

#### **4<sup>th</sup> January 1862**

BROSELEY.

FUNERAL OF GEORGE PRITCHARD, ESQ. HIGH SHERIFF.

The funeral of Mr. Pritchard took place on Tuesday last, attended by those marks of respect which showed how unmistakeably his loss was felt by his neighbours, and by the surrounding gentry. The hundreds of persons official, and private—who volunteered, in sorrow, their presence as a mark of respect at the last sad rites of his funeral—the clanged shutters and muffled peals of the bells in the town and village churches surrounding his residence--attest earnestly, though simply, the public and private feelings those who knew and appreciated Mr. George Pritchard. A feeling of deep sorrow and regret at the loss of this amiable and estimable man pervades the whole district, and it will be long before the memory of his character and good deeds will be effaced from the winds of any whose privilege it has been to come within the influence of his warm-hearted and bountiful benevolence. We believe we do not exaggerate when we state that the late Mr. Pritchard devoted nearly the whole of his very large income to charitable purposes. The Clergy of the neighbourhood, the Mayors, Town Clerks, Aldermen, and Town Councillors of Wenlock and Bridgnorth, met at the Town-hall, and proceeded in a body to the residence of the deceased, accompanied by the members of the Board of Guardians, the members of the Broseley Provident Society, and the gentry and tradespeople of the neighbourhood. As the funeral cortège left the house, these joined in, and the procession, in the following order, proceeded to the church:-

The ceremony took place at twelve o'clock precisely. The funeral service was read in a very impressive manner by the rector, the Rev. R. H. Cobbold.

#### **11 January 1862 - Wellington Journal - Wellington, Shropshire, England**

BENTHALL

VERY LIKE A HOAX.- On Saturday evening last, a man named Turner, who was at work on Benthall Edge, found a stick by the side of a pool of water stuck into the ground, with a piece of paper rolled up and placed in a nick cut in the top of it; and on taking the paper out, he found the following, written in pencil, upon it: On the one side was- "Whoever finds this piece of paper please to turn the other side, but keep it secretly, for if I am found out I shall be hanged." On the other side was - "Dec. 16, 1861. In this water lies the body of an infant child, which, me being the mother of it, throwed it in here, because I am very bad off, and the poor thing is better off than being in this wicked world- no father to maintain it." This paper was placed in the hands of the police, and on Sunday three of that body, accompanied by the man who found the paper, went to the pool, armed with drags, and remained there all day, trying every stratagem to get possession of the child, but all of no avail, and they were obliged to relinquish their efforts without having gained the object. It has been suggested to drain the pool.

#### **Birmingham Daily Post 13<sup>th</sup> January 1862**

LITTLE WENLOCK.

Between here and Dawley, on Friday morning, a sad spectacle presented itself. For some years there was an Irishwoman who travelled with a pack on her back, disposing of cottons, silk, and hosiery, frequently extending her visits to Broseley and the surrounding localities. 'She was best known by the *sobriquet* of "Long Peg," or "Peggy." On this occasion her remains were found near a ditch, where it is supposed that during her nightly travel she must have fallen. She was what is generally known as a good-hearted woman, kind to all, and not a stranger to Sir John Barleycorn. Doubtless the Coroner's inquest will more fully reveal the immediate antecedents of her sad end.

#### **Wellington Journal 18<sup>th</sup> January 1862**

MADELEY

At the fortnightly meeting of the guardians of this union, hold yesterday week. W. IL. Lowndes, Esq., of Linley Hall, Broseley was unanimously elected chairman, in the place of the late George Pritchard, Esq.

BROSELEY

LECTURE AT THE MARKET HALL—Yesterday week, the Rev. S. Bentley, incumbent of St. Mary's, Bridgnorth, gave a lecture before the members of the institution on "the Iron Duke." We need scarcely say that the hero of Waterloo received able treatment at the hands of the reverend gentleman, or that the prominent features of his character were ably delineated.

Broseley bricks and Broseley tiles, like Broseley pipes, are widely known. We are glad to find that the Broseley manufacturers, with those on the other side of the river, are putting the valuable materials at their disposal to a higher test by executing for the Exhibition works of

all ornamental and decorative character. On Saturday last we had an opportunity of witnessing some classical designs in the Italian style of ornament which are being executed by Messrs, Burton, Exley, Evans, Lewis, Davies, and others under the superintendence of Mr. Digby Wyatt; also witnessing production of Messrs. Maw in tessellated tiles, &c. &c. in which the same admirable clays are turned to account. One is a magnificent pavement on the form of a parallelogram; in the centre is the head of Jupiter, and at the four corners others representing the four seasons.

NIGHT POACHING.- Late on Friday night, or early on the morning of Saturday last, as one of Lord Forester's keepers and two watchers were out near the ash coppice, they encountered a gang of poachers, about seventeen in number, in the lane leading from the bottom of the Bell Hole. The numbers were too formidable for the keepers and watchers to encounter, but some altercation arose, and one of the poachers shot the keeper's dog. Drew, the keeper, and his assistants, succeeded in taking five hares and nets, but finding that they were powerless to capture the marauders, went to procure further assistance. A reinforcement having been obtained and armed, the party returned to the scene of their previous rencontre, but too late to make a capture. All the poachers had meantime got clear off. Some of them it is said can be identified by the keeper and his assistants, and, it is said, Police-sergeant Pryce, has obtained summonses for their appearance at the next petty sessions.

#### **Eddowes Shrewsbury Journal 15<sup>th</sup> January 1862**

SINGULAR OCCURRENCE.- On Saturday evening so'nnight a man in passing by a pool on Benthall Edge, in an unfrequented spot, had his attention drawn to a piece of paper in the cleft of a stick by the pool side. Upon going up to examine it he found written thereon the following:- "In this pool lies the body of an infant child. I, its mother, being badly off, have thrown it there, believing that it will be better off than in this wicked world. Whoever finds this I desire that they may keep it secret, for if I am discovered I shall, in all probability, be hung. So farewell, my poor child."

#### **Shrewsbury Chronicle 17<sup>th</sup> January 1862**

BROSELEY.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE SEVERN VALLEY RAILWAY. —An accident, which terminated fatally to one of the workmen on the Severn Valley Railway, a man named John Grosby, occurred on Tuesday. Near to the Buildwas station a siding is being constructed; and, in order to expedite the work, night relays of men are employed. About half-past three o'clock on the morning of the day named an engine passed down the line from Shrewsbury. It was stopped at the Buildwas station for a supply of water; and whilst there the discovery was made that one of the labourers had been run over. He was found close to the rails, with both his legs cut off. The engine was backed, and the poor fellow was placed thereon, and conveyed to the Bridgnorth Infirmary, where he expired about seven o'clock. The unfortunate man has left a widow and two children to mourn his untimely end.; An inquest was held on view of the remains at the Squirrel Inn, Bridgnorth, before W. D. Bette, Esq., coroner, and a verdict of "Accidental Death" was returned.

#### **Birmingham Daily Post 18<sup>th</sup> January 1862**

SEVERN VALLEY RAILWAY.- At length this new line of railway, from Hartlebury to Shrewsbury has been officially inspected and will be opened for passenger traffic on the 1<sup>st</sup> February. On Wednesday last, Mr Sherriff, general manager of the West Midland lines, and Mr Wilson, engineer, left Worcester at an early hour, and were joined on the route by Messrs. Bridgman and Foggerty, resident engineers of the Severn Valley, and Mr Field, of the firm of Brassey and Field, contractors. Colonel Yolland, who had inspected the Much Wenlock Branch in the morning met the party at Shrewsbury, and at once commended the official inspection. Bridges, cuttings, and embankments were all pronounced safe and satisfactory, and ready for immediate working. The magnificent cast-iron bridge at Arley—a span of 200 feet across the Severn, with a raise of 20 feet from the spring to the crown—stood the test admirably, scarcely any deflection being visible. This is the largest cast-iron arch in the kingdom, and the first instance of a cast-iron arch being applied to so large a span. It has stone abutments and a number of land arches of 30 feet span on either side. Total weight of the structure is 600 tons, and altogether it is an engineering marvel. This bridge is the only point at which the line crosses the river. The route of the Severn Valley is pre-eminently beautiful scenery, and the line embraces a rich agricultural and mineral district, and will connect the important towns of Worcester, Shrewsbury, Broseley, Bridgnorth, Bewdley, Stourport &c.

## Shrewsbury Chronicle 24<sup>th</sup> January 1852

### BUILDWAS.

An accident took place on the Severn Valley Railway, in this locality, on Monday night. The turnpike-road, leading from Buildwas bridge to Wenlock, crosses the line of rail on a level crossing. On this occasion the turnpike-road was open, and the swing gates closed as against the railway. An engine and tender with some trucks were proceeding from Shrewsbury towards Ironbridge. Owing to some inadvertence, the gates were not attended to, and consequently the engine dashed through, scattering the fragments of the gates right and left, with terrific force. We are happy to add that no damage was sustained by those in care of the engine, and that beyond breaking the engine lamps, no damage was done to it.

### IRONBRIDGE

PETTY SESSIONS, Tuesday.—There were present the Mayor (C. J. Ferriday), L. Lowdnes, and W. Nicholas, Esqrs. — *Offence against the Bye Laws* : Adam Briscoe, higler, was brought up charged with having left his horse on the footpath at Broseley, on the 15th inst. Police-officer Wiley gave evidence of the offence, and defendant was fined 2s. 6d. and 11s. 10d. costs.—*Drunkenness*: Michael Kirby was charged with being drunk on the 11th inst., in the parish of Madeley. Police-officer Evans gave evidence of the offence, and defendant was fined 2s. 6d. and 9s. 6d. costs, or 14 days' imprisonment. — *Offences against the Act for the Regulation of Mines* : H. M.'s Inspector of Mines appeared to prefer a charge against Mr. C. W. Pearce of the Court Iron Works, for an infringement of the rules relating to mining. Mr. Newill, of Wellington, who appeared on behalf of the inspector, stated the case. On the 16th of November, he said, an accident occurred at one of the pits under the management of Mr. Pearce, and that death had resulted; but that no notice had been given to the Inspector of Mines. Mr. Pearce repudiated the charge of neglect, adding that he had no means of communicating such a fact, simply because he had heard nothing of it. The occurrence at the time was considered so trivial in itself that the men did not report it. Mr. Pearce also quoted from the mining regulations, in which he thought there was some discrepancy. In the Shropshire rules there was no clause to enforce charter-masters; to communicate with the manager of the works; and he thought that it was not right that proprietors or managers should be made answerable for the neglect of duty the part of their servants. Mr. Wynn and the Bench held that the Act was imperative that the principals were answerable, and fined defendant 20s. and 10s. costs. — Hiram Hill and James Aston, proprietors of a colliery at Broseley, were also charged under the same Act, for not having complied with the Act. Mr. Wynn said that on the 19th of November he visited the pit in question, and proceeded to describe the state in which he found it. Mr. Newill said it was important, in order to prevent accidents, that the provisions should be carried out and defendants were fined 20s. and 10s. expenses.—Mr. Newill said there was a third charge, under the 7th section, 12th rule, against John Patton and J. Rashap. Mr. Wynn said he visited the pit on the 19th of October, that he found no steam gauge, no signal, and no indicator. Mr. Patton, in palliation, said, the man who should have mended it was ill. Joseph Patton also made some excuse, saying that the materials for complying with the Act were upon the ground. Defendants also added, that on a former conviction they were excused from complying with the Act, the engines being old ones. This Mr. Wynn denied, adding that he had no power at all in the matter, and that it was not for him to modify the law, but to see that the law was carried out. The bench considered the case proved, and fined defendants 10s. in each case, and costs 11s. each, making £3 3s. altogether.—Mr. Newill said he had also an information against Mr. John Anstice for a similar offence, namely, for not having given notice of an explosion of gunpowder, where death had resulted. Mr. Wynn said he had much pleasure in saying, that, in a general way, none were more ready to comply with the requirements of the Act than Mr. John Anstice. Mr. W. R. Anstice, who said he attended at the wish of his brother, said it was true a technical infringement of the rules had taken place, but that a statement of the circumstances would be sufficient to show that it had been perfectly unintentional. Mr. A. called attention to what he considered an omission in the rules, namely, that although a master was held responsible, yet the man who neglected his duty was left free.—Mr. Wynn admitted this, and said if the masters would meet and agree to a rule he would get it passed by the Board of Trade. — Fined £1 7s., with costs.—Another charge was made against G. Lloyd and G. Hussey, of having more than 5lbs. of powder at one time in the pit. Fined 10s. each, and 10s. costs.—Mr. Wynn said that formerly he had to hold up Shropshire as an example to the districts, but that this year he was sorry to say it was the worst. —*Charge of Drunkenness* : John Harris was charged with having been drunk. Constable Pountney gave evidence of the offence; and defendant was fined 15s., including costs, or, in default, fourteen days. John Whittingham was charged with obstructing the footpath, and was fined 5s. and expenses. James Jones was charged with drunkenness at Broseley. Defendant, being asked if he kept a publichouse, replied that he did not; it would not do, he said, for him to do so. Constable Davies proved the offence. Thomas Rowe also gave evidence. Defendant was also charged with ill-using his wife,

on the 12th. The wife, Mary Jones, who was summoned to give evidence, proved a very reluctant witness. Police-officer Wyley said he was fetched to Jackfield on the 12th. He went to James Jones's door, and heard the wife moaning sadly from the beating she had had. He went to the door and asked her if her husband had beaten her. She said he had, and that he did so every time he had drink, and that she was bruised and black about the legs from his kicks. The wife said he may have kicked her in getting into the house, but he did not do it intentionally. Fined £1 for being drunk. The latter case was dismissed.—Herbert Edwards and a man named Samuel Oliver were charged with furious driving on the Wharfage. Samuel Alger gave evidence of the offence. They were driving at a furious rate; he only narrowly escaped the fate of the poor woman who was killed on the same occasion, he jumped out of the way, otherwise he should have been run over, only escaping by few inches. Could not distinguish who was driving. Mr. Stodd, owner of the cart, cross-examined witness. Richard Rothin was also sworn, and said that, on the night of the 23rd of November, he saw the two carts running at great speed; a horse was in one, and a pony in the other. The man was in the middle of the road, and the boy was trying to pass him. Witness was cross-examined, but nothing important was elicited. Hiram Hill also gave evidence of furious driving, and was cross-examined at some length by Mr. Stodd. Defendants were fined 40s. each, and £1 8s. costs. Mr Thursfield remarked that defendants may think themselves leniently dealt with, seeing that it Mr Alger had been known at the time of the inquest they (defendants) would have had to hold up their hands for manslaughter.

### **WELLINGTON JOURNAL 8<sup>th</sup> February 1862**

#### **OPENING OF THE SEVERN VALLEY RAILWAY**

This event, so long looked forward to by the inhabitants of this interesting district took place yesterday week, and regular trains began to run on Saturday. The opening of a railway, although not now an extraordinary event, is still an important one in districts where the advantages of railway communication have not been felt, and the shrill whistle of the iron horse has not been heard.

The train started from Shrub-hill. Worcester, at about half-past eleven o'clock, with Colonel Forester, chairman, Mr. Porter, solicitor, and other gentlemen connected with the Severn Valley Company; also, A. C. Sheriff, Esq., manager of the West Midland, F. L. Bodenham, Esq., Mr. R. Wood, Mr. Strange, and others, of Worcester, the Mayors of Kidderminster and Bewdley, Sir T. Winnington, Bart, M. P., Mr. Baldwin, and other gentlemen, to the number of nearly 100, from Stourport and Bewdley. At Arley, Bridgnorth, Ironbridge, and other stations along the line, the numbers were increased, so that the twenty-two carriages which formed the train were fully occupied before reaching Shrewsbury, where three carriages and an additional engine were attached. The Bridgnorth Rifle Band accompanied the train, and in passing through the more populous districts lively demonstrations were witnessed, the number of spectators which, for instance, lined the Castle Walk at Bridgnorth, the heights around Ironbridge, and the crowds which occupied the bridge itself, many waving their hands and handkerchiefs, having a picturesque appearance. , Prior to the train leaving Bridgnorth for Shrewsbury, the Mayor (W. Jones, Esq.) gave champagne and sherry to his friends.

The weather bring remarkably fine, the visitors were delighted with the scenery along the line, and the interesting peeps so frequently afforded of the river; the latter, swollen by recent rains, was bank full, and here and there came very near the embankment, so that many of its curves and windings were lost in one wide lake. The approach by the Severn Valley to Shrewsbury, either from its freshness or from the fact that it really is so, struck us as one of the most beautiful we have witnessed. The pleasant mansions, the handsome villas, and newly-erected residences that crown the elevated and terrace-like ground around Sutton and Meole Brace, the little church of St. Giles the venerable old Abbey Church, near to the line, and the aspect of the town of Shrewsbury itself, combine to form pleasing picture upon which the eye of the traveller would willingly linger longer than is permitted by the passing train. The passing glimpse obtained of the Caradoc, the Hope Bowdler, Lawley, and Acton Burnell Hills on one side, and the Wrekin on the other, are such too as to form pleasing impressions upon the mind, and few who had only seen the Wrekin in passing along the Shrewsbury and Birmingham line would be able to recognise it again from that of the Severn Valley. Not less interesting are the views we get of Buildwas, Coalbrookdale, and the singular-looking cliffs and hills in the immediate neighbourhood of Ironbridge; but the gem of this portion of the talky unquestionably is Apley, with its stately mansion, its magnificent clumps of trees, its noble park, With its groups of sprightly deer.

Bridgnorth presented an animated appearance as the visitors alighted and wended their way along the steep and narrow street that leads from the station to the town, flags waved from the summit of the all castle, from the steeples of the churches, and numerous windows, the bells rang merry peals, bands of music paraded the town, business for the time was

suspended, and the whole of the inhabitants appeared to have turned out to give a hearty welcome to their visitors.

#### THE DINNER

took place in the new Assembly Room, which was tastefully adorned for the occasion with the Bridgnorth arms, banners, flags, and scrolls; the latter emblazoned with the words "God save the Queen," "Success to the Severn Valley Railway," &c. The dinner was served by Mr. and Mrs. Whitefoot, of the Crown, and the "spread," together with the arrangements, was worthy the fame of their well-known establishment. Among the 200 who sat down we observed Colonel the Hon G. C. W. Forester, M.P., (chairman). Sir T. E. Winnington, Bart., M.P., the Mayor (W. Jones, Esq.), the Mayors of Kidderminster and Bewdley, the Revs. G. Bellett, S. Bentley, Ward, and Evans, Mr. C. Pugh (Madeley). Mr. J. Whiteley, and Mr. T. Griffiths (Coalport), Mr. G. Griffith (Wolverhampton), T. Nock, Esq., A. F. Sparkes, Esq., T. W. W. Browne, Esq., T. Deighton, Esq., E. W. Hazelwood, Esq., W. D. Batte, Esq., T. Colley, Esq., R. Colley, Esq., Dr. Thursfield, A. Mathias, Esq., Lieut. Smith, Ensign Bache, H.O. Bridgman, Esq., E. L. Gatacre, jun., Esq., A. C. Sheriff, Esq. (general manager of the West Midland Railway), J. W. Roberts, Esq. (district traffic manager), G. Porter, Esq. (solicitor to the line), Mr. T. Dowell and Mr. Dent (engineers and agents to the contractors), — Cutts, Esq., P. Eassie, Esq., H. Saunders, Esq. (Kidderminster). R. C. Blakeway, Esq. (secretary of the Wenlock Railway), W. P. Gordon, Esq., F. Homfray Esq., T. Bache, Esq., C. Ellison, Esq., H. Vickers, - Eassie. Esq. (Gloucester), Mr. Webb, (Wellington), Mr. Colley (Wem), Mr. J. Stephens, (Albynes). Mr. Taylor (Shrewsbury), Mr. Morgan (Shrewsbury), Messrs. Leake, J. Yate, G. A. Bangham, J. Phillips, T. Wilson, R Griffiths. C. J. Cooper, G. Young, J. L. Whitmore, H. Weaver, H. Crump, C. J. Lewis, A. S. Trevor, G. Fisher, C. Edkins, J. Turnbull, J. Lacy, W. Burton, R. Taylor, W. Pidduck, H. Fletcher, C. K Macmichael, G. Southwell, W. Jackson, J. Price, W. Lumb, J. Bowen, H. J. Wyley, K. H. Edminson, S. Whitefoot, T. Langford, G. Perks, B. Doughty, W. Doughty, S. Ridley. J. Perry. A. Blundell, C. Worrall, C. Deighton, J. W. Macmichael, N. Jeffries, From Bewdley: Mr. Tart, M r. J. Parsons, Mr. Nicholls, Mr. E. Hinton, Mr. Day, sen.. Mr. Day. jun., Mr. Dalley, Mr. Jefferies, Mr. W. Hinton. From Stourport were Mr. T. F. Cooke (solicitor), Mr. Wheeldon, Mr. E. Broad, Mr. Watson (solicitor), Mr. Wm. Baldwin, Mr. Thos. Baldwin, Mr. John Blundell, and two sons, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Stringer, Mr. Stanley Baldwin, Mr. Enoch Baldwin, Mr. Bancutt, Mr. G. Piddock; Dr. Strange (Worcester), Mr. Hughes ( Hempton), &c., &c.

The Rev. G. Bellett said grace, and the Rev. S. Bentley thanks. Mr. Nock and Mr. Bowen filled the office of vice-presidents.

On the cloth being withdrawn, the Chairman gave "The Queen," followed by "The Prince of Wales and the Royal Family."

Mr. T. Wylie Browne proposed "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers," coupled with the name of Colonel Forester, which was responded to by that gentleman and Lieutenant Smith.

The Chairman then gave "The Bishop and Clergy of the diocese," and connected with the toast the health of the Rev. G. Bellet.

The Rev. Gentleman acknowledged the same.

The "Lord-Lieutenant and magistracy of the county," was next given by the chairman, and was replied to by Mr. Wylde Browne.

The next toast was, "The health of the directors of the Severn Valley Railway," which the Mayor of Bridgnorth proposed, and which Colonel Forester replied to in very warm terms.

Mr. R. C. Blakeway, in proposing "Members for the borough," read a letter from Mr. H. Whitmore, expressing his regret at not being able to attend. He also spoke of the advantages to the district which the line would confer, for much of which the public were indebted to Mr. Brassey and the gallant chairman. He concluded with a graceful tribute to the late Mr. George Pritchard.

Sir T. E. Winnington, M.P. for Bewdley, replied, and expressed his regret that the members for Bridgnorth were not present to return thanks for the toast. He also paid a warm tribute to the memory of the late Mr. George Pritchard.

Mr. A. F. Sparkes proposed "Mr. Fowler and Mr. Bridgeman," engineers of the line.

Mr. Bridgeman acknowledged the compliment.

The Mayor gave "The Contractor\* of the Line," which was replied to by Mr. Rowell.

Mr. T. W. Browne gave "The health of the chairman."

"The West Midland Company" was proposed by Dr. Strange of Worcester, and acknowledged by A. C. Sheriff. Esq.

The Rev. Mr. Ward gave "The Mayors and Corporations of towns along the line."

The Mayor of Kidderminster replied.

The Mayor of Bridgnorth gave "The health of the visitors," coupled with the name of Mr. Baldwin, who responded.

Mr. Nock proposed "The ladies," and the proceedings terminated.

We are happy in being enabled to state that whilst the richer inhabitants feasted the poor were not forgotten, funds having been raised for the purpose of supplying them with coal, tea, &c. At a committee meeting, held in the Town-hall on Monday se'ninight, it was reported that at least £100 would be forthcoming for the disposal of the general Soup and Coal Committee as they should think best; and, after some discussion, it was thought that some further gratuity to the poor, besides the one cwt. of coal determined upon, might be given. It was then proposed by Mr. J. W. Macmichael, and seconded by the Rev G. Bellett, that on the day of the opening of the line each family should receive with the coal two ounces of good tea and a loaf of bread. The resolution was, we are glad to say, unanimously carried, and, as the result, some 600 or 700 poor householders were made to share in the general joy.

### **Shrewsbury Chronicle 7<sup>th</sup> February 1862**

#### **BRIDGNORTH**

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE G. PRITCHARD, ESQ. – A public meeting was held on Monday last in the Guildhall, in consequence of a requisition to the mayor for that purpose, at which the following gentlemen were present :- William Jones, Esq., mayor, in the chair; Ven. Archdeacon Waring; Rev. Rowley; the Revs. John Purton, G. Kellett, Bentley, W. Purton, C. F. Broadbent, Griffith, H. J. Ward; Messrs. Wylde Browne, T. Smith, T. Colley, C. Oare, Sparkes, Edmninson, Ellison, W. and H. Sing, Bangham. R. Griffiths, Hazlewood, Batte, Trever, J. H. Cooper, J. W. McMichael, Pidduck Perry, Phillips, Penzer, Owen, Jackson, and Captain Law. The Mayor opened the business by reading the requisition sent to him for the above purpose, and then read a letter from the Mansion-house from the lord mayor, soliciting their aid as a corporation to raise funds for the projected national memorial to the late lamented Prince Consort. He should be glad to hear any gentleman give his opinion as to which matter they should first proceed with. - Dr Rowley felt deeply interested in anything belonging to Bridgnorth, though no longer a resident in it; and when he offered a suggestion for a suitable memorial to the worth of Mr. Pritchard it was one in which he, when living, was most deeply interested. Twelve months ago he accompanied that lamented gentleman to Jackfield, where the church is all dilapidated and cracked from being undermined, and where from 1,000 to 1,500 parishioners are without religious and pastoral instruction. It was Mr. Pritchard's ardent desire and proudest wish to erect a church in that place, it being his native parish; and sure he was if Bridgnorth, Broseley, and Worfield would cordially unite together in the one object such a memorial would be erected as would best be deserving of his much-lamented friend. Jackfield is near the place where our friend was born, and I may say let the church be built, and I may answer for it an endowment will follow. This object will be better than three other memorials in view. He was fully authorised to say Mr. Harris would give the site. - Rev. J. Bellett said he did not believe that the object would meet the views of many friends in Bridgnorth and Worfield of building a church at Jackfield, yet so convinced was he of the utility of Dr. Rowley's motion that he trusted they would sacrifice their own feelings and contribute to the fund for such purpose; and though many of their Nonconformist friends may not agree with them, yet on ultimately they may do so ultimately. Rev. C. F. Broadbent spoke on behalf of the inhabitants of his parish of Worfield (where the late Mr. P. had much property) that they would have no objection to the suggestion of Dr. Rowley. Ven. Archdeacon Waring said, however deeply he might have deplored it, he was afraid at one period he could not have attended at the meeting this day. It gave him the greatest pleasure to do so, and to entertain the two objects placed before them by their excellent mayor. The great and intrinsic worth of the late lamented Prince Consort demand every praise. As a moral husband to our Queen, his virtues shone forth as worthy of England's gratitude and loyalty. In speaking of Mr. G. Pritchard, I do not do so as a familiar acquaintance, but meeting with him. On many occasions I have been forcibly struck with his kindness and goodness of heart. He boasted not of hereditary honour, nor those of glory bestowed by his sovereign for military services in the field; and though, in my eyes, hereditary honours are most estimable, yet deficient of these did the late Mr. G. Pritchard, to my knowledge, shine forth a fine specimen of a Christian gentleman to all who sought him. I doubt if many here well know the Christian feeling which made him render seasonable assistance to those who sought him. I doubt if many of us can ever know the amount of great good that Mr. G. Pritchard has done. My ideas of memorials are not those as may be best adapted for present usefulness, and therefore do I cordially assent to Dr. Rowley's proposition, and I believe it would be the most suitable object that we could raise to our departed friend's memory. In agreeing with the Rev. G. Bellett's observations I trust our Nonconforming friends will not object, but join us cordially in this matter of respect to departed worth. - Mr. C. Ellison, of Oldbury : I loved and honoured our dear and lamented friend, Mr. G. Pritchard. and I will do all I can in the matter of raising up the church at Jackfield, knowing that in his lifetime it was his ardent wish that the same should be accomplished. The grand object now must be in uniting all our strength to effect it after some observations with regard to the national memorial to the late Prince Consort, and to which

speeches were made by Mr. Cooper, the Rev. G. Bellett, and Dr. Rowley, the Mayor put the motion of Dr. Rowley to the meeting, "That a church be erected at Jackfield, in the parish of Jackfield, to the memory of the late Mr. George Pritchard," and, on a show of hands, declared the same carried unanimously. Dr. Rowley then proposed that a committee of Bridgnorth and Worfield gentlemen be formed, to be called the "Bridgnorth Deputation," and they to confer with the Broseley and Wenlock gentlemen to urge them to adopt the plan now carried at this meeting, and to obtain which this meeting be adjourned to a future day to receive the report of such deputation. Rev. G. Bellett seconded the same, which was agreed to the Rev. H. J. Ward, head-master of the Grammar School, then moved the adjournment of the consideration of the question of the national memorial intended to be erected in memory of his late Royal Highness the Prince Consort, and that the same be considered at the next adjourned meeting. -This adjournment was seconded by Mr. Ellison, and, after a vote of thanks to the mayor, the proceedings terminated.

#### **CHECK START**

BROSELEY.

PETTY SESSIONS. Before C. J. Ferriday (Mayor), J. Anstice, W. Nicholls, J. L. Lowndes, and R. Thursfield, Esqrs.

Police-constable Wiley charged George Pastans with being drunk and disorderly at Broseley, on the night of the 25th of January. Fined, with costs, 11s. - Removing Night-soil : Police-constable Wiley charged John Glover with removing and mixing night-soil in one of the public streets of Broseley at undue hours, contrary to the municipal bye laws, which requires that this matter should be attended to between ten and six o'clock in the morning; and George Corfield was also charged with removing the same. The case was fully proved against both of the parties complained against, and was characterised by the bench as a "horrible case." Fined, including costs, 11s. 4d. each.

#### **Shrewsbury Chronicle 7<sup>th</sup> February 1862 P6**

BRIDGNORTH.

[The following Report appeared in our SPECIAL EDITION of Saturday last.]

OPENING OF THE SEVERN VALLEY RAILWAY.

We previously announced, in order to give due eclat to the opening of the above railway, it was arranged that a public dinner should take place in the Assembly-room, Bridgnorth; which town will no longer lie in the isolated position that it has hitherto held, but will have all the advantages possessed by neighbouring towns, where prosperity has followed the introduction of the railway system. The line was not to be formally opened for passenger traffic until Saturday, but that being the market-day in Bridgnorth, and other matters interfering that would have prevented such an important event in the town's history being celebrated in that manner which the inhabitants wished, it was arranged that the dinner should take place on Friday. Accordingly, the directors very kindly, in order to meet the wishes of the people along the line of railway, arranged that they should on the occasion run trains from Worcester and Shrewsbury to Bridgnorth, calling at all the stations, for the convenience of all parties attending the celebration. In looking at the time that has elapsed since the Severn Valley first attracted the attention of railway projectors, we are reminded of the difficulties which were placed in the way of such schemes, not only by private individuals, who imagined that such projects were likely to interfere with their interests, but also by the legislature. In the early part of railway times the legislation on such matters was very deficient, and attended with many evils; at a more recent date, men who desired the development of the railway system have not been able to carry out their schemes without great opposition. In consequence of the enormous outlay in constructing one of these great and now indispensable highways, such undertakings were looked upon as a monopoly; and hence it was enquired whether the State ought not to become the great railway proprietors. Public opinion has at length become the judge, and the question as to whether a railway should be made through any particular district is to be decided in Parliament according to the evidence as to whether it is necessary for the public convenience. Had legitimate influence been exercised in all cases with reference to the various schemes, there can be little doubt that, in many instances, less delay would have taken place, and less money been expended. It is very well known that every man whose property was affected by any proposed railway had an almost unlimited power to thwart its projectors and to force the argument of questions again and again, which ought to have been determined at once for all general considerations. Again, the mass of the people were not only care less about railways, but frightened at the rate of speed proposed; and thus it can be well understood that trade must have declined in towns wanting those advantages which are possessed by others that have railway communication. The public, for whose convenience this great iron network has been spread over the country, have not now, however, much cause for complaint, as all opposition to the great friend of progress is fast dying out, and we already enjoy comforts and luxuries which

were entirely unknown some few years ago. But as this is already fully acknowledged, we must now endeavour to give some facts connected with the history of this line.

The district was surveyed for a line as early 1846 or 1847 by Mr. Nicholson, for Messrs. H. and W. Toogood, of Parliament-street, London, the well-known solicitors, and in 1852 the Severn Valley Railway Company was brought into existence. The Severn Valley Line, as at first proposed, was only 23 miles in length. It was to start somewhere near the Hartlebury station of the Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton Railway, and was to terminate at Coalbrookdale. It was not proposed to extend the line to Shrewsbury, the promoters being desirous of avoiding the opposition which might be expected from existing companies whose lines touch this town. They alleged that the line would give the shortest route between the towns on the proposed line and the whole of the southwest of England and Wales, and afford them an additional route to the metropolis. They said very truly that the line would pass in close proximity to the great mineral fields of Shropshire, and through large manufacturing and rich agricultural districts, affording a direct outlet for produce, then mainly dependent upon the navigation of the Severn, which, above Stourport, was difficult and uncertain. The line was to be worked by the Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton Company, under an arrangement. The capital was to be £300,000 in 15,000 shares of £20 each. Subsequently the company found it would be prudent to extend their project by carrying on the line to Shrewsbury, and in 1853 they obtained an act for incorporating the company, the capital to be £600,000, in 30,000 shares of £20 each. At this period embryo railways being out of favour for the investment of capital, no progress was made with the construction of the line, and in 1855 a new act was obtained by which the company was re-constructed and the capital reduced to £480,000, in 24,000 shares of £20. Other acts affecting the company were passed in 1856 and 1858 and in 1860 an act was passed confirming a lease of the line to the West Midland Company for the term of 999 years, the lease to take effect on the completion of the railway as a single line.

The construction of the railway was commenced as soon as the requisite capital was obtained. Land was taken and bridges built for a double line; but in consequence of the difficulty of raising money, only a single line has at present been completed. The engineer who has constructed the railway is Mr. John Fowler, assisted by Mr. H. O. Bridgman and Mr. J. Foggerty. The contractors are Messrs. Brassey and Field, whose engineer for the southern portion of the line is Mr. Day. The contractors met with difficulties in the construction of the line, which were as ruinous as they were unexpected. The obstacles arose from the tendency of the earth on the slopes adjoining the Severn to slip in large masses into the cuttings, or to move down towards the river, carrying the embankments with it. A great slip occurred at Stanley, which very much delayed the construction; another at the Wren's Nest, towards Broseley, where about half an acre of land slipped downwards and narrowed and elevated the bed of the river. About a mile above Wribbenhall, near Meredith's-farm, about three acres of the upper part of the slope came bodily forward and completely filled a cutting fifteen feet deep further down the slope. This difficulty, like the others, had to be overcome by deviating the line.

Starting from Worcester, at half-past eleven o'clock, with a train composed of two engines and seven carriages, in which were Mr. A. C. Sherriff, of the West Midland Company, various persons officially connected with the company, and other gentlemen connected with the trade of the district. At Droitwich more passengers were taken up, and the journey was then continued at a rapid rate to the junction with the Severn Valley line, at Hartlebury. Here fourteen more carriages, many of them Great Western but of the narrow gauge, and a third engine, were put to the train, and the journey was again proceeded with. Stourport station was soon reached. Here the platform was crowded with people, many of whom entered time train and the rest cheered as the carriages passed by. At Bewdley there was a still greater crowd on the platform and the sides of the line, and a considerable addition was made to the number of passengers. The train proceeded on to Shrewsbury, but as we shall return with it let us now give a general description of the line.

The Severn Valley Railway, after leaving the West Midland line at Hartlebury station, runs for some distance parallel with it, and then rather suddenly curves round to the West, leaving Hartlebury-park and Castle, the residence of the Bishop of Worcester, on the left. At first the line runs on easy embankments and through moderate cuttings. It passes over the Kidderminster and Worcester turnpike road on a girder bridge, of which the platform is supported on abutments about 17 feet high and 37 feet apart. The girders are of rolled plates, and are all riveted together very firmly till the whole of the ironwork is one firm and compact mass. The iron-work was executed at the Birkenhead Works of the contractors. The first really serious work commences as the line approaches Stourport. The long and high ridge of land which extends from Hop Brook to Wilden, Hartlebury Common and Lincomb, had to be cut through in order to reach the Mitton Meadows. The line runs through the ridge in a cutting nearly half-a-mile long, and for some distance about seventy feet deep. The sandstone



rock was found to be so hard as to necessitate in some parts the use of gunpowder in blasting it.

About 230,000 cubic yards of earth were removed in forming this opening. A light bridge carrying a cross country road has been thrown over this cutting. Within a furlong after leaving this excavation the line comes upon the Wilden and Stourport-road, and the river Stour not far from Jennyhole. The road is crossed by one arch and the river by another, and three others have been built to allow the passage of the water in time of flood. This portion of the works is of a very massive and substantial character. The arches are about 25 feet high and 40 feet in span; they are of hard and blue brick, and the abutments are of red sandstone may found in the locality. The Stour at this point is a sluggish, muddy-looking river, stained by the sewerage of Kidderminster, and the dyes; from the carpet manufacturers' dye-houses, but it winds about very curiously among rows of pollard willows. The line runs on a heavy bank across the meadows to the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal and the higher land near Mitton Church. The line in crossing these meadows has fallen to the lowest point it reaches in its course. The rails here lie as much as 46 feet below the level of the rails at the starting point at Hartlebury, the descent having been made in about two miles and a half. The line runs to the north of Mitton Church and crosses the Stourport and Kidderminster turnpike road on a level. The Stourport station is located at this point. The station-house will contain a residence for the station-master and his family, a booking-office, waiting-room, and the other appurtenances of it station. The building has a neat and substantial look. It is built of brick of light colour with stone dressings. The station is provided with a goods' shed. A cottage has been built at the level crossing, for the man who has the care of the gates.

From this station the line runs through a suburb of Stourport, with cottages and gardens, taking a north-west direction for Wribbenhall. Burlish-common having been crossed, the line encounters a somewhat elevated ridge, called Mount Pleasant. This had to be cut through, at the highest portion, about a furlong in extent, tunnelled. The country rapidly falls on the north side of the ridge, and the line from burrowing under a hill, soon runs over a viaduct of ten arches, behind Sandbourne, the residence of Mr. Slade Baker. At Wribbenhall, the railway is carried on a viaduct of eight wide arches till it reaches the elevated ground of Summerhill. The abutments of the viaduct are formed of masses of hard sandstone, with arches brick. The arch which crosses the Kidderminster and Bewdley turnpike road is built on the skew, and is a good specimen of the solidity and strength of the works on this railway. The line has now come close upon the river, and is fairly in the Severn Valley. The Bewdley station is at Wribbenhall, not far from the plain red-brick and sandstone church, which is so offensive to the eyes of the admirers of Gothic ecclesiastical architecture. The station is similar to that at Stourport, and in consequence of the elevation of the line, is somewhat inconvenient to get at. A goods' shed has also been erected here. After leaving the tunnel the line passes through a beautiful country. The land is thrown up into hills, some of which have sloping sides covered with vegetation, while others are precipitous, and presenting broad surfaces of red rock. Blackstone rock, overlooking the Severn, and famous for its ancient hermitage, comes into view; Winterdine, the residence of Major Gresley, crowns a lofty wooded height on the opposite side of the Severn; the beautiful grounds of Sandbourne are looked down upon; the comfortable old town of Bewdley, with its rows of tiled roofs, forms a conspicuous feature in the scene. From Wribbenhall the railway skirts the sides of the valley and lies close upon the river. It passes close by the side of the Ropery and Northwood Cottage, touches the south-west corner of Eymore Forest, and, passing through a deep, narrow rugged cutting in greyish rock, emerges at one neatly at a right angle with the Severn, and crosses it just above the islets, about three miles above Bewdley.

Since the days when Robert Stevenson accomplished the "impossibility" of making a firm road over Chatmoss, and constructed the great Britannia Tubular Bridge, the world has become better acquainted with men of his class, one great reason being, no doubt, because they are more numerous than they then were; and another, that they have not the same amount of stubborn opposition from the public to contend with. No one can look upon those great triumphs of engineering skill at Arley and Ironbridge, both of which are fine examples of the adaptation of iron to the purposes to which it has been applied, without having full confidence in the ability of the men who designed and executed them. One is just double the span of the other, the progress of engineering science having enabled the company to triumph over the first difficulties so far as to surpass what was generally regarded at the time as a first experiment. The Iron-bridge, which gave its name to the town it called into existence, was, it is well known, designed by a Shrewsbury architect, and executed by the Coalbrookdale Company; and although some little error in judgment was committed in making the arch to depend upon the equilibrium for its stability, whereby some trifling flaw occurred in the arch—more probably, after all, from some defect in the abutments, which were forced inwards by the pressure of earth—yet there it stands, a noble achievement for the time at which it was erected. The new bridge at Arley is just twice its span, the former being, in round numbers, 100 feet across, and the latter 200; both forming pleasing features of the valley, from their

noble span, their altitude, their lightness, and general aspect. They show how admirably, too, a combination of cast and wrought metal may be made serviceable for such purposes. Costly as this bridge has been, it is cheaper and more effective than one of stone, and much more light and airy than one entirely of cast iron could have been, for while the former will bear but a force of five tons to the square inch, cast iron will bear 40, and whilst the latter will resist extension at the rate of from 3 to 7 tons only to the square inch, good wrought iron, of a stringy and fibrous character, will resist 17 or 18 tons. As we have said, it is twice the span of the iron bridge across the Severn higher up, and is the largest cast iron arch in the kingdom and there are land arches of 30 feet span on each side, which give relief and effect to the solid masonry. The long arch consists of four ribs, each cast in segments of 7 tons each, and tested at a pressure of 74 tons, whilst the joints, by being made perfectly true, add much to the strength of the work. The spandrills are fixed perpendicularly on the outer edge of the ribs (which are 4 feet deep and 2 feet thick), and finely bound together with wrought iron bracings. On the top of the spandrills are balks, which carry the rails. Girders are fixed on the spandrills to divide or regulate the weight, so that each spandrill shall bear an equal share. The total weight of the bridge is, we believe, about 500 tons.

The length of the line is 40½ miles, the stations on which are built of brick, faced with stone, excepting Bridgnorth station, which is of freestone, built in the Early English decorative style. The plans were prepared by Mr. Fowler, and executed under the superintendence of Mr. Dowlas. The steepest gradient, which occurs at Ironbridge, is 1 in 40. At Buildwas Junction there is a spur, which runs underneath the Severn Valley line with a ten-chain radius, and it will there cross the river by a magnificent bridge to join the Coalbrookdale and the Wenlock and Craven Arms Railways. The way is not yet quite firm, the nature of the ground over which it runs being liable to shift until it is thoroughly drained; this work, however, is being proceeded with. At Ironbridge a land-slip took place on Wednesday at a cutting there, but a wall is to be built there and at other places, so as to prevent a recurrence of such a circumstance. Messrs. Brassey and Field have taken the contract for the maintenance of the line for twelve months from the West Midland Company, to whom it is now handed over, and a meeting will take place early in this month to settle upon what terms the line shall be finally leased to them.

By the time the train reached Shrewsbury the number of carriages had amounted to twenty-five, all of which were full of passengers. A very short time was allowed to seek refreshments, and it was not unemployed. Having returned to their seats, and some five additional carriages been attached to the train for the accommodation of the people of this town who wished to attend the dinner at Bridgnorth, the train again started, and we were treated to another run up the beautiful valley. As we passed along the line we could not but be amused with the demonstrations of feeling shown by some of the many people who lined the sides of the railway. At Coalbrookdale, where the houses are built down the side of the river for a considerable length, men, women, and children, at the doors of their somewhat dingy-looking cottages, buzzed, waved handkerchiefs, towels, aprons, hats, or whatever came nearest to hand; while one fellow performed with his arms and legs such fantastic tricks as proved that he would be no inconsiderable adjunct to a pantomimic company. The Iron-bridge was crowded with spectators, and indeed, as we passed along, groups of people gave us salutation at every dozen yards. On reaching Bridgnorth we found a multitude assembled on the platform and outside the very handsome station. The band of the Bridgnorth Rifle Volunteers accompanied the train, and on getting into order marched into the town, playing various pieces of music, which they did in good style, as they had done at the several stations on the line. A very large crowd had assembled in front of the Assembly-room, and the whole town gave evidence of a general rejoicing. Flags were flying from the principal buildings, and, although the shops were not closed, business seemed suspended for the day.

#### THE DINNER.

The Assembly-room in which the dinner took place was very appropriately decorated with flags and mottoes. Immediately behind the presidential chair were the words, in blue letters upon a white ground, "Success to the Severn Valley Railway;" and at the other end of the room was a flag bearing the words "God Save the Queen." The dinner was supplied by Mr. Whitefoot, of the Royal Hotel, and the manner in which he provided proved him to be well worthy of the public favour which he so largely enjoys. Of the wines, however, we cannot judge. Colonel C. W. Forester presided, and a company of about 150 sat down to dinner, and amongst those at the chairman's table were—Sir Thomas E. Winnington, Bart., M.P. for Bewdley; Mr. Sherriff, of the West Midland Railway Company; the Rev. G. Bellett; the Mayor of Kidderminster; Mr. Dowell; Mr. Day; Mr. Mould; Mr. Fogherty, engineer; Mr. Roberts, manager; Mr. Cutts, Birmingham; Mr. Seacombe; Mr. Blakeway, secretary of the Wenlock Railway Companies; Mr. Bridgeman, engineer of the line; Mr. B. Taylor, Shrewsbury; Mr. Morgan, Shrewsbury; From Bewdley were the following gentlemen:—Mr. Tart, Mr. J. Parsons, Mr. Nicholls, Mr. E. Hinton, Mr. Day, sen., Mr. Day, jun., Mr. Dailey, Mr. Jefferies, Mr. W. Hinton. From Stourport were: Mr. T. F. Cooke, solicitor, Mr. Wheeldon, Mr. E. Broad; Mr.

Watson, solicitor; Mr. Wm. Baldwin, Mr. Thomas Baldwin, Mr. John Blundell and two sons, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Stringer, Mr. Stanley Baldwin, Mr. Enoch Baldwin, Mr. Baucutt, Mr. G. Pidduck. The principal gentlemen resident in Bridgnorth were also present.

The cloth being removed, the CHAIRMAN said: Gentlemen, will you please fill your glasses for a bumper. In rising to propose the first toast of the evening, I am sure that I shall meet with the hearty response of everybody in the row when I say that it is "The Queen." (Applause.) Her name, wherever it is mentioned, is received with reverence, and she is an example to the women of England. (The toast was received with great enthusiasm.)

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I must ask you to fill another bumper. In rising to propose the next toast, which is "The Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family," I believe that the royal person whom I have the honour to propose is a person of great promise. All I have heard of him is in his favour, and every acquaintance he has made is endeared to him; and I think we may look forward to him as a person to be of great distinction in this nation. If he only follows the example of his noble father, who not only her Majesty but this country deeply regrets, it will be so. I shall not go farther than to propose the toast of "The Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family." (Cheers.)

Mr. T. WYLDE BROWNE said: The next toast was assigned to one of your representatives, but for some reason or other, over which I have no control, and for which he cannot account, he finds himself happier at home than he would be at being with us on this happy occasion. I am sorry for it, and I think he would have had satisfaction at being here, for I will say that this is an occasion when we should all meet together. (Cheers.) We cannot always expect to sail in smooth water, or if we did we should soon get tired of, our voyage but if we have a little change of weather it is more likely to give us an interest in our business. If we had not had a little opposition we should not have had the same interest in the accomplishment of the work. The toast I have to propose is the Army and Navy and the Volunteers. It is not that we propose this toast because it is necessary for anybody to speak of these forces as if they needed any apology, but we speak of the army and navy to bring them forward before the public on this occasion, and to testify our admiration of those bodies that have been the safeguard of our country. (Cheers.) They are the representatives of all that is brave and upright. With regard to the wooden walls of England, I can only say that they are invincible, and the records of what they have done are such as to entitle them to our warmest thanks; and I have, therefore, the greatest pleasure in proposing the toast of the Army and Navy and the Volunteers, the latter of whom when they are called out will. I have no doubt fight like tigers, and will rise en masse to oppose the enemies of our country. (Cheers.) I will couple with the toast the name of Col. Forester. (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN: As the time is getting short for our departure, I will not take up much of your time in making a long speech. I thank you, Mr. Browne, for proposing, and you, gentlemen, for the way you have received the toast, and especially for that portion of it to which I belong. I will drink all your very good health's.

Lieutenant SMITH said: in the absence of Captain Lloyd, it becomes my duty to thank you, on behalf of the Volunteers of this county. It is very pleasing to receive such a toast, because it is encouraging to these men who have come forward at the sacrifice of their time to find that their services are fully appreciated. Gentlemen, the establishment of this noble institution -the Volunteer system— has now become of very great importance, and forms an able adjunct to the army and navy of this country. (Hear, hear.) I am sure that the army and navy and Volunteers will ever act in unity together, having the same desire to protect her Majesty's dominions, to uphold the institutions and freedom of our country, and to oppose any aggression that may be made on her shores. Gentlemen, I thank you, on behalf of the Volunteers of this county. (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN said: In rising to propose the next toast it is not necessary for me to say much, because you are all aware of the great merits of the clergy of the neighbourhood, and of the bishops and clergy of the country. They in general set an example worthy of their high position, and of the Church of this country. I will therefore give you the Bishops and Clergy, and couple with the toast the name of the Rev. G Bellett. (Cheers.)

Mr. BELLETT, in responding, said: Colonel Forester, and gentlemen, I have been chosen, perhaps, because I am the oldest member of the clerical profession in the room; not because I have been the longest in the parish, or because the snows of time have fallen more thickly on my head than on those of many others. I am sure we ought to be gratified at the honour you have done us, and on that it is rather difficult for me to speak, because it is difficult to connect the clergy as a body with railways. There is one thing however, that I may mention, and that is, that it gives us greater facilities for running away from our parishes. (Laughter.) But if it does this, it also affords us an opportunity of returning sooner, and I am sure the happiest part of our absence from home, if you will allow me an Irish bull, is our return to our people and the comforts of our parishes. I am persuaded that in the minds of the people the Established Church is one of the permanent institutions of the country. Everything that tends to promote the welfare of the country will prove to all the fixity of the position of the

Established Church. This is a thing that I might enlarge upon, but as the train is to leave at a certain time I will not delay you. I cannot, however, sit down without saying another word or two, although I have no desire to anticipate other toasts that are to follow. I sincerely wish prosperity and success to the Severn Valley Railway, and may the shareholders of it receive so large a percentage on the money they have laid out that there may be no temptation to the directors to resort to the very questionable means of gaining profit by running Sunday trains. I think our country parishes will be sadly inundated if such a system were to be adopted. I beg to return to you my sincere thanks on behalf of the bishops and clergy for the kind manner in which you have drunk their health

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, the next toast which I have the honour to propose is the health of a nobleman in this county whose name is never mentioned but it is most enthusiastically received, and it is well-deserving of the enthusiasm with which it is received, for he is always ready to do anything in his power that is for the good of the county, both with his purse and his hand. I will, therefore, give you the health of Lord Hill, the Lord-Lieutenant of the County, and the Magistrates of the County; and will couple with the toast the name of Mr. Wylde Browne. (Great cheering.)

Mr. BROWNE, in responding to the toast, observed Gentlemen, as our honourable chairman has said, I believe there is not a more estimable or a more liberal nobleman than our Lord-Lieutenant. To know him is to love him, for no one ever applied to him for anything that would relieve distress but has met with response. The other part of the toast is rather different, and I wish another county magistrate had risen to respond to the toast. I think, however, that, as a body, they have been very earnest in promoting the interest of the county. With regard to the affairs which fall immediately under their notice, I may say that crime has diminished and the character of crime is very much lowered; but the magistrates could not do anything without those who are under them — I mean the police — any more than the police could do without the magistrates. I do not, however, believe that if the people had not a good sound training, by which I mean a sound and religious knowledge, we should be able to do any good, for that in my opinion prevents crime more than anything else, and sets up a barrier against the commission of it. Punishment may make an individual more cunning, more sly, and more designing, but it cannot effect any change for the better on the individual. But in proportion as there is a sound religious education amongst the people, there will be a respect for the law. While responding to this toast, allow me for a moment more to trespass upon your time. I cannot help looking back to one who is gone. To know him was to love him; and now that he is no more his memory in death is revered. There was no station, public or private, in which he was placed that he did not study his best to promote the most good. There was not an institution that had the good of his fellow-men for its object that he did support with the fullest energies of his power. And I believe it was in the exercise of one of these noble efforts that his last illness set in: and now he is no more. I am sure those of us who knew him will look back with satisfaction to the days when he was alive; and I will ask you to follow his steps now that he is past and gone. And when I say to you that it is the training of the young that will keep down the expense of the country, and will promote the happiness of the country, I assure you no one was more aware of this fact than the noble friend who is now no more. Whatever the law may be able to effect, it is comparatively as nothing at all with the training of young children properly. Gentlemen, I beg to thank you for your kindness in drinking the toast. (Cheers.)

The MAYOR OF BRIDGNORTH said: The next toast has been entrusted to my care, and as you have been previously requested I will ask you to fill a bumper to honour the toast with. It has often been said, or at least has been said, that “hopes deferred maketh the heart sick;” but if ever our hopes in anticipation, with regard to certain matters, have been kept in abeyance for some time, I think that what we have seen this day has had a very different effect, for an event has this day been consummated which has been looked for long and anxiously. It is ten years, I believe, since this Severn Valley railway scheme was first brought before the public, and it was then shown that it was not only a line that should be of essential service to district, inasmuch as it would not be merely a branch line by the wayside in a country district, but it would be the connecting link between two of the finest counties in the country—connecting the south and the north of this country. It was brought before us openly and plainly, and the people of this town gave it their support. It was doomed to struggle at its birth, and it has had many hard fights since then. The directors have withstood every opposition that arose against them, and I think it is to their credit that they this day see the consummation of their labours, so that we may now use it for the benefit which it will undoubtedly confer upon us. It will be found by many of you who have never passed through this line of district that you have never seen a finer, and I am sure you must say that it passes through the most beautiful district that any railway does in the kingdom. The scenery is varied; sometimes being altogether in the midst of agriculture, and again close to large mining operations, and other very extraordinary-looking places. Many difficulties had to be overcome in order to get this railway, and now that it is completed I believe that this day will

be the beginning of a new era in Severn Valley. I need not trouble you with any further observations, for most of you know as much of it as I do. I regret that there is only one of the directors present, but I have had letters from the others explaining the cause of their inability to attend; but I am very glad to see that we have the chairman amongst us. I am sure his presence is enough; and I am quite sure this (is) the inauguration of a new era. Our trade will be increased, and we shall be enabled to go to and fro with more ease and in less time. We shall be able to get our goods more easily. I know that the time of departure of the train is drawing close upon us, but as it happens we have all the people here who have the management, and they can make the train go at what time they like. (Laughter.) I will not, however, detain you longer, but propose the health of the Directors of the Severn Valley Railway, and success to the line. Let us drink the toast with three hearty cheers. (Great cheering.)

The CHAIRMAN: I have to thank you for the honour you have done me in coupling my name with the toast; and allow me to say that I have been connected with the line since it first was brought before the public, and a tedious time I may say I have had of it. (Cheers and laughter.) I think every gentleman present will admit that. (Hear, hear.) I at one time thought that I would no longer continue as a director of the line; but I was told that if I did not the whole thing would fall to the ground, and I therefore thought it necessary to continue. I was the only gentleman in the whole district through which it runs that would be on the direction, or have anything to do with it. I tried every person; I tried here and there and everywhere, but I found myself isolated. I felt that I was not quite fitted for my position, for I had never undertaken anything of the kind before, and I knew nothing about it. If it had been to command a regiment, or do anything that I knew anything about, I would have been most happy. (Cheers and laughter.) Well, gentlemen. I was told by those who were on the direction with me that if I threw up my position so should they; and I thought it absolutely necessary that I should adhere to it. I did so, through good report and evil report. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) My friends used to laugh in my face, and say it was a mere lawyers' line—(laughter)—that it was merely a set of directors; and, positively, they used to have the impudence to say that it was merely a lawyers' line and a directors' line, and that after awhile we should slip out of it, and make money by it. Well, then we were asked why it was that Mr. Brassey should take the contract for making the line, and why we did not advertise? but to this I had to say that if Mr. Brassey had not undertaken to make the line I believe the line would never have been made. It was to Mr. Brassey, and to him alone, and to the great name he has, that the people of this neighbourhood, and the district through which the line runs, are indebted for this line. It is not to the directors. I take no credit to myself except in having stood a great deal of bad language. (Laughter.) Gentlemen, the line is finished so far that it is this day handed over to the directors of the West-Midland Company, but I hope that, although we have given it to them, they will give us some good fast trains, say one a day both ways, which would be quite sufficient. I don't think you will badger me any more, for you have not to apply to me for trains now, but to the Great Western and West-Midland. There is Mr. Sherriff on my left—go to him. (Laughter.) You are sold to the West-Midland, and it is your own faults that you are sold so cheaply. I did all in my power—everything that I possibly could—for those who had money in the concern, to get them to come and support me, but d-d a bit of it would they. (Great laughter.) You left it all to the chairman, and he had one vote and that was all. They all voted against him. I stuck up for you as long as I could to try and get you better interest for your money, but none of you troubled yourselves. Now, I will tell you this, Mr. Sherriff: if you only run one good train down to Worcester that will not do. If we were to have a train at Oxford to meet the Ironbridge about 4-30 that might do very well (I am talking for myself) coming down. (Laughter.) Well, then, in regard to going back to London. If Mr. Sherriff would give us a train to meet the 1-47 at Oxford, that would bring us into London at 3-40. I looked at the timetable, and therefore I know that I am right. (Laughter.) I hope Mr. Sherriff will do his best, and we will give him an opportunity of speaking to-night, when I hope he will promise us what we want. When the West Midland is connected with the Severn Valley it will be connected with the valuable line to Much Wenlock. (Great laughter.) I was told by the solicitor for the Much Wenlock, at the Buildwas station, "Don't you think we have done very well for you in building that fine station of ours?" "What do you mean," said I, "by calling it your station?" "Oh, well," said he, "perhaps the Severn Valley helped to build the station, but you could not have built it if it had not been for us, because we let you build it on our land." Now the fact is, I believe, the Severn Valley Railway was made before the Much Wenlock Railway, and it has not been Much Wenlock for the Severn Valley. (Great laughter.) I have no doubt if this railway is conducted as it ought to be it will be one of the greatest value to the West Midland. It is true that we have made an agreement with them, but I believe that this line will add much to their profit. I have no doubt that they will gain such an advantage from it that it will pay 8 per cent. to them, and Mr. Sherriff knows that. (Laughter and cheers.) He is a most admirable man in every way—of great depth and sense; and he knew the value of the property he was getting, and he has got it at a very low price, but that is because you

would not come forward, and he was quite right to do the best he could for his company. I tried to do the best I could for mine, but I was left in the lurch. I beg to thank you all, gentlemen, for the kind way in which you have drunk our healths. (Cheers.)

The following toasts were also given: Members of the Borough; Engineers of the line; Contractors; Chairman; Westmoreland Company; Mayor and Corporation; Mayors of the towns interested in the line; Agents and Contractors; Visitors from neighbouring towns. These were duly responded to.

#### **Wolverhampton Chronicle and Staffordshire Advertiser 19<sup>th</sup> February 1862**

BROSELEY.

SEVERN VALLEY RAILWAY.—An accident occurred on this line on Thursday morning, as the first down train, which is due at 9.30, was passing the level crossing, near the Calcutts, which should have been attended to by the gate keeper; he was observed in deep conversation with another man. The engine driver sounded his steam whistle, but it had not the desired effect. Additional steam was put on, and the first gate was opened, but only in time to enable the gate keeper to escape with his life. The engine and train dashed on, and the other gate was shattered to atoms. We understand that the gate keeper has had notice to leave his situation in consequence.

At a meeting of the Committee of the Pritchard Testimonial, held on Wednesday, in the Library of the Broseley Literary Institute, it was agreed that the amount subscribed — £1,000—(subject to the permission of the subscribers) should be appropriated to the erection of a new church at Jackfield. It is stated that the late George Pritchard, Esq., has bequeathed the sum of £2,000 as an endowment, subject to the contingency of a new church being erected near to the Calcutt's National School-room, or the immediate vicinity.

#### **Eddowes Journal 19<sup>th</sup> February 1862**

BROSELEY.

The MEMORIAL TO THE LATE GEORGE PRITCHARD. Esq.- The sums subscribed in the room at the Broseley meeting for the above object amounted to somewhat over one thousand pounds.

PUBLIC MEETING.

A meeting to consider the propriety of erecting a testimonial to the memory of the late George Pritchard, E. and also to consider the desirability of contributing to the national memorial to the late Prince Consort. His Worship the Mayor in the chair.

Among those present were the Mayor, W. Jones, the Rev. Dr. Rowley, Rev. H. J. Ward. Rev. C. Bellett. Rev. C. E. Hutchins, Rev. J. Purton, W. W. Browne, Esq. J. J. Smith, Esq. Mr. Colley. Thomas Pardoe Purton. Esq. C. Cooper, Esq. C. Ellison, Esq. Thomas Smith, Martin Southwell, Esq. Thomas Griffith, Esq. Wm. Sing, Esq. H. Sing, Esq. &c.

The MAYOR, upon taking the chair, stated the object of the meeting. As agreed at their last meeting, the resolutions come to had been communicated to the Broseley committee. A reply had been received by him to the effect that that committee was not prepared to entertain the question of a church at Jackfield, unless the Bridgnorth people were prepared to come forward with a thousand pounds. He took the opportunity of communicating that to the members of the Town Council at their last meeting, and it was then understood that the proposition of a church had fallen to the ground. But two days afterwards he received a letter from Mr. Thursfield, the result of which was that the Bridgnorth committee met the Broseley committee at the Town-hall, on the 12<sup>th</sup> inst. the Rev. R. H. Cobbold in the chair. At that meeting it was proposed by the Rev. George Bellett, of Bridgnorth, to call a general meeting of the subscribers to take into consideration Dr. Rowley's resolution for the Broseley and all other subscribers to join together in one common object, viz.— to build a church at Jackfield, in memory of the late George Pritchard, Esq. It was also proposed by the Rev. C. F. Broadbent, of Worfield, and seconded Mr. Nicholas, that the Broseley and Bridgnorth committees do see what sums they can collect for a Memorial Church at Jackfield; and that those who have already subscribed, be recommended to devote the amount their subscriptions to this object. It was proposed by Mr. George Maw, and seconded by the Rev. George Bellett, that a separate fund be also retained for the purpose of some other object, to enable those who may have religious scruples against contributing to a church, to unite in the memorial to Mr. Pritchard. It was also agreed to that Mr. Thursfield should prepare a circular to explain to subscribers who had already given their names, and to ask whether they were willing that their subscriptions should be devoted or net to the object contemplated by the meeting.

Dr. ROWLEY inquired whether it was not decided the Broseley committee should take the district north of Bridgnorth to collect subscriptions, and their own committee south of Bridgnorth

Mr. COOPER said the neighbourhoods of those towns were mentioned, and that with one thousand pounds collected another would soon be raised to carry out the object they had in view. Mr. Cooper then alluded to a statement made in a local newspaper, which he characterised in strong terms, and which considered on the grounds of public justice, ought to be replied to. The object of Mr. Brown in adjourning the question, brought before the last meeting, was that the meeting should be unanimous on one of the chief subjects for which it had met, and the remarks which had gone forth to the public on that matter were scandalous. He understood the object of the meeting to-day to be to choose a committee to act with the one at Broseley, and to carry out the object both had in view.

The Rev. Dr. ROWLEY understood the chief object of the meeting to be to decide upon a circular suitable to bring before the public to solicit their subscriptions. But in order to collect subscriptions it would be necessary to head that list with some cogent reasons.

Mr. ELLISON remarked that it would be well for them to see between now and the 26th, when they should again have to meet the Broseley committee, what money they could raise, and that in order to do so, they should circulate the resolutions come to by the united committees, and that the document then in possession of Dr. Rowley containing Mr. Pritchard's wish should be added, and that unless the public were put in possession of these they would scarcely know how to act in the matter. The public at present did not know that it was Mr. Pritchard's wish that a church should be built at Jackfield, or that if built an endowment would follow; let that once be made known and people would willingly subscribe.

Dr. ROWLEY said the project of a church was agreeable to the Pritchard family and to the principal proprietor of Jackfield. The Pritchard family had not proposed if they felt a delicacy in the matter; but now that it had been proposed, and so far adopted, they felt an interest in the matter. The rev. doctor added that in a recommendatory paper found with Mr. George Pritchard's will, he had expressed himself as follows:— "I wish my brother, out of my property to apply such sum as he may think fit in the better endowment of a church at Jackfield, on condition that Jackfield be formed into a distinct district. The income shall not be less than £150 per annum; and I wish this appropriation to be considered as in memory of our late father, who felt gratefully attached to Broseley parish, and that it should be so expressed in some parish record as to show that it arose from his property, and was a provision for the spiritual wants of a portion of our parish, which we know he would very much approve." The Rev. Dr. also read from a paper he had prepared some additional remarks or suggestions, which he thought it would be well to send forth, together with a copy of the paper found with Mr. Pritchard's will, adding, thus would the recommendation be carried out by his brother, and a lasting memorial dedicated to the father.

The Rev. Mr. BELLET could not see how they could consistently ask those to subscribe to the church who promised their subscriptions to the fountain after the resolutions come to at the Broseley meeting, and Dr. Rowley replied that be thought the suggestions he had read may be modified so as to admit those having scruples to a church subscribing to a fountain or a window, and the were modified accordingly.

At the suggestion of the MAYOR, Mr. COOPER proposed that the paper read by Dr Rowley should be printed. It would not do to supersede the Broseley resolutions, but to adopt and correct them.

It was then suggested that the Rev. Mr. Bellet should propose that they be printed and circulated, and that gentleman having remarked that as he did not wish it to be thought that he took too prominent part in the matter, he would rather some one else did it.

Mr. WYLDE BROWNE, Esq. said he was not afraid of the enemy, and he would propose that the recommendations of Dr. Rowley should be printed and circulated here with their own papers, and the proposition, seconded by Mr. Ellison, was passed unanimously.

The MAYOR said the next business of the meeting was to form a committee to address and send out the circulars, in order to get subscriptions, as the Broseley committee would meet here on the 27th, at Twelve o'clock.

Rev. Mr. GRIFFITH, of Quatford Castle, said he should like to ask Dr. Rowley whether any arrangement had been made with Mr. Harries as to the patronage of the living to be formed at Jackfield, so that it may be handed over to the Pritchard family; otherwise they would enhance the value of the property, which may be sold with the presentation, and the Pritchard family have no further interest in the matter.

Dr. ROWLEY thought that the memorial should be so considered irrespective of the question raised by the last speaker, and that the Pritchard family would be satisfied to endow it independent of the patronage.

Mr. ELLISON said no one knew better than Mr. Pritchard the circumstances of the case, and he would not have made the provision he did if there were any insurmountable difficulties in the way.

The Rev. Mr. WASEY thought whether the Wenlock people should not be considered.

Mr. ELLISON said they had been, and

The MAYOR read a letter from: C. J. Ferriday, Mayor of the borough, in which he expressed his personal sympathy and his willingness to co-operate with others in the matter, and added his intention of doubling his subscription.

The Rev. Mr. GRIFFITH then proposed, and the Rev. Mr. WARD seconded a proposition that a committee be formed to co-operate with the one at Broseley.

The MAYOR next called attention to the memorial to the Prince Consort, a question equally important with that they had first been considering, and it would be for the meeting to decide whether they should contribute to the national memorial or fix upon one for their own borough.

A gentleman in the meeting, we believe Mr. Ellison, said he regretted that Mr. Sparkes was not present; if he had been he would probably have headed the subscription to the Prince Consort memorial with a large sum, and he should have been happy to follow (laughter).

The Rev. H. J. WARD thought that they ought not to enter upon a question of so much importance at the fag end of the meeting. They all felt the necessity of erecting some lasting memorial worthy of such an illustrious Prince and one to which after generations should be able to point as that of Albert the Good. He would therefore purpose that the meeting should be adjourned.

The proposition was seconded by Dr. ROWLEY, and a vote of thanks to the mayor terminated the proceedings.

We have omitted the unpleasant episode to which we have but alluded above, in which several speakers took part, inasmuch as this Journal was not included in the censure passed upon the press.

### **Shrewsbury Chronicle 21<sup>st</sup> February 1862**

#### **SUPPLY OF WATER IN BROSELEY.**

To the Editor of the Shrewsbury Chronicle.

SIR,—The supply of water in Broseley having lately attracted much attention in connection with the proposed memorial to the late George Pritchard Esq., it may be satisfactory to many to be made acquainted with the fact, that this place is now better supplied with water than it has been at any period of its past history. In support of this assertion I may mention that almost the only water that has ever been available for general use has been the Down-well and the Dirty-delph. From time immemorial the supply from the former has been so inadequate to meet the demand made upon it, that during dry seasons, year after year, whole days and nights, a group of people was waiting to obtain in turn the water from the spring. For instance, it has happened that a person taking a position at the well at six o'clock in the evening did not leave the well with a bucket of water until three o'clock on the following morning. Some idea of the scarcity of water may also be formed from the fact, that by selling the water from a draw-well, nearly adjoining the Down-well, a man has realised more than the rent of his house and garden, from the halfpence paid by the poor; and the rain that falls upon the Wesleyan Schoolroom (by no means a large building) has been sold for £7 a-year. The Delph only received the rain-water from the street, and the sewage from several houses: consequently in times of drought it conveyed no agreeable sensation either through the optic or olfactory nerves. With this fluid—its consistency sometimes approaching that of oil—the people washed their floors.

Last June it was wisely determined that this filthy pool should be filled up. Two proposals were made for supplying its place: one being to sink at shaft to the ironstone water, which has a strong inky taste and such a corrosive action upon the skin that it cannot be used with the hands; the other was again to try to form a reserve of the inadequate supply from the Down-well, upon which already £300 have been fruitlessly expended.

The late Mr. Pritchard gave his solitary support to a proposal made by me, at my own cost, to search for a stream which within my own knowledge had never failed throughout several consecutive years, which passed under my garden at a depth of four and a-half yards, through a drain formed of massive oak slabs, and probably made two centuries ago. This drain had been covered in the last twenty years, and in the meantime became choked with gravel, and the water had made for itself another course; but by exploring it was again met with and made available from a pump in the street, which has since so well supplied the inhabitants that last year the Down-well was never absolutely emptied, and no one has had occasion to wait for water; and throughout the summer no one on this account has been deprived of needful rest. Water-carts which in former summers were constantly passing to and fro, last summer became nearly as rare as a Stage-coach. Here let it be remarked that this great change took place in a year in which (as stated in the Times newspaper) the rainfall was one-third less than in the preceding year, and one-fifth less than the average; a year in which very many of the private pumps in Broseley were without water severe weeks, some of which had not before been dry for seven years.



So impossible was it deemed that water could be obtained, that the attempt to find it was considered absurd, and excited ridicule. Many difficulties were encountered in searching for water the source of which no one knew, and in the neighbourhood of old workings the geography of which we could not tell; and therefore, until some experience had been gained of the water, and the supply required, it is not surprising that a deficiency (not a failure) for a few days have happened three times, especially when during last autumn it was used by nearly the whole surrounding population, and the average demand on Saturdays amounted to fifteen tons, while the reserve never exceeded four tons. Since that time further excavations have been made, and it now bids fair to prove an ample supply through all time for the present population. Its average flow is four gallons per minute. There is no appreciable difference between it and the water of the Down-well, except its greater cleanliness. Analysis has shown that it is free from every deleterious substance; and except when workmen have been engaged in the well, no other water has been drunk in my own house for more than six months.

More than once the late Mr. Pritchard told me that he should like this water reserved for the use of the poor, and that they like this water reserved for the use of the poor and that they may use it he guaranteed me £10 per year for his lifetime. Hitherto no restrictions have been placed upon it, nor have I accepted payments for it which have been volunteered. Within the last month Mr. John Pritchard has told me that I have acted honourably and with characteristic liberality added that my outlay should be reimbursed. Under all these circumstances, doubtless to many it will appear somewhat singular that in the late discussion about supplying Broseley with water, the existence of this spring was ignored, and the only projects entertained were the two before mentioned, both of which were so quickly discarded by the late Mr. Pritchard himself; and this singularity is not made less remarkable by the fact that I am the only gentleman in the town who has not been invited to become a member of the committee.—I am, Sir, &c.,

Broseley, Feb. 17, 1462.      FREDERIC HARTSHORNE.

#### **Shrewsbury Chronicle 28<sup>th</sup> February 1862**

##### **COALPORT**

On Saturday a lad named Ben. Harris had a narrow escape from being drowned. He was running towards the ferry-boat, which has just sheered off, when striking his foot against a stone, he was pitched head-first into the river between the boat and the landing stage. Some persons in the boat, fortunately witnessed the accident, and as the lad rose to the surface of the water James Richards caught hold of him by the leg, and a young man named J Oswell, seized him by the arm. Thus he was delivered from the dangerous result of this accident. This is the second time, in the same place that this youth has escaped from drowning. Beyond the shock of a complete cold immersion he has sustained no injury.

##### **BROSELEY**

Since the opening of the Severn Valley Railway there has been an important and gradually increasing goods traffic done, an amount which must be gratifying to the shareholder, and one also not disadvantageous to the inhabitants of this locality. It has been found profitable to the proprietors of the Old Park Company near Shiffnal to forward coal, *via* Salop, to Ironbridge; and Ruabon, coals also find here a market. In consequence of these, "black diamonds" finding purchasers here, some of our local coalmasters have issued circulars, stating that they have reduced the selling price of their coal on the bank 1s. 8d. per ton - from 11s. 8d. to 10s. And another most important feature has been developed - the rail affords a ready, immediate, constant, and rapid mode of transit for the goods manufactured here, such as draining tiles, bricks, quarries, tiles, and, in fact, all the multifarious productions of this very valuable character, for the production of which the resource, of this locality seem to be almost exhaustless. In order to give additional facilities for transit, it is understood that an important siding, with a wharf attached, is to be forthwith constructed at the Calcutts, which will afford additional advantages to that particular district for the despatch of local productions, and the receipt of coal, an article much needed all along the line, from Ironbridge to Coalport-bridge, by the dense population inhabiting this district. It is understood that in the neighbourhood of Madeley the sale of coals for local consumption has much declined, the market at Wenlock and its vicinity being now supplied by the Wenlock line of rails; and in respect to these pits it has been frequently remarked by the consumers that, although the wages of the colliers have from time to time been reduced, there has been no corresponding reduction in the selling price of the coal. Another feature in connection with these lines is observable in the fact that the limestone obtained at Bradeley, near Wenlock for the supply of the numerous and extensive works of the Coalbrookdale Company at Horsehays and neighbourhood, are generally conveyed to the bottom the Dale by horse-waggon. This expensive mode of transfer has given way to the facilities of rail exportation; this limestone is

now nearly all conveyed on the Wenlock and Severn Valley, and Salop. But it is obvious that when the link necessary to connect the Wenlock branch, with the Lightmoor station, on the Wellington Junction, shall have been completed, this roundabout route through Salop will be discontinued. This important link will pass through Coalbookdale, and it and the bridge over the Severn may be completed towards the end of next autumn, if not earlier. The iron-bridge intended to span the Severn for this important link of line of rail is rapidly progressing at the Coalbookdale works.

#### BRIDGNORTH

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE GEORGE PRITCHARD ESQ.- RESOLUTION PASSED FOR BUILDING A CURCH AT JACKFIELD, BROSELEY. An influential meeting of the committees for Bridgnorth, Broseley and Worfield, met on Tuesday morning, the 27<sup>th</sup> inst in the Council Chamber of the Guildhall, in the town, the Mayor (William Jones), Esq.) in the chair. Amongst the gentlemen subscribers present were: Revs. Dr. Rowley, S. Bentley, J. Purton, C. F. Broadbent, G. L. Wasey, and Richard Rowley; Thos. W. W. Browne, Esq.; Thos. Colley, Esq; R Thursfield, Esq; and Wm. Nicholes Esq., Broseley; Charles Ellison, Esq., Oldbury; Thomas Colley, Esq., Oldbury; Humphrey Charlton, Esq., Broseley; George Maw, Esq.; Thomas Smith, Esq.; John Smith, Esq.; Wm. Smith, Esq.; Wm. Sing, jun., Esq.; Robert Griffiths, Esq., of Danesford; Charles Cooper, Esq.; - Shaw, Esq., Broseley; &c. - The Mayor opened the business of the meeting by enquiring of the committee to declare the amount of subscriptions on the lists, and also to ascertain of the scheme just formed as to the building of the church at Jackfield should be proceeded with. The speakers on the occasion were the Revs. Dr. Rowley, C. F. Broadbent, and John Purton, Richard Thursfield Esq., and Wm. Nicholas Esq., of Broseley. From the documents laid before the meeting it appeared that the funds already subscribed for the church amounted to £2,060 6s and the sum for the erection of a memorial fountain at Broseley nearly £200. After much discussion (which, as the meeting was not a public one, we are limited in our report), it was finally carried on the motion of the Rev. Dr. Rowley, seconded by the Rev. F. Broadbent, "That the church at Jackfield should be built;" and, also, on the motion of Richard Thursfield Esq., seconded by Thomas W. W. Burne, Esq., "That also a memorial fountain be erected at Broseley, as a memorial to perpetuate the memory of the late George Pritchard Esq." the committee to carry out the building arrangements, consisting of gentlemen of Bridgnorth and Broseley, was then formed. Resolutions were carried for advertising the meeting with the list of subscribers in the *Shrewsbury Chronicle*, *Shrewsbury Journal*, *Wolverhampton Chronicle*, and the *Bridgnorth Journal*. After which the thanks of the meeting were unanimously awarded to the Mayor by acclamation, which finished the proceedings.

#### **Shrewsbury Chronicle 7 March 1862**

Subscribers to the Fountain

#### **Wellington Journal 8<sup>th</sup> March 1862**

##### IRONBRIDGE

PETTY SESSIONS. —TUESDAY LAST.

(Before C. J. Ferriday, Esq. (mayor), J. Anstice, W. Nicholas, and R. Thursfield, Esqrs.)

DAMAGING A TREE —A little boy, named Henry Millichip, was charged with damaging a tree growing upon lands belonging to F. Harries, Esq., and in the occupation of Mr. James Burnett on the 20th of February. The boy denied the charge.—Mr. Burnett said that he was informed there were some persons cutting the trees in Corbett's Dingle, and he went in that direction. Before he reached the wood he saw the prisoner gathering some sticks. He then went towards him, but the boy dropped the wood and ran away. He (witness) went and looked at it, and found that there were several branches of live wood amongst it. Whilst he stood looking the boy's father came up, and he then told him what had occurred. Millichip said that it could not have been his son, as he was nowhere about. Just at this moment the prisoner made his appearance out of an opposite wood, and witness pointing to him asked Millichip if that was not his son. He answered that it was, and he (Burnett) then said that that was the boy who had the wood. He afterwards went to the tree under which he had seen the prisoner standing, and found that there were a number of branches broken out. The tree was damaged considerably. Under it he found two hooks, one fourteen and the other sixteen feet long; these had been used to break the branches.— A little girl named Ann Roberts deposed to seeing the prisoner using the hooks, and breaking the boughs. —The boy here admitted making use of the hooks, but that it was to pull the dead wood out of the tree.—Fined 1s. and ordered to pay 1s. damage, and costs.—The prisoner's mother, Ann Millichip, who it appears was with the boy on the day in question, was then charged with stealing and carrying away the said wood.—This came the bench, after hearing the evidence adduced, dismissed.

ASSAULT. — A man, named James Dowd, who was "wanted" upon another charge, was charged by John Salt with assaulting him at the Coneybury pit, Broseley, on the last

ultimo.—Complainant said that he was working in the pit with the defendant on the day in question when Dowd said he had got his (defendant's) work. This complainant denied, and defendant then struck at him with a pick, saying he would stick him.—Police-constable Wiley said the defendant intimated that he should not appear, as he intended to leave the country.-- Fined 5s and 11s costs, or 14 days.

LODGING HOUSE OFFENCES.—Joseph Bradeley, lodging house-keeper, residing at Broseley, was charged by Sergeant Pryce with an offence against the bye-laws, viz. that the windows of rooms No. 3, 4, and 5, of his house remained closed during a prohibited time and also with not having the said rooms properly cleansed.—The housekeeper of the defendant appeared, and denied the charge. — It was substantiated, however, by the evidence of the officer, and the bench inflicted a fine of 10s and 11s costs, this being the second offence.

#### BROSELEY.

LECTURE AT THE HALL—Yesterday evening week the Rev. T. Ragg, of Malinslee, delivered an able and highly interesting lecture on the acquirement of knowledge. The attendance was good. The lecturer was listened to with great attention, and was frequently applauded.

ATTEMPT AT HIGHWAY ROBBERY.—One evening last week a charwoman, named Williams, who is in the habit of taking her washing home late at night, upon returning home along a solitary road, called the Dark Lane, was seized by a man, who threatened to throw her down a pit close at hand unless she gave up her money. She, however, slipped out of his hands and ran back to Broseley, from whence she went home by another road.

FOWL STEALING. —Late on the night of Monday last or early on the morning of Tuesday, the fowl-house of Mr. George Cleeton, of Rowton Farm, was broken open, and 16, fowls and two ducks taken away. It is supposed the depredators killed them on the spot, as blood was found on the floor, and also one of the fowl's heads, which had been cut off. The thieves first tried to effect an entrance by taking some bricks out of what appears to have formerly been a window, but failing in that, they succeeded by means of a ploughshare in wrenching out the staple, into which the bolt of the lock fitted. The police are actively engaged in trying to trace the guilty party, but at present no suspicion is attached to anyone.

MEETING TO SUPPLY THE TOWN WITH WATER. —A public meeting, called by the surveyor, was held on Monday last, to take in consideration this question, the Rev. R. H. Cobbold in the chair. Amongst those present were J. Pritchard, Esq., M. P., R. Thursfield Esq., W. Nicholas, Esq., H. Charlton, Esq., E. Evans, Esq., and others feeling an interest in the question. The chairman stated the object of the meeting. — W. Nicholas, Esq., remarked that the first question was a supply of water, and where they were to supply it from. — Mr. Burnett said he should like to ask whether the present meeting was to be considered as having connection with any former meeting?— The Chairman understood that it was totally distinct and independent of former proceedings, unless, indeed, some link might be forged which should happen to connect it with what had gone before. — After some conversation relative to former proceedings, and to the question whether money collected formerly for a similar object could be devoted to this purpose, in which Mr. Charlton, Mr. Burnett, and Mr. Pritchard took part, it was suggested by Mr. Evans of Broseley-hall that it would be proper to repair the reservoir, and turn into it the water from the Down-well, and to increase the supply by adding that from Mr. Hartshorne's spring: the cost of which, he did not think, need exceed £100 altogether but it would be only justice to that gentleman that he should receive compensation for the expense he had incurred. — Mr. William Evans inquired whether the reservoir had not been pronounced incapable of holding water? —The Chairman replied that it had only failed from a crack caused by the mines underneath it.—Mr. Thursfield was anxious to obtain a supply sufficient in case of a fire.— Mr. Brown, of the Summer-house, said he had tried several springs, at the request of the late Mr. Pritchard, the quality of which was good, and would suggest the erection of a water-wheel, to throw up the water from a spring on the road to Ironbridge. But the opinion of the meeting appeared to be that this could entail too great an outlay. — Mr. William Evans said that there could be no difference of opinion as to the necessity of having a supply of good water. The only question was as to the expense, and he inquired whether an act was not passed in 1839 by which they might avail themselves of a rate for the purpose of raising the funds necessary for carrying out the object they had in view. The supply from Mr. Hartshorne's pump, he understood, had failed, and might do so again. He would, therefore, propose that a committee should be formed of no less than seven, to ascertain the best means of supplying the town with water, and to prepare a report for a future meeting.—A discussion next took place as to the advisability of placing themselves under the Health of Towns Act, as the proposition made by Mr. Evans would involve that.—Mr. Mason called the attention of the meeting to the supply from Lilly-well. Mr. E. Evans remarked that the water in that, the Down, and the Quobwells (*Cobwell*), was the same, each being derived from that springing out of the main vault. — Mr. Mason then

seconded the proposition made by Mr. Evans; and a committee was formed to consider the plans suggested and to report upon the same at a meet-to be held that day week.

**Eddowes's Journal, and General Advertiser for Shropshire, and the Principality of Wales 12 March 1862**

THE COALPORT CHINA WORKS.

BY LLEWELLYNN JEWITT, F.S.A. &c.

The following account of these celebrated works is taken from the current number of that excellent periodical, the *Art Journal*. The subject itself, independently of the able manner in which it is treated, is locally so highly interesting, that we offer no apology for occupying so large a space with the transcript:-

In the midst of one of the most historically interesting districts of the kingdom- district abounding in spots rendered famous in various ages by the events which have occurred within its boundaries, and full of associations as varied as they are interesting-within a few miles of Boscobel, and Tong, and numberless other places possessing a sad interest as connected with the wanderings and the painful vicissitudes of King Charles II.- within a short distance of those two glorious monastic ruins, Buildwas Abbey and Wenlock Priory- not far from the "English Nineveh," Uriconium, and within easy distance of Shrewsbury and Ludlow,- stand the works whose simple history I am about to relate;- themselves as interesting as many or most of the palaces by which they are surrounded. Besides its historical associations, however, the district is full of interest of a more stirring kind; for it is the very centre of a large manufacturing neighbourhood, whose productions have a world-wide fame, and are almost as varied as the beautiful scenery of the Severn, which flows majestically through it.

Broseley, whose pipe manufactories two hundred and fifty years ago were as famed as they are now, and whose makers then got rid of their goods without, as at the present day (following in the wake of the starch-makers), advertising the emphatic words, "When you ask for a Broseley pipe, see that you get it!"—Jackfield, famed of old for its earthenware, and where it is still to some little extent made;—Benthall, where "yellow ware" works are in constant operation, and where the magnificent encaustic and enamelled tile and mosaic works of Messrs. Maw are situated;—Ironbridge, with its famous one-arch bridge, from which it takes its name, spanning the Severn; Madeley, with its extensive iron furnaces;—Benthall Edge, with its limestone works, the rocks of which are rich in fossil remains, and full of interest to the geologist;—Coalbrookdale, whose iron works are known throughout the world, and where articles in terra-cotta are about being manufactured; and a score of other busy hives of industry are gathered together in this district, close round the Coalport China Works, whose productions are of unrivalled excellence.

To some of these works I shall again, *en passant*, refer, before closing this article, my present object being to confine myself to the china works alone.

Like the Worcester and the Derby porcelain works, the Salopian manufactory dates from the middle of last century; and, like them, the manufacture has continued from its first introduction to the present time without interruption. Indeed, it may be said of the district in which these works are situated, that an almost—if not an entirely—unbroken historical chain may be traced, on the same beds of clay, from the Romano-British period down to the present day. It is important as well as highly interesting to be able to say, that the same beds of clay which, fifteen hundred years ago, produced some of the fictile ware of the Roman occupiers of the soil, has been worked in the intermediate ages, and still produces, more largely than ever, articles of daily use for every class of the people of England. The same beds which supplied the magnificent city of Uriconium with jugs, mortaria, bowls, and colanders of white ware,—quantities of the debris of which have been found in the recent excavations, both in its plain state and rudely painted,—and, indeed, also with perhaps most of its ware, except the Simian and Durobrivian varieties, still supply the neighbourhood with innumerable articles of daily use. Little, perhaps, do the generality of people who visit the excavations at Wroxeter, and see the fragments of coarse ware turned up on every mound, think that the very clay which produced them, the very arts which formed them, and the very district which sent them forth, have produced, and formed, and sent forth, most probably, the very vessels in which the food they have just partaken of has been prepared. But so it is; and thus the clay beds of the Severn Valley possess in themselves abundant interest to the historian, and indeed to people of every class.

As I have shown in my account of the Worcester works, the manufactory in that city was established in the year 1751; and the commencement of the works in Shropshire must have been, if not coeval, at all events closely subsequent to that event. Indeed, the establishment of the two works must have so closely followed each other, that they may be almost said to have sprung into existence at the same time. The site of the first Salopian china works was at Caughley, about a mile from the present manufactory, and on the opposite or south side of

the river Severn. The works were situated on the hill overlooking the valley of the Severn, as it flowed on to Bridgnorth, and commanding a magnificent view of the surrounding country. On this spot, it is said, a small pottery was begun by a Mr. Brown, and after his death managed by a gentleman named Gallimore, to whom, in 1754, a lease of the place was granted for the term of sixty-two years. This Mr. Gallimore does not appear to have been long connected with the works; for the only name, as proprietor, which I have at present been able to establish, is that of Mr. Thomas Turner, who married a daughter of Mr. Gallimore, and carried on the manufactory.

Mr. Thomas Turner was the son of Dr. Richard Turner, rector of Cumberton, and vicar of Emley Castle and Norton, all in Worcestershire, in 1754, and who was also chaplain to the Countess of Wigtown. This Dr. Turner, who took his degree at Magdalen Hall, Oxford, was the author of several works on geography, astronomy, gauging, trigonometry, education, history, &c.; and, in 1765, was a "Teacher of geometry, astronomy, and philosophy," at Worcester. He died in 1791, and was buried at Norton, near Worcester. Besides his son Thomas, he had two other sons, Richard, LL.D, and Edward; the first of whom also published some works, and the latter was a general in the army in India, where he died. Mr. Thomas Turner is said to have been brought up as a silversmith, at Worcester; but this is an error, as for the purpose of obtaining the freedom of the city, he was apprenticed to his father.

No doubt the incentive to the establishment of these works were the experiments long carried on at Worcester by Dr. Wall, and the knowledge that at this spot the two principal materials wanting in a pottery of the kind could be had at a trifling cost. With abundance of coal within twenty feet of the surface, with chunch of the best quality for the making of seggars overlying the coal, and with the navigable river at hand for bringing the materials and for carrying away the finished goods, the inducements were strong for the fixing on this spot the manufactory which was destined ultimately to grow into such enviable importance. To Worcester, of course, coal, and chunch, and other materials had to be conveyed at great cost; but here they were ready to hand, and indeed were cropping out in every direction, inviting to be used. In 1736 the works had attained a considerable degree of excellence; and an example is in existence, bearing that date, which gives most satisfactory evidence of the excellence of the body at most satisfactory evidence of the excellence of the body at that time—a body, however, which speedily became greatly improved. In the early years of the Caughley manufactory, the ware was not many degrees removed from earthenware; but it gradually assumed a finer and more transparent character. Like the early Worcester examples, the patterns were principally confined to blue flowers, &c. on a white ground; and in this style and colour the Caughley works excelled, in many respects, their competitors. An excellent example of the body, as made in 1776, is exhibited in a mug, bearing that date, now in the possession of a family at Coalport. The mug is white, with blue and gold flowers, and bears the words "Francis Benbow, 1776," surmounted by an anchor; the Francis Benbow, for whom it was made, being a bargeman. This mug is highly interesting, as indeed are all dated examples; and I cannot too strongly impress upon all collectors the importance of strictly preserving, in any variety of ware or make, all specimens which bear either dates or names, or other objects which may form data for inquiry.

About the year 1780 Mr. Turner visited France, for the purpose of "picking up knowledge" on the porcelain manufactures of Paris, and other places. He is said to have been an excellent draughtsman, and this, added to his chemical knowledge—for he had a regular laboratory fitted up at the top of his house—must have been a great advantage to him while in that country of beautiful and chaste designs. On his return from France he brought with him some skilled workmen, and at once entered with increased spirit into the manufacture of porcelain in his own works at Caughley.

One of the men whom he had brought over appears to have been a clever architect; and from his design a very tasty and elegant chateau was built for Mr. Turner, near the works. This building, being of a novel design in England—more especially in the sequestered neighbourhood of Caughley— attracted much attention; and its peculiarities of construction and arrangement are still often talked about by the old inhabitants of the place. This house was pulled down in 1820 or 1821, and the materials used for making additions to the present works at Coalport. At the present time no vestige of the home or works remains at Caughley.

In 1788 Mr. Robert Chamberlain commenced his china works at Worcester, and for some time bought his ware at Caughley, had it sent down by barge to Worcester, and there painted and finished it. The same thing was also done when Grainger's works were first started at Worcester. The number of hands employed at Caughley must have been somewhat large, as the premises were extensive, and the quantity of goods required by Mr. Turner, for his own trade and for Worcester, was large. The works were built in the form of a quadrangle, with an entrance gateway surmounted by an inscribed stone. The works were, as will be seen hereafter, taken down by Mr. John Rose, after assuming the proprietorship.

Mr. John Rose, whose father was a farmer in the neighbourhood, was taken into the house by Mr. Turner, and taught the art of china-making in all its branches, After some years, from

causes which are not relevant to my story, a difference arose between them, and Mr. Rose left Mr. Turner, and commenced a small business on his own account at Jackfield, in the immediate neighbourhood.

The Jackfield Pottery was one of the oldest in the neighbourhood, and is believed to have been worked for centuries. The potters had, at different times, probably from being expert hands, migrated into Staffordshire; and I am informed that, as early as 1560, several entries occur in the parish registers of Stoke-upon-Trent of people (potters, of course) as "from Jackfield." A few years ago a coal-pit at Jackfield, which was known not to have been entered for nearly two centuries, was opened, and in it was found a small mug of brown earthenware, bearing the date of 1634. The works were, probably not long after this period, carried on by a person of the name of Glover, who used the old salt glaze his ware. He was succeeded by Mr. John Thursfield, son of Mr. John Thursfield, of Stoke-upon-Trent, about the year 1713. This John Thursfield had married a daughter of Captain Webb, who had been in the wars under Marlborough and Prince Eugene, and had, while in the Low Countries, married Dutch lady. In 1729 John Thursfield married a lady named Eleanor Morris, of Ferney Bank, who is curiously described in the Broseley register as a "sojoiner." He died in 1751, leaving two sons— John, who built the works at Benthall; and Morris, who succeeded his father at Jackfield.

The kind of ware made at Jackfield was a white stone-ware, very similar to the Staffordshire make, and on some examples flowers and other ornaments were incised and coloured; that is, the outlines were cut in while the clay was soft, and the flowers and other ornaments touched afterwards with colour. A very interesting and remarkably well potted jug of this description is in the possession of W. F. Rose, Esq. of Coalport. Maurice Thursfield made at Jackfield a very superior black ware, highly vitrified and glazed; indeed, so highly glazed was it that it had all the outward appearance of glass. The forms, and the potting of these articles, locally known as "black decanters," were remarkably good, and on some specimens which I have seen, ornaments have been judiciously introduced. On one, in the possession of Richard Thursfield, Esq. of Broseley, a head and wreath are executed in gold and colour; and on others, painting in oils, both portraits and views, and raised ornaments are introduced. Maurice Thursfield died in America, where he had, it appears, considerable business connections.

In these works, then, Mr. Rose, in conjunction with a Mr. Blakeway, soon after the death of Maurice Thursfield, began making china. The works were not, however, carried on long, but were removed to Coalport, on the opposite side of the Severn, where they were begun in some buildings which had formerly been a pottery (I believe belonging to a Mr. Young, a mercer of Shrewsbury), and where they have continued uninterruptedly to the present day. It is well to note, that at Jackfield a pottery of yellow ware is still continued. Mr. John Rose had not long established himself at Coalport, it appears, before he met with opposition; for other works were started on the opposite side of the canal, and only a few yards distant, by his brother, Mr. Thomas Rose, and partners, who commenced business under the style "Anstice, Horton, and Rose." These works, however, did not continue long, but passed into the hands of Mr. John Rose and his partners, who, with other additions, formed them into one establishment. In the space of three or four years from the establishment of the Coalport works by Mr. Rose, he had so successfully carried on his business that the Caughley works of Mr. Turner had become greatly reduced, and were gradually beaten out of the market. In 1798 the Caughley works passed into the hands of Messrs. John Rose and Co. by purchase, and Mr. Turner withdrew entirely from the business. Both works were then continued by them, thus giving a great increase to the establishment, and tendering it one of the most extensive in the kingdom.

In the following year, October 23rd, 1799, an event occurred in connection with the works at Coalport which was most sad in its results. At that time a considerable number of the workpeople and painters employed at the works resided at Broseley, and were in the habit of passing backwards and forwards across a ferry near the works.

On this night, board persons, including the best artists, went on the ferry-boat, which, about mid-water, owing to the intoxicated state of the ferryman, was capsized, and twenty-nine were drowned. The principal painter at this time was an artist named Walker, and an unfinished piece of work of his—the piece he left in progress only a few minutes before he lost his life—is still preserved, with almost religious care, in the factory.

The coal at Caughley beginning to work out, and the cost of carrying the unfinished ware from thence down the hill and across the water to Coalport was so great,—the unfinished ware being carried on women's heads the whole distance,—that Mr. Rose determined to remove the works to Coalport, which he did at different times, gradually drafting of the workmen, until about 1814 or 1815, when they were finally removed, the kilns and rooms taken down, and the materials used for the enlargement of the works at Coalport. The last of the buildings, with the house, were not, however, destroyed until 1821, when the materials were brought to Coalport to build the present burnishing shops and some workmen's cottages. Since then the manufactory has been constantly and considerably enlarged, and

now occupies, I believe, considerably more ground than any other porcelain works in the kingdom.

(continued from: Eddowes Journal 29<sup>th</sup> March)

It will be seen from what I have said, that the Coalport works had already, before the commencement of the present century, absorbed those of Caughley, of Jackfield, and of the opposition establishment of Messrs. Anstice, Horton, and Rose. Some years later, the Swansea porcelain works, which had risen somewhat into repute, were discontinued, and the moulds, &c. bought by Mr. Rose, who removed them, along with the workmen, to Coalport about the year 1820. Another famed manufactory, though small, that of Nantgarrow, established by Billingsley, the famous flower painter, of Derby, and his son-in-law, Walker, also of Derby, in 1816 (under the assumed name of *Beeley* and Walker), and which produced, perhaps, the finest examples of porcelain with granulated fracture ever made, also soon afterwards was merged into the Coalport establishment. Billingsley and Walker, on discontinuing the works at Nantgarrow, removed to Coalport, with all their moulds and processes, and continued employed there until Billingsley's death, which took place in 1828. Walker was a remarkably clever workman, and did much during the time of his continuance at Coalport to improve the art of china making. He removed thence to America, where he established a pottery, which, I believe, be still continues to work. The Nantgarrow porcelain was very expensive to make, but was remarkably fine in its body and texture. Specimens are very rare, and invariably fetch high prices when offered for sale. The original recipes for the making of this Nantgarrow ware are in the possession of Messrs. Rose and Co. and it can be made at Coalport of as fine a quality as ever. I have carefully examined specimens made at Nantgarrow with others made by Billingsley and Walker when they first came to Coalport, and these again with examples made by Messrs. Rose in 1860, and they appear all to be of equal excellence of body. It is, however, too expensive a process to be followed to any extent.

In 1820 Mr. John Rose received the gold medal of the Society of Arts for his improvements in the manufacture of china. The prize, which was offered for the best porcelain glaze produced without lead, was competed for by Copelands, Davenport's, and all the principal manufacturers, as well as by Mr. Rose, but was honourably gained by him. It bears the inscription – "To Mr. John Rose, MDCCCXX. for his improved glaze for porcelain."

The history of the works has been one complete success from their first establishment to the present day; and this success has been attained by untiring and unflagging energy on the part of the proprietary, and by a determination on their part to make their establishment second to none in existence in extent, and in beauty and purity of work. The porcelain trade owes much to the ability and energy of Mr. John Rose, the uncle of one of the present proprietors; and it is truly pleasant to add, that the works so ably commenced by him have been carried on with the utmost skill, and with complete success, by the nephew, Mr. W. F. Rose, who has gained most honourable distinction, at home and abroad. Both at the Great Exhibition in 1851, and at the French Exhibition in 1855, Messrs. Rose and Co. carried off medals for their productions. At the first a magnificent dessert service in the difficult but truly beautiful *Rose du Barry* colour, which the firm had succeeded in restoring in all its beauty to the ceramic art, was exhibited, and excited considerable interest. This service, considered by competent judges to equal the original *Sevres* in evenness of colour, was purchased by Lord Ashburton. At the latter Messrs. Rose exhibited a large number of exquisite examples of their make, and services were purchased by the Emperor, by M. Fould, and by the principal savans of Paris.

For the coming Exhibition the Coalport works are making great preparations, and, judging from the magnificent pieces in progress, and from the amount of artistic skill and labour bestowed upon them, they will take a first stand in that great "world's struggle." But of this a few words anon.

The subject of printing upon porcelain, of which I have spoken in previous articles, is one so intimately and intricately connected with the Caughley and Coalport works, that it will be necessary to consider the period of its introduction at some length. I have already shown that transfer-printing was used as early as 1757 on Worcester porcelain; and I have little doubt that quite as early, if not a few years before that period, it was practised at Caughley. Indeed, in the early years of the manufactory, the two works, Caughley and Worcester, seem to have been closely connected, and to have worked "in-and-in," if I may be allowed the use of so unscientific an expression, and, I believe, with ample reason, that a great proportion of the printed goods bearing the Worcester mark were printed at Caughley. Indeed, it is known that the ware was sent up from Worcester by barge to be printed at Caughley, and returned, when finished, by the same mode of conveyance. I have closely examined the style of engraving, and the patterns of a large number of examples, and I am clearly of opinion that they are the work of the same hands.

I do not, by this, claim for Caughley the honour of inventing the art of transfer-printing on to porcelain; but I feel assured that that art must have been there practised at quite as early a period as the dated example of Worcester make; and I am led to this belief, partly from the

fact that the Robert Hancock, whose beautiful productions I have before spoken of, and to whom the engraving of the dated example is ascribed, also engraved for the Caughley works. And I have an impression of a plate, of an identical pattern with the famous tea group, which bears his monogram on the Worcester specimens, on which his name, R. Hancock fait, occurs in full at Caughley. Collectors, therefore, in a case of this kind must not be too hasty in ascribing, from appearance alone, examples to either one or the other make, but must be guided in a great measure, by the body on which the engraving occurs.

It cannot be wondered that an art, then such an important secret, should have been followed at Caughley—a place so perfectly retired from the world, situated in the midst of woods and wilds, almost unapproachable to strangers, and with every facility for keeping the workmen away from all chance of imparting the secret to others—in place of Worcester, where secrecy would be almost impossible, and where the information would ooze out from the workmen, at the alehouse or elsewhere, and be greedily caught up by those interested in the process. At Caughley every possible precaution seems to have been taken to secure secrecy; and the workmen—the engravers and printers—were locked up and kept apart from every one else. Who the engravers were I cannot satisfactorily say. It is, however, certain that Hancock engraved for the works; and it is said that Holdship, of whom I have before spoken, was also employed. Among the other engravers was a man named Dyas, who was apprenticed as an engraver at Caughley, about the year 1768, and who continued at the works until his death. at the ripe age of eighty-two. It is also worthy of note that Mr. Minton, the father of Mr. Herbert Minton, was also apprenticed as an engraver at these works. It is not too much to say, that the style of engraving adopted at so early a period was remarkably good, and of really high character. Indeed, some specimens which I have seen of the plates used at Caughley are far superior to most of the productions of the period.

Of the painters employed at Caughley, it will be sufficient to say that amongst those apprenticed there were John Parker, Thomas Fennell, and Henry Boden, famous for their skill in flowers; and that Muss, Silk, and others, excelled in landscapes and figures—some sepia landscapes being remarkable for their pure artistic treatment; while among the gilders, a most important art, and due to which special attention has always been directed at these works, were men of the name of Rutland, Marsh, and Randall, who were considered proficient. Of the latter, a nephew, who is the author of a pleasant little volume on the "Severn Valley," is still employed at the works, principally on birds.

The principal painter of the present day, though there are several other excellent ones, is Mr. Abrahams, a student of Antwerp and Paris, and a successful follower of the school of Etty. The softness of touch, the purity and delicacy of feeling, and the sunny mellowness of tone, as well as the chasteness of design and correctness of drawing, produced on the best pieces of this gentleman's productions show him to be a thorough artist, and place him high above most others in this difficult art. Among the other painters worthy of note are Mr. Birkbeck, Mr. Rowse, and Mr. Cooke. Modellers of a very high class in their respective branches are also employed, and the excellence of their work is apparent in all the higher class productions of this establishment.

The marks used at Caughley and Coalport have been very few, but they are very important, and require careful attention at the hands of the collector. In my account of the Worcester works I have given several varieties of the crescent, as a mark of that establishment, and have also stated that it was used at Caughley. I believe the first mark used at Caughley to have been the crescent alone, and that it was, as I have before stated, intended to have the signification of a C for Caughley, and that its connection with the Worcester works may, in a great measure, be traced to the fact of the goods on which it appears being printed, not at that city, but at Caughley. I have seen examples of this mark on undoubted Worcester body, and also on equally undoubted Caughley make, bearing precisely the same printed patterns.

Another distinctive mark of the Salopian Works was the capital letter S. When the S was introduced it is difficult to say; but at all events it appears on the dated example alluded to above in 1776, and it was used at the same time as the C for a considerable period. On many of the engraved plates still in existence, indeed both the C and the S occur, and this leads me to suspect that the one was used to mark the goods sent to Caughley to be printed, and the other those made and printed for their own market. I have seen precisely similar articles, in pattern, bearing each of these letters.

Following the C and S, two impressed marks, bearing the word "Salopian," were used; and it is worthy of remark that, on some examples of plates bearing this impressed mark, the blue printed S also appears.

After the removal of the Caughley works to Coalport, the same letters, both C and S, were used. But at these works marks have been adopted, perhaps, more sparingly than at any other; and the great bulk of the goods have been manufactured, from the first down to the present time, without any mark at all. On some examples of the early part of the present century the written name of "Coalport" appears, but these are of very rare occurrence.



Another mark adopted somewhat later, though only used very sparingly, was simply the letters C D for Coalbrookdale.

Another mark, adopted in 1820, was of large size, and will perhaps be as well understood by description as engraving. It is a circle of nearly two inches diameter, in which is a wreath of laurel encircling the words, "Coalport Improved Felt Spar Porcelain," in four lines across.

Surrounding the wreath are the words, "Patronised by the Society of Arts. The Gold Medal awarded May 30, 1820;" while beneath, and outside the circle, is the name "I. Rose and Co." This mark was adopted, of course, consequent on Mr. John Rose obtaining the Society of Arts' gold medal for "his improved glaze for porcelain," to which I have before alluded; and the articles on which it appear are of extremely good material, and very perfect glaze.

The marks used by the present proprietors, although they have been seldom used – the great bulk of the goods, as I have said before, being set out without any mark at all – are, first a monogram of the letters C, B, D, for Coalbrookdale, so jointed together as to produce a very characteristic and distinctive mark. Secondly the same monogram, surrounded by a garter bearing the name of "Daniell, London" – an eminent firm for many years connected with Coalport or Coalbrookdale, and who have had that mark used for some special orders; and who like Mortlocks and other leading houses, have large transactions with these works. The third and last is a mark recently adopted, and intended to be the future distinctive mark of the Coalport works, which embraces the initials incorporated with, or merged into, the Coalport establishment. Thus the scroll-which at first sight may, to the uninitiated, look like a short and (&)- will, on examination, be seen to be a combination of the writing letters, C and S, for *Coalport* and *Salopian*, enclosing within its bows the three letters C, S, and N, denoting respectively, *Caughley*, *Swansea*, and *Nantgarrow*.

Having passed through the history now of these famed works, and shown their connection with others, both in manufacture and printing, it only remains to say a few words on the varieties of goods for which the Salopian works have been famed, both in times past and at present. First and foremost, then, of course, come the blue painted and printed wares copied from Chinese patterns, for which both it and the early Worcester works were remarkable. The first painted, as well as printed, wares were close imitations of the foreign; but groups of flowers of original design, &a were also introduced, and designs, based perhaps on foreign models, were adopted. Groups of figures, in the characteristic costume of the period, were also executed with great taste and ability. Of the Chinese patterns, the two most famous—the well known "Willow Pattern" and the "Blue Dragon"—owe their first introduction to the Caughley works; and this fact alone is sufficient to entitle them to more than ordinary notice. The Willow pattern has undoubtedly been the most popular, and had the most extensive sale, of any pattern ever introduced. It has, of course, been made by most houses, but the credit of its first introduction belongs to Caughley; and early examples, bearing the Caughley mark—the cups without handles, and ribbed and finished precisely like the foreign—are rare. I have a cup and saucer of this period in my collection, which are remarkably fine. The Dragon, known still as "The Broseley Blue Dragon," or "Broseley Blue Canton," was also a most successful imitation of the Chinese, and almost rivalled the Willow in popularity. A special form of jug, considered in those days to be very far advanced in art, known, technically, as the "cabbage-leaf jug," was also first made at these works.

Later on, the "worm sprig" pattern, the "tourney sprig," and other equally successful patterns, were here introduced from the Dresden, as were also the celebrated Dresden raised flowers, and, the "Berlin chain edge" pattern. About 1821 a peculiar marone coloured ground, which is much sought after, was introduced at Coalport, by Walker, of Nantgarrow, of whom I have before spoken; and at this time many marked improvements were made in the different processes of manufacture.

The copies, both in embossing, in body, in colour, and oiliness of the glaze, and in style of painting of birds and flowers, of the Dresden at this period were perfect, and, as the Dresden mark was (perhaps injudiciously) introduced as well, were capable of deceiving even the connoisseur. It may be well to note that, at this period, an impressed anchor was sometimes used. This must not be taken to be anything more than a workman's mark. Very successful copies of the Sevres and Chelsea have also been at one time or other produced, and on these the marks of those makes have been also copied. Collectors of "old Chelsea," especially of the famous green examples, must be careful, therefore, not to take everything for granted as belonging to that place on which the gold anchor is found.

I must not omit saying a word on the egg-shell china produced at Coalport. The examples I have examined appear to be much finer than any others which have come under my notice, from the fact that the body is pure porcelain, being composed of one stone and one clay alone, unmixed with bone or any other material whatever.

The productions of the Coalport works at the present day, thanks to the determination, energy, and liberality of the proprietors, take rank with the very best in the kingdom, both in body, in potting, in design, and in decoration; and at the coming Exhibition, where a large space will be occupied by them, there can be no doubt, from what is now actively in progress,

that the stand taken by Coalport will be one of enviable eminence among the ceramic manufactories of the world.

#### **Wellington Journal 15<sup>th</sup> March 1862**

PARK-LANE, MADELEY.

TO BE LET, with immediate possession, a respectable RESIDENCE, consisting of entrance two sitting rooms, two kitchens, and four good bedrooms; coach house, stable, &c., adjoining, together with Large Garden well stocked with a choice selection of fruit trees.--For particulars apply to Mr. JOHN DOUGHTY. Jackfield, Broseley.

BROSELEY.

ACCIDENT AT THE HAYCOP PITS.--On Monday, about noon, as Mr. James Davis, one of the butty colliers of the above pit, was employed in the operation of "holeing," a portion of the roof near to where he was employed suddenly gave way. Some of this fell on the unfortunate man, and with the exception of his head buried the whole of his body beneath its weight. His fellow-workmen of course immediately proceeded to remove the rock and rubbish which surrounded him, when it was found that his left side was much lacerated, while the other side, from the shoulder down to the hip, bore fearful evidence of the injury inflicted by the falling mass. The unfortunate man was quickly conveyed home, where it is understood that he is progressing favourably.

SUPPLY OF WATER FOR THE TOWN.—At the adjourned meeting at the Town Hall, Rev. Mr. Cobbold in the chair, John Burnett, who entered into an elaborate statistical review of the population of Broseley, deducting therefrom the population of Jackfield and Broseley Wood, submitted that, by repairing the old reservoir, which could be done for the sum of £45 upon the specification of Messrs. Nevett, Ironbridge, an average supply of water to the extent of 236 million gallons per annum could be obtained. He therefore moved that this plan be adopted, provided that the party undertaking the work would guarantee the reservoir holding good for seven years. Mr. Nicholas seconded this resolution, which was carried unanimously. Mr. H. Charlton proposed that Mr. Hartshorne's pump and water should be accepted, the committee undertaking that Mr. Hartshorne should be reimbursed for the cost of the erection of the pump and £10 for the current year, and that henceforth both pump and water should be the property of the town. This was seconded by Mr. Thursfield, and carried. Mr. E. Evans proposed that, for the better supplying of the town with water for general purposes, a shaft twenty-three yards deep be sunk at the end of the Delph, and a double pump be inserted, and surrounded with an ornamental railing to enclose the memorial to be erected to the memory of the late Mr. Pritchard. This resolution was carried. Mr. J. Burnett has undertaken to draw up a specification, access to which may be had by any of the builders in the town who may be desirous to propose for the renovation of the reservoir. Mr. E. Evans has undertaken forthwith to commence the superintendent of sinking the shaft at the bottom of the Delph. The meeting was again adjourned until Monday next.

MADELEY

County Court

John Davies, brick manufacturer, Madeley, v John Burroughs, rope manufacturer, Broseley : Mr. Smallwood appeared for plaintiff; Mr. Walker, of Wolverhampton, for defendant. The claim, which was for £7 5s. 6d., arose out of a transaction between the parties in making an exchange of 5,000 fire bricks, 45 dozen nine-inch quarries, and three thousand grey tiles. Notes were handed in and read relative to the bargain made, the number of the bricks, tiles &c., and the terms upon which the exchange was to be made. His Honour gave judgement for defendant.

#### **Hereford Journal 15 March 1862**

LUDLOW

A CURIOUS COIN.- A curious coin, dated 1696, was dug up this week at the sewerage works. The inscription thereon is "William Ores, of Broseley, in Shropshire, his halfpenny."

#### **Wolverhampton Chronicle and Staffordshire Advertiser 19th March 1862**

BROSELEY

We understand that Broseley Foundry, which has been for several years comparatively idle, has been taken on a lease of fourteen years. We are informed that Mr. Turton is the spitted and energetic lessee.

IRONBRIDGE.

On Sunday afternoon an occurrence took place here which may by and bye form the subject of magisterial investigation. On Sunday morning two men were discovered in the pursuit of game upon the estate of — Brookes, Esq-, at Sutton Maddock. On perceiving that

they were discovered, they beat a retreated towards Broseley. In the afternoon Jackson a keeper on the estate and another man, having with them a splendid dog, (measuring from the tip of the nose to the tip of the tail, eight feet, and weighing 180 lbs-) muzzled and led by a chain, passed through the town of Broseley. Why the dog was thus exhibited, we do not pretend to say—doubtless they were in quest of the runaways—subsequently they reached the Ironbridge. Here they got into company with some reputed poachers at a public-house, words ensued, a scuffle followed, and as we are informed Jackson and James York exchanged blows. The dog took his master's part and sprung upon York. The latter inflicting some stabs upon the animal, in self defence, perhaps another reason may be assigned ; some time ago one of the fraternity was detected in the pursuit of game, this dog gave chase, came up with the poacher, got him down and lay upon him until the keeper came up. A warrant has as we are informed been applied for against York.

### **Shrewsbury Chronicle 21<sup>st</sup> March 1862**

NISI PRIUS.—THURSDAY

(Before Mr. Baron CRANNELL.)

The learned judge took his seat on the bench at ten o'clock.

ACTION FOR DAMAGES—LEWIS r. PEACEY.

This was an action for damages alleged to have been sustained by the plaintiff in consequence of the defendant's son, who had been apprenticed to him, leaving his service before the expiration of the period agreed on in the indentures. Mr. Huddleston, Q.C., and Mr. Gray, appeared for the plaintiff; and Mr. Sergeant Pigott for the defendant. The plaintiff, George Worburton Lewis, is a grocer and provision dealer at Broseley, and the defendant is a pork butcher at Stroud.

Mr. Huddleston, in opening the case, explained that the son of the defendant had, after leaving his business, left the services of the plaintiff at the very time when his services were of the greatest value. The lad had been regularly apprenticed, after a month's trial, with the consent and approval of Mr. Peacey, his father, who had also sanctioned an arrangement that the apprentice should attend the chapel of his master, who was a member of the Wesleyan Methodist body. To this, however, the boy ultimately objected, and when remonstrated with, replied he would do as he liked, as there was no obligation in the indentures requiring him to go to chapel. Other complaints, such as swearing, drinking, inattention to the orders of his master's foreman, would be established by evidence, and which if his employer had liked would have rendered him liable to be sent to prison. Thoughtful, however, of the lad's welfare, Mr. Lewis declined to adopt such an extreme course, and had simply intimated to the lad's father that he would hold him responsible for the damage he had sustained in consequence of young Peacey leaving his employ, he (Mr. Huddleston) understood it would be objected by the defendant that proper food had not been supplied to the apprentice; that from the multifarious occupations said to be followed by the plaintiff—such as grocer, provision dealer, butcher, ironmonger, brickmaker, miller, and Methodist preacher—it was impossible the lad could have properly learned his own trade. He would be able to show, however, that these statements could not be maintained, and that the losing of the boy's service to his master was equal to not less than £70 or £80. He then called

Mr. G. W. Lewis, who deposed: I am the plaintiff in this case. I live at Broseley, where I carry on my business as a grocer and provision dealer. I advertised for an apprentice early in 1860. After some conversation between the defendant and myself, it was arranged that his son should come to me as an apprentice. It was distinctly settled that the lad should go with me to the Wesleyan Methodist's chapel. He was to come for a short time on trial. After he had been with me about two months, an indenture was executed by the father and myself. (The indenture was here produced, and held as read). — Cross-examined by Serjeant Pigott: The seals were attached to the indentures before I signed them. Mr. Turner put them on.— Examined by Mr. Gray: The boy conducted himself to my satisfaction for some time. Some months ago, I had occasion to reprove him for not going to chapel, where I had told him to go. I had to find fault with him besides for going to public-houses at night. I never saw him in a public-house myself, but I had been told so. He came home about ten o'clock or perhaps a little later. I never objected to him going there till I saw he returned the worse for liquor. He used improper language in the shop, and of which I complained to him the first time I heard him doing so. He replied, "Very well, I suppose you will not have to answer for my sins." On leaving him among the assistants, I heard him say he did not care a d— for me—he would speak as he liked. I returned and told him he should not say or do as he liked in my family. He said he would do so if he liked. My wife and two assistants were present at the time. He asked me if I meant he should go away- I replied by telling him to go to bed. I then closed the door. That would be about half-past nine or twenty minutes to ten. He refused to go to bed. I then went for a policeman, but, not finding one, returned to my house, where I saw young

Peacey standing outside the door. He again asked me if he was to go. My constant reply was that he should go to bed. He refused to go into the house, and so I locked him out. I did not see him again till next morning, when I found him in the shop. He said that if I would bid him go to his work he would do so. I told him to go on with it. For seven or eight days I had no cause to complain of him. In the interval, however, I had written to his father. The day before Christmas I allowed him, at the request of his father, to go away on his holidays. I bade him return on the last day of the year. He did not come back till the 8th of January. Two letters passed between his father and myself, and then the daughter of the defendant came to me. That was on the 31st December. She wanted to make some arrangements in connection with her brother. When he returned, which he did on the 8th, I found him far from obedient to my foreman, Mr. Wilmott. I was not present on that occasion, but was told about it. On the morning of January 10th I said to him, "Henry, I hope you have not come back here with the intention of making yourself as disagreeable as possible." I then told him he must obey Mr. Wilmott's orders, because he was my foreman. He replied that he would not obey him. He had one master—that was me, whose instructions he would attend to, but not those of any one else. On the 14th of January I had a letter from Mr. Clutterbuck, the defendant's attorney. On the 18th that gentleman celled upon me, and stated that his object was to speak about Mr. Peacey's son. It was not necessary, he said, to make a long preamble about it, but proceedings were entered against me, and it was his intention to take the boy away. I refused to let him go; protesting against any steps that might be adopted to effect that purpose. He said that if the doors were closed against them, he should be compelled to burst them open. He then told me he would communicate with my solicitor. They then went away, and from that time till the present I have not seen my apprentice; who had become very useful to me in my trade. His services would have been of the utmost value to me during the remaining portion of his apprenticeship. He was an unusually strong and fine lad —(laughter)-for his age. That was in January, 1862. He had been with me 20 months, and had learned his business. The customers had become acquainted with him. Rather more than three years of his time had to run. I estimate the value of his services as lost to me at £70 or £80. I could not get such services as he was able to render for less than that amount. My business is that of a grocer and provision dealer. I have never ceased to carry on that trade. Since his apprenticeship, I have sold meat on Saturdays. Perhaps, once in three months, I have killed a pork. I was in the habit of doing so before the boy came to me. I sell meat regularly on Saturday. I am a provision dealer, and that is part of my business. (Laughter.) I have made bricks and tiles. I don't do it myself, but I go down occasionally to see that the work is being done. I never employed the boy at that work. I may have been occupied sometimes during the whole day in superintending these works; but, ordinarily, I am not occupied by them more than two or three hours a day. I never did anything in the iron trade. Nor have I been engaged as a miller. I am a Wesleyan Methodist, and occasionally preach; but only on Sundays. It does not interfere with my business. During the time he was with me. I took the usual means of instructing him. —Cross-examined by Serjeant Pigott : While the boy was with me, I lived with my family I required him to go to chapel. He never said that he wanted to go to church. I can't say if he did go, for I was never there. (Laughter-) He never told me he went to church. I have known him go once or twice to Birch Meadow chapel. I did not find fault with him every time he was away from chapel. When he had remained away often, I did complain. I wished him to go to my chapel. My brick works are about a mile and a quarter from Broseley. I rent a house there. I sent the boy down to carry on the business. He slept there without any company. He might be there about six or seven weeks. That would be in June, July, or August. He might have been there in September. He had occasionally to cook his own food. It was sometimes sent from Broseley. Yes, a woman went in the morning to put the house to rights while he was there. She was not an old woman --she was middle-aged. (Loud laughter.) At Broseley, about 50 or 60 lbs. of meat might be sold in a week. I am not a barge-owner, except in so far as I have two to aid me in carrying on my business. I had a foreman at the brick-works. I went to get a policeman with the intention of frightening the boy. I believed the threat would induce him to go to bed. I will not say I would not have given him into custody if I had found a policeman. I presume I meant he should pass the night at the police-station. I did not see there would be anything wrong in a boy who had so misconducted himself passing a night there. I did not lock him out all night to pass the hours as he pleased. I know that he slept at the house of a Mr. Smith.—Plaintiff was cross-examined at some length by Mr. Serjeant Pigott, with the view to show that the removal of the boy was justified by the fact that Mr. Lewis, subsequent to the indenture, had entered upon other businesses than those he had undertaken to teach the apprentice, thus incapacitating him from fulfilling his engagement under the said indenture.

His Lordship said there was no case on the books to support the view taken by defendant's counsel. The only case bearing upon it was one in which the master had incapacitated himself from fulfilling his engagement under the indenture. He suggested, under the

circumstances, an arrangement between the parties. That course, however, was not adopted, and Mr. Haddleston called

Mr. Alfred Jones, who said he had been in business as grocer, at Madeley, for six months. He had previously been a year and a half with Mr. Lewis, as an assistant. Peacey was there before the (witness) went. He was treated as well as could be wished. He (Jones) was receiving £35 per annum. Peacey was a clever apprentice; and was progressing well. He was likely to make a very useful assistant to Mr. Lewis. Heard him complain once about hashed mutton ; and said the beer given him was not so good as that he got at home. It was good beer, and the same as Mr. and Mrs. Lewis drank. Heard no other complaint by Peacey.—Cross-examined by Mr. Cooke : Always drank the beer himself. Never said that the living was not fit for anybody. It was good living.

His Lordship intimated that, even if it had been shown the food was not proper, defendant was not justified in removing his son. They were independent agreements and an action might have been brought against the master if the food supplied to the apprentice was not such as ought to be given him.

Edward Henry Wilmot, examined by Mr. Gray : I have been an assistant to Mr. Lewis since last witness left, that was in November, 1861. Remember a disturbance spoken of in December. Heard the apprentice swear on that day. Between nine and ten o'clock on the evening of the 16th of December I heard Mr. Lewis tell Peacey to go to bed. He did not go; but went out. Afterwards heard him (Peacey) ask if he was to go? He was told in answer, to go to bed. He further corroborated Mr. Lewis's testimony; and stated that the boy was well treated. — In cross-examination witness said Peacey was not engaged in the drug department of Mr. Lewis's shop.

This being plaintiff's case, Mr. Serjeant Pigott addressed the jury for the defence. He contended that Mr. Lewis had no reasonable cause of complaint against the boy Peacey; and that, therefore, his treatment was altogether unjustifiable. He submitted that defendant had pursued a natural course in taking away his son, on hearing of his master's conduct towards him.

Henry Peacey, examined by Mr. Cook : I live with my father and mother at Stroud, Gloucestershire. I have five sisters, but no brother. Remember going on trial for a month to Mr. Lewis's. Was kindly treated during that month. I entered on my term of apprenticeship. My master had not then a shop at Jackfield. He took it about six months afterwards. I was sent to that shop to manage it. It was on the Ironbridge road. I did not wish to go there, having to sleep there by myself, and light the fire in the morning. I had about two meals a week sent from Broseley. When I went to Broseley on a Saturday I returned to Jackfield on the Monday morning. I was re-leased on a Wednesday on one occasion only- It was "a regular low business" I had to manage at Jackfield. I sold groceries, flour, meal, potatoes, and, on Saturday, butcher's meat. About Christmas in 1861, I and some assistants were in the shop at Broseley. Mr. Lewis came in. We were talking about an exciseman who had left Shrewsbury, and in the course of the conversation the word "devil " was used. Mr. Lewis remarked upon it; and, on Mr. Wilmot saying I ought to look upon him (Mr. Lewis) as my father, I said I did not care a d—n for him or anybody else. Mr. Lewis then ordered me out of the house. I went out, and he locked the door. I was not told by anybody to tell Mr. Lewis I would not obey Wilmot. I went home for the Christmas holiday; and, on my return, some unpleasantness first of all occurred through my refusing to show Wilmot where a certain drug was. I never missed going to the chapel my master wished me to go to but once on a Sunday morning. In the evening I sometimes went to church, and sometimes to the Birch Meadow Chapel. Whenever we had a disturbance Mr. Lewis threatened to take me before the magistrates. I told Jones I could not eat the hash that was given me for dinner.—Cross-examined by Mr. Huddleston : I like roast mutton better than hashed. (Laughter.) I wished to be at the main business, and not at Jackfield. I was afraid to sleep by myself there. The work at that place was not hard. There was not so much to do as at the shop at Broseley. I was provoked to use bad language. It was such language as I learnt down at Jackfield. ( Laughter). I refused to go to bed when Mr. Lewis asked me, because he had ordered me out. I went the next morning, and asked if I were to go to work. Was told yes, and went. Was told by Mr. Lewis that he should expect me to go to the chapel he and his family attended, and I said that I had been in the habit of attending a Wesleyan chapel. Re-examined by Mr. Serjeant Pigott : The man who succeeded me at Jackfield refused to sleep alone.

His Lordship having conferred with Mr. Justice Crompton,

Charlotte Peacey: I was at Hereford at Christmas, 1861; and went to my parents at Stroud. At my father's request I went to Broseley to see Mr. Lewis. I sent for him to the hotel, and he canoe. I told him I wished to make some arrangement respecting my brother. I stated that my father and mother was getting in years, and it was undesirable that they should be harassed. I asked him what complaint he had to make against my brother, and he said he had none other than he had stated in the letter he had forwarded, viz., that he would not attend chapel. He said that he should take him before the magistrates. I asked him on what grounds, and he

replied because of his swearing, and using the oath mentioned in the letter. I asked him if he thought he was doing his duty as a Christian man and a father in placing my brother at Jackfield, telling him what a low place I had heard it was. He said they were "very good livers" there. I then asked if he would cancel my brother's indentures; and told him that I was in a millinery establishment, and if my purse would liberate him it was at his (Mr. Lewis's) service. He said he would consider about it. I received a letter on the 2nd of January from Mr. Lewis, in which he said after consulting two tradesmen he had come to the conclusion that Henry Peacey must either return to his duty or that there must be a payment to him (Mr. L-) of £50 being at the rate of £15 a year.—Cross-examined by Mr. Huddlestone: The letter produced was addressed to Mr. Lewis by my sister. The reason it is addressed "Monsieur Lewis" is that he (Lewis) called me "an impudent madam" to my brother. I did not desire it to be so directed.

Mr. Thomas Clutterbuck, examined by Mr. Cook : I never saw the boy Peacey until I saw him at Broseley; and did not give him any advice to insult his master. Saw Mr. Lewis, and told him that Mrs. Peacey was much distressed on account of charges made against her son. He said he should take him before the magistrates. I afterwards saw Mr. Burd, Mr. Lewis's solicitor, and stated that I should appear to a writ giving notice of action. He said he was about to advise Mr. L- to take the matter before the magistrates; and he thought Mr. Lewis would act upon it. The letter produced is one I received from Mr. Burd. It is therein stated that it was idle to talk of a return of premium, under the circumstances; and intimating that proceedings would be taken against Peacey for a breach of covenant.

Mr. Serjeant Pigott again addressed the jury, urging that it was not a true performance of the covenant he (Mr. Lewis) had entered into, to teach his apprentice the business of a grocer, to send him to Jackfield, away from his main business. He dwelt also on the impropriety of sending the boy to a place where he was left to himself, and of course subject to great temptations. He was proceeding to show that Mr. Lewis had not, in other respects, fairly fulfilled his contract, when

His Lordship interrupted: That was not a defence to the action. It might have been the subject of a cross action; but supposing that Mr. Lewis had not fulfilled his contract, that was not a justification in law for the course pursued in taking away his apprentice.

The learned (sic) sergeant resumed, addressing himself to the points his lordship had stated he should put to the jury.

Mr. Huddlestone, Q.C., replied on the whole case, urging that there was no pretence for saying that the youth Peacey had been improperly treated by his master. With reference to the threat of taking him before the magistrates, it was what was advised in all the books. A master had a right to chastise his apprentice; but that was a course not recommended. He alluded, in a strain of considerable drollery, to the observations made to the disparagement of Jackfield; and proceeded to say that if they should be of opinion that the father intended to take his child away from Mr. Lewis, not intending his return, and sufficient damages were given for the loss of the boy's services, no further claim upon him would be made, and the indentures would be cancelled. That course, he thought, would be the better one. He adverted to such portions of the evidence as referred to the loss Mr. Lewis would sustain; and contended that the offer he (Mr. L-) had made to accept £50 was an exceedingly moderate one, inasmuch as he would be under the necessity of giving an assistant £20 to, £25 a year for the next three years and a half to supply Peacey's Place.

His lordship then summed up. After pointing out the legal position of the parties, he said it was no answer to that action that plaintiff had been guilty of some breach of contract therefore it was not necessary to consider that action that plaintiff had been guilty of some breach of contract, therefore it was not necessary to consider whether he had fulfilled his part of the contract or not. They would have to consider, however, whether plaintiff put an end to the contract by turning his apprentice out of doors. They would form their own judgment as to the meaning of the words used by Mr. Lewis, and say how far defendant's view was borne out by the subsequent correspondence.

The jury, after a short consultation, found a verdict for the plaintiff, damages 10s. for the loss of his apprentice's services up to the date of the action; and £35 for the remainder of the term of apprenticeship.

### **Eddowes's Journal, and General Advertiser for Shropshire, and the Principality of Wales 02 April 1862**

TOWING-PATH TOLLS TO BE LET.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the Tolls arising on the Severn Towing-path, between Bewdley Bridge and a place called the Meadow Wharf, at Coalbrookdale, in the County of Salop, will be Let to the best Bidder, either together or in three lots, namely, those between Bewdley Bridge and Bridgnorth Bridge, in one lot ; those between Bridgnorth Bridge and the Mile-post next above the Wood Bridge, near Coalport, in another lot; and the residue in a third lot; for one or three Years, as shall be agreed upon, on Friday the fourth day of April

next at the Tontine Inn, near the Ironbridge, in the County of Salop, at one o'clock in the afternoon.

A deposit equal to a month's rent will be required from strangers previously to the acceptance of their biddings, and whoever happens to be the best bidder or bidders must at the same time give security with sufficient sureties to the satisfaction of the Trustees of the said Towing Path for payment of the rent agreed for, at such times as they direct.

GEORGE POTTS,

Clerk to the said Trustees.

Broseley, 3rd. March, 1862.

At this Meeting new Trustees will be appointed in the stead or place of those who are dead, or have declined, or become incapable to act.

#### **Shrewsbury Chronicle 4<sup>th</sup> April 1862**

CHIMNEY-PIECE CONSTRUCTED OF MAJOLICA TILES SET IN MANSFIELD STONE.--In Saturday's Builder there is a fine illustration of a chimney-piece executed by Messrs. Maw and Co. for the International Exhibition. It will form, says that journal, one of the principal features in a court in which a comprehensive collection of the clay manufactures of the Shropshire coal-field will be arranged under the superintendence of Mr. George Maw. It has been executed from the design of Mr. M. D. Wyatt, with the object of showing the general applicability of majolica or enamelled tiles for the purpose of inlaying stone as a means of architectural enrichment, both externally and internally; as well as for the simple covering of plain surfaces in dados, string-courses, friezes, &c., for which they are more commonly employed. It is impossible in an engraving to give a correct idea of the general effect of this chimney-piece, not only on account of the absence of colour, but because our engraving shows, of course, but one point of view. In this view the shape of the opening is not wholly satisfactory. Messrs. Maw and Co. have introduced a variety of brilliant shades of purple, scarlet, rose colour, &c., into these and their other majolica tiles, which have not been before obtained in that material. Altogether, they comprise a large and varied selection of colours, the result of a long and careful study of this difficult and beautiful art. The means of fixing these tiles on the reveals of fire-places and other positions in which they are exposed to heat are provided; which prevent the possibility of their becoming detached by the fire, and, at the same time, improve the effect. The value of this fire-place, we understand, is about 125 guineas.

I DO hereby give notice, that I am NOT RESPONSIBLE for any DEBTS that occur upon the Firm as Messrs. DAVIES and LLOYD, Brick and Tile Manufacturers, Coal Merchants, Barge Owners, &c., at Jackfield, in the parish of Broseley, in the county of Shropshire, after this date, March 25th, 1862.

JOHN LLOYD, Jackfield.

#### **Wellington Journal 12<sup>th</sup> April 1862**

BENTHALL, NEAR BROSELEY

MR. WM. JONES

WILL SELL by AUCTION, on the premises at Benthall, on Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 1862

THE whole of the useful HOUSEHOLD FURITURE and other Effects, the property of the late Miss Roden, deceased, by order of the executor.

Particulars next week.

BROSELEY

ROBBERY.—Late on Saturday night or early on Sunday morning last, a quantity of forced rhubarb was stolen from a garden belonging to Mr. John Bennet, situate near the Hay-cop. A reward is offered for any information which shall lead to the conviction of the offenders.

SINGULAR OCCURRENCE AND NARROW ESCAPE. —A few days since as John Owen was engaged in ploughing with a team of horses in one of the fields on the Inett Farm, in the occupation of Mr. Stanier, the ground suddenly gave way and sank under his feet. In his alarm he more firmly grasped the handles of the plough. And well for him that he did so, for the earth closed in on him on either side. The horses, however, still continuing their forward motion actually drew him forcibly out of what was eventually found to be an old shaft. No one was aware that anything of the kind existed there.

HOUSE WARMING.—On Wednesday afternoon week a house-warming dinner took place at the Lion Inn, kept by Mr. Holmes. The company numbered nearly fifty, and the dinner was excellent. The bill of fare was first-rate, and the mode of serving reflected great credit upon the host. Ample justice having been done to the viands, the chair was occupied by George Potts, Esq., and vice-chair by Humphrey Charlton, Esq., of sporting celebrity. The usual loyal and local toasts were then given from the chair, and responded to in a manner worthy of the

occasion. Among those present were Messrs, R. Thursfield, E. Smith, F. Hartshorne, G. W. Perrin, R. Rushton, J. H. Page, S. Instone, H Legg, &c. Not only were the guests fully satisfied with the ample provision made to satisfy the inner man but the host also had abundant reason to be delighted by the excellent patronage accorded to him on the occasion.

#### ALLEGED FRAUD ON A BROSELEY PIPE MAKER.

At the Mansion House, London, on Saturday, Alfred Frederick William Phillips, a young man of 21 described as a commission agent, and who had been liberated on bail, was charged on remand before the Lord Mayor with defrauding Mr. Edwin Southorn, a tobacco-pipe manufacturer, at Broseley, in Shropshire. The prisoner was defended by Mr. Tindal Atkinson, the barrister.

The prosecutor, for whom Mr. Lewis, jun., attended, said he met the prisoner on two occasions prior to April, 1861, on journeys in the provinces. About the beginning of that month he received a letter from him, and, from the answer he sent, the prisoner went to him at his house in Broseley. The prisoner at that interview asked him if he had an agent in London. He said he had not, alleging as a reason that his business there had been very unsatisfactory, and that he would only send goods there on certain terms. The prisoner said he was commencing business as a general commission agent, that he had come of age, and was his own master, and that his father, who had retired from trade, was assisting him with means to start a business in London. Before they parted a memorandum was drawn up hastily by witness's clerk, and signed, to the effect that witness was to allow him a commission of 10 per cent., to include all expenses of agency, except the carriage of the goods; that a settlement was to be made every two months, and the balance, after the commission had been deducted should be remitted to witness. That was on the 8th of April, 1861. On the 30th of April witness sent him goods to London to the amount of £34 1s addressed to Budge Row, Cannon-street West, where he had offices; on the 8th of May other goods the amount of £17 6s; and on the 17th of to the amount of £16 16s. For the first lot the prisoner gave him, on the 9th of May, 1861, a bill of exchange for £30 13s. on the Union Bank of London, which was the price of them, less the discount. On the 4th of June he gave him another bill of exchange on the same bank for £30 14s. 5d., for the other goods, less the discount. He gave the second bill in his office in London, and, when he had written his acceptance across it, witness said to him he supposed he understood the nature of such transactions, and that the bills must be met when they became due. He said, "Oh, yes; I never returned a bill in my life." Witness reminded him the two bills were made payable to the Union Bank of London, and asked him if he had an account there? He said he had and that he thought he should dispose of a great many goods which witness was to send him to London. On the 6th of June, two days after he gave the second bill, witness supplied him with goods at his order to the amount of £12 16s.; on the 15th of June, £11 17s.6d.; on the 21st of June, £16 13s. 5d.; and on the 29th of June, £4 1s. All the goods were clay tobacco-pipes, and delivered at his premises in Budge Row; and witness supplied them in consequence of the statements he made to him at Broseley, and afterwards that he had an account at the Union Bank. The bills, on being presented there, were returned, endorsed, 'No account.' The prisoner came of age on the 12th of July last; the first bill became payable on that day; and before that date all the goods, amounting to £113 odd, had been furnished to him. Of that sum witness had not received a single penny. He afterwards brought an action on the first bill, to which the defendant pled infancy. He gave the prisoner into custody on the evening of Friday week.

To Sergeant Funnel, a detective officer, the prisoner at first denied all knowledge of the prosecutor, but on being confronted with him immediately afterwards he admitted he knew him.

Mr. Dixon, chief ledger clerk at the Union Bank of London, said he did not know the prisoner at all, and that no person of his name had an account there in May or June last, whoa the bills in question were dated.

The defeats was that in the transactions in question the prisoner was an agent, and not a customer of the prosecutor, and several letters written to him by the prosecutor and his clerk were put in, containing expressions which gave countenance to the theory. The prosecutor, however denied that he had ever regarded him otherwise than as a customer.

The prisoner was committed for trial, the Lord Mayor allowing him to go at large until then on bail himself in £80, and two sureties in £40 each.

#### **Eddowes's Journal, and General Advertiser for Shropshire, and the Principality of Wales 16 April 1862**

BROSELEY.INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS. —On Friday, the Rev. A. F. Bouner, H. M. Inspector of Schools (late chaplain of Earl Granville to his collieries in North Staffordshire), attended and examined the pupil teachers of the different schools of the district. —On



Tuesday, the Rev. J. P. Norris, author of the Iron and Coal Masters' Prize Scheme, attended and inspected the boys' and girls' night schools.

#### **Wellington Journal 19<sup>th</sup> April 1862**

##### THE ALLEGED FRAUD ON A BROSELEY PIPE

The following Utters appeared in the Birmingham Daily Post, the former on Monday last and the latter on Wednesday :—

##### TO THE EDITOR OF THE DAILY POST

SIR— In your impression of Tuesday last, you gave an account of the trial of a young man for fraud upon a Broseley pipe maker. Although that trial did take place, I, being interested in the affair, it is a duty incumbent upon me to inform you that during the course of the week there has been another trial. As it very unfortunately happened there was no reporter present, and for that reason I take upon myself the liberty of informing you of its results, and so give publicity to the fact in Birmingham, where the young man has many friends.

At that trial the Broseley pipe maker thought fit (acting under the advice of his counsel) to withdraw the prosecution and get the matter amicably settled—he at the last minute making the discovery that it is not general thing to recover debts in a criminal court. I cannot but think, Mr. Editor, that you will condemn the idea of placing a gentleman in a criminal court for, as the prosecutor says, “obtaining goods under false pretences,” when both parties are cognisant of an agreement drawn up, appointing the young man as an agent for the pipes in London at 10 per cent. on all sales; and, added to this, there have been some thousands of invoices &c., printed and circulated, whereon the fact of his being an agent is distinctly stated. Yet these have passed between the two persons for the last eight months, the prosecutor having till now not been aware of it—as he says. I give you this upon good authority, and enclose you references in proof of what I affirm, and as it was your duty to paint the dark side of the picture, you will, I am sure, now be glad to paint the other side in brighter colours, and so do justice to the gentleman, who is such respected in Birmingham.

By giving publicity to this you will relieve the doubts of many, and much oblige yours very truly,  
R. J. P.

##### TO THE EDITOR OF THE DAILY POST.

SIR,—I notice a letter signed “ R. J. P.,- referring to this matter, in reply to which I will confine myself to a few facts, which will put a different complexion upon the case as he wishes it to be believed :-

First, the young man was committed by the Lord Mayor to take his trial at the Central Criminal Court for fraud, and surely he must have had sufficient evidence before him to justify him doing so.

Second, the grand jury at the Old Bailey found a true bill and the case would have proceeded, had not an offer to arrange come from the young gentlemen's counsel. I have not the slightest doubt, had the case been heard, a conviction would have been the result. The whole of your correspondent's statement is entirely at variance with the facts. - I am, sir, your obedient servant,

EDWIN SOUTHORN.

Broseley Pipe Works, Shropshire, April 14, 1862

#### **Shrewsbury Chronicle 25<sup>th</sup> April 1862**

##### IRONBRIDGE

REPAIRING THE BRIDGE.— During the last few weeks some repairs have been done to this bridge, the first erected in England of the kind, though, as we understand, an iron bridge was previously cast at Rotherham, from plans which had been supplied by Mr. Thomas Paine. The erection, however, never took place; but the iron-bridge at Iron-Bridge which spans the Severn was erected, as it appears from a date thereon, in 1777. Of course the repairing of this structure has induced several persons to take a peep at what was going on. Among these was an old man, Richard Rothing, who, upon being asked if he remembered the bridge being erected, replied. “I do well remember it. When I was a lad I helped to got out the foundation for this pillar.” This venerable old man may be seen occasionally employed in his garden, although at the advanced age of ninety-six. For his age he possesses unusual powers of body and mind. As we are informed, there are but two other persons now living in this neighbourhood who remember the erection of the iron bridge.

Rothing was born in Broseley and was formerly a waterman. In 1861 he was living with his son and his family wife and five children under the bridge at Severn Side in Benthall. He died in 1865, aged 100, and is buried in Benthall churchyard.

##### BROSELEY.

FRUIT AND FLOWER EXHIBITION. —A placard has been extensively posted here, announcing that, next September, an exhibition will be held at the Town-hall of fruit,

vegetables, and flowers, the production of cottagers' gardens, and also the productions of the holders of allotments. Now there can be no reasonable objection to such a proceeding, providing the mode of inducing person to exhibit be such that the object to be obtained in worthy of being contended for. We think that these placards must have been the work of some wag. The following reasons induce that opinion: Each exhibitor must pay an entrance fee of one shilling—a very moderate sum, and one certainly within the ability of most. On the other hand, the scale of prizes as set forth on the placard range from three shillings for the first and highest prize, down to one shilling in the third class. Really the promoter of this magnificent scheme must attach great value to the mere launching of this notable scheme, especially when it is understood that all those who exhibit may present those articles for which prizes may be awarded, on the table for sale, and that the produce of such sale, shall be devoted to augment the fund. For these reasons, we think, it must be some waggish person who has put forth this novel scheme.

TO ARCHITECTS AND OTHERS.-It is resolved to Erect a MEMORIAL BUILDING in Broseley, over a Pump and Well, 5ft. in diameter. The Building is to be of Stone, and the cost, including erection, not to exceed £160. The site for the building is 32ft. square. Twenty Guineas will be paid for the accepted design, which, with working and detail Drawings, will become the property of the Committee. The rejected plans will be returned to the owners without any remuneration. The design must be sent in to the Treasurer of the "Pritchard Memorial Fund," on or before Saturday, May 10th, 1862.

RICHARD THURSFIELD  
Broseley. April 21st. 1862.  
Treasurer

**Wellington Journal 26 April 1862**

HILL-TOP HOUSE, BENTHALL, NEAR BROSELEY.  
MR. WILLIAM JONES

Is instructed by the executor to SELL by AUCTION, on the premises as above, on Tuesday, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 1862

THE whole of the useful household furniture, prime feather beds, kitchen, dairy, and brewing requisites, useful cart mare, in-calf cow, and other effects of Miss Roden deceased. Catalogues may be had from the Auctioneer, Shifnal, Sale to commence at Eleven o'clock.

WEST MIDLAND-SEVERN VALLEY.																
UP TRAINS.						DOWN TRAINS.										
	g	1	2	1,2	1,2		1,2	g	1	2	1,2	1,2				
Shrewsbury, dep.	7	0	10	50	3	0	6	0	8	30	9	55	2	35	6	0
Berrington	7	10	11	13	12	6	10		8	37	10	12	41	6	9	
Cressage	7	19	11	12	3	24	6	19	8	45	10	9	2	48	6	18
Buildwas	7	28	11	25	3	34	6	28	9	16	10	50	3	12	6	51
Wenlock { arr.									9	24	11	0				6
Wenlock { dep.									9	31	11	11	3	27	7	6
Coalport	7	33	11	23	3	33	6	33	9	38	11	17	3	31	7	11
Ironbridge	7	37	11	30	3	42	6	38	9	40	11	25	3	35	7	16
Linley	7	46							9	49	11	37	3	44	7	24
Bridgnorth	7	55	11	55	3	55	6	52	9	50	11	5	3	10	8	8
Bewdley	8	29	12	33	4	22	7	24	9	58	11	49	3	53	7	33
Stourport	8	38	12	43	4	31	7	33	9	58	11	49	3	53	7	33
Hartlebury	8	48	12	53	4	40	7	42	10	10	12	0	4	5	7	45

**Worcestershire Chronicle 30 April 1862**

THE LATE FIRM OF MESSRS- DAVIS AND LLOYD.  
TAKE NOTICE, I am not responsible for any DEBTS that occur upon the Firm known as Messrs. DAVIS & LLOYD, Brick and Tile Manufacturers, &c., Broseley, after this date, March 25, 1862; neither has my late Partner any authority to claim any Debts now due to the said Firm, all such Debts being payable to me.

JOHN LLOYD.

Broseley, Salop, April, 24, 1862.

**Shrewsbury Chronicle 2<sup>nd</sup> May 1862**

BROSELEY

BROSELEY FAIR. This annual affair has once more turned up at mid-day, the weather having changed from wet and stormy to fine, warm, and cloudless. There was a double row of canvas roofs, indicating that underneath were oranges, nuts, gingerbread, and toys in abundance. The standings were fully as numerous as the lookers-on. Towards evening, numbers of persons were seen wending their way in the direction of the fair, but we

apprehend that, owing to the present circumstances of the times, the dearth of employment, and the consequent scarcity of money among the working classes the sight-seers were more numerous than those who patronised the stalls. The hobby-horses and merry-go-rounds seemed to engross the patronage of a few juveniles; while a shooting-gallery or two had some little attention bestowed thereon. The fair, upon the whole, was out of joint.

PETTY SESSIONS. — Before Chas. J. Ferriday, Esq. (mayor), John Anstice, W. Nicholas, and J. L. Lowndes, Esqrs. -The Bench was engaged for a considerable time in passing the surveyor's accounts for the highways in the different parishes and townships of the locality. The cases were few, comprised in the following:...

*In Pursuit of Rabbits:* James Coxhill, a watcher, in the employ of Lord Forester, charged Thomas Lloyd and Edward Edwards, both of Farley-dingle, with having been in pursuit of conies on the 13th April, near Wyke. From Coxhill's statement, it appeared that, on the day named, he met with both of the parties. One of them was in the plantation, at the side of a stone wall, urging dogs to get something out of the wall (there were two terriers and a whippet), while the other stood in the road encouraging the dogs. He did not see a rabbit run into the hole. Neither could he say that there was a rabbit in the hole. Both Lloyd and Edwards asked him to forgive them, and say nothing about what he had seen. This he had declined to do. Lloyd was find 5s., and 9s. 1d. costs; Edwards 5s., and 10s. 4d. costs. Edwards paid the amount; but, in reference to Lloyd, Police-sergeant Price said that Mr. Lloyd, the father, had told him to inform the Bench that he would pay any fine and costs which the bench might indict. but that he could not intrust his son with the money, as he would spend it. — It would appear that the town council of Wenlock have it under consideration whether it would not be a great advantage if, in the new lock-up, now in course of erection at Ironbridge, a room were provided in which the borough magistrates might transact the public periodic business of the petty sessions. All who have had the misfortune to attend the petty sessions at Ironbridge must have been impressed with the great inconvenience connected with that room— on the one hand, the door immediately at the side of the table, and within a few feet thereof; while, at the other end, there is the necessity of being roasted in cold weather. The proposition, if carried out, would unquestionably be a great improvement.

#### BROSELEY.

CLOSE OF THE NIGHT SCHOOL.—On Easter Tuesday, the youths belonging to the Broseley night school and the members of the church choir were treated to a good supply of beef and pudding on the occasion of closing the school for the season. After ample justice had been done to the good things provided, the usual loyal toasts, Lord and Lady Forester, John Pritchard, Esq., M.P., and Mrs. Pritchard, Miss Pritchard, The Rifle Corps., Broseley and its Trades, Salop and the Wheatland Hunt, and Mr. Bathurst and his Choir, were given and duly responded to. The evening's proceedings were enlivened by singing in a very creditable manner, the following part-songs and glees by the church choir, namely: "The roast beef of old England," "With a full and flowing bumper." "Come by the sea," "Fair Flora," "The Forester." "Beautiful star." and the Vesper hymn. Prizes were also given to a few of the most deserving scholars connected with the school. The health of the chairman, the Rev. R. H. Cobbold, having been proposed by William Nicholas, Esq., and drunk with three-times-three. The proceedings terminated with the singing of the National Anthem. It affords us great pleasure to notice the great improvement which has taken place in the church choir of late, as evidenced by the admirable manner in which its members acquitted themselves on the present occasion and on the previous Sunday at the Church, when Bridgewater's morning service was sung and the Psalms chanted with great ability and taste.

#### **Eddowes's Journal, and General Advertiser for Shropshire, and the Principality of Wales 07 May 1862**

##### TURNPIKE TOLLS TO BE LET

Notice is hereby given, that the Tolls arising at the Turnpike gates called or known by the names of Marsh Gate, Linley Gate, Buildwas gate, Burton gate and Side Bars, Beambirdge Gate and Shineton gate, all in the county of Salop will be LET BY AUCTION, to the best bidder, for none year (to commence the 1<sup>st</sup> day of June next), at the Pheasant Inn, in Broseley, in the said county of Salop, on Wednesday, the 4<sup>th</sup> day of June next, at Four o'clock in the afternoon in the manner directed by the act passed in the third year of the reign of his late Majesty King George the Fourth, entitled "An Act to amend the General Laws now in being for regulating turnpike-roads in that part of Great Britain called England," and which Tolls produced last year the following sums, viz:-

			£	s	d
Marsh gate	....	....	108	0	0

Linley Gate	....	....	120	0	0
Buildwas Gate	....	....	270	0	0
Burton Gate and Side Bars			65	0	0
Beambridge gate	....		40	0	0
Shinerton Gate	....	....	16	0	0

Over and above the expenses of collecting the same, and will be put up at those sums respectively.

A deposit equal to a month's rent will be required from strangers previously to the acceptance of their biddings; and whoever happens to be the best bidder or bidders must, at the same time, give security, with sufficient sureties, to the satisfaction of the trustees of the said turnpike roads, for payment of the rent agreed for at such times as they shall direct.

Persons willing to become sureties are requested personally to attend at the time of the biddings.

GEO. HARTSHORNE,  
Clerk to the Trustees of the said Turnpike Roads.  
Broseley, May 4rd 1862

### **Wellington Journal 10 May 1862**

BROSELEY.

ALLEGED HIGHWAY ROBBERY.- On Thursday May the last, as a man, named John Denstone, from Broseley, was returning from Bridgnorth fair, between nine and ten o'clock, when about half-way between the North-gate and the turnpike-gate, he was seized by three men, who knocked him down and robbed him of his coat, hat, and money, they cut one of the pockets entirely out of his waistcoat, and nearly strangled him. On the following Sunday, Pountney, the parish constable, received information that a Broseley man, named Thomas Robinson, had sold a coat answering to the description of the one stolen, on the Friday morning, at Mr. Miles', of Linley-green, to a man named William Owen, and Owen had sold it again to a man named Benbow, of Comer-green; having ascertained that Benbow was in Broseley, and the coat with him. Pountney got possession of the coat from Benbow and immediately gave information to Chief-constable Cole, Bridgnorth, who came over on Sunday night to apprehend Robinson, but he was not to be found; he was, however, apprehended on the following morning by Police-constable Wiley, and conveyed to Bridgnorth; where he was brought before T. W. W. Browne, Esq., who remanded him till the next morning. Robinson stated that the coat and hat were given to him by a woman, at the Cross-lane Head, near Bridgnorth, and upon making inquiries it was found that a woman, named Morris, picked up the coat and hat near to the spot where the affray took place and took them home, and on the following morning Robinson called at her house, and claimed them as his property, stating he had lost them the night before, and took them away. He then came to Linley-green, and sold the coat, and the hat was destroyed. He was brought up on Tuesday before T. W. W. Browne and W. L. Lowndes, Esqrs., when the charge of highway robbery was withdrawn, and he was remanded till Saturday on a charge of feloniously obtaining possession of the coat, and selling the same.

IRONBRIDGE

The building of the new lock-up is progressing rapidly. The Messrs. Nevitt, builders, of Ironbridge, have the works under hand. It is contemplated to add as additional storey to the original plan. This would be of great advantage, inasmuch as the room would be available for the magistrates to transact business in at petty sessions. The present room over the Dispensary is the most inconvenient that can be well conceived.

The contemplated addition, to which it is hoped the Town Council of Wenlock will lend their sanction, is one that conveniences, policy, and health, strongly recommend. The building as a public one will be a great addition to the appearance of Ironbridge, and a boon to those whose business requires attendance at the magistrates' court.

### **Birmingham Daily Post 10 May 1862**

BROSELEY.

FORCIBLE REMOVAL OF A TOLL BAR.—A side toll bar has been-recently erected on the road leading from Ironbridge to Broseley, by the way of the Summer House. It is alleged that this was done in connection with, and in pursuance of the late letting of the tolls of Ironbridge gate, The side gate has been erected near to the road that branches off from the above road to Jackfield, and thus secures a large amount of traffic in connection with some brick works, and the general traffic to the river side. Lord Forester is the lord of the manor, and owner of the land. On Thursday morning, about seven o'clock, Thomas Thursfield, of Barrow, sought to pass through the gate, and this was refused unless upon the payment: That being made, orders were given to his attendant who immediately proceeded to put into execution it plan already, it would seem, agreed upon. Chains, it is said; were attached to the gate, and this

was speedily removed by the aid of the men and two horses. Their attention was next devoted to the timber building attached. This was soon next removed, amid the laudatory cheers of the numerous bystanders who, by this time, had collected to witness this novel mode of removing an obnoxious side bar. The work of demolition having been accomplished, the men employed returned from the scene of their triumph to the "Summer House," where each was regaled with a portion of bread and cheese and a pint of ale. As the road on which this took place is not a turnpike road in the legal meaning of that phrase, but simply a deviation from the old hilly road by the mill direct to Broseley, this mode of removing a nuisance was perhaps the most direct. Whether the matter will rest here or not is another matter.

**Eddowes's Journal and General Advertiser of Shropshire and the Principality of Wales. 14 May 1862**

BROSELEY.

DEMOLISHING A TOLL GATE AND HOUSE. —On Thursday last, the staff of drainers employed on the estate of Lord Forester, headed by the agent of his lordship, Mr. Thursfield, his sons, and his clerk, Mr. Hall, and numbering altogether upwards of thirty individuals, marched in a body to attack a toll gate recently erected at the junction of the roads leading from Ironbridge to Broseley, and Jackfield, by authorities connected with the Bridge Trust. Spades and mattocks were soon set to work, horses were booked to the posts, which, together with the gate, were wrenched from their position and taken away; the surface being levelled as it was before. The inhabitant of the gate house was next requested to leave his domicile; but that worthy having refused to surrender at discretion, a similar process was gone through, and the tenement dragged from its position. It appears that the road in question was made some thirty years ago, Lord Forester having given the ground on condition that no toll gate should be erected thereon. A process was served upon the road commissioners, who were requested to remove the gate; this not having been done, and tolls having been demanded from the present proprietor of the estate; the above proceedings were taken. The bridge has been taken at a higher sum this year than last, and, in order to make it pay, strenuous efforts have been made to increase the income, toll having been demanded of brick masters and others whose carts passed laden both ways, a circumstance which gave rise to a trial between Mr. Fisky and the Burton's, which was reported some few weeks since in this Journal.

BENTHALL. and HAY BROOK POTTERIES, BROSELEY, SHROPSHIRE — The Goodwill, STOCK-IN-TRADE, Moulds, Utensils, and Plant of the above Works to be DISPOSED OF BY PRIVATE TREATY, owing to the death of the Proprietor, and may be entered upon at Michaelmas next. These Works were established in 1729, and have been carried on by the late Proprietor for 30 years, and are now in full operation. To any person desirous of carrying on the Earthenware Business the present is a good opportunity.

Attached to the Works and Coal Mines, and also Fire and other Clays, suitable for the manufacture of Black Glazed, Stone, Yellow, Rockingham, and other Earthenware. The Works are conveniently situated within a mile of the Iron-bridge Station, on the Severn Valley Railway, and near to the Wenlock and Severn Junction Railway Station at Buildwas, thereby affording means of ready transit to the whole of North and South Wales, Herefordshire, and Gloucestershire.

For further particulars and to treat for same, apply to Mr. H. M. BATHURST, Benthall, near Broseley, Salop.

**Shrewsbury Chronicle 16 May 1862**

BROSELEY.

REMOVING A TOLL-BAR.—This proceeding will perhaps be best understood when it is known that some thirty years since a new road was constricted near Ironbridge, under Ladywood, and skirting the Summer -house, the Rock, and the ruins of the Bottom coal furnace, running a junction with the Woodbridge road at the lower end of Broseley, near the Foresters' Arms. The object of constructing this road was two-fold—to give employment during a period when employment was scarce, and to avoid the steep hill leading to Broseley up Benthall-bank. It is alleged that Lord Forester, through whose property the road runs for some distance, allowed the road to be formed as a convenience to his tenantry. Latterly, since the re-letting of the Ironbridge gate, at an advance of nearly £360 upon the rental of the preceding year, the commissioners or trustees of the Bridge-house caused a toll-house and gate to be erected at the junction of the road leading from the new road to Jackfield, across the railway-bridge near Pottsboat. The former road has been repaired by the trustees or commissioners from Ironbridge down as low as the Calcutt School-room. And here it may be observed that for some years there appears to have been no settled mode of altering, closing, and making new roads in this locality. The road in question is not in the legal sense a

highway, this point having been determined by the petty sessions, upon an information laid against a certain party, whose horse and cart were permitted to obstruct the thoroughfare. The road in question is not in the legal sense a highway this point having been determined by the petty sessions, upon an information laid against a certain party, whose horse and cart were permitted to obstruct the thoroughfare. The case was dismissed. On Wednesday, as we are informed, toll was demanded from Lord Forester, who protested against this demand. On the following morning a band of men, numbering some 28, armed with spades, chains, and pickaxes, under the direction of Mr. Thursfield, Thomas Thursfield, E. Hall, and W. Legg, made their appearance at the toll-gate in good order, and proceeded forthwith to remove the wooden building afforded shelter to the gatekeeper entirely away from its previous standing. The gate was also removed off its hinges and destroyed, while the turnstile and posts were left standing. Such an imposing assemblage of persons occupied in removing a nuisance naturally attracted the attention of many, who, on the completion of their purpose, loudly cheered the demolition of this obstruction—in fact, it was the work of but a few minutes. This being accomplished, the pioneers of order and free roads returned to the Summer-house, where they were each regaled with some bread-and-cheese and ale. These erections, which were made at the expense of the commissioners, and have been estimated at having cost some £40, in some respects, affect the contract of the bridge-gate. Indeed, it was so located that it would have had the effect of imposing heavy and continuous tax upon some brickworks in the immediate locality. Perhaps time may determine whether, further steps may be taken for the purpose of testing the legal validity of these proceedings. Be this as it may, there can be no doubt but the removal of this toll -ate meets with the general approval of persons resident in the locality. It further appears that notice of removal of this obstruction had been served upon Mr. E Smith, the agent of the trustees; and, in consequence of the non-removal of the toll-bar, the mode of removal previously described had been adopted.

#### **Wellington Journal 17 May 1862**

THE LATE ALLEGED HIGHWAY ROBBERY.—On Saturday last Thomas Robinson, of Broseley, was brought before W. W. Browne and W. L. Lowndes, at Bridgnorth, on the charge of obtaining possession of a coat belonging to John Denstone, of Broseley, on the 2nd instant, and selling the same. He was committed to Salop gaol for seven days.

#### **Eddowes's Journal 21 May 1862**

THE PRITCHARD MEMORIAL  
TO THE EDITOR OF EDDOWES'S SHREWSBURY JOURNAL.

SIR, —The committee of the Pritchard Memorial having decided to erect a memorial building from a design by Robert Griffiths, Esq. will you allow the inquiry to be made, through your columns, if it is a *sine qua non* that this building must be associated with a pump.

A well has been sunk in which, notwithstanding the recent wet weather, the spring of water has steadily diminished in quantity, and the workmen declare that when the summer weather sets in the well will be dry. Another grave objection seems to be the quality of the water, which, flowing from beds of ironstone and sulphurous coal, deposits abundantly the red oxide of iron, and is wholly unfit for domestic use; indeed, it is so exceedingly had for such purposes that it has been designated by Richard Thursfield, Esq. "stinking water."

Unquestionably the site proposed for the memorial is the best that could be selected, but if it must necessarily involve such an incongruity as an association "stinking water" would it not be better to place the building over the reservoir or down well, and than avoid coming it to be regarded with scorn and contempt.

By some people it is argued that if the committee act judiciously in providing this water for the use of the poor then a reproach is attached to the late Mr. Pritchard and other gentlemen because they never took any steps to make this water available to the poor, and thus endeavour to relieve the privations caused by the want of water during so many years. On the other hand, it cannot be gainsaid that last year was an unusually dry one—that during the whole year no person had to wait for water at the down well—that such a circumstance, even in ordinary seasons, is unparalleled in the memory of any one living—and that this circumstance was entirely owing to its provision of good water made by the late Mr. Pritchard during the last six months of his life.

Under these circumstances, now to affix a memorial to him over water neatly poisonous seems to be bad taste, and bears an unpleasant resemblance to a sarcasm and an insult.

I am, &c.

AN INHABITANT OF BROSELEY.  
Broseley, 16th May 1862.

**Shrewsbury Chronicle 23<sup>rd</sup> May 1862**

CALCOTT

THE LATE SCHOOL INSPECTION.—The examination of the several schools by the government inspector, which took place some time since at Broseley has now brought forth, in at least one instance, a most gratifying result, of which the master of the Calcott school, Mr. O. Brien, and his pupil teacher, Edward Oakes may well be proud; the former having received the following notification: — “My Lords, in consideration of the creditable examination which he has passed through, of his age and good character, and usefulness as a teacher, are willing that his term should be shortened to the 1st December, 1863. The effect of this change will be that he may compete for a Queen’s scholarship, and may become a certificate master one year sooner than he may have done; and his annual payments for the remuneration will be reckoned as if the fourth year of his apprenticeship began to run from the first of May, 1862.”

BROSELEY.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT TO A COLT. —On Monday, a fine colt, the property of Mr. James Cartwright, met with an accident that terminated in its death. It was engaged with two others in harrowing some ground near the Folly. The youngest had not been used to such work; in fact, as we are informed, had not even been broke. For a time matters went on smoothly enough, but it eventually became restive, suddenly it attempted to break loose; all the horses and colts running off and capsizing the harrows. The animals having become entangled, the colt fell on the lines of the harrows, and received such injuries that its death followed as a matter of necessity. Another horse also was injured, but not to the extent of rendering it necessary to destroy the animal.

THE CROPS — The month of May has hitherto, with the exception of a few days, which have been very fine, been fulfilling the conditions on which the old adage has been founded— “A cool May is kind.” and the result is, not only an abundance of grass for cattle and a promise of a heavy swath for the scythe, but the fruit trees generally exhibit a most abundant blossom. The young wheat looks both strong and healthy, and the barley appears to be coming forward in a manner that will cheer the heart of the grower.

MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN.— It has been determined that a prize of £20 should be awarded for the best design for this building. Thus stimulated, several architects sent in plans, cash possessing individual merits. Among those which ranked in the first class were Mr. Griffiths, Quatford; Mr. Thursfield, Broseley; and Messrs Nevitt, Ironbridge. The committee were divided in opinion as to which design they should select, each of the above designs having particular merits highly deserving of admiration. The committee voted on the question. The result of the vote stood this:- Mr. Griffiths’ plan found six supporters, and Mr. W. Thursfield’s four, and thus the design of Mr. Griffiths was adopted by a majority of two.

COALPORT BRIDGE TOLLS TO BE LET. Notice is hereby given, that the TOLLS arising at the Bridge and Side Gates will be LET BY AUCTION, to the best bidder, for one or three Years, as shall be then agreed on (to commence the 1st of July next), at the Pheasant Inn, Broseley, in the county of Salop, on Wednesday, the 4th day of June next, between the hours of Three and Six o’clock in the Afternoon, and will be put up at the sum of £205, being the amount let for last year. A deposit, equal to a month’s rent will be required from strangers, previous to the acceptance of their biddings. And whoever happens to be the best bidder, must at the same time give security, with sufficient sureties, to the satisfaction of the Proprietors of the said Bridge, for the payment of the Rent agreed for, and at such times as they shall direct. Persons willing to become sureties are requested to attend at the time of letting.

THOMAS GRIFFITHS, Clerk. Coalport, 17th May, 1862.

**Wolverhampton Chronicle and Staffordshire Advertiser 28<sup>th</sup> May 1862**

BROSELEY.

DEATH BY DROWNING.—In consequence of some attestations now in progress on the Severn Valley Railway, a number of men are employed from early dawn to dewy eve. On Tuesday morning two men, who reside on the Madeley side of the river, were proceeding to their work at about half-past three o’clock in the morning, and on reaching the lake head, on the road to Ironbridge, they saw a small boat laden with some cord wood moored close to the shore. To save half a mile they determined to cross the river by means of this small boat; Matthew Owen and J. Darnall had just got on board, when William Price hove in sight, and called out, “Hold on, I will go with you.” He took his place near the bow of the boat, rather on one side. Owen, who was putting the boat across, called out— “Will, mind, or you will upset the boat.” On nearing this side of the river the boat capsized, and all three were immediately in the water. Owen struck out and reached the shore. He saw Darnall struggling for his life, and rescued him, but Price went to the bottom. The river here is very deep. Search was subsequently made for the body, which was found in the afternoon about five hundred yards

lower down the river. He was a young man and unmarried. Strange to say that, ten years' since, Durnal's father was drowned within a few yards of the place where this accident occurred.

#### **Worcester Chronicle 28<sup>th</sup> May 1862**

WORCESTER UNION..

TO BUILDERS, &c..

PERSONS willing to CONTRACT with the Guardians of this Union for the ERECTION of a WALL, of BROSELEY BRICK, round the whole of the West and part of the South Sides of the Garden fronting the Workhouse, are requested to deliver Sealed Tenders (properly endorsed) at my Office, before ten o'clock in the morning of THURSDAY, the 29<sup>th</sup> day of MAY instant.

Full particulars may be obtained upon application to the Master.

The Guardians will not necessarily accept the lowest or any Tender.

By order,

A. W. KNOTT, Clerk.

15<sup>th</sup> May, 1862.

#### **Birmingham Daily Post 29<sup>th</sup> May 1862**

BRIDGNORTH.

THE PRITCHARD MEMORIAL—The fund collected at Broseley, Bridgnorth, and the neighbouring parts of Shropshire, amounting to nearly £3,000, is to be devoted to two distinct objects in memory of Mr. Pritchard, late High Sheriff of the county. Firstly, the erection of a memorial church at Jackfield, near Broseley for which a design by Mr. Bloomfield, architect, of London, has been selected. Secondly, a memorial building, to be erected in the centre of Broseley, over a well and reservoir that have lately been constructed for the purpose of supplying the town with water. The first premium of £20, for the design of this structure has been awarded to Mr. R. Gough, architect, of Bridgnorth. A second premium of £5, has been unanimously awarded to Mr. William Thursfield, of Broseley, accompanied by a vote of thanks from the Memorial Committee "for the time and attention he has given to the preparation of the admirable set of working drawings for the memorial buildings."

#### **Shrewsbury Chronicle 30<sup>th</sup> May 1862**

IRONBRIDGE

Petty Sessions:

Trespassing on the Severn Valley Railway: Francis Bevan was charged with this offence. Mr. Haslehurst appeared for the company. It was the intention of the defendant to have raised the question of a right of way, on some ground adjoining the railway, with a neighbour of his with whom he had a dispute and in this instance the axiom. "He who conducts his own case has a fool for his client," was fully verified.

Haslehurst applied to the bench for permission to amend the information, there being an error of date, to which Bevan not objecting the case proceeded. The information was laid under the 3 and 4 Victoria, chap. 97, section 16, wherein it is enacted that "Wilfully obstructing any officer or agent, or wilfully trespassing upon, and refusing to quit when required to do so by any officer or agent," &c.; "Any such party so offending upon proof." &c. Mr. Anstice inquired if there had existed from time immemorial a right of way, with which the railway interfered; whether that right would be abrogated by the construction of a railway? Mr. Haslehurst replied that the fact of the maps having been deposited with the Clerk of the Peace, and left for the inspection at each church through which the railway passed, before the Act obtained for the construction of the railway, must be taken as a full compliance into the law upon that point. The Act having been obtained that question could not be raised. Mr. Anstice said that the object of his question was to ascertain whether there could be a legal ouster, of their jurisdiction? To this question a negative was given. The map of the line was produced, and submitted to the inspection of the bench, and the particular locality to which reference had been made pointed out. —Thomas E. Patten deposed that he is in the employ of the West Midland Company. On Monday, the 19<sup>th</sup> of May, I saw Mr. Bevan on the premises of the company, standing upon the embankment inside the fence. I told him to move off. He said he would come on the line for all the railway men in the world. Doughty and he were falling out. — Bevan admitted that he was on the line as stated, but wanted to have the case adjourned. This was opposed by Mr. Haslehurst, who said that he should merely ask for nominal damages.—Fined 1s., and costs 9s. 4d. - Pursuit of *Game*; Edward Owen, gamekeeper to Lord Forester, charged Charles Brazier with an offence of this kind. It appears that Brazier was returning from Wenlock towards Broseley on the 16<sup>th</sup> inst, in a spring cart having with him a terrier and a greyhound. On reaching a field near Posenall there was a hare



feeding in the field, and Brazier threw up his hand and set the terrier after the hare. The dog went in pursuit, but neither killed nor caught the hare. Fined 5s. and 10s 4d. costs.

#### JACKFIELD

SERMONS.- On Sunday, two sermons were preached by the Rev. Mr. Hammonds, formerly curate of Jackfield Church, to a very numerous, and in the evening a crowded, congregation, at the Jackfield National School-rooms. The school children, under the judicious training of Mr. O'Brien, aided by the excellent accompaniment on the harmonium by Mr O'Brien, acquitted themselves in a very creditable manner.

#### Wellington Journal 7<sup>th</sup> June 1862

##### IRONBRIDGE.

THE FAIR.—Madeley fair, which is annually kept on the 29th of May, when oak balls come in to remind us of the visit that unfortunate monarch paid to our village, this year passed off with the usual amount of shows, roundabouts, and sightseers. Messrs. Bartley and Yates gave addresses and sold Bibles at the fair.

##### RUDGE WOOD.

ACCIDENT IN TAKING DOWN A HOUSE.—On Thursday week three men, whilst employed in taking down a house on Lord Forester's estate, met with a narrow escape. One of the walls gave way suddenly, severely injuring two of the men, named Maiden and Legg; a third, of the name of Legg, escaped by leaping over a barrow, which was broken by the falling debris.

#### Shrewsbury Chronicle 13<sup>th</sup> June 1862

TO BUILDERS AND MASONS. — THE PRITCHARD MEMORIAL, BROSELEY, SALOP., — Parties disposed to TENDER for the Erection of the above may inspect the Plans and Specifications at my Office, in Bridgnorth, on and after Monday, the 2nd day of June, until Saturday, the 21st, on which latter day Tenders must delivered to me by Ten o'clock a.m.

Neither the lowest, nor any, Tender will be necessarily accepted.

ROBERT GRIFFITHS, Architect  
Bridgnorth. 28th May, 1862,

CRICKET.—On Monday afternoon the Broseley juvenile cricket club played the Coalbrookdale club in the Rookery-leasow. This field was kindly lent for the occasion by the members of the Aristocratic Broseley Club. Broseley carne off with flying colours, having beat their opponents in one innings, with several wickets to go down. Coalbrookdale scored in two innings, 42; Broseley, in one inning, 46. The day was all that could be wished.

ANNIVERSARY SERMONS.- On Whit Sunday the anniversary school sermons at the Birch-meadow Chapel were preached by Mr. S. Kery Bland, of Chestram, Bucks. The collections amounted to £8. The choir and children, as usual, worthily acquitted themselves in their performances.

#### Shrewsbury Chronicle 20<sup>th</sup> June 1862

##### BROSELEY

SUPPER TO INTENDING EMIGRANTS.- On Wednesday evening, several of the friends and acquaintances of Messrs. F. Adam, J. Garbett, and C. Walford, met at the Lord Hill to partake of a supper in honour of those who, in the course of a few days, will quit Broseley to seek their fortunes at the Antipodes, New Zealand having been decided upon as their future home. Considerable interest latterly seems to be attached to those far-off colonies of Great Britain, in consequence, perhaps, in no small degree, of the favourable accounts which have been recently received from parties who emigrated hence some few years. Take one instance that has come to our knowledge. Some few years since, a young man named Rowe left here for New Zealand with his wife, to whom he had just been married. Arriving out, after a very favourable voyage he commenced working as stock-keeper. Shortly after the termination of his first year, he, with a companion, went to the gold-fields then recently discovered at Otago. Here they remained for eighteen weeks, during which they were employed in searching for the precious metal. During his sojourn at these gold-fields, he sent his wife £20; and on his return to her, after his essay in gold-finding, he took with him the sum of £250, making a total of £270, a rate of wages equivalent to £15 per week. He then purchased a plot of twenty-five acres of land, for which he paid £50; bought a yoke of oxen to aid in cultivating the land; and, to use his own significant language, he is in the way "to get bread and the cheese will be found." —A very pleasant evening was spent, the best wishes of the company following the intended emigrants. Among those present were Messrs. Onslow, Booth, Perrin, Hopley, Wild, Rushton, &c. The inclemency of the evening doubtless prevented many of their comrades of the Wenlock Volunteers from being present.

CHARGE OF STEALING; LEAD. —A youth was brought up before R. Thursfield, Esq., who, on hearing the evidence adduced, remanded him for further inquiry to the Wenlock petty sessions, on Tuesday next.

**Birmingham Daily Post 26<sup>th</sup> June 1862**

THE MEMORIAL TO THE LATE HIGH. SHERIFF OF SHROPSHIRE,  
To the EDITOR of the DAILY POST.

Sir. —Your paper having an extensive circulation in this neighbourhood, and an extended public opinion being the best fly-wheel to correct local irregularities, I shall feel obliged if you will allow me space or your paper to make some observations in reference to the above object.

Nearly £3,000, have been subscribed to raise a memorial to the late George Pritchard, Esq., of Broseley, and late High Sheriff of Shropshire, a man whose character throughout his whole life was not less beautiful than his of whom we read, that “Jesus beholding him, loved him.” With the major part of this £3,000, it is intended to raise an appropriate memorial by building a church in the ecclesiastical district of Jackfield, and which the late Mr. Pritchard himself endowed. This is under the management of a committee, among whom are gentlemen whose character and position are of the highest standing. Another portion of this sum of money is ostensibly to be applied to “providing an adequate supply of water” for Broseley, which before last year was very much needed. In proof of this allow me to mention that until last year almost the only water available for general use was the Down well and the Delph; the latter was a pool in the middle of the town, which received only the rain water from the street, and sewage from the surrounding houses; consequently in a dry season it was in a filthy state, and emitted an abominable odour. The Down-well is situated about 600 yards outside the town, and in dry times the supply of water was so inadequate to meet the demand that, year after year whole days and nights a group of people was waiting to obtain in turn the water from the spring, and so sorely was their patience often tried that a fight for precedence was of common occurrence. Again, during severe and protracted frost—i.e., when the Severn was frozen over—the poor people of Broseley were obliged to stand at the well all day and night, each having to wait and shiver among the ice and snow from two to four hours, and wholly without shelter from the biting winds. Eight years ago there was a very severe and fatal epidemic of scarlet fever in Broseley, and at that time the scarcity of water was so great that at times the poor could not obtain it even for money. Lately a poor woman incidentally referred to the excessive grief and dismay she felt when a pan of water was by an accident spilled upon the floor, for which she had just paid three-pence, and had to wait five hours, both her children at the time being ill with scarlet fever, of which they both died. She also stated that all the water, most sparingly used from week’s end to week’s end, was husbanded to clean the floors, for at this time the Delph-water was so offensive that “people were afraid to have it in their houses,” and that nowhere within reach was its consequence thin enough to allow it to be laded into a bucket. This distress affected all the poorer population of Broseley, and in such a case what must have been the condition of their personal clothing?

In June last year the Delph was filled up; and solely at the instance of the late Mr. Pritchard, a spring of excellent water was searched for and discovered, which has since been found to yield in proportion to the rainfall from three to thirty gallons of water per minute, and at the cost of Mr. Pritchard the public have used it since that time, and will do so until the end of July. Some members of the second committee have acknowledged that this supply is sufficient for a population double that of Broseley, and being only a few yards from the site on which it is intended to place a pump under a memorial building, it might be supposed that they would have wished to bring it into connection with his memorial; had such been the case it would have been regarded as Mr. Pritchard’s last and most lasting gift to the town—the greatest boon to the present and future generations—but instead of doing this with a full knowledge that ironstone water is unfit for domestic use, and nearly poisonous, the committee have spent a considerable sum in sinking a well to the ironstone, and, as if in mockery, intend to place a memorial over it to the late Mr. Pritchard.

Upwards of twenty years ago £300 was expended in making reservoir in which to save the surplus water from the down well in the winter months. it was no sooner completed than it broke, from having been undermined, and so hopeless did the case appear to be, that until the present time it has been abandoned, remaining only as a proof of how abortive have been the best attempts to supply the place with water. In the interval a bed of ironstone has been worked admittedly close to the side of the reservoir, and not improbably under it; and now that all need for the reservoir has passed away, and that it is two-fold more likely to break than before, the committee have spent £45, in repairing it, notwithstanding that every year there is an increasing liability that the spring at the down well will be drained by some adjacent pit.

With the water provided by Mr. Pritchard, the whole outlay as needless which has been made, and without Mr. Pritchard’s supply the town will be as deplorably deficient in water as

before. We will assume that the committee have done only what was required but let us ask why is it that, without anything remarkably or exceptional, it was needful to sink to well a few yards only from another pump, while in the higher parts of the town, as Cape Street and the parts adjacent, the poor must carry water from a quarter to half a mile? Again, was their no waste of public money in making a new shaft when nearly a dozen exist already within at very little distance, and two or three almost close to the one now made? If this water is fit for use, does not their present conduct condemn their past indifference to the privations of the poor? Is there no singularity that great zeal in this matter should arise only when all occasion for it was over? and why, if not to blind the public, was an offer made to the owner of the new spring upon such terms that it was as much his duty to reject it as to resist a robber? Surely it is due both to the subscribers and to the public that the committee should give some explanation why it has been needful to deviate in many ways so widely from the course which would have been pursued in a like case in other places. Assertions have been made that the conduct of this committee has been "scandalous" and "unbearable," but if interpreted by the rumour that under the pretext, of doing honour to Mr. Pritchard's memory, there is an intrigue to avoid a trifling subscription, their conduct does not appear to be inconstant.

I am, &c.

AN INHABITANT OF BROSELEY

Broseley, 21<sup>st</sup> June 1862

### Wellington Journal 28 June 1862

#### BRIDGNORTH

NEGLECT OF DUTY BY A RAILWAY PORTER —A porter at the Linley Station of the Severn Valley of the West Midland Railway was brought before the South Shropshire magistrates on Tuesday week, charged with having, on the 8th of June, absented himself from the employment of the West Midland Railway Company, without having previously obtained leave or given the requited 14 days' notice. — The solicitor to the company said he had been instructed by the company to place the matter in the hands of the magistrates — Mr. Edgar Richards, the station-master at Linley, said that on Sunday, the 8th of June, the prisoner left the station a little before twelve o'clock in the day. Before he went he (the station-master) warned him to be back at train time (half-past five in the afternoon), and he said he would. He was no more seen, however, till the following Wednesday morning, when he came to the station to resume his duties. Mr. Richards told him that he should not allow him to resume his duties, but that he must report him to the superintendent, and he must give up his clothes. The conduct of the prisoner might have been the cause of a serious accident. —The Bench said the prisoner had rendered himself liable to suffer two months' imprisonment, with hard labour, or a penalty of £10. The Act of Parliament had given the magistrates power to mitigate the penalty, and he must pay a fine of £1 or go to prison for 14 days.

#### BROSELEY.

This town which has maintained its celebrity for the manufacture of tobacco pipes for nearly 200 years, is well represented in the International Exhibition of 1862. The two principal manufactures have their productions displayed in Class 35, where novelty of design, excellence of material, and finish, combined with variety, have attracted considerable attention among lovers of the weed. Mr. Edwin Southorn has just patented a new process by which he is enabled to stamp, in colours, names, coats of arms, crests, and other devices.

LECTURE.—On Wednesday evening, June 18<sup>th</sup> the Rev. J. T. Moody, of Wolverhampton, delivered his popular lecture on "Woman" in the Town-hall, to a densely crowded audience. The rector of the parish, the Rev. R. B. Cobbold, presided, and the leading members of the Established Church were present. The lecture was given to aid a scheme to lessen the Wesleyan Chapel debt, and the enthusiasm produced was quite equal to that excited by its delivery in other parts of the district. From the crowds that attended a large sum is expected to be realised.

CRICKET. — An interesting match was played on Wednesday week between the members of this club, on their new ground at the Stocking, and ended, as will be seen from the annexed score, by Mr. Benson's side winning, with six wickets to fall. The batting of Mr. Benson on the one side, and Mr. T. Shaw on the other, was worthy of notice. The bowling of Mr. Rushton was, as usual, of a very puzzling description, and did great execution. Owing to the favourable state of the weather a great number of persons were present to witness the match. Subjoined is the score:

#### MR BENSONS SIDE

1 <sup>st</sup> Innings		2 <sup>nd</sup> Innings	
Benson, c Holmes, b Rushton	38	Run out	18
Glover, b Shaw	4	Not out	7
Evans, b Rushton	2	C Potts, b Rushton	8
Burnet, run out	1		

C. Shaw, b Rushton	10		
Nevett, c Ledger, b Shaw	6		
J. Hartshorne, b Shaw	2		
J. Hill, b Rushton	0		
Jocelyn, b Shaw	1		
Wathes, absent	0		
Byes	9	Byes	4
	73		29

Rushton, b Glover	2	B, Glover	0
T. Shaw, not out	33	C Benson, b Glover	8
Ledger, c Glover, b Benson	11	Run out	2
Potts, b Glover	3	C Glover, b Benson	2
R. Hill, run out	8	B Benson	6
Holmes, c Glover, b Benson	0	B Benson	6
Garbet, run out	1	Run out	1
W. Hill, b Glover	2	B Glover	3
A. Burnet, absent	0	Run out	0
H. Mason, absent	0	Not out	0
Wides 1, byes, 9	10	Wides 3, byes, 2	5
	70		31

### Wellington Journal 5<sup>th</sup> July 1862

BROSELEY.

ROBBERY. —On Tuesday, the 24th ultimo, the dwelling house of Elisabeth Price, of Willey Furnace, was broken into whilst she was out washing, and a pair of new boots and several other articles taken therefrom. Suspicion fell upon some parties in the neighbourhood, and a search warrant was obtained, but nothing could be found in any way to connect the parties with the robbery.

THE PATENT GENUINE BROSELEY GLAZED TOBACCO PIPE.—The London Commercial Record has the following on the Broseley pipe: — The almost universal habit of smoking tobacco is carried to its highest pitch of refinement in the present age, and various and ingenious contrivances have been connected with it, intended to give zest to enjoyment to meet particular tastes, or to preserve the smoker from the narcotic effects of this, generally termed, pleasing, but, when carried to excess, dangerous habit. We have pipes of every hue, and of almost every material, from the common clay-pipe in use in every grade of life to the Nabob of the East, or the still more highly ornamented cherry-tree stick of the princely Turk. The patent genuine Broseley glazed pipe, manufactured by Mr. Edwin Southern, is a beautiful adaptation of a means to an end, and deservedly ranks high in the catalogue as a safe, easy, and pleasant companion of the smoker's leisure hour. The peculiar character of the clay from which this pipe is made makes it very porous, thereby absorbing the nicotine, and consequently preserving the health of the smoker. One feature with these pipes is, that a crest or any other design can be beautifully printed on the bowl, for which Mr. E. Southern has a patent. The top of the pipe also is glazed, a process much superior to the ordinary practice of waxing.

### Wellington Journal 12<sup>th</sup> July 1862

IRONBRIDGE

Petty Sessions: DRUNK AND REFUSING to QUIT—Thomas Pope, of Broseley, was charged by Police-constable Chase with being drunk and refusing to quit the Plough Inn, Broseley, on the 24th of June, when ordered to do so by the landlady.—Sarah Reynolds said: On the day named Pope came to our house; he was the worse for drink; he had one pint of ale; he became very abusive; I ordered him to go out, but he refused to do so. — Defendant, who did not appear, was fined 5s., and 14s. costs, or 14 days.

### Wellington Journal 19<sup>th</sup> July 1862

AWARDS TO LOCAL EXHIBITORS IN THE EXHIBITION.

In the awards which were made yesterday week to exhibitors, we are much pleased to observe the names of so many local manufacturers. First we perceive that in class 31A, "Manufacturers in Iron," the Coalbrookdale Company have received the medal "for excellence of workmanship and artistic design in the articles exhibited by them." In class 10, "Architecture and objects exhibited for architectural beauty," two medals have been awarded

in connection with the fine collection of productions illustrating the clay manufactures of the Shropshire coalfield—one to the contributing manufacturers, including Messrs. J. and E. Burton, the Coalbrookdale Company, Messrs. Davies, of Broseley, Mr. Doughty, Mr. Evans, Mr. Exley, Mr. Lewis, the Madeley-Wood Company, Messrs. Maw and Company, and Mrs. Thorn, “for the excellence of encaustic tiles and various articles exhibited;” and second to Mr. M. Digby Wyatt, “for beautiful contribution of forums and colours in the articles exhibited.” In class 35, Messrs. John Rose and Company have received the medal for decorative porcelain.

#### JACKFIELD.

The following tenders have been sent in for the erection of the Pritchard Memorial Church to be erected in this place:— Mr. Lovatt, Darlington-street, Wolverhampton, £2,484; Mr. Exley, The Rock, Broseley, £1,850; Messrs. Nevitt, Ironbridge, £1,677. Evidently, if the lowest tender be accepted. Messrs. Nevitt will be the contractors. The architect is Mr. Bloomfield, of London.

### **Wellington Journal 26<sup>th</sup> July 1862**

#### IRONBRIDGE

ACCIDENT AT THE RAILWAY.—On Saturday evening, as a ballast train from the direction of Buildwas was moving towards Ironbridge station, owing to some at present unexplained cause, it ran into and partly demolished one of the gates at the line crossing. The engine came to a dead stand before it reached the gate at the other side of the crossing. No other damage than that stated was done.

DISCOVERY or STOLEN PROPERTY.—On Wednesday Sergeant Scale found some property in the house of some prostitutes, named Pritchard, and since then Police-officer Woodhouse found another portion of the same property in a brothel at Wolverhampton, stolen by a girl named Sarah Brookfield, whom the latter officer apprehended in the town the same day. The property was stolen from the Crown Inn, Abbey-foregate, Shrewsbury.

#### BROSELEY.

TRIP TO LIVERPOOL —On Monday the members of the Broseley Provident Society and their friends availed themselves of the facilities afforded by the Severn Valley Railway to take a day trip to Liverpool. The day was beautifully fine; and as early as half-past five in the morning the inhabitants of Broseley were aroused from their slumbers by the band of Messrs & Maw, which commenced playing at the Market-hall, and proceeded thence, discoursing sweet music, to the station at Ironbridge. By this time a great number of spectators had also assembled at the station. The train received its living freight of pleasure-seekers and as it swept onward the band struck up “The girl left behind me.” The return train reached the Ironbridge station at 10 p.m., all well.

#### PETTY SESSIONS—TUESDAY LAST.

Before W. L. Lowndes, J. Anstice, and W. Nicholas, &Esqrs.

STEALING A PHOTGRAPH.- Thomas Cullis, inn keeper, of Jackfield, charged Mary Ann Pope with feloniously stealing his likeness. —Sarah Cullis said: I am the wife of the prosecutor. Between three and four years ago my husband had his likeness taken at Birmingham. It was kept on our parlour mantelpiece. In May last I missed it, but did not think it was taken out of the house till the 1st of July, when I heard that defendant had got a likeness in a brooch taken from it. The one now produced by the policeman is the one I lost.—Police-constable Chase said: I produce the likeness in question. On the day before I took out the summons I went to defendant’s house; I saw her mother, and she said defendant was at her aunt’s. I went there in company with her mother, and when we got near the house defendant’s mother shouted, “Mary Ann, the policeman’s come for that likeness, but if I was in your place he should not have it.” I asked defendant for it, and she refused to give it up. The next day I went to serve defendant with the summons. I asked her mother for the likeness, and she gave it to me.—Defendant said the likeness was given to her, and the Bench then dismissed the case.

To the Editor of the Wellington Journal

Sir, I should not have forwarded to you for publication the enclosed letters, by myself, in answer to two letters received by me from the worthy rector of Broseley, but that our social surface here is so greatly disturbed that we cannot discover the whereabouts of our position without retiring to high ground in the distance. I will willingly forward Mr. Cobbold’s letters for publication should he desire it. I must also plead for space, on the grounds of the paramount importance of this subject to most of the inhabitants as well as the great concern that is beginning to arise among the poor, on account of the impending dearth of water during the ensuing autumn, as, at the time I write not an extra bucketful of water has been

made available by the committee who, several months ago undertook to "provide an adequate supply of water" for Broseley. I am, &c.,

FREDERIC H. HARTSHORN.

Broseley, 21st July, 1862.

"Broseley, July 15th, 1862.

"My dear Sir,- I beg to thank you for your letter just received, and in reply to say that I do not deny being the author of a letter in the Birmingham Daily Poet to which you refer. I did not knowingly make any inaccurate or false statement in that letter, and I shall feel obliged if you will be so good as to inform me which of the statements you consider to be so. My belief is that I have simply stated facts; and if you feel ashamed for the world to know these facts, why are you a participator in them? I did not say that the conduct of the committee was "scandalous and said unbearable," I only stated that other people had so. Such observations are made almost daily. Yesterday a Broseley tradesman told me that he considered that all the parties concerned in this water business were 'fools,' and the day before another tradesman remarked that the gentlemen of Broseley themselves having water cared not for the poor, their only object was to have the monument. My belief is that the conduct of this committee will not be forgotten fifty years hence; and to my mind the only aspect that it presents is that either it is wanting in right principle, or very deeply steeped in folly. I do not object to specify this more particularly, if you wish me to do so. I had no wish or intention to offer any 'direct insult' to you. Sidney Smith has said that 'public boards have neither bodies to be killed nor souls to be saved,' and I thought that in this case my remarks could do no individual any harm, but that as a public body, engaged in a public act, they were fairly open to public criticism, and George Herbert tells us that 'it behoves the commonwealth that rogues should be known.' (I do not quote this offensively.) I am anxious to avoid doing anything 'through strife or vain glory,' and if you can make it appear to me that I have done wrong I am ready to respectfully remind you that when men of God lean upon Egypt they sometimes find it a staff that runs into their hand. With esteem and regard I remain, dear Sir, yours truly,

" FREDERIC H. HARTSHORN.

" The Rev. R. H. Cobbold."

**HERE**

" Broseley, Friday morning, 18th July, 1862.

" Dear Sir, - I received your letter last evening dated 16th inst., and in reply beg to say that individually I much esteem Mr. Pritchard, Mr. Evans, Mr. George Maw, and Mr. Burnet,' and I will add also two names you do not mention, Mr. Nicholas and Mr. Potts.-- I have asked you which of the statements in my published letter you consider to be false; you reply, I only deny that your statements are facts. Do you deny them in total? For 'what is to become of the pump?' must refer you to Mr. Pritchard, he having bought so much of it as is external to my premises. You say ' that Mr. Pritchard has generously defrayed my expenses.' He has repaid me a guinea which I paid to Mr. Blunt for an analysis of the water, but besides this he has not paid any of my expenses, and you have informed me yourself that they will not be paid.. You say that £10 a year was all the late Mr. Pritchard agreed to.' A few days before his last illness he remarked to me on his way home from my house that he considered the value of the water to one man alone was double that sum, but as he was not well and it was getting late he promised to call again upon me and to agree upon a larger payment, as the cost of finding the water had been more than at first expected, and its quality better than I had supposed it to be. Mr. Thorpe was present when he came to my house, and I have by me a note in which his intention to do so is mentioned. You once privately asked me if I would allow the pump to remain upon a private payment of £10 a year, but this was after circumstances had occurred which compelled me to decline the offer. Now to illustrate the folly of the committee (collectively), let me point out that the least which was admitted by those members who had seen Mr. Pritchard's supply was that it was a sufficient supply for the greater part of Broseley, and to all of the members it was known that in a year of remarkable drought, and before the supply was matured it had supplied the inhabitants with a profusion of water to which they had never been accustomed, and to such an extent that the Down well was never emptied in that year. Surely this supply of water was at least worth inquiring about but it was at once ignored. A scheme was proposed and adopted which had before failed, which it was little short of a moral certainty would fail again, and which (before party feeling was excited) Mr. John Burnet declared to me to be so preposterous, that he said that if it were entered upon he should withhold his subscription and withdraw from the committee. The other plan adopted was to provide a fresh supply of useless water, of which there had always been superabundance, but of such a quality that it was never used in times of direct need. As if in scorn of this act of the committee, near their new well, a pump stands (in Manuel 's garden) in a well of ironstone water, and has not been used during 25 years. To show the want of right principle in the committee I will point to the fact that Mc. Evans told

them it was but justice to me that my expenses should be paid, and that they had not accorded me this justice. Again, if not a legal dishonesty, would it not have been a moral wrong to sink a well close by my land, and rob me of my water without making me any acknowledgment for my outlay in finding it? This Mr. John Pritchard told me that the committee intended to do. Again, was it not an ungenerous if not an extortionate attempt to saddle a public burthen exclusively upon me, when an offer was made to pay my expenses of £60 and £10 added, only upon condition, that I for ever, without any acknowledgment, would supply the town with water, and in addition would make a sacrifice of my property equivalent in value to £100. Does not this proposal look like 'egregious folly or want of principle?' and this you told me, that you and your friends considered so be an offer so liberal that you could not understand any man refusing it, and that my doing so was a good thing for the committee, because it saved them that sum of money. Did it not show an absence of right feeling when so many members of the committee, knowing that they were put in trust with other people's money the benefit of the poor, in smatter of permanent and almost vital importance to the poor, cared so little about the matter that they never stepped a few yards aside to see a spring which they had reason to suppose might prove to be the best one in the neighbourhood? Would such indifference have been shown in anything which concerned their own private affairs? Is it a right feeling which from the first has prompted the committee to treat me as one that had wrongfully deprived the town of water, although Mr. John Pritchard has stated that I had acted 'very honourably,' and I can bring abundant evidence to show that I have throughout acted with generosity and self-sacrifice. Let me point, to the fact that, with this power and full right to stop at once the supply of water, I did not on their provocations do so, and that I have allowed 13 months to be counted a year. When it is considered that Mr. Pritchard himself, in the last six mouths of his life, provided for the town an abundant supply of excellent water, and that it could be connected with his memorial by simply extending the pipes across the street., it seems most extraordinary that there should be opposition to it if the water could be obtained upon fair terms (and this I was perfectly willing to agree to). I can only offer as an explanation that 'where envy and strife is there is confusion and every evil work.' I remain, dear sir, yours faithfully,

"FREDERIC H. HARTSHORNE.

**"The Rev. R. H. Cobbold"**

### **Shrewsbury Chronicle 1<sup>st</sup> August 1862**

BROSELEY.

INTERESTING FACT IN NATURAL HISTORY.—During the early part of the season, a pair of swallows had built their nest some yards below the surface of the ground, in the shaft of the Coneybury pit. Here they reared unmolested their young brood; and as the time had arrived for the young fledglings to take flight, considerable interest was felt by the owners of the pit and the workmen to ascertain how the parent birds would secure for their young an egress from their eyrie. The first fledgling, as the basket was ascending the shaft, was found on the edge of the nest, as if taking an interesting survey of its present limited sphere of action. It was placed in the basket, and as soon as it reached the surface the parent birds greeted its arrival, and with them it took its first extensive flight. The second experimenter was not so successful in its first essay, for it reached the bottom of the shaft, which is eighty yards deep. Thither the old birds followed it, but the task of enabling it to reach the surface seemed to baffle the maternal anxieties of the parent birds. Aware of what had occurred, the banksman and engineer went to the assistance of the wanderer into this deep recess of the earth. The little fugitive was placed in the basket, and brought to the surface, where its presence was greeted by its parents, and with them took flight. The other portion of the family were more successful in reaching the surface. The whole brood having been now safely removed from their “straw-built shed,” commenced the important law of their nature - catching and killing flies. Let not reckless ignorance and folly needlessly diminish their number

### **Wellington Journal 02 August 1862**

To the Editor of the Wellington Journal

Sir.- In your journal of Saturday last you published two letters from Mr. F. H. Hartshorne, address to the Rev. R. H. Cobbold, both of our town. If you will be kind enough to allow me space in next impression I will thank you. I would not trouble you in this very silly matter had not Mr. Hartshorne mentioned my name in connection with the supply of water to this place. He states: “A scheme was proposed and adopted which had before failed, which it was little short of a moral certainty would fail again and which (before party feeling was excited) Mr John Burnet declared to me to be so preposterous that he said that if it were entered upon he should withhold his subscription and withdraw from the committee.” Now, Sir, however reluctant I may be to give a denial to this assertion of my neighbour (and I assure you it is with reluctance I do so) I am bound in justice to myself to say that *there is no truth whatever in that statement*, and I am confident that my conduct in connection with the supply of water from the first meeting to the present time will contradict it. It is well known in Broseley that if there is one man more than another who has advocated the propriety of obtaining water from *any* source, it is myself. The scheme Mr. H. states was proposed and adopted, and which he is pleased to call preposterous, is the repairing a very large reservoir, capable of holding *one hundred and eighteen thousand gallons*, which was made some 20 years ago. Shortly after it was finished some mining operations shook the foundations and caused it to leak; it has remained in that state till now. The committee have turned their attention to the repair of it; specifications have been sent out and tenders received from three or four of the Broseley builders to thoroughly repair the reservoir, and keep it so for seven years, for as sum about one tenth of the original cost. (I will just say that instead of opposing such an undertaking and withdrawing from the committee, I have superintended the work from the first.) Now, this is what Mr. Hartshorne says is “little short of a moral certainty to fail.” I believe it will not fail and I am backed in that opinion by the practical men who undertake to keep it in repair for seven years. I am at a loss to understand what Mr. H. wants. Does he wish to make a very large annual profit from his water? (well, that is what vendors of physic usually do.) If so he has a perfect right to get the best price for it he can; but, sir, he has no right to say the committee are “*wanting in right principle,*” “*deeply steeped in folly,*” “*folls, &c.,*” because that set a less value on his water than he does. Does he wish to be thought a philanthropist? If so, I have not heard of anyone who wishes him to remove the water; on the contrary, he states that he refused a private offer of £10 per annum, also an offer from the committee of £50 to defray his expenses, and £10 added, yet Mr. Hartshorne has the absurdity to say in one of his notable letters that the terms offered to him are “little short of robbery” and though he individually respects the members of the committee, yet, collectively, their conduct is “scandalous and unbearable.” In another letter he says he is the only “gentleman (?) in Broseley who is not on that committee.” Really, Mr Editor, if the “social surface” is disturbed in Broseley it must be all in the doctors own head. I fear I have trespassed too much on your space, and I am, Sir, yours truly.

JOHN BURNET

Broseley, July 29<sup>th</sup> 1862



### **Shrewsbury Chronicle 08 August 1862**

#### **ASSAULT AT BROSELEY**

Thomas Duffey (23), labourer, was brought up on a charge of wounding James Carden, with intent to do him some grievous bodily harm, on the 12th of July last, at the parish of Broseley, in the borough of Wenlock. Mr. Benson conducted the prosecution. The prisoner was undefended.

James Carden: I am a miner, and on Saturday I was at an Irish wake, at Broseley. The prisoner was there also. The prisoner threw his cap on the floor. A quarrel took place, and the prisoner was turned out. I heard a noise outside, after a few minutes. The first thing I felt when I got out was a blow from the prisoner. I put my hand up to save myself from his blows. I saw that he had a knife in his hand. I found I had been cut in two places on the wrist. I said I would follow him till I met a policeman. The prisoner replied that if I did not keep at arms length, he would strike me. I gave him into custody on meeting with a constable. —Prisoner here stated that the prosecutor first struck him, and that he had wounded Carden while he was keeping back a crowd of people. The wounds were inflicted unconsciously.—(Police-constable Chase here identified the knife that had been used by the prisoner.)

Patrick Connor, on being sworn. said: I was at the Irish wake, on the 12th of July. Carden went down to where there were five or six other young men. I saw the prisoner strike with a knife; but I do not know if the blow was aimed at Carden. I saw the knife in the hand of the prisoner. I do not think the prisoner intended to injure Carden with the knife.

Police-constable Chase: Carden gave the prisoner into my custody on July 12th. I found the knife produced in his possession. Prisoner said, "I did it. If I had the chance I would give him more." I am confident that was the expression he used.

J. Poulteney corroborated the evidence of the last witness, and added that he had heard the prisoner say that he had struck Carden twice with a knife; and would have given him more, if he had had the chance.

Mr. F. E. Hartshorn : I am a surgeon at Wenlock. I examined the wound on Carden in July last, and found them of a very severe character. Witness described in detail the nature of the wounds.

His lordship commented on the offence, which he characterised as a very serious one, and of such a nature as ought to be suppressed. It would be for the jury to say whether the evidence they had heard was sufficient to convict the prisoner.

The jury, after deliberating for a few moments, returned a verdict of guilty. Sentenced to nine months' imprisonment in the House of Correction, with hard labour.

### **Wellington Journal 9<sup>th</sup> August 1862**

To the Editor of the Wellington Journal

Sir.- In answer to Mr. John Burnet's letter in last week's journal allow me to state that he is quite right in saying that they are engaged in a "very silly matter" the committee having adopted and acted upon the hypothesis that an eggshell of cement is capable of resisting the amazing hydrostatic pressure. It is also true that Mr. John Burnet has superintended the work, that he has been "backed" by "practical men," namely Mr. Hiram Lloyd a joiner, and lately nominally a builder, and Henry Philpot a journeyman bricklayer, and that these two practical men have guaranteed to make this doubly undermined reservoir hold an almost stupendous weight of water for seven years.; but it is also equally true that Mr John Burnet did, a few years ago, declare to me that if this project were entered upon he should withhold his subscription and withdraw from the committee; and this, I think, he will remember, when I remind him that at the same time he added four reasons for doing so - namely, the probability that sooner or later the Down well will be drained by neighbouring pits; "all being carried away that springs during six months in the year;" "that he did not believe if it could be made waterproof that it would not last a month." Having so far replied to Mr Burnet's letter, I decline to have any further correspondence with him in this matter.- I am Sir, your &c.

FREDERIC H. HARTSHORNE.

Broseley, 5th August, 1862

### **Wellington Journal 16 August 1862**

#### **BROSELEY.**

RABBIT SNARING.- A few mornings since, as three watchers in the service of Lord Forester were engaged in looking out for poachers, they became aware of a fellow named John Hewtril being engaged in snaring conies. It was necessary, in order to effect a capture, that some precaution should be used, as it is well known that John was a sharp runner. They accordingly endeavoured to surround him. Nevertheless he gave them the slip, and took refuge in a corn field, where he managed to elude their vigilance. After a while he succeeded

in making his escape from the field minus his jacket. After some time spent in searching, the jacket was found, and in its capacious pockets were no less than six rabbits.

**MR. HARTSHORNE AND THE SUPPLY OF WATER FOR BROSELEY.**

To the Editor of the Wellington Journal

SIR,- Will you kindly give us a space in your next publication for a few remarks on the letter of Mr. F. H. Hartshorne which appeared in last week's journal. We do not know why Mr. Hartshorne should have thought proper to speak of us such a sneering and ill-natured manner; we can only account for it by supposing that he thought it advisable to give us a share of the dirt he has latterly been throwing about amongst his neighbours. As regards the judgment we have given respecting the repairs of the reservoir, and the guarantee we have entered into about it, we are content to know they are satisfactory to the committee, which, according to Mr. Hartshorne's own announcement comprises all the gentlemen in Broseley but him. What advantage that committee would have derived from his self-paraded sagacity we cannot pretend to say, but if we are to take the specimens he has given to the town of his notions in building as any criterion, we should say the committee has been better without his advice. It may turn out in the long run that the eggshell of cement, as he calls it, will be more approved and of much more benefit than the wretched little cottages with which he has disfigured our principal street. Amongst the many false statements which Mr Hartshorne has made in this matter it is refreshing to turn to something that is true. We do not contradict him when he proclaims what all who are interested in it knew well before, that we are, and always have been, working men. We have yet to learn that we are, on that account, the less likely to be able to give a good practical opinion in things connected with our trade. Where it worth our while we think we should not have much difficulty in shewing not only that our character builders is much superior to that of Mr. Hartshorne in his profession, but that his early career was scarcely so creditable as our own. We do not know that either of us have ever made any glaring failure, and we might ask Mr. Hartshorne to tell us in his next effusion how many times he had to try again before he was admitted a member of his profession. We do not want to say anything uncivil or unfriendly, but we would recommend Mr. Hartshorne, if he must write, to the newspaper, to speak more cautiously of those about him, and as he seemed most anxious three weeks ago to teach our excellent rector religion in a correspondence, the publication of which gave rise to a feeling of general indignation, we would now advise him (Mr. Hartshorne) to bear in mind for the future that we are commanded to "put away lying, and to speak every man truth with his neighbour."- We remain, Sir, yours, &c.,

LLOYD AND PHILPOT,

Contractors for the repairs of the reservoir at Broseley.

Broseley, August 11th, 1862

**Wellington Journal 23 August 1862**

**THE SUPPLY OF WATER FOR BROSELEY.**

To the Editor of the Wellington Journal.

Sir,- will you kindly give me space in your next impression for a few remarks on Lloyd and Philpot's letter which appeared in your journal of the 16th instant. I have to tell you that they are of themselves quite incapable of writing any such letter, and if those who have written or assisted in writing that letter would mind their own business till dirt is thrown in their faces, and then throw again, it would look much better of them. Surely the wretched little cottages of which they speak do not disfigure our principal street as much as the filthy stable which previously stood on the ground. They must be proper ignoramuses in speaking of Dr. Hartshorne's early career in any such way; they ought, instead of doing so praise him for his untiring courage, and rejoice to know that when he did pass as a member of his profession it was with merit and not favour, and that he is more qualified to perform his duties as a surgeon than he otherwise would have been, and if Mr. Hartshorne had thrown dirt in our excellent rector's face, that lies between those two persons themselves. I hope the meddlers motto in future will be "non-intervention" - Yours, &c.

Broseley August 19<sup>th</sup> 1862 P.E. T

**Wellington Journal 30 August 1862**

Wanted, by a respectable and experienced Person, a STUTAION as HOSEKEEPER to a single Gentleman, or Widower, or to wait on an invalid Lady or Gentleman. Good references. - Address C.J., Mr Crowther, Stationer, Broseley, Salop.

**BROSELEY**

On Saturday last Miss Yates, the respected Landlady of the New Crown Inn, who is about retiring from business, gave an excellent supper to her friends and customers. A goodly

number sat down; and a very pleasant evening was spent, songs and toasts being the order of the day.

MUCH WENLOCK

SPECIAL PETTY SESSIONS

THEFT.- A boy, named Robert Davies, a shoemaker, residing in Broseley, was brought up in custody, charged with stealing 4s., the property of Joseph Davies, of Broseley, on the 20<sup>th</sup> instant. The prosecutor, who, it appears, is a cousin of the prisoner, declined to prosecute, and the prisoner was discharged.

LICENCES.- The license for the New Inn, Benthall, was applied for, but refused.

WILLEY

On Sunday last a rick of hay, belonging to Mr. Moses Smith, of the Dean Corner, took fire, through being put together in an unfit state. The damage done was considerable.

**Wellington Journal 06 September 1862**

JACKFIELD POTTERY, BROSELEY  
HASSELL AND SON

TAKE leave to inform dealers in earthenware that they are prepared to supply a first-class article in ROCKINGHAM and CANE-COLOURED, in variety, and at moderate prices. Hassell and Son's motto is, "Quick sale and quick returns." Terms cash..

N.B. Weaver has retired from the partnership. Jackfield. 26th August, 1862

**Eddowes's Journal, and General Advertiser for Shropshire, and the Principality of Wales 17 September 1862**

BROSELEY.MEMORIAL

TO THE LATE HIGH SHERIFF.- -The carrying out of Mr. Robert Griffiths's design for the memorial to the late George Pritchard, Esq. having been entrusted to Messrs. Pickard & Son, builders, of Bridgnorth, who are now preparing the work with great care and rapidity, they will commence the erection next week. The design is gothic, octangular on plan, and will have a good and imposing effect when completed. The whole of the stone employed in the work is from the well-known Grinshill quarries, near Shrewsbury.

FLOWER AND FRUIT SHOW.- On Tuesday last the Broseley Cottagers' Fruit and Flower Show was held in the Town -hall. The attendance of visitors was very good. Messrs. Maw & Co.'s Benthall brass band was in attendance, and played selections from the operas of "Martha" and the Bohemian Girl," together with several choruses, in excellent style, during the evening. The following is a list of prizes :- Best cultivated allotment : John Edwards 10s. John Jones 5s. John P. Jones 3s. Samuel Nevett, 2s. 6d. Best single crop : Swedes, John Edwards, 2s. 6d.; scarlet runners, ....

SPECIAL PETTY SESSIONS:., Tuesday, September 9th, before C. J. Ferriday, Esq (Mayor), It. Thursfield, John Anstice, and W. Nicholas, Esqrs.

The Case of Alleged Felony.--Thomas; Rathin and William Jones, remanded from the petty sessions of the 2nd instant, were again brought up, and the following additional evidence given Thomas Roberts, landlord of the New Inn, Benthall, deposed : About six o'clock on the morning of the 26th of August the prisoner Rathin came to my house; he had a bundle under his arm; he asked me for some beer, and I told him it was too soon to fill him any; he asked me if there was any pawnshop about; I inquired what he had got to pawn, and he said three coats; I asked him how he came by them; he replied that his father was at Ironbridge, and had sent him to pawn them; he went to Cox's, in Broseley Wood, to try to sell them, but did not do so; Scale deposed : On the 31st of August I apprehended the prisoner Rathin, and told him what he was charged with; he said he was sorry such thoughts should come into his head as to take the clothes; he would never do so again.--Ann Roberts, landlady of the New Inn, deposed : On the morning of the 26th of August the two prisoners came to my house, between eight and nine o'clock; they went away, and came again between eleven and twelve o'clock; they were drinking together, and had three quarts of ale; the prisoner Rathin paid for it in copper. -Mr. Walker defended the prisoner Jones. Rathin was committed to take his trial at the next quarter sessions was discharged.

A Publican Charged with Stealing Monty. Frederick William Bathurst Poole, landlord of the Station Inn, Iron-bridge was charged by Roderick McLeod with stealing, on the 6th instant one half sovereign, his property. Mr. Walker defended. Prosecutor deposed: I am a railway labourer, and live at Coalbrookdale; on this morning of the 6th inst. I went to the Broseley Bank for a deposit receipt which I had left there; I went to a public-house, and had some dinner and four pints of ale; I left Broseley about six o'clock; I met with a man who had a cart and horse, and he asked me to ride; I got into the cart, and rode to the prisoner's house; I went into the house, and called for a quart of ale to treat the man, but when I took it to the door the man was gone; I returned into the house, and myself and parties in the house emptied the quart, and I called for another; I took out my purse to pay for it, but had taken hold of the wrong end of it, and my money fell out upon the floor; there was a five-pound note, half a sovereign, and some silver in it; the note did not fall out; some one in the company picked up two shillings and sixpence in silver, and put it on the table; I received the silver from a man named Roberts the next morning; was at Poole's till half-past nine o'clock.— John Morgan deposed : I am a carter for the West Midland Railway Company; on Saturday last I was at Poole's; prosecutor was there; there were several others in the house, including the landlord; prosecutor was fresh; I saw him drop his money on the floor, and two shillings and sixpence were picked up and put on the table; saw Poole pick something up, and pat it in his boot; there was a noise about the money; I said if all would pull their boots off, the money

would be found; Poole got up and went out, and I told the company they had no need to pull their boots off, as the landlord was the man who had got it; the next day Poole came to me, and asked me what I had got to say about the money; I said, "I saw you put it into your boot"; Poole then said he was sorry he had anything to do with the money; I said I thought so too; he said he had given the half-sovereign back which he put in his boot. —William Lindop deposed: I am a moulder, and reside at Madeley Wood; Saturday last I was at Poole's; prosecutor was there, and I saw him drop his mosey on the floor; two shillings and sixpence were picked up, and I asked Mrs. Poole to take care of it; a man named Roberts came in, and said he would take care of it for the prosecutor; heard last witness say if we would take off our boots the money would be found; I commenced taking mine off, but Poole went out; Morgan said, "that is the man who has got the half-sovereign."--Sergeant Scale deposed: About nine o'clock yesterday morning I went to prisoner's house, and told him I must apprehend him on a charge of stealing half a sovereign, the property of Roderick McLeod; prisoner said he did not steal it—he had only put it in his boot to take care of it, and that he had given it back on Sunday morning.—Prisoner was committed for trial at the sessions bail being accepted.

#### **Shrewsbury Chronicle 19 September 1862**

PETTY SESSIONS Tuesday. —Before C. J. Ferriday (mayor), John Anstice, R. Thursfield, and W. P. Brookes, Esqrs.— *Garden Robberies*: This nefarious practice has been very much on the increase latterly, both in the parish of Madeley, and also in Broseley. Indeed, depredations of this character have not only increased in number, but they have, in some instances, been marked by an impudent audacity that deserves severe reprobation. Take for instance the case of Mr. Patten, Broseley. In his garden, at the Bottom-coal, he had some beds of very fine onions. One night during last week some impudent thieves paid a visit to the garden, and took a large number of the best of the onions. In so doing, they very considerably cut off the tops, which were left behind on the beds, as a thank-offering for the plunder perpetrated. At the Wenlock Sessions, a case of garden robbery was brought before the magistrates by Mr. Samuel Leigh Nevitt, who charged Thomas Williams, a young man, who was in company with some others he detected plundering his garden, situated at the Tuckers. (Tuckies) The evidence, very clear as to the guilt of Williams, left no doubt on the minds of the magistrates, who expressed their determination of dealing severely with all cases of this nature brought before them. The bench imposed a fine of 20s., damage 4d, and 10s. costs. The other parties had arranged before entering the court.

#### **Shrewsbury Chronicle 26 September 1862**

##### **BROSELEY**

HOWE'S CIRCUS.— On Friday last, Howe's American equestrian troupe paid a visit to this town. The attendance was very good; although it would appear that the presence and wit of Mr. Walleth were deemed the best part of the evening's performance.

ON DITS.— It is understood that on Tuesday next, the 6<sup>th</sup> Shropshire Rifle Volunteers will assemble at Willey-park, the seat of Lord Forester. On this occasion Lady Forester will distribute the prizes to the successful competitors of this corps, and also present them with a silver bugle.

#### **Wellington Journal 04 October 1862**

##### **JACKFIELD.**

DANGER or THROWING STONES.—On Monday, as a boy named Doughty was leaving school, he threw a stone at a school-fellow named Lloyd, inflicting a very severe wound. Dr. Hartshorne coming by, sewed it up, but gave it as his opinion that the brain had been injured, the poor little fellow having become insensible.

##### **COALPORT.**

STEALING COALS FROM THE WHARF.—The nefarious practice of stealing coals on a large scale from the stacks upon the Coalport wharf has continued unchecked for some time; the parties frequently loading their boats on the river, and falling in the dark by the current. If the thief gets his booty clear off, he breaks it up into small pieces, and defies detection. Both barge owners and coal owners in this way suffer. Yesterday night week a similar attack was made, and the party was surprised by the presence of line of the coal owners, Mr. G. Doughty, but they managed to get safely off.

##### **IRONBRIDGE**

##### **PETTY SESSIONS--TUESDAY LAST.**

Before C. J. Ferriday, Esq., (mayor), W. L. Lowndes, H. Dickenson, John Anstice, and R. Thunfield, Esqrs.

This was a special sessions for granting licenses to public-houses.

Thomas Roberts, of the New Inn, Benthall, applied for an old license to his house.- Granted.— Application was made for the transfer of the New Crown Inn, Broseley, from Miss Yates to Richard Matthews, and the transfer of the Queen's Head Inn, Ironbridge, from Richard Matthews to Thomas Corfield.—Granted, in both the

Cases.

WILLEY

PRESENTATION OF A SILVER BUGLE. The beautiful grounds immediately in front of Willey-hall was the scene on Thursday of a grand review of the 6<sup>th</sup> Shropshire Rifle Corps, under the command of Captain Anstice. The company assembled at the Market-place Ironbridge, and, proceeded by their band, marched through Broseley direct to the seat of Lord Forester. On arriving there they went through a variety of evolutions having been attended to, the corps were advanced to the front facing the conservatory, where Lord and Lady Forester, attended by the elite of the neighbourhood, took their stand, for the purpose of presenting to the corps a silver bugle, value 25 guineas. Lady Forester deputed Mr Lowndes to be her spokesman. Mr. Lowndes, in a speech of some length, addressed the corps, and, in the name of Lady Forester, presented the bugle. The gift was acknowledged by Captain Anstice in suitable terms. After the firing of a few volleys, the corps formed four deep, and headed by the band, marched to a marquee, where an ample lunch was provided by the liberality of Lord Forester. During the evening several toasts, were proposed and responded to, the health of Lord Forester being received with great enthusiasm.

### **Shrewsbury Chronicle 10 October 1862**

COALBROOKDALE and BROSELEY, Salop. \_ Valuable FREEHOLD and LEASEHOLD PROPERTY, situate at Coalbrookdale and Broseley, in the county of Salop.- To be SOLD BY AUCTION, by

MR LEADBETTER, on Thursday, the 30<sup>th</sup> day of October instant, at the Tontine Hotel, Ironbridge, at Four o'clock in the afternoon, in the following or such other lot as may be agreed upon, subject to conditions then to be produced:

.....

LOT 6.—All that MESSUAGE or Dwelling-house situate at the Lloyd Head, Jackfield, in the parish of Broseley, in the county of Salop, together with the Building adjoining thereto, the upper part of which is now used as a joiner's shop. The above-mentioned premises are now in the respective occupations of Thomas Lewis and John Evans. Also a small plot of LAND adjoining such last-mentioned premises, and now void. The above premises are held on a lease for lives at a yearly rent of fifteen shillings, receivable for ever on payment of a fine of 30s. on the dropping of a life.

For further particulars and plans of the property apply to Messrs. SCARTH & SPOTT, Solicitors, Shrewsbury; or to the Auctioneer, Broseley,

### **Wellington Journal 11 October 1862**

FURNISHED APPARTMENTS TO BE LET, at Broseley, consisting of Parlour, Kitchen, and other rooms.- Apply at the journal Office.

### **Wellington Journal 18 October 1862**

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF A NEW CHURCH. —On Thursday last the foundation stone of the new church, to be erected at Jackfield, in memory of the late George Pritchard, Esq, was laid by Mrs. John Pritchard. At three o'clock, the time appointed for the laying of the stone, the company repaired to Jackfield. The weather being beautifully fine, a large number of persons were upon the ground; among them we noticed the Rev Dr Rowley, of Willey Rev R H Cobbold, rector of Broseley; Rev — Leigh, curate; Rev — Parton, Bridgnorth; Rev R H U Moore, Larden; Rev W Harris, Lawley; Rev Thomas Rowley John Pritchard, Esq, M/P., and Mrs Pritchard; C Ferriday, Esq, mayor of Wenlock; W Jones, Esq, mayor of Bridgnorth; T W W Browne, (Woodlands); W Nicholas, Esq, and family; W R Bingley, Esq, and family (London), W L Lowndes. Esq, A Gordon, Esq, P. Gordon, Esq, E G Bartlam, Esq, and Mrs Bartlam, Charles and William Pugh, Esqrs, George Burs, Esq, E. Elleson Esq, (Oldbury). F Bradley, Esq, (Sutton), Mr Shaw, Mr Westover, F H Hartshorne Esq, and Mrs Hartshorne, Mr John Humphries, George Potts, Esq, — Orsker, Esq, Thomas Smith Esq, ( Broseley). On one side of the stone was inscribed: the glory of God, and in memory of George Pritchard, October, 1862. In the hollow of the stone was placed a bottle containing coins of the realm of the present time and an inscription upon parchment, of which the following is copy. "The first stone of this church which is built in pious memory of George Pritchard, of Broseley, was laid on the 16th day of October, in the year of our Lord 1862. *Sans Deo*. Rector, R H Cobbold, churchwardens, W Nicholas, H Charlton. Other foundation can no man lay than that which is laid, Jesus Christ. In the name of Almighty God who created all things by Jesus Christ, and

who upon Him, as chief corner stone, had builded His church, and in honour of the blessed Virgin Mary, the first stone of this sacred building is laid, wherein the pure word of God may be preached, and praises continually be sung, and the sacraments be administered till the Lord come in glory. *Gloria Deo in Excelsior.*" The Rev R. H. Cobbold gave out the 84<sup>th</sup> Psalm which was sung by the Broseley choir. After engaging in prayer, the rev gentleman gave an able address from the 3rd chapter of Ezra, and the 11th verse. After speaking upon the subject in which they were engaged, the laying of the foundation stone of the church on earth, and the church triumphant in heaven, he mentioned the loss felt in the neighbourhood by the death of Mr. Pritchard, as a husband, as neighbour, and friend, observing that, though he was resting from his neighbours works followed him. Mrs. John Pritchard then came forward to lay the stone. After spreading the cement for the reception of it, it was lowered into its place. She then took up the mallet and struck the stone on the four corners, saying, "In the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Creator, Preserver, and Regenerator, we lay this stone in the name of the blessed Virgin Mary. The Rev R H Cobbold gave out the 100th Psalm, which was sung by the choir. The Rev H Leigh engaged in prayer, and the ceremony was ended. The church is to be built in the early English style, crucifix with apse; bell turret 70 feet high, and to accommodate 400. Arthur William Bloomfield Esq., London is the architect. Henry Carter, Esq, has the superintendence of the work, and Messrs Nevett, of Ironbridge, are the contractors. It will be built of white, red, blue, and grey bricks, bonded together.

#### BROSELEY.

One day last week a donkey was placed in Broseley pound that has been in one family upwards of forty years.

Late on Saturday night, or early on Sunday morning. the garden belonging to Mr. John Burnet, situate at the Haycop, in the parish of Broseley, was entered, and about a bushel of onions stolen therefrom, and part of a quick hedge cut away. A reward of two guineas is offered on conviction of the offenders.

PROFIFIC CROP OF WHEAT. —Mr. James Bennet, of the Wood-house Farm, has this year had among his crops one tine field of wheat. The produce of this particular field he estimates at fifty bushels per acre. The seed from which this prolific crop has been raised was, we understand, purchased at Liverpool.

ANOTHER BURGLARY.—This kind of depredation is becoming frequent. On Thursday night week some thieves broke into the house of Mr. John Jones, who keeps a small grocer's shop at the Werps, and stole therefrom 25lbs. of butter, 18lbs. of cheese, 14lbs. of candles, 20lbs. of bacon, a pair of boots, and a basket. It appears that the thieves obtained an entrance by forcing one of the window-shutters, and Mr. Jones, who was awake by the noise, looking through the bedroom window saw two men laden with the above goods from his shop, and immediately started in pursuit. In following them he found the basket containing a portion of the spoil had been left on the road, but the thieves, having thus lightened themselves, succeeded in getting clear away. The police are on the alert, but have not yet made any arrest.

#### PETTY SESSIONS

James Roper, alias "Sir Charles Napier," was charged by Edward Brew with trespassing in pursuit of conies at Benthall Edge, on the 28th of September.—Brew said that on the night in question about nine o'clock, he saw Roper and two others in Benthall Edge, beating the bushes with sticks. He saw defendant go to a rabbit hole, and commence stocking at it with a mattock. He went and asked him what he was doing, and defendant said a rabbit had run into the hole, and he wanted to get him out, as he had got nothing to eat.—Fined 10s, and 10s. costs, or 21 days.

TURNPIKE OFFENCES—Thomas Norgrove, of Abdon, was charged by police-constable Clarke with riding without reins in a cart drawn by one horse, at Benthall, on the 27th ultimo. —Defendant pleaded guilty.—Fined 1s and cost 13s. 4d.— John Child was charged by the same Officer with riding in a waggon drawn by four horses, having no one to guide the same, at Benthall, on the 27th September. -Dismissed.

CLAIM FOR WAGES.-Thomas Denstone, of Broseley, summoned Thomas Hassall of Jackfield Pottery, for the non-payment of wages. —Complainant said he was engaged by defendant to make the clay. His wages amounted to 18s. 2d., and he had received 13s., leaving 5s. 2d. due to him. He asked Hassall for the balance, when the latter said he (complainant) had not done his work.—Defendant said it was the duty of Denstone to wheel the clay out after it was made, but he had not done so.—Ordered\_ to pay the wages and costs 8s. 8d.

STEALING TIMBER.—Hannah Lears, alias Morgan, was charged with stealing one piece of timber, of the value of sixpence, from the brickworks of G. W. Lewis, at Jackfield, on the 29th of September.—Wm. Barker, foreman to Mr. Lewis, deposed : On the day in question I was going from Mr. Lewis's wharf in the direction of the brickworks. I met the prisoner with a piece of timber in her arms, and knowing it was Mr. Lewis's property I stopped her, and charged her with stealing it; she said she had found it. I requested her to take it back, but she

refused to do so, and she then dropped it in the road and left it. I sent John Rodent to pick it up, and take it to Mr. Lewis's.—John Roden was called to prove that the prisoner was upon the premises, near to where the timber lay, a short time before the foreman met her with it.—Prisoner pleaded guilty.—The Bench informed her they had no other alternative but to send her to gaol. —Prosecutor said he did not wish to press the charge against the prisoner, and sooner than she should go to prison he would withdraw it.—Discharged.

**Shrewsbury Chronicle 17 October 1862**

BROSELEY

PETTY SESSIONS

Stealing: G. W. Lewis charged Hannah hears with stealing a piece of timber, value 6d., from a brickwork at Jackfield. G. W. Lewis said: I am a brick and tile manufacturer at Broseley. The inhabitants of the neighbourhood of my brickworks are a set of unprincipled persons. They will break through 9-inch walls, and steal anything that they can lay hold of. The piece of timber produced is worth 6d. — Mr. Barker said: I am foreman to Mr. Lewis, at his brickworks at Jackfield. On the 29th September, as I was going from the wharf to the brickworks, I met this woman with the piece of timber. I told her that the piece of timber belonged to Mr. Lewis. She said that she had it from another place. I swear that the timber is the property of Mr. Lewis.— John Roden: I am nearly 14 years old. I am employed in Mr. Lewis's brickworks. I saw the timber lying down in the brickyard. I saw her in the brickyard. There is a road through the brickyard. I did not see her take the timber away.—The prisoner, who elected for the magistrates to settle the case now, said: I saw this piece of timber lying on the road, and took it away. I met Mr. Barker near to Coalford Chapel, who said to me, "That is Mr. Lewis's timber." I said, "If it is his you can have it," and laid it down on the road. I did not know that it was his. I found it on the road. --- Mr. Lewis consented to withdraw the charge upon the payment of expenses.—The Bench : If you come before us again you will be punished severely.

**Eddowes's Journal, and General Advertiser for Shropshire, and the Principality of Wales 22 October 1862**

BROSELEY.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THE PRITCHARD MEMORIAL CHURCH

It may be in the recollection of the readers of the Journal that the generally expressed desire on the part of the admirers of the late George Pritchard, Esq. to erect some memorial in honour of that gentleman, culminated in a project which, from the papers of the deceased had left, was found to be in accordance with his own views, namely, that provision should be made for the spiritual destitution of Jackfield, or, at least, that a more suitable place of public worship should be provided than existed there at present. Very handsome donations for the purpose were at once offered with that view, and the erection of a church at Jackfield was agreed upon. The site fixed upon by the subscribers is one forming the very centre of a poverty-stricken neighbourhood, and where truly there is much need of some means by which the sympathies of the population can be reached, and enlisted on the side of truth, honesty and sobriety. The church will be cruciform, with bell turret, and in the gothic or Early English style of architecture, and built of brick – grey, red, white, and blue - and capable of holding about 400 persons. Arthur Bloomfield, Esq. (son of the late Bishop of London) is the architect; Mr. Carter, of London, is clerk of the works; and the Messrs. Nevett, who were selected from a number of candidates, the contractors. The ground has been cleared for the building; from the excavations made an old pottery appears to have existed there; and the basement walls having been raised, the subscribers and friends of the undertaking met on Thursday last, in order to lay the foundation stone of the building. About 70 ladies and gentlemen assembled by invitation at the residence of John Pritchard, Esq M.P. where they partook of luncheon. Between three and four o'clock these and others began to assemble beneath an awning stretched across the building. Among the company we noticed John Pritchard, Esq. ...

The rev. gentleman then read the inscription on the parchment which together with the several coins of the realm, was to be enclosed in a bottle, and which was as follows:



**The foundation stone of this church of St. Mary's, which is built in pious memory of George Pritchard, of Broseley, was laid on October 16, 1862. Laus Deo.**

**RECTOR, R. H. COBBOLD.  
CHURCHWARDENS, { WM. NICHOLAS.  
                          { H. CHARLTON.**

**Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. In the name of Almighty God, who created all things by Jesus Christ, and who upon Him, as chief corner stone, has builded His Church, and in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the first stone of this sacred building is laid, wherein the pure Word of God may be preached, prayer and praise be continually offered, and the sacraments be administered, till the Lord come in glory. Gloria Deo in Excelsis.**

**On the stone were the words :**

**To the glory of God, and the memory of George Pritchard.  
October 16, 1862.**

The stone was then lowered, and Mrs. John Pritchard spread the mortar, adjusted, and laid it with these words:

In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier, the One Eternal God, we lay the foundation stone of this church of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Amen.

**Wellington Journal 25 October 1862**

JACKFIELD.

Tits MEMORIAL CHURCH.-A few days back Messrs. Nevett, builders, of Ironbridge, treated their workmen to a substantial supper at the Ash Tree Inn, Jackfield, to celebrate the laying of the foundation of the new church.

**Shrewsbury Chronicle 31 October 1862**

BROSELEY.

ACCIDENT ON THE SEVERN.—On Friday, as the horse ferry boat was crossing the Severn, near Jackfield, (the water in the river being very high), having on board two horses, one the property of Mr. J. W. Lewis, brick and tile manufacturer, became alarmed at the noise of the rushing waters, and backed out of the boat into the stream. It does not appear that any attempt was made by the horse driver to seize the bridle, and thus lead the animal towards the shore. On recovering itself, the animal was carried down the river by the force of the current until it reached the sunken boats near the Salthouse. Here it gained a footing, and for a while maintained its standing. A boat put off to render it assistance, but before this could be effected the animal quitted its position and was forced down the river by the fury of the current. On reaching the Werps its strength seemed to fail, and after a few desperate plunges it sank to rise no more.

READING SOCIETY, On Tuesday last, the Rev. It. H. Cobbold gave a lecture before the members of this institution on Dogs, John Pritchard, Esq., M.P., in the chair. The rev. gentleman gave many interesting anecdotes of the canine race, and treated his subject in a popular and pleasing style.

**Shrewsbury Chronicle 07 November 1862**

BROSELEY.MUNICIPAL

ELECTION. --On Saturday, the annual election of councillors for the ward of Broseley took place. The retiring members were Messrs. Maw and Humphries. At the eleventh hour another candidate for the honour was named — Mr. William Exley, brick and tile manufacturer; but no contest took place. Mr. Maw wrote to Mr. Exley to say that he should withdraw; and consequently the latter gentleman was returned.

ANNUAL. TREAT TO SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN.-The annual treat to the children of the Birch Meadow Chapel was held on Monday, at the above place. The friends who were present at the tea meeting numbered about 200. The children were plentifully supplied with cake and tea; the friends having also been provided with a supply of them, good things. After the removal of the trays, &c., all assembled in the chapel. The further proceedings included the recital of select pieces and singing by the children. The performances were very creditably done and elicited the warm approbation of the company. In the intervals, dresses were delivered by Mr. J. Harvy, Mr. J. L. Whatmore, Mr. T. Baugh, and Mr. T. Jones. Mr. Baugh

proposed a vote of thanks to the ladies who had catered so well for the evening's enjoyment.-- Mr. Evans, in acknowledging them compliment on behalf of the teachers and committee of management, remarked, that in this case., so far as the ladies were concerned, it was the old couplet reduced to practice-

If they will they will depend on't;  
If they won't, they won't —and there's an end on't.

### **Wellington Journal 15 November 1862**

#### **BRIDGNORTH**

A TRAIN LEFT BEHIND.- On Saturday morning last the station master and the staff at Bridgnorth were surprised to see the engine if the first up-train come in without the train. It was found the hook having broke, the passengers had been left behind.

#### **IRONBRIDGE**

##### **PETTY SESSIONS**

CLAIM FOR WAGES. — Jesse Barton claimed the sum of £4 14s.3 ½ d from Thomas Hassal, of Jackfield Pottery, for wages.—Plaintiff, who is a potter, stated that about four months ago he was working in the Staffordshire Potteries. Defendant wrote to him to come to Jackfield to work for him, and he would give him the same wages that he was having in the Potteries. A few days after he came and commenced making pots and moulds. For the first three weeks all went on well, and defendant paid him according to his agreement, but since that time he had been obliged to take groceries for part of his wages, and the sum claimed was still due to him. He left on Saturday fortnight.—Mr. Walker, who appeared for the defendant submitted that it was a case which did not come under the jurisdiction of the bench, as plaintiff was not engaged agreed definite period. —After a short consultation, it was agreed for some person to look through the accounts, and the amount actually due was ordered to be paid.—John Anstice, Esq., kindly undertook to be the arbitrator.

STEALING COAL—Sarah Bright, of Broseley, was charged with stealing 28lb of coal from the Birchmeadow-pit, the property of Mrs. Thorne, on the 1<sup>st</sup> ultimo —Edwin Pountney stated that on the day in question, about a quarter past eleven p.m., he was watching the Birchmeadow-pit with his brother. He saw some one come out of a house near to the pit and go up into the foot-road. After looking about they turned and went on the pit bank to stack of coal. He heard the coal moved, and he and his brother then ran to the spot, and upon turning the light from his dark lantern upon the person he found it was the prisoner. She had one lump of coal under her arm and another in her hand. He took the one lump from her, and she threw the other against the side of the stack.—Samuel Pountney corroborated this statement.—Mr. Walker, who was retained for the defence, said that as she appeared so very clear against his client all he could ask the bench was that, as this was the first offence he hoped they would be as merciful to her as they could.—Committed for seven days.

#### **JACKFIELD**

On Wednesday week some youths who had procured some gunpowder and borrowed a small cannon amused themselves for a time in firing it off in commemoration of "Guy Fawkes." After several discharges it is supposed that the piece got heated. However, about eight o'clock in the evening, while some of the youths were engaged in loading the piece, and ramming home the charge, the cannon went off. Several of them were standing immediately in front. The wadding, some clay, and pebbles scattered dismay among the bystanders, and inflicted some ugly wounds about their faces and other parts. The following suffered most :— W. Hinsley, T. Mapp, H. Potts, P. Jones, H. Dodd, S. Hill, F. Potts, A. Love, and P. Harrington. Others have also suffered, but no so severely. Most providentially the iron ramrod passed away to no man's land without doing any injury.

#### **BROSELEY**

A REGULAR SELL.- One day last week a Mr. Bradley, was married to a Mrs. Brown, and the wedding -day was spent as such days mostly are. In the evening the friends of the happy bride were invited to supper, and everything passed off very comfortable until about eleven o'clock, when the bridegroom seemed to think they had indulged quite long enough, and intimated that it was those for them to retire. He was very politely informed by a daughter of the fair bride that where they were not welcome to remain the mother should not. Mr. Bradley was amazed; he informed the party that if he had married the mother he did not mean to marry the whole family. In an instant the cry became general—"Mother don't stop with the old fool; leave everything belonging to him and come home again." The mother seemed more inclined to listen to the advice of her children than that of her blooming husband, and immediately packed up her wardrobe, and was borne away in triumph by

her loving family, leaving her distracted husband to console himself as best he may. She has not been prevailed upon to return.

LECTURE --On Tuesday last Mr. A. O'Neil, of Birmingham gave a lecture in the Birchmeadow Chapel, on the War in America and China, arbitration, non-intervention, reduction of armed forces, &c. The audience listened to the lecture with great attention, and seemed highly pleased.

INQUEST.—On Wednesday evening last an inquest was held at the Maypole Inn, before E. G. Bartlam, coroner, on the body of an old man, named Thomas Hunt, who fell down dead the day previous. The following evidence was adduced:—Thomas Allen deposed; On Tuesday last, about three o'clock in the afternoon, the deceased and myself were filling a cart with soil at Mr. Roden's buildings, in the parish of Benthall; deceased was on one side of the cart, and I on the other; I heard deceased fall down; I called to him and not receiving any answer I went round to him. I raised him up, but he could not speak. I saw he was in a dying state. Deceased did not enjoy very good health, but seemed on that day as well usual. He ate his dinner at one o'clock, the same as he usually did. We had no miss words.—Francis Meredith deposed: On the morning of the 11th I saw the deceased going to breakfast about half-past eight o'clock he appeared as well as usual in health, but seemed to walk rather lamer than usual. I was present when the body was laid out; there were no marks of violence upon it.—The jury, after a short consultation, returned a verdict that deceased died by the visitation of God.

### **Wellington Journal 22 November 1862**

BROSELEY.

ARRIVAL OF COLONEL FORESTER AND HIS BRIDE. — On Monday evening, the slumbering echoes of the Summer-house and the adjacent heights were awoken by the thunder of Mr. Brown's cannon. They occupied a commanding position near the Slip. The church bells also rang out a merry peal, and continued to send forth their harmonious rounds until most people within the reach of their music were led to make the inquiry—"What is the meaning of all this! Some said News has come that peace has been proclaimed in America." This, however, was rejected speedily, as being too good to be true. At last the truth became known. The Honorable Colonel Forester, M.P., and his accomplished bride, had passed the Summer-house *en route* for Willey-park, the seat of Lord Forester. It was intended as the *cortege* passed Mr. Brown's that his celebrated cannon should then have announced by their thunder the fact. An unforeseen difficulty presented itself, and the intended honour was unavoidably postponed, much to the chagrin of Mr. Brown. Subsequently, however, they spoke out in audible tones, making the welkin ring.

VESTRY MEETING.—Pursuant to a notice given by the churchwardens a meeting was held on Thursday in the vestry, to pass the church warden's accounts, and lay a rate of fivepence in the pound, to meet the expenses of the current year. The meeting was announced to take place at ten o'clock a.m. A few minutes before ten the anti-rate party mustered, and the time having expired for the commencement of the business, and the rector and churchwardens not being present, it was considered desirable to appoint a chairman and begin the business. Mr. T. Baugh proposed, and Mr. W. Evans seconded, that Mr. W. Yale take the chair. In taking the chair Mr. Yale said that he believed it was perfectly in order to appoint a chairman of their own party, in the absence of the rector, and should at once proceed to the business. At this stage of the proceedings the church and their friends made their appearance and seemed somewhat annoyed to find the chair occupied, contending that as the notice calling the meeting was not read it was informal to elect a chairman. As this was considered a matter of little importance, Mr. Yale resigned in deference to G. Potts, Esq., who was duly appointed chairman. The churchwardens' accounts were allowed to pass *nem. con.*, the anti-rate party stating that they considered it a point of honour not to offer any opposition. The next business was to receive the estimate of the current year's expenses, which struck us as being rather a large sum, and leads to the supposition that there must be some charges to the rate which cannot be maintained in law. A proposition was then made that a rate of fivepence in the pound be laid to meet the expenses of the year. Mr. John Mason, (Baptist) addressed the meeting, strongly contending for the adoption of the voluntary principle, as a means of raising funds for the support of the church. He (Mr. Mason) said that he considered it a hard case that those who had to contribute to the maintenances of their own places of worship should be compelled to pay to the support of the church. Mr. T. Baugh, Baptist minister, said that he thought it right to oppose the laying of a rate for the maintenance of the church, and that it was due to the gentlemen present that they should hear their objections, that they were not of a personal character, but based upon principle, and the same objections would be entertained were the rate a farthing in the pound. The church seemed to him to be in the position of a pauper receiving parish pay for her support. Mr. Yale, in proceeding to address the meeting, complimented the church warden, W. Nicholas, Esq. for his courtesy, and for the admission

he had made it was as a matter of conscience that the rate was opposed. To him (Mr. Yale) it was indeed a matter of principle and conscience, and he was there honestly and openly to declare that his opposition was on the ground of principle; that there were doctrines taught in the church that he could not conscientiously subscribe to, and he felt it a burden to be compelled to support the teaching of doctrines in which he did not believe. He would not pain the minds of gentlemen prevent by entering into those doctrines and stating his views upon them. W. Exley, Esq., expressed his concurrence with the opposition manifested to the laying of a church rate, and advocated the adoption of the voluntary system. Mr. B. Cox, Mr. J. Harvey, and some others expressed similar sentiments. An amendment was then proposed by Mr. W. Evans, to the effect that there be no rate, and that some other means be adopted to raise the required sum, and contended that as a matter of business his amendment should be put tint to the meeting. It was, however, overruled, and the original proposition was put, and 17 votes were obtained. The amendment obtained 15 votes, which gives a majority of two to the pro-rata party. It is stated, however, that owing to some informalities of the meeting no rate can be recovered if contested before the magistrates. A happy feature in the meeting is in the fact that the entire proceedings were conducted with great courtesy and forbearance, giving evidence that should the church party see it to be their duty to adopt the voluntary principle the strife between them and the dissenters would for ever cease.—*From a correspondent*

#### **Wellington Journal 29 November 1862**

BROSELEY.

FOOT RACE—On Monday last a foot race came off in the New-road, between William Pugh, of Benthall, and Henry Wright, of Broseley, for £5, which excited a good deal of interest amongst our local sportsmen. The distance was 200 yards. A pistol was fired as a signal to start, when Pugh took the lead and kept it to the end of the race, where he came in the winner by four yards, amidst the acclamations of his friends. About 200 of the friends of both parties were on the ground.

#### **Wellington Journal 06 December 1862**

BROSELEY.

DIABOLICAL ACT—One night last week some vile wretch cut the rope of the Birch-meadow pit about half way through, thereby endangering the lives of the men employed at the pit. Happily it was discovered before any accident happened.

PASTORAL AID SOCIETY. —On Sunday two sermons were preached in the Parish Church on behalf of the Pastoral Aid Society: the one in the morning by the Rev. Thomas Regg, curate of Malinslee and the one in the evening by the Rev. R. IL Cobbold, rector.

LECTURE—On Tuesday evening a lecture was delivered in the Town-hall by the Rev. James Morris, of Donley, on “The life and time of Columbus.” The Rev. R. H. Cobbold occupied the chair. The attendance was very good.

INQUEST.—Yesterday week an inquest was held at the New Crown Inn, before K G. Bartlam, Esq., coroner, on the body of Anne Maria Price, an infant, aged four months.—From the evidence adduced it appeared that deceased’s parents had been living at Coseley, Staffordshire, and on the 26th ultimo they were removing to the Lodge-farm, in the parish of Willey. The deceased was taken ill on the Saturday previously. When they arrived at Norton the parents found the deceased was taken worse. They left their goods at Norton public-house, and hired a trap and made all the haste they could to the Lodge. They had not arrived there but a abort tune before the child expired —The jury returned a verdict that the deceased died from natural causes.

PHEASANT STEALING. --On Friday, the 28th ultimo, some persons entered an enclosed place at Caughley, belonging to Lord Forester, and stole eighteen pheasants, which were kept there for the purpose of breeding.—The thieves must have had key to fit the door, as it was found locked the next morning.

#### **Wolverhampton Chronicle and Staffordshire Advertiser 10 December 1862**

BENTHALL

SUDDEN DEATH OF MRS. H. M. BATHURST. - This event took place on Wednesday, while the deceased was engaged in some household affairs. She had been in a declining state of health for some time.

Another sudden death took place on the same day. Mrs Doughty had been to Broseley on some personal business, and was returning home, on Tuesday evening. On reaching Messrs. Maw’s works, she suddenly fell down. Assistance was obtained, and she was conveyed to her residence, where she remained in a state of insensibility until Wednesday morning, when she expired.

**Shrewsbury Chronicle 12 December 1862**

MUCH WENLOCK

PETTY SESSIONS, Tuesday. — Before C. W. Ferriday, Esq. (presiding), G. Adney, Esq., and W. P. Brookes, Esq. — *Breach of the Turnpike Act* : Police-constable Hunt preferred a charge against John Nock, dealer in corn and hay, of Much Wenlock, for allowing his horse and cart on the turnpike road leading to Barrow, without a driver, he himself riding in a cart, on the 25th of October fast. Fined, including costs, 12s. 6d. — *Drunkenness* : James Strangewood was summoned by Police-constable Hugh Clark for being drunk, on the 14th ult., at Wenlock. Fined, including costs, 16s. 8d. — *Trespass* : John Bullock and Benjamin Salt were charged by Watson Woodrow, gamekeeper, for trespassing with a dog and ferret on land, in the parish of Broseley, belonging to Lord Forester, in the occupation of Mr. Smith, farmer. A man, called Miles, gamekeeper to Lord Forester, positively swore to having seen them on the day in question trespassing on the ground. His evidence was corroborated by Mr. Smith. Both were convicted, and Bullock was fined, including costs, 13s. 3d.; and Salt was fined 2s. 6d, and costs 8s. 3d.— Win. Miles, gamekeeper, summoned Charles Wall for trespassing in pursuit of game on land belonging to Lord Forester, in the occupation of Mr. Smith, in the parish of Broseley, on the 1st inst. Fined 2s. 6d, and costs 12s. 6d.

BROSELEY

THE DISTRESS IN THE NORTH.- A novel method of raising contributions in aid of the fund for relieving our unfortunate fellow-countrymen in the cotton-spinning districts has been adopted in Broseley. At the suggestion of the rector it was determined that any surplus which might arise in the offertory collections from August to the present month of December above the amount usually collected in the same period, should be devoted to the purpose. So well has his recommendation been received and acted upon, that the amount has reached the sum of £37 4s. 4d., to which has been added £1 10s. 8d. from Jackfield; £5 15s. 4d. subscribed by working men in the parish; and £5 contributed by Messrs. Maw, of Benthall; making a total sum of £49 10s. 4d. There cannot fail to be a general feeling of satisfaction that England has responded so nobly to the call for help which this sudden and unforeseen emergency has occasioned. All classes have readily given their aid, and not only the large and wealthy towns, but also the comparatively poor and isolated districts have thrown in their willing assistance to rescue from starvation those whose case but for this universal liberality, would have been pitiful indeed. We may add that we have reason to believe some of the more wealthy residents of Broseley had contributed through other channels previous to the collections mentioned above being made.

IRONBRIDGE.

FEARFUL AND FATAL ACCIDENT.—Yesterday week an inquest was held at the White Hart Inn, on the body of Mr. Coombe, the landlord, who met with his death by being crushed between some trucks on the Severn Valley Railway on the Wednesday previous. It appeared from the evidence that deceased was in the act of showing his men how to stop the trucks on the line, when he was struck by one in motion, and so fearfully crushed and mangled that death ensued. A verdict was entered accordingly of “ Accidental death.”

**Wellington Journal 20 December 1862**

BROSELEY.

LECTURES.—Yesterday week a lecture was delivered in the Town-hall, by F. H. Hartshorne, Esq., on “The lower class of animals.” The Rev. R. H. Cobbold occupied the chair.—On Tuesday last a lecture was delivered in the Town-hall, by the Rev. R. Rowley, on “The river Nile;” the rector in the chair. There was a very respectable audience, and the lecture was listened to with great attention.

ASSAULTING A CLERGYMAN—On Thursday last John Pope, collier, of Broseley-Wood, was brought up in custody, before R. Thursfield and W. Nicholas, & qrs., charged with assaulting the Rev. W. H. Wayne, of Tickwood Hall, on the 13th Instant.—Prosecutor deposed: On the 13th instant I saw prisoner and two other men poaching in a coppice near my house; they had a dog with them; one of them had a rabbit in his hand. I went near to them, and watched them; they saw me, and ran away. I followed the one, but could not overtake him. I then got behind a tree in the coppice, and saw the prisoner come out of the coppice with the dog into the road; he stood for half an hour, whistling to the others; he then came towards me. I went over the fence to him, and told him what I had seen them doing. He denied it. I told him I was positive he was the one I had seen poaching. I walked along the road about a hundred yards with him. He then stood, and said, “You appear to be following me.” I said, “ I intend to know you again.” he then took out a knife, and swore he would do for me—he would rip my guts open. He struck at me with the knife. I retreated backwards, he following me. I then turned, and ran to my house for assistance. —Prisoner admitted that he was the man, but denied using the knife.—Committed for two months’ hard labour.

BENTHALL.

MALICIOUS INJURY.—A reward of ten guineas has been offered for such information as will lead to the conviction of them party or parties, who, one night last I week, turned out four fat cows from the premises of Mr. E. Roden, and so put a bridle upon two horses, which also were during the same night turned out of the stable, and one of the horses stabbed in the brisket.

**Eddowes's Journal, and General Advertiser for Shropshire, and the Principality of Wales 24 December 1862**

BROSELEY

STEALING A PIG.- On Saturday night last some person or persons stole a pig from Mr. Nicholas, of the Ash Tree public-house, Jackfield.

LINLEY.

DISCOVERIES IN THE OLD RED SANDSTONE.—The bone-bed of the old red sandstone at Linley, to which attention was first directed by the publication of the "Severn Valley," is likely to prove of considerable interest to geologists, not only from the fact that it is important to trace it to the point where the formation ceases to the north east, but from the circumstance that among the remains of fish recently discovered species hitherto unknown have been detected. The paragraph in the work alluded to attracted, we understand, the attention of the secretary of the Geological Society, who sent to request the author to send up specimens, and to prepare a paper. This request was complied with; and from the specimens sent to Somerset-house. Sir P. Egerton has detected several new species. A paper has been jointly entered by the secretary, Mr. Roberts, and Mr. Randall, who will also make further investigation. The incident was brought about by a pebble, picked up by the roadside. A tap of the hammer laid bare an ichthyodoralite; the inference being that in the parent rock more might be found. That the pebble had not travelled far was evident from the fact that it had not been worn round, as it would have been if it had travelled far; and an excursion or two sufficed to detect its source. Subsequent visits led to further researches; the result being that bones, and scales, and species of fish have been traced down into the lowest member of the upper division of the Ludlow limestone.

**Wellington Journal 27 December 1862**

BROSELEY.

BIGAMY.—On Saturday. at the West Bromwich Petty Sessions, before Messrs. G. C. Adkins and T. Kenrick, a brickmaker, named Thomas Powell, residing at Benthall Shropshire, was charged with intermarrying with Elizabeth Fleet, his first wife, Ann Tentrill, being still alive. Mr. Travis prosecuted.—Henry Foster, a potter, residing at Benthall, Shropshire, proved that in May 1861, he was present at the marriage of the prisoner with Ann Tentrill at the parish church of Benthall. The prisoner's wife deserted him about six years ago and was at present residing with a cousin at Bridgnorth.—Elizabeth Fleet stated that she was married to the prisoner on the 25th of August last at Bishop's Walton, in Hampshire. Previous to their marriage she had known the prisoner for three years, as he worked in the same brickyard in which she was employed. The prisoner kept company with several girls in the yard, and always passed as a single man. She produced a certificate of her marriage with the prisoner. Inspector W. Phair apprehended the prisoner at Horsley Heath, at one o'clock on the morning of the 8th instant. The officer told the prisoner he wanted him on a charge of bigamy. He said "It's all right, my wife won't interfere with me. I have been to Bridgnorth to see her." The officer then locked the prisoner up, and Phair now produced a certificate of the prisoner's first marriage.—The prisoner, who reserved his defence, was committed to the assizes for trial.

THE CHRISTMAS MARKET.—The Christmas show of meat was unusually good, far before anything seen here for some years, both in quality and quantity.—Mr. H. Wootton exhibited two splendid heifers, bred and fed by Mr. Wootton. of Elsich; six prime yearling wether sheep, fed by Thomas Bather, Esq., The Hay Farm; one fat pig; two porket pigs, fed by Mrs. Thorne. The shop was tastefully decorated with holly, &c. One window contained a circular wreath of evergreens, in the centre of which was placed a sucking pig; underneath was formed, with holly berries, "A merry Christmas," and in the other window, "A happy New Year."—Mr. James Cartwright exhibited a splendid ox., bred and fed by Miss Adney, Shineton; one heifer, bred and fed by Mr. Smith, Dean Corner; two capital heifers, fed by Mr. Horton, Harley; four yearling wether sheep, 25lbs. per quarter, fed by Mr. Burnet, Woodhouse; one calf; three bacon pigs, one 25 score; one porket; one sucking pig. The shop was very tastefully decorated. In the window was worked, with holly berries, "A merry Christmas."—Mr. H. Legge exhibited an extraordinary fat heifer, twelve score per quarter, bred and fed by Lord Hill; one prime heifer, eleven score per quarter, fed by Lord Berwick; five yearling wether sheep. 25lbs. per quarter; six capital parks, fed by Mr. S. Instome; two sucking pigs, and one lamb.—The grocers' shop windows were dressed in a style that shewed very good taste.

STEALING A COW'S HEAD.—Yesterday week, between five and six o'clock, some person stole a cow's head, with about 121bs. of fat upon it, from the shop door of Mr. John Cartwright, butcher. Although a cumbersome article the thief got safe away with his prize.

WILLEY.

On Monday last upwards of 4001b. of ox beef was distributed to the poor, 21b. to each man, 21b. to each woman and 1lb. for each child—given by the Rev. Dr. Rowley. The ox was a very fine one, killed by Mr. Clenton, of Norley. The beast took the first prize at the last Bridgnorth show, and weighed 14 score the quarter.

IRONBRIDGE

PETTY SESSIONS:

REFUSING TO SUPPORT A PARENT.—The overseers of Barrow charged Robert Jay with refusing to comply with an order to pay 1s. per week towards the support of his father, who is chargeable to Barrow parish. It appears that there is now owing £3 6s. Defendant said he was unable to pay on account of bad health, for he could not support himself. He called John Downes, who stated that defendant had been working for hire for some time; he sometimes could not do more than one day in a week, and the most he did was three days. —Ordered to pay as soon as he was able to work.

TRESPASSING IN PURSUIT OF RABBITS.—Thomas Instone and John Penny were charged with trespassing in pursuit of rabbits on lands belonging to John Stevens, Esq., of the Albynes, in the parish of Linley, on the 10th instant. Mr. Bette conducted the case.—Joseph Butler stated that he was gamekeeper to Mr. Stevens. On the day in question he saw the two defendants in Crab-tree Coppice. Instone had a ferret and a line. He searched him, and found a rabbit in his pocket. He searched Penny, and found a purse net in his pocket. He had a mason's hammer and a spade with him. Instone used very bad language. —Fined 10s., costs 11s. 3d. each, or 21 days.