

CHAPTER 9.

Extracts from the Parish Registers, Constables and Overseers Accounts, Churchwardens Accounts, Parish Records, Manorial Muniments and Gawsworth Charities

THE REGISTERS

The Parish Registers of Gawsworth prior to 1813 are contained in four volumes, and date from 1557.

There are gaps between the years 1666 and 1676, but transcripts in the Bishop's Registry have been explored and have provided most of the missing material.

Dr. R Dickinson, honorary treasurer of the Lancashire Parish Register Society, has kindly transcribed the Gawsworth records from the date of their commencement in 1557 to the year 1837, when records of Births, Marriages and Deaths were first kept compulsarily at Somerset House.¹

The following extracts from the Gawsworth Registers are typical of the parish records, written in many hands, in periods of sorrow and rejoicing over 400 years, telling the story of Gawsworth's rural history.

The first entry in the register reads:

1557. Marie ffyton daughter of Edw. ffyton was christned the 27 day of July.

This is not the Mary Fitton who caused consternation at the Court of Queen Elizabeth; the record of the so called "Dark Lady" appears as follows:

1578. Mary Fitton daughter of Edward Fitton Esqre. was christned June 24th.

Mary's baptismal entry in the Gawsworth registers was not a contemporary insertion, as the Fitton family at the time of her birth was resident either in London or Ireland, and has been interpolated at a later date.

¹Dr. Dickinson's transcript is contained in one large folio volume and is available from the Ancient Monuments Society, price three guineas.

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1593. William the son of Frances Conrade a Frenchman was baptised,—
What was he doing in Gawsworth in 1593?
1594. "Mem. yt the 25th of April in the year aforesaid there came a woman unto Edward Lyon's house and was delivered of a child noe woman with her. Demanded what was her name, she said it was Martha Fytton, demanded who was father of her child she said it was one Ralphe Winnington Maior of Stopford (Stockport), which child was christned at Gawsworth the day and yeare above said and called William Fytton after his mother because his father was not knowne."
1602. "Mem. that I Willm Brownell parson now of Gawsworth had the ould accustomed way for my tyth leading out of Mutlow and forward to the broke (brook) between Tydnock and Mutlow, by a jurye of the L. court of and within Gawsworth (1601) at Michaelmas by the direction of Frances Newton servant of Wyllm. Lye (Legh) parson of Gawsworth (1536-65) who had led parson Lygh's tyth usually that way through a meadow of Roger Broadhurst joining to the same brook and so up the brook into a field joining to the same brook and parcell of the tenement of Roger Shaw of Homwawfeld. Of this Jurye were:

Ed. Stubbs of the Milne
Jho. Chorly
Ed Lyon
Ralph Jackson."

"Item by the same jurye the hayment, betwixt me and Jh. Bunnell was devided in the hedge beyond the lane betwixt Bunnells ground and the Lane, and meyr (mere) appointed betwixt our separate parts and yate (gate) at his house in the Lanes end to be made equal betwixt us both by

Ed. Lyon for me
Gef. Stubbs for Bunnell. 1601."

- 1603-4. "Item anno 1^o regis Jacobi Feb. 22 being Ash Wednesdaye a jurye within Gawsworth found a way through Robert Hammond's field to that house now standing near to Hammond's house builded in Belye Riddings and late in the tenure of Jho. Chorlye and late in the tenure of Elizabeth Brownell (nee) Bentlye. Of this Jury were:

Roger Brodhurst
Ed. Lion
Ralph Jackson
Th. Walker
Th. Stubbs
Randle Kelsall
W. Okes
Thos. Kelsall
— Bradock."

Parish Registers

1608. "Mr. Frances Phitton Esq. 3rd brother to Sr. Ed. Phitton treasurer of Ireland, which Mr. Fr. Ph. gave to the house of Gawsworth £300 Lands of inheritance with tyths and many other things Dyed Frid. June 17 and buried 18 about 8 a clocke in the Evening."
1610. "Mr. Richard Phitton second son to Sr. Edw. Phitton 4th of his name educated by me W. Brownell parson and after in Oxon. was very skilfull in Distillations and Surgerye, and attended upon the Erle of Mar. Died in London of a decease called polypus; and brought home and buryed in Gawsworth Ju. 5. Now also dyed Sr. J. Newdigate."
1615. "Ellen Swindells daughter of Robert Swindels of Lachashyr (Lancashire) and Eliz. his wife nere Stopford borne at Ed. Lyons house in Gawsworth as she travelled to her husband to Newcastle in Staff. having with hir mother An Symson widow, wife of Henry Symson and Margaret Symson hir Syster, was christened by Mr. Phittons appointment his man George Cake, and Ellen Watson servant to Ed. Lyon being god father and godm. May 15 1615."
1617. "Edw. Clark son of Rich. Clark of Maxf. in the house of Wil. Shoore of the Miln Streete (borne at Ed. Stubbs of the Milne who has undertaken and promised to discharge the parish thereof).
Witness:
Math. Sma(IIwood)?
Tho. Sheply.
1619. "Sir Ed. Phitton Baronet dyed upon Munday May 10 about 4 a clock in the morning and Buryed at even about 8 a clocke: who made the 4 or least Bell."
- 1626-7. "Alice lady Phitton wife of Sr. Edw. Phitton Knight Master of Artes and Lord President of Munster in Ireland buried January 4."
1630. "Samuel son of William Strong in ye arm, was bapt. June 20."
1644. "The names of the Males of the Townshipe of Gosworth who have taken the Nationall Covenant wi.hin the Church of Gosworth afforesaide:—
- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Thomas Brook, Pastor | Richard Hamond |
| Tho. Reddish, clericus | Thomas Statham |
| Joh. Leadbeater, Capt. | Charls Brodhurst |
| John Joneson, Gard. | Humfreye Symson |
| George Lowe, Gard. | Edward Kelsall |
| Edward Kelsall, Constable | Edward Fitton |
| Thomas Sanderson, Constable | John Heath |
| Edward Okes | John Johnson |
| Edwrđ Brodhurst | John Hamond |
| Raph Brodhurst | Edward Brodberne |
| William Hamond | John Bostocke |
| John Bunnell | Edward Tofte |

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John Bancroft	Phillipp Rathbone
Roger Smalewood	Richard Hamond, jun.
John Passe	John Brodhurste
James Gandye	Hugh Moreton
Henry Higginbothome	George Smalewood
John Lyon	Hugh Murghell
Richard Cashe	Rauffe Jackson
Edward Oldham	John Sweane, sen.
William Brodhurste	William Sweane
John Mollard	John Lowe
Edward Mollard	Francis Millington
Thomas Hamond	Richard Gee
Edward Stubbs	Richard Leadbeater
Mathew Stubbs	Thomas Hayward
Hugh Henshall	John Gee
William Leadbeater	John Hamond
Raph Gardner	William Fineye
Edward Gandye	John Wilson
Timothie Morris	Wm. Gandy
John Melitt	Roger Gee
Thomas Smithe	Thomas Henshawe
George Stubbs	John Joneson
Robert Wood	Lawrence Slater
Edward Passe	Nathaniell Passe
Mathewe Henchows	Edmond Houghe
Thomas Stubbs	Rauffe Gardner
Henary Stubbs	Edward Gee
Raph Smith	John Braddocke, jun.
William Gaskell	Edward Gaskell
John Gaiskell	Thomas Jackson
John Brown de Henburie	William Brodhurst
Rauffe Whittakers	Edward Henshawe
Richard Whittakers	Richard Stret
John Chorleye	Roger Knowles
Richard Lees	Richard Cartwright
William Joneson	John Hollins
John Braddocke sen.	Roger Brodhurst
Randle Brereton, sen.	Edmnd Graye
William Brereton	Edward Lowe
Randle Brereton, jun.	William Oakes
Henerie Bateman	William Joneson
Francis Storie	Thomas Kelsall
John Corelesse	Willm. Brodhurste
Thomas Corelesse	Edw. Leigh of Siddington
Randle Kelsall	Edward Moreton of Siddington

This list of names is somewhat misleading, inasmuch as it appears to contain none but those of Gawsworthians. This is not so. It must be

Parish Registers

remembered that at the time there was no ecclesiastical parish church at Eaton, Henbury, North Rode, Buglawton, &c., so to Gawsworth came many of the hundred and fourteen signatories to subscribe to a document which had for its object the uprooting of episcopacy, i.e., the government of the Church by Bishops. "No bishop, no church," is a very ancient saying, and it was for the upholding of this very principle that King Charles suffered martyrdom in 1649. When the trio of Presbyterian ministers (Broole, Newcome and Edge) had retired from the parish—the latter by ejection in 1662—the National Covenant was declared illegal and accordingly revoked. In this same year the patronage of the living passed out of the hands of the Lords Commissioners, returning to the Lord of the Manor, who appointed Matthew Smallwood (q.v., "Rectors of Gawsworth"), a Doctor of Divinity, who eventually became a Canon of the Cathedral of St. Paul."

1671. July 11. Buried Katherine Stubbs ye reputed witch.

Undoubtedly the worst fear in rural belief and superstition in the seventeenth century was of witches, whose trials have since become renowned for their infamy. Norman Wymer remarks: "The power of the witches was considered so great that it was believed that there were no limits to the ills they could bring to those to whom they bore a grudge. It was said that they used to make images of people they wished to curse, and that by sticking pins or driving nails into, say, the forehead if such an image they could turn the sanest villager mad overnight, while if they chose to puncture the heart in like fashion they could as readily bring about death. It was also believed that they were capable of instilling their own evil spirits into the body of a cat. Thus, if such an animal was seen to cross the threshold of some cottage home it might well be suspected as being the 'familiar' of a witch, and if misfortune should attend one or other of the occupants soon after the appearance of this animal accusing fingers would be pointed at once towards its owner. Whereupon all would unite in picking up little titbits of scandal and embroidering their ill-founded suspicions into hard facts in the hope of gathering together sufficient 'evidence' to enable the official witch-hunters to bring the culprits to trial."

1686. "All buried in woollen according to the Act," is of frequent occurrence in the register till the year 1768. This Act was doubtless passed in order to encourage the wool trade, regarded by statesmen as an important staple of national wealth, just as a fish diet on Fridays and fasting days was prescribed and enacted to help and promote the fishing industry.

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1724. "John Hammond Rect. left ye interest of fifty pounds to the poor house keepers of Gawsworth."
1727. "Dame Mary ye wife of Sr William Meredith Baronet she died July 24th and was buried in ye church where for breaking the soil is ten shillings. Since removed to Prestbury."
1731. "John Swain wheelwright Buried in ye Xrch where ye fee for braking the soil is 3s. 4d. Mem. ye said Jn. Swain left all he had to the poor housekeepers of Gawsworth in such manner as by his Will is declared."

A comparison of these two foregoing extracts shows that as there is a law for the rich and a law for the poor in the present century, so in the eighteenth century there was a price!

1741. "Memo Die March 22, 1741, Hester Hall uxor mea optima (hei mihi) paralyti percussa fuit." (Hester Hall best of wives (woe is me) was struck down by paralysis).

She was the wife of William Hall, rector, 1724 to 1769 (q.v., "Rectors of Gawsworth.")

1744. July 26. Charles Walker of Gawsworth married Elizabeth Andrews. This being Walker's sixth wife.
1745. "John, Son of John Upton, upon whose death ye Interest of fifty pounds is payable to a Schoolmaster of Gaws. left by Jn. Upton his Father, was buried."
1746. "Esther Hall wife of Wm. Hall Rect. uxor optima was buried."
1751. "John, son of Joseph Broadhurst, accidentally Drowned as he bathed in ye highmost pond, was buried June 11."
- "Ann, daughter of Martha Anderton, widowe—by a wound in ye arm given her at school by a fellow schollar with a knife, was buried, Sept. 11."

Gawsworth was not without its tragedies this year.

1752. "The beginning of ye year changed by Act of Parliament."
1754. "24th March, At a vestry meeting of the Parishioners of Gawsworth being duly called and this day assembled in the vestry of Gawsworth aforesaid, it is Ordered by the sd. vestry that the sum of Fifty pounds left by John Upton late of Gawsworth to the school of Gawsworth aforesaid and now in the hands of William Roebotham of Henbury Executor of ye sd John Upton's last will and Testament, shall be paid into the hands of the Rector and Churchwardens of Gawsworth in order to be by them and their successors put out to interest, and that the clear yearly income hereof be laid out for such uses as the said John Upton's last Will direct. It is also ordered that the underwritten Receipt of the said Rect. and wardens shall for ever indemnify and discharge ye sd. William Roebotham his Heirs and

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Executors from any loss or Diminution of the said money which may happen to the sd money either by putting it out to interest or by any other misapplication.

Henr. Stubbs,
Abraham Bayley,
Thomas Bullock,
Thomas Hulme,
John Harrop,
James Rathbone,

William Bullock,
Joseph Johnson,
Joseph Broadhurst,
Cyrus Bullock,
Isaac Anderton,

Received, pursuant to the above Order and for such Uses as above mentioned of William Roebotham of Henbury, the above sum of Fifty pound by us

William Hall R. G.

David Rathbone }
William Johnson } Churchwardens of Gawsworth.

It is also Ordered by all the Parishioners present at this sd vestry meeting, being ye same mentioned on the Opposite page, that ye sd Rector Churchwardens and their Successors shall not be accountable for all or any part of the said Fifty pounds or any Interest thereof which shall at any time happen to be lost by their putting out ye same to Interest or any other Misapplication.

Henr. Stubbs,
Abraham Bayley,
Thomas Bullock,
Thomas Hulme,
John Harrop,
James Rathbone,

William Bullock,
Joseph Johnson,
Joseph Broadhurst,
Cyrus Bullock,
Isaac Anderton."

1754. "Certain Memorandums relating to ye Town's affairs from Novr. ye 20th 1754.

Impr. Mem.: That at a Town's Meeting at New-barn it appeared that ye Repair of ye highways,	exclusive
of	including fifty shills due to Josiah Leah for putting in Rentts &c. amounted to ye sum of ...
	39 11 6
Subtract, for these yt were deficient in duty	00 14 10
Remains	38 16 8
Add Leah's charge for putting in Rents	02 10 0
Total now due is	41 06 8

Mem. The Town for ye paymt of ye above sumn of 4—6—8 agrees to Levy ten poors Ley's (levies) wh. amounts to ye Sumn of 48—19—2 ye overplus to be layd in any contingent charge that may happen farther in ye Repair of ye said highways, between time of this meeting (Novr. ye 20 1754) and ye ending of ye office of ye present overseers: and also for paying Mr. Henshaw Stubbs, being an Officer extraordinary, chosen for overseeing ye said High Ways."

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1761. A note by Rector Hall:
 "Words written on ye South door of Gawsworth Church but now almost worn out:
 'Fitton this Chancell raised from ye ground but Baguley ye Rectory did found.'"
1764. "Robert son of Robt. Hammond was baptized, 3 Robts his immediate Ancestrs are now living in ye parish."
1769. "Mem. 10th October 1769. I received from the Revd. Mr. Latham executor to the late Rector Mr. Hall:
1. One large Silver Cup.
 2. One small Silver Cup.
 3. One small Silver Salver.
 4. One Pewter Plate.
 5. Three Registers.
 6. One Linen Cloth for the Communion Table.
 7. One Linen Napkin.

All which belong to the Parish Church of Gawsworth. Myles Lonsdall." Curious names noticed in the registers include Mr. Ham Salt who married in 1751, Enos a boy christened in 1827. The most common names appearing in the register over the centuries, are the following: Bayley, Birtles, Broadhurst, Fisher, Fitton, Hammond, Holland, Johnson, Lawton, Mottershead, Pass, Rathbone, Shaw, Stubbs, Swain, Thompson, Thornicroft, Wardle, Warrington, Whittaker.

CONSTABLES' ACCOUNTS:

These began in 1778. The first few years are printed in full, as an indication of their extent, the original spelling being retained throughout.

Constable Account John Thornicroft Mill & Richd. Broadhurst Novr.

1778. Thos. Jackson Deputy to the above.

	L	S	D
To Expencc at Court	1		0
To Journey with Charles Morton before the Justice and Expencc		1	0
To taking Saml. Barber before the Justice & Expencc	1		0
To the head Constable one Lay	1	19	6½
To Expencc to the above		1	0
To Victuals Hugh Hayes when in Custody	1		0
To a Pass Woman & Child & expencc to next Town	1		0
Journey to Prestbury & expencc at the Balloting Militia Men		2	0
To Journey to bring in Substitutes & other expencc		2	0
To Journey with James Johnson before the Justice & expencc &c.		1	0
To Journey before the Justice with James Bullock & Solomon Clows		1	0

Constables' Accounts

	L	S	D
March 16. To Months Meeting	1	0	
To expence Searching for Vagrants	2	0	
To a Pass			6
April 10. Aid the High Constable	3	9	3½

Constables Account Thos. Bayley and John Jackson Constables Nov.
1779.

Thos. Jackson Deputy to the above. L S D

Dec. 10. To Journey & Expence to Knotsford and delivering out Warrants on three persons Killd by Waggon over turnd			3 0
To John Jacksons bill to the above			1 6
To Expence on Jury men at the above			5 0
To Carriage of the above persons to John Masons & laying out			3 0
April 25. Months Meeting to return Assessors of Land and Window Tax			1 0
To Journey & Expence into Lancashire to Apprehend Isaac Galemore			8 0
Paid for Register Searching the names of Militia Men			6
To Expence on Company at entering the names of Militia men & Clarke for Writing			2 0
To repairing stocks & hand coffs			1 0
The book which contains the Accounts			2 0

Constables Accounts James Rathbone Joseph Brearton Thos. Jackson
Deputy. 1780.

	L	S	D
Going before the Justice with Wm. Anderton & his Man			1 0
Going before Justice with John Jonson & Thos. Henshaw			1 0
Going to take Joseph Pimlot for Wardles Child and atendance at Macclesfield Meal & Drink			2 6
Pd a searching warrant			1 0
To sertching			1 0
Going with Rebackan lovet to father her Child			1 0
gave to several paupers			1 8
Repairing Stocks			4

Constables Acts. Thos. Jackson for James Hamond.

1781. Going to Prestbury for a parson to mary John Rushton and atendance			5 0
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Constables Acts. 2nd Nov. 1782.

	L	S	D
Thos. Jackson for John Pass.			
going to Justice with Wm. Bulock and Ciras Hamand ...			1 0
going with Isac Ainsworth to Justice			1 0
going to justice with Saciah Bulock & Bety Robinson ...			1 0

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Wm. Bullocks Accts. of Cash received and disbursed concerning his office to November 1784.

	L	S	D
To Expences of Jurors at Merton wn. Girl Drownd	5	0	
To a Vagrant Warrant & Journey to Chefford	2	0	
To Josiah Rathbones Bill for pinfold	1	8	0
Jos. Warrington's Bill for pinfold	5	10	0
To Thos. Jackson what out of pocket	6	1	½
Pd at Prestbury for adding to proprietors to Land Tax Assessment			8
Searching twice for Vagrants	2	0	
To writing and returning the Militia List	2	0	
To serving Warrant, payments and Expences of apprehending & holding Peter Swain about Lovat	5	6	
For numbering & Assessing of New Window Tax 2 days	7	6	

CHURCHWARDENS ACCOUNTS:

The Churchwardens Accounts are very incomplete. The earliest book begins in 1833 and finishes in 1870. This volume, nevertheless is interesting as it gives a very good account of the church before the sweeping restoration of 1851, and includes details of the church orchestra before the organ was installed in 1837. Apparently this was a poor second hand affair which caused a good deal of trouble, but the instrument nevertheless served until it was thrown out in 1895 in favour of a more up-to-date instrument.

The next volume of the Churchwardens Accounts begins as recently as 1926, and the records are continuous from this year to date.

The following are extracts, the first five years of each volume being given in considerable detail.

John Thompstone and Thomas Hammonds Accts.

Churchwardens from Easter 1833 to Easter 1834.

	L	S	D
Expences at Visitation 14/9. New Brush 2/9	17	6	
Proctors fees 11/- form of prayers 3/-	14	0	
Clearks Salary	6	6	0
To Cleark Cleaning Church £1. yard £1, Clock £1	3	0	0
Sacrament Bread six times at 6d. each	3	0	
To washing surplise six times	12	0	
Old Surplise six times	12	0	
Table Linen Six times at 2/ per time	12	0	
Extra Cleaning Church at Easter	5	0	
Thomas Gee for repairing Vestry 8/	8	0	

Churchwardens' Accounts

	£	s.	d.
Thomas Gee for repairing Fyttons Vault		1	6
Coals for Stoves and Drawing	2	16	3½
Thomas Gee Repairing Bells 3/ Door place 1/6		4	6
Repairing Lantern for Thos. Gee 1/		1	0
Thos. Gee for getting in Coal two Load 2/		2	0
Thos. Gee for lighting stoves 27 times at 2/ pr time ...	2	14	0
Candles 2/6 Oil for Bells 3d paper for Cleark 1/6		4	3
White washing Church		1	5 0
New Cover for Communion Table 8/-		8	0
To Ringers and Singers £10 . 0 . 0 each	20	0	0
Novr. 5th Treat for Ringers 5/ to New Fluet £1. 11. 6 ...	1	16	6
New Assessment Book 6/ Almanack 2/3		8	3
To John Burgus for plumbery work on Steeple	2	18	8
To John Burgus for Glazing Vestry Windows 5/11		5	11
Hiring a pall 3/6 George Holdens Bill 4/11		8	5
John Mottershead for Repairing Clarinet		5	6
John Johnson for Repairing Bells		6	4
Graveling at Church Steps 6/6		6	6
Wm. Mottershead for five reeds 1/8		1	8
Saml. Lawton for four Violin Strings		4	0
Noe Rathbone and Abels Bills Repairing Bells		7	6
To George Warrington for a Fox		5	0
To Mr. Brandt in Lieu of Briefs	2	0	0
To Ralph Mountfort for Bell Ropes	2	9	0
Hiring Ringers 5/ Mary Lancaster for Candles 1/5½ ...		6	5½
To Isaac Thompstone for Making Assessment		2	6
John Johnson for Oil for Bells 1/ This Book 4/6		5	6
To Joseph Warrington for Sacrament Wine twenty one Bottles at 4/3 per Bottle		4	9 3

This year the Lord's Service was celebrated but "six times." As Polehampton has remarked. One is tempted to ask, what became of the odd twenty bottles? the more so since in the following year the charge for wine steadily increased until in 1859 it reached the limit, when £7 13s. 10½d. was paid for it. In this year the Sacrament was administered seven times only. Slowly, year by year, the wine bill decreased till in 1865 it was £3 14s. 3d In the following year the curate-in-charge apparently made himself responsible for the supply:

"Rev. E. Massie, Sacrament wine, £2 0s. 0d."

and until 1868 he continued to supply it twelve times a year at an annual cost of £1 16s. 0d.

	£	s.	d.
Joseph Warringtons Bill for Liquor at Several times and Meat for Braziers when Repairing Steeple		16	0

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	£	s.	d.
Leys Lost by the Three Mutlow tenants they refusing to pay to the New Assessment	14	10	½
James Ellams Leys	1	6	
balance in hand	5	9	4½
	<hr/>		
Collected 2½ Gatherings at £29/9/8 per Gathering	66	6	9
Disburst	66	6	9
1834/35. Novr. 30th.			
By paid Ringers half a Years Wages	5	0	0
Pd. Ringers Second half years Wages	5	0	0
Pd. Singers years Wages	10	0	0
To Thos. Stringer for timber for Repairing Bells	2	7	5½
George Holden for Smith work	15	10	½
Mr. Cornforth for Cleaning Clock	15	0	
Ralph Mountfort for Bell Ropes	2	9	0
Jos. Warrington for Wine for Sacrament	4	10	9
William Swindells one years wages	6	6	0
Cleaning Churchyard & Care of Clock	2	0	0
Washing Surplus £1 4s. 0d. Candles & Bread 5/	1	9	0
John Johnson for Repairing Bells	2	12	5
Roger Brookes for Repairing Church Roof	7	4	
Samuel Wood for Bottom for Stoves	6	8	
Thomas Gee for plastering 9/3			
Thomas Gee for Whitewashing Church £1 5s. 0d.	}	4	17 5
Thomas Gee for attending Stoves £2 0s. 0d.			
Thomas Gee for Repairs at Church £1 3s. 2d.			
To Saml. Lawton for fiddle strings	4	6	
Joseph Warrington for Singers at Charity Sermon	10	6	
James Chapman for Bricks for Stoves	2	3	
Noe Rathbone for Repairing Rails in Church	1	12	6
George Walker for Repairing fiddle	6	0	
Wm. Mottershead for Reeds	1	0	
John Frost for repairing Bells	2	8	4½
Millet and Willett for Glazing	5	6	3
Wm. Whittaker for Coal & Sundries	3	13	1
Proctors fees	11	0	
Pd. to Mr. Brandt for Briefs	2	0	0
Samuel Bullock for two Foxes	10	0	
Jacob Holland for Coal	1	0	
Abel Rathbone for Boarding School Floor	3	10	4
To John Johnson	1	5	
	<hr/>		
	69	15	1½
Ballance in Hand	6	10	11½
	<hr/>		
	76	6	1

Churchwardens' Accounts

	£	s.	d.
1835/36.			
May 9th. Proctors fees	11	10	
Novr. 5th. Pd. Ringers	5	0	0
Decr. 5th. J. Jones for Childrens Refreshmt. at Confirmation ...	1	5	8
1836.			
Jny. 19. Mr. Brandt for Briefs	2	0	0
Febry. 16. S. Wood for 3 Bosses	3	6	
20. Expences of the Churchwardens Overseer & S. Shaw in attending his Majesty's Commissioners	13	0	
March 12. Mr. Sedgwick for repairing Locks & New Keys for Town's Chest	1	6	
Paper 1/6 sending for Mason 1/3	2	9	
April 3. Ringers Salary for ½ Year	5	0	0
Singers Salary for 1 Year at £1 each	9	0	0
S. Lawton for Bass Viol Strings	4	2	
T. Gees Bill for lighting Stoves £2 Whitewashing Church & School £1-3-0	3	3	0
Clerks Salary	6	6	0
Cleaning Church, Yard, & attendg Clock	2	0	0
Communion Bread 3/- washing Surplices £1 4s. ...	1	7	0
Extra Work in the Church Yard 16/- Candles 1/- ...	17	0	
April 4. Miss Gregory's Bill for Buns at Confirmation	10	0	
Mr. Burges for Glazing	15	4	
Mr. Robinson Bill for Broom	3	9	
5. R. Brooks for Repairing roof on the Church	8	3	
Pd. for fetching Poles out of the Old Parks	2	6	
7. Turpentine, Md Lantern	1	7½	
Taking Church Bible to Maccfd	6		
10. J. Johnson for repairing Bell Wheels & Oil	3	0	
19. Mr. Porters Bill for Making new Cushion Serge &c. ...	1	11	4
23. J. Frith for Masonry	8	0	
26. Pd. T. Gee for taking down weather Cock & replacing the same	6	0	
30. Mr. Sedgwick's Bill for Gilding and altering weather cock	2	11	6
May 2. Wine Bill & treat for Singers at Charity Sermon ...	5	9	6
Pd for Ale for Workmen at different times	6	2	
N. Rathbones Bill for repairing Churchwardens Pew ...	1	14	6
May 3. Mr. Mountfort for Bell Ropes	2	8	2
S. Shaw for Paint 2/- taking weather Cock to Macclesfd. & fetching back	5	0	
4. G. Holden for Iron Work about the Pinacles	1	9	6
Pd for Coals and drawing	3	0	0
7. Mr. Cornforth for cleaning Church Clock	15	0	
June 22. Mr. Swinertons Bill	16	10	
Willm. Swindells for assisting R. Brook when repair- ing the Church Roof	4	6	

The Manor of Gawsworth

		£	s.	d.
Augt. 9.	Thos. Worths Bill for repairing Pinacles	9	1	6
Decr. 1.	Abel Rathbones Bill for assisting T. Worth in the same	5	4	
		<hr/>		
	Balance in Hand ...	70	13	2½
		2	15	1
		<hr/>		
		73	8	3½
<hr/>				
1837/38.				
May 6.	Rectors fees	11	10	
Novr. 5.	Ringers Wages	5	0	0
13.	Paid the old Singers	1	5	0
11.	Paid to Georg Gee for Instructing the	2	0	0
	Paid to Thos. Gee to Repairing	7	10	
Decr. 21.	Paid St. Thos. Money	2	3	0
	Pd. to Thos. Gee for Repairing	11	6	
1838				
Jany. 20.	Pd to Ged M. Clegg for Uptons Money			
	Paid to Mr. Brandt for Breefs	2	0	0
	Visitation Expences	1	0	0
	To New Brush 2-8 to 2 Qrs of Paper 2-3	4	11	
	Thos. Gees Bill for Whitewashing Church and Light- ing Stoves 3-0-0	3	0	0
	taking Stove pipe to Macclesfield & Repaireing Stoves 1 Day 3-	3	0	
	To hair & Lime for pointing Windows		8	
	pointing windows	1	0	
March 30.	Thos. Thompstone for Repairing 3 Bells & Organ Box	2	6	
April 18.	Paid to James Davenport for Repairing Clock	2	6	
	Clark's Salary	6	6	6
	for Cleaning Church	1	0	0
	for Cleaning Yard and Clock	1	0	0
	To Bread for Communion	3	0	
	to Washing Surples	1	4	0
	to Candles	1	0	
	Paid for Glazing Church & School Windows	2	0	
	to Extra Work in the Church 2 Days	4	0	
	to Glazing Church Windows	3	11	
	Oil for Bells	1	6	
	to Glazing Church windows	2	7	
	G. Holden for Work among the Bells & other work	11	7	
	R. Mountfort for Bell Ropes	1	18	0
	Saml. Shaws Bill	2	16	1
	John Hammonds Bill	3	7	6
	Abel Hollands Bill for Repairing	9	2	
	Pd for Coals and Drawing	3	0	0
	Ringers Wages	5	0	0

Churchwardens' Accounts

		£	s.	d.
	Wine Bill	4	14	6
	Paid for Coaks		5	4
	Mr. Sedgwicks Bill New Stove and other Work	13	19	1
	Pd. to Abel Rathbone	3	3	0
	Pd. to S. Shaw for the Singers	2	0	0
	G. Clegg for Attendance at Singing	2	2	0
	Henry Holland for Blowing Organ	8	0	0
		74 1 0		
1839	Procters Fees	14	6	
	Paid for John Thompstone to Mr. Shedwick	3	17	1
March 31.	Paid Mr. Glegg for Singing	2	12	0
	Paid for Twelv months Ringing	10	0	0
	Paid Sent Thomases Money	2	3	0
	Breefs Money	2	0	0
	Paid Mr. Brandt for Singing Money	4	0	0
	Bell Ropes	2	5	0
	Paid Thos. Gee for liting Stoves	2	0	0
	& witewasing Church	9	0	0
	Cleaning stoves pipes	2	6	
	to Lime & Hair & pointing Windows	2	0	
	Repairing top of Church	3	0	
	Coping Clening top	2	6	
1839.	Paid Mr. Glegg half Year Intrst mony	2	10	0
	Abel Holland Bill	11	6	
	Prichad Glazing Bill	4	3	
	Visitation Bill	1	8	6
	Confermation	1	7	10
	Mr. Gregory Bill	8	4	
	John Hammands Bill for Cunstabling	2	9	0
	Saml. Lawton Bill for Singing	2	2	0
	Ellis for New Years Gift	5	0	
	Paid David Gee for shifting the Yew Tree & Cleaning the Churchyard	7	6	

The churchyard possesses four yews. In 1860 it had a fifth at the south porch. This was removed about this time and found to contain some hundred-weight of honey. The tree referred to above was that which now stands at the west end of the south side. Encroaching on the tower and disturbing its foundations, it was trenched and drawn back to its present position—a truly remarkable feat.

		£	s.	d.
	& Repring the same Wm. Thornicroft Work & Lime		9	0
	Repairing Top of the Church		3	6

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	£	s.	d.
Sinking round the Church foundation Thos. Gee & Mee 1 Day each	6	0	
Saml. Shaw Bill Paid for Drawing & Coaks & Consttibling	13	8	
Paid Procter at Visitation	14	10	
Wm. Swindles Bill	10	17	11
Ellis Bill for Dinners	3	9	
New Key			7
Paper	3	0	
Coals Drawing	2	10	0
Isaac Freavis—Bill	1	1	0
2 fall Mouse Traps for Church		2	0
I Quaire of Paper		1	6
Jos. Warrington Bill	6	14	9½
	66	3	2½

The following are excerpts.

Counts of Joseph Brindley and Petter Blackshaw Church Wardings
from Easter 1839 to Ester 1840.

	£	s.	d.
To Bread 7 Times at 7 per Time	4	1	
Candles and Bell Oile	8	0	
Blackled for Stoves			5
Sope and soder			6
Putting down Stocks	1	0	

It is difficult to know exactly what this means. The stocks were remembered by old inhabitants living earlier this century as existing against the wall at the north-east gate of the churchyard, between the two lowest pools. The entry can hardly mean their removal. For, valuable as was a shilling in those days, it would scarcely have covered the expense of removal. Probably some repair was effected. A whipping post usually adjoined the stocks. And here, indeed, on the bank of one of the two pools might well have existed the ancient "ducking stool" for "scolding wives," but no mention is made of either in parish records. Had the latter existed, poor Parson Henry Newcome might have made good use of it with his wife, working the lever himself to some tune and with good result!

	£	s.	d.
Paid Isaac Gee for Whitewashing Vestery	2	0	
Paid Isaac Gee for repairing steps	4	6	
Taking down stove pipes and cleaning	2	0	
Glazing Church Windows	5	0	

Churchwardens' Accounts

		£	s.	d.
	Whitewashing Church and Lime	1	1	0
	To Cleaning roof of Church	4	0	
	Present to Orgenest	10	0	0
	Ringers Sallery	10	0	0
	Wm. Nicholson Bill for Orgen	1	10	6
	Wm. Warringtons Bill for Wine and Treat to Ringers	7	13	10½
1841	Organists Salary	7	9	0
	Given to Ringers 5th Nov.	2	6	
1842	Thos. Fodens Account for repairing steps	6	18	2½
	Mr. Wrights Bill for paint A/c.	1	1	1½
1844	Mr. Peacock for keeping Clock in Repair for one year as per Contract	1	0	0
	Isaac Gee for Whitewashing Church 1£ & for Repairs 12s. 3d.	1	12	3
	Jno Johnson for making new Gates	3	4	1
	Mr. Foden for Timber for New Gates	1	9	1
	Jno Lawton for Cloth & mending Pulpit & Reading desk	13	7	
	Mr. Knowls for instructing Singers	2	10	0
	Treat to Singers at Charity Sermon	10	0	
	George Holdens Bill for Smith Work	17	0	
	— Devenport Cleaning Clock for 1842			
1846	Pd Mr. Bridle for Bricks as per Bill	11	7	9
	Isaac Gee for Building New wall	8	11	5½
	for repairing lower wall	2	5	4
	levelling new ground	16	3	
	Geo. Ainsworth for dressing stone	8	12	0
	Expences attending Brick and stone cart for Toll & Beer when drawing the above	2	5	6
	Mr. Rathbone for 12 Bottles of wine /3s.	1	16	0
	Isaac Gee for Whitewashing church & school cleaning stoves pointing &c. as per Bill	1	15	0
	Mr. Brunt for Slating and Slate as per Bill	1	13	1½
	Thos. Maydew for Leading &c.	1	0	0
	Wm. Lea for repairing Bell wheels & Gallery	7	6	
1847	Pd. Isaac Gee's Bill for whitewashing Church Sunday School &c.	1	8	8
	Mr. S. Woods Bill for Gilding Weather Cock &c.	1	9	0
	George Holdens Bill for work done to Weather Cock To Roylance & Foden for Timber belonging to Weather Cock	16	0	
	Weather Cock	1	7	3
	Willm. Lea Bill for Work done to Weather Cock	2	11	3
	Paid for consecrating the new Burial Ground	22	16	4
1848	New Stove from Hall and Wilson (Manchester)	11	7	6
	Carriage for stove from Manchester	8	11	
	Isaac Gee's Bill for work at New Stove	15	1	

The Manor of Gawsworth

		£	s.	d.
	Isaac Gee's Bill for Slating on Church		3	0
1849	Pd. Mr. Thomas Johnson's Bill for Curtains for organ	2	2	0
	Pd. Saml. Lawton's Bill for Cushions for Communion	1	11	0
<p>1850-1852. "Hei mihi!" as Rector Hall sighed in anguish of spirit when he saw his wife stricken down. Years never to be forgotten. Gawsworth's beautiful Fane was "restored!" Here is a reminiscence of that happening, taken down by Rector Polehampton from the lips of a native aged ninety on February the 15th, 1918:</p> <p>"Yes. I remember the restoration of the church in 1851. Mr. Massie was curate-in-charge. He cleared everything out of the church. I remember we didn't like him making such havoc."</p>				
1852	Liverpool District Bank towards the Repairs at Church	68	9	2
	To James Stanway for Spade for Clerk		5	0
1853.	Novr. 30. Manchester & Liverpool Bank for the Repairs of the Church		50	0 0
June 14.	Paid in the said Bank	31	4	9
<p>In this year (1853) the church was opened after restoration: "Cleaning Church for first opening, 9s. Od."</p>				
1854	Tollbar		3	0
	Drawing & Getting in 57 cwt. of Coke at 3d. per Cwt.		14	3
	Cole and Candles for Meetings		5	6
	To Tolling bell		15	0
	Revd. E. Massey Scool Money	2	10	0
1856	A new treble bell was added to the existing ring of five.			
1857	Ringers for a portion of the first half year during that time a sixth bell was put up at	4	0	0
	James Cosgrove half years assistance in the Choir ending Sept 30 1856	1	5	0
	Wm. Swindells Cleaning Snow out of Belfry		5	0
1858	C. Sherwin for Brushes Mops &c. 1855-6 & 7		19	7
March 5.	Paid in Bank towards the Tower Pinnacles	58	0	0
1860	George Massey for Smith Work		3	6
	Lea Foden for Red Deal Planks for Tower	7	11	1
	Paid T. Bullock to take to Bank towards the restoration of Tower Pinnacles	50	0	0
	Paid Toll when fetching Plank			6
	Ringers for putting up New Bell ropes (not to be allowed in future T.B.)		6	0
1861	Paid to the Revd. J. Thornycroft by Mr. Bullock ...	30	0	0
	Lea Foden's Bill for Planks and repairing Bier		13	0
1865	Isaac Gee for Ringing Gallery	2	10	0
	John Johnson for Repairing Bells		3	6

Churchwardens' Accounts

		£	s.	d.
	John Maurise for Repairing Bells	12		6
	New Oil Can for Bells			11
1858	To New Bell Ropes & Coffin Rops	1	17	10
	J. Harrington 5th Novr. feast	1	10	9

August 30. 1869.

At a vestry meeting held after legal notice at the usual place, the Churchwardens' accounts for the preceding year were examined and passed.

At the same meeting a rate of 1½d. (threehalfpence) in the £. was proposed by Mr. Wood & seconded by Mr. Brindley & carried unanimously.

E. MASSIE, Chairman.

Nov. 15. 1869.

At a Vestry Meeting held after legal notice at the usual place. It was proposed by Mr. A. Lomas & seconded by Mr. R. Mottershead: that the Church be insured against fire to the amount of £1000 (a thousand pounds) & that the Churchwardens be empowered to effect the insurance, & was carried unanimously.

E. MASSIE, Chairman.

These notices have been entered in this Book in consequence of the regular Vestry Book having been mislaid.

E. MASSIE, Chairman.

The following items relating to Parish matters are extracted from the Church Books.

1871. "John Cheetham, 5th November Feast, £1 12s. 0d."

This "feast" appears to have been observed regularly until 1888, when it dropped out.

1878. "Duke of Connaught's wedding bells, 15s."

1881. New oak churchyard gates were erected by Samuel Cosgrove at a cost of £14.

1883. "Ringers, Duke of Albany's funeral, £1."

1885. "A female, name unknown. Middle aged woman, found dead on Gawsorth Moss, was buried."

1887. "James Wright committed suicide in a state of unsound mind."

1895. The custom of evening communion ceased.

1896. "Chemistry is now taught in the school to all the children. The necessary apparatus and chemicals have been purchased

The Manor of Gawsworth

by the managers at considerable cost. The object of introducing this branch of science into the school curriculum is to help to develop sound minds in the children and, at the same time, to awaken in them interest in a set of natural phenomenon of great importance to mankind."

This reads very great. There is, fortunately, no record of disaster by poison gas or explosion, nor, indeed, of any scientific development. We do learn, however, that in this year

"Edward White, aged 2 years was killed by tasting carbolic acid."

Did a student of chemistry convey the fatal dose from the school laboratory? A quite "natural phenomenon!"

In this year too,

"The rents of Moss Terrace ceased to be applied to Church Expenses Fund."

Till now the terrace had provided an annual rental of about £20.

"Edward Pass killed in alighting from a train."

"Alfred Trafford killed suddenly by a kick from a horse."

1897. "Harvest Festival. The services were as follows: Holy Communion at 8 a.m. etc. But as the congregation consisted of only two persons the sacrament was not administered."

Rough on those two faithful ones that they should have been deprived of divine grace by laxity and apathy of fellow churchmen.

1900. Altar lights were reintroduced at the time of the Lord's service.

1904. After being closed to the visiting public for seven years, the church and churchyard were again made free and open. In this year the church was artificially lighted for the first time in its existence.

"Vestments, lights, eastward position, mixed chalice and wafer bread are now in use."

The sanctus bell, given by Rector Polehampton, as a thank-offering, was dedicated and used for the first time on the festival of Gawsworth's patron saint.

1905. The churchyard was put into decent order. A low-pressure system of heating was introduced to the church and the north chancel door reopened.

Churchwardens' Accounts

1907. Two treble bells were added to the peal by public subscription. An oak chair for the sanctuary was presented by Mr. W. Foden, and a flag-staff and Union Jack given to the school.
1909. A map of the parish (ordnance survey 1908), scale 25in. to the mile, was given to the parish by Rector Polehampton. A copper ewer for the font, by his mother, and churchwardens' wands of office by Mrs. Polehampton.
1910. The lych gate was erected and the drive reconstructed and enclosed.

A solemn requiem was sung on May 20th, at 10 a.m., for the repose of the soul of King Edward VII.

1911. The lime trees on the south side of the church, having become dangerous were unlimbed and their height reduced by twenty feet. They were finally removed as a result of decay in 1949.

Abraham Holland resigned office as sexton and clerk.

1912. A wheeled bier, subscribed for by parishioners, was bought.

A purse of gold was presented privately to Abraham Holland by the rector and churchwardens (Messrs. J. Mottershead and T. W. Clayton), on behalf of the parishioners, as a token of their appreciation of his long service.

The standard candlesticks on the chancel pavement were presented by Mrs. Polehampton in memory of her father.

1913. A peal was rung by eight members of the Lomas family.

The following note occurs in the books:

"After a lapse of three hundred odd years the Holy Eucharist, or Lord's Service, was once more sung on the Sunday in the Octave of the Patronal festival, with the full ceremonial prescribed by the Book of Common Prayer, incense being used in the procession."

1914. The ancient open air Rogation Procession was revived.

"War was declared on August 4th."

A farewell service to recruits from the parish was held on September 8th. In this year the following work was carried out in the church, the cost being met by friends and visitors:

Repaving of Altar Pace.

Removal of a block of seats from the chancel.

Gawsworth Charities

A piscina constructed on the south side of the altar.
An oak cross erected on the chancel screen.
Chancel gates put up.
Terminals of pews removed.
Polish of all wood-work pickled off.
West end gallery restored.
Base of churchyard cross reset.
Holy water stoup in the south porch restored.

1915. The old service of Blessing and Procession of Palms and Branches on the Sunday next before Easter reintroduced. All Souls' day, November 2nd, was observed after a lapse of three hundred years by the singing of a solemn requiem.

The Christmas Crib, and Epiphany Star before the Rood were introduced.

1916. "This Holy Week was set up on the restored base of the original churchyard Cross, the symbol of Redemption. The timber is an old beam from the now demolished Priest's house in Macclesfield."

In this same week a figure of the Redeemer was placed on the cross above the screen.

1917. The Fred Trueman memorial window was dedicated.

H. Poole, of the Gawsworth smith, won first prize in open competition with all farriers in the north of England, for the best supply, quality and workmanship of horse shoes for the British Expeditionary Force.

Abraham Holland died. R.I.P.

The sanctuary lamp was presented to the church by Mrs. Polehampton.

1918. The organ, removed from the south-west floor space, was rebuilt on the gallery and the Font centred.
1919. The organ was cased, and the gallery parapet set up.
1920. The new churchyard was consecrated, and the wayside calvary dedicated by Henry Luke, Lord Bishop of Chester.
1953. Improvements made to the organ.
1954. Fitton monuments restored.
1955. The ring of bells restored.
1957. Central heating boilers adapted to electric firing.

GAWSWORTH CHARITIES

The Report of the Commissioners appointed in pursuance of various acts of Parliament to enquire concerning Charities in England and Wales between the years 1890 and 1837, reported as follows:

PARISH OF GAWSWORTH

John Upton's Charity.

By indenture, made 2nd June 1783, between Richard Broadhurst, Humphrey Swindells, John Downs, Thomas Green, John Thorncroft, and Thomas Snellson of the one part, and the Rev. Myles Lonsdall, rector of Gawsworth, of the other part, reciting that by an indenture of lease, bearing date 23rd May 1771, between the Earl of Harrington, of the one part, and William Cornthwaite, then deceased, Richard Broadhurst, and Humphrey Swindells, then Churchwardens and overseers of Gawsworth, of the other part, the said earl had demised to the said Cornthwaite Broadhurst and Swindells, in trust, for the use of the parish of Gawsworth, and to their successors, the churchwardens and overseers of Gawsworth for the time being, a parcel of waste and unimproved ground adjoining to the north-east corner of a close, called Marl Heaps, being a part of the Bayley Ridding tenement, and bounded on the north by a lane, being the footway from Bayley Ridding Moss towards Macclesfield; on the east by Dane's Moss; on the south by a piece of ground not then fenced out from Dane's Moss; and on the west by the abovesaid Marl Heaps, containing by estimation 3R. 10P. statute measure, situate in Gawsworth aforesaid, with privilege of turbary sufficient for any houses which might be erected on the same during the term thereby granted, to be set out as conveniently might be by the earl or his assigns, to be holden for 500 years, under a yearly rent of 6d.; and that JOHN UPTON by Will, dated 28th April 1738, had devised out of the residue of his estate and effects the sum of 50 l., to be placed out at interest upon good security, and the interest to be paid yearly to the schoolmaster of Gawsworth, for his trouble in educating eight poor children of the township of Gawsworth; and that on the 24th March 1754, the executor had paid that sum into the hands of the rector and churchwardens of Gawsworth, whom the parishioners had appointed to receive it, and that they had placed the same out at interest upon good security, and had applied the interest agreeably to the will of the testator; and that, in the year 1771, the churchwardens had called in the said money, and they and the overseers had applied it to the purpose of building a poor-house upon the aforesaid demised piece of waste land; they and their successors having paid and applied the interest thereof according to the will, and the churchwardens and overseers having in their hands 23 l., being the remainder of several donations bequeathed in such manner that the interest thereof must be distributed to the poor housekeepers in Gawsworth (not being pensioners) on St. Thomas'-day yearly; which sum of 23 l., together with the above-named 50 l., making in the whole 73 l., had been wholly laid out in erecting the said poor-house; and that, by the lease before-mentioned, no good security appeared to be given for

The Manor of Gawsworth

the said sum of 73 l., nor for perpetuating the interest thereof according to the intention of the original donors; therefore, at a vestry meeting of the parishioners of Gawsworth it had been agreed that the Churchwardens and overseers should, by mortgage, assign the poor-house and buildings thereon to the rector of Gawsworth for the time being, for such trusts and uses as by the said indenture were expressed; it was therefore witnessed that Richard Broadhurst and Humphrey Swindells, the surviving lessees in the said lease, and John Downs and Thomas Green, churchwardens, and John Thornicroft and Thomas Snellson, overseers of Gawsworth, conveyed the estate of the said overseers and churchwardens to the same, together with the recited indenture of lease to the said Rev. Myles Lonsdall and his successors, rectors of Gawsworth, for the residue of the term of 500 years, upon condition, that if the churchwardens and overseers should, every year, during the remainder of the term, pay to the rector of Gawsworth legal interest for the 73 l., for the trust, that the said rector should pay the interest of 50 l. to the schoolmaster of Gawsworth, for his trouble in teaching eight poor children of the parish of Gawsworth to read, or for his trouble in teaching so many poor children of the parish of Gawsworth to read as the interest would, for the time being, be sufficient to pay for their teaching; and also in trust to distribute, at the discretion of the rector and churchwardens, to poor housekeepers of Gawsworth, every St. Thomas'-day, the interest of 23 l. every year during the remainder of the said term of 500 years, then those presents should cease.

George Vernon, the present schoolmaster, receives the following sums every year on account of different charities:—

	£	s.	d.
Upton's Charity	2	10	0
Tickell's Charity	6	14	0
Stubbs' Charity	17	0	0
	£26 4 0		

He came to reside at Gawsworth in 1827, and established a private school there. His terms were 3s. a quarter for instruction in reading; 2s. more for teaching writing; and 2s. more for arithmetic. He was appointed by the minister and churchwardens schoolmaster of the charity-school at the latter end of 1832; and then agreed to teach all the free children up to the time of the enquiry. The children are selected by the resident minister of the parish, and the regular number is always kept in the school.

See the Reports of Hall's, Tickell's, and Stubbs' Charities below.

HALL'S CHARITY

The following is an extract from a Benefaction Table in the parish church:—

“By the Rev. Mr. Hall, rector; security, Buxton Turnpike: the interest payable to the schoolmaster of Gawsworth of 20 l., to buy Bibles, and of the other 20 l., to the said schoolmaster.”

Gawsworth Charities

No other account of this charity can be procured than what is afforded by the Benefaction Table. No money has been paid by the Buxton Turnpike Trust since 1819, as will be seen by a reference to Ann Whittaker's Charity, in the Report of Prestbury parish and township; but payment of interest on their debts is expected to be resumed within the present year. An addition has been made to this charity, although it is not known from what quarter, as the clerk of the turnpike-trust acknowledged the sum due to the charity to amount to 50 l. It does not appear that the parish have any security in their hands.

TICKELL'S CHARITY

The Rev. John Tickell, by Will, gave to the rector and churchwardens, for the time being, of the parish of East Mersey, in the county of Essex, 200 l.; and also to the rector and churchwardens, for the time being, of the parish of Gawsworth, the like sum of 200 l., to be paid to them respectively within one year next after his wife's decease, upon trust that the said rector and churchwardens, respectively, should lay out their respective legacy, within one month after payment thereof, in the purchase of Three per Cent. Consolidated Bank Annuities, and apply the dividends therefrom arising in the education of such poor children of the respective parishes, as should, by the rector, in his own parish, respectively, be from time to time nominated.

The proceeds of this charity, 184 l. (the remaining 16 l. having probably been paid for legacy-duty), were invested, 31st October, 1817, in the purchase of 223 l. 7s. 4d., Three per Cent. Consols, the yearly dividends on which amount to 6 l. 14s.

WADE STUBBS' CHARITY

Wade Stubbs, by Will, dated 17th October 1821, gave to the acting clergyman and churchwardens of the parish-church of Gawsworth 500 l. sterling, to be by them applied for the good and benefit, in the educating of poor children born in the said Parish.

See the Report of Wade Stubbs' and John Plant's Charities in North Rode township, in the parish of Prestbury.

The sum of 290 l. has been paid on account of this charity to the clergyman and churchwardens of the parish of Gawsworth. A school-room was built by private subscription for the charity-school; and the Earl of Harrington, who is the proprietor of the greater part of the parish, has given a cottage for the residence of the schoolmaster. Stubbs' legacy was left to accumulate while the school-room was building; and the amount of the principal and interest, and of interest received from Tickell's and Upton's Charities, was, in 1832, 340 l.; which sum has been since lent on three mortgages—one for 120 l. on premises in Cotton-street, Macclesfield, in the occupation of William Maydew; another, for 120 l. to Thomas Brooks, on premises in Hurdsfield; and the other, for 100 l., to John Cooke, on premises in Parsonage-street, Macclesfield. The last sum on account of Stubbs' legacy, 15 l., was received a few months before this Inquiry (February 1836), and has been placed in the Savings' Bank at Macclesfield, in the names of the

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minister and churchwardens of Gawsworth. No interest had been received on this sum at the period when the investigation of the charity took place.

The premises in Cotton-street, on which the first mortgage is secured, consist of six dwellings and a yard, and were represented to be worth 200 l.; it was, however, proved that they had lately been sold for 175 l.

The premises at Hurdsfield, the subject of a second mortgage, are two dwelling-houses, with a weaver's shop over both. They appear to be worth about 150 l.

The property in Parsonage-street was formerly in five and is now in eight dwellings, and is probably of the value of 200 l.

FITTON GERRARD'S CHARITY

The following account is copied from the Benefaction Table:—

“By Fitton Gerrard, 15 l., to which the parish added 5 l., and is security, and pays interest for the whole to poor housekeepers resident in the parish, not being pensioners, on every St. Thomas' day by and at the discretion of the minister and the churchwardens.

One pound is paid every year by the overseer to the churchwarden on account of this charity, and 1 l. 3s. on account of a charity by an unknown donor; which sums are given away on St. Thomas'-day to poor housekeepers, not receiving weekly relief from the parish. Persons having families, old people, and widows, are selected to receive the benefit of the charity.

There seems to be no doubt that this charity is the same which is mentioned, in the Parliamentary returns 1786-8, by the name of the Earl of Macclesfield's. The estate at Gawsworth, which once belonged to the Earl, was, at another period, the property of the Fitton family.

UNKNOWN CHARITIES

Benefaction Table.—After the entry of Fitton Gerrard's Charity in the table, the following words occur:—

“Also, the parish is security, and pays interest to the same use for 23 l.”

These charities are specified in the Parliamentary Returns, 1786-8, under the title “John Swaine and others.”

JOHN HAMMOND'S CHARITY

The following is an extract from the Benefaction Table:—

“By the Rev. Mr. Hammond, rector; security, and pays interest, the Chapel-en-le-Frith Turnpike. To be distributed as above on every St. Thomas'-day, 50 l.”

By virtue of an Act of Parliament, made 10th Geo. III., to repair, to widen, and alter the road from Macclesfield to the turnpike road at Randle-Carr-Lane-Head, in Fernilee, in the county of Derby, leading to Chapel-in-the-Frith, in the same county, the trustees of the road gave a security by

Gawsworth Charities

deed to Samuel Lankford, his executors, administrators, and assigns, for 50 l., with interest at 5 per cent. from the 28th February 1772.

This security, after several mesne assignments, was transferred 29th December 1788, to the then rector and churchwardens of Gawsworth and their successors for the time being for ever, in trust for the purposes of this charity.

Nothing has been paid on account of this security for the last three years.

THOMAS HAMMOND'S CHARITY

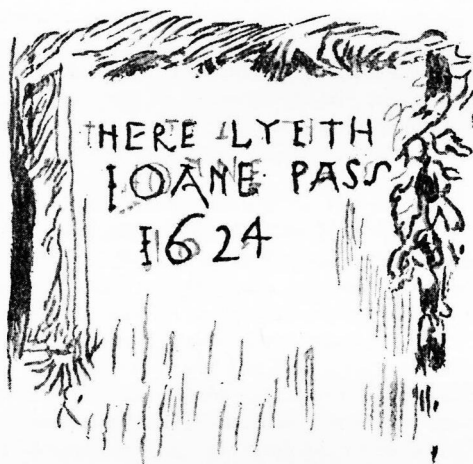
By indenture, made 13th February 1794, between James Hammond the younger and Thomas Gates, executors of Thomas Hammond, deceased, of the one part, and Thomas Hammond and James Hammond, churchwardens of Gawsworth, of the other part, reciting that, by a road security bearing date 29th August 1780, under the hands and seals of William Brooksbank and others, seven of the trustees appointed by an Act of Parliament passed 32nd Geo. II., for repairing and widening the road from the cross at Broken Cross, in Macclesfield, in the county of Chester, through Macclesfield Forest to the present-turnpike road, at the south end of the township of Buxton, in the county of Derby, the said trustees, by virtue of the said Act of Parliament, had assigned Peter Wright, of Macclesfield, gent., his executors, administrators, or assigns, in consideration of the sum of 50 l., from the 29th of August, until the said sum of 50 l., with interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum, should be paid, such proportion of all the tolls, to arise by virtue of the said Act, as the sum of 50 l. should bear to the whole sum advanced on the credit of the same; and that, by another turnpike security, under the hands and seals of the trustees, they had assigned to the said Peter Wright, his executors, &c., another sum of 50 l., from the same time, and with the same interest, &c.; and that Peter Wright by assignment indorsed on the several turnpike securities respectively, bearing date, respectively, 24th February then next, had assigned all his right to the principal thereby respectively secured, and all the interest then due, to Thomas Hammond, deceased, his executors, administrators, or assigns; and that Thomas Hammond, was lately dead, having first made his Will, bearing date 5th August 1791, whereby he gave to the churchwardens of Gawsworth 100 l., on trust that they should place the same at interest, and pay the yearly interest thereof upon St. Thomas'-day to poor housekeepers, living within the parish, who should be pensioners of the parish, in such manner as the rector and wardens should think proper, and that James Hammond and Thomas Gates, executors as aforesaid, had agreed to assign the two several securities, and all interest thereon, on the trusts aforesaid, to Thomas Hammond and James Hammond churchwardens of Gawsworth, in satisfaction of the said legacy of 100 l., which Thomas Hammond and James Hammond had agreed to accept, and that the same and the interest thereof should remain and be applied as by the will of Thomas Hammond was directed,—it was witnessed that James Hammond and Thomas Gates assigned to Thomas Hammond and James Hammond, their executors, administrators, and assigns, the said two several turnpike securities, on trust that they, whilst church-

The Manor of Gawsworth

wardens of Gawsworth, and their successors for the time being, should dispose of the interest of the two sums to such persons, and in such manner and form, and at such times, as by the said Will was directed.

This deed was executed by Thomas Gates only, and not by James Hammond the younger.

No money has been received on account of this charity since the year 1819.



The stone to Joane Pass 1624 under the yew at the west end of the yard.