

HUMAN AFFAIRS

(human.wri)

This is a collection of items from the Log Book that come under the heading 'interesting' in that they provide some colour to events.....

- 05/08/63 TDomleo says his mother won't let him have a new copy book yet for he is always having new ones
- 14/10/63 observed several village peculiarities as pronouncing 'a' as 'e', also the error of a broad sound which is given to the vowel 'o'
- 27/10/63 lent a book called 'Instructions in Household Matters' to Sarah Wilde
- 30/11/63 EMorris left school to go out to service
- 18/12/63 The decrease in attendance is owing to the deficiency of the saple trade of the village viz that of stocking making
- 26/01/64 Very thin attendance (54) today. Many kept away by the bad trade, and many little ones have got the measles
- 10/03/64 Herbert Preston suffering from a broken arm - his brother attending in his place
- 16/03/64 (2 boys) found fighting in the lane after school. Received a good thrashing
- 04/04/64 The children went home at 12 this morning as the Master had to attend to the Penny Bank and Clothing Club
- 22/04/64 Mr Smythies left 4 tennis balls to be given away for the best boys for the week - this was done before the whole school
- 18/05/64 Prizes today for the children who had made the best collection of wild flowers during Whit Monday and Tuesday - 5/-; 4/-; 3/-; 2/6d; 1/6d
- 17/10/64 Many children absent owing to the Sutton Wake and potato gathering.
- 19/10/64 Dismissed (a boy) from school this afternoon for attempting to set at defiance the Master's authority
- 11/12/64 (2 boys) went home at 3.15 to gather mangel
- 24/01/65 (1 boy) absconded to slide on the reservoir
- 10/03/65 children absent - dropping for farmers
- 01/06/65 punished (2 children) for having horsehair which they had pulled out of some horse's tail
- 27/09/65 2 children absent to assist their parents in the framework knitting and some boys absent gathering potatoes
- 27/10/65 (1 boy) left school at 4 o'clock to seam for his mother
Mary Mitchell has been ill all week of the slow fever which is now very prevelent in the village
- 07/11/65 Spoke to the whole school assembled for admission on the evils of a light use of gunpowder and forbad any boy using it during school hours. (1 boy) used some in the porch during playtime.
- 10/11/65 The attendance during the week has been lower owing to the prevelence of the fever.
- 15/11/65 Spoke to Farrows and Simpkins about getting over the corner of the school wall when they went home. They live in the lower end of the village and find it a little nearer home
- 27/11/65 George Peberdy absent owing to illness (smallpox)
- 30/11/66 Had occasion to give Elijah Sibson a cut upon the hand the consequence was his nose bled so much that I sent him home and soon after his mother came and was very abusive before the whole school. The bleeding seems a customary thing when the boy is so punished.
- 23/02/72 Many children away with the measles
- 02/08/72 The attendance continues very small (47.1) this week. The cause of the absence is winding, seaming, etc - work being so good in this place. Also several boys absent being among the hay
- 23/06/80 The school was closed on Thursday and Friday of this week owing to the Scarlet Fever having attacked the Master's children. Drs Palmer and Eddowes having advised the closing of the school.
(NOTE School reopens on 23/07/80 but the scarlet fever outbreak continues to the end of August)
- 05/11/80 Mistress absent this week in consequence of the death of her baby
- 10/02/82 On Wednesday of this week SMAAdams (Assistant Mistress) complained of the bad behaviour of HGillispie in the classroom - in consequence the Master punished him.

When school was over the boy waylaid the teacher and hit her with a stick. It was decided to summons him before a magistrate.

Fined 10/- on 07/12/83 and 'not been to school since.'

07/12/83 School closed on Wednesday afternoon owing to the funeral of one of the Master's children

09/12/87 Owing to the severe visitation of diphtheria, the school, by the advice and direction of the Medical Officer of Health, was closed
It reopened on 02/01/88

STAFF:

(staff:wri)

The log book provides a good picture of the way in which the school teaching staff was constructed and managed. There was a Master whose wife was usually responsible for the compulsory needlework classes. These were supported by Pupil Teachers who were students of the school who had completed their education.

The **Pupil Teachers** were taught their trade by the Master and the log book gives examples of this going on - 'Thomas Hickling (pupil teacher).....

'made an error in one of the facts of Scripture whilst taking classes on the map of Palestine' (19/6/63)

'was copying a list of names (which ought to have been done at playtime this morning) instead of looking after the discipline of the school.' (29/6/63)

'told about the reading of the third class - it was not loud enough. The writing on the board at the dictation lesson was too large and the letters too wide apart.'

(28/7/63)

Apart from these day-to-day observations, their education continued as when the Master 'met with the Pupil Teachers in the morning at 7.30 to give them lessons in Algebra' (7/10/63).

There was an occasion in 1865 when, due to the resignation of the Master, the school 'was reopened by Thomas Hickling (Pupil Teacher) pending the appointment of a new Master.' (11/9/65). This situation was thoroughly disapproved of by the School Inspector who, in his report commented '...from that time (September) to Christmas the school was conducted by a Pupil Teacher.....I am directed to point out that Thomas Hickling ought not to have been entrusted with the sole charge of the school.' (2/3/66). Hickling was in his 5th and final year of his apprenticeship and, therefore, 18 years of age.

The Pupil Teacher had to be at least 13 years of age and in the same report (2/3/66) one of them (WGHague) was ordered to be removed as he was not old enough.

The Pupil Teachers:

Thomas Hickling 1863 - 1865

William Garton 1863 - 1864 'left this day having attained a situation of a different nature elsewhere - post office, Derby.

George Spencer 1866 - 1871 'ceased teaching today today having gained a 2nd class scholarship going to Cheltenham Training College.'

Henry Hague 1866 - resigned as too young (under 13 years old)

SMAAdams 1874 - 1880 became Assistant Mistress

Lucy Hague 1864 -

Annie Watts 1881 - 1884 'resigned in consequence of the death of her mother.'

Mabel Burrowes - 1885 - 1888 removed from PT register due to ill health.

Florence Adams - 1885 -

The **Masters** for which the school has a very chequered record at times.....

At the beginning of the Log the incumbents are Mr & Mrs Barnacle who 'resigned their situations in consequence of the unavoidable reduction in the Master's salary owing to the Committee of Privy Council in Education having withdrawn Government Grants hitherto paid to the school and the Managers declining to increase their guarantee so as to make up the whole of the loss.'(30/9/63)

Mr Sparkes 'kindly lent to the school by the Rev Canon Fry, arrived to carry on the school until the vacancy can be permanently filled up and he returned to Leicester in November.

Mr Rivett officiated until January 1864 when.....

Mr James Stansfield formerly Pupil Teacher in the Copley Factory School near Halifax, and a student for two years in the Cheltenham College, aged 20, was appointed to the Mastership and his sister undertook the sewing department.' (4/1/64). They resigned in September 1865 which is when the Pupil Teacher filled the gap as described earlier.

Mr Joseph Hefford 'from the Training College, Battersea, having been appointed to the Mastership, came to Hathern today.'(2/2/66). Mrs Chapman 'began to teach sewing this afternoon.'(26/3/66). Mr Hefford 'having received notice from the managers to resign his situation, left this day.'(12/10/66).

Mr James Lammas 'from the Highbury Training College, having been appointed to the Mastership, came today.'(13/10/66). Elizabeth Lammas (his wife) Certified Teacher, appointed Mistress of the Infants' School.' (26/6/71)

The post of **Assistant Mistress** was created as the school increased in size.....

Miss Elizabeth Ives from Naphill School near High Wycombe, Bucks provisionally certificated, and having obtained a second class in the examination for scholarship last July, has been appointed as an Assistant Mistress in this school. (4/2/78) . NOTE- there is some indication that Miss Ives was an ex Pupil Teacher at this school. She 'having completed her engagement this day, resigned her situation.' (15/11/78).

Miss Ellen Dilkes 'having been appointed Assistant Mistress in place of Miss Ives, entered upon her duties this day.' (18/11/78). She 'sent her resignation this day.' (19/12/79)

Maria Adams 'Pupil Teacher 5th year, took Miss Dilk's place this day.' (6/2/80)

Susan Marie Adams appears as Assistant Mistress in the Inspector's Report (6/7/83) without any previous indication of appointment. She is an ex Pupil Teacher and resigns (11/8/84) 'in order to read a certificate.'

Catherine Lloyd Thomas appointed Assistant Mistress (18/8/84) and resigned (28/11/84)

Mrs Richardson appointed Assistant Mistress (12/12/84) and resigned (19/12/84)

Susan Marie Adams 'having returned from her examination for a certificate, was this day reappointed as Assistant Mistress (31/12/84). Resigned to take up appointment as Mistress elsewhere (28/5/85) NOTE- could be Stoney Stanton.

Elizabeth Law mentioned as Assistant Mistress in Inspector's Report (17/8/85). She resigned (19/3/88) and replaced by Miss Sarah Ann Holderness who resigned (20/8/89)

Miss Alice Mary Orson appointed Assistant Mistress (20/8/88)

REPORTS:

(reports.wri)

The Government Inspectors' Reports were very significant for the school in that the conclusions had an impact on the size of the grant. Hathern had its ups and downs as reflected in the Reports.....

2 March 1866

The children in the upper classes answered fairly when questioned in Holy scripture: but in reference to Reading, Writing and Arithmetic the school is in an inefficient and very unsatisfactory state.

My Lords have considered the statement made in your letter of the 5th ultimo to HM Inspector in connection with this report. Under the circumstances therein explained they have consented to pay the Grant for the ten months of the past year during which the school was open without any reduction in its amount except that which Article 44 effects of itself. I am directed at the same time to point out that Thomas Hickling ought not to have been entrusted with the sole charge of the school for the months of November and December. As it was impossible to procure a suitable Certificated Master at that time, some uncertified teacher should have been temporarily engaged for the general superintendence of the school. My Lords will however in consideration of the difficulties of the case, not refuse to allow Hickling the benefit of his late examination for admission to a Training School, and allow a charge for his stipend up to 31st July 1865 when Mt Stansfield left the school.

They will need next year to look for a very great improvement in the instruction and general efficiency of the school.

The total number of attendances of all the scholars (19172) divided by the number of times the school has been held (379) gives the average attendance 51 instead of 79 as stated in the Manager's Return. The Grant has therefore been calculated upon the former number.

8 April 1867

The late Master Mr Hefford left this school in an unsatisfactory state. The present teacher who has only been a short time in charge has succeeded in improving the lower classes, but the Arithmetic in the 2nd, 3rd, & 4th Standards is bad. The answering in Religious Knowledge was very fair. Needlework fair. One tenth has been deducted from the Grant on account of the defects in Arithmetic. My Lords trust that a vigorous effort will be made during the current year to clear the school from debt.

15 April 1872

The school is in a fair state of general efficiency, but improvement in Arithmetic is desirable, and drilling would be found useful.

27 April 1877

From whatever causes this school has somewhat fallen off in efficiency. The examination of classes was not satisfactory, owing apparently to misdirected efforts to cram the children's minds with dry facts and lists of names. The pupil teachers do not seem to have been thoroughly trained and practised in the art of teaching with intelligence. The extra work devolved on the Master by his wife's illness may be held to account for some shortcomings.

14 April 1878

The elementary subjects have been taught with more care and success than formerly. It now remains to put more life and intelligence into the subjects of class instruction which are at present at a low ebb probably owing to the influx of neglected children. The addition of an Assistant Mistress to the staff should enable the Master to secure greater proficiency.

25 April 1879

The children taught by the Master gave proofs of careful teaching which is the more creditable because the unusually regular attendance habitually filling the room almost to overflowing makes good organisation impracticable. The second standard is weak in all subjects partly because many of the children have been forced to attend school, but chiefly because their instruction is mechanical. Their geography should be undertaken by the Head Teacher who, in this subject, has taken pains with the Upper Classes but whose efforts have not proved sufficient to neutralize the ignorance of the second standard.

16 July 1880

Irregular attendance continues to depress the attainments of the children, and to frustrate the efforts of a most anxious and painstaking Master. The room is on some days most inconveniently overcrowded, on others half empty.

6 July 1883

Mr Lammas has serious difficulties to contend with in the irregularity of attendance and the awkwardness of the premises. He should however, pay more attention to the Handwriting, and the cultivation of the children's intelligence, especially in Arithmetic and in Grammar; otherwise it will be impossible to consider the school in future years as reaching a fair condition. The needlework should also improve.

20 June 1884

Irregular attendance, crowded rooms and insufficient desk accommodation continue to impair the results in spite of Mr Lammas hard work. This is especially shown in the deficiency of neatness and accuracy in the children's exercises which gain, however, a somewhat larger proportion of passes than last year. Mr Lammas would secure more attention and so more intelligence by habitually addressing the children in a less loud tone of voice. The average attendance in the Mixed School must not be allowed to exceed the number for which accommodation is provided (Average 96).

10 June 1886

Last year's standard has scarcely been maintained, though Reading is creditable both spelling and Arithmetic show weakness. The Grammar is also poor and the Grant is but barely obtained for Geography.

21 June 1889

Geography barely good enough for the lower Grant. Penelope canvas must not be used for teaching darning or herring boning.

ADMINISTRATION

(admin.wri)

The Log Book gives some insight into the heating and lighting. There are annual references to the 'fires being made in the school room for the first time this winter.' (16/10/63) This seems to happen mid-October every year. The coals were always ordered at the last minute with the occasional panic - 'got a cwt of coal from Mr Hickling as Mr Wild could not let us have any until this afternoon.' (23/12/64). 'All chimneys swept today' (27/10/63). The money to pay for the coal was obtained from the parents as an addition to the tuition fees - 'sent out notices of the coal money being due on Nov 1st.' (14/10/64)

The school is sometimes closed early due to poor light - 'School was dismissed at 4 o'clock this afternoon as it was impossible to see any longer.' (6/12/63)

The parents paid for their children to attend the school which was, I assume, 2 pence per week up 1877. I draw this conclusion from the log entry of 28/9/77. 'The children received notice that on and after Monday next the school pence would be raised to three pence for those having a yearly rental up to £10; fourpence for those having yearly rentals between £10 and £20; and sixpence for those having a yearly rental above £20. The School Manager has written over this entry stating that 'the two latter fees have always been in force in this school from its commencement in 1850.' rather neatly confirming the school's opening date. I assume that the rental relates to their homes and is a system for income related fees. This change resulted in 'A deal of confusion on Monday in consequence of the raising of the school pence. Many parents persisted in sending two pence only. Several children have left the school rather than pay the extra money.' (5/10/77)

There was financial help toward school fees available. 'On Monday afternoon those children over 11 years of age and having made up the 250 times during the past year were examined for the Scholarships in connection with the Hathern Charity. The successful, and amount awarded to each are as follows - Frank Swift £4; Edward Cooper £3.10s; Walter Widdowson £2.10s; Henry Fuller and Thomas Cooper £2 each; Mary A Kelham £2; and Harriet Hunt £1. Simon Wilde and Samuel Grover were also examined but failed to satisfy the examiner. The following children were of sufficient age but, not having made up the proper number of attendances, were not eligible viz. Sutton Groves; George Freeman; George Gaze; John Dewsbury; Emma Hague; Dinah Beech; Elizabeth Hatton and Bertha Cumberland.' (27/3/74) Similar entry on 16/4/75 and is interesting to note that the maximum payment was £4 for boys and £3 for girls.

Whilst the Government had a continuing interest in school management - 'began to mark the registers according to the new Government regulations.' (17/10/73) compulsory attendance does not come into force until 1879. It is interesting to note that legislation is not allowed to interfere with the work of the village. 'Very small attendance this week caused by papers being circulated by the Attendance Committee of the Loughborough Union giving notice that the Compulsory Act is suspended for four weeks during Harvest. Many parents are, therefore, keeping the children away from school although not engaged in harvest operations.' (12/9/79). Some allowance had already been made earlier in children could attend school on a half-time basis. 'Eight children admitted on Monday under the Half Time Act in consequence of the visit of the Inspector.' (24/7/74). This provision was sometimes not properly applied as when - 'many absentees. Monitor stated that children frequently kept at home for seaming in violation of the Byelaws which require children (?) for partial exemption from regular attendance at school.' (3/4/82).

The School Attendance Officer was a regular visitor and such entries in the log as 'brought a Magistrates Summons for John Gamble the father of Helen Gamble for irregular attendance.' (2/11/88) shows the use of the law as enforcement.

The fact that the requirements for the completion of education had been established is reflected in the Log. 'Many children now leaving having passed the Inspector's examination and fulfilled the requirements of the Byelaws of the School Attendance Committee of the Loughborough Union.' (14/6/85).

EVENTS

(events.wri)

It is possible to get a good insight into the things that were happening in and around the village from the comments in the log book. These can then be further researched through the local newspapers and their written reports. The Loughborough Monitor is available complete for the period. I will simply detail the entries in chronological order.....

- 18/06/63 nearly a dozen absent today. Most of them have gone to Loughborough.
06/07/63 more than 12 children absent because of the haymaking (ANNUAL EVENT)
13/07/63 Wake Week (ANNUAL EVENT)
28/07/63 12 children away -gone to Garendon (FOR THE CRICKET)
14/08/63 Harvest Holiday begins for 1 month (ANNUAL EVENT)
19/10/63 several of the elder boys absent - employed in getting potatoes
23/10/63 small attendance - Loughborough Agricultural Show (ANNUAL EVENT)
16/12/63 small attendance - Loughborough Fair (ANNUAL EVENT)
02/02/64 school closed pm - treat to which children are going in Loughborough
09/03/64 small attendance - stormy weather, snowing hard
15/03/64 some children went to Hathern Turn to see the hounds
19/03/64 school closed early - Mr J Booth's panorama exhibited in the schoolroom
21/06/64 sent children home at 3pm - cricket match at Garendon Park
20/07/84 many children absent - Loughborough Floral Fete (ANNUAL EVENT)
22/07/84 3 children absent this afternoon - they have gone bird scaring
29/07/64 many children absent - cricket match at Garendon Park
29/09/64 holiday as Master and Pupil Teacher in choir at Leicester
26/10/64 many absent - foundation stone being laid at the new chapel
31/10/64 many children went home early - Diorama at Loughborough
08/12/64 half the boys late - Mander's Managerie passed through the village
18/01/65 many children late this morning - stayed at church to see a wedding
24/05/65 learnt National Anthem - Queen's birthday
25/05/65 church service 8am-10am - Ascension Day
22/06/65 children went home at noon - being so very hot in school
04/07/65 2 children absent - gone to Shepshed Wake
05/07/65 Pupil Teacher absent - summons to witness in Court (Loughborough)
24/07/65 Gave Pupil Teacher holiday to go to the election at Loughborough
26/07/65 holiday - Festival of Choirs at Loughborough
03/10/64 several absent - Nottingham Fair (ANNUAL EVENT)
12/11/65 2 absent - gone to Whatton Feast
14/11/65 meeting of the British & Foreign Bible Society in the evening
14/03/66 took children to church this morning at 11 o'clock; the day being set apart as a Day of Humiliation on account of the Cattle Plague
15/10/67 half day holiday - Harvest Festival at Loughborough
08/01/69 poor attendance owing to sickness prevailing (CONTINUES TO 15 JANUARY)
01/04/69 holiday in the afternoon - school required for a concert
22/09/69 holiday in the afternoon - school required for Flower Show and tea party
21/04/71 holiday on Friday - unveiling of the East Window at church
21/06/72 no school on Monday - Temperance demonstration at Garendon Park
13/12/72 Mrs Jourdain visited the school for a few minutes
14/02/73 no school on Wednesday - room required for concert for church funds
14/03/73 small attendance - Wesleyan Chapel tea party
25/04/73 holiday on Thursday - Bazaar and Miss Smythies wedding
16/03/77 small attendance on Friday - Loughborough Steeple Chases (ANNUAL EVENT)
05/07/78 small attendance - hay/Prince & Princess of Wales at Nottingham/Derby Arboretum
18/10/78 several children leave early - Wombwell's Menagerie passing through the village
23/05/79 small school on Tuesday - Myer's Circus in Loughborough
31/10/79 many absent Wednesday am - troops of soldiers passing through the village
16/04/80 attendance very poor on Monday owing to the election
16/08/80 many children gone to the Centenary at Loughborough
14/10/81 small attendance Tuesday morning - menagerie passing through the village
24/06/87 no school on Tuesday - Jubilee Week
21/10/87 no school on Monday - teachers at the Exhibition in Manchester
22/03/89 Bishop of Leicester visited the school

THE BUILDING

building.wri

Built in 1849 it became the focus of many problems as the number of scholars increased. From the Log Books it is impossible to draw accurate conclusions as regards the size of the accommodation.....

In 1871 the room sizes were recorded as being -

2 Schoolrooms each 33ft long x 18 feet wide x 19 feet high

1 classroom 13ft 4in x 13ft 6 in x 9ft 10in high

1 classroom 12ft 9in x 14ft 3in x 9ft 10in high

The 2nd classroom dimensions have been altered in pencil at some time to give a length of 26ft 2in and this seems to be confirmed by the Infant School Log Book

Inspector's Report 15 April 1872

The windows being all behind the children when seated at their desks and the desks being raised one above the other make it very difficult for the Master to check faults of discipline, copying, etc

Inspector's Report 16 July 1880

The lack of light from above, the uneven surfaces of the old desks, and the habits formed in the younger classes of using slate pencils less than three inches in length have combined to produce bad writing. When funds permit, these evils should be remedied.

Inspector's Report 16 June 1882

When the proposed classroom is being built it will be well also to insert a fair sized window in one of the gables or else put a sky-light on the northern slope of the roof. The infant attendance should not exceed 8 sq ft per child = 97.

Keeping warm was achieved using coal fires which were generally lit for the first time in October. 'Had fires in both classrooms and upper classroom' (25/10/65)

The school bell was important in summoning scholars. 'Caution given against touching the bellrope when passing it (23/10/63). The bellrope broke this morning whilst a boy was ringing it. Hence many late this afternoon as they were waiting for the bell.(11/4/64)

All breakages must be paid for! 'A window on the north side of the school broken accidentally by one of the boys during playtime. Master enquired into the circumstances and ordered to be paid for amongst 8 boys who were playing near. Caution given to children against going into the school garden, several flower roots being wilfully destroyed. (21/10/63)

ATTENDANCE

(attend.wri)

Year	1863	1864	1865	1866	1867	1868	1869	1870	1871	1872	1873	1874
Jan		62	112				69					129
Feb		65	73	59								
Mar		82		71					106		137	140
Apr		99		75					100	107	141	125
May			103	78		98	117		112		136	
Jun	87			73	114	91	125	100	101	115		
Jul				79		79	115	98				135
Aug								114		96		
Sept	43	78									106	150
Oct	67							114	104	123	128	157
Nov	70	88						111			126	141
Dec	55								106			

Year	1875	1876	1877	1878	1879	1880	1881	1882	1883	1884	1885	1886
Jan	128	120	143				130	175				
Feb	125	148	158				148	9 Feb 1883 ' Attendance on Friday is much better. This no doubt is occasioned by a scarcity of work in the village'				
Mar		153					152					
Apr	137	156	157	153								
May	132	157	160	163					140			
Jun			195	171	150							
Jul	126	145	192	162	150	113	146	166				
Aug	123		195			110		168				
Sept	113	104		163			157	169				
Oct	126			163			135	176				
Nov	147	113					158					
Dec	139	129				143						

26 April 1889 Total on the books 235 - one fifth of the population
 5 July 1889 Average attendance 151 - 27 less than last year
 29 October 1889 187 present
 24 January 1890 161 "
 22 April 1890 201 "
 1 July 1890 157 "
 21 November 1890 188 average attendance
 19 December 1890 143 average attendance
 29 January 1891 181 present