

REV WILLIAM SLATER SYKES

YDSO 81/1/1,2,3

Rev. Sykes was curate at Holy Trinity Church, Millom, from 1895 to 1900, he then went on to be the vicar at Eskdale. He was a keen antiquarian and left several note books some of which are held at Whitehaven Archives. It is with the kind permission of Cumbria Archive Centre Whitehaven and CWAAS that we have been able to photograph his books and put them into this format so that the public have better access to them for research purposes.

With thanks to our volunteers who visited Whitehaven Archive to photograph the books: Rosanna Cox, Alison Holburn, Fiona Pervez

YDSO 81/1/2: Volume 2, Chapter IX: Gossip and Scraps

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Millom and District Local History Society

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CHAPTER IX: GOSSIP AND SCRAPS

IX 16

Gossip..

The new parson at Eskdale.

- A. He's getting a new parson and a corner
for your shop, what sort of a chap is he ?
- B. Oh, he's a good sort of chap he and I
are great pals.
- C. Well! he's got a gay job to shift
some o' they old stamards out of Eskdale
up yonner (pointing upward with his thumb).

Late comers at Eskdale Church.

In summer a special train was run on Sunday
mornng for visitors staying at Eskdale Green;
one Sunday the train was very late and the
service had been started when the visitors
came in groups - the largest part sitting,
the Church as the Vicar was reading the Bible
Psalm iii. v. 1. "Lord how are they increased that
hate me" a pause till quiet returned
the Parson heard aloud & pretty forcibly
after the service.

was Parson Porley. Of the Neavey House at Bedfoot.
a sketch the original taken before the restoration is
given in another vol of these notes. The living room
had a cobbled floor. Parson Porley farmed the few
acres of glebe and acted as carrier to White Town.
and some of the older people could still remember the
suumour by which the parson was called from the field
"Pnerb. Pnerb come to thi' poddish" In my
time the name "Pnerb" was being quickly replaced
by Rever - but "your reverence" was used by some.

Another story of P. P.

Thickam:

In Dickens's *Christmas* p 177. "Green Bay Horse"

one of the ~~errand~~ young men was afterwards a
Clerk himself - at Melton; I have heard him tell the story.

Parson Wilkison went to see old Billy Newby of
Baldmire ~~Baldmire~~. A resolution had been passed to make a new
rectory at the Church and the Parson had promised to ask
for this subscription from ~~an~~ ^{old Newby} who was well able to give but
not willing to part with any money for the Church.

Good evening Mr Newby. I've come to ask you to give a subscription
to the new rectory which is needed very much at Baldmire.
old Billy... "We want a new Priest a downed sized worse".

Farmer Hodges of Whorlpepper went on horseback to
Whorlpepper to pay his rent to Dr Gilpin who addressed
him "O come in John and I'll give thee a glass of six year old
Whorlpepper 'sint then, Doctor, there's been
a new crop had given I doubt."

The Train Rabyton to Boot under the old
management often came to a standstill at the
incline near Boot. And the guard would address

the Passenger. First class passengers keep your seats

Second class .. get out & walk

Third class ~ push behind .

~~The~~ The train in the morning was often held back
to make Dr C... to join it. On one occasion he
was so late that the train started without him. At
Newcastle Mill the guard was much surprised to
see the Dr looking out of a window. Why how did
you come there he asked. Oh said the doctor I saw
the train just going round the corner at Rabyton
and I ran after it and climbed in .

It often happened that a sheep or cow would be
on the line and the engine driver would bell the
animal with coal to drive it from between
the rails.

One station was the half

of an old sea boat and occasionally I have seen the train stopped there to put down a bottle of medicine - on one occasion a wire spring mattress was left till the farmer from some distance across the field had time to fetch it.

The Saloon carriage was the delight of the visitors an old cattle truck with benches round it.

The line was originally constructed for the iron mines near Gill force above the Church. For many years after the mines were given up a partly filled truck remained in a siding near Kirk Stone.

The miners are said to have come from Wales or Cornwall and in the early days there was great jealousy among the young men of the date when their sweet hearts were alienated from them by the new way of the "Portuguese". One man was specially warned that his attraction to a certain girl must cease or ill would follow. No notice was taken

Dalesmen were often spoken of by the miners as dull wretches but on one occasion the locals were given their chance. The Cornish were known to be fond of fish and a large haul of fish was one day hauled round the miners' Cottages and freely purchased for a grand fish supper - but alas they did not know the bony spikes of the local bass (perch) with which many of the small tams are filled. It was not wise to trust a Dalesman with being dull - for a long time after that.

and one night after dark he was seized tied
up inside a sack and carried down to the River side
apparently with every intention of casting him in.
one of his assailants turned soft - and the man
was left tied up in the sack on the bank till found
by some of his mates in the morning. The names
of the assailants were well known and it was said that
some were still living in the date in my time but
their names were never divulged to any one.

The story of the Lost Coffin and Parker's History
of Gosport was well known in the parish and
the individuals mentioned by name; but as the
date indicated by details given the parish
Registers differ from the popular belief by giving
the date within short period of the burial of
both Mother and Son. That both parties got
lost is however probably quite correct.

For fuller description see stories by Miss Alice Pea
Brecksides Bogge and other stories.

Another chair for the Sanctuary was presented by
Mrs. Sykes about 1920... It bears the following history
Chair bought from Miss Simpson formerly school mistress
at Eskdale.

"During the Civil war a certain Royalist had been
pursued by Cromwellian soldiers and reached his
home unperceived as he thought by his pursuers.
He was having his dinner seated in this chair*
when some neighbours ran in to say that the soldiers
were only a few ^{hundred} yards away. The farmer was not far
from one of the lakes and he jumped through a back
window and ran down to the shore and escaped in
a boat across the lake"

In more recent times this chair was used several
times by Bishop Viller's at Confirmation held in Cartmel
Hall Church near which the Simpsons were living in
the middle of last Century

* The Table used with this chair was bought by
Rev. Haslam who had a house in Eskdale Green.

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In Dickens's *Christmas Carol* p 177. "Green Bay Horse"

one of the ~~errand~~ young men was afterwards a
Clerk himself - at Melton; I have heard him tell the story.

Parson Wilkison went to see old Billy Struby of
Baldmire ~~Baldmire~~. A resolution had been passed to make a new
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Whorlpeffer to pay his rent to Dr Gilpin who addressed
him "O come in John and I'll give thee a glass of six year old
Whorlpeffer 'sint then, Doctor, there's been
a new crop had given I doubt."

Another story of Parson Powley is told in connection
with the Fox Hunt. The Parson on the
way to Church met the Huntsman - "Well what
a' ye gettin'?" "We're gettin' a fox bitch and
a fou mart and a sweet mare." "Na' si God
for ya monney work; here's a dully to hist
y'r eyes."

A man describing a pack of a hunt

"a come dan't bress like a gam clew
and a' eried stark to 'c hands stark!"

Two old men were being visited by the Doctor
as they were sitting by the fire the Doctor said - it is
curious that neither of you two smoke

one said 'e does (other than)

Dr. What! Aaron, do you chew

It. Cye! there's sea waste.!

A party of youths called for Tea at a local
inn and asked for eggs. The waitress wanted
to know whether they should be fried or boiled or hard?
The way of the party said "hard" and
she brought them in "hard" i.e. empty.

A parson giving out the usual notice in
Estkdale Church and following Dale Custom included
"Has any o' you seen an owd yowe with
... leg mark and ... snit [usual sheep
sheep marks] - better parson ... know after
t' service"

Wardale Strad.

One of the Incumbents of Wardale was old and infirm used to discontinue the Church Services some time several years. One summer a clerical friend at the Hotel called at the Vicarage and in my considerate way spoke of the difficulties and offered his services for the following Sunday.

The Vicar was extremely blunt in his remarks about strangers calling themselves Clergy and suggesting they could do what the Vicar was unable to do - and finished by asking who his parish would be? I am the Bishop of Hereford was the reply. "Bishop of Hereford - you a Bishop" and what quarrel have I as to who you are - permission was not given.

A much earlier story is probably well known a clergyman from a distant parish was acting as supply for the Vicar who was away from home

Miss Alice Rea in *Backside Boggs* vividly describes in form of a story the account of the way in which a robber met his death. But she does not mention the accomplice - perhaps the story has been added to. After the deed was done a deep sepulchral whisper was heard at the door.

Hey Jock - Ho Jock is 'ta within
and the woman's awful screech replied

He Jock ho Jock scart of his skin.

The scene is still in existence but has been removed to another farmstead.

The account published in "First publication of the Truth Journal" describes how the ? Quakers ? first visited Eskdale and were resisted by "that wicked Priest - Parker" who for his cruelty to the preachers was struck with sickness so (write that he came never more to the Steeple house".

This appears to refer to Priest Parker the Elder who ^{seems} appear to have been incumbent of Eskdale 1684 - 1716. Perhaps to this or later visit of these early Preachers belongs the curious 'Curse' on Sabbath breakers preserved at Spout House. Published in the C & W Transactions Vol XII. art vi.

To the same Priest may be attributed the saying called "a fool or a horse back" printed in Dickinsons Cumberland page 165. The story is still remembered in the date. As also the story about Parson Powley given in the same place. On page 170 of the same "a too common Lot" - the aged Cumbrian clergyman

and a farmer came to speak to his offerance

" I always heard you were 't warrd preacher
in Cumberland but we men give 't devil his
due ye're not so black as ye're painted "

The lowliness of Wards in winter time
before visitors used to come for winter dwelling
was marked one day by the Vicar suddenly calling
to his daughter who specially felt the dullness
of the life at the Vicarage

TERESA, TERESA Come quick! There's
a man on the road.

YD

a former Vicar of Whitbriek and his Clerk
getting old and using spectacles - The Vicar
reading the Psalm xxii. 12 dropped his glasses
and lost his place. Leaning over the desk he
whispered but they audibly "Anthony, Anthony,
don't a see any King of fab bells of Basan
"Na! Na! mesler I see among the rampin'
and roaring lions.

Booth.

One of the fields belonging to Seal's nursery is called the old Bull Copey (i.e. Dog: Hou: Cow: Lee) - in it is the old Bull stone with socket hole for a ring and surrounding the stone an arena - here the once popular sport of Bull baiting was held which attracted visitors from all the country side. Sunday seems to have been a favourite day, connected with it is the following story.

One Sunday a special preacher - some say the Archdeacon - was preaching when the clerk came quietly and pulled his gown. Heater's time he stopped, no notice. Heater

'Bells coming! no notice.

(miserable) Heater will let you stop the bells come and we're all going!

Perhaps it was the finale of the above or another story when the detail is added that the preacher usually closed his eyes while preaching, being

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"Na! Na! mesler I see among the rampin'
and roaring lions."

asked to stop - and no notice taken
The clerk added Master here's t keys will
be lock up when ye've finished. And the
maester opened his eyes to find that all
the congregation had quietly slipped away.

Whitbeck.

The Bishop of Chester in visiting the northern
part of his great diocese was once passing
through this tiny village and with the vicar and
churchwarden visited the church. There he noticed
the bell was cracked and advised that it be
recast. The churchwarden replied 'Eh! but it wd
take a siegel of brass!' The Bishop replied that
it need not do so as the old bell could be
recast and no extra metal would be required -
but that was not the meaning of the wardens
Probable date 1728.

Thickam:

In Dictionary Cumbria p 177. "Green Bay Horse"

one of the circumstances young man was afterwards a
Clerk Pennell - at Mellor; I have heard him tell the story.

Parson Wilkinson went to see old Billy Struby of
Baldmire ~~Parson~~. A resolution had been passed to make a new
rectory at the Church and the Parson had promised to ask
for this subscription from ~~an~~ ^{old Newby} who was well able to give but
not willing to part with any money for the Church.

Good evening Mr Newby. I've come to ask you to give a subscription
to the new rectory which is needed very much at the Church.
old Billy... "We want a new Priest a damned sight worse".

Parson Hodges of Wharfedale went on horseback to
Wharfedale to pay his visit to Dr Gilpin who addressed
him "O come in John and I'll give thee a glass of six year old
Wharfedale! sent thee, Doctor, there's been
a new set of bad girls I doubt."

Millom

The pitch pipe was in use at the church for starting the hymns till about 1830. The story of old R^d Noble the clerk is recorded elsewhere - choir getting impatient when the clerk did not give the note. "Pyke t'ime man" - Ah' can't t' pipe = fir o' muck."

A reference to the Barrel organ which succeeded the pitch pipe is given in the church accounts of 1834 'a journey to enquire after a person to repair the organ' if. Perhaps this was the consequence of an occurrence in the middle of morning services when the organ was set to play the first chant - instead of stopping at the end of the chant the organ began to repeat itself. The service had to be discontinued until some of the men carried it out into the church yard and left it with the admonition to friends 'dealt out there'.

Harry Hodgson brother of the clerk was the "organist" of the Barrel organ afterwards.

At one time the children at the Castle had a tame magpie which occasionally followed them to Church. One Sunday it perched on the sounding board over the pulpit and proceeded to interrupt the vicar's sermon with its own remarks. The clerk who happened to have a long switch crept quietly to the pulpit and tied it with the switch saying "I've got thee now mag!" but the poor poor clapperhead tied his face "Nae na ye've tied me job"!!

In 1836 Mr Picthall was vicar. He was addressed as Mr Pic-thall by strangers in parishes and did not recognise who was being spoken of. so he adopted the local pronunciation I've Pyke-ta. Once he happened to have been taking a funeral at Mallow Church "and we had him to visit he was at Her'santon cock fight".

Matt Tyson who in 1841 succeeded Richard Noble as Clerk was also master of the workhouse in Stoo Bank. He had orders to toll the bell after a death and took two lads with him in the morning. Harry started them to toll in the gallery he had seen continue till he returned from Holborn Hill where he had some business. Meeting some friends and Harry had some ale with them he forgot the lads. A man passing thro the church yard about 5 o'clock wondered what was the reason. Getting into the church he found the lads still tolling the bell. "What for go' ye on?" T'wecster said as we was to toll the bell till he came."

There were two bells in Mellow Church; the heavier one was always tolled for a man and the lighter one for a woman.

The bell tongues used to be fastened with leather straps. on two occasions the tongues fell into the church yard once just missing a man passing by.

In 1766 the Church accounts show that it was necessary to have a "Dog whipper" who was paid 4^s 6^d a year and a whip cost 8^d. Perhaps it was at that time when the ^{whipper} clerk saw a dog in church half in and half out of the pew and was going to use his whip when the dog flew at him - his exclamation in the middle of the service is still remembered "damn they soul will thou bite me"

Perhaps both shepherds and dogs objected to the length of some of the services for it is related (what church is not numbered) that on one occasion a farmer straddled himself from church and his dog hunted all round the Church for him without success; so he went to look elsewhere in some of the farmer's accustomed haunts and found him at the alehouse. The dog never went to church again.

A different dog story

A farmer with a young dog on Stobbank

'Booy gau away bye' but the dog would
not work. "Dear me was anybody ever bothered
with seccan a dog I bet thee a shilling when I
get thee gam I will soole thee. Come away
I'll gang myself."

Stories of the Fairies were very difficult to obtain as the dalesmen were much afraid that they were being made fun of by the inquirers. There is little doubt however that the belief that they were a real people existed in the dales till quite recent times.

At Dalegarth for example the corn that had been put ready for the flail which was still in occasional use in my time was often found threshed in the morning. And the ploughing at Millom Castle had frequently been finished before the housewife appeared in the morning.

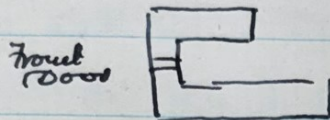
There were certain gifts which the little people would accept and others which they treated with scorn — but my memory does not serve me to give what I was told in Eskdale. Unfortunately the fuller account was lost in my MSS book of Eskdale notes which was destroyed after I left the dale. The late Vice Prov & Hall however has recorded that any one who feared malevolence on the part of the Fairies used to make a

a sound like the sharpening of knives.

This accords with a story told me by a lady at Stavrogh where forgers were from a Yorks date; if a woman had to leave the house unattended she would often lay a knife across the doorstep. One story from Cumberland - a certain family was troubled by the elfin tricks of one member of the little people and determined to rid themselves of their bug bear by doing a surreptitious flitting from the house every thing was packed and they were just leaving away from the house when a neighbour who knew the trouble met them and said "I see you are flitting" he was answered by a thin piping screech from somewhere no one could see in the packed cart "yes we're a flitting"

An old man who worked at Water Bleam used to kill takes of the tricks played upon him by Fairies but some times they would bring him fairy pipes found in underground passages of the quarry. Some of these were given me (i.e. old tobacco pipes).

The old farm house at Water Blane was pulled down many years ago - it was shaped somewhat like the letter E without the middle -



It was noted for the following story
"There used to be two skulls laid on the stair case window. No one knew their history. Attempts were often made to get rid of them but without success. They were sometimes taken away and hidden, some even buried but they were always found next morning in their accustomed place on the stair window sill. The people of the house got used to them and let them remain but if any strange visitor tried to upset the gruesome objects - it was no use - they would always return before morning. My informant said that people passing on the road used to keep wary eye on the house till they were safely passed. But nothing uncanny was ever seen or known to happen."

Tommy Stourby of Gallowbank was married twice. His first wife had saved a bit of money which she used to keep in a paper on one of the rafters of the cottage. On the third night after her funeral the friends were much alarmed by a great rustling of paper somewhere in the rafters. The same thing happened on the fourth night very persistently so next morning a search was made and the money, which no one knew of till then, was found. After that the noise was never heard again.

I cannot find Tommy Stourby's name in the Register so the occurrence may have been last century; his second wife's name was Agnes and the farm by the Gallowbank Hill is still sometimes called Aggy Bank - but whether as locally supposed Aggy denotes the cottage where Aggy Stourby lived I am not sure - Can it be an older 'agges' artificial mound or bank.

Mrs C... of ... Farm (names suppressed) was said to possess the "evil eye" and on one occasion ill-wished a neighbouring farmer. A very valuable cow was struck with some strange disease. The farmer was recommended by some one unknown to obtain a cow's heart and stick it full of pins then burn it in the fire. As he did so it rushed the ill worker and tried to drag the heart from the fire but was frustrated. The cow recovered.

Penny pot well - before the modern road from Low Ham toward Mill Millen was made - lay under a projecting rock about 300 yards from Low Ham. It was a favourite lunch meet for clerks of Millen Church between services and it is believed to have been one of the Holy Wells - probably the Well of Holy Trinity mentioned in a charter made by Henry de Millen on the marriage of his daughter Alice to William of Waldeve.

It was certainly even after I left Mellon supposed to possess some particular virtue as a man who was dying in the Newtown sent a friend specially to fetch water from the well as he could not die contentedly till he had open tasted water from the spring. Every pot well - or Deer Leap well was often visited by the deer out of Mellon Park which could from the Rock jump across the road into the meadows below. More than a hundred years ago my informant could not say how long a fawn used to make a practice of walking each day from the spring to New House but was unfortunately ^{seen} killed by a hound from the Castle. My informant was not clear as to the tradition but the ghost of either the Fawn or the dog used to keep that daily walk for many years after.

Horseshoe Hall had its ghost on the road from Kerkisanton - passengers by night would be aware of footsteps close behind them

and the dark form of some large animal followed and always turned down the lane to Heston Hall - then the sounds ceased.

The foot path through the churchyard was uncaused at night at least so my predecessor informed me - I never saw anything - but he occasionally saw a white shape flitting among the grave stones. ? an owl for the Castle.

The only scars that I had was late at night in a dark lane - two glaring eyes staring at me. My dog took no notice of them so I examined the spot and found an old tree stump and two pieces of rotten and phosphorescent wood about 3 inches apart - but they would have been quite sufficient to start a queer story.

In 1837 (?) took place a famous contest for
Parliament known locally as the fight of the
Blue and Yellow. Only those who had land of
their own had a vote but most of the farmers hurried
west to Boole to protect their masters in case
of a row. There were about 8 Statesmen from
Millou and Lord Dundas sent orders for them
to be conveyed to Boole in a covered carriage.
But no such kind of conveyance existed in
Millou, so orders were sent to Mr J^{no} M^o Gowen
Sen^r to take two horses to Whitehaven and
fetch a huge yellow coach belonging to Lordship
But two horses could not drag it with eight
Statesmen inside from Millou to Boole and
two more had to be attached with chains.
There were two Inns in Boole the centres
of the rival parties and they kept open house
for food and drink the whole day - and it is
said that many voters were lashed up in the stalls
for several days afterwards.

An old swear word

"Hell and Tommy"

Seems to be a remnant of the destruction of the
Cousults. By Hell = King Henry

and Tommy = Thomas Cromwell.

The two greatest thieves unking in the opinion of the Country.

What was considered a much worse phrase is contained
in the following.

Date abt 1780.

"In the days when tea was very expensive it was considered
a high honour to be invited to tea. There was a christening
at H.... and old Priest W. from Gutterly was invited
and asked to "teem out the tea" - 'Say when Anna' and
he began to pour. When the cup was nearly full instead
of 'when' Anna cried "Sooa, sooa Priest" and he
went on till the tea ran over cup and was beginning to
stop from the saucer and Anna very wrath screamed out
"Scuss a hell, Priest, will't you stop"

The Pilot Inn in Holborn still has been pulled down many years - but an inscribed stone* is built into the front of Newco Terrace. Here a Pilot across the sand could be obtained. It was kept at one time by a woman called Mrs. Haxman who ~~was~~ had one maid to act as waitress, Osler and Brown. On one occasion she was paid 6 for Great Park for a Tea merchant from Luclan and served him with Plover cured flukes which he prized so much that either his ~~man~~ or maid wrapped several in a parcel and slipped it into his box coat pocket. A parcel which he did not find out till he was nearly home many days after when the presence of some ^{tiny} difference made itself known to other travellers on the coach.

On another occasion a party of sportsmen were taken dinner there and when the host of the party called for the account he was told the charge would be 6^d each for all except one and he would be charged 7^d because the eat so much.

* quin is "scraps"

The Tavern called "White Lion" at Lady Hall was kept by a man called Lewis Jones. He is described as a fine old specimen usually dressed in a tall top hat and long coat and knee breeches. Two travellers called one day for refreshment and asked for wine. "I haf no wine" spiketh then "I haf no spiketh" would what have ye "Beer only Beer" - But the beer was very thick unpleasant to look at and worse to taste. Very thick beer said one. Oh! said the host it has only just come by the carrier from Bronglais - but it will settle in your bellies.

The Flying Bull near Colchester was a well known call for coaches before they turned up the Colchester valley on the way to Bronglais. It was kept by one Tyron whose wife was well known for her language

"Ann, Ann heers M^o. - want a drink

The Devil laik yer ann ann yeb'd yer self.

One afternoon I called at a farm near Mellou
and was told that one of the two brothers farmers was
feeling very poorly - and I thought he might well do so
The two brothers had started leading hay when
the one on top of the cart was jerked on to the
ground by a sudden movement of the horse. The elder brother
advised him to go home and rest awhile which he did.
Feeling better he took a ladder to clean out a gutter
over the kitchen doorway - the ladder slipped and he fell from
the roof to the floor below; feeling very shaken but
unwilling to be idle whilst the rest of the family was so
busy with the hay he walked round the farm to see
the stock were all right when he was met by the bull which
tossed him over a hedge into the next field.

I thought he might well feel rather poorly.

When parson Irving married he sought a wife from the neighbouring County but she had never seen her husband's parish. The vicarage was in Hill Millon close to Dashed gate; it had been bought during the vicariate of John Mills 1781-1796 and consisted of two cottages each with separate door and stair case. The brides feelings, when she saw her new home and that she could only get from one bedroom to the other by descending one stair and going outside and in by the other stair, were only described by the words 'she sat down and wept for 3 days'. The present parson was the building in glass land of the vicarage which was in use when I was Curate. The original vicarage close to the Church was pulled down in 1643 when Millon castle was attacked. It is not known where the parsonage was between 1643 and 1781. The house now in use was built for himself by Mr John Mills it is bounded on one side by one of the oldest roads in the district - that which runs from the sands - continued up the hill to Pilot Inn.

Parson John Irving was sometimes willing even to tell a story against himself. One very hot summer day he ~~walked~~ drove down to Millon to do the shopping and put up at the Station Hotel. He had been provided with a list of all the shops he had to go to and the articles required. As the number of parcels increased he bought also a basket and with these went to pay a call in Horse Hill and then took the foot path lower through the Churchyard. He arrived at the Vicarage very hot and very tired but flourishing his list exclaimed that he had done all the errands detailed to him but felt sure there was one item he had forgotten but it was not on the list. His daughter asked him But where is the carriage. It was the forgotten item not on the list.

One of his most amusing stories needed himself to tell it - which his wife always tried to stop him doing - it was that they both got locked in their bedroom. They had been I think to London

but stayed a night somewhere on the way down
perhaps Warwick. Reaching there my (ate) and
young straight to their room at the Hotel they took
little notice of the bedroom shelf. In the night her Ivory
heavy some noise asked Jim to get up and strike
a light which he proceeded to do - but could not find
the Drusey (candle) + Candles. She called to him and
a distinct voice replied I can't find the Candles
Will never mind come back to bed. - I can't find
the way back to bed + M.C. will I'll soon get a light
and she got out but could not find the Candles
and could not find her husband and could not find
the way back to bed. They ~~can~~ kept calling to
each other but did not meet anywhere in
the room. Finally first one and then the other got
back and decided to stay till morning. In the
morning they found there were two very long
rooms side by side with an opening (no door)
between. As each came to the open door way
they had walked thru and groped their way
all round the adjoining supply room.

Mr. Ivony always preached good sermons well divided up and full of practical common sense teaching and such as his parishioners could understand and remember.

I was walking home with him one Sunday when we were joined by James Shepherd of Hebra who said "That was a very good sermon you gave us this morning, Parson. I remember you preached exactly the same sermon fifteen years ago."

Mr. Ivony had one failing which gave him the nickname of "Bub Stop!" - except in preaching he very seldom completed a sentence. Often in giving directions about some parochial matter he would... "Bub Stop!" several times. So much so that one of his wives had sometimes to ask "Now John what do you really mean?"

The foregoing stories may be classed as good
bad or indifferent; very country parish in
Cumbria can produce their like and many
better ones. But one suggestion seems to arise
from these country yarns and that is that
except them are a few which seem to show
that traditional stories have been handed on
from generation to generation. Many are forgotten
as stories and are only the barest scraps of
local history.

The fairies were a real people to the eyes of
the forebears of these people in Eskdale and Millom
and were probably the earliest known inhabitants
before the first of the Britons - as evidenced by their
trial of their stone weapons come of steel.

I could never obtain a genuine sample of the
Children of the Fens which are well known in many
parts of the County - but Eeny, Meeny, Meiny, Mo
Tell the Truckman where to go is of course well
known. Perhaps the Tetrach corners were replaced

by the pentad method at a very early date

but there is still a possibility of recovery some of the early tradition and saving of the little people if care be used in asking for it.

One of the oldest traditions in Estelada is that of the decapitated sentinel who still watches at the soldier's gate - there is no story but the soldiers had a hut at this place and one wonders whether the sentinel was surprised by hidden foes suddenly resting him from the steep bank covered full above - or was it a sentence for sleep at his post - in any case he watches the low flat ground between the river and the road. The place is close to the modern quarry of stone but ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{place} his rock has been cut away to widen the road ~~sculpture~~ remains to mark his station.

The late Rocio Hall has recorded that Estelada was one of the places in which snow fell on Midsummer day - but records also the detail that 5 Berca

was supposed to be the wife of an Earl of Epsom. (!)

Rev H. Marshall Vicar of Eskdale 1770 - 1814 evidently associated the rise of the hill on North side of Eskdale Green with the Beltain ~~and~~ festival in the spring and with the autumn festival of which Keltic Fair was the best remnant. There seems to have been some very ancient traditions handed down about the Belt Hill but unfortunately in no definite form.

So the whole district possesses many scraps of anecdote, old sayings, scraps of gossip etc often associated with some still older traditions - but which are fast dying out for want of a collector.

Wabser the oval - part of a letter from Mrs Crawford
daughter of Stanley formerly Rector.

It is supposed that a Roman Camp stood in the
field [Globe: Title award no 158] opposite the Parsonage
where until recently there was a raised Castrum. It was
a most perfect square with the corners rounded. The
place was supposed to have been chosen because it was
sheltered from the sea winds yet with a good view of
Estimab. It was also within sight of Muncaster Keep.
In 1825 there was not in the globe land a tree of any
kind but old oaks and one willow. There was no
practice ground in the country like this. It is to be regretted
that it has been destroyed.

The late W. G. Colleywood to whom I sent copy of
the above extract thought that more likely it was a site of
a medieval manor house. W.S.S.



Milow Castle. Cropped both ears. Horn mark
on the near side.

The farmer of Milow Castle called the horn mark
a "Kottell" - perhaps supposing it to be the
hatterell of the de Boyvil crest.

Other places cropped both ears.

Whickham Hall. and L = Latius.

Dalegarth .. E.S. = .. Stanley

Frithe Hall. O. : modern mark. Ormaudy.

At Pow House - There are two Cannon Balls
of about 5 inch diameter; they were found
in the ruin of Millom Castle and are supposed
to have been fired at the Castle from the
Cotn Park by the Commonwealth soldiers.

There is also a Quern at Pow House found
it is believed in the neighbourhood - but it had
been in the garden ever since my informant
Mr George Myers could remember.

Querns have been found

at Penny Hill, Eskdale. [Believed now to be in Ravensgarth]

High ground, Austerlands. [This is now at Eskdale Green]

The Lordship Bridges are

Cockley Beck.

Ulpha. - on this bridge the word "watele" 1749.

Duddou sand (letter E. L. 1830.

Thewate mill.

Utelpa Bridge [w/ (Larkesaulou)]

two Bootle Bridges

Forge Bridge. ~~at~~ over Esk

$\frac{1}{2}$ Duddou Bridge

$\frac{1}{2}$ Manchester Bridge.

In C. & W. Trans: old series xv. 123 footnote

43 Elizabeth, act for rebuilding certain bridges at Carlisle
Provided that this act shall not give power - to charge
any of the inhabitants of the lordships of Myllam
that are already bound to repair the bridges with in
the said lordships at their own charges with
any contribution toward repairing the Eden Bridge

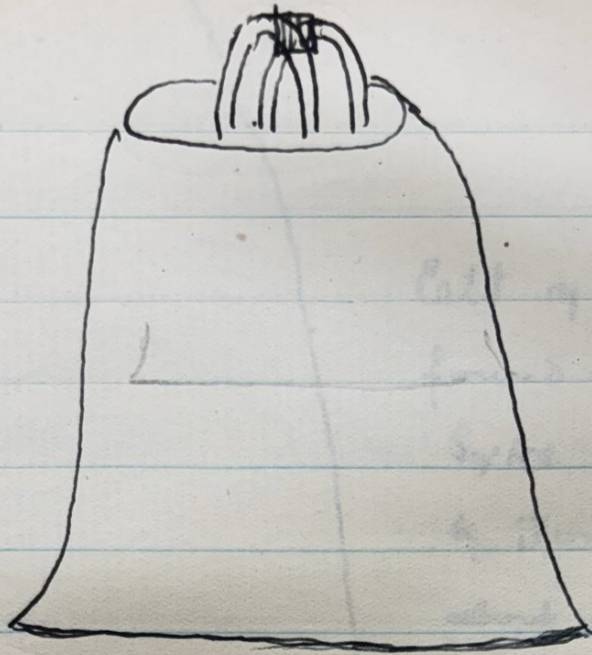
An Oak Chest at Fenwick bought at Rawfold
bears the name "W^m Taylor 1686"

M^r John Formb of Holborn Hill had an old oak
Chair at one time belonging to a ~~man~~^{the Clerk} called John Noble
it had originally belonged to the Carters and
had initials and date G. H. 1601. [The initials
are not those of a Studleston of that date].

M^r R^d Kitchen of Stobank owned a fine Grand
father Clock made by W^m Shepherd of Hebray a
noted Clock maker. The oak case was made from
a Tree which grew in Gilscair.

W^m Shepherd Clock maker died in 1777. Several
other clocks made by him are in the neighbourhood.

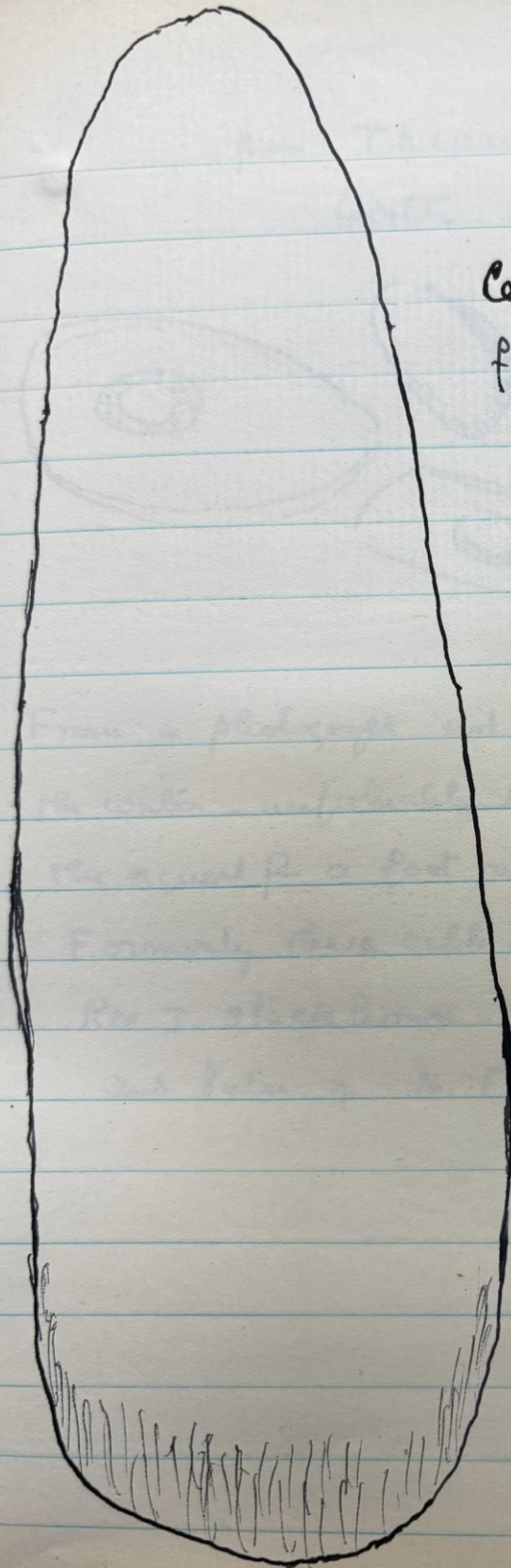
Logan Bred's Jarvis - a fine black oak Dresser
with initials T. M. T. 1686



There is an old bell in the Castle now very badly cracked. $10\frac{3}{4}$ in \times $9\frac{1}{2}$ (height) with a top 5 in.

Canon $\frac{1}{2}$ in. Weight 2 stones. The inside of the bell $\frac{1}{2}$ in. At the place where the hammer struck is a furrow worn in the metal. The Clapper ring seems to have been made of wire driven into prepared socket holes. The bell bears initials and date.

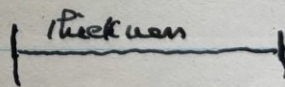
W H. 1736



Celt of slate stone
found in a field called
Syke at Butterdick
by Jonathan Rogers
about 1840. In possession
of Miss Rogers, in 1902 of
Randle How, later of Ullowston.

(outlined from the
stone)

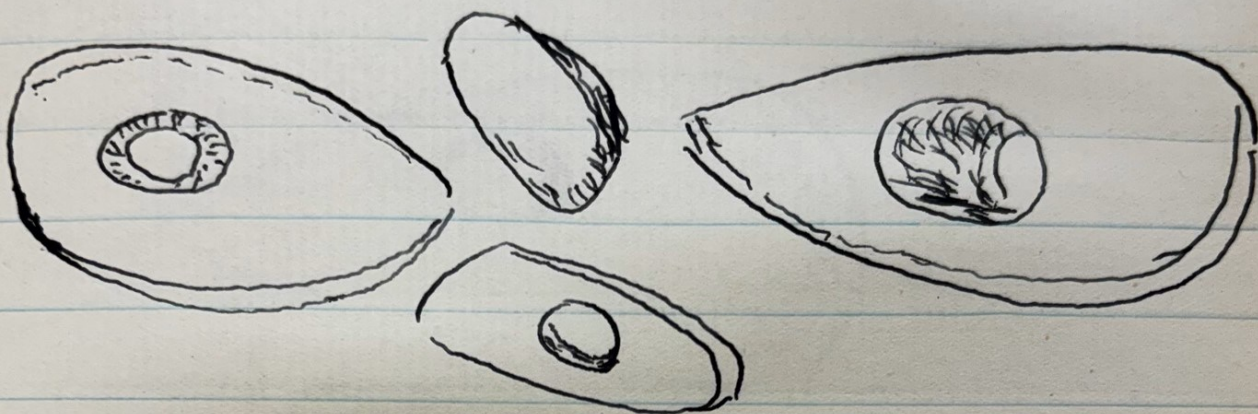
At Butterdick were hots
or panniers with loose bottom
were in use for manure till
about 1820.



Also carts in which
wheel and axle were in
one piece.

from Thwaites but exact

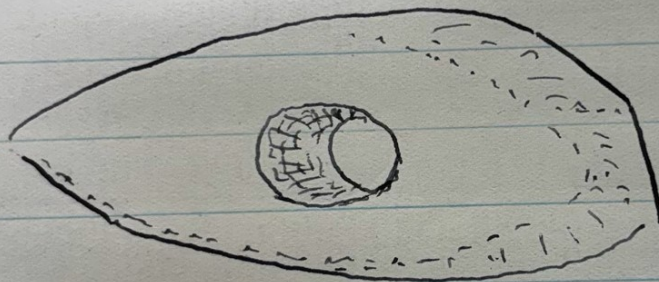
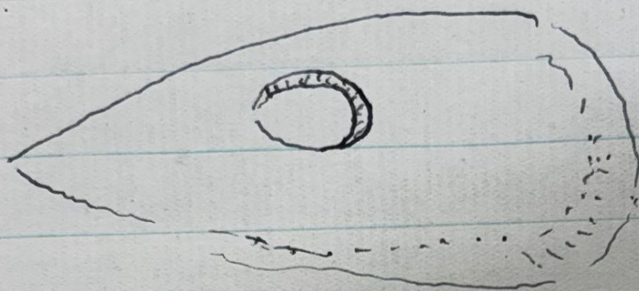
locality unknown.



From a photograph not used in the possession of
the writer - unfortunately the owner omitted to include
the request for a foot rule to be added to the group.

Formerly these cells were in possession of
Rev J. Stackhouse. Vicar of Thwaites 1848-74.
and later of N. Foster of Settle, Yorks.

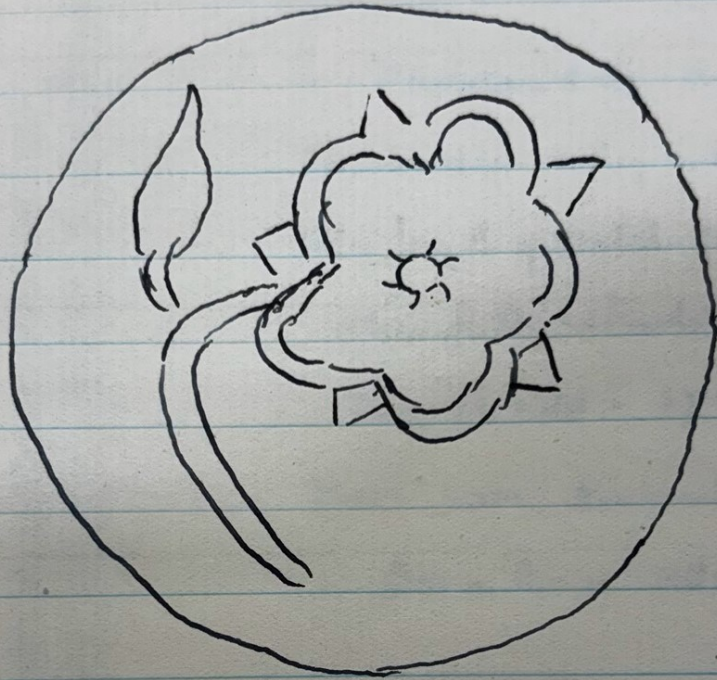
Fenwick - Thwaites



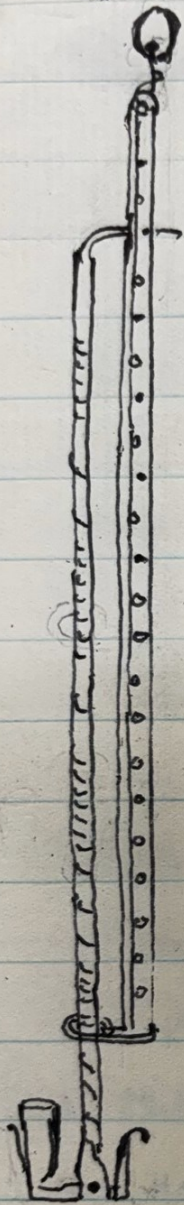
Sketch of two stones from the wall of
Fenwick Farm House sub to the window
but willow close to actual size.



Butter mould - from Butterdial Farm
in possession of Miss Rogers of Paustelers 1902
later of Uxton



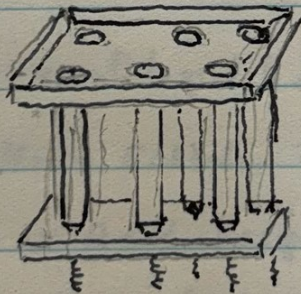
Beetle mould from Eskdale.



The winter has two burn candles like the sketch one from Black Hall in Durdan dale and the other from the Duddon valley but from not known. Total length of sketch candle $36\frac{1}{2}$ inches when fully extended 58 inches.

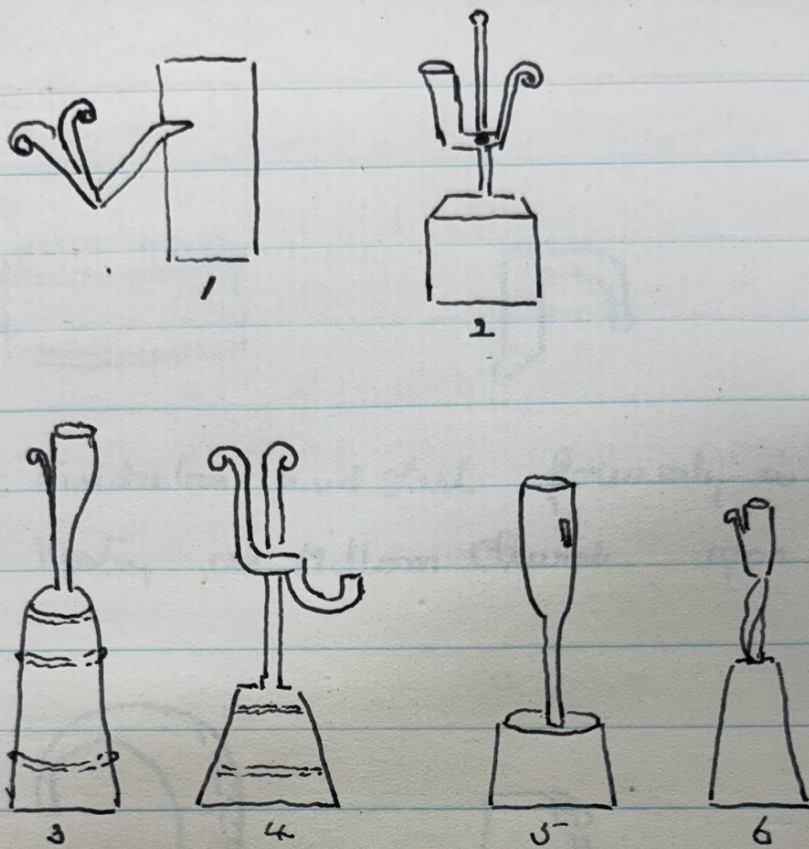
There should be 37 eyeslets.

There were several of this pattern in farm house kitchen in Eskdale.



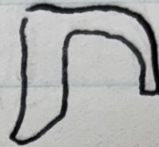
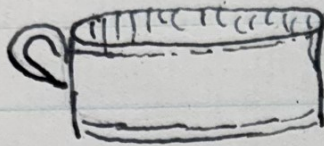
Tallow dips were made in moulds of this pattern which was from Hallowstones.

Rustlelights were still used by a few of the old people and I had some given where I kept several years till they began to smell so strong that they had to be thrown away.

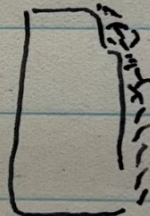


Candle and rushlight holders.

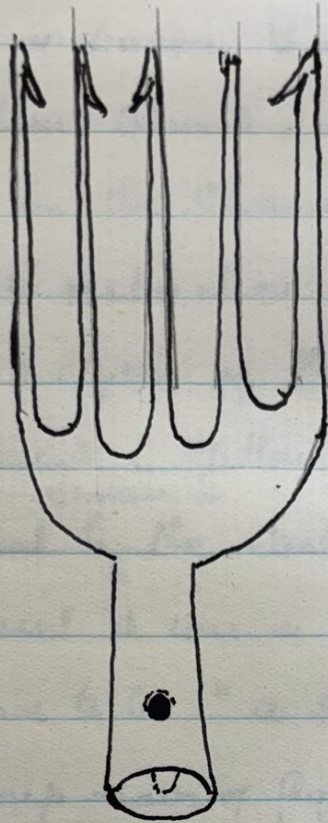
1. Herriot Hows, Eskdale to project 3 inches
2. Hows. n^o 3007 height about 4 inches
3. Millom Castle. Height abt 10 inches
4. Hobson Hill - origin not known
- 5 found as fastener of a field gate ^{near Henning House} at ~~Cropleton~~ ^{ESTC} ~~date.~~
- 6 Gutterby. Height 8 inches - the only one with the original wood base - the others 3, 4 quite rotten. 2 remain in possession of Farmers, Dargdale formerly of Hows.



Tinder box and steel formerly in the
Vestry at Millom Church. 1902.



Flint and steel carried & used for many
years by a tramp who was taken into
Boothle Work House c 1900.



The "Blacksmith's fly" as used at Trough How Bridge

It is related in Eskdale that two sportsmen keen on spearing Salmon used to vie with each other who should be first at the favourite rock on the vicarage side of the deep hole at Trough How or Dalegarth bridge. One thought he was certainly first on the occasion of a flood and crept down the slippery bank and with spear poised to cast found his rival up to the neck in the water unable to get out as he dared not let go of the projecting stone which had just saved him from drowning.

Poo House or Lacra had the only faculty
 pew in Millom Church. It was close to the
 vestry door in the Chancel - now done away
 at the recent restoration

When Mr J.S. Myers of Poo House had been
 to the Sacrament in Millom Church on Christmas
 day he would ^{dinner in} the Castle & to pay his Papper
 Com Rent and it was a fixed custom that
 one dish had to be "a sieu [pronounced sū] of
 figs" a soup made of figs and ale boiled together.

The word sieu seems to have been a kind of
 stew - and is probably connected with the ^{field} name
 sewal or sūal - soft marshy land which was
 drained by open sewers.

Some of the older people of Millow told us
that their forebears used to speak of football
and other games played in the churchyard
after service. Could this be a remnant of
King James act for games on Sunday which
had survived the Puritan time?

Mr Jackson, school master at School Ellis
was the last leader of the choir to use
the Pitch Pipe for starting hymns. He used
the round pipe.

For School Ellis existing as early as 1687 vid
his warms "The Millow Dishie" pp. 61. 62.
The premises were sold in 1862

There was another school at Furness Beck
built for Mr John Wylde whose pupils were very
good Latin scholars. Later the cottage was known
as Happy Home from a man ~~so~~ nicknamed
Stephen Jack; he bought up a patch of 13 in the Collyer.

County of Cumberland.

At the general Quarter Sessions
of the Peace of our Sovereign Lord the King, holden
at Cockermouth in and for the said County on
Wednesday the 13th day of January in the 48th year
of the reign of our Sovereign Lord King George the Third
and in the year of our Lord 1808.

Before J. C. Salterthwaite and John Kay, Esquires
and other their fellow Justices of our sd^d Lord the King
assigned to keep the Peace of our said Lord the King;
and also to hear and determine divers Felonies
Trespasses and other misdemeanors in the
said County Committed

Ordered - That the Overseers of the Poor
of the Township of Millom in the sd^d County
do pay unto the Treasurer of the sd^d County
the sum of £ 3. 16. 6 being a Reimbursement
of money paid by the Treasurer aforesaid
unto the Treasurer of the County of York
North Riding for the family of.

Thomas Jackson a private Militia man
serving in the Militia in this County as
a substitute for George Postlethwaite of the
Township of Millom in this County for 51 weeks pay
at the rate of 1. 6 by the week from the 3rd day
of October 1806 to the 25th day of September 1807
as appears by vouchers for that purpose produced
in this Court by the Treasurer of this County

By the Court

N. Hodgson

By Clerk Pace.

Pay due about to M^r Rich Oyes, High Constable for
Allerdale ward above Drurid. Rich Jameson. Treas.

[Printed by J. Brown. Printer]

Several names

Henry Ketchin substitute for
1812 for family of James Breffain of Thesdale at 4/- a week.

1813 for family of Aziz Hill substitute for John Ormeady of Thesdale at 6/-

1814 John Airey John Fox of Thesdale .. 8/-

[Printed by H. Searby. Printer]

[a scrap of paper

The 14th day of May 1789.

Rec^d of the Collection of Serjeant Chapin

The sum of £ 3. 11. 0 being the half year payment of

The Commutation Tax 1. 13. 0

Duties on Windows 1. 13. 0

Saddle Horses. 5. 0

Being for an Aid granted to His Majesty
for the Services of the year 1788.

[on the back of a note from W^m Mellou^{*}, Overseer
to M^r John Woodburn, Hawverge, May 26. 1793]

* The name Mellou is said to have originally been
Maemillan

1762. away owners account.

M^r Law of Hestholms has in his hands
£100 of school money of Millom and paid
interest to M^r Atkinson £4 - the 20th April 1764.

1763. assessment - in owners account

Reveries 22. 4. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$

Millom, Hoor 17. 13. 3.

" Below 11. 16. 3.

Chapel Street 13. 3. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$

Stairton 2. 13. 3.

£ 64. 10. 7.



Stone from the old Farmhouse at Water Bleas.

I cannot trace the initials unless the upper
one has been miscopied or was so worn that
the extra mark in the letter was unnoticed. Perhaps
it should read J A. which would stand
for Jeffrey Fox and Agnes Benson m: 1668.

There was a Jeffrey Fox of Water Bleas c 1625

An impudent note left at the Tavern called
the "Cat" in Nether Stainton by sheep stealers.

We came to the Cat

The Wethers were fat

We thank thee for that.

We leave thee t puddens + skins

To buy thei wife needles + pin

Thou may thank us for that.

A visitor at a farm house was offered as
refreshment half a glass full of rum and the
farmer was horrified that instead the visitor
asked for a glass of milk — "No but fit for Babbies"
was the scathing reply

Seaton Hall. Old Bull Copy. To the map 114.

A local correspondent, Miss J. Ross gives the following

In the field are two flat topped stones; one filled up with round holes. 1 inch diameter

One hole is $3\frac{3}{4}$ in deep. The other 5 in:

The distance between the two stones is 16 ft 1/2 in

They lie on a flatish piece of ground

surrounded on two sides by higher ground

forming a sort of arena.

The tradition that this was the most famous

bull baiting ring in the neighbourhood was

given to me by Mr Geo Meyer of Powstons;

and it is probable that he gave me the story of

Becke Church. He possessed a wonderful store

of local information.

An old sword.

Miss Ross of ~~Udendale~~^{wood.} Bootle gives me an account of an old sword which I remembered I had seen at Bootle.

"The sword dated 1441 was found near the Roman Camp at Eskmeals. John Wethermarck employed by Thomas Grace of old Hylou found it and gave it to W^m T. Grace who gave it to M^r Richard Grace.

When I left Eskdale I left at the vicarage an old Puritan helmet which had been found nailed in a tree somewhere as I understood near the road from Eskdale to Saulou bridge. It was in very rusty condition owing to long exposure to the weather. I think that Miss Fair transferred it to the Gatehouse reading room.

There used to be an old sword at Fisher Grand Hotel, in possession of M^r Richardson Sharpe.

London Chronicle July 4. 6 . 1775

17 Cumberland estate - to be sold ... in the
Freehold estate of the Beck in the parish of Melling
... containing nearly 300 acres of arable land,
meadows and pasture ground - let for a term of
years, several of which are unexpired west Caudemas,
- Good buildings on the estate which ... is in a flourishing
condition and still capable of great improvements.
The present rent is 150 £ per annum.

The farmer pays all outgoings save the land tax.
A fee rent of 10/- is paid to Melling Castle and
20³/₄ as a modus in lieu of corn tithes. Situation
upon the sea coast in distance one mile, where
vessels bring up sea coal; and there is limestone
in the estate without being; it is within 6- measured
miles of Brough and 10 of Melling both
market towns. There are some coppice woods on the
estate and there is meadows of pasture on the sea
marsh part of which whenever enclosed will bring 6/-
the acre. For further particulars apply to farmer - or Dr
Blair for the owner - or Mr Roberson, Attorney, Melling.

Cumberland Paquet & White Raven Advertisers Nov 10. 1790

To be sold Nov 26. 1790 at Mr Stanley's in Broughlin
a Water Corn mill containing 1 pair Blue stones
and 1 pair grey stones with wheels & machinery
complete and the dwelling house adjoining
in Kirkcanton - in the possession of John Udall
farmer. Also dwelling houses and several
clores containing by estimation 14 acres
with $3\frac{1}{2}$ best grasses at Far Bank and
12 best grasses on Kirkcanton Staves.
All the said premises free hold and now
in the possession of the said John Udall.

a note on Place names.

There are many places in the district which need the attention of an etymologist who will take into account the situation and the natural surroundings of the place named. Undoubtedly most of the names are of Scandinavian (Hs or Norse) but some are probably of British or even older origin. The following list contains only a few of the names especially noticed.

Bar.	Black... a Swiscan
Beam - unenclosed marshy place.	Bow - fell
Birk. Bret. Brat. near Br. museum	Bower garden
Cat - ? rocks.	Dev-dale
Clem	Duert
Conda	Duncheon
Cornai.	emb crop & eme gartle.
Corn park. moor.	eil Tarn ? Givl. Br water word.
Comb. - black & white	Grandy woods
Court - part of a garden	Grims Cragg

Crooks

Guddeum

Gurnal Ground

Hacklands

Hel-ye-pul

Honey = marshy ground

Huques gill

Kiskin

Lacra

Lag-Gras

Loggan Grats

? all hollows
in the hill
side of
Cut leg.

Milk = a hillside

Mini-gali - ? stony road.

Pannel. varate Bannel.

Pen-gen-et

Pen-y-hill

Peg-stairs

Red - new ancient roads.

Room

Rut-an-pul

Rust-gill

Sack.

Sam

Sate. ? Saetr:

Si-nung Tarn.

Skiddaw.

Skin-dub.

Sol-wood

Swin - proe BV: and ut
dim: of Sow = a pig.

Ta-es. suffix: low
but Ta ? Tigh

Ulgr

Wad-house. ? fowl.

Wigh - pronounced Wiy
the stream from which
WY - Berg. Kewaiti.

An old Road.

Originally on the Furness side it crossed the sands perhaps above the present Foxfield road and entered Cumbria by Causeway Lane and up by Lady Hall to Spring House and to the rise of the hill and then dipped into Bad Lane where it is about 8 feet wide and in part paved with large stones [since the original of these notes was written an account of this part of the road has been published in C. L. Trans. vol ii. p 67] - a pack horse road on which many ^{sometimes 30} horses & a train have been seen - and so to Gornal ground. Then on the north side of Adam Knott and passing Monk lands to the top of Stapleslowe brow where it enters Grayclaire House road and then proceeds in the direction of Bond (or Boad) Hall. Here the road is similar to Bad Lane about 8 feet wide and sunk below the level of the surrounding ground it was a water course, but in many places either paved

or cobbled though the stones are mostly covered with peat. Beyond Bord Hall it is joined by the zig zag footpath from Duddon Bridge via Penny Brow. Then being joined by the footpath it makes an almost straight line for the fell to a certain steep fold on the edge of the moor.

It then turns along the boundary wall of the moor which it follows till level with Thwait's gate coming into a junction with a cart track from that farm. Thence the cart track crosses the moor straight to a guide post near Lathing; but the ancient road can be followed near the cart track as a hollow way marked at frequent intervals by a rock placed on each side making a course about 5 feet wide - from Lathing past Hodge with well to the Guide Post near Buckbarrow and Priors Park and down to Bootle.

I have also been informed that there is another track branching from this road via Bowseat to Barnscar.

Kirkcaldon.

Reg S' B. p 436 note.

When John de Boyvil died in 1319 it was reported that he held the manor of Kirkcaldon of the abbot of S Mary York; there was no capital messuage in the manor because it had been burned by the Scots. Edmund the brother was his heir.

This seems to be the obituary notice of Kirkcaldon; the manor was sold by Edmund with other property.

Probably the church was burned at the same time as the manor stone or fell into utter despair & ruin. The tradition is that it finally disappeared in a great storm [it is also added it appeared in the Isle of Man]. The monks

Crangie at Meles continued till the dissolution of Furness abbey. In 1538 Meles and 7 acres land were held by Miles Dycouson and were worth £5^s but there seems to be no record of the lands over which S' Peter & S' Mary York had control. Probably the land surrounding the village were let in the small allotments or Tueler runs and so continued

till the beginning of last century; for an account of them in
my article in C. N. W. Transaction.

It is said that until the beginning of last century,
Kirkcaldy possessed a typical English Green. But
within recent memory has been despoiled of all its beauty.
The former Railway has taken away part and a
portion has been taken into Croft garden and other enclosures.
The Brewery office and stables are built upon what was once
Common and the grazing and yard of Hall Green Farm.
There used to be upon it a saucy, a lime kiln and a
rope walk which probably in the course of years have been
enclosed and taken away from the original area. But
what has made all spoiled what is now called the
Green - many thousands of cartloads of material were
dug out and put upon neighbouring fields and gardens
and drainage from houses and farms was allowed
to contaminate what was once a fine pool of sweet
water. This has now entirely disappeared and only
a rough cut through looking rollers remain to
show where the Village Green should be.

Three things seem to have been considered essential for the site of a saltworks - a plentiful supply of peat - a stream of fresh water - a ready access to the sea shore.

The manufacture of salt commenced on the shore in a series of shallow tanks divided by clay walls. Into the first probably the tide flowed and when it receded the sand was scraped up and placed in a higher tank and sea water added perhaps just by the highest tide. This might be repeated in a third tank in which the water, partly by percolation and the aid of sun and wind, gradually evaporated leaving a thick coating of salt and sand sludge.

The second stage necessitated conveyance of this rough deposit to the works which in some cases, as for example Kirkcaldy might be a considerable distance from the shore; hence in the charter provision was made for draught oxen.

At the works the sludge was taken to the sand pit - hence a reference in the Rutan pul charter to the Sand clore - where it was placed in rough wooden troughs ^{in part} of which the bottom was pierced with fine holes fresh water was then placed in the troughs and this carried the salt to the brine pits - deep stone tanks in which by constant addition and evaporation the solution became very strongly impregnated with salt.

The final stage was in the boiling house and whether the moulds used lead pans as in later days was customary (C + W. Trans xiv p 289) or more like the Roman balle a tiled vat with heating flues beneath there is nothing in the charter to show.

After boiling for several hours the salt began to congeal when it was raked out of the vat and put into baskets to drain + dry in the compartment next the boiling house through which the flues passed. Most of the boiling seems to have been done in the summer months from Easter to St Bartholomew's.

In the XVIth century

It is stated (C & W. Trans XIV. 288) that "the whole coast line of Holm Cultram was studded with salt pans" and it may be that the Millum works continued till about that time but (C & W. Trans XX. 76) by 1566 the trade was evidently on the decline because small coasting boats which took cod and herrings to Liverpool and Chester returned with cargoes of salt. Povers foot near Poltrington (site of one of the Millum works) is one of the ports mentioned.

NO estimate can be found of the quantity of salt manufactured in Millum but it was evidently considerable for in the Taxation of 1292 (F. i. p. 634) it is shown that after deduction of working expenses the value of the salt works at Kirkcanton was 3^s 4^d or nearly $\frac{1}{10}$ the value of the sheep farm at Melis and $\frac{1}{10}$ of that of the cattle farm at Brothardkil.

There were three salt works in Millum constructed by monks

I. Circa 1160-70 William de Boirel of Kirkcaldie granted to Furness Abbey a pasturage called Meles near the shore. He also gave them the right to dig as much peat as they required in what is now called The Haws and to stack and dry it and carry it through the manor lands. There was also at Kirkcaldie close to Helpa Bridge then called dayr wath (wath = a ford) a small ancient salt works which was at one time in the hands of Nigel f. Reginald. The monks c. 1213-20 obtained from William f. Henry* of Millom a grant of this site with all that belonged to it in forest and moss rooms and pasture. Also he gave them extra land 4 acres near dayr wath and courrouage for 8 oxen and 4 horses. The site approximately must be that now called Elphole and the 4 acres include Ruvait. Both near the level crossing of the

* probably this salt works was part of the site which Henry f. Arthur obtained from William de Boirel. It might have been in the gift of Henry's son.

Furness Railway by the standing stones.

This works was much increased by permission of Sir John Hothelston c 1270-80 who gave them leave to erect another pan and to add 2 acres to their forest, and as much peat as was necessary for this addition.

II The example of Furness was quickly followed by St Bees. The next most important site was near the great peat moss below Arncliffe; and c 1230-40 St Bees obtained from Adam of Howby a grant to construct a new place where Skelful also called Skelful and now Shaw pool enters the Duddon. The grant included pasturage for 8 oxen 6 cows and 20 sheep and all necessary estovers from the great peat moss. The details show the provision made for haulage and the shore tannes may have been at Saltcoats nearly half a mile away from the mouth of the gutter which was convenient for the outdoor tank.

The land marks have been obliterated but the site of the works was within the vill of Millom, the gutter being the boundary. The description of the land which the monks had been to enclose by a hâverre to exclude Barker-hals and then by a straight line to Slepul i.e. their branch of it which runs from the direction of Roanlands and so down the Slepul makes it fairly certain that the works were within or close to the field now called Soaper wash. In 1276-8 Sir John de Hodderlin confirmed the grant and added some pasture i.e. the field formerly held by Thomas Kier of Millum

III. The Herid Saltern was just outside the Millum Park. If Salt House preserves the site of the boiling house this was within the Park enclosure. It would seem possible that before the works were granted to the monks of Calder it might have been worked for the advantage of themselves and their dependants by the lords of Millum. At

What date the Abbey of Calder obtained the original grant is not clear but Sir John de Hoddeston in granting additional privileges refers to charters of his predecessors.

If the grant of John Fleming (St B. Illus xvi) is rightly joined with this title as in my notes (C. 26 xxvi. p. 43) the monks must have been in possession as early as c. 1240.

The grant of Sir John refers to the sand enclosure i.e. where the rough sludge was washed and the salt passed into the brine pits - this sand enclosure is a known place - also he speaks of an extension for carrying this rough salt from the shore but though horses, cows and sheep were spoken of the sheep were not mentioned, the inference being that the carts on the shore were so near the brine pits that the haulage was comparatively light. One other matter is included in the grant - the monks had permission to divert the course of the stream called Rutland pool - the name is now Pottington. This diversion seems to imply either (1) that they constructed

a leet or channel from the stream later called
the Wyre out of the field below the present day school
to supply fresh water for washing the sand at
their sand enclosure, or

(2) to alter the course of the pool upon the sands
to prevent its flooding their stone tanks.

If the latter seems more probable the site of the
stone tanks must have been in the angle where
the Putland pool joins the Saltkenn pool.

Unfortunately the Railway sidings to the Iron works
have obliterated most of the traces, but some rough
banks not far from the Millon station were pointed out
to me as having once been old pits before the construction
of the Railway.

The old road from the sands passes near the site
remains of it may still be seen behind the present vicarage
and up the hill toward Leyfield House and then
in a straight line to Beck Farm; with however a
branch to the Pilot Inn now Newton Terrace.



View of Castle and Church from below the Knott from which
the castle was besieged by the soldiers of Cromwell. Part of the outer
moat uniting the lower lagoon with the higher marshland would
be between the hedge in the foreground and the present churchyard wall
which can just be seen. The Tower still so called or farm yard
was to the left of the present barn. The old vicarage was just in line of
view of the Castle near a tree in the church yard. Gallows bank
 $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch above the apex of the fluke window. Furness is very faintly visible.



Millons Church - west end

Shows the two bells.

The fluted window as restored by Rev E.E. Allen, Vicar.

The curious pointed archway which is still a mystery.

The head of a Norman window.

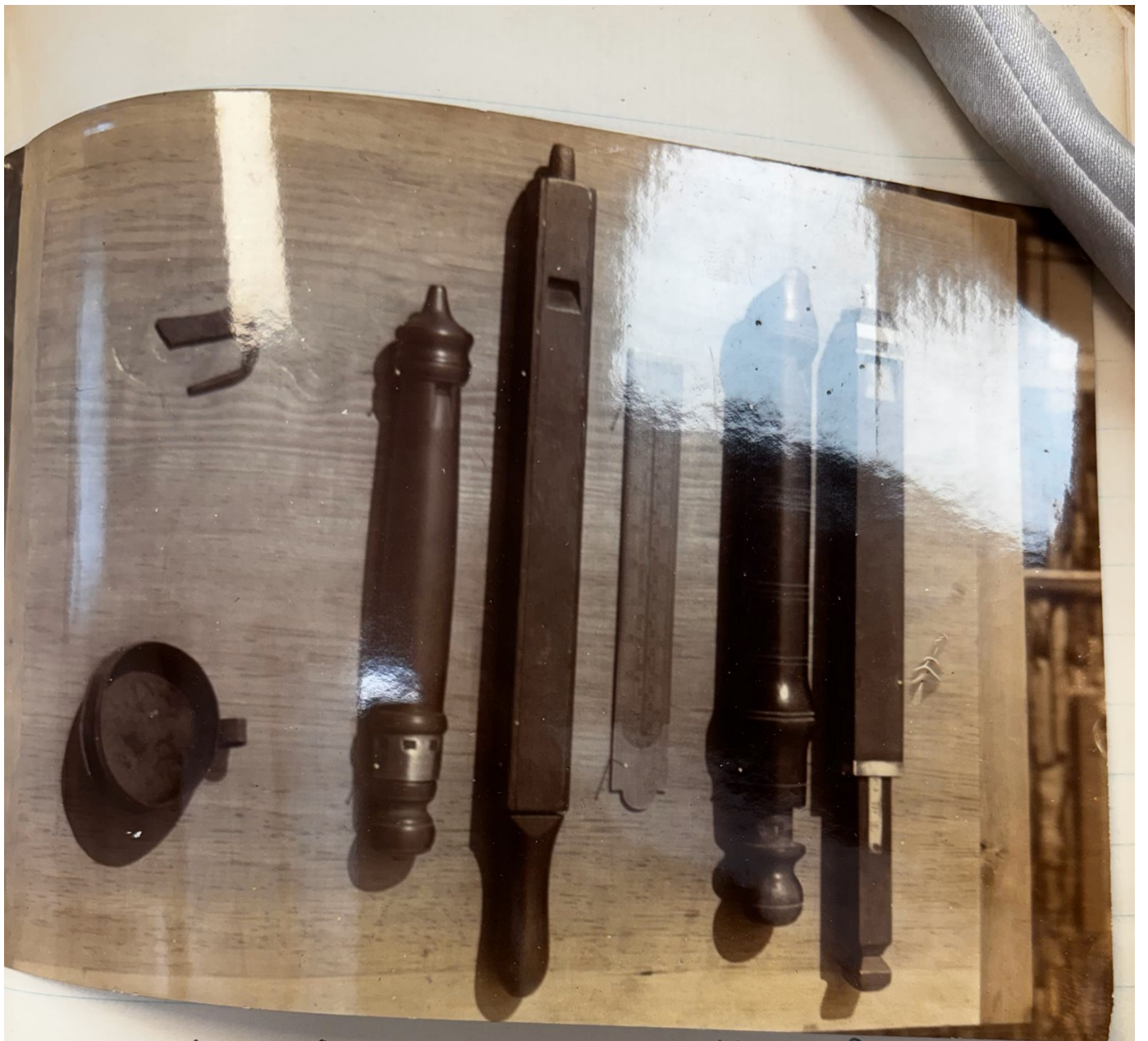


The Communion vessels of Mellon Church

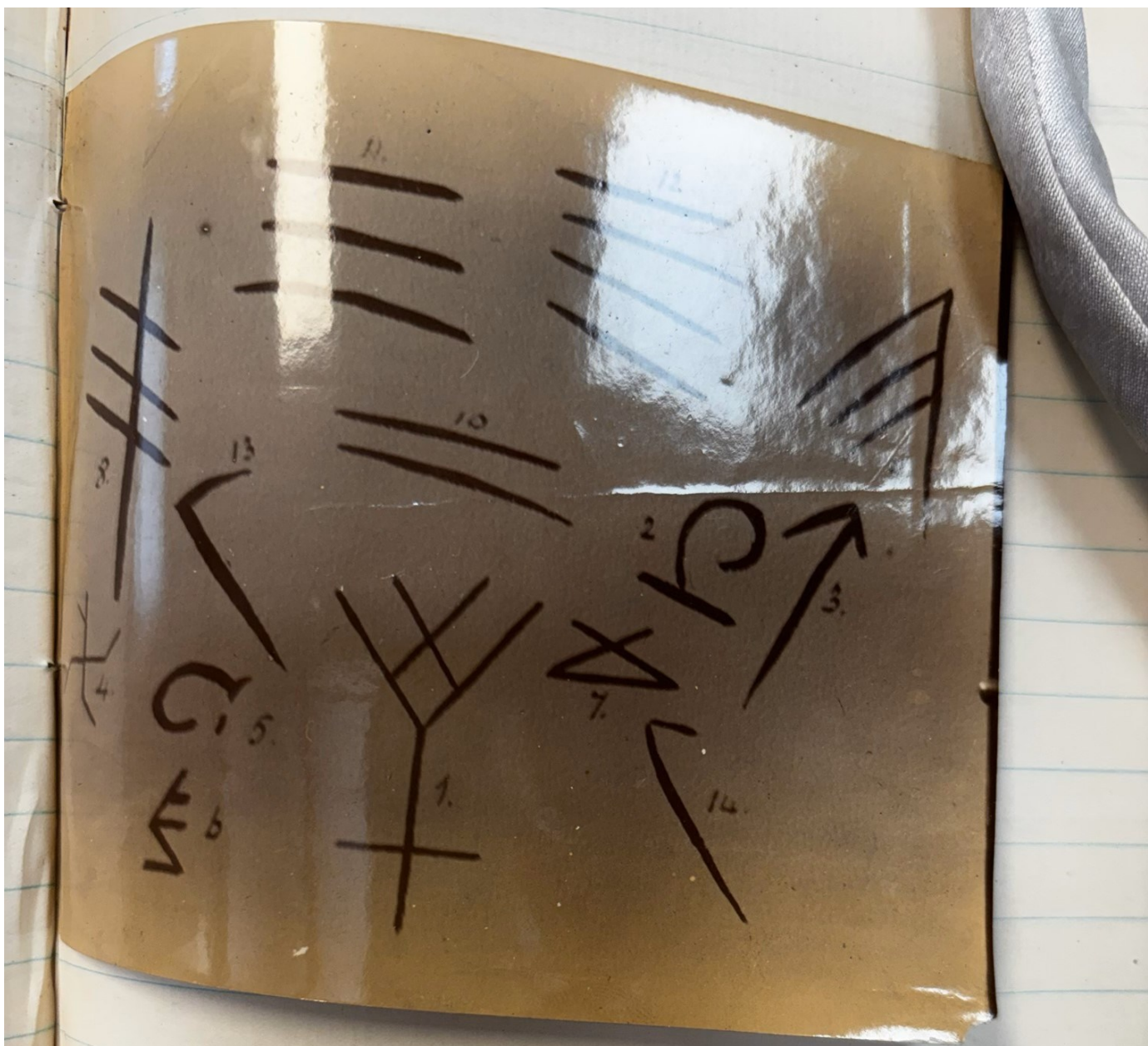
those on the left dated mark 1635. 6

... .. right date mark 1696.

The pattern given by Dan Bridget Stadeslin who d: 1714 is dated 1696-7



Two pitch forks belonging to Millom Cheese
one - the longest square shaft - belonging to Upton
a round round one ? from Winstler.
Tinder box and steel showed to i Millom Vostrey.



Masonic marks on Mellan Clause reproduced in
the C & W. Transactions from their print.



a small circle at Laera - 4 stones visible; the
sheep is in the line of vision between two of them.

Pladdy's Bridge.

At the watering place for cattle close to the garden of Millon Castle there was formerly only a foot bridge of long stones. Near it were two cottages - one occupied by John Pladdy who was employed by the Chamberlain in 1794 to make a road across the end of Calf Parrock for which he was paid 4/-; - the Parrock was probably part of Ball Field, now, and since the new road from Salt House was constructed, called Green Field.

Bees.

An old lady in Millon always used to go to her bee hives on old Christmas eve to listen to them as they would always hum in a special manner on that evening.

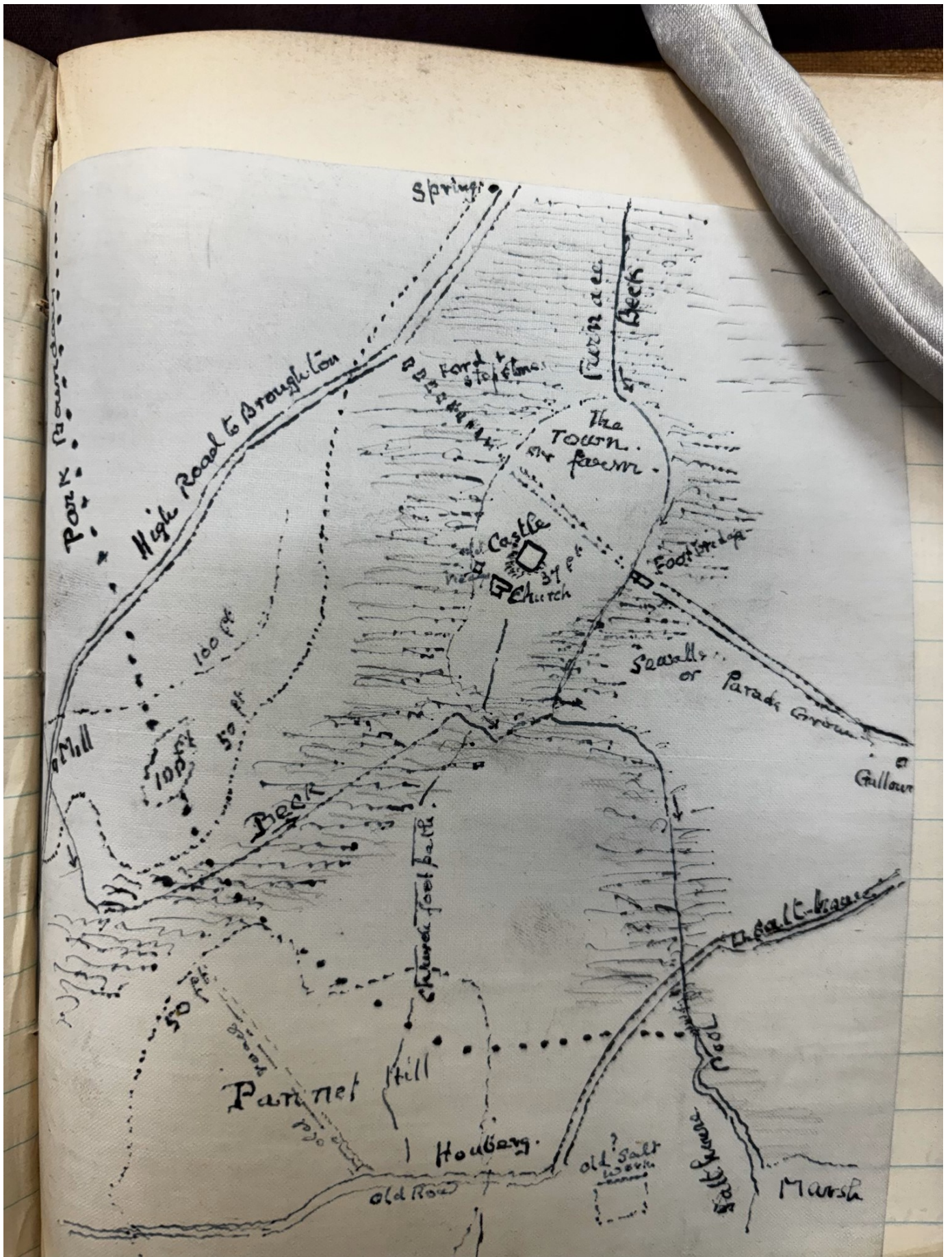
Another famous bee keeper assured me that she had lost all her bees one year because they had forgotten to put *crêpe* on the hives after a death in the family.

Millum

Millum - Myllum O.E Myln - at the mill.

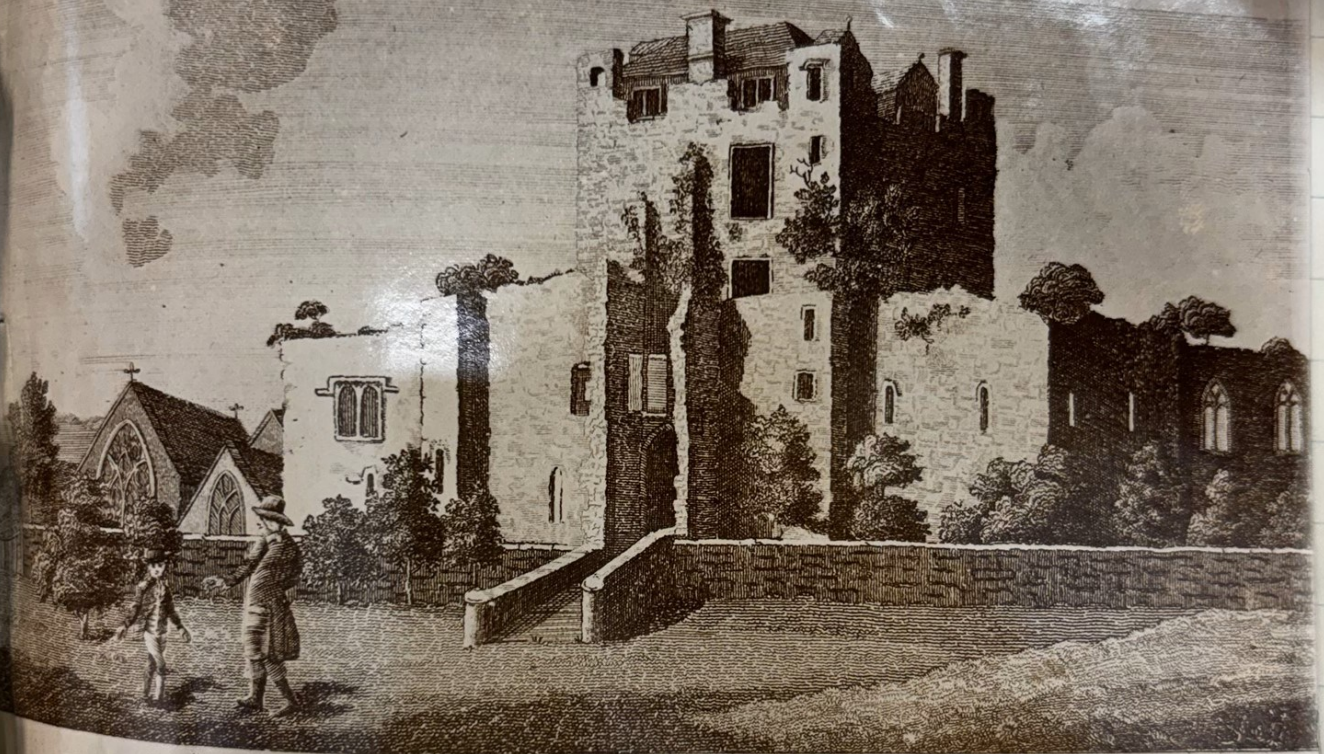
A rough sketch map is given to show the position of the Castle and Church and the old vicarage together with the "Town" belonging to the castle with reference to the mill.

The castle was at about the centre of a sandy island which was surrounded by a morass of which much of the outline can be traced; and some of the field names e.g. Black Bottoms bear witness. The ground level of the island is shown by a B.M. as 37 feet and the present ground level of the marsh at the site of the old stepping stone is 14 ft.



MILLUM CASTLE.

P. 523



From Hutekus on History - note the low hills beyond the lagoon. There may be some inaccuracy in detail but the general idea is correct. The water must not be mistaken for the sea which would be quite out of sight from the view point.

The mill is $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile from the church in a nook of low hills - and between them in direct vision is a promontory across which the Park boundary descends from the Brougular high road from a point 150' down to the level of the (former) marsh land at the narrowest point between the promontory and Parrett Hill. When the moors or lagoon was full the level of the water might be at about 20'. The promontory, at any rate within the Park, was probably covered with trees. The mill and its house now called Beck farm must have been entirely out of sight from the Castle and could only be approached by the stepping stones and the high road over the Knoll. 171'. So that as far as any view was concerned "at the mill" seems a forced explanation. On the other hand an original name of Stooqua = marshes, merged with common sense + accuracy to be replaced by meal. Holme (cf the meter of Westsanton) The Sandy Island and gives its name to the District which

was governed by its owners.

But it might be questioned whether the title 'the lord who lived at the mill' referred to *Walsley*, *Walsley*, *Walsley* or half a dozen other places.

The sketch map does not show the present road from Salthouse to the corner of the Sewalls nor the road thro' Holborn Hill as it is at present and

The Pilot Inn: Holborn Hill.

William & Ann
Barren like heare
Who Mosley keep
Good Ale & Beer

1745

You that on land
to Cross y^e Sand
Call here a Guide
at your Comand.

Isaac Quayle of Havering and his son John were
two of the last Pilots across the sand. They used
to direct groups of Grooms to mark the passages
But the way was always dangerous especially at night
when on account of tide there attending Ulmoston marshes
had often to stand at 2 AM. Among many fatal accidents
one Vicar Rev W. Wells in 1698 lost his life.