday 29 January 1912 A very cold, frosty day, & somewhat foggy as well. Occupied myself miscellaneously. In aft[ernoo]n "napped" & read papers. In evening read papers & a portion of Wallace's book "The World of Life."

Tuesday 30 January 1912 A keen frost. Water pipes frozen – mainly neighbours' pipes; but as we get water through their supply, we are in an uncomfortable state. Son-in-law Walter Duesbury called in evening & stayed about an hour & a half. He says daughter Molly has heart weakness & a touch of St Vitus dance, & has to be kept quiet at home. Read papers, &c.

Wednesday 31 January 1912 A thaw. Cold. Stayed in house nearly the whole day. Read papers & sundry pages of Wallace's "World of Life." Cards for a little while at night.

7 Alice Hewitson (1912-1912).

February

Thursday 1 February 1912 To Preston at noon. Got some pastilles at chemist Arkle's (late Barnes) Fishergate. He recommended them for wheezing & tightness of the chest – a sort of incipient cold or bronchial trouble I have for some time had. In evening read papers & part of Wallace's "World of Life" – skipping the more technical or severely scientific portions.[8]

Friday 2 February 1912 Owing to the wintery [sic] weather I remained in the house nearly the whole of this day. Read papers, & attended to miscellaneous matters. In the evening read several pages of the autobiography of "Lord" George Sanger entitled "Seventy Years a Showman!"[9]

Saturday 3 February 1912 My wife to Preston – marketing – in the forenoon, & was glad to get back again on account of the weather being so cold. I went to Preston in the aft[ernoo]n for some papers, &c. Town moderately busy. In the evening I read papers and some pages of Sanger's autobiography.

Sunday 4 February 1912 Very cold. Very keen frost last night – keener, it is said, than it has been for the past 45 years! Water pipes in houses in all directions frozen up. Read two of Geo. Dawson's prayers, a portion of the Epistle to the Romans, & various pages of Wallace's "The World of Life."

Monday 5 February 1912 To Preston in forenoon, chiefly to inquire about the hot water boiler & pipes. Called at Arkle's chemists shop, & got some throat & chest pastils [sic]. Mr John (we used to call him Jack) Whittaker, son of Mr Thos Whittaker, Moons Mill, or Higher Walton, in shop. Gout. In af[ternoo]n & evening read papers. Called on Wood, next door. Water, frost, rum, &c.[10]

8 Charles Albert Arkle (1861-1951).

9 George Sanger, *Seventy Years a Showman: My Life and Adventures in Camp and Caravan the World Over* (London: C. A. Pearson, 1910), https://archive.org/details/in.ernet.dli.2015.209612

10 John Whittaker (c. 1848-1924) of Shaw Hill, Whittle-le-Woods, son of Thomas Whittaker (c. 1788-1863), iron founder.

Tuesday 6 February 1912 Weather on the thaw side. Too cold for a walk. Water pipes still in a bad way, & house boilers not over satisfactory. Read papers & several pages & parts of pages of Wallace's book.

Wednesday 7 February 1912 In & about the house – chiefly in – all day. Bother with bust [sic] waterpipes – through severe frost & thaw. Nearly every house on our road, has burst pipes. Read papers & some of Wallace's book.

Thursday 8 February 1912 At noon to Bare, to see if our house there was all right – pipes, &c. Found everything all right till I turned on water, when some burst defects appeared, & I had to get a plumber to repair the defective pipes. On returning called at Lancaster; had tea at W[illiam] W[ilson]'s;* afterwards called at J. Wilson's* & found him, though very unwell, better than I expected. Got home about 9.30.

Friday 9 February 1912 Nothing very particular, except that the plumber finished his remedial work on our water pipes. I finished my reading of Wallace's "World of Life."

Saturday 10 February 1912 My wife to Preston in forenoon marketing. To-day Tom Brewer, who for some time has been in Cadley was buried. He was in his 70th year. In 1858 when I joined the Preston Guardian as reporter & compositor he was serving his apprenticeship as printer in the office. I am the last of the whole lot who were at that time working on the Guardian; in fact I am the last alive now of all the newspaper proprietors, editors & reporters who were then in Preston & I believe there is now only one news printer alive (Tommy White) out of the whole of the printers in the town at that time.[11]

Sunday 11 February 1912 Mildly miscellaneous in forenoon & aft[ernoo]n. Did not go out, except to the post office with a newspaper for May [Mabel]. Read one of Dawson's prayers, two chapters of Epist[le] to Romans, & numerous pages of "Lord" George Sanger's "Seventy years a Showman". Very interesting.

11 Thomas Brewer (1843-1912), apprenticed to Joseph Livesey on the *Preston Guardian* in Church St, life member of Preston Cricket Club, Oddfellow (*LDP* 8 February 1912, p. 2); Thomas White (1833-1913) outlived Hewitson.

Monday 12 February 1912 In the af[ternoo]n & evening condensed & touched up my paper "Charles Dickens in & About Preston"- made it into a column article for the Preston Guardian. Coughed a little. A few streaks of red in the expectoration. Hope this won't amount to anything.[12]

Tuesday 13 February 1912 More red in expectoration. Saw Dr Rayner, who examined me with stethoscope &c. He apparently did not think that anything very serious ailed me. Gave me some advice as to keeping quiet – taking things easy - & sent me a bottle of medicine – called at Preston Guardian office & left my Dickens article with Taylor. Saw E. Bush* relative to 46 Cannon-st[ree]t – letting it –in evening made ~~out~~ out my income tax return & abatement claim. Read papers & a little of Sanger's [Ł] book.[13]

Wednesday 14 February 1912 Am improving. The red has nearly if not entirely left my expectoration. To Preston & there paid that abomination called the Income Tax. In the evening posted my claim for abatement.

Thursday 15 February 1912 My wife, at noon to-day, went to Bare, to get our house there aired &c for daughter Rose who is bringing Molly (unwell) on Saturday, for a change of air. The other children will, I think, come with her. I had a quiet aft[ernoo]n in house. Read papers, & part of Sanger's autobiography.

Friday 16 February 1912 In house all day & kept very quiet – not infrequently sleepy – at the fire side. Weather dull & muggy. Read papers, & finished Sanger's autobiography. A well written & most interesting history of a very worthy man.

Saturday 17 February 1912 A wet, muggy day. In house almost the whole day. Read papers, &c. Shortly after 7 in evening received a telegram from my wife saying she would return home on Monday.

Sunday 18 February 1912 By myself all day. In forenoon took up some miscellaneous matters. In aft[ernoo]n had a nap – too long. I have

12 Expectoration: coughing up blood or other substances; Hewitson appears to be revising an old article; his only writing on Dickens at this time is a short paragraph at the end of another writer's work, *PG*, 17 February 1912, p. 12.

13 Arthur Ernest Rayner (1878-1963), pioneer in radiology who oversaw the first department of radiology in the country, at Preston Royal Infirmary, brother of suffragette Edith Rigby.

got somewhat too much into the post prandial snoozing habit and I must modify it. Read to-day one of Geo. Dawson's prayers (like all the others – excellent), two chapters of Paul's epistle to the Romans, some anecdotes from a small volume about Addison, Steele, the Tatler, &c, &c & an article in the Manchester Weekly Times.

Monday 19 February 1912 After dinner to Preston. Bought two papers, called on R. Seed, Lune-st[ree]t re Miss Livesey's* affairs. About 9 at night my wife arrived from Bare – very tired. She reported that her brother (Jim Wilson*) retired Ex[cise] of[ficer], Lancaster, was very poorly.

Tuesday 20 February 1912 Nothing very particular to-day. Miss Livesey* sent for my wife, her maid being ill. My wife – tired – did not go. I went across & explained. In aft[ernoo]n a nap. Later, Mr R Seed called re Miss L[ivesey]'s affairs. Read papers.

Wednesday 21 February 1912 In af[ternoo]n I & my wife to Preston – north end – to a provision shop. Af[terwar]ds looked at some pictures in a cottage in Nelson-st[ree]t for sale tomorrow by auction. Not the right kind for us. After tea my wife to Miss Livesey's.* Servant has to leave. Drink (?) &c, &c

Thursday 22 February 1912 In house a good part of the day. Sent p[ostal] o[rder] to J. W, Leeds. Wrote to J[ames] W[ilson*], Lancaster. In evening revised article on old Preston Par[ish] C[hurc]h gallery – to appear in Saturday's P.G. Much unrest & anxiety about threatened great coal strike.[14]

Friday 23 February 1912 Nothing particular. Drowsy in af[ternoo]n & evening. Read papers & part of book relating to gastronomical subjects.

Saturday 24 February 1912 At noon to-day I went to Lancaster. Was with bro-in-law Jas Wilson* for some hours. He in bed upstairs & is in a weak, poorly state. He may, as the weather improves, "pull through", but he will never be his own old self again. Amongst other things we had a serious talk about his affairs. I agreed to draft him something for

14 Probably Joseph Wilson, brother-in-law, who was living in Holbeck near Leeds; miners were demanding a minimum wage.

his will to be based on (Heard birds whistling, near West rd, as I went). Called in W. Wilson.* Had a chat with him & old Mr Breaks. Home per 7.53 train.

Sunday 25 February 1912 A mild, though rather dull day. In forenoon attended to some home matters. In af[ternoo]n had a nap; but this aft[ernoo]n dozing isn't up to very much. Read a good long prayer from the Dawson collection, two chapt[er]s of Epistle to the Romans, & about 30 pages of Ruskin's Praeterita.[15]

Monday 26 February 1912 To Preston in forenoon. Called at the Guardian Office, & afterwards tried to see Mr E. Bush,* re, 46, Cannon-st[ree]t – to be let. In af[ternoo]n had a nap. At night read papers. (When at Guardian office Sir Geo. Toulmin, MP spoke to me & shook hands very cheerfully).[16]

Tuesday 27 February 1912 In forenoon to Preston. Called at Mr Bush's,* Fishergate, & afterwards examined part of 46, Cannon-street – to let. Got some stationery at Mr Heane's, Fishergate. Home at noon. In af[ternoo]n & evening – part of time – read papers, &c.

Wednesday 28 February 1912 A very easy day. Somebody has been stealing crocuses from our front ground. Suspect one of small children attending Fulwood school who pass our house going to and from school. In af[ternoo]n saw Mr Gaunt, the master, who promised to warn the children against taking flowers from private grounds in Queen's-road. Read papers.[17]

Thursday 29 February 1912 In the af[ternoo]n, my wife went to see Mrs Bramwell, Higher Bank-rd, Fulwood, & during her absence I (according to promise) draughted [sic] a will for her brother J[ames] W[ilson*] of Lancaster. At night I posted it to him. From about 8.15 to 9.15 we were at neighbour Cowell's. He has got lumbago – a devil of a trouble, as I know by experience.

15 John Ruskin, *Præterita: Outlines of Scenes and Thoughts, Perhaps Worthy of Memory in My Past Life*, 3 vols (Orpington: George Allen, 1885), https://archive.org/details/praeterita01rusk/page/n7/mode/2up

16 George Toulmin (1857-1923), head of the Toulmin stable of newspapers, Liberal MP for Bury since 1902.

17 George Edwin Gaunt (c. 1868-1958), head of Fulwood CE school on Addison Rd, now Blackpool Rd.

March

Friday 1 March 1912 My wife to Mr Bramwell's* in the af[ternoo]n, to tea. They wanted me to accompany her. But I am not an outside tea & muffin person. For a man to go out to tea seems an awfully foolish thing to me. I went to Mr B's after tea. We talked & played at whist. I & my wife home about 10.15.

Saturday 2 March 1912 All day in the house. Read papers, tried to doze a bit in the af[ternoo]n. At night I & my wife played at Hopla & she licked me. About 10 days ago met Mr Lawrence Hewitt, of Deepdale-rd, in Fishergate. He looked very ill. This evening his death is announced. Age 78. He was a decent, kindly, chatty, eccentric person, fond of long walks & of writing at Xmas a tremendous long rambling address, which he circulated amongst his friends. At one time he was the right hand man of the late John Huntington in Cleveland, Ohio. JH was a native of Preston.[18]

Sunday 3 March 1912 Again in house all day. Weather cold & damp. Easy by the fire side in af[ternoo]n. Reading to-day consisted of a long prayer, but a good one, by Geo Dawson, the final chapter of Paul's Epistle to the Romans & a few pages of Ruskin's Praeterita. Cards between 9 & 10.

Monday 4 March 1912 Ditto as to house. Read papers, part of a History of England, &c.

Tuesday 5 March 1912 To Preston in aft[ernoo]n & got cashed at gen. post office a p[ostal] o[rder] for £9-6-8 – abatement allowed from income tax payment. Town rather quiet. On getting back took Mr Sharp a copy of "Country Churches & Chapels" which he had asked me to get for him – price 7/6. Had a chat with him. He is very infirm. At night read papers.[19]

Wednesday 6 March 1912 Nothing particular to-day. Cold & kept well to the house.

18 Lawrence Hewitt (c. 1834-1912); John Huntington (1832-1893, see vol. 1, 29 August 1885).

19 Possibly John Whittaker Sharp (b. 1849), retired publican, of 12 Garstang Rd, not far from Hewitson's house in Queens Rd.

Thursday 7 March 1912 Same. In evening read part of Bullock's Hist of England – finishing the section which includes Henry 8 to death of Elizabeth. Also read part of Montague's "Recollections of an Equestrian Manager." I remember him when he was at Preston in connection with (I think) Newsome's Circus when it was down Butler-st[ree]t – east side – about 40 years ago.[20]

Friday 8 March 1912 A dull, miscellaneous day. Cold; but I heard birds on the neighbouring trees whistling their pre courting tunes, or notes. They will soon be pairing. Read part of Montague's "Recollections."

Saturday 9 March 1912 My wife to Preston in forenoon; I to it in afternoon. Bought a Lancaster Guardian; did a little shop calling, &c. Met George Oakey, solicitor, in Fishergate (son of Henry Oakey, printer, &c). He was very cheerful. At one time, but only for a short time, he was a silly, malignant enemy of mine. He's now just the opposite. Home early. In evening read newspapers.[21]

Sunday 10 March 1912 Got up this morning in the category of "late birds." Did not go out except to the post round the corner. Read one of G. Dawson's prayers, two chapters of first epistle to the Corinthians & sundry pages of Ruskin's "Praeterita." Last named pleasant though (so far in vol. one) rather simple, childish reading.

Monday 11 March 1912 Warm, sunshiny day – finest or warmest this year. Flowers coming out, thorn bushes, &c springing into bud. In af[ternoo]n my wife to Preston, I had a walk up Garstang-rd & through into Cadley or Black Bull-lane, across railway, round by the side of Old Hatch mill & so home. Son-in-law W. Duesbury called. He has been at our Bare house with wife & family over the week end, & returned there per 5.12 or 5.21 train. I read papers & a little of Montague's "Recollections" in evening.

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20 Thomas Austin Bullock and Francis Bullock, *The Illustrated History of England* (John Heywood, 1861), https://www.google.co.uk/books/edition/The_Illustrated_History_of_England_Quest/pyVXAAAAcAAJ; Charles W. Montague, *Recollections of an Equestrian Manager* (Edinburgh: W & R Chambers, 1881), https://archive.org/details/recollectionso00mont/page/n4/mode/1up

21 George Oakey: see 24 January 1911; Henry Oakey (c.1817–1903, see vol. 1, 28 June 1872).

Tuesday 12 March 1912 To Preston in forenoon & went with FJ Gardner to look at 46 Cannon-st[reet], which he has left & in wh[ich] it is stated there are rats. Af[terwar]ds bought some rat poison & gave it to Gardner to use in No 46. While in town met & had a short confab with Mr John Forshaw ex-Alderman. In aft[ernoo]n odds & ends; in evening wrote two post cards & posted them. Read papers. Cards.

Wednesday 13 March 1912 Various in forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n I & my wife had a walk up Garstang road to a point a little beyond the Harris Orphanage. Heard the orphan children at music exercises: they were singing "On the banks of Allan Water" &c. We had a chat with Mr Sharp. At night read papers & part of Montague's "Recollections" &c. Cards between 9 & 10.

Thursday 14 March 1912 After doing a trifle of tidying-up in our back ground rain came & stopped my operations. In af[ternoo]n went to a sale of household goods in Lower Bank-rd, Fulwood. Stayed a few minutes, & then returned. The sale was at a house occupied by & belonging to the late Mr Fryer. Read papers in evening & between 9 & 10 played at cards with my wife.[22]

Friday 15 March 1912 A slow, mixed day. Weather too cold & variable for a walk. Chiefly in the house. Read a little in aft[ernoo]n of JF Boyes' "Treasury of Thought and Reading". After tea read papers. Later cards.[23]

Saturday 16 March 1912 My wife to Preston, in forenoon, for eggs, butter, &c. In the aft[ernoo]n I went for some of Horniman's tea to Williamson, chemist &c, corner of Lovat-road, Garstang-road. On the way I met, walked & had a good chat with Caleb Kay. He is in his 91st year & wonderfully well considering his years. He told me it was 81 years since he first went to Grimshaw-street chapel. He spoke very broadly & sincerely [?] on religious and trade matters – said people would be finally judged by what they had done not by what they had professed to believe; condemned parsons for making a mere business of their calling; protested against the money grabbing or collecting at places of worship; condemned working people for being so very ready to strike; & said that

22 John Fryer (1833-1909), ladies' outfitter.
23 John Frederick Boyes, *Treasury of Thought and Reading* (London: Bell & Daldy, 1859).

capital would always lick labour. He is an old ex-spinner & knew Tom Banks well.[24]

Sunday 17 March 1912 Weather dull & damp. Afternoon walk precluded. Read two of Geo Dawson's prayers, two chapters of first epistle to the Corinthians & numerous pages of Ruskin's "Praeterita."

Monday 18 March 1912 I went to Preston in afternoon re 46, Cannon-st[ree]t, &c. Town – in Fishergate at any rate – very throng with people shopping & looking at shop windows & rambling about. Read papers in the evening & portions of Boyes' "Treasury of Thought," &c. Cards for a short time afterwards.

Tuesday 19 March 1912 In & about the house the whole day. Coldish. In evening read papers & a trifle of "Praetorita"[25] [sic]. I & my wife played at cards for a short time between 9 & 10 o'c[loc]k.

Wednesday 20 March 1912 To Preston in aft[ernoo]n. Got cheque cashed & paid in a dividend warrant. Got last yearly volume of The Antiquary (vol 47) at Robinson's. (I have all the vols from the commencement). In evening read papers & played a little at cards.

Thursday 21 March 1912 In response to a request I went after dinner to see bro-in-l[aw] (Jas Wilson*) at Lancaster. Train upwards of an hour late in starting from Preston station. Very cold waiting. No fires in waiting rooms, owing to scarcity of coal through general strike of colliers. While waiting spoke to Yates Booth, who is leaving Hest Bank, where he has resided for 11 years & coming to a house in Fulwood, for the sake of the education of his young daughter. He is a RC. Train stopped at every station between Preston & Lancaster. Found bro-in-l J.W. about same as when I last saw him about a month ago. He mainly lies in bed. Had a talk with him about his will, property matters, &c. Got tea. Saw W. Wilson.* Returned to Preston per 8.45 train & got home about 10 o cl[oc]k.[26]

24 Caleb Kay (c. 1823-1916), retired cotton spinner, Oddfellow, member of the spinners' union; Thomas Banks (1814-96), secretary of the Spinners and Minders' Association.

25 The correct spelling is Praeterita.

26 Yates W. Booth (d. 1914), retired patent agent, involved in the Harris Institute, Roman Catholic, magistrate, former Preston councillor.

Friday 22 March 1912 Discharged some complex duties in the forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n nothing in particular. In the evening read papers & some pages of EW Maunder's "Science of the Stars" – well written, but hard, dry reading.[27]

Saturday 23 March 1912 My wife to Preston – marketing – in the forenoon. In the af[ternoo]n I had a walk up Garstang-road, a little way beyond the Harris Orphanage. Many people who had come from country places to Preston market returning in shandrays &c. Numerous motors &c also flying about. Not so well to-day. Must have got a little cold while waiting at Preston station on Thursday. In evening read papers.[28]

Sunday 24 March 1912 Did not get out of bed till 10.30 in forenoon. Attended to miscellaneous matters. Read to-day a prayer in the Dawson collection, two chapters of 1st of Corinthians, & several pages of "Praetorita." [sic] My wife read some newspaper matter – a lot to herself, & some to me. We played at cards (a sort of whist) between 9 & 10.

Monday 25 March 1912 Miscellaneous. In evening received a letter from Lancaster re J.W.'s [James Wilson's*] affairs. Read papers. Wet & windy.

Tuesday 26 March 1912 In forenoon a mixture of matters. In af[ternoo]n I met old Caleb Kay near Nooklands sub post office. We talked about the great strike of colliers now on. I said no good w[oul]d be done & the only way to prevent a repetition of the evil would be to make strikes & lock-outs illegal. "And," said he, "imprison all agitators of the trade union kind." I acquiesced; & we both objected to paying salaries to members of parliament, & considered that there would be a big tussle for membership (owing to the salaries) at the next general election. We aft[erwar]ds had a short chat about thrift & the need of it amongst working people, & in our talk Kay made reference to the generosity of old Rev R Slate, who many years ago was pastor of Grimshaw-st[ree]t chapel, Preston. I knew him well.[29]

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27 Edward Walter Maunder, *The Science of the Stars* (Edinburgh: TC& EC Jack, 1912), http://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc2.ark:/13960/t5fb52s8j

28 Shandray: light cart.

29 Richard Slate (1787-1867), 'a tiny, careful, smoothly-earnest man, consistent and faithful as a minister, made more for quiet sincere work than dashing labour or

Wednesday 27 March 1912 Nothing worth particularising in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n, while my wife was at Preston, I read paper, a portion of Maunder's "Science of the Stars," &c; & had a spell of drowsiness. After read papers & played at cards, between 9 & 10, with my wife. A wet night.

Thursday 28 March 1912 To a considerable extent dull & depressing. About noon received a telegram from son E[thelbert] at Wakefield, saying that their younger child – Alice, about 8 weeks old -- was dead. This is the third infant child of theirs dead.

Friday 29 March 1912 A letter from son E[thelbert] this morning in which he states that their child died at 10.30 yesterday forenoon; that the cause was a sort of gastric complaint; & that its body will be interred on Saturday aft[ernoo]n – Read papers & some of Maunder's "Science of the Stars." A very windy, wild night.

Saturday 30 March 1912 My wife to Preston in forenoon – a marketing. In the af[ternoo]n I went to Preston. Paid for Daily Mail, called at Heane's, bought some oranges, got a copy of Lancaster Observer, & looked about a little. Centre of town busy. A lot of motor cars knocking about. Got back home about 4.15. After read papers. A bit of carding between 9 & 10.

Sunday 31 March 1912 Rose at a moderate time. Odds & ends in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n had a nap. Cards at night, but only for a short time. To-day's reading consisted of two of Geo Dawson's prayers, a chapter of 2nd of Corinthians & numerous pages of Ruskin's Praetorita [sic]. (News to-day respecting J.W. [James Wilson*], Lancaster not so good. I want to do my best for him regarding his property, &c).

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dazzling performance; fond of the Puritan divines, a believer in old manuscripts, disposed to tell his audiences every time he got upon a platform how long he had been in the ministry, but in the aggregate well and deservedly respected': Anthony Hewitson, *Our Churches and Chapels, Their Parsons, Priests and Congregations; Being a Critical and Historical Account of Every Place of Worship in Preston* (Preston: Chronicle Office, 1869), http://www.gutenberg.org/files/10479/10479-h/10479-h.htm

April

Monday 1 April 1912 A fine, breezy day. In af[ternoo]n my wife to Preston for a short time. I at home reading paper, &c., including a few drowsy moments. In the evening I voted for Mr Lindsay, who sought re-election as a member of Fulwood 'Urban District Council'. He was opposed by Mr Fred. Lawson who got elected. When I promised to help Lindsay I didn't know that Lawson was coming out as a candidate or I might have voted for him.[30]

Tuesday 2 April 1912 To Lancaster this af[ternoo]n. The train very late. One person I spoke to on Preston station had been waiting for it about 5 hours! The coal strike is the cause. Only 3 trains from Preston to Lancaster per day. Saw bro[ther]-in-law J[ames] Wilson* & arranged matters with him. Return train very late.

Wednesday 3 April 1912 Very nice, warm Spring day. In af[ternoo]n I & my wife had a walk up Watling-st[reet] Road as far as Fernyhalgh lane, called for a moment at Mr Gornall's, No.96, then turned & by and by got into Victoria-road, & so home. After tea read paper, made out a fresh copy of J.W's [James Wilson's*] will; & later cards.[31]

Thursday 4 April 1912 A cold, unpleasant day. Great change from yesterday. In house almost the entire day. Read papers.

Friday 5 April 1912, Good Friday In house, I & my wife, all day. Cold. Instead of quietly & thoughtfully observing this day many use it for football playing, riding on bicycles, motor cars, &c. Early this forenoon, the vacant ground in front of Queen's road – our road -- was alive with youthful footballers, & it was the same, more or less, all day. After tea I read or rather glanced through Cole's "Funniest Song Book in the World" and finished Maunder's little book "The Science of the Stars." Cards with my wife for a little while afterwards.[32]

30 Duncan Lindsay (c. 1847-1921), retired draper, Poor Law Guardian; Frederick Willan Lawson (b. 1860), hosier and outfitter.

31 Possibly John Gornall (1875-1950) of Cow Hill Farm.

32 EW Cole, *Cole's Funniest Song Book in the World* (London: Cole's Book Arcade, 1890).

Saturday 6 April 1912 By a train, timed to start from Preston at 12.50, but which might for anything to the contrary which I know, be upwards of an hour late my wife went to Lancaster, & thence – after calling at her brother's, J[ames]W[ilson*], Hubert-place – proceeded to our house at Bare, where daughter Rose & family have for some weeks been staying. In the aft[ernoo]n I went to Preston & bought a Lancaster Guardian. Paid Ward's paper a/c [account] (3d); did a little domestic matter; called at Free Library; & then home. On getting into car met old Mr Ayrton. He is 84 years old & full of spirit & activity. He seemed to have had a glass or two. On the whole, a good old long-horned sort – a man of the old English, reliable kind, now, I am afraid getting very scarce. At night read papers.

Sunday 7 April 1912 Had a walk in af[ternoo]n up Garstang-road about half a mile. Showery inclined; but a good many people knocking about. Reading consisted of two of Geo Dawson's prayers, two chapters of 1st Corinthians, & a good lot of Ruskin's Praeterita. Looked at some albums.

Monday 8 April 1912 In the afternoon went to Preston. Proceeded to Avenham Walk & crossed on higher side of Avenham Park where were gathered thousands of children & young people (in accordance with Easter Monday custom at Preston) rolling eggs, oranges & balls, playing with skipping ropes &c. Not so many assembled as on some former holidays owing to cold, stormy, showery weather. A band of music played on the central stand. On the whole a very animated, pleasant picture. After tea read papers & part of a Life of Dante, the Italian poet.

Tuesday 9 April 1912 To Lancaster per noon train – about an hour late. Got bro[ther]-in-law J[ames] Wilson* to sign his will in presence of witnesses. In evening to my wife at the Bare house.

Wednesday 10 April 1912 A beautiful morning. Clear view across Morecambe Bay. The Lake mountains covered with snow – a white Alpine-looking beautifully serrated range, lighted up with sun shine. We took Molly out in her invalid carriage, forenoon & afternoon. Weather in

afternoon bright but colder. To Preston at 5.50 pm, I & my wife. Home, Fulwood, by about 7 o'clock.

Thursday 11 April 1912 Almost the entire day in house, owing to the coldness of the weather. In the evening read papers.

Friday 12 April 1912 In forenoon, I & my wife to Preston – re costume, letting of premises 46 Cannon-st[ree]t, & shop 18a Fishergate. In af[ternoo]n my wife to Preston again about costume. I had a walk in Moor Park. A considerable number of children playing in it. I met with Wm Scott, an old locomotive engineman on L.N.W. Railway. Have known him many years. He has not been working for several months owing to an accident he met with on an engine. Legal or arbitration proceedings imminent respecting compensation. Whilst we were talking an old man, in his 90th year whom I have often seen came up & chatted. In evening I read papers.[33]

Saturday 13 April 1912 My wife to Preston in forenoon, a marketing. In aft[ernoon] went to Preston – walked & felt a bit tired. My chest – a sort of chronic bronchitis, I think – troubles me when I walk much. The centre of the town appeared to be fairly busy. A good deal of motor cars, cycles, &c, moving about. In the evening I read papers, and later I & my wife played at cards.

Sunday 14 April 1912 Slept badly on morning side – phlem [sic] in throat or bronchial tubes – coughing – shortness of breath. In af[ternoo]n I had a stroll into Moor Park. My wife tired, & remained in house. A lot of children & a fair number of adults in park. Weather very nice. At one end of seat I was on there was a young moon-struck, courting couple – a young fellow about 23 yrs of age & a female about 20. She was a keener courter than her lover. – In evening I read a prayer by Geo. Dawson, three chapters of 1st Corinthians and something like 30 pages of Ruskin's "Praetorita" [sic]. I & my wife played at cards for about 20 minutes – 9.45 to 10.5.

33 William Scott (b. 1845).

Monday 15 April 1912 To Preston, I & my wife, in afternoon. I paid a bill at McNeil's, tailor's place, 18a Fishergate – my shop. Later met twice, in Fishergate the Rev. Walter Palmour, chaplain of Whittingham Asylum & had pleasant chats with him. He is the first chaplain at the Asylum – an establishment which I described when it was in course of erection. I specially went with the late C. R. Jacson, Rev J. Shepherd Birley & F Hulton.[34]

Tuesday 16 April 1912 In af[ternoo]n to Preston in response to a p[ost] card from E. Bush* re letting of 46, Cannon-street. Called at the Empire theatre, Church-st[ree]t, with which he is managerially connected, waited a while, & then he accompanied me to 46. He thinks he has a tenant for me. In evening read papers. Sad reports about wreck of the great ship Titanic by collision with iceberg.

Wednesday 17 April 1912 A fine day. In aft[ernoo]n I & my wife went to Moor Park where we sat & strolled for about an hour. A good deal of children knocking about. Shrubs & flowers seem to be suffering for want of rain. In the evening wrote a mem to C W Mc[Neil] – & read papers.

Thursday 18 April 1912 I & my wife in Moor Park for about an hour & a half in the af[ternoo]n. Weather fine. Got into conversation with a daughter of the late Mr Sanderson, grocer, who lived in Fulwood. A very intelligent, elderly spinster. In evening read part of a book about Dante.[35]

Friday 19 April 1912 I to Preston in af[ternoo]n. Called at Clarke & Sons, solicitor re transfer of some shares in Madame Val Smith Ltd. L[iver]-pool to myself. Paid paper ac[count]. In evening read papers.[36]

34 Charles W McNeil, tailor, unidentified; Walter Thomas Palmour (c. 1838-1921); John Shepherd Birley (1805–1883, see vol. 1, 2 April 1874); Frederick Campbell Hulton (c. 1841-99), clerk to the Lancashire Asylums Board, clerk to the county magistrates' clerk, subsequently to Lancashire County Council.

35 Probably Emily Sanderson (1861-1935), daughter of Robert Sanderson (1828-1906).

36 High-class milliners in Church St, Liverpool.

Saturday 20 April 1912 ~~To Preston my wife in~~ A fine day. In af[ternoo]n we were in Moor Park for a while. The park does not seem to be so neatly & nicely looked after as in former years. It is much frequented in favourable weather by the public. After tea read papers. A little card playing afterwards.

Sunday 21 April 1912 A very fine day. In aft[ernoo]n I & my wife had a walk into Moor Park. Many, all ages & sizes, in it & it was pleasant to see so many enjoying themselves. My reading to-day consisted of two of Geo Dawson's prayers, a chapter of 1st Romans & about 40 pages of Ruskin's Praetorita [sic].

Monday 22 April 1912 In forenoon I went to Preston. Saw E. Bush* re 46 Cannon-st[ree]t, got share transfer form properly filled up at C[larke] & Sons, & took it to the Post Office to be stamped. In af[ternoo]n my wife to Preston: I stayed mainly in house. In the evening paper reading & a little card playing.

Tuesday 23 April 1912 Weather continues fine &, for April, very dry. My cough, or stuffing on chest, somewhat easier. In af[ternoo]n I was in Moor Park for about three quarters of an hour. Man tidying-up some of the grass margins of walks. In evening read papers & played at cards for a short time.

Wednesday 24 April 1912 Not so well this morning – plagued with phlegm & a sort of bronchial cold, & if I exert myself much I get short-winded. But as I have ailed little bodily in my life I perhaps get too apprehensive & make too much of my physical troubles. A fine day. Did a little tidying-up in front bit of ground. Read papers. Between 9.30 & 10 played at cards with my wife.

Thursday 25 April 1912 Wife to Bare per 10.10 forenoon train from Preston. Found all right & grand-daughter Molly a good deal better. Returned (after calling to see brother J[ames] Wilson*) per 8.41 train. In forenoon I further tidyed [sic] up the bit of front ground & in the afternoon cleaned the back ground; subsequently going to Moor Park, in which I stayed about an hour. Read papers.

Friday 26 April 1912 I & my wife to Preston in the afternoon; she to a sale of cloth, &c (Alfred Taylor's finish as tailor &c, in Lune-street; I to Post Office for register of share transfer, &c. Inspected shop 18a Fishergate, with one of the Hills, builders &c. Found one of windows cracked, w[ater] c[loset] lid gone, & ceiling, walls, &c, in need of cleaning. After tea read papers, & for a short time played at cards. (Wrote to Burton people about making necessary repairs at 18a Fishergate).[37]

Saturday 27 April 1912 In forenoon my wife to Preston, purchasing household requirements. In the af[ternoo]n we went to Moor Park & remained in it for about an hour & a half. Read papers in the evening.

Sunday 28 April 1912 Nearly the whole of the day in the house. Fine weather. Should have had a walk or gone to the Park. Read two chapt[er]s of Corinthians (last of 1st & 1st of 2nd epistle), some of Geo Dawson's prayers, numerous pages of Ruskin's Praeterita &c. Cards for about half an hour.

Monday 29 April 1912 Called on Hardman, plumber, painter &c., Cannon-st., Preston, in af[ternoo]n – respecting painting, whitewashing, &c, &c, of shop 18a Fishergate. The retiring tenants (Burton United Distilleries, Ltd., B[urton]-on-T[rent]) having agreed very willingly to get the work done. Afterwards looked in at Harris Free Library & inspected various specimens & pictures of Lancashire Fish & Fisheries on exhibition. Reading & cards at night.

Tuesday 30 April 1912 I & my wife in Moor Park, in the afternoon for about an hour & a half. A good many persons – mainly youngsters – on the ground. At east end ground has been enclosed – boarded off – for the next show of the Lancashire Agricultural Society. Talked for a time with an old woman a native of Barton. Papers & cards.

37 Burton United Distillers Ltd, tenants.

May

Wednesday 1 May 1912 To Preston in forenoon about my shop in front of the Mitre & shop, &c 46 Cannon-street. Chatted with an old man called Kinloch (brother of the late Sgt. Kinloch of the police, Fulwood) who said that at one time he was a sailor & took Dr Livingstone to Africa. In evening read papers, &c.[38]

Thursday 2 May 1912 In aft[ernoon] J.A.Hayhurst, landlord or tenant of my house in Fishergate, Preston (the Mitre hotel) called & paid his half year's rent, & said he w[oul]d like a reduction at the end of his lease – in 6 months.[39]

Friday 3 May 1912 I & my wife saw Mr Crombleholme, Sec[retary] of Matthew Brown & Co LT [ltd], brewers, this forenoon, at office in Pole-st[ree]t. Mentioned to him Hayhurst's move for a reduction. He replied that the present rent was right & was of opinion that his directors w[oul]d be willing to give it for the hotel. Af[terwar]ds saw McNeil about shop in Fishergate; later we had dinner at the White Horse restaurant, Friargate; then looked through the Mitre with Hayhurst. – Had a talk with H.W. Clemesha*, sol[icito]r & Mr Crearer,[sic] scotch draper. – We got back home about 5.15pm. After tea read papers.[40]

Saturday 4 May 1912 In house the greater part of the day. Not so very well in former part of the day. Read Preston & Lancashire newspapers, & later played at cards with my wife.

Sunday 5 May 1912 Bad at breathing this morning. Got better as the day went on. Read to-day two of Geo. Dawson's prayers, portions of 2nd Corinthians, & a few pages of Ruskin's Praeterita. Cards afterwards. Some rain to-night, as on a previous night. Rain badly wanted. Ground

38 Probably William Henry Kinloch (1833-1919), brother of Sergeant Samuel Kinloch (1832-1910), although he is consistently recorded as a tape sizer (part of the cotton weaving process) in the census.

39 John Atherton Hayhurst (1863-1936) had taken a five-year lease in May 1907 (*LDP,* 7 December 1915, p. 3).

40 Joseph Crombleholme (c. 1874-1941), Roman Catholic; James Crerar (1834-1918), from Methven, Perthshire, Scotland, clothing wholesaler, member of Preston Curling Club.

dry and vegetation checked. But all is for the best in the long run; God Almighty being the constant & best Ruler.

Monday 6 May 1912 Very unwell – coughed much on morning side, & concluded that I had either asthma or chronic bronchitis. To Preston in forenoon, called on C.W. McNeil & E Bush,* re shop 18a Fishergate. Saw "May day" turn-out or procession of horses & vehicles. Extensive & very good. In aft[ernoo]n called on Dr Raynor [sic], Fulwood, who examined me & said I had got chronic bronchitis. In evening he sent me some medicine and rubbing liniment. He also sent my wife a bottle of medicine for head trouble – noises &c in head. A short play at cards between 9 & 10.

Tuesday 7 May 1912 Short winded, very, for some time this morning. Chronic b[ronchitis], no doubt. In house nearly all day. Read papers, &c. Some nice rain in the evening.

Wednesday 8 May 1912 Feel considerably better. In aft[ernoo]n did some tidying-up in the little front garden. My wife at a sale in Preston this afternoon – hosiery shirts &c, &c. Read papers. Cards a little between 9 & 10.

Thursday 9 May 1912 Am improving – physically. In aft[ernoo]n tidying-up surface of front garden. The bulbs I bought at a sale in Morecambe & set here have been a failure. After tea read papers, &c.

Friday 10 May 1912 This aft[ernoo]n I & my wife to our house at Bare – daughter Rose & family (little Molly being much better) having arranged to go to their home at Bradford early next week. Found a good many things in a state of jumble, &c through the rooting about & mischievous antics of the children – chiefly Billy & Harry. Had a walk on front in evening with son-in-law Walter.

Saturday 11 May 1912 Moving about. Not so well. Fine weather but cold. Moderate number of people on the front. The full flow hoped for when the year advances a little more; but I am doubtful; the flood of them being so great last summer.

Sunday 12 May 1912 In the forenoon I & Walter & daughter Molly had a walk as far as the Shelter opposite the Grand Hotel – on promenade

– half way to Morecambe. Fine but coldish. Hills & mountains across & east & west of the Bay clear and beautiful – the whole range, from Black combe round by Coniston Old Man, Helvellyn, &c to Ingleborough being picturesquely conspicuous. All, or nearly all, out in af[ternoo]n & evening. I not feeling so well remained in the house.

Monday 13 May 1912 Out on front in forenoon, afternoon & evening. Weather fine; scenery lovely. In aft[ernoo]n my wife & daughter R[osaline] to Lancaster. They called at W. Wilson's* & at J[ames] Wilson's.* J.W. in a weak, breaking up state. (Walter away this morning on his business).

Tuesday 14 May 1912 For a considerable time on front with Billy & Harry. Weather nice. Houses are still being "run up" at Bare. Daughter Rose with the three children & servant left for home this af[ternoo]n. In the evening I & my wife returned to our Fulwood domicile. A gorgeously red, splendid sunset this evening. We saw it from the train.

Wednesday 15 May 1912 To Preston in forenoon respecting portions of my property. Hope all will soon be satisfactorily settled. In the house all af[ternoo]n & evening. Papers.

Thursday 16 May 1912 In house nearly the whole day. Read papers, &c. Nothing very startling.

Friday 17 May 1912 My wife to Preston in the forenoon. In the afternoon, for about two hours, we were in Moor Park. Rhododendrons very attractive, and the foliage of the numerous trees rich and full – never saw it so full before at this time of the year. Weather bright & warm. Nurses with children moving about. Read paper in the evening. Made a fresh will to-day.

Saturday 18 May 1912 In forenoon my wife to Preston. In aft[ernoo]n I went there. Got my fresh will signed & witnessed in the Reference department of the Harris Free Library. Read a little in the Dublin Review (quarterly, I think). Walked back home. A fine day, but cold in the shade. Many motor cars on the road, as well as bicycles, motor bicycles, &c. They raise much dust, & have become a nuisance. After tea read papers, &c.[41]

41 The *Dublin Review* (1836-1968) was a monthly magazine published in London,

Sunday 19 May 1912 In house all day. Read as usual – portions of Dawson's prayers, some of Corinthians, & a few pages of "Praetorita" [sic].

Monday 20 May 1912 To Lancaster at noon. Made a codicil to J[ames] Wilson's* will. He was bad tempered, uncivil and conducted himself (towards myself) ungratefully & badly. I shall wash my hands of his affairs after this.

Tuesday 21 May 1912 Sent on to W. Wilson,* Lancaster, paper containing notification that I decline to act as executor for J[ames] W[ilson*]. As co-executor W.W will sign paper also declining to act & then post it registered to J.W. Read papers. In aft[ernoon] had a nap. In evening read papers, &c.

Wednesday 22 May 1912 A wet, cold day. My wife to Preston in aft[ernoo]n. I chiefly in the house. Read papers. At night about 20 minutes at cards.

Thursday 23 May 1912 Nothing particular. Read papers in evening. Cards.

Friday 24 May 1912 Tidied-up front garden ground in af[ternoo]n. Same as yesterday afterwards.

Saturday 25 May 1912 I & my wife to Preston this forenoon. She a marketing; I on business re the Mitre hotel, & paid for & stopped D[aily] Mail at Ward & Ianson's. Town, centrally, very throng. Market place, Covered Market & continguous streets throng with Whitsuntide stalls, shows, swings, roundabouts, &c &c – a regular olla podrida & lively, dusty, noisy, sweaty sort of Pandemonium. In af[ternoo]n we cut some of the grass in back ground. My wife to Preston after tea & returned in about an hour & a half. Read papers & for a short time played at cards.[42]

Sunday 26 May 1912 Did not stir, except to Post Office. Read two of Geo. Dawson's prayers, a chapter of 2 Corinthians & sundry pages of Ruskin's Praeterita – interesting.

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presenting the views of Irish Roman Catholics to English readers.

42 Ianson & Ward, 138 Friargate, newsagents, printers and stationers; olla podrida: literally, a Spanish stew; figuratively, a hodge-podge, mixture.

Monday 27 May 1912 Finished cutting of grass (begun on Friday) in back ground. My wife to see Mabel in afternoon. We went to our house at Bare in the evening – after tram delay & waiting for upwards of an hour for a train at Preston station. Had some hand luggage with us. I hate luggage, or rather the carrying of it & looking after it. My wife met Mrs Sudell (W. Sudell's widow) at Bare.[43]

Tuesday 28 May 1912 In af[ternoo]n I went to Morecambe to pay gas & water bills. Office closed. A large number of people on the promenade. Band of music. Walked back. In evening I & my wife on front – at east end shelter – for a little while. Evening rather cold, but fine.

Wednesday 29 May 1912 For about three hours in forenoon cleaning up the little front garden which was in a bad state round the borders, through putting on manure which turned out to be mainly wooden chips. In evening I & my wife to the Tower, & witnessed a miscellaneous entertainment as well as some dancing in the great dancing hall.

Thursday 30 May 1912 I & my wife on the Promenade in the afternoon. A good number of visitors running about. Had a long talk with Mr Fell, ex-chemist, whose second wife (a daughter of Wm Bell, watchmaker, &c, Lancaster) lately died. He (Fell) did not look so well & there were peculiar incoherencies & stoppages in his talk. Afterwards went to my wife in West shelter. Rain threatened & came down a little so we went to our house, had tea, & remained in-doors nearly the whole evening.

Friday 31 May 1912 We did some repairs to wall paper & window blinds &c, this forenoon & during part of afternoon. A lot of excursion people in the district – from, I believe, Manchester & other South Lancashire places. In evening my wife to Morecambe for a short time; I on the front about half an hour. Had a talk with a shrewd, elderly, round-backed Yorkshireman.

43 Ellen Sudell (1847-1915), widow of William Sudell (1850-1911, see vol. 1, 4 November 1872), mill manager and first chairman of Preston North End.

June

Saturday 1 June 1912 My wife to Lancaster in forenoon, a marketing. In the aft[ernoo]n son Horace, Blackpool, came for the week end. In the evening I, my wife & son H to Morecambe. A good number of visitors visible. We sat for a time near the band stand. Weather cold. Returned about 9 o'clock.

Sunday 2 June 1912 Wet day & did not go out. I, my wife & son H[orace]. conversed in af[ternoon] on various matters, including some of a family & personal character. Son H[orace] returned home per train leaving Bare-lane about 6.40 – I read to-day some "Puritan Gems", two chapters in 2 Corinthians & some newspaper-items.

Monday 3 June 1912 Another wet day. Some of the visitors from south Lancs (at Morecambe for three or four days) will wish themselves at home again. My wife went to Morecambe in aft[ernoo]n. She afterward told me that the Bandmen were playing vigorously on the covered band stand, but that there was not a soul about listening to their music, owing to the rain. In evening papers & cards. (In aftern[oon] read some pages of "Selections from Byron", by a clergyman. Good on the whole).[44]

Tuesday 4 June 1912 Wet nearly all day. Did some miscellaneous jobs in house. Wrote par[agraph] for P[reston] Guardian about old times, &c. In evening I & my wife had a walk along the promenade towards Morecambe. Coldish. Few out.

Wednesday 5 June 1912 By noon train I went to Preston. Got past half year's rent for shop 46, Cannon-st[ree]t (both house & shop here now empty – a loss of £80 per year. Called on Hill, joiner &c, respecting Mitre structural alterations in 1907. Saw Mr France [sic] editor of the Lanc[ashire] Daily Post. Had a chat with him & gave him a small article respecting myself & the P[reston] Guardian in the latter fifties of last century &c. Visited our house in Fulwood & found all right. Back to Bare per 4.30 train. In the evening W. Wilson,* of Lancaster called & we had a smoke & a long chat.[45]

44 *Selections from the Writings of Lord Byron*, ed. Whitwell Elwin (John Murray, 1854), https://books.google.com/books?id=oc410sxvIqoC&printsec=frontcover

45 Hewitson's paragraph was published as a letter in the 8 June 1912 edition of the *Preston Guardian* (see vol. 1, pp. 15–16).

Thursday 6 June 1912 Weather unfavourable. In the house the greater part of the day. Not like June weather; but foliage generally is very full & reminds me of being "too fast" – ahead of "leafy June" -- considerably – a month forward. Read papers & had a short play at cards with my wife.

Friday 7 June 1912 A nice day & temperature higher. First day this year on which I have been properly out without my top coat. I & my wife on the promenade for about an hour. Rain kept us in the house in the evening. Papers.

Saturday 8 June 1912 My wife to Lancaster this forenoon a marketing. In the aft[ernoo]n we went on promenade. Somebody professing to read characters by palmistry, &c, &c has got a caravan near east end shelter, and apparently there is a pretty brisk business done at it. What superstitious shallow-pated people there are in this world, & at this period of civilisation, to be sure. In the evening we went to Morecambe. Met Mr Garlick* & had a long chat with him. Morecambe, in front fairly throng with visitors, &c.

Sunday 9 June 1912 Cold weather for the time of year. A thunder storm in the afternoon. In the evening I had a short walk on the Promenade. Only a few people out. Cold. My reading to-day consisted of some "Puritan Gems," a chapter in 2nd Corinthians, & some newspaper matter.

Monday 10 June 1912 Intended to go out with my wife this afternoon but thunder & rain set in. Read papers. Went on a home errand, to Morecambe in the evening. Subsequently read papers & played a little at cards. (PS – while at Morecambe went to an intended sale of Bare property; but the bidding was up to nothing & all withdrawn.

Tuesday 11 June 1912 Mr W. Duff* called in forenoon, but having two dogs with him he did not come into the house. In afternoon met Mr D. at shelter opposite his house & had a long miscellaneous talk with him. In the evening I & my wife on prom. For about an hour & a half.

Wednesday 12 June 1912 In the af[ternoo]n I & my wife were on the Promenade for about an hour & a half. Weather fine. We had a long chat with Mr Judson, who has left the Avenue & bought a house in Margaret-st[ree]t, Bare & resides at it. In the evening we (I & w[ife]) went to the Central Pier pavilion, Morecambe & enjoyed a miscellaneous musical & character-taking entertainment.

Thursday 13 June 1912 In aft[ernoo]n my wife to Torrisholme & I to the front – to Central shelter. Had a lively, agreeable conversation on political matters with Mr Geo. Garlick* & two of his friends. In the evening I & my wife to front – same shelter. Cold. Did not stay so very long.

Friday 14 June 1912 Miscellaneous duties in forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n I went to the Central Shelter, my wife following. Talked with some respectable people from Farnworth or the neighbourhood & subsequently with Mr Duff,* &c. In house the whole of the evening; the weather being windy & cold.

Saturday 15 June 1912 My wife to Lancaster this forenoon – to market, &c. In af[ternoo]n we went out on the front and stayed there about an hour & a half. Weather fine. Out in evening a little. Weather cold. Cards.

Sunday 16 June 1912 Mixed duties discharged in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n – the weather being very nice & mild – we were on the front for a while – chiefly with Mr & Mrs Wood.* In the evening we were at the "Little Church by the sea." A fairly nice service & a good sermon by Rev A.V. Bland. Read to-day part of Weekly Despatch [sic], some Puritan Gems &c.

Monday 17 June 1912 At noon went to Preston & thence to our house in Fulwood. Found everything right. Did a little tidying up in front garden ground. Got 6 copies of "Northward" & took them to Mr A Halewood, bookseller, Preston who had ordered them. He paid for the lot. Back to Bare (after waiting nearly an hour at station) per 5.21 train.

Tuesday 18 June 1912 Weather wet & wildly windy during the greater part of the day. In the evening I & my wife visited, by arrangement, Mr & Mrs Kirkby, who reside in Bare just below the old Hall. He is a native of Preston & I knew his father – Kirkby, barber, in Cannon-st[ree]t. This son is 51, & seems slightly paralysed. He has a drapery business in Manchester. He & his wife are Theosophists – as I inferred from their talk. We spent a pleasant evening & had a vegetarian supper with them. They are Vegitarians [sic].[46]

46 Oliver Cromwell Kirby (1861-1923), son of Edward Kirby (1828-78), 'hair dresser', 12 Cannon St, Preston; theosophy was a quasi-religious movement which grew out of spiritualism, influenced by Eastern philosophy, led by Madame Helena Blavatsky, a Russian who captivated WT Stead. It became more popular after Annie Besant, the socialist, feminist, atheist campaigner, joined them in the 1880s.

Wednesday 19 June 1912 Went on front in af[ternoo]n; rather cold; proceeded to east end shelter; numerous persons in & about it – visitors; had a broken sort of nap. Returned; met my wife coming out of house; to [sic] cold to be out for her, except for a few minutes. In evening read papers, & had a short spell at cards.

Thursday 20 June 1912 To Central Shelter, I & my wife in aft[ernoo]n. There saw & chatted with Mr Wood,* Mr Geo. Garlick,* Mr W Duff,* &c. Rather cold. In the evening my wife to Morecambe; I remained behind. Out for a time, but the cold drove me into house. Read papers & some "Beauties of Byron" – prose. My wife returned about 9.40.

Friday 21 June 1912 Nothing particular. Out during part of the day on the front. Had a chat with Mr. Garlick.*

Saturday 22 June 1912 My wife to Lancaster this forenoon. In aft[ernoo]n & evening we went on to the promenade & stayed some time. In the evening a very quiet tide.

Sunday 23 June 1912 Miscellaneous in forenoon. In the aft[ernoo]n I & my wife to Promenade. Met Mr & Mrs Wood,* & had a long chat with them. He is a very chatty, humorous fellow & we get along very comfortably. After tea I & my wife to the central shelter. Where we stayed for about two & a half hours. A pretty numerous lot of people, evidently visitors, on Promenade – some walking and many riding. Mr & Mrs Wood* & Mr Duff* were our main conversationalists. Read to-day portion of Weekly Dispatch & several "Puritan Gems."

Monday 24 June 1912 In the forenoon I cut the grass, &c in our little front garden. Roses are not doing so well, owing I think to the long spell of wet weather we have had. In the evening I & my wife to the Central Shelter. Had a chat with Mr. Garlick,* Mr. Duff,* & Mr. Noar. Subjects talked about very various. Old Mr Birket, Chemist, retired from Morecambe died to-day. Age about 73.[47]

Tuesday 25 June 1912 Till evening chiefly in house. Mr & Mrs Kirkby called, by invitation, shortly after 6pm. We walked on to Central Shelter. There saw Mr Duff,* Mr Wright (a Lancaster Bank official) & his wife,

47 John Birkett (1839-1912), active in developing the town of Morecambe, member of various local bodies.

Mr Cooper (formerly reporter &c of Preston) & his wife, &c. Kirkby aired his views on Socialistic matters. He is a bit of an extremist, believes in land nationalisation &c &c. Subsequently Mr & Mrs Kirkby, Miss Garlick & her nephew George Garlick* came to our house & had supper as well as a very pleasant miscellaneous chat.[48]

Wednesday 26 June 1912 I & my wife to W. Wilson's,* Lancaster, in aft[ernoo]n. On arriving went to his garden & looked at the unoccupied adjoining property of the late Sir Thomas Storey. We had tea. Returned per 8.5 train. Cold. Wrote letter to Preston, &c.

[on blotting page opposite above page, one word in blue pencil: 'Medusa']

Thursday 27 June 1912 Nothing particular. Weather coldish & showery. In aft[ernoo]n to front. Saw & had talk with Duff* & Wood*, who had been at funeral of old Mr Birkett. In house all evening.

Friday 28 June 1912 Various. Out a little with my wife. In evening she went to Morecambe. I remained at Bare. Met Duff* & had a long chat with him. He gave me the history of the transfer of the Morecambe Gas Works to the town and his subsequent management of the same, & his ultimate compensation (£3,800) on retiring from said works.

Saturday 29 June 1912 My wife to Lancaster in the forenoon. I went to meet her at Bare Lane station on her return. In af[ternoo]n & evening we were on the front. Many visitors about, from Bolton &c – Bolton & Nelson holidays are on.

Sunday 30 June 1912 Wm Wilson,* West-r[oa]d, Lancaster called in af[ternoo]n on a little monetary business. Aft[erwar]ds he & I to the front where he stayed about ¾ of an hour. He then went home. After tea I & my wife to the front where we met Miss & Mr Garlick* & later Mr & Mrs Bannister of Skerton (off Slyne-r[oa]d). Mrs Bannister was, before marriage, Miss Bell, daughter of W[illia]m Bell, my old master's foreman at the Gazette printing office, Lancaster. WB died about 9 years ago.[49]

48 Wrights unidentified; Charles Cooper (b. 1849) who, with Francis Coupe, bought the *Preston Chronicle* from Hewitson in 1891, although Hewitson does not mention this; Fanny Cooper (b. 1852); Miss Garlick is in fact Miss Bates (see 18 October 1911 and 10 August 1912).

49 Edward Bannister (1849-1920), retired postal official; Matilda Bannister (1850-

July

Monday 1 July 1912 An entirely uneventful day. Occasional showers. Many visiting people (chiefly Boltoners, including many elderly pudgy gossiping women & numbers of lively noisy young ones) in evidence on promenade at Bare. In af[ternoo]n I was on front, principally in east end shelter, for a time. In house during the evening.

Tuesday 2 July 1912 In house all day owing to the cold, rainy weather. Read papers & part of Selections from Byron's Letters, &c[50]

Wednesday 3 July 1912 To Preston at noon. Got some dinner at ~~small~~ confectioner's shop in Fishergate. Paid an adv[ertisin]g ac[count] at the Lancashire Daily Post Office (Guardian Office). Met Jack Humber, ex-Mayor of Preston, &c, & had a short chat with him. Called at Hill's, Cannon st[ree]t re Mitre. Called on E. McNeil, tailor &c Cheapside about tenancy agreement 18a, Fishergate. Went to our house in Fulwood & found all right there. Returned to Bare per 4.30 train from Preston, which was delayed about three qu[arters] of an hour through ~~the~~ some defect in a goods engine. After tea revised & returned tenancy agreement draft to McNeil. I & my wife later to central shelter. Chats.[51]

Thursday 4 July 1912 James Wilson,* my bro[ther]-in-law died at his home, 11 Hubert-place, Lancaster, shortly after 7 o'clock this morning. In the af[ternoo]n – the weather being very fine – I went to the front, followed about half an hour af[terwar]ds by my wife & W Wilson,* of Lancaster. Many persons on the promenade. Several in the bathing pool. W. W. returned to Lancaster after tea. He brought us the news of J. W's death. In the evening I & my wife on front, mainly in Central shelter with W[illia]m Duff.*

Friday 5 July 1912 Fine hay making weather – after much of the rainy, unfavourable kind. In the aft[ernoo]n I & my wife on front for about an hour & a half. In the house after tea – reading, &c

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1924) née Bell, daughter of William Bell (1826-1903).

50 George Gordon Byron, *Selections from the Writings of Lord Byron*, ed. by Whitwell Elwin (London: John Murray, 1854), https://books.google.com/books?id=oc410sxvIqoC

51 Possibly Ernest McNeil (b. 1882).

Saturday 6 July 1912 My wife to Lancaster per forenoon train, about 11.15 from Bare-lane. In the af[ternoo]n she attended the funeral of her brother Jim.* Funeral in Lancaster Cemetery. I did not attend, for certain private, particular reasons, but went on to the front at Bare from about 2.30 to 4.30 & there read 30 or 40 pages of Dr Minot Judson Savage's work entitled "The Passing and the Permanent in Religion" – a very able though highly heterodox work. My wife returned about 8.30. I to the front for a time.[52]

Sunday 7 July 1912 House in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n we went to the front. Kirby [sic] & his wife came up & we had a long chat – he & I – about religious creeds, &c. After tea I & wife to the front again. Had a long talk with Townley, hatter, Lancaster (son of Tom), W. Wilson* & W. Duff.* W[illiam] W[ilson] came & had supper. Read to-day portions of newspaper & some Puritan Gems.

Monday 8 July 1912 I went to Morecambe in the forenoon for a ~~side f~~ grate bottom iron. In the af[ternoo]n doing odds & ends. In the evening I & my wife to Morecambe. Numerous persons, chiefly visitors, on the front, mainly from Burnley. All well behaved. Weather very cold.[53]

Tuesday 9 July 1912 In house main part of day till about 7.30 pm & then to the Promenade for about three q[uarte]rs of an hour. Rather cold. Nothing special. Read papers later.

Wednesday 10 July 1912 I went to Morecambe in the forenoon respecting some stair carpet, &c. In af[ternoo]n a mixture of work. In the evening read papers. Cold. Fire in kitchen re-lighted. Curious weather for the time of year; but it is all for the best.

Thursday 11 July 1912 Morecambe Borough Band played a good selection of music on stand near shelter opposite Duff's* this af[ternoo]n. A good attendance of listeners & a nice monetary result I believe. Councillor Wood* mainly instrumental in bringing down the band, which may

52 Minot Judson Savage, *The Passing and the Permanent in Religion* (London: Putnam, 1901) https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/2/25/The_passing_and_the_permanent_in_religion%2C_a_plain_treatment_of_the_great_essentials_of_religion_%28IA_passingpermanent00savaiala%29.pdf

53 Cotton towns staggered their annual shutdowns for maintenance, providing a holiday (unpaid) for their workers, to ensure that output across Lancashire continued with minimal disruption. These were known as 'wakes weeks', except in Burnley where it was known as Burnley Fair, and was held in the first two weeks of July by 1912.

during remainder of the "season" play here (at Bare) three times a week. A meeting arranged for 8 o'clock this evening on Prince's Crescent – of some young Liberals (young fools) from Lancaster. Rain came on & I saw nothing of this knot of early dreamers, so I conclude none of them aired any eloquence this evening in Bare.

Friday 12 July 1912 I to Morecambe in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n & part of evening miscellaneous. Finished Dr Savage's work – "The Passing and the Permanent in Religion". Very advanced & very good, ~~noth~~ except perhaps, that section of it relating to Prayer. I believe in the efficacy or benefits involved in prayer. Dr S considers discovery, invention, adherence to natural laws (God's laws) equivalent to & in reality prayer itself!

Saturday 13 July 1912 To Lancaster, for buying in purposes, my wife this forenoon. In the afternoon we went on to the front. I had a longish chat, of the contentious kind, with one Wilson – a conceited, wilful, contradictious little man on certain Liberal Government matters. In the evening, till near nine, again on the front, talking with Mr Kirby [sic] & wife & Mr & Miss Garlick.*[54]

Sunday 14 July 1912 Went on to the front, alone, in the afternoon & remained there for about an hour. In the evening I & my wife on front. A fairly good number of people there, including not a few females – several being in light butterfly dresses, & some very thinly clothed, showing too clearly the outlines of the body & limbs. We were for a time with Mr Fell and Mr & Mrs Wood.* F[ell] wanted us to have some whiskey, which we declined. Read part of a newspaper, two chapters of II Corinthians & some P[uritan] Gems.

Monday 15 July 1912 Very hot. I & my wife to Morecambe in aft[ernoo]n, on household business. Read papers, &c. Cut grass and did some weeding in the front ground. Chips for manure![55]

Tuesday 16 July 1912 Re-arranging carpets, furniture, &c. After tea to front for a time. Mr & Mrs Wood* came up & we had a chat about the band music & the scurvy treatment of Bare by the Morecambe Corporation.[56]

54 Wilson: unknown.
55 Manure: see 29 May 1912.
56 Morecambe Corporation had been reluctant to sanction band concerts at Bare

Wednesday 17 July 1912 My wife to Preston & Fulwood at noon. Saw E. Mc[Neil] – unsatisfactory. He is a procrastinator & prevaricator. In af[ternoo]n I went to the front & had a short walk & a long chat with Geo. Garlick.* The weather very considerably cooler, but on the whole nice – agreeable.

Thursday 18 July 1912 Various till about 6.30 pm, & then to Morecambe to pay a tradesman's ac[count]. Cold, & many persons sitting in sheltered places. Nothing special. On returning read papers.

Friday 19 July 1912 I went to Morecambe in af[ternoo]n to pay Bibby, the painter, & buy some odds & ends. Very cold. Had to wear my top coat. Few people visible on the promenade. Mountains in north-west, across the Bay clear & very picturesque. After tea read papers.[57]

Saturday 20 July 1912 My wife to ~~Prest~~ Lancaster in the forenoon, a marketing. In the afternoon my son Bertie with his wife & little daughter arrived, from Wakefield, on a few days' visit. After tea we all went on to the front. Coldish. Stayed till about 9 o'clock, then back to house, had a chat, supper, a smoke, &c

Sunday 21 July 1912 Coldish. In the afternoon we went, all of us, to the front, or promenade. Stayed for about an hour, then walked to the Central Shelter & there stayed for about half an hour. After tea we were again on promenade. A very considerable number of visitors on promenade.

Monday 22 July 1912 With son E[thelbert], &c to front for a short time. House key left behind. A manoeuvre to get in. All of us in the af[ternoo]n & evening to the front. Cold. Back about 8. Nothing special.

Tuesday 23 July 1912 All of us to the Promenade in forenoon. To the West End in the afternoon. A pretty numerous lot of visitors on the promenade & a fair number of children, &c on the sands. Back about 5. In the evening we went on the Prom. & to the central shelter opposite Duff's.* Had a chat with Miss & Mr Garlick.*

('Music at Bare: How the promenade concert was appreciated: Half-crowns given instead of pennies', *Morecambe Visitor,* 17 July 1912, p. 5).

57 Albert Henry Bibby(1866-1915) of Queen Street, Morecambe, originally from Bradford.

Wednesday 24 July 1912 On the front – all of us – in the forenoon. Warmish. In the aft[ernoo]n all of us in the house – owing to rain & thunder. In the evening I & son Bertie on front. Spoke to a son of T. Parkinson, the old oil man, of Church-st[ree]t, Preston. Aft[erwar]ds had a chat with Duff.* Home.[58]

Thursday 25 July 1912 Morecambe Corporation Band played on stand at Bare, near Central shelter for about two hours this af[ternoo]n. I, my wife, Bertie & his wife & daughter were listeners. Moderately good lot of people present. Band a good one; but too classical in programme. At night we played at whist.

Friday 26 July 1912 A fine, warm day, but hazy. On the prom I & son Bertie &c in forenoon. All of us on front in the af[ternoo]n & evening. Played at whist at night. Explained some of my property affairs to son B.

Saturday 27 July 1912 Son Bertie, with his wife & child, returned home (Wakefield) this afternoon. In the evening I & my wife to the front. We had a chat with young Garlick.*

Sunday 28 July 1912 A wet, wild, cold day. Many visitors knocking about & not a few caught in rain showers. My wife did not go out, and I simply slipped round the corner with two letters to the Post Office. Read parts of the Weekly Dispatch, some Puritan Gems, two chapt[er]s of 2 Corinthians & portions of a vol[ume] entitled "Beauties of Byron".

Monday 29 July 1912 Wet & cold in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n I & my wife were on the front for about an hour. In the evening we were again on front – met Mr & Mrs Bannister of Skerton & had a long chat with them. Bannister was a postal, not an Excise official.

Tuesday 30 July 1912 Wet & cold, & were out - I & my wife – for a short time only. Read papers & got out Dr Doran's "Table Traits" to read, but read ~~some~~ only a little. I have already had spells of reading in this very curious & interesting volume.

Wednesday 31 July 1912 Partly same as yesterday.

58 This may be a grandson or nephew: Stephen Cragg Parkinson (1840-1910) was the only son of Thomas Parkinson (1820-87), of 18 Church St, paraffin oil merchant and lamp manufacturer.

August

Thursday 1 August 1912 Same as to weather up to nearly noon. In af[ternoo]n I & my wife on front for a few minutes. Very cold. We walked round by the Elms Hotel, down the Avenue, talked with two or three persons who live in it, &c. & then back. In evening read papers & part of Doran's "Table Traits".

Friday 2 August 1912 Weather fair, but cold – top-coatish. In the af[ternoo]n we had a walk on front, to the central & the east end shelter. Certain fools in the bathing pool. In the evening we went to former shelter. Cooper (ex P[reston] G[uardian] reporter) & his wife & young Garlick.* Full & merry chats. Back about 8.45.

Saturday 3 August 1912 In the forenoon my wife to Lancaster market day. In the af[ternoo]n we went to the front. Cold: east or s.east wind. Had a chat with Garlick* & his aunt. In the evening we were in the central promenade shelter for perhaps an hour & a half. Had a talk with a Leeds man – a great Sabbatarian. I did not argue with him on any Sunday question: if I had done so I should have made no impression. Persons of this order are beyond argument.

Sunday 4 August 1912 Weather unfavourable – rainy, cold, &c. Did not go out. Read some Puritan Gems, last two chapt[er]s of 2 Corinthians, part of Weekly Dispatch, & a few pages of Autobiography of Mr & Mrs Bancroft, actor & actress.[59]

Monday 5 August 1912 I & my wife on front in aft[ernoo]n. A large number of people out – weather fine after a miserably wet & windy forenoon. In evening to front. Had a long talk with Mr Wallwork – a little man & a very good swimmer. Saw & talked with little Cooper. The ex-reporter. On returning home read papers & some pages of the Bancroft autobiography – very interesting.[60]

59 Probably the most recent of two memoirs, Marie Bancroft and Squire Bancroft, *The Bancrofts: Recollections of Sixty Years* (London: J. Murray, 1909), http://archive.org/details/bancroftsrecolle00bancuoft

60 Possibly a James Wallwork of Radcliffe (no further identification possible), who competed in the cross-bay swim from Morecambe to Grange in the 1930s.

Tuesday 6 August 1912 We were out – on the front – in af[ternoo]n. ~~[& even]~~ Coldish. In evening I out & at east end shelter.

Wednesday 7 August 1912 At noon I went to Preston. From Lancaster to Preston Mr Kirby [sic] kept me company. He was going to Manchester. I went to our house in Fulwood & found everything right there. At Preston saw & spoke to E. Bush,* T. Dewhurst* J A Hayhurst, &c. Looked in at 46, Cannon St[reet] & found all right there. I wish a suitable tenant w[oul]d turn up. Back to Bare per 6.4 train.

Thursday 8 August 1912 In aft[ernoo]n I & my wife went on Promenade to hear the Morecambe Borough or Corporation Band. Good selection of music, well played. Met Mr Geo. Garlick,* his father, mother, & aunt. Mrs Bannister (Bush's* housekeeper), Preston turned up & we chatted for a few minutes. In the evening I & my wife to east end shelter. Had a long talk with a Bradford man re cattle, pigs, poultry, &c. At 9.30 I went to house in Margaret-st[ree]t to get result of to-day's parliamentary election in north-west Manchester district. Sir J Randles, Conservative candidate won the seat from Liberals by 1202 majority.[61]

Friday 9 August 1912 In the house the greater part of the day. Weather unpleasant. In the evening read papers & small part of the Bancroft autobiography.

Saturday 10 August 1912 My wife to Lancaster market. I met her on return. Swallows were flying low – a sign of rain. During the aft[ernoo]n there were showers. We were with Mrs Garlick, her son Geo.,* & sister Mrs Bates (not, as I had understood, Miss Garlick). In the evening we were on front for a while. Weather very cold – cold as Xmas weather. Many visitors have to-day gone home & more seem to have come. Very strange, seeing that there was a general or Bank Holiday last Monday.[62]

61 John Garlick (1856-c. 1945), headmaster, and Emma Garlick (1856-c. 1918) née Bates; Lucy Bannister (1862-1949), widow; Sir John Scurrah Randles (Conservative) polled 5,573 votes in the by-election, Gordon Hewart (Liberal) 4,371.

62 Miss Bates (see 18 October 1911).

Sunday 11 August 1912 W. Wilson,* Lancaster, called in af[ternoo]n. I had a walk to the front with him. A very large number of visitors there – never saw so many here before. W.W. had tea, & left for Lancaster about 4.40. In the evening I & my wife to the front for about an hour. Little Mr. Wood* came to us & we had a lively chat. Later read some P[uritan] Gems & part of Sidney Smith's lectures on Moral Philosophy.

Monday 12 August 1912 In af[ternoo]n to Lancaster. Called at the Observer office & had a long talk with Mr ~~Hig~~ High, the principal in shop. Got paid for a copy of "Northward" & took an order for another. Had tea at W. Wilson's,* West-road. His garden has been robbed. Back to Bare per 7.23 train.[63]

Tuesday 13 August 1912 In the house main part of the day; the weather being cold. This is my 76th birthday. I feel fairly well – certainly well mentally; but there is no reining-in the galloping horse of Time.

Wednesday 14 August 1912 Cold & windy. Remarkably cold for this time of the year. Mainly in the house. Read papers. Got a letter from daughter M[abel] & wrote to her in af[ternoo]n.

Thursday 15 August 1912 This af[ternoo]n daughter Letty (from Stalybridge) with her son Bobbie & daughter Mary Winifred, came this af[ternoo]n on a visit. After tea I & Bobbie went on the front. I had a keen discussion with a keen "one man one vote" person, & quietened him. Read paper.

Friday 16 August 1912 A fine, warm morning. Many persons (chiefly visitors) on the promenade. I was out with grandson Bobbie who rambled about on the shore. Met Mr Wood* & had a chat with him. In af[ternoo]n I & Bobbie out. Met Mr & Mrs Garlick & Mrs Bates. Mother with Letty & little girl came, but rain began to fall nearly as soon as they came, & it drove us all back to our house. The remainder of the day cold, windy & wet. I read newspapers.

63 Martin High (1876-1953), printer at the *Lancaster Observer*.

Saturday 17 August 1912 In forenoon my wife & Bobbie to Lancaster. Met them on return at Bare Lane station. Trains packed with visitors (excursionists from places having their annual holiday). In af[ternoo]n I & Bobbie on front. Mother & Letty & child to a shop near the Tower. Rain came on early & continued from about 5 right through the evening. Bad for boatmen & hackney carriage drivers: good for inside entertainment places. Read papers.

Sunday 18 August 1912 On the front in the afternoon. Rain. Hurried back to house & put on a fresh coat & then went on front again for a time. All of us out. Mr & Mrs Wood* chatted with us. Old Mr Booth of Park-st[ree]t, Bare, told me he had gained three stones – two back which he had lost & one extra stone – through taking herbs (wood betony and Jessica – or something like that) for 3 months. No tea. I think I will try these herbs. On front in evening. Talked with Mr & Mrs Fenton. Weather coldish. Back to house about 7.30. Read some Puritan Gems & a newspaper. Not so well.[64]

Monday 19 August 1912 Cold, wet weather. We went out once or twice, but were glad to get back. Read papers.

Tuesday 20 August 1912 Not well. [underlined in blue crayon] & did not go out. Must have caught cold – felt languid, listless, somewhat shivery & with no appetite worth mentioning. Stopping in the house & keeping warm did me good. I bathed my feet in hot water at night.

Wednesday 21 August 1912 Cold & wet in morning. Strange weather. Somewhat better than yesterday. Went to Morecambe in forenoon, bought some wood betony & Jessamine (?) from a herbalist in Euston-road & in af[ternoo]n simmered it in water – about a quart to three gills – to be taken, a wine glassful three times a day.

Thursday 22 August 1912 In af[ternoo]n I my wife, daughter Letty, &c walked down Bare-lane & met Mr & Mrs Bannister from Slyne-road, Skerton. We all walked to near the ~~road~~ lane end, near Torrisholme; I & Bannister chatting on various subjects – particularly in respect to

64 Mr & Mrs Fenton unidentified.

~~Con~~ Lancaster Conservatism, Lord Ashton &c. B & wife returned home af[terwar]ds & we came back to the Crescent.

Friday 23 August 1912 Rain from morning to night & stayed in the house the whole day. I do not remember such a wet month of August – wet, windy & cold – as this within the past 66 years. Read papers, had a nap – feeling distinctly better but not yet properly up to the mark. Hope all will soon be right.

Saturday 24 August 1912 My wife early to Lancaster. King George V – on his way from Lord Seftons, Abbeystead where he has been with a shooting party, to Balmoral – called at Lancaster – halted at new Town Hall, receiving addresses &c &c; then through Brock & Penny-streets into Market-st[ree]t where he halted near old Town Hall – 5000 children singing, in square there, two verses of National Anthem. Then the King to Castle station, halting briefly opposite Storey Institute; & so to Balmoral. In aft[ernoo]n we were all out on front. Later read papers.

Sunday 25 August 1912 Cold & showery. In forenoon & af[ternoo]n nothing very particular. In evening we all went out on to the front for a time. Cold. Not so many people out. Read to-day portions of the Weekly Dispatch newspaper, some P[uritan] Gems, & two chapters of the epistle to the Galatians.

Monday 26 August 1912 To Preston at noon. Cold & wet. Got a glass of warm milk & a warm pie at confectioner's shop opposite Baptist Chapel, Fishergate. Called at W.D's [Williams & Deacon's] bank for some money. Saw Mr Bush.* Called at Whitehead the printer's office, Avenham st[ree]t. Went to our house in Fulwood: made fire in parlour kitchen & the library. Back to Bare per 4.5 (late 4.20) train. Made out & posted Income Tax return.

Tuesday 27 August 1912 In aft[ernoo]n I went on front – cold N.E wind. Took a seat in east end shelter. Mr Marsden, ex schoolmaster of Bury, but for some time a resident of Bare, came to me & we had a chat. In the course of our talk he said he was a native of Holmfirth & was there at the

time of the great flood, through the bursting of a reservoir embankment; that 82 or 83 persons lost their lives in the valley below; that the valley was fearfully devastated; that all the mills in it with one exception were washed down or very greatly damaged by the flood, & that the mill which escaped the water was burnt down in the immediately following year.[65]

Wednesday 28 August 1912 Fine forenoon. Return of rain in aft[ernoo]n. I went to Morecambe in af[ternoo]n for a chemical to use in a dry electric battery storage glass or jar. Read papers; also read part of the Bancroft autobiography.

Thursday 29 August 1912 To the front for a short time in the forenoon, with grandson Bobbie, for a view of the tide – a pretty high one. In the af[ternoo]n to front again. Met Mr Kent & had a long chat with him. He looks thin. Af[terwar]ds to centre shelter. Had a chat with Mr Duff* & Mr Garlick.* In house all the evening, reading &c[66]

Friday 30 August 1912 Big tide about noon. I & Bobbie out to see it. Water dashed upon the promenade. Per 2.57 pm train my daughter Letty with son Bobbie and daughter Winifred left for home. I & my wife saw them off at Bare Lane station. In the evening I & my wife on front for a short time. Cold.

Saturday 31 August 1912 My wife at Lancaster in forenoon. In af[ternoo]n & evening we were on front for a time but not so long, owing to the coldness of the weather. Read papers. Played at cards.

65 James Marsden (1840-1913).

66 Edwin Kent (1850-1915), member of Morecambe council, retired brush maker, widower.

September

Sunday 1 September 1912 A rather nice morning. In af[ternoo]n we went out, but found the weather very cold. We left the front, walked rearward into the Avenue. Saw Mr Bush* & we had a cup of tea in his house – rain having come on & detained us. Had a lively talk with B. In our own house all the evening in consequence of the wetness & coldness of the weather. Read some P[uritan] Gems & perhaps a dozen pages in "The Gentle Life." ~~Cards~~ Cards later.[67]

Monday 2 September 1912 Miscellaneous, in house, nearly the whole day from 10 to 6. In evening I & my wife to The Tower. A very full – quite crowded – audience. Programme of the varied kind – singing, dancing, character impersonating, cinematographing, &c., Geo. Roby [sic], low comedian, went through his parts very well. Good singing. Excellent dancing; but one of the dancing ladies too close in her tights – needed more central covering. Got back to the house on Crescent shortly before 11 o'clock.[68]

Tuesday 3 September 1912 A very wet, windy, cold day. In house nearly the whole day. Read papers, &c. Outsiders – visitors – kept or driven within doors, & if any venture out they look starved & semi-mopassed[?].[69]

Wednesday 4 September 1912 Weather showery, cold, & windy – unsuitable for our going out on promenade. Pottered about in the house, read papers & part of a pamphlet as to Christianity's indebtedness to older religions. Everything is indebted in some way to some preceding thing or influence.

Thursday 5 September 1912 Cold, very, & in house well nigh the whole day. Read papers & played for a short time at cards at night.

Friday 6 September 1912 My wife is 74 years of age to-day, &, taking everything into account is very well. In the evening we went to Miss Garlick's (Mrs Bates's). Saw her & her nephew George Garlick.* I had a cigar with him. He & his aunt showed us some of his paintings –

67 Probably the Preston architect Edwin Bush, who owned properties in George St, Morecambe; James Hain Friswell, *The Gentle Life: Essays in Aid of the Formation of Character* (London: S. Low, Son, & Marston, 1870), http://hdl.handle.net/2027/hvd.hn1tth

68 George Robey (real name George Edward Wade, 1869-1954), 'the Prime Minister of mirth', a major music hall star. In the early days of cinema it was normal to include short films in such a variety programme.

69 Starved in the Lancashire dialect means cold.

landscapes fairly well done. During part of the evening we played at cards (bridge). He also showed me some of his books – volumes of a good, useful, interesting order. We left about 9 o'clock.

Saturday 7 September 1912 This forenoon my wife to Lancaster. I followed by 1.13 train & met her in the Storey Institute by arrangement. We inspected the paintings forming the Art exhibition, just opened, in the principal room. Numerically, a fair collection (many lent by Mr Herbert Storey, ~~(~~son of the founder of the Institute~~)~~ and Lord Cavendish Bentinck). Just a very few we liked, specially one, a view of Lancaster, painted by a local artist named Henderson. We had tea at nephew W. Wilson's* & left for home, at Bare, per 8.53 train. Evening wet.

Sunday 8 September 1912 Weather cold & showery. Kept in house greater part of the day. Read some P[uritan] Gems & sundry pages of "The Gentle Life" (2nd series).

Monday 9 September 1912 An improvement in the weather. In the aft[ernoo]n I & my wife on front. Met Mrs Bates (Miss Garlick) & George* her nephew. They came to our house in the evening. We played at cards. Light supper for them. They are both very intelligent – well read and cultured.

Tuesday 10 September 1912 In af[ternoo]n W. Wilson,* Lancaster, came & had tea, &c. In evening Mr H Wood* called & asked for a loan of a book for his wife (not well) to read. Found him three. W. W left at about 9.30.

Wednesday 11 September 1912 My wife to Fulwood, Preston, per noon train. In af[ternoo]n I wrote to sister Alice & friend J. C. Wilsdon – both living in the state of Texas, the former at Winnsboro & the latter at Gainesville. My wife returned in the evening.

Thursday 12 September 1912 A nice day. In the af[ternoo]n & evening we were on the front. Quite a diminution in the number of visitors. We ~~H~~ had a chat with Mr & Mrs Wood* – former "riled" about stoppage of the band playing at Bare on a Thursday af[ternoo]n, & the latter unwell.

Friday 13 September 1912 A bronchial trouble. Could not sleep last night – shortness of breath, phlegm, &c. Reverted to the Maxim "Pipe of Peace". Ought to have persevered till now with it. Read papers.[70]

70 'The pipe of peace, Sir Hiram Maxim's great invention, for the relief of bronchitis, asthma, sore throats, coughs and colds, nasal catarrh, etc.' (advertisement, *The*

Saturday 14 September 1912 My wife to Lancaster this forenoon. I not so well; but recruited in strength and breathing as the morning wore on – bovril, "Pipe of Peace" &c. I & my wife to the front in the afternoon & evening. A fine day; but cold in the evening. Played at cards with my wife between 9 & 10 o clock. Had some whiskey hot with lemon in it for my cough.

Sunday 15 September 1912 In the af[ternoo]n I dressed up & we both went out on the front. Chatted a while with a neighbour & his wife. In the evening on front. Had a miscellaneous talk with Jones & Wood*. Subsequently I & wife called, by very pressing invitation, on Mr Fell, ex-chemist. Had a gossip & a little supper. He has some very nice paintings.

Monday 16 September 1912 Fair but coldish. Out on front with my wife in the aft[ernoo]n. Visitors much less numerous there. In evening I read papers & part of the Bancroft autobiography. My wife to a small political gathering at south end of village. Between 9 & 10 card-playing.[71]

Tuesday 17 September 1912 On front in forenoon. Same, with my wife, in af[ternoo]n. Saw some bathers. Had a chat with Mr Duff.* In the evening I & wife walked round east end. Met & had a long chat with Mr Box of Batley who has been at Bare, with relations, for some time on health account. Read papers, &c[72]

Wednesday 18 September 1912 A beautiful day. Sale of horses – promenade hacks, &c – on vacant land on east side of Prince's Crescent; Armitstead & Son Auctioneers. A motley affair; a large attendance of persons, including some very "horsey" looking blokes. In af[ternoo]n & evening on front. Read papers & part of the Bancroft autobiography. Later, for a little while, cards.

Thursday 19 September 1912 In aft[ernoo]n I & my wife to Morecambe. Place much quieter – many visitors gone, and "the season" is nearing its end. Evening cold & stayed in the house. Read papers & played at cards

Graphic, 11 June 1910, p. 28).

71 An open-air meeting organised by the visiting 'Walter Long' Junior Unionist van: David J Dutton, 'Lancashire and the New Unionism: The Unionist Party and the Growth of Popular Politics 1906-1914', *Transactions of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire* 130 (1980): 131–48 (p. 135), https://www.hslc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/130-8-Dutton.pdf

72 This was probably Charles Henry Box (1875-1937), cab proprietor; Hewitson would have known him from his time as editor of the *Batley Examiner* in 1895.

a short time. (This was the 54th anniversary of our marriage at Warton Church, near Carnforth).

Friday 20 September 1912 In af[ternoo]n we went to the shelter, opposite Duff's* house. There met Mr Garlick,* Mr Box of Batley, his aunt & cousin, & a shrewd talkative, humorous "Yorkshire tyke". In the evening we went to Miss Bates's (Mr Garlick's aunt, & had a rubber at whist, some literary chat & supper. On returning home I was unwell – shortage of breath, due to night air and night walking. Had no whiskey before going to bed. Am going to curtail or entirely stop my "night cap."

Saturday 21 September 1912 My wife to Lancaster (market day) this forenoon, & back by about 12.30. In the afternoon we went to Morecambe where we made a few purchases & then took seats on the front. There we were joined by Miss Bates & her nephew (Mr Garlick*). Mr & Mrs Kirby [sic] came up & chatted a little. In house all the evening nearly. Read papers & played at cards. A fine autumn day.

Sunday 22 September 1912 I was on the front in the af[ternoo]n with nephew W. Wilson,* of Lancaster. While there Mr Wood* came up & we had a long miscellaneous chat. In the evening I read some Puritan Gems & sundry pages of The Gentle Life – vol.2. Later, for a short time, cards.

Monday 23 September 1912 Rose Simpson came to us as domestic servant - wage 3/6 & insurance money (7d) per week. She is a good worker and a big talker, & originally from Colne, Nelson or Burnley. In af[ternoo]n I & my wife to the front. In evening read papers & played at cards.[73]

Tuesday 24 September 1912 Had a bad night – coughing, shortness of breath, &c., so called in Dr Parkinson who is a near neighbour, on Prince's Crescent. He examined me – found my pulse too quick, my heart a bit out of order, & my lungs somewhat stuffed in a bronchitis direction. He made up for me a bottle of medicine & gave directions as to temperature of rooms, & said I must keep quiet for two or three days. I did not go out of the house at all.[74]

Wednesday 25 September 1912 I did not go out of the house to-day. Am considerably better but bad in my sleeping – wake up too early & can't get properly to sleep again.

73 Rose Simpson unidentified.
74 William Joseph Parkinson (b. 1854) from Bradford.

Thursday 26 September 1912 Considerably better in strength & breathing. Remained in house all day. Read papers & part of the Bancroft autobiography. Weather fair but rather cold.

Friday 27 September 1912 East or south-east wind. Did not go out. Am getting stronger – due to improved appetite. My wife keeps a good eye on my proper eating. – Dr Parkinson called for fourth time & will now discontinue unless re-called-in, which I hope won't be necessary. He thought I was going on all right & that there was no need of further visits. Pulse, he said, beat somewhat intermittently. At night W. Wilson,* tailor &c Lancaster called and had a chat, a smoke, supper, & a drop of whiskey. He left for train at about ~~9?~~ 10.30.

Saturday 28 September 1912 Feel considerably better but the weather too cold – wind in s.e – for me to go out. My wife to Lancaster – a marketing. Read newspapers, looked out of dining room window – at the water & sand in the Bay, at people walking & riding past the house, &c

Sunday 29 September 1912 A moderately good night last night. In forenoon read some Puritan Gems & two chapters of the epistle to the Galatians, also a quantity of matter in to-day's Weekly Dispatch respecting the great anti Home Rule Covenant signing at Belfast yesterday. At 2.45 in af[ternoo]n daughter Letty & Bob her husband arrived in their motor car from Stalybridge to see me. They stayed – getting tea in the meantime – till a few minutes to 6 o'clock and then started for home which they would reach about 9.30. In the evening Mr & Mrs Kirby [sic] & Councillor H Wood* called; latter stopping till about 9.15. We had much talk about Bare, &c.[75]

Monday 30 September 1912 At noon my wife to Preston & Fulwood. I at or rather in house all day. The weather too cold for an outside move. Had a very good night & early morning. Read papers & some pages of the Bancroft autobiography. Interesting. Feel considerably better, but a bit too short winded. Miss Bates called in aft[ernoo]n. She has got notice to leave her Margaret-st[ree]t house. It is Bank property by mortgage.

75 More than 500,000 Irish Unionists pledged to defy Home Rule by all means possible, including force of arms, in opposition to the British government's Third Irish Home Rule Bill, intended to give some Irish autonomy.

October

Tuesday 1 October 1912 Owing to the coldness of the weather, I stayed in the house the whole day. Read papers & sundry pages of the Bancroft autobiography. In the evening Mr Garlick* called. We had a pleasant chat.

Wednesday 2 October 1912 In forenoon I had a short walk round by the Elms & the shelter. Cold – N. E. Wind; so soon returned. At the shelter saw and spoke to Mr Garlick,* Mr & Mrs Maude, &c. In af[ternoo]n had a walk down the Avenue & back. Spoke to Mr Booth &c. About 4.45 W. Wilson,* Lancaster, called (by request). He had tea, then a chat & a smoke, later he did some overcoat work of a preliminary kind, & af[terwar]ds had supper, & walked back to his home at Lancaster.[76]

Thursday 3 October 1912 Fine but cold. Did not go out except for a minute or so. Read papers & a portion of the B[ancroft] Auto[biography]. Wrote to son Bertie & send [sic] off cheques for two bills. At night between 9 & 10 cards.

Friday 4 October 1912 Weather fine. In afternoon on the front (in east end shelter) for about an hour & a half. A few persons about – some sitting, others strolling up & down. Palmist-phrenologist caravan, &c at corner gone away. In evening read papers. Brief game at cards as a wind-up.

Saturday 5 October 1912 The servant woman, Rose Simpson, left us this afternoon for Burnley, where her children & relatives reside. She wanted to be with them though I don't think they want much with her. I was out in af[ternoo]n for a short time.

Sunday 6 October 1912 Had a bad night or morning. Began coughing about half past two o cl[oc]k & kept on for several hours doing so. Got up about 8. & felt very bad. Could hardly get my breath – coughing,

76 William Maude (1846-1924), described as an artist in the 1921 census, and Barbara Sophia Maude (b. 1873); William Wilson was making alterations to an overcoat for Hewitson. (see 9 October 1912).

panting, gasping. I must have got a little cold on Friday or yesterday. Sent for Dr Parkinson [underlined in blue crayon] who said it was bronchitis I was suffering from. He sent me some medicine, & on taking some of it I felt considerably better. Gradually improved as the day went on. In front room, down stairs, nicely warm all the time. My wife looked after me and my requirements excellently. In the evening Mr Wm Duff* called to see how I was going on, having heard I was unwell. He stayed for perhaps an hour & a half.

Monday 7 October 1912 Considerably better – anyhow, feel so – to-day. In forenoon read paper. In aft[ernoo]n read part of the Bancroft autobiography. Af[terwar]ds had a walk, the weather being very nice, to the central shelter, where I met Miss Bates, her nephew (Garlick*) & Mr Wallwork. Chatted. Returned home somewhat short-winded. In the evening Mr Councillor H Wood* called to see me & we had a chat. He told us that his wife had for long been troubled with asthma & had derived most benefit from a spraying article called the Atomiser (I think this was name) – an American article obtained in London price £3.

Tuesday 8 October 1912 Very fine day. I & wife on promenade in aft[ernoo]n. Met some friends & had a miscellaneous chat.

Wednesday 9 October 1912 In the af[ternoo]n – going to Bare-lane station by mistake half an hour too soon for the train – I & my wife to W. Wilson's* Lancaster, where we had tea, a chat & got my altered top coat. On returning I had an attack of short breathing & W.W. had with my wife's aid, to accompany me to our Bare house. I must somehow cure this defect & get quite well.

Thursday 10 October 1912 A very fine, mild day. In the afternoon I & my wife called at Mr Maude's Margaret-st[ree]t, to see his paintings – his own work; but there was nobody in the house. Afterwards to Central shelter. Wallwork, Garlick,* &c there. Anecdotes. In the evening read papers. Cards for a little while.

Friday 11 October 1912 In house all day. Not so well. Read papers. In evening Mr W. Duff* called bringing with him, for us, some flowers, a

parcel of mussels, & a pamphlet by one Bennett of the White House, Bare, relating to Lancashire, & military militia, volunteer & scout matters. It is nicely got up & is illustrated. Bennett seems to have been a journalist.[77]

Saturday 12 October 1912 Not well. Shortness of breath. Due to bronchitis, or asthma, or heart complaint of some sort. I must do something to rectify this. l never felt so ill before. In forenoon slept a little – after a small mustard plaister, - & felt very well. Later became ill again. Read papers & at night by way of killing time, I & my wife played at cards.

Sunday 13 October 1912 In the house the whole day, through not being well. Read a number of Puritan Gems, the last two chapters of the epistle to the Galatians, & portions of the Weekly Dispatch. In the evening Mr H Wood* called & had a chat.

Monday 14 October 1912 My wife to Preston & Fulwood at noon. – After dinner Mr H Wood* came to see me (I not so well) & remained chatting, &c about an hour & a half. He brought me three asthma cigarettes. (Before leaving my wife got me a bottle of Owbridge's lung medicine).[78]

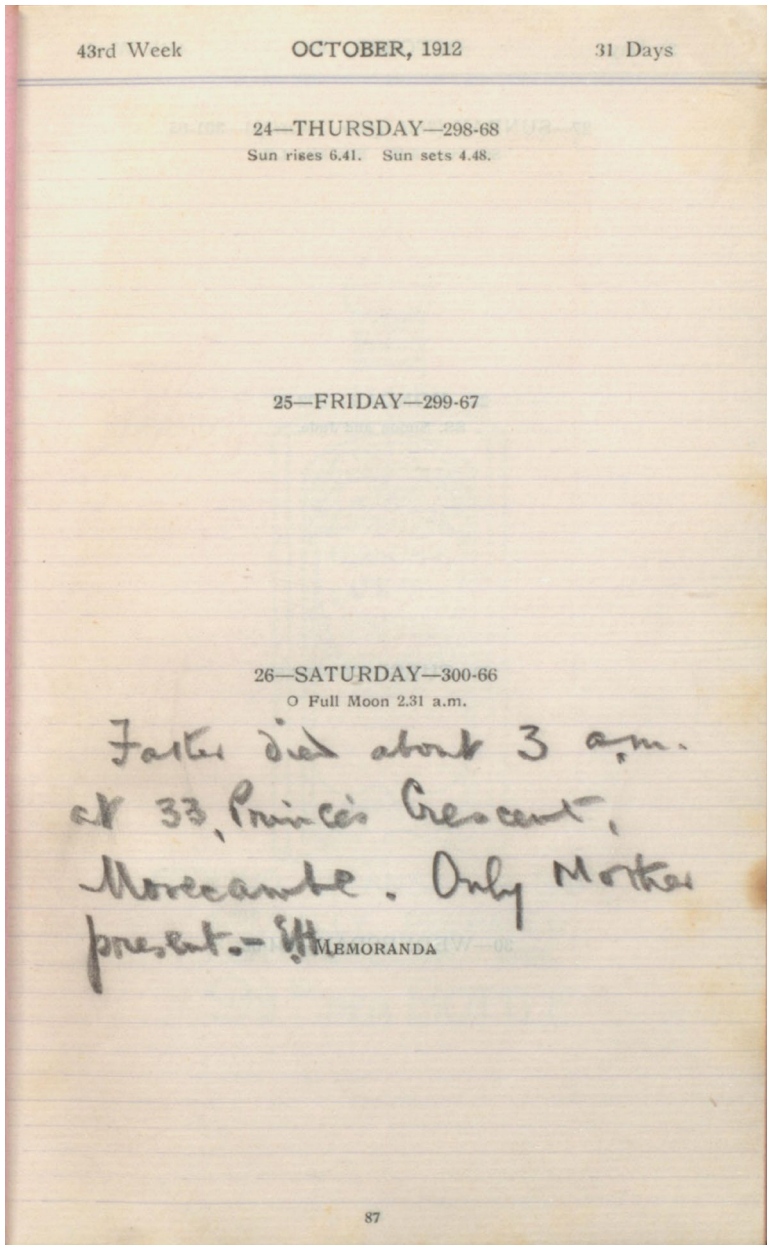
Tuesday 15 – Friday 25 October 1912 [no entries]

Saturday 26 October 1912 [in pencil:] Father died about 3 am at 33, Prince's Crescent, Morecambe. Only Mother present. – E.H [Ethelbert Hewitson]

[Cutting from *Preston Guardian*, Sat June 8, 1912 in back of diary – letter from Hewitson about the *Preston Guardian* in the 1850s, responding to an article in the previous week's paper; see vol. 1, pp. 15–16]

77 Albert Edward Bennett (b. 1863), typefounder's traveller (1911 census), former editor of the *Hackney Standard*.

78 Asthma cigarettes were cigarettes containing stramonium, eucalyptus and other herbs. Owbridge's lung tonic, a patent medicine advertised as a cough medicine, a remedy for bronchitis, asthma, consumption (tuberculosis) and other throat, chest and lung afflictions; it contained chloroform, honey and alcohol.


43rd Week OCTOBER, 1912 31 Days

24—THURSDAY—298-68

Sun rises 6.41. Sun sets 4.48.

25—FRIDAY—299-67

26—SATURDAY—300-66

O Full Moon 2.31 a.m.

Father died about 3 a.m.
at 33, Prince's Crescent,
Morecambe. Only Mother
present.– E.H.

MEMORANDA

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Fig. 7. The final entry in Hewitson's diary, written by his eldest son Ethelbert, on 26 October 1912: 'Father died about 3 am at 33, Prince's Crescent, Morecambe. Only Mother present. – E.H' (Lancashire Archives DP512/1/16), courtesy of Lancashire Archives, CC BY.

People frequently mentioned

Marked with an asterisk in the text.

Booth, Edwin Henry (1828–99), founder of grocery business which continues today. Hewitson ghost-wrote and published his pseudonymous autobiography, *Shadow and Sheen: The Life Story of Alec Gordon, written by Himself* (Wakefield: Hewitson, 1897).

Bramwell, Ellen née Watson (c. 1835–1915), wife of John James Bramwell.

Bramwell, John James (d. 1920), friend, Conservative agent for the Fylde parliamentary division, secretary of the Winckley Club, member of Preston Scientific Society, keen bowler.

Bramwell, William Storey (1834–1917), chief librarian at the Harris Library, Preston, 'staunch Conservative, devoted Churchman' (*PH,* 24 March 1917, p. 3); 'little Bramwell … is a sharp, active, well-informed, industrious man, & very fond of a good story' (23 February 1906), 'kind and courteous' (30 May 1906), 'a very decent, obliging official' (4 January 1912); wrote a memoir, *Reminiscences of a Public Librarian, a Retrospective View* (Preston: Ambler, 1916).

Bush, Edwin (1861–1918), architect, designed Miller Arcade and Empire Theatre, Preston.

Clarke, James (1844–1915), solicitor with offices in Lune St, Preston; also solicitor to the Preston Board of Guardians (*PH,* 20 January 1915, p. 3).

Clemesha, Henry Wordsworth (1873–1926), Preston solicitor, historian, author of *A History of Preston in Amounderness* (Manchester: Manchester University Press, 1912).

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Davis, John (1836–1911), retired Lancaster photographer, Fellow of the Royal Photographic Society, worked at Lancaster County Asylum for 14 years before setting up as photographer; 'originally a factory operative, afterwards an asylum attendant, then a photographer & art dealer in New-st[ree]t, Lancaster' (25 November 1911; *Lancaster Guardian*, 2 December 1911).

Dewhurst, Thomas (c. 1845–1916), Preston auctioneer, 'a kindly, decent, semi-bumptious person' (18 October 1896).

Diggens, James (1835–1906), 'autocratic, ginger-looking, & dignified' (31 October 1891), secretary of the Royal Albert Asylum, Lancaster (a charitable institution for the training of 'feeble-minded' children) and founder member of Lancaster Liberal Unionist Association.

Duff, William (1842–1919), retired manager of Morecambe Gas Company, Conservative, Freemason, dog lover.

Gardner, John (c. 1821–91) of The Hill, Forton, former owner of Marsh Lane cotton mill, Preston.

Garlick, George (1886–1926); the 1911 and 1921 censuses describe him as a professor of philosophy, at Aligarh University, North West Province, India, 'invalided home'.

Hale, William (1830–1911), Preston Conservative councillor, retired pig and provision dealer, 'full of fun and mischief ... quick-witted, but his repartee was of the bludgeon character' (*LDP,* 28 December 1918, p. 3).

Holden, Lawrence (c. 1826–1910), county coroner, registrar of Lancaster county court, Conservative.

Leigh, Adam (1817–92) of Westleigh House, Lea, owner with his son John of Brookhouse Mill, one of the biggest employers in Preston, 'a steady, respectable, wealthy man, & a special earth worm' (11 April 1891, *PH,* 23 November 1892, p. 2).

Livesey, Mary Jane (b. 1841), daughter of teetotaller and campaigner Joseph Livesey, sister of William Livesey, Hewitson's friend and mentor.

Martin, William (c. 1864–1936), curate of St James, Shireshead, Forton, subsequently curate at Billinge and Hindley near Wigan, then vicar of All Saints', Hindley.

Wilson, James (1844-1912), retired excise officer, younger brother of Margaret Hewitson.

Wilson, William Henry (1867–1936), nephew, tailor and woollen draper, of West Rd, Lancaster, son of John and Mary Ann Wilson (John was Margaret Hewitson's brother).

Wood, Henry (1845–1930), bookbinder, councillor, creator of Morecambe's Happy Mount Park, originally from Shipley in Yorkshire.

Wright, Henry Press (d. 1892), army chaplain for 25 years, including as senior chaplain to Lord Raglan's army throughout the Crimean War, worked in Vancouver, 1861–65 as first archdeacon of British Columbia, in 1880 became rector of St John the Baptist in Greatham, north of Portsmouth (http://historyinportsmouth.co.uk/people/wright.htm).

Hewitson's historical writings in the *Preston Guardian*, 1899–1912

Some of this information is from Henry L Kirby, 'A chronological list of some articles and news items about Preston and district in the "Preston Guardian". Vol. 4, 1891–1905 (1982)', *Preston History* website https://prestonhistory.com/sources-2/preston-guardian-digest-introduction/. There is no evidence for the claim in Emma Heslewood and John Garlington, *Robert Pateson: A Scientific Philosopher: The Life and Work of an Early Photographer* (Preston: Harris Museum & Art Gallery, 2004) that Hewitson wrote some of the 'From the old armchair' interviews, bylined 'Ingle Nook', in 1903 in the *Preston Guardian.* The introduction to an earlier series of the same name is signed RJP (7 January 1893), and interviews in the later series sometimes appear alongside Hewitson's bylined antiquarian articles; he was well known enough to have his own byline, rather than a pseudonym, at this stage of his career, and the writing style is not Hewitson's. Full details for 1911 articles are lacking, as there is no copy of the *Preston Guardian* for that year at Lancashire Archives, Preston's Harris Library nor the British Library.

'*Northward:* Historic, Topographic, Residential, and Scenic Gleanings, &c, between Preston and Lancaster', March 1899 to February 1900 (republished as a book, 1900).

'The county of Lancaster's great assize: Bygone Doings. – Items from an unpublished record', 27 April–22 June 1901, 8 parts.

'The Court Leet of Preston, or Local Life and Laws Between 1653 And 1813', 16 November 1901–19 September 1903 (revised and republished as a book, 1905).

'Local Records and Reminiscences', 12 March–13 August 1904, 23 parts.

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'Old Local Railway Days. Beginnings and Developments, observations and gleanings', 25 February–8 April 1905, 7 parts.

'Bygone Local Rulers: Earliest Record of Their Doings: The White Book of Preston Council', 15 April–26 August 1905, 20 parts.

'Local Records and Reminiscences', second series; 5 January–30 March 1907, 13 parts

'Hoghton Property in Lea, &c. The steward's account book for 1693–1703. Extracts with notes', 13–27 April 1907, 3 parts.

'Life of a Lancashire gentleman [Lawrence Rawstorne diary] in the 17th century. Extracts with Notes', 2 January–6 March 1909, 10 parts.[1]

'The late Mr Willam Livesey: His autobiography and reminiscences', 1–29 January 1910, 5 parts.

Four articles of four columns each, 1–29 May 1911 (details of fees owed or paid at back of 1911 diary).

'Roundabout' papers or 'pleasant walks', totalling nine columns, 3 June to ?? July 1911 (see diary entries for 3 June and 1 September 1911).

'Preston Parish Church: Gleanings from Quaint Records', 6 January–24 February 1912, 8 parts.

1 Peter Smith, 'Introduction: Bellingham and Rawstorne diaries', *Preston History* website, https://prestonhistory.com/sources-2/bellingham-and-rawstorne-diaries/diaries-introduction/

Auction catalogue of Hewitson's library, 1917

[19 pages, printed at the Guardian Printing Works, Preston. This sale was held a few months after the death of Hewitson's widow, Margaret. Half of the last surviving page is torn, leaving an incomplete text. The library is divided into numbered lots, the number of books in each lot shown at the end of each line. Some pencilled figures in the margin are visible on the original, which may indicate prices fetched. The *Preston Guardian* reported that 'there was a good attendance of representative book dealers at the two days' sale, and fairly good prices were realised'.[1]]

A CATALOGUE OF THE VALUABLE LIBRARY
OF THE LATE Mr. ANTHONY HEWITSON,
OF PRESTON, HISTORIAN & ANTIQUARIAN
("Atticus" of Journalistic Fame).

To be sold by auction, by Messrs. E. J. Reed & Son, at the North Lancashire Auction Mart, 47 Fishergate, Preston, on Monday, Jan. 29th & Tuesday, Jan. 30th, 1917, the sale commencing each day at 11 a.m.

The Books may be viewed on the Morning of Each Day of Sale.

1 Lancashire Archives DDX2544/1; *PG*, 3 February 1917, p. 2.

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https://doi.org/10.11647/OBP.0270.10

PREFACE

This catalogue must be deemed only what it actually is – a very brief indication of the·books comprising the valuable and interesting library (reference and otherwise) of the late Mr. Anthony Hewitson, of Preston, "Atticus" of Lancashire journalistic repute, and the author of History of Preston, Churches and Chapels (Preston and District), Stonyhurst College, Preston Court Leet Records–Extracts and Notes, Places and Faces, Northward, &c., Editor of the Bellingham Diary, and Joint-Editor of the Tyldesley Diary.

The collection of books, numbering about four thousand, has been removed, for the convenience of sale, from the late owner's Preston residence to Messrs. E. J. Reed & Son's Auction Room, and it includes "sets" and "long runs" of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Record, and Chetham Societies' publications; Dr. Murray's New English Dictionary (up to the last part issued), The Story of the Nations, English Men of Letters, The Antiquary, Bohn's Library, &c., &c.; "sets" of the works of many of the principal authors of the past half-century; as well as a few early printed works, and first editions of Thackeray, Kipling, Jefferies, Whistler, and other modern writers.

The collection of Local and North of England Topographical and Genealogical works embraces numerous excellent books rarely offered for public sale, including the remaining copies of the History of Preston, Preston Court Leet Records, Northward, The Bellingham Diary, Churches and Chapels, and other books by the late Mr. Hewitson; also fine copies of Whitaker's Whalley and Craven, Watkin's Roman Lancashire, and other works by Earwaker, Baines, Wright, Hodgson, Croston, Waugh, Brierley, Fletcher, Christie, Peacock, Axon, Abram, Fishwick, Lingard, Sutton, Mather, McKay, Hardwick, Dobson, Whittle, Livesey, Cookson, Smith, Nightingale, Laycock, Thornber, Rigbye, Marks, Rawstorne, &c., &c.; rare maps of Preston; important Yorkshire works; and other scarce items, many of which contain correctional and critical annotations by the late Mr. Hewitson, along with his autograph.

Altogether librarians, historians, antiquaries, and book-lovers in general will find the catalogue in some degree useful and interesting.

CATALOGUE.

FIRST DAY.
Monday, January 29th, 1917,
Commencing at 11 a.m.

LOT	
1	Gilfillan's Gallery of Literary Portraits; Jacob's Story of the Geographical Discovery; Male's Through Two Campaigns; and 3 others. 6 vols.
2	Channing's The Perfect Life; Hislop's Proverbs of Scotland (1st edition); and 2 others. 4 vols.
3	Dr. Doran's Table Traits; Hawthorne's Scarlet Letter; and 3 others. 5 vols.
4	Timbs' Curiosities of Science; Joyce's Scientific Dialogues; and 5 others. 7 vols.
5	Stevenson's New Arabian Night; Hall Caine's The Deemster; Black's A Daughter of Heth; and 5 others. 8 vols.
6	Dummelow's One Volume Bible Commentary; Courtney's Do We Believe; Borrow's The Bible in Spain; and 5 others. 8 vols.
7	The Pursuit of Knowledge under Difficulties (2 vols.); The Album of Literature and Amusement (2 vols.); The Literary and Pictorial Repository; and 5 others. 10 vols.
8	The Poetical Works of Mrs. Browning; Jane Austen's Sense and Sensibility; and 3 others. 5 vols.
9	Rosetti's Selection of Walt Whitman's Poems; Harrison's John Ruskin; Sharp's Robert Browning; Hazlitt's Spirit of the Age; and 7 others. 11 vols.
10	Kerr's Memories Grave and Gay; Russell's Collections and Recollections; Birrell's Selected Essays; and 4 others. 7 vols.
11	Taine's Notes on England; Tallis's London (2 vols., illus.); Collier's History of English Literature; and 5 others. 9 vols.
12	Froude's Oceana; Garland's Main Travelled Roads; Daudet's Tartarin on the Alps; and 3 others. 6 vols.
13	Ewald's Selected Essays from the Tatler; Colvin's Selections from Landor; Chambers' Memoirs; and 3 others. 6 vols.
14	Hubner's Rambles Round the World; Heine's Travel Pictures; Waterton's Wanderings in South America; and 3 others. 6 vols.

15 Thackeray's Vanity Fair; Ainsworth's Windsor Castle; and Barham's The Ingoldsby Legends (illustrated leather-bound pocket classics). 3 vols.

16 Oscar Wilde's De Profundis; Seeley's Ecce Homo; Hall Caine's My Story; and 4 others. 7 vols.

17 Brewer's Readers' Handbook; Bartlett's Familiar Quotations; and English-German Dictionary. 3 vols.

18 Dickens's Household Words (14 vols.), and Household Narrative (4 vols.). 18 vols.

19 Phillips' Handy County Atlas; Atlas of the World; and 2 others. 4 vols.

20 The Man of Galilee, and other illustrated works, in the parts as issued. A bundle.

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About the Team

Alessandra Tosi was the managing editor for this book.

Lucy Barnes proof-read this manuscript and compiled the index.

Anna Gatti designed the cover. The cover was produced in InDesign using the Fontin font.

Annie Hine typeset the book in InDesign. The main text font is Tex Gyre Pagella and the heading font is Californian FB.

Jeremy Bowman produced the PDF, paperback, and hardback editions and created the EPUB.

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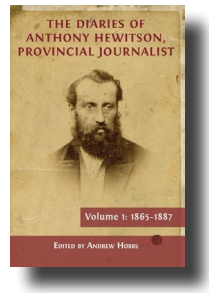
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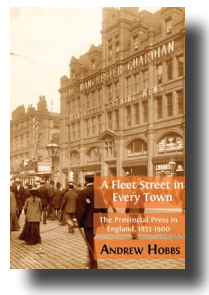


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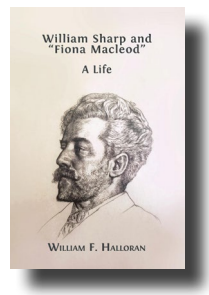


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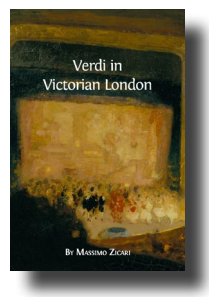
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